

Santa Barbara LAFCO

Report on Municipal Service Reviews/ Sphere of
Influence Updates

April 5, 2018

Sphere of Influence Review Process

- The law requires that Spheres of Influence be updated every five years. The Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) received a report from its staff regarding a proposed program and schedule to review and update Spheres of Influence for the cities and special districts in Santa Barbara County.
- After receiving the report and discussing the update program, the Commission directed the Executive Officer to confer with local agencies regarding whether changes necessitate new Municipal Service Reviews to update their Spheres of Influence. Updates will be prepared “as necessary” if there are significant changes to the city’s general plan, funding levels, or requested sphere of influence revisions.

Sphere of Influence Updates

- On February 8, 2018, staff sent out Municipal Service Review/Sphere of Influence Update letters to the following special districts:
- Carpinteria Cemetery District
- Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Protection District
- Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District
- Santa Maria Airport District
- Vandenberg Village Community Services District

Sphere of Influence Updates

This was the Second Request Update Letters two special districts that did not respond to the LAFCO Staff Request Letters in 2017.

- Carpinteria Cemetery District
- Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Protection District
- The deadline to either request that the Commission reaffirm the existing spheres of influence, or request changes, was November 17, 2017.
- The Carpinteria Cemetery District did respond to the second request in a timely manner.
- Even though the Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Protection District did not respond, staff recommends confirming its current sphere of influence pending a response.

Sphere of Influence Updates

Based on the responses, the following Special Districts Sphere of Influence Updates are Recommended for Approval

- Carpinteria Cemetery District
- Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Protection District
- Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District
- Santa Maria Airport District
- Vandenberg Village Community Services District

Recommendation

- Consider Recommendations Regarding Updates of Existing Spheres of Influence, as follows:
 - Determine that the action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3), and
 - Adopt resolutions, that confirm the existing Spheres of Influence for the 5 listed special districts: