

December 6, 2001

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101

**LAFCO 99-18 Orcutt Fire Reorganization: Annexation to the Orcutt Fire Protection District /
Detachment from the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District**

Dear Members of the Commission

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the staff to file the above-referenced application as an “incomplete” proposal.

DISCUSSION

The Orcutt Fire Protection District submitted this application on December 1, 1999.

The Commission cannot hear a proposed annexation without a property tax exchange agreement. Although the District and the County have discussed a tax exchange agreement for this application there has been no resolution, nor does it appear that an agreement is forthcoming.

I wrote to Kirk Mang, Chief of the Orcutt Fire Protection District, on February 19, 2001 and suggested that unless a tax exchange agreement is adopted within several weeks the District should consider withdrawing the application. I explained that the alternative would be for our office to place the proposal on the Commission’s agenda with the recommendation that it be found to be an incomplete application and filed as a public record.

I again corresponded with Chief Mang on October 16 indicating our intention to recommend that the proposal be filed as an incomplete application. We have not received a response to our letter.

If the proposal is withdrawn by the District or is found by the Commission to be an incomplete application, a similar annexation can be submitted at any time in the future, especially if there is an agreement reached regarding the reallocation of property taxes.

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Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer

cc: Kirk Mang, Orcutt Fire Protection District
John Scherrei, County Fire Protection District