

***Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control &
Water Conservation Improvement District***

STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item 6: Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission
Monday, March 4, 2024**

The Strategic Plan relevant priority is **Use**, ensuring effective and beneficial use of water as a public resource. Goal 1, Tactic 1.2: Consider boundary changes to coincide with next LAFCo MSR and SOI Update.

Background:

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) was created by State law in 1963 to oversee the logical and orderly formation and development of local government agencies including cities and special districts. Each of the 58 counties in California has a LAFCo Commission. The objectives of LAFCo are to **encourage** the orderly formation of local government agencies and promote the efficient provision of public services, **preserve** agricultural land and open-space resources, and **promote** orderly growth and discourage urban sprawl.

LAFCo has the authority to establish and reorganize cities and special districts, change their boundaries and authorized services, allow the extension of public services, perform municipal service reviews, and establish spheres of influence. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating boundary changes through annexations or detachments and forming, consolidating, or dissolving local agencies.

A Municipal Service Review (MSR) is a comprehensive analysis of the services provided by a local government agency to evaluate the capabilities of that agency to meet the public service needs of their current and future service area.

A Sphere of Influence (SOI) is a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency or municipality. The SOI Update includes written statements or determinations with respect to mandated areas of evaluation and provide the basis for LAFCo to consider the appropriateness of establishing or modifying a service provider's sphere of influence.

The District's last MSR and SOI Update was approved by LAFCo in 2017 and is scheduled to be reviewed again in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025. District cooperation is essential in the efficient and informative update of the MSR and SOI.

Discussion

The Board will consider Strategic Plan goal to maximize beneficial use of water under the Districts Water Right license through boundary changes to coincide with the next LAFCo MSR and SOI update.

Recommended Action:

- Appoint Trustees to an Ad Hoc Committee to work with General Manager in preparing for the upcoming LAFCo Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update, including a potential annexation application.

Link to the current District MSR and SOI Update:

<https://www.mendolafco.org/files/0aa9ad73f/2017%2C+5-1+Adopted+Update+RRFC+MSR-SOI.pdf>

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Prepared and submitted to the Board of Trustees by: *Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager*