



Date: November 27, 2007 for December 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda  
To: Commissioners  
From: Executive Officer  
Subject: Completion of Countywide Service Review and Request for Affected Agency Board Feedback on South County Fire Study

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*Summary: The Commission has completed both phases of the state-mandated service reviews. Staff has prepared an addendum to respond to the comments received at the June 6, 2007 public hearing on the second phase of the service reviews.*

*Recommendations: 1) Adopt draft Resolution No. 2007-9 approving Countywide Service Review,  
2) Direct Chairperson to send a letter to the governing boards of the south county fire agencies soliciting feedback on the South County Fire Service Study.*

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The Commission chose to approach completing the state-mandated service reviews in two phases. The first report titled "Countywide Service Review" was circulated to the public in 2005 and was accepted by LAFCO after a public hearing on August 3, 2005. The second phase titled "South County Fire Service Study" was an analysis of fire agency reorganization options in the Pajaro Valley. The Commission held a public hearing and accepted that study on June 6, 2007. Based upon the comments in the public review of the South County Fire Service Study, the LAFCO staff has compiled an addendum of corrections and staff recommends adopting draft Resolution No. 2007-9, which acknowledges completion of all state-mandated service reviews and incorporates the changes documented in the addendum.

Secondly, the South County Fire Service Study evaluated options for reorganizing fire agencies in the Pajaro Valley. I have attached a summary of the key points from that study. The entire text is online accessed through the Reports page on LAFCO's website: <http://santacruzlafco.org/CSR.html#SoCountyStudy> All of the south county fire agencies extensively cooperated with LAFCO's consultants during preparation of the study, and several of the south county fire chiefs attended the June 6, 2007 LAFCO hearing. Nevertheless, it was not clear whether the staffs were able to brief their respective boards concerning the options that were studied, or whether the boards have considered options for service improvements. It is therefore recommended that the Commission direct the Chairperson to write a letter to each of the affected boards asking each board to respond to LAFCO with their feedback to the South County Fire Service Study.

cc: Watsonville City Manager  
Watsonville Fire Chief  
County Administrative Officer (CSA 48)  
County General Services Director  
County Fire Chief  
Pajaro Valley FPD Chief  
Pajaro Dunes Homeowners Association (CSA 4)  
Aromas Tri-County FPD Chief

Attachments:

- Draft Resolution No. 2007-9
- Exhibit A Addendum to South County Fire Service Study
- Key Points from South County Fire Service Study