

7800 Katella Avenue
Stanton, CA 90680



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Date:
January 15, 2025

Dear Honorable Judge Maria Hernandez,

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

The City of Stanton received the 2023-2024 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled "Talking Trash: Recyclables and Organic Waste". As required by California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the City of Stanton submitted its initial response in August 2024. The City received a response from the Grand Jury in a letter dated January 2, 2025, asking for amended responses for Findings 1 through 7. Please find those amended responses below.

Note: The original Grand Jury findings are repeated below in italics. The City's responses are in bold, with additional explanation and commentary in regular typeface. References to the "City" refer to the City of Stanton, California.

Findings

F1 The majority of Orange County jurisdictions have not yet required their haulers to distribute residential containers that meet the CalRecycle standardized colors, leaving legacy and often incorrect or illegible labeling and embossing in place.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F2 While a jurisdiction may not delegate its overall responsibility for compliance with State requirements to a hauler, some jurisdictions have designated the task of imposing the collecting fines from residents to the hauler in accordance with State law. However, not all jurisdictions are clear on who ultimately receives and retains the collected fines.

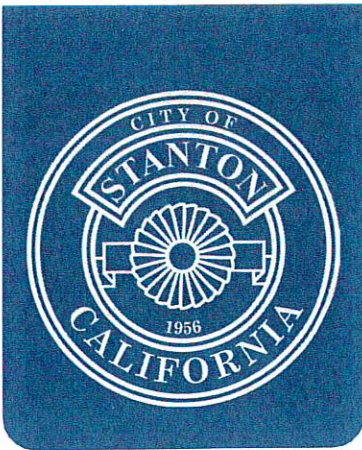
The respondent agrees with the finding.

F3 All jurisdictions will eventually start collecting fines from residents for non-compliance, but some have not yet determined whether the revenues will go into a waste and recycling enterprise fund or into the jurisdiction's general fund.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F4 In most jurisdictions, education and outreach is a joint effort between jurisdiction, hauler, and sometimes consultants, with the jurisdiction reviewing the materials before publication. The methods of dissemination vary by jurisdiction and hauler but frequently rely on a resident actively seeking the information, which requires the resident to have some awareness of the new mandates in the first place. Most efforts primarily revolve around intermittent hard-copy paper mailings.

The respondent agrees with the finding.



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F5 *Most jurisdictions currently have no way to accurately determine the effectiveness of their respective education and outreach efforts other than the eventual inspections or audits that will take place.*

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F6 *There is some concern that there are not enough composting facilities in Orange County to process all organic waste, forcing some jurisdictions/haulers to transport it long distances for processing.*

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F7 *There is currently no infrastructure in the county that is a State-approved source of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) and energy from organic waste. Jurisdictions that use vehicles running on RNG procured from non-approved sources cannot count that RNG towards fulfillment of their procurement requirement.*

The respondent agrees with the finding.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Hannah Shin-Heydorn, City Manager, at (714) 890-4277 or via email at HShinheydorn@StantonCA.gov.

Respectfully,


David J. Shawver
Mayor

Cc: Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701