Amador LAFCO Municipal Service Review

Nov. 5, 2007

Roseanne Chamberlain, LAFCO Executive Officer Beverly Burr, LAFCO Consultant





What is LAFCO?



LAFCO Governs:

- Creation of new agencies
- Reorganization or dissolution of agencies
- Agency boundaries
- Spheres of Influence
- Services provided outside boundaries
- Municipal service reviews

LAFCO has <u>no</u> Direct Jurisdiction over:

- School districts
- Private water companies
- > Air quality districts
- County boundary lines
- Redevelopment agencies
- Mello-Roos districts

Who are the Commissioners?

Jerry Sherman

City of Ione

Tim Murphy

City of Sutter Creek

Louis Boitano

Board of Supervisors

Ted Novelli

Board of Supervisors

Jim Vinciguerra

Public Member



Why Are We Here?

- Two state Commissions called attention to the challenges that public service providers will face over the next few decades.
- > The legislature responded with AB 2838:
 - New requirements include reviewing spheres of influence at least every five years; and
 - Preparing municipal service reviews in conjunction with updating spheres of influence.

SOI Statutory Requirements

Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg
Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000

Upon determination of a sphere of influence, the commission shall adopt that sphere, and shall review and update, as necessary, the adopted sphere not less than once every five years.

- Government Code §56425

In order to prepare and update spheres of influence in accordance with Section 56425, the Commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission.

- Government Code §56430

Sphere of Influence (SOI)



A plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency

- Government Code §56076

- Meaningful spheres...are regularly updated based upon comprehensive studies and they incorporate actual and projected information on trends in growth and development, service capacities, and public preferences.
 - Commission on Local Governance for the 21st Century
- A policy signal on governance or boundary changes that LAFCO would likely approve.

MSR Statutory Requirement

Service Reviews Must Address 9 Determinations

- Government Code §56430



- Infrastructure needs or deficiencies;
- 2. Growth and population projections for the affected area;
- 3. Financing constraints and opportunities;
- 4. Cost avoidance opportunities;
- 5. Opportunities for rate restructuring;

- 6. Opportunities for shared facilities;
- 7. Government structure options, including advantages of consolidation or reorganization of service providers;
- 8. Evaluation of management efficiencies; and
- 9. Local accountability and governance.

What was the Legislative Intent?

The Commission on Local Governance for the 21st Century recommended that LAFCO develop:

- Comprehensive knowledge of services available within its county,
- The current efficiency of providing service within various areas of the county,
- > Future needs for each service, and
- Expansion capacity of each service provided.



MSR Scope



Services

- > Field services
 - water
 - wastewater
 - > fire
 - > parks
 - among others
- Excludes administrative functions
- Excludes general County services

Agencies

- All agencies with SOIs:
 - > cities,
 - independent special districts
 - County-dependent special districts
- School districts, redevelopment agencies, and transit are outside scope.

Amador LAFCO's Approach



- Countywide study
- Backbone services
 - Water
 - Wastewater
 - > Fire
- Other services

- Emphasis on local agencies subject to LAFCO
- Non-LAFCO agencies profiled for comprehensive review

Amador Local Agencies



- Cities
 - Amador
 - > Ione
 - Jackson
 - Plymouth
 - Sutter Creek
- Independent Districts
 - Amador Fire Protection District
 - Jackson Valley Fire Protection
 - Lockwood Fire Protection
 - > Sutter Creek Fire Protection
 - River Pines Public Utility
 - Amador Water Agency
 - Drytown County Water
 - Jackson Valley Irrigation

- Kirkwood Meadows PUD
- Fiddletown CSD
- Pine Acres CSD
- Pine Grove CSD
- Rabb Park CSD
- Ranch House Estates CSD
- Ridgewood Acres CSD
- Sunset Heights CSD
- Volcano CSD
- Amador Resource Conservation District
- Township Cemetery No. 2
- County Service Areas
 - > CSAs 3, 5, 6, 8, Martell

MSR Steps



- Outreach with local agencies
- LAFCO requests information
- Agencies provide data
- Objective data evaluation & analysis
- Agencies review profile

- Consultant drafts report
 - Review Draft
 - Draft Final MSR
- LAFCO public hearing
- LAFCO adopts MSR determinations
- SOI updates

MSR Timeline



November: Outreach & Data Collection

> December: Consultant Questions

> February: Agency Profile Review

> April: Public Review

> May: LAFCO Hearing

Local Agencies' Role



REQUIRED

- Provide information
- Designate a liaison
- > File written statements specifying the functions or classes of services provided

OPTIONAL

- Review draft MSR
- Form working group
- Suggest SOI changes and governance alternatives
- Participate in public hearings

How will Service Reviews be Used?

- The reviews will assist LAFCO in carrying out its statutory responsibility of promoting orderly growth and development, while preserving open-space and agricultural land resources.
- Provide the basis for the Sphere of Influence (SOI) updates for all affected agencies.
- Service reviews will be informational tools available to the public, cities, counties, special districts, agencies and citizen's groups that seek to improve the quality of California's public service infrastructure.

How will local agencies benefit?

- Spheres of influence and boundaries will be more logical and oriented toward service delivery.
- Will promote regional efficiency, orderly growth and development.
- Standardized and digitized GIS maps
- Comprehensive local agency information directory

- Facilitation of interjurisdictional SOI conflicts
- Potential for identifying cost-cutting opportunities
 - use of shared facilities,
 - > joint service agreements,
 - > contract service cost options,
 - agency restructuring
- Comparisons with other agencies' service costs

Who pays?



- MSR Funders:
 - Amador County
 - > 5 cities
 - Amador Water Agency
 - Amador Regional Sanitation Authority
 - Amador County Transportation Commission
 - Pine Grove CSD
- SOI expansions requiring CEQA review will be funded by affected agencies and developer contributions
- In the future, LAFCO fees may reflect ongoing MSR and SOI update costs.

THANK YOU!

The municipal service review process affords LAFCO and stakeholders a unique opportunity to revisit the range of municipal services provided in Amador County.

We hope the process will encourage public participation and maximum input from local agencies, as we work together to implement the intent of the Legislature at the local level.

