



PENRYN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PO Box 219, 7206 CHURCH ST., PENRYN, CA 95663

916-663-3389

FAX 916-663-1262

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cheryl Hotaling
Danielle Hardesty
Diego Heimlich
Larry Shields
Robert Verdugo

An Organization Committed to Serving the Community of the Penryn Fire Protection District

August 18, 2025

Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)
110 Maple Street
Auburn, Ca 95603

Dear Chair Alpine, LAFCO Commissioners and Ms. McIntyre:

On behalf of the Penryn Fire Protection District (Penryn Fire) Board of Directors (Penryn Board), and the Penryn constituents that attended the August 13, 2025 LAFCO meeting, I want to personally thank you for considering the input provided by Penryn regarding LAFCO Agenda Item 7 (Project No. 2025-03: Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update) and Agenda Item 8A (Fiscal Study to Evaluate the Consolidation Options for the South Placer, Newcastle and Penryn Fire Protection Districts).

We appreciate the LAFCO's decision to remove Penryn Fire and South Placer Fire Protection District (FPD) from the resolution to establish SOIs for Penryn, South Placer, Newcastle and Placer Hills FPDs. Given the determination of the SOI for Penryn Fire will be decided in the future, we would like to provide additional input to the LAFCO based on LAFCO staff responses to questions raised during the August 13th meeting public comment period.

As stated in our August 12th letter to the LAFCO, the Penryn Board greatly appreciated the process used by the LAFCO in the development of the Municipal Services Review (MSR). This process included draft versions of the study to allow timely and significant input by the affected districts as well as the public at large prior to bringing the MSR to the Commission for approval. The SOI study did not provide for this type of input prior to the release of the August 13, 2025 LAFCO Meeting Packet. This was the first time Penryn Fire saw the SOI recommendation to place part of the Penryn Fire District into the SOI proposed for the South Placer FPD.

After the public comment period, the Commission asked LAFCO staff to address the concern raised by Penryn regarding prior notice of proposed SOIs. The explanation provided by LAFCO staff discussed the history of the MSR development (referencing presentation materials provided by the MSR consultant, AP Triton). At issue is the SOI study, which was performed by RSG Solutions.

To refer to the MSR as providing notice of the SOI recommendations presented at the August 13th meeting is inaccurate. The MSR actually provided 2 options (neither of which was the SOI recommended by LAFCO staff at the August 13th meeting):

"The SOI options for RYN consist of the following:

- SOI Option #1: Adopt a single Sphere of Influence for the independent special districts (RYN, NEW, and PHF) indicating the anticipation of consolidation of the districts as in Reorganization Option #1. This SOI option is also applicable if the newly reorganized district chooses to contract for services from another provider, as outlined in Option #3.
- SOI Option #2: Establish a Zero Sphere of Influence for RYN, in anticipation of dissolution and a transition of services to PCF (Option #2) or annexation of the areas within the district into another fire district (Option #1 or Option #4)." (MSR Page 116)

Furthermore, of the two options listed above, the MSR recommendation was SOI Option #1:

"To prepare for the anticipated consolidation of the special districts it is recommended that LAFCO adopt a single SOI encompassing the boundaries of all the districts, as outlined in SOI Option #1." (MSR Page 117)

The Penryn Board appreciates the time that will now be afforded to allow Penryn input and discussion regarding what the SOI should be for Penryn Fire.

In addition, we would like to thank the LAFCO for its decision not to proceed with the Fiscal Study, and instead ask the districts work together to evaluate possible solutions to the ongoing issues faced by local fire districts. This decision benefits not only the districts, but also does not expend limited funds to perform a study that is not necessary at this time.

Respectfully,



Cheryl Hotaling, Chair
Penryn Fire Protection District

cc: Tracy Randall, President, South Placer Fire Protection District
Ken Musso, Vice President, South Placer Fire Protection District
Chris Gibson, South Placer Fire Protection District
Dan Bajtos, South Placer Fire Protection District
Gary Flanagan, South Placer Fire Protection District
Pete Gallegos, South Placer Fire Protection District
Jenine Windeshausen, South Placer Fire Protection District
Shanti Landon, District 2 Supervisor
Anthony DeMattei, District 3 Supervisor
Suzanne Jones, District 4 Supervisor
Cindy Gustafson, District 5 Supervisor
Mark Duerr, Fire Chief, South Placer Fire Protection District
Clayton Thomas, President, Local 3800
Alex Harvey, President, Placer Hills Fire Protection District
Jim Heisterkamp, Chair, Newcastle Fire Protection District