



# Fire Protection District Governance

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- Resolutions appointing the Board of Supervisors as the Board of Directors for the Montezuma, Suisun and Vacaville Fire Protection Districts

Presented to the Board of Supervisors  
March 11, 2025  
County Administrator's Office

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# History of the Study of Fire District Consolidation

## Civil Grand Jury Reports:

- "Solano County Emergency Services: A Patchwork of Protection" (*FY2005/5*)
- "Solano County Fire Protection Districts" (*FY2007/8*)
- "Public Safety Volunteer Fire Emergency Services" (*FY2010/11*)
- "Suisun Fire Protection District" (*FY2012/13*)
- "Cordelia Fire Protection District" (*FY2015/16*)
- "Wildfires on the Horizon, Solano Homes at Risk!" (*FY2020/21*)
- "Effective Emergency Response Needs City and County Support" (*FY2021/22*)

These reports recommended consolidation of the fire districts.



# History of the Study of Fire District Consolidation

## LAFCO Municipal Service Reviews and Fire Special Study:

- In June of 2006, a Municipal Service Review was commissioned by the Solano Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to study fire protection districts
- In October of 2014, a Municipal Service Review was again commissioned by LAFCO to study the six remaining districts
- In December of 2020, a Fire Special Study was commissioned by LAFCO and conducted by Citygate Associates, LLC which performed a deployment and fiscal/governance review focusing on four fire protection districts

These three reports all recommended consolidation of the fire districts.



# History of the Study of Fire District Consolidation

## County Efforts:

- Solano County acquired land to preserve Fire Station 29 in the Cordelia Fire Protection District (2021)
- Solano County submitted an application of reorganization to LAFCO to facilitate consolidation of the Cordelia and Vacaville Suisun Fire Protection District and a portion of the Suisun Fire Protection District (2021)
- Solano County hosted meetings with fire leadership from city departments and fire protection districts to facilitate discussions on reorganization of fire districts (2022)
- Solano County placed a revenue measure before the voters to generate funding for districts (2022)
- Solano County negotiated a contract with a weed abatement vendor to support fire protection district enforcement efforts (2023)
- Seasonal Pilot Program funding for districts \$185,000 (2024)



# History of the Study of Fire District Consolidation

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## District Efforts:

- MOU between Cordelia and Vacaville Fire Protection Districts to provide leadership and administrative services (2021)
- MOU between County and executed by Cordelia and Vacaville Fire Protection Districts for weed abatement enforcement (2023)
- A contract was executed between the Cordelia Fire Protection District and the City of Fairfield for provision of fire response services (2024)
- MOU executed between the Vacaville Fire Protection District and the Suisun and Montezuma Fire Protection Districts, providing Vacaville with support due to the retirement of Chief Wood (2024)
- MOU executed between the County and two of the three FPDs to provide funding for a pilot seasonal wildfire program and to commemorate a commitment to work toward consolidation (2024)



# History of the Study of Fire District Consolidation

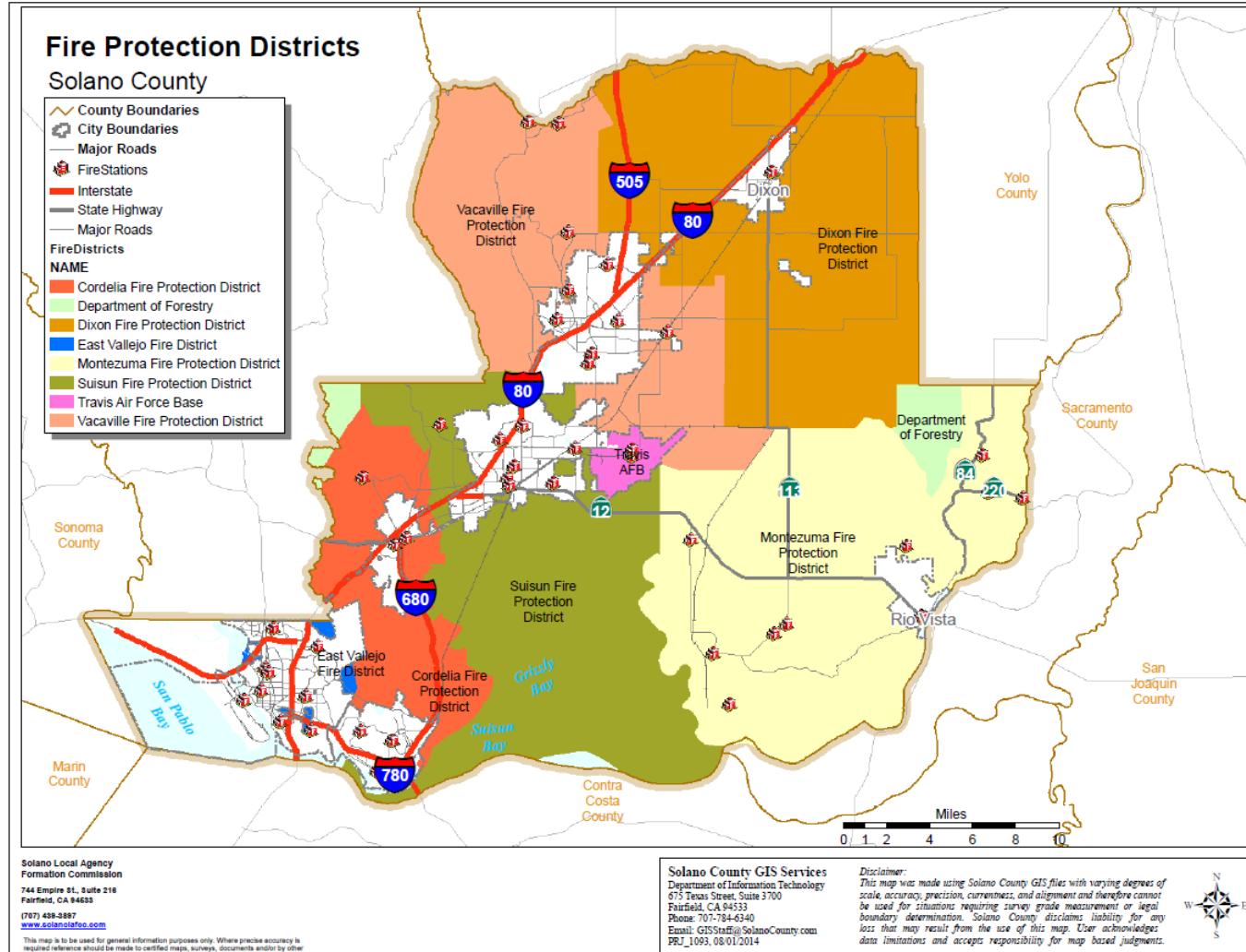
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## Examples of Past Consolidations:

- Elmira was annexed into the Vacaville Fire Protection District (1986)
- Ryer Island was annexed into the Montezuma Fire Protection District (2007)



# Fire Protection Districts Map





# Fire District Consolidation – Next Steps

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If the Board of Supervisors assumes leadership as the Board of Directors for the fire districts, next steps may include:

- Staff returning with an MOU identifying an interim chief and defining interim operations while LAFCO processes an application for reorganization
- Staff returning for consideration of approval of resolutions of application to LAFCO for support of the Districts application for consolidation, from:
  - Montezuma Fire Protection District
  - Suisun Fire Protection District
  - Vacaville Fire Protection District



# Fire District Consolidation – Next Steps

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**The LAFCO Process will include the following next steps:**

- Adopt a Resolution of Application for Reorganization
- Develop a Plan for Service
  - Includes a fiscal analysis
  - Staffing model
- Execute MOUs of support from the districts
- Prepare an Application for Reorganization ("consolidation")



# Department Recommendation

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The County Administrator's Office recommends the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Adopt a resolution appointing the Board of Supervisors as the Board of Directors for the Suisun Fire Protection District
- 2) Adopt a resolution appointing the Board of Supervisors as the Board of Directors for the Montezuma Fire Protection District
- 3) Adopt a resolution appointing the Board of Supervisors as the Board of Directors for the Vacaville Fire Protection District