



**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: March 15, 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: Response to 2021 Grand Jury Report: Jail Diversion in Santa Barbara County

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 to the 2021 Grand Jury report entitled "Jail Diversion in Santa Barbara County - Criminal Justice Partners Are Finding Common Ground"; Attachment B;
- b) Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included in Attachment A and forward the letter and responses to the Presiding Judge of Santa Barbara County Superior Court; and
- c) Determine pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15378(b)(5) that the above actions are not a project subject to CEQA review, because they are is 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.” Today, the Board will consider the County’s proposed response to the report, adopt their preferred response and authorize the Board Chair to sign the response letter. The Board is required to respond in writing to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by March 27, 2022.

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.

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 responses 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, CEO office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Board of Supervisors Response

Attachment B: FY2021-22 Grand Jury Report

Authored by:

Reese Ellestad, Fiscal & Policy Analyst, County Executive Office
Probation, Public Defender and Behavioral Wellness Departments