



**STANISLAUS LAFCO  
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

**Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer**  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor  
Modesto, California 95354  
Phone: 209-525-7660  
Fax: 209-525-7643  
[www.stanislauslafco.org](http://www.stanislauslafco.org)

**Vice Chair Bill Berryhill**, Public Member  
Vito Chiesa, County Member  
Terry Withrow, County Member  
Amy Bublak, City Member  
Richard O'Brien, City Member  
Javier Lopez, Alternate City Member  
Brad Hawn, Alternate Public Member  
Mani Grewal, Alternate County Member

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**AGENDA  
Wednesday, February 24, 2021  
6:00 P.M.  
Joint Chambers—Basement Level  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Modesto, California 95354**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY OBSERVE THE MEETING AND ADDRESS  
THE COMMISSION AS DESCRIBED BELOW.**

- This meeting will be open to the public. Effective August 26, 2020, pursuant to the order issued by Governor Newsom and consistent with guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health, social distancing and face coverings are required for in person attendance at the meeting. The chamber's audience seating capacity will be limited to approximately thirty (30) persons.
- You can also observe the live stream of the LAFCO meeting at:  
<http://www.stancounty.com/sclive/>
- In addition, LAFCO meetings are broadcast live on local cable television. A list of cable channels is available at the following website:  
<http://www.stancounty.com/planning/broadcasting.shtm>
- If you wish to provide a written comment, please submit your comment (include Agenda Item Number in the subject line), to the Clerk at [lafco@stancounty.com](mailto:lafco@stancounty.com). Public comments will be accepted by email until the close of the public comment period for the specific item. You do not have to wait until the meeting begins to submit a comment. All comments will be shared with the Commissioners and placed in the record.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- B. Introduction of Commissioners and Staff.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

This is the period in which persons may comment on items that are not listed on the regular agenda. No action will be taken by the Commission as a result of any item presented during the public comment period.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of the December 2, 2020 Meeting.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence addressed to the Commission, individual Commissioners or staff will be accepted and/or considered unless it has been signed by the author, or sufficiently identifies the person or persons responsible for its creation and submittal.

A. Specific Correspondence.

B. Informational Correspondence.

1. 2021 CALAFCO Events Calendar.
2. CALAFCO Member LAFCO Dues for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
3. CALAFCO Quarterly – February 2021.

C. "In the News."

**5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS**

**6. CONSENT ITEMS**

A. **MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW NO. 2021-01 AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE NO. 2021-01 – DEL PUERTO, EASTIN, EL SOLYO AND OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICTS AND PATTERSON AND WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.** The Commission will consider the adoption of a Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update for the Del Puerto, Eastin, El Solyo, and Oak Flat Water Districts and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts. This item is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review pursuant to sections 15306 and 15061(b)(3). (Staff Recommendation: Approve the update and adopt Resolution No. 2021-02.)

B. **MID-YEAR BUDGET REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.** (Staff Recommendation: Receive and File Report.)

**7. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. **ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** (Staff Recommendation: Appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and adopt Resolution No. 2021-01a and 2021-01b.)

B. **NOTICE OF EXPIRING TERMS FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS AND APPOINTMENT OF A SUBCOMMITTEE.** (Staff Recommendation: Direct staff to initiate the Public Member recruitment process and appoint a subcommittee.)

**9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commission Members may provide comments regarding LAFCO matters.

**10. ADDITIONAL MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

The Commission Chair may announce additional matters regarding LAFCO matters.

**11. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Commission will receive a verbal report from the Executive Officer regarding current staff activities.

A. On the Horizon.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Set the next meeting date of the Commission for March 24, 2021.

B. Adjournment.

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**LAFCO Disclosure Requirements**

**Disclosure of Campaign Contributions:** If you wish to participate in a LAFCO proceeding, you are prohibited from making a campaign contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner or alternate. This prohibition begins on the date you begin to actively support or oppose an application before LAFCO and continues until three months after a final decision is rendered by LAFCO. No commissioner or alternate may solicit or accept a campaign contribution of more than \$250 from you or your agent during this period if the commissioner or alternate knows, or has reason to know, that you will participate in the proceedings. If you or your agent have made a contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner or alternate during the twelve (12) months preceding the decision, that commissioner or alternate must disqualify himself or herself from the decision. However, disqualification is not required if the commissioner or alternate returns the campaign contribution within thirty (30) days of learning both about the contribution and the fact that you are a participant in the proceedings.

**Lobbying Disclosure:** Any person or group lobbying the Commission or the Executive Officer in regard to an application before LAFCO must file a declaration prior to the hearing on the LAFCO application or at the time of the hearing if that is the initial contact. Any lobbyist speaking at the LAFCO hearing must so identify themselves as lobbyists and identify on the record the name of the person or entity making payment to them.

**Disclosure of Political Expenditures and Contributions Regarding LAFCO Proceedings:** If the proponents or opponents of a LAFCO proposal spend \$1,000 with respect to that proposal, they must report their contributions of \$100 or more and all of their expenditures under the rules of the Political Reform Act for local initiative measures to the LAFCO Office.

**LAFCO Action in Court:** All persons are invited to testify and submit written comments to the Commission. If you challenge a LAFCO action in court, you may be limited to issues raised at the public hearing or submitted as written comments prior to the close of the public hearing. All written materials received by staff 24 hours before the hearing will be distributed to the Commission.

**Reasonable Accommodations:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, hearing devices are available for public use. If hearing devices are needed, please contact the LAFCO Clerk at 525-7660. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Clerk to make arrangements.

**Alternative Formats:** If requested, the agenda will be made available in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12132) and the Federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

**Notice Regarding Non-English Speakers:** Pursuant to California Constitution Article III, Section IV, establishing English as the official language for the State of California, and in accordance with California Code of Civil Procedure Section 185 which requires proceedings before any State Court to be in English, notice is hereby given that all proceedings before the Local Agency Formation Commission shall be in English and anyone wishing to address the Commission is required to have a translator present who will take an oath to make an accurate translation from any language not English into the English language.

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# STANISLAUS LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

## MINUTES

December 2, 2020

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair DeMartini called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag. Chair DeMartini led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
- B. Introduction of Commissioners and Staff. Chair DeMartini led in the introduction of the Commissioners and Staff.

Commissioners Present: Jim DeMartini, Chair, County Member  
Amy Bublak, City Member  
Bill Berryhill, Vice-Chair, Public Member  
Terry Withrow, County Member  
Richard O'Brien, Alternate City Member

Staff Present: Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer  
Jennifer Vieira, Commission Clerk  
Alice Mimms, LAFCO Counsel

Commissioners Absent: Vito Chiesa, Alternate County Member  
Brad Hawn, Alternate Public Member  
Michael Van Winkle, City Member

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the October 28, 2020 Meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Bublak, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and carried with a 5-0 vote to approve the Minutes of the October 28, 2020 meeting by the following:

Ayes: Commissioners: Berryhill, Bublak, DeMartini, O'Brien and Withrow  
Noes: Commissioners: None  
Ineligible: Commissioners: None  
Absent: Commissioners: Chiesa, Hawn and Van Winkle  
Abstention: Commissioners: None

#### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Specific Correspondence.

None.

B. Informational Correspondence.

1. Letter date October 30, 2020, from Raul Mendez, Assistant Executive Officer of Stanislaus County to Ken Irwin, Patterson City Manager, regarding West Patterson Business Park Cooperative Agreement.
2. Letter dated October 30, 2020, from Sara Lytle-Pinhey, LAFCO Executive Officer, to Katharine Martin, Senior Planner, City of Modesto, regarding Prezone & Annexation of NE Whitmore Ave & Lodi Ave.

A. "In the News."

#### 5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

#### 6. CONSENT ITEMS

A. **2021 WORK PROGRAM – MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW & SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATES.** (Staff Recommendation: Adopt the 2021 Work Program.)

Motion by Commissioner Bublak, seconded by Commissioner Berryhill and carried with a 5-0 vote to adopt the work program, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioners: Berryhill, Bublak, DeMartini, O'Brien and Withrow
Noes:	Commissioners: None
Ineligible:	Commissioners: None
Absent:	Commissioners: Chiesa, Hawn and Van Winkle
Abstention:	Commissioners: None

#### 7. PUBLIC HEARING

A. **LAFCO APPLICATION NO. 2020-02 – CALIFORNIA TRUCK CENTER CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION TO THE KEYES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT:** The Commission will consider a request to annex two parcels including right-of-way totaling approximately 9.8 acres to the Keyes Community Services District to provide sewer and water services to a truck sales and service center. The two parcels included in this request are part of a larger project site consisting of five parcels in total. The remaining three parcels are already within the District. (Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-10, approving the application.)

Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer, presented the item with a recommendation of approval.

Chair DeMartini opened the item up for Public Comment at 6:11 p.m.

There was no comment.

Chair DeMartini closed the Public Hearing at 6:11 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Berryhill, seconded by Commissioner Withrow and carried with a 5-0 vote to adopt Resolution No. 2020-10, Option 1, approving the application, by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioners: Berryhill, Bublak, DeMartini, O'Brien and Withrow
Noes:	Commissioners: None
Ineligible:	Commissioners: None
Absent:	Commissioners: Chiesa, Hawn and Van Winkle
Abstention:	Commissioners: None

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners.**

Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer, recognized outgoing Commissioner Van Winkle and Chair DeMartini. Chair DeMartini was presented a plaque for his 13 years as a LAFCO Commissioner.

## **9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

The Commission thanked Chair DeMartini for his dedication to LAFCO.

## **10. ADDITIONAL MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

None.

## **11. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

### **A. On the Horizon. The Executive Officer informed the Commission of the following:**

- For January, Staff only has two business items at this time for the Agenda. Staff is also looking forward to two new Commissioners. At this time, Staff is tentatively canceling the January 27, 2021 meeting unless an application is received.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

### **A. Chair DeMartini adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.**

**DRAFT**

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Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer

# 2021 Events Calendar

## JANUARY

- 8** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 19** CALAFCO Monthly EO meeting (Virtual)
- 21** CALAFCO Board of Directors Strategic Planning Session (Virtual)
- 22** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 21-22& 28-29** League New Mayor & Council Academy (Virtual)
- 27-28** CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Conference (Virtual)

## FEBRUARY

- 16** CALAFCO Monthly EO meeting (Virtual)
- 19** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

## MARCH

- 17-19** CALAFCO Staff Workshop (Newport Beach)
- 26** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

## APRIL

- 19** CALAFCO Monthly EO meeting (Virtual)
- 30** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

## MAY

- 7** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 11-14** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Monterey)
- 17** CALAFCO Monthly EO meeting (Virtual)

## JUNE

- 18** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 28** CALAFCO Monthly EO meeting (Virtual)

## JULY

- 23** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 30** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)

## AUGUST

- 11-13** CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Annual Conference (San Diego)
- 30** CA Special Districts Assn. Conference (Monterey)

## SEPTEMBER

- 1-2** CA Special Districts Assn. Conference (Monterey)
- 22-24** League Annual Conference (Sacramento)
- 29-30** Regional Council of Rural Counties Annual Conference (Monterey)

## OCTOBER

- 22** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (2022) (Virtual)
- 6-8** CALAFCO Annual Conference (Newport Beach)
- 7** CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting (Newport Beach)
- 8** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Newport Beach)

## NOVEMBER

- 5** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacramento)
- 12** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)
- 30** CA State Assn. of Counties Annual Conference (Monterey)
- 30** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Pasadena)

## DECEMBER

- 1-3** CA State Assn. of Counties Annual Conference (Monterey)
- 1-3** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Pasadena)
- 3** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (San Diego)

### Sharing Information and Resources

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION  
COMMISSIONS

1020 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 222  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-442-6536

For current information and other CALAFCO resources please visit [www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org)

Updated December 29, 2020



February 9, 2021

**TO: Member LAFCoS**  
**SUBJECT: Adopted dues structure for FY 2021-22**

Dear Member LAFCoS:

As you know, the membership voted to approve a new dues structure on October 31, 2019 at the Annual Business meeting. After hearing feedback from member LAFCoS during the meeting and receiving an alternate proposal from a member LAFCo for consideration, the CALAFCO Board formed an ad hoc dues committee on July 24, 2020.

The committee met twice in meetings that were open to member LAFCoS and heard additional comments from numerous LAFCoS. The matter was again taken up for consideration by the Board at their January 21, 2021 strategic planning workshop after having received a report from the ad hoc committee. The ad hoc committee's report included all of the various dues models they considered over the course of their two meetings (16 in total).

The new dues structure contains several variables that are, pursuant to adopted Bylaws, required to be considered by the Board annually as they set the dues for the following fiscal year. Those variables include a required update to population estimates provided by the CA Dept. of Finance (DOF), base dues amount, population cap, and the per capita rate. The baseline for the variables is the estimated total operational costs of the annual budget. During their deliberations on January 21, the Board considered one more model that contained the updated population estimates that became available in December 2020 (after the committee completed its work). This model used the updated population figures along with existing variables. In total, 17 options were considered. (All the Board strategic planning session and subsequent meeting documents are located on the CALAFCO website and accessible to all members.)

After a lengthy discussion and careful consideration, the Board unanimously adopted the FY 2021-22 member LAFCo dues the following day during their regular Board meeting, which are included as an attachment. The bottom-line budget amount of \$300,000, base rate of \$1,000, and population cap of 700,000 remain the same as in FY 2020-21.

The updated population numbers demonstrate an overall reduction in population (from the prior year's numbers) by 766,973. With a reduction in population and the use of the \$300,000 bottom line budget amount, the per capita rate automatically adjusts upward from 0.013803 to 0.013943. The per capita rate increase of \$0.014 per 100 persons is because of the population decrease. Some LAFCoS whose population decreased might have had an overall increase in their dues because the decrease in dues due to the change in population was less than the increase due to the change in the pro rata rate formula.

Further, the Board's adoption of the FY 2021-22 dues does *not* include a CPI increase (estimated at 3% by the DOF).

We and the rest of the Board are available to answer any questions you may have. You are encouraged to seek out the feedback of your regional Board members.

On behalf of the CALAFCO Board of Directors,



Michael Kelley  
Chair of the Board



Pamela Miller  
Executive Director

Cc: CALAFCO Board of Directors  
attachment



CALAFCO Member LAFCo Dues for FY 2021-22  
As adopted by the CALAFCO Board of Directors on January 22, 2021

Counties	58	<b>Base Dues</b>	1,000
CALAFCO Budget	300,000	<b>Population Threshold</b>	700,000
CA Population	39,782,419	<b>Per Capita Rate</b>	0.0139
Population for Dues	17,356,427	Budget from Base Dues	58,000
		Budget from Per Capita	242,000

County	Updated Population Estimate 2020	Population Estimate for FY 20- 21 Dues	Population difference	Population For Dues Calculation	Base Dues	Per Capita Dues	Base + Per Capita Dues FY 21-22	Total Per Capita Rate	Diff FY 20-21 to 21-22
ALAMEDA	1,671,855	1,703,660	-31,805	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0064	98
ALPINE	1,115	1,107	8	1,115	1,000	16	1,016	0.9108	1
AMADOR	37,577	37,560	17	37,577	1,000	524	1,524	0.0406	6
BUTTE	206,362	230,701	-24,339	206,362	1,000	2,877	3,877	0.0188	-307
CALAVERAS	44,286	44,953	-667	44,286	1,000	617	1,617	0.0365	-3
COLUSA	22,075	23,144	-1,069	22,075	1,000	308	1,308	0.0592	-11
CONTRA COSTA	1,149,800	1,178,639	-28,839	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0094	98
DEL NORTE	27,193	26,997	196	27,193	1,000	379	1,379	0.0507	6
ELDORADO	192,012	189,576	2,436	192,012	1,000	2,677	3,677	0.0192	60
FRESNO	1,026,358	1,033,095	-6,737	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0105	98
GLENN	29,507	29,691	-184	29,507	1,000	411	1,411	0.0478	1
HUMBOLDT	132,706	137,711	-5,005	132,706	1,000	1,850	2,850	0.0215	-51
IMPERIAL	188,090	195,814	-7,724	188,090	1,000	2,623	3,623	0.0193	-80
INYO	18,429	18,724	-295	18,429	1,000	257	1,257	0.0682	-1
KERN	912,975	930,885	-17,910	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0118	98
KINGS	154,745	154,549	196	154,745	1,000	2,158	3,158	0.0204	25
LAKE	63,771	65,302	-1,531	63,771	1,000	889	1,889	0.0296	-12
LASSEN	28,872	30,626	-1,754	28,872	1,000	403	1,403	0.0486	-20
LOS ANGELES	10,171,593	10,435,036	-263,443	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0011	98
MADERA	158,794	162,990	-4,196	158,794	1,000	2,214	3,214	0.0202	-36
MARIN	258,956	265,152	-6,196	258,956	1,000	3,611	4,611	0.0178	-49
MARIPOSA	17,778	18,031	-253	17,778	1,000	248	1,248	0.0702	-1
MENDOCINO	87,491	90,175	-2,684	87,491	1,000	1,220	2,220	0.0254	-25
MERCED	284,761	286,746	-1,985	284,761	1,000	3,970	4,970	0.0175	12
MODOC	9,416	9,422	-6	9,416	1,000	131	1,131	0.1201	1
MONO	13,447	13,986	-539	13,447	1,000	187	1,187	0.0883	-6
MONTEREY	441,290	454,599	-13,309	441,290	1,000	6,153	7,153	0.0162	-121
NAPA	138,711	143,800	-5,089	138,711	1,000	1,934	2,934	0.0212	-51
NEVADA	97,439	99,548	-2,109	97,439	1,000	1,359	2,359	0.0242	-15
ORANGE	3,190,832	3,260,012	-69,180	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0034	98
PLACER	397,469	397,368	101	397,469	1,000	5,542	6,542	0.0165	57
PLUMAS	18,246	19,374	-1,128	18,246	1,000	254	1,254	0.0687	-13
RIVERSIDE	2,449,299	2,500,975	-51,676	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0044	98
SACRAMENTO	1,562,242	1,572,886	-10,644	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0069	98
SAN BENITO	62,789	60,067	2,722	62,789	1,000	875	1,875	0.0299	46
SAN BERNARDINO	2,184,112	2,230,602	-46,490	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0049	98
SAN DIEGO	3,352,145	3,398,672	-46,527	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0032	98
SAN FRANCISCO	899,891	905,637	-5,746	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0120	98
SAN JOAQUIN	776,068	782,662	-6,594	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0139	98
SAN LUIS OBISPO	276,151	284,126	-7,975	276,151	1,000	3,850	4,850	0.0176	-72
SAN MATEO	775,132	792,271	-17,139	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0139	98
SANTA BARBARA	451,329	460,444	-9,115	451,329	1,000	6,293	7,293	0.0162	-62
SANTA CLARA	1,962,251	2,011,436	-49,185	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0055	98
SANTA CRUZ	270,067	282,627	-12,560	270,067	1,000	3,766	4,766	0.0176	-135
SHASTA	177,692	180,198	-2,506	177,692	1,000	2,478	3,478	0.0196	-9
SIERRA	3,117	3,129	-12	3,117	1,000	43	1,043	0.3348	0
SISKIYOU	43,792	44,186	-394	43,792	1,000	611	1,611	0.0368	1
SOLANO	440,198	453,784	-13,586	440,198	1,000	6,138	7,138	0.0162	-125
SONOMA	491,134	515,486	-24,352	491,134	1,000	6,848	7,848	0.0160	-267
STANISLAUS	555,955	572,000	-16,045	555,955	1,000	7,752	8,752	0.0157	-143
SUTTER	101,160	101,418	-258	101,160	1,000	1,410	2,410	0.0238	10
TEHEMA	65,266	65,119	147	65,266	1,000	910	1,910	0.0293	11
TRINITY	13,291	13,389	-98	13,291	1,000	185	1,185	0.0892	0
TULARE	480,788	487,733	-6,945	480,788	1,000	6,704	7,704	0.0160	-28
TUOLUMNE	52,353	53,976	-1,623	52,353	1,000	730	1,730	0.0330	-15
VENTURA	841,439	869,486	-28,047	700,000	1,000	9,760	10,760	0.0128	98
YOLO	221,718	229,023	-7,305	221,718	1,000	3,091	4,091	0.0185	-70
YUBA	79,089	79,087	2	79,089	1,000	1,103	2,103	0.0266	11
	39,782,419			17,356,427	58,000	242,000	300,000		



# News from the Board of Directors

## CALAFCO QUARTERLY

February 2021

### A message from the Executive Director

Greetings from your CALAFCO Board of Directors and Executive Director. It seems that our collective hope for an uneventful start to 2021 was met with laughter and resistance from the universe. However, we remain undaunted and resolute to move forward in partnership with our members to make great things happen in 2021.

This Quarterly Report will begin by highlighting the good news in our CALAFCO family first, followed by Association updates. Happy reading!

### LAFcos in the News

#### ***Santa Clara LAFCo Receives State APA Award for Communication and Outreach Plan***

After receiving the American Planning Association - California Northern Chapter's "Award of Excellence - Communication Initiative", ***Santa Clara LAFCo***'s project then received the State Chapter's 2020 Award of Excellence.

#### ***San Bernardino and San Diego LAFcos Awarded Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Grants***

***San Bernardino LAFCo***, in partnership with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD), were awarded a SALC planning grant for \$220,475. The planning grant project aims to create a local tool for the preservation of agriculture lands, which does not currently exist in San Bernardino County. The goals of this project would be to encourage the long-term preservation of agricultural lands within San Bernardino County and develop local mitigation tools to provide a way for municipalities to preserve agricultural lands while continuing to address housing and growth needs.

***San Diego LAFCo***, in partnership with the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Greater San Diego, the San Diego County Farm Bureau, the County of San Diego, and San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) were also awarded a SALC planning grant for \$250,000. The purpose for the funding is to develop a community vision and strategic plan to increase and preserve San Diego region's agricultural lands and preserve its economic viability in semi-rural and rural communities. The plan of action is to identify and monitor agricultural lands and uses to inform future preservation and enhancement opportunities.

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) added LAFcos to the list of eligible entities to apply for SALC grants in January 2019 after many years of CALAFCO trying to get LAFcos eligible for state-level grant funding. Since then, ***San Bernardino*** and

***San Diego LAFcos*** are the first two LAFcos to initiate a grant application.

CALAFCO congratulates ***Santa Clara, San Bernardino and San Diego LAFcos*** on their achievements!



### Welcome to Our Newest Associate Member

CALAFCO welcomes our newest Silver Associate Member, ***Holly Owen***, Certified Planner. Holly's services include Municipal Service Reviews and planning and feasibility studies. To contact Holly, you can email her at [holly.owen@gmail.com](mailto:holly.owen@gmail.com).

### CALAFCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **CALAFCO BOARD CHANGES**

The Board recently welcomed three new Board members. In late October, two new members were elected to the Board. Representing the Coastal region county seat is ***Christopher Lopez, Monterey LAFCo*** Commissioner and County Supervisor. The central region county seat also has a new representative, ***Merced LAFCo*** Commissioner and County Supervisor ***Daron McDaniel***. In January, the Board appointed a new member to fill the unexpired term of recently re-elected Board member Cheryl Brothers (who unfortunately lost her home election). Filling that unexpired term for the southern region city seat is ***San Bernardino LAFCo*** Commissioner and City of Fontana Mayor ***Acquanetta Warren***.



The Board also gratefully acknowledges the outgoing Board members whose dedicated service to CALAFCO had a great impact: former ***Monterey LAFCo*** Commissioner ***Jane Parker*** (coastal region county rep); former ***El Dorado LAFCo*** Commissioner ***Shiva Frentzen*** (central region county rep); and former ***Orange LAFCo*** Commissioner ***Cheryl Brothers*** (southern region city rep).

# News from the Board of Directors

## CALAFCO QUARTERLY

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In November, the officers of the Board for 2020-21 were seated as follows:

**Chair** – *Michael Kelley*, Imperial LAFCo (southern)  
**Vice Chair** – *Anita Paque*, Calaveras LAFCo (central)  
**Secretary** – *Bill Connelly*, Butte LAFCo (northern)  
**Treasurer** – *Margie Mohler*, Napa LAFCo (coastal)  
**Immediate Past Chair** – *Michael McGill*, Contra Costa LAFCo (coastal)

During their November meeting, the Board made the following Committee appointments:

### Legislative Committee

Bill Connelly (North)  
Gay Jones (At-Large)  
Jo MacKenzie (South)  
Mike McGill (Coastal)  
Anita Paque (Central)  
Michael Kelley (a) (South)  
Chris Lopez (a) (Coastal)  
Daron McDaniel (a) (Central)  
Tom Murray (a) (At-Large)  
Josh Susman (a) (North)

### Elections Committee

Blake Inscore  
Gay Jones (Chair)  
Chris Lopez  
David West

### Awards Committee

Daron McDaniel  
Jo MacKenzie  
Margie Mohler  
Anita Paque (Chair)  
Josh Susman

### 2021 Annual Conference

David Couch  
Tom Murray  
Daniel Parra  
David West (Chair)

The CALAFCO Board met virtually for their biennial strategic planning session on January 21, followed by a regular Board meeting the next day on January 22 (also virtual). The full meeting packet for both sessions is located on the CALAFCO website (and accessible to all CALAFCO members). During the strategic planning session the Board discussed several topics of critical importance to the Association, including the current dues structure and population cap used, the ongoing practice of using 15% net profit from the Annual Conference to balance the budget, and the issue of extension of services as it relates to local agencies not always seeking LAFCo authorization of exemption or approval to extend services.

After spending time connecting as a group, the strategic planning session began with a dashboard review of the Association's work in 2020. Highlights included the cancellation of both the Staff Workshop and Conference (and the fiscal impact to the Association as a result of the Conference cancellation due to the reliance of the 15% net profit to balance the budget); the creation and delivery of a series of webinars offered at no cost to CALAFCO members; a new section on the CALAFCO website that houses these

webinars for on-demand viewing; updates to the CALAFCO website; and the legislative year that wasn't. Additional work accomplished that was not part of the strategic plan for 2020 included a successful transition of the two primary contractors to employees and the retention of the Executive Director (originally set to retire in the fall of 2020). The full 2020 dashboard review can be found on the CALAFCO website.

The Board spent a great deal of time discussing the member LAFCo dues issue after receiving a full report from the dues ad hoc committee. After reviewing the various models considered by the ad hoc committee (16 in total), the Board received one additional model that had updated population figures from the Department of Finance (using the existing FY 2020-21 model as the base). Again, after much discussion, the Board gave unanimous consent to maintaining all of the existing variables in the FY 2020-21 dues model, using the required updated population estimates and not adding the CPI increase (estimated at 3%) for the FY 2021-22 dues. This decision was formally ratified with unanimous approval during the Board meeting on January 22. An announcement regarding the FY 2021-22 dues was distributed February 9, and you can find the dues on the CALAFCO website.

The Board then discussed the ongoing structural deficit and dangerous fiscal practice of using an unreliable educational event net profit to balance the budget. They gave unanimous consensus to no longer using any net profit from any education event to balance the budget. Underscored this year without a Conference, the loss of that budgeted net profit created a structural deficit. That decision was also formally ratified with unanimous approval during their Board meeting on January 22.

Later that afternoon there was a discussion about the problem of local agencies not seeking LAFCo authorization to extend services. The Board brainstormed non-legislative ideas for consideration this year as an interim solution to a legislative fix in 2022. The day ended with a brief conversation about SMGA and the relationship between LAFCo and investor-owned utilities.

The Board will consider adopting the next two-year strategic plan (for 2021-22) at their April 30 meeting.

During their January 22 meeting, in addition to ratifying the decisions noted above, the Board received the second quarter financial reports and directed the Executive Director to create a rolling two-year budget going forward (beginning with the draft FY 2021-22 budget) and adopted the 2021 legislative policies with the recommended amendment of the Legislative Committee.



# News from the Board of Directors

## CALAFCO QUARTERLY

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### CALAFCO EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

#### 2021 STAFF WORKSHOP AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

##### Staff Workshop

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CALAFCO's Staff Workshop was once again cancelled. The workshop was scheduled for March 17-19 in Newport Beach.

CALAFCO staff successfully negotiated a revision in the facility contract for 2022 at the same rates as 2021. We are still working with the mobile workshop vendors to try and roll over the deposits for that event and will keep you posted.

We wish to thank our Workshop hosts, *Imperial* and *Orange LAFCos* who have graciously agreed to host in 2022 – third time is a charm they say!

CALAFCO is currently polling LAFCo staff on their desire to have something offered for staff only in a virtual format. Watch for updates soon. *If your LAFCo staff have not provided us that feedback, please do so by the deadline of February 12.*

*Mark your calendars for the Staff Workshop on March 23 – 25, 2022.*

##### Annual Conference

The Annual Conference, hosted by CALAFCO, is currently scheduled for **October 6 - 8** at the *Hyatt Regency Newport Beach John Wayne Airport*. We are hopeful by that time we will be able to safely meet in person, and the Conference planning committee will begin their work very soon. Watch for a call for program planning volunteers.

#### CALAFCO UNIVERSITY

We were pleased to offer six virtual sessions in 2020 between August and December. This year, CALAFCO is planning several virtual CALAFCO U sessions for the first half of the year. Once again, these sessions will be offered to our members at no cost to you. *Watch for save-the-date announcements coming very soon.* As a teaser, we are planning for a three-part session on Fire and EMS Agency reorganizations in March and another session on Hiring Best Practices in May.



#### CALAFCO ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

CALAFCO staff are working on the annual updates of the Membership Directory. It's requested you respond to the request for updates when you receive them from us.



### CALAFCO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



The new two-year legislative session is in full swing and it is anticipated to be another interesting year. As the deadline to introduce legislation nears (Feb. 19), we are seeing a large number of bills relating to COVID-19 response, wildfire prevention, education, healthcare and bridging the equity divide.

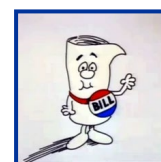
CALAFCO is sponsoring the 2021 Assembly Local Government Committee (ALGC) Omnibus bill and continues the work of the Protest Provision Rewrite Working Group as legislative priorities for 2021. The Working Group, consisting of 18 members (CALAFCO, CSDA, League, CSAC and reps from both local government committees) reconvened and has approved the submission of several obsolete special provisions relating to protests into the Omnibus bill. The group is also working on drafting language to consolidate all existing protest language into one section within CKH, and the subcommittee that is looking at the protest percentage threshold variances is reconvening.

CALAFCO has also been working closely since last fall with Senator Caballero's staff and the sponsors of SB 414 (2019-20) on a redo of that bill. Our conversations have included offering amendments to write LAFCos back into the formation process of the new water authorities. Although the new bill has not yet been introduced (as of the writing of this Report), it is expected before the 2/19 deadline.

The 2020 CKH Guide is now available to download from the CALAFCO website. We are also accepting orders for the hard copy version. Visit the CALAFCO website for details.

Full 2020 legislative reports from the ALGC and Senate Governance & Finance Committees are also available on the CALAFCO website.

All bills being tracked by CALAFCO can be found on the CALAFCO website inside the Legislation section of the site (log in with your member id first to access this section). The CALAFCO Legislative Committee meets regularly and all meeting materials are located in the Legislation section of the CALAFCO website.







### CALAFCO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS' CORNER



This section is dedicated to highlighting our Associate Members. The information below is provided to CALAFCO by the Associate member upon joining the Association. All Associate member information can be found in the CALAFCO Member Directory.

#### City of Rancho Mirage

The **City of Rancho Mirage** has been a Silver Associate Member since July 2010. With a population of just over 18,000, the **City of Rancho Mirage** is located in the County of Riverside. The City offers an abundant amount of sunshine, great climate, and related resort-style living. For more information about the City, contact the Director of Development Services, **Jeremy Gleim**, at [jeremyg@ranchomirageca.gov](mailto:jeremyg@ranchomirageca.gov), or at 760-328-2266. Learn more about the City on their website at [www.ranchomirageca.gov](http://www.ranchomirageca.gov).



#### County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County



**The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County** has been a Silver Associate

Member since July 2005. They are a public agency focused on converting waste into resources like recycled water, energy and recycled materials. The agency consists of 24 independent special districts serving about 5.6 million people in Los Angeles County. The service areas cover approximately 850 square miles and encompass 78 cities and unincorporated areas in the county. For more information on the Districts, contact **Donna Curry** at [dcurry@lacsdc.org](mailto:dcurry@lacsdc.org), or visit their website at [www.lacsdc.org](http://www.lacsdc.org).

#### Rancho Mission Viejo

**Rancho Mission Viejo** has been a Silver Associate Member since June 2005. They are responsible for the development and management of a governance structure for a 23,000-acre, 14,000 home planned community. For more information, visit them at [www.ranchomissionviejo.com](http://www.ranchomissionviejo.com) or contact Michael Balsamo at [mbalsamo@ranchomv.com](mailto:mbalsamo@ranchomv.com).



**RANCHO MISSION VIEJO**

#### QK

A Silver Associate Member since September 2010, **QK** (formerly Quad Knopf) provides planning, engineering, biology, environmental and survey services to public and private clients. Their planners have previous experience working for public agencies, including serving as LAFCo Analysts and Executive Officers. They specialize in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valley regions. For more information on **QK**, visit their website at [www.qkinc.com](http://www.qkinc.com), or contact **Jerome Keene** at [jerome.keene@qkinc.com](mailto:jerome.keene@qkinc.com).



*CALAFCO wishes to thank all of our Associate Members for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to continuing to highlighting you in future Quarterly Reports.*

#### Did You Know??

##### CALAFCO 2020 Survey

**Did you know** we recently published the **2020 survey of member LAFCos relating to COVID?** The survey included questions about current and future operations, staffing models, commission meeting methods, and budget impacts.



##### Meeting Documents Online

**Did you know** that all **CALAFCO Board of Directors and Legislative Committee meeting documents are online?** Visit the Boards & Committees pages in the Members Section of the site. Board documents date back to 2008 and Legislative Committee documents back to 2007.

##### CALAFCO Courses Archived

**Did you know** that all **CALAFCO University course materials are now archived on the CALAFCO website?** Visit the CALAFCO website in the CALAFCO U Course Material Archive section.

#### Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming CALAFCO Events

- ❖ CALAFCO Legislative Committee virtual meeting – 2/19
- ❖ CALAFCO Legislative Committee virtual meeting – 3/26
- ❖ CALAFCO Board of Directors virtual meeting – 4/30



The **CALAFCO 2021 Calendar of Events** can be found on the CALAFCO website.

*As we continue to face both known and unknown challenges, your CALAFCO Board and Staff wish all of you to stay safe and be healthy. We thank you for your continued dedicated service to the communities you serve. Be well.*

**CORRESPONDENCE – IN THE NEWS**

**Newspaper Articles**

- West Side Index, January 7, 2021, “Ambulance service finalizing purchase of new quarters.”
- West Side Index, January 7, 2021, “West Side puts two new ambulances into service.”
- West Side Index, January 7, 2021, “Newman pandemic response, projects to continue in 2021.”
- West Side Index, January 14, 2021, “No takers yet for open ambulance board seat.”
- West Side Index, January 21, 2021, “Newman fine-tunes proposed annexation.”
- West Side Index, February 11, 2021, “Newman fire station remodel will enable 24-hour staffing.”

# Ambulance service finalizing purchase of new quarters

NEWMAN - The West Side Community Healthcare District, which oversees operations of West Side Community Ambulance, is finalizing the purchase of property in Newman to serve as crew quarters.

The ambulance board took procedural steps at its Dec. 22 meeting to initiate financing for the purchase of and improvements to the former real estate office at 531 Hills Ferry Road through a revenue bond rather than traditional financing.

The board is expected to formally adopt an ordinance Jan. 26 authorizing the sale of bonds in an amount not to exceed \$670,000.

Michael Courtney, chief of ambulance operations, said an agreement has been reached to purchase the property from the Lucas Family Trust for \$400,000. Renovation costs to the structure are expected to cost about \$120,000, he told Mattos Newspapers.

In addition, the ambulance board recently approved the purchase of new furnishings and appliances for the crew quarters at a cost of nearly \$32,000, bringing the overall cost of purchase and renovation to about \$550,000. The bond will carry a 3.4 percent interest rate and is for a 20-year term.

The maximum bond amount will provide for any contingencies that arrive, Courtney explained, as well as the planned purchase of a generator at a cost of \$15,000.

Dennis Brazil, president of the ambulance board, said the revenue bond financing option allows the district to meet the proposed time frame for the transaction.

"The time process was too long for us to be able to purchase the property we were looking at under a conventional loan," he stated. "The one that worked for us in the time frame uses the bond method to secure (financing)."

Currently, ambulance crews are housed at the former West Side Community Hospital building between Newman and Gustine.

But the aging facility is far from ideal, district officials have said, and an arrangement for rent-free use of the former hospital ends next June. If the ambulance service continues to base its operation from that building, monthly rent of \$3,500 will kick in.

But even though the ambulance is not paying rent currently, Courtney said, maintenance and utility costs have been significant.

Furthermore, said Courtney, the new crew quarters location will help West Side meet compliance standards on responses in Newman. The provider is held to a shorter response time benchmark in Newman than in Gustine.

The proximity of the property to two Newman thoroughfares (Merced Street/Hills Ferry Road and the nearby Sherman Parkway) gives crews good access to the community as a whole, Courtney reported, and Canal School Road offers a quick route to Gustine calls.

"I don't think we could have hit it any better," Courtney said of the location. "It is in a fantastic place. It helps with our Newman response time, which is where we have the majority of our compliance issues, and it still gives us really good access through Gustine. I don't think we have added more than a minute (to Gustine response times) from where we are now."

## **IN THE NEWS – West Side Index, January 7, 2021 (Continued Page 2)**

The building has already been gutted in anticipation of a full interior remodeling.

Courtney said the crew quarters will include five sleeping rooms, two restrooms, an open day room with a lounge area and kitchen facilities and a dedicated training room.

There are five vehicle bays. Front-side garage doors will be added to the two spaces which will house in-service ambulances to create drive-through bays. Two other bays will be used for ambulances, and the fifth will be a crew area with laundry and perhaps workout equipment, Courtney explained.

He said the district is prepared to move forward with the interior construction as soon as the city signs off on the plans. Courtney said the hope is to have the crew quarters ready for occupancy by the end of January.

Because West Side Community Ambulance schedules crews on 24-hour shifts, Courtney said, providing suitable quarters is an important consideration for crew comfort between calls, morale and recruiting.

West Side's administrative offices will remain at their current Merced Street location for now, Courtney noted, but the hope is to eventually gain city approval for new offices to be located at the Hills Ferry Road site as well.

A March letter from City Manager Michael Holland to the Lucas Family Trust indicated that the property is currently zoned R-2 (medium density residential). While the city believes the property is appropriate for the proposed use and will allow the ambulance service to occupy the building as residential quarters for its crews, the letter stated, no buildings may be expanded or constructed as doing so would constitute an expansion of a non-conforming use.

"We are hopeful that down the road we can work something out. For now, the main goal is to get the crew quarters and operations in a better place," Courtney stated.



# West Side puts two new ambulances into service

NEWMAN - West Side Community Ambulance ushered in the New Year by putting two new ambulances into service Thursday afternoon.

The fanfare surrounding the arrival of the two Ford Transit units included a formal program and christening by the Rev. Isaque Meneses, pastor at the Shrine of Our Lady of Miracles.

The program was held in front of a former real estate office at 531 Hills Ferry Road, which the West Side Healthcare District is purchasing and converting to quarters for its ambulance crews.

The event went beyond celebrating the arrival of new vehicles, though, and in some ways commemorated the revitalization of an agency which barely two years ago faced an uncertain future.

The new ambulances, and the pending crew quarter project, represent significant steps forward for the provider, said Michael Courtney, chief of ambulance operations for West Side.

The new rigs, along with other district vehicles and crew uniforms, reflect West Side's new, predominantly blue-themed colors, replacing the long-standing green color theme.

"The re-branding gave us a new image and more accurately reflects (traditional) EMS colors," said Courtney. "We, as a group, felt like West Side needed to be re-branded to exemplify the change in culture that we have experienced."

Courtney joined West Side in October 2019, after the district board had decided to return to in-house management following several years of contracting with outside agencies to guide the service.

The importance of in-house leadership cannot be overstated, said Courtney, who is assisted by Joshua Brace, assistant chief of ambulance operations, and Roberta Casteel, administrative services manager, among others.

The internal culture of the organization left much to be desired when he arrived, Courtney told Mattos Newspapers, but over time and with a collective effort the tone has shifted.

"Most of what I saw, when I first got here, was a lack of leadership. There were no boots on the ground interacting with staff on a day to day basis," he commented. "The culture was very negative. Today I would describe it as collaborative and positive."

The process of changing that culture was slow and initially difficult, Courtney acknowledged, but essential.

"Most of it is just communication and people. From the top down you have to lead with accountability, and with accountability comes expectations," he reflected. "Along those lines, everybody needs feedback and positive reinforcement. No one is out there to punish (crews). We are giving them constant feedback and reinforcement that they are doing a good job."

Adding to the difficult climate, Courtney said, was the fact that West Side was short-staffed at the time.

"It is very difficult to run this kind of a business short-staffed," he emphasized.

That, too, is changing.

The district's most recent job posting drew a dozen applicants, Courtney pointed out, leading to the employment of a half dozen new employees.

## **IN THE NEWS – West Side Index, January 7, 2021 (Continued Page 2)**

The response, he reflected, “means that West Side’s image outside the community is getting much better.”

With the new hires, he said, West Side will be fully staffed to operate the two ambulances it has in service 24 hours a day.

More staff will be needed when the provider moves forward with plans to add a Santa Nella unit.

The tenuous future faced by West Side in late 2018 has given way to a transformation and fresh start in many ways, said Courtney, who noted that the agency is in a much stronger position financially as well as operationally.

Brace and Dennis Brazil, president of the ambulance board, agreed.

“Two years ago, we had a pretty tough decision to make on the future of West Side, and if it was even viable to keep the doors open,” Brazil commented. “The decision was made to regroup and reorganize, and turn it to a different direction and management style.”

Brace said the transformation has been night-and-day, and has involved the board, the management team and the employees.

“It was all of us together,” Brace reflected. “It is a whole new place. We had to change the culture. It was all for the better. I am really excited to see where it goes.”

# Newman pandemic response, projects to continue in 2021

NEWMAN - The city's efforts to bring normalcy as best possible in the face of an ongoing pandemic will continue in 2021, and even with the COVID-related challenges officials plan to complete a number of improvement projects in the year ahead.

While the pandemic was a focal point in 2020, the city also broke ground on a long-awaited water system improvement project and laid the ground for a variety of street projects that are expected to become reality this year.

Projects aside, City Manager Michael Holland said, the pandemic remains at the forefront and community outreach will continue.

"We are doing everything we can to try to bring some normalcy to this year," he explained. "We tried to engage the community as much as possible."

Those endeavors included holding the fall Harvest Market, sponsoring a Halloween decorating contest, hosting a Main Street Eats that created outdoor dining opportunities for local restaurants and more.

Holland said that he envisions for both the Harvest Market and Main Street Eats - which for a time were held concurrently - to return next fall as well.

"With the success of Main Street Eats, it is our goal to bring that back next year. We want to partner that again with the Harvest Market," Holland commented. "We plan to have conversations with our restaurants. If they are interested in continuing Main Street Eats, we will continue to host it."

The city also was able to support the local business community with a grant program that awarded more than \$100,000 in CARES Act funds to 22 recipients.

Holland said the city will continue to look for opportunities to build community and support local businesses.

But, he acknowledged, the hardship of the pandemic is likely to continue.

"These are difficult times. We will just have to see how 2021 evolves," Holland commented. "It is hard for us to plan. We don't know how long this lock down will continue."

Against that backdrop, however, the city is proceeding with a number of projects.

Chief among them is the completion of a new water well, million-gallon storage tank and booster pump at a Jensen Road site north of the existing city.

That project, which has been a decade in the making, is scheduled for completion by early summer.

Holland said the project will provide a number of benefits for current residents and help serve future growth.

"We have a little bit of a deficiency (currently) in terms of storage," he noted. "This does address health and safety issues for our residents, and it does allow for some potential growth and future development."

The city also plans to submit an annexation request for a scaled-down first phase of the planned Northwest Newman project. The annexation proposal includes about 65 acres, compared to the proposed 121-acre annexation which was voted down by residents of the affected area last August.

Holland said he anticipates submitting the latest application to the Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission, which holds approval authority over annexations, in January. The overall Northwest

## **IN THE NEWS – West Side Index, January 7, 2021 (Continued Page 2)**

Newman project encompasses approximately 360 acres of land earmarked for residential, commercial uses, a business park and more. The proposed 65-acre Phase I annexation primarily involves land earmarked for job-generating business park uses.

One additional benefit of annexing that property, Holland said, is that doing so will allow the city to pursue improvements to Jensen Road between Highway 33 and Fig Lane. That narrow roadway is currently in the county area.

A number of road projects are also planned for 2021.

Kathryn Reyes, the city's director of public works, said projects planned for the second quarter of the year include repairs and re-sealing of three blocks of Main Street in the heart of downtown Newman, as well as sidewalk infill/alleyway approaches on segments of Yolo Street and Fig Lane.

The city also hopes to go out to bid this fall on a project to widen the Highway 33/Inyo Avenue intersection, Reyes said. That project will include installation of the utility infrastructure needed in the future, when the intersection meets the criteria for installation of a traffic signal.

Other projects in the planning stages include improvements to Kern Street, Canal School Road and the intersection of Canal School and Inyo, Reyes said, although it remains to be seen if those endeavors will go out for bids in 2021.

# No takers yet for open ambulance board seat

An open seat on the West Side Community Healthcare District, which oversees operation of the West Side Community Ambulance, had drawn no letters of interest from candidates interested in appointment to the position as of Monday.

The district is seeking applicants for appointment to the vacant Zone 1 seat on its board of directors.

The zone encompasses portions of the northern, western and southern edges of the city of Newman west of Highway 33 as well as the Stanislaus County area of the healthcare district west of the city and Highway 33.

Dennis Brazil, board president, encouraged prospective candidates to apply.

"I think it is very important. I am really hoping that somebody in that zone recognizes the value of sitting on the board and steps up and wants to be a part of this," Brazil commented. "It would be nice to be back to five board members. We can do it (with four board members), but it would sure be nice to have somebody fill that spot."

Letters expressing interest and describing qualifications will be accepted through Jan. 21. The board will consider making an appointment at its Jan. 26 meeting.

In the event that no candidates step forward and no appointment is made, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors will have an additional 30 days to appoint a director to the seat. If that does not occur, the seat will remain vacant.

Qualified candidates must be registered voters who reside within the zone. A zone map is available on the district website.

The board typically meets once a month. Directors receive a monthly stipend of \$100.

Letters of interest/qualifications may be mailed to the district at: 990 Tulare St., Ste. C, Newman 95360. Call 862-2951 for additional information.

# Newman fine-tunes proposed annexation

**NEWMAN** – The city has further scaled back its revised Phase I annexation application for the Northwest Newman project.

The City Council last week approved a new resolution requesting to annex just under 54 acres of land north of the existing city limits – slicing a parcel of approximately 11 acres from its previous proposal to bring in 65 acres.

The reason, explained City Manager Michael Holland, is that although Stanislaus County had no dwellings of record on that parcel – the former site of Maffei Seed - five registered voters were found to have listed the property as their address during a review of voter rolls.

With that, Holland said, more than 12 registered voters live in the affected area which would mean that the annexation would be considered “inhabited” and registered voters as well as property owners living in the area would have the right to protest the annexation.

That is the process which led to a proposed 121-acre annexation being voted down last August, leading the city in turn to scale back the annexation by carving out parcels owned or occupied by annexation opponents.

If the area proposed for annexation is occupied by fewer than 12 registered voters it is considered to be “uninhabited,” Holland explained, and only property owners vote on bringing the land into the city.

“We would like to see an annexation proposal that when voted on is voted on by the property owners, not necessarily the registered voters living on the property,” Holland told the City Council. “We didn’t expect (the parcel) to be occupied, which pushes the number over.”

A tenant’s view on annexation may be in conflict with that of the property owner, Holland pointed out.

“The current annexation proposal is vastly supported by the property owners, so that is where we want to keep it,” he stated. “The whole goal is to bring in property (belonging to owners supportive of annexation).”

The owner of the property being excluded also favors annexation, Holland said.

“At a future date we can consider bringing this property in,” he stated.

The proposed annexation reflects the first phase of the city’s planned Northwest Newman project, a 360-acre, master-planned development with business park, commercial, residential, parks and professional office uses.

The initial phase only includes land earmarked for job-generating business park and commercial uses, Holland noted. None of the proposed area is designated for residential development, he stated.

But even with its smaller scale, Holland remarked, the proposed annexation will allow the city to move forward in meeting a number of objectives, from laying the groundwork for new job creation to improving Jensen Road from Highway 33 to Fig Lane.

“We still have the opportunity to create all the infrastructure to that area. We will have a circulation pattern that still works,” he told the council. “We would still have the opportunity to improve Jensen Road. I know that is a very important project for the council; that is still in there.”

Holland told Mattos Newspapers that he is hopeful that the annexation request will go before the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) board for consideration in April.

The area outlined in red depicts the scaled-down Phase 1 annexation proposal in the planned Northwest Newman project.

Courtesy: City of Newman



# Newman fire station remodel will enable 24-hour staffing

NEWMAN - The city's nearly 30-year-old fire station is being remodeled to provide sleeping quarters and other facilities needed to accommodate round-the-clock staffing.

Fire Chief Keith Bowen said local volunteers have completed much of the initial work, which has included framing and sheet rocking rooms, and that contractors will be brought in to complete some of the more specialized tasks such as concrete work and plumbing.

The remodel, he told Mattos Newspapers, will provide quarters that allow the department to staff the station on a full-time basis as frequently as volunteers (who would receive a stipend) were available to do so.

The facility is jointly owned and shared by the City of Newman and the West Stanislaus Fire Protection District. The two agencies have increasingly shifted to shared training and equipment purchases through recent years; essentially the same firefighters respond to calls in both the city limits and the surrounding rural area which comprises the district.

Bowen said the fire station remodeling "is something that has been a long time coming" as the call volume and expectations of the community have increased in recent years.

Crews responded to about 875 calls in the city alone last year, Bowen said, which is roughly a 9 percent increase over the previous year.

The ability to staff the station will mean both a quicker response to calls and greater accessibility to the general public, Bowen explained.

"This will allow us to have two firefighters sleeping at the station. This potentially could reduce our response times by five minutes," he stated. "It will be very beneficial to the community. When it comes to life-saving measures, fires or other things that might happen, we will have people here on the ready to respond. I think that is more in line with the expectations that I have heard from the community."

The department already has an on-call fire officer designated to quickly respond to calls. That individual is now responsible for an area that includes Newman, Crows Landing and Diablo Grande.

"This gives us three firefighters at the ready," he said of the plan to staff the station with volunteers, which will still require approval of the City Council and the fire district board.

Pending that approval, he said, the goal is to staff the station seven days a week, 24 hours a day. But, Bowen acknowledged, that is subject to the availability of firefighters willing to fill those shifts.

"That is one of the limitations of a volunteer department," Bowen said.

He said the goal is to have the remodeling complete by June and - again, pending approval by the city and district - begin staffing the facility starting July 1.

The remodel project involves building two bedrooms into a portion of what was a large open area used as a day room and for training purposes, restroom renovations, improvements to meet ADA requirements and addition of a public lobby.

The Newman City Council recently approved a \$69,543 bid from Cordeiro Custom Remodeling and Repair to remodel the restrooms at the fire station.



**IN THE NEWS – West Side Index, January 21, 2021 (Continued Page 2)**

Bowen said he anticipates the remodel will allow the departments to meet the city/district staffing needs for several years to come before additional full-time personnel would have to be considered.

The call volume and community expectations, he reiterated, have reached a point where staffing the station is necessary.

“It has come to a point where the traditional response (of firefighters) from home is not sufficient to meet the response times and expectations of the community,” Bowen stated.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AGENDA REPORT  
FEBRUARY 24, 2021**

**TO: LAFCO Commissioners**

**FROM: Javier Camarena, Assistant Executive Officer**

**SUBJECT: MSR No. 2021-01 & SOI No. 2021-01: Draft Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts**

**INTRODUCTION**

This proposal was initiated by the Local Agency Formation Commission in response to State mandates, which require the Commission to conduct Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence updates for all cities and special districts at least once every five years. The current review covers six special districts that provide irrigation water to agricultural lands in the western portion of Stanislaus County. These include the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts.

Water districts are formed for purposes such as to: produce, store and distribute water for irrigation, domestic, industrial and municipal uses; drain and reclaim lands; collect, treat and dispose of sewage, waste and storm water; generate hydroelectric power; allocate water to crops and acreage; and protect groundwater from contamination.

The purposes of irrigation districts are to: furnish water for, and put water to any beneficial use; provide drainage; develop and distribute electric power; allocate water according to crops and acreage; sewage disposal (upon approval); and protect groundwater from contamination.

**DISCUSSION**

The Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update process provides an opportunity for each district to share accurate and current data, accomplishments and information regarding the services they provide. LAFCO Staff sent the previously approved Service Review and Sphere of Influence document to each of the districts for their comments, revisions and updated information. Once this data was collected, a revised Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update document was drafted.

The proposed Service Review and Sphere of Influence document is attached to this report as Exhibit 1. The relevant factors and determinations as put forth by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act are discussed for each District. No changes are being proposed for the districts' Spheres of Influence.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS**

The California Environmental Quality Act requires that an environmental review be undertaken and completed for the Sphere of Influence study. The Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates qualify for a General Exemption from further CEQA review based upon CEQA Regulation §15061(b)(3), which states:

*The activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be*

*seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.*

Since there are no land use changes or environmental impacts, as no suggested boundary changes are associated with this document, a Notice of Exemption is the appropriate environmental document.

### **ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMISSION ACTION**

After consideration of this report and any testimony or additional materials that are submitted, the Commission should consider choosing one of the following options:

- Option 1:** APPROVE the Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts.
- Option 2:** DENY one or more of the updates.
- Option 3:** If the Commission needs more information, it should CONTINUE this matter to a future meeting (maximum 70 days).

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

**Approve Option 1.** Based on the information presented, Staff recommends approval of Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission adopt Resolution No. 2021-02 which:

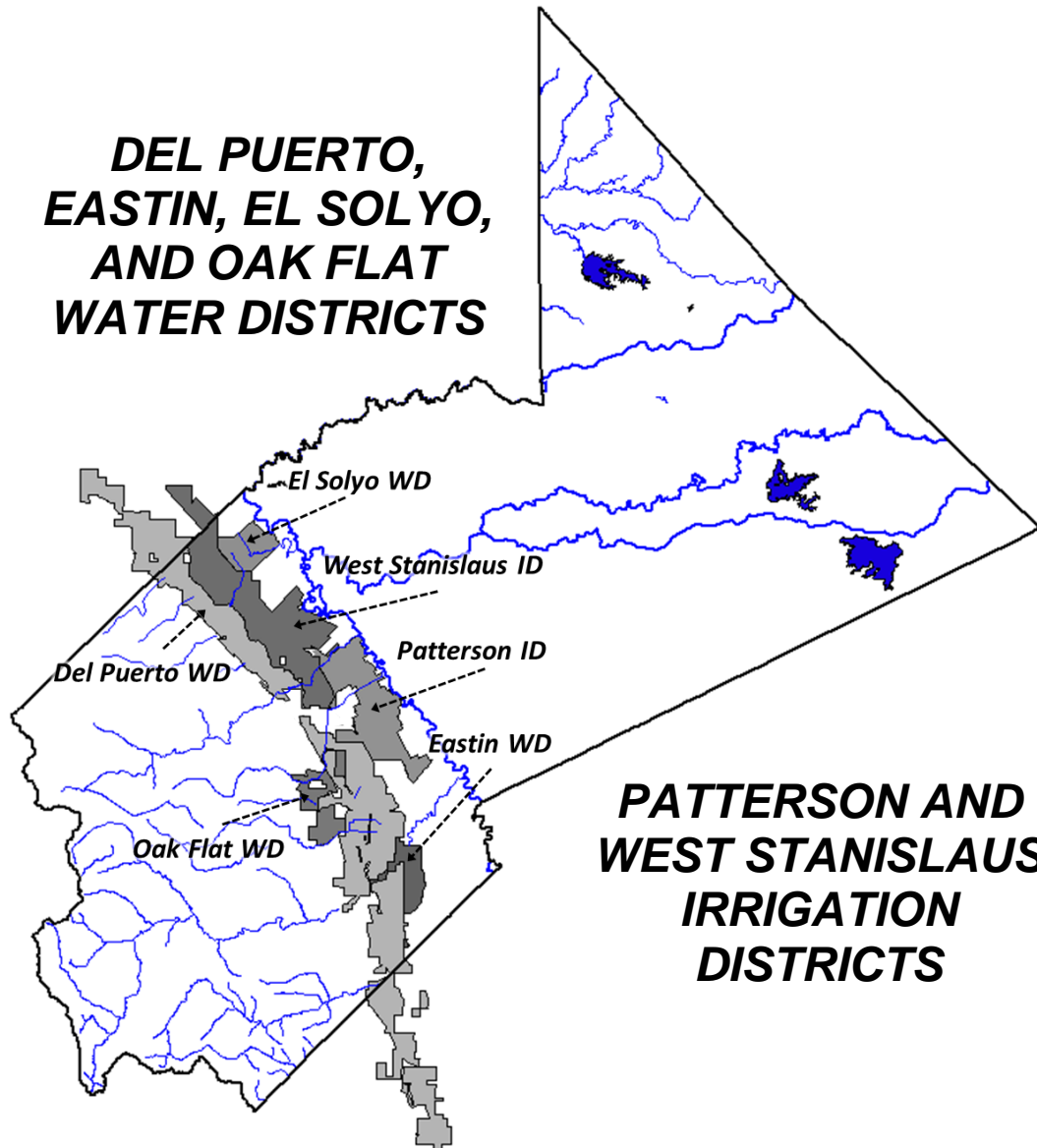
1. Determines that the Sphere of Influence Updates qualify for a General Exemption from further California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review based on CEQA Regulation §15061(b)(3);
2. Makes determinations as required by Government Code Section 56430; and,
3. Determines that the Spheres of Influence for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts should be affirmed as they currently exist.

**Attachments:** Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts

Resolution No. 2021-02 – Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts

**MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND  
SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE FOR:**

**DEL PUERTO,  
EASTIN, EL SOLYO,  
AND OAK FLAT  
WATER DISTRICTS**



**PATTERSON AND  
WEST STANISLAUS  
IRRIGATION  
DISTRICTS**

**Prepared By:**

**Stanislaus Local Agency Formation Commission  
1010 Tenth Street, Third Floor  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Phone: (209) 525-7660**

**Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_**

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# **STANISLAUS**

## **LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

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### **COMMISSIONERS**

Vito Chiesa, County Member  
Terry Withrow, County Member  
Mani Grewal, Alternate County Member  
Amy Bublak, City Member  
Javier Lopez, City Member  
Richard O'Brien, Alternate City Member  
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### **STAFF**

Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer  
Javier Camarena, Assistant Executive Officer  
Jennifer Vieira, Commission Clerk  
Alice Mimms, Legal Counsel

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# **Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update For the Del Puerto, Eastin, El Solyo, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts**

## **Introduction**

The Cortese/Knox/Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 Act (CKH Act) requires the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to update the spheres of influence (SOI) for all applicable jurisdictions in the County. A sphere of influence is defined by Government Code 56076 as "...a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Commission." The Act further requires that a municipal service review (MSR) be conducted prior to or, in conjunction with, the update of a sphere of influence (SOI).

Stanislaus LAFCO generally prepares municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates concurrently for efficient use of time and resources. The current review will cover six irrigation and water districts located on the west side of Stanislaus County:

Del Puerto Water District	Oak Flat Water District
Eastin Water District	Patterson Irrigation District
El Solyo Water District	West Stanislaus Irrigation District

## **Municipal Service Review Factors to be Addressed**

The legislative authority for conducting a municipal service review is provided in Government Code Section 56430 of the CKH Act. The Act states that municipal service reviews must have written determinations that address the following factors. These factors were recently amended to include the consideration of disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence of an agency.

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, Adequacy of Public Services, and Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Including Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence
4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services
5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities
6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies
7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

## **Sphere of Influence Update Process**

A special district is a government agency that is required to have an adopted and updated sphere of influence. Section 56425(g) of the CKH Act calls for spheres of influence to be reviewed and updated every five years, as necessary. Stanislaus LAFCO processes municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates concurrently to ensure efficient use of resources. For rural special districts, which do not have the typical municipal-level services to review, this document will be used to determine what type of services each district is expected to provide and the extent to which they are able to do so. For these special districts, the spheres will delineate the service capability and expansion capacity of the agency, if applicable.

The most recent update for the irrigation and water districts in this report was adopted in 2009. The current update serves to comply with Government Code Section 56425 and will reaffirm the SOIs for each district.

## **Sphere of Influence Determinations**

In determining a sphere of influence (SOI) of each local agency, the Commission shall consider and prepare determinations with respect to each of the following factors, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.
5. For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

## **Background**

Throughout the years, water and California have been linked. No resource is more vital to California than water, from the agricultural areas, urban centers, and industrial plants, to open space and recreational areas, the distribution of water has been critical to all land uses.

In California, there are hundreds of special districts with a great diversity of purposes, governance structures, and financing mechanisms. Some districts are responsible for one type of specific duty, as in the case of the water and irrigation districts reviewed in this report, while other districts provide a wide range of public services.

## **Authority**

This review will cover the following single-purpose water and irrigation districts, each of which are geographically located on the western portion of Stanislaus County: Eastin, El Solyo, Oak Flat and the Del Puerto Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts. The four water districts are organized under the California Water Code, Division 13, §34000-38501, while the two irrigation districts are organized under Division 11, §20500-29978 of the California Water Code.

The water districts are landowner-voter districts, as their board members are elected by landowners within the respective district's boundaries. The irrigation districts are registered voter districts with board members elected by the registered voters within the respective district's boundaries.

## **Purpose**

Water districts are formed for purposes such as to: produce, store and distribute water for irrigation, domestic, industrial and municipal uses; drain and reclaim lands; collect, treat and dispose of sewage, waste and storm water; generate hydroelectric power; allocate water to crops and acreage; and protect groundwater from contamination.

The purposes of irrigation districts are to: furnish water for, and put water to any beneficial use; provide drainage; develop and distribute electric power; allocate water according to crops and acreage; sewage disposal (upon approval); and protect groundwater from contamination.

## **Classification of Services**

This service review includes a listing of services provided within each of the Districts boundaries. The water and irrigation districts are authorized to provide the functions or classes of services (e.g. irrigation water) as identified in this report. State Law requires that the Districts seek LAFCO approval in order to exercise any other latent powers not currently provided.

# **DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

The Del Puerto Water District was originally formed on March 24, 1947 and included only about 3,500 acres. The District was reorganized on January 20, 1995 to include ten other local districts which held similar water service contracts with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for their water supply. The reorganization provided an increased level of service to the properties within the new district boundaries and reduced the duplication of efforts by the participating districts.

## **Governance**

A seven-member Board of Directors governs the District. Board Members must be District landowners and are elected by landowners from divisions located within District boundaries. Meetings are open to the public and held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m., at the District office, which is located at 17840 Ward Avenue, Patterson, California.

## **Mission Statement**

The District has adopted the following mission statement: "The Del Puerto Water District is dedicated to providing its agricultural customers with an adequate, reliable and affordable water supply."

## **Location and Size**

The District's boundary currently encompasses approximately 52,800 acres (43,000 irrigable), located on the western most edge of the San Joaquin River Basin, running parallel with Interstate 5 (I-5) and stretching approximately 50 miles in length between the City of Tracy to the north, and the Santa Nella/I-5 Interchange to the south. While the District's boundaries are within three counties (Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin), the majority of the territory is located in Stanislaus County. Therefore, Stanislaus LAFCO is considered the principal LAFCO for the processing of changes of organization involving the District.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

## **Personnel**

There are six full-time employees for the District.

## **Services**

Under a contract with the United States Department of Interior - Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the District provides agricultural water to landowners within its boundaries, and by agreement to one landowner whose lands have been detached from the District. Water is provided by way of the Delta-Mendota Canal, a feature of the Central Valley Project, and is delivered to customers canal-side through turnouts licensed to the District by the federal government. The District's

contract authorizes the delivery of up to 140,210 acre-feet of water annually. District lands have produced more than 30 different crops over the years, including almonds, tomatoes, apricots, dry beans, walnuts, alfalfa, grains, melons, citrus, cherries, broccoli, cauliflower and bell peppers.

The District actively engages in local, regional, and statewide efforts to secure additional water supplies as needed to help meet customer demand. These supplies, when available, are purchased by the District, marketed and delivered at rates intended to recoup District costs. As the cost of these supplies has risen, and their availability lessened, District landowners have relied on the fallowing of productive lands or use of groundwater where available.

### **Programs**

The District administers several programs to assist its customers in meeting agricultural conservation and drainage requirements, including the State Revolving Fund Loan Program and the Agricultural Drainage Loan Program, which provide low-interest loans for high-efficiency irrigation system improvements which also serve to reduce irrigation drainage.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive and collaborative relationships with other agencies, authorities, and associations, such as neighboring irrigation districts, including Patterson, West Stanislaus, and Central California Irrigation Districts, the Oak Flat Water District, as well as the Delta-Mendota Canal Contractors Authority, the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the Central Valley Project Water Association, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR).

The District is part of the DM-II Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

### **Funding Sources**

The District recovers its administrative expenses through an annual acreage assessment on irrigable lands within the District, designated as a Water Availability Charge. The volumetric Water Rate charged to users is effectively a pass-through charge intended to recoup the various rates and charges the District must pay for each unit of water it delivers. The District does not collect any share of County property tax revenues.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Del Puerto Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Del Puerto Water District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural, lying on the western portion of Stanislaus County and portions of San Joaquin and Merced counties. The area is designated as Agriculture on the respective county general plans and, while certain areas within the District are being considered for their development potential, the District does not expect any significant population growth during the five-year timeframe of the current service review. The District currently serves 200 small family farm landowners.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

There are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the boundaries or Sphere of Influence of the Del Puerto Water District. The community of Crows Landing is contiguous to the easterly boundary of the District.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Irrigation water is provided from the Delta-Mendota Canal and delivered canal-side from turnouts. In recognition of long-term water supply shortages associated with the District's contracted water supplies, the District has agreed to participate in the financing of certain Statewide and regional infrastructure improvement projects including the Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie project and the Orestimba Creek Recharge and Recovery Project. The District has also initiated discussions with neighboring agencies aimed at identifying and developing integrated resource management opportunities that may exist. Some of these opportunities may require new or improved water-related infrastructure including local and regional water conveyance and delivery systems.

The District recently completed an environmental impact report for the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir (DPCR) west of Patterson. The proposed DPCR involves the construction and operation of a reservoir on Del Puerto Creek to provide approximately 82,000 acre-feet (AF) of new off-stream storage to the Central Valley Project (CVP). Project components are the reservoir, conveyance facilities to transport water to/from the Delta-Mendota Canal, electrical facilities, relocation of Del Puerto Canyon Road, and relocation of existing and proposed utilities that within the project area.

#### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

The District is in sound financial shape and has the necessary resources to fund its current level of service to its customers under normal budgetary conditions. Rates and fees for services are developed during the District's annual budget review and adoption process and are designed to be sufficient to recover all costs. Ongoing drought and regulatory restrictions on pumping have caused water costs to increase dramatically for the District's landowners in recent years.

#### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

The District currently shares a reservoir for drainage water recapture with the Patterson Irrigation District and Central California Irrigation District, and as noted previously is pursuing the concept of a shared surface storage reservoir with the neighboring water service agencies.

#### **6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Board members must be District landowners and are elected by landowners from divisions within District boundaries. The Board is subject to the provision of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. The District operates in an efficient and professional manner. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring the maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. Though dependent upon the economic viability of its agricultural customer base, it is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the territory under its jurisdiction.

#### **7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

In 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board approved a temporary consolidation of State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) places of use. While this consolidation could be seen as facilitating the transfer of available water supplies between the Del Puerto District (a CVP contractor) and the Oak Flat Water District (a SWP contractor), other constraints continue to limit the benefits that might accrue to the District from the increased efficiency and flexibility in the source of water supplies and/or points of delivery.



## **Sphere of Influence Determinations – Del Puerto Water District**

The following determinations for the Del Puerto Water District's Sphere of Influence update and are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy.

### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The Del Puerto Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 52,800 acres. Territory within and outside the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land uses. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the counties of Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Merced.

### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

The need for irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change; however, with the conversion of more District acreage to high-value, permanent cropping patterns, demand has become hardened and water users will not be able to achieve significant reductions in current water use.

### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District recently adopted a final environmental impact report for the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir project in order to provide additional water storage for the District and State Water Project. The District has the necessary infrastructure and contract for the provision of agricultural water service to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence.

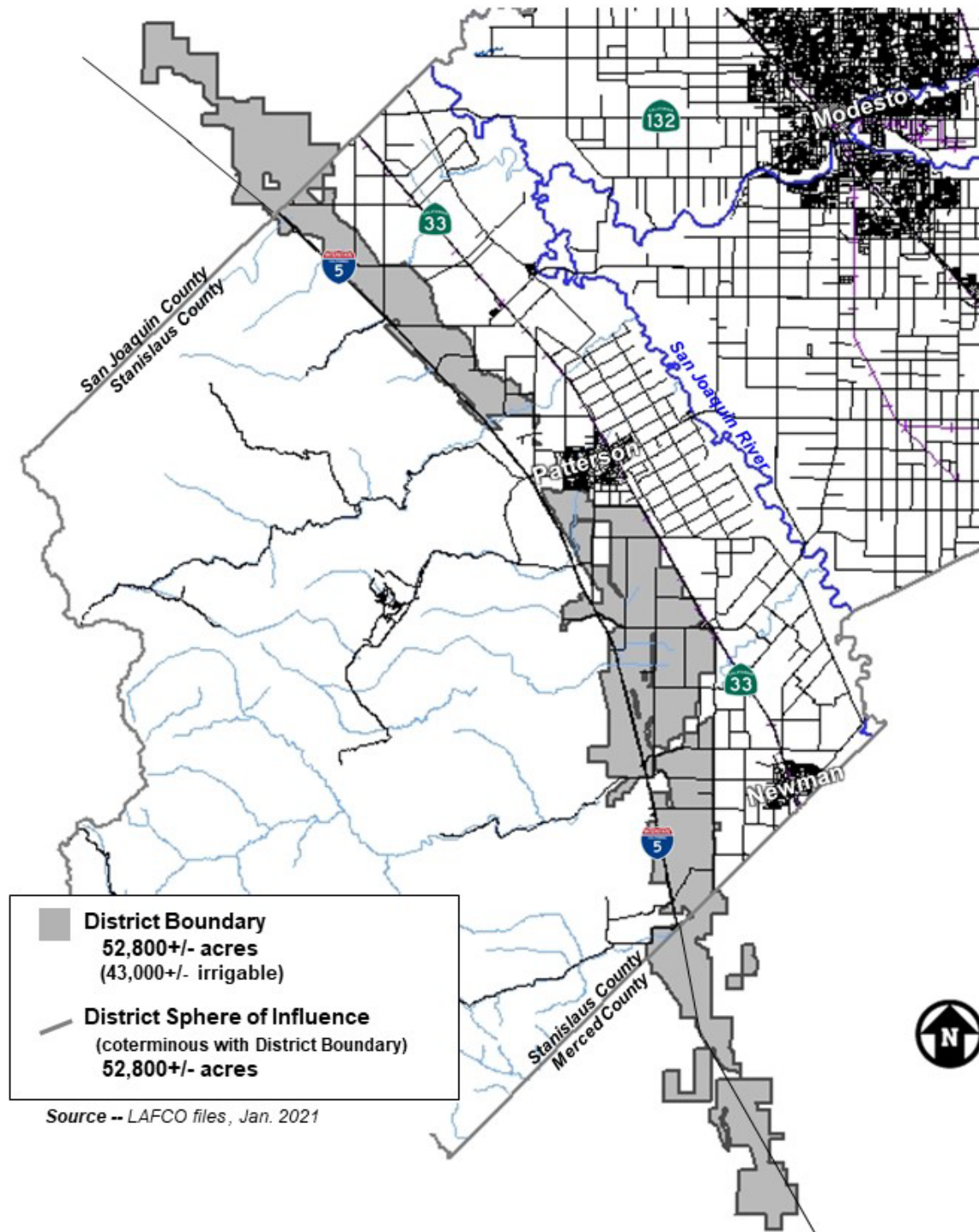
### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as a portion of City's Sphere of Influence overlaps the District's boundary. Upon submittal of specific development plans, these lands will be requested to detach from the District and the water supply previously allocated to serve these lands will revert to the District for redistribution to remaining District lands.

### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

## DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	Along the westernmost edge of the San Joaquin River Basin, parallel to Interstate 5 (I-5) and stretching approximately 50 miles in length between the City of Tracy to the north, and the Santa Nella (I-5) Interchange to the South.
Service Area:	Approximately 52,800 acres (44,000 irrigable)
Population*:	Approximately 650
Land Use:	Agricultural
Date of Formation:	March 24, 1947 (original formation), January 20, 1995 (reorganization to include 10 other districts)
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District Act)
Governing Body:	7 Directors (landowner election)
Administration:	6 full-time employees
District Services:	Distribution and administration of irrigation water
Total Operating Budget:	Year ending February 29, 2020: \$15,768,766
Revenue Sources:	Water fees and assessments

*\*LAFCO Staff Estimate*

# **EASTIN WATER DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

The Eastin Water District was formed by LAFCO on July 11, 2000.

## **Governance**

The governing Board consists of three directors elected by the landowners within the District.

## **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 3,520 acres, and is comprised of two separate areas, generally located east of Interstate 5 and west of State Highway 33, north of the Stanislaus County line.

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and has a designation of “Agriculture” in the Stanislaus County General Plan.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District’s Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District’s boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

## **Personnel**

The District does not employ any personnel at this time.

## **Services**

The District is still in the process of establishing contracts with other water providers in order to deliver irrigation water to the agricultural landowners within the District.

## **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive collaborative relationship with other agencies, including the Central California Irrigation District. The District is part of the Northwestern Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

## **Funding Sources**

Once the District has secured the water needed for its future customers, fees and/or assessments will be applied to the individual landowner, based upon the cost of delivering irrigation water. The District does not collect any share of the county property taxes.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Eastin Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Eastin Water District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District is located in an unincorporated area of the County and is designated Agriculture on the County's General Plan. The City of Newman's Sphere of Influence lies along the easterly side of the District, south of Stuhr Road. The District consists of large parcels that are used for large scale farming operations. At this time, no growth is anticipated.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

The District is still in the process of securing necessary contracts for surface water and has not yet begun to provide irrigation water to its customers. Landowners within the District currently rely on groundwater wells for irrigation.

### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

Once the District has secured the water needed for its future customers, fees and/or assessments will be applied to the individual landowner, based upon the cost of delivering irrigation water. The District does not collect any share of the county property taxes.

### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

Although the District is contiguous to other irrigation water providers and infrastructure, the lack of water supply has stymied the ability for the District to secure a surface water source.

### **6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

The governing Board for the District consists of three members and meets on an as-needed basis. Members of the Board stay apprised through the County's Water Advisory Committee. The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members.

### **7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

None.

### **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Eastin Water District:**

The following determinations for the Eastin Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

#### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The Eastin Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 3,520 acres. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

#### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

Although the District has not yet secured a contract or agreement for water supply, the existence of the District allows the ability for its landowners to participate in the Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA.

#### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District is still in the process of establishing contracts with other water providers in order to deliver irrigation water to the landowners within the District.

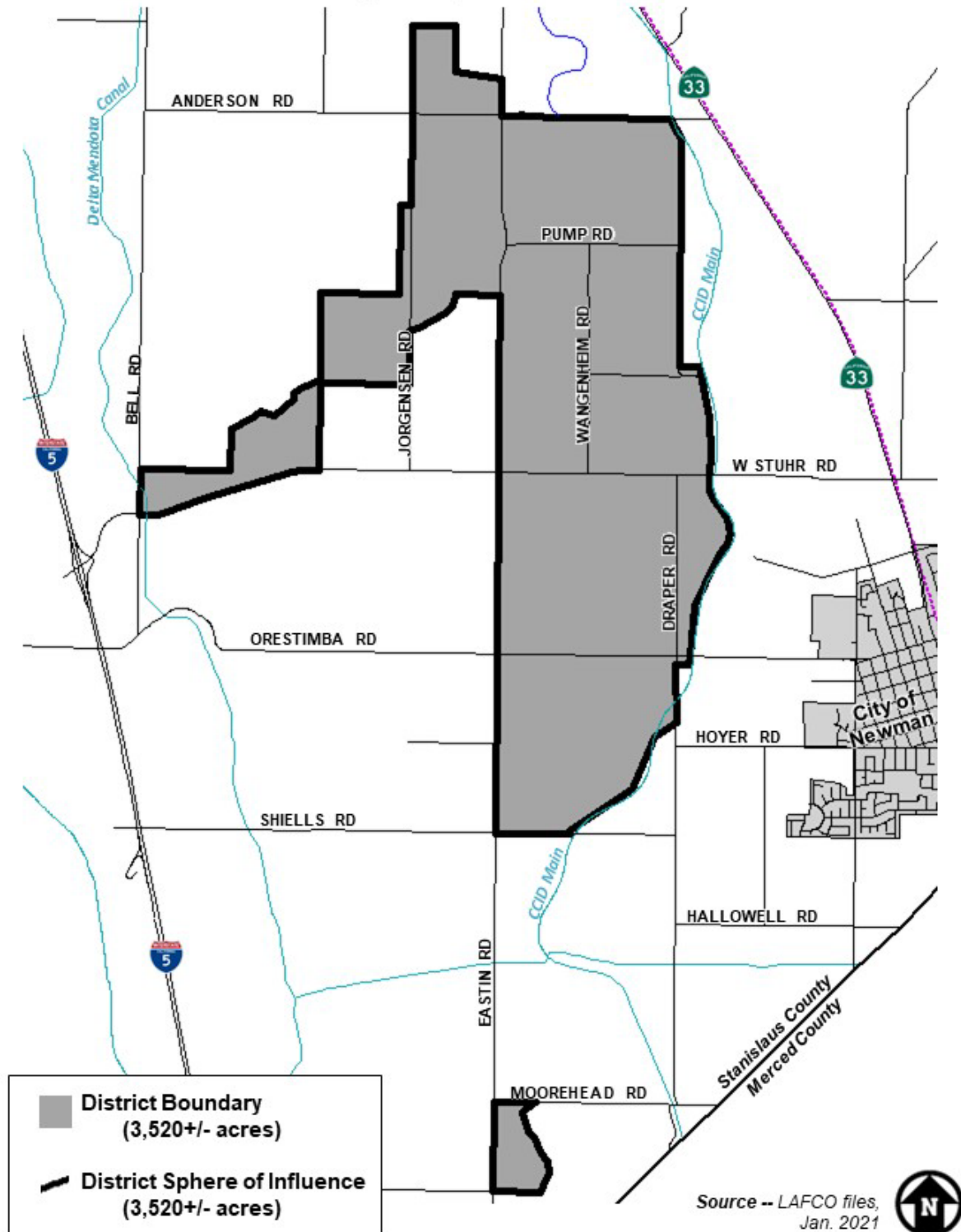
#### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

There are no communities of interest within the District boundaries. The City of Newman's Sphere of Influence lies just east of the District's boundary.

#### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

# EASTIN WATER DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **EASTIN WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	Two areas, east of Interstate 5, west of State Highway 33, between Pete Miller Road and Crow Creek.
Service Area:	Approximately 3,520 acres
Population*:	125
Land Use:	Agricultural
Date of Formation:	July 11, 2000
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District Act)
Governing Body:	3 Directors elected by the landowners within the District
Administration:	No employees
District Services:	None. The District is still in the process of securing water from other agencies. However, the District was formed to provide irrigation water to land within the District's boundaries.
Total Operating Budget:	\$0
Revenue Sources:	None

*\* LAFCO Staff Estimate*



# **EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

The El Solyo Water District was formed on August 17, 1959.

## **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors governs the District and is elected by landowners within the District. Meetings are open to the public and held on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m., at the District office located at 542 Center Road, in Vernalis.

## **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 4,060 acres and is located south of State Highway 132, east of McCracken Road, north of Gaffery Road and west of the San Joaquin River, near the unincorporated community of Vernalis.

The District is comprised of land mostly designated Agriculture in the Stanislaus County General Plan.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

## **Personnel**

The District employs 2 full-time persons.

## **Services**

Under a pre-1914 water rights contract, the District distributes irrigation water to its customers via the San Joaquin River.

## **Support Agencies**

The District is part of the Northwestern Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

## **Funding Sources**

The District's source of revenue is based upon water rate charges, or user fees, which are collected based upon the cost of the water and its delivery to landowners within the District boundaries.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - El Solyo Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the El Solyo Water District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District serves a rural area in the northwesterly portion of Stanislaus County. The area is designated as agriculture on the County's General Plan and does not expect any significant population growth. The District currently serves 12 retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Water supplies are pumped from the San Joaquin River and delivered through District-maintained canals and ditches. The District operates one pumping station located along the San Joaquin River and five lift stations along the District's main canal. The District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies.

There are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence. Additional services, such as sewer, domestic water, and structural fire protection, are provided through other special districts or by way of private systems.

### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

At present time, the District appears to have the necessary financial resources to fund adequate levels of service within its boundaries. The District maintains its rate schedule with the intent to charge the minimum fees as possible.

### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

At this time, the District does not share any facilities with other agencies or Districts. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries.

**6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the landowners, governs the District. The Board conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the territory under its jurisdiction. The District has a small, yet adequate staff to provide the necessary services to its customers.

**7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

None.

## **Sphere of Influence Determinations - El Solyo Water District**

The following determinations for the El Solyo Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The El Solyo Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 4,060 acres. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

The El Solyo Water District is presently meeting the needs of its agricultural water customers. The future need of irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to diminish.

### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District currently has the capacity to provide irrigation water services to customers within its existing Sphere of Influence.

### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

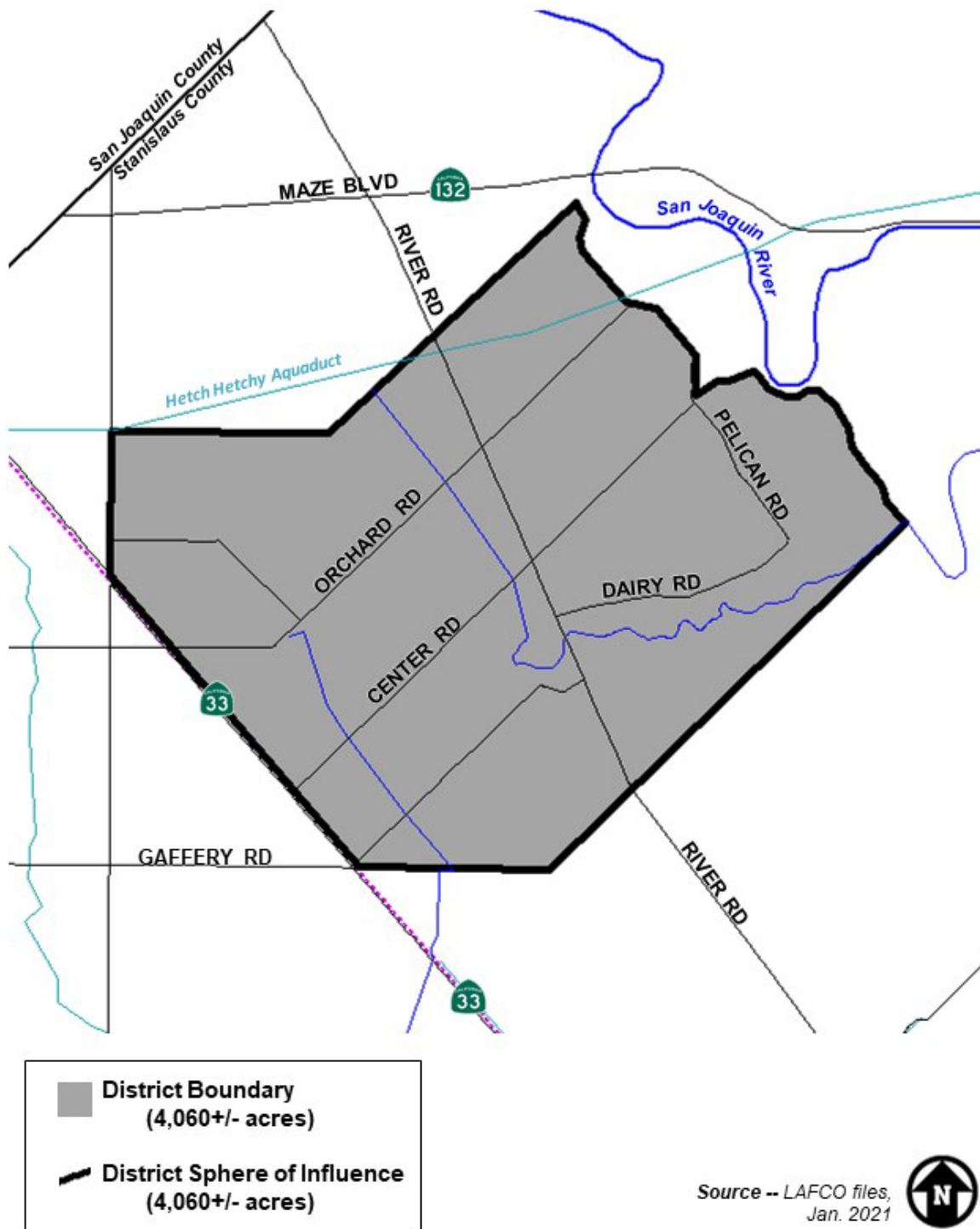
There are no communities of interest affecting the District's ability to provide services to the communities within the District boundaries.

### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

# EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT

## Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	South of State Highway 132, east of McCracken Road, north of Gaffery Road, and west of the San Joaquin River, near the unincorporated community of Vernalis.
Service Area:	Approximately 4,060 acres
Population*:	129
Land Use:	Agriculture
Date of Formation:	August 17, 1959
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District Act)
Governing Body:	5 Directors elected by the landowners within the District
Administration:	2 Full-time employees
District Services:	Distribution of irrigation water
Total Revenue & Expenditures**:	Calendar Year 2019: Revenue - \$866,476. Expenditures – \$731,636. (State Controller's Office)
Primary Revenue Source:	Water fees and services

*\* LAFCO Staff Estimate*

# **OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

The Oak Flat Water District was formed on October 13, 1964.

## **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors governs the District. Directors must be landowners within the District and are elected by landowners. Meetings are held quarterly on the third Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m., at the Del Puerto Water District office, located at 17840 Ward Avenue, Patterson, and are open to the public.

## **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 4,537 acres (2,147 irrigable acres), and is located south of the City of Patterson and west of the former Crows Landing Naval Air Station, in the western portion of Stanislaus County.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or Sphere of Influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

## **Personnel**

The District contracts with an independent contractor to perform the necessary management, administrative and operational duties for the District.

## **Services**

Under the terms of its water supply contract with the State Water Project, the District delivers up to 5,700 acre-feet of irrigation water to its agricultural customers from the California Aqueduct. The District is subject to reduced allocations based on drought conditions and pumping restrictions. For example, in the 2020 season, the Department of Water Resources stated that it would provide only a 20% contract supply allocation to the District from the State Water Project.

## **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive collaborative relationships with other agencies including the Del Puerto Water District, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the State Water Contractors Association, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

## **Funding Sources**

The District receives assessments and water rate charges for providing agricultural irrigation water to its customers.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Oak Flat Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Oak Flat Water District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural on the westerly portion of Stanislaus County. The area is designated as agriculture on the County's General Plan and the District does not expect any significant population growth during the five-year timeframe of this current service review. The District currently serves seven retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

At the present time, the District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies. As mentioned previously, there are no disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the Sphere of Influence of the District.

### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

At present time, the District appears to have the necessary financial resources to fund adequate levels of service within the District's boundaries. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District sets its assessments and water rates to recover its costs.

### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

At this time, the District does not share any facilities with other Districts or agencies.



**6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the landowners, governs the District. The Board is subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction. The District does not have a traditional management structure as they do not employ full-time personnel. They do, however, employ a Secretary/Manager on a contractual basis to perform the necessary administrative and operational duties for the District.

**7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

In 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board approved consolidation of State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) places of use. While this consolidation could be seen as facilitating the transfer of available water supplies between the Del Puerto District (a CVP contractor) and the Oak Flat Water District (a SWP contractor) other constraints continue to limit the benefits that might accrue to the District from the increased efficiency and flexibility in the source of water supplies and/or points of delivery.

## **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Oak Flat Water District**

The following determinations for the Oak Flat Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The Oak Flat Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 4,537 gross acres; of that approximately 2,147 acres are irrigable lands. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural land use areas. These uses are not expected to change, excepting that Stanislaus County plans to develop its acreage within the District to solar facility uses in late 2021. The District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

The need for irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change.

### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District currently has the necessary infrastructure and contract for the provision of agricultural water service to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence.

### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

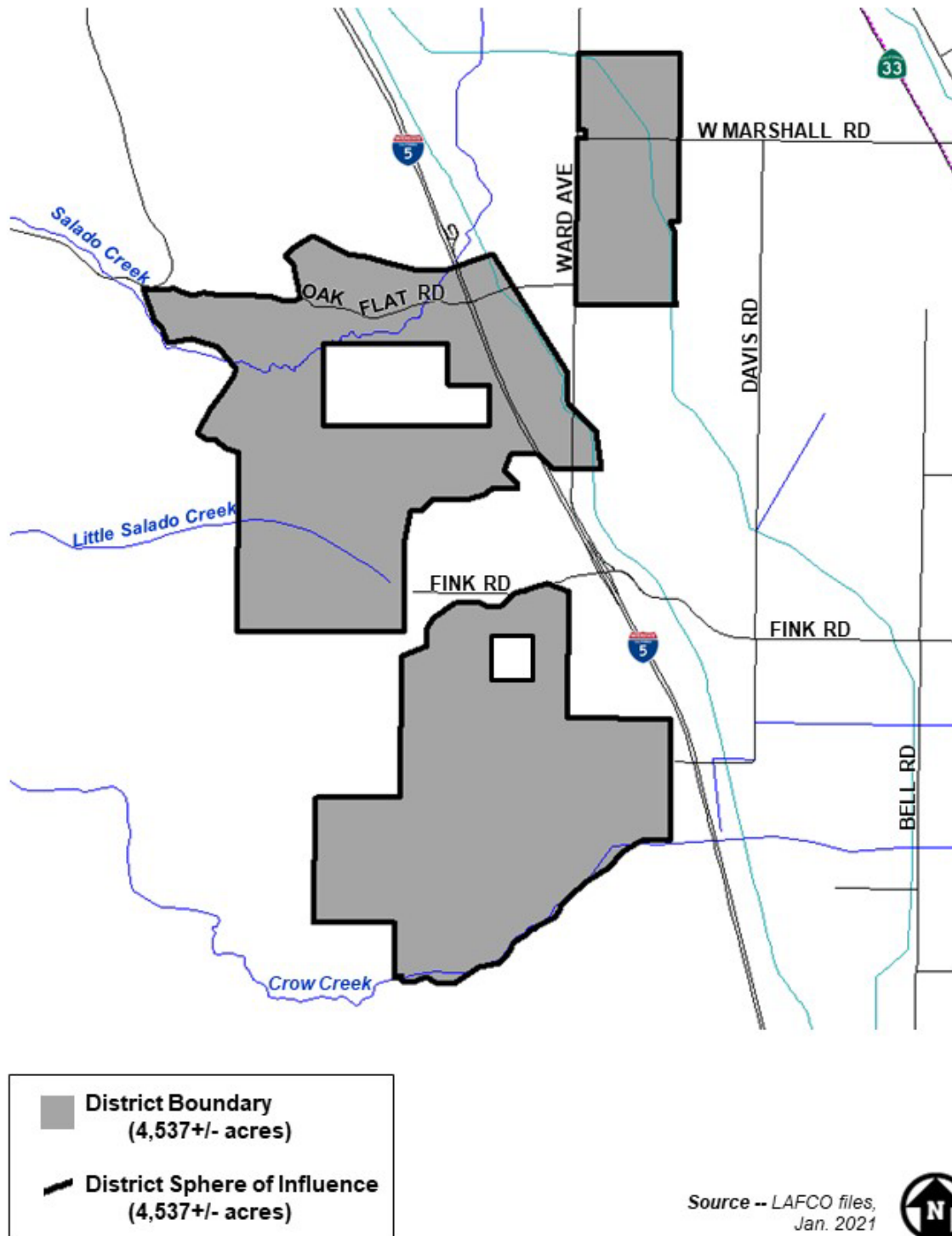
The District serves a rural area comprised of large scale farming operations. There are no communities of interest affecting the District's ability to provide services to the communities within the District boundaries.

### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

No Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities have been identified within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence as defined in Section 56033.5 of the CKH Act. In addition, the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection. Therefore, this factor is not applicable.

# OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT

## Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	South of the City of Patterson and west of the former Crows Landing Naval Air Station.
Service Area:	Approximately 4,537 acres (2,147 acres are irrigable lands)
Population*:	26
Land Use:	Agricultural
Date of Formation:	October 13, 1964
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District Act)
Governing Body:	5 Directors, elected by landowners within District boundaries
Administration:	There are no employees paid by the District
District Services:	Contract and delivery of irrigation water
Total Operating Budget:	Year ending December 31, 2020: \$715,062
Revenue Sources:	Water fees and assessments

*\*Source: LAFCO Staff Estimate*

# **PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

On March 16, 1999, the Patterson Irrigation District (PID) was reorganized from the Patterson Water District for the purposes of continuing to provide agricultural irrigation water to lands within the District, and also to allow the District the ability to provide electrical power supplies both within and outside its boundaries.

## **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, governs the District. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m., at the District office, located at 948 Orange Avenue, Patterson. The Board also conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings.

## **Location and Size**

The District serves approximately 12,957 acres and is generally located east of the City of Patterson and Highway 33, south of Del Puerto Creek and west of the San Joaquin River, in the western portion of Stanislaus County. The District supplies agricultural irrigation water to users growing over 30 different crops. Crops include alfalfa, corn, almonds, walnuts, tomatoes, apricots and beans.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries, with the exception of approximately 110 acres adjacent to the northwest portion of the District. Portions of the District's Sphere of Influence are located within the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence.

## **Personnel**

The District employs 13 employees (12 full-time and 1 part-time).

## **Services**

The District currently provides agricultural irrigation water to its customers. The District is able to provide irrigation water supplies to its customers via several sources including the following:

- Imported water from the Delta Mendota Canal (Central Valley Project)
- Reclaimed agricultural surface drainage
- Groundwater from deep wells within the District boundaries
- Surface water from the San Joaquin River (Pre-1914 Water Rights Permit)

The District currently serves a few areas that were annexed by the City of Patterson, namely the Villages of Patterson area, and the Southeast Industrial Reorganization area near the corner of First Street and Orange Avenue. The District also provides water to fringe areas within Del Puerto Water District near Elfers Avenue and Ward Avenue. These out-of-district deliveries are provided under annual contract with landowners. The availability of water to serve out of district areas is made by the Board of Directors on an annual basis after a review of local and statewide hydrologic conditions.

## **Programs**

The Patterson Irrigation District operates the following programs:

- The District has embarked on a canal improvement project (on Lateral 3-south). The purpose of this project is to: increase canal capacity and operational safety; incorporate the reservoir project into the canal system for both water supply outputs from the canal to the reservoir.
- The District completed construction of the Fish Screen and Pumping Plant Project in 2011, a partnership between PID, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the US Bureau of Reclamation. The Project replaced the District's San Joaquin River Pumping Plant, which was an un-screened diversion. The completed Project protects fish species in the San Joaquin River, including fall-run Chinook Salmon and Steelhead, while also preserving the District's pre-1914 water rights and right to operate the pumping plant.
- In addition, the District offers programs to assist water users with water and energy conservation and management including pump testing, irrigation system evaluations, irrigation scheduling and cost sharing on water conserving pipeline projects.
- The District has recently completed its "Two Drains Project", which captures water from the Spanish and Marshall drains and stores it in the Southside Reservoir for future use. The system will allow PID to capture up to 5,000 acre feet of drain water per year that would normally flow into the river.

## **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive and collaborative relationships with other agencies, such as the: Central California Irrigation District (CCID), Del Puerto Water District, West Stanislaus Irrigation District (WSID), Turlock Irrigation District (TID), Twin Oaks Irrigation Water Company, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), and the US Bureau of Reclamation.

The District is a member of several Joint Powers Authorities including:

- a. San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority: A JPA formed by South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Federal Delta Mendota Canal, as well as following state and federal water issues that affect CVP contract supply.
- b. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority: A JPA formed for grower monitoring and compliance for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Drainage Authority serves as the Third-Party Coalition administrator for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. Growers enrolled as Coalition members receive regulatory compliance for this statewide program.
- c. Delta Mendota Canal Contractors Authority: A small group of South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors formed for the purpose of monitoring regional drainage issues and activities originally planned by Reclamation for the western San Joaquin River. This

group meets annually to review purpose and financials, but is not regularly active due to lack of activity on that effort.

- d. Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA): JPIA is a pooled insurance program of water agencies that administers health, property, and liability insurance.
- e. Westside Power Authority: A JPA formed between Turlock Irrigation District and Patterson Irrigation District with the original purpose of expanding electrical service to the Patterson area. The Westside Power Authority meets occasionally to discuss local power issues that affect the agencies.

### **Funding Sources**

PID currently has two methods from which it generates revenue. The District has a fixed, land-based assessment at \$60 per acre. As of 2020, an allocation of one acre-foot per acre is typically provided with this assessment. Water deliveries beyond the allocation can continue and be unrestricted as long as supplies are available to the District and at a rate of \$30 per acre-foot.

For Priority Area 1 there is a \$60 per acre contract fee, with a water rate of \$55 per acre-foot. Water deliveries are unrestricted if supplies to the in-district lands are not restricted. If in-district deliveries are restricted for any reason, out-of-district deliveries will cease.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Patterson Irrigation District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Patterson Irrigation District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District serves an unincorporated area near the City of Patterson that is primarily agricultural. Portions of the District's boundaries currently overlap with the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence. As development occurs or with annexation to the City, the territory is detached from the District. The District currently serves 757 retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

At the present time, the District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies.

PID Staff has indicated that some of the District's infrastructure needs include the following:

- a) Failing existing cast-in-place pipelines.
- b) Existing laterals failing from squirrels and on-going operations and maintenance.
- c) Pipelines failing due to changing irrigation methods taxing lines designed to be gravity operated.

The District has been working on a capital improvement program for its main canal facilities which were built 40+ years ago. This is primarily a replacement effort and not due to service deficiencies. Otherwise, the District will continue to maintain and improve facilities as needed.

The District has a number of upcoming projects in order to maintain and improve its existing infrastructure. The District has the following upcoming projects:

- a) East West Conveyance Project - \$45 million project consisting of replacing pumping plants 4 and 5 with a new pump station, replacement of lifts and a new 160 cfs pump station to the Delta-Mendota Canal.
- b) Replacement of the 2N canal from Magnolia to Loquat Avenues.
- c) Relocation of the Marshall Road Pump station into the Marshall Road Reservoir.
- d) Replacement of 3N and 4N canals from Magnolia to Loquat Avenues.



#### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

At present time, the District appears to be in sound financial shape and has the necessary financial resources to fund sufficient levels of service. A base budget is submitted to the Board of Directors for review and approval. The District's budgeting process is designed to screen out unnecessary costs by placing resources where they are most needed. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District, on an annual basis, reviews its rate and fee schedule and attempts to keep the rates and fees as minimum as possible, while maintaining a high level of customer service and water supply reliability.

#### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

When necessary, the District shares facilities, especially in times of emergency situations. The District also assists its customers with a cost-sharing program for water conservation projects. In addition, the District is part of several Joint Powers Authorities providing a variety of services within its district and to its partners.

#### **6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, govern the District. The Board is subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction. The District has the necessary resources and staffing levels to operate in a cost-efficient and professional manner.

#### **7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

The District operates a variety of programs including a water conservation project, a canal improvement project, and the fish screening and pumping project.

## **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Patterson Irrigation District**

The following determinations for the Patterson Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The Patterson Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 13,067 acres. Territory within the District boundaries and SOI consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change, with the exception of those areas in the Sphere of Influence of the City of Patterson. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County and the City of Patterson.

### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

The probable need for the District's ability to continue to provide public facilities and services in the area is affected by the fact that the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence overlaps into the District. The District has a diminishing sphere, in that as territory annexes to the City of Patterson, it detaches from the District.

### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District currently has adequate capacity to provide irrigation water to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence in an efficient manner. The District continues to maintain its existing infrastructure through repair, replacement and/or relocation of its facilities.

### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

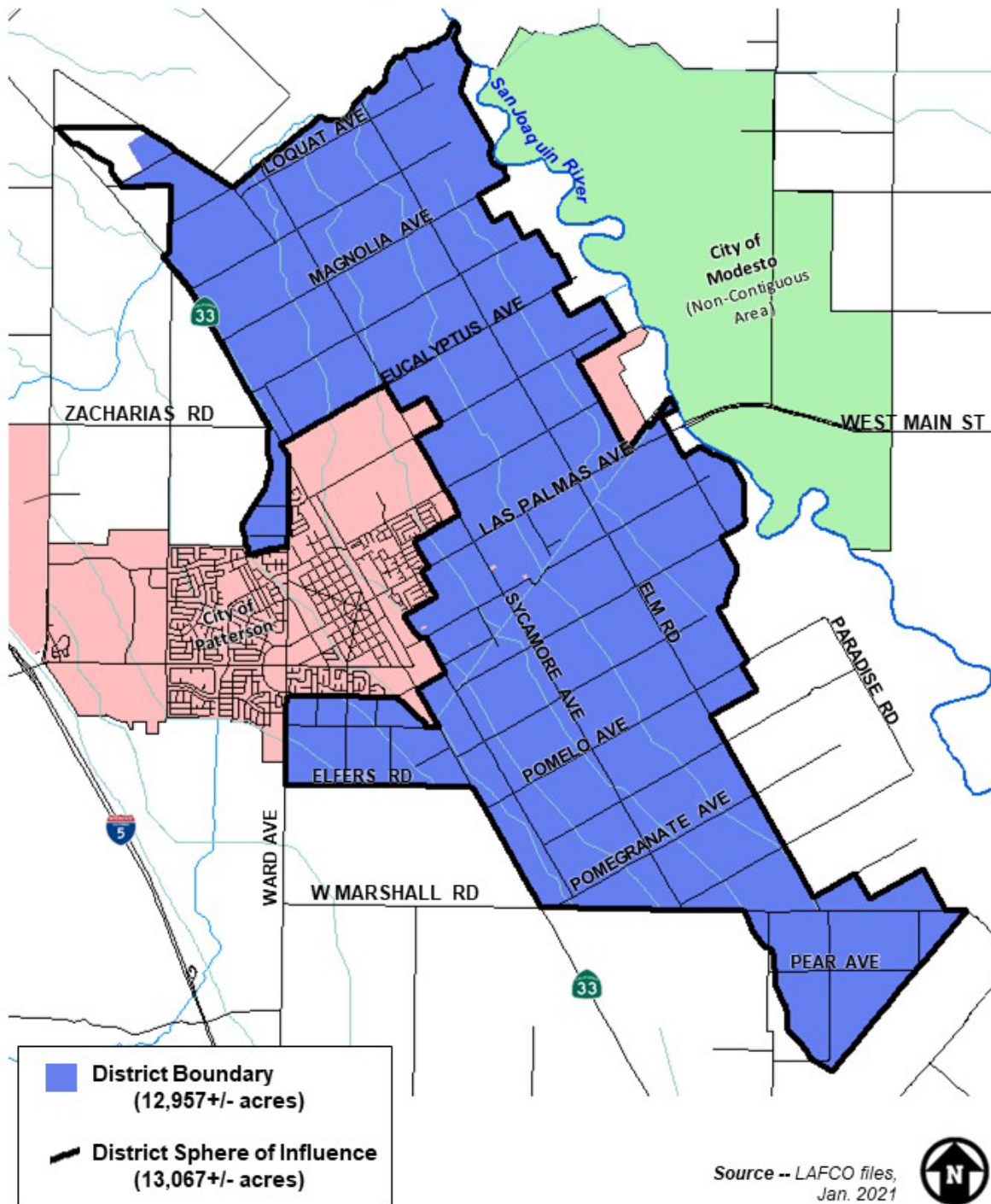
The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as the City's Sphere of Influence overlaps into the District's boundaries. As territory is annexed into the City, it detaches from the District.

### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

# PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	East of the City of Patterson and Highway 33, south of Del Puerto Creek and west of the San Joaquin River.
Service Area:	Approximately 12,957 acres
Population*:	2,107
Land Use:	Agricultural
Date of Formation:	March 16, 1999 (Reorganization of the Patterson Water District)
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 11, Section 20500 et. seq. (Irrigation District Law)
Governing Body:	5 Directors, elected by registered voters within the District boundaries
Administration:	13 employees (12 full time and 1 part time)
District Services:	Distribution of irrigation water
Total Operating Budget:	Year ending December 31, 2019: \$5,848,111
Revenue Sources:	Water fees and assessments

*\*Source: LAFCO Staff Estimate*

# **WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

## **Formation**

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District was formed on November 29, 1920.

## **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, governs the District. Meetings are held on the Tuesday of the second full week of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Westley Fire House, 8598 Kern Street, in Westley. The Board is also subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings.

## **Location and Size**

The District is located west of the San Joaquin River, northwest of the City of Patterson, and includes the unincorporated communities of Westley, Grayson and Vernalis. The District's boundaries encompass approximately 21,774 acres and contains approximately 20,270 acres in agricultural production. The District currently serve 94 water user accounts.

## **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries.

## **Personnel**

There are 16 persons (15 full-time and 1 part-time) employed by WSID.

## **Services**

The District provides irrigation water for agricultural purposes to its customers. The District is able to provide irrigation water supplies to its customers via several sources including the following:

- Surface water from the Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers
- Groundwater from four deep wells within the District boundaries
- Importing water from the Delta Mendota Canal, as part of the Central Valley Project

The District, under a water rights agreement, also sells irrigation water to 13 landowners, which includes approximately 2,207 irrigable acres outside its Sphere of Influence in the White Lake area (north of the unincorporated community of Grayson). This agreement was part of an original pumping rights contract from the 1920's.

In addition, since 1936, the District has operated an official weather station for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau.

## **Programs**

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District has embarked on the following programs:

- Main Canal Modernization - Beginning in 2010, WSID performed a Main Canal

Modernization Feasibility Study where pumping plants were evaluated for structural integrity, pumping plan performance and long-term reliability. Through this study, it was determined that the system has significant water supply reliability issues. As a result, four different alternatives were evaluated to modernize the main canal pump facilities to assure long-term water supply reliability to growers. One alternative was chosen to implement in three phases. Phase I consisted of Pump Station 1A facilities construction. This phase consists of a new 350 cubic feet per second (cfs) pumping plant, roughly 4,400 feet of 96-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe, and associated pumps, motors, switchgear, turnouts, meters, and controls. This phase was completed in 2013. Construction of Pump Station 5A facilities began in 2013 and was complete and operational in 2014 which allow water to be pumped from Reach 4 at a rate of 250 cfs and discharge into Reach 5 & 6 through a 96-inch reinforced concrete pipeline.

The third phase will be the construction of Pump Station 3A and associated conveyance pipeline to replace Pump Stations 3 and 4 and Canal Reaches 3 and 4.

Following the modernization of the Main Canal, the District will move to the modernization of the lateral delivery system to increase the level of service, better regulate the water supply, reduce system losses, and improve water measurement systems to accomplish accurate water management and accounting.

- Fish Screen Project - The District is pursuing a fish screen project to screen its diversion off the San Joaquin River to protect entrapment of anadromous fish. Two Fish Screen Feasibility Studies have previously been performed that the District cost-shared with the US Bureau of Reclamation. The District has completed the design phase of the project, which was financed through a grant with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife. Construction is currently on hold due to funding purposes.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains a positive collaborative relationship with other agencies, authorities and associations, including neighboring water and irrigation districts (El Solyo Water District, Patterson Irrigation District, and Del Puerto Water District), as well as the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, Power and Water Resource Pooling Authority, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the Association of California Water Agencies, Delta-Mendota Canal Contractors Authority, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The District is a member of several Joint Powers Authorities including:

- a. San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority: A JPA formed by South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Federal Delta Mendota Canal, as well as following state and federal water issues that affect CVP contract supply.
- b. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority: A JPA formed for grower monitoring and compliance for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Drainage Authority serves as the Third-Party Coalition administrator for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. Growers enrolled as Coalition members receive regulatory compliance for this statewide program.
- c. Delta Mendota Canal Contractors Authority: A small group of South-of-Delta Central

Valley Project contractors formed for the purpose of monitoring regional drainage issues and activities originally planned by Reclamation for the western San Joaquin River. This group meets annually to review purpose and financials, but is not regularly active due to lack of activity on that effort.

- d. Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority: A Joint Powers Authority comprised of 9 Irrigation Districts that organized in 2004 under California State law to collectively manage individual power assets and loads.

### **Funding Sources**

WSID receives the majority (95%) of its funding from water sales and assessments. In addition, the District also receives a small portion of its revenue from property tax collected from Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties.

## **Municipal Service Review Determinations - West Stanislaus Irrigation District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the West Stanislaus Irrigation District:

### **1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area**

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural, located west of the San Joaquin River, northwest of the City of Patterson, and includes the unincorporated communities of Westley, Grayson and Vernalis. A small portion of the district extends into San Joaquin County. Significant population growth is not expected. The District currently serves 83 retail customers within its boundaries, and 13 customers outside its boundaries in the White Lake area, with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

### **2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

The District's boundary includes two communities meeting the income criteria to be considered disadvantaged unincorporated communities. The community of Westley and a portion of the community of Grayson are within the District's boundaries and are contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

### **3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence**

The District currently has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction.

Recently, the District constructed an operations and maintenance facility and administrative office adjacent to the District's main canal system and first pumping station.

### **4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services**

At present time, the District appears to be in sound financial condition and has the necessary financial resources to fund sufficient levels of service to its customers. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District prepares an annual budget, which includes a review of the rates and fees assessed for the delivery of irrigation water to its customers. The budget is submitted to the District Board for review and approval.

### **5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities**

The District shares facilities with other agencies as necessary and continually reviews new opportunities to continue these efforts. For example, the District has offered conference room space to the neighboring West Stanislaus Fire Protection District. In addition, the District has shared its facilities and equipment with other agencies on an as-needed basis (e.g., flood emergencies).



**6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District, governs the District. The Board conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. The District has the necessary resources and staffing levels to operate in a cost-efficient and professional manner.

**7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy**

None.

## **Sphere of Influence Determinations - West Stanislaus Irrigation District**

The following determinations for the West Stanislaus Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### **1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands**

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 21,774 acres. Territory within and outside the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties.

### **2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area**

The District is presently meeting the needs of its agricultural water customers. The future need of irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change.

### **3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide**

The District currently has adequate capacity to provide irrigation water to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence in an efficient manner.

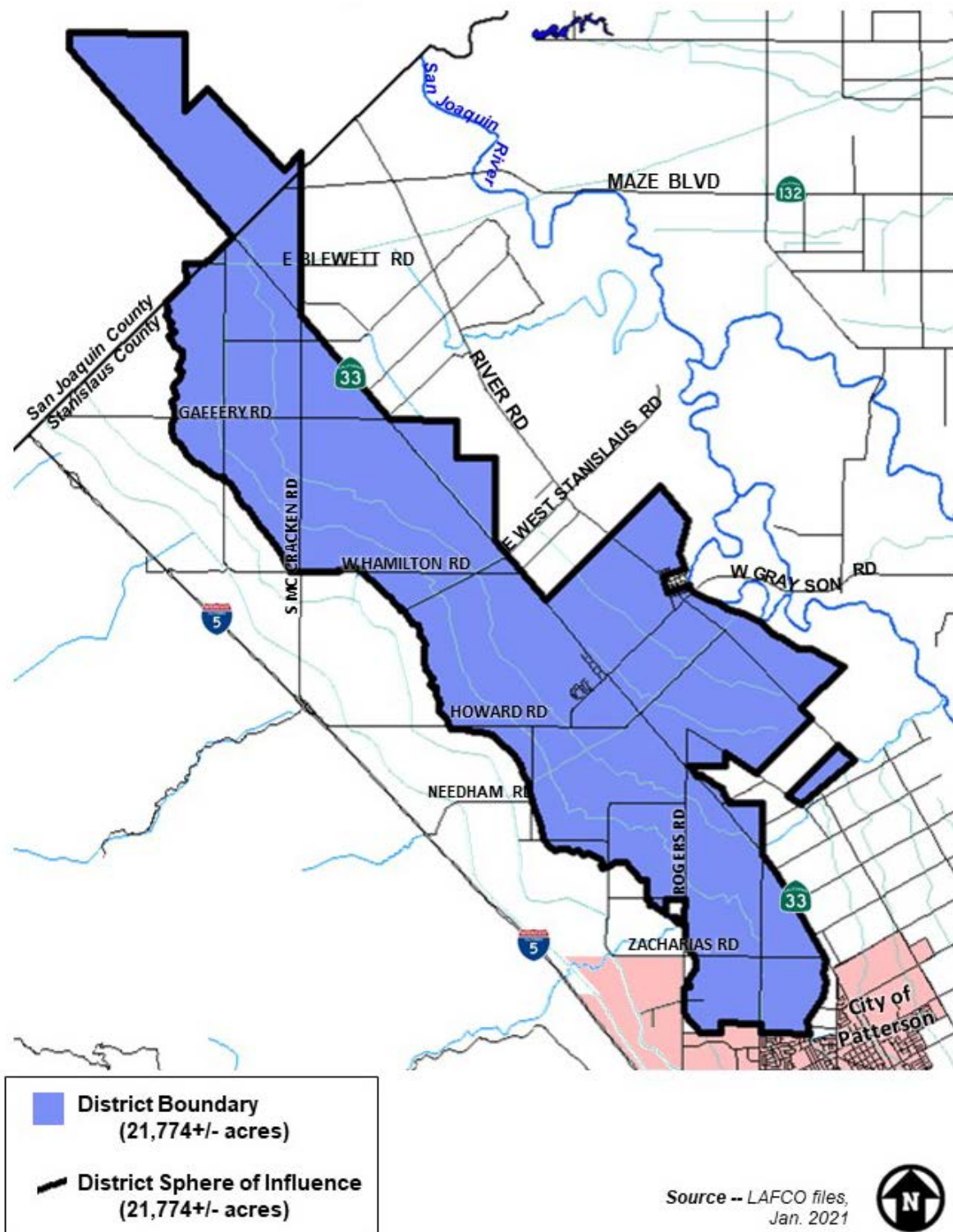
### **4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency**

The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as the City's current boundary and Sphere of Influence are adjacent to the District's boundaries. Should the City propose to expand its Sphere, it would overlap into the District's boundary. In addition, the District serves the White Lake area, located outside of its boundaries, as a result of an original pumping rights agreement dating back to the 1920s.

### **5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence**

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

## WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## **WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE**

Location:	Northwest of the City of Patterson, including the unincorporated communities of Westley, Grayson, and Vernalis.
Service Area:	Approximately 21,774 acres
Population*:	1,678
Land Use:	Agriculture
Date of Formation:	May 20, 1920
Enabling Act:	California Water Code, Division 11, Section 20500 et. seq. (Irrigation District Act)
Governing Body:	5 Directors – elected by registered voters within the District boundaries
Administration:	16 employees (15 full-time and 1 part-time)
District Services:	Distribution of water for irrigation purposes
Total Operating Expenditures:	Year ending December 31, 2019: \$9,940,101
Revenue Sources:	Water fees/assessments and property taxes

*\*LAFCO Staff estimate*

## REFERENCES

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### REFERENCES

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1. California Department of Water Resources. *Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Mapping Tool*. Website (<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/dacs/>). Accessed January 19, 2021.
2. California State Controller's Office. *Special Districts Financial Data*. Website (<https://districts.bythenumbers.sco.ca.gov>) Accessed January 19, 2021
3. Del Puerto Water District. *Audited Financial Statements*. February 29, 2020.
4. *Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan*. November 2019
5. Patterson Irrigation District. *Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018*
6. Patterson Irrigation District. *Water Management Plan/Agricultural Water Management Plan 2008 Criteria*, Revised June 15, 2016.
7. Patterson Irrigation District. *Water Rate Study*, November 28, 2018.
8. Stanislaus LAFCO. *Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the Del Puerto, Eastin, El Solyo, and Oak Flat Water Districts, and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts*. July 27, 2016.
9. State of California Legislative Analyst's Office. *Water Special Districts: A Look at Governance and Public Participation*. March 2002.
10. West Stanislaus Irrigation District. *Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the Years Ended December 31, 2019*.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION**

**DATE:** February 24, 2021

**NO.** 2021-02

**SUBJECT:** Municipal Service Review No. 2021-01 and Sphere of Influence Update No. 2021-01 for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts

On the motion of Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and approved by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioners:
Noes:	Commissioners:
Absent:	Commissioners:
Ineligible:	Commissioners:

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:**

**WHEREAS**, a Service Review mandated by California Government Code Section 56430 and a Sphere of Influence Update mandated by California Government Code Section 56425, has been conducted for the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts, in accordance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Reorganization Act of 2000;

**WHEREAS**, at the time and in the form and manner provided by law, the Executive Officer has given notice of the February 24, 2021 public hearing by this Commission on this matter;

**WHEREAS**, the subject document is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15306 and 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines;

**WHEREAS**, Staff has reviewed all existing and available information from the Districts and has prepared a report including recommendations therein, and related information as presented to and considered by this Commission;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has duly considered the draft Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update on the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts and the determinations contained therein;

**WHEREAS**, the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts were established to provide irrigation water services within their boundaries;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(i), the range of services provided by the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts are limited to those as identified in the municipal service review and such range of services shall not be changed unless approved by this Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, no changes to the Districts' Spheres of Influence are proposed or contemplated through this review.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Commission:

1. Certifies that the project is statutorily exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15306 and 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.
2. Approves the Municipal Service Review prepared in compliance with State law and update of the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts' Spheres of Influence, and written determinations prepared by the Staff and contained herein.
3. Determines that except as otherwise stated, no new or different function or class of services shall be provided by the Districts, unless approved by the Commission.
4. Determines, based on presently existing evidence, facts, and circumstances filed and considered by the Commission, that the Spheres of Influence for Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts should be affirmed as they currently exist, as more specifically described on the maps contained within the Municipal Service Review document.
5. Directs the Executive Officer to circulate this resolution depicting the adopted Sphere of Influence Update to all affected agencies, including the Eastin, El Solyo, Del Puerto, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AGENDA REPORT  
FEBRUARY 24, 2021**

TO: LAFCO Commissioners

FROM: Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer *SLP*

**SUBJECT: MID-YEAR BUDGET REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021**

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Commission accept this financial update. No budget adjustments are necessary at this time.

**DISCUSSION**

The Mid-Year Budget Report provides an overview of LAFCO's expenses and revenues through the second quarter for the Commission's information. The Commission's adopted budget for the current fiscal year is \$532,490. At mid-year, expenditures totaled \$260,067, which represents approximately 49% of the adopted budget. Below is an overview of LAFCO's expenses and revenues:

*LAFCO FY 2020-2021 Mid-Year Comparison: Adopted Budget vs. Actual*

	<b>Adopted Budget (2020-2021)</b>	<b>Actual (Mid-Year)</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Salaries & Benefits	\$456,320	\$229,028	50%
Services & Supplies	74,970	30,893	41%
Other Charges	1,200	146	12%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$532,490</b>	<b>\$260,067</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
City/County Contributions	\$453,175	\$453,175	100%
Applications & Other Revenues	20,000	14,500	160%
Interest Earnings	--	3,779	--
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$473,175</b>	<b>\$471,454</b>	<b>100%</b>
<i>Prior Years' Carry-Over</i>	<i>59,315</i>		
<i>Total Budget</i>	<i>\$532,490</i>		

A detailed listing of individual accounts is attached for the Commission's information. The following highlights the expense and revenue categories through mid-year:

➤ Salaries and Benefits:

Through the end of the second quarter, \$229,028 has been expended on Salaries and Benefits. Expenditures in this budget category represent approximately 50% of the total amount budgeted for the fiscal year. Although retirement costs are trending slightly higher than what was originally budgeted, Staff estimates that at year-end, the overall Salaries and Benefits category is anticipated to be within the Commission's budgeted amount.



➤ Services and Supplies:

At the end of the second quarter, expenditures under the Services and Supplies category totaled \$30,893. This represents 41% of the total amount budgeted. Of note is the following:

- Expenditures for the Commission's general liability insurance, membership dues, and office lease (Account #61000, 62200, and 63000) are billed as one-time expenses early in the fiscal year.
- Charges for legal services during the first and second quarter were billed after the Mid-Year, but remain well within the budgeted amount. Legal service expenses can fluctuate throughout the year based on the complexity of applications or need for additional review by counsel. The account is anticipated to be well within budget by the end of the year.
- Staff consolidates orders for office supplies and places orders approximately 2-3 times a year.
- During the second quarter, the LAFCO office printer began malfunctioning and, following consultation with the County's IT department, was recommended for replacement. The printer was replaced with a recommended model from IT using the County's discounts for less than \$500. This unanticipated expense was covered under the Miscellaneous Expense account (#62400).

➤ Other Charges:

This budget category contains expenses associated with a shared copier lease and copy costs and is typically only billed twice a year. Copy costs have generally trended lower than anticipated. The lower amount is as a result of Staff's continued efforts to decrease the number of paper copies associated with agendas and projects.

➤ Revenues:

The County and nine cities have paid their apportionment shares totaling \$453,175. Additionally, revenue received from LAFCO application fees and services at mid-year totals \$14,500. Staff anticipates receiving additional applications by the end of this fiscal year that will exceed the \$20,000 estimate for revenue in the account.

**CONCLUSION**

The Commission's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget continues to be financially sound. Each category is projected to be near their budgeted amounts by year-end. Any funds anticipated to be remaining at the end of the fiscal year will be used to offset agency contributions in the following year's budget. No budget adjustments are recommended at this time. If future modifications are needed, Staff will immediately bring forth those requests to the Commission for consideration.

**EXPENSE AND REVENUE SUMMARY**  
**JULY 1, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Final Budget FY 20-21</b>	<b>Actuals 12-31-2020</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>			
50000+ Salaries and wages	\$ 279,800	140,773	50%
52000 Retirement	83,100	42,027	51%
52010 FICA	22,100	10,710	48%
53000 Group health insurance	60,800	30,082	49%
53020 Unemployment insurance	360	180	50%
53051 Benefits admin fee	190	62	33%
53081 Long term disability	425	193	45%
54000 Workers compensation insurance	995	497	50%
55000 Auto allowance	2,400	1,218	51%
55080 Professional development	2,200	1,300	59%
55130 Deferred comp mgmt/conf	3,950	1,985	50%
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>456,320</b>	<b>229,028</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Services and Supplies</b>			
60400 Communications (SBT - Telecom)	1,145	428	37%
61000 Insurance (SDRMA)	5,230	5,091	97%
61030 Fiduciary liability insurance	40	30	75%
62200 Memberships (CSDA, CALAFCO)	10,800	10,377	96%
62400 Miscellaneous expense	3,000	464	15%
62450 Indirect costs (A87 roll forward)	(460)	(276)	60%
62600 Office supplies	1,500	558	37%
62730 Postage	1,200	65	5%
62750 Other mail room expense	445	18	4%
63000 County services (Office lease, HR, Utilities)	12,360	6,877	56%
63090 Auditing & accounting	2,430	766	32%
63400 Engineering services	2,000	271	14%
63640 Legal services	12,000	-	0%
63990 Data processing services (IT, Video, GIS Lic.)	12,200	5,587	46%
65000 Publications & legal notices	1,000	163	16%
65780 Education & training	3,000	40	1%
65810 Other supportive services (messenger)	350	94	27%
65890 Commission expense (stipends, training)	6,100	301	5%
67040 Other travel expenses (mileage)	500	-	0%
67201 Salvage disposal	130	38	29%
<b>Total Services and Supplies</b>	<b>74,970</b>	<b>30,893</b>	<b>41%</b>
<b>Other Charges</b>			
73024 Planning dept services (shared copier)	1,200	146	12%
<b>Total Other Charges</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>532,490</b>	<b>260,067</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>			
40680+ Agency Contributions	453,175	453,175	100%
36414 Application & Other Revenues	20,000	14,500	73%
17000+ Interest Earnings	-	3,779	<i>nb</i>

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AGENDA REPORT  
FEBRUARY 24, 2021**

TO: LAFCO Commissioners

FROM: Jennifer Vieira, Commission Clerk

**SUBJECT: Annual Election of Officers (Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)**

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**BACKGROUND**

The Commission's adopted Policies and Procedures includes Rules of Order that establish the terms and rotation schedule for the annual election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The established annual term of office for these officers is from February 1<sup>st</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Based on the current rotation of officers, as established in the Commission's Rules of Order (Rule 4), the office of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are rotated annually. According to the sequence, the next Chairperson would be a Public Member and the next Vice-Chairperson would be a City Member.

Commissioner Bill Berryhill, as the current Vice-Chair, is eligible to be Chairperson. However, as Commissioner Berryhill's term as a Regular Member expires May 3, 2021, the Commission may choose to skip this year's rotation and select a City Member as Chair and County Member as Vice Chair to serve out the full year. With this option, Commissioners Amy Bublak and Richard O'Brien, Regular City Members, would be eligible for Chairperson. Commissioners Vito Chiesa and Terry Withrow, Regular County Members, would be eligible for Vice-Chairperson. (See attached Rotation Schedule.)

**RECOMMENDATION**

If the Commission agrees with the terms of office and the rotation of officers as per Rule 4 and the options above, it is recommended that the Commission adopt the attached Resolutions appointing a new Chairperson (City Member) and a Vice-Chairperson (County Member) for the annual term of February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.

Attachments: Draft LAFCO Resolution No. 2021-01a & 2021-01b  
Rotation Schedule

**STANISLAUS COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION**

**DATE:** February 24, 2021

**NO.** 2021-01a

**SUBJECT:   Annual Election of Officers (Chairperson)**

On the motion of Commissioner\_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner\_\_\_\_\_, and approved by the following:

Ayes:	Commissioners:
Noes:	Commissioners:
Ineligible:	Commissioners:
Absent:	Commissioners:

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Government Code Section 56334 and Commission Rules of Order, the members of the Commission shall annually elect a Chairperson;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission's Rules of Order, under Rule 4, provides for the systematic rotation of the Chairperson among its members;

**WHEREAS**, the term of the present officer expired on January 31, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on adopted Commission Policies and Procedures, the rotation of its members for the Chairperson, a \_\_\_\_\_ Member is in line for this office seat, respectively.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission:

1. Elects Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ as Chairperson for a term of office commencing February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Lytle-Pinhey  
Executive Officer

**STANISLAUS COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION**

**DATE:** February 24, 2021

**NO.** 2021-01b

**SUBJECT:   Annual Election of Officers (Vice-Chairperson)**

On the motion of Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and approved by the following:

Ayes:	Commissioners:
Noes:	Commissioners:
Ineligible:	Commissioners:
Absent:	Commissioners:

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Government Code Section 56334 and Commission Rules of Order, the members of the Commission shall annually elect a Vice-Chairperson;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission's Rules of Order, under Rule 4, provides for the systematic rotation of the Vice-Chairperson among its members;

**WHEREAS**, the term of the present officer expired on January 31, 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, based on adopted Commission Policies and Procedures, the rotation of its members for the Vice-Chairperson, a \_\_\_\_\_ Member is in line for this office seat, respectively.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commission:

1. Elects Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ as Vice-Chairperson for a term of office commencing February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Lytle-Pinhey  
Executive Officer

## **COMMISSIONER ROTATION SCHEDULE**

### **Rotation**

2/2009 - 1/2010	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Lane DeMartini	City County	A
2/2010 - 1/2011	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	DeMartini Saletta	County Public	B
2/2011 - 1/2012	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Saletta Goeken	Public City	C
2/2012 - 1/2013	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Goeken O'Brien	City County	D
2/2013 - 1/2014	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	O'Brien Bublak	County City	E
2/2014 - 1/2015	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Bublak DeMartini	City County	A
2/2015 - 1/2016	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	DeMartini Hawn	County Public	B
2/2016 - 1/2017	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Hawn Bublak	Public City	C
2/2017 - 1/2018	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Bublak Withrow	City County	D
2/2018 - 1/2019	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Withrow Van Winkle	County City	E
2/2019 – 1/2020	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	Van Winkle DeMartini	City County	A
2/2020 – 1/2021	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson	DeMartini Berryhill	County Public	B
2/2021 – 1/2022	Chairperson Vice-Chairperson		Public City	C

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AGENDA REPORT  
FEBRUARY 24, 2021**

TO: LAFCO Commissioners

FROM: Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Executive Officer *SLP*

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF EXPIRING TERMS FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS AND  
APPOINTMENT OF A SUBCOMMITTEE**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Commission direct the Executive Officer to initiate the Public Member recruitment process. It is also recommended that the Commission appoint a subcommittee for the initial screening of applications.

**BACKGROUND**

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Act sets forth the composition of the Commission. For Stanislaus County, this includes two county members, two city members, and one public member. Each category also has one alternate member.

Appointments for the county and city members are made by the Board of Supervisors and City Selection Committee, respectively. Appointments for the public members are made by the county and city members on LAFCO. Public members must receive an affirmative vote of at least one member from each of the other categories (city and county). The term of office for a public member or alternate public member is limited to four years in each position and until a replacement is appointed by the Commission.

**DISCUSSION**

Each of the Commission's Public Members' terms of office is scheduled to expire this year:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Appointing Authority</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Bill Berryhill, Public Member	Commission	May 1, 2021
Brad Hawn, Alternate Public Member	Commission	May 1, 2021

If appointments for the affected seats are not made by May 1<sup>st</sup>, the current seat holders may remain on the Commission until replaced as provided under LAFCO law.

**Recruitment Process and Subcommittee**

In accordance with Government Code Section 56325(d) and the Commission's policies, whenever a vacancy occurs in the public member or alternate public member position, a notice of vacancy shall be posted and a copy of the notice shall be sent to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body of each local agency within the county. In addition, Staff also advertises vacancies through its website, social media, and press releases.

Once applications are received, a subcommittee (typically one city member and one county member) reviews the applications and brings its recommendation to the full Commission. The following table outlines the suggested timeline for the recruitment and selection process.

<b>Timeline for Public Member Recruitment &amp; Selection Process</b>	
Announcement/Posting of Upcoming Vacancy	Feb. 26, 2021
Application Period	Feb. 26 - Mar. 29, 2021
Initial Application Screening by Subcommittee	Apr. 5 - 16, 2021
Commission Interviews and Selects Public Members (During the Regular LAFCO Meeting)	Apr. 28, 2021
Effective Date for New Commissioners	May 1, 2021

### **CONCLUSION**

At this time, it is recommended that the Commission select a subcommittee of a County member and City member to review applications and direct Staff to proceed with the Public Member recruitment schedule as outlined above.