




Memorandum

Date: May 4, 2021

To: Jacquelyne Alexander, Clerk
Local Area Formation Commission

From: Scott D. McGolpin, P.E., Public Works Director 

Subject: Consider a request from the Los Olivos Community Services District to extend the time to successfully conduct a Proposition 218 assessment as required by Condition B (vii) in the Resolution 17-03 approving formation on April 13, 2017

Copy: Leslie Wells, Deputy Public Works Director
Martin Wilder, P.E., Utilities Manager

This memo is in response to the comment made by Heal the Ocean (letter dated April 22, 2021) regarding Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) Business Item (2). This letter indicates displeasure at the time elapsed in converting portions of the town of Los Olivos from septic systems to a community sewer system to mitigate for degradation of groundwater quality in the Santa Ynez Valley. The feasibility of constructing a community sewer system was studied by County Environmental Health Services in 2012 and at that time governance and management of such a facility was considered. While County operation through a County Service Area (CSA) was an option, the citizens chose to form an independent special district.

It is the opinion of the County Public Works Department that the motion to extend the time to successfully conduct a Proposition 218 assessment as required by Condition B (vii) in the Resolution 17-03 approving formation on April 13, 2017, should be approved. Public Works believes that significant work has been completed to date by the special district in completing the goal of constructing a community sewer, and changing processes now would break the momentum. It is further the belief that changing to County management at this time would also add time to the process and create new governmental logistical activity that would actually act counter to the goal of gaining a community sewer system as soon as possible.

AA/EEO Employer