

San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission

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LAFCO

BULLETIN

June-July
2008

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S UPDATE

On June 25, 2008, the Board of Supervisors reviewed the fire and EMS reorganization proposal approved by LAFCO on May 7, 2007. In response to the LAFCO proposal, the Board approved a county staff recommended proposal—called the hybrid plan—to reorganize fire protection services over much of the unincorporated area. Reorganization would be implemented in three steps.

Step I would involve activating latent powers for structural fire protection and EMS within a zone of County Service Area (CSA) No. 135. The latent powers zone would represent the area where services are currently provided by volunteer fire protection companies. The second step would dissolve five CSAs that provide fire protection services and expand the latent powers zone to cover the territory of the dissolved agencies.

The final step, estimated to occur by 2011 or 2012, would consider a reorganization to absorb the San Diego Rural and Pine Valley FPDs into the fire protection zone of CSA 135. The Board of Supervisors has initiated an application with LAFCO that proposes the activation of latent powers for structural fire protection and EMS within the Step I territory. The County proposal will be considered by LAFCO on October 6, 2008.

Also related to regional fire protection, on July 22, the Board of Supervisors received a report recommended by the Regional Fire Protection Committee, co-chaired by Supervisor Roberts and City of San Diego Mayor Sanders. The re-

port proposes to implement a county-wide parcel tax and create a regional fire protection JPA that would address issues identified by the Board of Supervisors when the Committee was established. The parcel tax, which must receive two-thirds voter approval, must be placed on the ballot by August 8, 2008 for the November general election.

At the October meeting, the Commission will be apprised of how the Commission's approved Reorganization, the County's request for latent powers, and a possible regional JPA authorized by the voters would interface.

From June 20th through July 11th, Executive Officer Michael Ott was on vacation in Europe. During this time period, Chief of Policy Research Shirley Anderson acted as the Executive Officer. On July 3rd, Ms. Anderson presided over the protest hearing for the consolidation of the East County and San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection Districts. No opposition to the consolidation was presented at the hearing, and the consolidation was finalized and became effective on July 3rd.

The August 4, 2008 LAFCO meeting agenda includes the following items:

Public Hearing Item

- Oak Creek RV Park Annexation to the Lakeside Sanitation District

Continued Public Hearing Item

- North Avenue Reorganization (City of Escondido)

Other Business Items

- Pilot Travel Center Annexation to the Rural Fire Protection District
- August 2008 Legislative Report
- Fourth Quarter Budget Update FY 2007-08
- Quarterly Self-Approved Expense Claims Report
- Cancellation of the September 8, 2008 Meeting

LAFCO CALENDAR

- **August 4, 2008:** Regular LAFCO Meeting (9:00 a.m. at the County Administration Center, Room 302).