



City of Ripon

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October 13, 2020

VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Honorable Xapuri B. Villapudua
Presiding Judge San Joaquin County Superior Court
180 E. Weber Avenue, Suite 1306J
Stockton, California 95202
E-mail: grandjury@sjcourts.org

Re: Grand Jury Report - Homelessness in San Joaquin County - Building on a Foundation: Collaboration and Communication

Dear Judge Villapudua:

The Ripon City Council has been directed by the San Joaquin County Grand Jury to provide certain responses to the Grand Jury's report in Case #0119 - Homelessness in San Joaquin County - Building on a Foundation: Collaboration and Communication. Please find the Ripon City Council's responses to the Grand Jury report below.

F3.1

Although many residents are interested in how homelessness is being managed, only the City of Lodi has published accomplishments in plain language on its website. This lack of readily available information makes it difficult for residents to understand what is being done to address homelessness.

Response to F3.1:

The City acknowledges Finding F3.1 and recognizes the need for Ripon residents to have ready access to useful and understandable information concerning homelessness and the responsive measures of their City. This information should focus on the direct, tangible and effective steps taken by the Ripon Police Department and City government as a whole. Moreover, the City will endeavor to provide information in a format free of the unnecessary jargon, euphemism and abstractions which all too often characterize government communications.

R3.1 By December 30, 2020, the Cities of Stockton, Tracy, Manteca, Lathrop, Ripon, and Escalon post plain language information on their website that outlines the actions each city has taken to address homelessness.

Response to R3.1: In response to Recommendation R3.1, the City will post the information referenced above on its website (www.cityofripon.org), and will provide updates as events warrant. The City plans to have a separate tab entitled "Chief Ormonde's Update on Homelessness-Action, Not Paperwork", which will be updated monthly at a minimum.


R3.2 By December 30, 2020, the Cities of Tracy, Manteca, Lathrop, Ripon, and Escalon adopt the San Joaquin Continuum of Care as the primary organization through which the County and cities work together to develop solutions to homelessness.

R3.3 By December 30, 2020, the Cities of Tracy, Manteca, Lathrop, Ripon, and Escalon in open forum officially acknowledge and support the Program Administrator for Homeless Initiatives position as the homeless coordinator for San Joaquin County.

Response to R3.2 and R3.3: In response to Recommendations R3.2 and R3.3, the City of Ripon will place a resolution on a City Council agenda by December 30, 2020 for consideration by the Council. The resolution will propose that the City of Ripon adopt the San Joaquin Continuum of Care as the primary organization through which the County and cities work together to develop solutions to homelessness, and officially acknowledge and support the Program Administrator for Homeless Initiatives position as the homeless coordinator for San Joaquin County.

The City Council appreciates the efforts of the Grand Jury in connection with the aforementioned report, and the opportunity to provide this response. If there are questions or concerns regarding any aspect of this Response, please feel free to contact City Attorney, Thomas H. Terpstra, or send correspondence to the City Council at 259 N. Wilma Avenue, Ripon, California, 95366.

Sincerely,



Jacob Parks
Mayor