



VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
**STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: April 20, 2022

**TO:** LAFCo Commissioners

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

**SUBJECT:** Sphere of Influence Review:  
 LAFCo 22-12S Camrosa Water District

**Recommendations:**

- A. Determine that the action to review the sphere of influence for the Camrosa Water District (District) is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to § 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.
- B. Adopt Resolution LAFCo 22-12S (Attachment 2) making determinations and reviewing the sphere of influence for the Camrosa Water District pursuant to Government Code § 56425(g), including that a sphere of influence update is not necessary.

**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)).

In compliance with Government Code § 56425(g), the Commission accepted a Municipal Service Review (MSR) report on September 17, 2003, for the District, entitled *Water and Wastewater Municipal Service Review Report*.

LAFCo’s past sphere of influence reviews of the District 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.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

COUNTY	CITY	DISTRICT	PUBLIC
Linda Parks	Claudia Bill-de la Peña	Elaine Freeman	Pat Richards, Vice-Chair
Carmen Ramirez, Chair	Janice Parvin	Mary Anne Rooney	
<i>Alternate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Matt LaVere	John C. Zaragoza	John R. (Jack) Curtis	David J. Ross
<b>Executive Officer</b>	<b>Deputy Executive Officer</b>	<b>Office Manager/Clerk</b>	<b>Legal Counsel</b>
Kai Luoma	Andrea Ozdy	Richelle Beltran	Alberto Boada

## **Discussion:**

### *District Information*

The Camrosa Water District is an independent special district formed in 1962 that provides potable water service, wastewater collection and treatment service, and non-potable/recycled water service within the eastern portion of the City of Camarillo (i.e., that area generally east of Calleguas Creek and south of the 101 Freeway), unincorporated areas of Ventura County (including the Santa Rosa Valley, Tierra Rejada Valley, and California State University at Channel Islands (CSUCI) campus), and the northernmost portion of the City of Thousand Oaks. A five-person Board of Directors governs the District. The District's sphere of influence covers approximately 19,300 acres (about 30.16 square miles), and its boundary is coterminous with its sphere boundary (Attachment 1).

### *Current Sphere of Influence Review*

LAFCo staff consulted with the District's general manager to discuss the District's 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 existing sphere of influence boundary 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. Therefore, no changes to the sphere of influence for the District are recommended.

### *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:

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

The sphere of influence of the District is coterminous with its service area, and includes the eastern portion of the City of Camarillo (i.e., that area generally east of Calleguas Creek and south of the 101 Freeway), unincorporated areas of Ventura County (including the Santa Rosa Valley, Tierra Rejada Valley, and California State University at Channel Islands (CSUCI) campus), and the northernmost portion of the City of Thousand Oaks. The territory is designated for a variety of uses (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, rural, agricultural,

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<sup>1</sup> The MSR report is included as Agenda Item 11 for Commission consideration at the Commission's April 20, 2022, meeting. The staff recommendation regarding the sphere of influence is based, in part, on the information provided in the draft MSR report.

and open space) by the general plans of the City of Camarillo and City of Thousand Oaks, and for residential, rural, agricultural, open space, and state/federal facility uses by general plan of the County of Ventura. Based on the existing land use designations, characteristics of this area, and implementation of voter-approved growth ordinances by the City of Camarillo (i.e., limitation to 400 new residential units annually) and the County (i.e., Save Agricultural and Open Space (SOAR) ordinance), the existing uses of the land are expected to remain unchanged. Based on the information above, significant growth within the District's sphere of influence and jurisdictional area is not expected.

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

The District provides potable water service, wastewater collection and treatment service, and non-potable/recycled water service. The sphere of influence of the District is coterminous with its service area, and includes the eastern portion of the City of Camarillo (i.e., that area generally east of Calleguas Creek and south of the 101 Freeway), unincorporated areas of Ventura County (including the Santa Rosa Valley, Tierra Rejada Valley, and the CSUCI campus), and the northernmost portion of the City of Thousand Oaks. The territory is designated for a variety of uses (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, rural, agricultural, and open space) by the general plans of the City of Camarillo and City of Thousand Oaks, and for residential, rural, agricultural, open space, and state/federal facility uses by general plan of the County of Ventura. Based on the evaluation contained in the MSR prepared by LAFCo, including existing land use designations, characteristics of this area, implementation of voter-approved growth ordinances by the City of Camarillo (i.e., limitation to 400 new residential units annually) and the County (i.e., SOAR ordinance), and existing services provided by the District, the District appears to have the ability to continue to provide municipal services within its service area and sphere of influence.

(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 District provides potable water service, wastewater collection and treatment service, and non-potable/recycled water service. There are no expected 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. Based on the land use designations and characteristics of this area, and the evaluation contained in the MSR prepared by LAFCo, the District appears to have the ability and capacity to provide the services it is authorized to provide within its service area and sphere of influence.

(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))*

A disadvantaged unincorporated community is defined as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household

income (Government Code § 56033.5). No disadvantaged unincorporated communities are located within or contiguous to the District's sphere of influence.

(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 review of the District's sphere of influence is not considered an update (i.e., a modification) to the sphere. Additionally, no disadvantaged unincorporated communities are located within the District's sphere of influence.

#### *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." Staff recommends that the Commission find that the review of 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 review. The draft resolution contains a finding that the proposed action is exempt from CEQA.

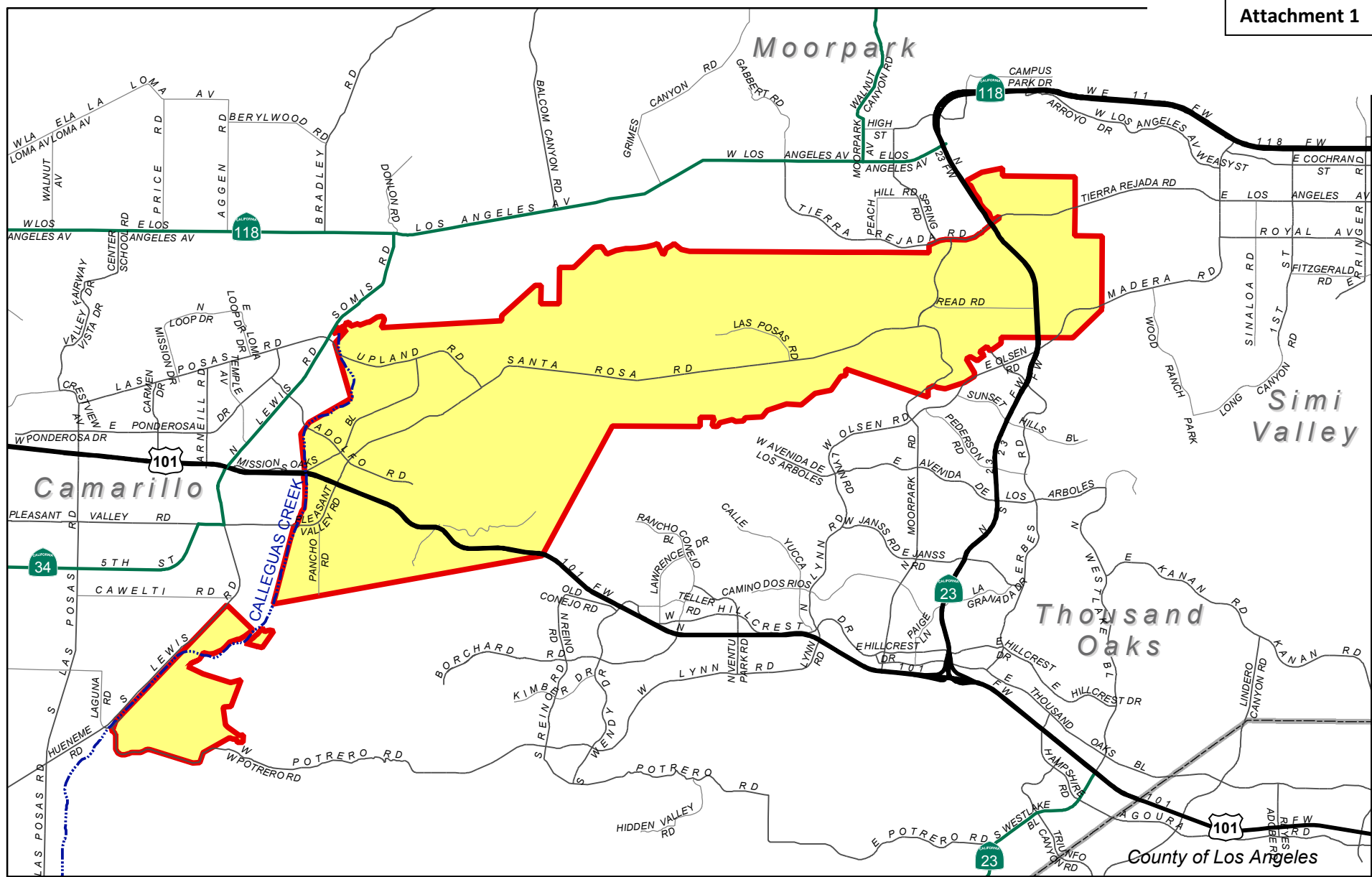
#### *Notice of Public Hearing*

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 the Camrosa Water District
2. LAFCo 22-12S 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.



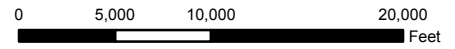
**Legend**

-  Sphere of Influence Boundary  
19,300 acres
-  District Boundary  
19,300 acres

# Camrosa Water District

Current as of September 17, 2014

Prepared by County of Ventura - Information Systems Department - GIS Division  
 State Plane Coordinate System California Zone V - NAD 27  
 This map was compiled from records and computations



LAFCO 22-12S

**RESOLUTION OF THE VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION  
COMMISSION MAKING DETERMINATIONS AND REVIEWING  
THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE FOR THE CAMROSA WATER  
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 Camrosa Water District (District) in 2004, 2009, and 2014;

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

WHEREAS, no change in regulation, land use, or development will occur as a result of reviewing 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 review item was duly considered at a public hearing on April 20, 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 review including, but not limited to, the LAFCo Staff Report dated April 20, 2022, and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission accepted the Municipal Service Review report for the District dated April 20, 2022.

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

- (1) The LAFCo Staff Report dated April 20, 2022, and recommended review of the sphere of influence for the District are adopted; and
- (2) The subject sphere of influence review is assigned the following distinctive short form designation:  
**LAFCO 22-12S CAMROSA WATER DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE REVIEW;** and
- (3) An update (modification) to the sphere of influence for the District is not necessary; and
- (4) The sphere of influence review 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
- (5) 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 sphere of influence of the District is coterminous with its service area, and includes the eastern portion of the City of Camarillo (i.e., that area generally east of Calleguas Creek and south of the 101 Freeway), unincorporated areas of Ventura County (including the Santa Rosa Valley, Tierra Rejada Valley, and California State University at Channel Islands (CSUCI) campus), and the northernmost portion of the City of Thousand Oaks. The territory is designated for a variety of uses (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, rural, agricultural, and open space) by the general plans of the City of Camarillo and City of Thousand Oaks, and for residential, rural, agricultural, open space, and state/federal facility uses by general plan of the County of Ventura. Based on the existing land use designations, characteristics of this area, and implementation of voter-approved growth ordinances by the City of Camarillo (i.e., limitation to 400 new residential units annually) and the County (i.e., Save Agricultural and Open Space (SOAR) ordinance), the existing uses of the land are expected to remain unchanged.

Based on the information above, significant growth within the District's sphere of influence and jurisdictional area is not expected.

**b. *The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.***

**(§ 56425(e)(2))**

The District provides potable water service, wastewater collection and treatment service, and non-potable/recycled water service. The sphere of influence of the District is coterminous with its service area, and includes the eastern portion of the City of Camarillo (i.e., that area generally east of Calleguas Creek and south of the 101 Freeway), unincorporated areas of Ventura County (including the Santa Rosa Valley, Tierra Rejada Valley, and the CSUCI campus), and the northernmost portion of the City of Thousand Oaks. The territory is designated for a variety of uses (e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, rural, agricultural, and open space) by the general plans of the City of Camarillo and City of Thousand Oaks, and for residential, rural, agricultural, open space, and state/federal facility uses by general plan of the County of Ventura. Based on the evaluation contained in the MSR prepared by LAFCo, including existing land use designations, characteristics of this area, implementation of voter-approved growth ordinances by the City of Camarillo (i.e., limitation to 400 new residential units annually) and the County (i.e., SOAR ordinance), and existing services provided by the District, the District appears to have the ability to continue to provide municipal services within its service area and sphere of influence.

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

The District provides potable water service, wastewater collection and treatment service, and non-potable/recycled water service. There are no expected 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. Based on the land use designations and characteristics of this area, and the evaluation contained in the MSR prepared by LAFCo, the District



appears to have the ability and capacity to provide the services it is authorized to provide within its service area and sphere of influence.

**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))***

A disadvantaged unincorporated community is defined as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household income (Government Code § 56033.5). No disadvantaged unincorporated communities are located within or contiguous to the District's sphere of influence.

**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))***

The review of the District's sphere of influence is not considered an update (i.e., a modification) to the sphere. Additionally, no disadvantaged unincorporated communities are located within the District's sphere of influence.

- (6) The sphere of influence for the District is hereby reviewed and is generally depicted in Exhibit A, "Camrosa Water District" attached hereto; and
- (7) 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 District updated consistent with this action.

This resolution was adopted on April 20, 2022.

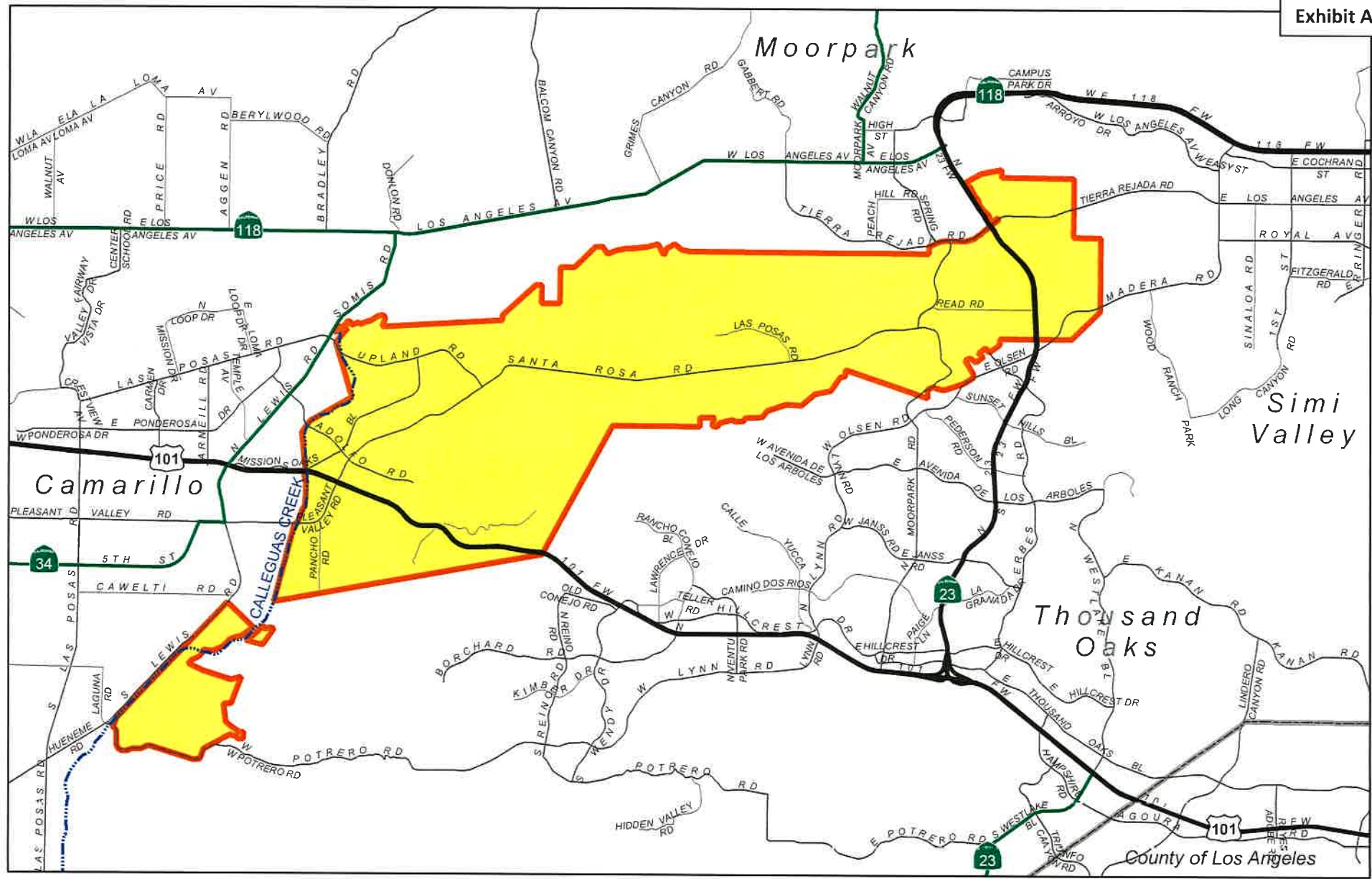
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Commissioner Freeman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Parks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Parvin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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"/>
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Alt. Commissioner Zaragoza	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

April 20, 2022  
Date



Pat Richards  
Vci - Chair, Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission

Attachment: Exhibit A

c: Camrosa Water District  
Ventura County Information Technology Services Department



**Legend**

-  Sphere of Influence Boundary  
19,300 acres
-  District Boundary  
19,300 acres

**Camrosa Water District**  
Current as of September 17, 2014

Prepared by County of Ventura - Information Systems Department - GIS Division  
State Plane Coordinate System California Zone V - NAD 21  
This map was compiled from records and computations

