



SHASTA COUNTY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mike Hebrard, Fire Warden

875 Cypress Ave.
Redding, CA 96001
Voice - (530) 225-2418
Fax - (530) 225-2514

February 10, 2015

Mr. Stephen Morgan, Chairman
Shasta LAFCO
2516 Goodwater Ave., Suite A
Redding, California 96002

Dear Mr. Morgan:

This letter is in response to the proposed Fall River Valley Coordinated Fire Protection District Service Area Sphere of Influence (SOI) which was presented at the November 6, 2014 and December 18, 2014 LAFCO meetings. I spoke at both meetings on behalf of the Shasta County Fire Department (SCFD) asking LAFCO to reconsider the large SOI being proposed. Other members of the community and SCFD also spoke out against the proposed SOI.

At the December 18, 2014 meeting I presented an alternative SOI map for LAFCO to consider. The result of the LAFCO meeting was a request by the Commission for SCFD to get together with the affected jurisdictions and come together with a proposal everyone could agree on. This meeting was held on January 30, 2015 in Fall River. The result was that we could not all agree on a SOI. At this meeting the Fall River Fire Protection District asked to be included in the SOI.

Based on the results of the January 30, 2015 meeting, I have revised the map I proposed at the December 18, 2014 meeting. The new map I am proposing now includes the Fall River Fire Protection District in the SOI.

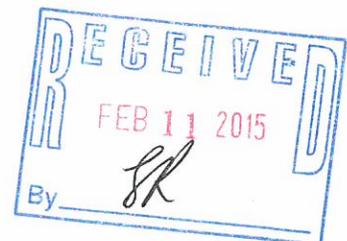
Please accept the enclosed map as an alternative for Shasta LAFCO to consider for the proposed SOI at the February 19, 2015 meeting.

Sincerely,

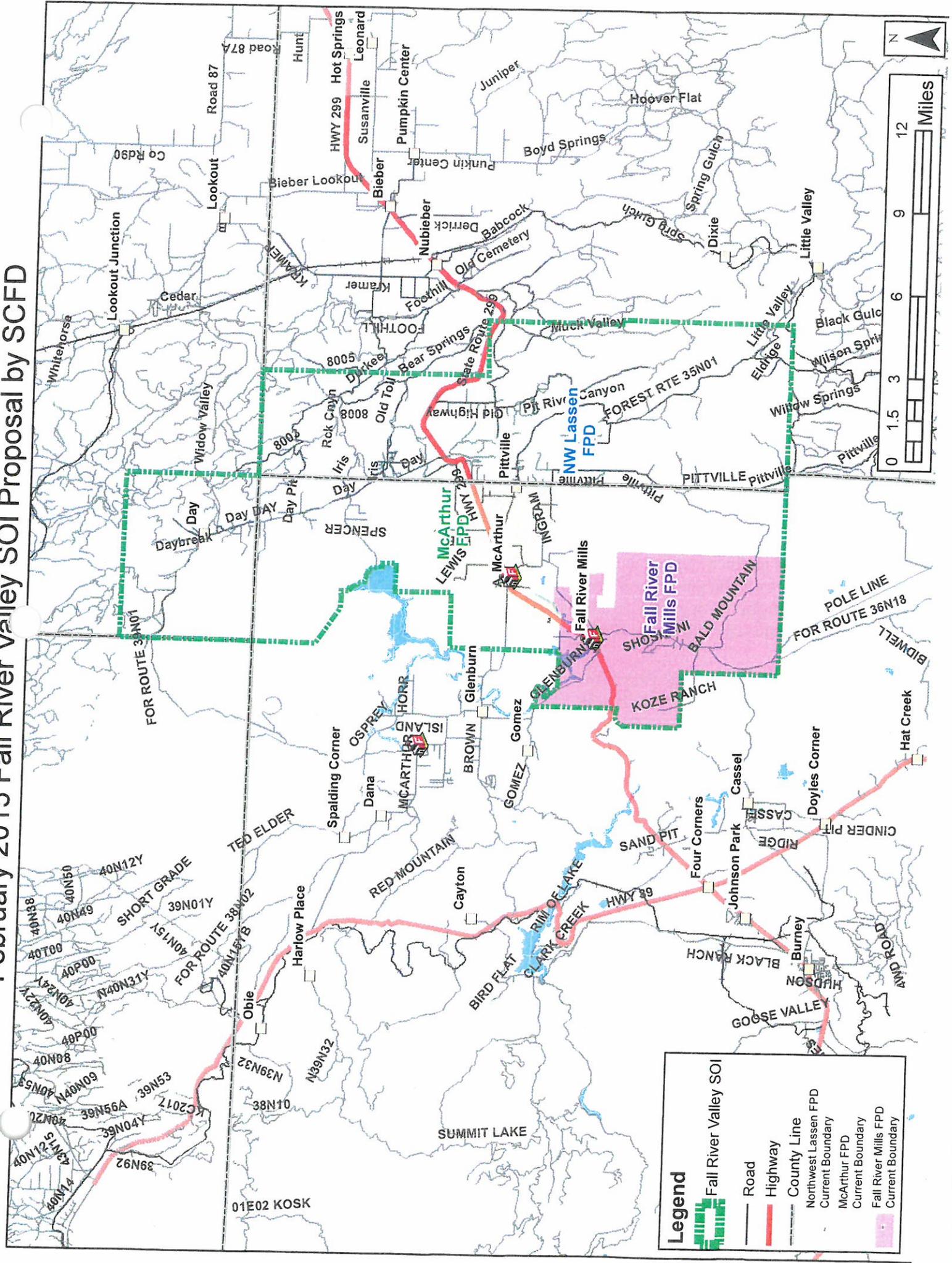
MIKE HEBRARD
Chief
Shasta County Fire Department

Enclosure

Cc: Shasta LAFCO Executive Officer



February 2015 Fall River Valley SOI Proposal by SCFD



Legend

- Fall River Valley SOI
- Road
- Highway
- County Line
- Northwest Lassen FPD Current Boundary
- McArthur FPD Current Boundary
- Fall River Mills FPD Current Boundary

Date: December 8, 2014

To: Whom it may concern

Below is a chronicle of interactions I have had with LAFCO staff since I spoke out against a proposed SOI for the Fall River Valley Coordinated Service Area Sphere. During my public comment at the November 6, 2014 LAFCO meeting I informed the Commission I did not support the SOI and gave my reasoning for this.

At issue here, based on emails and comments from Jan Lopez, is whether or not a SOI truly has any impact on the communities they are drawn around. On its face there is no immediate impact; however it is the first step that needs to be completed to work toward an annexation. This is why the communities do not support this SOI because of the potential it has to impact their fire protection in the future.

I am happy to answer questions regarding any of this information or about my public comment on November 6, 2014.

Sincerely,



Mike Hebrard

Chief

Shasta County Fire Department

LAFCO interactions from November 6, 2014 forward with Chief Mike Hebrard

- November 6, 2014 – I spoke at the LAFCO meeting and spoke against a proposed SOI for the Fall River Valley Coordinated Service Area Sphere
- November 12, 2014 – I received a phone message from the CAL FIRE Northern Region Office Secretary Kim Young that Stephen Morgan from LAFCO contacted the office and wanted to speak with Region Chief Keith Larkin regarding a LAFCO issue. She followed this message up with an email a couple hours later which shows the exact information Stephen Morgan was after (Attachment #1).
- November 12, 2014 – At 1442 hours I contacted Stephen Morgan on his cell phone. I called him from my cell phone using my hands free device in my vehicle as I was driving on I-5 at the time. In the vehicle with me was Siskiyou Unit Chief Phil Anzo who heard and can verify the contents

of the conversation. When Stephen Morgan answered his cell phone I informed him who I was and told him I was contacting him regarding his call to the Region Office. Stephen Morgan misunderstood me and thought he was speaking with the Region Chief. I realized this when he stated, "Mike Hebrard is not getting along with Jan Lopez...". I stopped him before he went much further and again told him this is "Mike Hebrard". He was confused at this point and I told him it was inappropriate for him to contact the Region Chief regarding a SCFD issue. Stephen Morgan responded to this by stating he didn't know how to get a hold of me so he called the Region Chief. I told him I did not believe him as it was obvious he wasn't calling him to ask for my phone number (Further proof of this comes from Attachment #1 where Stephen Morgan clearly contacted the Region Office to talk about the proposed meeting in Fall River and not ask for my phone number) but rather to attempt to get the Region Chief to get me to not speak at the LAFCO meeting.

I continued my conversation with Mr. Morgan for 9 minutes. During the conversation he stated he wanted to stay out of the paper (referring to the Mtn. Echo article) and wanted me to run issues with Jan Lopez through him in the future. I told him I would gladly do that but warned him I did not want to in any way violate the Brown Act by discussing things with him which may have been discussed with others. He reiterated he wanted me to run the issues through him and I told him I would do so.

- November 13, 2014 – I saw, for the first time, the article in the Mtn. Echo. I also spoke with Region Chief Larkin and confirmed with him this is a SCFD issue. He agreed this was a local issue for me to deal with as the SCFD Chief and was not going to intercede. Any further communications to him from LAFCO would be pushed back to me.
- November 17, 2014 – I received an email from Jan Lopez (sent to numerous people, not just me) regarding a rescheduled meeting to be held at the Fall River Mills Fire Protection District Fire Hall on December 1, 2014. The email included several maps to be considered. I responded to Jan Lopez that I did not agree with the map she sent stating it was what was proposed by SCFD and her. I told her in the email I would make a new map which SCFD could support. The attachment is the entire email sequence with her long response to my proposing the new map. (Attachment #3)
- November 19, 2014 – I emailed Jan Lopez with a cc to Stephen Morgan (Attachment #4) a map which I had made which I thought made more sense than the map she had. I gave it to her to have it considered at this meeting as something that makes more sense for the SOI (Attachment #5)
- November 24, 2014 – I received mail from the CAL FIRE Northern Region Office which was addressed to Region Chief Keith Larkin. LAFCO had sent the SCFD MSR/SOI from May 2014. There was a cover letter signed by Shasta LAFCO Clerk Linda Romig stating, "We realized you may not have received a final copy of the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence

Update for CSA #1 Shasta County Fire Department, therefore, one copy is enclosed. We assure you will be notified of future updates." (Attachment #2)

I do not believe this has ever been done for any MSR/SOI in the past. Why now after I spoke against something at LAFCO?

Upon receipt of the mail, I immediately contact Stephen Morgan via phone and asked him why he would send the MSR/SOI and cover letter to the Region Chief? I informed him I felt as though this was further retaliation for my speaking against the SOI on November 6, 2014. Mr. Morgan stated he knew nothing about the SOI and letter sent to the Region Chief and told me he would contact the LAFCO office. At his request, I scanned and emailed the cover letter to him.

- November 25, 2014 – Stephen Morgan called me back and stated nothing further would be sent to the Region Chief. He did not offer any reason why it was sent by the LAFCO office.
- December 5, 2014 – I received an email from Jan Lopez with a 3 page attachment. This attachment was a response to comments given at the November 6, 2014 meeting. (Attachment #6)

Attachments

- **Attachment #1** – Email from CAL FIRE Northern Region Office where Stephen Morgan contacted the Northern Region Chief to speak about the MSR/SOI meeting.
- **Attachment #2** – Letter to CAL FIRE Northern Region Chief Keith Larking informing him LAFCO would notify him of future reports pertaining to the SCFD.
- **Attachment #3** – Email from Jan Lopez in response to my proposal of a new SOI map which I could support.
- **Attachment #4** – Email from me to Jan Lopez (cc to Stephen Morgan) with the SOI map I proposed.
- **Attachment #5** – SOI map I proposed based on information from the November 6, 2014 meeting.
- **Attachment #6** – Email and attachment from Jan Lopez dated December 5, 2014

Dec 10 - mail sent to Region office again came back to me. Emailed Jan to stop sending it to the Region office

Attachment #1

Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE

From: Young, Kim@CALFIRE
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 3:11 PM
To: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE
Subject: LAFCO/Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: LAFCO

Hi, Mike;

I got your voice message. Thank you.

Here's the info on the phone call I received:

Steven Morgan, LAFCO Chairman called and wanted to speak with Chief Larkin in regard to a meeting scheduled for November 18, 2014 in Fall River Mills, CA. Morgan is meeting Jan Lopez there to discuss 'S.O.I.'

Keith asked me to relay this info to you, in the event this is a Unit Level issue.

Morgan requested a call back at: **530-275-1788** or **530-410-1276**.

Feel free to call me with any questions.

Kim Young
CAL FIRE
6105 Airport Road
Redding, CA 96001
530-224-2489
530-224-2496 (Fax)

Attachment #2

Les Baugh
County Member

Irwin Fust
Special District Alternate

Larry Farr
City Member

Pam Giacomini
County Member Alternate

James Yarbrough
City Member

Brenda Haynes
Special District Member



Rick Bosetti
City Member Alternate

Dick Fyten
Public Member

David Kehoe
County Member

Bob Richardson
Public Member Alternate

Stephen Morgan
Special District Member

Jan Lopez
Executive Officer

November 16, 2014

Regional Chief
Keith A. Larkin
6105 Airport Road
Redding, CA 96002

Regional Chief Larkin,

We realized you may not have received a final copy of the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for CSA #1 Shasta County Fire Department, therefore, one copy is enclosed.

We assure you will be notified of future reports.

Sincerely,

Linda Romig
Shasta LAFCO Clerk

Attachment #3

Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE

From: Jan Lopez <exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 4:33 PM
To: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE
Subject: RE: RESCHEDULED MEETING re: FRV Coordinated Service Area SOI

Categories: LAFCO

Well, Mike, the map sent out in my last message is the only map you and I have discussed or viewed together. I represented it as SCF because it IS the map we discussed last August. The other maps are ones the FPDs discussed. Had you forwarded that map to me earlier, I certainly would have circulated it to the affected agencies.

But if you have come up with another proposed map and you intend to share or present it at the workshop, we really do need to see it sooner than the next meeting. How can we review or evaluate it otherwise? Please do forward your new suggested SOI boundary for these FPDs before the end of this week if at all possible.

Please remember that this study is not about justifying or opposing annexations or other types of boundary changes. There is a whole process set up by the Legislature to identify and address those kinds of issues. Contrary to the perceptions of some, establishing a SOI boundary only sets up the ability of a local agency to look at changing boundaries. There are no guarantees whatsoever that an area within an SOI of an agency will ever be annexed during the next 20 years. The Legislature wants agencies to plan for the unknown future and this is one of those tools.

The current study and staff workshop is only about assessing the involved independent districts and their response areas. Shasta County Fire will be one four agencies participating in the staff workshop, with your volunteer fire company invited to participate along with you. The other participants will be Fall River Mills FPD, McArthur FPD, and Northwest Lassen FPD. The latter three are the only agencies directly affected by the proposed Coordinated FPD SOI.

One of the unintended consequences of deciding not to communicate with our office is that you chose not to participate in any planning efforts. I continue to keep you informed, and you continue to go your own way, regardless of the impact on other agencies or people.

It is unfortunate that the folks at the Soldier Mountain station have be given such upsetting and erroneous information, because nothing about their operations or activities or community will change unless and until the people in that area decide to get out of Shasta County Fire and become part of one of the Fall River Valley fire districts. Absent that, the Soldier Mountain volunteers are secure as they are. I hope you will share this with them.

Try to understand, Mike, as far as LAFCO law is concerned all special districts, independent or dependent, are service providers, and as such are colleagues, not competitors. If people in different areas desire to pay for different levels of service than other areas, that is their choice. Independent districts exist because (1) the people know who their board members are---they live in the district, (2) they can control where the money goes and how much can be assessed, and (3) they have a voice in the operations of the district and board. It is not about power, it is about providing a community service to their neighbors and friends.

The hard part about being a county-wide dependent district is that,

(1) A county-wide department cannot be all things to all the communities it covers, nor can it provide services equally to all areas. It is very difficult to treat every community volunteer fire company exactly the same as every other one, with the same level of revenues and equipment. The independent FPDs can do it within their jurisdiction when the people want it done, but seldom can all independent districts of the same type provide exactly the same levels of

services in each district, because each of their local communities have different ideas of what their district needs and what the taxpayers are willing to pay to get those needs met.

(2) An individual taxpayer does not have a very effective voice before the board of supervisors; it is just too big an area for one board to hear and address every small and medium complaint or concern, without irritating someone in another area. It is too big a jurisdiction for an individual to see where they personally fit in. Most county-wide districts are non-controversial, such as lighting districts, or drainage districts.

This current situation is a good example of that difficulty. You plainly instructed me at that 2 hour meeting we had last summer, that I, as the Executive Officer of LAFCO, was only to go through you for all the volunteer companies in Shasta County and was not to contact any of them directly. You might feel you are controlling the information feed this way, but that decision didn't work to improve communications between anyone. Now we have a group in Cassel, a community not involved in the SOI for the fire agencies, all upset and fearful because someone gave them opinions and innuendos, instead of facts. The people in Soldier Mountain are fearful and angry for not being involved, although that is a result your admonition to me to leave them out of the loop. It is never our intent to leave anyone out of the loop like that.

Now we have the unintended consequences we must work out, and work them out we will. Let's look forward to a good meeting, good facts, and a healthy discussion that results in conclusions that most, if not all, the affected agencies can work with.

We can agree to disagree, Mike, but never should disrespect rear its head, especially in the public venue. Disrespect is a tool that rarely persuades anyone for long.

Jan Lopez

*Jan Lopez, Executive Officer
Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission
2516 Goodwater Avenue, Suite A
Redding, CA 96002*



530.242.1112

Fax: 530.242.1113

Mobile: 530.524.1298

Email: exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov

"Be fair to yourselves and to others, that the evidences of justice may be revealed, through your deeds, among Our faithful servants."

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From: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE [mailto:Mike.Hebrard@fire.ca.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 2:46 PM
To: Jan Lopez

Cc: 'Pam Giacomini (pgiacomini@co.shasta.ca.us)'; PAMSWM@aol.com
Subject: RE: RESCHEDULED MEETING re: FRV Coordinated Service Area SOI

Jan,

I will be there along with the Nick Truax (Division Chief for the area) and Jim Ferguson (Battalion Chief for the area). I will also advise the personnel from Company 10 & 13. As I previously told you the August 2014 map is nothing we agreed to but was a starting point; please do not send it out representing something we are now proposing or that we have agreed to with you. We will bring the correct map that we propose to the meeting.

Thanks,

Mike Hebrard
Chief

Shasta County Fire Department

CAL FIRE

Shasta-Trinity Unit
Cal OES Region III Coordinator
Shasta County Op Area Coordinator
Email: mike.hebrard@fire.ca.gov
Office: (530)225-2418
Cell: (530)448-2400

From: Jan Lopez [<mailto:exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov>]

Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 2:28 PM

To: Stephen Morgan

Cc: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE; Scott Gallion (scott@fallrivermills.com); Brent Cassity; Gail Bassett (mgbassett@frontiernet.net); McArthur FPD (nicoleoilar@yahoo.com); Pam Giacomini (pgiacomini@co.shasta.ca.us); Jim Underwood

Subject: RESCHEDULED MEETING re: FRV Coordinated Service Area SOI

Importance: High

The Fall River Valley workshop scheduled for tomorrow about this study is being rescheduled due to jury duty, the flu, and a number of other conflicts on the part of the participants. Chief Hebrard will notify the Soldier Mountain VFC staff. You will note that the community of Cassel is some distance from each of the above maps.

The rescheduled meeting will take place on Monday, December 1, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fall River Mills FPD Fire Hall.

Chief Scott Gallion has confirmed this date and time for the District Fire Hall. This will be a staff workshop session only, not a public agency meeting or hearing.

This meeting will review and affirm the options for the SOI boundary. It is being held at the request of the Commission to afford all affected parties an opportunity to discuss the project. A copy of the following maps are attached:

- Exhibit A – Revised Coordinated FPD map 11-13
- August 2014 (140730) Draft Map proposed by SCF
- 1986 LAFCO-approved service/response area map for FRMFPD and MFPD

The Draft Fall River Valley Coordinated FPD SOI study may be accessed from our website in PDF: www.shasta.lafco.ca.gov

Please RSVP your ability to participate in this workshop? By copy I am notifying the affected people.

Thanks for your patience! This is a hard time of the year to schedule things.

Jan Lopez

*Jan Lopez, Executive Officer
Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission
2516 Goodwater Avenue, Suite A
Redding, CA 96002*



530.242.1112

Fax: 530.242.1113

Mobile: 530.524.1298

Email: exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov

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Attachment #4

Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE

From: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 5:44 PM
To: 'Jan Lopez'
Cc: Stephen Morgan (PAMSWM@aol.com); 'Pam Giacomini (pgiacomini@co.shasta.ca.us)'
Subject: RE: RESCHEDULED MEETING re: FRV Coordinated Service Area SOI
Attachments: November 2014 Fall_River_Valley_SOI Proposal.pdf
Categories: LAFCO

Jan,
As per your request I am attaching the November 2014 Fall River Valley SOI Proposal map. There are a couple of things on this map to keep in mind as we move forward.

- The map does not include the Fall River FPD. I did not include them because I do not speak on their behalf and I did not feel it was appropriate for me include them. Also, I spoke with the Chief of the Fall River Fire Protection District (Scott Gallion) and told him I was submitting a map. He agreed he did not want to be included in the map either.
- The map does include areas in Modoc and Lassen County. I do not speak for either County. However, during the last LAFCO meeting it was mentioned that they would want to be included in this SOI. Based on that information, I left the area for Lassen and Modoc County in the SOI map.

If you have any questions, we can discuss them further on December 1st or you can give me a call and we can discuss them. Hopefully this map meets your needs. If you would like something else shown on the map, please let me know and I will attempt to make it happen.

Thanks,

Mike Hebrard
Chief

Shasta County Fire Department
CAL FIRE

Shasta-Trinity Unit
Cal OES Region III Coordinator
Shasta County Op Area Coordinator
Email: mike.hebrard@fire.ca.gov
Office: (530)225-2418
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Subject: RESCHEDULED MEETING re: FRV Coordinated Service Area SOI
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Please RSVP your ability to participate in this workshop? By copy I am notifying the affected people.

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Jan Lopez

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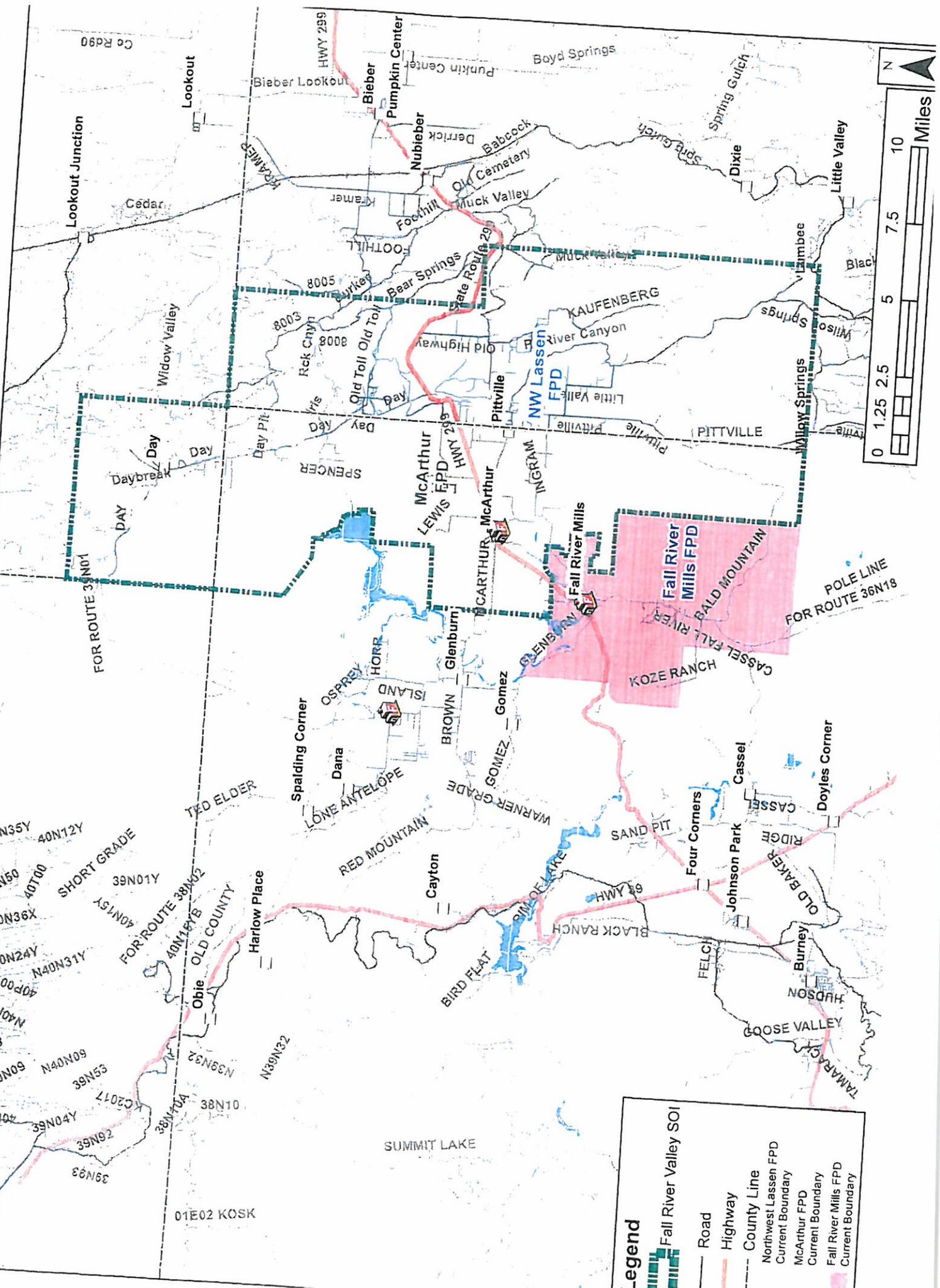
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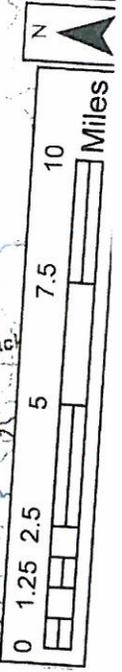
Attachment #5

November 2014 Fall River Valley SOI Proposal



Legend

- Fall River Valley SOI
- Road
- Highway
- County Line
- Northwest Lassen FPD
- Current Boundary
- McArthur FPD
- Current Boundary
- Fall River Mills FPD
- Current Boundary



Attachment #6

Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE

From: Jan Lopez <exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 05, 2014 3:43 PM
To: Hebrard, Mike@CALFIRE
Subject: LAFCO Notifications
Attachments: Agenda 11.d. Response to Comments 11-06-2014 meeting.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: LAFCO

Are you receiving notifications of our meetings, and document availability for those meetings attached to the agenda on our website? A question was raised during discussion on a staff report that perhaps you had not had an opportunity to examine all documents published on our website, and I wanted to make sure that both Shasta County Fire and the Shasta-Trinity Unit of CalFire are receiving our notices.

The particular item in yesterday's meeting was under Executive Officer Reports, "Item 11.d. Response to Certain Comments" wherein I responded to comments you made during the November 6, 2014 public hearing about the Fall River Valley Coordinated SOI proposal. The Commission has asked that this information item be brought back to our December 18th meeting, as recommended by staff, for further discussion, including identifying you as the "speaker" in this response, even though Shasta County Fire was mentioned several times during the staff report. The text of the report remains the same as presented yesterday.

For your convenience I have attached that particular report, revised now to include your name and title. If you also would like us to include a transcript of your comments of 11/06/2014 when we recirculate this staff report for the December 18th meeting, we can do that, too, as an attachment. Please let me know by Wednesday, December 10th whether you do or do not want those comments included, so we have time to prepare the text for publication.

Also, please let us know if we could make any changes to our notification system to improve getting information to you and the volunteer fire companies under Shasta County Fire.

Jan Lopez

*Jan Lopez, Executive Officer
Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission
2516 Goodwater Avenue, Suite A
Redding, CA 96002*



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SHASTA LAFCO

*Report to the Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission
From: Jan Lopez, Executive Officer*

Meeting Date: December 18, 2014
Agenda Item #: 11.d.
Subject: Response to Comments Given at the 11/6/2014 Discussion *(Information only)*

Background and Discussion

At the November 6, 2014, Commission's public hearing to consider several SOI/MSR updates, one speaker, Mike Hebrard, made certain inferences regarding the Executive Officer's report on the Fall River Valley Coordinated FPD SOI Boundary that appear to require clarification. Mr. Hebrard serves as the Chief of the Shasta-Trinity Unit of CalFire, as the County Fire Warden, and as the Chief of the Shasta County Fire Department under a contract between Shasta County and CalFire.

- The proposed Coordinated FPD SOI does not lead to annexations; it serves to permit McArthur FPD and Northwest Lassen FPD to become one district and continue serving their historical response areas. Approval of the Coordinated FPD SOI does not have any material effect on CSA #1 – Shasta County Fire (SCF) services or its responsibilities.
- Both the McArthur and Northwest Lassen Districts have approved moving forward to merging or joining forces as one successor fire protection district, and an application is expected to come forward within the next few months. This proposed Coordinated FPD SOI is designed to accommodate that action.
- ISO (insurance) ratings of landowners and/or residents in the area will be unaffected by the approval of a sphere of influence boundary. Any future annexation proposal must be reviewed by the Commission at a completely separate public hearing process. No annexation proposal can be considered by LAFCO without an agency's Plan for Services that address the level of services and how they will be provided and paid for.
- LAFCO requested in January 2014 that CSA #1 - Shasta County Fire staff provide some form of map that would demonstrate service/response areas for the volunteer fire companies it currently administers for purposes of evaluating coverage available from those stations. The CSA #1 SOI study did not include that information because it was not provided. All other agencies provided this information.
- In July 2014 LAFCO staff provided a draft SOI map to SCF as a courtesy; the affected independent fire districts had not finalized their desired SOI area. Staff sent that proposal to the Valley districts, and they declined to use that configuration.

- The Commission hearing on this matter scheduled for September 2014 was continued to November 6th to permit the affected districts (McArthur, Northwest Lassen and Fall River Mills FPDs) to finalize their service area with a proposed sphere of influence map. A meeting of LAFCO staff and district representatives on October 8, 2014, concluded with the agreement of a SOI boundary that worked for all three affected independent districts. This boundary included the service/response areas of all three districts.
- The proposed Consolidated SOI boundary never did, and does not now include the community of Cassel. In the Burney Fire Protection District SOI/MSR study, approved by the Commission on November 6, 2014, the very same day, it is clearly stated that the Burney FPD had worked out a plan for annexing the Cassel area in 2012, but decided it was not fiscally feasible at that time. Although the Cassel area was not placed within the SOI of Burney FPD this year, it is clear that the Burney FPD would be the most appropriate agency to assume services there should annexation be desired by the community and Burney FPD. Neither Fall River Mills FPD, McArthur FPD, nor Northwest Lassen FPD have ever considered including the Cassel community within their SOI boundaries.
- Chief Hebrard referred to a 20-Year Long-Term Plan prepared for the Fall River Valley Community Services District, adopted by this District in July 2010. This work was prepared by Jan Lopez Consulting between 2007 and 2010 to assist the District in submitting information about their agency to Shasta LAFCO. All work conducted was at the direction of the District staff and Board.

The District subsequently submitted to Shasta LAFCO an application for a sphere of influence amendment in May 2012, which request was ultimately denied in November 2012. The SOI boundary proposed at the time included an area three times the size of the proposed Coordinated FPD SOI. The Commission ultimately adopted a more area-specific SOI boundary for the Fall River Valley CSD

- Chief Hebrard intimated the current Coordinated FPD SOI was somehow related to the earlier FRVCSD proposal. The FPD proposed SOI boundary is literally one-third the size of that first proposed by the Fall River Valley CSD, and closely follows the service/response areas for the Valley FPDs.
- The only relationship between the CSD and the FPDs SOI map areas is that they are both located in the Fall River Valley of Eastern Shasta County. At no time was it recommended by either Jan Lopez or the independent fire districts that the FRV Coordinated FPD SOI be larger than the territories they already served.
- Neither LAFCO staff nor Jan Lopez has ever been employed by the McArthur FPD or the Northwest Lassen FPDs, and the boundaries for the Coordinated FPD SOI presented at

the November 6th meeting evolved after many discussions between those affected agencies and LAFCO staff. The proposed map for the Coordinated FPD SOI has now been slightly modified.

- As a result of misunderstanding these and other public issues, the Fall River Mills FPD is requesting of late they not be included in the Coordinated FPD SOI for Fall River Valley at this time. This District's SOI boundary will be proposed to remain coterminous with its District boundary.

Conclusions

Comments by CSA #1 – Shasta County Fire staff were seriously taken under consideration by the affected independent districts and LAFCO staff as they were submitted over a period of seven months. The District and its volunteer fire companies will not be affected, either positively or negatively, by approval the ultimate Coordinated SOI boundary the Commission selects for the McArthur and Northwest Lassen FPDs, nor the individual SOI boundary approved for the Fall River Mills FPD.

Any proposed annexation of any territory within an adopted sphere of influence for McArthur and/or Northwest Lassen FPDs will require a completely separate application, CEQA review, a Plan for Services and Proposal Justification, notification of all potentially affected landowners, and must meet all requirements of LAFCO codes for such applications before it will be able to be presented to the Commission for consideration.

There is no connection or correlation or conflict between a sphere of influence proposed by another Fall River Valley agency and the one proposed Coordinated Fire Protection District Sphere of Influence that now includes McArthur FPD and Northwest Lassen FPD.

Recommendations

It was recommended by the Executive Officer in the December 4, 2014, staff report, that the Commission accept this background information, and reserve it for consideration along with other testimony that may be presented at the December 18, 2014, meeting.

Attachments:

On Fri, Nov 7, 2014 at 5:22 PM, Jan Lopez <exec@shasta.lafco.ca.gov> wrote:

Quick answers:

- I am arranging for a November 18 meeting up in Fall River with all the interested/affected fire-agencies and companies. Will let you know when it is set. I put that in motion yesterday afternoon. I am meeting with Mayers on their annexation that day, so this will work out well.
- In every SOI study, I have asked the agency to provide whatever information they could about it, including where they felt the SOI boundary should be. If there are issues that arise, we talk about it and work it out, whether it includes the affected agencies or adjacent agencies.
- The study I prepared for the CSD was a 20 year Long Range Plan, adopted July 2010. It was subsequently used, along with other data and reports, to support their application for a SOI change. There is no conflict of interest. The Coordinated FPD SOI addresses service areas of the two FPDs in Shasta County. I neither referred to this previous study or used it. Personnel of both Fall River and McArthur agreed with it; as did NW Lassen. I met with the folks up there 2-3 times before putting it forward.
- I also met with Mike Hebrard at least 3 times (and multiple emails) about this. I will be preparing a supplemental report on this whole issue. I am so wholly embarrassed and irritated at Mike for stirring up such fear with his misrepresentation and outright lies just to prove his point, because I saw a 30 year veteran firefighter standing at the podium with tears in his eyes, asking for a continuance. I have already talked to the fire people about this and they are going visit him to see what they can do to clear up that man's wrong impressions.
- Mike has a serious hidden agenda and it is bound to come out, sooner rather than later. He has been interfering in a number of fire-related projects, not just this one. Steve also talked to Mike, he said, after the meeting and told him he had to work with us and meet with us to facilitate a conclusion to this SOI issue. What he will do is anyone's guess. He feels pretty empowered right now.

I'll read through and respond to the rest of your comments in a few days.

Jan Lopez

Jan Lopez, Executive Officer

Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission

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