



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: June 28, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s) Contact Info: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Nancy Anderson, Assistant CEO – Budget and Research *NA*
Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant CEO – Health & Human Services

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SUBJECT: Further Analysis Related to 2021 Grand Jury Report: Jail Diversion in Santa Barbara County, Recommendations 3 and 4

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Consider and adopt the responses in Attachment A as the Board of Supervisors’ response containing further analysis related to the 2021 Grand Jury report entitled "Jail Diversion in Santa Barbara County - Criminal Justice Partners Are Finding Common Ground," Recommendations 3 and 4;
- b) Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included in Attachment A and forward the letter and response updating the Grand Jury on the further analysis to the Presiding Judge of Santa Barbara County Superior Court; and
- c) Determine, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review because they are government administrative activities that do not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

On December 27, 2021, the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury published a report titled “Jail Diversion in Santa Barbara County - Criminal Justice Partners Are Finding Common Ground” (“Report”). On

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March 15, 2022 the Board approved responses prepared by staff stating Recommendations 3 and 4 required further analysis. Today, the Board will consider the County's proposed further analysis and authorize the Board Chair to sign the response letter updating the Grand Jury on the further analysis.

Background:

The 2021-22 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury investigated the developments in justice reform in Santa Barbara County and determined that by working together the five agencies in the criminal justice system – the Santa Barbara County offices of the Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender, and the departments of Probation and Behavioral Wellness – are learning to manage the transition to greater jail diversion practices for low-level offenders.

Recommendation 3 of the Report was that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors authorize Santa Barbara County law enforcement officers to administer 5150 Welfare and Institutions holds. The County's March 15, 2022 response stated that further analysis was required to determine if the recommendation would result in unintended consequences, such as overwhelming local hospital emergency rooms.

Recommendation 4 of the Report was that the Board of Supervisors allocate long-term funding for additional Co-Response teams to provide the entire County with 24-hour, seven-days per week coverage. The County's March 15th response stated that further analysis was required to conduct a data analysis of mental health crisis calls during the swing, overnight, and weekend shifts to ascertain the actual need and to then better budget the recruitment of practitioners.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Staff anticipates no fiscal or facilities impacts as a result of the Board's action on this matter.

Special Instructions:

1. As per Recommendation b), please forward the original signed letter and response updating the Grand Jury on the further analysis to the Presiding Judge of Santa Barbara County Superior Court.
2. Please send a copy of the signed letter and a copy of the minute order to Reese Ellestad, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, County Executive Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Board of Supervisors Letter and Response with Further Analysis

Attachment B: FY 2020-21 Grand Jury Report

Attachment C: March 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors Response to the FY 2020-21 Grand Jury Report

Authored by:

Ted Teyber, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, County Executive Office

Lindsay Walter, Principal Management Analyst, County Executive Office