

(R-2009-271)
(COR. COPY)

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 304096

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE SEP 09 2008

APPROVING THE CITY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE
2007-2008 SAN DIEGO COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
ENTITLED "THE FIRE NEXT TIME - WILL WE BE READY?"

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2008 the 2007-2008 San Diego County Grand Jury [Grand Jury] filed a report titled "The Fire Next Time - Will We Be Ready?" [Report] that requested a response from the Mayor and City Council; and

WHEREAS, under California Penal Code section 933(c), within 90 days after the filing of the report, each public agency which the Grand Jury reviewed, and about which it issued the Report, must comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the agency; and

WHEREAS, due to the City Council's legislative calendar, the Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court granted a request for an extension of time to submit the City Council's response to the Report to September 19, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the Grand Jury Report is "to examine and review the efforts, cooperation, and results of actions taken by authorities and personnel in charge of management and response to emergency disasters; to assess what lessons were learned; to make recommendations for improving the ability of the community to respond to the threat of wildfire;

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to recommend suggestions for improving response efforts in emergencies; [and] to commend the exemplary actions of front line responders who serviced the needs of 500,000 people affected by the wildfires" [Report, Page 2]; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury requested that the Mayor and City Council respond to finding numbers 1 and 11 and recommendations 08-105, 08-106 and 08-115 in the Report that relate to the City of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst has proposed a response to finding numbers 1 and 11 and recommendations 08-105, 08-106 and 08-115 as set forth in IBA Report No. 08-90 dated September 2, 2008, for the City Council's consideration; and

WHEREAS, under Charter section 280(a)(1) this resolution is not subject to veto by the Mayor because this matter is exclusively within the purview of the City Council and not affecting the administrative service of the City under the control of the Mayor; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of San Diego, that the Council approves and adopts as its own the response to the to the 2007-2008 San Diego County Grand Jury Report filed May 29, 2008, and titled "The Fire Next Time – Will We Be Ready?," as set forth in IBA Report No. 08-90 dated September 2, 2008, with a revision to the response to finding number 1 to include a statement that the City has increased the Fire-Department Rescue Department's budget by approximately 50 million dollars since approximately fiscal years 2003 and 2004, and a revision to the response to recommendation 08-115 to include a statement that

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the City had tremendous success with the mega-shelter at Qualcomm Stadium with national and international recognition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council President is authorized and directed, on behalf of the City of San Diego and the City Council, to execute and deliver the above-described response to the Presiding Judge of the San Diego County Superior Court no later than September 19, 2008.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By Rachel C. Lipsky
Rachel C. Lipsky
Deputy City Attorney

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