

LAFCO of Santa Clara County Begins its Cities Service Review

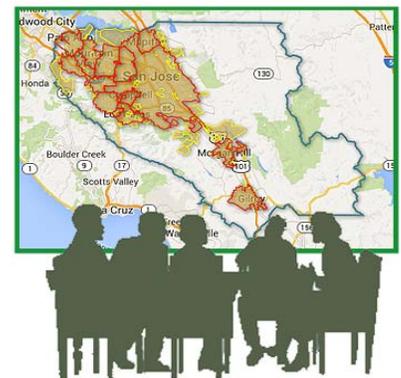


January 2015

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Santa Clara County's "Cities Service Review" will involve a comprehensive review of the 15 incorporated cities in Santa Clara County, as well as certain unincorporated areas (i.e. Moffet Field, San Martin, and Stanford). The review will cover a range of services provided by the cities, including waste water, solid waste, parks and recreation, streets, storm water, law enforcement, library services, lighting, animal control, gas & electricity, broadband and planning / building. Fire and water services were covered in previous service review reports.

Partnerships to Achieve Common Goals

In addition to the required written statement of service review determinations, and any recommendations for changes to city spheres of influence, the report will review current practices and potential opportunities for collaboration amongst cities and other local agencies or organizations to achieve common goals and efficient delivery of services. The review will focus on joint efforts and /or opportunities related to shared services, sprawl prevention/infill development, and preservation of agricultural lands.



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC will serve as a liaison between LAFCO and the affected agencies, help select a consultant for the project and provide technical expertise / advice throughout the process.

TAC Members	Appointed by
Linda J. LeZotte LAFCO Commissioner	LAFCO of Santa Clara County
Yoriko Kishimoto Alternate LAFCO Commissioner	LAFCO of Santa Clara County
Carl Cahill , Town Manager Town of Los Altos Hills	County / Cities Managers' Association
Andrew Crabtree , Comm. Development Director, City of Morgan Hill	County Association of Planning Officials
David Kornfield , Planning Services Manager, City of Los Altos	County Association of Planning Officials
Kent Steffens , Assistant City Manager City of Sunnyvale	County Municipal Public Works Officials Association

Agencies & Areas of Study
Cities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campbell • Cupertino • Gilroy • Los Altos • Los Altos Hills • Los Gatos • Milpitas • Monte Sereno • Morgan Hill • Mountain View • Palo Alto • San Jose • Santa Clara • Saratoga • Sunnyvale
Unincorporated Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moffet Field • San Martin • Stanford

Service Review Consultant

Management Partners, selected through a RFP process, has been retained by LAFCO to conduct the Cities Service Review. They will be contacting the cities and pertinent organizations shortly to begin data collection.

LAFCO Service Review Responsibilities

State law mandates that once every 5 years, each LAFCO review and update as necessary, the spheres of influence for cities and districts. A Service Review must be conducted prior to or in conjunction with the sphere of influence review /update and must include an analysis and written statement of determination regarding each of the following categories:

- Growth and population projections for the affected area
- Location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence
- Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including infrastructure needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged, unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence
- Financial ability of agencies to provide services
- Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities
- Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies
- Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

LAFCO completed a Countywide Fire Service Review in 2010, a Countywide Water Service Review in 2011, an Audit and Service Review of the El Camino Hospital District in 2012, and a Special Districts Service Review in 2013. The Cities Service Review is the only outstanding review left in LAFCO's second round of service reviews.

Intended Use of the Service Review Report

The Service Review Report will serve as an information resource on cities in Santa Clara County for LAFCO, local agencies and the public. Service providers may use the Report to pursue service delivery changes or to further assess the options identified in the Report for providing more efficient services. LAFCO may use the information in the Report, when reviewing future proposals for jurisdictional boundary changes. LAFCO, local agencies or the public may use the Report, together with additional analysis where necessary, to pursue changes in governance, and/or changes in jurisdictional boundaries or spheres of influence.

Opportunities for Input

In addition to direct communication with the cities and other affected organizations, the service review process will include periodic updates to the County/Cities Managers' Association, County Association of Planning Officials, County Municipal Public Works Officers' Association, and to LAFCO. Members of the public, interested groups or affected agencies are encouraged to contact LAFCO staff to provide input, to discuss/request that a specific issue be addressed in the report or to obtain more information on the project. Further information on service reviews and on LAFCO is available on the LAFCO website at: www.santaclaralafco.org.

Project Timeline	
Dec 2014	Start project, establish TAC, select consultant
Jan-Mar 2015	Data collection and verification of data by agencies
Mar-July	Data analysis, develop preliminary findings, prepare Draft Report
Aug	Release Draft Report for public review and comment
Oct	LAFCO public hearing on Draft Report (October 7)
Nov	Release Revised Draft Report for public review and comment
Dec	LAFCO public hearing on Revised Draft Report (December 2)



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