

# LAFCO

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**Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission**  
105 East Anapamu Street ♦ Santa Barbara CA 93101  
805/568-3391 ♦ FAX 805/568-2249  
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February 5, 2026 (Agenda)

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

## **Dissolution of CSA 32**

Dear Members of the Commission:

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Commission adopt a Resolution to dissolve County Service Area 32 pursuant to Government Code Section 56879 (LAFCo File 25-04).

### DISCUSSION:

At our December 2025 Commission meeting, the Commission approved the initiation of the process to dissolve County Service Area 32 (CSA 32). As you may recall from the December 2025 meeting, this process starts with the State Controller's Office (SCO) sending a letter to us stating that they believe a district(s) qualifies as an inactive district. Santa Barbara LAFCO received this letter in November 2022 and most recently October 2025, which lists CSA 32 in Santa Barbara County as inactive. At the December meeting, we agreed with the SCO that CSA 32 is inactive.

Today's agenda item is to hold an official publicly noticed meeting to decide if CSA 32 should be dissolved. On January 14, 2026, we put a notice in our local paper about this hearing. As of the writing of this staff report, we have had no comment from the public on this matter.

CSA 32 was formed in 1979 to provide an accounting mechanism to help fund law enforcement services from non-property tax sources in the unincorporated areas of the County. The District has no separate staff and functions as a source of revenue for the Sheriff's office. The formation included the entire County including the incorporated areas declared to be within a zone of zero benefit. In 1995, the incorporated areas were detached. Prior to realignment and Proposition 172, the

County used Fund 2230 to demonstrate that the cost of Sheriff patrol services did not exceed total non-property tax discretionary revenues (e.g., Sales Tax, TOT, etc.). The fund was closed and all activities were rolled into the County's General Fund.

CSA 32 had been identified as fitting the definition of inactive by the Commission when it approved the 2021 Countywide MSR for agencies providing Fire Protection, Law Enforcement, Crime & Safety and Emergency Medical Services at the December 9, 2021 meeting.

#### ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMISSION ACTION

After consideration of this report and any testimony or additional materials that are submitted, the Commission should consider taking one of the following options:

**OPTION 1** – APPROVE the dissolution as submitted.

- A. Find the dissolution to be statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guideline section 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment;
- B. Approve the attached resolution to approve the dissolution of CSA 32.

**OPTION 2** –DENY the proposal and disagree with the SCO and make a determination that CSA 32 is still active and not to dissolve.

**OPTION 3** - CONTINUE consideration of the proposal to a future meeting and provide direction to staff, as needed.

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve **OPTION 1**.



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Mike Prater  
Executive Officer  
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

#### Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution Dissolving CSA 32
- Attachment B: Notice of Exemption

LAFCO 26-01

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION COMMISSION APPROVING THE DISSOLUTION OF COUNTY  
SERVICE AREA NO. 32

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2021, the Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission adopted the 2021 Countywide Municipal Service Reviews (MSR) for agencies providing Fire Protection, Law Enforcement, Crime & Safety and Emergency Medical Services which included County Service Area (CSA) 32 is an inactive district and adopted a zero sphere; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Government Code Section 56879 (Senate Bill 448) the State Controller's Office has sent LAFCO a Notification of Inactive District confirming that CSA 32 has had no financial transactions in the previous year, has no assets and liabilities, and has no outstanding debts, judgments, litigation, contracts, liens or claims; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Countywide MSR for CSA 32 states "CSA 32 provides no services and has no budget, fund balance, funding sources, or expenditures." As such CSA No. 32 has achieved its original purposes and is currently inactive, which confirms the finding of the State Controller that CSA 32 is currently inactive and should be dissolved; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 56879, LAFCO held a public hearing on December 11, 2025, at which it considered initiating dissolution of CSA 32, received public comment, and adopted a resolution initiating the dissolution of CSA 32 for being inactive; and

WHEREAS, the Commission caused the publication of notice in the newspaper on January 14, 2026, which set a public hearing to consider the dissolution of CSA 32 at its February 5, 2026 meeting; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2026, the Commission held a public hearing to consider dissolution of CSA 32 and hear public comment.

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

- (1) Finds, the dissolution of CSA 32 to be statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guideline section 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment;

- (2) Finds that County Service Area No. 32 is an inactive district as defined in Government Code Section 56042.
- (3) Approves dissolving County Service Area No. 32, as depicted in Exhibit A, pursuant to the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, Government Code Section 56879.
- (4) Pending the issuance and recordation of a Certificate of Completion, CSA 32 shall not:
  - (a) appropriate, encumber, expend, or otherwise obligate any revenue of CSA 32, or
  - (b) hire any staff or contractors.
- (5) Upon the effective date of the dissolution (i.e. recordation of the Certificate of Completion), CSA 32 shall be dissolved, its existence shall be terminated and all of its powers shall cease.

This resolution is hereby adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026 in Santa Maria, California.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Santa Barbara County Local Agency  
Formation Commission

By: \_\_\_\_\_

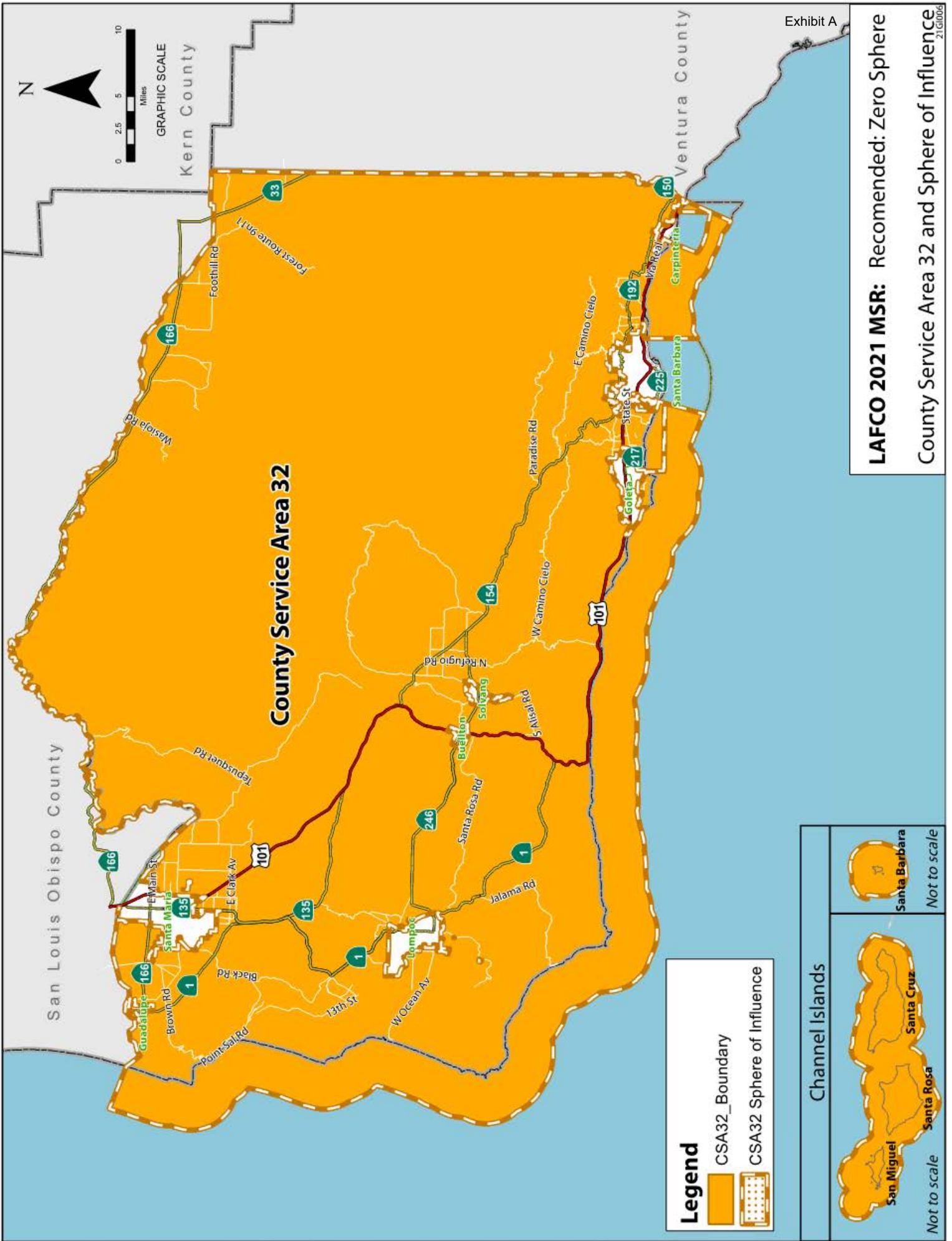
Chair, Stark

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_

Ila Fennell, Commission Clerk  
Santa Barbara County  
Local Agency Formation Commission



# ***NOTICE OF EXEMPTION***

## **Filing of Notice of Exemption in Compliance with Section 21108 of the Public Resources Code**

**TO:** County Clerk  
County of Santa Barbara  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara CA 93101

**FROM:** Local Agency Formation Commission 105  
East Anapamu Street, Room 407 Santa  
Barbara CA 93101  
805/568-3391

**PROJECT**                    **LAFCO 25-04**                    **Dissolution of CSA 32**  
**TITLE:**

### **PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:**

Project Location:

Countywide

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Proposal would dissolve CSA 32, an inactive district since 2011 that no longer provides the accounting mechanism to help fund law enforcement services from non-property tax sources. The State Controller's Office (SCO) sending a letter to us stating that they believe a district(s) qualifies as an inactive district.

The dissolving of an inactive district is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project:

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

**Reasons for Exemption.** LAFCO's approval of the proposed dissolution of Countywide CSA 32 as an inactive district would be consistent with a Categorical Exemption common sense rule.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Prater, Executive Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 23, 2026  
Date

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The "project" is to dissolve an inactive countywide CSA 32 district, in the unincorporated area of the County. A Categorical Exemption Section 15061(b)(3) as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment would apply.

The Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission will approve the above-referenced project on February 5, 2026 and has determined it to be exempt from further environmental review under the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and local Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Statutory
- Categorical Exemption:
- Emergency Project
- No Possibility of Significant Effect [Sec. 15061 (b,3)]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Executive Officer**

Date: February 5, 2026