

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION  
COMMISSION MAKING WRITTEN DETERMINATIONS AND CEQA FINDINGS  
APPROVING AMENDMENT TO SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR SANTA RITA  
HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425, 56427, and 56430, and the Commission's duly adopted Policies for Spheres of Influence determinations, the Commission has initiated and conducted the 2023 Countywide Transportation, Parking, Street Sweeping & Beautification, Lighting, Transit, and Airport Services and Sphere of Influence Review for 23 agencies: Goleta West Sanitary District, Isla Vista Community Services District, Mission Hills Community Services District, Santa Rita Hills Community Services District, Santa Ynez Community Services District, Guadalupe Lighting District, Mission Canyon Lighting District, North County Lighting District, County Service Area 3 (Goleta Valley), County Service Area 11 (Summerland & Carpinteria Area), County Service Area 41 (Rancho Santa Rita), Santa Maria Public Airport District, Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District, City of Buellton, City of Carpinteria, City of Goleta, City of Guadalupe, City of Lompoc, City of Santa Barbara, City of Santa Maria, and City of Solvang ("service providers").

WHEREAS, the Commission is required to review and update, as necessary, adopted spheres of influence not less than every five years, and

WHEREAS, the Commission is directed to conduct a review of municipal services not later than the time it considers an action to establish or update a sphere of influence, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer has given the notices required by law and forwarded copies of his report to officers, persons and service providers as prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2024, the Commission took final action to approve the municipal service reviews and spheres of influence updates and amendments for the agencies listed above, except for the sphere of influence amendment for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District, which was continued to the Commission's regular meeting on March 7, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has heard, discussed and considered all relevant evidence, including but not limited to, the Executive Officer reports, and environmental documents, applicable general and specific, plans and all testimony; and

WHEREAS, the proposed sphere of influence amendment concerns the access road, referred to as the "Memorandum (MOA) of Agreement Road," from Sweeny Road to the District and is of great importance; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes that for years the access road has been a source of contention between the residents of Santa Rita Hills and the landowners on whose land the road easement is located; and

WHEREAS, including the road easement area within the District's sphere of influence as a study area may help facilitate eventual resolution of long-standing issues; and

WHEREAS, at said hearings, this Commission heard and received all oral and written protests, objections, and evidence which were made, presented or filed, and all person's present were given the opportunity to hear and be heard in respect to any matter relating to said Sphere of Influence Update and Municipal Service Review for the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED DETERMINED AND ORDERED by the Commission as follows:

- (1) Finds this action is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. (CEQA) *based on the determination that this action does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment (Section 15061(b)(3))*. The SOI amendment also does not relate to changes in the physical world which a public agency is about to make, authorize or fund and, therefore, is not a "project" under CEQA Guidelines section 15378;
- (2) Has considered all factors required to be considered by Government Code Section 56425(e) and hereby adopts such determinations as set forth in the Final Adopted Sphere of Influence Update and Municipal Service Review with said determinations being incorporated by reference herein as though set forth in full; and
- (3) Amends the Sphere of Influence of the Santa Rita Hills Community Services District to include the MOA Road easement area not currently within the boundaries of the agencies, as shown on Exhibit A and B.

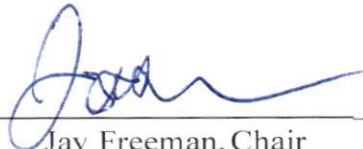
This resolution is hereby adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024 in Santa Barbara, California.

AYES: Commissioner Geyer, Hartmann, Kyriaco, Patino, Stark, Nelson, and Freeman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Santa Barbara County Local Agency  
Formation Commission

By:   
Jay Freeman, Chair

Date: 4/4/2024

ATTEST:



Natasha Carbajal, Clerk/Analyst  
Santa Barbara County  
Local Agency Formation Commission