



**300 Forest Avenue  
Pacific Grove, California, 93950**

October 19, 2016

Honorable Mark E. Hood  
Presiding Judge Superior Court  
240 Church Street  
Salinas, Ca. 93901

Dear Judge Hood,

This correspondence is in reference to the 2015-2016 Monterey County Grand Jury Report entitled, "Pacific Grove Sewage Spill"

Pursuant to the Grand Jury's request the council reviewed the Findings and Recommendations of the Grand Jury report at its council meeting October 19, 2016.

Council authorized me to respond to the Grand Jurys Request. Listed below are the council's response to the Findings and Recommendations.

**Finding of the Grand Jury Investigation:**

**F1** MRWPCA is responsible for the May 18, 2015, sanitary sewer overflow at Fountain Avenue, Pacific Grove. They own and operate said pump station, and were making repairs there when the overflow occurred.

**Response:** MRWPCA response required.

**F2** MRWPCA did not have a procedure to address potential false pressure readings during valve maintenance on May 18, 2015.

**Response:** MRWPCA response required.

**F3** Diverting the SSO into the Monterey Bay prevented a costlier and hazardous uncontrolled overflow. MRWPCA's response in dealing with the May 18 SSO was appropriate given the alternative.<sup>8</sup>

**Response:** MRWPCA response required.

- F4** The condition of PG owned sewer infrastructure was unrelated to the circumstances of the SSO on May18, 2015.  
**Response:** As to the finding regarding the City of Pacific Grove, the respondent agrees.
- F5** PG fulfilled its obligation in the Ecological Rights Foundation v. City of Pacific Grove Case #CO3-2612 PVT.  
**Response:** As to the finding regarding the City of Pacific Grove, the respondent agrees.
- F6** PG has so far only approved projects outlined in the 2014 SSMP when matching funds are available.  
**Response:** As to the finding regarding the City of Pacific Grove, the respondent agrees.
- F7** Due to rate increases from Proposition 218, PG will have sufficient funds to resolve the sewer infrastructure issues identified in the 2014 SSMP.  
**Response:** As to the finding regarding the City of Pacific Grove, the respondent agrees.
- F8** PG is sufficiently maintaining its sanitary sewer system through its contracts with Greenline and Root Tamers.  
**Response:** As to the finding regarding the City of Pacific Grove, the respondent agrees.

**Recommendations of the Grand Jury**

- R1** MRWPCA implement staff training to account for and manage situations of false equipment readings.  
**Response:** MRWPCA required to respond.
- R2** The City of Pacific Grove prioritize sewer projects based on severity of pipe degradation and public need.  
**Response:** The City has implemented.
- R3** The City of Pacific Grove annually budget for sewer projects using Proposition 218 funds and other funds as they become available.  
**Response:** The City has implemented.
- R4** The City of Pacific Grove actively seek matching funds for the sewer projects.  
**Response:** The City has implemented.

Please feel free to contact Daniel Gho, Public Works Director via email or telephone at [dgho@cityofpacificgrove.org](mailto:dgho@cityofpacificgrove.org) or 831.648.5722 respectively if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Kampe  
Mayor