



January 29, 2014

VIA EMAIL

Jon Newby  
District Manager  
West Valley Sanitation District  
100 East Sunnyvale Ave.  
Campbell, CA 95008

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

Dear Mr. Newby:

As you know, LAFCO recently adopted the Special Districts Service Review: Phase 2 Report for nine special districts in Santa Clara County, including the West Valley Sanitation District (WVSD). The Report is available on the LAFCO Website ([www.santaclara.lafco.ca.gov](http://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 WVSD:

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

**Cc:**

West Valley Sanitation District Board of Directors  
Kerrie Romanow, Director, Environmental Services Dept., City of San Jose  
LAFCO Members

### **WEST VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT (WVSD)**

The following are recommendations that the WVSD should implement in order to improve the services provided by the District and the accountability and transparency of the District:

- Assess the number of parcels that presently rely on private septic systems within the District's bounds, in order to better quantify potential future demand.
- Work with the cities of San Jose and Santa Clara to update the master agreement with regard to the treatment plant in the near future. The District has indicated that it would like to address the following issues: 1) define how debt payments related to the treatment plant are addressed as areas are annexed by the City of San Jose and detached from WVSD, 2) define how treatment capacity should be transferred if areas are reversely annexed into WVSD and detached from the cities, and 3) describe in detail the extent of the District's capital obligations with regard to master plan improvements at the plant.

### **Recommendation on Governance Structure Options**

Collaborate further with the Cupertino Sanitary District on issues of joint-concern, such as negotiations with the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara, as well as identify any potential for resource sharing.

### **Recommendation for Jurisdictional Boundary Change**

Apply to LAFCO to annex Area K (APN 393-17-002), as Area K is currently receiving services from the WVSD.

