

12 PUBLIC COMMENT

(None).

13 FUTURE MEETINGS

~~December 11, 2013 (Meeting Canceled)~~

January 8, 2014

February 12, 2014

March 12, 2014

14 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(None).

7 PUBLIC HEARING(S)

The following continued public hearing from October 9, 2013 was called up:

- a. Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update for the City of Compton.

The E.O. stated several things had occurred since last month's meeting. First, the City of Long Beach submitted a letter withdrawing its application to annex the eastern portion of Rancho Dominguez; second, the City of Compton's City Manager and Planning and Economic Development Director submitted a written "Annexation Program for the City of Compton" (Annexation Program); and third, the East Rancho Dominguez Neighborhood Association, which represents the residents and business-owners in the unincorporated islands on the east side of Compton, Areas 2, 3, 4, and 5 (all areas are known as East Rancho Dominguez), submitted a letter concerning the proposed City of Compton SOI Update and opposing the annexation of its area into Compton. Copies of all of these documents were included in the Agenda Package.

The E.O. noted that the combination of the afore-mentioned factors presented changed facts and has provided staff with a wealth of new information to consider in formulating the staff recommendation. Given this additional input, staff recommended that the Commission re-adopt the existing SOI for the City of Compton (City). The E.O. stated that Compton has provided sufficient information to justify leaving Area 7 (Rancho Dominguez) within the City's SOI boundary at this time.

The City of Compton Draft MSR (Draft MSR) reflects the additional information which only recently came to staff's attention. The E.O. stated a "clean" version and a "strikethrough/underline" version of the Draft MSR highlighted changes in this November report was included in the Agenda Package. Map Exhibit "B" is a revised map showing the proposed SOI boundary as recommended by staff. The E.O. noted that the updated resolution now reflects the words "...re-adopting the current SOI for the City of Compton" in subsection 8 of the staff recommendation.

Minutes

November 13, 2013

Page 9

The E.O. noted that there was a typo on staff recommendation number 4. The recommendation incorrectly referenced the September 20<sup>th</sup> Draft MSR, when in fact, it should reflect the November 13<sup>th</sup> Draft MSR.

The continued public hearing was reopened to receive testimony.

The E.O. reread Agenda Item No. 3, Disclosure of Campaign Contributions (None).

The E.O. swore in five members of the audience who planned to testify.

Harold Duffey, Compton City Manager, stated that City staff provided LAFCO with an Annexation Program which he believed accomplished two things: one, the Annexation Program absorbs the unincorporated territories near the City in a fiscally responsible manner; and two, the strategy prioritizes the annexations of selected areas outside the current municipal boundaries to facilitate the annexations of "County Islands" both in the eastern and western portions of Compton. Mr. Duffey stated the strategy for the City is to insure that Compton has a contiguous boundary. Mr. Duffey also stated that the City is very serious and motivated in moving forward with the Annexation Program.

Aja Brown, City of Compton Mayor, stated she anticipates that the City will have the opportunity to annex Area 7 to help facilitate the expenditures associated with Areas 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Robert Delgadillo, Interim Planning and Economic Development Director for the City of Compton, asked if Commissioners had any questions regarding the Annexation Program submitted to LAFCO. Commissioners did not have questions concerning the Annexation Program.

Commissioner LaBonge asked where most of the city annexation activity has occurred in the County. The E.O. responded that most annexation activity has occurred primarily in the City of Santa Clarita.

Commissioner LaBonge asked if the City of Long Beach has an opinion regarding the Rancho Dominguez area. The E.O. responded that the City of Long Beach has withdrawn their application to annex the eastern portion of Rancho Dominguez. The application submitted was to annex essentially 40% of the Rancho Dominguez, an area east of the Alameda Corridor. Negotiations with the City of Long Beach and the County failed because the County requested that the City of Long Beach include all of Rancho Dominguez and not a portion of the territory. Commissioner LaBonge asked the E.O. what his recommendation is. The E.O. stated that his recommendation is to re-adopt the existing SOI for the City of Compton which would retain Area 7 within their SOI boundary, as requested by the City of Compton.

Commissioner Spence asked how residents were surveyed. Mayor Brown stated she personally spoke with residents within Areas 2, 3, and residents of a mobile home park located in Area 7. She stated that these people are interested in being annexed to the City of Compton, if the level of service would be maintained at the same service level currently being provided by the County.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky asked would a vote be required from the residents in Area 7 to be annexed

Minutes

November 13, 2013

Page 10

into the City of Compton. The E.O. stated that Area 7 is inhabited territory with more than 12 registered voters, and would therefore be subject the protest proceedings of the registered voters and landowners. The registered voters and landowners at the protest hearing could ultimately terminate the annexation if it meets or exceeds protest thresholds.

Sinetta T. Farley, President of the East Rancho Dominguez Neighborhood Association, spoke in opposition to Areas 2, 3, 4, and 5 remaining within the City of Compton's SOI boundary. Ms. Farley requested that the unincorporated community of East Rancho Dominguez be removed from the current City of Compton SOI boundary, as they have their own identity and do not want to be annexed to the City of Compton.

Robert Gwynn, a resident of Rancho Dominguez and Chair of the annexation committee for Area 7 to the City of Carson, stated he is opposed to Area 7 being included within the City of Compton's SOI boundary. Mr. Gwynn stated that an application was submitted to LAFCO in 2011 for the Rancho Dominguez area to be annexed into the City of Carson. He said he would like to see it be approved by LAFCO.

Jim Dear, City of Carson Mayor, stated that he has spoken frequently with residents of Area 7, who associate themselves with the City of Carson. Mayor Dear stated that a lot of work and energy is expended when trying to annex territory into a city. Mayor Dear referred to Exhibit "B" regarding the Joint SOI of Area 7. Mayor Dear stated that this area is within the SOI boundary of three cities: Carson, Compton, and Long Beach. He would like to remedy the situation by annexing all of Area 7 into the City of Carson. Mayor Dear asked the Commission to consider excluding Area 7 from the City of Compton's SOI boundary.

Commissioner Close asked Mayor Dear if he had comments regarding the validity of the Annexation Program. Mayor Dear suggested that the City of Compton could annex the industrial zoned portions of Area 1 to offset the fiscal constraints associated with Areas 2, 3, 4, and 5, and accomplish the same goal.

Commissioner Close commented that if the City of Compton submits an application to annex Area 7, there will be competing applications between the Cities of Compton and Carson. Commissioner Close asked what is the method or process when there are competing applications. The E.O. stated there are several provisions of law. In the absence of any action by the Commission, the application that was filed first takes precedent. Also, an application cannot be scheduled before the Commission until the application is complete. Carson's application is not complete, pending approval of the negotiated property tax transfer resolution. If the negotiated property tax transfer resolution was approved within the next several months or so, the application would be complete and the annexation would be set for a public hearing and presented to the Commission. At that point, the City of Compton application, unless it was complete, would not be before the Commission. The E.O. stated there are no current pending applications from the City of Compton.

Commissioner Dear asked why it takes so long for local agencies and the County to negotiate a property tax transfer resolution and should legislation be changed to expedite negotiations. The E.O. stated that LAFCO does not have authority over the negotiated property tax transfer resolution. The negotiations only involve cities, the County, and/or special districts. The E.O. stated the law

requires those parties to negotiate but does not necessarily require those parties to come to an agreement. The E.O. stated that there have been discussions along those lines and Chair Gladbach added that these issues have been discussed at CALAFCO as well.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky asked if the Commission had the discretion not to approve an annexation if the territory is “cherry-picked”, not in the best interest of the public. The E.O. stated that Commission decisions are legislative actions in which an application can be approved or denied.

Chair Gladbach asked the E.O. to clarify the locations of “East Rancho Dominguez” and “Rancho Dominguez”. The E.O. referenced map Exhibit “B”. Areas 2, 3, 4, and 5 are referred as “East Rancho Dominguez” and the red-hatched territory, labeled Area 7, is referred to as “Rancho Dominguez”.

Supervisors Pellissier and Yaroslavsky both stated they would like to see the City of Compton have an opportunity to annex the unincorporated County areas located in the City’s SOI boundary, adding, further, that taking Area 7 (Rancho Dominguez) out of the City of Compton’s SOI would make it more difficult for Compton to annex the area.

The Commission took the following action:

- Adopted the November 13, 2013 City of Compton Municipal Service Review, as updated.
- Adopted the recommended determinations required for a Municipal Service Review as contained in both the staff report and the MSR, as updated, and pursuant to Government Code Sections 56430.
- Adopted the recommended determinations required for the Update of the Sphere of Influence as contained in both the staff report and MSR pursuant to Government Code Sections 56425.
- Adopted the SOI Update for the City of Compton, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425, as shown on map Exhibit “B”, Revised: November 13, 2013.
- Adopted Resolution No. 2013-61RMD as updated adopted the MSR and SOI Update for the City of Compton re-adopted the current SOI for the City of Compton.

MOTION: LaBONGE  
SECOND: YAROSLAVSKY  
AYES: CLOSE, FINLAY, LaBONGE, MOLINA, PELLISSIER,  
SPENCE, YAROSLAVSKY, GLADBACH  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: DEAR  
ABSENT: NONE  
MOTION PASSES: 8/0/1