

LAFCO

*Yolo County Local Agency Formation Commission
625 Court Street, Suite 107, Woodland, CA 95695
530.666.8048 (office) 530.662.7383 (fax)
lafco@yolocounty.org (email) www.yololafco.org (web)*

TO: Olin Woods, Chair, and
Members of the Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Elizabeth Castro Kemper, Executive Officer

DATE: December 8, 2008

RE: Receive update on evaluation of Western Yolo County Park & Recreation services and organizational structure.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive update on evaluation of Western Yolo County Park & Recreation services and organizational structure.

FISCAL IMPACT

The evaluation and subsequent study will be performed in-house by the Yolo LAFCO staff.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

During the past 6 months, various groups, both public and private, have contacted the Yolo LAFCO office to inquire about the best approach to provide municipal type park and recreational services to west Yolo County. Yolo LAFCO, as the entity that reviews public service capability and responsibility, is the most likely candidate to provide this overview study. The proposed evaluation will review existing entities, consider possible alternative organization or identify new structures by which these services could be provided to the public.

BACKGROUND

As verbally reported to the Commission over the last six months, LAFCO staff has received inquiries concerning provision of more municipal type park and recreation services for the west Yolo County area. Discussions with both public and private groups have been far

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ranging and less than successful. The recommended evaluation is an effort to consolidate these disparate discussions into an efficient and useful planning study.

Groups including Capay Valley Vision, Esparto Community Services District, Yolo County Parks and Resources Department and the Madison Community Services District have contacted LAFCO staff concerning various service issues in western Yolo County. Other entities that will be included in this effort will be the Madison-Esparto County Service Area (CSA), the Yolo County Planning and Public Works Department and possibly the local fire and cemetery districts. This study will review the existing west Yolo County governmental structures, some of which are due for 5-year sphere of influence reviews, in tandem with the central question of park and recreation services. Other service questions that may arise will be identified as separate issues during the course of study and addressed as appropriate.

Yolo LAFCO staff will return to the Commission with the results of the study for public consideration. The next logical step may be to create a committee modeled after what is known in LAFCO law as a reorganization committee. This committee will bring the interested parties together to work through options and determine the best outcome. This approach can help eliminate duplication and encourage partnerships and efficiencies. If successful this approach can be a model for identifying and addressing other service issues in this and other areas of the County in the future.