

July 31, 2003

Santa Barbara County Grand Jury
Attention: Foreperson
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT – ISLA VISTA TAKE CHARGE

The Grand Jury requested the Public Works Department respond to finding 2 and recommendation 2 of the subject report.

Grand Jury Finding 2: Parking problems continue to plague Isla Vista. Prior reports have recommended parking permits and/or parking meters. As of this report, nothing has been implemented.

Public Works Response: The Public Works Department agrees with the finding.

Recommendation 2: Without delay, establish a parking program for the streets of Isla Vista, and install parking meters in the commercial area. After installation, provide for diligent enforcement, with all revenue remaining in Isla Vista. Do not wait for more Grand Jury reports to be released.

Public Works Response: This recommendation requires further analysis by the Public Works Department and other County Departments prior to implementation. The analysis will be completed and provided to the County Board of Supervisors for guidance and direction in August 2003. The Public Works Department agrees that a parking program is needed in Isla Vista and as such has been working on a plan for the past six months. To date, a draft Parking Plan has been prepared in coordination with County Planning & Development, County Counsel and Isla Vista Recreation & Parks to include both metered parking and a comprehensive residential permit program. Administration and enforcement of the program requires additional analysis and ultimately direction from the County Board of Supervisors. The draft plan identifies the parking program revenues to fund the administrative and enforcement functions as well as to assist in funding needed road, sidewalk and alternative transportation improvements in Isla Vista.

Sincerely,

Phillip M. Demery
Director of Public Works