



COUNTY of NAPA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1195 Third Street, Suite 310, Napa, CA 94559
Office (707) 253-4386 FAX (707) 253-4176

July 22, 2008

The Honorable Raymond Guadagni
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Napa
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559

FILED

JUL 30 2008

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court
By: C. B. [Signature]
Deputy

Dear Judge Guadagni:

As required by Penal Code Section 933(c), enclosed is the response to the following 2007-08 Grand Jury Final Reports:

- Napa County Emergency Communications
- Napa County Office of Emergency Services
- Napa County Jail Department of Corrections
- Napa County Roads
- Napa County Juvenile Hall

Responses to findings and recommendations affecting local government entities other than the County are not included in the Board's response when those entities are not under the jurisdiction of the County Board of Supervisors.

Grand Jury activity takes place over the course of a number of months. As such, their findings and recommendations often address issues which county departments have already identified as problems and to which solutions are in the process of being developed. We note that a number of the Grand Jury's recommendations have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented at this time.

The Board acknowledges the members of the 2007-08 Grand Jury for the time they have devoted in preparing their report.

Received
Napa Superior Court

JUL 22 2008

Court Executive Office

Sincerely,

Brad Wagenknecht, Chair
Napa County Board of Supervisors

Enclosure

cc: Foreman, 2007-08 Grand Jury

BRAD WAGENKNECHT
DISTRICT 1

MARK LUCE
DISTRICT 2

DIANE DILLON
DISTRICT 3

BILL DODD
DISTRICT 4

HAROLD MOSKOWITE
DISTRICT 5

**NAPA COUNTY
RESPONSE TO THE NAPA COUNTY GRAND JURY
FINAL REPORT ON NAPA COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Finding No. 6: A dedicated County Emergency Operations Center would be a valuable asset for the county and should be considered in long term planning.

Response, Director of Emergency Services: The Director disagrees with the finding. The finding requires further analysis. The County is currently in the process of developing a Facilities Master Plan that, among other things, will address the issue of whether a new Emergency Operations Center is needed and, if so, whether that should be a dedicated or shared space and where any such space should be most appropriately located. Depending on the results of the analysis, it may or may not make sense to include a dedicated County Emergency Operations Center in the County's long term facility planning.

Recommendation No. 2: The impact of a significant influx of Bay Area disaster refugees into Napa County be elevated and specific plans prepared to deal with this eventuality; that the County Emergency Operations Plan be modified to incorporate this planning.

Response, Director of Emergency Services: We appreciate the Grand Jury's concern for the potential impact of disaster refugees coming into Napa County, and the recommendation to modify the County Emergency Operations Plan. The Office of Emergency Services concurs that without an integrated regional response plan Napa County could become a "destination of choice" for evacuees from the greater Bay Area.

Compared to highly urbanized Bay Area counties, Napa County is more disaster resistant. We have a more structurally survivable housing stock, we have much less population density and we have, due to our emphasis on agriculture and tourism, resources to deal with transient populations. We have a higher on-duty ratio of first responders per 1000 capita population and our first responders are among the most dedicated and well-trained in the state. An additional strength we have is our "smallness" compared to other Bay Area counties. Our first response community is remarkably cooperative in nature; they intuitively recognize that none of the disciplines has the staff, facilities, supplies and equipment to operate in isolation. Unified Command and resource sharing within the county are the operational norm not the exception. Law, Fire, EMS and Public Works agencies routinely work together, in training, exercises and actual responses.

All this being said, geographically, in the event of a major catastrophic disaster, Napa County is a Cul de Sac. We will be fully committed as both disaster victims and responders. We will have significant local impacts from any greater Bay Area event. Therefore, we are more of a "life jacket" for the Bay Area than a "lifeboat." We have the potential to keep evacuees afloat before we can get them to a lifeboat with true resources to sustain them until either housing stock can be found within the disaster area or housing

can be found in unimpacted areas for this displaced population.(i.e. 130,000 plus evacuees made homeless in a major Hayward Fault Event). Our planning efforts will focus on receiving, staging, sustaining and arranging transportation out of the disaster area of any portion of the population displaced by the Bay Area Event.

Planning for this potential impact is not something that the County can do unilaterally, but must be in coordination with neighboring jurisdictions. Fortunately, that planning is occurring, and the County calls the Grand Jury's attention to the following:

First, on January 3, 2008, the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP), a new 153-page response plan for emergencies in the Bay Area, was introduced. The plan exhaustively details which responsibilities are expected of various agencies in the event of a large public emergency; it can be activated after any disaster, whether caused by humans or by nature. While it lacks details, it does provide the chain of responsibility and communication. The plan can be found at www.oes.ca.gov - under "Response," click on "OES Regions" link, then "Regional Operations link," then "Coastal Region" link (which will display a map of the Northern California coast), then "RECP" link, then " San Francisco Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plans," and then "Base Plan."

Second, the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) of ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments) has been identified as the policy body for recovery decisions following a disaster in the Bay Area. The RPC includes people from throughout the entire Bay Area, including elected persons, staff persons, and representatives from a wide range of stakeholders, including the building industry, environmental community, water board, etc. It was chosen because of that diverse membership and the fact that it's a group of people regularly meeting, who are familiar with each other in a working/decision-making situation. The Napa County Board of Supervisors has a member seat on the RPC.

We know a major earthquake is in our future - we just don't know when. Until it happens, the recovery period will be unknown - it could last from hours to several years while buildings, infrastructure, and communities are rebuilt. Since August 2007, the RPC has engaged in bi-monthly workshops covering the topics listed below. Each workshop has produced suggested action items for local governments that include mitigation and preparedness measures that can be taken to make the recovery process much smoother. All of these topics are part of recovery planning:

- Recovery of health care systems and education systems
- Financing disaster recovery
- Long-term housing recovery
- Long-term economic impacts and recovery of businesses from disaster
- Legal issues
- Debris disposal

The panelists for each workshop have been impressive, and are extremely informative and helpful. They include Bay Area residents who have studied what went wrong with

Katrina, and served as disaster recovery leaders after the 1989 Santa Cruz (La Prieta) earthquake as well as the most recent large Kobe earthquake.

No one can anticipate what will be needed, and where - so regional coordination is essential. There will not be enough FEMA or other disaster recovery dollars for every jurisdiction, so it will be essential to have regional policy decisions about where that money should best be invested, and how.

Thus, though this recommendation has not been implemented, it will be implemented in the future. We will continue to cooperate with the Bay Area Super-Urban Area Security Initiative Group ("SUASI") and ABAG to integrate our planning with theirs. As these regional planning efforts progress, we will have a clearer set of planning assumptions to base our life jacket strategy on, and will update our local emergency plans to reflect these concepts. By October of 2008 there should be initial strategy proposals available to Napa County and other Bay Area jurisdictions. Local planning will proceed forward from that point.

Finally, in Napa County, we are well-positioned to use our key transportation nexus of the Napa River, Napa Airport, Highway 12/29 intersection as the focal point for an evacuee support mission. The combination of access and the proximity to the Highway 80 corridor (where the majority of the immediately available unaffected areas will be) provides an invaluable asset for the rapid movement of evacuees out of the affected areas. The existing infrastructure could be easily adapted to this mission. We have pre-existing transportation, command and control and logistical facilities in that area. This strategy would attempt to prevent the affected local governments in Napa County from being overwhelmed by displaced people while trying to simultaneously deal with the effects of a natural disaster on Napa County residents and their existing tourist and transient populations.

Recommendation No. 3: Long-range facility planning for Napa County includes a dedicated Emergency Operations Center combined with an integrated County PSAP and training facilities.

Response, Napa County Board of Supervisors: The recommendation that the County's long range facility planning include a dedicated Emergency Operations Center requires further analysis. The County is currently in the process of developing a Facilities Master Plan that, among other things, will address the issue of whether a new Emergency Operations Center is needed and, if so, whether that should be a dedicated or shared space and where any such space should be most appropriately located. The first phase of the Master Plan process will include a Facilities Space Needs Analysis. That Analysis is scheduled to be presented to the Board in August or September of this year. The goal is to complete the master planning process, and bring a final report to the Board, by the end of the 2008 calendar year.

The County currently does not operate a PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) or dispatch center and contracts with the City of Napa for PSAP and police and emergency medical dispatch services and with CAL FIRE for fire dispatch services. Consequently, it would not be appropriate to include space for an integrated County PSAP or dispatch center in the County's facility planning at this time. The issues of whether there should be a consolidated PSAP/dispatch Center in Napa County, whether any such PSAP and/or dispatch center should be owned and operated by the County and where any such PSAP should be located are issues that will require additional analysis and, depending on the results of that analysis, discussions and negotiations with the cities and other public safety agencies (the Grand Jury's recommendation only calls for the creation of a consolidated PSAP, but it appears that they may actually be intending to recommend the full consolidation of both PSAP and dispatch functions, though this is not entirely clear). County staff will review this issue further to determine whether and what additional analysis may be needed and whether, in light of current workload and other factors, it makes sense to proceed at this time with that analysis and/or any negotiations and/or discussions with the City of Napa and/or other cities and public safety agencies regarding PSAP/dispatch center consolidation and operation. Thus, this recommendation will not be implemented at this time because it is not reasonable. Depending on the results of all of the above, it may or may not make sense to include a consolidated PSAP/dispatch center in the County's facility planning and it may or may not make sense to combine any such facility with the County's Emergency Operations Center.