



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

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**AGENDA REPORT**  
 Consent | Action

August 1, 2022

**TO:** Commissioners

**FROM:** Keene Simonds, Executive Officer  
 Carol Ieromnimon, Analyst I

**SUBJECT:** **Protest Hearing Results |**  
**“Ramona Municipal Water District Reorganization”**  
**Transfer of Fire + Emergency Medical Function to San Diego County FPD**

**SUMMARY**

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive the results of the protest hearing held for the reorganization proposal filed by Ramona Municipal Water District (MWD) to transfer its fire protection and emergency medical function to the San Diego County Fire Protection District (FPD). This proposal was conditionally approved by the Commission in June 2022 and involves concurrently divesting MWD’s integrated fire protection and emergency medical service function and annexing the affected territory to FPD. The noticed protest hearing was held by staff on July 11<sup>th</sup> without generating sufficient opposition as detailed, and the proposal will now be ordered once all other conditions have been satisfied. The protest results are being presented to the Commission to receive and file.

**BACKGROUND**

**Proposal Request**

In January 2022, Ramona MWD filed a reorganization proposal with San Diego LAFCO to reorganize fire protection and emergency medical service functions within its entire jurisdictional boundary. The affected territory comprises 46,005 acres and includes all of

<p><b>Administration</b>          Keene Simonds, Executive Officer          2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725          San Diego, California 92103-6624          T 619.321.3380 F 619.404.6508          www.sdlafco.org          lafco@sdcounty.ca.gov</p>	<p><b>Chair Jim Desmond</b>          County of San Diego</p> <p><b>Joel Anderson</b>          County of San Diego</p> <p><b>Nora Vargas, Alt.</b>          County of San Diego</p>	<p><b>Vice Chair Paul McNamara</b>          City of Escondido</p> <p><b>Mary Casillas Salas</b>          City of Chula Vista</p> <p><b>Kristi Becker, Alt.</b>          City of Solona Beach</p>	<p><b>Chris Cate</b>          City of San Diego</p> <p><b>Marni von Wilpert, Alt.</b>          City of San Diego</p>	<p><b>Jo MacKenzie</b>          Vista Irrigation</p> <p><b>Barry Willis</b>          Alpine Fire Protection</p> <p><b>David A. Drake, Alt.</b>          Rincon del Diablo</p>	<p><b>Andy Vanderlaan</b>          General Public</p> <p><b>Harry Mathis, Alt.</b>          General Public</p>
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Ramona MWD’s existing fire protection and emergency medical service area. The affected territory is entirely unincorporated with the exception of an approximate 3.0-acre parcel located within the City of Poway. The affected territory has an estimated population of 37,357 and includes two distinct local communities: Ramona and San Diego Country Estates.

### Commission Action

On June 6, 2022, San Diego LAFCO held a noticed public hearing to consider the reorganization proposal filed by Ramona MWD. The Commission proceeded to conditionally approve the reorganization with modifications to exclude the incorporated portion of the MWD boundary – i.e., the above referenced 3.0 acre parcel – from annexation to San Diego County FPD. The Commission also delegated protest hearings to the Executive Officer as allowed under policy.

### DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to receive the results of the protest hearing delegated to the Executive Officer involving the Commission’s earlier approval of the reorganization proposal to transfer fire protection and emergency medical services from Ramona MWD to San Diego County FPD, as required under policy. The protest hearing was held on July 11, 2022 at the Ramona Community Center and produced the following results within the two distinct categories – landowners and registered voters – prescribed under statute.

- **Landowner Protests**

There are 19,663 total legal parcels within the affected territory at the time of the Commission’s action on June 6<sup>th</sup> with a combined assessed land value of \$1.98 billion (excludes improvements). At the conclusion of the protest hearing, written opposition was received from one parcel owner representing an assessed land value of \$104,463 and subsequently validated by the County Assessor’s Office. This validated amount represents less than 0.005% of the respective total and below the 25.0% threshold to require an election and the 50.0% needed to terminate.

- **Registered Voter Protests**

There are 21,311 total registered voters within the affected territory at the time of the Commission’s action on June 6<sup>th</sup>. At the conclusion of the protest hearing, no protest was received from registered voters, and the 25.0% threshold to require an election and the 50.0% threshold to terminate the proceedings were unaffected.

With the preceding results in mind, a confirming resolution ordering the reorganization has been executed by the Executive Officer, and the proceedings will become final once the applicant satisfies all remaining terms.

## ANALYSIS

The reorganization to transfer Ramona MWD’s integrated fire protection and emergency medical service function to San Diego County FPD has cleared its last substantive threshold. All remaining actions necessary to record and enact the formation are ministerial.<sup>1</sup>

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO formally receive the results of the protest hearing held on the reorganization consistent with Alternative One in the proceeding section.

## ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The following alternative actions are available to San Diego LAFCO and can be accomplished with a single-motion:

Alternative One (recommended):

Receive and file the protest results for the “Ramona MWD Reorganization” as presented.

Alternative Two:

Continue the item to a future meeting and provide related direction to staff as needed.

## PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the San Diego LAFCO’s agenda as part of the consent calendar. A successful motion to approve the consent calendar will include taking affirmative action on the staff recommendation unless otherwise specified by the Commission.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,



Carol Ieromnimon  
Analyst I

Attachment:

- 1) Landowner Protest Results as Validated by the Assessor

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<sup>1</sup> San Diego LAFCO policy directs the Executive Officer to proceed and issue an ordering resolution at the conclusion of the protest hearing process so long as the results do not require the proposal to be terminated or confirmed by an election. The Executive Officer is also responsible for informing the Commission of the protest results resulting in an action being ordered at the next regular meeting. [Policy on Conducting Protest Hearings Section 4(h)].

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## LANDOWNER PROTEST

In accordance with Part 3, Division 3, Title 5 of the California Government Code (Section 56000 et seq.), the undersigned hereby protest(s) the following change of organization or reorganization:

Proposal CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF THE "RATMONA MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT REORGANIZATION"  
LAFCD FILE NO. R022-03

**Each of the undersigned affirms:**

Only signatures dated and submitted between the date of publication of the hearing notice and the conclusion of the protest hearing will be considered in ascertaining the value of written protests. Each written protest shall show the date that each signature was affixed to the protest. All signatures without a date or bearing a date prior to the date of publication of the notice shall be disregarded for purposes of ascertaining the value of any written protests. (Gov't. Code § 57051).

- I personally affixed the information below.
- I personally signed this protest as landowner of affected territory.
- I have provided an address or description sufficient to identify the location of the property.
- I understand that my signature may be disregarded if a date was not affixed to the protest or if my signature bears a date prior to the date of publication of the protest hearing notice.
- I understand that if my property is held in joint tenancy on tenancy in common that I am signing the protest form on behalf of all property owners that may have an interest in said property.

Name of Landowner and Mailing Address	Assessor's Parcel Number(s)	Check one	Date Signed	Official Use
Signature <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Printed Name <u>KENNETH P. TRUE, II</u> Address <u>16524 OPEN VIEW</u> <u>RATMONA, CA. 92065</u>	<u>2386923000</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under single ownership. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Property is held under joint tenancy. <input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under tenancy in common.	<u>070522</u>	Delarosa, Jeffrey G <small>Digitally signed by Delarosa, Jeffrey G Date: 2022.07.28 11:05:56 -0700</small> <b>VERIFIED by                      COSD ARCC                      MAPPING DIV.                      JGD 07.28.22</b>
Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Address _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under single ownership. <input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under joint tenancy. <input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under tenancy in common.		
Signature _____ Printed Name _____ Address _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under single ownership. <input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under joint tenancy. <input type="checkbox"/> Property is held under tenancy in common.		

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