

APPROVED  
**EL DORADO LAFCO**  
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

---

***RESOLUTION NUMBER L-2023-08***

**City of Placerville Municipal Service Review  
and Sphere of Influence Update**

***LAFCO Project No. 2022-02***

**WHEREAS**, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 governs the organization and reorganization of cities and special districts by local agency formation commissions established in each county, as defined and specified in Government Code Sections 56000 et seq. (unless otherwise indicated all statutory references are to the Government Code); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 56425 et seq. provides that the local agency formation commission in each county shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local governmental agency within the county, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the spheres of influence, as more fully specified in Sections 56425 et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 56430 requires that local agency formation commissions conduct a municipal service review prior to, or in conjunction with, consideration of actions to establish or update a sphere of influence in accordance with Sections 56076 and 56425; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2022-02 Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the City of Placerville, City of South Lake Tahoe, and Cameron Park Community Services District was prepared pursuant to Sections 56425 and 56430; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to prepare and update the sphere of influence for the City of Placerville, the Commission conducted a municipal service review and adopted a written statement of determinations in conjunction with this sphere of influence update on December 6, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Officer reviewed the sphere of influence update pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and recommended that the project is exempt from CEQA under §15061(b)(3) because it is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA, and, based thereon, the Executive Officer prepared a Notice of Exemption; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Officer set a public hearing for December 6, 2023 for consideration of the City of Placerville Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update and environmental review, and caused notice thereof to be posted, published and mailed at the times and in the manner required by law at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the date; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 6, 2023 the City of Placerville Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update came on regularly for hearing before LAFCO, at the time and place specified in the Notice; and

**WHEREAS**, at said hearing, LAFCO reviewed and considered the sphere of influence, and the Executive Officer's report and recommendations; each of the policies, priorities and factors set forth in Government Code Section 56425 et seq.; LAFCO's Policies and Guidelines related to spheres of influence, starting with Policy 4.0; and all other matters presented as prescribed by law; and

**WHEREAS**, at that time, an opportunity was given to all interested persons, organizations, and agencies to present oral or written testimony and other information concerning the proposal and all related matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission received, heard, discussed, and considered all oral and written testimony related to the sphere update, including but not limited to the service review, determinations and recommendations, protests and objections, and the environmental review; and

**WHEREAS**, representatives from the City and representatives from the County of El Dorado did not meet to discuss an agreement on development standards and planning and zoning requirements within the sphere; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission does hereby make the following municipal service review determinations regarding the proposal pursuant to Government Code Sections 56430(a):

**(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area.**

- a) *As of the 2020 US Census, the City of Placerville had an estimated population of 10,746. Growth in the City has been limited since 1990 but is expected to grow more substantially over the next five to ten years.*

**(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.**

- a) *Several DUC areas exist within and adjacent to the City's SOI. These include areas along Georgetown Road (Highway 193), Carson Road, Smith Flat Road, Newtown Road, and Texas Hill Road. Additional areas along Missouri Flat Road just south of the City's SOI can also be considered DUCs.*
- b) *The City of Placerville is considered a Disadvantaged Community since it has a MHI that is less than 80% of the statewide MHI.*
- c) *Since there are several areas within and adjacent to the City's SOI, special attention should be given to any future annexations to ensure that there are no areas left out of the City boundary that would benefit from City services.*

**(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies.**

- a) *The City's existing stormwater infrastructure is sufficient to safely convey water from average storm events through the City.*
- b) *The City is able to effectively maintain lighting and landscaping areas throughout the City and funds maintenance activities through assessment for each district.*
- c) *The City maintains 53 miles of roadways which is funded through the General Fund, Gas Tax Fund, Measure L Fund, and various Landscape Lighting and Maintenance Districts and Benefit Assessment Districts.*

- d) *The City has been receiving potable water from EID since 2002 and decommissioned the City water treatment plant in 2003. EID is able to provide suitable water to the City for distribution or customers.*
- e) *The City's wastewater treatment plant was fully updated in 2006 and received an updated NPDES permit in 2020. The plant is operating with excess capacity based on average dry and wet weather flows.*
- f) *The City maintains six parks throughout the City and is able to provide a wide range of recreational programs to area residents and visitors.*
- g) *The City's police department is staffed with 20 sworn officers and 11 professional staff. In 2022 there were 24,117 calls for service with an average response time of 4:21 minutes.*

**(4) Financing ability of agencies to provide services.**

- a) *The City regularly adopts an annual balanced budget and ensures regular audits of the City's finances are conducted.*
- b) *From FY 2016-17 to FY 2020-21 the City's net position increased by 39.5% from \$57.1 million to \$79.6 million.*
- c) *The City has a large amount of debt tied to its wastewater treatment plant and other leases and loans for City equipment and infrastructure.*
- d) *Increases in pension and other post employment benefit obligations have led to a substantial unrestricted fund deficit. The City has been making efforts to decrease obligations and increase revenues which will be reflected in future audits.*

**(5) Status of and, opportunities for, shared facilities.**

- a) *Fire protection services are provided by the El Dorado County Fire Protection District. Two stations exist within the City including Station 25 and Station 26.*

**(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.**

- a) *The City is governed by a five member City Council that is elected to staggered four-year terms. City Council meetings are open to the public and agendas and minutes are posted to the City's website when available.*
- b) *The City has several standing committees/ commissions that oversee planning and special fund expenditures. Their purpose is to advise the City Council which has final authority.*

**(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery.**

- a) *The City is considering applying to LAFCO for expansion of its SOI in the Smith Flat and Missouri Flat Road areas. LAFCO recommends designating these as special study areas and investigating the impact these areas would have on City services.*

**WHEREAS**, the Commission does hereby make the following sphere of influence determinations regarding the proposal pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(e):

**(1) Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands.**

- a) *The predominant land uses within the City are Low Density Residential (35%) and Rural Residential (14%).*
- b) *Approximately 5% of the City's land use is designated open space for the preservation of natural open space corridors and parks. There is currently no land within the City's boundary or SOI designated as agricultural.*

**(2) Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.**

- a) *The City maintains a population of over 10,000 that is continuing to grow. Public facilities and services will be needed in the area for the foreseeable future.*

**(3) Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.**

- a) *There is currently excess capacity in the City's wastewater treatment system and suitable water supply from EID to meet current demand. Prior to annexation of additional areas the City should study the impact additional areas will have on City services such as planning, police, street maintenance, and others.*

**(4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.**

- a) *The community of El Dorado Hills is located 15 miles west of Placerville and has seen a large increase in population and development over the last decade. The area is developed with large tracts of single family planned developments and offers several services to meet community needs including groceries, medical care, recreation activities, and other amenities.*
- b) *The communities of Cameron Park, Shingle Springs, Diamond Springs, Georgetown, and other outlying areas rely on Placerville for many services as it acts as the center of the county.*

**(5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere.**

- a) *No updates to the SOI are proposed at this time.*
- b) *Should the City seek expansion of its SOI in the future, it is recommended that the City consider adjacent DUCs in the area to ensure sufficient services are or can be provided.*

**WHEREAS**, the Commission does hereby order the following follow-up actions for the City of Placerville:

1. *Designate potential SOI expansion areas along Smith Flat Road and Missouri Flat Road as special study areas and conduct the applicable research for expansion of City services in these areas prior to application to LAFCO.*
2. *Continue assessing potential avenues for increased funding and/or decreased spending in order to improve the City's unrestricted fund balance.*
3. *Provide additional audits to LAFCO when available to be kept on file for the subsequent round of MSR/SOI updates.*

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, DETERMINED, ORDERED AND FOUND:**

Section 1. Each of the foregoing recitals is true and correct.

Section 2. The Notice of Exemption prepared by the Executive Officer is approved as the appropriate environmental document for this project.

Section 3. An agreement pursuant to Government Code §§56425(b), 56425(c) and 56425(d) is not required because the sphere of influence for the City of Placerville will not be changed as a result of this review. The previous agreement between the City of Placerville and the County of El Dorado remains in effect.

Section 5. The update to the City of Placerville sphere of influence to affirm the current sphere is orderly, logical, and justifiable.

Section 6. The Executive Officer is directed to file a Notice of Exemption under §15061(b)(3) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and local ordinances implementing the same.

Section 7. The City of Placerville sphere of influence is updated to affirm its current sphere as shown on the attached map, marked Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.



APPROVED

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission at a regular meeting of said Commission, held December 6, 2023 by the following vote:

	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	NOT VOTING
Commissioner Clerici	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hidahl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Turnboo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Veerkamp (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Wallace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner White	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Wilde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Gotberg	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Hodson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Saunders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Thomas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ATTEST:

  
Shiva Frentzen, Executive Officer

  
Brian Veerkamp, Chair

APPROVED

**LAFCO RESOLUTION L-2023-08**  
**EXHIBIT A**

Figure 4: City of Placerville Boundary and SOI



Sources: Parcels - El Dorado County GIS; Roads - US Census TIGER