



Agenda Item: 5.A.

Meeting: August 18, 2020

To: Trinity LAFCO Commissioners

From: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer & Kathy Bull, Administrator/Clerk

Subject: Weaverville Sanitary District MSR & SOI Update

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the CKH Act, LAFCOs are required to prepare municipal service reviews (MSRs) prior to or in conjunction with its mandate to review and update each local agency's sphere of influence (SOI) every five years or as needed. The legislative intent of the MSR is to inform the Commission as to the availability, capacity, and efficiency of local governmental services prior to making sphere of influence determinations. Municipal service reviews may also lead LAFCOs to take other actions under their authority, such as forming, consolidating, or dissolving one or more local agencies in addition to any related sphere changes.

DISCUSSION:

This MSR evaluates wastewater services provided by the Weaverville Sanitary District. This report incorporates technical information collected and analyzed by LAFCo staff to make the required MSR and SOI determinations. Staff worked closely with District General Manager Jim Cloud during the preparation of this report.

The District currently has an expanded SOI that is larger than the District boundary. As part of this MSR and SOI Update, a SOI reduction is proposed in several areas designated with open space or agricultural uses that otherwise do not require the extension of urban services. In addition, a SOI expansion is proposed for 11 parcels located along Highway 299 to the west of the District. These parcels are currently within the jurisdictional boundary but not currently served by the District. The proposed changes to the SOI would result in a net reduction of 568 acres for a total of 4,440 acres within the updated SOI.

Staff respectfully seeks Commission input with regards to content, conclusions, and recommendations provided in the Weaverville Sanitary District MSR. A public hearing notice was posted on the Commission's website and published in the *Trinity Journal*.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item has been agendized for consideration as part of a noticed public hearing. Staff recommends the Commission hold the public hearing, invite testimony, and approve the Weaverville Sanitary District MSR & SOI Update (Attachment 1). A draft resolution for the Commission's review and consideration is enclosed (Attachment 2).

Attachments:
Weaverville Sanitary District MSR & SOI Update
Resolution 2020-06



Weaverville Sanitary District

Municipal Service Review &
Sphere of Influence Update

Public Hearing Draft
August 18, 2020

Trinity
Local Agency Formation Commission

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update was prepared as part of a mandated review of the municipal services of all government entities in the county by the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). This report focuses on the Weaverville Sanitary District (SD). The purpose of this study is to assess existing and future public service conditions and to evaluate organizational options for accommodating growth and ensuring critical services are provided efficiently. This MSR presents a discussion, analysis, and recommendations regarding services provided by Weaverville SD.

1.1 Trinity LAFCo

Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) are quasi-legislative, independent local agencies that were established by State legislation in 1963 to oversee the logical and orderly formation and development of local government agencies including cities and special districts. There is one LAFCo for each county in California.

LAFCo is responsible for implementing the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (California Government Code Section 56000 et. seq.) in order to promote orderly growth, prevent urban sprawl, preserve agricultural and open space lands, and oversee efficient provision of municipal services.

LAFCo has the authority to establish and reorganize cities and special districts, change their boundaries and authorized services, allow the extension of public services, perform municipal service reviews, and establish spheres of influence. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating boundary changes through annexations or detachments and forming, consolidating, or dissolving local agencies.

Trinity LAFCo has a public Commission with seven regular Commissioners and three alternate Commissioners. The Commission is composed of three members of the Trinity County Board of Supervisors, two Special District Representatives, and two Public Members-At-Large. The Commission also includes one alternate member for each represented category.

1.2 Sanitary Districts and Principal Act Overview

Sanitary Districts are independent special districts governed under the Sanitary District Act of 1923 (California State Health and Safety Code § 6400 et al.). Sanitary Districts are authorized to provide services including collecting and treating wastewater, maintaining wastewater treatment plants, regulating wastewater treatment and disposal, and protecting water quality. Sanitary Districts are governed by an independent board of directors, all of whom are elected at large. Weaverville Sanitary District was formed in 1956 to provide wastewater services to the community of Weaverville.

1.3 Municipal Service Review Determinations

Government Code § 56430 requires LAFCo to conduct a review of municipal services provided in the county by region, sub-region or other designated geographic area, as appropriate, for the service or services to be reviewed, and prepare a written statement of determinations with respect to each of the following topics:

1. Growth and population projections for the affected area;
2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence;
3. Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies (including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged, unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence);
4. Financial ability of agencies to provide services;
5. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities;
6. Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies; and
7. Any other matter affecting or related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by Commission policy.

State Guidelines and Commission policies encourage stakeholder cooperation in the municipal service review process. It also provides a basis to evaluate, and make changes to Spheres of Influence, if appropriate.

1.4 Sphere of Influence Determinations

A Sphere of Influence (SOI) is a LAFCo-approved plan that designates an agency's probable physical boundary and service area. Spheres are planning tools used to provide guidance for individual boundary change proposals and are intended to encourage efficient provision of organized community services, discourage urban sprawl and premature conversion of agricultural and open space lands, and prevent overlapping jurisdictions and duplication of services.

LAFCo is required to establish SOIs for all local agencies and enact policies to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the SOIs. Furthermore, LAFCo must update those SOIs every five years or as needed. For a SOI update, LAFCo is required to conduct an MSR and adopt related determinations. It must also make the following SOI determinations:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands;
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area;
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide;

4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the Commission determines that they are relevant to the agency; and
5. The present and probable need for public facilities and services related to sewers, municipal or industrial water, or structural fire protection of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence (effective July 1, 2012).

1.5 Review Methods

The following information was considered in the development of this service review:

- Agency-specific data: responses to LAFCo Requests for Information
- Demographic data: U.S. Census Bureau; Department of Finance; CA Water Resources Board
- Finances: budgets, audits, rates and fees; and
- Other Reports: State Water Resources Control Board, Waste Discharge Requirements for Weaverville SD.

Information gathered was analyzed and applied to make the required determinations. All information gathered for this report is filed by LAFCo for future reference.

1.6 California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is contained in Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq. Public agencies are required to evaluate the potential environmental effects of their actions. MSRs are statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to § 15262 (feasibility or planning studies) and categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15306 (information collection). CEQA requirements are applicable to SOI Updates. The CEQA lead agency for SOI Updates is most often LAFCo, unless an agency has initiated an SOI expansion or update.

2. AGENCY OVERVIEW

Table 1: Weaverville SD Agency Profile	
Formation	
Agency Name	Weaverville Sanitary District
Formation	1956
Principal Act	State of California Health and Safety Code §6400 et seq.
Contact	
Main Contact	Jim Cloud, General Manager
E-mail	weavervillesd@yahoo.com
District Office Address	630 Mountain View St, Weaverville, CA 96093
Mailing Address	PO Box 1269, Weaverville, California 96093
Phone	(530) 623-4102
Website	www.weavervillesd.com
Governance	
Governing Body	Five-Member Board of Directors
Board Meetings	Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Staffing	3 Staff members
Services	
Services Provided	Sewer collection, treatment and disposal
Area Served	Unincorporated community of Weaverville

2.1 Formation

Weaverville Sanitary District (SD or District) was formed by the Trinity County Board of Supervisors in 1956 pursuant to the Sanitary District Act of 1923, after a majority vote was cast in a general election. The District was originally formed for the purpose of providing sanitary sewer services as specified under Health and Safety Code Section 6400 et seq.

2.2 Boundary and Sphere

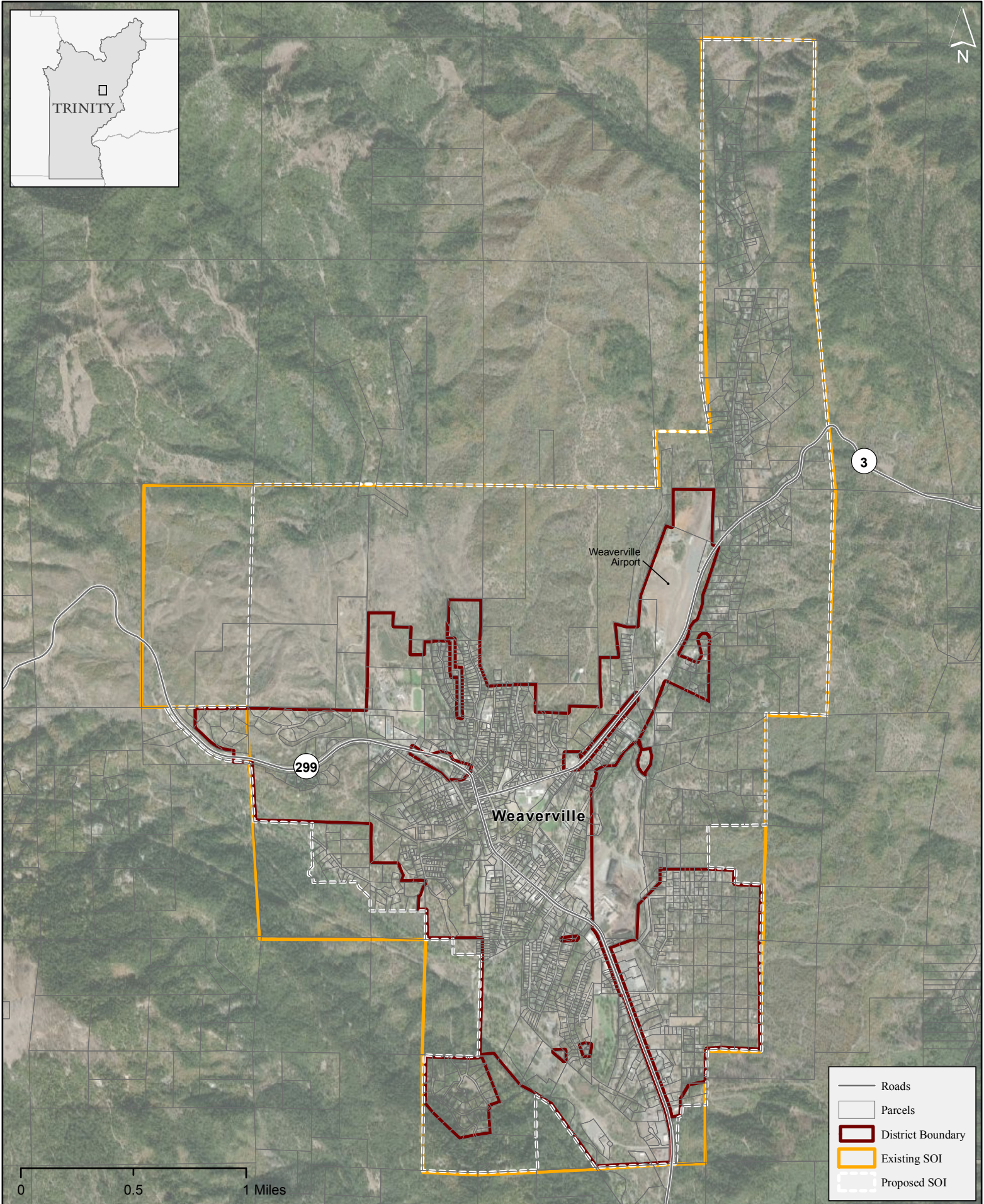
The District is located along Highway 299 in Trinity County, within the Trinity River Watershed, west of the City of Redding (Figure 1). The District Boundary is approximately 1,935 acres in size and includes most of the Weaverville town center area. There have been no changes to the District's boundary since 1994, when residential and commercial areas in the south end of Weaverville were brought into the District's service area.

There are several "donut holes" in the existing district boundary where historical variances were provided to parcels that remained on on-site septic systems. According to the District, most of these non-contiguous parcels have since connected to the District's wastewater system. Other than service provided to parcels within these non-contiguous areas, the District reports it does not

provide any out of agency (OAS) service connections beyond its district boundaries. As part of any future annexation, the District should consider including these areas to maintain a contiguous boundary.

The District currently has an expanded Sphere of Influence (SOI) that is larger than the District boundary. The current SOI is approximately 5,000 acres in size and includes the donut hole areas within the existing boundary, as well as outlying residential and resource areas that are still on septic systems, including the north end of town known as "East Weaver".

As part of this MSR and SOI Update, a SOI reduction is proposed in several areas designated with open space or agricultural uses that otherwise do not require the extension of urban services. In addition, a SOI expansion is proposed for 11 parcels located along Highway 299 to the west of the District. These parcels are currently within the jurisdictional boundary but not currently served by the District. In, total the proposed changes to the SOI would result in a net reduction of 568 acres for a total of 4,440 acres within the updated SOI.



Weaverville Sanitary District

Figure
1

Date: 8/6/2020

Sources: Boundaries, Roads, Parcels: Trinity County GIS.

3. GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

3.1 Governing Body

Weaverville SD is governed by a five-member Board of Directors, elected at large by District residents to serve four-year terms (Table 2). The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the District Office. Meeting dates and agendas are posted at least 72 hours prior to the meetings at the District Office and the most current agenda is available on the District's website.

Table 2: Weaverville SD Board of Directors		
Board Member	Title	Term Expiration
Lyle Hymas	Board Chair	December 2022
Jack Simmons	Vice Chair	December 2022
Bill Talkington	Director	December 2022
Kevin Hawkins	Director	December 2020
Henry Boorman	Director	December 2020

3.2 Management & Staffing

The District currently employs three full-time staff members, including a General Manager and two Operators. All agency decisions are overseen by the Board of Directors upon consideration of public input and discussion.

3.3 Public Outreach

The District maintains a website at www.weavervillesd.com which is a helpful communication tool to enhance government transparency and accountability. The website provides service-related information but does not currently include budget information or archived meeting agendas and minutes. SB 929 (McGuire) was signed into law on September 14, 2018 requiring all independent special districts to maintain a website by January 1, 2020, meeting all the special district transparency requirements of State law including the availability of agendas, policies, and financial information. Only hardship-based findings identified in a board resolution approved at a regular meeting would allow a district to be exempt from establishing or maintaining a website. The findings may include inadequate internet access, significantly limited financial resources, or insufficient staff resources. The resolution would be valid for one year and would need to be adopted annually so long as the hardship exists.

3.4 Accountability

The Weaverville SD has an adopted Policies and Procedures Manual that addresses administrative, financial, and general operating policies and procedures for the District. The Policies and Procedures Manual was completely updated in 1994, with sections updated since then as needed.

The Political Reform Act requires all state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to Government Code §81000 et seq. The Political Reform Act also requires persons who hold office to disclose their investments, interests in real property, and incomes by filing a Statement of Economic Interests (Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700) each year pursuant to Government Code §87203.

According to AB 1234, if a local agency provides compensation or reimbursement of expenses to local government officials, then all local officials are required to receive two hours of training on public service ethics laws and principles at least once every two years and establish a written policy on reimbursements pursuant to Government Code §53235. In addition, AB 1661 went into effect in 2016 and addresses local government sexual harassment prevention training and education.

The District complies with the above requirements. They currently hold insurance through Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA). The insurance certificate is held by the Trinity County Office of Transportation.

4. SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE

4.1 Historical Overview

The District's sewer system was originally constructed beginning in 1957, at which time an assessment district (1957-1) was formed to finance the sewage collection system. The District covered an area of 1.3 square miles with about 200 connections. The initial treatment plant and the trunk sewer lines were funded by a general obligation bond issue, together with federal grant funds. The bonds were repaid with an ad valorem tax on all properties within the District. Through the years numerous sewer main extensions have been added to the initial system. In 1972-74, a new treatment plant was constructed adjacent to the older plant in order to meet more stringent discharge standards. This plant was funded mainly by a Clean Water (Federal-State) Grant but was assisted by local financing through Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) revenue bonds. In 1994, residential and commercial areas in the south end of Weaverville were brought into the District. This was funded in part through a FmHA Grant and the remainder financed through USDA Rural Development Bonds. This bond obligation was repaid in 2012. As of this MSR update, the District holds no outstanding debt.

4.2 Services Provided

Weaverville SD is responsible for collection, conveyance, treatment, and disposal of the community's wastewater. The existing wastewater facilities are within the boundaries of the District. Existing facilities consist of collection and transmission lines including 50 miles of pipeline, one lift station, and a treatment plant located at 630 Mountain View Street, Weaverville, CA 96093. Most of the community of Weaverville is served by the Weaverville SD. Some of the outlying residential areas, mostly at the North end of town known as "East Weaver", are still on septic systems. The District provides approximately 1,300 existing wastewater service connections and 1,860 household equivalent connections, with adequate capacity to serve a total of 2,600 household equivalents or an additional 740 equivalent connections.

4.3 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

Weaverville SD owns and operates a wastewater treatment and disposal system comprised of a gravity collection system, comminution, activated sludge secondary treatment, clarification, aerobic sludge digestion, and chlorine disinfection. The WWTP is designed for a 500,000 gallon daily flow. Average daily demand is approximately 300,000 gallons per day. Treated wastewater is discharged to percolation ponds located adjacent to Weaver Creek, a tributary to the Trinity River.

4.4 Wastewater Discharge

Weaverville SD is currently discharging pursuant to Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2018-0004 and authorizes the discharge up to 0.5 mgd, average monthly flow, of treated wastewater from the WWTP. Treated wastewater is discharged to percolation ponds adjacent to

Weaver Creek. Following treatment, the District has one effluent monitoring location prior to discharge to the percolation beds. The monitoring parameters measured can be seen in Table 3.

Table 3: Weaverville SD Effluent Monitoring Requirements			
Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Flow (Mean Monthly)	MGD	Meter	Continuous
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	Mg/L	8-hour composite	Weekly
Total Suspended Solids	Mg/L	8-hour composite	Weekly
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Daily
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	Weekly

Source: Weaverville SD Waste Discharge Requirements 2018

4.5 Wastewater Rates

The District last updated its wastewater rates in 2017 in accordance with Prop 218 requirements. The rates included a gradual rate increase from 2017 through 2020 to accommodate increasing operating expenses, culminating in the current rates that can be accessed on the District's website. The current charge for wastewater services includes a \$28.00 flat rate for residential customers, and a \$28.00 minimum for commercial and industrial properties. Further rate details can be seen in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Weaverville SD Wastewater Service Rates	
Type of Use	Monthly charge
Residential	\$28.00 flat rate
Commercial	\$28.00 minimum plus \$2.32 per 100 cubic feet
Commercial Restaurants I	\$28.00 minimum plus \$2.88 per 100 cubic feet
Schools	\$1.40 X A.D.A. X Months in Session/12
Hotels/Motels	\$28.00 minimum plus \$16.80 minimum each additional unit
Industrial	\$28.00 per HE

Source: www.weavervillesd.com/monthly-sewer-rates/

4.6 Regulatory Requirements

- *Operation and Maintenance Manual*

The District maintains an updated Operation and Maintenance Manual (O&M Manual) for the operational components of the Facility. The District updates the O&M Manual, as necessary, to conform to changes in operation and maintenance of the WWTP and the O&M Manual is available to operating personnel onsite and for review by state inspectors.

- *Record Requirements*

The District maintains records of all monitoring information, including calibration and maintenance records and all strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports, and records of all data used to complete the application for the Waste Discharge Order, for a period of at least three years from the date of the data collection.

- *Operator Certification*

Supervisors and operators of wastewater treatment plants must possess a certificate of appropriate grade in accordance with Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 3680. The State Water Board may accept experience in lieu of qualification training. In lieu of a properly certified wastewater treatment plant operator, the State Water Board may approve use of a water treatment plant operator of appropriate grade certified by the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water where water reclamation is involved.

- *Inspections*

The District must permit authorized staff of the Regional Water Board: 1. Entrance to the premises in which treatment, collection or management of waste occurs, where an effluent source is located or in which records required by the Waste Discharge Order are kept; 2. Access to inspect and copy any monitoring equipment or records; and 3. Access to sample any discharge or monitoring location associated with the Facility.

4.7 Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies

The Weaverville SD is constantly repairing or replacing infrastructure and equipment on an as needed basis. The District currently places 10% of its annual budget into reserves to prepare for an ageing Treatment Plant and Collection System.

- *Treatment Plant*

As mentioned previously, the District's WWTP is designed to treat 500,000 gallons per day with an average daily demand of 300,000 gallons per day. The Weaverville SD has seen minimal growth within the past ten years and sees no major developments that would require expansion of the treatment plant at this time. The facilities are currently adequate to maintain the existing wastewater treatment plant and are kept in good working order. All pumps and piping are repaired or replaced on an as needed basis. The District currently has the funds available to keep up with this need. The District feels the storage of equipment and supplies could be improved and needs to be looked at within the next five years as funds and time are available.

- *Collection System*

The collection system has many areas that are over fifty years old. The District maintains the system through regularly scheduled jetting and cleaning. The District has a camera system to inspect problem areas for repair or replacement. The District currently has funds available to repair or replace small sections of problem areas within the collection system as needed.

- *Mobile Equipment*

The District recently purchased a jetter (sewer cleaner) in 2020 to replace the original jetter built in 1956. In 2010, the District purchased a dump truck trailer to aid in replacing aging equipment.

4.8 Other Service Providers

Trinity County provides general governmental services including social services, emergency services, planning, county roads, parks and other services to all areas within the county. Law enforcement is provided by the Trinity County Sheriff's Office. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is responsible for the condition of Highway 299 that bisects the Weaverville SD.

- *Water Services*

Potable water service is provided by the Weaverville Community Services District. Weaverville CSD provides water storage, treatment, and distribution for 3,554 customers in Weaverville, Douglas City, and adjacent rural residential areas.

- *Fire Protection*

Fire protection is provided by the Weaverville Fire Protection District, which supports and administers the services provided by the Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department. The Weaverville fire station is located at 125 Bremer Street. Weaverville FPD has mutual aid agreements with the Shasta-Trinity CAL FIRE units and the Six Rivers and Shasta-Trinity National Forest service units as necessary. Weaverville FPD is also very active in the community and responds to an average of 500 calls per year.

4.9 Governance Structure Options

Weaverville SD provides wastewater services and Weaverville CSD provides water services to the Weaverville area. Government restructure options should be considered if there are potential benefits in terms of reduced costs, greater efficiency, greater accountability, or other advantages to the public. There is no recommendation for a reorganization of local municipal service providers in the area at this time.

5. FINANCING

5.1 Revenue and Expenses

Weaverville SD's primary revenue sources include wastewater service fees, limited property taxes, and interest income. The District's expenses are primarily payroll related, wastewater treatment plant expenses and field expenses. For the 2019-20 fiscal year, the District's revenues are budgeted to exceed its expenditures by \$172,650 (see Table 5). The District sets aside funding annually into reserves that is used for large purchases and infrastructure projects.

Table 5: Weaverville SD Budget Summary			
	FY 2017-18 Approved	FY 2018-19 Adopted	FY 2019-20 Adopted
Revenues			
Service Charges	\$507,000	\$542,000	\$583,000
Lab Revenue	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
County Taxes	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Misc.	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$6,000
Interest Income	\$8,000	\$8,600	\$11,000
Total Revenue	\$533,000	\$568,600	\$614,000
Expenses			
Payroll Related Expenses	\$319,300	\$329,400	\$339,350
Plant Expenses	\$85,000	\$86,000	\$90,000
Field Expenses	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Total Expenses	\$416,300	\$427,400	\$441,350
Net Income/(Loss)	\$116,700	\$141,200	\$172,650

5.2 Audit Information

The District conducts annual audits and the available audit information indicates that the financial health of the District is strong. Audit results are often not available for as much as six months after the end of the fiscal year due to the time it takes for the county to close its books and provide final results. The county acts as the bank repository for District funds and thus must close its books in order to complete the District audit. As of this writing, the FY 2018-19 audit is under review by the Board and a copy was obtained for this MSR update.

Table 6: Weaverville SD FY 2018-19 Audit Information		
	2018	2019
Assets	\$1,522,256	\$1,632,980
Liabilities	\$29,979	\$27,027
Net Position	\$1,492,277	\$1,605,953

Source: Michael A. Celentano, CPA

5.3 Bonds and Debt Financing

As mentioned previously, the Weaverville SD has used various bonds and debt financing to fund system improvements throughout the years. This included a general obligation bond used to fund the initial treatment plant; Clean Water Act grant funds together with Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) revenue bonds to construct the District's current treatment plant which was completed in 1974; and use of a FmHA Grant and USDA Rural Development Bonds to serve the southern portion of Weaverville that was brought into the District in 1994 and repaid in 2012. The District has no outstanding debt.

5.4 Financing Constraints and Opportunities

The majority of Weaverville SD revenues are generated from service fees. The cost of monthly sewer service is a flat rate of \$28.00 for residential and a consumptive rate for commercial and industrial. The District receives a very small percentage of ad valorem property tax revenue. Weaverville SD Management and Directors have always been fiscally conservative and responsible. The District runs on minimal staffing with an emphasis on maintenance to make sure the constant operations of the treatment plant and collection system are in good working order.

6. GROWTH AND POPULATION

6.1 Land Use

The Trinity County General Plan (2003) and Zoning Code guides land use decisions within Trinity County including the community of Weaverville. The area served by the Weaverville SD is largely low density residential with more concentrated residential and commercial areas located in downtown Weaverville. The District also contains areas of light industrial and commercial areas, generally along the Highway 299 corridor (see Figure 2).

6.2 Existing Population and Projected Growth

According to the US Census, the total population in Trinity County was 13,786 in 2010 and 13,037 in the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-year Estimate. The Department of Finance (DOF, 2019) reports a 0.3% increase in the unincorporated population of Trinity County between 2018 and 2019, for a total County population of 13,688 estimated in 2019.

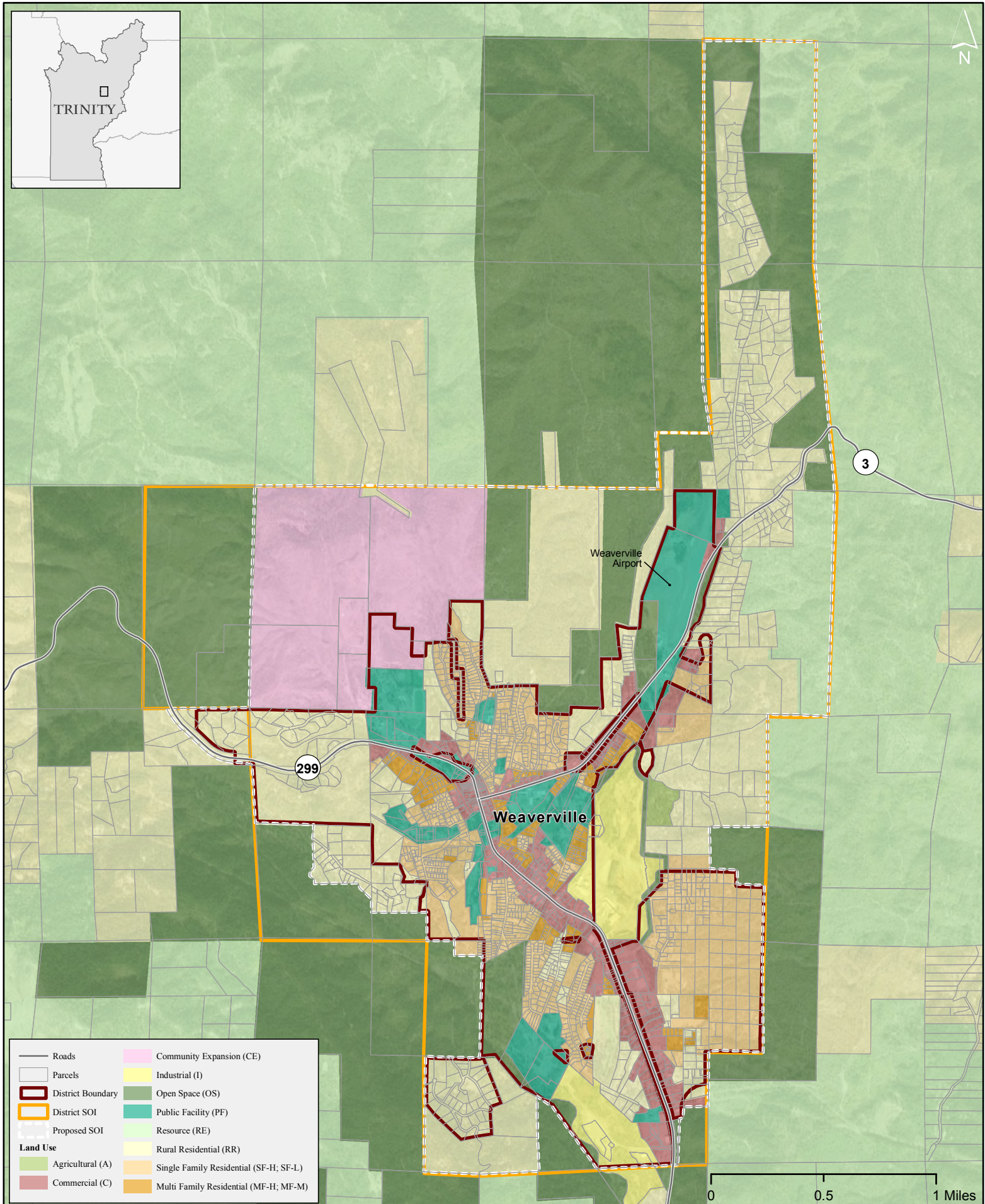
Weaverville SD estimates a District population of approximately 3,600¹. The District will likely continue to grow at or less than the current countywide growth rate of 0.3% per year, putting the District population at approximately 3,708 in 2030. Opportunities for growth exist, but new sewer installation costs and physical constraints are growth barriers.

6.3 Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

LAFCo is required to evaluate water service, sewer service, and structural fire protection within disadvantaged unincorporated communities as part of this service review, including the location and characteristics of any such communities. A disadvantaged unincorporated community (DUC) is defined as any area with 12 or more registered voters where the annual median household income is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income (pursuant to Government Code Section 56033.5). Within a DUC, three basic services are evaluated: water, sewage, and fire protection. Weaverville SD provides wastewater services only and is therefore responsible for assuring that this service is adequately provided to the community. Water services are provided by Weaverville CSD and fire protection services are provided by Weaverville FPD.

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the median household income (MHI) is \$42,209 for the Weaverville CDP and \$43,295 for the Douglas City CDP. Weaverville has an MHI which is 59.3% of the state average MHI of \$71,228 and Douglas City has an MHI which is 61% of the state average, thereby qualifying both areas as disadvantaged. Within these areas, wastewater services are provided to most areas within Weaverville, whereas water services extend north to include East Weaver Creek Road and south to Douglas City. Should territory in the surrounding area be proposed for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities that lack municipal services should be considered.

¹ Personal communication with GM Jim Cloud



Weaverville Sanitary District Land Use Designations

Figure
2

Date: 7/14/2020

7. MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

This section addresses the requirements of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (California Government Code Section 56430). As part of the municipal service review process, LAFCo makes the following written determinations.

1) Growth and population projections

Weaverville SD was formed to provide wastewater collection and treatment services to the community of Weaverville. Population growth for the service area is expected to be limited. Weaverville SD currently serves 1,860 household equivalent connections and has adequate treatment capacity to serve a total of 2,600 household equivalents, or an additional 740 equivalent connections.

2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

The communities of Weaverville, Douglas City, and outlying areas (including East Weaver) qualify as a DUC. Wastewater services are provided to most areas within the Weaverville town center by Weaverville SD, whereas water services are provided to Weaverville and Douglas City by Weaverville CSD, and fire protection services by Weaverville FPD. Should territory in the surrounding area be proposed for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area should be considered.

3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies

The District currently serves about 1,860 household equivalents, with an average daily demand of 300,000 gallons per day. The WWTP is designed to treat up to 500,000 gallons per day. The Weaverville SD has seen minimal growth within the past ten years and sees no major developments that would require expansion of the treatment plant at this time.

4) Financial ability of agencies to provide services

Weaverville SD has adequate financial resources to provide services. For the 2019-20 fiscal year, the District's revenues exceeded its expenditures by \$172,650. District revenues are mostly generated from rates and service charges. The cost of monthly sewer service is a flat rate of \$28.00 for residential and a consumptive rate for commercial. The District also receives a very small amount of property tax revenues.

5) Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities

Weaverville SD is located in a rural region where physical separation from other communities limits the area where extension of wastewater services is practical. Due to limitations in distance and terrain, no opportunities for shared facilities have been identified.

6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

Weaverville SD is governed by a five-member Board of Directors. The District Board holds regularly scheduled public meetings pursuant to the Brown Act, where public participation is encouraged. These meetings are held at the Weaverville SD Treatment Plant. Meeting agendas are posted at the District billing office and treatment plant, while meeting minutes are available at the District billing office. Any special meetings called are widely publicized and are open to the public. At each monthly public meeting, District expenditures are reviewed. All agenda items have the opportunity for public discussion and comment.

The District's accounting practices are audited annually by a Certified Public Accountant. Weaverville SD has a website but needs to include current financial information and other information to comply with new Special District website regulations (SB 929). The District demonstrated accountability and transparency by disclosing financial and service-related information in response to LAFCo requests.

7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy

There are several “donut holes” in the existing district boundary where historical variances were provided to parcels that remained on on-site septic systems. According to the District, most of these non-contiguous parcels have since connected to the District’s wastewater system. Other than service provided to parcels within these non-contiguous areas, the District reports it does not provide any out of agency (OAS) service connections beyond its district boundaries. As part of any future annexation, the District should consider including these areas to maintain a contiguous boundary.

8. SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

The District's current SOI is approximately 5,000 acres in size and includes several "donut hole" areas within the existing District boundary, as well as outlying residential and resource areas that are still on septic systems, including the north end of town known as East Weaver. As part of this MSR and SOI Update, a SOI reduction is proposed in several areas designated with open space or agricultural uses that otherwise do not require the extension of urban services. In addition, a SOI expansion is proposed for 11 parcels located along Highway 299 to the west of the District. These parcels are currently within the jurisdictional boundary but not currently served by the District. In total the proposed changes to the SOI would result in a net reduction of 568 acres for a total of 4,440 acres within the updated SOI. The following written determinations are required to inform the proposed SOI changes:

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

The area serviced by the Weaverville SD primarily includes low density residential and commercial areas. Opportunities for growth exist, but the costs and physical constraints such as flood plains and steep terrain are barriers to growth and the extension of services.

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

Most of the community of Weaverville is served by the Weaverville SD. Some of the outlying residential areas, mostly at the North end of town known as "East Weaver", are still on septic systems. It is anticipated that the District will experience very limited growth until constraints related to infrastructure needs are sufficiently addressed.

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

The District provides approximately 1,300 existing wastewater service connections and 1,860 household equivalent connections, with adequate capacity to serve a total of 2,600 household equivalents or an additional 740 equivalent connections. The current capacity of public facilities provided by the District appear to be adequate to serve current and future demand.

4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

Weaverville SD includes the community of Weaverville, which provides a major shopping and service industry hub for residents in Trinity County. Most of the community of Weaverville is served by the Weaverville SD. Some of the outlying residential areas, mostly at the North end of town known as "East Weaver", are still on septic systems. Beyond the sphere, the community of Douglas City is located approximately 6 miles south of Weaverville along Highway 299.

- 5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere.

The communities of Weaverville, Douglas City, and outlying areas (including East Weaver) qualify as a DUC. Wastewater services are provided to most areas within the Weaverville town center by Weaverville SD, whereas water services are provided to Weaverville and Douglas City by Weaverville CSD, and fire protection services by Weaverville FPD. Should territory in the surrounding area be proposed for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area should be considered.

9. REFERENCES

Order No. R1-2018-0004 Waste Discharge Requirements for Weaverville Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Facility, 2018.

Personal Communication Jim Cloud, District General Manager, 2020.

Weaverville Sanitary District Municipal Services Review, Weaverville Sanitary District Staff, 2015.



RESOLUTION NO. 2020-06

APPROVING THE WEAVERVILLE SANITARY DISTRICT MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, is authorized to conduct municipal service reviews and establish, amend, and update spheres of influence for local governmental agencies whose jurisdictions are within Trinity County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a municipal service review to evaluate the availability and performance of services provided by the Weaverville Sanitary District, hereinafter referred to as the “District”, pursuant to California Government Code Section 56430; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a sphere of influence review for the District pursuant to California Government Code Section 56425; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer gave sufficient notice of a public hearing to be conducted by the Commission in the form and manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer’s report and recommendations on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update were presented to the Commission in the form and manner prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the evidence presented at a public hearing held on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update on August 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered all the factors required under California Government Code Section 56430 and 56425.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission as follows:

1. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the municipal service review is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15306. This finding is based on the use of the municipal service review as a data collection and service evaluation study. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.

2. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the sphere of influence update is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15061(b)(3). This finding is based on the Commission determining with certainty the update will have no possibility of significantly affecting the environment given no new land use or municipal service authority is granted.
3. This municipal service review and sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short-term designation: "Weaverville Sanitary District MSR/SOI Update 2020".
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56430(a), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the municipal service review, hereby incorporated by reference.
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(e), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the sphere of influence update, hereby incorporated by reference.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commission that:

The Weaverville Sanitary District MSR/SOI Update 2020 is hereby approved, and the sphere of influence for the District is hereby reduced in several areas designated with open space or agricultural uses that otherwise do not require the extension of urban services, and expanded to include 11 parcels currently within the jurisdictional boundary but not currently served by the District, as depicted in Exhibit "A", attached hereto.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission on the 18th day of August 2020, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Commissioners;
NOES: Commissioners;
ABSENT: Commissioners;
ABSTAIN: Commissioners;

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kathy Bull
Administrator/Clerk

Judy Morris
Chair