

# Fire Protection District Governance

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

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## **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.



## **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.



## **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)



#### **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)

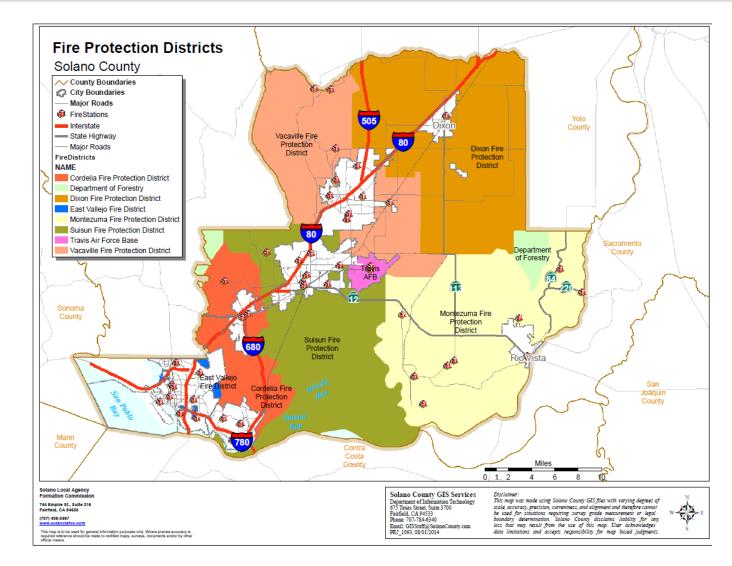


## **Examples of Past Consolidations:**

- ➤ 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

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

## 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**

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