



San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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AGENDA REPORT
 Business | Discussion

August 5, 2019

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
 Alex Vidal, Analyst I

SUBJECT: Draft Municipal Service Review on the Escondido Region | Part One

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will review a draft prepared as part of the scheduled municipal service review on the Escondido region. The draft represents the first of a two-part municipal service review and is specific to addressing the availability, need, and performance of public services provided in the region by Deer Springs Fire Protection District (FPD) and Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District (MWD). This includes preparing determinative statements addressing all of the factors required under statute as part of the municipal service review mandate and headlined by population estimates, infrastructure needs, and financial standing. The draft is being presented to the Commission for discussion and feedback ahead of staff initiating a public review in anticipation of returning in October with final actions.

BACKGROUND

Municipal Service Review Mandate

State law directs San Diego LAFCO to regularly prepare municipal service reviews in conjunction with updating each local agency’s sphere of influence. The legislative intent of the municipal service review and its five-year cycle requirement is to proactively inform the

<p>Administration Keene Simonds, Executive Officer County Operations Center 9335 Hazard Way, Suite 200 San Diego, California 92123 T 858.614.7755 F 858.614.7766 www.sdlafco.org</p>	<p>Jim Desmond County of San Diego</p> <p>Dianne Jacob, Vice Chair County of San Diego</p> <p>Greg Cox, Alternate County of San Diego</p>	<p>Mary Casillas Salas City of Chula Vista</p> <p>Bill Wells City of El Cajon</p> <p>Serge Dedina, Alternate City of Imperial Beach</p>	<p>Mark Kersey City of San Diego</p> <p>Chris Cate, Alternate City of San Diego</p>	<p>Jo MacKenzie, Chair Vista Irrigation</p> <p>Barry Willis Alpine Fire Protection</p> <p>Erin Lump, Alternate Rincon del Diablo MWD</p>	<p>Andy Vanderlaan General Public</p> <p>Harry Mathis, Alternate General Public</p>
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Commission and the general public therein with regard to the availability and sufficiency of governmental services relative to current and future community needs. Municipal service reviews statutorily inform required sphere of influence updates, and may also lead the Commission to take other actions under its authority, such as forming, consolidating, or dissolving one or more special districts.

Current Workplan | Municipal Service Review on the Escondido Region: Part One and Part Two

San Diego LAFCO’s current workplan was adopted at a noticed hearing held on April 3, 2019 and outlines specific project goals for the fiscal year. This includes preparing a municipal service review on the Escondido region and the three local agencies – Deer Springs FPD, Rincon del Diablo MWD, and the City of Escondido – under Commission oversight that provide one or more public services in the approximate 100 square mile area. The municipal service review represents the first detailed report prepared by the Commission on the region since the early 2000s and has been divided into two distinct phases. “Part One” is specific to providing an independent assessment of the public services provided by Deer Springs FPD and Rincon del Diablo MWD. “Part Two” is specific to assessing the City of Escondido and is being separately prepared by the City as part of an earlier arrangement and will include additional focus on an anticipated reorganization proposal involving the Safari Highlands development. Both phases will come under one cover once completed.

DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to review a draft on Part One of the scheduled municipal service review on the Escondido region and specific to Deer Springs FPD and Rincon del Diablo MWD. The draft is being presented for discussion and before staff initiates a formal 45-day public comment period. Feedback provided by the Commission – including requests for additional analysis – will be incorporated into a final document presented for future action and ahead of proceeding with sphere of influence updates on both agencies.

An Executive Summary (Chapter Two) anchors the municipal service review and outlines the key conclusions and findings generated to date. This includes addressing the mandatory factors required under statute anytime San Diego LAFCO performs a municipal service review. Examples include making independent statements on infrastructure needs and deficiencies, population estimates, financial resources, and opportunities and merits therein for reorganizations. Specific recommendations for action either by the Commission and or by one or more of the affected agencies are also enumerated in the Executive Summary.

ANALYSIS

See Executive Summary provided as part of Attachment One.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO provide feedback on Part One of the draft municipal service review on the Escondido region. This includes providing direction on desired revisions and/or additions ahead of staff circulating the draft for public review and returning with a final version for action as early as October 2019.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The item is being presented to San Diego LAFCO for discussion and feedback only.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on San Diego LAFCO's agenda for discussion as part of the business calendar. The following procedures, accordingly, are recommended in the consideration of this item:

- 1) Receive verbal presentation from staff unless waived;
- 2) Initial questions or clarifications from the Commission;
- 3) Invite comments from interested audience members (voluntary); and
- 4) Discuss item and provide feedback as requested.

Respectfully,



Keene Simonds
Executive Officer



Alex Vidal
Analyst I

Attachment:

- 1) Draft Municipal Service Review on the Escondido Region: Part One

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