

TO: The Honorable Anthony C. Edwards,
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

FROM: John Jelicich, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Response to Recommendations of 2004-2005
Grand Jury, Development & Environmental Committee – Final Report Planning
Department

DATE: August 9, 2005

The Grand Jury Development & Environmental Committee has requested a written response to their final report regarding the Planning Department. In my capacity as Planning Director, my response to Finding #1 and Recommendation #1, as requested by the Committee is as follows:

Finding #1: "The Planning Department approvals expire after two years if final maps have not been recorded. This is not in writing, so people are not really informed of this expiration. This leads to a misunderstanding by the applicant."

Response: I agree with the finding. Government Code Section 66452.6 provides that tentative maps expire if a final map has not been filed within twenty-four (24) months; however, some people are not aware of this law. While not legally required to do so, we have implemented the grand jury's recommendation as a service to our customers.

Recommendation #1: "Trinity County Grand Jury has recommended that applicants be notified of all time limits, in writing, on all approvals to avoid any future misunderstandings."

This recommendation has been implemented.

To: The Honorable Anthony C. Edwards Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
From: Trinity County Board of Supervisors
Subject: Response to recommendation of 2004-2005
Grand Jury, Development & Environmental
Committee Final report: Planning Department
Date: September 3, 2005

The Grand Jury Development & Environmental Committee has requested a written response to their final report regarding the Planning Department. The Trinity County Board of Supervisor's response is as follows:

Finding #1: "The Planning Department approvals expire after two years if final maps have not been recorded. This is not in writing, so people are not really informed of this expiration. This leads to misunderstanding by the applicant."

Response: The Trinity County Board of Supervisors agrees with the finding. Although there may be governmental codes covering the expiration of tentative maps if a final map has not been filed within 24 months, it is also possible that the general public may not be aware of these codes. Therefore, it becomes incumbent upon the Planning Department, with their knowledge of governmental codes, to provide the highest level of customer service and assistance to the public regarding timelines associated with approvals that are handled in their department.

Recommendation #1: The recommendation has been implemented.