

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

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January 20, 2009

TO: City Managers and
City Planning Directors in
Santa Barbara County

SUBJECT: **Detachments from County Service Areas in
Conjunction with Annexations to Cities**

A County Service Area (CSA) is a type of special district governed by the Board of Supervisors. Government Code Section 25213 provides that:

“A county service area may provide any governmental services and facilities within the county service area that the county is authorized to perform and that the county does not perform to the same extent on a countywide basis, including, but not limited to, services and facilities for any of the following [see Exhibit A]”

For many years State law provided for the “automatic” detachment of territory from a CSA when land is annexed to a city. This law, Section 25210.9, which no longer exists, stated:

“Whenever any territory in a county service area is included within a city by reason of incorporation, annexation or otherwise that territory shall be automatically excluded from the county service area upon the effective date of its inclusion in the city . . .”

Regardless of this general prohibition, the law also allowed the Commission to permit an overlap of a city and a CSA.

The legislature recently overhauled the CSA Law (Government Code Section 25210 et seq). One change eliminated automatic detachments. As a result, when a city annexes land within a CSA the City Council resolution of application should include the concurrent detachment from that CSA unless the city wants the City boundaries to overlap the CSA.

Example: CSA No. 32 includes the entire unincorporated area. It is a mechanism to finance Sheriff law enforcement services. Presumably all city annexations should include the concurrent detachment of the affected territory from CSA No. 32.

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Following is a list of CSAs and the types of services they are currently authorized to provide. A map of each CSA is enclosed to assist you in implementing City annexations.

- CSA 3 (Goleta Valley) provides street lighting, acquisition and maintenance of parks and open space, special tax support for enhanced library services and support for the Goleta Valley Community Center.
- CSA 4 (North Lompoc) maintains open space.
- CSA 5 (Orcutt) maintains parks and open space.
- CSA 11 (Carpinteria Valley) provides street lighting.
- CSA 12 (Mission Canyon) collects sewage effluent and inspects septic tanks
- CSA 31 (Isla Vista) provides street lighting and acquisition of open space in conjunction with a redevelopment agency.
- CSA 32 (Unincorporated Area) provides extended police protection for the entire unincorporated area of Santa Barbara Country.
- CSA 41 (Rancho Santa Rita) provides maintenance of roadways.
- CSA 45 formed to fund library services is inactive and provides no services. It has no assets or sources of revenue.

County staff members who administer CSAs are listed below

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have questions or would like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer

cc: Each member of the Commission