August 21, 2017

RESPONSE TO CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT – SHOW ME THE MONEY

Dear Judge Lucas:


If you have any questions regarding the following, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Stephen McMahon
Deputy Superintendent

Finding 7: The San José Unified School District did not have a parcel tax in place when the Grand Jury concluded its data collection and was thus not included in the calculations nor in other Findings and Recommendations.
- Agree as San José Unified did not have a parcel tax during the Grand Jury’s investigation.

Recommendation 7: In anticipation of the assessment of the $72 parcel tax with a senior exemption, the San José Unified School District should implement the following recommendations in the report: 1a, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 4, 5, 6, and 9b.
- Recommendation 1a has been implemented as information about the parcel tax was available through a variety of means other than the Internet.
- Recommendation 1b has been implemented as there is a link on the home page of the district’s website that includes the words “parcel tax”.
- Recommendation 1c has been implemented as the “parcel tax” link on the home page of the district’s website leads to the exemption application procedures and forms.
- Recommendation 3a has been implemented as parcel tax exemption applicants can apply by mail without making a special request.
- Recommendation 3b has been implemented as requests for parcel tax exemptions may be submitted electronically, without the need to apply in person or by traditional mail.
- Recommendation 4 has been implemented as exemption application forms for the parcel tax are available year-round.
- Recommendation 5 will not be implemented because it is not reasonable as San José Unified has no authority over other locally elected governing boards.
- Recommendation 6 has been implemented as renewals are not required unless the Office of the Assessor records a change in ownership for the specific property.
- Recommendation 9b will not be implemented because it is not reasonable as San José Unified has no authority to standardize the processes of other governing boards.