



Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County
Subdivision of the State of California

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We Manage Local Government Boundaries, Evaluate Municipal Services, and Protect Agriculture

April 1, 2013
Agenda Item No. 7a (Action)

March 26, 2013

TO: Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Request to Amend Adopted Study Schedule

The Commission will consider a request from the City of St. Helena to amend the agency's current study schedule calendaring municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates. The request seeks to advance the scheduled study of the north valley region by one year to 2013-2014 to accommodate and address increasing community interest in possible amendments to St. Helena's sphere of influence.

Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) are delegated regulatory powers and responsibilities by the California Legislature to coordinate the orderly formation and development of governmental agencies. LAFCOs' principal and long-standing regulatory responsibility includes the approval of jurisdictional changes involving the establishment, expansion, and reorganization of cities and special districts. More recently, LAFCOs are also responsible for the approval of outside agency municipal service extensions. LAFCOs are provided broad discretion in conditioning their approvals with the notable exception of not directly regulating land uses.

A. Background

Legislative Directive

In 2001, LAFCOs' enabling legislation was comprehensively updated as part of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. The central goal of the legislation was to make LAFCOs more proactive with respect to informing their regional growth management responsibilities. Towards this end, and now as of January 1, 2008 and every five years thereafter, LAFCOs are required to review and update as needed all spheres of influence; the boundary lines LAFCOs establish for all agencies to guide and facilitate future boundary changes and outside service extensions. LAFCOs are also required to inform their sphere of influence updates by preparing municipal service reviews to comprehensively evaluate the provision and performance of governmental services provided in their jurisdictions.

Lewis Chilton, Commissioner
Councilmember, Town of Yountville

Joan Bennett, Commissioner
Councilmember, City of American Canyon

Juliana Inman, Alternate Commissioner
Councilmember, City of Napa

Brad Wagenknecht, Chair
County of Napa Supervisor, 1st District

Bill Dodd, Commissioner
County of Napa Supervisor, 4th District

Mark Luce, Alternate Commissioner
County of Napa Supervisor, 2nd District

Brian J. Kelly, Vice Chair
Representative of the General Public

Gregory Rodeno, Alternate Commissioner
Representative of the General Public

Keene Simonds
Executive Officer

Current Study Schedule

LAFCO of Napa County's ("Commission") current study schedule for preparing municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates was adopted in 2008 with coverage through 2015. The underlying focus of the study schedule is to improve and expand on the baseline information collected during the inaugural round of municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates that began in 2001. This includes measuring trends relating to the adequacy, capacity, and cost of essential governmental services supporting local growth and development. Additionally, in adopting the study schedule, the Commission reaffirmed its interest in maintaining knowledge management by preparing the studies in-house rather than contract with outside consultants. Further, and as needed, the Commission has approved its own subsequent amendments to the study schedule to reflect changes in priorities and/or resources.

B. Discussion

The City of St. Helena has submitted a written request for the Commission to amend the agency's current study schedule to advance the calendared review of the north valley region by one year from 2014-2015 to 2013-2014. Markedly, this study is designed to incorporate both a regional municipal service review encompassing an approximate 65 square mile area followed by individual sphere of influence updates for Calistoga, St. Helena, and Yountville. St. Helena is requesting the amendment to accommodate and address increasing community interest in possible changes to the City's sphere of influence to include, among other areas, properties to the south along State Highway 29.

C. Analysis

St. Helena's request and accompanying justification to advance the calendared review of the north valley region to 2013-2014 appears reasonable. Three additional factors provide support for approving the request. First, approval would parallel the previous action of the Commission to amend the inaugural study schedule to advance the calendared review of American Canyon to address community interest in sphere of influence changes in the Green Island Road area. Second, the other two agencies – Calistoga and Yountville – directly affected by the request to advance the review of the north valley region are agreeable to the change. Third, at the inquiry of staff to accommodate the St. Helena's request, the Circle Oaks County Water District and Napa River Reclamation District are agreeable to moving their respective calendared reviews back one year to 2014-2015.

D. Alternatives for Commission Action

The following alternative actions are available to the Commission:

Alternative One (Recommend):

Approve the proposed amendments to the adopted study schedule as provided in Attachment Three. Approval would advance the calendared review of the “North Valley Region” to 2013-2014 and move back the calendared reviews of “Circle Oaks County Water District” and “Napa River Reclamation District” to 2014-2015.

Alternative Two:

Continue consideration of the item to the next regular meeting and direct staff to provide additional information as needed.

Alternative Three:

Take no action.

D. Recommendation

The Committee recommends Alternative One as outlined in the preceding section.

E. Procedures for Consideration

This item has been agendaized for formal action. The following procedures are recommended with respect to the Commission’s consideration of this item:

- 1) Receive verbal report;
- 2) Invite public comment (discretionary); and
- 3) Discuss item and consider action on recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Keene Simonds
Executive Officer

Attachments:

- 1) Written Request from St. Helena
- 2) Current Adopted Study Schedule
- 3) Proposed Amendments to Adopted Study Schedule



City of St. Helena

*"We will conduct city affairs on behalf of our citizens
using an open and creative process."*

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March 4, 2013

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**NAPA COUNTY
LAFCO**

Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County
1030 Seminary Street, Suite B
Napa, California 94559

Dear Keene,

Thanks for taking the time to meet with me recently to discuss my LAFCO questions related to the upvalley sphere of influence study.

During our conversation you advised me that LAFCO is presently anticipating completion of an upvalley sphere of influence study in FY 2014-15, but that it has been more than 5 years since the completion of the last upvalley sphere of influence study. St. Helena would therefore like to request that LAFCO undertake its upvalley study in FY 2013-14.

The completion of this study as soon as feasible would be beneficial to property owners, residents, businesses and the City of St. Helena. Over the past few months, we have received increasingly frequent questions related to the provision of City fire protection service, City water and City sewer to parcels proximate to St. Helena's boundary in the Highway 29 area south of the City and for parcels near other City boundaries. A near-term completion of the LAFCO sphere of influence study would greatly benefit all parties, private and public, as planning could then commence for necessary future services.

I greatly appreciate LAFCO's consideration of this request. I would be most willing to attend any LAFCO hearing related to the consideration of the timing for this upvalley study.

Best,

Gary Broad
City Manager



**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY
STUDY SCHEDULE (2008/09-2014/15)**

**Municipal Service Reviews (Government Code §56430)
Sphere of Influence Reviews (Government Code §56425)**

Adopted: February 4, 2008
Amended: November 3, 2008
Amended: June 7, 2010
Amended: December 5, 2011

Fiscal Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010

South Napa County

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the City of American Canyon, American Canyon Fire Protection District, and County Service Area No. 3. The municipal service review will precede sphere of influence reviews for all three local agencies.

Lake Berryessa Area

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District, Napa-Berryessa Resort Improvement District, and the Spanish Flat Water District. The municipal service review will precede sphere of influence reviews for all three local agencies.

Fiscal Year 2010/2011

County Service Area No. 4

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by County Service Area No. 4 and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Napa County Regional Park & Open Space District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Napa County Regional Park & Open Space District will precede the establishment of a sphere of influence review.

Napa County Mosquito Abatement District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Napa County Mosquito Abatement District and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Fiscal Year 2011/2012

Law Enforcement Services

Municipal service review will examine public law enforcement (i.e., police protection) services provided in Napa County.

Fiscal Year 2012/13

Central Napa County

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the City of Napa, Napa Sanitation District, Silverado Community Services District, and Congress Valley Water District. The municipal service review will precede sphere of influence reviews for all four local agencies.

Fiscal Year 2013/14

Circle Oaks County Water District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Circle Oaks County Water District and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Napa County Resource Conservation District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Napa County Resource Conservation District and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Napa River Reclamation District No. 2109

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Napa River Reclamation District No. 2109 and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Fiscal Year 2014/15

North Napa Valley

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Cities of Calistoga, St. Helena, and Town of Yountville. The municipal service review will precede sphere of influence reviews for all three local agencies.

Los Carneros Water District

Municipal service review will examine the governmental services provided by the Los Carneros Water District and will precede a sphere of influence review.

Cemetery Services

Municipal service review will examine public interment services provided in Napa County and will precede a sphere of influence review of the Monticello Public Cemetery District and the Pope Valley Cemetery District.



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