



AGENDA ITEM 8A

MEETING: March 15, 2023
TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Krystle Heaney, Clerk/Analyst
SUBJECT: **Preview of Draft Agency Profiles for the South County Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**
The Commission will receive an update on the status of document preparation along with an overview of four of the eight agency profiles. The report is being presented for information only.

BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act directs Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) to regularly prepare municipal service reviews (MSRs) in conjunction with establishing and updating each local agency's sphere of influence (SOI). The legislative intent of MSRs is to proactively assess the availability, capacity, and efficiency of local governmental services. MSRs may also lead LAFCOs to take other actions under their authority, such as forming, consolidating, or dissolving one or more local agencies in addition to any related sphere changes.

As part of the Commission's work plan, staff has been preparing a regional MSR for water and wastewater services for the south county region which can be generally described as all districts south of Rio Dell/Scotia.

DISCUSSION

Southern Humboldt County includes multiple small to medium sized water and wastewater districts. A total of eight districts will be included in the South County Regional Water and Wastewater MSR/SOI Update (Alderpoint CWD, Briceland CSD, Garberville SD, Miranda CSD, Phillipsville CSD, Redway CSD, Resort Improvement District No. 1 (Shelter Cove), and Weott CSD) which will allow staff and Commissioners to take a comprehensive look at services in the region.

LAFCo staff has prepared initial drafts of four of the eight agency profiles for public review and comment, as follows:

- Briceland CSD
- Redway CSD
- Resort Improvement District No. 1 (Shelter Cove)
- Weott CSD

General themes for these agencies include aging infrastructure, difficulty recruiting additional staff, and the need for additional water sources and/or water storage to ensure adequate service during dry weather months. While the Districts may be facing some difficulties, they have also shown how dedicated staff and volunteers help to ensure that these rural communities are provided with critical services. Additionally,

several of the agencies under review have received grant funding and technical assistance which will help upgrade system components and provide updated rate studies.

Staff is continuing to work with the remaining four agencies and will be bringing additional profiles to the Commission's May meeting for review and comment along with the introduction section that will provide a regional overview, general themes, and tribal land acknowledgement.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report and provide direction to staff as necessary.

Attachments

Attachment A: Draft Briceland CSD Agency Profile

Attachment B: Draft Redway CSD Agency Profile

Attachment C: Draft Resort Improvement District No. 1 Agency Profile

Attachment D: Draft Weott CSD Agency Profile