

November 2, 2000 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara CA 93101

Formation of Orcutt Community Services District – Approval of Impartial Analysis

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Commission approve the enclosed Impartial Analysis, together with any changes deemed appropriate, of submission to the County Elections Office to be distributed with the ballot materials for the election to form the Orcutt Community Services District.

DISCUSSION

The Cortese-Knox Act directs LAFCO to prepare an “impartial analysis” whenever a proposal that has been approved by the Commission will be submitted to the voters for confirmation.

Government Code §57144 restricts the Impartial Analysis to 500 words in length, in addition to a general description of the boundaries of the affected territory. The Commission must submit the analysis the clerk of the legislative body conducting the election.

The staff has prepared the enclosed Impartial Analysis for approval by the Commission. If you have any questions please contact the LAFCO office.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer

SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

FORMATION OF THE ORCUTT COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AND DETACHMENT FROM COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 5

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

A “yes” vote will form the Orcutt Community Services District. This public agency includes approximately 2,750 acres (4.3 square miles) and is located on both sides of Pence Road, between the Town of Paradise and State Highway 70. It is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected by registered voters living within the District.

A “no” vote means the District will continue to exist.

This public agency was formed in 1973 to provide water service. In 1989 it chose to sell all of its water rights, facilities and equipment to the Del Oro Water Company. The District no longer has any water facilities or water rights, yet water is the only service it is authorized to provide.

Water service will not be changed by the dissolution. The Del Oro Water Company provides water within the District under a permit granted by the State Public Utilities Commission and will continue to provide water to all its existing customers.

The District Board of Directors wants the District to help finance facilities to provide improved water supplies for the Lime Saddle and Paradise Ridge areas. These facilities will increase local water costs. The potential costs for District residents and landowners is greater if the District finances these improvements, since the costs may be spread over a smaller number of customers than if these facilities are supported by the entire Paradise Ridge area.

Water supply and delivery is a regional problem for the entire Paradise Ridge area, not just the Lime Saddle area, and should be paid for the entire area. In approving the dissolution, the Board of Supervisors directed the County Water Commission to promote solutions to unmet water needs, including grants to meet water supply needs for those within the Lime Saddle area.

The District receives approximately \$38,000 per year in property taxes and interest. These funds are being spent for District operating costs, including Board member fees, consultants, legal services and secretarial support or are held in reserve for future water improvements. After the dissolution, property taxes that would have been received by the District will be placed in a fund to be used solely to improve water supply facilities.

The dissolution was initiated by a petition of registered voters in the District. The Butte LAFCO approved the dissolution on July 1, 1999. The Butte County Board of Supervisors approved the dissolution on September 28, 1999 subject to confirmation by the voters within the District.

The dissolution is subject to the terms and conditions approved by LAFCO and the Board of Supervisors, a copy of which is enclosed with the ballot.

THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS AN IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE _____. IF YOU DESIRE A COPY OF THE MEASURE, PLEASE CALL THE ELECTIONS OFFICIAL'S OFFICE AT _____ AND A COPY WILL BE MAILED AT NO COST TO YOU.