January 17, 2023

Via E-mail CGJ@scscourt.org and First-Class Mail

Honorable Beth McGowen
Presiding Judge, Santa Clara County Superior Court
191 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95113


Dear Judge McGowen:

The City of Monte Sereno is providing its response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Final Report titled, “Show Me the Money: Financial Transparency Needed.” Based on the City’s review of the report, and in accordance with Penal Code section 933 et seq., the City Council of the City of Monte Sereno is required to respond to Finding 7 and to Recommendation 7. As directed by the Civil Grand Jury, responses are being provided in accordance with Section 933.05(a) and (b) of the California Penal Code. The responses are as follows:

Finding 7 –
The City of Monte Sereno does not produce monthly treasurer’s reports as required by California Government Code section 41004.

Response: The City of Monte Sereno partially disagrees with the finding. The City of Monte Sereno’s Finance Manager presents information to the City Council on a monthly basis, in the form of four written reports, which includes all of the information required by Government Code section 41004. These reports are the Revenues and Expenditures Monthly Report, the Significant YTD Variances to Budget Narrative Report, the LAIF Investment Monthly Report (which includes balance information for all City Funds including checking and savings accounts), and the Treasurer’s Report (which includes disbursement information for all accounts). As Government Code section 41004 does not specify any particular form treasurer’s report, the City’s existing practices substantially comply with the requirements of Government Code section 41004. In the future, the City Finance Manager will consolidate all of these written reports into a single agenda item.

Recommendation 7 –
The City of Monte Sereno should comply with California Government Code section 41004 by producing monthly treasurer’s reports that include monthly disbursements, receipts, and fund balances by March 15, 2023.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. As previously mentioned, Government Code section 41004 does not specify any particular form treasurer’s report, the City’s existing practices substantially comply with the requirements of Government Code section 41004. In the future, the City Finance Manager will consolidate all of these written reports into a single agenda item to be presented to the City Council.
This concludes the City's responses to the findings and recommendations in the Final Report. If you have any additional questions about this response, please contact the City Clerk.

Sincerely,

Mayor