



NOTICE OF PROTEST HEARING LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 31, 2024, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Cruz County (LAFCO) will hold a protest hearing regarding the dissolution approved by LAFCO on June 5, 2024. The proposed terms and conditions for the proposal are set forth in the LAFCO Resolution No. 2024-13.

“Reclamation District No. 2049 Dissolution” (Project No. DDI 24-02): The dissolution involves 24 parcels (approximately 500 acres) in the Pajaro Valley. The reclamation district is located north of Holohan Road, east of Green Valley Road, south of Paulsen Road, and west of Highway 152. The District’s service area is completely surrounded by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (see attached map).

What is LAFCO?

It is the state agency in charge of boundaries for cities and special districts, such as the reclamation district. This Notice and all related documents (staff report, resolution, maps, etc.) are available on the LAFCO website: <https://santacruzlafco.org>. If you have issues accessing information on the LAFCO website, please contact LAFCO at 831-454-2055.

Why is this happening?

State law requires LAFCO to analyze each public agency at least every five years. LAFCO’s 2022 Countywide Water Service and Sphere Review determined that the reclamation district had various violations, a failing weir, no full-time staff, no full member board, no website, no physical office, no contact information, and operated with a lack of transparency. Representatives from the district decided that the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency would be better suited to oversee drainage services following the completion of the proposed dissolution.

Will my property taxes go up? Will I incur new costs?

No. The dissolution does not financially impact the affected residents.

Protest Proceeding

Pursuant to Government Code Section 57000, when the Commission adopts a resolution making determinations regarding a change of organization, affected residents within the proposal area will have an opportunity to voice their opposition during the protest period. During this period, from **July 8 to July 31**, affected residents may submit petitions of opposition. A protest hearing will also be conducted on **Wednesday, July 31, at 9:00 a.m.** Instructions on how to participate are available on the LAFCO website: <https://santacruzlafco.org/meetings/>

Who can File a Protest?

Landowners and registered voters within the proposal area may file a written protest using the official [LAFCO Protest Form](#) if they oppose this annexation. Landowners and registered voters must include their name, the address of the land within the proposal area, and the Assessor Parcel Number. Agents submitting a protest on behalf of the landowner/registered voter must attach proper authorization. This may include written consent from the landowner/registered voter, written consent from a trustee of the property placed into a trust, signature authorization or majority shareholder consent of a corporation or LLC, or other suitable documentation. See Government Code Section 56704, 56708, and 56710 for more information.

Where to Get a Protest Form?

If you wish to protest the annexation, you first need to obtain a Protest Form by either:

- Downloading the form from the LAFCO website: <https://www.santacruzlafco.org/forms/> (refer to *Forms 12 and 13*); or
- Contact LAFCO by phone (831-454-2055) or email (info@santacruzlafco.org) to have a form mailed to you.

How to Submit Protest Form?

Petitions of opposition can be submitted in two ways:

- In person at the LAFCO office prior to the conclusion of the protest hearing on July 31, 2024. The LAFCO office is located at **701 Ocean Street, Room 318-D, Santa Cruz, CA 95060**; or
- By mail addressed to LAFCO at 701 Ocean Street, Room 318-D, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. *If your mailed protest form is postmarked by July 31, 2024, and received by LAFCO within four (4) days of a July 31, 2024 postmark, we will process, verify, and count that protest.*

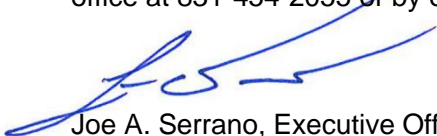
The written protest must be signed and dated during the official protest period, which begins on July 8, 2024, and ends on July 31, 2024. Any protest submitted without a date, bearing a date prior to July 8, 2024, received in-person after the conclusion of the Protest Hearing, or postmarked after July 31, 2024 and not received by LAFCO within four (4) days of a July 31, 2024 postmark, shall be disregarded for purposes of determining the value of any written protests. The protest cannot be accepted by fax or email.

How will the Protest be Evaluated?

Within 30 days following the conclusion of the Protest Hearing, the Executive Officer will make a determination on whether the annexation is terminated or approved, as follows:

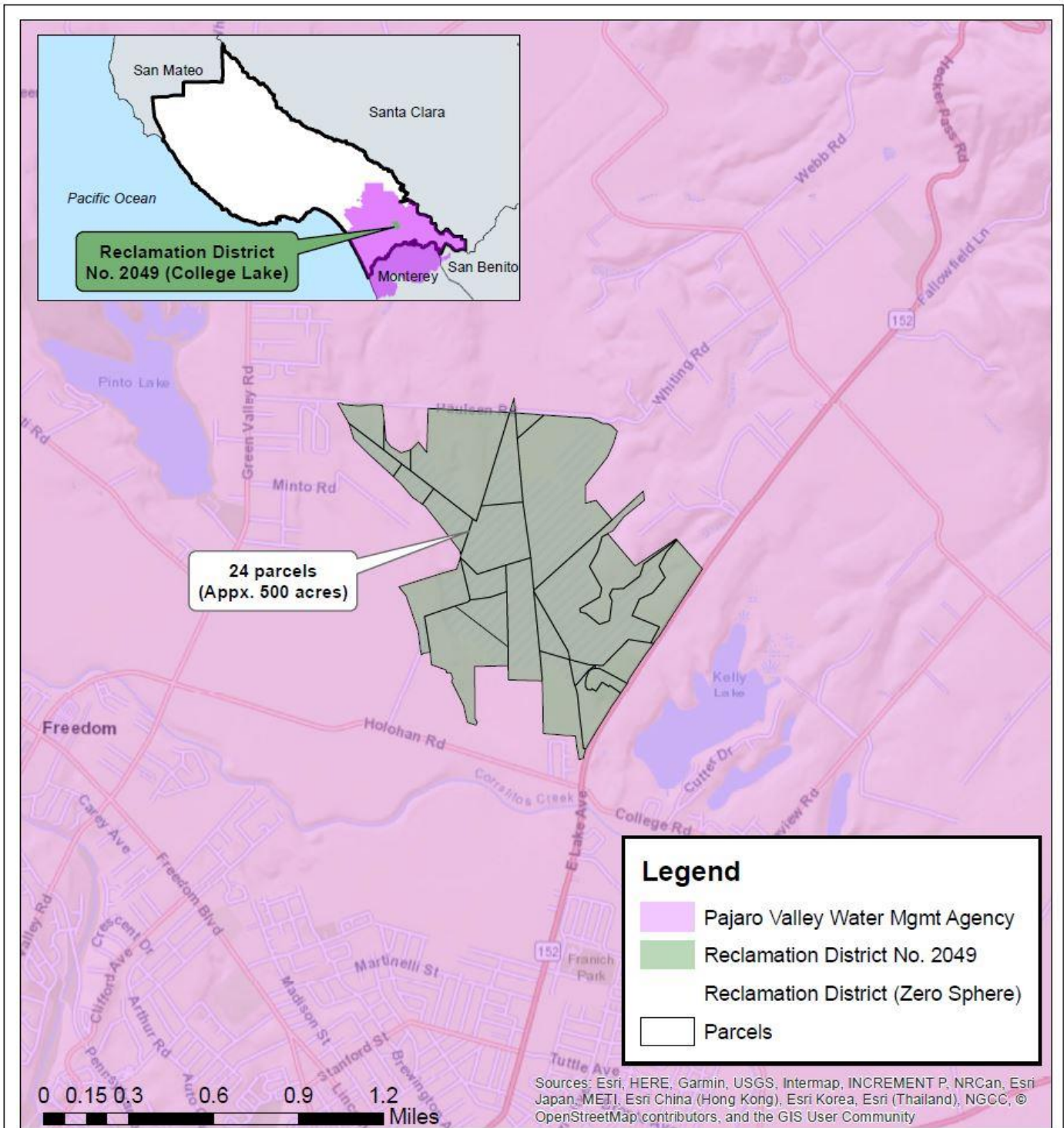
- **Approve** the proposal if written protest is less than 25% of the landowners and/or registered voters;
- **Conduct** a special election if written protest is more than 25% but less than 50% of the landowners and/or registered voters;
- **Terminate** the proposal if written protest is received from landowners who own more than 50% of the total value within the reorganization area; or
- **Terminate** the proposal if written protest received from registered voters who reside in the reorganization area reaches beyond 50%.

A resolution finalizing the protest results will be considered by the Commission during the August 7, 2024 LAFCO Meeting. If you have any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the LAFCO office at 831-454-2055 or by email at info@santacruzlafco.org.



Joe A. Serrano, Executive Officer
Date: July 8, 2024

Vicinity Map



"Reclamation District No. 2049 Dissolution" (LAFCO Project No. DDI 24-02)



Vicinity map created on 2-13-24

The Reclamation District was formed in 1920 and operates pursuant to the Reclamation District Law (CA Water Code Section 50000 et seq.).

The District submitted an application to dissolve on 3/8/23 but was terminated due to inactivity on 2/7/24. LAFCO has initiated dissolution in accordance with GCS 56375(a)(2)(B).