



January 29, 2014

VIA EMAIL

Steve Abbors
General Manager
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

**Re: Implementation of the Recommendations of LAFCO's Special Districts
Service Review: Phase 2 and Sphere of Influence Updates**

Dear Mr. Abbors:

As you know, LAFCO recently adopted the Special Districts Service Review: Phase 2 Report for nine special districts in Santa Clara County, including the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD). The Report is available on the LAFCO Website (www.santaclara.lafco.ca.gov) under "What's New?" The Report identifies several opportunities and includes several recommendations for improving special district services in the county. Specifically, the Report provides recommendations for improving the accountability and transparency of districts through changes in their operations, management, and administration, and recommendations on potential governance structure alternatives, where applicable.

District's Response is Requested

In an effort to follow-up on these recommendations, LAFCO is requesting that MROSD:

1. Review the chapter of the Service Review Report pertaining to the District and provide a written response to LAFCO on how the District plans to implement the recommendation(s) presented in the Report and summarized in Attachment A, along with a time-frame for that implementation, and
2. Provide an explanation if the agency does not plan to implement a recommendation.

Response Due No Later Than March 14, 2014

Please provide a written response to LAFCO as soon as possible and **no later than March 14, 2014**. If you have any questions or concerns or would like to meet to discuss

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Neelima Palacherla

the District's plans, I can be reached at (408) 299-5127 / neelima.palacherla@ceo.sccgov.org or you may contact Dunia Noel, LAFCO Assistant Executive Officer, at (408) 299-5148 / dunia.noel@ceo.sccgov.org.

Lastly, I would like to thank you and the District for participating in LAFCO's Special Districts Service Review: Phase 2 and for your consideration and timely response to this request.

Sincerely,



Neelima Palacherla
LAFCO Executive Officer

Attachment:

- A. Recommendations for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)

Cc:

Jennifer Woodworth, District Clerk, MROSD
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board of Directors
LAFCO Members

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT (MROSD)

The following is a recommendation that the MROSD should implement in order to improve the accountability and transparency of the District:

- As a courtesy, MROSD should submit copies of its Form 700s with each of the counties in which it has territory.

Recommendation on Governance Structure Options

Apply to LAFCO of Santa Clara County for annexation of the portion of the Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve located outside of the District’s bounds and within its sphere of influence to align the District’s boundary with the SOI, as the District has initiated capital planning efforts within that portion of the preserve in the form of trails and amenities, is conducting regular maintenance, and offers park ranger services to the area.

