

STAFF REPORT
Meeting Date: March 24, 2004

Agenda Item 9

TO: LAFCO Commissioners

FROM: Everett Millais, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Sphere of Influence Review - No Update Necessary – City of Port Hueneme, Ventura County Fire Protection District, Ventura Watershed Protection District

RECOMMENDATION:

Determine that no sphere of influence update is necessary for the City of Port Hueneme, the Ventura County Fire Protection District and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, and receive and file this report.

DISCUSSION:

For each city and special district, LAFCO must determine and adopt a sphere of Influence and, "...review and update, as necessary, the adopted sphere not less than once every five years.")CA Government Code §56430(f), emphasis added). No sphere of influence issues have been identified for the City of Port Hueneme, the Ventura County Fire Protection District and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, Thus, it is recommended that the Commission determine that no sphere of influence update is necessary for theses agencies, at least at this time.

While this recommendation may seem simple and straightforward, it has important policy, budget and work load implications. The Commission is aware the law requires that municipal service reviews (MSRs) be conducted prior to, or in conjunction with, sphere of influence updates. Thus, sphere of influence updates and MSRs are linked. Unless a sphere of influence update is deemed necessary, there is no separate mandate for the

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

COUNTY: Kathy Long Linda Parks <i>Alternate:</i> Steve Bennett	CITY: Evaristo Barajas Don Waunch <i>Alternate:</i> John Zaragoza	SPECIAL DISTRICT: Jack Curtis Dick Richardson <i>Alternate:</i> Ted Grandsen	PUBLIC: Louis Cunningham, Chair <i>Alternate:</i> Kenneth M. Hess
EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Everett Millais (805) 654-2575	SENIOR PLANNER: Hollie Brunsky (805) 654-2866	CLERK: Debbie Schubert (805) 654-2576	LEGAL COUNSEL: Noel Klebaum

Commission to conduct MSR. While not mandated, the Commission does have the authority to conduct MSR or other special studies of any agency with a sphere of influence at any time.

Consistent with the Commission's Work Plan for sphere of influence updates and MSR, the water and wastewater services provided by the City of Port Hueneme were part of the first phase of the MSR work completed last December. If the Commission accepts the recommendation, no further MSR will be conducted for the City of Port Hueneme and no MSR will be conducted for any of the services provided by the Ventura County Fire Protection District and the Ventura Watershed Protection District, unless the Commission directs otherwise.

The City of Port Hueneme is a charter city with a population of approximately 22,000. The City provides a variety of municipal services. In addition to water and wastewater services, other services provided include drainage (storm drain), police, recreation and parks, solid waste (refuse collection) and street and highway services. The City of Port Hueneme's sphere of influence is co-terminus with the City boundaries. The City is nearly surrounded by the City of Oxnard and the Pacific Ocean. The only possible expansion area for the City's sphere of influence would be to include the unincorporated area of Silver Strand and Hollywood Beach. Because these areas are part of the Channel Islands Beach Community Services District, a sphere of influence update for the City should only be considered if the status of that District changes.

The Ventura County Fire Protection District is a dependent special district governed by the Board of Supervisors. It provides fire protection and paramedic services to over half the County's population. In addition to the unincorporated areas of the County, the District provides fire protection services to the cities of Camarillo, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks. The District's sphere of influence is co-terminus with the County boundary, except for the islands of Anacapa and San Nicholas. All of the unincorporated areas, except the islands of Anacapa and San Nicholas, and each of the cities noted are within the boundaries of the district.

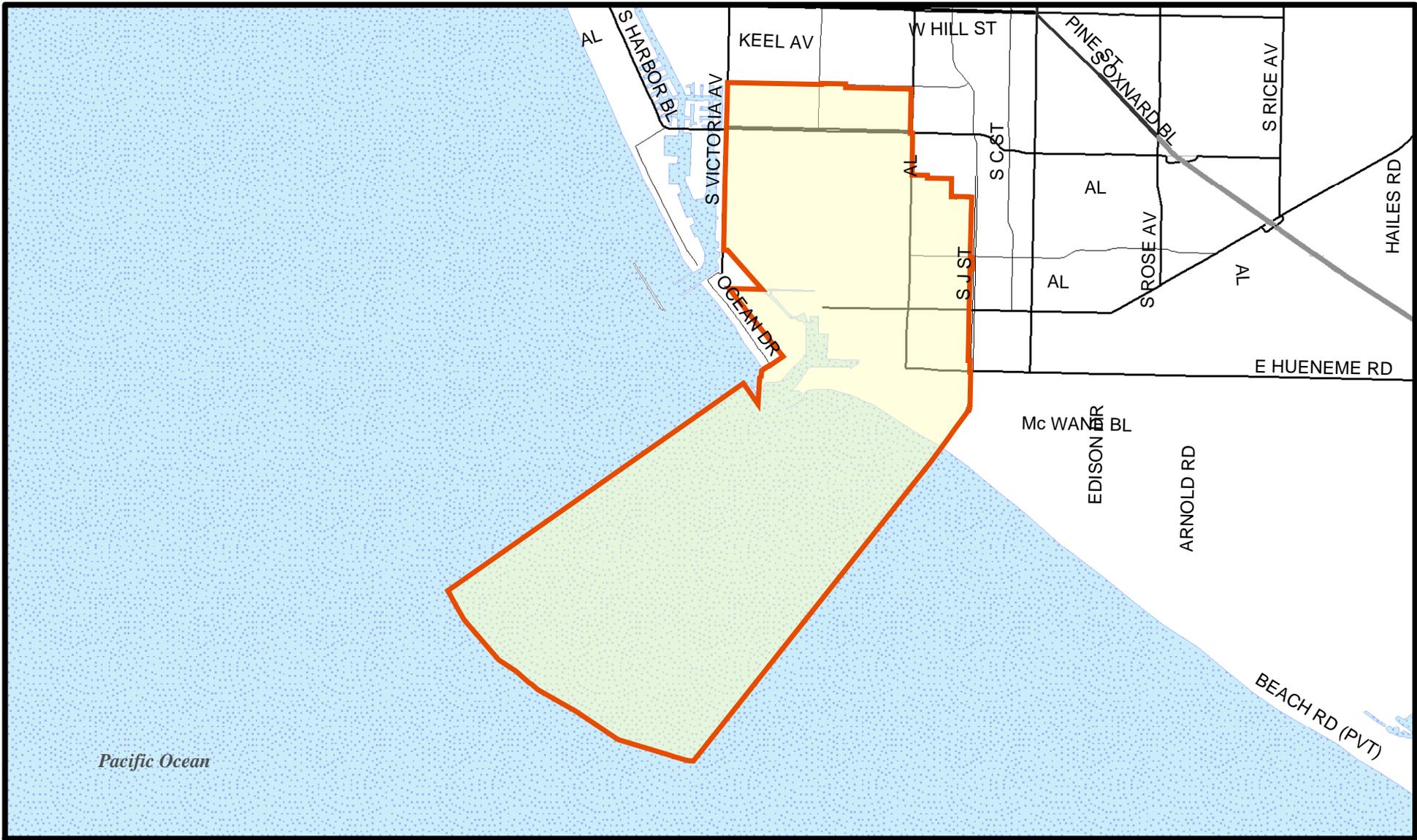
The Ventura County Watershed Protection District is a dependent district governed by the Board of Supervisors. Formerly known as the Ventura County Flood Control District, the Watershed Protection District was renamed in 2002. The District is the responsible sponsoring local agency for federal flood control projects throughout the County. Additionally, the District serves as the principal co-permittee and manages the implementation of the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program under the municipal NPDES permit for urban stormwater runoff discharges in Ventura County. The entire County, except for the islands of Anacapa and San Nicholas, is within the district's sphere of influence and within the District's boundaries including all the cities.

Even though the Commission could, as noted, require further MSR's for the City of Port Hueneme or new MSR's for the Fire Protection and Watershed Protection Districts, the recommendation is based on staff's determination that such work is not necessary at this time. LAFCO pays for MSR's. There is still considerable work necessary to comply with the mandate to complete all sphere of influence updates deemed necessary and the related MSR work before 2006. To the extent that sphere of influence updates are not deemed necessary for these agencies, at least at this time, there will be some cost savings and work efforts can be focused on other cities and districts. Should circumstances change in the future, the commission retains the authority to determine that a sphere of influence update is necessary, thereby necessitating municipal service reviews for these agencies in the future. Plus, if the Commission accepts the recommendation, under the law, it must again review the sphere of influence for these agencies before April 2009.

LAFCO can only consider sphere of influence changes (amendments, updates, etc.) after a noticed public hearing. While the management staff of the City of Port Hueneme and Fire Protection and Watershed Protection Districts understands the ramifications and supports the recommendation, this matter has not been noticed as a public hearing, thus, no sphere of influence changes of any type can occur at this time or without proper notice.

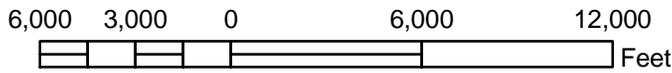
Attachments:

Sphere of Influence Maps



Legend

- City Boundary
- Sphere Boundary



1 inch equals 6,000 feet

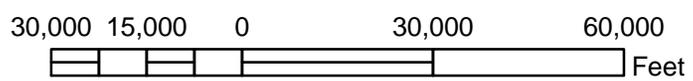
Ventura LAFCO
City of Port Hueneme Sphere
 Prepared by PWA - Mapping Division

Warning: This map was created by the Ventura County Computer-Aided Mapping System (CAMS), which is designed and operated solely for the convenience of the county and related public agencies. The county does not warrant the accuracy of this map and no decision involving a risk of economic loss or physical injury should be made in relation thereon.



Legend

- District Boundary
- District Sphere
- City Boundaries



**Ventura County
Fire Protection District**

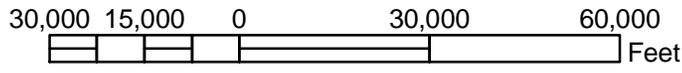
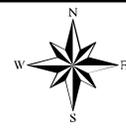
Prepared by PWA - Mapping Division

Warning: This map was created by the Ventura County Computer-Aided Mapping System (CAMS), which is designed and operated solely for the convenience of the county and related public agencies. The county does not warrant the accuracy of this map and no decision involving a risk of economic loss or physical injury should be made in relation thereon.



Legend

- District Boundary
- District Sphere
- City Boundary



**Ventura County
Watershed Protection District**

Prepared by ISD - GIS Division

Warning: The information contained hereon was created by the Ventura County Geographical Information System (GIS), which is designed and operated solely for the convenience of the County and related contract entities. The County does not warrant the accuracy of the information, and no decision involving a risk of economic loss or physical injury should be made in reliance thereon.