

FIRE COMMISSION
City and County of San Francisco
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

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Maureen Conefrey, *Secretary*

September 1, 2015

Honorable John K. Stewart
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
400 McAllister Street, Room 008
San Francisco, CA 94102-4512

Re: Civil Grand Jury Report
San Francisco Fire Department: What Does the Future Hold?

The Honorable John K. Stewart:

Pursuant to the request of Ms. Janice Pettey, Foreperson of the 2014-2015 Civil Grand Jury, the San Francisco Fire Commission is submitting the attached response to the Civil Grand Jury's report, dated July 13, 2015 and titled "San Francisco Fire Department: What Does the Future Hold?" Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or concerns regarding our response.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Maureen Conefrey per:

ANDREA C. EVANS
President, San Francisco Fire
Commission

cc: Clerk of the Board, Government Audit and Oversight Committee
Janice Pettey, Foreperson 2014-2015 Civil Grand Jury
Fire Commissioners
Chief Joanne Hayes-White

**CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT: WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?
SAN FRANCISCO FIRE COMMISSION RESPONSE**

	RECOMMENDATIONS	AGREE/DISAGREE	COMMENTS
	A. EMERGENCY RESPONSE ISSUES		
1.1.1	The Fire Commission should require the Chief to prepare a monthly report on ambulance performance versus the EOA and the average number of ambulances capable of responding to a service call.	Already implemented.	Even before the civil grand jury report was issued, the Fire Commission had tasked the Chief to report on ambulance response times and progress toward meeting the EOA. These reports are typically provided by the Deputy Chief of Operations. The Commission has been actively monitoring these issues for years.
	RECOMMENDATIONS	AGREE/DISAGREE	COMMENTS
1.5	SFFD has no formal strategic plan and is not creating such a plan in the near future; the Fire Commission seems a natural group to assist the Chief in this very important venture.	In the process of implementation.	At the urging of the Fire Commission, the Fire Department has embarked on a strategic planning process. The planning began in the spring of 2015 with meetings with the President of Local 798, outside consultants who specialize in strategic planning, and a former Chief of the Oakland Fire Department. Following these meetings, the Chief and President of Local 798 formed a Steering Committee that includes members from each rank in the Department, President of the Fire Commission, and individuals from outside of the Department, thus creating a Committee with a breadth of experience and expertise. The Steering Committee held a kick off meeting on July 21, 2015. The Department retained an outside consultant to facilitate the kick-off meeting. The Committee anticipates completion of the strategic plan in the spring of 2016.

	RECOMMENDATIONS	AGREE/DISAGREE	COMMENTS
	B. TREASURE ISLAND TRAINING FACILITY		
2.1	That the Chief review the current agreement with TIDA to determine whether it is possible to amend the agreement so as to retain the existing location of the training facility.		The San Francisco Fire Commission was not required to respond to this recommendation.
2.2	That TIDA review its current agreement with SFFD to determine whether it is possible to amend the agreement so as to retain the existing location of the training facility.		The San Francisco Fire Commission was not required to respond to this recommendation.
2.3	That, while Recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 are being explored, the Chief and the Fire Commission determine an alternate site for the training center since, if an already City-owned site is not adequate to serve as training center, the purchase of a new site will be more than difficult in the current real estate market.	In the process of implementation.	<p>The Commission agrees that it is important for the Department to retain a first-class training facility. The Commission has been assured that the Department has reviewed the agreement with TIDA. Further, the Commission is aware that the Department would like to retain the location of its training facility on Treasure Island, but it does not have the authority to require TIDA to amend the agreement.</p> <p>The Department has advised the Commission that it is unlikely that TIDA will take any steps to remove or dismantle the existing training facility within the next seven years, at the earliest. Nevertheless, the Department has already advised the City's Capital Planning Committee that an alternate site might be necessary in the event that TIDA proposes another use for the current training site. The Commission will monitor TIDA's plans as they develop.</p>