



May 2, 2011

Wendy Rooney, Community Development Director
 Town of Los Gatos
 110 East Main Street
 P.O. Box 949
 Los Gatos, CA 95031

RE: Status of Unincorporated Lands within the Town of Los Gatos' Urban Service Area (Unincorporated Islands)

Dear Ms. Rooney:

In late October 2010, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Santa Clara County directed its staff to develop an inventory of the remaining unincorporated islands within each city's urban service area and to report back to the Commission on each city's plans regarding its islands.

Twenty-Six Unincorporated Islands Remain in the Town of Los Gatos

With twenty-six unincorporated islands within its Urban Service Area (see table below and attached maps), the Town of Los Gatos currently has the largest number of unincorporated islands in the county.

LOS GATOS	
Island ID #	No. of Acres
LG01	40.7
LG02	171.6
LG03	0.9
LG04	2.8
LG05	3.1
LG06	1.0
LG07	1.8
LG08	17.8
LG09	0.6
LG10	1.9
LG11	0.5
LG12	2.4
LG13	0.5
LG14	0.1

LOS GATOS	
Island ID#	No. of Acres
LG15	0.3
LG16	1.3
LG17	67.8
LG18	4.5
LG19	378.3
LG20	11.7
LG21	179.9
LG22	4.0
LG23	9.9
LG24	12.2
LG25	15.7
LG26	16.0
Total Islands	947.3

Annex Islands that Qualify for the Streamlined Annexation Process

All of the above listed islands (with the exception of LG02, LG08, LG19, LG20, LG21, LG25 and LG26) are of a size and nature that likely makes them eligible for annexation through the streamlined annexation process. Islands such as these are substantially developed and create inefficiencies / confusion in terms of the provision of emergency and other municipal services. Furthermore, residents of such islands are politically disenfranchised from the city government that surrounds them.

Annexation of such islands is a high priority for LAFCO and the County. In order to encourage these annexations, LAFCO continues to waive its fees for island annexations and the County continues to provide financial incentives including covering the costs for preparing Assessor and Surveyor reports and maps, paying the State Board of Equalization filing fees, and budgeting for road improvements in islands approved for annexation. As you may be aware, the law streamlining the annexation process for qualified unincorporated islands sunsets on January 1, 2014.

We encourage the City to take advantage of this process and the incentives currently being offered by both the County and LAFCO for such annexations. Please provide us with an update on the City's plans and time-line for annexing these islands.

Review Remaining Islands

In terms of the Town's seven other remaining islands (LG02, LG08, LG19, LG20, LG21, LG25 and LG26), please review these islands that may or may not qualify for the streamlined annexation process, and determine whether the Town intends to retain them within the Town's USA for eventual annexation.

For those islands that the Town intends to retain in its USA, please explain what the Town's rationale is for retaining them in its USA and when the Town plans to annex them.

For those areas not appropriate for eventual annexation, the City should consider whether to exclude these areas from its USA. Please contact LAFCO staff to discuss the USA amendment process and time-line for resolving these islands.

A Response is Greatly Appreciated

LAFCO staff is willing to work with and assist the City in resolving these island issues. We would appreciate knowing the City's annexation and/or urban

service area amendment plans for these islands as soon as possible and no later than June 10, 2011. If you have any questions or concerns or would like to meet to discuss the City's plans, I can be reached at (408) 299-5127 or neelima.palacherla@ceo.sccgov.org or you may contact Dunia Noel, LAFCO Asst. Executive Officer, at (408) 299-5148 / dunia.noel@ceo.sccgov.org. Thank for you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Neelima Palacherla
LAFCO Executive Officer

Attachment:

Maps of Unincorporated Islands in City's Urban Service Area prepared by the Santa Clara County Planning Office

Cc:

Greg Larson, City Manager, Town of Los Gatos

Los Gatos Town Council Members

Jody Hall Esser, Director, Dept. of Planning & Development, Santa Clara County

LAFCO Members



SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Urban Islands 2011

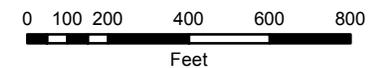
Maps depicting unincorporated lands located within the cities' Urban Service Areas (USAs)

 Urban Service Area

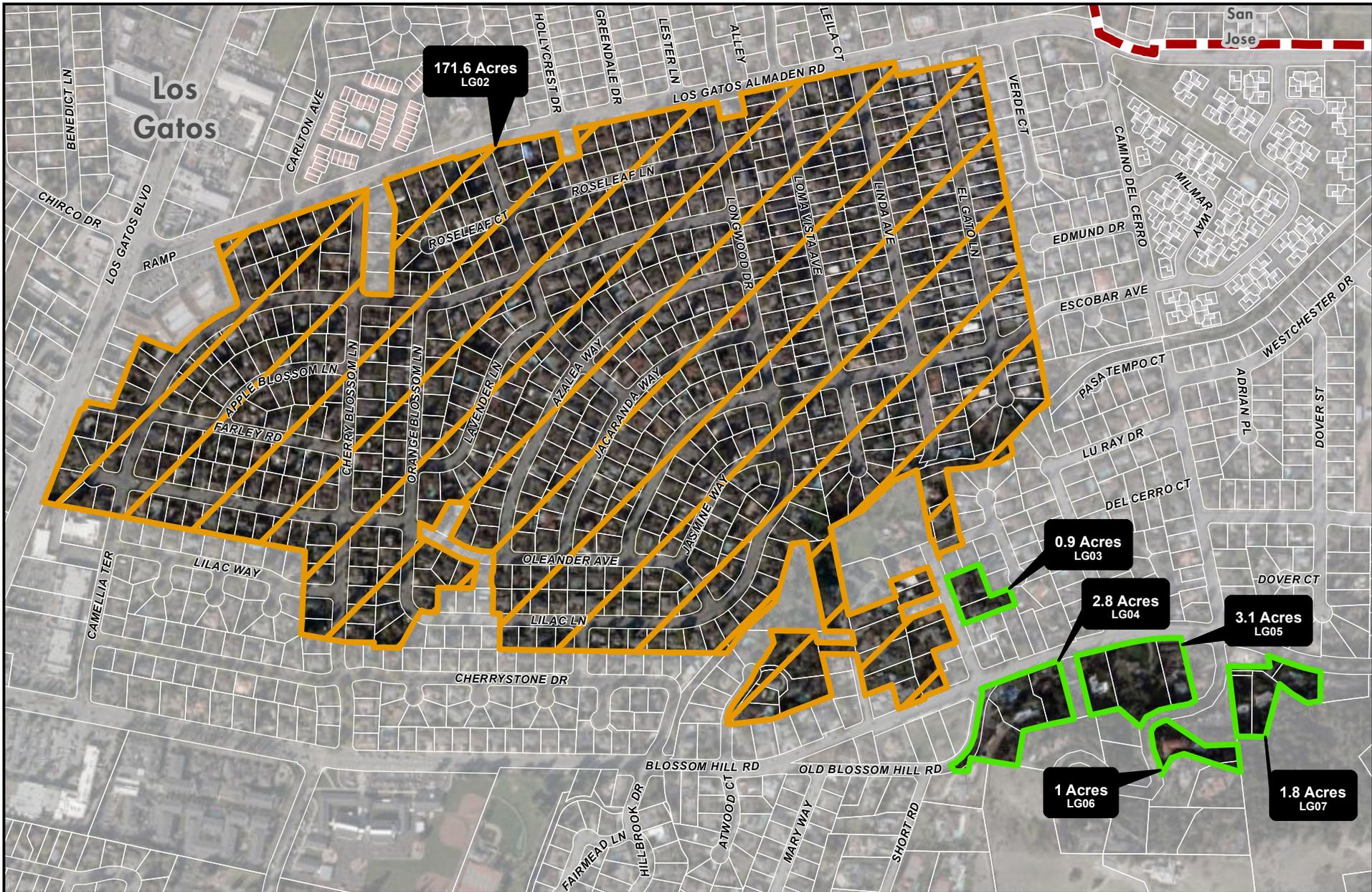
 Urban Island ≤ 150 Acres

 Incorporated Areas

 Urban Island > 150 Acres



This map created by the Santa Clara County Planning Office. The GIS data was compiled from various sources. While deemed reliable, the Planning Office assumes no liability.
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SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Urban Islands 2011

Maps depicting unincorporated lands located within the cities' Urban Service Areas (USAs)

Urban Service Area

Urban Island ≤ 150 Acres

Incorporated Areas

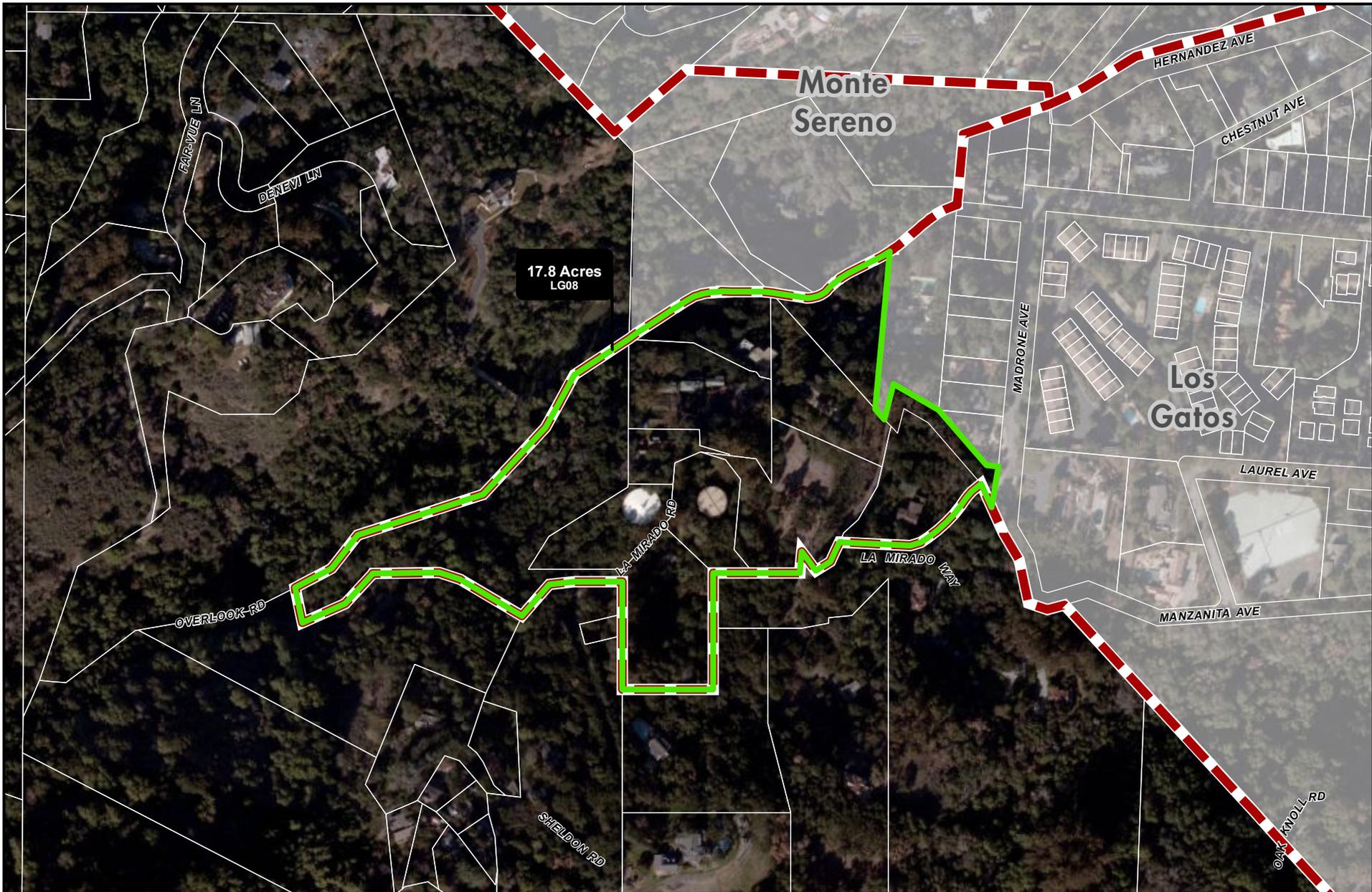
Urban Island > 150 Acres

0 125 250 500 750 1,000

Feet



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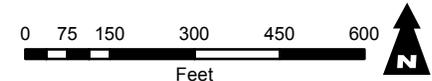


17.8 Acres
LG08

SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Urban Islands 2011

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-  Urban Service Area
-  Urban Island ≤ 150 Acres
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SANTA CLARA COUNTY
Urban Islands 2011

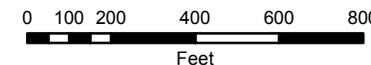
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 Urban Service Area

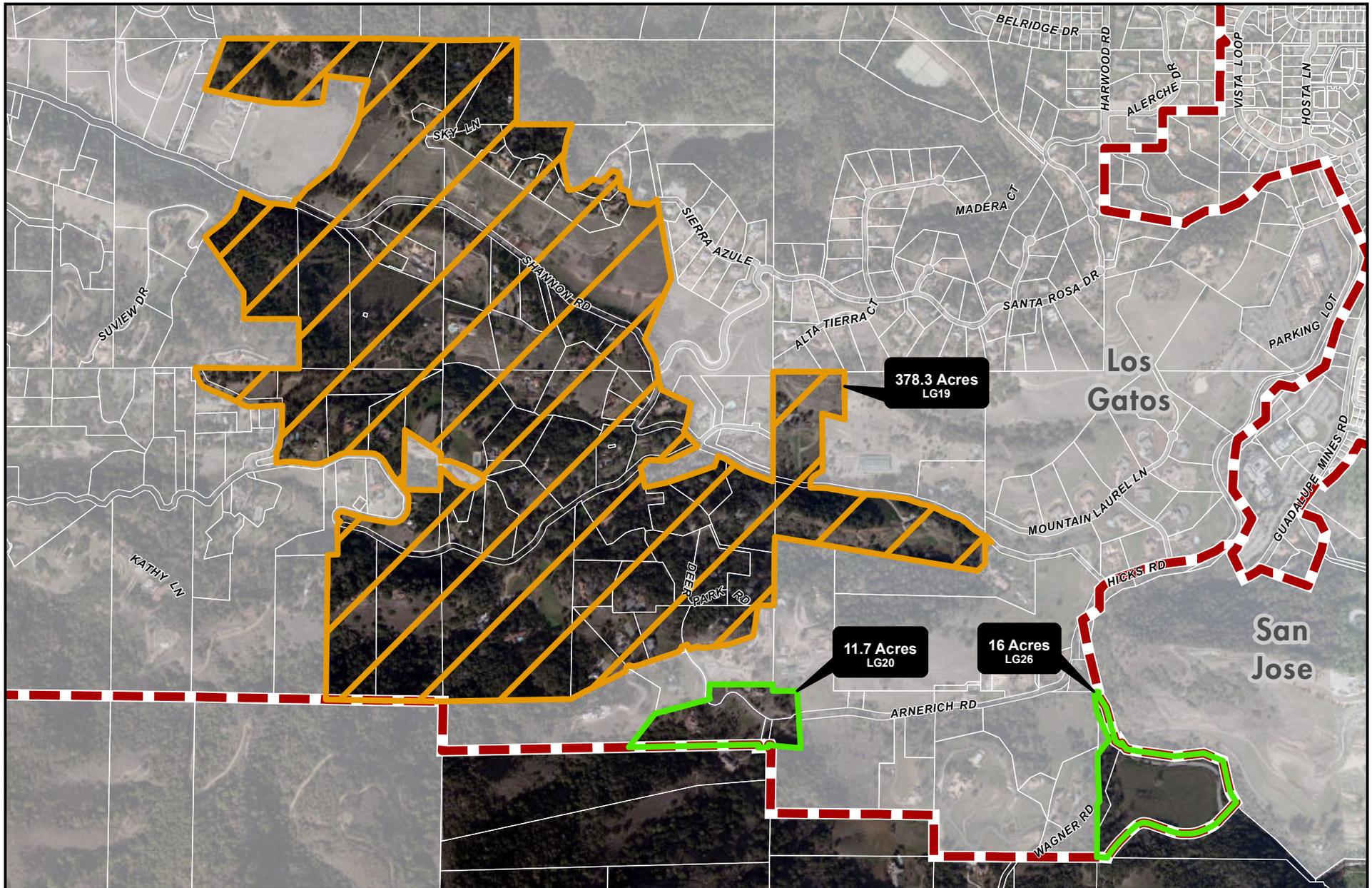
 Incorporated Areas

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 Urban Island > 150 Acres



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Urban Islands 2011

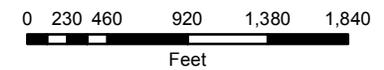
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Urban Service Area

Incorporated Areas

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Urban Island > 150 Acres



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Urban Islands 2011

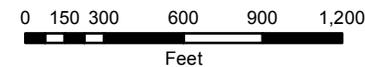
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