

**Board Agenda Item Dated  
October 16, 2007 with Board  
Motion/Direction**

**Attachment 4**

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

October 16, 2007  
To be heard at 1:30pm

**FROM:** NORMAN A. KANOLD, Assistant County Administrator  
Public and Support Services Group

**PAT A. DENNEN**, County Fire Chief/Fire Warden  
San Bernardino County Consolidated Fire Department

**SUBJECT: COUNTY FIRE REORGANIZATION WORKSHOP**

**RECOMMENDATION: REVISED/AMENDED -**

1. Conduct workshop regarding key issues, including funding, representation for unincorporated residents living within the proposed Fontana Fire Protection District boundaries, establishment of Fire Advisory Commissions and other related issues, associated with the County Fire Department reorganization and City of Fontana alternative, which is scheduled for Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) action on October 24, 2007 (LAFCO Items No. 3000/3001 and 3000A).
2. Provide direction on these issues for transmittal to LAFCO for its October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting.

**Board Motions/Direction:**

Motion by Supervisor Biane, seconded by Supervisor Gonzales, to support the LAFCO staff recommendation to approve the Fontana Alternative Proposal, but with a requirement that the Fontana Fire Protection District (a subsidiary district to the City of Fontana) provide a level of service at Stations 72 and 73 (currently serving the unincorporated area of Fontana Fire Protection District) that is not less than the current service level and which will remain consistent with service levels provided throughout the Fontana Fire Protection District as long as these two fire stations remain within and continue to serve unincorporated areas: County Fire Protection District will provide a level of service at Station 76 (Bloomington area) that is not less than the current service level to support the Fontana Fire Protection District on a mutual aid basis: Fontana Fire Protection District will staff and man Station 80 when built; Construction of Station 80 should be completed by the Fontana Fire Protection District within three years with balance of construction costs funded by that District.

Motion by Supervisor Hansberger, seconded by Supervisor Mitzelfelt, to oppose the LAFCO staff recommendation for permanent property tax transfer of \$8.3 million to fund fire services in the County Fire Protection District; support maintenance of Board discretion over the allocation of funds for fire services and the historic distribution of CSA 38 allocations from point of generation; note that if LAFCO considers any restriction on the use of the Board of Supervisors' discretionary contribution to the County Fire Protection District (\$8.3 million), then the Board specifically requests an opportunity for further discussion and input prior to a final LAFCO decision on the matter.

cc: CAO – Kanold  
SBCCFD – Dennen  
LAFCO – Rollings-McDonald  
CAO – Thies  
Co. Counsel – Messer  
File w/ Recommendations report –  
SDD Fire Dist-SBCCFD  
ed 10/22/07

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 27 2007

**LAFCO**  
San Bernardino County

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors  
**APPROVED AS AMENDED W/BOARD DIRECTION**

MOTION	AYE	NOVE	AYE	SECOND
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DENA M. SMITH, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY \_\_\_\_\_

DATED: October 16, 2007

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Upon approval of the reorganization, staff is directed to return with proposed revision to ordinance to establish a stipend and possible mileage reimbursement for citizen advisory commission members.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** At the regularly scheduled LAFCO meeting held on September 19, 2007, the Commission conducted a hearing to consider various staff recommendations relating to the reorganization of the County Fire Department, as a result of the County's application requesting such review/approval (LAFCO 3000/3001) and the City of Fontana's alternative proposal (LAFCO 3000A). Due to the complexity and magnitude of the reorganization, LAFCO Commissioner's Paul Biane and Dennis Hansberger indicated a need for the County Board of Supervisors to schedule a workshop session to review and discuss key issues prior to the next scheduled LAFCO meeting on October 24, 2007. More specifically, the issues to be addressed include:

- \$8.3 million in annual general fund support for the Fire Department
- Representation for unincorporated area residents living within the proposed Fontana Fire Protection District boundaries
- Establishment of Fire Advisory Commissions for each of the 4 Regional Service Zones

This agenda item facilitates the workshop as requested. Kathleen Rollings-McDonald, Executive Officer for LAFCO, will present an overview of the County's reorganization proposal, the City of Fontana's alternative proposal, and LAFCO staff recommendations that were presented to the Commissioners at the September LAFCO meeting. At the conclusion of this workshop, it is anticipated that staff would be provided with direction on these issues for transmittal to LAFCO for its October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting.

The County Administrative Office, County Fire, and the City of Fontana have worked diligently with LAFCO staff over the past year to finally bring this matter before the Commission. The following is a chronological recap of key milestones for the entire reorganization proposal process that was initiated nearly 6 years ago:

- February 26, 2002 - RFP released seeking a consultant for the Fire Financing Study
- May 20, 2003 – Board workshop to receive report from consultant on Fire Financing Study
- November 16, 2004 – Board workshop to discuss reorganizational alternatives
- February 1, 2005 – Board workshop continued from Nov. 2004 for discussion of reorganizational alternatives and directed staff to prepare the LAFCO application
- July 26, 2005 - Board approves County Fire Reorganization LAFCO application
- December 15, 2005 – Board accepts report regarding establishment of Fire Advisory Commissions
- January 17, 2006 - The city of Fontana adopted a resolution that initiated an alternative proposal to form a subsidiary fire protection district of the city

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- November 28, 2006 – LAFCO acknowledged receipt of Fontana's application for an alternative proposal (LAFCO 3000A)
- April-August, 2007—Completion of LAFCO Environmental Assessment and LAFCO staff recommendations
- September 19, 2007 – LAFCO hearing to consider LAFCO staff recommendations

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** This item was reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Wayne Thies, Administrative Analyst, 387-5409) on October 9, 2007; County Counsel (Deputy Dawn Messer, 387-8900) on October 9, 2007; and by LAFCO (Kathleen Rollings-McDonald, Executive Officer) on October 9, 2007.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The workshop will discuss a LAFCO staff recommendation to permanently shift \$8.3 million in General Fund property tax revenue to the newly-formed San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (SBCFPD) in order to stabilize current service levels provided by County Fire. Currently, the County Board of Supervisors provides this level of financial support from the General Fund via its discretionary authority during the annual budget process. If the LAFCO staff recommendation is ultimately approved by LAFCO, the \$8.3 million in property taxes and future growth on that revenue would be permanently shifted to support the SBCFPD.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S):** All

**PRESENTERS:** Norman A. Kanold, Assistant County Administrator, 387-4532  
Pat A. Dennen, Fire Chief/Fire Warden, 387-5948  
Kathleen Rollings-McDonald, LAFCO Executive Officer, 383-9900