



VALLEJO SANITATION &
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

*Protecting public health
and the San Francisco Bay
since 1952.*

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Solano County Grand Jury
Attn: Presiding Judge
Morland McManigal, Foreman
Hall of Justice
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533
Email: cdclower@solano.courts.ca.gov

July 1, 2014

RE: 2013-2014 Grand Jury Report Entitled: **Geographic Information System (GIS)**

Enclosed please find the responses from Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District regarding the Grand Jury Report, "Geographic Information System (GIS)". If you have any questions regarding the District's responses please contact Rolf Ohlemutz, District Engineer at rohlemutz@vsfcd.com or (707) 644-8949, ext. 231.

VALLEJO SANITATION AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT


MELISSA MORTON
District Manager

Finding 2	<i>Some upper levels of public agency management are not actively supporting and participating in the implementation of ReGIS</i>
Recommendation 2	<i>Upper levels of public agency management actively support and participate in the implementation of ReGIS.</i>
VSFCD Response	<i>Do not agree</i>
	<i>VSFCD has had an active GIS for its sanitary sewer and storm drain collection system for about 10 years. The GIS is used extensively by many departments and has improved our service to the public considerably. The GIS is supported actively by upper management. The Engineering Department has a full-time staff person dedicated to keep the GIS up-to-date both in terms of software and content. Since its inception, VSFCD has used various consultants to improve and expand the GIS. VSFCD is exchanging data with other entities such as the ReGIS Stakeholders.</i>
Finding 3	<i>Management attendance at ReGIS meetings has been poor.</i>
Recommendation 3	<i>Management attend and encourage attendance by representatives from their agency at ReGIS meetings</i>
VSFCD Response	<i>Do not Agree</i>
	<i>VSFCD has a representative at each meeting who reports back to management. REGIS meetings are usually highly technical and upper management, while being able to appreciate the effort and picking up bits of information, would generally not be able to follow the discussion. Management is willing and available to attend specific ReGIS meetings and often attends the annual REGIS Seminars. Management has authorized and encouraged other VSFCD staff, such as IT and field crews, to attend ReGIS meetings.</i>
Finding 4	<i>Representation of agencies at ReGIS meetings has been mostly by non-management employees who have limited or no commitment authority.</i>
Recommendation 4	<i>In the absence of management attendance, management appoint and authorize an employee to commit and support ReGIS activities.</i>
VSFCD Response	<i>Do not Agree</i>
	<i>VSFCD's representative to ReGIS follows up with management and reports back with action items that require management to be involved. This involvement ranges from clarifications of VSFCD's position on various GIS issues that will give direction to the VSFCD representative to making decision on commitment of staff and resources. An example of the latter is the participation in the MOU for the aerial flight. The difficulties encountered in this process were not caused by VSFCD. VSFCD reviewed and commented on proposals and generally expressed its support of the effort. VSFCD does have a policy to not make any financial commitment before the City of Vallejo does. As the City's share is generally equal or greater than VSFCD's, and as VSFCD is governed by largely the same individuals, sitting as the Vallejo City Council and the VSFCD Board of Trustees. As such, we usually coordinate the governing body's actions as a courtesy to the members.</i>