

# LAFCO

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## **Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission**

105 East Anapamu Street ♦ Santa Barbara CA 93101

805/568-3391 ♦ FAX 805/647-7647

www.sblafco.org ♦ lafco@sblafco.org

April 2, 2009 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission

105 East Anapamu Street, Room 403

Santa Barbara CA 93101

### **Initiation of the Dissolution of County Service Area No. 45 (Lompoc Library)**

Dear Members of the Commission:

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Commission adopt the enclosed resolution initiating the dissolution of County Service Area No. 45 and direct the staff to process the proceeding.

#### DISCUSSION

##### County Service Area No. 45 (Lompoc Library)

County Service Area No. 45 (Lompoc Library) was formed in 1992. It was intended to provide financial support to operate public libraries within its boundaries but it was formed without voter approval of a special tax or other funding mechanism.

The district operates pursuant to the County Service Area Law (Government Code, Section 25210 et seq.) and is governed by the Board of Supervisors. As shown on the enclosed map it extends from the Pacific Ocean to midway between Buellton and Lompoc; it includes the entire Lompoc Valley, surrounding hills and much of Vandenberg Air Force Base.

As described in the 2007 Municipal Service Review (MSR), the District has no assets and has never provided any services. The MSR states, “. . . it appears appropriate to consider dissolving the district as a ‘non user of corporate powers’ which can be accomplished without the expense of an election by district voters.”

Voters in the Vandenberg Village area, using CSA 45 as the vehicle, were asked to authorize a special tax in a November 2006 election to enhance library services. The election was not successful; the required percentage of voters did not support the special tax.

### Authority for LAFCO to Initiate the Dissolution of CSA 45

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, Section 56375, provides that LAFCO may initiate a proposal to dissolve a special district provided the change is consistent with a recommendation or conclusion of a study prepared by the Commission.

As noted earlier, the MSR indicates it would be appropriate to consider dissolving CSA 45.

### Dissolution Without Election

The procedure to dissolve a special district involves (1) initiation of proceedings, which can be accomplished by adopting the enclosed resolution, (2) public hearing by the Commission where all interested parties are heard and (3) resolution of the Commission ordering the dissolution.

Typically dissolving a special district requires approval by the voters in the district; however, LAFCO may order a dissolution without a confirmation election if the proposal meets any of the following standards.

- In the three-years preceding the adoption of the resolution initiating the dissolution:
  - There was not a duly selected and acting quorum of the district board of directors.
  - The district has not furnished or provided services or facilities of substantial benefit to residents, landowners, or property within the district.
  - The district has not levied or fixed and collected taxes, assessments, service charges, rentals, or rates or expended the proceeds of those levies for district purposes.
- During the one-year period preceding adoption of the resolution of application a quorum of the board of directors has not met for the purpose of transacting district business.
- Upon the date of adoption of the resolution of application, the district had no assets, other than money in the form of cash, investments, or deposits.

### Summary

CSA 45 has never furnished or provided services of benefit to residents, has no assets and has no sources of revenue. There is little likelihood of it providing services in the future. Retaining the district creates additional work for the County to maintain a separate fund and tax rate areas.

For all of these reasons, and to remove a “paper district” from the rolls, it is recommended that the Commission adopt the enclosed resolution initiating the dissolution of CSA 45.

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Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

BOB BRAITMAN  
Executive Officer

cc: Supervisor Joni Gray  
Michael Brown, County Executive Officer  
Laurel Barcelona, Lompoc City Administrator  
Molly Gerald, Lompoc Library Director