



**Santa Cruz Local Agency Formation Commission**

Date: February 3, 2021  
To: LAFCO Commissioners  
From: Joe Serrano, Executive Officer  
Subject: **Fire Consolidation Update (LAFCO Project No. DC 20-02)**

---

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION**

The Commission approved a consolidation between Central and Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection Districts (FPDs) in November 2020. As part of that approval, the Commission directed LAFCO staff to provide updates on the consolidation process. This agenda item is for informational purposes only and does not require any action. Therefore, it is recommended that the Commission receive and file the Executive Officer's report.

---

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

LAFCO fulfilled two legally-required proceedings during the last two months: Request for Reconsideration Period (November 5 to December 4) and Protest Period (December 4 to January 6). Neither proceeding received requests to overturn the Commission's approval of the fire consolidation. As a result, LAFCO will now be able to record the consolidation once all the terms and conditions are met. Below is a summary of recent actions during the month of January:

- **Successor Agency's Board Composition:** Central and Aptos/La Selva FPD Boards reopened the board composition discussion for further transparency. As a result, two new resolutions were adopted (refer to **Attachment 1**). These resolutions will replace the older versions in LAFCO's November resolution approving the consolidation. The resolutions will also be included in LAFCO's Certificate of Completion, which is the document that gets recorded when the consolidation is finalized.
- **Successor Agency's Fire Chief:** John Walbridge was officially named the fire chief for the successor agency. The resolution appointing Mr. Walbridge, as shown in **Attachment 2**, will be part of LAFCO's Certificate of Completion.
- **Successor Agency's New Employee Contractual Agreement:** A new memorandum of understanding involving the employees of the successor agency was finalized (refer to **Attachment 3**). The agreement will be recorded with LAFCO's Certificate of Completion.
- **Successor Agency's Pension Plans:** Central and Aptos/La Selva Fire Districts continue to coordinate with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CALPERS) to ensure that the existing pension plans from both districts are transferred over in accordance with AB 1140.

It appears that all the terms and conditions have been fulfilled. Staff is tentatively scheduled to record the Certificate of Completion in early February which will finalize the consolidation. The effective or "inception" date of the new fire district will be the date of recordation.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joe A. Serrano  
Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. [New Board Composition Resolutions](#)
2. [New Fire Chief Resolutions](#)
3. [New Contractual Agreement Resolutions](#)