

CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE

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OFFICE OF MAYOR
Gordon Moller

May 12, 2009

Hon. Tom Cahraman, Presiding Judge
Riverside County Superior Court
4050 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

Riverside County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 829
Riverside, CA 92502

Re: *Response to Grand Jury Report concerning the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District*

Dear Judge Cahraman and Grand Jury Members:

On April 14, 2009, the Grand Jury forwarded a copy of its report regarding the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (the "District") to the City of Rancho Mirage.

Please be advised that the City of Rancho Mirage has no direct control over the activities of the District. However, in May 2008 the City appointed City Councilmember G. Dana Hobart as its representative on the District Board of Trustees. Trustee Hobart is an excellent Trustee and keeps the City fully apprised of the activities of the District. The City has complete confidence that Trustee Hobart will assist the District in addressing all the findings and recommendations set forth in the Grand Jury Report in the appropriate and legally required manner. Recent Board actions, including but not limited to the selection of a new General Manager, will surely address many of the issues raised in the Report and will ensure the District fulfills its mission of effective and environmentally sound vector control and disease prevention programs through research, development, and public awareness.

The City noted that Recommendation #8 stated in part: "(A)ppointing authorities (Riverside County and the nine cities) should develop criteria for trustee qualification and apply more intense vetting of potential trustees prior to appointment, thereby improving the quality of

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appointments to the District Board of Trustees." The City requires additional time to analyze this recommendation. Specifically, the City Council must make a determination as to whether it is appropriate to impose qualifications and standards, and if so to formulate such qualifications and standards. These decisions must be made subject to adequate time for public discussion and debate. The matter will be discussed and reviewed by the City Council by no later than October 14, 2009 as allowed for under Penal Code section 933.05(b)(3).

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact City Manager, Patrick Pratt at (760) 324-4511.

Very truly yours,



Gordon Moller, Mayor
City of Rancho Mirage

C: Branka B. Lathrop, Ph.D., General Manager
Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District