

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY APPROVING THE AMENDMENT OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AND APPROVING
THE ANNEXATION OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS TO THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY
CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AMENDMENT AND ANNEXATION 2026**

WHEREAS, an application by City Council Resolution for the annexation of the City of Los Altos (City) to the Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District (CCFD) and an amendment of the Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District Sphere of Influence (SOI) was heretofore filed with the Commission;

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer has reviewed the proposal and prepared a report, including her recommendation, the proposal and report having been presented to and considered by this Commission; and

WHEREAS, the subject territory is inhabited, has less than 100% consent of the affected landowners, and is subject to protest proceedings; and

WHEREAS, LAFCO, on June 13, 2001, delegated authority to the Executive Officer to conduct protest proceedings and perform any functions otherwise required of the Commission in regard to its responsibilities as a conducting authority; and

WHEREAS, this Commission as a Responsible Agency has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in its consideration of this request, as described below; and

WHEREAS, the CCFD Board of Directors at its meeting on March 10, 2026, adopted Resolution No. CFPD 2026-1 expressing support for the proposed annexation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors, on behalf of CCFD, and the City have negotiated an appropriate exchange of tax revenues to support the services transferred in the proposed annexation as required by Revenue and Taxation Code section 99(b).

NOW, THEREFORE, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County, does hereby resolve, determine and order as follows:

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SECTION 1:

1. As a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), LAFCO finds that the proposed reorganization is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15320(b) (Class 20 – Changes of Organization of Local Agencies).

SECTION 2:

1. The Commission hereby approves the amendment of the CCFD's Sphere of Influence (SOI) to include the City and all the unincorporated lands within the City's USA and SOI boundaries as depicted in Exhibit A, and adopts the SOI determinations, including a statement on the nature, location, and extent of any functions or classes of services, as presented in Exhibit B.
2. The Commission hereby approves annexation of the City to the CCFD as depicted in Exhibit A, and subject to terms and conditions included in Section 3 of this resolution.
3. The effective date of the annexation and SOI amendment shall be January 1, 2027.

SECTION 3:

1. Approval of the annexation is subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - a. **Property Tax Transfer.**

Upon annexation, the City shall transfer a portion of its property tax revenue to CCFD as memorialized in the resolutions adopted on April 14 by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors (Resolution No BOS-2026-41) and by the City Council of Los Altos (Resolution No.2026-25).
 - b. **Property Transfer.**

Upon annexation, the City shall transfer two city-owned properties located at 765 Fremont Avenue and 10 Almond Avenue, Los Altos (i.e. two fire stations) to CCFD as approved and authorized on April 28, 2026 in the resolutions adopted by the City Council of Los Altos (Resolution No. 2026-29); and by the Board of Directors of CCFD (Resolution No. CFPD-2026-2).
 - c. **Lump sum payment.**

Upon annexation, the City shall transfer a one-time, lump sum amount of \$1.5 million from the City's General Fund to CCFD to help offset the deferred maintenance of the two fire stations transferred to CCFD.

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d. Plan for Services.

Upon annexation, CCFD shall serve the annexed territory through implementation of the Plan for Services included with the LAFCO application.

SECTION 4:

1. The Commission hereby directs the Executive Officer to conduct protest proceedings pursuant to LAFCO Policies and the Cortese Knox Hertzberg Act.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County, State of California, on June 3, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES: KAMEI, BEALL, CHAPMAN, LEE, TRUMBULL, TURNER
NOES: None
ABSENT: ARENAS, KISHIMOTO
ABSTAIN: None

DocuSigned by:

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 Rosemary Kamei, Chairperson
 LAFCO of Santa Clara County

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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 Sonia Humphrey, LAFCO Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:

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 Malathy Subramanian, LAFCO Counsel

Attachments to Resolution No. 2026-01:

1. Exhibit "A" – Map of Annexation / SOI Amendment Boundaries
2. Exhibit "B" – Sphere of Influence Determinations

Exhibit A

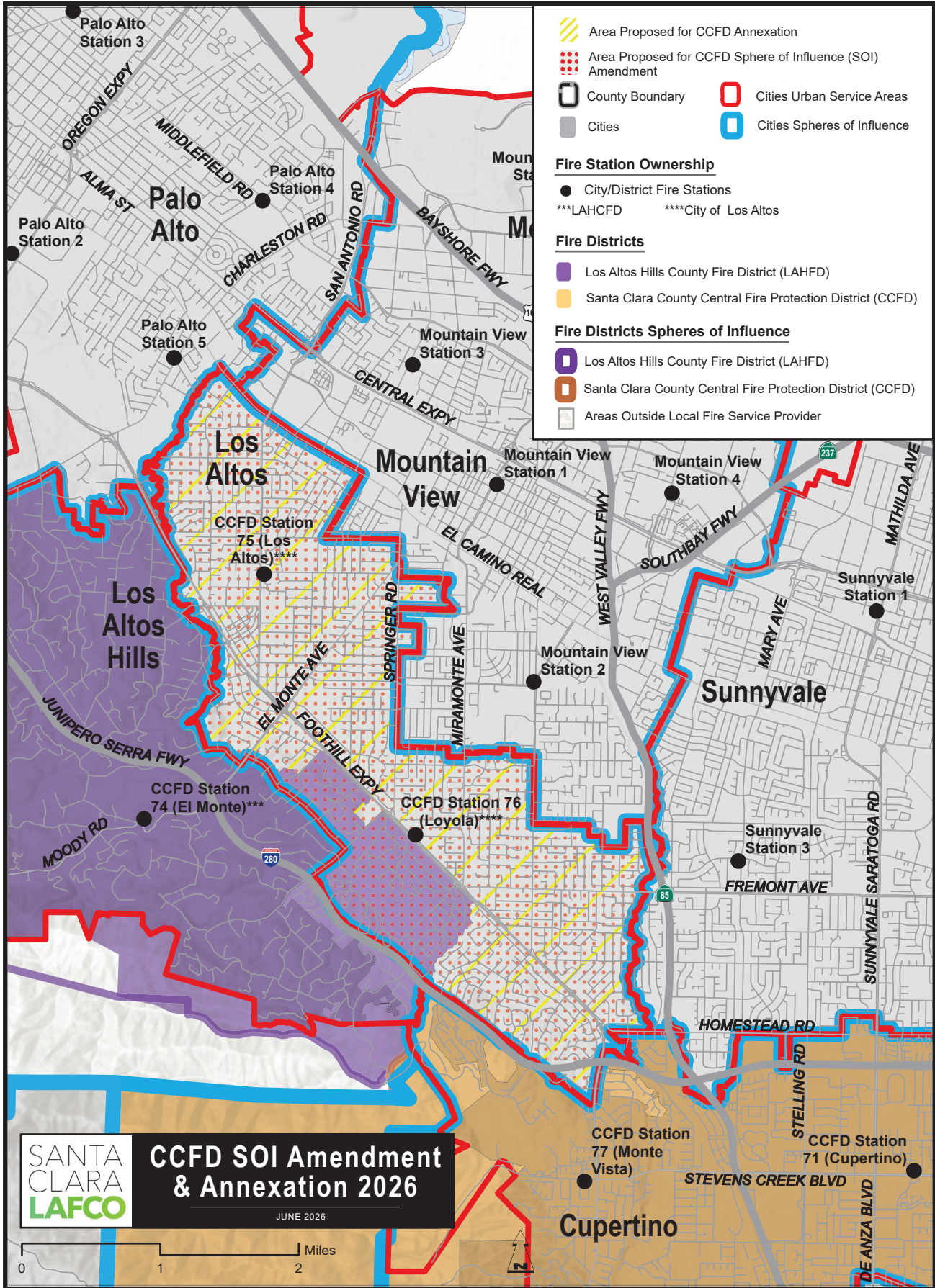


EXHIBIT B

Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District (CCFD) Sphere of Influence Determinations

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

1. Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands

CCFD provides fire and EMS service to the unincorporated areas in the Santa Cruz mountains, the cities of Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and a portion of Saratoga, as part of its inherent service area; and by contract to the cities of Campbell and Los Altos; and to the Los Altos Hills County Fire District and the Saratoga Fire Protection District. In 2025, CCFD's service boundary was expanded, as part of a reorganization, to include lands within the South Santa Clara County Fire Protection District (SCFD) and CCFD's Sphere Influence was expanded to include lands within SCFD's Sphere of Influence.

The expansive area encompasses a variety of land uses, but is predominantly single-family residential, with limited commercial and industrial development, agricultural lands, and open space lands in the hillside areas. Land uses in these areas are governed by the various Cities and the County and will not change as a result of this annexation.

Land within the City of Los Altos is primarily designated by the City's General Plan as residential, commercial, public/quasi-public, open space, and planned community. Although unincorporated land within the City of Los Altos' USA is under the County's jurisdiction, it is the County's policy to defer to the City's General Plan for allowable uses and densities for such land. These unincorporated lands are primarily designated in the City's General Plan as residential, public/quasi-public, open space, public school, and planned community. Land uses in the City are not expected to change as a result of this annexation.

The proposed expansion of CCFD's SOI to include the City of Los Altos and unincorporated lands within the City of Los Altos' USA/SOI will not facilitate new development or changes in land use and will have no impact on agricultural and open-space lands.

2. Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area

In 2022, there were over 19,000 incidents within CCFD's bounds and its contract areas, indicating a need for the services provided, in particular for rescue and medical responses which constituted 59% of calls. Calls for service within CCFD declined in 2020 and grew through 2022. This area was projected to have a cumulative growth rate of 13% between 2020 and 2035, or 0.8% annually and 13% between 2035 to 2050, indicating a likely analogous increase in demand for fire and emergency medical services.

Between January 1, 2018 and June 2022, there were total of 10,696 incidents within the City of Los Altos, also indicating a need for the services provided, in particular for rescue and medical responses which constituted 63% of the calls. Calls for service within the City averaged around 2,300 annually from 2018 to 2021, with 2022 call volume on track to be greater than 3,500, reflecting a rebounding in service calls since the COVID-19 pandemic time-period.

The California Department of Finance estimates the City of Los Altos' population at 30,864 as of January 1, 2025. The City's 2024 Development Impact Fee Nexus Study estimated the City's population would grow to 32,960 by 2040. This increase would represent a cumulative growth rate of 6.7% or 0.44% annually between 2025 to 2040, indicating a likely analogous increase in demand for fire and emergency medical services.

LAFCO's 2023 Countywide Service Review found that some growth is anticipated within CCFD's current territory and to a much lesser degree within City of Los Altos. This very modest amount of growth will slightly increase the demand for fire and emergency medical response services in these areas.

3. Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide

CCFD currently operates 19 fire stations throughout the district, with 339 safety and civilian personnel. CCFD is a large, well-funded, all risk fire district with a stable and growing revenue stream. CCFD provides an adequate level of services and has the capacity to serve existing demand within its service area, including contract agencies. The City of Los Altos currently contracts with CCFD for fire protection services.

Upon annexation, CCFD will continue to provide the current level of fire protection services in the areas it currently serves, including the City of Los Altos.

4. Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area

The cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, San José, Santa Clara, Saratoga, and Los Altos Hills, as well as unincorporated areas surrounding these cities and in the southern part of the county, affect CCFD's service provision and demand for services and are considered social and economic communities of interest.

Upon annexation, CCFD's social or communities of interest will continue to include Los Altos, as well as the other abovementioned areas.

5. Present and probable need for public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence

As part of LAFCO's Countywide Fire Service Review, adopted in October 2023, one disadvantaged unincorporated community (DUC) was identified within CCFD, outside of CCFD's SOI. This DUC is also located within and adjacent to the City of San José and its SOI—identified as San José #1. This DUC has an estimated population of 1,656, with a median household income of \$54,917. Fire services are provided to the DUC by San José FD through the Zone 1 contract with CCFD.

There were no DUCs identified in the City of Los Altos or within the City's SOI Boundary.

6. The nature, location, and extent of functions, and classes of services provided

CCFD provides a full range of services, including fire suppression, wildland fire suppression, statewide mobilization, EMS first response, specialized/technical rescue, HazMat response, fire inspection/code enforcement, plan reviews, public education/prevention, arson investigation, and fuels mitigation, within its service area.