



CITY OF OAKLAND

MEMO



TO:	Honorable City Council Members of the Public	FROM:	Nikki Fortunato Bas Council President, District 2
SUBJECT:	Response to 2023-2024 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report on Oakland Billboards	DATE:	October 31, 2024

Honorable City Council and Members of the Public,

In my role as Council President, I am hereby submitting draft responses to the 2023-2024 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report on Oakland Billboards for Council consideration. These responses were drafted by the sponsors of the legislation in coordination with the Office of the City Attorney, and will be considered as a non-consent item on the November 12, 2024 Council meeting agenda.

The 2023-2024 Alameda County Civil Grand Jury included a report on the Oakland City Council’s decision to approve a relocation agreement for Becker/OFI that created significant community benefits and advanced the public interest.

The Grand Jury report asserts that the Council made a hasty decision that costs the City millions of dollars. However, as the administrative record reflects, the City Council considered the evidence presented to it on the record, both through written and oral testimony, from several interest groups, community activists, and non-profit leaders, city staff and consultants, as well as the billboard companies themselves.

At the Council meeting on November 12, 2024, the Council will consider the draft responses and any potential amendments thereto. Upon approval of the Council, my office intends to submit the responses to the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury on or before November 15, 2024.

I’d like to extend my gratitude to the City Attorney’s office for their support and collaboration with my office and in bringing this forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Attachments:

- A. Draft Response to Civil Grand Jury Regarding Oakland Billboards
- B. Oakland Billboards Legislation
- C. Alameda County Civil Grand Jury Report - Excerpt on Oakland Billboard

City Council
November 12, 2024