

SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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February 5, 2003

TO: Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Peter Brundage, Executive Officer
Donald J. Lockhart, Assistant Executive Officer

RE: **Report Back:**

- a. City/ County of Sacramento Natomas Joint Vision
- b. Proposed City of Sacramento Panhandle Annexation
- c. Proposed City of Elk Grove Sphere of Influence [03-01]
Proposed City of Elk Grove Sphere of Influence and
Concurrent Annexation of Laguna Area [05-01]
- d. Sacramento LAFCo Website: www.saclafco.org

a. City/ County of Sacramento Natomas Joint Vision

City and County staff are discussing the means to collaborate on a joint CEQA review for their respective General Plan Amendments. It is anticipated that they will update the Board of Supervisors and City Council in early spring.

b. Proposed City of Sacramento Panhandle Annexation

On January 16, 2003, City of Sacramento staff withdrew from the City Council's agenda rezoning of the territory known as the Panhandle and the adoption of a resolution making application for annexation to LAFCo. No date has been set for future City Council consideration of the matter.

**c. Proposed City of Elk Grove Sphere of Influence [03-01]
Proposed City of Elk Grove Sphere of Influence and Concurrent Annexation of
Laguna Area [05-01]**

The City of Elk Grove has submitted an updated application to include territory within its Sphere of Influence and separately, to amend its Sphere of Influence and concurrently annex the Laguna West, Stonelake and Lakeside communities into the City of Elk Grove.

Staff has reviewed the application and has forwarded the attached letter to the applicant requesting supplemental information.

Staff has requested that our CEQA consultant, Planning Partners [Bob Klousner], begin the Initial Study and environmental review on the two separate proposals. It is staff's intent to process the projects concurrently recognizing that Areas 1, 2, and 3 (Sphere of Influence only) may require additional environmental review, based on an evaluation of the Environmental Impact Reports prepared for previous Elk Grove incorporation proposals.

d. Sacramento LAFCo Website: www.saclafco.org

Sacramento LAFCo has long maintained a presence on the World Wide Web (www) with a website, hosted by Sacramento County. This past October, staff began the steps necessary to (1) establish an independent domain name, (2) enhance the website for a more "user friendly" interface, and (3) to increase the level of public information available. The new website was launched in January 2003.

Summary

As you know, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 constituted a major overhaul of the legislation governing LAFCo. With the new law came a new State mandate that each commission shall establish and maintain, or otherwise provide access to notices and other commission information for the public through an Internet website. Further, notice of all public hearings and commission meetings shall be made available in electronic format on that site, **56300.(f)(1) (2)**. Insofar as staff has been able to ascertain, this appears to be the first time that a website has been mandated to be established and maintained by a state, regional or local governmental agency. Once more, LAFCo is given an opportunity to assume a leadership position, this time in the area of public access to information via the internet.

Your staff has been working closely with the current web host, County of Sacramento Office of Communications and Information Technology (OCIT) Web Enterprise Business Solutions (WEBS) Team, to redesign, enhance and expand the existing web site.

The new website may provide another tool to assist LAFCo to carry out the statutory responsibilities of promoting orderly growth and development, preserving the State's finite open space and agricultural land resources, and working to ensure that accurate and timely public information is provided to all California residents in the most cost effective and efficient manner, via the Internet.

Sacramento LAFCo Web Site Enhancements

The driving themes for the website enhancement effort were to increase public access to more information, and to clarify the independent nature of Sacramento LAFCo. These

have been accomplished while carrying forward roughly the same ongoing cost of the previous website.

Some highlights of the new SacLAFCo.org page include:

- A new, more simple domain name – SacLAFCo.org.
- Independent e-mail addresses for staff – ex. name@saclafco.org
- Richer, enhanced graphics and feel.
- A more intuitive, user friendly archive system of previous projects and staff reports.
- An extensive links page to other LAFCo oriented web sites – cities, special districts, environmental, open space and development interests.
- Ongoing compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) criteria.

Staff will continue to monitor and refine the web site in light of public feedback provided. The one time cost for the redesign did not exceed \$8,000. The ongoing annual operation and maintenance costs will continue to be approximately \$4,000.

PB:DL:Maf
Attachments

(Status Report)