

MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE STUDY FOR THE

Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA)

YOLO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION June 26, 2014



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF YOLO COUNTY

Resolution № 2014-03

A Resolution Approving the Municipal Service Review for the Wild Wings County Service Area and Finding that No Sphere of Influence Update is Necessary LAFCo Proceeding S-035

WHEREAS, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 set forth in Government Code Sections 56000 et seq. governs the organization and reorganization of cities and special districts by local agency formation commissions established in each county, as defined and specified in Government Code Sections 56000 et seq. (unless otherwise indicated all statutory references are to the Government Code); and,

WHEREAS, Section 56425 et seq. provides that the local agency formation commission in each county shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local governmental agency within the county, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the spheres of influence, as more fully specified in Sections 56425 et seq.; and,

WHEREAS, Section 56430 requires that local agency formation commissions conduct a municipal service review (MSR) prior to, or in conjunction with, consideration of actions to establish or update a sphere of influence (SOI) in accordance with Sections 56076 and 56425; and,

WHEREAS, in 2009, the Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) undertook to conduct a review of the municipal services and sphere of influence of the Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA), but placed the review on hold in 2010 (prior to adoption by the Commission) due to complaints from Wild Wings residents regarding odor issues at the CSA's wastewater treatment facility. LAFCo resumed work on the review in 2013, and entirely re-wrote the report to better align with changes in the MSR/SOI process currently utilized by Yolo LAFCo; and,

WHEREAS, based on the results of the MSR staff has determined that an SOI update for the Wild Wings CSA is not necessary in this review, as staff is not aware of any development proposals or requests by adjacent landowners to connect to the municipal services of the Wild Wings CSA for any health or safety issues, and the CSA's Advisory Committee has expressed that they are not interested in altering their SOI boundaries at this time; and,

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed the Municipal Service Review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and determined that the MSR is exempt from environmental review per CEQA Guidelines Section 15262 which indicates that adopting planning studies that do not commit the agency to future actions are exempt from CEQA; and, based thereon, the Executive Officer prepared a Notice of Exemption; and,

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer set a public hearing for June 26, 2014 for consideration of the environmental review and the draft Municipal Service Review and caused notice thereof to be posted, published and mailed at the times and in the manner required by law at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the date; and,

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2014, the draft Municipal Service Review came on regularly for hearing before LAFCo, at the time and place specified in the Notice; and,

WHEREAS, at said hearing, LAFCo reviewed and considered the Notice of Exemption, the draft Municipal Service Review, and the Executive Officer's Report and Recommendations; each of the policies, priorities and factors set forth in Government Code Sections 56430; LAFCos Guidelines and Methodology for the Preparation and Determination of Municipal Service Reviews and Spheres of Influence; and all other matters presented as prescribed by law; and,

WHEREAS, at that time, an opportunity was given to all interested persons, organizations, and agencies to present oral or written testimony and other information concerning the proposal and all related matters; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission received, heard, discussed, and considered all oral and written testimony related to the sphere update, including but not limited to protests and objections, the Executive Officer's report and recommendations, the environmental documents and determinations and the service review.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission hereby:

- 1. States that each of the foregoing recitals is true and correct.
- 2. Determines that the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15262 which indicates that adopting planning studies that do not commit the agency to future actions are exempt from CEQA; and directs the Executive Officer to prepare and file a Notice of Exemption with the County Recorder.
- 3. Adopts Resolution 2014-03 approving the Municipal Service Review for the Wild Wings County Service Area as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, and finds that no Sphere of Influence Update is necessary, subject to the following findings and recommendations:

FINDINGS

1. <u>Finding</u>: The Project is exempt from CEQA in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15262, which indicates that adopting planning studies that do not commit the agency to future actions are exempt from CEQA. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the County Recorder. <u>Evidence</u>: The project includes adoption of a Municipal Services Review, but finds that no Sphere of Influence Update is necessary at this time. This study is simply a review of municipal services, the adoption of which will not commit the CSA, County or LAFCo to changes in land use, construction or other improvements.

2. <u>Finding</u>: Approval of the Municipal Service Review and finding that no Sphere of Influence Update is necessary is consistent with all applicable state laws and local LAFCo policies.

<u>Evidence</u>: The project was prepared consistent with the requirements in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act for a MSR/SOI and all applicable Yolo LAFCo policies and adopted Standards for Evaluation. The MSR includes written determinations as required by Section 56430 of the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Local Government Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- LAFCo encourages the CSA to continue working with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (AQMD) to resolve odor issues at the wastewater treatment facility. Please notify LAFCo of any significant issues and/or milestones during the Notice of Violation process including any clearance notice from the AQMD that the case has been resolved and closed.
- 2. The CSA should continue working with the California Department of Public Health to resolve its Compliance Order, and should notify LAFCo of any significant issues and/or milestones during the process.
- 3. For each budget cycle, the CSA should provide an estimate of anticipated costs, and then adjust as needed, rather than leaving unknown costs out of the budget altogether thus requiring significant amendments mid-year.
- 4. If allowable according to the CSA's recent Proposition 218 ballot initiative, the CSA should consider placing funds aside for maintenance or treatment at the wastewater facility.
- 5. When planning for future Proposition 218 initiatives, the CSA should consider the need for dedicated reserves for significant upcoming maintenance issues.
- 6. The County should consider providing additional staff resources to the CSA, or provide whatever support may be necessary to resolve internal and external customer service issues. The County should implement the recommendations in the 2013-14 Grand Jury report "Proposition 218 Protest Election Process: The Yolo Way" to improve its Proposition 218 protect election process.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission, County of Yolo, State of California, this 26th day of June, 2014, by the following vote:

Ayes: Aguiar-Curry, Kristoff, Rexroad, Saylor, Woods

Noes: Abstentions: Absent:

Olin Woods, Chair Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission



Christine Crawford, Executive Officer Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission

Approved as to form:

Robyn Truitt Drivon

By: Ρ. Welton, Deputy Hope



Project Name:	MSR/SOI for Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA)
LAFCo Project No.	S-035
Conducted By:	Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission 625 Court Street, Suite 203 Woodland, CA 95695
Date:	Adopted June 26, 2014
Subject Agency:	Wild Wings County Service Area
Agency Address:	292 West Beamer Street Woodland, CA 95695
Agency Contact Person:	Regina Espinoza CSA Coordinator
Phone Number:	(530) 666-8725

Date of Last MSR/SOI Adopted 2003 by LAFCo:

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MSR/SOI BACKGROUND

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LAFCO

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, as amended ("CKH Act") (California Government Code §§56000 et seq.), is LAFCo's governing law and outlines the requirements for preparing Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs) for periodic Sphere of Influence (SOI) updates. MSRs and SOIs are tools created to empower LAFCo to satisfy its legislative charge of "discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime agricultural lands, efficiently providing government services, and encouraging the orderly formation and development of local agencies based upon local conditions and circumstances (§56301). CKH Act Section 56301 further establishes that "one of the objects of the commission is to make studies and to obtain and furnish information which will contribute to the logical and reasonable development of local agencies in each county and to shape the development of local agencies so as to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of each county and its communities."

Based on that legislative charge, LAFCo serves as an arm of the State; preparing and reviewing studies and analyzing independent data to make informed, quasi-legislative decisions that guide the physical and economic development of the state (including agricultural uses) and the efficient, cost-effective, and reliable delivery of services to residents, landowners, and businesses. While SOIs are required to be updated every five years, they are not time-bound as planning tools by the statute, but are meant to address the "probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency" (§56076). SOIs therefore guide both the near-term and long-term physical and economic development of local agencies their broader county area, and MSRs provide the near-term and long-term time-relevant data to inform LAFCo's SOI determinations.

PURPOSE OF A MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

As described above, MSRs are designed to equip LAFCo with relevant information and data necessary for the Commission to make informed decisions on SOIs. The CKH Act, however, gives LAFCo broad discretion in deciding how to conduct MSRs, including geographic focus, scope of study, and the identification of alternatives for improving the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, accountability, and reliability of public services. 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 service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies; and
- 7. Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

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

In 1972, LAFCos were given the power to establish SOIs for all local agencies under their jurisdiction. As defined by the CKH Act, "sphere of influence' means a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the commission" (§56076). SOIs are designed to both proactively guide and respond to the need for the extension of infrastructure and delivery of municipal services to areas of emerging growth and development. Likewise, they are also designed to discourage urban sprawl and the premature conversion of agricultural and open space resources to urbanized uses.

The role of SOIs in guiding the State's growth and development was validated and strengthened in 2000 when the Legislature passed Assembly Bill ("AB") 2838 (Chapter 761, Statutes of 2000), which was the result of two years of labor by the Commission on Local Governance for the 21st Century, which traveled up and down the State taking testimony from a variety of local government stakeholders and assembled an extensive set of recommendations to the Legislature to strengthen the powers and tools of LAFCos to promote logical and orderly growth and development, and the efficient, cost-effective, and reliable delivery of public services to California's residents, businesses, landowners, and visitors. The requirement for LAFCos to conduct MSRs was established by AB 2838 as an acknowledgment of the importance of SOIs and recognition that regular periodic updates of SOIs should be conducted on a five-year basis (§56425(g)) with the benefit of better information and data through MSRs (§56430(a)).

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.

LAFCo is required to make five written determinations when establishing, amending, or updating an SOI for any local agency that address the following (§56425(c)):

- 1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands.
- 2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
- *3.* The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
- 4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.
- 5. For an update of an SOI of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

SB 244 (Chapter 513, Statutes of 2011) made changes to the CKH Act related to "disadvantaged unincorporated communities," including the addition of SOI determination #5 listed above. Disadvantaged unincorporated communities, or "DUCs," are inhabited territories (containing 12 or more registered voters) where the annual median household income is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income.

On March 26, 2012, LAFCo adopted a "Policy for the Definition of 'Inhabited Territory' for the Implementation of SB 244 Regarding Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities", which identified 21 inhabited unincorporated communities for purposes of implementing SB 244.

CKH Act Section 56375(a)(8)(A) prohibits LAFCo from approving a city annexation of more than 10 acres if a DUC is contiguous to the annexation territory but not included in the proposal, unless an application to annex the DUC has been filed with LAFCo. The legislative intent is to prohibit "cherry picking" by cities of tax-generating land uses while leaving out under-served, inhabited areas with infrastructure deficiencies and lack of access to reliable potable water and wastewater services. DUCs are recognized as social and economic communities of interest for purposes of recommending SOI determinations pursuant to Section 56425(c).

ORGANIZATION OF MSR/SOI STUDY

This report has been organized in a checklist format to focus the information and discussion on key issues that may be particularly relevant to the subject agency while providing required LAFCo's MSR and SOI determinations. The checklist questions are based on the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, the LAFCo MSR Guidelines prepared by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and adopted Yolo LAFCo local policies and procedures. This report provides the following:

• Provides a description of the subject agency;

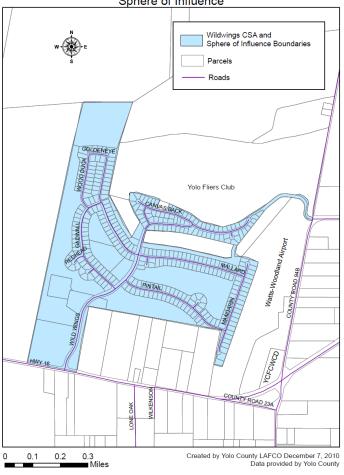
- Provides any new information since the last MSR and a determination regarding the need to update the SOI;
- Provides MSR and SOI draft determinations for public and Commission review; and
- Identifies any other issues that the Commission should consider in the MSR/SOI.

AGENCY PROFILE

The Wild Wings development is a planned community of single-family residential housing with a public nine-hole golf course. There are 337 single-family homes, a golf course with a clubhouse, and several buildings related to wastewater treatment and water supply. The Wild Wings community has reached full build-out and the population is estimated at about 850.

Structure and Governance

The Wild Wings County Service Area was formed in December 2004 to provide wastewater disposal and domestic water supply to the Wild Wings community, and added parks and recreation services in 2008.



Wild Wings County Service Area and Sphere of Influence

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors governs the Wild Wings CSA, and receives advice from a five member advisory committee composed of local Wild Wings residents who are appointed to the committee by the Board. As directed by California Government Code Section 25212.4, the advisory committee's role is to provide advice to the Board regarding the services and facilities of the CSA, but it is not within the authority of the advisory committee to make decisions, manage, or direct the delivery of services and facilities. The CSA is staffed by the Department of Planning and Public Works (PPW), and is billed for the staff time of the CSA Coordinator, finance staff, and County legal counsel when such services are utilized.

Location

The Wild Wings golf course community subdivision is 5 miles west of the City of Woodland along Highway 16. It is adjacent

Yolo LAFCo

MSR/SOI for Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA) June 26, 2014 to the Yolo Fliers Country Club on the south and the Watts-Woodland Airport immediately to the east. See map for greater detail.

Municipal Services

When the CSA was formed in 2004 it was given the active powers to provide water and wastewater services. All other community services were provided by the Wild Wings Homeowners Association, including the following:

- Road Maintenance
- Street Light Maintenance
- Street Sweeping and Street Cleaning
- Erosion/Storm Drainage
- Solid Waste Services and Refuse Removal
- Tree Maintenance
- Parks and Recreation

The CSA was provided this same list of services as latent powers, in case the CSA was required to assume any of them at some point. According to California Government Code 25213.5, in order to activate a latent power the CSA must seek approval of the LAFCo Commission.

In 2008 the CSA's governing board chose to activate its latent power to provide parks and recreation services, allowing the Wild Wings CSA to purchase and operate the Wild Wings Golf Course. The privately owned golf course was having some financial troubles, and the owners proposed to sell the golf course to the CSA for \$1. The CSA acquired the golf course in early 2009, after Wild Wings residents approved a special tax to purchase and maintain the golf course. The CSA has contracted with KemperSports for the operation and management of the golf course since its acquisition in March 2009.

AFFECTED AGENCIES

Per Government Code Section 56427, a public hearing is required to adopt, amend, or revise a sphere of influence. Notice shall be provided at least 21 days in advance and mailed notice shall be provided to each affected local agency or affected County, and to any interested party who has filed a written request for notice with the executive officer. Per Government Code Section 56014, an affected local agency means any local agency that overlaps with any portion of the subject agency boundary or SOI (included proposed changes to the SOI).

The affected local agencies for this MSR/SOI are:

County/Cities:

Х	

City of Davis City of West Sacramento City of Winters City of Woodland County of Yolo

County Service Areas (CSAs)

Dunnigan, El Macero, Garcia Bend, Madison-Esparto Regional CSA (MERCSA), North Davis Meadows, Snowball, **Wild Wings**, and Willowbank

School Districts:

- Davis Joint Unified.
- Esparto Unified
- River Delta Unified
- Washington Unified
- Winters Joint Unified
- Woodland Joint Unified

Special Districts:

- Cemetery District Capay, **Cottonwood**, Davis, Knight's Landing, Mary's, Winters
 - Community Service District Cacheville, Esparto, Knight's Landing, Madison
- Fire Protection District Capay, Clarksburg, Dunnigan, East Davis, Elkhorn, Esparto, Knights Landing, Madison, No Man's Land, Springlake, West Plainfield, Willow Oak, Winters, Yolo, Zamora
 Sacramento-Yolo Port District
 - Reclamation District 150, 307, 537, 730, 765, 785, 787, 827, 900, 999, 1600, 2035, 2076, 2120
 - Yolo County Resource Conservation District
 - Water District Dunnigan, Knight's Landing Ridge Drainage, **YCFCWCD**, Yolo-Zamora

Multi-County Districts:

Reclamation District – 108 (Colusa), 2068 (Solano), 2093 (Solano)

Yolo LAFCo

- Water District Colusa Basin Drainage

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito Vector Control District

MUNICIPAL SERVIE REVIEW

POTENTIALLY SIGNFICANT MSR DETERMINATIONS

The MSR determinations checked below are potentially significant, as indicated by "yes" or "maybe" answers to the key policy questions in the checklist and corresponding discussion on the following pages. If most or all of the determinations are not significant, as indicated by "no" answers, the Commission may find that a MSR update is not warranted.

	Growth and Population		Shared Services
	Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities	\square	Accountability
\square	Capacity, Adequacy & Infrastructure to Provide Services		Other
\boxtimes	Financial Ability		

1. GROWTH AND POPULATION

Gro	owth and population projections for the affected area.	YES	ΜΑΥΒΕ	NO
a)	Is the agency's territory or surrounding area expected to experience any significant population change or development over the next 5-10 years?			
b)	Will population changes have an impact on the subject agency's service needs and demands?			\boxtimes
c)	Will projected growth require a change in the agency's service boundary?			\boxtimes

Discussion:

a-c) The Wild Wings development is a planned community of 337 single-family homes. The Wild Wings community has reached full build-out and the population is estimated at approximately 850. The 2030 Countywide General Plan does not indicate any planned additional growth for the Wild Wings subdivision or its surrounding areas.

Growth and Population MSR Determination

At this time the Wild Wings community has reached full build out, and LAFCo staff is not aware of any potential growth or development in the area that might impact the CSA's municipal service delivery.

2. DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.

		YES	MAYBE	NO
a)	Does the subject agency provide public services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection?	\boxtimes		
b)	Are there any "inhabited unincorporated communities" (per adopted Commission policy) within or adjacent to the subject agency's sphere of influence that are considered "disadvantaged" (80% or less of the statewide median household income)?			
c)	If "yes" to both a) and b), it is feasible for the agency to be reorganized such that it can extend service to the disadvantaged unincorporated community (if "no" to either a) or b), this question may be skipped)?			

Discussion:

- a) The Wild Wings CSA provides municipal water and sewer services to the Wild Wings subdivision, which are both services that may trigger the provisions of SB 244, making a LAFCo determination regarding any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or adjacent to the agency's sphere of influence necessary.
- b) The term "Inhabited Unincorporated Communities" is defined per Commission adopted policy as those areas on the County of Yolo 2030 General Plan Land Use Map (see Figures LU-1B through LU-1H) that contain land use designations that are categorized as Residential by Table LU-6. The communities of Rumsey and West Kentucky are also included in this definition (even though the current land use designations are Agriculture (AG) and Commercial Local (CL) respectively) because their existing uses are residential. These communities are as follows:

Binning Farms	Guinda	Rumsey
Сарау	Knights Landing	West Kentucky
Clarksburg	Madison	West Plainfield
Dunnigan	Monument Hills	Willow Oak
El Macero	North Davis Meadows	Willowbank
El Rio Villa	Patwin Road	Yolo
Esparto	Royal Oak	Zamora

Wild Wings is included in the Monument Hills community, and is therefore considered an inhabited unincorporated community. However, according to the United States Census Bureau (2010) the Monument Hills community has a median household income of \$116,917, which is well above the statewide median household income of \$61,400. Therefore, Wild Wings is not a disadvantaged community.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities MSR Determination

The Wild Wings CSA provides municipal water and sewer services to the inhabited unincorporated community of Wild Wings. However, the provisions of SB 244 regarding disadvantaged unincorporated communities do not apply to the CSA, because the community has a median household income of \$116,917, and is not considered disadvantaged.

3. CAPACITY AND ADEQUACY OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

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.

		YES	MAYBE	NO
a)	Are there any deficiencies in agency capacity to meet service needs of existing development within its existing territory?			\square
b)	Are there any concerns regarding public services provided by the agency being considered adequate?	\boxtimes		
c)	Are there any issues regarding the agency's capacity to meet the service demand of reasonably foreseeable future growth?			\boxtimes
d)	Are there any significant infrastructure needs or deficiencies to be addressed?			\boxtimes
e)	Are there changes in state regulations on the horizon that will require significant facility and/or infrastructure upgrades?			\boxtimes

f)	Are there any service needs or deficiencies for disadvantaged		
	unincorporated communities related to sewers, municipal and		\square
	industrial water, and structural fire protection within or		
	contiguous to the agency's sphere of influence?		

Discussion:

a-b) The CSA provides three municipal services, all of which have varying levels of capacity and adequacy for service.

WATER: The Wild Wings CSA provides domestic water services to Wild Wings residents. The current operator under contract with the CSA for maintenance and operation of the water facility is California American Water Company (CalAm). The water supply system includes two water supply sites (one primary and one standby) with 360,000 gallon steel water storage tanks. The CSA also maintains one domestic water well and one standby well, including the associated pumps, hydro-pneumatic tanks and chlorination facilities for both wells. In addition, the CSA's water system infrastructure includes:

- A trailed mounted diesel generator
- C900 domestic water distribution pipes between the well sites, 337 domestic metered services, and 6 metered irrigation services
- C900 raw water distribution pipes between the two well sites and the water treatment facility
- 4 metered lake fill services, valves, air release valves, and fire hydrants
- Sampling ports
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA)
- Medium voltage switchgear and motor control centers

<u>Water Adequacy:</u> The current water supply system meets most specifications and regulations, although there have been some issues with contamination due to high arsenic levels in the standby well. The California Department of Health (CDPH) has set a maximum arsenic contamination level (MCL) of 10 micrograms per liter (mg/L) for domestic water sources. The Wild Wings water system's primary well (called the Pintail Well) has arsenic levels of 8 mg/L, which are within the allowable levels (Consumer Confidence Report, 2012). However, the standby well (called the Canvasback Well) was issued Compliance Order No. 01-09-09-CO-003 from CDPH on July 30, 2009 for detecting arsenic concentrations slightly above the arsenic MCL.

According to CDPH, after more than a year of regular monitoring the Canvasback Well had a running average arsenic level below the MCL. The CSA has been required to continue quarterly monitoring, and has also designated the Canvasback Well as a standby water source, which is not currently used for domestic water supply. According to CDPH, converting the Canvasback Well to a standby water source is an acceptable solution that still allows the CSA to remain in compliance with daily maximum water demands. CDPH has stated that the CSA is currently considering options for resolving the arsenic

issues, and is expected to share an action plan for resolving the problem once one has been determined.

The CSA commissioned a study by GEI Consultants, Inc. (2011) to determine options for reducing the arsenic levels in Canvasback Well. The consultants ruled out most affordable options for reducing the arsenic levels, and determined that the only feasible options are treatment or well replacement, which are both very cost prohibitive. The CSA is unable to undertake either option currently, and is actively placing funds each year into a restricted reserve for future treatment.

Water Capacity: Even given restrictions on water due to the contamination issues with the standby well, water production is well above actual use. If the only operational well is the Pintail Well, the water system has the capacity for an additional 89 domestic water connections. If the contamination issues in the Canvasback Well are resolved so that both wells are in operation, the water system has the capacity for an additional 200 connections for domestic water use. These numbers take into account water needs relating to fire, emergency services, irrigation, and lake-fill water. These numbers also account for the water required for open space, golf course irrigation, and emergency service requirements. Having a second potable well would be preferable according to State standards, but the CSA is able to use the Canvasback Well as a short-term back up well in instances where the Pintail Well needs to be shut down for routine maintenance and repairs.

WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL: The Wild Wings CSA is responsible for providing wastewater collection and disposal for the Wild Wings community. The current operator under contract with the CSA for maintenance and operation of the Wild Wings Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is California American Water Company (CalAm). The existing wastewater system infrastructure includes:

- A gravity vitrified clay pipe, sanitary sewer collection pipes, and manholes
- A sewer lift station known as "Site B" and the associated sewer force main
- A wastewater treatment facility
- A belt press sludge dewatering system

Wastewater Adequacy: The only concern over adequacy with the Wild Wings wastewater services relates to complaints about a foul odor coming from the wastewater treatment facility. When Yolo LAFCo previously attempted to complete the Wild Wings CSA MSR/SOI in 2010 the process was delayed due to complaints from Wild Wings residents over the foul odor, and LAFCo placed this MSR/SOI on hold while the issues were investigated.

When LAFCo resumed work on this MSR in 2013 staff conducted initial outreach with the CSA to determine the status of these odor issues. CSA staff indicated that from their perspective the odor issues had been resolved, as they were no longer receiving complaints from residents. However, during outreach with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (AQMD) LAFCo staff was informed that

the odor issues were still present; that AQMD still receives complaints from residents regarding odor, and that a Notice of Violation (NOV-001325) was issued to the Wild Wings CSA on May 21, 2012 for odor nuisance.

AQMD and the Wild Wings CSA reached a mutual settlement agreement (MSA) regarding NOV-001325 in late 2013 in which the CSA agreed to pay a \$1,000 fine, implement a study involving the addition of certain chemicals within 60 days, and submit a report to AQMD documenting the performance of the addition of such chemicals on the odor issues within four months. The MSA was formally resolved in February 2014, at which time AQMD requested that the CSA implement the chemical solution on a continual basis in order to eliminate the odor issues and avoid future AQMD enforcement action. The CSA agreed to the addition of chemicals, but the process was delayed because the solution was not permissible under the current Treatment Permit (R5-2002-0077) as regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board. An alternative chemical was recommended for the long-term chemical solution by the facility operator, CalAm, and the CSA has stated that it intends to introduce the alternative chemical (Calcium Hydroxide) into the WWTF treatment process during the month of May 2014.

The CSA has indicated that it is supportive of working with AQMD on identifying a mutually acceptable resolution to the odor issues at the treatment facility, though it has also emphasized that these odor issues impact very few Wild Wings residents. LAFCo acknowledges that the odor issues impact only a small portion of the Wild Wings community, meaning that the CSA is required to spend a significant amount of resources on an issue that does not impact the majority of Wild Wings residents. However, LAFCo does encourage the CSA to continue working with AQMD on identifying a solution that works for everyone, as not fully resolving the odor issues may result in AQMD pursuing further enforcement action that will become increasingly costly and cumbersome for the CSA.

Wastewater Capacity: The current capacity for the Wild Wings wastewater system is .100 million gallons per day (gpd), of which it typically processes about .055 million gpd. The system has capacity for an additional 220 sewer connections while remaining within prescribed state standards and requirements.

PARKS AND RECREATION: When the Wild Wings community was established, the 9-hole golf course was owned and operated by a private company called Wild Wings, LLC. However, in 2008 Wild Wings, LLC determined it could no longer afford to operate the golf course, and offered the purchase of the course to the CSA for a \$1 sale price.

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors (the CSA's governing body) voted to move forward with an approach to acquire and operate the Wild Wings Golf Course on October 21, 2008 based on feedback received during several public meetings. This vote activated the CSA's parks and recreation function, which was given to the CSA as a latent power at the time of its formation.

On March 10, 2009 the Wild Wings community passed Measure O (which was a special tax on Wild Wings residents for the acquisition, operation, maintenance and improvement of the Wild Wings Golf Course) and the Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved a management agreement with KemperSports for the operation of the course.

Parks and Recreation Adequacy and Capacity: Since the CSA's purchase of the golf course in 2009 LAFCo is not aware of any concerns with capacity or adequacy of services at the course.

- c) The Wild Wings community is currently at full build-out, and LAFCo staff is not aware of any potential future development that will impact the CSA's capacity to meet service demands.
- d) The CSA has a capital improvement program that dictates the regular maintenance and replacement of the CSA's infrastructure and equipment. CSA staff has indicated that they continue to make necessary improvements on an annual basis, and are placing funds into a restricted reserve to deal with arsenic treatment or well replacement if such a step becomes necessary. A similar reserve was not put in place for the wastewater facility, which could become problematic if it is determined that further actions are needed to resolve the odor issues. Depending on how this issue evolves, the CSA may wish to consider adding a reserve for the wastewater facility if and when a new Proposition 218 effort is undertaken.
- e) LAFCo staff is not aware of any changes in State legislation on the horizon that will significantly impact the CSA.
- f) The CSA does not have any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to its sphere of influence.

Capacity and Adequacy of Public Facilities and Services MSR Determination

LAFCo currently has no concerns regarding the Wild Wings CSA's present or future capacity to offer water, wastewater, or parks and recreation services. However, LAFCo does have concerns regarding the adequacy of the water and wastewater services offered by the CSA, due to complaints from residents and compliance issues with regulatory agencies.

The CSA currently has an active Compliance Order with the California Department of Public Health that was issued in 2009 due to high arsenic levels in its Canvasback Well. The CSA designated the Well as a standby rather than primary domestic water source, which seems to have temporarily resolved the issue. In addition, the CSA is building a reserve for the water system which is positive because a more permanent solution will need to be determined at some point, which will likely involve expensive treatment or well replacement.

The CSA is also having issues at its wastewater treatment facility, where a handful of residents living nearby have been complaining for several years regarding a foul odor. The CSA received a Notice of Violation (NOV) from the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District in May 2012 for causing an odor nuisance at the Wild Wings Treatment Facility. Although the NOV has been resolved AQMD has requested that the

CSA implement a continual treatment process using Calcium Hydroxide, which the CSA plans to begin in May 2014.

Recommendations:

 LAFCo encourages the CSA to continue working with the Yolo-Solano AQMD to resolve odor issues at the wastewater treatment facility. Please notify LAFCo of any significant issues and/or milestones during the Notice of Violation process including any clearance notice from the Yolo-Solano AQMD that the case has been resolved and closed.

4. FINANCIAL ABILITY Financial ability of agencies to provide services. YES MAYBE NO a) Does the organization routinely engage in budgeting practices that may indicate weak financial management, such \square as overspending its revenues, failing to commission independent audits, or adopting its budget late? b) Is the organization lacking adequate reserve to protect \square against unexpected events or upcoming significant costs? Is the organization's rate/fee schedule insufficient to fund an C) adequate level of service, and/or is the fee inconsistent with \boxtimes the schedules of similar service organizations? d) Is the organization unable to fund necessary infrastructure \boxtimes maintenance, replacement and/or any needed expansion? e) Is the organization lacking financial policies that ensure its \square continued financial accountability and stability? \boxtimes f) Is the organization's debt at an unmanageable level?

Discussion:

a) The Wild Wings County Service Area routinely adopts and operates an annual budget as part of the larger Yolo County budget process, which is approved by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. The tables below provide five-year budget trends for the CSA's wastewater, water, and golf course funds.

WILD WINGS COUNTY	SERVICE AREA-	WASTEWATER E	BUDGET		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Revenues:					
Investment Earnings	17,602.28	4,523.56	3,087.81	2,819.12	1,432.12
Special Assessments	360,906.00	341,023.78	347,177.40	353,176.00	363,623.00
Charge for Sanitation Services	0.00	29,295.00	33,926.00	33,926.00	33,926.00
Other (Operating Transfers In)	0.00	45,185.16	28,481.39	34,117.70	64,117.70
WASTEWATER REVENUES	378,508.28	420,027.50	412,672.60	424,038.82	463,098.82
Expenditures:					
Maintenance (Equipment, Buildings, Improvements)	153,860.22	181,685.56	246,908.69	299,543.37	225,133.01
Services (Auditing, Fiscal, Legal, Professional & Specialized)	38,911.08	32,248.37	19,439.06	24,628.42	62,088.82
Utilities	26,566.50	33,609.76	33,652.29	29,257.86	32,283.01
Other Services and Supplies (Office Exp, Special Dept Exp)	155,348.77	186,967.49	27,617.48	58,623.00	58,929.10
Other (Operating Transfers Out)	86,193.07	95,462.91	0.00	0.00	0.00
WASTEWATER EXPENDITURES	460,879.64	529,974.09	327,617.52	412,052.65	378,433.94
Net Amount	-82,371.36	-109,946.59	85,055.08	11,986.17	84,664.88
WILD WINGS COU				11,500.17	01,001.00
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Pavanuasi	2000-05	2005-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Revenues:	17 222 70	2 752 92	2 721 02	2 21 9 20	804 64
Investment Earnings	17,232.78	3,752.82	2,731.03	2,318.39	894.64
Special Assessments	291,014.00	159,210.80	162,965.52	159,064.00	262,493.70
Charge for Water Services	0.00	151,000.00	151,623.00	151,623.00	151,623.00
Other	0.00	10,907.42	14,202.31	40,294.89	40,294.89
WATER REVENUES	308,246.78	324,871.04	331,521.86	353,300.28	455,306.23
Expenditures:	150.062.24	122.004.02	152 160 70	212 204 11	120 400 10
Maintenance (Equipment, Buildings, Improvements)	158,962.31	122,094.93	153,169.79	213,204.11	139,488.19
Services (Auditing, Fiscal, Legal, Professional & Specialized)	40,405.84	34,054.70	33,238.76	37,788.36	44,680.49
Utilities	54,365.89	52,294.75	42,410.90	41,880.33	53,579.01
Other Services and Supplies (Office Exp, Special Dept Exp)	82,239.45	89,506.80	123,443.85	145,640.35	111,255.50
Other (Operating Transfers Out)	91,457.29	54,537.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
WATER EXPENDITURES Net Amount	427,430.78 -119,184.00	352,488.27 -27,617.23	352,263.30 -20,741.44	438,513.15 -85,212.87	349,003.19 106,303.04
	· · · · ·			-83,212.87	100,303.04
WILD WINGS COUNTY				2011 12	2012 12
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Revenues:	107.00				
Investment Earnings	487.08	1,125.19	456.56	118.70	-336.58
Special Assessments	274,318.00		502,804.00	502,804.00	572,900.00
Parks and Recreation Fees	115,003.00	399,158.00	360,619.00	356,547.00	318,213.00
Other (Sales, Operating Transfers In)	3,207,365.36	393,326.93	242,441.00	250,360.00	315,683.00
GOLF COURSE REVENUES	3,597,173.44	1,239,977.12	1,106,320.56	1,109,829.70	1,206,459.42
Expenditures:					
Maintenance (Equipment, Buildings, Improvements)	59,297.29	150,724.71	1,154.79	279.00	0.00
Services (Auditing, Fiscal, Legal, Professional & Specialized)	131,072.60	89,072.57	91,287.13	86,341.57	86,135.89
Utilities	16,400.00	180,295.00	185,549.00	185,549.00	185,549.00
Fixed Assets (Land, Buildings)	3,035,351.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Debt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,872.00
Other	467,796.39	858,014.15	729,951.27	834,954.79	927,280.79
GOLF COURSE EXPENDITURES	3,709,917.59	1,278,106.43	1,007,942.19	1,107,124.36	1,204,837.68
Net Amount	-112,744.15	-38,129.31	98,378.37	2,705.34	1,621.74

WILD WING	S COUNTY SERVICE	AREA BUDGET			
TOTAL REVENUES	4,283,928.50	1,984,875.66	1,850,515.02	1,887,168.80	2,124,864.47
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,598,228.01	2,160,568.79	1,687,823.01	1,957,690.16	1,932,274.81
REVENUES LESS EXPENDITURES	-314,299.51	-175,693.13	162,692.01	-70,521.36	192,589.66
SOURCE: County of Yolo Budget and Revenue Status Reports					
End of Year Fund Balances	883,109.00	685,846.00	848,537.00	778,015.00	970,605.00
SOURCE: Yolo County Finanical Statements					

As evidenced by the tables above, the CSA has had issues with overspending its revenues in all three of its service functions over the past five years, resulting in a net loss to the CSA in three of the previous five fiscal years.

In the case of the golf course, the budgetary issues occurred in the first two years after the CSA acquired the golf course, and can likely be attributed to the significant improvements that were necessary at the time of purchase. Additionally, it is reasonable for some financial uncertainty in the initial years of any new endeavor, while the organization gains a more stable understanding of the costs and revenues. In the past three years the golf course budget has stabilized, and LAFCo is not concerned about the financial well-being of the Wild Wings Golf Course at this time.

The CSA's wastewater and water funds also had budgetary issues in recent years, which were resolved in 2013 by a fee increase for both services. The CSA's wastewater service was unable to operate within its revenues in both FY 08-09 and 09-10. Additionally, the CSAs water service was unable to operate within its revenues for four consecutive years, from FY 08-09 to 11-12. The consistency of these budgetary shortfalls indicated that the programs were inadequately funded, so the CSA conducted a fee study, and ultimately raised the fees for water and wastewater services to better support the maintenance and operational needs of the programs. The fee increase seems to have resolved the CSA's major budget issues regarding operating expenses, making the CSA much more financially stable.

While researching the Wild Wings budgets LAFCo observed a concerning financial practice of the CSA that might be adjusted in the future to better reflect sound financial management practices. In March 2014 the CSA placed an item on the Board of Supervisors agenda that raised the CSA's FY 13-14 water budget by \$200,000 to "address additional operations and maintenance costs and water projects." The adopted budget was \$275,975 for FY 13-14, and approval of the proposed agenda item by the Board of Supervisors nearly doubled the annual budget, raising the total budget to \$475,975. When inquiring about the significant budget increase LAFCo staff was informed by the CSA Coordinator that the adopted budget of \$275,000 was only a budget placeholder as there were several uncertainties in the budget development process (including uncertainty regarding the cost of additional arsenic treatment, reserve funds, and a contract for operations and maintenance that was going out to RFP and makes up the majority of the CSA's expenses). The CSA Coordinator indicated that due to uncertainty regarding

the exact cost of these expenses staff left them out of the proposed and adopted budgets, with the intention of adjusting the mid-year budget to include the accurate costs.

LAFCo suggests that in such cases where the CSA is aware that an expense is going to occur but is uncertain of the exact cost of the expense, a more financially sound practice would be to provide an estimate of the expected costs, and then adjust as needed, rather than leaving uncertain costs out of the budget with the expectation that significant amendments would be made mid-year. County budget staff has confirmed this recommendation, stating that an appropriate practice would be to include the amount used in the previous year as a placeholder rather than omitting the item.

b) The CSA has maintained a strong reserve in recent years, with a combined fund balance of \$1,004,361 for the water and wastewater funds. The CSA reports that for the past two years it has also been placing money into a restricted fund to cover any expensive treatments that may become necessary due to the high arsenic levels in the canvasback well, with a total of \$162,686 (accumulated \$81,343 annually over the past two years). The CSA should consider developing a similar reserve for the wastewater facility to protect it in the event that further actions are needed to resolve the odor issues.

LAFCo recommends that if allowable according to the CSA's recent Proposition 218 ballot initiative, the CSA also consider placing funds aside for maintenance or treatment at the wastewater facility. LAFCo also recommends that when planning for future Proposition 218 initiatives the CSA consider the need for dedicated reserves for such upcoming maintenance issues.

As previously discussed, in 2013 the CSA successfully underwent Proposition 218 proceedings to raise the water and wastewater treatment rates in order to more accurately reflect the cost of providing services, as well as to develop a capital reserve for the water system. The rate schedule is provided in the table below. The rates were determined through an engineering study that identified the actual cost of providing water and wastewater services in the Wild Wings community, and are reasonable given the cost of providing the service. CSA staff has indicated that the additional revenues for ongoing operations and maintenance have improved the CSA's financial situation, although resources will always be tight due to Proposition 218 regulations that limit how much the CSA is allowed to charge for services.

Wild Wings CSA Annual Water and Wastewater Rates						
	FY 13/14	FY 14/15	FY 15/16	FY 16/17		
Water Base Rate:	\$875	\$893	\$911	\$929		
Water Usage Charge (per each 100 gallons exceeding 250,000 gallons):	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.30		
Water Treatment Charge:	\$241	\$241	\$241	\$241		
Water Capital Reserve:	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$0		
Total Fee for Water Services:	\$1466	\$1484	\$1502	\$1170		

d) The Wild Wings CSA is a part of the County of Yolo, and is governed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. As such, the CSA is subject to the Capital Asset Policy as adopted by the Board of Supervisors, which is prepared and updated annually.

The CSA's capital improvement program dictates the schedule and funding of regular maintenance and replacement for the CSA's assets and CSA staff has indicated that it continues to make the necessary improvements to infrastructure on an annual basis. Additionally, the CSA successfully underwent Proposition 218 proceedings in 2013 which allowed the CSA to collect \$350 from each parcel within its boundaries over a three year period, to be placed in a restricted reserve for capital projects in the CSA's water system. The CSA should consider adding a similar reserve for the wastewater facility if and when a new Proposition 218 effort is undertaken.

- e) The Wild Wings CSA is a part of the County of Yolo, and is governed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. As such, the CSA is subject to the financial policies that have been adopted by the County, which the County is currently in the process of re-writing to better align with nationwide best practices in financial management. The County should continue to monitor the CSA to ensure that it adheres to any new countywide financial policies and best practices.
- f) The CSA's water and wastewater functions do not currently have any debt. However, the Wild Wings Golf Course does have a line of credit with KemperSports for approximately \$200,00, which will be paid in full by June 2015. This is a manageable level of debt for the CSA.

Financial Ability MSR Determination

The CSA has had issues with overspending its revenues in all three of its service functions (water, wastewater, parks and recreation) during the first four of the past five years. In response the CSA successfully underwent Proposition 218 proceedings in 2013 to raise its water and wastewater rates, which should help to resolve these issues.

The CSA has strong financial policies, as determined by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors,. However, LAFCo has some concerns that the CSA should be more actively monitored to ensure that it maintains strong financial management practices. The CSA does also engage in some strong financial practices, such as developing a strong reserve, which it is bolstering with a property tax assessment to be put into a restricted capital fund for the water system. The CSA also has no debt, and is actively maintaining an infrastructure replacement plan.

Recommendations:

- For each budget cycle, the CSA should provide an estimate of anticipated costs, and then adjust as needed, rather than leaving unknown costs out of the budget altogether thus requiring significant amendments mid-year.
- If allowable according to the CSA's recent Proposition 218 ballot initiative, the CSA should consider placing funds aside for maintenance or treatment at the wastewater facility.
- When planning for future Proposition 218 initiatives, the CSA should consider the need for dedicated reserves for significant upcoming maintenance issues.

5. SHARED SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities.

5.0	itas of, and opportantities for, shared facilities.	YES	MAYBE	NO
a)	Is the agency currently sharing services or facilities with other organizations? If so, describe the status of such efforts.			\boxtimes
b)	Are there any opportunities for the organization to share services or facilities with neighboring or overlapping organizations that are not currently being utilized?			\boxtimes
c)	Are there any governance options that may produce economies of scale and/or improve buying power in order to reduce costs?			\boxtimes
d)	Are there governance options to allow appropriate facilities and/or resources to be shared, or making excess capacity available to others, and avoid construction of extra or unnecessary infrastructure or eliminate duplicative resources?			

Discussion:

a-b) The CSA currently shares many services with the County, which offers the administrative, overhead, and management services necessary to keep the CSA functioning. Additionally, the CSA Coordinator position splits its time between the various CSA's in Yolo County, which allows small CSA's who could not independently afford a dedicated staff member to receive the attention and staffing they need to function.

c-d) LAFCo is not aware of any alternate governance options or overlapping boundary issues that can be considered in the MSR.

Shared Services MSR Determination

LAFCo staff is not aware of any opportunities for shared services or alternate governance options that might reduce costs, increase efficiencies, make excess capacity available to others, or avoid duplicative efforts.

6. ACCOUNTABILITY, STRUCTURE AND EFFICIENCIES

	countability for community service needs, including goverr iciencies.	nmental	structure and	operational
0		YES	ΜΑΥΒΕ	NO
a)	Are there any issues with meetings being accessible and well publicized? Any failures to comply with disclosure laws and the Brown Act?			
b)	Are there any issues with filling board vacancies and maintaining board members?			\boxtimes
c)	Are there any issues with operational efficiencies such as budget development, staff turnover, transparency or decision-making processes?			
d)	Is there a lack of regular audits, adopted budgets and public access to these documents?			\boxtimes
e)	Are there any recommended changes to the organization's governance structure that will increase accountability and efficiency?			
f)	Are there any governance restructure options to enhance services and/or eliminate deficiencies or redundancies?			\boxtimes
g)	Are there any opportunities to eliminate overlapping boundaries that confuse the public, cause service inefficiencies, unnecessarily increase the cost of infrastructure, exacerbate rate issues and/or undermine good planning practices?			

Discussion:

a-b) The Yolo County Board of Supervisors meets on various Tuesdays in Room 206 of the County Administration Building, where they make decisions regarding the Wild Wings CSA during their regular meeting agendas. The Board is in compliance with public meeting regulations, and all meeting materials (including agendas, minutes, and video recordings) can be accessed on the County's website.

Additionally, the CSA has an advisory committee and recreation and golf advisory subcommittees that both meet regularly and are in compliance with Brown Act regulations. The recreation and golf subcommittee currently has all its seats filled, and the CSA advisory committee has two openings. The vacancies appear to be coincidental and not a chronic issue. Two of the appointed members serve on both committees. LAFCo is not aware of any issues with frequent vacancies that might be resolved through this MSR process.

c) The CSA is communicating with the Advisory Committee and the Wild Wings residents well. The CSA has stated that it conducts publically noticed advisory committee meetings, provides bimonthly statements to customers, sends updates on the Homeowners Association (HOA) list serve, and sends a representative to report on CSA issues at every HOA meeting. However, while conducting interviews for this MSR, items were raised that suggest that there are issues regarding operational efficiencies in terms of responsiveness between the CSA function and other County departments such as the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator's Office, and County Counsel's office. There appear to be internal County customer service issues with the CSA function.

Internal Customer Service

LAFCo experienced significant delays in our requests for information. During the MSR process LAFCo sent the initial request for information on October 15, 2013, and did not receive a response until January 21, 2014. During the three month period LAFCo reached out to CSA staff on four occasions to inquire about the status of the information request, and received only one short email in response. When LAFCo did receive the response we were informed that our questions regarding the CSA budgets would be forwarded to PPW business services, and we did not receive a response regarding that information until April 15, 2014, after reminding CSA staff of the outstanding request.

When the requested information was provided it was, in one case, incomplete to the point of being misleading. The CSA response stated that the CSA had been through "a number of years of collaboration" with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Control District to mediate any outstanding odor concerns from the residents. The CSA's response did not disclose the Notice of Violation dated 5/21/12, of which the Mutual Settlement Agreement was still active at the time of LAFCo's request for information. In contrast, LAFCo received 260 pages of documentation from the AQMD detailing extensive back and forth between AQMD and the CSA.

No inaccurate information was conveyed, but it was far short of being forthcoming and failed to provide directly relevant information to this MSR. The CSA directed LAFCo to their website for additional information on the odor issues when the website turned out to be incomplete. Per Government Code Section 56386(a), CSA staff "shall furnish the executive officer with any records or information in their possession which may be necessary to assist the commission and the executive officer in their duties, including, but not limited to, the preparation of reports...".

LAFCo does not suggest that any of these issues were intentional and could have occurred because staff resources may be spread too thin. The County should consider providing additional staff resources if possible or provide whatever support may be necessary to resolve these customer service issues as the CSA function is an extremely important one.

Grand Jury Review- Proposition 218 Protest Election Process

The Grand Jury recently reviewed the notification process the County uses when conducting Proposition 218 protest elections, after receiving a series of complaints regarding the Wild Wings CSA's 2013 process. See Attachment A for the full report. The report focuses on the notification process for Proposition 218 protest elections, and finds that the County's notification process meets the minimum standards required by Proposition 218, but could be revised to be clearer, provide more information, and to encourage wider participation. The report states that in general, citizens understand the term "election" to mean that they will cast a vote on a ballot, while "protest elections" can be confusing in that residents or property owners opposing the proposed increase must submit a formal letter of protest. It's important for the ballot to be clear because it's counter intuitive to the public that by taking no action residents are effectively voting "yes" to the proposed increase. The Grand Jury report makes five findings relating to the Wild Wings Proposition 218 process, as follows:

F1: Yolo County met the minimum requirements of Proposition 218 for a proposed utility rate increase in Wild Wings, but did not adequately and clearly inform the residents how to successfully protest an election.

F2: Yolo County does not have a written set of procedures for the management of the Proposition 218 election process within its jurisdiction.

F3: It is not easy to locate or access all supporting documentation regarding a specific Proposition 218 action.

F4: There are other jurisdictions within Yolo County that have provided more detailed information to their residents about how a Proposition 218 "protest election" works.

F5: Yolo County does not issue Proposition 218 related notices in language other than English.

The report recommends that (1) the County Administrator's Office work with other County departments to develop a set of procedures for Proposition 218 elections, (2) PPW develop guidelines for the preparation of a Proposition 218 Public Notice, (3) the Board of Supervisors consider including a protest form in the public notice to be completed and returned by protesting residents for future Proposition 218 actions, and (4) the Board of Supervisors identify the appropriate department to maintain and make accessible Proposition 218 election records.

d) The Wild Wings CSA is part of the County of Yolo, and is therefore subject to the same financial regulations and practices of the County. The Board of Supervisors routinely adopts a budget for the CSA as part of their annual budget process, the County Auditor-Controller provides financial reports at the close of each FY, and the County also commissions an independent audit each year. This information is all publicly available on the County Auditor-Controller website.

However, the Wild Wings CSA documentation is very difficult to pinpoint in the County's financial documents (such as adopted budgets, financial reports and audits), which often span several hundred pages and dozens of County departments. The CSA has stated that it will begin providing adopted budgets and third party financial audits on each CSA website beginning in fiscal year 14/15.

- e-f) LAFCo currently is not aware of any possible changes to the governance structure that would increase accountability, enhance services, or eliminate redundancies.
- g) LAFCo is not aware of any overlapping boundary issues that confuse the public, cause service inefficiencies, unnecessarily increase the cost of infrastructure, exacerbate rate issues and/or undermine good planning practices. The Wild Wings CSA does have overlapping boundaries with several other special districts, but none offer similar services that would cause potential confusion or conflict.

Accountability, Structure and Efficiencies MSR Determination

The CSA has frequent, publicly accessible meetings that are well publicized in accordance with the Brown Act. It communicates with the residents well via a regular newsletter. There appear to be no chronic issues with filing advisory committee vacancies. The CSA adopts annual budgets and completes annual audits as part of the county wide financial management policies. There are no recommended changes to the organization's structure that would enhance services or eliminate deficiencies or redundancies in services. There are no overlapping boundaries that confuse the public and cause service inefficiencies.

While conducting interviews for this MSR, discussions topics were raised that suggest there are issues regarding operational efficiencies in terms of responsiveness between the CSA function and other County departments such as the Board of Supervisors, the County Administrator's Office, and County Counsel's office. There appear to be internal County customer service issues with the CSA function. LAFCo experienced delays in responses to requests for information and responses that were incomplete.

The Grand Jury also released a recent report regarding the County's Proposition 218 "protest election" process, based on the Prop 218 process conducted by the Wild Wings CSA in 2013. The report finds that while the CSA does meet the minimum requirements of Proposition 218 law, there are several recommendations for how the County can improve the process to better incorporate clear instructions, provide more information, and encourage wider participation in the process.

Recommendations:

- The County should consider providing additional staff resources to the CSA, or provide whatever support may be necessary to resolve internal and external customer service issues.
- The County should implement the recommendations in the 2013-14 Grand Jury report "Proposition 218 Protest Election Process: The Yolo Way" to improve its Proposition 218 protect election process.

7. OTHER ISSUES

Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.					
	YES	MAYBE	NO		
a) Are there any other service delivery issues that can be resolved by the MSR/SOI process?			\boxtimes		

Discussion:

a) LAFCo staff conducted outreach to several Wild Wings CSA stakeholders while researching this MSR, including CSA staff, the PPW Interim Director, staff in the County Administrator's Office, County Counsel, the District 3 Supervisor, the Wild Wings CSA Advisory Committee and several of the CSA's regulatory agencies. None of these parties identified additional service delivery issues that need to be resolved in the MSR.

Other Issues MSR Determination

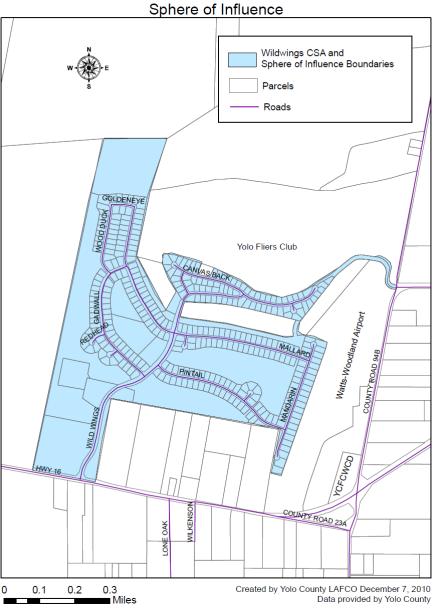
Outreach with multiple Wild Wings CSA stakeholders has not identified any additional issues related to effective or efficient service delivery that might be resolved in this MSR.

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE STUDY

The boundaries for the Wild Wings CSA are as reflected in the map below. The SOI for the Wild Wings CSA is coterminous with the boundaries.

LAFCo is not aware of any development proposals or requests by adjacent landowners to connect to the municipal services of the Wild Wings CSA for any health and safety issues. Therefore, no SOI is recommended with this review.

On the basis of the Municipal Service Review:



Wild Wings County Service Area and Sphere of Influence

> MSR/SOI for Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA) June 26, 2014

Yolo LAFCo

- Staff has reviewed the agency's Sphere of Influence and recommends that a SOI Update is NOT NECESSARY in accordance with Government Code Section 56425(g). Therefore, NO CHANGE to the agency's SOI is recommended and SOI determinations HAVE NOT been made.
- Staff has reviewed the agency's Sphere of Influence and recommends that a SOI Update IS NECESSARY in accordance with Government Code Section 56425(g). Therefore, A CHANGE to the agency's SOI is recommended and SOI determinations HAVE been made and are included in this MSR/SOI study.

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Proposition 218 Protest Election Process: "The Yolo Way"

SUMMARY

The Grand Jury reviewed the notification process Yolo County uses when conducting Proposition 218 protest elections after receiving a series of complaints regarding management of the Wild Wings County Service Area (Wild Wings CSA). After considering the numerous issues raised in the complaints, the Grand Jury narrowed the scope of its investigation to the Proposition 218 protest election notification process in Yolo County.

Proposition 218 restricts local governments' ability to impose assessments and property related fees and property tax assessments to pay for specific services (i.e. water, sewer, lighting, etc.). While there are a number of traditional election formats outlined by Proposition 218, it also provides for a "protest election". These "protest elections" are unique in that a "yes" vote is cast by doing nothing and a "no" vote is cast by filing a protest with the governmental body holding the election. For Proposition 218 "protest elections" within the jurisdiction of Yolo County, the Board of Supervisors is required to send the notice of a Proposition 218 election to affected residents and property owners, advise them they can file a "protest," and hold a public hearing to collect and tabulate "votes".

The Grand Jury found that the Yolo County notification process meets the minimum standards required by Proposition 218. However, the Grand Jury discovered that other jurisdictions within Yolo County, and local governmental jurisdictions within California, provide better election notifications that are clearer, more informative, and encourage wider participation by residents and homeowners.

The Grand Jury calls on Yolo County to implement a Proposition 218 protest election process which:

- provides information to voters that fully describes the protest election process in an easily readable and understandable fashion;
- ensures eligible voters receive an easily understandable ballot with clear directions regarding how to submit a protest vote; and
- encourages public participation.

BACKGROUND

The Grand Jury received three complaints regarding the Wild Wings County Service Area (CSA). The complaints raised questions regarding the fiscal operations of the newly acquired golf course, the management of the loans and reserves for the CSA and whether the Proposition 218 election in 2013 complied with the law.

The Grand Jury found no fiscal improprieties within the Wild Wings CSA. The Grand Jury did find reason to further investigate the Proposition 218 protest election process.

METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury reviewed the complaints and interviewed managers, staff and elected officials from the County of Yolo and residents of the Wild Wings CSA. In addition to the interviews, the Grand Jury reviewed the following documents:

- Yolo County Administrative Policy Manual (APM);
- County Service Area 2013-14 Budget Information;
- Wild Wings County Service Area Formation Document dated May 25, 2004;
- Wild Wings CSA Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Sub-Committee Formation Document, dated June 2, 2009;
- Text of Proposition 218; http://www.lao.ca.gov/1996/120196 prop 218/understanding prop218 1296.html
- Proposition 218 Implementation Guide, League of California Cities; <u>http://www.cacities.org/UploadedFiles/LeagueInternet/c2/c2f1ce7c-2b14-45fe-9aaad3dd2e0ffecc.pdf</u>
- Proposition 218 documents for Wild Wings Homeowners; and
- Proposition 218 notices from other counties and local agencies.

The last interview was conducted on March 3, 2014.

DISCUSSION

County Service Areas

Yolo County provides some public services through County Service Areas (CSA). A CSA is a branch of county government that provides funding and management for a wide range of public services including lighting, fire protection, road maintenance, potable water supply, and wastewater treatment and disposal. It may also provide a limited number of these or other services depending on how and for what purpose it was formed. Each CSA provides public service needs unique to a particular community or neighborhood. Eleven CSAs have been established in Yolo County.

CSA Advisory Committees (CSA Committee) are established within each CSA to provide oversight of the delivery of services and financial status of each CSA. Services to these unique areas are funded initially in a manner similar to Special Districts through enactment of a parcel tax. A CSA Committee may also request the County hold an election under the provisions of Proposition 218 to fund existing services or to provide new services within a CSA. CSA Committees are composed of community members who reside within the boundaries of the CSA for which that particular committee provides oversight. CSA committee members are appointed by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors. The CSA Committees act solely in an advisory capacity and may only make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the services provided by the CSAs. The ultimate authority regarding governance of a CSA resides with the Board of Supervisors.

Additional oversight of the CSA is provided by the Yolo County Department of Planning and Public Works (PPW). The PPW provides oversight through a County Service Area Manager (CSAM). The CSAM attends CSA Committee meetings, provides advice to the CSA Committee, and acts as a liaison between the CSA Committees and the Board of Supervisors. The CSAM also assists the Board of Supervisors in providing oversight of a Proposition 218 election process.

Proposition 218

Proposition 218 is contained in the California Constitution, Article XIIID. It limits the authority of government agencies to impose property related fees or charges, including water rates. Like other taxpayer protections in California, Proposition 218 requires government agencies to follow certain procedures to adopt or increase water rates and limits those rates to the amounts necessary to provide the property related service.

In general, citizens understand the term "election" to mean that they will cast a vote on a ballot as they would in any other general election. This is not always the case with a Proposition 218 election where most of the increases to the cost for services will result from a "protest election." In a "protest election", if the residents or property owners oppose the proposed increase, they must submit a ballot in the form of a letter of protest prior to, or at, a public hearing scheduled to act on the matter. Residents who support the proposed increase "vote" by taking no action.

As with any other legislation or law, Proposition 218 provides only the basic requirements for implementation. The public agency has the ability to determine its own procedures as long as the basic requirements are met. Generally these requirements include a minimum amount of time a notice must be issued prior to the hearing date or a statement that an increase cannot be passed if a majority of the residents submit protest letters. Proposition 218 does not specifically state how the public notice is to be written or how much information should be included in this notice.

Wild Wings County Service Area

The Wild Wings CSA was initially created in 2004 to provide oversight of the operation and maintenance of the potable water delivery and waste water treatment systems for the Wild Wings development. The Wild Wings development is composed of approximately 330 homes. In 2009 Yolo County acquired the Wild Wings Golf Club, which is located within the development. The oversight of the operation of the golf club then became the responsibility of the Wild Wings CSA.

During 2013, a Proposition 218 "protest election" was held on a proposed increase in the utility rates paid by the residents of Wild Wings. In accordance with the requirements of Proposition 218, the County drafted and mailed the required notice of a public hearing which took place on July 16, 2013. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board of Supervisors voted to pass the increases. There are no records indicating whether any Wild Wings residents attended the public hearing and no record that any protests to the proposed rate increase were filed.

Although the County complied with Proposition 218 during the 2013 election, the County provided only a minimum amount of information to residents regarding the voting procedure. The 2013 Wild Wings Proposition 218 public notice stated that written protests could be received at, or prior to, the public hearing. The notice did not clearly state that residents who opposed the increase would need to file a protest in order to "vote" against it nor did it advise residents as to the form a protest letter should take.

Administration of Proposition 218 Elections in Yolo County

The Grand Jury was not able to identify any written procedures maintained by Yolo County for the management of a Proposition 218 "protest election" within its jurisdiction. The Grand Jury learned that the County does not have an established policy or practice for receiving and recording election protests.

The Grand Jury found it difficult to locate and review the past Proposition 218 information within Yolo County. There is no specific collector and keeper of these records within the County and no location where a resident could go to review previously held Proposition 218 election records.

The Grand Jury learned that Yolo County did not offer Proposition 218 information in multiple languages during the 2013 Wild Wings CSA election.

Proposition 218 Notices of Public Hearing

The Grand Jury reviewed Proposition 218 public notices issued by other agencies within Yolo County and other regions of California and found that the amount of information contained in Proposition 218 public notices varied widely from agency to agency, and among the various local governmental agencies within Yolo County.

For example, the Grand Jury reviewed Proposition 218 public notices from the City of Woodland. In addition to meeting the minimum requirements of the proposition, the City of Woodland also issued the Proposition 218 notice in multiple languages, informed the residents exactly how to participate in the process and included a statement explaining that if a majority of the residents protested, the increases could not be implemented. The Proposition 218 notice reviewed by the Grand Jury from the City of Davis also was specific in informing the citizens how to effectively protest the action.

The Grand Jury compared the Wild Wings notice of a public hearing with one from San Diego. The Grand Jury believes that the San Diego notice contained all of the important

information that should be provided to residents and homeowners when a Proposition 218 "protest election" occurs. The San Diego notice:

- showed evidence of thoughtful graphic design intended to draw people's attention to the information;
- specified who could file a protest (one written protest per affected property);
- specified what should be in the protest, and included a form that could be used as the protest letter;
- indicated that the information is available in alternative formats for disabled and non-English speaking residents;
- stated the consequence of a successful protest, and defined a successful protest.

The following graphic illustrates the visual difference between the two notices with the Yolo County example to the right overlapping the San Diego example.

Visual Comparison of San Diego Notice of Public Hearing and Yolo County Notice of Public Hearing

Description Description Description And the description of the control of the description of thescription of the description of the description of t	<section-header><section-header><text><text><text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header>	
USE THIS FORM TO PROTEST THE PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE	Thereafter, fees shall not increase by more than the Consu	mer Price Index (CPI-W and CPI-
Lprotest this proposed increase to water rates. Property Address or Assessor's Photo Number Signature	 U) for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA area February as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. At 9:00 a.m. (or as soon thereafter as circumstances permit Supervisors Chambers, at 625 Court Street, Room 206, V Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing to consider the propo consider all public comments, including but not limited to a increases. The water service that is the subject of this proposed increase file with the Clerk of the Board at 625 Court Street, Roo represents the estimated annual cost of providing water ser Wings County Service Area) on July 16, 2013, in the Board of Woodland, California, the Board of sed fee increases, and to receive and ny protests against the proposed fee is described in a fee rate analysis on m 204, Woodland, California. This
If you with to an this form a your protect, plasses III out on that in a starpoof emitting to: CNC-CNC by San Dange, CNC Administration Blancy, 2022 Classet, 825 year Dange, CA 20111 or defined to the CR_CR blance has end of the Plack Energy on November 21, 2013. This material is available in alternative format upon request to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories format to accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double information in animotories for all on the stores formation and the stores of the Non- Non-material stores of the store accommodate accommodate persons with disabilities or non-flepfold gealers. Double of the stores of	A detailed fee analysis is available to the public concerning the cost or estimated cost of providing the service for which errevenue sources anticipated to provide the service (including jof the allocation of the Cost of the services. This information of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at 625 Court Street, I All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard at the the County Service Area Law, Government Code 25210.77a may file a written protest with the Clerk of the Board at 625 California, at or before the close of the public hearing.	ach fee is proposed to be charged, the general fund revenues), and the bases is available for review at the Office Room 204, Woodland, California. It time of the hearing. As provided in and following, any interested person
San Diego Notice of Public Hearing Excerpt from full document located at:	Additional information regarding the proposed fee may be obt Service Area Manager, at (530) 666-8725.	ained from Regina Espinoza, County
	Dated: May 21, 2013 Julie Dachtler	Board of Supervisors
jan20142015publichearingnotice.pdf	By: Deput (SEAI	
L	Yolo County Proposition 218 Notice of Public Ho	earing

Yolo County Proposition 218 Notice of Public Hearing Excerpt from full document located at: <u>http://www.yolocounty.org/home/</u> showdocument?id=23040

FINDINGS

- F1. Yolo County met the minimum requirements of Proposition 218 for a proposed utility rate increase in Wild Wings, but did not adequately and clearly inform the residents how to successfully protest an election.
- F2. Yolo County does not have a written set of procedures for the management of the Proposition 218 election process within its jurisdiction.
- F3. It is not easy to locate or access all supporting documentation regarding a specific Proposition 218 action.
- F4. There are other jurisdictions within Yolo County that have provided more detailed information to their residents about how a Proposition 218 "protest election" works.
- F5. Yolo County does not issue Proposition 218 related notices in languages other than English.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. By October 1, 2014, the County Administrative Officer shall work with the County Counsel, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and the Department of Planning & Public Works to develop a set of procedures for a Proposition 218 election, including outlining each department's responsibilities.
- R2. By December 1, 2014, the Department of Planning & Public Works, in coordination with County Counsel and the Clerk of the Board, shall develop guidelines for the preparation of a Proposition 218 Public Notice. The notice shall include all legally required information and the following:
 - An explanation of the "protest" election process;
 - How a resident can participate in the protest election;
 - How the protests are counted and what constitutes a successful protest;
 - How relevant information can be obtained; and
 - How disabled and non-English speaking residents can participate.
- R3. The Board of Supervisors shall consider including a protest form in the public notice to be completed and returned by a protesting resident for all future Proposition 218 actions.
- R4. By October 1, 2014 the Board of Supervisors shall identify the appropriate department to maintain and make accessible Proposition 218 election records, consistent with the maintenance of other utility rate, election and financial records.

REQUEST FOR RESPONSES

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933.05, the Grand Jury requests responses as follows:

From the following individuals:

- County Administrative Officer: Recommendations R1 and R4
- Director of Planning and Public Works: Recommendation R2

INVITED RESPONSES

Board of Supervisors: Recommendations R3 and R4

Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury.

DISCLAIMER

This report is issued by the 2013-14 Yolo County Grand Jury with the exception of two jurors who were recused from the interviews and investigations.