

August 7, 2024

Via email to CGJ@scscourt.org

Honorable Beth McGowen
2023-24 Presiding Judge,
Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara
191 North First Street
San José, CA 95113

(ENDORSED)
FILED
AUG - 7 2024
Clerk of the Court
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY Brian Huelbig DEPUTY

Dear Honorable McGowen:

This letter is in response to the request I received on June 12, 2024, from Civil Grand Jury foreperson, Karen Enzensperger, to respond to certain findings and recommendations that pertained to me in the Civil Grand Jury report entitled, "Irreconcilable Differences." Those findings and recommendation for me are as follows:

Requested responses to applicable findings in Civil Grand Jury report, "Irreconcilable Differences":

<u>Responding Individual</u>	<u>Findings</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
Councilmember Kathy Watanabe	1a, 1b, 1c	1g

Finding 1a

The working relationships among Councilmembers and the Mayor are broken.

My response: Agree

Finding 1b

Some Councilmembers do not adhere to the City's adopted ethical and behavioral standards while conducting City business on the dais.

My response: Agree

Finding 1c

Councilmembers Becker and Park air petty grievances and engage in squabbles with other elected officials and constituents from the dais.

My response: Agree

Recommendation 1g

Even though Councilmember Watanabe has shown appropriate meeting decorum, the Councilmember should attend one-on-one conflict resolution training to learn how to work effectively in the current challenging Council meeting environment. This recommendation should be implemented by October 1, 2024.

My response: (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the applicable findings of the Civil Grand Jury report.

Sincerely,

Kathy Watanabe

Councilmember, District 1

City of Santa Clara