



AGENDA ITEM 8B

MEETING: May 19, 2021

TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners

FROM: Krystle Heaney, LAFCo Clerk/Analyst

SUBJECT: **Westhaven Community Services District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**

The Commission will review and consider approving the Westhaven Community Services District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update. This hearing was continued from the March 17, 2021 meeting. Staff proposes to maintain a coterminous SOI for the District.

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 prior to making SOI determinations. 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.

DISCUSSION

Westhaven Community Services District (CSD) is a limited purpose special district located just south of Trinidad along the Pacific Ocean and encompasses land to the west and east of Highway 101. The District is currently responsible for providing potable water service to residents and is primarily funded through usage fees.

The District was formed from the reorganization of the Westhaven Mutual Water Company in 1988. The boundary encompasses approximately 400 acres consisting of primarily single-family homes. The majority of parcels are zoned Residential Suburban with combing zone No Further Subdivision which greatly limits growth in the District. An income survey was conducted for the District in 2018 that determined the Median Household Income for the District is \$47,000 which qualifies it as a DUC.

The District has four regular employees, a full-time General Manager/ Chief Operator, a part-time bookkeeper/ secretary, a part-time Lead Operator, and a part-time Weekend Operator. The water system has experienced high amounts of loss in the past and continues to seek out and obtain funding to replace failing mains from the 1960's and increase overall system resiliency.

The District has been successful in obtaining several grants over the last decade to conduct system studies and fund capital improvements. This has included study of additional treatment stages in 2013, construction of a new 95,000-gallon tank (2013-2019), and replacement of one-third of aging 2" polyethylene pipe in 2014. Current grant

efforts are for additional replacement of 2" pipelines, groundwater exploration for additional well construction, and treatment studies to reduce disinfection byproducts.

Based on discussion and recommendations from Commissioners at the March 17, 2021 regular meeting, and public comments received on the Draft MSR, LAFCo staff made revisions as shown in track changes in the attached document. Changes included:

- Clarification on the HBMWD proposed water line extension to the Trinidad Rancheria in relation to WCSD.
- Updated employee descriptions.
- Staffing benefits.

RECOMMENDATION

This item has been agendaized for consideration as part of a noticed public hearing. Based on the District's current service area and capacity, staff recommends maintain a coterminous SOI for the District.

Procedures for Consideration:

The following procedures are recommended with respect to the Commission's consideration of this item:

- 1) Receive verbal report from staff;
- 2) Open the public hearing and invite testimony (mandatory); and
- 3) Discuss item and – if appropriate – close the hearing and consider action on recommendation:

"I move to adopt Resolution No. 21-10, thereby approving the Westhaven CSD Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update, as described in the staff report."

Alternative Action:

The Commission can move to continue the public hearing to the July 21, 2021 regular meeting in order to make further revisions as deemed necessary.

Attachments

Attachment A: Westhaven CSD Revised MSR and SOI Update

Attachment C: Draft Resolution No. 21-10