

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-95

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARINA
ACCEPTING RESPONSES TO 2017-2018 MONTEREY COUNTY CIVIL
GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT “WHO’S IN CHARGE? STEPPING UP ON
HOMELESSNESS: THE NEED FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING”

WHEREAS, the City received a copy of the 2017-2018 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report – “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning” (“EXHIBIT B”) for the City of Marina, and;

WHEREAS, the Final Report requires the City of Marina to respond to Finding Numbers F1-F12; and Recommendation Numbers R1-R10, and;

WHEREAS, staff prepared written responses to the required comments set forth in the 2017-2018 Final Report (“EXHIBIT A”)

WHEREAS, Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933(c), the City of Marina must submit comments on the report to the Honorable, Stephanie E. Hulsey, Judge of the Superior Court within ninety (90) days following its transmittal (June 4, 2018).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Marina hereby:

1. Accepts responses to the 2017-2018 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report – “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning”, (“EXHIBIT A”), and;
2. Direct that the responses be reviewed by our attorney to affirm that we are not making any commitments of City resources and following that review they can be signed and transmitted to the Honorable, Stephanie E. Hulsey, Judge of the Superior Court.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marina at a special city council meeting duly held on the 10th of August 2018 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: Amadeo, Morton, O’Connell, Brown

NOES, COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT, COUNCIL MEMBERS: Delgado

ABSTAIN, COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST:

David W. Brown, Mayor pro-Tem

Anita Sharp, Deputy City Clerk

DRAFT

EXHIBIT A

City of Marina

Response to Findings & Recommendations

2017-2018 – MONTEREY COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT - “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning”

The Honorable Judge Stephanie E. Hulsey
Judge of the Superior Court
240 Church Street
Salinas, California 93901

Re: City of Marina Response to Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report – “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning”

Dear Judge Hulsey:

The City of Marina recognizes the issues and challenges associated with homelessness in Monterey County and the strategic leadership and comprehensive planning that is critical if we are to move forward with addressing this problem.

As requested by the Civil Grand Jury, the City of Marina respectfully submits the following responses to Findings F1 – F12 and to Recommendations R1 – R10 of the Grand Jury’s Final Report entitled “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning”.

Findings

F1: Homelessness is a bigger problem in the County than the biennial homeless census would suggest.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. The City does not track nor have an accurate count on the number of homeless in Marina.

F2: The County’s homeless problem has the potential to get worse if we do not invest in accessible housing solutions. Growing housing insecurity will only increase demand on our underfunded, over-stressed public services.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. The City is already seeing a growing demand on underfunded public services related to the homeless problem.

F3: The County's strategy for addressing homelessness needs a clearer focus, accountable leadership, and enhanced capacity.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. The homeless problems countywide are continuing to grow, stronger leadership to address this problem is critical.

F4: Structuring the Continuum of Care administrator as a 501©3 nonprofit organization is conducive to securing funding and coordinating homeless services. However, a nonprofit organization cannot establish public policy and planning needed to end homelessness.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. While the City is not directly involved with the Continuum of Care, it believes this would be a good program for securing funding and coordinating homeless services.

F5: The County has unofficially established the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers as the central organization for addressing homelessness. Making any non-profit the center of homeless solutions effectively creates the perception there is governmental leadership when there is, in fact, no formal political leadership. This arrangement provides elected officials with a way to avoid accepting political responsibility for addressing homelessness.

Response: The City partially disagrees with the finding. While the City agrees that the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers does not provide the best avenue for cities to work together to address the homeless problem, it does not believe the arrangement is a way for Marina's elected officials to avoid accepting responsibility for addressing homelessness.

Because the structure of the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers is without political leadership, it does not have policy making power. Even when our elected officials have attended Coalition meetings, they have no authority to provide direction and end up being at the meeting only to gather information.

F6: The Coalition of Homeless Service Providers is a small nonprofit that does not have sufficient capacity to administer the County's strategic plan to end homelessness and its continuum of care for both Monterey and San Benito counties. It does not provide political leadership to coalesce public support and government commitments around a concrete action-plan to end homelessness.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

F7: The composition of the Leadership Council and its location within the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers has affected the focus of the leadership council. The Leadership Council's critical opportunity of generating and executing a strategic plan to end homelessness has narrowed to providing oversight of the Continuum of Care.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

F8: The structure of the Leadership Council does not provide authority to design and execute a regional plan to end homelessness, and it does not support full public accountability for meeting stated targets.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

F9: Political leadership is necessary to secure public support, enact policy and planning decisions that capitalize on state legislation, and execute a regional homeless plan.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. As an example, the City of Marina has taken a leadership role working with the County in implementing a regional safe overnight parking program for the homeless at the County's Coastal Office located at 2616 First St. in Marina. This happened independent of other cities and with the political leadership support of the Marina Mayor and City Council.

F10: Government decision-making is essential for making choices about resource commitments.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

F11: To meaningfully change the course of homelessness and housing insecurity, there must be a regional approach to homelessness and the creation of a new governing body with the power to oversee implementation of the plan.

Response: The City agrees with the finding. It is critical that each City be involved in working with the County to address homelessness.

F12: The strategic plan to end homelessness serves as an informal guide rather than a definitive regional plan. It needs to be updated and fully implemented.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

Recommendations

R1: Elected County and City officials should provide government leadership to address homelessness.

Response: The City has partially implemented this recommendation with the regional safe parking program established at the County's Coastal Offices in Marina. However, in broad terms the recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when the County establishes a regional government leadership structure.

R2: The County and its Cities should form an accountable leadership body that has the power to oversee a regional approach to ending homelessness and address housing insecurity in Monterey County.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when the County establishes an accountable leadership body. The City agrees with the need to establish this body and will support it.

R3: The County and its Cities should enter into a binding, enforceable agreement, such as a Memorandum of Agreement, to secure commitment to the plan and ensure responsibilities of each jurisdiction.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The City of Marina will support committing to a plan that will ensure responsibilities of each jurisdiction for each jurisdiction including the County.

R4: The Lead Me Home Leadership council should clearly define its purpose and goals.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The City of Marina fully supports the Lead Me Home Leadership Council clearly defining its purpose and goals.

R5: There should be a clear distinction between governance of the Continuum of Care—as *an integral part of the broader strategic plan*—and the leadership body charged with implementing a regional strategic plan to end homelessness.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when a regional body is established to implement a regional strategic plan. Marina agrees a regional strategic plan and will participate.

R6: If the County effectively exerts control of Coalition for Homeless Service Providers through the Leadership Council, then the County should clearly define the purpose and role of the Coalition for Homeless Service Providers. It also follows that the Coalition for Homeless Service Providers should be adequately funded and staffed in proportion to its level of responsibilities with respect to securing resources and performing services for the county.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when the County moves forward in doing this. The City of Marina will fully support.

R7: The newly created regional leadership body (*see R2*) should update and implement a regional strategic plan to end homelessness by defining its purpose, goals and assessment to measure and track progress.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when the County established a regional leadership body. The City of Marina supports and will participate in this regional body.

R8: The strategic plan should be revisited annually using outcome measurements to evaluate and adjust strategies for meeting goals.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The City of Marina will support this plan and believes it should be a long-range multi-year plan that is updated annually.

R9: Reports that assess which goals are, or are not, being met should be generated and made publicly available.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. When these goals are developed Marina agrees that they need to be tracked and the results made available to the public.

R10: The new regional leadership body should produce a transparent consolidated budget to maximize resources and identify expenditures. All municipalities should demonstrate their commitment to the regional plan to end homelessness in an equitable, or proportionate, manner.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future when the County establishes the regional body. Marina agrees that all municipalities

should be committed to the regional plan and all involvement should be on a fair, equitable, or proportionate manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Delgado
Mayor

August 3, 2018

Item No. **8f(1)/3b**

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Marina City Council

City Council Meeting
of August 8, 2018

RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2018-, – ACCEPTING RESPONSES TO 2017-2018 MONTEREY COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT “WHO’S IN CHARGE? STEPPING UP ON HOMELESSNESS: THE NEED FOR STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING” AND DIRECTING THAT THE RESPONSES BE FORWARDED TO THE HONORABLE, STEPHANIE E. HULSEY, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Consider adopting Resolution No. 2018-, accepting responses to the 2017 – 2018 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning” for the City of Marina, and;
2. Direct that the responses be forwarded to the Honorable, Stephanie E. Hulsey, Judge of the Superior Court.

BACKGROUND:

On June 4, 2018, the City received a copy of the 2017-2018 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury Final Report – “WHO’S IN CHARGE? Stepping up on Homelessness: The need for strategic leadership and comprehensive planning”. The report requires the City of Marina to respond to Finding Numbers F1-F12; and Recommendation Numbers R1-R10.

Pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933(c), the City of Marina is required to submit comments on the report to the Honorable, Stephanie E. Hulsey, Judge of the Superior Court within ninety (90) days following its transmittal.

ANALYSIS:

Staff has prepared written responses to the areas of concerns set forth in the 2017-2018 Final Report (“EXHIBIT A”).

Draft comments were previously circulated to the City Council. Staff is providing these written responses for City Council consideration in order to allow for appropriate input and any further direction. These responses must be submitted by September 2, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

CONCLUSION:

This request is submitted for City Council consideration and possible action.

Respectfully submitted,

Layne Long
City Manager
City of Marina