

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

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October 7, 2006 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission

105 East Anapamu Street

Santa Barbara CA 93101

Public Meeting Regarding the Eastern Goleta Valley

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Commission receive this report, accept public testimony regarding governance options for the Eastern Goleta Valley and direct the staff to place the proposed expansion of the City of Santa Barbara's Sphere of Influence on a future LAFCO agenda.

DISCUSSION

Introduction

The Commission on August 3, 2006 directed the staff to arrange for this special meeting. This day was chosen because it was felt the greatest number of residents of the Eastern Goleta Valley and other interested parties could participate.

Purposes of the meeting are to provide information to the public and receive testimony regarding governmental options for the Eastern Goleta Valley.

The attached meeting agenda calls for :

- The LAFCO staff to provide a report regarding topics to be considered.
- An open forum for comments from members of the public.
- The opportunity for comments or responses by members of the Commission.
- Direction, if any, from the Commission to the LAFCO staff.

Background

In 2000 the Legislature updated LAFCO's governing statutes. One change requires LAFCOs to review and update the spheres of influence of cities and special districts every five years. Moreover, the Commission is required to prepare a Municipal Service Review (MSR) as a precedent to and in conjunction with updating local spheres.

On December 30, 2002 the Committee for One, a citizen-based organization, filed a proposal with the LAFCO office to expand the City of Santa Barbara's sphere of influence to include that part of the Goleta Valley that had been excluded from the incorporation of the City of Goleta.

On March 6, 2003 the Commission directed a hearing be held to consider this proposal after the requirements for Municipal Service Reviews and environmental documentation have been met.

On September 1, 2005 the Commission (a) affirmed the current sphere of influence for the City of Santa Barbara and (b) decided the City of Goleta sphere of influence will not be approved until the City General Plan is adopted.

In addition the Commission directed the staff to schedule a special meeting, to be held within the Eastern Goleta Valley, to facilitate testimony from members of the public regarding the proposed sphere expansion for the City of Santa Barbara and related governance issues for the area. That is the purpose of this meeting.

On May 10, 2006 in response to a petition signed by residents within the Eastern Goleta Valley the Santa Barbara City Council endorsed the expansion of its City sphere of influence to include the area.

On June 27, 2006 the City Council adopted a resolution amending the City's General Plan to include the unincorporated areas within the Eastern Goleta Valley and rezoned the area to reflect the existing County zoning and land use designations.

Written Materials

The staff contacted local agencies and organizations that encompass or border the Eastern Goleta Valley or have a known interest in this matter and invited them to provide a written statement for distribution prior to the meeting. Attached are the written materials we have received.

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Conclusion

It is recommended the Commission receive a report from the staff on governmental options for the Eastern Goleta Valley, accept any public testimony and direct the staff to place the proposed expansion of the City of Santa Barbara's Sphere of Influence on a future LAFCO agenda.

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer

Enclosed Maps of Eastern Goleta Valley

- City Boundaries and Zip Code Areas
- Existing Land Uses
- Goleta Water and Goleta Sanitation Districts
- Elementary School District Boundaries
- Mobile Home Parks

Enclosed documents

- Committee for One Request to amend Sphere of Influence (12/30/02)
- West Santa Barbara Committee (Update Sept/O/ct. 2006)
- Letter from City of Santa Barbara (9/11/06)
- Statement from the City of Goleta (9/19/06)
- Letter from Goleta Sanitary District (9/19/06)
- Letter from University of California, Santa Barbara (9/20/06)