



AGENDA ITEM 8C

MEETING: May 21, 2025

TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners

FROM: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **Status of Current and Future Proposals**

The Commission will receive a report summarizing active and future proposals. This report is being presented for information only.

BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 delegates Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCos) with regulatory and planning duties to coordinate the logical formation and development of local governmental agencies. This includes approving or disapproving proposals for annexation, sphere of influence amendments, and outside agency service requests.

DISCUSSION

Following is a summary of active and future proposals.

Active Proposals

Kneeland Fire Protection District

See Agenda Item 6A.

Future Proposals

There are several potential new proposals to the Commission in the near future based on discussions with proponents. A summary of these anticipated proposals follows.

Fire Services Coordination Efforts

A portion of Measure Z funds granted to the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association has been allocated to providing technical assistance for sustainable community fire protection to address the lack of complete community coverage and sustainable revenue. An informal working group consisting of County of Humboldt (Board of Supervisors, Public Works, and County Administrative Office), LAFCo, and Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association representatives continue to meet as needed to address service and funding needs on a countywide basis, including the following fire services planning efforts:

- Kneeland FPD Annexation of goodwill response areas.
- Redway FPD Annexation of goodwill response areas and special tax.
- Phillipsville VFC options to establish a funding source and sustain services.
- Ferndale FPD Annexation of goodwill response areas and special tax.
- Petrolia FPD/Telegraph Ridge FPD/Honeydew VFC Reorganization and special tax.
- County Service Area 4 (CSA 4) governance structure and funding options in the Trinidad/Westhaven/Big Lagoon/Orick areas.
- Highway 299 goodwill response area between Willow Creek and Blue Lake FPDs.

- Direct charge list support for various departments.
- Completion of 2023 Annual Fire Chief's Report highlighting service calls and achievements of emergency response providers throughout Humboldt County.
- Legislative options to address rural highway calls and the statutory exclusion of commercial forest lands that are timbered in Fire Protection District Law.
- Creating a toolkit for new and existing fire districts to understand all statutory, financial and reporting requirements under state law.

Humboldt CSD McKay Ranch Annexation (SCH #: 2019049166)

Humboldt County served as lead agency for the North McKay Ranch Subdivision Project located in Cutten and approved the General Plan Amendment (GPA), Zoning Reclassification (ZR), Tentative Subdivision Map, and Planned Development (PD) Permit on March 7, 2023. The project would be constructed on approximately 81 acres and would involve a mixed-use development with 320 residential units, approximately 22,000 square feet of commercial development, an off-site sewer line, and an off-site water storage tank. The off-site water storage tank would be owned and managed by the Humboldt Community Services District (HCSD) along with additional infrastructure that would support the proposed development. The water main on Walnut Street between Holly Avenue and Cypress will need to be upsized to 12-inches. The proposed project is anticipated to be developed in nine phases over a period of 20 years; final phasing plan would be based on market conditions. The project would require annexation to HCSD for the provision of water, sewer, and lighting services to the subdivision. The HCSD Board recently voted to approve McKay Ranch Annexation and a formal application to LAFCo is forthcoming.

Recent Inquiries/Coordination

1) Responded to district inquiry about user fees and ability to reduce fees via ordinance; 2) Meeting with APA Community Planning Assistance Program (CPAT) Team to discuss LAFCo policy component of McKinleyville incorporation planning scope; 3) Attended the April 8, 2025 Trinidad City Council Meeting to provide an overview of the LAFCo annexation process; 4) Responded to inquiry regarding parcels receiving service outside boundary and sphere and options to identify connections in next MSR/SOI update.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.