NOTICE OF PROTEST HEARING

LAFCO 3206 – Reorganization to include Annexations to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, its South Desert Service Zone and Service Zone FP-5 of San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and Formation of Service Zone FP-5 Needles

Notice is hereby given that a Protest Hearing will be held by the Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) for San Bernardino County. The hearing will be held at El Garces, 950 Front Street, Needles, Ca 92363 on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016 AT 3:00 P.M., to hear and receive any oral or written protests, objections, or evidence which are made, presented, or filed regarding LAFCO 3206.

The purpose of this proposal is to annex the City territory into the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, its South Desert Service Zone, its Service Zone FP-5 and form Zone FP-5 Needles. This change of organization will entail the transfer of the City's Fire Department employees, assets, obligations, liabilities and responsibilities to the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District and its related service zones. The consideration of the proposed reorganization will include the annexation into San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Service Zone FP-5 which includes a special tax for funding of fire protection and emergency medical response services. This special tax includes an annual inflationary rate of up to a maximum of 3% increase. The current rate for FP-5 is \$143.92 per parcel for Fiscal Year 2015-16. If the maximum 3% increase is applied for FY 2016-17, the annual tax will be \$148.24 per assessed parcel. The formation of Zone FP-5 Needles will provide for accounting and transparency of revenue and expenditures related to the City of Needles.

The reorganization area is shown on the map available for review in the LAFCO office, located at 215 N. "D" Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490, and on our website:

Click here to view the reorganization area map

The City Council of the City of Needles and the Board of Directors of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District initiated the reorganization proposal by adoption of resolutions of application. The reason for this proposal, as outlined in these resolutions, is to:

Provide effective, safe and financially sustainable fire protection services to the City of Needles.

The proposed terms and conditions for this reorganization are set forth in LAFCO Resolution No. 3200 adopted by the Commission on April 20, 2016, which is available for review in the LAFCO office, and on our website:

Click here to view the proposal

HOW TO FILE A PROTEST:

Any registered voter or owner of land within the territory proposed to be reorganized may file an official protest. All protest must be made in writing and submitted to the LAFCO office, 215 North D Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0490 prior to the conclusion of the Protest Hearing or submitted at the Protest Hearing to be held at **El Garces, 950 Front Street, Needles, CA 92363** on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. The written protest must be signed and dated during the official 21-day protest period, which begins on June 1, 2016 and ends on June 22, 2016 at the close of the Protest Hearing.

Any protest without a date, bearing a date prior to June 1, 2016, or received after the conclusion of the Protest Hearing, shall be disregarded for purposes of determining the value of any written protests. Protest cannot be accepted by fax or email.

HOW TO OBTAIN A PROTEST FORM:

A Protest Form (usable for both landowners and registered voters) is available from the LAFCO website, www.sbclafco.org, accessed from the front page. Protest Forms may also be picked up in person at the LAFCO office, 215 North D Street, Suite 204, San Bernardino, California 92415-0490.

Protest submitted by a landowner must include the name of landowner, the address of the land owned within the proposal and the Assessor Parcel Number (APN). Protest submitted by a registered voter must include the name of the voter, signature and address as they appear on the affidavit of voter registration.

Click here to view and print the protest form

If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the LAFCO office at (909) 388-0480 or by email at: lafco@lafco.sbcounty.gov

Dated: June 1, 2016

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION KATHLEEN ROLLINGS-McDONALD, Executive Officer

BY: ANGELA SCHELL, Administrative Assistant