



**LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**

## REFERRAL LETTER TO AFFECTED/INTERESTED AGENCIES

**Date:** October 21, 2021  
**Project Title:** "Opal Cliffs Recreation District Reorganization"  
**Project Number:** RO 21-18  
**APNs:** 440 Parcels (list available upon request)  
**Date Rec'd by LAFCO:** October 11, 2021  
**Submitted by:** Adopted Resolution by the OCRD Board  
**Subject Agencies:** Opal Cliffs Recreation District; County Service Area 11

**Sphere Adoption/Amendment:** No

**Contractual Service Agreement:** No

**Executive Officer Message:** This application proposes to dissolve the Opal Cliffs Recreation District with a concurrent annexation of the dissolved area into County Service Area 11 (County Parks). If approved, the residents will receive park and recreational services from the County.

If you have any comments on this application, please provide your feedback to the LAFCO office no later than **Friday, November 19, 2021**.

**Description/Justification:** The proposed dissolution and concurrent annexation was initiated by the Opal Cliffs Recreation District through the unanimous adoption of a board resolution. The subject area includes 440 parcels totaling approximately 67 acres. The County has been acting as the District's unofficial administrative staff since 2019 under a Memorandum of Understanding. The proposal, if approved, would officially transfer service responsibilities to the County under CSA 11. Representatives from the County and District have expressed mutual support towards the reorganization.

**Location:** The subject area is primarily within unincorporated county territory and is generally located east of 41st Avenue, south of Capitola Road, west of Soquel Wharf Road, and north of the Pacific Ocean. The District's service area also includes a portion of the City of Capitola. This portion will be excluded from the proposed annexation. Attached is a vicinity map depicting the location of the proposal area.

**General Plan/Zoning:** The subject area is inhabited and the County's General Plan designates the vast majority of the area as Urban Medium Residential with a small portion designated as Existing Parks and Recreation. The application does not propose any changes to the existing land use designation.

**Other Municipal Services:** No other change of organization is required. The proposal area will continue to receive municipal services from existing public agencies, including but not limited to water services from Soquel Creek Water District and fire protection services from Central Fire District.

**Environmental Review:** The project site is subject to an environmental review. Santa Cruz LAFCO will serve as the lead agency for assessing impacts under CEQA. Staff believes the proposal qualifies as a project under CEQA. Therefore, an environmental review is underway.

**Tax Negotiations:** California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 99(b)(6) requires the adoption of a property tax exchange agreement involving the affected local agency before LAFCO can consider a jurisdictional change. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) acts as the authorizing body for CSA 11 and the District regarding property tax adjustments.

**Referrals:**

Affected Agency: Opal Cliffs Recreation District; CSA 11

Interested Agencies:

Cities – Capitola; Santa Cruz

State Departments: California Department of Parks and Recreation

County Departments – Assessors Office; Auditor-Controller Office; CAO Office; Elections Office; Supervisorial Districts 1 & 2

County Service Areas – CSA 9; CSA 9a, CSA9c; CSA 9d; CSA 9e, CSA 38; CSA 53

School Districts – Santa Cruz City High; Soquel Union Elementary

Other Local Agencies: Central Fire District; Resource Conservation District; Santa Cruz County Sanitation District

**Terms and Conditions:** The LAFCO resolution will outline several terms and conditions including but not limited to the following: State Board of Equalization fees and LAFCO processing fees.

**Public Hearing:** Yes (hearing date: TBD)

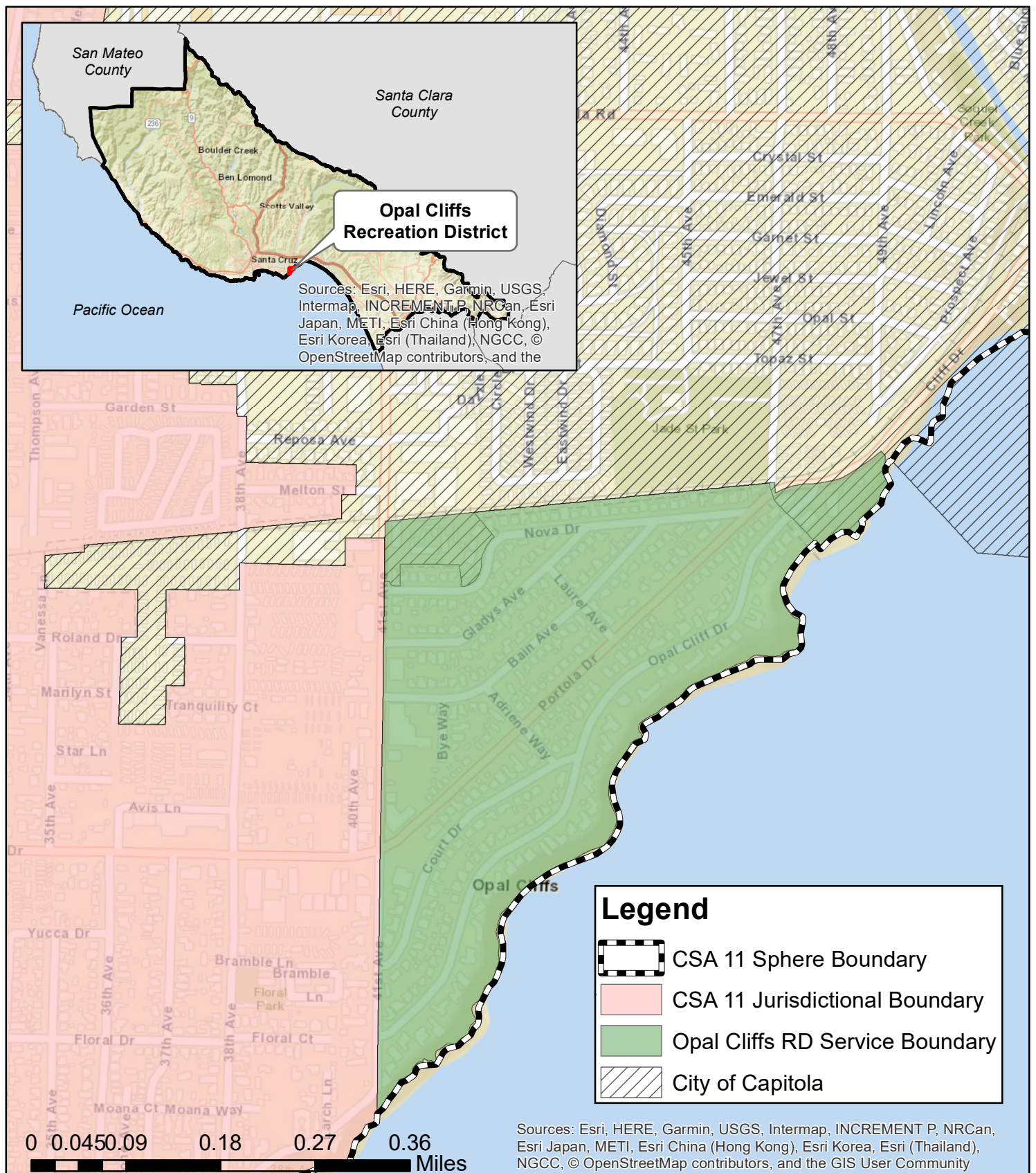
**Date File Opened:** 10/11/21

**Filing Fee Deposit:** \$1,250

**Date Paid:** Pending

**Date Status Letter Sent:** 10/21/21

**Attachment:** Vicinity Map



## "Opal Cliffs Recreation District Reorganization" (LAFCO Project No. RO 21-18)

The reorganization, if approved, would complete two actions: (1) dissolve the Opal Cliffs Recreation District and (2) Concurrently annex the dissolved area into CSA 11 (County Parks). The annexation will exclude the areas located within the City of Capitola.