



ERIK UPSON  
*City Manager*

July 19, 2022

*Sent via email*

Honorable Judge Wendy Getty  
Solano County Civil Grand Jury  
Hall of Justice  
600 Union Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533

RE: City of Benicia Response to 2021-2022 Solano County Grand Jury Report, “Solano County Is Not Prepared for Future Emergencies”

Dear Honorable Judge Getty:

This letter shall serve as the City of Benicia’s response in accordance with Penal Code section 933.05 to the Solano County Grand Jury report entitled “Solano County Is Not Prepared for Future Emergencies” as approved by the Benicia City Council on July 19, 2022.

**Finding 2**

There is a need for a coordinated city and countywide evacuation plan for Solano County.

**Response to Finding 2**

The City of Benicia agrees with Finding 2. In 2020, the City of Benicia developed a comprehensive citywide evacuation plan which was subsequently incorporated into the City Emergency Operation Plan. While Benicia’s evacuation plan is well designed and thorough, it is limited to the City’s jurisdictional boundaries and could be improved through increased countywide coordination. Additionally, we would be happy to assist in the development of the County program and would recommend our consultant as a possible resource for the Countywide evacuation plan.

**Recommendation 2a**

Develop compatible evacuation zones and routes throughout the county.

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**Response to Recommendation 2a**

The City of Benicia agrees with Recommendation 2a. When the City of Benicia updated its evacuation plan in 2020, new evacuation zones and routes were established. Although these zones and routes were established with an understanding that the need for an evacuation may include incidents impacting, or originating in, areas outside of the City's jurisdiction, we recognize that a countywide plan with compatible evacuation zones and routes would improve regional coordination.

**Recommendation 2b**

Create public awareness of evacuation zones and routes.

**Response to Recommendation 2b**

The City of Benicia agrees with Recommendation 2b. Upon completion of the City's evacuation plan, a robust public awareness campaign was implemented. This would be a critical component of a countywide plan as well.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Erik Upson  
City Manager  
City of Benicia

cc: Carl DuBois, 2021-2022 Solano County Grand Jury Foreperson  
City Council of the City of Benicia  
Ben Stock, City Attorney of the City of Benicia