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March 6, 2012

Honorable Donna Tarter  
Kings County Superior Court  
1426 South Drive  
Hanford, CA 93230

Dear Judge Tarter:

The City of Lemoore has received the Grand jury Report titled "Lemoore Parks and Recreation". As requested, we are providing the following comments to the recommendations contained in the report.

**Finding 1:**

**There is a pond in the left field of the softball field at Heritage Park.**

**Recommendation 1:**

**Fix it.**

**City Comments:**

Heritage Park was designed in 1989 as a Community Park. As such, it was intended to serve many purposes. Attachment A is the original Schematic Design for the park. As you can see, the pond on the south end of the park was an intended feature of the park. Additionally, areas around the pond and towards the softball field are graded for the purpose of serving as a storm drainage basin. Because of this, during wet periods, much of the southern portion of the park can flood. The softball field was intended for recreational uses, as opposed to competitive adult play. It is adequate for Little League and Youth Softball practice. Finally, there have been some changes to the intended buildout of the park. Rather than being constructed as originally planned, much of the presently undeveloped area will be planted with trees, and house a disc golf course, with natural features, in an effort to curb maintenance costs.

**Finding 2:**

**The City has a number of unaddressed ADA deficiencies in all of the city parks and recreation facilities.**

**Recommendation 2:**

**The Lemoore City Council should work with the Parks and Recreation Department to alleviate ADA deficiencies in the parks and recreation facilities.**

**City Comments:**

The City of Lemoore is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In fact, in December of 2008, the City commissioned an Access Compliance Survey to be conducted for all City Facilities, including parks, by Sally Swanson Architects, Inc. The complete survey report was completed and accepted by the City in October of 2009. The report

clearly details compliance recommendations for all of the City's facilities. In fact, the report calls for over \$500,000 in ADA upgrades at City Park, Heritage Park, D Street Plaza Park, and Lions Park. The City Council is committed to making the needed upgrades when funding is available. Additionally, as repairs or upgrades are made in the parks, the new items installed improve ADA access.

In closing, the City of Lemoore appreciates the contributions that the Kings County Grand Jury provides for the community. Their dedicated public service is an invaluable tool and aid to the governance of Lemoore.

Sincerely,

Willard J. Rodarmel  
Mayor