

PRELIMINARY FY 2022-23 WORKPLAN
March 9, 2022

1. PROCESS APPLICATIONS, REORGANIZATIONS AND CITIES' SOI AMENDMENTS

Preliminary budget implication: application fees will fund this activity.

Proposals under discussion but not submitted include City of Firebaugh SOI amendment and annexation, City of Clovis McFarlane annexation, Widren Water District consolidation with the Westlands Water District, CSA 32 (Cantua Creek) SOI amendment and annexation, FMFCD SOI update to include SEDA and annexation of same, City of Clovis Ashlan-Thompson SE (Manny Penn), City of Fowler annexation, City of Kingsburg SOI amendment and annexation, City of Sanger Academy Avenue corridor annexation Malaga County Water District SOI amendment and annexation, City of Kerman SOI amendment and annexation.

2. FRESNO LAFCO'S MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW PROGRAM

Preliminary budget implication: this activity can be funded from LAFCo's operating account.

On November 5, 2014, the Commission adopted its MSR program. The goal of the Fresno LAFCo MSR program is to provide cities and special districts with an assessment of their provision of services, make recommendations regarding areas of improvement, and determine whether an agency is equipped to effectively provide services within its existing or expanded SOI.

A MSR is necessary for any update of a SOI pursuant to GC sec. 56430.

Fresno LAFCo's 132 MSRs are informally categorized in three "generations:"

- **"1.0" MSRs** are the first generation of MSRs adopted in 2007. These are the first MSRs performed; they are generally brief, frequently conclusory, and may not have been developed with the cooperation of the affected local agency.
- **"1.5" MSRs** are second generation MSRs that were updated between 2008 and 2014. These MSRs may present more analysis of the affected local agency as staff's experience preparing MSRs grew (locally and statewide through the CALAFCO community).
- **"2.0" MSRs** are MSRs that have been updated pursuant to the Commission's 2014 MSR Policy. The 2.0 MSRs present more complete and comprehensive data and analysis in compliance with the 2014 MSR Policy.

Since adoption of the Commission's 2014 MSR Program, this Commission has adopted a total of 48 2.0 MSRs in conjunction with the update of affected local agencies' SOIs. A list of the agencies with 2.0 MSRs is presented in **Attachment C**. Table 1-1 shows the Commission's MSR Inventory by generations.

Table 1-1, Fresno LAFCo MSR inventory by Generation

Municipal Service Review Program	MSRs by Generation			Total MSRs
	1.0	1.5	2.0	
Special District MSRs by Generation	19	57	41	117
City MSRs by Generation	8	2	5	15
Total MSRs by Generation	27	59	46	132

Summary of Remaining 1.0 MSRs

Of the remaining 19 special district 1.0 MSRs, the following types of special districts hold the largest number of 1.0 MSRs:

- 6 Irrigation Districts,
- 3 Mosquito Abatement Districts (one currently in progress),
- 3 Community Service Districts,
- 2 Pest Control Districts (one currently in progress),
- 1 California Water District
- 1 Hospital District
- 1 Levee District
- 1 Resource Conservation District (one currently in progress),
- 1 County Water District

The balance of 1.0 MSRs consist of the following agencies: Tri-County Hospital District, Lower San Joaquin Levee District, Westside Resource Conservation District, Westlands Water District, and Malaga County Water District.

In 2018, the Commission directed staff to defer updates of Irrigation District and California Water Districts' MSRs until after these agencies' GSAs have adopted their GSPs.

Staff recommends that the Commission's work plan continue to prioritize the update of the remaining 2007 special district MSRs (AKA the "1.0 MSRs"). Work on these MSRs would, however, take second place to application driven MSRs.

The remaining MSRs are proposed for FY 22-23 as follows. Progress on this list depends on the availability of staff resources not already committed to application based MSRs:

- Central Valley Pest Control District
- West Fresno County Red Scale Protective District
- Coalinga-Huron Mosquito Abatement
- Consolidated Mosquito Abatement
- Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control

- Fresno Westside Mosquito Abatement
- Lower San Joaquin Levee District
- 12 County Service Areas
- Six County Waterworks Districts

BACKGROUND ON FRESNO LAFCO'S WORK PLAN

Fresno LAFCo's Financial and Accounting Procedures specify that before July 1, the LAFCo Executive Officer shall prepare for the Commission's review and approval of an annual work plan. The work plan is prepared in conjunction with the annual budget. The work plan identifies the purposes and plans of state law and local policy, including requirements for service reviews, sphere of influence updates, and other mandated functions. The budget supports the work program.

This work plan reflects the Fresno LAFCo's Policies and Procedures and the current and the dynamic needs of the local agencies in Fresno County. The work plan is composed of projects to be undertaken directly by LAFCo staff during the year.

The work plan is developed to advance the goals and mission of Fresno LAFCo, consistent with state law.

I. SCOPE OF WORK PLAN

The scope of the work plan is consistent with the legislature's findings and declarations:

- It is the policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development, which are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the state.
- The logical formation and determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor in promoting orderly development and in balancing that development with sometimes competing state interests of discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime agricultural lands, and efficiently extending government services.
- Providing housing for persons and families of all incomes is an important factor in promoting orderly development.
- This policy should be affected by the logical formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, with a preference granted to accommodating additional growth within, or through the expansion of, the boundaries of those local agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services and housing for persons and families of all incomes in the most efficient manner feasible.
- The Legislature also finds that, whether governmental services are proposed to be provided by a single-purpose agency, several agencies, or a multipurpose agency, responsibility should be given to the agency or agencies that can best provide government services.

II. PROJECTS OF THE WORK PLAN

The projects are identified to address important issues identified by the Commission in its initial Policies, Standards, and Procedures Document, adopted in 1986 or as revised. Fresno LAFCo identified the following list of problems and needs locally, which pertain to the Commission's responsibilities, and developed policies, standards and procedures in this document in order to help resolve the problems and meet needs within the Commission's jurisdiction:

1. Proliferation of overlapping and competing local agencies.
2. Need for more cooperation/coordination among local agencies.
3. Inadequate level or range of services in county/community.
4. Inadequate revenue base or adverse fiscal impacts for local agencies.
5. Illogical, gerrymandered agency boundaries, islands, surrounded areas.
6. Illogical agency service areas.
7. Conflicts between urban and rural/agricultural land uses.
8. Premature proposals and lack of development proposals.
9. Phasing of agency expansion/growth.
10. Determining environmental effects of proposals.
11. Determining consistency with city or county general plans.
12. Urban sprawl and leapfrog urban development.
13. Guiding urban growth away from prime agricultural lands.
14. Defining agricultural lands and open space lands.
15. Opposition of proposals by residents and popularity of proposals by landowners/developers.
16. Provision of adequate noticing of LAFCO hearing and conducting authority hearing.

On February 18, 2015, the following Special District issues were presented to the Commission:

1. No adopted annual budget, by-laws, or procedures.
2. No services.
3. District board nonfeasance.
4. Special district is the subject of a Grand Jury reports.
5. Lack of staff or staff lacks technological/managerial/financial (T/M/F) expertise.
6. Board members fulfill both policy and operational functions.
7. Lack of coordination of similar services between and among different special districts.
8. Lack of transparency and/or Brown Act compliance.
9. Changing demographics, antiquated mission.
10. The special district does not cooperate with LAFCo on the MSR.

Other special district issues have since emerged:

11. The district board frequently lacks a quorum.
12. Board members lack technical, managerial, and/or financial expertise.
13. Board members continue to serve after terms expire (though frequently permitted by the district's principal act).
14. District does not file annual financial statements with County Auditor Controller Treasurer Tax Collector.

III. WORK PLAN CONFORMITY WITH FRESNO LAFCo GOALS

The work plan is refined annually to conform to Commission's adopted goals:

1. Encouraging orderly formation and development of agencies;
2. Encouraging consistency with spheres of influence and recommended reorganization of agencies;
3. Encouraging orderly urban development and preservation of open space patterns;
4. Encouraging conservation of prime agricultural lands and open space areas;
5. Providing public access to the Commission via the internet; and
6. LAFCo disadvantaged communities' policy.