

**SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**  
**1112 I Street, Suite #100**  
**Sacramento, California 95814**  
**(916) 874-6458**

June 2, 2004

TO: Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Peter Brundage, Executive Officer

RE: **Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District  
Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. Approve the categorical exemption for this project.
2. Adopt Resolution No. LAFC 1279 making written determinations for the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update. The District's Sphere of Influence shall remain coterminous with the existing District boundary.

**DISCUSSION**

On May 5, 2004, staff submitted a Draft Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District for Commission/ public review and comment. This opened a 30-day comment period. LAFCo staff has received the attached comments from the City of Sacramento. The City of Sacramento wanted to put the following points in the public record:

1. The City of Sacramento serves portions of the unincorporated area (Natomas, Fruitridge and Pacific Fire Protection Districts) through contracts. The City has served these areas for the past 25 to 30 years. These areas lie adjacent to the City limits and have been incorporated into the City's Strategic Fire Service Plan. The City receives property tax and is still effectively serving these areas.
2. Should the City of Sacramento annex these areas, or other areas currently not served by the City, into the City of Sacramento, it is City policy to provide both fire and emergency medical services to its residents upon annexation.

LAFCo staff does not recommend any change to Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District's Sphere of Influence. The Municipal Service Review, and any additional new information required for processing proposals, will be used to evaluate future proposals [annexation, detachment, reorganization.]. Future changes of organization related to Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District service territory will require careful analysis to evaluate the impacts on the regional fire service delivery system. Likewise, annexation to the City of Sacramento will be subject to similar evaluation.

The District serves a significant portion of Sacramento County, including the cities of Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District provides an adequate level of service to its service area. The District also has mutual aid agreements with surrounding jurisdictions that provide fire service based on collaboration and cooperation. This is a regional benefit because resources are shared between fire agencies. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District provides fire protection and emergency medical response under the direction of an elected Board of Directors which is accountable to the public.

The District is primarily funded by property tax. The District has reorganized and numerous fire districts have consolidated during the last thirty years to create the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. These fire district reorganizations have resulted in numerous benefits, including:

- Uniform level of service.
- Ability to provide specialized services:
  - Hazardous materials response.
  - Helicopter services.
- Cost savings:
  - Avoidance of duplication of support services, i.e., accounting, Human Resources, as well as organizational structure: Fire Chiefs, Fire Marshalls, Inspectors, etc.
- Improved distribution of fire stations to equalize response times for service area.

The Commission should note that Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District's mission appears to be changing. The District has a greater number of calls for medical response than it does for fire suppression response.

PB:Maf  
Attachments

(Sac Metro MSR Memo)