San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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AGENDA REPORT
Consent | Information

February 1, 2021

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Robert Barry, Chief Policy Analyst
Linda Heckenkamp, Analyst II
Priscilla Allen, Analyst I

SUBJECT: **Active Proposals and Related Activities**

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive a report identifying active proposals on file with the Commission as well as a summary of anticipated submittals based on ongoing discussions with local agencies. In all, there are currently 28 active proposals on file with the Commission with 20 awaiting hearing. The item is for information and concurrently satisfies LAFCO's reporting requirement to affected agencies for notification of proposal filings made by landowner or registered voter petitions.

BACKGROUND

Processing Procedures and Timelines

LAFCO proceedings for consideration of proposed changes of organization or reorganizations – which typically involves annexations, detachments, and service function activations or divestures – are generally initiated by outside applicants (subject landowners or registered voters, and/or local affected agencies). LAFCOs may also initiate proposals specific to forming, consolidating, or dissolving special districts if consistent with the recommendations of approved municipal service reviews. LAFCO staff proceeds with administrative reviews and within 30 days provides status letters to applicants advising what

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– if any – additional information is needed. Once deemed complete, proposals are scheduled for Commission consideration and placed on the agenda as consent, business, or hearing items based on noticing requirements.[1] Overall, most proposals are forwarded to the Commission within six months from the date of submittal.

DISCUSSION

This item is being presented for information only and identifies all active proposals currently on file with San Diego LAFCO. The report also – and for telegraphing purposes of future workload – identifies pending proposals staff anticipates being submitted with LAFCO in the near term based on discussions with local agencies. The information item also serves to concurrently satisfy the Commission's reporting requirement to provide notice on agendas to affected special districts when proposed annexation applications are initiated by landowner or registered voter petitions.[2] A summary of active and pending proposal applications follow and detailed in Attachment One.

Active Proposals & Related Petition Notifications

There are 28 proposals currently active and undergoing processing with San Diego LAFCO as of date. Current processing stages of these active proposals range from pre-Commission action (20) to post-Commission action (8) with the latter category representing items already approved but awaiting the completion of conducting authority proceedings or terms. No new proposals have been filed with LAFCO since the last report in December 2020.

Pending Agency Proposals

There are four substantive agency proposals staff anticipates being submitted to San Diego LAFCO in the near future.[3] These four pending proposals are currently under local agency consideration with respect to development entitlements and environmental review. Three of these pending proposals would involve city annexations in North County to accommodate relatively large residential subdivision projects and involve Harvest Hills (Escondido), Sager Ranch (Escondido), and Rancho Lomas Verdes (Vista).

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[1] The Executive Officer may also place proposals otherwise meriting consent on the business calendar to solicit additional review and discussion if warranted. Separately, applications involving outside-of-agency service extension requests follow separate proceedings and may be administratively approved by the Executive Officer if addressing documented public health or safety threats.

[2] Government Code Section 56857 directs LAFCOs to provide notice on agendas of any proposal involving special districts that have been initiated by landowners or registered voters. The agenda notification starts a 60-day period in which the affected special districts may request termination of the proceedings due to financial or service-related concerns.

[3] Staff uses discretion in listing pending proposals and limits notice to only activities to be initiated by a local governmental agency. Pending proposals to be initiated by landowners and/or registered voters are not disclosed until an actual filing is made.

ANALYSIS

San Diego LAFCO remains active in processing more than two dozen proposals with the majority awaiting consideration by the Commission. Most active proposals have been initiated by landowners and involve single lots in the unincorporated area subject to tentative development approvals and as such require annexations to water and/or wastewater providers. Notable exceptions include two contested reorganizations separately filed by Rainbow Municipal Water District and Fallbrook Public Utility District to detach from the San Diego County Water Authority and annex to Eastern Municipal Water District and in doing so transfer their wholesale water supplier.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented to San Diego LAFCO for information only.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

This item is being presented for information only; no action is necessary.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the San Diego LAFCO's agenda as part of the consent calendar. A successful motion to approve the consent calendar will include taking affirmative action on the staff recommendation unless otherwise specified by the Commission.

On behalf of staff,



Priscilla Allen
Analyst I

Attachment:

1) Active and Pending Proposal Applications as of January 22, 2021

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	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
ACTIVE PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS | PENDING COMMISSION ACTION				
1	RO06-17	"Tobacco Road Reorganization" - City of Escondido (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in March 2006 to annex six parcels to the City of Escondido for wastewater service. In 2006, LAFCO approved two out-of-service agreements to allow the City of Escondido to provide wastewater service to two residences with failing septic systems located along Tobacco Road. The agreements between the City and landowners required the annexation of the two parcels. The proposal was deemed incomplete in April 2006 status letter. A new status letter was sent in January 2018 stating the proposal will be considered abandoned unless notified otherwise. Two of the affected landowners have responded to the letter and are now working with the City in determining if the other landowners are interested/willing to proceed with the annexation at this time. Ongoing discussions continue.
2	RO08-09	"South Mollison Ave-Snyder Reorganization" - City of El Cajon (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in May 2008 for a proposed annexation to the City of El Cajon. The annexation area includes approximately 1.25 acres and is subject to a proposed multi-family residential project and was deemed incomplete in June 2008 status letter. A new status letter was sent in January 2018 to the applicant, new property owner, and City stating the proposal will be considered abandoned unless notified otherwise. No response from any of the interested parties to date. (Expected abandonment subject to pending policy authorization.)
3	DA08-10	"Avocado Way-Potter Annexation" - Vallecitos WD (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in March 2008 for a proposed annexation to Vallecitos WD to obtain wastewater service for two existing residences along Avocado Way but deemed incomplete in April 2008 status letter. A new status letter was sent to the applicant in January 2018 stating the proposal will be considered abandoned unless notified otherwise. The current property owner has responded and conveyed their interest to proceed with the annexation. There have been ongoing discussions with Vallecitos WD as of 2018.
4	RO08-15 SA08-15	"Crestlake Estates Reorganization" - San Diego County SD (Annexation) - Lakeside FPD (Annexation) - CSA 69 (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in May 2008 requesting a reorganization to provide wastewater services to an approved Tentative Map allowing the development of 60 single-family residences and was deemed incomplete in June 2008 status letter. A new status letter was sent to the applicant in February 2018 stating the proposal will be considered abandoned unless notified otherwise. No response to date. (Expected abandonment subject to pending policy authorization.)

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
5	DA12-02	"Lorch Annexation" - Borrego WD (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in March 2012 to annex approximately 9.4 acres to the Borrego Water District to provide water service to one parcel within the District sphere. Application deemed incomplete in an April 2012 status letter. A new status letter was sent in January 2018 stating the proposal will be considered abandoned unless notified otherwise. Borrego WD responded to the letter and has reinitiated discussions with the landowner regarding possible service terms. Ongoing discussions with Borrego WD continue.
6	DA16-10	"CSA 17 Harmony Grove Annexation" - CSA 17 (Annexation)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in May 2016 to annex approximately 3,600 acres to CSA 17 for ambulance service and done so as a cross-condition of the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District Reorganization: Dissolution of CSA No. 107 (Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove). The proposal was deemed incomplete in June 2016 status letter. The CSA 17 Advisory Committee has opposed the annexation. A negotiated property tax exchange agreement is also necessary. LAFCO staff met with the applicant in August 2019 to provide assistance and continues to discuss opportunities to proceed forward.
7	RO16-11	"Rancho Hills Annexation" - Rancho Santa Fe CSD (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in October 2016 to annex a portion of a 37-lot residential subdivision titled "Rancho Hills" to Rancho Santa Fe CSD for wastewater service. A concurrent latent power expansion for Olivenhain MWD is needed to accommodate sewer to the remaining project site. The proposal was deemed incomplete in November 2016 status letter. Applicant has requested the proposal processing be placed on hold. Staff has remained in contact with the applicant and is awaiting their confirmation to proceed.
8	Ro19-04	"Ortega – Olde Highway 80 Change of Organization" - San Diego County Sanitation District (Annexation)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in February 2019 by landowner petition to annex two residential lots totaling approximately 5.07 acres to San Diego County Sanitation District for wastewater service. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
9	SA19-26 RO19-26 OAS19-26	"Valiano - Eden Valley Reorganization" - City of Escondido (Sphere Amendment and OSA) - San Marcos FPD (Annexation) - Rancho Fe FPD (Sphere Amendment & Detachment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in November 2019 by landowner petition and the City of Escondido. Proposal involves reorganization of approximately 10.76 acres with annexation to San Marcos Fire Protection District (FPD) and concurrent detachment and sphere exclusion from Rancho Santa Fe FPD; and, amendments to the spheres of influence for the Cities of Escondido (inclusion) and San Marcos (exclusion) for two unincorporated parcels totaling 82.9 acres and subject to a 240.6 acre County of San Diego-approved Specific Plan (TM-5575); and, approval of a contractual wastewater agreement between the landowner of the unincorporated Specific Plan area and the City of Escondido to extend City wastewater service to 326 single-family residences to be constructed within the Escondido sphere. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending staff's analysis. (On January 27, 2020, the San Diego Superior Court overturned the County development approvals for the project. The applicant is appealing the Court decision and has requested LAFCO continue to process the reorganization.)
10	LP(E)19-27	"Fallbrook Public Utility District Latent Power Expansion - Park & Rec et,al."	Robert Barry	Application submitted in November 2019 by resolution seeking approval to activate Fallbrook PUD's latent power to exercise park and recreation, street lighting and roads and street functions within its boundaries. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and this includes completion of a scheduled municipal service review for the Fallbrook-Rainbow region.
11	RO20-04	"Rainbow MWD – Eastern MWD Reorganization" – San Diego County Water Authority (detachment) – Eastern Municipal Water District (annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted April 2020 by resolution from the Rainbow MWD to concurrently detach from the San Diego County Water Authority and annex to the Eastern MWD. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. A 10-member advisory committee has also been established by the Commission to assist staff in evaluating the proposal.
12	RO20-05	"Fallbrook PUD – Eastern MWD Reorganization" – San Diego County Water Authority (detachment) – Eastern Municipal Water District (annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted April 2020 by resolution from the Fallbrook PUD to concurrently detach from the San Diego County Water Authority and annex to the Eastern MWD. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. A 10-member advisory committee has also been established by the Commission to assist staff in evaluating the proposal.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
13	SA20-09 OAS20-09	"Mercurio – Grossmont OSA Agreement" - City of La Mesa (OSA & Sphere Amendment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in June 2020 by landowner request and involves an out-of-agency contractual wastewater service agreement with the City of La Mesa for one existing single-family residence and one proposed ADU. The unincorporated property totals approximately 0.91 acres, is not contiguous with the City, and is not within the La Mesa sphere of influence. Per Government Code Section 56133, the proposed wastewater OAS agreement requires an amendment for inclusion of the affected territory within the La Mesa sphere in anticipation of a future annexation. The proposal is scheduled for hearing on the February 1st agenda.
14	RO20-10	"Meadowood Reorganization" - Rainbow Municipal Water District (Annexation) - Valley Center Municipal Water District (Detachment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in June 2020 by resolution from the Rainbow MWD and involves annexation of approximately 374.7 acres and the development of 844 units for water and wastewater service. A concurrent detachment from Valley Center MWD is also proposed. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and this includes completing a scheduled municipal service review involving Rainbow MWD.
15	RO20-17	"Papp-Olive Avenue Reorganization" - Vallecitos Water District (Annexation) - Vista Irrigation District (Detachment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in August 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation of approximately 1.2 acres for water and wastewater service. The affected territory is developed with a single-family residence. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.
16	RO20-18	"Plumosa Avenue Reorganization" - City of Vista (Annexation) - Vista Fire Protection District (Detachment)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in September 2020 by resolution of the City of Vista and involves annexation of approximately 0.7 acres for wastewater service. The affected territory is developed with a single-family residence. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.
17	RO20-19	"Lakeside Water District – Riverford Reorganization" - Lakeside Water District (Annexation) - Padre Dam Municipal Water District (Detachment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in September 2020 by resolution of the Lakeside Water District and involves annexation of approximately 5.0 acres for water service. The affected territory is undeveloped with a proposed development by the District for a groundwater treatment facility. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
18	CO20-20 OAS20-20	"Estrada – Veijas View Place Change of Organization" - San Diego County Sanitation District (Annexation)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in September 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation of approximately 1.0 acres for wastewater service. The affected territory is developed with a single-family residence experiencing a failing septic. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.
19	RO20-21	"Rancho Corrido RV Park Reorganization" - Yuima Municipal Water District (Annexation) - San Diego County Water Authority (Annexation) - Metropolitan Water District (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in September 2020 by resolution of the Yuima Municipal Water District and involves annexation of approximately 31.0 acres for water service. The affected territory is developed with 20 mobile homes, 80 time-limited recreational vehicle (RV) spaces, and 20 RV spaces with 90-day time limits. The property includes an office, laundry, and swimming facilities. No new development is anticipated. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.
20	CO20-22	"Chinese Bible Church Change of Organization" - Rancho Santa Fe CSD (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in November 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation of approximately 9.09 acres for wastewater service to a religious facility to be developed under a County-approved Major Use Permit. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation from the applicant to complete staff's analysis.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
ACTIVE PROPOSALS | POST COMMISSION ACTION				
21	SA16-20 LP16-20	"CSA 135 Islands Reorganization" - CSA 135 – LP Fire Area (Latent Powers Expansion) - Bonita-Sunnyside FPD (Annexation) - Lakeside FPD (Annexation) - San Miguel FPD (Annexation) - Ramona MWD (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Proposal submitted November 2016 by resolution of the San Diego County Fire Authority. Involved annexation of remaining unserved Islands 2, 3, and 4 via reorganization of local fire service territory among five local agencies: CSA 135; Bonita-Sunnyside FPD; Lakeside FPD; Ramona MWD; and San Miguel FPD. Reorganization involved annexation to the subject agencies and expansion of CSA No. 135's latent powers to provide fire protection and emergency medical services to three unincorporated and unserved island areas totaling approximately 21,048 acres. Conforming amendments to add the affected territory to the subject agencies' spheres of influence were also required. The reorganization proposal was approved February 4, 2018 and is now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied. A noticed protest hearing was held on March 13, 2019 at the LAFCO office. No protest was received by affected registered voters or landowners. Other terms remain pending.
22	SA18-07 OAS18-07	"Carmichael Drive – Wyman Service Agreement" - City of La Mesa (Sphere Amendment, OAS)	Robert Barry	Proposal involves an outside-of-agency contractual wastewater service agreement between the property owner and the City of La Mesa. OAS covers extension of City wastewater sewer service to one existing unincorporated single-family residence located outside of the La Mesa sphere of influence. The purpose of the OAS is to allow the landowner to proceed with an intensity improvement to develop an accessory workshop unit, which exceeds the permitted capacity of the existing onsite septic system. The proposal was approved by the Commission on April 8, 2018 and is now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.
23	RO19-15 OAS19-15	"Hamilton-Felicita Reorganization" - City of Escondido (Annexation) - CSA No. 135 (Detachment) - Rincon del Diablo MWD (ID"E") (Exclusion)	Linda Heckenkamp	Proposal application submitted in August 2019 by landowner petition requesting reorganization with the City of Escondido of two unincorporated parcels totaling approximately 0.63 acres and each developed with one single-family residence. Both residences provided documentation of failing/failed septic systems. Emergency OAS agreements for wastewater were granted to resolve the health and emergency situation in advance of annexation to Escondido. Reorganization with Escondido also required concurrent detachment from CSA No. 135 (Regional Communications) and exclusion from RDDMWD ID"E." The proposal was approved by the Commission on June 1st, 2020 and is now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
24	CO20-08	"Fuerte Ranch Estates Change of Organization" - San Diego County Sanitation District (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in May 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation of approximately 27.3 acres to San Diego County Sanitation District to facilitate the development of 36 single-family homes. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. The proposal was approved by the Commission on November 2, 2020 and now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.
25	RO20-11	"Lindauer – Olive Street Reorganization" - Vallecitos Water District (Annexation) - Vista Irrigation District (Detachment)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in June 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation of approximately 4.0 acres for water and wastewater service. The affected territory is developed with a single-family residence experiencing a failing well for domestic water uses. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. The proposal was approved by the Commission on November 2, 2020 and now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.
26	RO20-13	"Valley Center Community Services District -County Service Area No. 138 Reorganization" - Valley Center Community Services District (Dissolution) - County Service Area No. 138 (Formation)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in June 2020 by resolution and involves the concurrent dissolution of Valley Center Community Services District and formation of County Service Area No. 138 to assume park and recreation services. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. The proposal was approved by the Commission on November 2, 2020 and now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.
27	RO20-12	"Ortiz – Olive Avenue Reorganization" - City of Vista (Annexation) - Vista Fire Protection District (Detachment)	Linda Heckenkamp	Application submitted in June 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation to the City of Vista of approximately 4.94 acres for wastewater service and concurrent detachment from Vista Fire Protection District. The affected territory has proposed development of 15 residential lots. The proposal was approved by the Commission on December 7, 2020 and now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.
28	Ro20-15	"Sunrise-Barham Drive Reorganization" - City of San Marcos (Annexation) - Vallecitos Water District (Annexation)	Robert Barry	Application submitted in July 2020 by landowner petition and involves annexation to the City of San Marcos and Vallecitos Water District of approximately 14.4 acres for wastewater and fire protection services. The affected territory has proposed development of 192 multi-family units. The submitted proposal application is incomplete and pending receipt of additional documentation and information from the applicant to complete staff's analysis. The proposal was approved by the Commission on December 7, 2020 and now pending recordation once all terms are satisfied.

	File Number	Proposal Name | Affected Agencies	Project Manager	Proposal Summary
	PENDING PROPOSAL APPLICATION SUBMITTALS (No project manager; inquiries should be direct to Robert Barry)			
29	Pending	"Harvest Hills Reorganization" - City of Escondido		This anticipated reorganization proposal is currently undergoing development and environmental review by the City of Escondido. Submittal to LAFCO anticipated for late 2020-2021 if approved by Escondido. The anticipated proposal involves annexation of approximately 1,098 acres to the City for the primary purpose of developing a 550-lot residential subdivision. All of the affected territory presently lies outside the adopted Escondido sphere. Due to the scope of the proposal area a comprehensive update of the City's sphere is warranted along with preparing the supporting municipal service review document. These and other service related issues have been communicated to the City and are currently under joint review with other local stakeholders. Project was originally titled as "Safari Highlands."
30	Pending	"Rancho Lomas Verde Reorganization" - City of Vista		This anticipated reorganization proposal is undergoing development and environmental review by the City of Vista. The proposal involves annexation of approximately 300 acres to the City of Vista and concurrent detachments from CSA 135 and the Vista FPD to facilitate a 153-lot residential development. Close to three-fourths of the project area lies outside the adopted Vista sphere. Due to the scope of the proposal area a comprehensive update of the City's sphere is warranted along with preparing the supporting municipal service review document. These and other service related issues have been communicated to the City and are currently under joint review with other local stakeholders.
31	Pending	"Sager Ranch Reorganization" - City of Escondido		This anticipated reorganization involves annexation of approximate 1,800 unincorporated acres to the City of Escondido and concurrent detachments from CSA 135 and the Valley Center FPD. The reorganization would facilitate the proposed development of approximately 200 acres to include 203 residential units and a 225-room resort. Portions of the project area lies outside the current City sphere. Due to the scope of the proposal area a comprehensive update of the City's sphere is warranted along with preparing the supporting municipal service review document. These and other service related issues have been communicated to the City and are currently under joint review with other local stakeholders.
32	Pending	Harmony Grove Village South (TM-626)		This anticipated reorganization involves the unincorporated Harmony Grove Village South project and specific to accommodating sewer services (among a variety of options) for the planned development of approximately 111 acres to include 453 residential units. On January 27, 2020 the San Diego Superior Court overturned the County's development approvals for the project. Appeals are pending with no update as of this report.