

Santa Barbara LAFCO

Status Report on Assembly Bill 3 (Williams) regarding the Proposed Formation of a Community Services District in Isla Vista

November 5, 2015



Status Report and Timeline on Assembly Bill 3

- ▶ Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 3 (Williams) on October 7, 2015
- ▶ The bill sets up LAFCO timelines for formation if the Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD):
- ▶ On or before January 5, 2016, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara shall file a resolution of application with the Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission to initiate a comprehensive review and recommendation of the formation of the district by the Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission. The board of supervisors shall pay any fees associated with the resolution of application.



Status Report and Timeline on Assembly Bill 3 (Continued)

- ▶ The Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission shall complete the review no later than 150 days following receipt of the completed resolution of application. Notwithstanding any other law, the Santa Barbara County Local Agency Formation Commission shall not have the power to disapprove the resolution of application.
- ▶ The resolution of application filed by the board of supervisors pursuant to this subdivision shall not be subject to any protest proceedings.
- ▶ LAFCO shall order the formation of the district subject to a vote of the registered voters residing within the boundaries of the district, which are the same as County Service Area No. 31, at an election following the completion of the review.
- ▶ If a majority of voters within the boundaries of the district, vote in favor of the district, the district shall be formed.



Status Report and Timeline on Assembly Bill 3 (Continued)

- ▶ The Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission shall determine the appropriate rate of taxation for a utility user tax, applicable utilities to be taxed, and which services the district will be initially authorized to provide.
- ▶ The rate shall be no lower than 5 percent and no higher than 8 percent of the total cost of an individual's service charge for the utility being taxed.
- ▶ (B) The utility user tax shall only be applied to electricity, garbage disposal, gas, sewage, or water services.



Status Report and Timeline on Assembly Bill 3 (Continued)

- ▶ If the voters of the district do not vote to impose a utility user tax within the district on or before January 1, 2023, regardless of whether the establishment of the district is approved by the voters of the district, the district shall be dissolved as of that date.
- ▶ In addition, SBLAFCO shall direct the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to direct county officials to conduct the necessary elections on behalf of the proposed district and place the items on the ballot including district approval, candidates for the district's board, and the utility user tax, at the next countywide election.



Isla Vista Governance Options Financial Analysis Study

- ▶ On October 7, 2015, the Isla Vista Governance Options Financial Analysis Study, prepared by Economic & Planning Systems, was released to the public. The report, dated September 29, 2015, was prepared before the passage of AB 3.
- ▶ The study reviews various options and makes findings regarding governance options for the Isla Vista Community.
- ▶ Option 1. Community Services District,
- ▶ Option 2. Incorporation of a New City of Isla Vista, and
- ▶ Option 3. Municipal Advisory Council
- ▶ Option 4. Isla Vista Area Planning Commission.
- ▶ In conclusion, the report states that the passage or failure of AB 3 will either 1. Set a distinct course of action (hold elections for the formation of a CSD, as specified in the bill) or 2. Allow advocates of different governance outcomes to begin traditional proceedings to achieve their aims (e.g. form a CSD, incorporate a city, or form a MAC and/or IVAPC by a Board of Supervisors vote).



Isla Vista Governance Options Financial Analysis Study (Cont'd)

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- ▶ In the Findings Section of the Study, based on potential revenues and expenditures, it is clear that Incorporation is not an option at this time.
- ▶ The MAC and IVAPC Options are solely at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors and represent a cost to the County of Santa Barbara. Both of these are services that are authorized by AB 3.



Isla Vista Governance Options Financial Analysis Study (Cont'd)

- ▶ The final option, formation of an Isla Vista CSD is mandated by AB 3 if a Utility User's Tax between 5 to 8 percent is approved by a two-thirds vote.
- ▶ UUT could generate between \$320,000 to \$512,000, after exemption for UCSB and low income households.
- ▶ Staff costs for 1.5 employees and office space and supplies are estimated at \$257,000 annually. This would leave a service budget of between \$63,000 and \$255,000 for the new IVCSD.

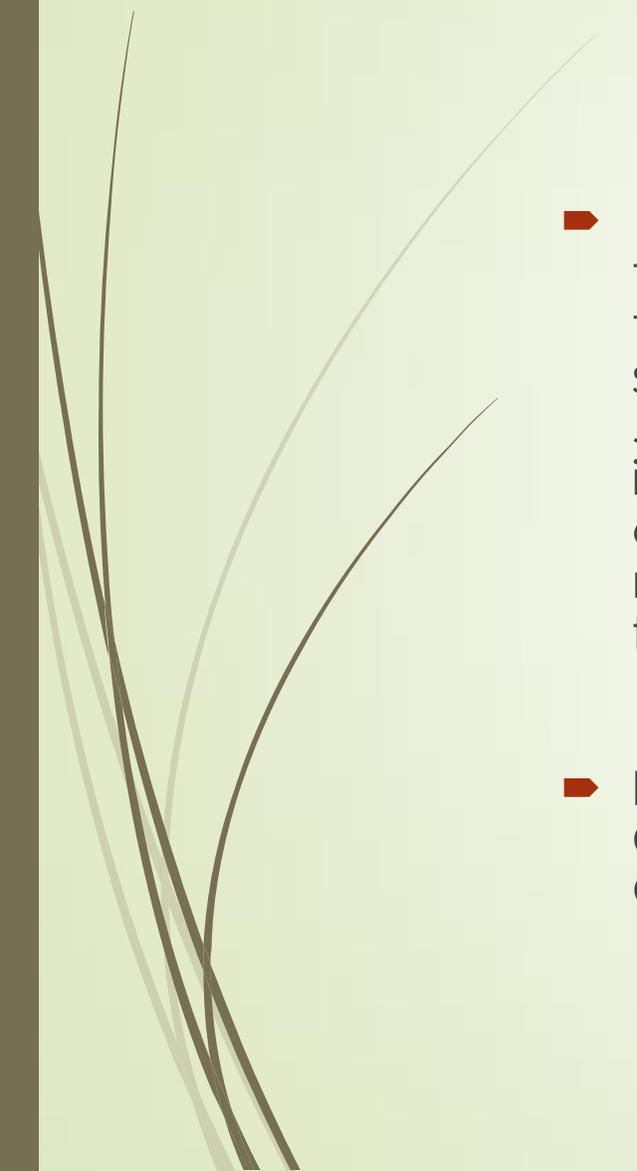


Utility Users Tax to Fund Services

- ▶ (A) Finance the operations of municipal advisory councils formed pursuant to Section 31010.
- ▶ (B) Create a tenant mediation program.
- ▶ (C) Finance the operations of area planning commissions formed pursuant to Section 65101.
- ▶ (D) Exercise the powers of a parking district, in the same manner as a parking district formed pursuant to the Parking District Law of 1951 (Part 4 (commencing with Section 35100) of Division 18 of the Streets and Highways Code).
- ▶ (E) Contract with the County of Santa Barbara or the Regents of the University of California, or both, for additional police protection services to supplement the level of police protection services already provided by either the County of Santa Barbara or the Regents of the University of California within the area of the district.
- ▶ (F) Acquire, construct, improve, maintain, and operate community facilities, including, but not limited to, community centers, libraries, theaters, museums, cultural facilities, and child care facilities.
- ▶ (G) Acquire, construct, improve, and maintain sidewalks, lighting, gutters, and trees to supplement the level of service already provided by either the County of Santa Barbara or County Service Area 31. The district shall not acquire, construct, improve, or maintain any work owned by another public agency unless that other public agency gives its written consent.
- ▶ (H) Abate graffiti.



Current Situation



- ▶ On October 28, 2015, staff met with the County Executive Office staff, Clerk to the Board, and County Counsel Office, to discuss the requirements for the LAFCO application. The Board of Supervisors resolution of application is scheduled for the December 8, 2015 meeting. This is well before the AB 3 January 5, 2016, deadline. Requirements for a LAFCO application are included on the Commission's website (www.sblafco.org). Staff has also contacted the County Surveyors Office regarding the preparation of a map and legal description for the LAFCO Application. The boundaries will follow the County Service Area 31.
- ▶ In addition, LAFCO staff will meet with County Elections to review the Calendar of Events and Deadlines for the November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election



Recommendation

- ▶ Receive and File as an Information Item
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