

# City of Placerville

City Manager's Office  
3101 Center Street  
Placerville, California 95667



October 13, 2020

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury  
Presiding Judge of the El Dorado County Superior Court  
1354 Johnson Blvd.  
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150

**RE:** El Dorado County Grand Jury Case #19-01; *Placerville City Police Facility*  
El Dorado County Grand Jury Case #19-04; *Policing Those With Behavioral Health Issues*

The Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury,

The City of Placerville City Council provides the following responses to the above referenced El Dorado County Grand Jury Cases as approved by the City Council on October 13, 2020.

## **Case #19-01: Placerville City Police Facility**

### **Finding:**

*"The Placerville Police Department facility is inadequate for modern police operations and requires funding for extensive renovation or replacement."*

**Response:** The City of Placerville agrees with the finding.

### **Recommendations:**

*R1: Placerville should have a professional space and facilities need study completed with cost estimates for a new or renovated police facility.*

**Response:** In February of 2020, the City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with El Dorado County Fire District to complete a joint facility needs study for a new police/fire facility in the City. Not only is the current police facility inadequate, but the current fire facility is also. Shortly after we approved the MOU, the Covid-19 virus affected the City and required additional work for staff of both the City and El Dorado County Fire District. The study has been delayed due to these events. The study is currently funded and it is the intention of the City and the El Dorado County Fire District to pursue the study in the fall/winter of 2020-2021.

*R2: Placerville should explore funding options for the renovation or replacement of the current police facility.*

**Response:** As part of the study approved in February 2020 we will look at potential funding options.

R3: *Placerville should move expeditiously to renovate or replace their current police facility.*

**Response:** Agreed. This is why we have funded the study.

#### **Case #19-04: Policing Those with Behavioral Health Issues.**

##### **Findings:**

F5. *While not mandated by POST, the Placerville Police Department provides its officers with Continuing Professional Training in Crisis Intervention Training.*

**Response:** The City of Placerville agrees with the finding.

F6. *The Placerville Police Department has not established an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training for Crisis Intervention Training course hours or for Refresher Training Crisis Intervention Training.*

**Response:** The City of Placerville disagrees with this finding. See response to R3 below.

F7. *The Placerville Police Department participates in HOT (Homeless Outreach Team) and does not participate in PERT (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team).*

**Response:** The City of Placerville agrees with this finding. See response to R4 below.

##### **Recommendations:**

R3. *The Placerville Police Department should establish an internal standard for Continuing Professional Training for Crisis Intervention Training course hours or for Refresher Training Crisis Intervention Training.*

**Response:** Recommendation has been implemented.

The Placerville Police Department has internal standards for Continuing Professional Training. All sworn field personnel have received CIT training above what is required by POST. Each police officer receives 8 hours of CIT training and every Field Training Officer (FTO) and Supervisor (Sergeant) receives 24 hours of CIT training. Furthermore, every Placerville Police Officer is trained in de-escalation tactics and our policies reinforce these measures as a priority. Parts of our policies are that we will continue refresher training at or close to every two years. CIT is funded state mandated training, so the availability to attend is always present.

R4. *Expansion of PERT into the Placerville Police Department should be explored with the County Health and Human Services Agency.*

**Response:** Recommendation as proposed cannot be implemented at this time.

Currently, with our limited staffing and no foreseeable opportunities for additional funding, resources are deployed to address law enforcement specific concerns in the City. The Placerville Police Department believes collaboration with HHSA is beneficial; however the PERT Model deployed in the County is not appropriate due to the limited number of calls of this nature in the City of Placerville.

The Placerville Police Department has met with County Mental Health on several occasions to create a more holistic response to our community needs. A potential model would be a Social Worker/Mental Health Worker that is assigned to the Police Department, who would work out of our office, to assist and navigate persons in crisis, or experiencing homelessness, to a successful outcome. With everyone one of our officers trained in CIT, having that added experience of a crisis worker “in house” would be more impactful.

If there are any questions or further clarification needed on any of these responses, please contact the City through City Manager Cleve Morris.

Sincerely,



M. Cleve Morris  
City Manager  
City of Placerville