

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
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November 2, 2023 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101

Transportation, Parking, Street Sweeping & Beautification, Lighting, Transit and Airport Services and Sphere Review

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commission receive an oral staff report and set a public hearing for December 14, 2023 in order to consider accepting the service review.

DISCUSSION:

As part of the Commission's work program, the LAFCO staff has prepared a draft service and sphere review for 23 agencies that provide transportation, parking, street sweeping & beautification, lighting, transit and airport services throughout the entire county. These include one Sanitary District (Goleta West Sanitary District), five Community Services Districts (CSD) (Cuyama CSD, Isla Vista CSD, Mission Hills CSD, Santa Rita Hills CSD, & Santa Ynez CSD), three Lighting Districts (Guadalupe Lighting, Mission Canyon Lighting, & North County Lighting), four County Service Areas (CSA 3, CSA 11, CSA 31, & CSA 41), one Airport District (Santa Maria Public Airport District), one Transit District (Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District), and eight Cities (Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Guadalupe, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Solvang) that provide these services. The draft document is available at Santa Barbara LAFCO website www.sblafco.org.

The main conclusions are:

1. Ninety-nine percent of the residents of Santa Barbara County are currently within the boundaries of a City or Special District providing transportation, parking, street sweeping & beautification, lighting, transit and airport services.
2. No Sphere of Influence change, or designation of a Future Study Area, is necessary or recommended for Goleta West Sanitary District, Mission Hills CSD, Guadalupe Lighting District, Mission Canyon Lighting District, North County Lighting District, CSA 31, CSA 41, Santa Maria Public Airport District, and Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District. Their Spheres of Influence already well define their probable service areas. The recommended action for these districts is to simply affirm their existing Spheres of Influence.
3. Sphere expansions are recommended for Santa Ynez Community Services District, Santa Rita Hills Community Services District. These include Study Area #3 from Water, Wastewater MSR for Janin Acres and Western Santa Ynez areas, and Study Area #1 for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District to include the MOA Road easement area.
4. Many of the entities within the County have a long history of working together to resolve traffic and congestion issues, and a framework already exists for addressing regional and local key issues related to roadways, bike paths, transit, and airport management in cooperation with Santa Barbara Association of Governments (SBCAG). These multiple partnerships work together regionally to develop larger more cost-effective movement of goods and people, addressing commuter-friendly services.
5. The 2040 RTP-SCS calls for continued regional coordination of local actions in a spirit of open communication, cooperation, and good will within the region as a whole which faces common problems with jointly formed and implemented solutions. Measure A will provide approximately \$1 billion through its life with \$140 million used to leverage other funding for the US 101 HOV and parallel projects, and approximately \$455 million for both named and ongoing projects for each northern and southern Santa Barbara County.
6. Public street lighting facilities in Santa Barbara County are owned and maintained by Pacific Gas and Electric Company in northern Santa Barbara County and by Southern California Edison in southern Santa Barbara County. All of the special districts and the cities within the county utilize contracts with PG&E and Southern California Edison for street lighting and maintenance of the streetlights.
7. The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) is an association of city and County governments in Santa Barbara County. Many of the issues that face local governments and the people they serve such as traffic, housing, air quality, and growth extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries. SBCAG's primary purpose is to assist local governments in solving common problems and addressing public policy issues that are regional or multi-jurisdictional. SBCAG exists to provide a forum for regional collaboration and cooperation between agencies.

8. When combined, the region's transit services provide coverage to the majority of populated places in Santa Barbara County. The total cost of the projects in Connected 2050 is approximately \$2.6 billion for transit projects. On the South Coast, the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District provides local services to the entirety of the urbanized area. In the North County subregion, there are four providers for local services: Guadalupe Transit, Santa Maria Area Transit, City of Lompoc Transit, and Santa Ynez Valley Transit. Additionally, San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority connects the City of Santa Maria with San Luis Obispo County and the Clean Air Express provides commuter services connecting northern and southern Santa Barbara County. Numerous partnerships have been formed among North County transit providers to provide intercity services.
9. One Sanitary Districts (Goleta West) and Santa Ynez CSD will be transitioning to District elections for the November 2024 election, three Community Services Districts (Cuyama, IVCS, Mission Hills), and one of the eight Cities are governed by directors/council members who are elected at-large by voters.
10. In seven of the eight Cities the Mayor is elected at-large while the Council Members are elected by Districts (Guadalupe is the only exception). Many of the District are either transitioning or already elect members by-district elections by 2024. The additional list includes: Santa Maria Airport District. Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District is composed of seven members who are elected to four- year terms. Two are appointed by the County Board of Supervisors, two are appointed by the Santa Barbara City Council, one is appointed by the Goleta City Council, and one is appointed by the Carpinteria City Council. The seventh member, also known as the at-large director, is appointed by the other six members of the board. Isla Vista Community Service District has a seven-member Board of Directors with four members elected at-large to staggered four-year terms, and one member elected at-large to serve a two-year term. UCSB and County both appoint the remaining two members.
11. Of the 23 agencies providing Road Maintenance, Parking, Street Sweeping, Lighting, Beautification, Airport, and Transit all except for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District maintain websites.
12. The County employs a reverse 9-1-1 system to notify the public of the need to evacuate a specific area. Additionally, a Memorandum of Agreement is in place between the County, Vandenberg Space Force Base, (VSFB), and the City of Lompoc for use of a dedicated base telephone and radio communication system in the event of a seismic/geologic incident or other emergency located in the Lompoc Valley or adjacent highlands. Following the issuance of an order or warning to evacuate, evacuation routes are determined based upon the conditions of the individual event. The County employs a reverse 9-1-1 system to notify the public of the need to evacuate a specific area.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Draft 2023 Service and Sphere Review for Transportation, Parking, Street Sweeping & Beautification, Lighting, Transit and Airport Services. **Available at www.sblafco.org**

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Prater".

Mike Prater
Executive Officer