

EL DORADO LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

AGENDA OF JUNE 28, 2006

REGULAR MEETING

TO: Ted Long, Chairman, and
Members of the El Dorado County Local Agency Formation
Commission

FROM: José C. Henríquez, Executive Officer

AGENDA ITEM #5: CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CONSIDERATION
OF THE DRAFT MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW OF THE
COUNTYWIDE FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY
SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission:

1. Open the Public Hearing to receive comments on the Draft Countywide Fire Suppression and Emergency Services Municipal Service Review; and
2. Continue the Public Hearing until the July meeting to allow sufficient time and opportunity for the governing boards of the agencies and the public to review and comment on the Municipal Service Review. Staff will return this item in July for final action and adoption.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Municipal Service Review (MSR) is required by State law to serve as a guidance document for any boundary changes to the agencies that provide fire suppression and emergency services in El Dorado County. An "administrative draft" of this document was distributed to the fire chiefs and to the administrators of related programs for their review and comments. Any comments received from the chiefs and their staff have been incorporated into the document before the Commission meeting.

BACKGROUND

This MSR was prepared for all of the agencies that provide fire suppression and emergency services in El Dorado County. This study analyzes the agencies' ability to provide existing and future residents with fire protection, fire suppression and emergency medical services within their respective service areas. The MSR was prepared to meet the requirements and standards of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local

Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH). The Service Review was prepared using the Service Review Guidelines prepared by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

The fundamental role of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is to implement the CKH Act (found in Government Code §56000, et seq.), consistent with local conditions and circumstances. LAFCO's decisions are guided by the CKH Act. This MSR will assist the Commission and its staff when considering actions that will affect the following agencies:

- Cameron Park Community Services District
- City of South Lake Tahoe
- Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Protection District
- El Dorado County Fire Protection District
- El Dorado Hills County Water District
- Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District
- Garden Valley Fire Protection District
- Georgetown Fire Protection District
- Lake Valley Fire Protection District
- Latrobe Fire Protection District
- Meeks Bay Fire Protection District
- Mosquito Fire Protection District
- Pioneer Fire Protection District
- Rescue Fire Protection District

Financial resources affect an agency's ability to provide quality, reliable service. Overall, the MSR found that these agencies are currently providing adequate services to most, if not all, of their respective service areas. Several agencies are positioning themselves to meet future equipment needs by tapping into other sources of revenues. On the other hand, the value of some revenue streams may be insufficient for some agencies to keep pace with increases in service demand in the long term.

In addition, the MSR explored the possibility that some agencies may need to realign their service areas and/or explore reorganization options. The MSR explores whether the current boundaries are drawn in a way to provide services in an efficient manner. In addition, the MSR discusses the issues of service area islands and areas that are outside of agency boundaries. Because these areas are not within a fire district, they do not pay their share of taxes, assessments and fees as their neighbors do, yet they may demand the same level of service. Consequently, these areas impact the agency and raise issues of fiscal inequity.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

A complete list of references is included in the back of the MSR. LAFCO staff would like to thank the fire chiefs and their staff for their assistance as well as the County Auditor's Office, the County Administrator's Office, the County Assessor's Office, staff from the California Department of Forestry and from the Fire Safe Council.

Attachment A: Countywide Fire Suppression and Emergency Services MSR