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**FRESNO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCo)  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEM No. 5-B

**DATE:** December 8, 2021

**TO:** Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission

**FROM:** David E. Fey, Executive Officer 

**BY:** Amanda Castro, LAFCo Analyst

**SUBJECT:** **Consider Approval: a one year extension of time to complete proceedings for the City of Mendota "Amador-Smoot Reorganization."** An approved reorganization consisting of the annexation of 14.61 acres to the City of Mendota and detachment from the Fresno County Fire Protection District, the Westlands Water District, and the Silver Creek Drainage District for territory located on the northwest corner of Smoot Avenue and the Amador Avenue Alignment. (LAFCo File No. RO-20-14)

**Applicant:** City of Mendota

**Landowners/Parties of Real Interest (100% Consent):** City of Mendota, Westlands Water District.

**Recommendation:** Approve a one year extension to complete proceedings

**Executive Summary**

The City of Mendota has requested a one year extension of time, to December 16, 2022, to complete proceedings for the City of Mendota "Amador-Smoot Reorganization" (Attachments "A" and "B"). This reorganization was approved by the commission on December 16, 2020. State law requires that all reorganization proceedings shall be completed within one year of approval unless the Commission grants an extension of time prior to the expiration date. Failure to grant an extension will terminate the proceedings.

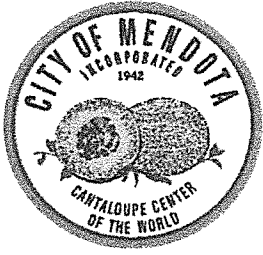
In accordance with Fresno LAFCo Policies, Standards, and Procedures Section 315-03, extensions of time may be granted when the imminent need for the proposal still exists, the project is still viable, and progress is being made toward completion. The Commission's Policies further state that the Commission may consider economic hardships beyond the control of the proponents as justification supporting the extension request.

## **Request for Extension of Time**

Mendota's city planner Jeffrey O'Neal has requested the extension to time to complete the land acquisition by the City of property that is owned by the Westlands Water District. This acquisition is a condition of LAFCo's approval. He writes, "the District has placed a number of conditions on its conveyance of the land to the city, some of which involve determinations to be made by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation regarding its land retirement settlement agreement with the District.... The city cannot fulfill the conditions placed on it by the District in time to complete the reorganization and has requested an extension of 12 months to complete the necessary actions."

## **Individuals and Agencies Receiving this Report**

- Ken Price, LAFCo Counsel
- Bernard Jimenez, Deputy Director of Fresno Co. Public Works and Planning
- Chief Dustin Hail, Chief, Fresno County Fire Protection District
- Jeff O'Neal, City Planner, City of Mendota
- Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager, City of Mendota
- Russ Freeman, Deputy General Manager-Resources, Westlands Water District



ATTACHMENT A

# CITY OF MENDOTA

*"Cantaloupe Center of The World"*

November 19, 2021

Mr. David Fey, Executive Officer  
Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission  
2607 Fresno Street, Suite B  
Fresno, CA 93721

SUBJECT: Extension of Amador-Smoot Reorganization (RO-20-14)


Mr. Fey:

The Amador-Smoot Reorganization was approved by LAFCo on December 16, 2020. The intent of this letter is to request that approval be extended for one year, until December 16, 2022. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$250 for processing.

As you are aware, Westlands Water District (District) owns a portion of the subject area, which it intends to convey to the City of Mendota (City) as part of a larger parks and recreation project. The annexation was conditioned upon the City acquiring that land from the District prior to recording the Certificate of Completion. Outside the reorganization process, the District has placed a number of conditions on its conveyance of the land to the City, some of which involve determinations to be made by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) regarding its land-retirement settlement agreement with the District. To this point, the City has engaged Reclamation about its role in the process and is awaiting a response or determination. Until the roles and responsibilities of the three agencies are established, the City cannot fulfill the conditions placed on it by the District, and therefore cannot acquire the land and meet the condition imposed by LAFCo. To accommodate the necessary discussions and actions, the City requests that the Commission provides a 12-month extension to the approved annexation.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

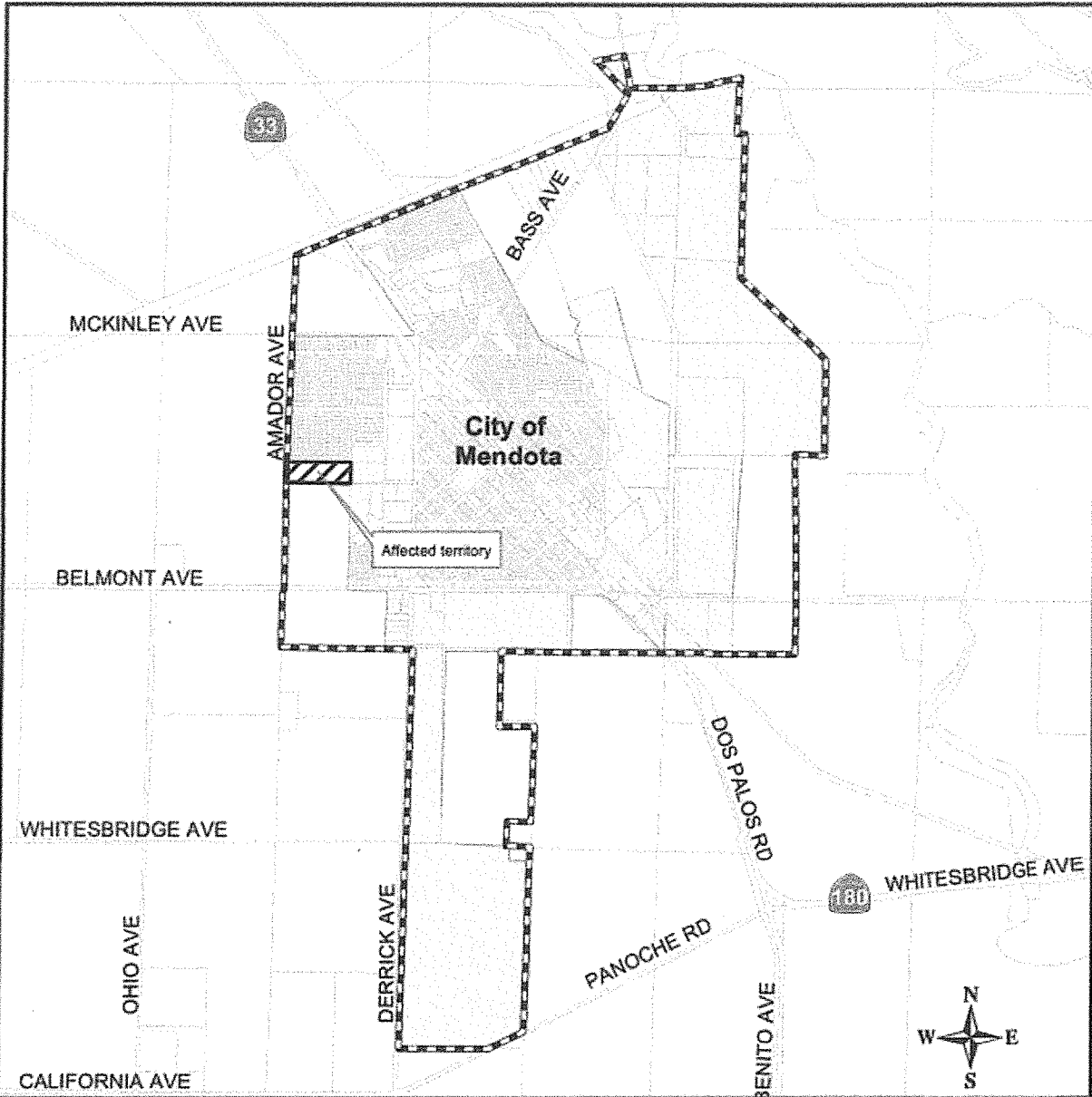


Jeffrey O'Neal, AICP  
City Planner

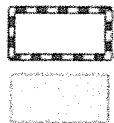
Enclosure: \$250 fee

Copy: Cristian Gonzalez, City manager

# Attachment B



## Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission



Sphere of influence

City limits

Incorporated: 1942  
 Sphere updated: 3/05/2008  
 City limits: 2,096 Acres  
 Sphere area: 2,899 Acres

Map prepared: 12/08/2020

Document path: G:\LAFCo Projects\Cities\Mendota\RO-20-14\GIS\Mendota\_B.mxd