

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
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March 1, 2012 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street, Room 403
Santa Barbara CA 93101

Carpinteria Sanitary District - Sphere of Influence Update

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Commission continue this public hearing on updating the District Sphere of Influence for four months, until the LAFCO meeting on July 5.

DISCUSSION

In late 2005 the Commission adopted Municipal Service Reviews and Spheres of Influence for local agencies in the Eastern South Coast Area, including the Carpinteria Sanitary District. At that time, the District identified areas of concern regarding their existing SOI, in large part due to the fact that its Sphere is essentially coterminous with its service area boundary.

We have been engaged in discussions with the District staff regarding possible modifications to the Sphere. We are continuing to confer with the District regarding plans and projections for the availability of sewer service within the Carpinteria Valley, with the goal being a Sphere boundary that represents the logical service area for the District. The District says this is critical in order to conduct meaningful capital facility planning.

A key issue in the SOI update is the provision of public sewer service to agriculturally zoned parcels developed with greenhouses or other structures supporting dense growing operations. There are several parcels of this type in the Carpinteria Valley; many according to the District are in areas of high groundwater where on-site wastewater disposal systems are not appropriate or no longer functional. Some of these properties have retail sales centers or showrooms, many have high worker densities, many have on-site water treatment systems, and some have on-site farmworker housing.

Commissioners: Jeff Moorhouse, Chair ♦ Lupe Alvarez ♦ Doreen Farr ♦ Bob Orach ♦ Cathy Schlottmann ♦ Bob Short
Janet Wolf ♦ Joe Armendariz ♦ John Fox ♦ Steve Lavagnino ♦ Roger Welt **Executive Officer:** Bob Braitman

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

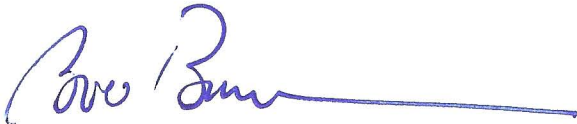
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The District continues to receive requests for sewer service for ag-zoned property outside of its current Sphere. This presents policy questions for the Commission, in that including this type of parcel in the District Sphere may result in conflicts with LAFCO's existing policy on "Extending Urban Services to Agricultural Parcels."

We feel the current discussions with the Carpinteria Sanitary District will result in a report to the Commission regarding what changes, if any, it should consider in the District Sphere.

Please contact the LAFCO staff if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer

cc: Craig Murray, General Manager, Carpinteria Sanitary District