

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

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DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2016

FROM: KATHLEEN ROLLINGS-McDONALD, Executive Officer

TO: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM #6 – ADOPTION OF IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS FOR LAFCO 3202 – REORGANIZATION TO INCLUDE FORMATION OF WRIGHTWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AND DISSOLUTION OF COUNTY SERVICE AREA 56

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission adopt the Impartial Analysis for LAFCO 3202 – Reorganization to Include Formation of the Wrightwood Community Services District, and Dissolution of County Service Area 56.

BACKGROUND:

State law requires the Executive Officer to prepare an Impartial Analysis of all ballot measures for proposals approved by the Commission, Government Code Section 56898. Further, state law requires the Commission to review, modify if necessary, and approve the Impartial Analysis, with the final copy to be forwarded to the Registrar of Voters for inclusion within the ballot pamphlet. State law limits the Impartial Analysis to 500 words or less, a monumental task for LAFCO staff.

Attached is the draft Impartial Analysis for LAFCO 3202, coming in at 482 words excluding the title and without a signature block. It is the staff's recommendation that the Commission review the analysis, make changes, as appropriate, keeping under the 500 word limit, and adopt the analysis for inclusion in the March 7, 2017 ballot pamphlet.

KRM

Attachment

**IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSED
FORMATION OF THE WRIGHTWOOD COMMUNITY SERVICES
DISTRICT AND THE DISSOLUTION OF COUNTY SERVICE AREA 56
(LAFCO 3202)**

This is a ballot measure to determine if the registered voters within the community of Wrightwood located in both San Bernardino and Los Angeles Counties wish to create a locally-governed community services district authorized to provide park and recreation, streetlighting, solid waste, and wastewater planning and engineering services.

The area proposed for formation of the Wrightwood Community Services District (WCSD) encompasses approximately 17 square miles (10,866+/- acres) located in the San Gabriel Mountains generally along the Angeles Crest Highway (State Route 2) east and west of the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line. The area is located east of the unincorporated community of Big Pines and west of State Route 138 in the Angeles National Forest, and south of the Phelan Pinon Hills CSD. The map and legal description of the proposed District boundaries are on file in the office of the Local Agency Formation Commission for San Bernardino County (LAFCO) and on its website at www.sbclafco.org.

The essence of this formation proposal is to:

1. Create the WCSD, an independent special district governed by a five-member Board of Directors, to assume the responsibilities and all functions, obligations, assets, liabilities, and equipment of the former agency County Service Area 56 (CSA 56); and,
2. Transfer responsibility for existing operations of park and recreation, streetlighting and solid waste services within the community to the new agency and to provide for the authority related to wastewater planning and engineering should such service be required by the State of California, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

No change in property tax rates will occur as a result of the approval of LAFCO 3202; however, property owners within the Los Angeles County portion of the proposal will be included in the existing solid waste land use fee of \$85.14 per parcel per year. Revenues for the new District will accrue primarily from the receipt of the existing property tax revenues previously distributed to CSA 56 (for park and recreation and streetlighting services) and franchise fees and the existing Special Tax administered by the San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division for solid waste services. LAFCO has reviewed these revenues and the anticipated expenditures for the first five years of the agency's existence, determining that based upon the information available the formation of the WCSD is financially feasible.

Voters who believe that this new independent agency should be formed should vote "yes" on this measure. Voters who believe that the governmental structure for the identified services should remain unchanged should vote "no" on this measure.

Regardless of your position on the basic question of formation, voters should select five persons to serve on the District Board of Directors. If this formation receives a majority of “yes” votes, the five candidates receiving the most votes will take office as the new Board of Directors.

This impartial analysis was approved by the Local Agency Formation Commission on November 16, 2016.