



NOTICE OF HEARING/PROCEEDINGS

REORGANIZATION OF THE SAMOA PENINSULA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT INTO A COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT and NOTICE OF INTENT TO WAIVE PROTEST PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 56157, the Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCo" or "Commission") hereby gives notice as follows:

LAFCo will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 15, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, to consider the proposed *Reorganization of the Samoa Peninsula Fire Protection District (SPFPD) into a Community Services District ("Proposal")*. The hearing will be held in the Board of Supervisors Chamber, Humboldt County Courthouse, 825 Fifth Street, Eureka, California 95501, or to such date and time as it may be continued by LAFCo.

Prior to the hearing, an informational meeting will be held on April 26, 2017, 7:00 p.m. at the SPFPD Fairhaven Fire Station, 1982 Gass Street in Samoa. All interested parties are invited to attend.

As proposed, the SPFPD would be reorganized into a CSD for purposes of providing expanded municipal services to the Peninsula. These proceedings were initiated by resolution of application by the SPFPD, for a reorganization consisting of dissolution of the SPFPD and formation of a new CSD. The proposed CSD would provide the following services:

- Water Supply, Treatment, Storage, and Distribution (domestic and raw)
- Wastewater Collection, Treatment, and Disposal
- Fire Protection, Rescue, & Emergency Response (including tsunami evacuation)
- Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space
- Landscape Maintenance within Public Areas
- Storm Drainage

The CSD may also accept street easements within the Town of Samoa, contingent on a successful road maintenance property assessment and contracting for maintenance activities. The proposed CSD boundary would generally be consistent with the current SPFPD boundary and sphere of influence, with minor adjustments to account for public lands and tax rate areas. Please see attached Exhibit A.

Because the District consists of distinct communities (Fairhaven/Finntown and Town of Samoa), which have varying infrastructure needs, conditions, planned improvements and service requirements, the District is proposed to have two separate zones for some of the services proposed. Doing so addresses the unique features of each, with separate operating budgets, rates, fees, and assessments. It is anticipated that initially, water, wastewater, and storm drainage services for the Town of Samoa would be associated with separate zones.

Because the entire peninsula is already served by the SPFPD, fire services would be district-wide and the first service provided by the new district. Recreation services would also be provided district-wide. The reorganization will be conditioned upon successful establishment of benefit assessments and user fees (prop 218) through residents to fund district services and activities. These assessments would be directly proportional to benefits received for each zone.

The SPFPD Board of Directors shall serve as the initial CSD Board of Directors. For this initial board, the terms of three members will be four years, and the terms of two members will be two years. Thereafter, Board members shall be elected at-large for four-year terms by registered voters residing within the District.

The Commission hereby gives notice that, unless written opposition to the proposal is received from landowners or registered voters within the affected territory before the conclusion of Commission hearing/proceedings, the Commission intends to waive protest proceedings, as authorized by California Government Code Section 56663. There will be a CSD formation vote on the November 2017 ballot whether the protest proceeding is waived or not.

Please be advised that, in the event this proposal for reorganization is approved by the Commission, all SPFPD property shall be transferred to, and vested in the CSD. Upon the effective date of the reorganization, the CSD would be authorized and entitled to extend and/or continue to levy, impose, or fix and collect any previously authorized charge, fee, assessment or tax approved, imposed and/or levied by SPFPD, including but not limited any rates and charges for the provision of fire protection services.

At the above referenced public hearing, the Commission will consider all oral and written testimony of any interested persons or affected agencies. Pursuant to state law, only issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Commission at, or prior to the public hearing may be raised in any legal challenge to Commission actions.

For further Information and documents pertaining to this proposal, please visit: humboldtlaftco.org/peninsula.csd

Please direct comments, questions, and requests to review documents to Humboldt LAFCo, 1125 16th Street, Suite 202, Arcata, California 95521. Project application materials may be reviewed upon request at the LAFCo office on weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. LAFCo meeting agendas and staff reports are posted one week prior to the meetings at www.humboldtlaftco.org. For further information, please contact the LAFCo office at (707) 445-7508.

Note: State Law requires that LAFCo notify various parties, such as landowners and registered voters, both within and adjacent to the affected territory. For this reason, you may receive multiple copies of this notice.



EXHIBIT A

