

READ AND CONSIDERED

DATE 8/16/2021 BY B

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Rohnert Park District Elections

Report Date: June 20, 2021

Response by: Gerard Giudice Title: Mayor

Agency/Department Name: City of Rohnert Park

FINDINGS: F7

I (we) agree with the findings numbered F1, F2, F3, F4, F6, and F7

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: F5

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons.)

RECOMMENDATIONS: R3

Recommendations numbered: have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)

Recommendations numbered: R3 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)

Recommendations numbered: _____ require(s) further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury report.)

Recommendations numbered: _____ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 8/10/21 Signed: 

Number of pages attached: 2
(See attached Civil Grand Jury Response Requirements)

Response to Grand Jury Report on Rohnert Park Election Districts

City of Rohnert Park Clarifications and Responses

FINDINGS

Finding F5: The City of Rohnert Park does not monitor or track the ethics training required by California Assembly Bill 1234 of all local agency officials in office on or after January 1, 2007.

Response: Rohnert Park disagrees wholly with this finding.

The City of Rohnert Park created an AB 1234 Compliance Log in 2011 to monitor and track the ethics training required by California Assembly Bill 1234 of all local agency officials in office on or after January 1, 2007. This compliance log is used to track ethics training for all City of Rohnert Park publically elected officials and positions designated in the City of Rohnert Park's conflict of interest code. Information tracked in the log includes the assumed office date, leaving office date, date of the current certificate, and due date for the next training.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation R3: *The City Council members proactively plan in advance and allocate time in Council Meeting agendas to give the public opportunity for robust and ongoing discussion of any changes to the City's demographics that need to be addressed when the new Census data is released on September 30, 2021. This should occur by December 31, 2021. (F7)*

Response: At their regular meeting on April 13, 2021, the City Council of the City of Rohnert Park provided staff with direction to hire a demographer and outreach consultant for services related to redistricting. Staff is currently working to have the contracts executed. Upon the release of the Census data, the demographer will review the data and determine if changes to the current district map will be required. The City of Rohnert Park has planned to hold at least four public hearings to give the public opportunities for robust and ongoing discussion on any changes to the City's demographics that need to be addresses when the new Census data is released in compliance with the Fair and Inclusive Redistricting for Municipalities and Political Subdivisions (Fair Maps) Act. At those meetings, the City Council will allocate time to give the public an opportunity on the City's demographics. The City of Rohnert Park also intends to utilize the services of an outreach consultant who is experienced in helping local governments execute community education and outreach initiatives for district formation and redistricting. It is expected that the consultant will assist the City in proactively engaging the public in the redistricting process to ensure robust and ongoing discussion of any changes to the City's demographics prior to December 31, 2021 as part of the redistricting process, which must be completed by April 17, 2022.