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To: Olin Woods, Chair, and Members of the Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission

From: Christine Crawford, Executive Officer Terri Tuck, Commission Clerk

Date: February 27, 2012

Subject: Receive and Review the Draft Davis Cemetery District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study (LAFCO № S-038)

Recommended Action

Receive and review the Draft Davis Cemetery District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence (MSR/SOI) Study and provide direction to staff as appropriate.

Reason for Recommended Action

The receipt of the draft document by the Commission signals a formal public review period prior to the public hearing for formal review of the studies and consideration of the recommendations for the sphere of influence boundaries. Staff will respond to Commission and public input and revise the draft MSR/SOI as appropriate. It is anticipated that the MSR/SOI will be scheduled for Commission action at the March 26, 2012 meeting.

Background

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act) requires the Commission develop and determine spheres of influence for city's and special districts in the County. The CKH Act also requires the Commission, as necessary, to review and update each SOI every five years. The last Davis Cemetery District SOI was completed in 2003.

Commissioners * Public Member Olin Woods, Chair * * County Member Matt Rexroad, Vice Chair * * City Members Stephen Souza, Skip Davies * County Member Don Saylor * ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS * Public Member Robert Ramming * City Member Bill Kristoff * County Member Jim Provenza * STAFF * Executive Officer Christine M. Crawford, AICP * * Commission Clerk Terri Tuck * Commission Counsel Robyn Truitt Drivon * A MSR is conducted prior to, or in conjunction with, the update of a SOI. This MSR evaluates the structure and operation of District services and includes a discussion of the capability and capacity of the District to ensure the provision of municipal services to future growth of the District's boundaries. The SOI indicates the probable physical boundaries and service area of the District over the next ten and twenty years.

The Commission will likely recall that the Davis Cemetery District was separated from the greater MSR/SOI for all the cemetery districts approved last year in order to address the District's request to expand its SOI.

Draft SOI Boundary Recommendation

Yolo LAFCo adopted local Standards for Evaluation for annexations in 2005. There are several standards which provide guidance to determining an appropriate SOI boundary (for ultimate annexation) for the Davis Cemetery District:

Choice of Entity (A.5)

This Standard indicates that "expansion of the boundaries of those local agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services...in the most efficient manner is favored."

Territory to Be Included (C.1)

"The division of existing identifiable communities is disfavored, but at the same time the inclusion of heterogeneous economic and social interests within the same entity is favored."

As discussed in greater detail in the attached document, the cemetery districts in Yolo County do not serve all residents in the County. Areas such as Woodland and the surrounding area are served by other public and private cemeteries. The City of West Sacramento and a portion of unincorporated area, including the community of Clarksburg is not served by any specific cemetery. And as shown in the MSR, the Davis Cemetery District has significant capacity to accommodate additional territory.

The Davis Cemetery District initially requested to expand its SOI to serve all the territory in the County that was not already located within a district, but later scaled it back to include all the territory south of County Road 27.

Staff recommends that LAFCo consider a plan to ensure that all territory currently not served by a public cemetery provider (district or city) become served over time. The policy consideration for the Commission is how best to accomplish that goal.

There is no question that the Davis Cemetery District is in a position to "best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services" and certainly has the most capacity to expand. On the other hand, adding all the currently unserved territory to the Davis Cemetery District's SOI may divide existing communities and add areas such as Monument Hills (which has access to a private cemetery) and Westucky/North Woodland to the Davis Cemetery District even though they may not have a strong community connection to Davis.

The Draft MSR/SOI recommends that the Davis Cemetery SOI expand up to CR 27 to the north and extend to the County boundary to the east, taking in West Sacramento and Clarksburg (see document for map). And in the next cycle of MSR/SOIs for the cemetery districts, divide the remaining unserved territory to those existing districts with the strongest community connection.

Other SOI alternatives that staff considered included expanding the District's SOI to include all of the currently unserved portions of the County, which could either: (1) include the City of Woodland with operation of its city cemetery transferring to the Davis Cemetery District (discussed in more detail in the attached SOI); or (2) include the area around the City of Woodland with operation of the Woodland City Cemetery retained by the City.

Should the Commission wish the draft SOI to reflect an alternate boundary, the Commission may wish to discuss it at the meeting and provide staff direction.

Attachment:

Draft Davis Cemetery District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study

Draft

Yolo County Davis Public Cemetery Special District

Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence



Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission Draft - February 2012

YOLO COUNTY

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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Olin Woods, Chair, Public Member Matt Rexroad, Vice Chair, County Member Stephen Souza, City Member Skip Davies, City Member Don Saylor, County Member

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INTRODUCTION

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LAFCO

The fundamental role of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is to implement the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Act (Government Code §56000, et seq.), providing for the logical, efficient, and most appropriate formation of local municipalities, services areas, and special districts. The major goals of LAFCO are: to encourage orderly growth and development, discourage urban sprawl, preserve open-space and prime agricultural lands, provide for the present and future needs of each county and its communities, balance total community services needs with financial resources available, determine whether new or existing agencies can feasibly provide needed services in a more efficient or accountable manner, and conduct a review of all municipal services and spheres of influence.

PURPOSE OF A MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

The purpose of a Municipal Services Review (MSR) in general is to provide a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the services provided by local municipalities, service areas, and special districts. A MSR evaluates the structure and operation of the local municipalities, service areas, and special districts and discusses possible areas for improvement and coordination. The MSR is intended to provide information and analysis to support a sphere of influence update. A written statement of the study's determinations must be made in the following areas:

- 1. Growth and population projections for the affected area;
- 2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence;
- 3. Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged, unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence;
- 4. Financial ability of agencies to provide services;
- 5. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities;
- 6. Accountability for community services needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies; and

7. Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

Correspondingly, the MSR is organized according to these determinations listed above. Information regarding each of the above issue areas is provided in this document.

PURPOSE OF A SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

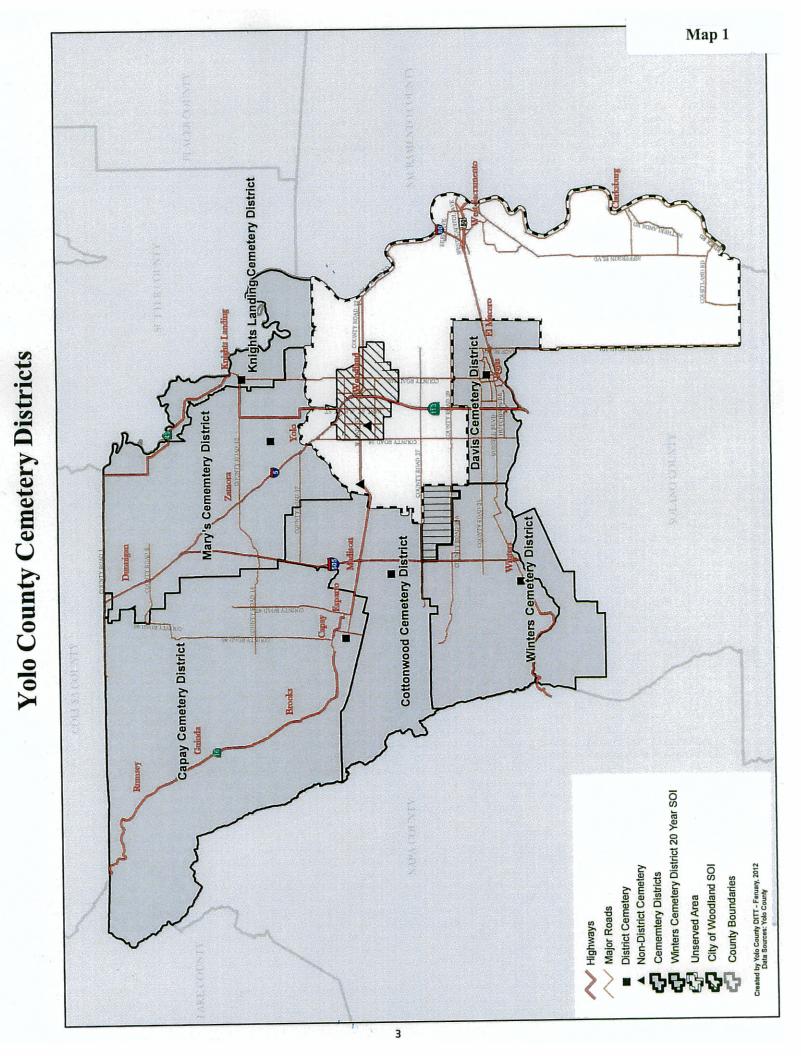
The SOI is an important tool used to implement the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH). A SOI is defined by Government Code 56425 as "...a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency or municipality..." Pursuant to Yolo County LAFCO policy an SOI includes an area adjacent to a jurisdiction where development might be reasonably expected to occur in the next 20 years. A MSR is conducted prior to, or in conjunction with, the update of a SOI and provides the foundation for updating it. In Yolo County, a SOI generally has two planning lines. One is the 10-year boundary which includes the area that may likely be annexed within 10 years, while the 20-year boundary is anticipated to accommodate boundary expansions over a 20-year horizon.

In determining a sphere of influence, the CKH Act requires LAFCO to consider and prepare written determinations for each of the following:

- 1. Present and planned land uses in the area, including agriculture and open space lands;
- 2. Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area;
- 3. Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide; and
- 4. Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

CEMETERY DISTRICT OVERVIEW

Yolo County has six public cemetery districts: Capay, Cottonwood, Davis, Knights Landing, Mary's, and Winters (Map 1). These districts include significant portions of land within Yolo County; however various parts of the County remain outside the boundaries of any public cemetery district. The City of Woodland maintains a public cemetery for its residents. The County is also served by several private cemeteries including Monument Hill Memorial Park and St. Joseph's Cemetery in Woodland.



The Davis Cemetery District was formed in 1922. The District is located in eastern Yolo County and encompasses 43.28 square miles (27,699 acres) (Map 2). The District serves a population of 73,930, which includes the City of Davis and surrounding areas. It has the largest population among all of the Public Cemetery Districts in Yolo County.

In 1958 the Catholic Diocese deeded three acres of cemetery land to the Davis Cemetery District, originally donated to the Diocese by the Chiles family. The District purchased twenty additional acres from George Chiles between 1962 and 1964.

The Davis Cemetery, perhaps the oldest cemetery in Yolo County, was named an "historical site" by the Davis City Council in 1985. The earliest remaining grave markers in the Cemetery are from 1855, on land originally owned by Colonel Joseph B. Chiles. Few burial markers from the mid-1800s exist today. The earliest settlers, predominantly Chinese, now lie unmarked due to the havoc caused by vandals and grass fires over the years, which destroyed all but one remaining wooden grave marker. However, headstones of all descriptions still mark the burial place of many pioneers.

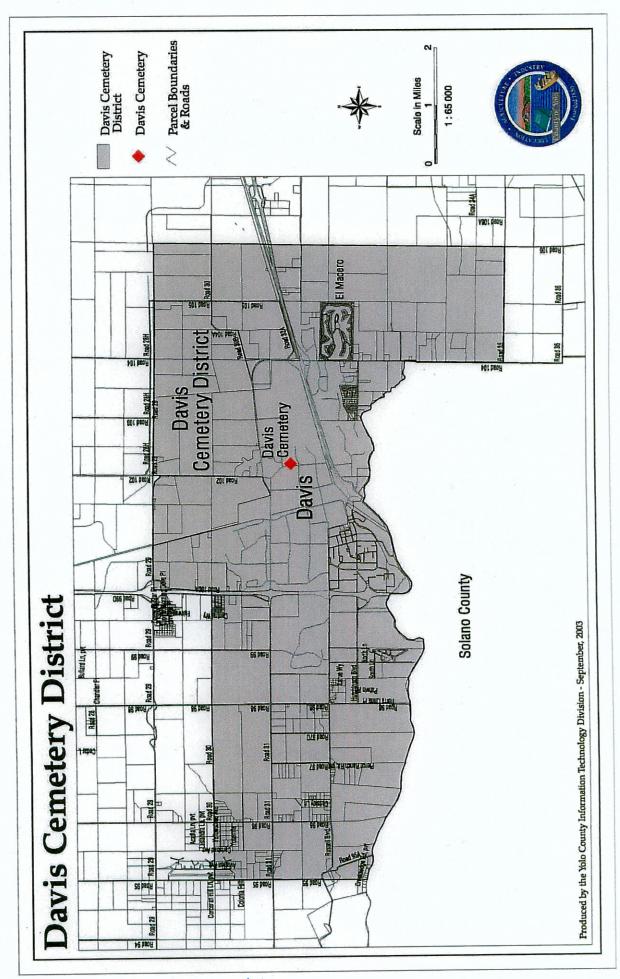
The Davis Cemetery District currently maintains one 27 acre cemetery. The Davis Cemetery, formerly Davisville Cemetery, is located on Pole Line Road and East Eighth Street in the City of Davis. The Cemetery consists of 12 acres of active cemetery and approximately 15 acres of undeveloped land.

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE BACKGROUND

Public cemetery districts are single purpose special districts established and regulated under provisions of the Health and Safety Code, Part 4, Sections 9000 et seq.

Cemetery districts are legally authorized to provide standard cemetery functions, including land acquisition, cemetery maintenance, and grounds keeping. Districts also conduct activities attendant to burials and disinterment. Districts finance services through property taxes, the sale of burial plots, charges for openings and removals, and setting of markers. A district can also raise money through gifts or donations.

A board of supervisors shall appoint a board of trustees of at least three or five members for every district. Each person appointed shall be a voter in the district and serve a four year term. Each district is governed and managed by the trustees and shall meet at least once every three months, subject to the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act. A provision of law also exists for the board of supervisors to act as the board of trustees of a district, if necessary.



Map 2

Residents and taxpayers of the district, former residents and taxpayers who acquired interment rights while they were residents or taxpayers of the district, eligible nonresidents of the district (pursuant to Section 9061), and all family members (pursuant to Section 9002(e)) may be interred in district cemeteries.

An endowment care fund is intended to defray the cost of care and maintenance if and when a cemetery district no longer receives revenue from the sale of plots and related services. The trustees of a district set the rate for the endowment care fund pursuant to the Health and Safety Code Section 8738.

MSR/SOI APPROACH

This MSR will provide Yolo LAFCo with an informational document that evaluates the ability of the Davis Cemetery District to provide services within the County. For rural special districts, including most of the Yolo County Public Cemetery Special Districts, that do not have municipal level services to review, MSR's will be used to determine what type of services the District is expected to provide and the extent to which it is actually able to do so. With this information, the SOI will then make a determination regarding an appropriate boundary for probable future 10 year and 20 year expansion.

The Davis Public Cemetery Special District Municipal Service Review has been prepared in accordance with Section 56430 of the California Government Code as a means of identifying and evaluating public services provided by the District and in conjunction with an update to the District's Sphere of Influence. Both documents were prepared to meet the requirements and standards of the CKH Act. The MSR was prepared using the Service Review Guidelines prepared by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and all applicable policies of the Yolo LAFCO Commission as a means of identifying and evaluating public services for the Davis Cemetery District and updating the District's SOI.

In addition, Yolo LAFCo has adopted local guidelines for the determination of SOIs, last updated on June 24, 2002. This SOI was prepared in accordance with all applicable Yolo LAFCo Commission guidelines and are discussed in detail in the SOI section of this document.

OVERVIEW OF DETERMINATIONS

An explanation of these seven determination areas is provided below.

Growth and Population Projections

This section assesses the adequacy and quality of infrastructure at the District. Changes in demand for services can be based on a variety of factors, including future changes in demographics and potential changes in land use.

Proximity to Any Disadvantaged Communities

This section determines if there are any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence and, if so, evaluates the possibility of extending services to that community.

Capacity and Adequacy of Public Facilities and Services

This section evaluates present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structure fire protection in any disadvantaged, unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.

Financial Capability

This section discusses the financial ability of agencies to provide services, the financial structure and viability of the Districts. Included in this analysis is the consideration of local rates, revenue and expenditure sources and service operations.

Shared Facilities and Cost Avoidance

This section analyzes existing cost avoidance and facility sharing measures currently being implemented and also opportunities to share resources in the future to reduce costs and improve efficiency and service.

Community Accountability and Operational Efficiencies

This section includes an evaluation of the District's compliance with public meeting and public record laws. It also compares existing District goals with existing operations and analyzes the existing government structure for efficiency and effectiveness.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

The purpose of a Municipal Services Review (MSR) in general is to provide a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the services provided by local municipalities, service areas, and special districts. A MSR evaluates the structure and operation of the local municipalities, service areas, and special districts and discusses possible areas for improvement and coordination. The MSR is intended to provide information and analysis to support a sphere of influence update.

The MSR contains analysis and conclusions, called "determinations", regarding seven topic areas as set forth in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Act. These areas of analysis contain the essential operational and management aspects of the district, and together constitute a complete review of the ability of the provider to meet the service demands of the residents within their boundaries.

SUMMARY OF MSR DETERMINATIONS

Growth and Population Projections

<u>Determination</u>: LAFCO estimates that the residential population within the District is approximately 73,930. Population growth since 2000 has been less than 1 percent per year in the City of Davis. This trend can be expected to continue so long as the City's growth control policies remain in place.

Proximity to Any Disadvantaged Communities

<u>Determination</u>: The nearest disadvantaged community (that is not already served by a cemetery district) is approximately eight miles away from the current boundaries of the Davis Cemetery District. Therefore, the District is not proximate to any disadvantaged communities.

Capacity and Adequacy of Public Facilities and Services

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District is well prepared to meet the future needs of its service area. No significant capacity issues or infrastructure needs were identified. Overall, the Cemetery grounds are well maintained and the buildings are in adequate condition. The District maintains that the Cemetery has sufficient capacity in the developed 12 acres and has approximately 1981 regular plots and 91 niches available for purchase. In the 15 acres of undeveloped land, the District has the potential capacity for 26,000 double-plot burials or 52,000 to 80,000 cremain burials. Based on the information provided, the District has the potential to provide services for more than 200 years. There is sufficient capacity to expand the District boundaries if needed.

Financial Capability

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District reviews the fees of other comparable cemetery districts and adjusts its rates as needed. The District is financially stable and has a well-established budget process that avoids unnecessary costs. The District has no near term infrastructure needs or other constraints that will impact future income and the District has no debt. The District uses best management practices in managing its financial resources and there are no apparent short or long-term fiscal constraints limiting the ability of the District to carry out its primary functions.

Shared Facilities

<u>Determination</u>: Due to the nature of cemetery districts and that their facilities are limited and spread throughout the County, the District does not practice significant facility sharing with other cemetery districts and the opportunities for sharing resources is limited. The District does collaborate with community groups and other public entities. The District is active in regional associations and attends annual workshops and is willing to share this information with the other districts.

Community Accountability and Operational Efficiencies

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District operates efficiently under its current government structure. The Davis Cemetery District operates efficiently under its current government structure and no benefits in consolidation are apparent. The District demonstrated accountability and transparency by disclosing financial and service related information in response to LAFCO requests. Accountability is also achieved by the District's various constituent outreach activities. It appears that the District is administratively stable. The level of staffing is adequate and the management provides a well-maintained cemetery that is efficiently and effectively run. Generally, no significant issues regarding local accountability and governance were noted for the District. The District appears to comply with the Brown Act and is in compliance the Public Cemetery District Law.

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

The SOI is an important tool used to implement the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH). A SOI is defined by Government Code 56425 as "...a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency or municipality..." Pursuant to Yolo County LAFCO policy an SOI includes an area adjacent to a jurisdiction where development might be reasonably expected to occur in the next 20 years. A MSR is conducted prior to, or in conjunction with, the update of a SOI and provides the foundation for updating it. In Yolo County, a SOI generally has two planning lines. One is the 10-year boundary which includes the area that may likely be

annexed within 10 years, while the 20-year boundary is anticipated to accommodate boundary expansions over a 20-year horizon.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Davis Cemetery SOI expand up to CR 27 to the north and extend to the County boundary to the east, taking in West Sacramento and Clarksburg (Map 3). And in the next cycle of MSR/SOIs for the cemetery districts, divide the remaining unserved territory to those existing districts with the strongest community connection.

SUMMARY OF SOI DETERMINATIONS

Present and Planned Land Uses

<u>Determination</u>: Cemetery districts do not have authority to make land use decisions. The responsibility for making land use decisions within a cemetery district's boundaries is retained by the county and cities they serve. Given the present and planned land uses in the proposed SOI, there would be more than sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed SOI.

Present and Probable Need for Facilities and Services

<u>Determination</u>: There is a significant portion of Yolo County that is currently not served by any public cemetery district. The recommended SOI would provide cemetery services to unincorporated areas that are currently not served.

Present Capacity and Adequacy of Services

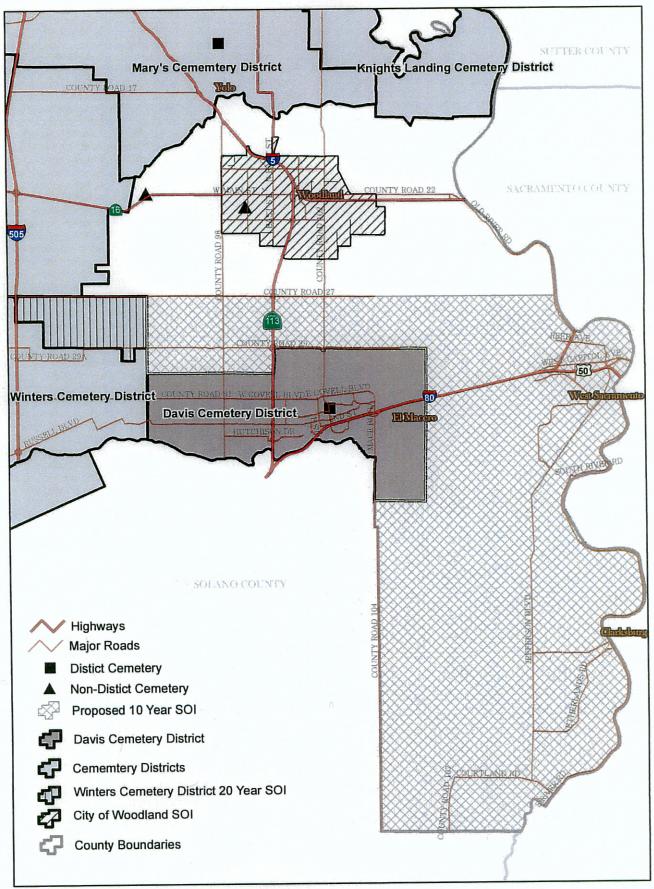
<u>Determination</u>: A discussion of the capacity of the Davis Cemetery is contained in the Municipal Service Review section of this document. No capacity or adequacy issues were identified in the MSR. The Davis Cemetery District's present needs for public facilities and services are currently being met. The Davis Cemetery District has sufficient facilities and capacity to accommodate the proposed SOI.

Social/Economic Communities of Interest

<u>Determination</u>: The SOI Update would meet the needs of communities that are currently un-served and identify to some degree with Davis. Or as with the City of West Sacramento and the community of Clarksburg, they would have a public option besides the private options currently available to them.

Davis Cemetery District Proposed Sphere of Influence 10 Year

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roduced by Yolo County DITT - February, 2012 Data Sources: Yolo County

MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

The following is the Municipal Service Review for the Yolo County Davis Public Cemetery Special District. This Municipal Service Review has been prepared in accordance with Section 56430 of the California Government Code as a means of identifying and evaluating public services provided by the Davis Cemetery District and possible changes to its Sphere of Influence.

YOLO COUNTY PUBLIC CEMETERY DISTRICTS

There are six public cemetery districts in Yolo County. These Districts are Capay, Cottonwood, Davis, Knights Landing, Mary's, and Winters (Map 1). The City of Woodland also provides cemetery services to its residents. These Districts do not serve all residents of Yolo County; a portion of unincorporated area is not served by any public cemetery district. With the exception of Davis and Winters, the Cemeteries managed by the Districts are located in rural, sparsely populated areas. Table 1 outlines some general information about each of the cemetery districts in Yolo County.

Cemetery District	District Area (sq. mi.)	District Population (2010)	Cemetery Acreage	Undeveloped Cemetery Acreage	Average Interments per year
Сарау	285.36	4,476	12 acres	5 acres	20 to 30
Cottonwood	99.20	2,212	5 acres	none	2 to 4
Davis	43.28	73,930	27 acres	15 acres	95
Knights Landing	33.62	1,154	6.2 acres	none	8
Mary's	158.73	2,996	6 acres	none	10
Winters	132.29*	8,868	13 acres	3 to 5 acres	30 to 40

 Table 1 - Yolo County Cemetery Districts

*Includes 35.44 acres in Solano County

Cemetery districts are funded through property taxes and fees directly charged to customers for services. Table 2 describes the revenues and expenditures of the cemetery districts and Table 3 describes the assessed values of the cemetery districts.

Table 2 - Cemetery Districts Dudgets							
Cemetery District	2010-2011 Total Revenue	% of Revenue from Taxes	2010-2011 Expenditures	Difference			
Сарау	\$74,465	78%	\$71,269	\$3,196			
Cottonwood	\$20,561	90%	\$17,029	\$3,531			
Davis	\$461,437	43%	\$382,746	\$78,691			
Knights Landing	\$29,512	77%	\$20,766	\$8,747			
Mary's	\$40,824	70%	\$53,208	(\$12,384)			
Winters	\$225,202	75%	\$244,658	(\$19,457)			

Table 2 - Cemetery Districts Budgets

Source: Yolo County Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Budget Summary

Table 3 - Cemetery Districts	Total Assessed Values
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Cemetery District	Total Assessed Values	District Area (in sq. mi.)
Сарау	\$597,982,196	285.36
Cottonwood	\$353,870,410	99.20
Davis	\$6,744,659,192	43.28
Knights Landing	\$107,588,067	33.62
Mary's	\$509,687,689	158.73
Winters	\$649,564,745	123.29

Source: Yolo County Auditor-Controller 2011

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT SERVICES

The Davis Public Cemetery Special District exists to provide cemetery services within its District boundary in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code. The Davis Cemetery District currently maintains one 27 acre cemetery (Map 2). The Davis Cemetery, formerly Davisville Cemetery, is located on Pole Line Road and East Eighth Street in the City of Davis. The Cemetery consists of 12 acres of active cemetery and approximately 15 acres of undeveloped land.

GROWTH AND POPULATION PROJECTIONS

The District currently serves a population of 73,930 primarily from the City of Davis. According to the 2010 US Census, the population of the City of Davis was 65,622, a growth of 8.8 percent since 2000, or less than one percent annually.

Natural population growth will increase demand for cemetery services in the future, although within the City of Davis, that growth remains lower than the region overall due to its growth control land use policies. Outside of the City boundaries, SACOG estimates that the population of unincorporated Yolo County will see a 2.7 percent growth per year through 2035. As it relates to growth within the Davis Cemetery District boundaries, that assumption is probably high because the County's General Plan targets growth into existing communities that are not located within the District.

<u>Determination</u>: LAFCO estimates that the residential population within the District is approximately 73,930. Population growth since 2000 has been less than 1 percent per year in the City of Davis. This trend can be expected to continue so long as the City's growth control policies remain in place.

PROXIMITY TO ANY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Yolo County recently inventoried all of its unincorporated communities in the 2007 General Plan Update. Many of these communities are already served by a cemetery district. However, North Davis Meadows, Elkhorn, Clarksburg, East Woodland, Sprekles, North Woodland/Westucky and Monument Hills are not currently served by a public cemetery district. Only a few of these communities are considered disadvantaged and they are located eight miles or more from the District, so they are not considered proximate.

<u>Determination</u>: The nearest disadvantaged community (that is not already served by a cemetery district) is approximately eight miles away from the current boundaries of the Davis Cemetery District. Therefore, the District is not proximate to any disadvantaged communities.

CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The District has about 27 acres of total land; roughly 15 of those acres are undeveloped but are intermittently being planted with trees and native grasses in phases. This is in keeping with the Districts plan to enhance the existing ecological function of the Cemetery as an open green space and sanctuary for native plants and animal life. Additionally, in 2009, a water feature, gathering area, and scattering garden were integrated into the landscape.

The District offices and other operational facilities are located at the Cemetery, including restroom facilities, which were made ADA compliant in 2000. All structures and private roads are in adequate condition. A wrought iron fence surrounds most of the Cemetery property with a secure gate at the Cemetery entrance on the northwest side of the Cemetery.

On average, the District performs approximately 95 internments a year. The District currently has 4,900 individuals interred in the Cemetery, with 3,731 burial plots available in the developed section of the Cemetery, including plots already purchased but not yet used. Additionally, in 2009, the District installed 96 double size niches with expansion room for 288 additional double size niches, which helps conserve space.

The District states that even with an expected increase in interments, and with less than half its acreage in burial after 150 years, it has several hundred years of future burial space serving just the Davis area. Expanding to serve part or all of the proposed area would not negatively impact its ability to serve the current SOI.

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District is well prepared to meet the future needs of its service area. No significant capacity issues or infrastructure needs were identified. Overall, the Cemetery grounds are well maintained and the buildings are in adequate condition. The District maintains that the Cemetery has sufficient capacity in the developed 12 acres and has approximately 1981 regular plots and 91 niches available for purchase. In the 15 acres of undeveloped land, the District has the potential capacity for 26,000 double-plot burials or 52,000 to 80,000 cremain burials. Based on the information provided, the District has the potential to provide services for more than 200 years. There is sufficient capacity to expand the District boundaries if needed.

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY

The District Board of Trustees adopts an annual budget and oversees expenditures throughout the fiscal year. The District recommended and approved a budget of \$427,020 for fiscal year 2011-12. The District has \$47,786 in cash reserves and approximately \$161,586 in restricted funds for infrastructure improvements.

Additionally, the Davis Cemetery District is an Endowment Care Fund (see California Health and Safety Section 9003) District. The principal on this fund cannot be touched until the cemetery is full; however, if needed, the District can access the interest accumulated on the Fund for maintenance only.

By law, cemetery districts must have regular audits of accounts and records. The Davis Cemetery District has in the past had biennial audits; however, on June 14, 2011 the Board of Supervisors adopted a 3-year cycle for future audits of the Davis Cemetery District. The District audits are conducted by a certified public accountant. There is reasonable assurance that the District's records can be relied upon to produce financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Table 4 shows the District's total overall revenue, revenue from taxes, the percentage of overall revenue that comes from taxes and expenditures each year over the last three fiscal years. On a three year average, the District received 47 percent of its revenue from

property taxes. The rest of the District's funds come from fees such as the sale of burial plots, charges for openings and removals, and setting of markers. From 2008-2010, expenditures increased related to the Districts development and implementation of its master plan. This was an unusual expenditure and there was adequate funding in reserves to cover the cost. Additionally, in 2009-2010 interest income decreased \$24,836, due to the Treasury's average annual rate of return decrease.

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Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Revenue from Taxes	% of Revenue from taxes	Spending	Difference
2008-2009	\$407,510	\$196,826	48%	\$674,851	(\$267,341)*
2009-2010	\$396,958	\$200,017	50%	\$494,283	(\$97,325)*
2010-2011	\$461,437	\$199,228	43%	\$382,746	\$78,691
3 year Avg	\$421,968	\$198,690	47%	\$516,293	(\$94,325)

Table 4 - Davis Cemetery District Financing

*During these fiscal years, the District implemented Master Plan improvements covered by its reserve.

Source: Yolo County General Ledger Reports

Most fees charges are currently adequate. Burial rates vary widely (see Appendix A) and range from \$2746 to \$3236 for casket burial; from \$435 to \$965 for scattering and in ground cremation burials; and, from \$2715 to \$3365 for niche cremation burials (all cremation burial fees are independent of the cost of actual cremation). If additional parcels were annexed into the District in the future, the District has indicated that they would not request further tax revenue from the proposed area of annexation and would support services through fees by creating zones, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 9090-9093.

The Davis Cemetery District has recently implemented "green burials". The intention of a green burial is to accelerate the return of the body to the natural world and to amalgamate the remains within the cycles of nature. The body is not embalmed. Any wrap or container/casket is made of biodegradable material such as wood, wicker, or natural fiber. Currently, the fee for a green burial is approximately \$2707.

The District rates for interment and related services are based on comparison with other cemeteries in communities of comparable economic standing. The District's rates are mid-range compared to comparable cemeteries in the region, but are high compared to the other public cemetery districts in Yolo County.

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District reviews the fees of other comparable cemetery districts and adjusts its rates as needed. The District is financially stable and has a well-established budget process that avoids unnecessary costs. The District has no near term infrastructure needs or other constraints that will impact future income and the District has no debt. The District uses best management practices in managing its financial resources and there are no apparent short or long-term fiscal constraints limiting the ability of the District to carry out its primary functions.

SHARED FACILITIES AND COST AVOIDANCE

Given the nature of the service provided by the cemetery districts, realistic opportunities for shared facilities with other cemetery districts are limited. The cemetery facilities include the cemeteries themselves and are spread out in the County. The closest cemetery is in the City of Woodland about eight miles away and next closest is Winters, approximately 13 miles away. Opportunities to share services may make more sense on a geographic basis (as opposed to sharing with other cemetery districts); such as sharing landscape maintenance staff with the City of Davis, for example.

The District collaborates with community groups and other public entities to provide assistance and resources needed for local community projects. The District is active in regional associations and attends yearly workshops held by the California Special Districts Association. The District has indicated a desire to share this information with the other cemetery districts that are unable to attend.

No need for cost avoidance has been identified. The District uses appropriate cost avoidance methods and appears to be well managed. Management costs of the District are kept to a minimal. The District owns its own equipment and it's replaced on an as needed basis.

<u>Determination</u>: Due to the nature of cemetery districts and that their facilities are limited and spread throughout the County, the District does not practice significant facility sharing with other cemetery districts and the opportunities for sharing resources is limited. The District does collaborate with community groups and other public entities. The District is active in regional associations and attends annual workshops and is willing to share this information with the other districts.

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

Local Accountability

The Davis Cemetery District consists of a five-member board of trustees, appointed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. The Trustees each hold office for four-year terms. The Board of Trustees meets at a noticed public meeting on the third Wednesday of every

month at 5:00pm, unless otherwise specified. The Trustees have adopted comprehensive rules and regulations by which to operate the cemetery. The District establishes policy, reviews administrative regulations, prepares an annual budget, employs personnel, and purchases equipment as required.

The District is closely aligned with the community of Davis and makes its facilities available to community service groups. The District strives to strengthen the Cemetery as a more inviting and meaningful location for civic remembrance, contemplation, and healing, by creating an attractive environment that encourages people to come and enjoy nature, art, and civic history.

Generally no significant issues regarding local accountability and governance were noted for the District. The governing board appears locally accountable and has current audits. The Board effectively and efficiently serves the District. Postings appear to comply with the provisions of the Brown Act. All board meetings are open to the public.

Operational Efficiencies and Government Structure

It appears that the District is administratively stable. The level of staffing is adequate. The District employs a superintendent, officer manager, grounds foreman, and two groundskeepers. The superintendent communicates with the District Board and effectively oversees and maintains control of all operations in the District. The District has an updated and comprehensive manual outlining the policies and procedures of the District.

The Davis Cemetery District operates efficiently under its current government structure and no benefits in consolidation are apparent.

<u>Determination</u>: The Davis Cemetery District operates efficiently under its current government structure and no benefits in consolidation are apparent. The District demonstrated accountability and transparency by disclosing financial and service related information in response to LAFCO requests. Accountability is also achieved by the District's various constituent outreach activities. It appears that the District is administratively stable. The level of staffing is adequate and management provides a wellmaintained cemetery that is efficiently and effectively run. Generally, no significant issues regarding local accountability and governance were noted for the District. The District appears to comply with the Brown Act and is in compliance the Public Cemetery District Law.

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

Yolo LAFCO has the statutory authority and obligation to establish and adopt a sphere of influence for each city and special district within the county (Government Code Section 56425). A sphere of influence boundary outside of an agency's legal or "service" boundary designates the agency's probable future boundary and service area.

The primary purpose in reviewing the District's sphere of influence (SOI) is to evaluate if this ultimate boundary is appropriate and necessary, determine if the District can feasibly provide well planned efficient services in this territory, and if the current location of the SOI (or another location) will be a benefit to residents.

This Sphere of Influence section addresses the criteria required by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act by referring to information contained in the Municipal Service Review. This section is organized by the determinations required in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act Section 56425(e).

EXISTING DISTRICT BOUNDARY

The current Davis Cemetery District boundary includes the City of Davis, UC Davis and surrounding area, generally bounded by County Road (CR) 30 (west of State Route 113) and CR 29 (east of State Route 113) to the north, the County boundary and CR 35 to the south, CR 106 to the east and Winters Cemetery District to the west. The existing District boundary is shown in Map 2.

EXISTING SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

The District's current SOI and District boundaries are coterminous.

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

Background

As mentioned previously, the cemetery districts in Yolo County do not serve all residents in the County. Sections of the County, such as Woodland and the surrounding area, are served by other public and private cemeteries. The City of West Sacramento and a portion of unincorporated area, including the community of Clarksburg is not served by any specific cemetery. And as shown in the MSR, the District cemetery has significant capacity to accommodate additional area.

The District has apparently been approached by non-residents of the District requesting burial rites in its cemetery due to a substantial set of cultural ties with the Davis community, due to involvement with UC Davis, employment within the District boundaries, and/or involvement with other organized civic or religious groups. Consequently, the Davis

Cemetery Board of Trustees approached LAFCo regarding interest in amending its SOI to include this un-served area. The District Board initially voted to include all un-served areas of Yolo County and sent a request to LAFCo indicating such intent.

Somewhere during this same time frame, the Cemetery District also approached State Assemblymember Mariko Yamada about legislation to allow persons outside the Davis Cemetery District to be buried within its cemetery. On July 25, 2011, Governor Brown approved AB 966 (Yamada), which added Section 9063.7 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to cemetery districts, allowing the Davis Cemetery District (this legislation applies to only the Davis Cemetery District) to inter up to a total of 500 nonresidents, if specified conditions are met. This new law serves to accommodate the non-residents who had requested to be buried in the Davis Cemetery, thus removing much of the pressure to expand its service area.

Consequently, on August 17, 2011, the Trustees voted 4 to 1 to amend its earlier request by pulling back their initial SOI proposed boundary to include only that territory which is south of County Road 27.

A meeting was convened by LAFCo staff on August 25, 2011 (it took approximately six weeks to confirm a meeting date, meanwhile, these other events were occurring) with Cemetery District representatives along with staff from the Cities of Woodland and West Sacramento as affected agencies. West Sacramento indicated it had no concerns about providing its residents another option for cemetery services. However, the Woodland City Manager at the time, Mark Deven suggested the District acquire the Woodland City Cemetery.

There were subsequent meetings where Davis Cemetery representatives visited and met at the Woodland City Cemetery and vice versa. However, the Davis Cemetery District indicated they were not interested in acquiring an additional cemetery and has not changed from its latest proposal to take its SOI as far north as County Road 27.

Applicable LAFCo Policy

Yolo LAFCo adopted local Standards for Evaluation for annexations in 2005. There are several standards which provide guidance to determining an appropriate SOI boundary for the Davis Cemetery District:

Choice of Entity

A.5 This Standard indicates that "expansion of the boundaries of those local agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services...in the most efficient manner is favored."

Territory to Be Included

C.1 "The division of existing identifiable communities is disfavored, but at the same time the inclusion of heterogeneous economic and social interests within the same entity is favored."

Recommendation

It is recommended that LAFCo consider a plan to ensure that all territory currently not served by a public cemetery provider (district or city) become served over time. The policy issue is how best to accomplish that goal.

There is no question that the Davis Cemetery District is in a position to "best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services" and certainly has the most capacity to expand. On the other hand, adding all the currently unserved territory to the Davis Cemetery District's SOI may divide existing communities and add areas such as Monument Hills (which has access to a private cemetery) and Westucky/North Woodland to the Davis Cemetery District even though they may not have a strong community connection to Davis.

Considering the above, it is recommended that the Davis Cemetery SOI expand up to CR 27 to the north and extend to the County boundary to the east, taking in West Sacramento and Clarksburg (Map 3). And in the next cycle of MSR/SOIs for the cemetery districts, divide the remaining unserved territory to those existing districts with the strongest community connection.

SOI DETERMINATIONS

PRESENT AND PLANNED LAND USES

<u>Determination</u>: Cemetery districts do not have authority to make land use decisions. The responsibility for making land use decisions within a cemetery district's boundaries is retained by the county and cities they serve. Given the present and planned land uses in the proposed SOI, there would be more than sufficient capacity to accommodate the proposed SOI.

PRESENT AND PROBABLE NEED FOR FACILITIES AND SERVICES

<u>Determination</u>: There is a significant portion of Yolo County that is currently not served by any public cemetery district. The recommended SOI would provide cemetery services to unincorporated areas that are currently not served.

PRESENT CAPACITY OF FACILITIES AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

<u>Determination</u>: A discussion of the capacity of the Davis Cemetery is contained in the Municipal Service Review section of this document. No capacity or adequacy issues were identified in the MSR. The Davis Cemetery District's present needs for public facilities and services are currently being met. The Davis Cemetery District has sufficient facilities and capacity to accommodate the proposed SOI.

SOCIAL/ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

<u>Determination</u>: The SOI Update would meet the needs of communities that are currently un-served and identify to some degree with Davis. Or as with the City of West Sacramento and the community of Clarksburg, they would have a public option besides the private options currently available to them.

REFERENCES

California State Health and Safety Code http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html, Sections 8700 et seq.

Department of Finance

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Great Valley Center Assessing the Region via Indicators: The Economy (3rd Edition) <u>http://www.greatvalley.org/artman2/uploads/1/econindicators09_final.pdf</u>

LSA Associates, Inc. Yolo County 2030 Countywide General Plan EIR, April 2009 IV. Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures A. Land Use and Housing

Olander, Doug Yolo County Assessed Value, 2009/10 Fiscal Year

Planning Commissioners Journal-Fall 2006 http://www.plannersweb.com/cemeteries.pdf

Sacramento Area Council of Governments-Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2035 Population Housing and Element Projections, July 2008

Sacramento Area Council of Governments SACOG Population Projections http://www.sacog.org/demographics/pophsg/

Sacramento Area Council of Governments Population and Housing for Yolo County by Jurisdiction http://www.sacog.org/demographics/pophsg/cities/yolo_cities.pdf

Sacramento Area Council of Governments Population and Housing by Census Tract <u>http://www.sacog.org/demographics/pophsg/census/yolo_tract.pdf</u> The California USGenWeb Project http://cagenweb.com/yolo/yolocem.htm#cempresent

U.S. Census Bureau http://factfinder.census.gov http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/

Yolo County General Plan Environmental Impact Report Land Use and Housing

Yolo County 2030 General Plan, 2008 http://www.yolocounty.org/Index.aspx?page=1965

Housing Element, Agriculture and Economic Development Element, Land Use and Community Character Element, Policy CC-3.5 Table LU-11 Community Planning Guidelines

Yolo LAFCO

Yolo County Public Cemetery Districts Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence, 2003

Interviews

Davis Cemetery District – Dennis Dingemans and Val Dolcini, Trustees; Joseph Cattarin, Superintendent; Susan Finkleman, Office Manager

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Rate Schedule

Davis Cemetery District: Prices

Effective date: March 15, 2008 tax 4/1/09 format 11/23/09

interment	plot type/size	plot cost	endowment*	opening	taxable vault	sales tax	admin fee	total
casket	TITAN single burial	\$920	\$200	\$850	\$1,150	\$100.63	\$15.00	\$3,235.63
	LINER single burial	\$920	\$200	\$850	\$700	\$61.25	\$15.00	\$2,746.25
	COMPANION crypt	\$920	\$200	\$1000/ \$700	\$1,000	\$87.50	\$15.00	\$3222.50/ \$715
					(optional urn \$90 /			
cremation*	3' X 1.25' (12" X 24")	\$450	\$100	\$400	oversz \$125)	(\$7.88/\$10.94)	\$15.00	\$965
*flush markers only	2' X 1' (8" X 16")	\$350	\$75	\$400	(no urn permitted)	N/A	\$15.00	\$840
infant area*	infant areas (8"X16")	\$225	\$75	\$400	\$300	\$26.25	\$15.00	\$1,041.25
*flush markers only								

We accept checks, money orders, VISA and MC.

eligible non-resident fees:	\$250/\$500
Saturday surcharge (10 AM):	\$450
marker setting:	\$25 - \$200
marker moving:	\$150 - \$1000 (depending on size)
flower vases or cremation bags:	\$20 ea. plus \$1.75 tax
monument surcharges	\$170/6" height (details on back)
MMO or second marker	\$50 flush + additional \$50 over normal surcharge per 6" height for MMO
chairs & tent for non-funeral	\$75 (if available)

*Interment into plots reserved prior to 1979 will be charged the current endowment fee.

Susan Finkleman - Office Manager

Davis Cemetery District	(530) 756-7807
820 Pole Line Rd.	FAX 756-7850
Davis, CA 95618	cemetery@dcn.org
	www.daviscemetery.org

Davis Cemetery District: GREEN BURIAL SUPPLEMENTAL PRICE SHEET

effective as of March 15, 2008

format as of 11/23/09

~new tax as of 4/1/09

GREEN	plot type/size	plot cost	endowment*	opening	stabilizer	sales tax	admin fee	total
BURIAL					shelf			
	single burial	\$920	\$200	\$1,300	\$25 0	\$21.88	\$15.00	\$2,706.88
	companion crypt	\$920	\$2 00	\$1400/800	\$250/250	\$21.88/21.88	\$15.00	\$2806.88/1086.88

We accept checks, money orders, VISA and MC.

eligible non-resident fees:	\$250/\$500
Saturday surcharge (10 AM):	\$450
marker setting:	\$25 - \$200
marker moving:	\$150 - \$1000 (depending on size)
flower vases:	\$20 ea. plus \$1.75 tax
monument surcharges	\$170/6" height (for additional details please see the regular price sheet)
MMO or second marker	\$50 flush + additional \$50 over normal surcharge per 6" height for MMO

*Interment into plots reserved prior to 1979 will be charged the current endowment fee.

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	www.daviscemetery.org

Davis Cemetery District: Cremation Option Pricing

Effective date:	July 15, 2009	tax 4/1/09		format 11/23/09				
interment	plot type/size	plot cost	endowment*	single opening	two interments at one time	admin fee	TOTAL	
Niche	12" Cube (Upper/Middle)	\$2,25 0	\$500	\$400	\$200	\$15	\$3,165/\$3,365	
*Memorialization incl.	12" Cube (Lower)	\$1,800	\$5 00	\$400	\$2 00	\$15	\$2,715/\$2,915	
In Ground	3' X 1.25' (12" X 24")	\$ 450	\$100	\$400		\$15	\$965	
*Flush marker not incl.	2' X 1' (8" X 16")	\$350	\$75	\$400		\$15	\$840	
Scattering	Scattering Garden	\$350	\$70			\$15	\$435	

We accept checks, money orders, VISA and MC.

Eligible non-resident fees:	\$250/\$500
Saturday surcharge (10 AM):	\$ 450
Cremation bags:	\$20 each plus \$1.75 tax
Optional urn for 12"x24" cremation plots:	\$90 standard/\$125 oversized plus \$7.88/\$10.94 tax

*Interment into plots reserved prior to 1979 will be charged the current endowment fee.

Susan Finkleman - Office Manager

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