

RESOLUTION NO. 17-07

**RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
OF SOLANO ADOPTING THE MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW FOR THE CITY OF VACAVILLE
LAFCO PROJECT # 2017-02**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Cortese/Knox/Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act, commencing with §56000, et seq. of the Government Code, specifically in accordance with §56430, requiring a review of municipal services of each local government agency whose jurisdictions are within Solano County; and

WHEREAS, Solano LAFCO initiated and conducted a service review of the City of Vacaville and has prepared a comprehensive update and review of the municipal services of the City of Vacaville as of May 8, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Commission received the draft Municipal Service Review for the City of Vacaville, on April 10, 2017, circulated the draft for public review, and held a public meeting to consider the final Municipal Service Review for the City of Vacaville on May 8, 2017; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of May 8, 2017, the Solano Local Agency Formation Commission received and considered all written and oral testimony and comments related to the Municipal Service Review for the City of Vacaville, its findings and determinations, including the environmental determination; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The Municipal Services Review for the City of Vacaville is found to be exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21102 and 21150 in that it is a descriptive and planning study for possible future action for which funding has not been committed.
2. The Municipal Services Review for the City of Vacaville is found to be adequate and complete pursuant to the requirements of Government Code Section 56430 and determinations regarding municipal services are approved as set forth and described in the attached "Exhibit A" and by this reference incorporated herein.
3. The Executive Officer is hereby directed to file a Notice of Exemption in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and local ordinances implementing the same.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of Solano at a regular meeting thereof, held on May 8, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Len Augustine, Harry Price, Nancy Shopay, Jim Spering, and John Vasquez

NOES: none

ABSENT: Pete Sanchez

ABSTAIN: none



Nancy Shopay, Chair
Local Agency Formation Commission
County of Solano, State of California

ATTEST:



Michelle McIntyre, Clerk to the Commission

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Exhibit A: Findings and Determinations

4: Growth and Population Projections

4.1 Vacaville's location, moderate home prices, supply of residentially-designated land, accessibility to job markets, and reputation as a family-friendly town are contribute to a higher-than-average residential growth rate.

4.2 Vacaville is forecasted to add 7,000 jobs between 2015 and 2035

4.3 General Plan Policies related to orderly and logical growth are compatible with Solano LAFCO policies.

4.4 Long-term annexation areas will not be annexed to the City within the 5- to 10-year planning period of the most current Municipal Service Review and Comprehensive Annexation Plan.

4.4 The City is capable of providing municipal services to the near term annexation areas within the planning horizon of this municipal service review.

4.5 The location and potential for future land use and/or development proposals in the unincorporated Locke Paddon Community have the potential to impact the City. This is an "Area of Interest" to the City of Vacaville and Solano County is encouraged to collaborate with the City when considering development and land use changes there.

5: Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

5.1 There are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities adjacent to the City of Vacaville.

6: Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities

6.1 – Animal Control

6.1.1 Animal control services are adequately provided by the City of Vacaville through contracts with SPCA, a non-profit organization for animal control and shelter and Solano County for shelter services.

6.2 – Fire

6.2.1 Vacaville has a city dispatch center for emergency and non-emergency calls. Calls originating outside the City limits are transferred by city dispatch to the California

Highway Patrol dispatch center. Centralized dispatch services for the region will provide higher levels of service efficiency. The City is encouraged to participate in centralized dispatch for emergency services.

6.2.2 The City response time standard of 7 minutes 90 percent of the time. Response time has been maintained with growth. Detailed quantitative analysis at the time a project is proposed ensures adequacy of service prior to annexation.

6.2.3 As of April 1, 2017, Vacaville's ISO rating has been elevated from a rating of 3 to a rating of 2.

6.2.3 Vacaville Fire Protection District participates in automatic aid responses in designated areas and also participates in a Mutual Aid Plan with other fire departments in Solano County.

6.2.4 The city's SOI is currently served by five fire protection districts. When annexation occurs, Vacaville Fire Department is the service provider in annexing areas. Mitigation agreements are in place to offset the financial impacts to detaching districts.

6.3 – Law Enforcement

6.3.1. VPD has increased law enforcement staffing from the 2014 MSR (from 97 to 103). The current ratio of officers is 1.12 per 1,000 residents and is lower than the Federal Bureau of Investigations recommended national standard of two officers per 1,000 residents.

6.3.2 Staffing levels are 1 full-time sworn officer for every 855 residents, and 1 full-time non-sworn office for every 1,663 residents. This represents an increase in total number of officers per capita.

6.3.3 The adopted police response time standard is 6 minutes and 1 second. VPD is currently meeting the Priority I standard with an average response time of 6 minutes exactly. This is a better average response time than noted in the 2014 MSR (7.1 minutes for priority one calls) due to the increase of officers.

6.3.4 Vacaville has a city dispatch center for emergency and non-emergency calls. Calls originating outside the City limits are transferred by city dispatch to the California Highway Patrol dispatch center. Centralized dispatch services for the region will provide higher levels of service efficiency. The City is encouraged to participate in centralized dispatch for emergency services.

6.4 – Parks and Recreation

6.4.1 The City is currently deficient in meeting park service standards in the neighborhood and community parkland categories, but exceeds the standards for the regional and total parkland categories.

6.4.2 New residents resulting from growth will need additional parkland. To meet the City's parkland standards, an additional 91 acres of neighborhood parkland and 50 acres of community parkland will be needed.

6.4.3 Terms are negotiated for neighborhood parks in development agreements, however the City does not have a Quimby Act ordinance.

6.4.4 Accessible open space includes land owned by the City of Vacaville (or other nonprofit or public agency) that is publically accessible for limited recreational use and is maintained in a natural or non-intensive developed state.

6.4.5 Special purpose facilities and centers include buildings that house recreational programs and/or facilities and may or may not be located on properties owned by the City but operated by the Community Services Department and/or under contract to the Department for its programs.

6.4.6 City residents have preference for programs and services. Non-residents may register for City recreation programs and use of City facilities, however residents are given a one week priority registration period for City recreation programs, and non-residents are charged a 15 percent non-resident fee.

6.5 – Public Works

6.5.1 There are no written road maintenance agreements but the city and county public works departments work together cooperatively on an informal basis in some places. Road maintenance agreements would be an effective mechanism to increase service efficiency where roadway segments are in the city then county, then back to city along the road length. The City and county public works departments are encouraged to collaboratively establish more orderly road maintenance service through the use of written agreements where possible.

6.5.2 As residential growth continues, integrated transit services will become a critical component in transporting individuals throughout Solano County and beyond. The City of Vacaville is encouraged to collaborate with other agencies to improve coordination of transit services.

6.5.3 Using the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Pavement Management Program pavement condition index, as of April 2016, approximately 57.7% of the City's road network has a PCI of 70 or better.

6.5.4 Eight of 79 city intersections currently operate below the acceptable LOS threshold identified in the General Plan. A number of streets and interchange improvements are proposed with possible development time-frames ranging from 2016 to 2035.

6.5.5 The City's Transportation System Management Ordinance has established requirements for employers to promote alternative commute modes. The city provides park and ride facilities with bus service and promotes alternative fuel vehicles.

6.6 – Solid Waste

6.6.1 The City contracts with Recology Vacaville Solano for solid waste pick-up and disposal. The Recology Hay Road facility has sufficient capacity to accommodate the current and future solid waste disposal needs of the City.

6.6.2 The City meets or exceeds the State-mandated waste diversion goals and has done so every year for the past decade.

6.6.3 Solano County and its incorporated cities have successfully diverted more solid waste from landfills than the State-mandated diversion rate of 50 percent each year. Based on recent solid waste generation trends, it can be expected that jurisdictions in Solano County will continue to meet diversion goals as the population grows in the future.

6.7 – Stormwater

6.7.1 The major stream courses, which flow through the City of Vacaville, are generally in their natural state and alignment. The natural portions of the creeks generally do not have adequate flow capacity to convey a 100-year storm event.

6.7.2 Several storm drains will experience flooding during the 10-year storm due to high water levels in the creeks which prevent the storm drains from performing as designed.

6.7.3 The Storm Drainage Master Plan analysis has identified existing drainage deficiencies and reaffirms the need for regional detention basins. The city is making progress, is pursuing grant finding and has purchased land for detention basins.

6.7.4 As of the date of this report, official analysis has not been completed for the heavy 2016-2017 winter season. City drainage improvements appear effective, with only minor flooding of a few streets noted.

6.8 – Wastewater

6.8.1 The City of Vacaville provides water and/or sewer services to a limited number of identified properties located outside of city limits. These connections are believed to predate current state law pertaining to the extension of services outside city limits and the properties may not be appropriate for annexation.

6.8.2 The Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant is permitted and designed for 15 MGD capacity. Current flows are 7.5 and capacity is sufficient for the 5 year planning horizon of this municipal service review.

6.8.3 The collection system is not reported by the city to have deficiencies. As part of the on-going management of the wastewater collection system, the City conducts flow monitoring and sanitary sewer system capacity evaluations. Approximately 20 percent of the system is inspected each year, so that over the course of each five-year period, the entire system is inspected.

6.8.4 In accordance with the NPDES regulations and requirements, on occasion system monitoring shows an incident or violation. Since the 2014 MSR, Easterly WWTP received eight incident reports and rectified them all.

6.9 – Water

6.9.1 The City of Vacaville provides water and/or sewer services to a limited number of identified properties located outside of city limits. These connections are believed to predate current state law pertaining to the extension of services outside city limits and the properties may not be appropriate for annexation.

6.9.2 The city uses a diversity of water sources (surface and ground water) and two water treatment plants that allow flexibility and ensure adequate water supply under various conditions.

6.9.3 The City will initiate a Recycled Water Master Plan.

6.9.4 Current demand and current water supply assessment confirm there is adequate water supply to meet current and projected future demand for water.

6.9.5 Vacaville and the City of Fairfield collaboratively use the North Bay Regional water treatment plant for mutual benefit.

6.9.6 In this report, the City notes potential groundwater issues related to other ground water basin users. The City is urged to collaborate with other agencies on the resolution of groundwater system management issues and facilitate regional cooperation among the parties.

7: Financial Ability to Provide Services

7.1 The City uses a variety of funding mechanisms and sources, maintains appropriate reserves, uses fund accounting, and demonstrates transparency in its financial transactions. The descriptive information provided to LAFCO is clear and understandable.

7.2 The City uses a budget procedure and competitive bidding process to ensure avoidance of unnecessary costs associated with obtaining outside services and capital improvements construction.

7.3 The City periodically reviews rates and fees related to each department as a part of the budget process to ensure that rates and user fees remain reasonable while providing adequate revenue to support and maintain the services for which they are charged.

7.4 The City Council has established a policy of maintaining an operating reserve in the General Fund equal to at least 15% of ongoing operating expenditures, or approximately 3 months of operating cash flow. The reserve is at 17.5% of operating expenses or approximately equal to four months of operating cash flow.

7.5 While the city has experienced shortfalls in past years and has used reserves to balance the budget, reserves are now at or above the desired levels.

7.6 City of Vacaville does not levy a utility user's tax and maintains a lower tax burden on its citizens than some other cities.

8: Status and Opportunities for Shared Facilities

8.1 To enhance service efficiency and delivery, the city participates in numerous cooperative agreements with other government entities.

8.2 Mutual aid and automatic aid agreements for fire protection and suppression are in place and help ensure coordination between the city fire department and other fire providers. If not already in practice, compatibility of physical firefighting systems (equipment, connections, fittings, etc.) and communications/radio devices are encouraged.

8.3 The Police Department has agreements with nearby law enforcement agencies to provide mutual aid.

8.4 The North Bay Regional Water Treatment Plant, which is located in Fairfield, provides potable water to the Cities of Fairfield and Vacaville. This plant is co-owned by both cities and is operated by the City of Fairfield.

8.5 Vacaville has a city dispatch center for emergency and non-emergency calls. The county has a centralized dispatch center and agreements with other agencies will be needed to improve dispatch coordination. Centralized dispatch services for the region will provide higher levels of service efficiency. The City is encouraged to participate in centralized dispatch for emergency services.

8.6 In this report, the City notes potential groundwater issues related to other ground water basin users. The City is urged to collaborate with other agencies on the resolution of groundwater system management issues and facilitate regional cooperation among the parties.

8.7 Cities, including Vacaville, cooperatively maintain open space and buffers.

8.8 The City and county public works departments are encouraged to collaboratively establish more orderly road maintenance service through the use of written agreements where possible.

8.9 As residential growth continues, integrated transit services will become a critical component in transporting individuals throughout Solano County and beyond. The City of Vacaville is encouraged to collaborate with other agencies to improve coordination of transit services.

9: Government Structure and Accountability

9.1 The City of Vacaville has a comprehensive program of public communication, accessibility, outreach and transparency across departments.

9.2 The government structure is orderly and consistent with the services provided.