



AGENDA ITEM 9C

MEETING: September 21, 2022
TO: Humboldt LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: **Status of Current and Future Proposals**
The Commission will receive a report summarizing active on 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

Salmon Creek Fire Protection District Formation

See Agenda Item 7A.

Garberville Fire Protection District 2022 Annexation

See agenda item 7B.

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 is focused on 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, Planning and Building, Public Works, and County Administrative Office), LAFCo, and Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association representatives have been meeting to address service and funding needs on a countywide basis. Most recently the group has been working on the following fire services planning efforts:

- Arcata FPD Annexation of the Upper Jacoby Creek Community 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.
- Eel River Valley Shared Services options and direct charge list support.

- 2021 Annual Fire Chief's Report highlighting service calls and achievements of emergency response providers throughout Humboldt County.
- Legislative proposal coordination to address the exclusion of commercial forest lands that are timbered from Fire Protection District Law.

Willow Creek CSD Activation of Powers – Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Willow Creek CSD has gone out to bid for construction of a community wastewater collection and treatment system for downtown Willow Creek and adjacent neighborhoods. Construction is not expected until summer of 2023. In order to provide this service, the Willow Creek CSD must apply for activation of powers through LAFCo. Staff is continuing to meet with the General Manager to help develop the application package, evaluate a service-specific sphere of influence to correspond to the wastewater service area, and prepare a CEQA addendum to include powers activation by LAFCo. An application is expected in early 2023.

Humboldt CSD McKay Ranch Annexation (SCH #: 2019049166)

Humboldt County is 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. The proposed subdivision is located in the Cuten area of Humboldt Community Services District's (CSD) 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 would be required making Humboldt LAFCo a responsible agency.

A Draft EIR was previously available for the statutory 45-day public review period, starting May 15, 2020 and ending June 29, 2020. In December 2021 a partial recirculation of the Draft EIR was released for review and comment. LAFCo staff reviewed the updated sections and submitted comments on December 1st. The Final EIR for the project was approved by the Humboldt Planning Commission at the January 6, 2022 meeting and was presented to the Board of Supervisors on March 8, 2022. The Board chose to continue the item to the March 22, 2022 meeting. Since that time, the Board has been in conference with legal council regarding anticipated litigation on the FEIR for the project and has delayed a decision on the project until a time uncertain.

LAFCo staff will continue to work with Humboldt CSD and the developer on preparation of the annexation application should the project move forward.

City of Arcata McDaniel Slough Annexation

The City of Arcata acquired two parcels adjacent to the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. In keeping with the City's open space policies, the City will be requesting annexation of the two parcels. This will allow the City to administer the Arcata municipal code and other City rules and regulations on the properties. It is unknown when this annexation will move forward.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.