

This document is an extract of a larger publication.

civilgrandjury.org is a project of UnGovr.org, a US-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to government transparency and public accountability.



COVID-19 MITIGATION AND THE COUNTY JAIL

Background: The Grand Jury investigated activities by the Court, the District Attorney and the Sheriff’s Department to reduce jail populations and lessen the likelihood of a major COVID-19 outbreak within the jail. The Sheriff’s Office made significant efforts to mitigate Covid-19 transmission throughout its detention facilities to ensure the on-going health and safety of inmates and employees. The Grand Jury recognized the success of the Sheriff’s Office in avoiding a major COVID-19 outbreak in the jail. However, some actions significantly limited the ability of inmates to communicate with family and legal representatives. Other actions limited inmates’ access to educational and recreational resources. The Grand Jury made several Recommendations aimed at restoring inmates’ rights and maintaining reduced prison populations.

RES = Respondent; GJ = Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury;
 SCSO= Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office; DA = Sonoma County District Attorney;
 MADF = Main Adult Detention Facility

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
R1. The Sheriff’s Office develop, no later than September 1, 2021, a policy to restore out of cell activity, in person and video visitation, and all programs to pre-pandemic levels.	SCSO	This Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. However, the SCSO partially disagrees with the Recommendation because out of cell activities partly depend on inmate population over which it does not have final control. It is the goal of the Sheriff’s Office to have a revised policy completed by April 1, 2022.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future, with a specific goal of implementation of video visitation programs by April 1, 2022.
R2. The Sheriff’s Office implement 30-minutes of video visits per week by September 30, 2021, and continue until it fully restores in-person visits to the pre-pandemic levels.	SCSO	This Recommendation has been implemented. As of June 19, 2021, the Sheriff’s Office has restored in-person visiting to pre-pandemic levels.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented through the restoration of in-person visits.
R3. The Sheriff’s Office should continue the pandemic-era policies favoring citations over arrests.	SCSO	This Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable. The SCSO cannot legally “favor” citations over arrests. The decision of citation vs arrest is the responsibility of the officer in the field.	The Grand Jury acknowledges this Recommendation will not be implemented.
R4. The Sheriff’s Office and the Board of Supervisors work together to develop a plan by December 21, 2021 to increase the contracted Wellpath resources to fund four additional Wellpath	SCSO	This Recommendation requires further analysis. The SCSO recognizes the substantial role discharge planners play for inmates with ongoing mental health and medical needs. The SCSO will monitor case load and issue recommendations to the BOS as needed.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis. A future GJ may choose to follow up on this issue.

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
discharge planners for mental health and medical assignments to the Main Adult Detention Facility.			
R5. The District Attorney discontinue cash bail for defendants charged with misdemeanors and non-violent, non-sexual and less serious felonies.	DA	This Recommendation will not be implemented because the DA does not have authority to unilaterally discontinue cash bail. However, the DA acknowledges that the practice of issuing citations rather than making arrests for misdemeanors and non-violent felonies has helped keep the MADF population from increasing. Further, it involves not only the arrest practices of the SCSO, but that of all law enforcement agencies.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation cannot be fully implemented at this time.
R6. The Sheriff's Office implement a surveillance-testing program and require 100% participation by all unvaccinated jail staff by September 1, 2021.	SCSO	This Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. The California Dept of Public Health Services order dated July 26, 2021, requires implementation of the Recommendation. The SCSO will be fully compliant with the Order by August 23, 2021.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented.
R7. The Sheriff's Office reassign jail staff who decline vaccination or participation in surveillance testing by September 1, 2021.	SCSO	This Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable. This is a Human Resources issue and will be addressed through the Sonoma County Human Resources Department.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will not be implemented. Given the State Public Health Order, this Recommendation is no longer relevant as vaccination tracking or surveillance testing is now mandatory for State and local correctional facilities and detention centers.

BROADBAND ACCESS IN SONOMA COUNTY

Background:

Access to high quality internet (“Broadband”) is not available throughout all of Sonoma County due to the rugged, rural nature of much of the County, the reluctance of broadband providers to underwrite expansion to underserved areas, and the difficulty many residents have in paying for broadband services. This “digital divide” prevents many individuals from participating fully in our increasingly digital society. The Grand Jury investigated the current state of broadband availability in the County and identified several means through which it could be improved.

RES = Respondent; GJ = Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury;
 BOS = Sonoma County Board of Supervisors; EDB = Economic Development Board;
 TPW = Department of Transportation and Public Works; PS = Permit Sonoma;
 COA = Sonoma County Office of Administration; ASB = Access Sonoma Broadband

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
R1. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors consider recognizing and designating broadband as a “Utility” that needs prioritization by October 31, 2021.	BOS	<p>This is interpreted as a two-part Recommendation: (1) The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors consider recognizing and designating broadband as a "Utility"; (2) Broadband needs prioritization.</p> <p>Part 1 of this Recommendation requires further analysis. The Economic Development Board is beginning assessment of a governance structure that would best support broadband infrastructure development and maintenance. This assessment will also include analysis of options regarding the County's role with the Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy and the State's new Office of Broadband.</p> <p>Part 2 of this Recommendation has been implemented. On March 2, 2021, the BOS approved a Five-Year Strategic Plan that includes specific objectives related to broadband deployment and access.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury recognizes that BOS has interpreted this Recommendation as having two parts. The GJ acknowledges that Part 1 requires further analysis and that designation as a “utility” is dependent on determination of a governance structure that is yet to be determined.</p> <p>The GJ acknowledges that Part 2 of this Recommendation has been partially implemented through inclusion in the Five-Year Specific Plan.</p>
R2. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors adopt and support a plan to address a lack of broadband access in the County by November 30, 2021.	BOS	<p>This Recommendation has been implemented. On June 8, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved the Broadband Action Plan and allocated \$315,000 to fund the initial phase of the Action Plan.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.</p>
R3. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors	BOS	<p>This Recommendation has been implemented. The EDB has initiated the</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
provide staff and funding to allow the Economic Development Board and Access Sonoma Broadband to develop accurate data on broadband service for the County by December 31, 2021.		Broadband Speed Test Initiative, which allows community members to test their current home internet speeds. When all tests are complete, the EDB will analyze the data, and may request funding from the Board of Supervisors if additional study is needed.	been implemented. The GJ also notes that speed tests do not address a lack of service due to unavailability or cost.
R4. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and Economic Development Board assemble an interdepartmental group to coordinate and oversee efforts in Broadband expansion by November 30, 2021.	BOS	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. The Board of Supervisors is awaiting a set of recommendations from EDB concerning the governing structure needed to implement their Broadband Action plan.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future.
	EDB	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. An RFP for consulting services related to Broadband expansion is currently in development, with a release planned for late July 2021. The scope includes comprehensive research of potential governing structures and the creation of a business plan for the recommended structure. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded in September 2021, with a governance structure and partnerships identified in late 2021.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented but it will be implemented in the future.
R5. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the Economic Development Board consider the establishment of a broadband Joint Powers Agreement that includes Sonoma County, Mendocino County, and possibly other neighboring counties by November 30, 2021.	BOS	This Recommendation has been implemented. In 2016, the County of Sonoma entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with Marin County, Napa County and Mendocino County to coordinate efforts to improve broadband access for rural communities. Through the North Bay North Coast Broadband Consortium (NBNCBC) the four counties have worked to identify broadband deployment opportunities, locate broadband funding sources, complete broadband strategic plans and help broadband service providers take advantage of funding to address broadband opportunities. The NBNCBC has also worked to recommend the member counties authorize coordination with local,	The Grand Jury acknowledges that the Recommendation has been implemented by means of the NBNCBC, and that a potentially more powerful JPA is under consideration (see EDB response below).

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
		state and federal officials to review and support regulations and policies to further expand broadband deployment to rural areas.	
	EDB	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. A Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is one of the structures recommended by the Broadband Action Plan, and will be considered as part of the scope of work outlined in the response to R4. The County will consider if a regional model is an appropriate tool for deploying broadband infrastructure in Sonoma County.	The Grand Jury recognizes that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future.
R6. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors give a high priority to addressing personnel levels sufficient to accomplish the goals of a broadband specific plan.	BOS	This Recommendation has been implemented. The County has given high priority to accomplishing the Broadband Action Plan and has allocated \$315,000 for the initial stages of this work (consulting service, legal services, and grant management).	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented. However, the GJ notes that the allocation addresses the initial phase of this work and does not directly address personnel levels.
R7. The Sonoma County Department of Transportation, Permit Sonoma and Access Sonoma Broadband develop procedures and standards that would ensure placement of broadband conduit in all appropriate situations by December 31, 2021.	TPW PS	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. By December 31, 2021, TPW will begin working with Permit Sonoma to start the development of formal public right-of-way construction standards that will facilitate the permitting and installation of broadband facilities.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future.
	ASB	This Recommendation requires further analysis. It is unlikely that ASB will exist at an operational capacity sufficient to create and recommend policy before a governance structure is identified and created (see R4 above).	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis on the part of ASB.
R8. In the annual budget process the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the Office of Administration include evaluation of the costs of laying cable or empty conduit in upcoming	BOS	This Recommendation requires further analysis. The next opportunity to allocate funding, during the annual budget process, will take place in June, 2022.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis and that the County budget is set on an annual basis. BOS will not be able to consider cable/conduit fund allocation until June 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
infrastructure projects by December 31, 2021.	COA	This Recommendation requires further analysis. The County Administrator's Office will work with departments to determine if funding is available for "laying cable or empty conduit in upcoming infrastructure projects" and will make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Supervisors through the normal budget hearing process.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis.
R9. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, the Economic Development Board, and Access Sonoma Broadband include in the implementation of any broadband plan a clear requirement for the download and upload speeds of 100/20 proposed in State of California Executive Order N-73-20 to be the minimal acceptable level of service by September 30, 2021.	BOS EDB and ASB	This Recommendation requires further analysis. Though download/upload speeds of 100/20 have been recommended by the state as well as identified by NBNCBC as a target, it is unlikely that formal adoption of any particular speed recommendation will be made locally before a governing structure and business plan are identified and created. It is anticipated that an update on this work would be made to the BOS within six months.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis and that implementation depends on establishment of a working plan.
R10. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors assure that any plan for broadband expansion should utilize fiber optic cable transmission or its equivalent whenever it is possible by November 30, 2021.	BOS	This Recommendation requires further analysis. Though fiber optic cable or its equivalent is a widely used benchmark, it is unlikely that the County will adopt formal transmission standards before a governing structure and business plan are identified and created.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis and depends on adoption of a plan.

EMERGENCY ALERTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Background: Wildfires and other emergency situations have threatened Sonoma County and its residents for many of the last several years. There have been losses of lives, property, and a sense of security. This Grand Jury Report centered on emergency communications. Information must be precise, accurate and continuously updated. The Jury found that significant improvements in communication policies, procedures, and practices have been made since the Tubbs fire in 2017. The Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) have worked in conjunction with the nine cities of the county to ensure that all residents have access to good information. The Jury also noted four specific areas in which improvement was still needed.

In addition, the Jury included a comprehensive listing of available resources for information, both before and in case of an emergency. This information is on pages 83-87 of the full report, which is available at any County library and online at www.sonomagrandjury.org.

RES = Respondent; GJ = Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury;
 SCSO = Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office; DEM = Dept. of Emergency Management;
 CCL = City of Cloverdale; CC = City of Cotati; CH = City of Healdsburg;
 CP = City of Petaluma; CRP = City of Rohnert Park; CSR = City of Santa Rosa;
 CS = City of Sebastopol; CSO = City of Sonoma; TW = Town of Windsor;
 BOS = Sonoma County Board of Supervisors; SCFCA = Sonoma County Fire Chief’s Association

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
ALERTS AND WARNINGS			
R1. By October 31, 2021, the Sheriff’s office, Dept. of Emergency Management and nine cities’ departments include within their Emergency Operations Plans action steps to reach all subpopulations within the County who may not otherwise receive an alert.	SCSO CSO	The Recommendation will not be implemented. The Sonoma County Sheriff’s Office is not responsible for the county’s EOPs nor does it control the county’s disaster alert and warning program.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will not be implemented. The GJ notes that the Sheriff’s Office does post alerts on Nixle.
	DEM	The Recommendation may not be implemented as it is vague. The County’s Alert and Warning Annex is responsible for these requirements.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation may not be implemented.
	CCL SR CS	This Recommendation has been implemented.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.
	CC CP CRP CH	This Recommendation is being implemented. The EOP will be updated by October 31, 2021.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation is being implemented.
	TW	This Recommendation has not been implemented. Emergency alert services are provided by the SoCo Sheriff’s Office	The Grand Jury acknowledges that that this Recommendation

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
		and the SoCo Fire District which use Nixle and social media platforms to alert residents of emergencies. Windsor’s EOP will be updated in 2022.	will be part of Town of Windsor updated EOP in 2022.
R2. By October 31, 2021, the Board of Supervisors review and propose additional alert and warning methods such as air raid sirens and public address systems to put contingencies in place when broadband fails or is not available.	BOS	This Recommendation has not and may not be implemented. The County has developed robust systems to reach most residents, as demonstrated in recent disasters. In cases of broadband unavailability it has used National Weather Radio to target challenging areas and populations, and has provided more than 10,000 weather radios. Hi-Lo sirens have been mounted on vehicles, and DEM continues to explore siren networks and other technologies.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented. The GJ also recognizes that BOS and DES continue to explore additional ways to improve and expand warning systems.
R3. By October 31, 2021, the Department of Emergency Management explain the challenges behind the emergency communications in order that residents may understand, trust and appreciate the complexity and the ongoing work it takes to maintain effectiveness-	DEM	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. Emergency communications are addressed with residents at every event.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future.

EVACUATIONS			
R4. By October 8, 2021, the Sheriff’s Office, Department of Emergency Management, and nine cities work together to ensure consistent naming for all evacuation maps used by the public and first responders.	SCO DEM CC CCL CH CP CRP CS CSO CSR TW	This Recommendation has been implemented. The evacuation map has been shared with all nine cities, the DEM and every law enforcement agency and fire agency within Sonoma County.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.

RECOMMENDATIONS	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
R5. By October 8, 2021, the Sheriff's Office, Department of Emergency Management, and nine cities work together to ensure the public is informed of their evacuation zones by publishing evacuation maps in local media, online, and through SoCo Emergency.	SCSO DEM CC CCL CH CP CRP CS CSO CSR TW	This Recommendation has been implemented. Since late 2020 the Sheriff's Office worked with all nine cities to create a unified evacuation mapping system. This County-wide evacuation map of the unincorporated areas along with all nine cities was posted on the websites of the Sheriff's Office and the Department of Emergency Management on May 24, 2021.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.

RECOMMENDATION	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
INFRASTRUCTURE			
R6. By December 31, 2021, the Sheriff's Office develop a plan and identify what is needed to bring the communication tower equipment/repeaters up-to-date to ensure during an emergency the systems function (legacy and end of life systems.)	SCSO	The Recommendation has been implemented. The SCSO Telecommunications Bureau continually monitors and analyzes existing equipment and systems. Critical items are submitted annually to BOS for funding. A current list of projects is in the FY 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.
R7. By March 31, 2022, the Sheriff's Office and Board of Supervisors provide funding to maintain the communication tower equipment/repeaters.	SCSO	The Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. SCSO submits requests on behalf of the Telecommunications Bureau through the County's Capital Improvement Plan. Funding is part of the annual spring budgeting process.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that implementation of this Recommendation depends on budget decisions made each spring by BOS.
	BOS	This Recommendation requires further analysis. The next opportunity to allocate funding will be through the annual budgeting process in June, 2022. The Administration will work with departments to determine if projects are warranted and funding is available.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis and cannot be implemented until budget decisions are made.

RECOMMENDATION	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
R8. By June 30, 2022, the Sheriff's Office implement the plan to bring the communication tower equipment/repeaters up-to-date.	SCSO	This Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future. Actions will depend on the assessment of needs (R7) and BOS funding of projects in the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future as budgeting decisions are made by BOS each spring.
R9. By December 31, 2021, the Department of Emergency Management work with Permit Sonoma to identify where all cellular provider towers are in the county.	DEM PS	This Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented. Commercial broadband providers are not required to share infrastructure location and do not do so as it is considered proprietary information. Some locations are known, but this is not considered necessary for optimal use of alert warning systems.	The Grand Jury recognizes that implementation of this Recommendation relies on the cooperation of commercial cellular providers which may not be forthcoming. The GJ accepts that DEM also considers this location information is not needed for use of the emergency alert system
R10. By October 31, 2021 the Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Management work with the Fire Agencies in the county work to ensure that defensible space standards (as outlined by CAL FIRE) are met for all county communication towers/repeaters and cellular provider network towers.	SCSO DEM	This Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable. The County cannot assume responsibility for vegetation management on sites it does not own or control.	The Grand Jury accepts that SCSO and DEM cannot assume responsibility for sites that are not under County control. However, the GJ encourages county agencies to support efforts to maintain defensible space standards for all infrastructure that is involved in emergency alert systems.
	SCFCA	SCFCA supports and concurs with this Recommendation.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that SCFCA supports this Recommendation.
R11. By September 30, 2021, The Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency Management work with the Fire Agencies in the County to define actions to take during a disaster for the protection of all County communication towers/repeaters and cellular network towers.	SCSO DEM	This Recommendation has been implemented. SCSO and DEM coordinate with CALFIRE and local agencies to protect local infrastructure. An example is protection of the Mt. Jackson site during the LNU Complex fire in 2020.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.
	SCFCA	SCFCA supports and concurs with this Recommendation.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that SCFCA supports this Recommendation.
R12. By December 31, 2021, the Department of Emergency Management	DEM	This Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented. DEM does not establish infrastructure	The Grand Jury accepts that DEM does not set safety requirements for commercial

RECOMMENDATION	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
work with cellular tower providers to ensure a plan is developed to ensure defensible space standards are implemented around each tower.		safety requirements for cellular providers, but as partners in public safety will support their efforts.	cellular providers' infrastructure. The Jury encourages DEM to facilitate measures that support the spirit of this Recommendation.
R13. By October 31, 2021, the Department of Emergency Management update the County Emergency Operations Plan to incorporate and post on the Department of Emergency Management website the most up-to-date information and Recommendations from the After Action Reports since the disasters of 2017.	DEM	This Recommendation has not been implemented but will be implemented in the future. A new County Emergency Management Plan is expected to be submitted for review and approval by BOS in the 4 th quarter of 2021. After Action Reports will continue to be posted on the DEM website.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented by the end of 2021, and that After Action Reports and Recommendations will be posted.
R14. By October 31, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approve the updated County Emergency Operations Plan.	BOS	This Recommendation is in the process of being implemented. An updated plan is being prepared and is expected to be submitted to BOS in the first quarter of 2022. Completion has been delayed by the need to comply with the County's new strategic plan and a new State law dealing with community engagement and cultural considerations.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented early in 2022.
R15. By October 31, 2021, the nine cities update their Emergency Operations Plan to incorporate the most up-to-date information and lessons learned since the disasters of 2017 and post it on their websites.	CC CCL CH CS	This Recommendation has been implemented, although the Emergency Operations Plan is a long-term planning document and is not necessarily an appropriate site for most up to date information.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has been implemented.
	CSO CSR CRP CP	This Recommendation has not been implemented but it will be in the future. Updating is a continuing process, and the Emergency Operating Plan is not necessarily an appropriate site for the most up to date information.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future.
	TW	This Recommendation has not been Implemented and may not be implemented because the Emergency Operation Plan is not an appropriate site for detailed information.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation may not be implemented.

RECOMMENDATION	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
<p>R16. By September 30, 2021, Department of Emergency Management obtain from the US Army Corps of Engineers a copy of the Emergency Operations Plan for Warm Springs Dam and incorporate it into the County Emergency Operations Plan and post it on the Department of Emergency Management website.</p>	DEM	<p>This Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented. The Emergency Operations Plan for Warm Springs Dam is available to County officials but subject to a non-disclosure agreement. The Army Corps of Engineers must balance security concerns and public safety with release of information.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented because the Emergency Operations Plan is subject to a non-disclosure agreement.</p>
<p>R17. By December 31, 2021, Department of Emergency Management, through the San Francisco Bay Area Counties, submit its annual Emergency Alert System Plan to the State Emergency Alert System Committee of California as recommended within the 2019 State of California Alert and Warnings Guidelines.</p>	DEM	<p>This Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented. The County submits reports as part of the SF Bay Area Local Emergency Communications Committee which has not met since 2010; this local committee is controlled by the State Emergency Communications Committee which has not met since 2011 but is being reconstituted and will hold annual meetings.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will not be implemented because the appropriate Bay Area and State organizations are currently non-functional. These organizations are expected to be reconstituted.</p>
<p>R18. By December 31, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution that all major County disaster plans having to do with Emergencies and Emergency Preparedness be considered “Living Documents” to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.</p>	BOS	<p>This Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented. These plans are multiple and complex and it is impractical to review and update them annually. Plans will be updated on a three year or as needed basis.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation has not been implemented and may not be implemented because annual updating is impractical.</p>
<p>R19. By December 31, 2021, the Department of Emergency Management publicize the work of community preparedness groups such as Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies, Community</p>	DEM	<p>This Recommendation has not been implemented but it will be implemented in the future. DEM supports multiple community preparedness groups and will continue to do so. DEM has applied for a grant to support these efforts.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation will be implemented in the future and that support of community preparedness groups is an ongoing process.</p>

RECOMMENDATION	RES.	RESPONSES	2021-2022 GJ OBSERVATIONS
Emergency Response Teams, and Community Organizations Around Disasters to more effectively reach all residents about emergency alerts and warnings.			
R20. By December 31, 2021, the Board of Supervisors increase the capacity of the Department of Emergency Management’s Community Preparedness function in order to effectively engage the greater community in disaster preparedness with groups such as Fire Safe Sonoma, neighborhood groups such as Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies, and Community Emergency Response Teams to foster resilience.	BOS	This Recommendation has not been implemented and requires further analysis. The capacity of the DEM Community Preparedness function has been increased over the last several years. Community Preparedness is a BOS priority and we anticipate this discussion will take place during budget hearings. DEM is currently applying for federal grants, which would support preparedness efforts including developing Community Emergency Response Teams.	The Grand Jury acknowledges that this Recommendation requires further analysis and implementation will be part of the budgeting process.