

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Stephen Lucas, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 4.2 – Update on the El Medio Fire Protection District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Project**

DATE: February 26, 2013 for the Meeting of March 7, 2013

Background

In early 2012, El Medio Fire Protection District (EMFPD) and LAFCO staff collaborated on a grant request from the Indian Gaming Special Distribution Fund Grant Program to facilitate an update of the District's Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI). The grant request was successful and in August 2012, the District formally requested that LAFCO review and update their MSR and SOI for the purpose of justifying the District's desire to expand its service area. The purpose of this update is to introduce the Commission to the District's proposed SOI boundary that is the baseline for the preparation of the Draft SOI Plan and seek preliminary observations and comments.

Proposed Sphere of Influence Map

The District as a part of its application, provided a map (**Attachment 1**) that shows their existing District boundaries and a proposed 20 year SOI. The proposed SOI amendment would add approximately 2,745 acres (1,474 parcels) to the District's current service area of approximately 1,500 acres with a population of approximately 6,000 residents. The proposed expansion area is largely residential (1,488 acres) in character although there is a significant area of industrial and commercial land use designations (332 acres). The areas proposed to be added to the District's SOI are generally to the east and south of the current District boundaries and include the area to the south referred to as the Las Plumas Study Area. This area is largely undeveloped at present, but has been actively considered by the County for future residential and mixed use development. The development of this area would represent a significant opportunity for the District to expand its service area and generate much needed new revenue.

Future Steps

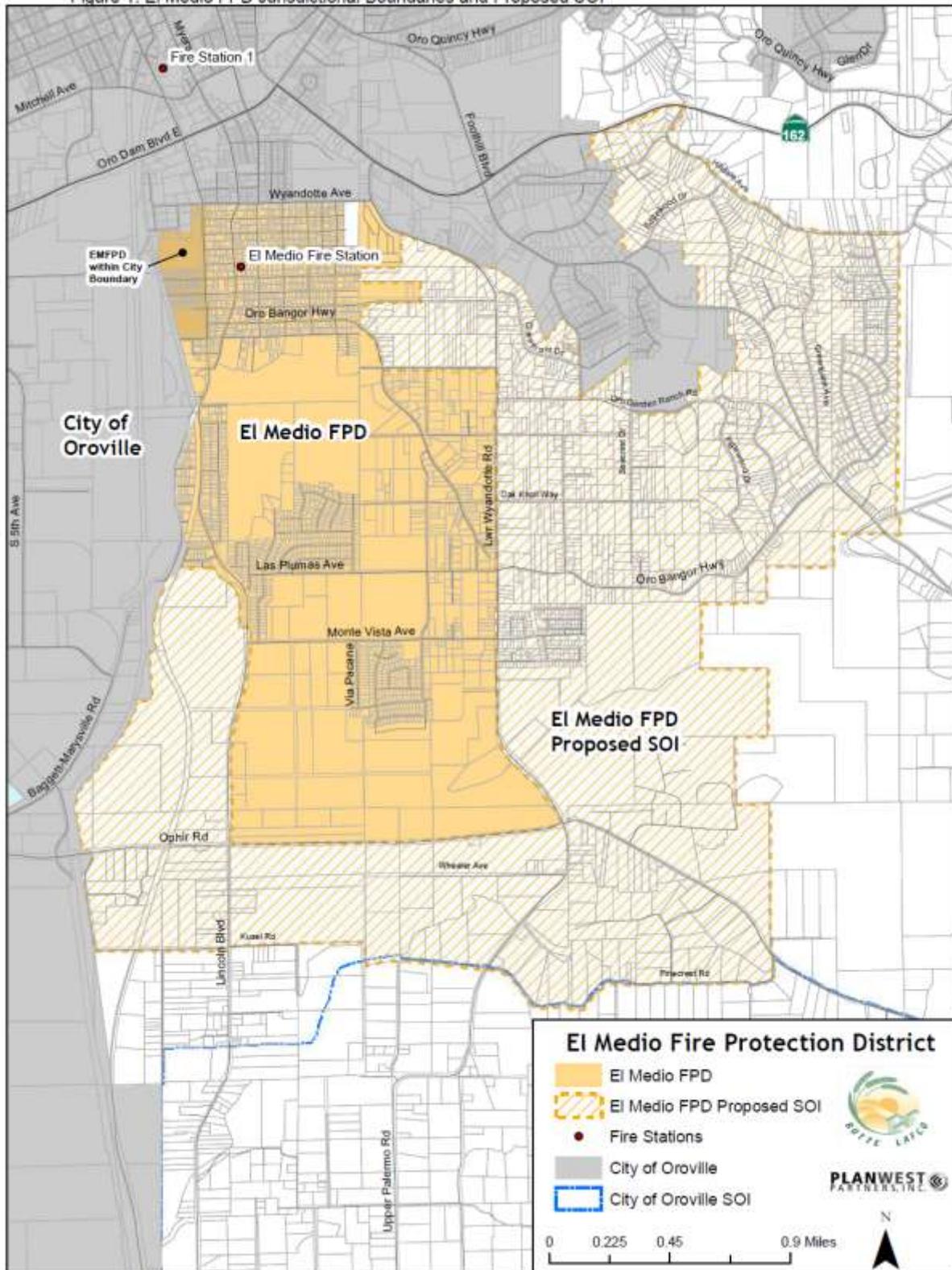
An Administrative Draft MSR/SOI Plan has been prepared and is under review by LAFCO and District staff. This document will be vetted to determine what, if any, new information is necessary to allow for a thorough analysis of the District's proposal. Once the Administrative Draft is reviewed, a Public Review Draft MSR/SOI Plan Update will be prepared and circulated for a 30 day review period. Comments will be received and reviewed and the Draft will then be presented to the Commission for review and consideration at a noticed public hearing.

ACTION REQUESTED: Staff requests that the Commission review the proposed EMFPD SOI map and provide direction to staff as to the appropriateness of the proposed SOI boundary. The Commission cannot take any formal action on the SOI Update at the March meeting.

Attachments

1. El Medio Fire Protection District Proposed SOI Update Map

Figure 1: El Medio FPD Jurisdictional Boundaries and Proposed SOI



Data Source: Boundaries, roads, parcels, fire stations - Butte Local Agency Formation Commission

Map compiled January 7, 2013