



Solano Local Agency Formation Commission

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Staff Report

DATE: November 21, 2016
TO: Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM: Elliot Mulberg, Executive Officer
Michelle McIntyre, Analyst
SUBJECT: **Benicia Draft Municipal Service Review**

RECOMMENDATION: The Commission review and comment on the Draft MSR.

DISCUSSION:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act (CKH Act) requires LAFCO to conduct a municipal service review (MSR) before or in conjunction with, but no later than the time it is considering establishing or updating a sphere of influence (SOI). The Commission is directed to include the geographic area appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed. The Commission is also required to make determinations in the following seven areas:

1. Growth and population projections for the affected area.
2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.
3. Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services including infrastructure needs or deficiencies.
4. Financial ability of agencies to provide services.
5. Status of and opportunities for shared facilities.
6. Accountability for community service needs, including government structure and operational efficiencies.
7. Matters related to effective or efficient service delivery required by commission policy.

Commissioners

John Saunderson, Chair • John Vasquez, Vice-Chair
Jack Batchelor • Jim Spering • Harry Price

Alternate Commissioners

Skip Thomson • Nancy Shopay • Pete Sanchez

Staff

Elliot Mulberg, Interim Executive Officer • Michelle McIntyre, Analyst • P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel

The Commission approved the last MSR for the City of Benicia in 2005. Since 2005, the City has not applied for a change or organization/reorganization. Presently, City staff has indicated Benicia has no immediate plans to submit an application to LAFCO. However, current service reviews are important as they can assist the City and LAFCO in their decision making process. Should the City apply for a SOI update and/or a change of organization/reorganization, a current service review is available to assist with the analysis.

The Commission's policy, with regard to City MSRs, is that City staff provides the data to LAFCO and LAFCO reviews the information and makes the required determinations. More recently, the practice has been for City and LAFCO staff to collaborate on conducting service reviews. The Draft before the Commission is a result of a joint effort.

The draft MSR was circulated to affected agencies beginning November 10th and the comment period will remain in effect until December 12th. In addition, City staff will be presenting the draft MSR to the Benicia Planning Commission and City Council at their upcoming meetings. The final MSR and will be presented to the LAFCO Commission at a public meeting on December 12. All comments received prior to December 12th including additional comments received at the public meeting may be included in the final MSR.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission review and comment on the Draft Municipal Service Review for the City of Benicia.

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