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July 9, 2008 (Agenda)

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission  
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor  
 Martinez, CA 94553

**Preliminary Draft Municipal Service Review/Sphere of Influence Update  
 Green Valley Recreation & Park District**

Dear Members of the Commission:

BACKGROUND

**What are Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs)**

The MSR process provides an assessment of the ability of local agencies (i.e., county, cities, special districts) to effectively and efficiently provide services to residents and users. The form and content of the MSR is provided for in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act).

The purpose of the MSR is to provide information to the Commission to use in updating the sphere of influence (SOI) and considering future boundary changes for each local agency. LAFCO is not required to initiate boundary or SOI changes as part of MSR. LAFCO, local agencies or the public may subsequently use the MSR together with additional studies, where necessary, to pursue changes in jurisdictional boundaries, including annexations, reorganizations, district formations, etc. LAFCO may also use the information in the MSR in reviewing future proposals related to changes of organization or reorganizations.

Government Code §56375(a) gives LAFCO the power to initiate certain types of boundary changes consistent with service reviews and SOI studies. These boundary changes include:

- Consolidation of districts (joining two or more districts into a single successor district)
- Dissolution (termination of a district and its corporate powers)
- Merger (termination of a district by merging that district with a city)
- Establishment of a subsidiary district (where a city council becomes the board of directors of a district)
- Formation of a new districts or districts
- A reorganization that includes any of the above

LAFCO may also use the information presented in the MSR to review proposals for extension of service beyond an agency’s jurisdictional boundaries, or for other boundary changes.

### **State Law Requirements**

The CKH Act requires LAFCO to update the SOI for each local agency under its jurisdiction every five years. The CKH Act further requires that a service review be conducted prior to or in conjunction with the SOI update.

Government Code §56430 requires that service reviews include an analysis and written statement of determinations with respect to various factors, including growth and population; present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies; financial ability of agencies to provide services, opportunities for shared facilities, government and operational efficiencies, and other factors related to service delivery.

### **MSRs/SOI Updates in Contra Costa County**

In 2003-04 the Commission completed baseline MSRs for approximately 50 special districts, and updated SOIs for a number of these districts.

In 2006, Contra Costa LAFCO initiated additional baseline MSRs covering health care, water, wastewater, city and miscellaneous services. The Commission is using a combination of outside consultants and LAFCO staff to prepare the MSRs/SOI updates. To date, the health care and most water and wastewater MSRs/SOI updates are complete or nearing completion. The sub-regional reviews covering city and miscellaneous services are underway.

### **DISCUSSION**

LAFCO staff has prepared the Preliminary Draft MSR for the Green Valley Recreation & Park District (GVRPD). This report has been reviewed by the district representatives for accuracy. A copy of the preliminary report was provided to the Commission for review.

The MSR focuses on the District and its ability to provide services. Preliminary conclusions are grouped in accordance with the six State-required determinations. The report also provides SOI options and a recommendation.

At the LAFCO meeting on July 9, LAFCO staff will present an overview of the preliminary determinations and SOI options/recommendation. The Commission is requested to review the report and provide direction. Comments received at the LAFCO meeting will be incorporated into the MSR report. Subsequently, the MSR will be circulated for public comment. The Commissioner will be asked to accept the MSR report and update the District's SOI following the public review period.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Receive the preliminary MSR for the GVRPD and staff report and provide comments,
2. Direct staff to prepare and circulate the Public Review Draft MSR, and
3. Schedule a public hearing for August 13, 2008 to consider the Public Review Draft MSR/SOI Update for the GVRPD.

Respectfully submitted,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

c: Distribution