



City of Riverside, California
Office of the Mayor
PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON



June 11, 2024

Judith C. Clark, Presiding Judge

Superior Court of California, County of Riverside
4050 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

Riverside County Grand Jury

Post Office Box 829
Riverside, CA 95202

Riverside County Clerk-Recorder

2720 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 95207

Subject: Responses to Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations

To the Honorable Judge Clark, Riverside County Grand Jury, and Riverside County Clerk-Recorder:

The Riverside County Grand Jury issued a report titled March Joint Powers Authority: Marginally Transparent, March 21, 2024 (the "Report"). The Report was addressed to me, in my official capacity as Mayor of the City of Riverside and requires me to file a response with the agencies set forth above within ninety (90) days. In addition, the Report requires a response to Findings 4, 11, 16, and 19 and Recommendations 2, 6, and 9. Please find the City's responses to the required Finding and Recommendation below.

Findings:

F-4 The March JP A Commissioners infrequently seek a consensus on March JPA issues from other elected officials on their city council/board.

City response: The City agrees with this finding. March JPA Commission members are authorized to exercise their own discretion when voting. (See Harbach v. El Pueblo de Los Angeles etc. Com. (1971) 14 Cal.3d 828, 834. The Joint Powers Act, the March Joint Powers Agreement, the City of Riverside City Charter, and the ordinances and resolutions of the City of Riverside do not limit this authority.

F-11 The March JP A does not have a permanent community advisory committee

comprised of Riverside County residents.

City response: The City agrees with this finding.

- F-16 The March JPA violated Government Code §6503.8 by not submitting all required March JPA agreements and amendments to the Riverside County's Local Agency Formation Commission Office.

City response: The City has reviewed the MJPA response to the Report, and based upon the MJPA response, the City agrees with this finding.

- F-19 Effective on July 1, 2025, the March JPA transfers its land use authority, public works, policing, and fire protection responsibilities to the County of Riverside.
City response: The City partially agrees with this finding. In 2023, the March JPA Commission member agencies agreed to amend the Joint Powers Agreement for the 14th time, "to reflect the refinement and reduction of duties of the March Joint Powers Authority, anticipated future completion of the land use redevelopment phase of the original purpose of the Agreement, and the transition into a new phase of inter-governmental cooperation in the operation and management of the civilian airport through the March Inland Port Airport Authority." The 14th Amendment is more complicated than the summary set forth in finding 19 and is more fully explained in the amendment itself.

Recommendations:

- R-2 By October 1, 2024, the Grand Jury recommends that elected officials on the County of Riverside Board of Supervisors and city council members in Moreno Valley, Perris, and Riverside establish times when March JP A issues will be discussed, and a consensus developed for their representatives on the March JP A Commission.

City response: This recommendation has not been implemented by the City. This recommendation is not required by the Joint Powers Act, the March Joint Powers Agreement, the City of Riverside City Charter, or the ordinances or resolutions of the City of Riverside.

- R-6 By August 1, 2024, the Grand Jury recommends that the March JP A Commission establish, or be in the process of establishing, a permanent community advisory committee made up of Riverside County residents.

City response: This recommendation has not been implemented by the City. This matter falls within the jurisdiction of the March JPA Commission. March JPA Commission members are authorized to exercise their own discretion when voting for any item coming before the Commission. (See Harbach v. El Pueblo de Los

