



MEETING DATE: 4/4/05
STUDY SESSION
ADDENDUM

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: APRIL 1, 2005
TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: DEBRA J. FIGONE, TOWN MANAGER
SUBJECT: ISLAND ANNEXATIONS

- A. DISCUSS POLICY DECISION TO PROCEED WITH COUNTY ISLAND ANNEXATIONS WITHOUT PROTEST PROCEEDINGS AS ALLOWED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 56375.3
- B. PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH THE COUNTY ISLAND ANNEXATION PROCESS OR SEEK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DISCUSSION:

Attached is a copy of a referral to the County Administrator by Supervisors Alvarado and Gage which is scheduled for the April 5, 2005 County Board of Supervisor's meeting. This was provided by Supervisor Gage's office.

Staff will comment at the study session on conversations with County staff regarding the County's position on annexations.

Attachment: 4/5/05 Santa Clara County Referral

Distribution:

- Ann Ravel, County Counsel, Santa Clara County Counsel's Office, 70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 9th Floor, San Jose, CA 95110-1770
- Ben Lopes, Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos
- Pete Kutras, County Executive, Santa Clara County, 70 West Hedding Street, 11th Floor, SJ 95110
- Carol Gruetzner, 16192 Oleander Avene, Los Gatos, CA 95032
- Larry Gerston, 16191 Lilac Lane, Los Gatos, CA 95032
- Woody Nedom, 16280 Azalea Way, Los Gatos, CA 95032
- Forrest Firth, 15905 Orange Blossom, Los Gatos, CA 95032
- Ken Waldvogel, Assistant Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department, 14700 Winchester Boulevard, Los Gatos, CA 95030
- Dunia Noel and Neelima Palacherla - Local Agency Formation Commission, Santa Clara County - 11th Floor, East Wing, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

PREPARED BY: **DEBRA J. FIGONE**
Town Manager

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Reviewed by: _____ Assistant Town Manager OK Town Attorney _____ Clerk Administrator
_____ Finance _____ Community Development

Revised: 4/1/05 3:16 pm

BOS Agenda Date :April 5, 2005

County of Santa Clara
Board of Supervisors
Supervisory District Two
Supervisor Blanca Alvarado



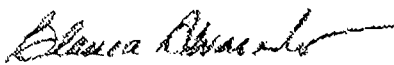
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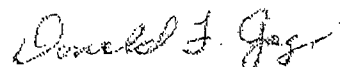
Prepared by: Javier Aguirre
Senior Policy Aide
Maureen
O'Malley-Moore
Board Aide

Reviewed by: Kristina Cunningham
Chief of Staff

DATE: April 5, 2005

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: 
Blanca Alvarado
Supervisor, Second District


Donald F. Gage
Supervisor, District 1

SUBJECT: COUNTY COSTS TO CONDUCT ANNEXATION OF COUNTY URBAN
POCKETS

RECOMMENDED ACTION

BOB Agenda Date April 5, 2005

Direct the Administration to provide an off-agenda report to the Board of Supervisors by April 19, 2005 on:

1. The cost charged by the County Surveyor to prepare and review the legal maps and the description for city annexations that fall under recent changes in state law; and
2. The cost charged by the State Board of Equalization to file these annexations.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

On February 9, 2005, Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO) adopted the Island Annexation Policies to encourage cities to take advantage of recent changes in state law. As of January 1, 2005, cities have a greater opportunity to annex urban unincorporated islands through a streamlined process that does not require protest proceedings or elections for islands that are 150 acres or less and meet certain criteria. This opportunity expires on January 1, 2007. Cities in Santa Clara County are interested in pursuing such annexation but find assuming all of the costs of such annexations inhibitive. Therefore, we are requesting the administration provide the Board an analysis of the costs charged to the cities by the County and the State Board of Equalization to prepare for annexations. Recently, LAFCO approved a two-year LAFCO fee waiver for annexations expiring on January 1, 2007.

There is a general understanding between the County and the cities, that cities with urban pockets will eventually annex them into their city limits. In fact, it is in the County's General Plan that cities will annex urban pockets. Over the years, some cities have initiated annexations by election with some success, while other cities have done nothing to encourage annexations.

Urban pocket annexations have failed by only a few votes. That was the case in the Burbank area of San Jose in 2002, where 65% of voters supported annexation, just shy of the required 66.7%. Since that election, the city of San Jose has not initiated new annexations.

BOS Agenda Date :April 5, 2005

Since the law went into effect, there is a growing interest from the smaller cities and the City of San Jose to conduct streamlined annexations. However, many cities are concerned over the costs charged for each annexation by a private land surveyor who prepares the map and description of the land proposed for annexation and by the County Surveyor who charges a flat fee for reviewing these documents. After each annexation is finalized, the State Board of Equalization charges a filing fee. Cities have suggested that the County assist them in this process.

It is in the best interest of the County for cities to annex county urban pockets and provide efficient services while conducting orderly growth and development. By having updated information on the costs of initiating annexations, the County will be able to better determine what role, if any, it will play during this streamlined annexation period.

Attached is a copy of the Island Annexation Policies approved by LAFCO on February 9, 2005.

ATTACHMENTS

- LAFCO Island Annexation Policies