



# Marin Local Agency Formation Commission

Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

**AGENDA REPORT**  
October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Supplemental to Item No. 5

**TO:** Local Agency Formation Commission

**FROM:** Jason Fried, Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Supplemental to Item 5 - Approval of the San Rafael Area Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update

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## Background

This supplemental memorandum provides the Commission with correspondence received from the Marinwood Community Services District (Marinwood CSD) regarding the San Rafael Area Municipal Service Review (MSR) scheduled for consideration on today's agenda. Marinwood CSD submitted a letter dated October 8, 2025, offering comments on the draft MSR.

The correspondence has been included as an attachment to this memo for the Commission's review and consideration as part of the public record for this item.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission receive and file the attached correspondence and consider the comments therein as part of its deliberation on the MSR.

## Attachment:

1. Correspondence from Marinwood CSD

October 8, 2025

Marin LAFCo  
1401 Los Gamos Dr, Suite 220  
San Rafael, CA 94903



775 Miller Creek Road  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
T: (415) 479-7751  
F: (415) 479-7759  
[www.marinwood.org](http://www.marinwood.org)

**Re: 2025 MSR - Commissioner Comments**

Dear LAFCo Commissioners and Executive Officer Fried:

I read with interest the final proposed San Rafael Area Municipal Service Review (MSR) and associated staff report included in the commission meeting agenda packet for October 9, 2025.

On behalf of Marinwood Community Services District, I would like to acknowledge LAFCo staff for the thoughtful and thorough manner by which this report was compiled and completed. The original draft as written by staff and shared with the District presented an accurate portrayal Marinwood CSD.

However, Commission Chair Coler's suggested edits specifically regarding a potential new development located at 1501 Lucas Valley Road and its potential annexation into Marinwood CSD were found to be both confusing and concerning. According to the final draft MSR's "Comments Received and Responses" supplement, Commission Chair Coler requested the following "tweak" to the existing language:

"Marin LAFCo has determined that, while both MCSD and the City of San Rafael each have the capacity to service this new development based upon current total annual calls for service data, the addition of this development to MCSD's jurisdiction would add further strain to precarious staffing issues."

Admittedly, while Marinwood CSD does currently have staff vacancies, primarily in the position of firefighter-paramedic within our fire department, the District does not believe placing this proposed development within Marinwood's jurisdiction "would add further strain" to our staffing concerns nor does the District believe there is a correlation between the two. In fact, not placing the development within Marinwood's jurisdiction would potentially have a negative impact on current staffing concerns.

The reality is that regardless of whose jurisdiction this new development falls under, Marinwood Fire Department will indeed be the agency responsible for first response calls to this location if for no other reason than the Marinwood Fire Station is the closest station by a significant margin. The following illustrates approximate distance traveled from nearby fire stations to the planned development area:

- Marinwood Station 58: 1.4 miles
- San Rafael Station 56: 3.6 miles
- San Rafael Station 57: 4.3 miles

In fact, the quickest routes from either Station 56 or Station 57 would cause the responding engine company to drive right past Marinwood Station 58 on their way

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to emergency calls as well as right through San Rafael neighborhoods for which the City of San Rafael currently has an agreement with Marinwood CSD to provide first response to as well.

Further concerning, as it is clear that Marinwood CSD would be the designated agency for first response regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, not annexing this development into Marinwood's jurisdiction would deprive the District of critical revenue resources via existing special assessments for fire protection. Essentially causing Marinwood to provide first response services with no correlating revenue resources.

This also does not consider the impact said development would have on the additional use of Marinwood CSD's parks, open space, community pool, and recreation programming. Similar to our special assessment for fire protection, the District would absorb these impacts without the revenue resources that would be received through the District's special assessment for parks and open space maintenance.

Given the above, Marinwood Community Services District objects to the suggested modification as made by Commission Chair Coler and respectfully requests the Commission strike this language and revert to the original language as stated in the draft MSR:

"Marin LAFCo has determined that each of them have the capacity to service this new development."

Regarding Marinwood's staffing situation, specifically current challenges in recruiting and retaining firefighter-paramedics, this is a complex topic and certainly not unique to our agency. Recruitment of firefighter-paramedics is a challenge for virtually all ALS fire departments across the County and State.

Should Commission Chair Coler or any other Commissioner so desire, we would welcome the opportunity to engage in thoughtful discussion on this matter as it relates specifically to the Marinwood Fire Department.

In the meantime, thank you for your consideration of this request to revert to the language as contained in the original draft MSR presented to the Commission during your meeting conducted on August 14, 2025.

Respectfully,



Eric Dreikosen  
District Manager  
Marinwood CSD

Cc: Christopher Case, Marinwood CSD Board President