



## AGENDA ITEM 7C

**MEETING:** July 15, 2015  
**TO:** Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners  
**FROM:** Colette Metz, Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** **Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District**  
The Commission will receive an update on the Rohner Community Recreation and Park District (RCRPD) reorganization progress.

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### BACKGROUND

At the May 21, 2014 LAFCo meeting, staff presented a preliminary draft municipal service review for countywide recreation and park services. The draft service review includes an inventory of local recreation and park service providers and an in-depth review of the following recreation and park districts:

- North Humboldt Recreation and Park District (in the Arcata area)
- Rohner Community Recreation and Park District (RCRPD) (in the Fortuna area)

While sufficient determinations could be made for the North Humboldt Recreation and Park District, a number of deficiencies were noted for the RCRPD. LAFCo staff evaluated a number of "Governance Structure Options" for RCRPD reorganization including:

1. Maintain RCRPD as a dependent special district (status quo)
2. Establish the RCRPD as a subsidiary district of the City of Fortuna
3. Dissolve the RCRPD

The Commission continued the hearing to allow the RCRPD to address reorganization options. The RCRPD held a special meeting attended by: Board members Allan Baird and Jacques Debets; former City of Fortuna Parks and Recreation Supervisor Christina Boon; LAFCo Commissioner Troy Nicolini, Executive Officer George Williamson and Administrator Colette Metz. The District's preferred governance structure option was to maintain the district (status quo) with steps to improve transparency and accountability.

### DISCUSSION

LAFCo staff contacted the RCRPD Board members in early July 2015 and learned there had been no progress made on the steps to improve district transparency and accountability. Staff also learned there had been a personnel change at the City of Fortuna Parks and Recreation Department. LAFCo staff has been in contact with the new Parks and Recreation Supervisor and there seems to be interest by the City in possibly assisting the RCRPD with transparency and accountability improvements. The RCRPD Board president has requested a 60-day continuance to explore the District's preferred option with current City staff.

### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission hear staff's presentation and continue the public hearing to September 16, 2015.