
AGENDA ITEM #8

TO: ALL COMMISSIONERS, ALTERNATES
FROM: ROSEANNE CHAMBERLAIN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SUBJECT: **ADOPTION OF A SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR SUTTER CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT; LAFCO PROJECT #323; RESOLUTION #2021-06**
DATE: MEETING OF APRIL 15, 2021

BACKGROUND:

LAFCO is initiating the adoption of this sphere of influence pursuant to Government Code §56425(g). Staff proposes a coterminous sphere of influence for the district, which will include all lands within the boundaries of the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District (SCFPD).

The Municipal Services Review (MSR) update for Sutter Creek Fire Protection District has been completed and was recently reviewed by the Commission. Determinations regarding the MSR are part of LAFCO Resolution #2021-04, adopted February 18, 2021. The analysis and complete profile for the district is contained in the MSR and is made a part of this action by reference.

DISTRICT & BOUNDARY HISTORY:

LAFCO staff is unable to find meeting records to show any action by the commission to adopt a sphere of influence for SCFPD in the past. The most likely possibility is that the sphere was assumed to be coterminous. The action proposed for this meeting is the adoption of an original sphere of influence for SCFPD, affirming a coterminous sphere area including the district boundaries.

The district was formed in 1906 as an independent district prior to the incorporation of the city of Sutter Creek. The district includes two distinct areas. The cities of Sutter Creek and Amador City are within the boundaries of the District along with some additional parcels adjacent to the city limits. Sutter Creek FPD is completely surrounded and served by Amador Fire Protection District.

The district boundaries and mapping records for the district have been carefully reviewed by LAFCO staff. The review was supported by retired county surveyor, George Allen. Recorded documents for annexation are the basis for current district boundaries and these GIS files are maintained as data layers for LAFCO at Amador County Transportation Commission. The verified district boundary map is attached and is the same area

proposed by staff for this action to adopt an original sphere of influence. In addition, a map showing the annexation history of the district is attached. Both maps will be posted to the Amador LAFCO website.

DISCUSSION:

As part of the conversation regarding the appropriate area for the Sutter Creek Fire District sphere, Dominic Marino, SCFPD Chief, reported a recent discussion at the district's board meeting with nearby landowners. Chief Marino indicated that these landowners are interested in detaching from AFPD and annexing into SCFPD.

Anyone may submit an application to LAFCO to amend a sphere of influence; landowners also have the right to request annexation and may do so at any time. LAFCO's review will require information regarding the specific area for annexation, zoning and land use on the property, potential future land uses, need for service and service plans, etc.

The first response areas for fire districts have been controversial recently, but are mapped and maintained as a responsibility of the CALFire dispatch center located in Camino. The process for setting first response areas is not clear to LAFCO staff and also appears to be controversial.

CEQA:

LAFCO is the lead agency for the project. The Executive Officer has reviewed the proposal and determined that it is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Section 15061(b)(3) of the Public Resources Code, in that there is no change in services or service demand and no possibility that the project could have a negative effect on the environment (Notice of Exemption attached).

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Determine a coterminous sphere of influence for Sutter Creek Fire Protection District.
2. Find that the adoption of a coterminous sphere of influence for the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District is exempt from the provision of CEQA under Section 15061(b)(3).
3. Approve LAFCO Resolution # 2021-06 (attached), making determinations and adopting a coterminous sphere of influence for the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District.

Attachments: Resolution #2021-06

Exhibit A: Map
Exhibit B: Determinations
Annexation History Map
Notice of Exemption

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LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION MAKING DETERMINATIONS, ADOPTING AND AFFIRMING THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR SUTTER CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

LAFCO RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021-06

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Cortese/Knox/Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act, commencing with §56000, et seq. of the Government Code, and specifically in accordance with §56425; and

WHEREAS, a municipal services review has been completed and was found by LAFCO to be adequate and complete on February 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the functions and classes of services provided by the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District are identified in the municipal services review as: fire protection, rescue, emergency medical response, hazardous material emergency response and related services for the protection of lives and property, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code §13800 - 13970; and

WHEREAS, the nature, extent and location of services provided by the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District are described in the Municipal Services Review; and

WHEREAS, LAFCO has not previously adopted a sphere of influence for the district and the sphere of influence has been generally accepted to have been a coterminous sphere of influence; and

WHEREAS, at the times and in the form and manner required by law, the Executive Officer has given notice of the hearing by this Commission; and

WHEREAS, upon the date, time and place specified in said notice of hearing and in any order or orders containing such hearing, the Commission has received, heard, discussed and considered all oral and written testimony related to the sphere of influence, including but not limited to comments, objections, the Executive Officer's written and oral report and recommendation, the environmental document and determination, plans for providing service, previously adopted spheres of influence and municipal service review;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The adoption of the Sphere of Influence for the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) in that there is no possibility that the action taken by the Commission may have a significant effect on the environment.
2. The Sphere of Influence of the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District is determined, affirmed and approved as shown on the attached map marked "Exhibit A", and is coterminous to the boundaries of the District.

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3. Determinations with respect to the Sphere of Influence for the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District are set forth and described in the attached "Exhibit B" and are incorporated herein by this reference.
4. The Executive Officer is hereby directed to file a Notice of Exemption in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and local ordinances implementing the same.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of Amador at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 15th day of April, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Presiding Officer
Patrick Crew, Chairman

ATTEST:

Nancy Mees, Clerk to the Commission
Amador Local Agency Formation Commission
Amador County, California







Exhibit A

Amador City

Sutter Creek

Jackson

Sutter Creek Fire Protection District

	Sutter Creek FPD		Road
	City Limits		State Highway
	Parcel		Stream

1:36,000

0 0.5 1 Mile

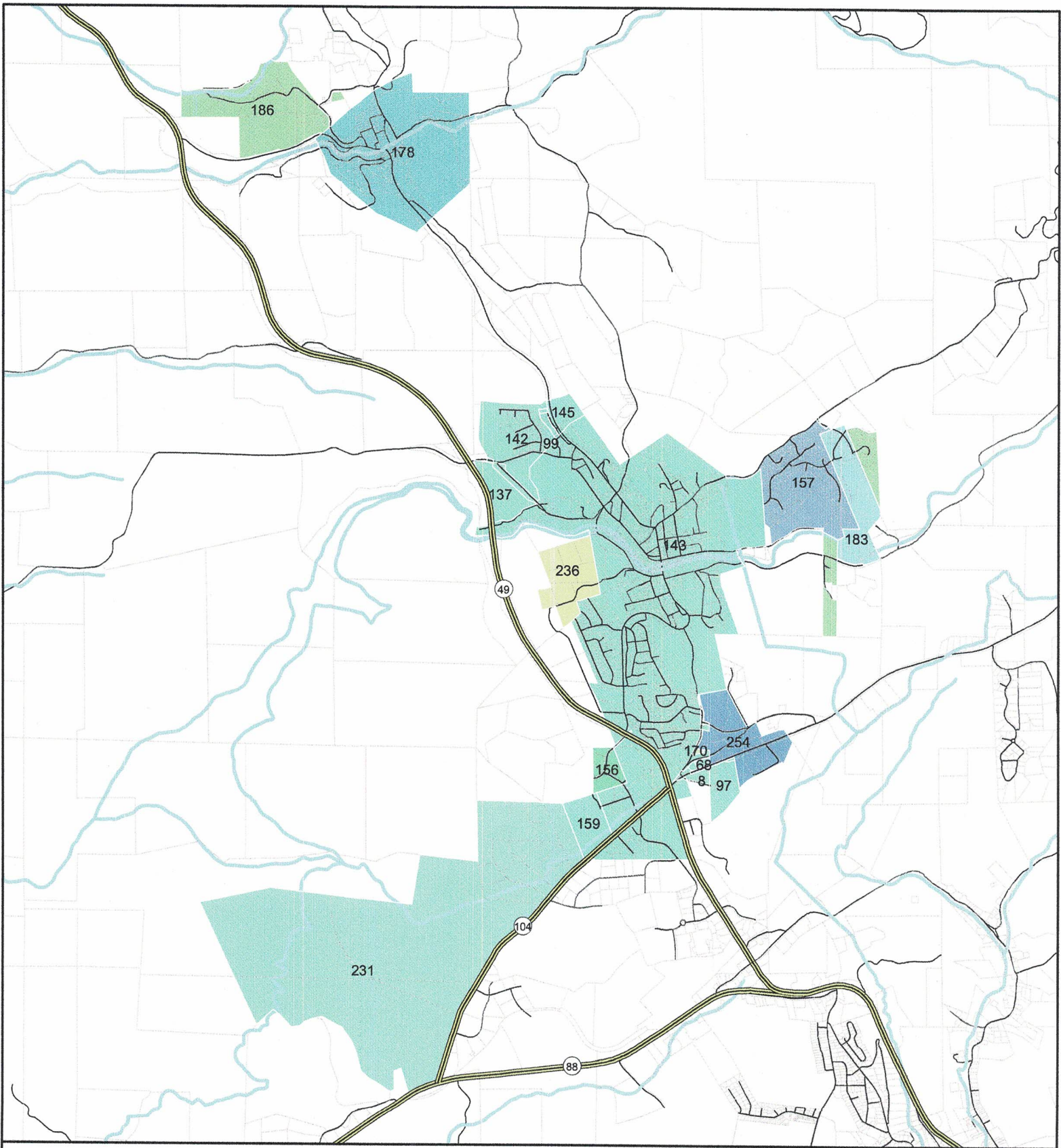
The Amador Local Agency Formation Commission and the Amador County Transportation Commission assumes no responsibility arising from the use of this information. THE MAPS AND ASSOCIATED DATA ARE PROVIDED WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, expressed or implied, including, but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. Do not make any business decisions based on this data before validating your decision with the appropriate County office.

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

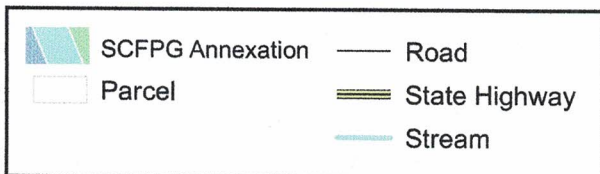
Exhibit B TO LAFCO RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06

RESOLUTION MAKING DETERMINATIONS AND AFFIRMING A COTERMINOUS SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR THE SUTTER CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

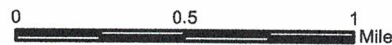
1. Significant changes to the present and planned land uses within and around the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District, are not anticipated within the time frame for this sphere of influence.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in and around the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District are not anticipated to substantially change. The available funding and the organizational structure of service providers limits improved fire protection and suppression.
3. The Commission recognizes that the present capacity of public facilities and the adequacy of public services that the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District provides, or is authorized to provide, are adequate given the limits of available revenues and local community needs.
4. Agriculture, including agricultural and open space lands, are not anticipated to change, nor to be affected by the adoption of a coterminous sphere of influence.
5. Communities of social or economic interest are identified within the boundaries of the district, and services and overall service levels in these communities are anticipated to remain unchanged.



Sutter Creek Fire Protection District; Annexation History



1:36,000



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AMADOR LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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Notice of Exemption

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814
 County Clerk
County of Amador

FROM: Public Agency:
Amador LAFCO
810 Court Street, Jackson, 95642
Contact: 209-418-9377
amador.lafco@gmail.com

Project Title: Sphere of Influence for Sutter Creek Fire Protection District (SCFPD)
LAFCO Project #323 (Coterminous Sphere)

Project Location – Entire district consisting of two noncontiguous areas; includes City of Sutter Creek and some parcels adjacent to city limits, plus city of Amador City and some parcels adjacent to city boundaries.

Project Location - City: Includes Sutter Creek and Amador City

Project Location - County: Territory entirely within Amador County

Description of Project: Adopt a coterminous sphere of influence for Sutter Creek FPD

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Amador LAFCO

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: Amador LAFCO

Exempt Status: (check one)

Ministerial

Declared Emergency

Categorical Exemption Section 15061(b)(3) of the Public Resources Code

Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt: Adopt coterminous district SOI. No change in services, or service demand and no possibility that the project could have a negative effect on the environment.

Signature: _____ Date: 4/15/21 Title: Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

POSTED ON: