



AGENDA ITEM 9C

MEETING: May 23, 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.

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

A protest hearing was held on May 1st for the Arcata FPD Goodwill Response Area annexation. No public was in attendance at the meeting but mailed protests were received. During the protest period, the LAFCo office moved and changed addresses which may have prevented interested parties from commenting on the process. In an effort to ensure that any affected property owners within the annexation area that wish to comment are able to, staff extended the protest period to June 13th, 2024.

An additional hearing will be held on Thursday, June 13th, 2024 at 5:30pm at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge located at 251 Bayside Road, Arcata, CA 95521. The purpose of the hearing is to provide for the submission of written protests against the proposal by affected landowners and registered voters within the territory, which may be filed with the LAFCo Executive Officer at any time prior to the conclusion of the hearing.

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.
- Highway 299 goodwill response area between Willow Creek and Blue Lake FPDs.
- 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 attended the February 13th HCSD Board Meeting to respond to questions about the annexation process.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.