



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY

Policy on Outside Service Agreements

Adopted: November 3, 2008

Amended: April 4, 2011

I. Background

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 includes provisions requiring cities and special districts to request and receive written approval from the Commission before providing new or extended services by agreements outside their jurisdictional boundaries with limited exemptions (Government Code Section 56133). The Commission may authorize a city or special district to provide new or extended service outside their jurisdictional boundary in anticipation of a subsequent change of organization, such as an annexation. The Commission may also authorize a city or special district to provide new or extended service outside their jurisdictional boundary and sphere of influence to address an existing or future threat to the public health or safety.

II. Purpose

The purpose of these policies is to guide the Commission in reviewing city and special district requests to provide new or extended services by agreement outside their jurisdictional boundaries. This includes making policy statements and establishing consistent procedures with respect to the form, review, and consideration of requests.

III. Objective

The objective of the Commission in implementing these policies is to ensure the extension of services by cities and special districts outside their jurisdictional boundaries is logical and consistent with supporting orderly growth and development in Napa County. The Commission recognizes the importance of considering local conditions and circumstances in implementing these policies.

IV. Outside Service Agreement Policies

A. General Statements

- 1) Annexations to cities and special districts involving territory located within the affected agency's sphere of influence is generally preferred to outside service agreements. The Commission recognizes, however, there may be instances when outside service agreements involving territory within the affected agency's sphere of influence is appropriate given local circumstances.
- 2) The Commission shall authorize a city or special district's request to provide new or extended services outside their jurisdictional boundary and sphere of influence only in response to either an (a) existing or (b) impending threat to public health or safety in accordance with Government Code Section 56133(c).

- 3) The Commission recognizes the importance of proactively addressing impending threats to public health and safety in considering requests for outside water and sewer services in support of existing and planned residential uses with reasonable access to existing infrastructure. Accordingly, the Commission will consider outside water and sewer service requests for purposes of addressing an impending public health or safety threat if all of the following criteria is applicable:
 - (a) The subject property is zoned for residential type uses by the affected land use authority.
 - (b) The subject property comprises a legal lot of record as of January 1, 2001.
 - (c) The subject property is adjacent to a public right-of-way in which the affected service line is located.
 - (d) The proposed service extension can be accommodated by an appropriate connection for single-family uses.
- 4) The Commission authorizes the Chair to approve a city or special district's request for an outside service agreement if there is an existing and urgent public health or safety emergency. The Commission shall ratify the Chair's determination at the next regular scheduled meeting.
- 5) All requests for outside service agreements are subject to the applicable provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 6) Commission approval is not required for cities or special districts to provide new or extended services outside their jurisdictional boundaries if any of the following conditions apply in accordance with Government Code Section 56133(e):
 - (a) The agreement involves two or more public agencies where the contracted service is an alternative or substitute for public services already provided.
 - (b) The agreement involves the transfer of non-potable or non-treated water.
 - (c) The agreement involves the provision of surplus water to agricultural lands for conservation projects or to directly support agricultural industries.
 - (d) The agreement involves an extended service that a city or special district was providing on or before January 1, 2001.

The Commission encourages cities and special districts to work with the Executive Office in determining when the above exemptions may apply.

B. Form of Request

Requests to authorize an outside service agreement shall be filed with the Executive Officer by the affected city or special district. Requests shall be made by resolution of the affected agency with a cover letter accompanying a completed application using the form provided in Attachment A. Requests shall also include a check in the amount prescribed under the Commission's adopted fee schedule along with a copy of the proposed service agreement.

C. Review of Request

The Executive Officer shall review and determine within 30 days of receipt whether the request to authorize an outside service agreement is complete. If a request is deemed incomplete, the Executive Officer shall immediately notify the applicant and identify the information needed to accept the request for filing.

D. Consideration of Request

Once a request is deemed complete, the Executive Officer will prepare a written report with a recommendation. The Executive Officer will present his or her report and recommendation at a public hearing for Commission consideration. The public hearing will be scheduled for the next regular meeting of the Commission for which adequate notice can be given but no later than 90 days from the date the request is deemed complete. The Executive Officer's written report will be made available to the public for review prior to the scheduled hearing and include an evaluation of the following three factors:

- 1) The ability of the applicant to extend the subject service to the affected land.
- 2) The application's consistency with the policies and general plans of all affected local agencies.
- 3) The application's effect on growth and development within and adjacent to the affected land.

The Commission may approve the request with or without conditions. If denied, the affected city or special district can ask for reconsideration within 30 days.