

**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, February 25, 2004
9:00 a.m.

Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Room 381A
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles 90012

A person with a disability may contact the LAFCO office at (818) 254-2454 at least 72-hours before the scheduled meeting to request receipt of an agenda in an alternative format or to request disability-related accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WILL BE LED BY CHAIRMAN PELLISSIER.**
3. **PROTEST HEARING**
 - a. Consolidation of County Sanitation District Nos. 26 and 32, located in the City of Santa Clarita and surrounding unincorporated Los Angeles County territory.
4. **SPECIAL ITEMS**
 - a. Approve minutes of the meeting held February 11, 2004.
 - b. Municipal Service Reviews and Spheres of Influence Update.
 - c. Report on pending applications.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This is the opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items that are not on the posted agenda, provided that the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Speakers are reminded of the three-minute time limitation.

6. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

March 10, 2004

March 24, 2004

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

This is the opportunity for commissioners to discuss matters not on the Posted Agenda (to be discussed and upon Commission approval placed on the Agenda for action at a future meeting).

8. **ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

STAFF REPORT

FEBRUARY 25, 2004

**PROTEST HEARING
CONSOLIDATION OF COUNTY SANITATION
DISTRICT NOS. 26 AND 32**

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3A

Agenda Item No. 3a is the protest hearing on proposed consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 26 into Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 32.

Proposal Area: The boundaries of the proposed consolidated district are equivalent to the combined boundaries of the two existing districts. The area encompasses the majority of the City of Santa Clarita and some of the surrounding unincorporated County area.

The area is highly urbanized with a significant number of residential neighborhoods and associated commercial corridors. The area also includes specific sites emphasizing commercial and industrial development, as well as a significant amount of vacant land and/or open space.

The service area of the existing districts and associated spheres of influence are bounded by the Angeles National Forest to the north, the Santa Susana and San Gabriel Mountain ridgelines and the Angeles National Forest to the south, the Ventura County line and the Los Padres National Forest to the west and Agua Dulce to the east.

Redevelopment Project Areas: Portions of the existing two districts are within existing redevelopment areas; consequently, the same portions of the proposed consolidated district will be within the existing redevelopment areas. Consolidation of the two districts will not add or subtract any land from an existing redevelopment area; nor will it result in the creation of any new redevelopment area.

Present Capacity of Public Facilities: Wastewater generated by the consolidated district will continue to be treated at the Saugus and Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (WRP). The two WRPs have a combined design capacity of 19.1 mgd and currently process an average flow of 18.35 mgd. The Valencia WRP is currently undergoing an expansion to increase the combined capacity to 28.1 mgd. Accordingly, the Districts' sewerage facilities have or, in accordance with current policy will have, adequate capacity to collect, treat, and dispose of the wastewater anticipated to be generated by the service area. The Districts have an approved facilities plan and final EIR that provides for an increase of the ultimate treatment capacity to 34.1 mgd.

Provision of Services: The proposed consolidation will not result in any new services or any change in existing services. Issues of growth and required facilities for the combined service areas of Districts 26 and 32 are addressed in the 2015 Santa Clarita Valley Joint Sewerage System Facilities Plan and Final EIR. The approved facilities plan and final EIR provides for an increase of the ultimate treatment capacity to 34.1 mgd.

Expansion-related facilities are financed through the connection fee program. The program charges new dischargers or those existing users who significantly increase their discharge for the incremental cost of expanding the sewerage system to accommodate their discharge. Upgrade-related capital and operation and maintenance costs are financed through the service charge program. This program charges existing discharges for their proportionate share of the annual costs of the sewerage system.

Assessments, Fees, Charges and Existing Debt: The two existing districts currently impose equivalent connection fee and service charge rates, the consolidated district will continue to impose these rates. The consolidated district will assume the responsibility for the combined debt service of the two districts.

The residents of the consolidated district will be the same as for the two existing districts. Therefore, the residents will remain liable for any existing indebtedness.

Fiscal Obligations: All money, funds and obligations of the existing districts will become the money, funds and obligations of the consolidated district.

Correspondence: Staff has not received any correspondence in opposition to or in support of this consolidation.

Conclusion: There are a total of 83,610 registered voters within the combined territory. Staff has received -0- written protests to date, which constitutes approximately -0- percent of the total registered voters.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 57081, the Commission shall order the consolidation without an election, unless a petition is submitted prior to the close of the protest hearing requesting that the proposal be submitted to confirmation by the voters. Such a petition must be signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the territory subject to the consolidation who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory or at least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the territory.

Recommended Action

1. Open the protest hearing and receive any and all oral or written protests or petitions, objections, or evidence, presented or filed, relating to this proposal.
2. Close the protest hearing.
3. Instruct the Executive Officer, pursuant to Government Code Section 57081 to determine the sufficiency of any petition requesting that the proposal be submitted to confirmation by the voters and report back to the Commission with his determination.
4. Adopt a resolution ordering consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 26 into Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 32 without an election, if a petition complying with the requirements of Government Code Section 57081 has not been filed with the Commission prior to the close of the protest hearing, or
5. Order the territory consolidated subject to confirmation by the voters if a petition complying with the requirements of Government Code Section 57081 has been filed with the Commission prior to the close of the protest hearing, and the Executive Officer determines that the petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures.
6. Provide that the consolidation shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a. The effective date of the consolidation shall be July 1, 2005.
 - b. The consolidated territory shall be subject to the payment of such service charges, assessments or taxes as District No. 32 may legally impose.
 - c. Property owners within the consolidated territory will continue to be taxed for their respective District's existing bonded indebtedness.
 - d. District No. 32 shall assume all of the assets and liabilities, including any funds and contract or obligations, of District No. 26.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-00P

**RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION
COMMISSION FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY
ORDERING CONSOLIDATION OF LOS ANGELES
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 26 INTO
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 32**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Los Angeles County Sanitation District Nos. 26 and 32 adopted a resolution of application to initiate proceedings before the Local Agency Formation Commission for Los Angeles County (the "Commission") pursuant to Part 3, Division 3, Title 5 of the California Government Code (commencing with section 56000, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000), for the consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 26 into Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 32; and

WHEREAS, the principal reason for the proposed consolidation is to provide for a more efficient operation, lower administrative costs, and elimination of duplicative staffing.

WHEREAS, a description of the boundaries and map of the proposal is set forth in Exhibits "A" and "B," attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, the proposed consolidation is inhabited and consists of 34,264 acres (53 sq.mi.); and

WHEREAS, the short-form designation given this proposal is "Consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District Nos. 26 and 32;" and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2004, the Commission approved the Consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District Nos. 26 and 32; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 57002, the Executive Officer of the Commission has set February 25, 2004 as the date for the protest hearing and has given notice thereof; and

WHEREAS, at the time and place fixed in the notice, the hearing was held, and any and all oral or written protests, objections and evidence were received and considered; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, acting as the conducting authority, has the ministerial duty of determining the sufficiency of any petition requesting that the proposal be submitted to confirmation by the voters, and if a petition has been submitted meeting the requirements of Government Code section 57081, order the consolidation subject to the confirmation of the voters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Commission finds that the number of registered voters residing within the boundary of the territory is 83,610.
2. The Commission finds that a petition meeting the requirements of Government Code section 57081 has not been submitted prior to the close of the protest hearing, and therefore, the Commission may order the consolidation without an election.

3. The Commission hereby orders the Consolidation of Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 26 into Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 32, which consists of that territory described in Exhibit "A" hereto, which description is incorporated herein by reference, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a. The effective date of the consolidation shall be July 1, 2005.
 - b. The consolidated territory shall be subject to the payment of such service charges, assessments or taxes as District No. 32 may legally impose.
 - c. Property owners within the consolidated territory will continue to be taxed for their respective District's existing bonded indebtedness.
 - d. District No. 32 shall assume all of the assets and liabilities, including any funds and contract or obligations, of District No. 26.

4. The Executive Officer is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the affected local agencies, upon the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's payment of the applicable fees required by Government Code Section 54902.5, and prepare, execute and file a certificate of completion with the appropriate public agencies, pursuant to Government Code Section 570000, *et seq.*

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of February 2004.

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

Larry J. Calemine, Executive Officer