

# Santa Barbara LAFCO

## **Confirm Existing Spheres of Influence for Cities**

April 2, 2026

# Background

- Commission is required to adopt a sphere of influence for each City.
- Government Code Section 56425 (e) calls for the Commission to review and update each sphere of influence of a local government agency every five years.
- Many factors are considered when establishing a SOI, such as further the goals of orderly development and efficient and affordable service delivery of services.
- A sphere of influence (SOI) is defined by statute as a “plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local government agency.
- SOIs are to be used by the Commission as one factor in making decision on reorganization proposals.
- Territory must first be within an agencies SOI before annexing the area.

# Last Adoption SOIs

- On January 16, 2016, the Commission reaffirmed that process and directed staff to update existing spheres of influence, as necessary for six of the eight cities:
  - City of Buellton
  - City of Guadalupe
  - City of Lompoc
  - City of Santa Barbara
  - City of Santa Maria
  - City of Solvang
  
- The Cities of Carpinteria and Goleta were last adopted in February 2016 and March 2009.

# Discussion

- Government Code Section 56430 states in order to prepare and update spheres of influence consistent with Section 56425, the Commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or appropriate area designated by the Commission.
- In October 2025, the Commission directed staff to reach out to each city and request a better understanding regarding what sphere of influence boundary would potentially work best for future growth opportunities that are also in line with both city's existing General Plan's and County's General Plan policies, while meeting the needs of various City's and furthering LAFCOs mission and local polices.

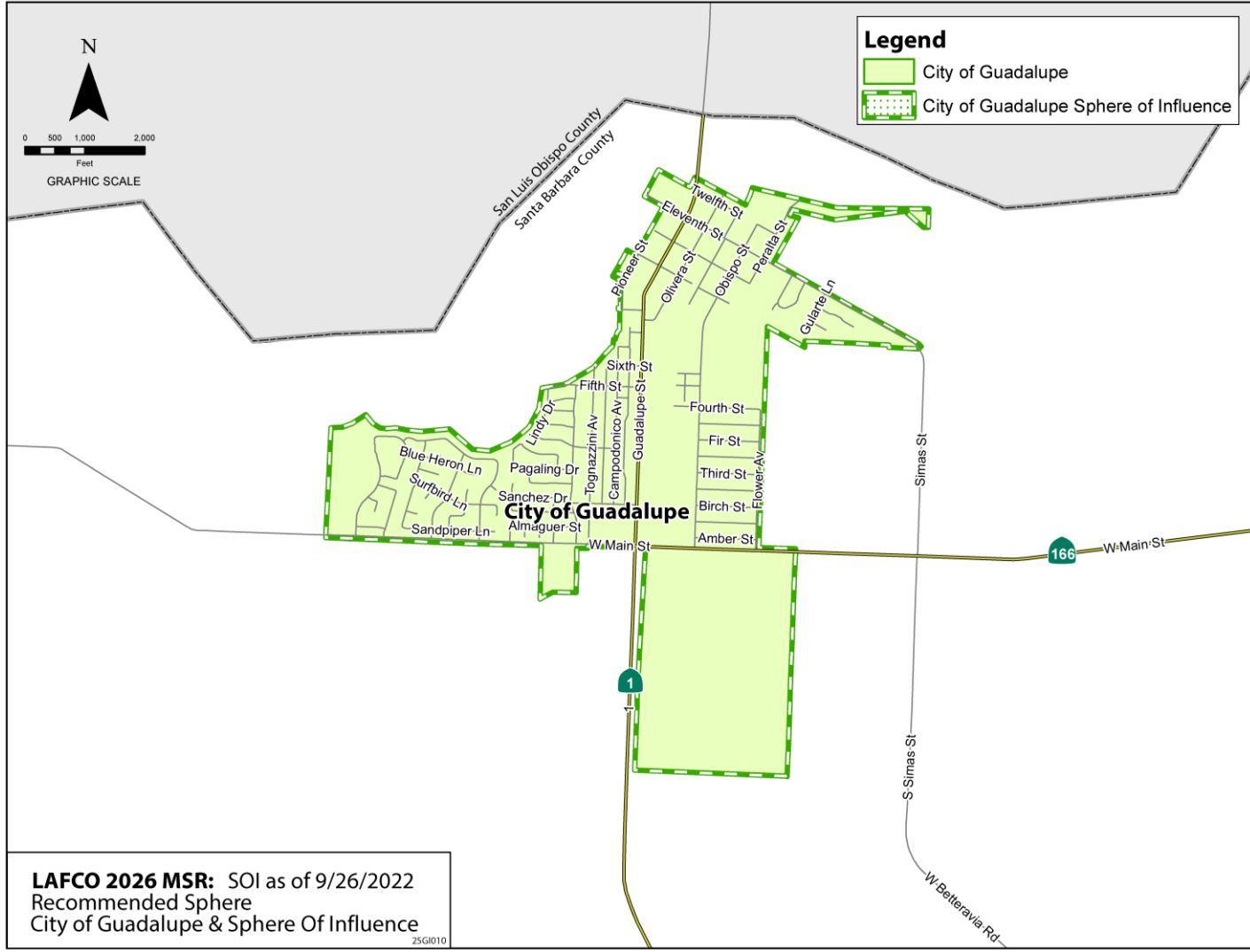
# Proposed SOIs

- Four Cities, have confirmed that the Commission should reaffirm their existing spheres of influence.
  - The Cities of Carpinteria and Guadalupe are requesting that Status Quo be adopted.
  - The City of Solvang is agreeable to Status Quo adoption with consideration of expansion on the west side while potentially reducing the SOI on the north and east sides.
  - The City of Lompoc is requesting that Status Quo be adopted. In addition, the City has embarked on updating the City's 2050 General Plan in 2026/27. The City has submitted a letter expressing City's interest.
- The City of Santa Barbara has also reaffirmed its sphere and agreeable to add Study Area #5 Sunrise Hill.

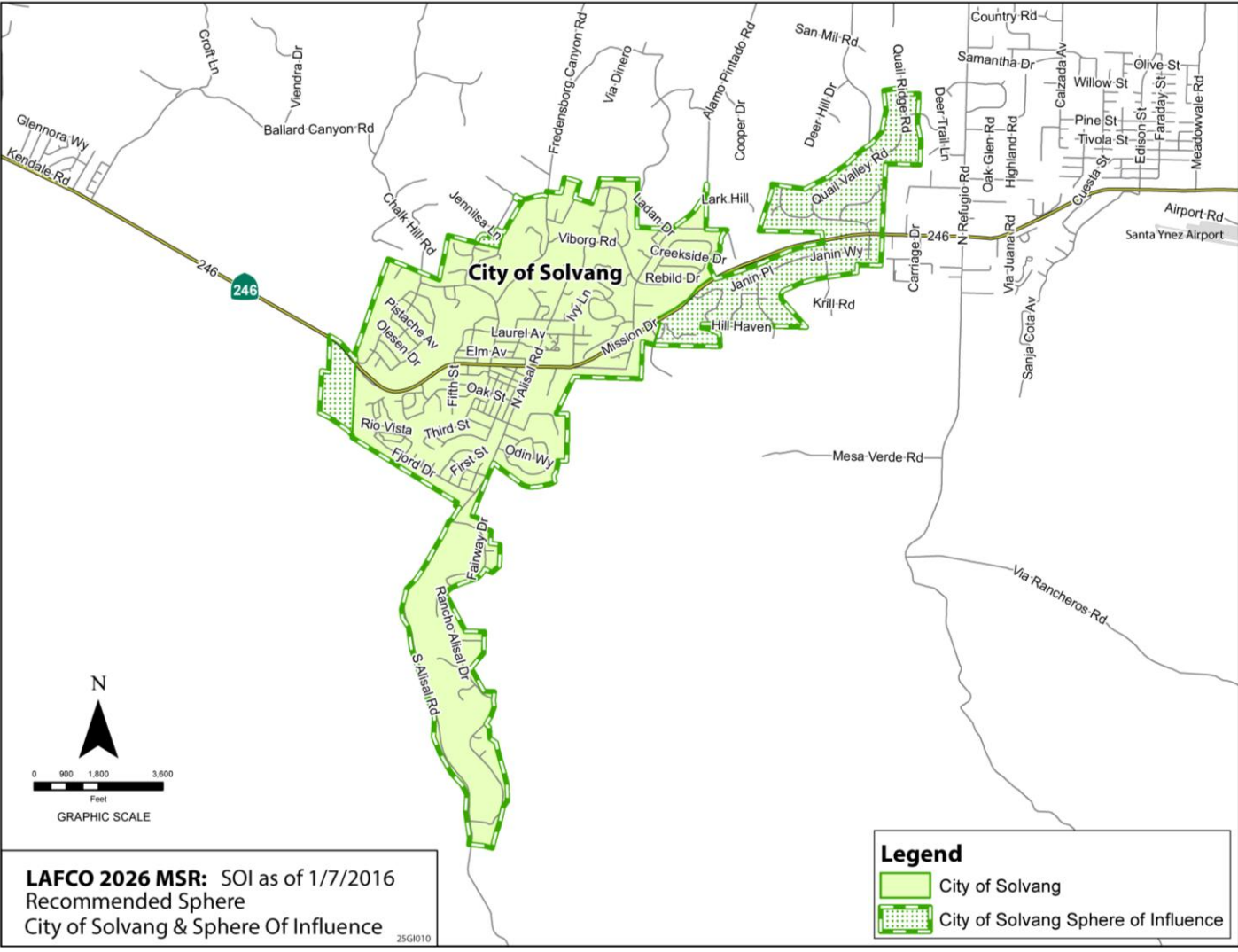
# Carpinteria's Recommended SOI



# Guadalupe's Recommended SOI

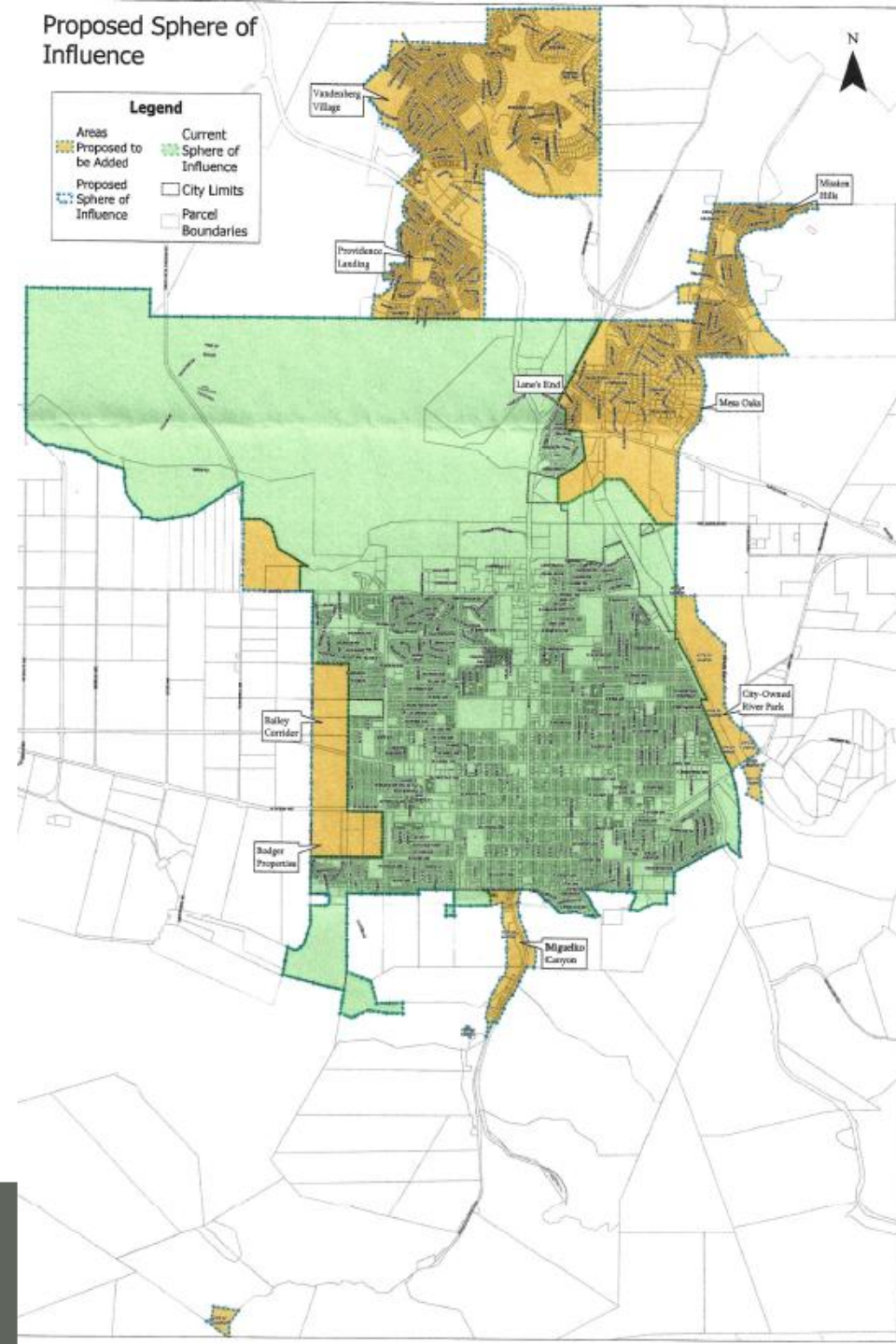


# Solvang's Recommended SOI

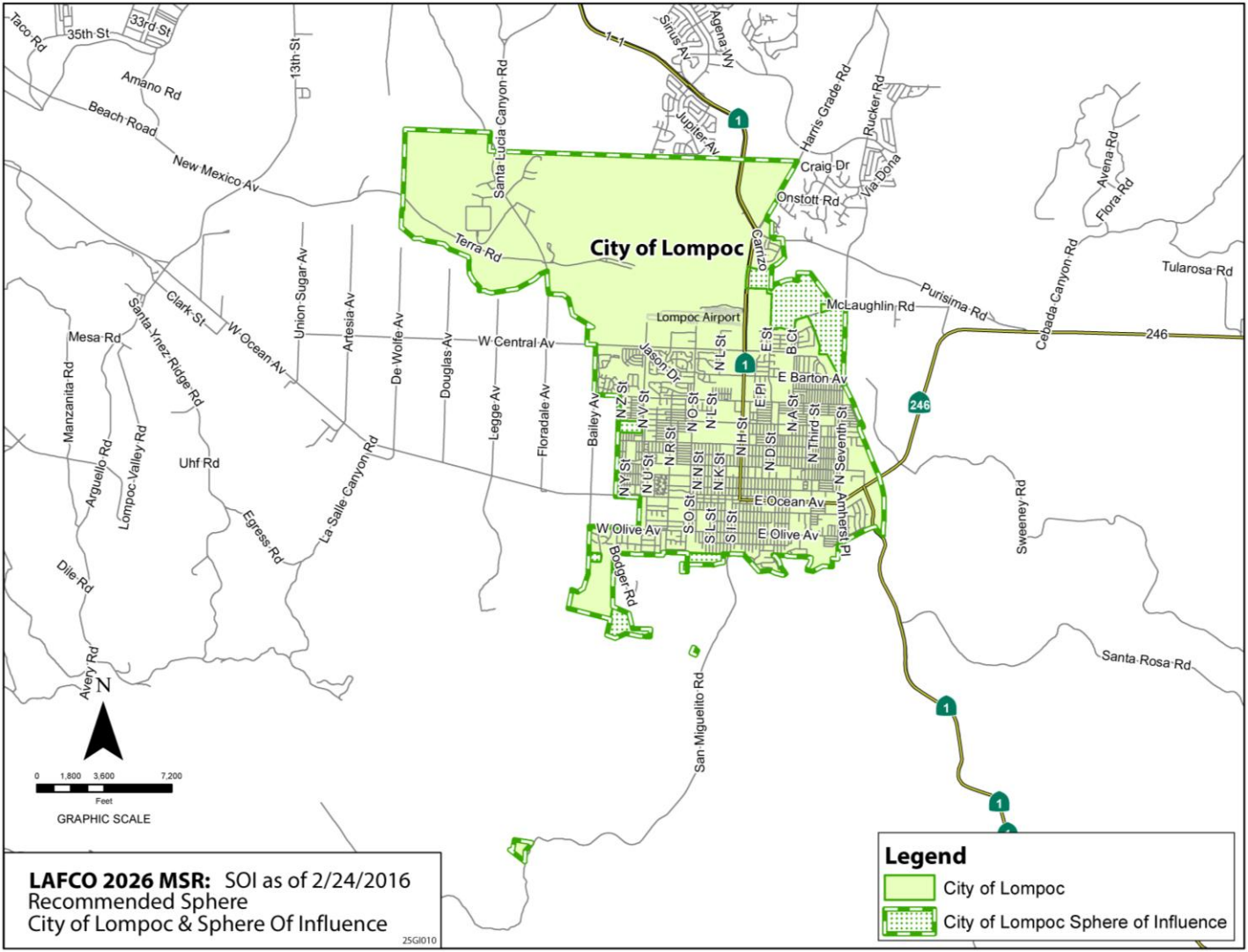


# Lompoc's Requested SOI

- Bailey Corridor to the west which consists of three segments.
  - Bodger properties located south of Ocean Avenue (100 acres)
  - Bailey parcel between West Ocean Avenue and College Avenue (100 acres)
  - Two parcels north of College Avenue extension (70 Acres)
- Properties to the north including Vandenberg Village, Providence Landing, Mission Hills, Mesa Oaks, and Lane's End;
- Developed areas south of the City along San Miguelito Road.
- The area between Floradale Avenue and the City Wastewater Treatment Plant; and
- Any City-owned property or infrastructure.



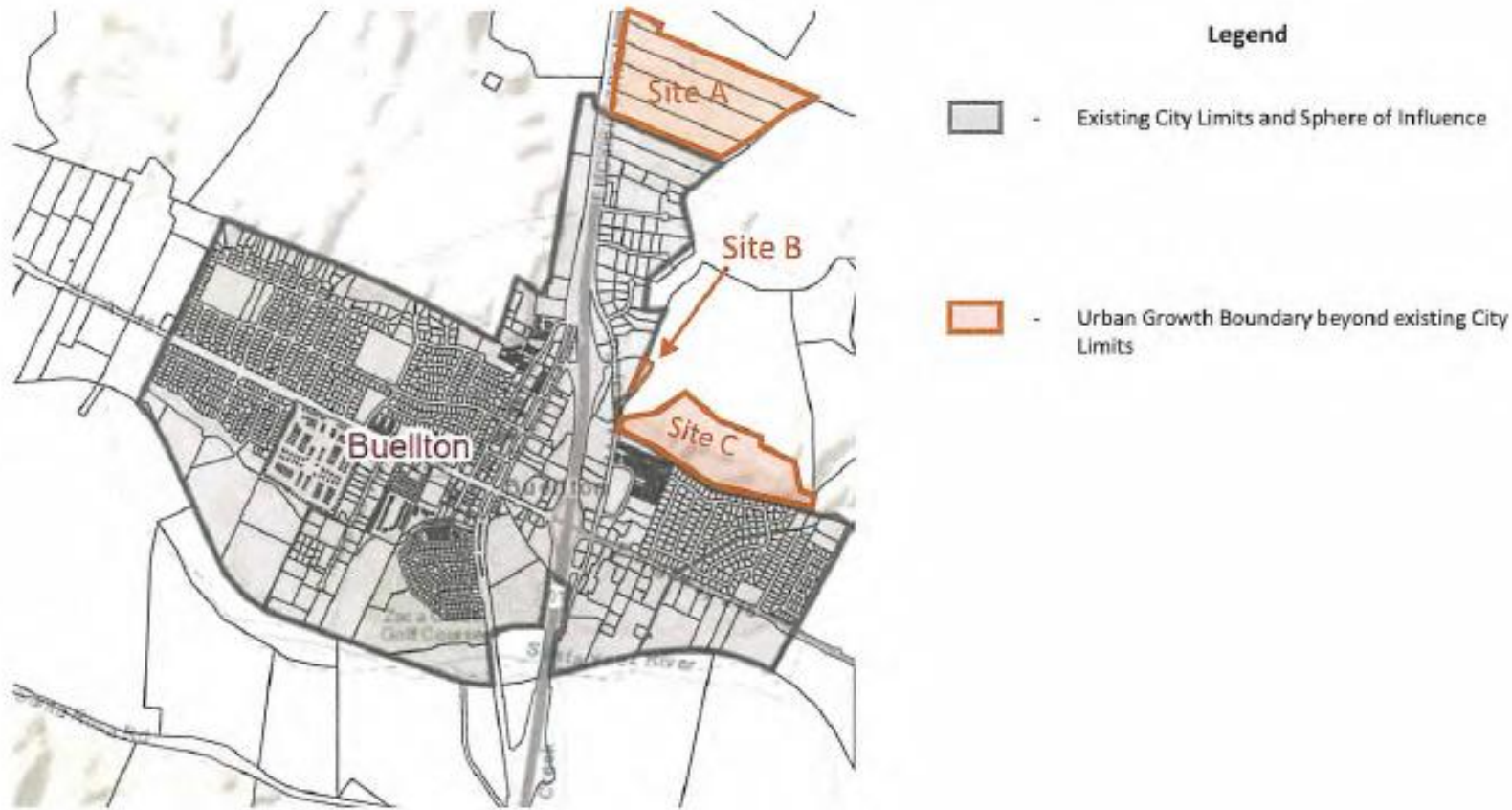
# Lompoc's Recommended SOI





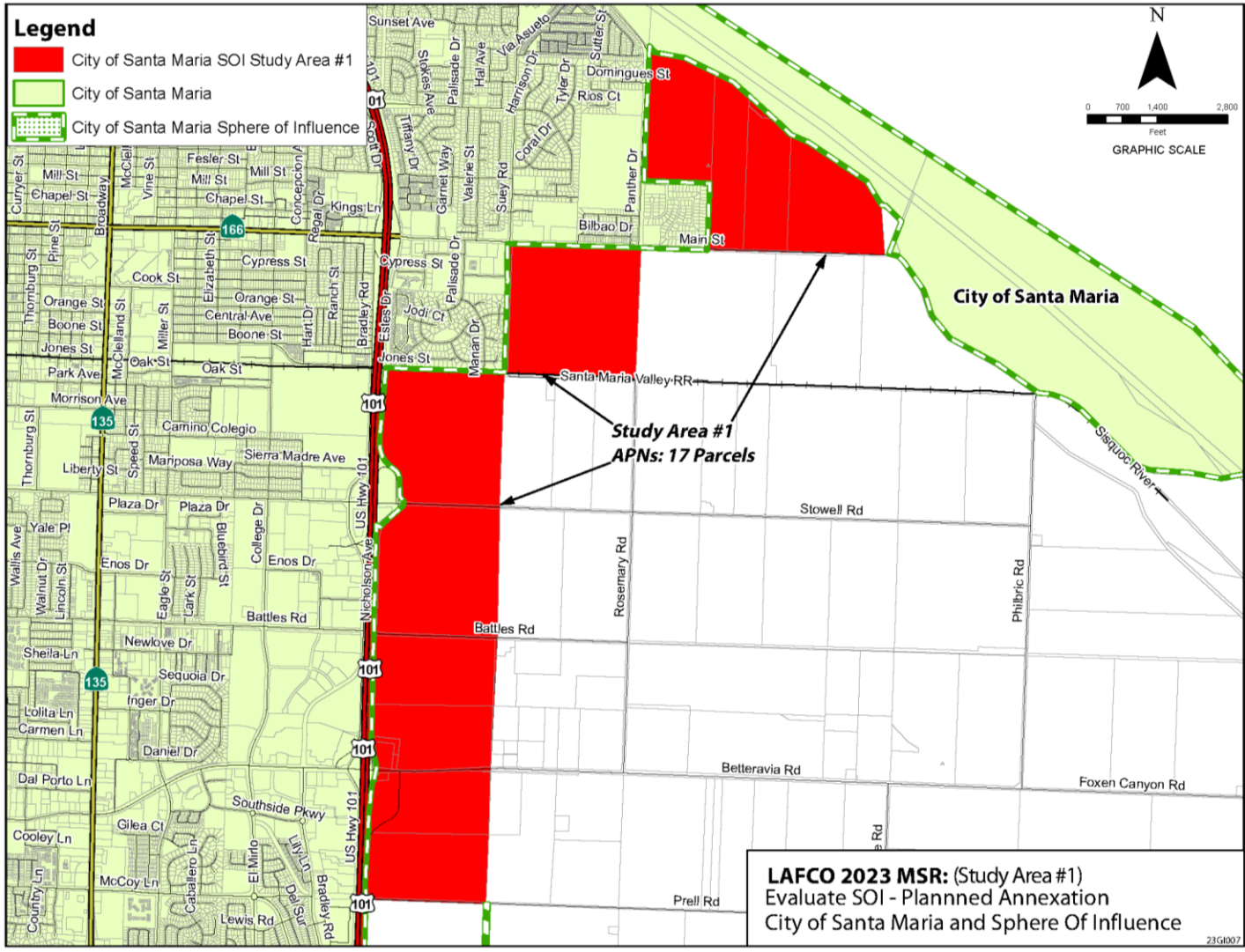
# Buellton's Requested SOI

Figure LU-1  
(Exhibit 1 - Urban Growth Boundary of 2024)



The City of Buellton is requesting SOI align with a voter initiative Measure C2024 approved by the voters of the City of Buellton, expanding the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), and allowing for the provision of municipal services beyond the prior UGB boundary.

# Santa Maria's Requested SOI

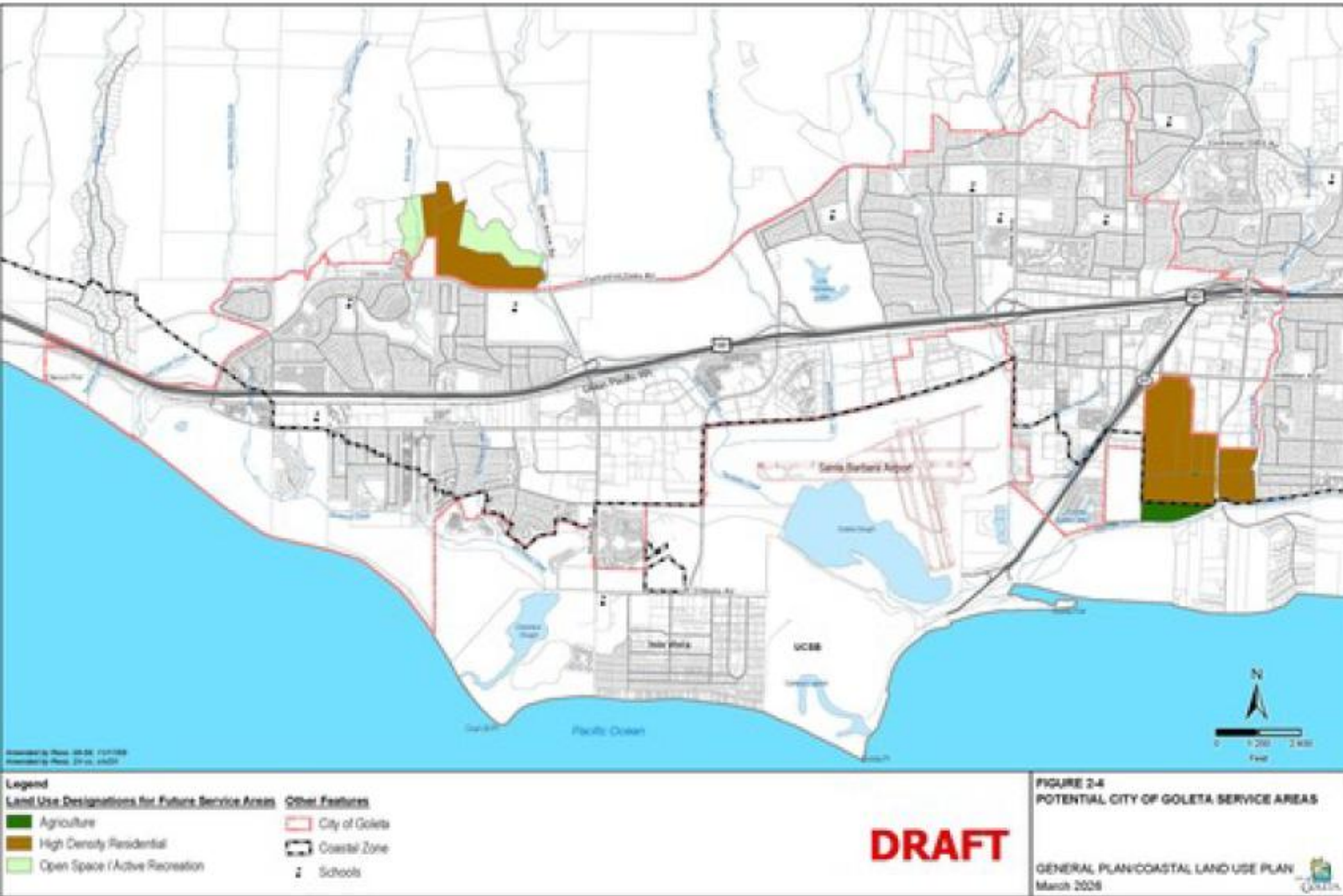


The City of Santa Maria is requesting alignment with the City efforts currently being evaluated with their comprehensive General Plan update. The City is considering applying for SOI and annexation related to this work.

# Goleta's Requested SOI

The City of Goleta is requesting expansion of City SOI consistent with their draft revisions to their General Plan Figure 2-4.

This request would add Glen Annie Golf Course Area (161-acres), South Patterson Area (Giorgi and St. Athanasius Church, and Caird 1-3 sites (195-acres).



# Recommendation

## **It is recommended that the Commission approve Option 1:**

- a) SET A HEARING DATE FOR APPROVAL of the Resolutions to reaffirm and condition the Cities of Carpinteria, Guadalupe, Lompoc, Solvang, and amend Santa Barbara spheres of influence, as submitted; and
- b) Reaffirm the cities of Buellton, Goleta, and Santa Maria spheres of influence while they are considering applying for SOI and/or annexation applications.