

LAFCO REPORT COUNTY SERVICE AREA 17 SAN DIEGUITO EMS DISTRICT

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

A staff report to the CSA-17 Advisory Committee



BACKGROUND



- CSA 17 was formed by the Board of Supervisors in 1968 to fund emergency ambulances and other equipment for local fire agencies to transport patients in lieu of waiting for a private ambulance to respond.
- In 1998 the service was reaffirmed by greater than 2/3 of the voters establishing the Benefit Fee.
- The current Benefit Fee is \$32.28 per Residential Unit in the CSA. It includes an annual escalator based on CPI.

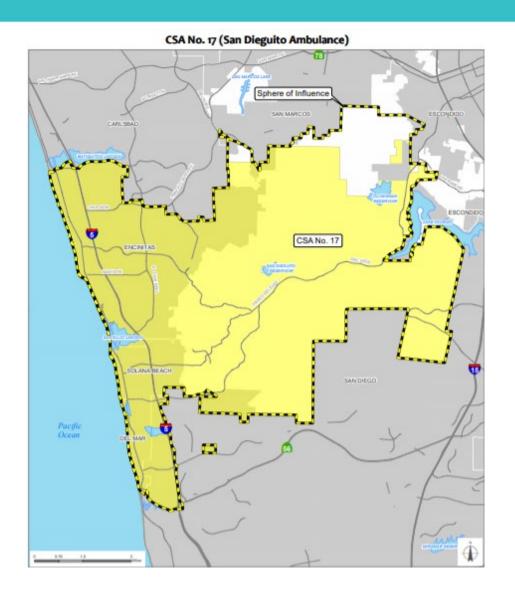
LAFCO AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE



- ➤ The Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) established a Sphere of Influence, updated in 2007, which includes the existing EMS District area and the Harmony Grove Area.
- A sphere of influence identifies (among other things) the area to be served and outlines the perceived logical expansion of service in the area.

CSA 17 BOUNDARIES WITH SPHERE OF INFLUENCE





ANNEXATION OF HARMONY GROVE



- ➤ A concurrent and coterminous annexation of the boundaries with Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District was proposed during the fire district expansion.
- ➤ The proposal was opposed by the community on principle as the County chose not to require a property tax exchange with the annexation.
- ➤ Additionally, the Harmony Grove community signaled an overall satisfaction with the current level of response and associated tax burden. This caused the requirement of a concurrent CSA 17/Fire District to be dropped by LAFCO.

UNIFIED SERVICE AREA



- ➤ In 2018, County Staff brought forth a proposal to include the Harmony Grove area with the Inland North Ambulance Service Area of what would later be called the Unified Service Area.
- The goal of the Unified Service Area was to bring all undesignated areas of the county into an EMS service area.
- This proposal was blocked by the community who did not want to be covered in this ambulance operating area.

CURRENT STATUS



- ➤ In 2019, the Harmony Grove Area was identified in the County EMS Plan as the 29th Ambulance Operating Area.
- The area has been deemed by the LEMSA to be *competitive* and *non-exclusive*.
- ➤ This is now the only area in the County that has no set response time for service.
- ➤ Ambulance service in this area is provided by the closest available ambulance service as determined by North Comm.

QUESTIONS?



