

SONOMA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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Staff Report

Meeting Date: March 6, 2024

Agenda No. Item 5.2

Agenda Item Title: Preliminary Review of City of Santa Rosa Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study

Proposal: None

Environmental Determination: Exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guideline Sections 15306 and 15061 (b)(3)

Staff Contacts: Mark Bramfitt

ANALYSIS

Overview

Using consulting services, staff has prepared a Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study for the City of Santa Rosa.

The Municipal Service Review portion of the study evaluates the City across a set of factors required by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The study finds that the City is in sound condition across these factors.

The Sphere of Influence portion of the Study addresses five additional factors, and concludes that the sphere of influence should be made coterminous with the City's Urban Growth Boundary, which is a voter-approved limit on the City's expansion potential. Amending the sphere as recommended will remove some parcels of territory north of the City but outside the UGB, and add some territory, notably to the south of the City's existing limits.

The study has been reviewed by City staff, and LAFCO has noticed a public hearing for the April 3, 2024 meeting for the Commission to consider adopting the determinations of the report. Staff is seeking any comment that the Commission may have regarding the study, and in particular any recommended changes to determinations.

Background

In 2023, the Commission authorized staff to select RSG as a consultant to prepare a Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study for the City of Santa Rosa. The City requested that the study be conducted, and asked that the sphere of influence of the City be made contiguous with its voter-approved Urban Growth Boundary ("UGB") ordinance.

RSG has prepared a Public Review Draft of the study (Attachment 1). The study includes a set of determinations, which in turn forms the basis for a draft resolution (Attachment 2), for the Commission to consider adopting at the April 3, 2024 meeting.

The consideration of the draft resolution at the April meeting is necessitated by public noticing requirements, but also allows the Commission to recommend amendments to the study, and in particular any changes to the determinations.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is seeking any comments from the Commission that would necessitate amendments to the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study for the

City of Santa Rosa, and in particular any amendments to the determinations listed in the draft resolution.

Attachments:

1. Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study for the City of Santa Rosa; public review draft.
2. Draft resolution adopting determinations of study.