

**SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**  
**1112 I Street, Suite #100**  
**Sacramento, California 95814**  
**(916) 874-6458**

September 3, 2014

TO: Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Peter Brundage, Executive Officer *PB*

RE: **Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Grand Jury Report Response - Herald Fire Protection District**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the Chair to sign the attached letter to the Sacramento Grand Jury regarding the Herald Fire Protection District.

**DISCUSSION**

On June 28, 2014, the Sacramento Grand Jury issued its FY 2013-14 Grand Jury Report. This report contained an investigation of the Herald Fire Protection District. Sacramento LAFCo is required to respond to Finding No. 4, Recommendation No. 4, and Recommendation No. 5 stated as follows:

**Finding No. 4:** The District has failed to timely review and update as appropriate District Governance policies.

**Recommendation No 4:** The District should comprehensively review and update as appropriate all district governance policies, including the District's Master Plan.

**Recommendation No. 5:** The Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission should conduct a Municipal Service Review of the District and evaluate the viability of consolidating the District's fire and emergency services with another fire district.

Currently, staff is conducting a Municipal Service Review for the Herald Fire Protection District. However, prior to completion of the MSR, LAFCo staff would like to review and evaluate the responses by the Herald Fire Protection District and the County of Sacramento as set forth in the Sacramento Grand Jury Final Report.

Staff has prepared the attached letter in response to the Sacramento Grand Jury. Commission Counsel has reviewed this letter and concurs with the proposed response.



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September 3, 2014

Robert C. Hight, Presiding Judge  
Sacramento County Superior Court  
720 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Dept. 47  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission Response to the Sacramento Grand Jury Regarding the Herald Fire Protection District**

Honorable Robert C. Hight, Presiding Judge:

Pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) submits the following responses to the 2013-14 Sacramento Grand Jury report related to the Herald Fire Protection District as to Finding No. 4 and its related Recommendations and Recommendation No. 5.

**Finding No. 4:** The District has failed to timely review and update as appropriate District Governance policies.

**Recommendation No 4:** The District should comprehensively review and update as appropriate all district governance policies, including the District's Master Plan.

**Recommendation No. 5:** The Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission should conduct a Municipal Service Review of the District and evaluate the viability of consolidating the District's fire and emergency services with another fire district.

**LAFCo Responses:**

Sacramento LAFCo has commenced the Municipal Service Review related the Herald Fire Protection District. The District has provided initial responses to our questionnaire. In addition, Sacramento LAFCo will evaluate the District's and County of Sacramento responses to the Sacramento Grand Jury prior to finalizing the Municipal Service Review.

**Response to Finding No. 4:** As part of the Municipal Service Review, Sacramento LAFCo will review the District's governance policies and the District's Master Plan, however, it is not LAFCo's responsibility to develop or approve those policies or its Master Plan. LAFCo's do not have regulatory control over its affected agencies. LAFCo's primary purpose for Municipal Service Reviews is to evaluate whether or not service providers are providing adequate levels of service. The District Board of Directors is responsible for District Policies and Master Planning.



LAFCo concurs with the Sacramento Grand Jury that the Herald Fire Protection District should review and update if necessary district governance policies including its Master Plan. LAFCo will consider these issues as part of our Municipal Service Review.

**Response to Recommendation No. 5:** Sacramento LAFCo has commenced the Municipal Service Review (MSR) for the Herald Fire Protection District. As part of the MSR, Sacramento LAFCo will evaluate the viability of reorganization/consolidating Herald Fire Protection District with another fire protection district and also provide assistance to the District to help correct the deficiencies as outlined by the Sacramento Grand Jury in the event reorganization/consolidation is not feasible.

Respectfully Submitted,

**SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

By \_\_\_\_\_,  
Sacramento LAFCo

