



VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
**STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: February 16, 2022

**TO:** LAFCo Commissioners

**FROM:** Andrea Ozdy, Deputy Executive Officer *Andrea Ozdy*

**SUBJECT:** Sphere of Influence Review and Update:  
 LAFCo 22-05S Saticoy Sanitary District

**Recommendations:**

- A. Determine that the sphere of influence update for Saticoy Sanitary District (SSD or District) is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to § 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.
- B. Review and update the sphere of influence for the District pursuant to Government Code § 56425(g).
- C. Adopt Resolution LAFCo 22-05S (Attachment 4) making determinations and updating the sphere of influence for the District.

**Background:**

Pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code § 56000 et seq.), the Commission was required to determine and adopt a sphere of influence (or “sphere”) for each city and special district on or before January 1, 2008. A sphere of influence is defined in Government Code § 56076 as the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Commission. Every five years thereafter, the Commission must, as necessary, review and update each sphere of influence (Government Code § 56425(g)). Before it may update an agency’s sphere, LAFCo is required to conduct a Municipal Service Review (MSR) pursuant to Government Code § 56430.

In compliance with Government Code § 56425(g), the Commission accepted an MSR report on December 12, 2003, for the District, entitled *Water and Wastewater Municipal Service Review Report*, which addressed agencies within the Ojai/Ventura area.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

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Carmen Ramirez, Vice-Chair <i>Alternate</i>	Janice Parvin <i>Alternate</i>	Mary Anne Rooney, Chair <i>Alternate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
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<b>Executive Officer</b> Kai Luoma	<b>Deputy Executive Officer</b> Andrea Ozdy	<b>Office Manager/Clerk</b> Richelle Beltran	<b>Legal Counsel</b> Alberto Boada

LAFCo's past sphere of influence reviews resulted in the following: (1) a review (i.e., no changes) of the sphere in 2004, (2) a review of the sphere in 2009, and (3) a review of the sphere in 2014.

## **Discussion:**

### *District Information*

The Saticoy Sanitary District is an independent special district formed in 1941 that provides wastewater collection and treatment services to the unincorporated community of Saticoy, east of and adjacent to the City of San Buenaventura. A five-person Board of Directors governs the District. The District's sphere of influence is approximately 239 acres (0.37 square miles), and its boundary is coterminous with its sphere of influence boundary (Attachment 1).

### *Recommended Sphere of Influence Update and Analysis*

A sphere of influence update is defined in Section 4.1.2(b) of the Ventura LAFCo Commissioner's Handbook as "a comprehensive review and modification of a sphere of influence that is not associated with a concurrent proposal for a change of organization or an out of agency service agreement."

Based on the work plan established by the Commission, review/update of the District's sphere of influence was to be initiated during 2019. During 2019, LAFCo staff consulted with the District's general manager to discuss the sphere of influence, and to determine: (1) if the District has experienced any changes to its service needs or areas since LAFCo's most recent evaluation of its sphere of influence, and (2) if the District staff anticipates any service changes that would warrant adjustment of the sphere boundaries. The following discussion provides a summary of Commission actions regarding sphere of influence reviews/updates pertaining to the District, and explains why an update to the District's sphere is now appropriate.

On February 18, 2004, the Commission reviewed, but did not update, the District's sphere of influence. On January 21, 2009, the Commission reviewed, but did not update, the District's sphere of influence. On September 17, 2014, the Commission reviewed, but did not update, the District's sphere of influence.

In response to the contents of the MSR prepared for the District for consideration by the Commission at today's meeting, staff recommends that the Commission update the District's sphere, resulting in a net increase of 1.79 acres to the sphere, by means of the following changes, as depicted in Attachments 2 and 3:

- **Area 1:** Expansion of the sphere to include an approximately 0.25-acre area located west of and near the intersection of Campanula Avenue and Aster Street, consisting of two residential parcels that have been receiving service from the District since prior to January 1, 2001, aligning the sphere to complement the City of San Buenaventura’s jurisdictional boundary;
- **Area 2:** Expansion of the sphere to include an approximately 0.16-acre area located north of and near the intersection of Telephone Road and Wells Road, consisting of a residential parcel that has received service from the District since prior to January 1, 2001, and a portion of Telephone Road, aligning the sphere to complement the City of San Buenaventura’s jurisdictional boundary;
- **Area 3:** Reduction of the sphere to exclude an approximately 1.32-acre area located at and north of the intersection of Wells Road and Aster Street, consisting a portion of Wells Road and a vacant parcel entirely within the City of San Buenaventura where the District does not provide service, and the City is anticipated to have the ability to provide service;
- **Area 4:** Expansion of the sphere to include an approximately 2.7-acre area located within a portion of Brown Barranca and adjacent to the Lirio Extension, which contains District infrastructure (i.e., a trunkline), immediately north of the District’s wastewater treatment facility, aligning the sphere to complement the City of San Buenaventura’s jurisdictional boundary.

If the Commission updates the sphere as recommended, the District’s sphere will better represent the existing and probable service area of the District and include land that contains essential District infrastructure. No changes in the jurisdiction of the District would occur as a result of the sphere of influence update. The existing sphere of influence boundary otherwise continues to reflect the District’s current and probable service area, and is justified based on the MSR report<sup>1</sup> which demonstrates that the District has the ability to provide urban services at acceptable levels.

Representatives of the District have reviewed the recommended sphere update and have no objections. Additionally, representatives of the City have not identified concerns with the reduction of the District’s sphere affecting territory within the City (i.e., Area 3).

*Written Determinations*

Government Code § 56425(e) requires that, in determining the sphere of influence of an agency, the Commission consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

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<sup>1</sup> The MSR report is included as Agenda Item 15 for Commission consideration at the Commission’s February 16, 2022, meeting. The staff recommendation regarding the sphere of influence is based, in part, on the information provided in the draft MSR report.

- (1) *The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands. (§ 56425(e)(1))*

The area to be included in the Saticoy Sanitary District sphere of influence is designated by the County General Plan as *Medium Density Residential* (Areas 1 and 2) and *Industrial* (Area 4). The area to be excluded from the sphere is designated by the City of San Buenaventura as *Right-of-Way* and *Commerce* (Area 3). No changes in service would occur as a result of the sphere of influence update. Based on the General Plan designations of the County and the City, as well as the characteristics of this area, the existing uses of the land are expected to remain unchanged.

- (2) *The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area. (§ 56425(e)(2))*

The sphere of influence update is not the result of a change in demand for public facilities and services. The area to be included in the Saticoy Sanitary District's sphere contains land that has historically been served by the District and land that contains District infrastructure. The District does not provide urban services to the area recommended for removal from the sphere, and this area is not expected to require services provided by the District. No changes in service would occur as a result of the sphere of influence update. All land affected by the sphere update is anticipated to remain in its current land uses for the foreseeable future, based on General Plan designations of the County and the City of San Buenaventura. Therefore, the District appears to have the ability to continue to provide services within the recommended sphere of influence area.

- (3) *The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide. (§ 56425(e)(3))*

The sphere of influence update, as recommended, would result in a net increase in the size of the Saticoy Sanitary District's sphere of influence. However, it would not result in new demands on the District that would adversely impact the present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the District provides or is authorized to provide, as the areas to be included are either already served by the District or contain District infrastructure. Territory to be removed from the sphere is not currently served or expected to be served by the District.

- (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. (§ 56425(e)(4))*

The Saticoy Sanitary District's sphere of influence includes the community of Saticoy, which is a territory known to be a disadvantaged unincorporated community. The District supports the Saticoy community by providing the safe and sanitary collection and disposal

of wastewater. Therefore, the sphere of influence update would not result in a detrimental impact to any social or economic communities of interest.

- (5) *For an update of a sphere of influence 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.*  
(§ 56425(e)(5))

The District’s sphere of influence includes the community of Saticoy, which is a territory known to be a disadvantaged unincorporated community. The District supports the Saticoy community by providing the safe and sanitary collection and disposal of wastewater.

#### *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)*

A project is defined in CEQA § 21065, in part, as “an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.” The subject sphere of influence update could be considered to be a project subject to CEQA because it involves a net reduction to the existing sphere boundary, which will reduce the area available for the expansion of municipal services. However, it is recommended that the Commission find that the modification to the District’s sphere of influence is exempt from CEQA pursuant to § 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, because “it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.” No change in regulation, land use, or development will occur as a result of the recommended sphere of influence update.

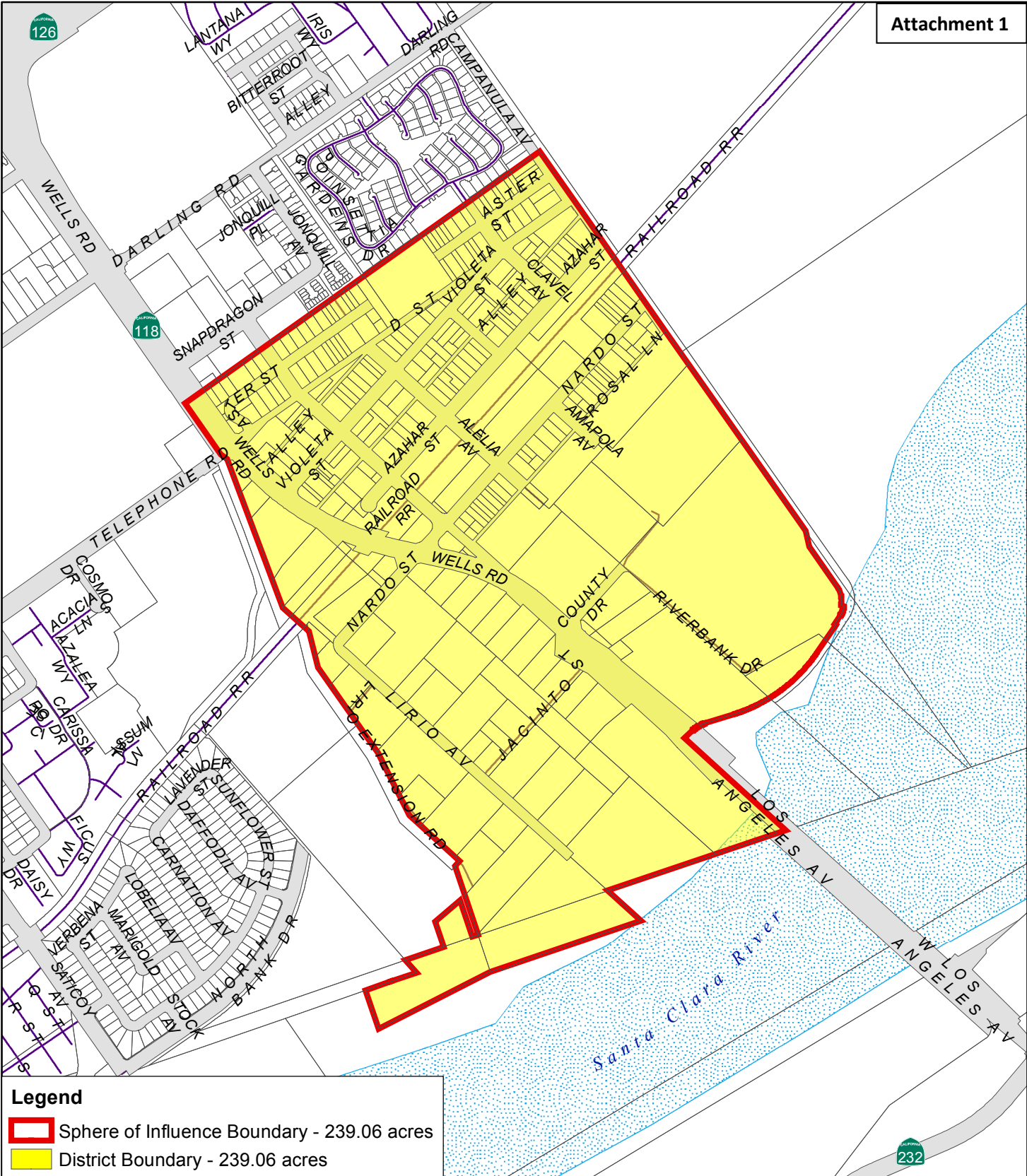
#### *Notice of Public Hearing*

This matter has been noticed as a public hearing pursuant to Government Code § 56427. Additionally, all affected agencies have been notified of the public hearing.

#### Attachments:

1. Existing Sphere of Influence Map for Saticoy Sanitary District
2. Recommended Sphere of Influence Update Map for Saticoy Sanitary District (Location Map)
3. Recommended Sphere of Influence Update Map for Saticoy Sanitary District (Aerial Map)
4. LAFCo 22-05S Resolution

LAFCo makes every effort to offer legible map files with the online and printed versions of our reports; however, occasionally the need to reduce oversize original maps and/or other technological/software factors can compromise readability. Original maps are available for viewing at the LAFCo office by request.



**Legend**

- Sphere of Influence Boundary - 239.06 acres
- District Boundary - 239.06 acres

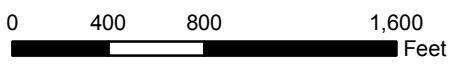


# Saticoy Sanitary District

Current as of September 17, 2014








Prepared by County of Ventura - Information Systems Department - GIS Services  
 State Plane Coordinate System California Zone V - NAD 27

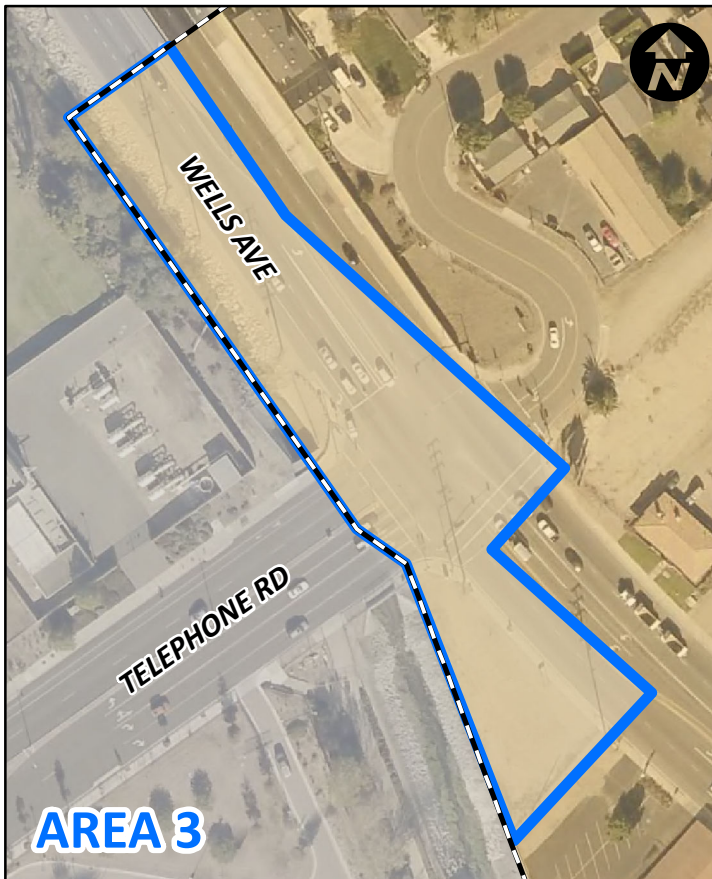
This map was compiled from records and computations








LAFCo 22-05S  
Saticoy Sanitary District (SSD)  
Sphere of Influence Update  
February 16, 2022

-  Area 1 (To Be Considered for Inclusion in SSD Sphere)
-  Area 2 (To Be Considered for Inclusion in SSD Sphere)
-  Area 3 (To Be Considered for Removal From SSD Sphere)
-  Area 4 (To Be Considered for Inclusion in SSD Sphere)
-  Saticoy Sanitary District - Sphere of Influence
-  Saticoy Sanitary District - District
-  City of San Buenaventura



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LAFCO 22-05S

**RESOLUTION OF THE VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION  
COMMISSION MAKING DETERMINATIONS AND UPDATING THE  
SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR THE SATICOY SANITARY DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Government Code § 56425 et seq. requires the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo or Commission) to develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local governmental agency within the County; and

WHEREAS, Government Code § 56425(g) requires that on or before January 1, 2008, and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall, as necessary, review and update the sphere of influence of each city and special district; and

WHEREAS, the Commission reviewed the sphere of influence for the Saticoy Sanitary District (District) in 2004, reviewed the sphere in 2009, and reviewed the sphere in 2014;

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to update the sphere of influence for the District; and

WHEREAS, no change in regulation, land use, or development will occur as a result of updating the sphere of influence for the District; and

WHEREAS, at the times and in the manner required by law, the LAFCo Executive Officer gave notice of the consideration of this item by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the sphere of influence update item was duly considered at a public hearing on February 16, 2022, as specified in the notice of hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard, discussed, and considered all oral and written testimony for and against the sphere of influence update including, but not limited to, the LAFCo Staff Report dated February 16, 2022, and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission accepted the Municipal Service Review report for the District dated February 16, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED by the Commission as follows:

- (1) The LAFCo Staff Report dated February 16, 2022, and recommended update of the sphere of influence for the District are adopted; and

- (2) The subject sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short form designation:

**LAFco 22-05S SATICOY SANITARY DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE;** and

- (3) The sphere of influence update for the District is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to § 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, and LAFco staff is directed to file a Notice of Exemption as the lead agency pursuant to § 15062 of the CEQA Guidelines; and

- (4) The Commission has considered the criteria set forth in Government Code § 56425(e) and determines as follows:

**a. *The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands. (§ 56425(e)(1))***

The area to be included in the Saticoy Sanitary District sphere of influence is designated by the County General Plan as *Medium Density Residential* (Areas 1 and 2) and *Industrial* (Area 4). The area to be excluded from the sphere is designated by the City of San Buenaventura as *Right-of-Way* and *Commerce* (Area 3). No changes in service would occur as a result of the sphere of influence update. Based on the General Plan designations of the County and the City, as well as the characteristics of this area, the existing uses of the land are expected to remain unchanged.

**b. *The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area. (§ 56425(e)(2))***

The sphere of influence update is not the result of a change in demand for public facilities and services. The area to be included in the Saticoy Sanitary District's sphere contains land that has historically been served by the District and land that contains District infrastructure. The District does not provide urban services to the area recommended for removal from the sphere, and this area is not expected to require services provided by the District. No changes in service would occur as a result of the sphere of influence update. All land affected by the sphere update is anticipated to remain in its current land uses for the foreseeable future, based on

General Plan designations of the County and the City of San Buenaventura.

Therefore, the District appears to have the ability to continue to provide services within the recommended sphere of influence area.

**c. *The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide. (§ 56425(e)(3))***

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**d. *The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency. (§ 56425(e)(4))***

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**e. *For an update of a sphere of influence 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. (§ 56425(e)(5))***

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- (5) The sphere of influence for the District is hereby updated as generally depicted in Exhibit A, "Saticoy Sanitary District – Sphere of Influence Update, February 16, 2022," attached hereto; and
- (6) LAFCo staff is directed to have the official Geographic Information System (GIS) sphere of influence data maintained for the Ventura LAFCo by the Ventura County Information Technology Services Department as the official sphere of influence record for the Saticoy Sanitary District updated consistent with this action.

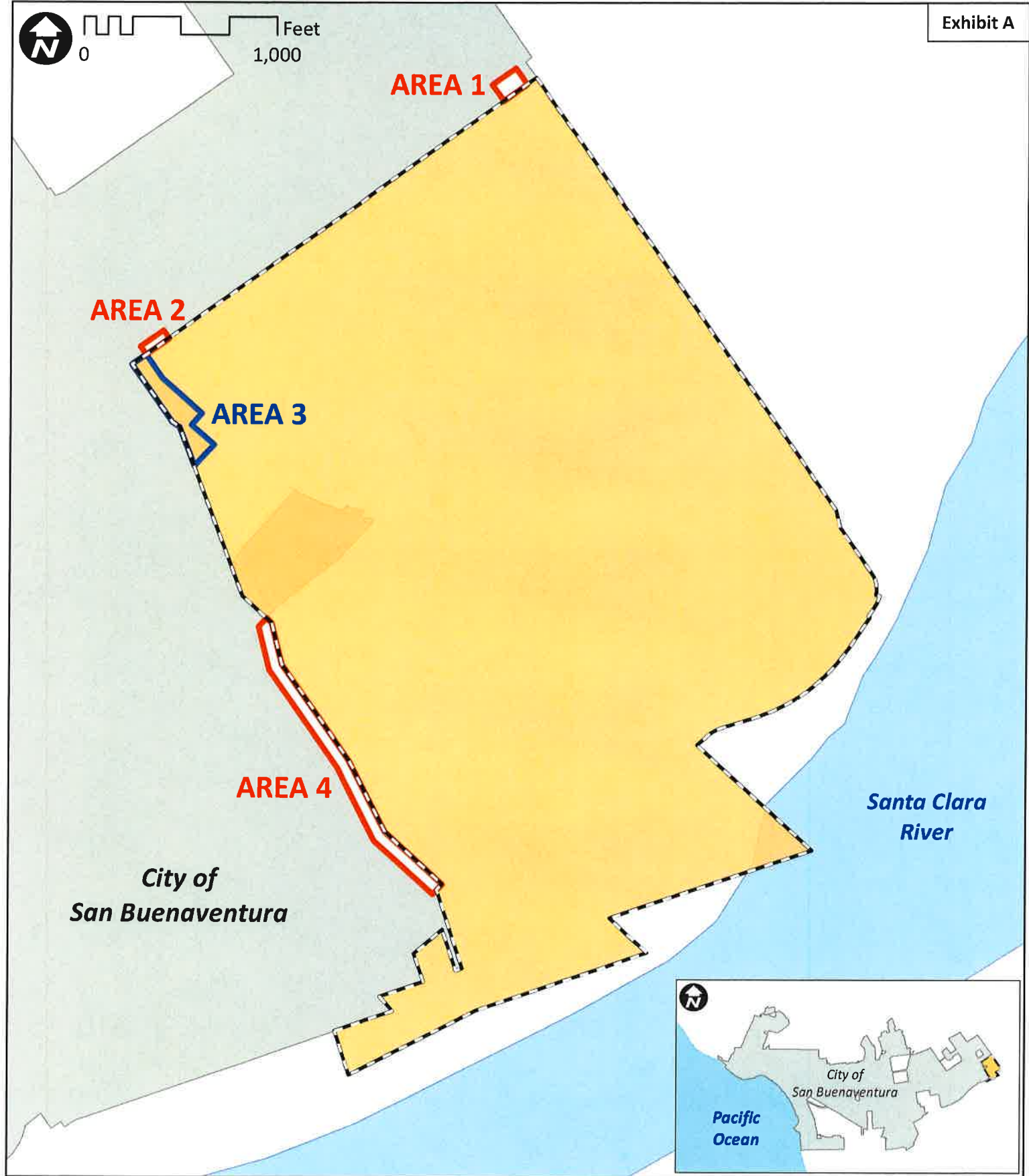
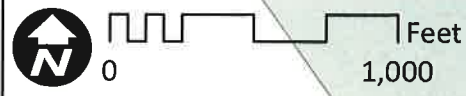
This resolution was adopted on February 16, 2022.

	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Commissioner Bill-de la Peña	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Freeman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Parks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Parvin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Ramirez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Richards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Rooney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Curtis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner La Vere	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Ross	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alt. Commissioner Zaragoza	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>








2-16-22 Carmen Ramirez  
February 16, 2022 Chair, Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission

Attachment: Exhibit A

c: Saticoy Sanitary District  
Ventura County Information Technology Services Department



LAFCo 22-05S  
Saticoy Sanitary District (SSD)  
Sphere of Influence Update  
February 16, 2022

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