

**TOWN OF WOODSIDE**  
**RESPONSE TO THE BICYCLE SAFETY, WARRANT ENFORCEMENT**  
**AND HANDLING FORENSIC EVIDENCE**  
**GRAND JURY REPORTS**

July 9, 2003

The Honorable Beth Labson Freeman  
Judge of the Superior Court  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

**RE: 2002-03 GRAND JURY REPORT – BICYCLE SAFETY, WARRANT ENFORCEMENT, AND HANDLING FORENSIC EVIDENCE**

Dear Judge Labson Freeman:

The Town of Woodside received copies of the three referenced Grand Jury Reports on May 16, 2003. The Town Council and the staff have studied the reports and recommendations contained therein. On behalf of the Town Council, I would like to offer the following responses:

**Warrant Enforcement and Handling Forensic Evidence**

The recommendations that might be germane to the Town in both of these reports involve the activities of the various cities' police departments. The Town of Woodside does not have a police department and is provided police protection services through a contract with the San Mateo County Sheriff. While we are in agreement with the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations, the Town will look to the Sheriff to respond to the Grand Jury and implement the recommendations as he and his staff deem appropriate.

**Bicycle Safety In San Mateo County**

There are four recommendations included in this report. Recommendations 3 and 4 involve actions that the City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) should undertake. It is my understanding that C/CAG will be directly responding to these two recommendations on behalf of all of its member agencies, including the Town of Woodside, so I will not separately comment upon these.

With regard to the first two recommendations, however, I am happy to be able to report that the Town of Woodside is in full compliance with both and has been for many years. The specific recommendations are addressed in the following paragraphs.

**Recommendation 1:**

"Within one year, San Mateo County and every city without a long-term strategic bicycle safety and transportation plan should develop one that includes:

- a. the priorities set forth in the San Mateo County Comprehensive Bicycle Route Plan
- b. a bicycle advisory committee
- c. at least one city employee whose job responsibilities involve bicycle transportation and safety issues
- d. coordination of roadway construction projects with neighboring cities."

**Response:**

The Town's General Plan includes a comprehensive and strategic plan within its Circulation Element that exclusively addresses bicycles and bicycle safety and that adequately addresses the priorities set forth in the San Mateo County Comprehensive Bicycle Route Plan. The Circulation Element includes many policies that

emphasize the importance of incorporating bicycle safety considerations into all transportation improvement projects. It also includes, by reference, a map that highlights the Town's strategic plan for development and improvement of bicycle safety features, including bicycle lanes and trails, throughout the Town's rights-of-way.

The Town has had a standing Bicycle Advisory Committee for over ten years. The committee provides a forum for public education and outreach on bicycle safety issues and coordinates with the Town staff on road improvement projects to ensure that bicycle safety issues are adequately and consistently addressed, in conformance with the General Plan.

The Town Engineer and his assistant are responsible for overseeing bicycle transportation and safety issues. They work with the Bicycle Committee and with individual bicyclists and non-profit bicycle organizations. The Town has also consistently coordinated roadway construction projects with neighboring cities and with the County. In recent years the Town has shared design, construction, and cost elements of several different road projects with the Town of Portola Valley and the County of San Mateo. Such coordination is a longstanding practice.

**Recommendation 2:**

"The county and cities should seek grant funding to support bicycle projects and programs in their communities."

**Response:**

The Town Engineer aggressively seeks grant funds for bicycle and other transportation improvement projects and has a proven track record in this area. The Town will continue to seek available grant funds in an effort to improve our bicycle and transportation system and to leverage limited local funds.

The Town greatly appreciates the efforts of the Grand Jury to improve and enhance the services that are provided by local governments. On behalf of the Town Council, I would like to extend our thanks for an opportunity to respond to the work of the 2002-03 Grand Jury. Please do not hesitate to call our Town Manager, Susan George, should you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Susan Boynton  
Mayor