

PLACER LAFCO RESOLUTION NO. 26-01

RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF PLACER COUNTY ADOPTING THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE FOR PLACER HILLS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

(LAFCO Project No. 2022-05)

WHEREAS, the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO or Commission) is a public agency of the State of California with regulatory and planning responsibilities to facilitate orderly growth and development pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH), commencing with section 56000 of the California Government Code (GC); and

WHEREAS, the Commission is responsible, under GC section 56425, for establishing and regularly updating the sphere of influence (SOI) of each local government agency whose principal jurisdiction is within Placer County; and

WHEREAS, CKH directs that all jurisdictional boundary changes must be consistent with the affected agencies' SOIs; and

WHEREAS, the Placer Hills Fire Protection District (Placer Hills FPD) and the Newcastle Fire Protection District (Newcastle FPD) have submitted a joint resolution of application for a reorganization that requires an update of the Placer Hills FPD SOI; and

WHEREAS, prior to updating an agency's SOI, the Commission must conduct a service review under GC section 56430; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Fire Service Review of Newcastle FPD and Placer Hills FPD, among other fire services providers, conducted by AP Triton; the 2025 Placer Hills FPD and Newcastle FPD Revised Consolidation Fiscal Study conducted by Ridgeline Municipal Strategies; and the 2024 Placer Hills FPD and Newcastle FPD Transition Plan for Reorganization serve as the informational basis for the Commission's consideration of the proposed SOI update; and

WHEREAS, approximately 9,600 acres, or approximately 15 square miles, comprise the existing jurisdictional boundary of Newcastle FPD, which is currently designated with a zero SOI pursuant to LAFCO Resolution No. 25-10, adopted August 13, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Placer Hills FPD has provided administrative and command functions, including fleet maintenance, technical rescue, fire inspection, code enforcement, and plan review services, to Newcastle FPD since 2016, and the Commission has received resolutions from both agencies consenting to the proposed reorganization, consisting of the dissolution of the Newcastle FPD and the annexation of the Newcastle FPD territory into Placer Hills FPD; and

WHEREAS, the update to Placer Hills FPD's SOI is required by statute pursuant to GC section 56375.5 prior to the Commission's consideration of the reorganization application submitted by Placer Hills FPD and Newcastle FPD;

WHEREAS, the Commission, acting as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has determined that the proposed SOI update is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3) and directs its Executive Officer to file a Notice of Exemption in accordance with applicable CEQA requirements; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing conducted at a regularly scheduled meeting on February 11, 2026, the Commission considered all written and oral testimony and comments received regarding the Placer Hills FPD SOI update, including proposed findings and determinations, the Executive Officer's report and recommendations, and the environmental determination; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to GC section 56425(e), the Commission is required to make a statement of written determinations addressing specified factors in establishing or amending a SOI, and such determinations are hereby made and incorporated into this resolution as Exhibit A attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Commission has considered the Executive Officer's written report on the SOI update for the Placer Hills FPD and recommendations therein.
2. The Commission makes the statements in Exhibit A in determining the SOI for Placer Hills FPD.
3. The Commission updates and expands the SOI of the Placer Hills FPD to include the jurisdictional boundary and service area of the Newcastle FPD, which is currently designated with a zero SOI.
4. The updated SOI for Placer Hills FPD, as hereby affirmed, is depicted in Exhibit B attached hereto.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Placer County at a regular meeting thereof, held on February 11, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Alpine, DeMattei, Eklund, Friedman, Landon, Lomen, Rohan

NOES: None

ABSENT: Gustafson

ABSTAIN: None



Josh Alpine, Presiding Officer
Local Agency Formation Commission
County of Placer, State of California

Attest:



Amy Engle, Clerk to the Commission

**EXHIBIT A
PLACER LAFCO RESOLUTION NO. 26-01**

STATEMENT OF DETERMINATIONS
CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE (GC) SECTION 56425

(LAFCO Project No. 2022-05)

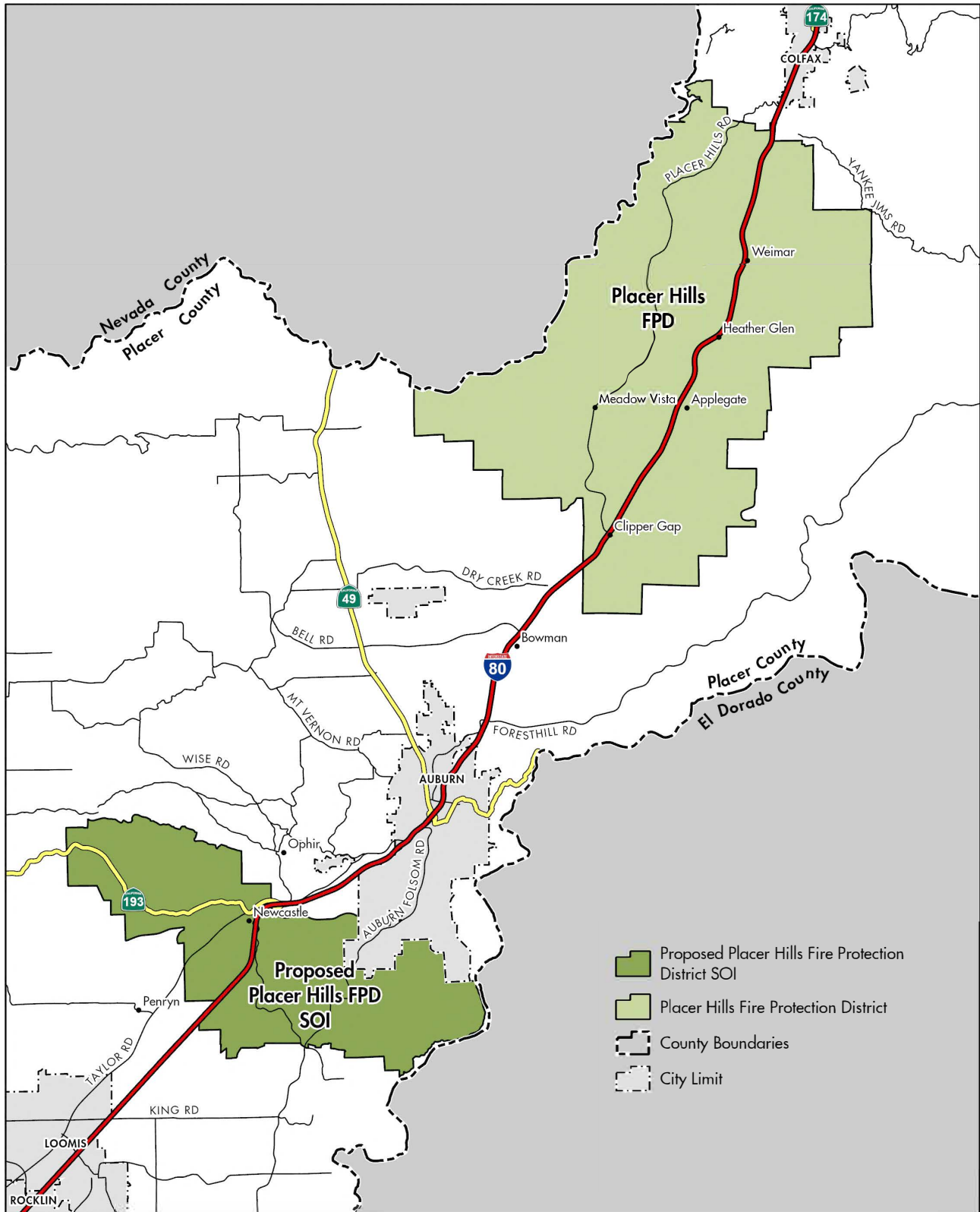
1. With respect to present and planned land uses in the area (GC § 46425(e)(1)), the Commission determines the following:
 - Land within the Newcastle Fire Protection District (Newcastle FPD) jurisdictional boundary, which is currently designated with a zero sphere of influence (SOI), is characterized predominantly by rural residential and open-space land uses, with associated commercial and industrial uses located primarily along the Interstate 80 corridor. Residential development within the area consists largely of single-family homes, with some agricultural uses.
 - Expanding the SOI for Placer Hills Fire Protection District (Placer Hills FPD) to include the Newcastle FPD service area supports the continued provision of fire protection and emergency response services to the affected territory, the Newcastle service area, consistent with these present and planned land uses.

2. With respect to the present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area (GC § 56425(e)(2)), the Commission determines the following:
 - The Newcastle service area has an ongoing need for fire protection, emergency medical services, and paramedic response, particularly given its rural residential development pattern, wildfire risk, and proximity to the Interstate 80 transportation corridor.
 - The updated SOI appropriately demarks Placer Hills FPD's current and probable future boundary and service area as successor agency to the Newcastle FPD.
 - Updating the SOI to include the affected territory supports the continued and coordinated provision of public safety services necessary to meet present and probable service demands.

3. With respect to the present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services the agency provides or is authorized to provide (GC § 56425(e)(3)), the Commission determines the following:

- The 2025 AP Triton Study and 2025 Ridgeline Study for Placer Hills FPD demonstrate the overall sufficiency of resources, including sufficient operational capacity, staffing, facilities, and financial resources, for Placer Hills FPD to provide fire protection, emergency medical, and related services to the affected territory. The Commission relies on these studies in making all related SOI determinations for Placer Hills FPD.
 - Placer Hills FPD currently provides comprehensive administrative services to the Newcastle FPD under contract, evidencing an established ability to support service delivery within the Newcastle service area.
 - The updated SOI supports the continued and improved adequacy of public services, including enhanced paramedic staffing and coordinated emergency response capabilities, within the Newcastle service area.
4. With respect to the existence of any relevant social or economic community of interest in the area (GC § 56425(e)(4)), the Commission determines the following:
- The proposed SOI update appropriately reflects existing and relevant social and economic communities of interest, including geographic proximity, established service relationships, coordinated emergency response operations, and regional economic and transportation linkages.
 - The Newcastle service area has established significant functional and operational ties to Placer Hills FPD that are relevant to the proposal given its current role in administering and supporting fire protection and related services within the affected territory.
 - Inclusion of the affected territory within Placer Hills FPD's SOI appropriately reflects these existing social and economic communities of interest and represents an initial step towards formalizing these relationships in advance of the proposed reorganization.
5. With respect to the present and probable need for public water, sewer, and fire protection services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the SOI (GC § 56425(e)(5)), the Commission determines the following:
- No lands within the proposed SOI update qualify as disadvantaged unincorporated communities.
 - Inclusion of the Newcastle service area within the Placer Hills FPD SOI supports efficient governance, coordinated service planning, and long-term service sustainability, consistent with the purposes of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

Placer Hill Fire Protection District & Proposed SOI



DATA DISCLAIMER: The features on this map were prepared for geographic purposes only and are not intended to illustrate legal boundaries or supersede local ordinances. Official information concerning the features depicted on this map should be obtained from recorded documents and local governing agencies.

