



## AGENDA ITEM 8D

**MEETING:** January 17, 2024  
**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.

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### **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***

##### Arcata Fire Protection District Annexation

LAFCo has received a proposal submitted by resolution of application from the Arcata Fire Protection District (Arcata FPD or District) for annexation of approximately 3,561 acres (116 parcels) of land located adjacent to the District boundary and within its current Sphere of Influence. The proposed annexation will extend the District boundary to cover its current "Goodwill Response Area" located between the existing District boundary and the Kneeland Fire Protection District boundary. A public hearing to consider this annexation is anticipated for the March LAFCo meeting.

#### ***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.

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.