

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

LEAD AGENCY:

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
651 Pine Street, 6th Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

Contact: Lou Ann Texeira
Telephone: (925) 335-1094

PROJECT SPONSOR:

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
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Martinez, CA 94553

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Telephone: (925) 335-1094

PROJECT LOCATION:

The proposed project area is located near the Sacramento River in eastern Contra Costa County. The proposed SOI expansion areas encompass 13 separate areas located within unincorporated Contra Costa County but some are also within the planning areas and/or corporate boundaries of the cities of Pittsburg or Antioch.

Latitude: 37°59'11.59"N

Longitude: 121°53'2.92"W

Section: S31 **Township:** T2N **Range:** R1E

Assessor's Parcel Number: Multiple

NOTE: The Section, Township, Range, Latitude and Longitude was taken from a center point to all of the 13 SOI areas.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Name of Project: Proposed Spheres of Influence (SOIs) Expansions for the City of Pittsburg, Delta Diablo Sanitation District (DDSD) and Contra Costa Water District (CCWD)

The project proposes the expansion of the existing SOIs for the City of Pittsburg, DDSD and CCWD to coincide with the voter approved ULLs for the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch.

In November 2005, the City of Pittsburg voters approved Measure P, establishing an ULL for the City of Pittsburg. Similarly, the City of Antioch voters approved Measure K (Appendix B), which established an ULL for the City of Antioch. In November 2006, the voters of Contra Costa County passed Measure L, which updated the County's ULL to,

among other things, make it generally consistent with the voter approved ULL for the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch.

Inclusion of an area within an agency's SOI implies the probable need for municipal service and corresponding development within a specified period of time. In accordance with Contra Costa LAFCO policies, this timeframe is 5 to 10 years. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines, this Initial Study must assume that the effects of adjusting the SOIs in relation to present and future land uses, the need for municipal services, including water and wastewater, and the environmental consequences.

REVIEW PERIOD:

Monday, April 13, 2009 through Wednesday, May 13, 2009

COMMENTS:

A copy of the Initial Study/Negative Declaration is on file at the Contra Costa LAFCO, 651 Pine Street, 6th Floor, Martinez, CA 94553. Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to:

Contra Costa LAFCO
Attn. – Lou Ann Texeira
651 Pine Street, 6th Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

All comments received by 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 will be considered by the Commission.

FINDINGS & REASONS:

The Initial Study identified no potentially significant effects on the environment. The project will not have the potential to significantly degrade the environment; will have no significant impact on long-term environmental goals; will have no significant cumulative effect upon the environment; and will not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. The following reasons will support these findings:

1. The proposed expansion of SOIs does not include any proposed development or physical alterations.
2. All existing land use designations, policies and goals for the project area would remain applicable.
3. The proposed SOI expansion would not contribute to any other potentially significant cumulative effect nor would it cause substantial adverse effects on human beings.

4. The proposed expansion of the existing SOIs for the City of Pittsburg, DDSD and CCWD would have no impact in the following areas: aesthetics, agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology/soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology/water quality, land use, mineral resources, noise, population/housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic and utilities/service systems. Future proposed annexations into the City of Pittsburg or service districts would be subject to subsequent environmental review.
5. The proposed project does not involve any new development or provision of new services or change in the level of current services. The existing General Plans, Zoning Ordinances and other policies, regulations and ordinances affecting the project area would remain applicable. Any future land use decisions or development projects proposed would be subject to environmental review. As outlined in the CEQA Guidelines, it is appropriate to prepare a Negative Declaration for the proposed project because no environmental impacts would occur as a result of the expansion of SOIs for the City of Pittsburg, DDSD and/or CCWD.