



AGENDA REPORT

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

910 Calle Negocio
2nd Floor
San Clemente, California
www.san-clemente.org

Meeting Date: October 3, 2023

Agenda Item: 10B

Department: City Council
Prepared By Andy Hall, City Manager

Subject:
CITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE WITH ORANGE COUNTY SUPERVISOR FOLEY

Fiscal Impact:
None.

Summary:

On September 14, 2023, the City Council directed staff to prepare a letter from the City Council to Orange County Supervisor Foley seeking to collaborate on housing projects, specifically permanent supportive housing, that include funding from Orange County. In previous discussions, there has also been an interest expressed in seeking County assistance in getting opportunistic sand placed on the beach areas in San Clemente whenever possible. Both items have been included in the correspondence.

Background:

City Council policy allows members of the City Council to place items on a future agenda with a second, and with a third, staff is directed to prepare a staff report for consideration. In this instance, at least three members of the City Council directed staff to prepare a letter from the City Council to Supervisor Foley requesting that collaboration between the City and the County occur whenever County funds are used in housing projects, specifically permanent supportive housing, within San Clemente.

The purpose for collaboration is to ensure that the objectives of the City are aligned with those of the County. It is possible that County funding could be provided to a project that results in the displacement of existing residents. In this type of circumstance, the City Council would like the City to be included in the decision-making process to avoid solving one problem only to create another, potentially larger issue. Conversely, there could be circumstances where City involvement may result in an enhanced project with additional units, project consolidation or other benefits to a housing project. Either way, the City Council has determined that better communication will improve the process of County subsidized housing in San Clemente.

The correspondence also includes a request to provide assistance in getting sand placed on San Clemente beaches when possible. Several weeks ago, Supervisor Foley was instrumental in getting sand placed on Capistrano Beach. The City Council is hopeful that future projects would include some of the beach areas in San Clemente.

Council Options:

- Approve the letter as proposed and direct staff to send the letter to Supervisor Foley.
- Modify and approve the letter and direct staff to send the letter to Supervisor Foley.
- Reject the letter.

Environmental Review/Analysis:

This is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act.

Recommended Actions:

Staff Recommendation

Provide direction in relation to correspondence with Supervisor Foley.

Attachment:

Draft Letter to Supervisor Foley



San Clemente

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF INCORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Chris Duncan
Mayor

Steve Knoblock
Mayor Pro Tem

Victor Cabral

Mark Enmeier

Rick Loeffler

CITY MANAGER

Andy Hall

910 Calle Negocio
San Clemente, CA 92673
Phone: (949) 361-8200

*"The Spanish Village
by the Sea"*

October 3, 2023

Supervisor Katrina Foley
400 W Civic Center Dr.
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Supervisor Foley,

Thank you for your efforts to improve Orange County and specifically your representation of San Clemente. We hope you always feel welcome in our community and know that you can count on our support when you are working for the betterment of the entire County.

On a regular basis, you ask each of us if there is anything you, or the County, can do to assist the City of San Clemente. In the spirit of collaboration, there are a couple of items that we would like you to consider that would greatly benefit the City of San Clemente.

1. On occasion, the City is approached by interested parties regarding the conversion of multifamily units and/or hotel/motel rooms into Permanent Supportive Housing in San Clemente. The parties indicate that they have secured funding from the County for these projects. It would be very beneficial, when the County is considering financial support for a permanent supportive housing or other housing projects in San Clemente, if your staff could consult with the City Manager prior to final approval of the funding.

In some instances, the proposed uses are inconsistent with the objectives of the City Council. For instance, the proposed project may result in the *displacement* of existing lower income residents thus creating a different, but equally difficult, challenge in the community. In the past, we have had situations where private or non-profit interests have purchased a property in the City and displaced many of our long term "working" Hispanic community, long term San Clemente Asian citizens, hard-working low income working poor, seniors, and disabled members of the community. We certainly do not want to experience funding from Orange County invested in San Clemente that solves one problem, but creates a larger one for our community.

In other situations, early involvement with the City may lead to an enhanced project, perhaps even additional units or consolidation with adjacent proposals. In any case, early and effective collaboration between the City and the County will almost always result in a better project.

To reiterate, we have been told by community non-profit organizations that they have a commitment from the Orange County, through your office, to invest funds for the purchase of properties in San Clemente that would be transitioned into permanent supportive housing. We are mindful that you have spoken publicly, and privately, on many occasions promising that you would not fund housing alternatives without the City asking for that investment. We trust you will honor your commitment and look forward to working with you on any County investment in housing projects in San Clemente.

2. The City has recently hired a new Coastal Administrator. Your success in placing sand on the beach at Capistrano Beach was very well received and will benefit both Dana Point and the City of San Clemente. The City is currently working with the County to obtain a Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program Permit (SCOUP) to take advantage of similar situations. If an opportunity ever arises to place sand on the beach in San Clemente, even through emergency actions like those taken at Capistrano Beach, please let us know. We would be eager to pursue any opportunities for the placement of sand on local beaches.

Once again, thank you for everything you do to assist and represent the City of San Clemente. If you have any questions or would like to clarify anything in this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact the City Manager.

Respectfully,

Chris Duncan, Mayor

Victor Cabral, Councilmember

Mark Enmeier, Councilmember

Steve Knoblock, Councilmember

Rick Loeffler, Councilmember