



AGENDA ITEM 8D

MEETING: November 15, 2023
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

Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District

See Agenda Item 6A.

Salmon Creek Fire Protection District Formation

Staff has filed a statement of boundary change with the State Board of Equalization and is awaiting confirmation of TRA boundaries.

Garberville Fire Protection District 2022 Annexation

Staff has filed a statement of boundary change with the State Board of Equalization and is awaiting confirmation of TRA boundaries.

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

Over the last 7 years, 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:

- Arcata FPD Annexation of the Upper Jacoby Creek and Fickle Hill Areas.

- Kneeland FPD Annexation of goodwill response areas.
- County Service Area 4 (CSA 4) governance structure and funding options in the Trinidad/Big Lagoon/Westhaven areas.
- Direct charge list support for various departments.
- 2022 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.

Willow Creek CSD Activation of Powers – Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Willow Creek CSD has awarded a contract to Mercer Fraser for construction of a community wastewater collection and treatment system for downtown Willow Creek and adjacent neighborhoods. In order to provide this service, the Willow Creek CSD must apply for activation of powers through LAFCo. Staff provided guidance to the District on development of a Resolution of Application, CEQA Addendum, and Notice of Intent for publication in the local newspaper. On January 26, 2023 the District Board adopted Resolution 2023-01 approving the Proposed 2023 EIR Addendum and activation of wastewater powers through Humboldt LAFCo. In October 2023, Willow Creek CSD General Manager reached out to EO Santsche with documentation from prior restoration of latent wastewater control powers in 1978 that was granted to begin the appropriate planning for the eventual provision of sewer services. EO Santsche is working with the District to determine if wastewater powers are already active or if a new application is needed.

Humboldt CSD McKay Ranch Annexation (SCH #: 2019049166)

Humboldt County served as lead agency for the North McKay Ranch General Plan Amendment (GPA), Zoning Reclassification (ZR), Tentative Subdivision Map and Planned Development (PD) Permit for future residential and commercial development. On March 7, 2023, the Board of Supervisors considered the project and voted to adopt the FEIR, and approved rezoning. The proposed subdivision is located in the Cutten area of Humboldt Community Services District's (HCSD) sphere of influence and is expected to consist of approximately 320 residential units and two (2) commercial lots at full build-out. Annexation to the Humboldt CSD is anticipated to serve water, sewer, and lighting services to the subdivision. Both HCSD and LAFCo would serve as Responsible Agencies for the annexation process. EO Santsche continues to coordinate with HCSD staff and project proponents and anticipates an annexation application in 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.