

**AGENDA
ITEM
NO. 8.d**

LAFCO *of Monterey County*

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
P.O. Box 1369 132 Gabilan Street, Suite 102
Salinas, CA 93902 Salinas, CA 93901
Telephone (831) 754-5838 Fax (831) 754-5831
www.monterey.lafco.ca.gov

KATE McKENNA, AICP
Executive Officer

DATE: May 24, 2010

TO: Chair and Members of the Formation Commission

FROM: Kate McKenna, AICP, LAFCO Executive Officer

**SUBJECT: PROGRESS REPORT ON PHASE ONE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE
WORK PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEWS AND SPHERE
OF INFLUENCE UPDATES**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION:

This report is for information only.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Background

State law requires each LAFCO to review municipal services before updating the Spheres of Influence of cities and districts every five years, as necessary. Six factors must be considered in the review of municipal services. Four determinations must be made in considering updates to Spheres of Influence.

In 2009, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County adopted a comprehensive work program to conduct service reviews and Sphere updates for all cities and districts. The work will be done by staff in phases over several years.

Phase One of the work program is underway. It consists of streamlined service reviews and Sphere updates for all cities, fire protection service providers, and emergency medical service providers. The Executive Officer is managing the Phase One workload by first evaluating the five Salinas Valley cities, then the seven Monterey Peninsula cities, and then the fire and emergency medical service agencies.

Salinas Valley Cities

All five of the Salinas Valley cities have responded to LAFCO requests for information about services and boundaries.

Service reviews have been started for each of the cities. Each review is organized around the six factors identified in State law. Given the available time and resources, the format of these reviews will be considerably simplified compared to the first round of reviews initiated in 2005.

In June, the Executive Officer will meet informally with staff from each of the Salinas Valley cities. Meeting dates are being set now. The purpose of the meetings is to discuss service capabilities and needs, and the scope and timeline of any anticipated Sphere of influence proposals. Our intention is to work cooperatively with each city to bring forward service reviews and Sphere updates to the Commission.

Information in the service reviews will be a basis for the Sphere updates. At a minimum, the updates will affirm the existing Spheres, and could include minor changes in Sphere boundaries. Major proposals for Sphere amendments that a city needs more time to prepare will also be reviewed by LAFCO during this process. The precise process and schedule will be flexible to accommodate the timing and nature of local planning and environmental review processes and other unique factors.

Public hearings will be scheduled for early fall to consider service reviews and Sphere updates for the Salinas Valley cities.

Monterey Peninsula Cities, Fire Service Protection Providers, and Emergency Medical Service Providers

Most of these Phase One agencies have responded to our requests for information about services and boundaries. We have read all of the information and have started a service review for one of the cities. By late summer and early fall, service reviews will be underway for the other Peninsula cities, fire service providers, and emergency medical service providers. During this time, the Executive Officer will request a series of informal meetings with each agency. Public hearings to consider these service reviews and Sphere updates will be substantially underway by year's end.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate McKenna, AICP
Executive Officer