



FIRE

PUBLIC HEARING

Ukiah Valley Fire District

STUDY

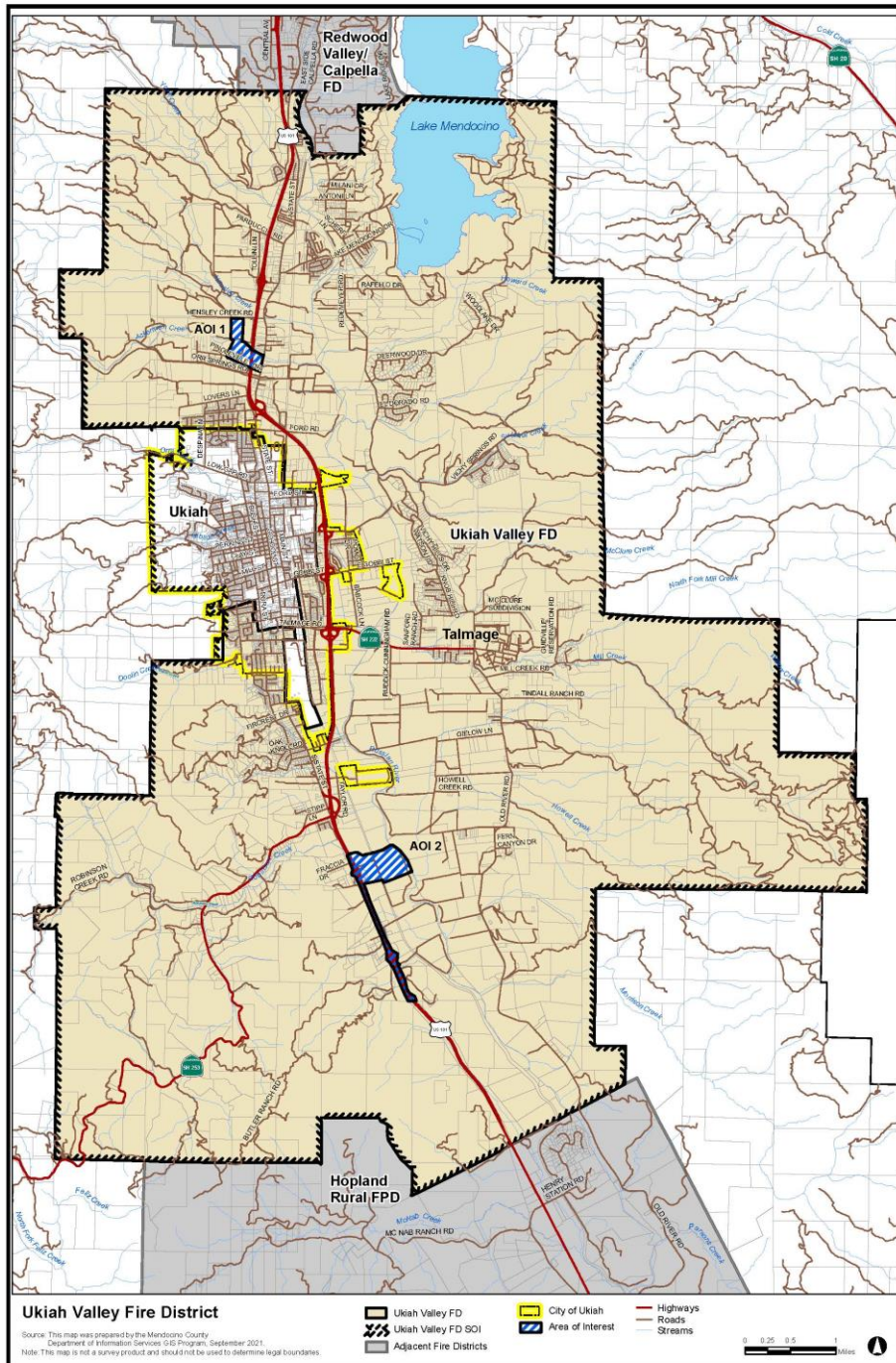
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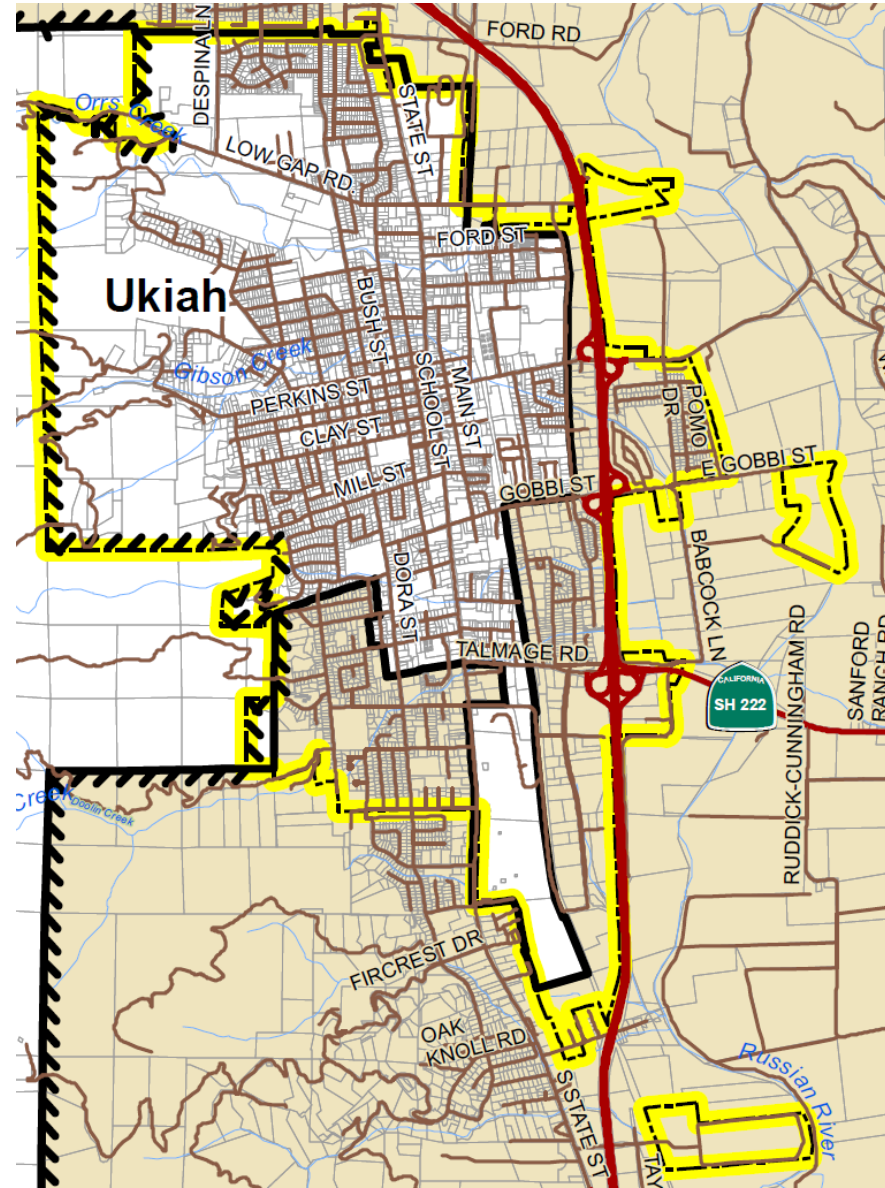
A-2021-02

- **Ukiah Valley Fire District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**
- **UVFD Proposal to Annex Ukiah City Limits for fire services and SOI Amendment to add the proposed annexation area to the UVFD SOI**

# DISTRICT BOUNDARY

- Includes the greater Ukiah Valley area
- Approximately 80 square miles
- City of Ukiah (west)
- Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District (north)
- Hopland Fire Protection District (south)
- Primarily SRA with small areas of FRA







# BACKGROUND

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- Ukiah Valley Fire District formed in 1947
- Fire Protection District Law (HSC §13800)
- Single-Service Provider
- Provides all-risk fire and emergency services
- Mutual Aid with CoU, RVCFD, HFPD, LLFPD, PVCSD, and CAL FIRE



# UKIAH VALLEY FIRE AUTHORITY

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# FIRE AUTHORITY BACKGROUND

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- 2017 Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between District and City
- “Agreement for Shared Management of Fire Departments”
- Terms for jointly managing, equipping, maintaining, and operating all-risk fire, medical, and emergency services in the District and City boundaries
- Formed to maximize the use of existing resources, create cost containment opportunities, reduce duplication, maintain local control, and continue to deliver high quality services

# FIRE AUTHORITY BACKGROUND

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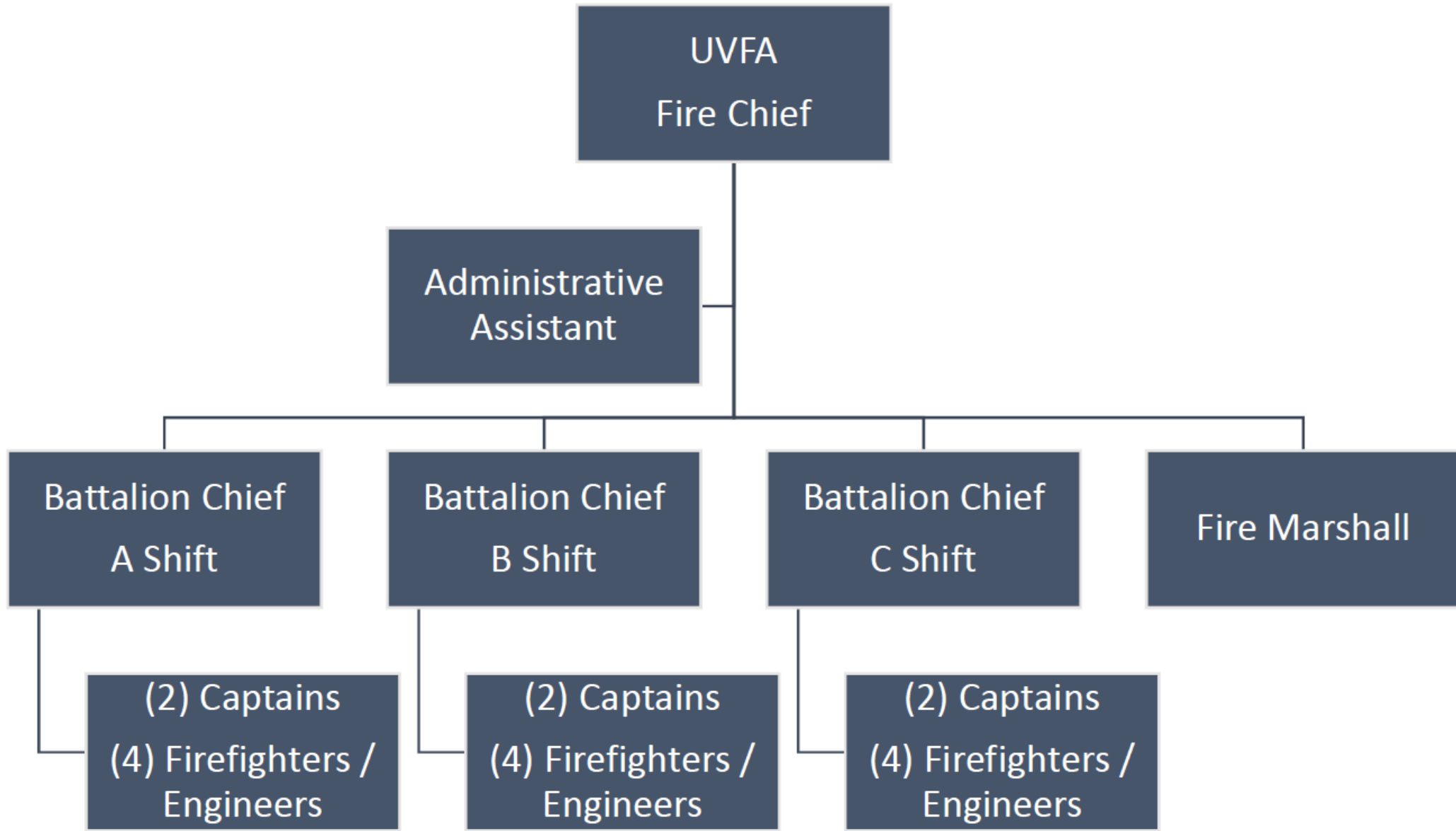
- JPA did not create a separate legal entity
- Each agency provides direction to a shared Fire Chief on services and desired special projects
- Fire Executive Committee collaborates on direction from respective agencies to avoid conflicting guidance and priorities
- District and City adopt an annual combined operations budget
- General operating costs of the Fire Authority are split between the agencies at a 50/50 share of cost



# 2020 AMENDED AGREEMENT

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- 2020 Amended JPA effective upon District annexation of City
- Provides a different method for apportioning costs
- Establishes higher conditions for termination to promote longevity
- Requires that both parties must agree to terminate the agreement which will not affect the continued provision of services
- Many provisions of Amended JPA are relevant to consideration of the proposed SOI amendment and annexation



# FIRE AUTHORITY STAFFING

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- Currently staffed by 19 paid firefighters, one Administrative Secretary, and 15 volunteer firefighters
- Operate from 4 fire stations, 2 staffed with career personnel
- Volunteer firefighters primarily at City Central Fire Station
- Minimum daily on-duty staffing level is 5 full-time firefighters consisting of 2 two-person crews and a Battalion Chief
- Projected staffing increase of 10 employees (4 Firefighters and 6 Ambulance Operators)



# Vegetation Fires

# FIRE AUTHORITY OPERATIONS

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- Respond to over 3,700 calls per year, 1,200 District & 2,500 City
- Majority of service calls are emergency medical response (70%)
- Average response times in 6 zones: District NW- 7:50, District NE- 8:41, District SW- 8:58, District SE- 10:39, City North- 5:48, and City South- 5:52. (District 8-10 min. & City 5-6 min.)
- District ISO rating of 4/4X and City ISO rating of 3
- Combined 5-Year CIP in Budget and Fleet Replacement Plan



# Structure Fires

# DISTRICT FINANCES

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- District generally operates at a net loss under the 50/50 share of cost and relies on reserves and City contributions
- Repayment of City interagency loans in FY 2023-24 (0% interest)
- Proposed annexation involves extending District parcel taxes
- Annexation projected revenue increase estimated at \$850,000 to \$1 million annually, with an annual net gain of approximately \$500,000 to rebuild reserves



# Medical and Vehicle Collisions

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# MSR/SOI DETERMINATIONS

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- District provides critical fire and emergency services
- District has adequate personnel, facilities, and equipment to meet current and future demands for public services through the Fire Authority
- Under the Fire Authority, there is no redundancy in services provided in the District and City service areas
- Functional consolidation of District/City fire services has resulted in better staffing and performance levels for the Ukiah Valley area



# Strike Team Assignments

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# PROPOSED ANNEXATION A-2021-02

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- District proposed annexation of the Ukiah City Limits for fire services and related SOI Amendment, with City support
- Annexation is intended to equalize the tax structure and government representation model for District and City areas
- In short-term, maintain existing level of service provided by the same shared personnel using the same shared facilities and equipment under the same JPA service delivery model
- Ensure long-term provision of critical services and lead to an improved level of service



# PUBLIC COMMENTS

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- LAFCo met with a concern citizen after the MSR/SOI Workshop
- A summary of verbal comments has been prepared (Page 28)
- Comments addressed in MSR/SOI where appropriate
- District/City provided responses to key comments (Page 28-29)
- Additional written public comments specific to annexation proposal received from Medstar and Mr. Farr
- Comments provided to Commission and posted on website

# CORRECTIONS

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- Updated Condition: The City of Ukiah maintains all of its rights and obligations under HSC §1797.201 for administering Emergency Medical Services (EMS) upon Ukiah Valley Fire District annexation of the City Limits of the City of Ukiah. (Page 156)
- Expand Factors for Consideration (Page 34) & add reference (Page 155)
- Remove indemnification language from resolution (Page 156)
- Resolution Addition: The affected territory is inhabited (contains more than twelve registered voters) pursuant to GOV §56046 and property owners within the affected territory have not consented in writing to the proposal. Conducting Authority proceedings, with a minimum 21-day public notice, will be scheduled pursuant to GOV §57000 et seq. (Page 156)

# RECOMMENDATION

- **1)** Find the Ukiah Valley Fire District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update and UVFD Fire Services Annexation and Fire District Sphere Amendment (File No. A-2021-02) exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code §21065 and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations §15306, §15378(a), §15061(b)(3), 15261, 15301, and 15320 and approve the Notice of Exemption for filing; and
- **2)** Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2021-22-02, approving the Ukiah Valley Fire District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update and amending the existing coterminous Ukiah Valley Fire District Sphere of Influence to add the entire City Limits of the City of Ukiah and designate as Areas of Interest the proposed Western Hills annexation area and two unincorporated island areas within the District boundary; and
- **3)** Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2021-22-03, conditionally approving the UVFD Fire Services Annexation and Fire District Sphere Amendment (File No. A-2021-02) change of organization application to annex the City Limits of the City of Ukiah for fire services.