August 20, 2024

Maria Hernandez Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: City of Yorba Linda's response to findings and recommendations in the FY 2023-24 Orange County Grand Jury report E-bikes Friend or Foe.

Dear Judge Hernandez:

The City of Yorba Linda has reviewed the findings and recommendations made in the Orange County Grand Jury's report regarding E-bikes, and thus is submitting to you the required responses outlined in the report.

Findings Finding 1

"The Majority of Orange County's 34 cities do not have ordinances or policies in place, which makes it difficult to address the safe operation and regulation of E-bikes leading to confusion."

The City disagrees partially with this finding. While the City of Yorba Linda does not have its own ordinance or policy, it relies on its law enforcement contractor, the Orange County Sheriff's Department who enforces the California Vehicle Code, to regulate the operation of E-bikes.

Finding 2

"Due to the increasing incidence of E-bike injuries and deaths, there is a need for consistent and accurate tracking by law enforcement and first responders, which does not exist now."

The City disagrees partially with this finding. The Orange County Sheriff's Department provides data collection on all traffic related injuries and deaths that are reported.

Finding 3

"Training and education on E-bike use and safety varies from city to city causing confusion amongst bike riders."

The City is unaware of the training and education provided by other cities but support the dissemination of education materials by all Orange County cities.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

"Each Orange County city should have specific policies that define the rules of the road for use of E-bikes in their communities by December 1, 2024."

The recommendation will not be implemented in full because it is not warranted. The City defers to and relies upon the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the California Vehicle Code to define the rules of the road.

Recommendation 2

"Each Orange County city should have a mechanism in place to report accidents, injuries and deaths involving E-bikes by December 1, 2024."

This recommendation has been implemented in the City of Yorba Linda via the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Recommendation 3

"Each Orange County city should research and develop outreach and education programs regarding the safe operation of E-bikes for their residents by December 1, 2024."

This recommendation requires further analysis in conjunction with the Orange County Transportation Authority and the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Should you have any questions or require any further information from the City of Yorba Linda, please feel free to contact our Assistant City Manager, David Christian at (714)961-7107 or dchristian@yorbalindaca.gov.

Sincerely.

Tara Campbell

Mayor of Yorba Linda

Cc: Orange County Grand Jury