

INTEROFFICE MEMO



DATE: April 17, 2012

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FROM: **MARK A. HARTWIG, Fire Chief** *M. Hartwig*
San Bernardino County Fire Protection
District

MAIL CODE: 0451

TO: **MICHAEL TUERPE, Project Manager**
San Bernardino County Local Agency
Formation Commission

SUBJECT: Affected Agency Review and Comment Regarding LAFCO Draft Staff Report - Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence Updates for the Twentynine Palms and Wonder Valley Communities

Beginning March 20, 2012, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) disseminated for internal review only, the Draft Service Review for the Twentynine Palms and Wonder Valley Communities. LAFCO requested the review and comment by all affected agencies. A review was conducted by the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (County Fire). Please accept the following as County Fire's formal responses to the draft staff report and questions raised during the draft review meeting held at the Twentynine Palms City Hall on April 4, 2012.

Twentynine Palms Water (Fire) District Service Review Meeting

A draft review meeting was held at the Twentynine Palms City Hall on April 4, 2012. During the meeting, LAFCO representatives asked about fire service provision in an "island" area of unincorporated land bordered by the Twentynine Palms Water District and the Marine Corps Combat Center. As discussed, the closest County Fire station to this area is Wonder Valley, Station 45, and the nearest fire stations to this area are the Marine Combat Center Station 451 and Twentynine Palms Stations 421 and/or 422 depending on specific incident location. Currently County Fire has existing aid agreements with both departments. There was a question raised about the possibility of a contractual arrangement to serve this area by the Twentynine Palms Fire Chief. County Fire believes that the existing aid agreement and a proposed update to that agreement are appropriate. County Fire is also in the process of upgrading the service level provided from the Wonder Valley Station to paramedic advanced life support capability. The advanced level of care, coupled with the depth of the combined resources of over 60 fire stations throughout the county in the event of a large scale incident or disaster event, in our opinion, far exceed the capabilities of our local fire cooperators. It is the position of County Fire that if Twentynine Palms Fire is seeking revenue from a service contract to provide services in this area, that it would be more appropriately addressed through an annexation.

Draft Staff Report – Service Review for the Twentynine Palms and Wonder Valley Communities

- Twentynine Palms Water District Service Review, Section III. B. Fire – Community Overview (Page 81): The draft addresses two County Fire stations, Stations 47 and 35, located near the Twentynine Palms community. Station 45 is located in the Wonder Valley area and the report indicates a past staffing configuration. As stated in the review meeting, Station 45 is currently staffed by two paid-call firefighters however will soon be increasing the level of service to two limited term firefighters (one of which will be paramedic qualified). Station 35 is currently inactive.
- Twentynine Palms Water District Service Review, Section III. B. Fire – Parcel Tax Issue (Page 84): The draft identifies Parcel 0592-021-19 as being charged the County Fire FP-4 special tax even though it was annexed out of the district. Once County Fire was made aware of the error, March 27, 2012, this issue was corrected by staff and a refund in the amount of \$186.35 for fiscal years 2006 through 2011 has been requested for the property owner.
- CSA 70M Wonder Valley Service Review, Section IV. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services – Parks and Recreation (Page 138): The draft references LAFCO 3000 and the transfer of all property taxes from CSA 70M Wonder Valley to Service Zone FP-4. CSA 70M Wonder Valley, at the time of the reorganization, had three separate budget units all with different powers including fire protection, park and recreation, and road. In 1991 when CSA 70M Wonder Valley acquired park powers, a separate fund was set up for this purpose, SYR 205. In researching the property tax split, SYR 205 had not received any ad valorem property taxes since fiscal year 1995, 14 years prior to the execution of LAFCO 3000. Additionally, the property taxes that were transferred to Service Zone FP-4 were from SLM 205, or CSA 70M Wonder Valley Fire Protection.

Attached please find two documents, Analysis of Shared Powers Districts and a copy of the 1995-96 budget for CSA 70M Wonder Valley Park & Recreation (SYR 205). The Analysis of Shared Powers Districts was used in LAFCO 3000 to support the necessary Board Items that allocated the Ad Valorem Property Taxes for the Fire Re-organization and was approved prior to its usage for this purpose by all parties. As noted in the document the only ad valorem tax revenues to be transferred to Service Zone FP-4 were the \$147,000 from SLM. Additionally, it is confirmed in the 1995-96 budget for CSA 70M Wonder Valley Park & Recreation, that 1995-96 was the last year SYR received property tax revenue which has not changed in subsequent years.

- San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Zone FP-4 (Wonder Valley) Service Review,

Section III (Page 151): The draft addresses two County Fire stations, Stations 45 and 47, serving the Wonder Valley community. Station 45 is located in the Wonder Valley area and the report indicates a past staffing configuration. As stated in the review meeting, Station 45 is currently staffed by two paid-call firefighters however will soon be increasing the level of service to two limited term firefighters (one of which will be paramedic qualified) and houses a Type I Engine and a Type IV Brush Patrol. Station 47 is currently unstaffed but houses a Water Tender and Mass Casualty Trailer that are utilized by our personnel on incidents requiring those specialized resources.

- San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Zone FP-4 (Wonder Valley) Service Review, Section IV. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services (Pages 153-155): The draft states that without an individual annual budget for all service zones that transparency is decreased. It is the position of County Fire that transparency and accountability is still intact for Service Zone FP-4 and Fire Station 45 which the special assessment revenue supports. In the past, Service Zone FP-4 was represented by its own fund. Effective fiscal year 2012, it is represented as an org code within its operational zone. All revenue and expenditures occur at the org level for the zone and all of the same detail is available and auditable. County Fire maintains a detailed budget data base which reflects each special assessment area and each station separately. Reports can be provided when necessary or requested. County Fire has provided a 2012 budget combining Zone FP-4 and Fire Station 45 Wonder Valley.

CSA 70 M WONDER VALLEY

FUND: GENERAL (SYR-205)
FUNCTION: BOARD GOV SPECIAL DISTRICT
ACTIVITY: PARK & RECREATION

	<u>1993-94</u>	<u>1994-95</u>		<u>1995-96</u>	
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED BY CAO</u>	<u>ADOPTED BY BOARD</u>
<u>FINANCING REQUIREMENTS</u>					
Salaries & Benefits	10,799	23,250	17,385	23,250	23,250
Services & Supplies	15,896	31,108	34,433	27,620	34,728
Land & Improvements	12,217	25,000	8,938	8,000	8,000
Structures & Improvements	0	9,498	0	5,000	5,000
Equipment	0	0	0	3,000	3,000
Reserves	0	0	0	20,000	20,000
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS	38,912	88,856	60,756	86,870	93,978
<u>FINANCING SOURCES</u>					
Taxes	40,000	0	20,000	0	0
Use of Money & Prop.	1,268	950	5,515	3,798	3,798
Current Services	2,112	3,038	0	0	0
Park Service Charge	0	46,270	40,552	46,270	50,550
Operating Transfer In	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance	34,130	38,598	38,598	36,802	39,630
TOTAL FINANCING	77,510	88,856	104,665	86,870	93,978

County Service Area 70, Improvement Zone M (Wonder Valley), is located ten miles east of Twentynine Palms. The district provides fire, road and park service to the community of Wonder Valley. This budget reflects the expenditures and revenues associated with park operations.

Salaries and Benefits provide for 2 part-time Maintenance workers, a Clerk and a District Coordinator. The Clerk and District Coordinator's position are funded equally by both fire and park.

Services and Supplies provide for routine maintenance and operations for the community center and park site.

Land and Improvements provide funding for a park sign, bleachers, and parking lot expansion.

Structures and Improvements provide funding for industrial grade carpet and a concrete slab.

Park Service Charge revenue represents a \$10.00 per parcel charge established to offset loss of tax revenue.

Current Services reflects revenue from rental of community center and the senior nutrition program.

Final Budget increased Services & Supplies \$7,108 based on increased Fund Balance.

San Bernardino County Fire
Summary Analysis for Special Assessments
FP4 Wonder Valley Fire Station 45
Budget FY 2012

FP4 Wonder Valley St 45

Revenues

Property Tax Estimated	139,650
Special Assess Est	136,622
Rents & Interest	9,270
One Time Transfer from SLM FP4	13,024
	<u>298,566</u>

Expenses

Special Assess	472
Station Exp	268,806
Allocated FT Staffing Expense	113,850
Allocated S & S Expense	23,664
	<u>406,792</u>

Brush Patrol Replacement 185,000

Revenues Over (Under) Exp (293,226)

S.Desert receives a total of \$3.1 M in General Fund Support. This is used to support all areas where taxes & other revenue does not cover operations

FIRE DISTRICTS	JOSHUA TREE CSA 20 - SGP 209-536					LUCERNE VALLEY CSA 29 - SGF					RED MOUNTAIN CSA 30 - SGM				
	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire
Revenues															
Property Taxes				446,181	464,028	718,432	896,142	893,528	891,201	926,849					
Current Services											9,405	7,526	10,169	7,300	7,300
Other	349,404	349,404	653,751	310,751	310,751	263,562	439,196	717,045	756,747	779,449	255	413	771	200	206
Fund Balance	0	0	0	720,556	769,670	0	0	0	199,043	179,469	0	0	0	13,550	419
Total Revenue	349,404	349,404	653,751	1,477,488	1,544,449	981,994	1,335,338	1,610,573	1,846,991	1,885,767	9,660	7,939	10,940	21,050	7,925
Appropriations:															
Salaries	527,735	133,702	937,808	1,247,013	1,309,364	781,507	59,009	83,689	61,216	64,277	66	0			
Services	98,643	132,768	145,817	230,475	235,085	144,542	199,563	185,087	265,862	271,179	7,531	2,304	9,830	17,128	7,125
Other	6,176	431,189				11,114	1,067,728	1,296,338	1,519,913	1,550,311	272	4,077	(311)	784	800
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,138	0
Total Appropriations	632,554	697,659	1,083,625	1,477,488	1,544,449	937,163	1,326,300	1,565,114	1,846,991	1,885,767	7,869	6,381	9,519	21,050	7,925
SDD DISTRICTS	CSA 20 - SGD - Park/Streetlights					CSA 29 - SGG - Park/Streetlights/Cemetery/TV					CSA 30 - SGJ - Streetlights				
	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD
Revenues															
Property Taxes	814,891	886,445	1,120,657	446,181	464,028	378,565	391,490	436,516	479,878	499,073	2,815	2,908	3,316	3,144	3,270
Current Services	26,526		36,238	235,646	242,715	10,020	(9,631)		15,000	15,450					
Other	20,487		34,689	26,000	26,780	81,248	22,842	85,770	556,069	88,343	45	31	28	20	21
Fund Balance	0	0	0	551,749	560,332	0	0	0	199,936	582,144	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	861,904	886,445	1,191,584	1,259,576	1,293,855	469,833	404,701	522,286	1,250,883	1,185,010	2,860	2,939	3,344	3,164	3,291
Appropriations:															
Salaries	227,633	205,073	232,809	287,340	301,707	289,936	236,531	245,228	240,656	252,689	2,213				
Services	143,403	116,570	151,089	220,970	225,389	103,264	46,141	108,334	181,124	184,746	2,028	2,298	1,892	1,638	1,734
Other	373,798	683,229	503,675	175,595	179,107	3,463	98,806	167,055	652,037	665,078	354	1,557	2,178	1,526	1,557
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	575,671	587,652	0	0	0	177,066	82,497	0	0	0	0	0
Total Appropriations	744,834	1,004,872	887,573	1,259,576	1,293,855	396,663	381,478	520,617	1,250,883	1,185,010	4,595	3,855	4,070	3,164	3,291

Current Split Recommended Split	Property tax received into Non-Fire Fund split by contract payment		Property tax received into Non-Fire Fund split by transfer		Property tax received into Non-Fire Fund no split due to assessment for fire	
	46% Fire / 54% SDD	50% Fire / 50% SDD	65% Fire / 35% SDD	No change	100% SDD	No change
		892,362		1,371,079		3,144
	Fire	50%		65%		0%
	SDD	50%		35%		100%

FIRE DISTRICTS	FAWNSKIN CSA 53B - SJS					WRIGHTWOOD CSA 56 - SJY					PINON HILLS CSA 56F-1 - SKG				
	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire
Revenues															
Property Taxes	553,114	632,003	730,321	700,000	728,000	1,078,146	1,276,040	1,460,895	1,513,453	1,573,991	140,415	177,994	200,188	229,884	239,079
Current Services															
Other	5,909	(1,316)	7,995	3,500	3,605	1,106,052	1,251,149	933,266	841,269	866,507	126,673	35,334	4,203	2,500	2,575
Fund Balance	0	0	0	154,106	166,827	0	0	0	748,519	531,592	0	0	0	65,279	81,088
Total Revenue	559,023	630,687	738,316	857,606	898,432	2,184,198	2,527,189	2,394,161	3,103,241	2,972,090	267,088	213,328	204,391	297,663	322,742
Appropriations:															
Salaries	3,990					1,549,419	170,678	235,378	219,928	230,924	58,499	41,568	52,937	60,353	63,371
Services	11,385	13,970	4,559	7,713	7,867	311,902	298,994	416,651	528,467	539,036	58,183	101,253	83,284	118,876	121,254
Other	591,474	601,842	693,814	697,075	711,017	100,042	2,114,957	1,389,622	2,051,592	1,887,465	123,642	89,386	46,648	40,412	41,220
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	152,818	179,548	0	0	0	303,254	314,665	0	0	0	78,022	96,897
Total Appropriations	606,849	615,812	698,373	857,606	898,432	1,961,363	2,584,629	2,041,651	3,103,241	2,972,090	240,324	232,207	182,869	297,663	322,742
SDD DISTRICTS	CSA 53B - EBA - Sanitation					CSA 56 - SKD - Park					CSA 56F-1 - SKH - Park				
	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD
Revenues															
Property Taxes						71,140	106,173	152,288	163,136	169,661	32,471	53,495	44,449	50,462	52,480
Current Services	585,614	579,754	688,075	688,729	695,000	10,680	14,393	12,298	12,000	12,360	2,752	3,432	2,659	3,570	3,677
Other	18,057	136,965	242,717	168,783	60,000	21,128	22,862	25,381	0	0	1,687	2,893	5,124	2,500	2,575
Fund Balance		0	0	542,360	545,000	0	0	0	118,896	157,635	0	0	0	105,063	73,673
Total Revenue	603,671	716,719	928,792	1,399,872	1,300,000	102,948	143,428	189,967	294,032	339,656	36,910	59,820	52,232	161,595	132,405
Appropriations:															
Salaries	249,993					104,344	67,382	35,184	40,439	42,461	14,610	18,464	17,100	20,521	21,547
Services	360,268	277,440	210,826	290,646	300,000	45,081	30,548	44,857	77,801	79,357	12,659	10,948	11,394	19,058	19,439
Other	1,312	437,832	501,180	651,775	500,000	(12,824)	26,357	42,636	21,043	21,464	(12,074)	3,942	(2,167)	28,565	49,136
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	457,451	500,000	0	0	0	154,749	196,374	0	0	0	93,451	42,283
Total Appropriations	611,573	715,272	712,006	1,399,872	1,300,000	136,601	124,287	122,677	294,032	339,656	15,195	33,354	26,327	161,595	132,405

Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to sanitation fees rec'd by SDD

Property tax received into Fire Fund split by transfer

Property tax received into Fire Fund split by transfer

Current Split	100% Fire	90.3% Fire / 9.7% SDD	82% Fire / 18% SDD
Recommended Split	No change	93.1% Fire / 6.9% SDD	71.8% Fire / 28.2% SDD
	700,000	1,676,589	280,346
	100%	90.3%	82%
	0%	9.7%	18%

FIRE DISTRICTS	HAVASU LAKE CSA 70HL - STC					WONDER VALLEY CSA 70M - SLM					HINKLEY CSA 70W - SLS				
	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire
Revenues															
Property Taxes	81,352	99,645	108,273	116,069	120,712	124,201	135,162	177,144	147,000	152,880	92,004	106,485	119,143	96,831	100,704
Current Services	21,644	40,314	18,905	16,775	17,278	0	121,500	121,713	121,500	123,323	366	1,163	(1,173)	0	0
Other	11,584	197,570	235,196	39,313	40,492	410	42,734	8,941	3,000	3,090	15,100	84,243	1,510		
Fund Balance	0	0	0	25,431	28,320	0	0	0	134,800	109,219	0	0	0	75,406	46,728
Total Revenue	114,580	337,529	362,374	197,588	206,802	124,611	299,396	307,798	406,300	388,512	107,470	191,891	119,480	172,237	147,432
Appropriations:															
Salaries	43,983	59,389	131,553	32,486	34,110	64,863	110,963	142,657	140,523	147,549	30,174	23,426	27,769	36,633	38,465
Services	79,077	119,295	238,575	76,619	78,151	48,894	86,638	129,869	78,799	80,375	62,326	63,792	44,102	58,558	59,729
Other	5,378	144,951	12,053	62,090	63,332	15,017	36,429	(2,102)	75,441	76,950	6,999	72,361	32,056	48,273	49,238
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	26,393	31,227	0	0	0	111,537	83,638	0	0	0	28,773	0
Total Appropriations	128,438	323,635	382,181	197,588	206,820	128,774	234,030	270,424	406,300	388,512	99,499	159,579	103,927	172,237	147,432
SDD DISTRICTS	CSA 70HL - EJA - Refuse					CSA 70M - SYR/SLP - Road/Park					CSA 70W - SLT - Park				
	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD
Revenues															
Property Taxes	7,130										10,000	2,610	10,000	11,968	12,447
Current Services	47,017	40,233	50,172	54,341	55,971	161,984	157,195	133,729	155,539	160,205					
Other	350	11,517	2,025	1,000	1,030	5,518	7,373	19,033	4,600	4,738	615	314	898	5,600	5,768
Fund Balance	0	0	0	22,723	12,878	0	0	0	167,930	153,000	0	0	0	16,666	16,870
Total Revenue	54,497	51,750	52,197	78,064	69,879	167,502	164,568	152,762	328,069	317,943	10,615	2,924	10,898	34,234	35,085
Appropriations:															
Salaries	0					56,164	77,075	63,875	87,766	89,521	2,868	179			
Services	38,775	37,282	52,578	57,649	58,802	28,285	38,055	73,252	61,847	63,084	4,560	7,810	10,647	15,312	15,618
Other	1,236	1,470	14,101	10,860	11,077	14,643	77,423	47,810	38,997	36,400	236	3,061	3,672	2,346	2,393
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	9,555		0	0	0	139,482	128,938	0	0	0	16,576	17,074
Total Appropriations	40,011	38,752	66,679	78,064	69,879	99,092	192,553	184,937	328,092	317,943	7,664	11,050	14,319	34,234	35,085

Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to assessments rec'd by

	Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to refuse fees rec'd by SDD	Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to assessments rec'd by SDD	Property tax received into Fire Fund split by transfer
Current Split	100% Fire	100% Fire	91% Fire / 9% SDD
Recommended Split	No change	No change	89% Fire / 11% SDD
	116,069	147,000	108,799
	100%	100%	89%
	0%	0%	11%

FIRE DISTRICTS

	GREEN VALLEY LAKE CSA 79 - SOV					SEARLES VALLEY CSA 82 - SOY				
	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire	04/05 Fire	05/06 Fire	06/07 Fire	07/08 Fire	08/09 Fire
Revenues										
Property Taxes	121,744	143,691	165,191	171,517	178,378	88,892	94,445	100,821	98,000	98,980
Current Services							374			
Other	22,221	34,839	(32,727)	1,200	1,236	29,160	283,315	17,526	18,103	18,646
Fund Balance	0	0	0	61,976	32,598	0	0	0	10,569	12,890
Total Revenue	143,965	178,530	132,464	234,693	212,212	118,052	378,134	118,347	126,672	130,516
Appropriations:										
Salaries	38,027	10,805	14,858	29,937	31,434	54,291	43,767	47,545	43,657	45,840
Services	80,279	76,984	38,054	65,946	67,265	49,506	65,069	75,422	72,325	73,772
Other	31,658	95,015	72,338	108,130	110,293	36,216	214,337	44,540	10,690	10,904
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	30,680	3,220	0	0	0	0	0
Total Appropriations	149,964	182,804	125,250	234,693	212,212	140,013	323,173	167,507	126,672	130,516

SDD DISTRICTS

	CSA 79 - RCP/ EFP - Road/Sanitation					CSA 82 - SOZ/EFY- Park/Sanitation				
	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD	04/05 SDD	05/06 SDD	06/07 SDD	07/08 SDD	08/09 SDD
Revenues										
Property Taxes										
Current Services	756,547	737,666	859,957	860,343	860,343	178,514	161,570	198,354	209,375	215,656
Other	35,285	77,240	138,982	515,075	530,527	548,952	261,396	218,620	311,161	320,496
Fund Balance	0	0	0	524,741	523,480	0	0	0	138,822	127,605
Total Revenue	791,832	814,906	998,939	1,900,159	1,914,350	727,466	422,966	416,974	659,358	663,757
Appropriations:										
Salaries	2,708					193,121				
Services	13,952	378,077	250,592	451,419	460,447	101,762	60,873	50,079	163,226	166,491
Other	30	379,537	564,333	913,416	931,684	378,202	332,669	324,114	373,410	380,878
Resrvs/Conting	0	0	0	535,324	522,219	0	0	0	122,722	116,388
Total Appropriations	16,690	757,614	814,925	1,900,159	1,914,350	673,085	393,542	374,193	659,358	663,757

Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to assessment rec'd by SDD

Property tax received into Fire Fund no split due to transf from sanitation to park by SDD

Current Split	100% Fire				100% Fire			
Recommended Split	No change				No change			
			171,517				98,000	
			100%				100%	
			0%				0%	