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625 Court Street, Suite 107
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(530) 666-8048
lafco@yolocounty.org

www.yololafco.org

To: LAFCo

From: Christine Crawford

Re: Supplemental Correspondence Received Since June 24th Staff Report Packet

Date: June 29, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Attached is the correspondence received since the packet was distributed on Friday, June 24, 2022 listed roughly in the order it was received.

Most of the items are form letters opposing the MSR recommendation to dissolve the Elkhorn FPD. One letter from Mark Pruner, Clarksburg FPD board member, requested itemized changes to the MSR/SOI. Therefore, staff responded to each comment and made recommended edits to the MSR/SOI as appropriate.

List of Attached Correspondence:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Subject FPD</u>	<u>Dated</u>
Jim Provenza	East Davis FPD	June 27, 2022
David te Velde	Elkhorn FPD	June 28, 2022
Tom & Tracy Kane	Elkhorn FPD	June 28, 2022
Jane Tamano	Elkhorn FPD	June 28, 2022
Gary McLaughlin	Elkhorn FPD	June 28, 2022
Kennalee Gable	Elkhorn FPD	June 28, 2022
Mark Pruner	Clarksburg FPD	June 28, 2022
Kyle Lang	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Brenda Cedarblade	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Gerald Wilson	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Rodney Mattos	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Brent & Tyana Noble	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Richard, Melissa & Becky Yeung	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Donald Beeman	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Robert & Jaqueline Peabody	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Roger Ashworth	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022
Michele Clark	Elkhorn FPD	June 29, 2022

Christine Crawford

From: Jim Provenza
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2022 10:51 AM
To: Christine Crawford
Cc: Sheila Allen; Bweisgerber (bweisgerber@gmail.com)
Subject: FW: LAFCO meeting
Attachments: EDCFPD_PositionLTR-LAFCo_MSR.pdf; EDCFPDMemo_Comments on Draft Yolo LAFCo MSR 1.1.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Morning Christine,

I hope you are doing well.

I have included my statement on the EDCFPD below. I have emailed it all of LAFCO board members, except Richard Deliberty. I do not have an email address for him Could you please see that he gets a copy?

I am out of town this week but can be reached by text or email. My deputy, Sheila Allen will represent me at the meeting.

I would sincerely appreciate any help you may be able to provide in resolving this matter.

Jim

STATEMENT—Item 7, Page 14

As County Supervisor of District 4 which encompasses East Davis County Fire Protection District (EDCFPD) I respectfully request that the MSR recommendation to consolidate EDCFPD with No Man's Land FPD and the southern portion of Springlake FPD (Agenda item #7, page 14) be rejected.

I have attached the letter from the EDCFPD board who have reviewed and responded to the proposal and voted unanimously to oppose the recommendation. Also attached is a detailed response to all MSR recommendations previously distributed to your board.

The EDCFPD is a well-run district with an active and involved Board of Directors with no vacancies. There have been no complaints from East Davis district residents to the EDCFPD or to my office regarding service, cost or budget. Residents supported their 218 voting process to tax themselves to assure proper fire protection.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors requested this process to help struggling fire districts that were coming to county for financial assistance. Consolidation makes sense for volunteer departments with overlapping jurisdictions and duplicative equipment in their fire stations. While I appreciate and supported evaluating and addressing issues related to districts with board vacancies and service and budget issues, I do not support bringing this high functioning

district into the MSR redistricting proposals at this time. I am willing to offer the assistance of my office and staff to address any needs in the No Man's Land Fire District, as it is in my district. To date, no assistance has been requested.

I support the East Davis County Fire Protection District Board's conclusions from their attached letter dated March 28,2022:

*"The recommended reorganization will result in the **citizens, residents, and property owners** of the current District (s) to **not be well-served** and will saddle a sustainably successful district and board with assuming the responsibility and duties of two other districts (not even in the same community) that are currently failing to meet revenue targets. "*

- *Davis Fire has not expressed any dissatisfaction with managing three contracts **and** the residents of the District have not expressed any dissatisfaction or confusion about their fire district, fire services provider, or their fire board.*
- *Because it is better run and more fiscally viable than the other fire districts, EDCFPD is able to better handle weed abatement and assist the Davis FD in fire prevention.*
- *The MSR implies that costs are too high compared to other Davis area fire districts by applying a faulty analysis unrelated to how fire departments work. It is true that the cost per response was higher last year than No Man's Land and Springlake. However, over the last three years, EDCFPD had the lowest cost per response one year, the second lowest another year and the highest in only one year. The cost per response depends upon the number of fires and other calls for assistance. Fewer fires means a higher cost per response. My constituents are OK with that and are willing to pay a small parcel tax for that result.*
- *No one knows when and where a fire might occur. It makes no sense to try to charge per response. This will vary from year to year and is not a fair measure of what it costs to maintain fire stations and other necessary infrastructure. Instead, the City of Davis charges based upon EDCFPD District's total assessed property valuation compared to the total assessed property valuation in Davis and are billed in this proportion. In this way, EDCFPD residents are responsible for the same proportional costs as residents of the City of Davis.*
- *The MSR wrongly assumes that EDCFPD's fund balance is too high because it is not set at the "minimum recommended level". **However, it is prudent for this well managed district to have a higher than minimum balance, particularly at a time when we are likely headed into a recession.** The fund balance/reserve is set, by agreement with the City of Davis, at a level sufficient to operate the East Davis Fire station for one year should the city face an economic situation where they might be forced to close the station. My constituents pay about 70 cents a day in 218 fees for the EDCFPD. They take fire protection seriously and are more than happy to pay this fee to guarantee the future viability of fire protection in their district.*
- *The MSR implies that the City of Davis has a problem because of multiple fire contracts for the three districts. However, the MSR reorganization will result in both Woodland and Elkhorn having multiple contracts to manage, which seems contrary to the goal of contract reduction. Moreover, there is nothing to prevent the three Davis area districts from cooperating in negotiations with the city and other matters.*
- *UCD-Fire is also affected by this potential change to their service and revenue from a portion of the Springlake District—yet this item has not been mentioned or addressed.*

- *EDCFPD funds were raised through a 218 assessment on their residents. The money cannot be used for residents of other districts. Consolidation will be of no advantage to them or EDCFPD. EDCFPD's volunteer board is in no position to run these other districts. Instead, No Man's Land, and possibly Springlake, should consider 218 actions of their own to contribute ongoing fiscal sustainability.*
- ***My constituents like the EDCFPD and are proud of their 50 year successful effort to make it one of the best run and most fiscally sustainable fire districts in the county. They believe in the old adage that if something isn't broke, you don't need to fix it.***
- *The MSR/SOI Study fails to offer any conclusive proof that the East Davis Fire District needs to be reorganized and also fails to offer any sort of comprehensive plan for that reorganization." **In short, it is a solution in search of a problem.***

The East Davis County Fire Protection District board additionally stands ready to assist other districts with their 218 process and board governance as they move forward. Of course, my office and staff is happy to join county staff to assist in this effort.

I urge you to remove this proposal from the final adoption of the recommendations.

**Supervisor Jim Provenza
Yolo County District 4**

[

East Davis County Fire Protection District

C/O DAVIS FIRE DEPARTMENT, STATION 33
425 MACE BOULEVARD
DAVIS, CA 95618

SERVING EL MACERO, WILLOWBANK, AND YOLO COUNTY

March 28, 2022

Yolo County Local Area Formation Commission
625 Court Street, Suite 107
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear LAFCO Chair Woods and Commissioners:

The Board of the East Davis County Fire Protection District (EDCFPD) is writing to express our unanimous opposition to the LAFCo proposals for EDCFPD as presented in the Municipal Services Review (MSR) process under consideration for the rural fire protection districts (FPDs) and Winters Fire Department.

Consolidation of FPDs is indeed a viable pathway to reducing costs by eliminating overlap or duplication of overhead resources, improving response coverage, and filling equipment replacement needs where each FPD has their own department with its attendant overhead, personnel, and equipment expenses.

EDCFPD has neither overhead nor services that can be reduced via resource sharing and the District collects a sustainable fee vis-a-vis the Proposition 218 assessment in which property owners voted to tax themselves for these services in perpetuity to contract for fire service. The MSR recommendations are inapplicable to EDCFPD as the District that contracts directly with a city for full fire service delivery and the District would realize no benefit and could suffer possible harm from such reorganization.

We believe that this reorganization would jeopardize EDCFPD's success as a sustainable organization by adding other underfunded areas to the District and would be a great disservice to our property owners and to the mandate given by their overwhelming voter approval of the Proposition 218 benefit assessments in both 1997 and 2007.

It is the EDCFPD Board's further position that LAFCo should resolve jurisdictional conflicts and not create them by artificially inserting unaffected FPDs into the vortex of issues unrelated to a jurisdiction. The Board is also very concerned with potential litigation from potential contract breach and Proposition 218 issues that could result if reorganization is forced upon the District.

As such, the Board believes that the LAFCo MSR recommendations should not apply to EDCFPD, and we feel our fiduciary duty is to object to being included in any reorganization, annexation, or consolidation of rural fire services in Yolo County including assuming oversight of No Man's Land and Springlake FPDs.

Respectfully submitted,



William Weisgerber, Chair



Dave Robert, Board member



Tad Henderson, Board member



Mike McMahon, Board member



John Lindsey, Board member

Cc: Provenza
Crawford

East Davis County Fire Protection District

C/O DAVIS FIRE DEPARTMENT, STATION 33
425 MACE BOULEVARD
DAVIS, CA 95618

SERVING EL MACERO, WILLOWBANK, AND YOLO COUNTY

DATE: June 8, 2022
TO: Christine Crawford, Yolo LAFCo Director
FROM: Bill Weisgerber, Chair EDCFPD
SUBJECT: East Davis Fire Protection District Comments—Draft Yolo LAFCo MSR/SOI Study

The comments below are critically significant to the issues and outcomes of Commission action soon to be taken on the Yolo LAFCo MSR/SOI Study for East Davis County Fire Protection District. It is respectfully requested that the Commissioners receive them in an expedient manner, for their due consideration.

Please find herein a summary of comments that have been inserted into the companion Draft LAFCo MSR/SOI Study document for East Davis County Fire Protection District. For convenience, comments are referenced by page and paragraph (item or bullet) of the Study document and represent a compilation of feedback from the entire East Davis County Fire Protection District Board.

Page 4 - Capacity and Adequacy of Facilities and Services MSR Recommendation(s) (Last bullet, bottom of page):

MSR Report states the East Davis Chief should provide an annual written evaluation of service per NFPA 1720. However, East Davis contracts for services with the City of Davis FD, a paid City FD which falls under NFPA 1710 and not the referenced 1720. In either case, NFPA Standards are voluntary, not mandatory.

Page 5 - Financial Ability (Items 4c. & 4d.):

As the District's fiscal agent, the Yolo County DFS should be providing these reports automatically to the Board. And, as stated in the MSR, East Davis has no employees and typically only has 5 transactions annually. These include one major invoice for Davis Fire Service; and up to four minor invoices of no more than \$500/each: YCPARMIA Insurance; CPA SCO-prep/filing; CPA Budget prep; Public Notice reimbursement. As such, why would we need quarterly reports?

Page 6 - Discussion: Financial Background (Item a):

- This is an incorrect interpretation of Section 8 of the agreement with the City.
- The reserve fund is not what is at the “*sole discretion*” of the District. The repository of reserve funds in a separate account with the City is what is at the “*sole discretion*” of the District. Alternatively, the District has elected to maintain those funds with Yolo County DFS.
- The contract requires the District to maintain this reserve. Reducing it would potentially breach the contract while exposing the District to risk if there were to be an issue with collecting funds or providing service, for a given year.

Page 7 - Expenditures:

At the recommendation of the District's independent CPA, the District is pursuing an amendment to the formula for invoicing from the City; in which the District would budget and pay the actual amount from the year preceding the immediate prior year. In the current budget cycle case, the amount owed for fiscal year 2023 would be the “actuals” from fiscal year 2021. This would allow the District to budget a known amount and not have an unexpected higher invoice from the City.

Page 7 - (Item b):

This item affirms the District’s accounting records are under the County financial system, subject to the same accounting and financial policies as the County. “...Accounting and budget data including all cash receipts and disbursements are reviewed by the County finance staff before they are posted...”

- **It then should be incumbent upon County DFS to provide the financial reports to the District board automatically--just as they would any other County department.**

Page 7 - (Item c):

- Inaccurate. This was not undetected. State Fish and Wildlife has not paid their assessments in 17 years, and a years-long effort to remedy the situation has been in vain, as the situation remains unchanged. This past March, Davis FD administration *once again* invoiced the following delinquent State properties having compounded delinquent taxes as far back as FY 2004/2005: Sacto/Yolo Port; Reclamation District #9; and CA State Fish and Game. **County DFS does not make the District whole on delinquent State Agencies, as they do with private parcel owners.**
- There was not a net loss. The invoice overage due to lag-time in State reimbursement to the City was covered by the District Reserve fund. Moreover, this would have been budgeted for had City of Davis Financial Services made the proper calculations and invoiced with an accurate figure, in a timely manner.

Page 7 - (Item d):

- Again, it should be incumbent upon County DFS to provide the financial reports to the District Board automatically--just as they would any other County department.
- The District annually confirms with County DFS Property Tax Supervisor, proper posting of Direct Charge revenue.
- The Board confirms with County DFS accounting staff the posting of the five annual invoices paid.

Page 8 - (Item g) and Financial Ability MSR Determination; Financial Ability MSR

Recommendation(s):

- The District Reserves Fiscal Policy is set at the 110% of one year’s budget, as contingency against catastrophic hardship (financial or otherwise) that may cause City services to be significantly curtailed (e.g., brown-out or blackout of Fire Station 33); or cancelled, altogether, due to inability to provide services.
 - If this were to happen, the District’s 110% contingency would be able to fund a bridging effort to sustain fire services from Station 33 for at least one year’s time, providing opportunity for alternative solutions to be arranged.
- If reserves are reduced or eliminated (as is being recommended,) the District would be unable to pay for fire service if such a catastrophe were to occur.
- East Davis has been previously held up as an example of sustainability. Now the ability to maintain that sustainability is a point of critical contention as the suggested reorganization may threaten the stability of the District.
- While there is a government recommended standard for reserves, there does not appear to be a rule to follow, and the Board believes this is just a guideline rather than an actual rule against excess reserve funds that fails to account for the unique aspects of the District.

Page 9 - (First bullet at top of page):

Per comments from Page 8, the District has only 5 transactions per year. Moreover, as County DFS is the District’s fiscal agent and fiduciary, it should be incumbent upon County DFS to provide reports to the District on a regular basis.

Page 10 - Discussion re: Accountability, Structure and Efficiencies (Page 9 Items a and d):

- The District pays a pro rata fair-share for fire service based on ad valorem (AV) taxes, as demonstrated in the bona fide engineering report and associated ballot language for the Prop 218.

- Springlake and No Man’s Land ***do not*** pay a proportionate rate for the services that they enjoy and have no financial sustainability recourse (however, East Davis does).
- Both Springlake and No Man’s Land do not generate enough income to cover the cost of service provided. Therefore, this is not a case of East Davis paying too much—but rather a case of the other two districts not paying enough (or *their pro rata fair share*).

There are built-in cost containment measures in both the East Davis Prop 218 and Contract agreement.

- The formula is very specific and will be further refined as stated in the comments for Page 7.
- The contract inflation clause is also specifically set at 3%, or CPI, whichever ***IS LESSER***.
- This inflation clause has not been exercised in at least the past 7 years and is not likely to be exercised in the foreseeable future.

Moreover, the absence of a sustainable revenue mechanism *without* an inflation clause is a direct cause of the financial instability of some Yolo Rural FPDs as costs are outrunning the revenue to support them. The revenue mechanism the District has in place is why East Davis is successful.

Any further assumptions on this matter should be held in abeyance until after SCI Consultants have completed their comprehensive, countywide Rural FPD Prop 218 study.

MSR statements associated with residents being confused as to what fire district they live in, what fire department serves them, and which fire commission represents them are ***specious, contrived, and unfounded***.

Page 11 - (First three bullet points):

See previous comments re: contract costs, cost containment measures, and reserve fund balances (from Pages 6, 7, 8, and 10 above).

- The MSR/SOI Study statements regarding a partial solution of adding commissioners to the District Board, is completely out of touch with real world conditions in these Districts. Springlake struggles to maintain a quorum and No Man’s Land has never produced a single volunteer commissioner.
- Is the public to believe that volunteers will now inexplicably appear and be seamlessly galvanized into this board configuration? These are three different communities with different issues, interests, and intricacies.
- The reorganization being suggested is a dismantling of a successful district that has operated continuously since 1966 with no significant issues.
- The East Davis Board believes this reorganization will result in the ultimate failure of the District when undue financial and administrative burdens are imposed by adding two other Districts absent an in-kind benefit assessment from the additional Districts/parcels or any administrative support from the County.
- The residents in the District are sure to react negatively when they learn that they now must subsidize service in two other areas—which will be the case as both of those Districts are currently ***underfunded*** and have no Proposition 218 levies.
- Any perceived savings or efficiencies will be overshadowed by the cost and effort of responding to the outcry by residents and property owners that voted for the East Davis District in its current form.

Page 12 - (Item h) and Accountability, Structure and Efficiencies MSR Determination:

The District has no record of being informed of the website transparency score short-comings and can either remedy those issues or take the site down completely—since it is not required.

Page 13 - Accountability, Structure and Efficiencies MSR Recommendation(s):

The purpose of the Prop 218 for the District was (and remains) to ensure that the properties of the District were paying their pro rata fair-share of the cost of fire service delivery to the community—since pass-through AV taxes were not providing a sustainable amount.

The Prop 218 process, legitimately included:

- Completion of a bona fide engineering report,
- Conducting of multiple community outreach and informational meetings to educate the electorate, and

- A balloted election vote taken by the property owners to tax themselves for fire service.

The reserve fund balance was addressed in the comments for Page 8 of the MSR.

As stated above, the District has no record of being informed of the website transparency score short-comings and can either remedy those issues or take the site down completely—since it is not required.

Conclusion:

The recommended reorganization will result in the *citizens, residents, and property owners* of the current District (s) to *not be well-served* and will saddle a sustainably successful district and board with assuming the responsibility and duties of two other districts (not even in the same community) that are currently failing to meet revenue targets.

- Davis Fire has not expressed any dissatisfaction with managing three contracts *and* the residents of the District have not expressed any dissatisfaction or confusion about their fire district, fire services provider, or their fire board.
- The MSR implies that the City of Davis has a problem because of multiple fire contracts for the three districts. However, the MSR reorganization will result in both Woodland and Elkhorn having multiple contracts to manage, which seems contrary to the goal of contract reduction.
- UCD-Fire is also affected by this potential change to their service and revenue from a portion of the Springlake District—yet this item has not been mentioned or addressed.
- The MSR/SOI Study fails to offer any conclusive proof that the East Davis Fire District needs to be reorganized and also fails to offer any sort of comprehensive plan for that reorganization.

Perhaps LAFCo can better serve the situation and the people of East County by seeking a way to help the Springlake and No Man’s Land Fire Districts without causing serious harm to East Davis.

The East Davis Board implores the LAFCo Commissioners to carefully considering these comments and to *not approve* the MSR section written for East Davis as these extreme measures are potentially detrimental or even harmful to the residents of the East Davis County Fire Protection District.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the entire ECFPD Board,

Bill Weisgerber

Bill Weisgerber, Chair
EDCFPD

Cc: EDCFPD Board
Fire Chief Tenney
Supervisor Provenza
file

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 11:35 am, Jun 28, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is David te Velde and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely, David te Velde



David te Velde
District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:53 pm, Jun 28, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

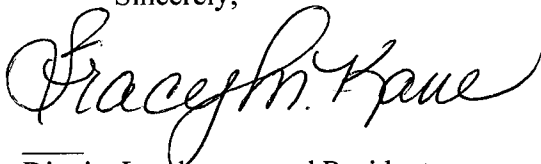
My name is Tracy M. Kane and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



Tracy M. Kane
District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED
By ttuck at 7:17 am, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is _____Jane Tamano_____, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

Jane Takeuchi Tamano

District Landowner and Resident

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Gary McLaughlin, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary McLaughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED
By ttuck at 7:19 am, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Kennalee Gable, and I was a life long resident of Yolo County until late 2021. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a former resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District was rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my neighbor's residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we did not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my neighbor's property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that the community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save family or property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

Kennalee Gable

Former District Resident at 21450 Old River Road, West Sacramento

From: Mark Pruner <mpruner@prunerlaw.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2022 10:08 PM

To: Christine Crawford <Christine.Crawford@yolocounty.org>

Cc: 'Bob Webber' <webberjr@yahoo.com>; 111jgomes@gmail.com; kirchhoffphoto@gmail.com; stevep@rivergrovewinery.com; Craig Hamblin <chfire@msn.com>; Richard Bagby <rbagby@citlink.net>

Subject: Comments to Draft MSR from Clarksburg FPD; LAFCo Meeting June 30, 2022

Christine,

The Clarksburg Fire Protection District makes the following comments to the LAFCo draft FD MSR/SOI Update:

1. Page 1-3. First line under heading "Existing Fire Protection Districts and Governance", after the words "15 FPDs" add the words "and one CSA". Note: not sure if the term "CSA" was defined before this point in the draft MSR.

Response: *County Service Areas are a different type of special district with different enabling legislation in state law. The governance of CSAs can only be dependent districts under the County by design. Not referencing CSAs in this section is intentional.*

2. Page 1-6. The massive structural revenue inequity in the difference between the percent of property tax revenue distributed to the FPDs in the County should be highlighted. LAFCo has the opportunity to make recommendations to address this massive structural revenue inequity. LAFCo is asked to: (1) identify this massive structural revenue inequity, and (2) propose solutions to equalize property tax revenues throughout all FPDs.

Response: *Staff's understanding from taking courses from experts on district financing, is that there is no viable path to change property tax revenue percentages after Prop 13 and AB 8 absent state legislation. Staff will recommend adding a sentence to highlight the structural inequity even more by stating, "Proposition 13 created structural inequities in the financing of local government. Local Proposition 218 assessments are a viable method to compensate for inadequate tax revenue, if supported by the voters, and is discussed in individual district sections of this MSR."*

3. Page 1-9. Bullet Point No. 6 appears to repeat verbatim Bullet Point No. 4. Delete bullet Point No. 6.

Response: *Deleted as suggested.*

4. Page 1-9. First line under the hearing "2022 MSR Subcommittee, my understanding is that the subcommittee is from the Yolo County Fire Chiefs' Association, not the Firefighters' Association.

Response: *Before finalizing the MSR/SOI, staff will change all references to "Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association".*

5. Page 1-10. Question: Section titled: "Dispatch Call Volume". How are multiple/simultaneous calls (dispatches) to different (usually neighboring) FPDs for the same incident accounted for both in this chart and throughout the draft MSR? Relevance: being sure multiple calls for the same incident do not unreasonably increase the service load on a FPD is important.

Response: *When the MSR references "total" dispatch numbers, it includes calls within jurisdiction and mutual/auto aid calls. The purpose of this table is to show the impact of calls to a district, not to account for an absolute number of incidents. Some tables in the MSR reference dispatch numbers "inside jurisdiction" only and are labeled as such.*

6. Page 1-10. Same comment as No. 3 above related to first paragraph, first line, under heading "FDR Response Time".

Response: Before finalizing the MSR/SOI, staff will change all references to “Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association”.

7. Page 1-10. Second paragraph, line four, under heading “FPD Response Time”, what is meant by the term “unit”? The operations of the Clarksburg FPD include at times direct response of volunteer firefighters already out in the District directly from their locations out in the field, for a faster true response time, as opposed to travel to the Fire Station, then back out again. Normally, volunteer firefighters out in the District during their work-day will have their PPE/turnouts and equipment with them. It should be clear that the fact of arrival, and delivery of emergency services, at the scene of an incident by a firefighter who is already out in the District should count as the first responding unit, and the MSR should so state.

Response: Your clarification is the intention when this refers to “responding unit”. Response time data is sourced from YECA, so the time reflects whenever responding personnel told YECA they were on scene. LAFCo is not auditing the legitimacy of response times as reported by FPD personnel to YECA.

8. Page 1-12. Discussion under heading “Financial Sustainability: Methodology and Comparative Data”. There is no reference, whether researched based or standards based, for the three-part calculation of the formula for calculating minimum financial balances/reserves. What is the basis for the formula(s)? Are there regulatory, agency, or any other established basis for some or all of the balance/reserve formula calculations?

Response: LAFCo staff came up with this methodology and explained that it is based, in part, by Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommendations and State Controller’s Manual of Accounting Standards and Procedures for Counties (including dependent districts) 2021 Item 7.06 as already referenced therein. The recommended fund balance represents a snapshot in time on June 30, 2021 whether each FPD had enough funds in reserve to replace all needed apparatus at current estimated market value at the end of its recommended lifespan (which is why it is critical for chiefs to make sure each FPD apparatus list notes reserves accurately). It assumes full cost and LAFCo acknowledges FPDs are resourceful in actually obtaining equipment through grants and other less costly means. It’s a guideline provided as information to all the FPDs for long-term financial planning and it was a way that LAFCo could compare FPDs on a consistent basis.

9. Page 1-12. Discussion under heading “Capital Asset Replacement Reserve”. The paragraph states that “the purpose of this calculation is to provide a high level estimate...” Clarksburg FPD has adopted a specific detailed replacement plan with specific options, not a high level estimate. Clarksburg FPD has exceeded the standard. To determine that Clarksburg FPD should have a \$1,894,000 (see ppg. 3.13, 3.14), which is equal to 8.65 years of its total budget is not realistic, and is an inappropriate standard.

Response: See the response to #8. This is a conservative recommended fund balance only, not a standard. Each FPD should review the information and determine what is appropriate for its own long-term financial planning. The MSR Financial Ability recommendation for Clarksburg FPD merely states “Clarksburg FPD should consider reviewing current and future expenditures to determine whether the special assessment should be increased.”

10. Page 1-16. Table under “Recommendations for Fire Service Area 5. The table should reflect that Clarksburg FPD has 23 volunteers, not 20 volunteers.

Response: Staff will change to 23 for the final MSR.

11. Page 3-12. Under heading “Revenue”. It should be highlighted that at 1.9% Clarksburg FPD received the least share of property tax revenue in Yolo County (see, pg. 1-6, bar graph). Related to this fact it

should be noted that a significant structural inequity exists in the percent of collected property tax revenue the FPDs receive.

Response: *The MSR already states “The Clarksburg FPD’s share of property taxes within its boundaries is approximately 1.94%, significantly below the average for all rural FPDs in the county of 6.2%.” The scope of the MSR is not to evaluate structural inequities for all the FPDs. A reference to structural inequities generally will be added per comment #2.*

12. Pages 3-13; 3-14. Multiple references to recommended fund balance of \$1,894,000. See comment no. 8 above.

Response: *See #8 above.*

13. Page 3-14. Under heading “Financial Ability MSR Recommendation(s)” First bullet point. It is not correct the “amount of revenue the special assessment raises has not changed since 1993.” Clarksburg FPD reviews the assessment every year (as noted in the minutes of the Board of Commissioners), and has raised the assessment 6 times.

Response: *That is LAFCo staff’s error and we’ll change the references to 2011 per the schedule below. The recommendation will also be changed to delete this first sentence altogether as its not necessary.*

**Clarksburg FPD
Schedule of Special Assessment Revenue by Year**

FY	Amount Per Ledgers	Annual Amount Change	Annual Percent Change
1989	\$ 44,314.38		
1990	45,925.12	1,610.74	3.63%
1991	52,085.25	6,160.13	13.41%
1992	56,302.06	4,216.81	8.10%
1993	61,889.62	5,587.56	9.92%
1994	72,080.28	10,190.66	16.47%
1995	69,109.86	(2,970.42)	-4.12%
1996	68,854.27	(255.59)	-0.37%
1997	61,089.05	(7,765.22)	-11.28%
1998	61,748.62	659.57	1.08%
1999	61,430.16	(318.46)	-0.52%
2000	61,212.29	(217.87)	-0.35%
2001	60,895.99	(316.30)	-0.52%
2002	61,224.90	328.91	0.54%
2003	60,778.14	(446.76)	-0.73%
2004	63,418.32	2,640.18	4.34%
2005	65,882.13	2,463.81	3.89%
2006	69,237.28	3,355.15	5.09%
2007	72,637.03	3,399.75	4.91%
2008	76,463.93	3,826.90	5.27%
2009	79,918.58	3,454.65	4.52%

2010	80,220.44	301.86	0.38%
2011	81,099.02	878.58	1.10%
2012	81,430.64	331.62	0.41%
2013	81,429.10	(1.54)	0.00%
2014	81,429.10	0.00	0.00%
2015	81,450.32	21.22	0.03%
2016	81,596.92	146.60	0.18%
2017	81,599.78	2.86	0.00%
2018	81,601.78	2.00	0.00%
2019	81,604.64	2.86	0.00%
2020	81,715.46	110.82	0.14%
2021	81,663.30	(52.16)	-0.06%

14. Page 3-16. Regarding Commissioner Steve Pylman, his term ends July 1, 2026.

Response: *Page 3-16 has been updated accordingly.*

Respectfully submitted,

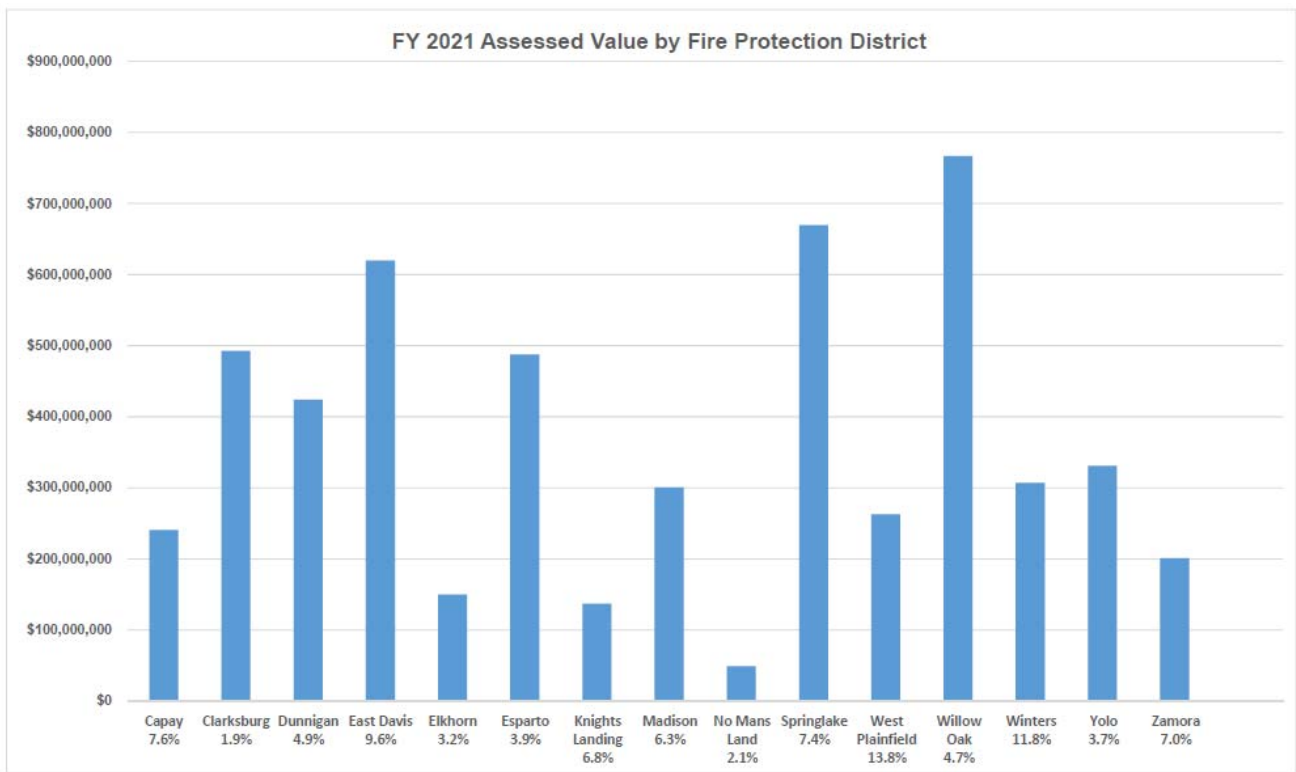
Mark Pruner

Chair, Clarksburg FPD Board of Directors

Local Fire Protection District Funding

FPDs are all funded from property tax revenue and some have augmented revenue by passing a special benefit assessment on parcels in their service territory. Some FPDs also have Development Impact Fees (DIF) adopted for new development, but such revenue is not consistent and has restrictions on how it can be used.

The total assessed value used to determine property tax collections varies across the FPDs and revenue collected has been reduced for many agricultural parcels by the Williamson Act program. Proposition 13 in 1978 and AB 8 that implemented it locked in the percentage of the property tax revenue received by the FPDs. The actual tax rate areas vary within each district, but the percentage in the graph below shows the average assessed property value of each FPD. **Proposition 13 created structural inequities in the financing of local government. Local Proposition 218 assessments are a viable method to compensate for inadequate tax revenue, if supported by the voters, and is discussed in individual district sections of this MSR.**



Note: % for each FPD indicates the average share of the 1% property taxes received by the district

The bar graph below shows the core revenue (i.e., reliable revenue not including DIF, grants, CAL FIRE, etc.) for each FPD.

Chiefs Association, to provide a cooperative countywide regional fire service framework (Recommendation #14)

Unfortunately, no action has been taken by the FPDs on any of these recommendations listed above since the 2016 MSR. Therefore, these issues remain and are addressed again, albeit with a different strategy, with this 2022 MSR.

2016 LAFCo Recommendations Common to All FPDs

Below are the recommendations from the 2016 LAFCo MSR that were common to all FPDs, along with their respective status. The recommendations particular to individual FPDs are discussed in each individual FPD section of the report. The MSR's most far-reaching recommendation was to have an overarching joint powers agency (JPA) or association help with common FPD issues to achieve regional efficiencies, but it never occurred. Hopefully, the more incremental, regional approach of this 2022 MSR/SOI will help scale up the FPDs to be more efficient and resilient to withstand changing times.

1. *The Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association "No Response" policy could be enhanced by requiring acknowledgement of a dispatch by radio or telephone within a specified time period (e.g., 90 seconds) of the dispatch notification, indicating the district's ability to respond, before the next closest department is dispatched. (Status: completed)*
2. *The Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association considers requesting that YECA track the calls where the next fire district responds in place of the responsible fire district and a regular periodic report of "missed calls" from YECA. (Status: completed)*
3. *Within available funding, fire apparatus should be considered for replacement after not more than 25 years of service life. (Status: some FPDs cannot afford to maintain all apparatus within 25 years of service life)*
4. *The 11 districts that provide direct fire protection services should consider adopting a standardized fire apparatus inventory with common design specifications and equipment when purchasing new apparatus. (Status: not completed. FPDs often purchase used apparatus and every chief has a preference, but some standardization within reason could occur)*
5. *The rural fire districts should consider exploring feasibility and support to expand the authority and powers of the West Valley Regional Fire Training Consortium or the Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association to provide a cooperative countywide regional fire service framework. (Status: not completed)*
6. ~~*The 11 districts that provide direct fire protection services should consider adopting a standardized fire apparatus inventory with common design specifications and equipment when purchasing new apparatus. (Status: not completed. FPDs often purchase used apparatus and every chief has a preference, but some standardization within reason could occur)*~~

2022 MSR SUBCOMMITTEE

The Yolo County Firefighters Association (YCFA) formed a volunteer subcommittee of fire chiefs to work with LAFCo providing critical fire professional expertise to assist LAFCo staff in preparing this report in-house. The MSR Subcommittee was invaluable and contributed to this report in the following ways:

- Identified the key information needed from each FPD to MSR review;
- Developed recommended guidelines for evaluation: response times, response adequacy in terms of minimum numbers of personnel and apparatus on scene;
- Recruited a fire commissioner with skills to perform data analytics and visualize the data for the MSR; and
- Governance recommendations.

YOLO LAFCO MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW/SPHERE OF INFLUENCE STUDY

The June 30,2021 actual and estimated recommended fund balance amounts are as follows:

	6/30/2021 Actual Balance	6/30/2021 Recommended Balance	Excess/ (Shortage)
Apparatus Replacement			
Development impact fees	21,166		
Other funds	598,153		
	<u>619,319</u>	<u>1,808,000</u>	<u>(1,188,681)</u>
General reserve	41,934	75,000	(33,066)
Unassigned	192,359	11,000	181,359
Total Recommended Fund Balance	<u>\$ 853,612</u>	<u>\$ 1,894,000</u>	<u>\$ (1,040,388)</u>

- i) *Does the agency have any debt, and if so, is the organization’s debt at an unmanageable level? Does the agency need a clear capital financing and debt management policy, if applicable?*

No. The agency does not have any debt, nor does it provide any post-retirement benefits to employees.

Financial Ability MSR Determination

Clarksburg FPD is in a stable financial position and its conservative financial practices have enabled it to accumulate an unrestricted fund balance of \$832,446 as of June 30, 2021 and has no debt. Excluding one-time expenditures, such as purchases of equipment, the Clarksburg FPD generally operates in the black. The Clarksburg FPD has a total fund balance of \$853,612 as of June 30, 2021, which is \$1,040,388 below the recommended total fund balance of \$1,894,000. Annual net income after expenditures averaged over \$114,000 for the past four years. The Clarksburg FPD board receives regular financial reports. To improve the financial information provided by the County, staff should review the ledger more thoroughly to ensure accuracy and mitigate against potentially making a financial decision based on inaccurate data. Clarksburg FPD should consider reviewing current and future expenditures to determine whether the special assessment should be increased to fund needed apparatus replacement and potentially other station improvements. To maintain the high degree of liquidity the Clarksburg FPD will need to consider using a combination of increased revenues and debt financing to purchase updated apparatus. Overall, Clarksburg FPD’s board and staff have consistently maintained a financially stable local agency.

Financial Ability MSR Recommendation(s)

- ~~The amount of revenue the special assessment raises has not changed since 1993.~~ Clarksburg FPD should consider reviewing current and future expenditures to determine whether the special assessment should be increased.
- Clarksburg FPD should review financial data on a regular basis and identify and discrepancies. The review should include reconciliations of various accounts, comparing budgets-to-actual, analyzing budget variances, comparing revenue and expense balances to the prior year, etc. It also should review monthly the transactions in the County system to transactions the agency submitted to the County for processing.
- Districts that collect an AB 1600 Development Impact Fees should, every five years, make the findings required by Government Code Section 66001(d) to help ensure that fees collected from new development are spent solely on appropriate facilities.

YOLO LAFCo MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW/SPHERE OF INFLUENCE STUDY

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| e) Are any agency officials and designated staff <u>not</u> current in making their Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) disclosures? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| f) Does the agency need to secure independent audits of financial reports that meet California State Controller requirements? Are the same auditors used for more than six years? Are audit results <u>not</u> reviewed in an open meeting? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| g) If the agency is not audited annually, does the agency need to have a qualified external person review agency finances each year (at a minimum), comparing budgets to actuals, comparing actuals to prior years, analyzing significant differences or changes, and determining if the reports appear reasonable? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| h) Does the organization need to improve its public transparency via a website (see https://www.yololaftco.org/yolo-local-government-website-transparency-scorecards)? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Discussion:

- a) Are there any recommended changes to the organization’s governmental structure or operations that will increase accountability and efficiency (i.e. overlapping boundaries that confuse the public, service inefficiencies, and/or higher costs/rates)?

No. Clarksburg FPD’s structure is operationally accountable and efficient as it is.

- b) Are there any issues with filling board vacancies and maintaining board members? Is there a lack of board member training regarding the organization’s program requirements and financial management?

No. All Clarksburg FPD Board seats are filled and there does not appear to be an issue with maintaining members. There have only been 3 member changes in the past 5 years. **The District reports that Steve Pylman was recently reappointed to another term through July 1, 2026.**

Name / Title	Start	End
Steve Pylman /	04/07/2020	07/01/2022
Mark Pruner /	11/20/2018	12/01/2022
Joseph Gomes /	02/23/2021	02/01/2025
Nancy Kirchhoff /	02/23/2021	03/01/2025
John Webber, Jr. /	02/23/2021	03/01/2025

- c) Are there any issues with staff capacity and/or turnover? Is there a lack of staff member training regarding the organization’s program requirements and financial management?

No. The Clarksburg FPD chief and assistant chief positions have been stable for many years. It has 22 volunteer firefighters that live in the community that are committed. Clarksburg FPD is aware of the need and is working on succession planning.

- d) Does the agency need adequate policies (as applicable) relating to personnel/payroll, general and administrative, board member and meetings, and segregating financial and accounting duties among staff and/or board to minimize risk of error or misconduct?

Yes. The Clarksburg FPD has a written “Administrative Code (AC) of the Clarksburg Fire Protection Clarksburg FPD”, last update May 2020. This document includes the following, mission statement, district responsibilities, purpose, board of commissioners, conflict of interest, billing and purchasing, firehouse use, training, drills, job descriptions, personnel recruitment, and retention, hiring policy, driver safety, equipment, communications, fire scene, traffic safety, meetings and use of private vehicle.

The Clarksburg FPD should include, within the Board of Commissioners section of the AC, policies related to attendance at meetings, meeting conduct, responsibilities of officers, etc. In addition, the District should adopt additional policies and procedures related to personnel and payroll including

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:19 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

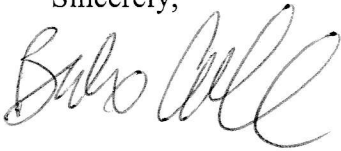
My name is Brenda Cederwall, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

19138 Corny Rd 124

West Sac Ca 95691

Richard Young is first on scene when there are accidents here, its volunteer works well, so why change the system for more bureaucracy.

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:21 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:



My name is _____, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:21 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Rodney Matthews, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,


District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:20 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Brent Pollard and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:20 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Teyana Noble and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

By ttuck at 12:12 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

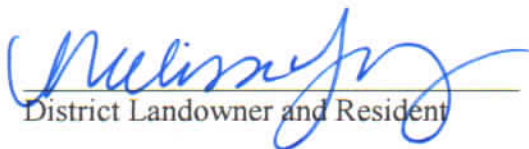
My name is Melissa Young, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,


District Landowner and Resident

Manager - Joe Young Farms, Inc.
Land Owner - Young Farms Enterprises, LLC

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By ttuck at 12:13 pm, Jun 29, 2022

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Becky Young, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

Moreover, notwithstanding the cities of West Sacramento's and Woodland's priorities, they will be unable to access or respond to emergencies when the bypass inevitably floods. I-5 will become grid-locked, and the firefighters will be unable to save my family or my property if an emergency should arise. Similarly, I do not want to subsidize the emergency response costs for commuters traveling on I-5. I believe it is unfair to my community to expect as much. In short, without the expertise of the District's volunteers, the District's residents and landowners will suffer significantly increased response times at a much higher cost. For these reasons, I greatly oppose dissolving the District.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

Becky Young

District Landowner and Resident

manager, Joe Young Farms, Inc.

Land Owner, Young Farms Enterprises, LLC

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2022

Dear Commissioners:

YOLO LAFCO

My name is Richard J. Yeung, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2022

Dear Commissioners:

YOLO LAFCO

My name is Donald Beeman, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2022

Dear Commissioners:

YOLO LAFCO

My name is *Robert R. Reardon* and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Reardon
District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2022

YOLO IAFCO

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Jaqueline Peabody, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2022

YOLO LAFCO

Dear Commissioners:

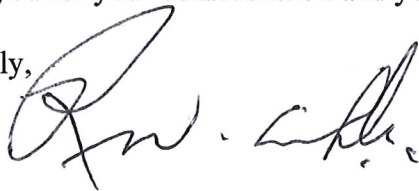
My name is Roger Ashworth, and I am a resident of Yolo County. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the Commission Staff's recommendation regarding the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District"). As a resident of the District, the recommendation to dissolve the District concerns me for many reasons.

Along with many of my neighbors, my property in the District is rural. As such, it is difficult to access. The District's volunteers are my neighbors or my neighbors' sons; they have intimate knowledge of the area, how to access my property in case of emergencies, and the particularities of my residence. When neighbors in the community have an emergency, often times we do not call 911—rather, we call the District volunteers. If the Commission approves the Staff's recommendation, it will eliminate the individuals with the requisite knowledge and resources to access and assist my property. Particularly concerning to me, if the District is dissolved, I know that my community will be de-prioritized. The District's residents are removed from the cities and will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

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Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Sincerely,



District Landowner and Resident

From: Michele Clark <mclark@theyololandtrust.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2022 1:37 PM
To: LAFCO <LAFCO@yolocounty.org>
Subject: Opposition to closing the Elkhorn Fire Protection District

Dear Commissioners:

My name is Michele Clark, and I am the Executive Director of the Yolo Land Trust. I also serve as a Trustee of Reclamation District 1600.

YLT owns farm property along CR 117. We have a residential tenant on our land for security purposes. I submit this letter to voice my opposition to the recommendation of LAFCO's staff to dissolve the Elkhorn Fire Protection District ("District").

The District's volunteers have years of knowledge about the District and know most of the families who live there. They can better serve the rural residents, like our tenant. In fact, when there is an emergency, many folks instinctively call the people they know who volunteer with the District. If the District is dissolved, these rural residents will be forced to compete with city dwellers for services. We expect our rural area will very likely take a back seat to the emergencies arising in the cities.

The District is needed now more than ever given the increase of traffic throughout the District. Cars trying to avoid the backups on I-5, race down the alternate routes at speeds that are not safe. Fatal accidents have occurred already and more can be expected. The District volunteers are quick to respond to these emergencies.

Moreover, in a flood, having District volunteers who know the area will be invaluable and will ultimately save resources for the County. They can alert the County and cities to potential problems during a wet year that may ultimately save lives as well as property.

The District provides a sense of community to the people who live and farm in the area. That will be irretrievably lost if the District is dissolved.

Thank you for your consideration and your engagement in the community.

Michele

*Michele Clark, Executive Director
Yolo Land Trust - 530-662-1110*

Trustee, Reclamation District 1600