



Lou Ann Texeira
Executive Officer

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May 11, 2016
Agenda Item 9

May 11, 2016 (Agenda)

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

**Fire & Emergency Medical Services Municipal Services Review
Public Review Draft Report**

Dear Members of the Commission:

BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act) requires that not less than every five years, LAFCO prepare municipal service reviews (MSRs) prior to or in conjunction with sphere of influence (SOI) updates.

MSRs provide an assessment of the range and adequacy of municipal services provided in the County, and serve as an important tool for LAFCO in fulfilling its legislative mandate to coordinate the efficient and logical development of local government agencies and services. The MSR serves as a basis for SOI updates and future boundary changes.

Contra Costa LAFCO continues to make progress in completing its 2nd round MSRs. In June 2014, LAFCO completed a 2nd round countywide MSR covering water and wastewater services; and in November 2015, LAFCO completed a 2nd round MSR covering reclamation services.

SUMMARY

In October 2015, LAFCO initiated its 2nd round MSR covering fire and emergency medical services. The 2nd round MSR focuses on the following: 1) data updates for 11 EMS/fire service providers (three cities and eight special districts), 2) review of auto and mutual aid agreements, and 3) concentrated analysis on East Contra Costa Fire Protection District and Rodeo Hercules Fire Protection District and the interface with Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

The consulting team of Mike Oliver and Brian Kelly of Municipal Resource Group, LLC, and Richard Berkson of Berkson Associates, were hired to prepare the MSR report.

The MSR Process - The MSR process involved distribution of an initial Request for Information (RFI) by LAFCO staff to obtain updated fiscal, operational and other information.

Following the initial RFI, the MSR team consulted with the local agencies to verify information, and provide each agency with preliminary findings and draft agency reports to enable an inclusive and cooperative process.

The Public Review Draft MSR was released on May 4th. The report was posted on the LAFCO website (www.contracostalafco.org), and local agencies/interested parties were notified of the availability of the report and comment period, which will end on June 1st.

The May 11th hearing is the first of two public hearings on the EMS/Fire MSR. At this hearing, the MSR consultants will present a summary of the MSR report, major findings and their recommendations. Following the presentation, the project team will receive comments from the public and the Commission. No final action on the Draft MSR report will be taken on May 11th.

The Commission will be asked to set a public hearing for July 13th, at which time the Commission will be asked to accept the Final MSR report, adopt the required MSR and SOI determinations, and update the SOIs for the eight special districts covered in the MSR report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Receive the staff report and consultants' presentation,
2. Open the public hearing and receive comments,
3. Close the public hearing and provide comments and direction to the MSR team and staff, and
4. Direct staff to set a public hearing for July 13th, at which time the Commission will be asked to accept the Final MSR, make the required determinations, and update SOIs.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

c: Distribution