

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

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February 7, 2008 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission

105 East Anapamu Street, Room 403

Santa Barbara CA 93101

Formation of Santa Rita Hills Community Services District

Dear Members of the Commission:

Recommendation

It is recommended this matter be continued to the next LAFCO meeting in Santa Maria.

Discussion

On December 6, 2007 the Commission considered the proposed formation of the Santa Rita Hills CSD and continued the hearing until the February 7 meeting.

The staff was directed to (1) convene the affected parties in an effort to reach an agreement regarding road access, (2) contact the Agricultural Advisory Committee regarding the impact of the formation of this district on agriculture in the Santa Rita Hills, (3) explore the ability of the Commission to control eminent domain and (4) further study hydrologic impacts of increased housing and farming in the area on the water supply in the Santa Ynez River.

We are continuing to research and analyze these issues. The Agricultural Advisory Committee considered this matter on January 9. The affected parties met on January 24 regarding road access and related issues. The discussion was not completed and that meeting was continued until January 28. It is quite possible an additional meeting will be needed after that.

Since the matter is not ready to come back to the Commission, it is recommended the hearing on the proposed formation be continued to the next Commission meeting in Santa Maria.

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

BOB BRAITMAN

Executive Officer