

## Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Sonoma County Airport: Addressing Challenges and Preparing for the Future

Report Date: June 12, 2025

Response by: M. Christina Rivera Title: County Executive

Agency/Department Name: Sonoma County Administrator's Office

### FINDINGS:

I (we) agree with the findings numbered: No findings requested for CEO response

I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: No findings requested for CEO response

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Recommendations numbered: N/A \_\_\_\_\_ have been implemented.  
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered: N/A \_\_\_\_\_ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.  
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered: N/A \_\_\_\_\_ require(s) further analysis.  
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. ***This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury report.***)
- Recommendations numbered: R2, R3 \_\_\_\_\_ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.  
(Attach an explanation.)

**R2. By December 1, 2025, the Sonoma County Executive Officer will evaluate whether Sonoma County Airport should continue to be a department within Public Infrastructure or become a stand-alone agency and will forward an appropriate recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.**

While the County constantly considers the best structure to provide services, no specific evaluation of the airport is needed at this time. The Airport Manager already has broad latitude over day-to-day operations and implementation of strategic

priorities at the Airport, with the support and oversight of the Director of Public Infrastructure. The Airport operates as a self-funded enterprise and does not compete for resources either within the Public Infrastructure department or more broadly with other County departments. Creating an independent department or agency would likely introduce inefficiencies, such as duplication of currently shared administrative services, that would increase the cost of operating the airport while not increasing available resources.

**R3. By December 1, 2025, the County Executive Officer will evaluate the need for engaging a qualified Airport Master Plan consultant as suggested in FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5070- 6B to facilitate a comprehensive review of the Charles M. Schultz-Sonoma County Airport Master Plan.**

This recommendation will not be implemented, as the 2022 Airport Layout Plan (ALP) update (an FAA-required document) satisfies FAA planning requirements, including comprehensive activity forecasts, capital improvement planning, and identification of operational constraints. Therefore, the County concludes that developing a new Airport Master Plan (AMP) would offer limited added value at this time. The ALP effectively addresses near-, mid-, and long-term development priorities, as confirmed through FAA coordination, positioning it as a robust planning tool moving forward.

Date: August 22, 2025 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of pages attached: 0

(See attached PC Civil Grand Jury Response Requirements)