

**Notice of Exemption**

050-26

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121  
Sacramento CA 95814

From: (Public Agency)  
Santa Cruz Local Agency Formation Commission  
701 Ocean Street, Room 318-D  
Santa Cruz CA 95060

To:  Clerk of the Board  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean Street, Room 500  
Santa Cruz CA 95060

**Project Title:** Countywide Fire Protection Service and Sphere Review

**Project Location:** The 12 local agencies that provide fire protection services in Santa Cruz County are Aromas Tri-County Fire Protection District (FPD), Ben Lomond FPD, Boulder Creek FPD, Central Fire District, Cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville, County Service Areas 4 and 48, Felton FPD, Pajaro Valley FPD, Scotts Valley FPD, and Zayante FPD. A vicinity map depicting the jurisdictional boundaries for each district is attached (refer to **Attachment A**).

**Project Location City:** N/A **Project Location County:** Santa Cruz County

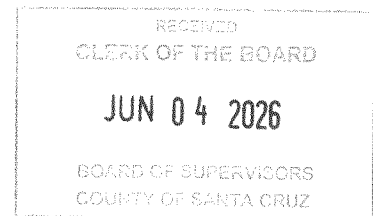
**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The report is for use by the Local Agency Formation Commission in conducting a statutorily required review and update process. The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act requires that the Commission conduct periodic reviews and updates of spheres of influence of all cities and districts in Santa Cruz County (Government Code section 56425). It also requires LAFCO to conduct a review of municipal services before adopting sphere updates (Government Code section 56430). Santa Cruz LAFCO has prepared a municipal service review, and sphere of influence update for the 12 local agencies. The purpose of the report is to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of public services by the agencies, in accordance with the statutory requirements outlined in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Cruz County. The LAFCO public hearing on this proposal is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on June 3, 2026.

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Santa Cruz Local Agency Formation Commission

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269 (b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption: State type and section number
- Statutory Exemptions: State code number
- Other: The activity is not a project subject to CEQA.



**Reason Why Project is Exempt:** The LAFCO action does not change the services or the planned service area of the City. There is no possibility that the activity may have a significant impact on the environment--State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Joe A. Serrano

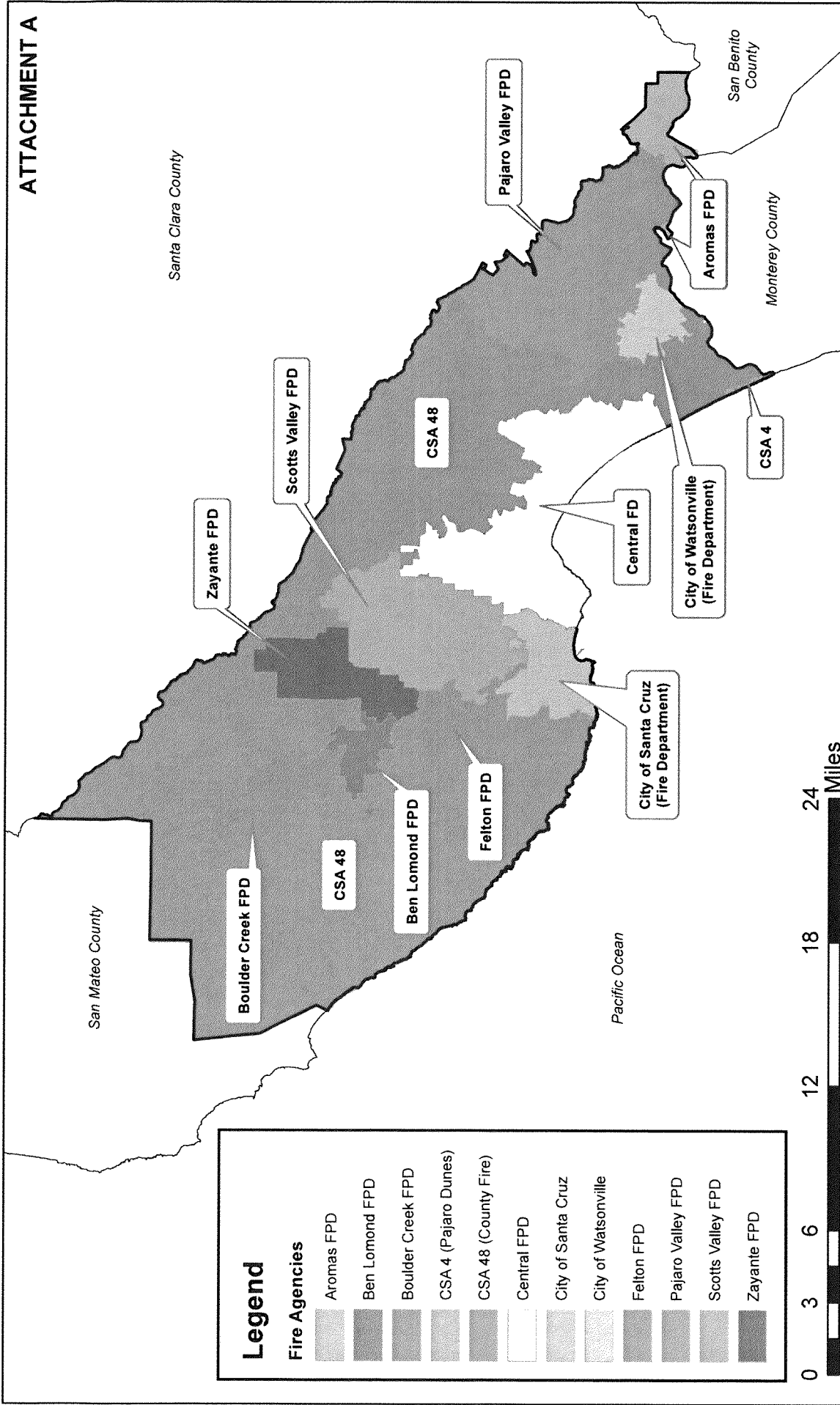
**Area Code/Phone Extension:** 831-454-2055.

**Signature:**   
Joe A. Serrano, Executive Officer

**Date:** June 4, 2026

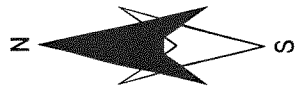
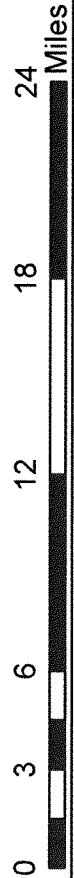
THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A  
PERIOD COMMENCING 6/5/2026  
AND ENDING 7/10/2026

Signed by Lead Agency



**Legend**

Fire Agencies	Color/Pattern
Aromas FPD	Light gray
Ben Lomond FPD	Medium-light gray
Boulder Creek FPD	Medium gray
CSA 4 (Pajaro Dunes)	Medium-dark gray
CSA 48 (County Fire)	Dark gray
Central FPD	White
City of Santa Cruz	Light gray
City of Watsonville	Medium-light gray
Felton FPD	Medium gray
Pajaro Valley FPD	Medium-dark gray
Scotts Valley FPD	Dark gray
Zayante FPD	Very dark gray



# Countywide Service and Sphere Review for Fire Protection Services (12 Fire Agencies)

