

PROPOSAL NO.: LAFCO 3039
HEARING DATE: APRIL 18, 2007

RESOLUTION NO. 2955

A RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO MAKING DETERMINATIONS ON LAFCO 3039 -- A SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE FOR THE VICTORVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT (a sphere of influence reduction to a zero sphere of influence for the District).

On motion of Commissioner _____, duly seconded by Commissioner _____, and carried, the Local Agency Formation Commission adopts the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a service review mandated by Government Code Section 56430 and a sphere of influence update mandated by Government Code Section 56425 have been conducted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") in accordance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code Sections 56000 et seq.); and,

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

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer has reviewed available information and prepared a report including her recommendations thereon, the filings and report and related information having been presented to and considered by this Commission; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing by this Commission was called for February 21, 2007 and continued to March 21, 2007, at the time and place specified in the original notice of public hearing and in any order or orders continuing the hearing; and,

WHEREAS, at the hearing, this Commission heard and received all oral and written protests; the Commission considered all objections and evidence which were made, presented, or filed; and all persons present were given an opportunity to hear and be heard in respect to any matter relating to the review, in evidence presented at the hearing; and,

WHEREAS, a statutory exemption has been issued pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) indicating that this service review and sphere of influence update are statutorily exempt from CEQA and such exemption was adopted by this Commission on March 21, 2007. The Clerk was directed to file a Notice of Exemption within five working days of its adoption; and,

WHEREAS, based on presently existing evidence, facts, and circumstances filed with the Local Agency Formation Commission and considered by this Commission, it is determined that the sphere of influence for the Victorville Sanitary District shall be reduced to a "zero" sphere of influence, with the direction that dissolution of the District and designation of the City of Victorville as the successor agency for the services of the Victorville Sanitary District should be pursued; and,

WHEREAS, the determinations required by Government Code Section 56430 and local Commission policy are included in the report prepared and submitted to the Commission dated February 9, 2007 and received and

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filed by the Commission on March 21, 2007, a complete copy of which is on file in the LAFCO office, and they are not reiterated here; and,

WHEREAS, the following findings are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

1. Present and Planned Land Uses

The Victorville Sanitary District, a subsidiary district of the City of Victorville, provides wastewater collection facilities to the residents of the City of Victorville as well as being the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (VWVRA) joint powers authority member for the wastewater treatment services. The District serves over 100,000 residents and encompasses approximately 74+/- sq. miles within its existing boundaries and approximately 98 square miles within its existing sphere of influence. The present and planned land uses within the District are nearly identical with those in the City and include a range of residential, commercial and industrial uses with large areas available for development.

2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services

The Victorville Sanitary District sends 8.3 million gallons per day (mgd) to the VWVRA joint wastewater treatment facility. It is anticipated that at build-out the City will send 22 mgd, exceeding the total capacity projected at the VWVRA facility, planned to be 18 mgd by 2008. The City of Victorville is planning \$13 million in capital improvements to this system in addition to system improvements required to be constructed by developers.

3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services

The City of Victorville FY 2006-07 budget estimated property tax receipts for the Victorville Sanitary District at \$1,500,000 and User charges at \$5,150,000. However, there is no separate budget or audit of the District prepared to verify this information, even though as a subsidiary district such is required by law. The capacity at the sewage treatment facility operated by the VWVRA has a current capacity of 12 mgd and is projected to have 18 mgd by 2008. However, the demand for capacity at build-out is projected to be 22 mgd from the City of Victorville alone, with requirements for the County of San Bernardino, Town of Apple Valley and Hesperia Water District not known at this time. Future development of facilities, either through expansion of the current wastewater treatment plant or the development of other sited facilities is required. The City of Victorville anticipates the need for \$13 million in capital improvements in addition to the system improvements anticipated to be constructed by developers.

4. Social and Economic Communities of Interest

The Victorville Sanitary District's residents share social and economic interests. There are several unincorporated communities within the District's existing boundaries and sphere of influence including Baldy Mesa, Spring Valley Lake, Oro Grande and Mountain View Acres. Since the 1970's, the social and economic community of interest for the Victorville community has been defined by the joint sphere of influence assigned the City of Victorville and its subsidiary districts, including the Victorville Sanitary District, and the combined spheres of influence of the Victor Valley Water District and Baldy Mesa Water District.

5. Other Findings

- A. Notice of the original hearing was published as required by law in The Sun and the Daily Press, newspapers of general circulation in the area. As required by State law and Commission policy an 1/8th page legal ad was provided for this consideration.
- B. Comments from landowners and any affected local agency have been reviewed and considered by the Commission in making its determination; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 56425(h) the range of services provided by the Victorville Sanitary District shall be limited to sewer service, including collection and transportation

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to the regional treatment plant, and such range of services shall not be changed unless approved by this Commission; and,

WHEREAS, having reviewed and considered the findings as outlined above, the Commission determines that a zero sphere of influence for the Victorville Sanitary District is appropriate, signaling the Commission's position that the District should be dissolved and its assets, responsibilities, and obligations transferred to the City of Victorville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, that this Commission shall consider the sphere of influence for the Victorville Sanitary District to be a zero sphere, it being fully understood that establishment of such a sphere of influence is a policy declaration of this Commission based on existing facts and circumstances which, although not readily changed, may be subject to review and change in the event a future significant change of circumstances so warrants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, does hereby determine that the Victorville Sanitary District shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino from any legal expense, legal action, or judgment arising out of the Commission's determination of a zero sphere of influence, including any reimbursement of legal fees and costs incurred by the Commission.

THIS ACTION APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino by the following vote:

AYES: COMMISSIONERS:

NOES: COMMISSIONERS:

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO)

I, KATHLEEN ROLLINGS-McDONALD, Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of San Bernardino, California, do hereby certify this record to be a full, true, and correct copy of the action taken by said Commission, by vote of the members present, as the same appears in the Official Minutes of said Commission at its meeting of April 18, 2007.

DATED:

KATHLEEN ROLLINGS-McDONALD
Executive Officer