

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO**

215 North D Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490
(909) 383-9900 • Fax (909) 383-9901
E-MAIL: lafco@lafco.sbcounty.gov
www.sbclafco.org

DATE: APRIL 1, 2010

FROM: SAMUEL MARTINEZ, Senior LAFCO Analyst

TO: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – Initiation of Sphere of Influence Establishment for County Service Area 120

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission initiate the sphere of influence establishment study for County Service Area 120.

BACKGROUND:

County Service Area (CSA) 120 was officially formed on July 1, 2009. The Government Code requires the definition of a sphere of influence for all public agencies under the Commission's jurisdiction. By practice, the Commission has utilized the direction of 56426.5 to provide for the sphere of influence establishment within one year of the formation of a new district. Therefore LAFCO staff is recommending that the Commission initiate the sphere of influence establishment for CSA 120. Upon initiation, LAFCO staff will begin coordination with the County Special District's Department on the preparation of the required documents for the review.

In the past, it has been the Commission's practice to establish the initial sphere of influence coterminous with the entity's boundaries. In this way, the Commission fulfills the requirement for assignment of a sphere of influence, but does not obligate the new entity to assume planning for extension of service(s) beyond its existing boundaries while still in the process of establishing its operations, staffing, internal operating procedures, etc. In keeping with this practice, staff is recommending that the Commission identify that the review area will be coterminous with CSA 120's existing boundaries. Since this action will be initiated by the Commission and no change in service area or functions/services provided are contemplated, no filing fees will be assessed for processing.

However, if CSA 120 expresses a desire to expand the territory for its sphere of influence establishment beyond its existing boundaries or requests a review of additional functions or services, staff will consider this as a new application. As an application, it will be subject to the payment of all filing fees for processing a sphere of influence proposal or service expansion request as well as submission of the required forms, plans, and other application materials.

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[Attachment](#)