

# **Appendix C**

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**Attachments to Comment Letters**

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## **Letter I1 Attachments**

**Attachment No. 1**

**TAX-EXCHANGE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO AND THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO,  
RELATING TO THE PANHANDLE ANNEXATION**

This TAX EXCHANGE AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and executed in duplicate this     day of     2010 by and between the COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, a political subdivision of the State of California ("COUNTY"), and the CITY OF SACRAMENTO, a charter city ("CITY").

**RECITALS**

A. On June 6, 1978, the voters of the State of California amended the California Constitution by adding Article XIII A thereto which limited the total amount of property taxes which could be levied on property by local taxing agencies having such property within their territorial jurisdiction to one percent (1%) of full cash value.

B. Following such constitutional amendment, the California Legislature added Section 99 to the California Revenue and Taxation Code which requires a city seeking to annex property to its incorporated territory and a county affected by such annexation to agree upon an exchange of property taxes which are derived from such property and available to the county and city following annexation of the property to the incorporated territory of the city.

C. CITY has filed an application with the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission requesting its approval of the annexation of approximately 653 acres of real property to CITY ("the Panhandle Annexation").

D. COUNTY and CITY wish to work together to develop a fair and equitable approach to the sharing of real property ad valorem taxes imposed and collected as authorized by the Revenue and Taxation Code in order to encourage sound urban development and economic growth.

E. Close cooperation between COUNTY and CITY is necessary to maintain and improve the quality of life throughout Sacramento County, including CITY, and deliver needed or desirable services in the most timely and cost-efficient manner to all CITY and COUNTY residents.

F. COUNTY recognizes the need for orderly growth within and adjacent to the CITY, and for supporting appropriate annexations by CITY.

G. The provisions of Section 99 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code authorize a city and county to execute a property tax transfer agreement for the exchange of property tax revenues between the county and the city in connection with the annexations of property located in the unincorporated territory of the county to the incorporated territory of the city.

H. COUNTY and CITY after negotiations have reached an understanding as to a rate of exchange of property tax revenues to be made pursuant to Section 99 of the

California Revenue and Taxation Code in connection with the annexation of the Panhandle Annexation Area to the CITY.

I. It is a further purpose of this Agreement to serve as a Property Tax Transfer Agreement pursuant to Section 99 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

J. COUNTY and CITY also desire to set out the parameters for exchange of sales tax and transient occupancy taxes generated in the Panhandle Annexation Area under certain circumstances in this Agreement.

K. In consideration of the exchange of tax revenue provided for in this Agreement, COUNTY agrees not to oppose the Panhandle Annexation before the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission.

L. The provisions of Article XIII, Section 29(b) of the California Constitution authorize the City and County to enter into a contract to apportion between them the revenue derived from any sales or use tax imposed by them pursuant to the local sales and use tax law, provided that the ordinance or resolution approving the contract is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors.

COUNTY and CITY hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Definitions. For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

(a) "Annexation Area" shall mean that portion of the unincorporated area of COUNTY known as the Panhandle Annexation, more generally depicted on Exhibit "A.1" to this Agreement and described as the "Handle" and a "Portion of the Pan". The Annexation Area includes a total of 653 acres, consisting of the following:

(i) 595 acres of farmland located north of Del Paso Road, west of Sorento Road, and south of Elkhorn Boulevard (depicted on Exhibit A.1 and described as "the Handle"); and

(ii) 58 acres of developed industrial properties immediately south of Del Paso Road/Sotnip Road, west of Kenmar Road, and north of Striker Avenue (the City's North Area Corporation Yard), and the narrow strip of land northeast of the North Area Corporation Yard lying north of Del Paso Road and south of Sotnip Road (depicted on Exhibit A.4). The 58 acres (depicted on Exhibit A.1 and described as a "Portion of the Pan") is a small portion of the unincorporated area of Sacramento County south of Del Paso Road (depicted on Exhibit A.1 and described as "the Pan").

(b) "Unincorporated Island" means the portion of unincorporated area south of Del Paso Road/Sotnip Road (depicted on Exhibit A.1 and described as "the Pan"), excluding the 58 acres described herein and as depicted in Exhibit A.3, that shall remain an unincorporated area of the County.

(c) "Annexation Date" shall mean the date specified by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Governmental Reorganization Act of 2000 (California

Government Code § 56000 et seq.) as the effective date of the Panhandle Annexation.

(d) "Panhandle Annexation" shall mean the annexation to the CITY as delineated in Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission Application Control Number "10-00", the annexation of which to CITY is subsequently approved and completed by the Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission as provided in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Governmental Reorganization Act of 2000 (California Government Code § 56000 et seq.).

(e) "Property Tax Revenue" shall mean revenue from "ad valorem real property taxes on real property", as said term is used in Section 1 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and more particularly defined in subsection (c) of Section 95 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code, that is collected from within the Annexation Area, is available for allocation to the City and the County, and is currently allocated to the County Library Fund, Natomas Fire Protection District, and County Road Fund. Property Tax Revenue shall not include any Property Tax Revenue Augmentation.

(f) "Sales Tax Revenue" shall mean the revenue from the sales, transaction, and use taxes levied and received by the CITY pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law", or any successor statutory provision, that is collected within the Annexation Area.

(g) "Big Box Retail Establishment" shall mean a store of greater than 75,000 square feet of buildable area that will generate sales, transaction or use tax revenue.

(h) "Single-Purpose or Regional Tax-Generating Land Use" shall mean:

(i) hotels, motels, Auto Dealers, and Big Box Retail Establishments;

(ii) the retail and industrial land uses in the Panhandle Prezone Map area (the "Handle") that exceed a cumulative size of 35.6 acres. The 35.6 acres represents 105% of the designated 33.9 acres prezoned C-1 and C-2 as depicted on Exhibit A.2;

(iii) more than 30 contiguous acres of commercial zoned lands configured as a retail mall, including commercially zoned parcels that are adjacent or separated only by public rights-of-way of less than 120 feet in width;

(iv) the rezone of any property within the 58-acre "portion of the Pan" that raises the cumulative total of retail uses within the Annexation Area to more than 35.6 acres (as described in subsection ii above); and

(v) the rezone of any property within the Handle that changes the configuration of lands within the Annexation Area to constitute a retail mall (as described in subsection iii above).

(i) "Auto Dealer" shall mean a retailer who sells new or used cars or trucks who is also a "dealer" as defined by Vehicle Code Section 285. For purposes of this subsection, "cars" include vans that are sold primarily as

passenger vehicles, and "trucks" include pickup trucks and cargo vans with a cargo capacity of one ton or less.

(j) "Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue" shall mean the CITY general fund share of revenue from any transient occupancy tax levied and received by the CITY pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7280, or any successor statutory provision, that is collected within the Annexation Area.

(k) "Property Tax Revenue Augmentation" shall mean the additional property tax revenues allocable to the CITY as a result of legislative or other legal action to compensate the CITY or backfill for transfer from the CITY to the State of other taxes, fees, charges or revenues otherwise payable or owing to the CITY, including but not limited to the "triple flip" and vehicle license fee revenue shifts.

Section 2. General Purpose of Agreement. The general purpose of this Agreement is:

(a) to devise an equitable exchange of Property Tax Revenue between CITY and COUNTY as required by Section 99;

(b) to fairly allocate Sales Tax Revenue and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue collected within the Annexation Area; and

(c) to delineate service agreements for that territory depicted on Exhibit "A.3" which will remain in the Unincorporated Island.

Section 3. Exchange of Tax Revenues.

(a) Exchange of Property Tax Revenues. On and after the Annexation Date, the COUNTY and CITY shall exchange Property Tax Revenue as follows: Within the Panhandle Annexation Area, the following property tax funds will be pooled and shared equally between the City and the County: County Library, County Roads, County Water, County General Fund, Natomas Fire Protection District, and Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District. The weighted average post-ERAF base tax factor for these pooled property tax funds is 34.8990%, to be split equally unless otherwise directed in this section.

(i) CITY shall receive 17.4495% of the Property Tax Revenue to be allocated to its General Fund.

(ii) COUNTY shall receive 17.4495% of the Property Tax Revenue to be allocated to its General Fund.

(iii) CITY shall receive 100% of the Property Tax Revenue Augmentation.

(b) Exchange of Sales Tax and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenues. On and after the Annexation Date, CITY shall receive all Sales Tax Revenue and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue, provided that the COUNTY and CITY shall exchange Sales Tax Revenue and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue under the following events:

(i) Single Purpose or Regional Tax-Generating Land Use. In the event that the CITY allows a Single Purpose or Regional Tax-Generating Land Use, as defined in Section 1(h) of this agreement, to

conduct business in the area within the Panhandle Prezone Map (the Handle), then the COUNTY and CITY shall share equally in all sales and transient occupancy taxes generated by such Single Purpose or Regional Tax Generating Land Uses.

(ii) **Excess retail and industrial land uses.** In the event that the CITY zones in excess of the 35.6 acres of retail and industrial land uses in the Handle as described in Section 1(h), then the COUNTY and CITY shall share equally in all sales and transient occupancy taxes generated in the Handle during such times when retail and industrial zoned land uses exceed 35.6 acres.

(c) **Notice of Rezone Required.** If any property within the Annexation Area is rezoned by the CITY from a residential land use to a commercial or industrial land use, the CITY shall provide written notice of such rezoning to the COUNTY within thirty (30) days of the effective date of any such rezoning.

(d) **Cessation of Single Purpose or Regional Tax-Generating Land Use.** If a change in land use or zoning causes a land use to become a Single-Purpose or Regional Tax-Generating Land Use within the meaning of Section 1(h) and thereby requires the sharing of Sales Tax Revenue or Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue pursuant to subsection (b) above, and a later change in land use or zoning would no longer meet the requirements for tax-sharing under subsection (b), then the sharing of such taxes shall cease under subsection (b)(i) or (ii), as applicable. For example, if an Auto Dealer goes out of business and is replaced by other retail stores, revenues from those other retail stores would not be subject to tax sharing under subsection (b)(i). On the other hand, if a zoning change increases the cumulative retail and industrial land uses from 33 acres to 40 acres, that change would trigger tax sharing under subsection (b)(ii); but if a later zoning change reduces the cumulative retail and industrial land uses back to 35 acres, that change would trigger cessation of tax sharing under subsection (b)(ii).

**Section 4. Adjustment of Property Tax Shares.** In the event that the COUNTY is entitled to share in any Sales Tax Revenue, or Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue pursuant to Section 3 of this Agreement, the COUNTY's share of such revenue shall be allocated to the COUNTY by increasing the COUNTY's percentage share of Property Tax Revenue established pursuant to Section 3 of this Agreement in an amount equal to the COUNTY's share of Sales Tax Revenue, and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue. If the COUNTY's share of Sales Tax Revenue, and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue is greater than the amount of the CITY's share of Property Tax Revenue, the difference shall be paid by the CITY to the COUNTY within sixty (60) days after the end of the CITY's fiscal year in which the Sales Tax Revenue and Transient Occupancy Tax Revenue were collected.

**Section 5. Exchange by County Auditor.** COUNTY and CITY further agree that all of the exchanges of Property Tax Revenue required by this Agreement shall be made by the County Auditor.

**Section 6. Park District.** The Park District shall receive \$18,000 per year from the City's share of existing base tax revenue from the Annexation Area for a period of 5

years. No revenue from the Annexation Area will be distributed to the Park District after the five year period.

Section 7. Services. Within the area of the Unincorporated Island, generally depicted on Exhibit "A.3", the CITY agrees, subsequent to annexation, to provide, at the request of the Sacramento County Sheriff, law enforcement services as may be required at the level of mutual aid; any City police services in excess of mutual aid shall be the subject of a separate agreement.

Section 8. Transfer Station. CITY further agrees that it shall not, directly or indirectly, construct, cause construction or permit construction of a solid waste transfer or similar facility on that property generally depicted on Exhibit A.4.

Section 9. Dispute Resolution.

(a) Inadmissibility. Should any disputes arise as to the performance of this Agreement, COUNTY and CITY agree to the dispute resolution process as set forth below. All conduct, testimony, statements or other evidence made or presented during the meeting described in subsection (b) below shall be confidential and inadmissible in any subsequent arbitration proceedings brought to prove liability for any claimed breach or damages which are the subject of the dispute resolution process.

(b) Initiation of Process. COUNTY or CITY may initiate the dispute resolution process by submitting written notification to the other of a potential dispute concerning the performance of this Agreement. This written notification shall include all supporting documentation, shall state what is in dispute, and shall request a meeting between the County Executive and the City Manager or their respective designees. The purpose of this meeting shall be to ascertain whether a resolution of the disagreement is possible without third party intervention. This meeting shall be scheduled to take place within thirty (30) working days of receipt of the written notification of the dispute. At the meeting, the respective representatives of the COUNTY and the CITY shall attempt to reach an equitable settlement of the disputed issue(s).

(c) Binding Arbitration. If the meeting provided for in subsection (b) of this Section fails to fully resolve the disagreement, the matter shall then be submitted by either party to the American Arbitration Association ("Arbitrator") to appoint a single, neutral arbitrator for a decision. The arbitration shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures set forth in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1282) of Title 9 of the California Code of Civil Procedure. The decision of the Arbitrator shall be controlling between the CITY and the COUNTY and shall be final. Except as provided in Code of Civil Procedure Sections 1286.2 and 1286.4, neither party shall be entitled to judicial review of the Arbitrator's decision. The party against whom the award is rendered shall pay any monetary award and/or comply with any other order of the Arbitrator within sixty (60) days of the entry of judgment on the award.

(d) Costs. The parties shall share equally in the costs and fees associated with the Arbitrator's fees and expenses. At the conclusion of the arbitration, the prevailing party, as determined by the Arbitrator, shall be entitled

to reimbursement by the other party for the Arbitrator's fees and the Arbitrator's expenses incurred in connection with the arbitration. The awarded arbitrator's fees and expenses shall be remitted to the party whose position is upheld within thirty (30) days of the Arbitrator's decision. Each party shall bear its own costs, expenses and attorney's fees and no party shall be awarded its costs, expenses, or attorney's fees incurred in the dispute resolution process.

Section 10. Mutual Defense of Agreement. If the validity of this Agreement is challenged in any legal action by a party other than COUNTY or CITY, then COUNTY and CITY agree to defend jointly against the legal challenge and to share equally any award of costs, including attorney's fees, against COUNTY, CITY, or both.

Section 11. Waiver of Retroactive Recovery. If the validity of this Agreement is challenged in any legal action brought by either CITY or any third party, CITY hereby waives any right to the retroactive recovery of any CITY Property Tax Revenues, COUNTY hereby waives any right to the retroactive recovery of any Sales Tax or Transient Occupancy Tax Revenues, exchanged pursuant to this Agreement prior to the date on which such legal action is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction. The remedy available in any such legal action shall be limited to a prospective invalidation of the Agreement.

Section 12. Modification. The provision of this Agreement and all of the covenants and conditions set forth herein may be modified or amended only by a writing duly authorized and executed by both the COUNTY and CITY.

Section 13. Reformation. COUNTY and CITY understand and agree that this Agreement is based upon existing law, and that such law may be substantially amended in the future. In the event of an amendment of state law which renders this Agreement invalid or inoperable or which denies any party thereto the full benefit of this Agreement as set forth herein, in whole or in part, then COUNTY and CITY agree to renegotiate the Agreement in good faith.

Section 14. Effect of Tax Exchange Agreement. This Agreement shall be applicable solely to the Panhandle Annexation and does not constitute either a master tax sharing agreement or an agreement on property tax exchanges which may be required for any other annexation to the CITY.

Section 15. Entire Agreement. With respect to the subject matter hereof only, this Agreement supersedes any and all previous negotiations, proposals, commitments, writings, and understandings of any nature whatsoever between COUNTY and CITY except as otherwise provided herein.

Section 16. Notices. All notices, requests, certifications or other correspondence required to be provided by the parties to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be personally delivered or delivered by first class mail to the respective parties at the following addresses:

COUNTY  
County Executive  
County of Sacramento

CITY  
City Manager  
City of Sacramento

Panhandle Tax-Exchange Agreement

April 6, 2010

700 H Street, Room 7650  
Sacramento, CA 95814

915 "I" Street, 5th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Notice by personal delivery shall be effective immediately upon delivery. Notice by mail shall be effective upon receipt or three days after mailing, whichever is earlier.

**Section 17. Approval, Consent, and Agreement.** Wherever this Agreement requires a party's approval, consent, or agreement, the party shall make its decision to give or withhold such approval, consent or agreement in good faith, and shall not withhold such approval, consent or agreement unreasonably or without good cause.

**Section 18. Construction of Captions.** Captions of the sections of this Agreement are for convenience and reference only. The words in the captions in no way explain, modify, amplify, or interpret this Agreement.

**Section 19. Incorporation by Reference.** Exhibits A.1, A.2, A.3, and A.4, attached hereto, are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference.

**Section 20.** The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement shall not become effective unless the ordinance or resolution approving the contract is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors.

SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement in the county of Sacramento, State of California, on the date set forth above.

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, a political subdivision of the State of California

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Counsel

CITY OF SACRAMENTO, a charter city

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

(SEAL)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

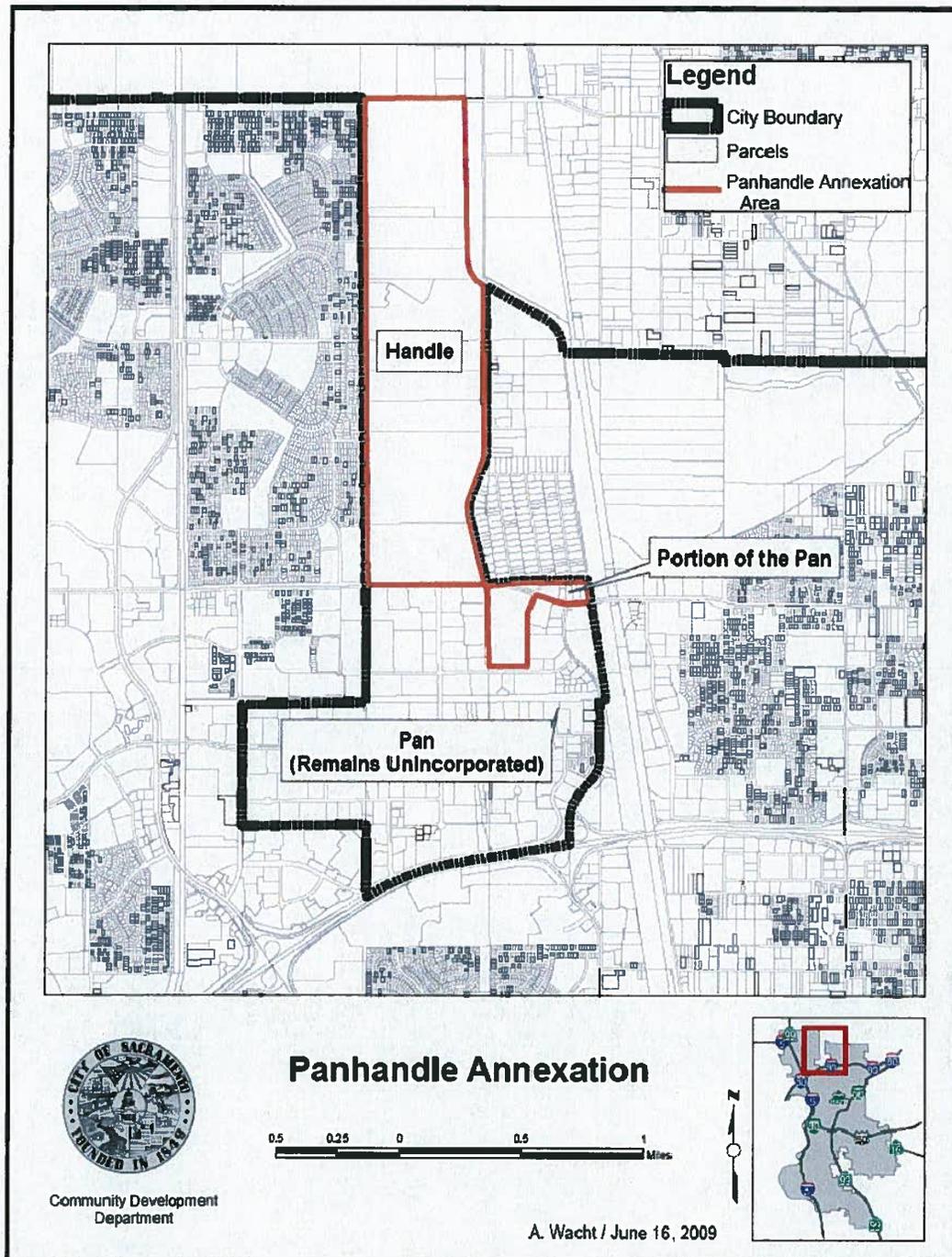
Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

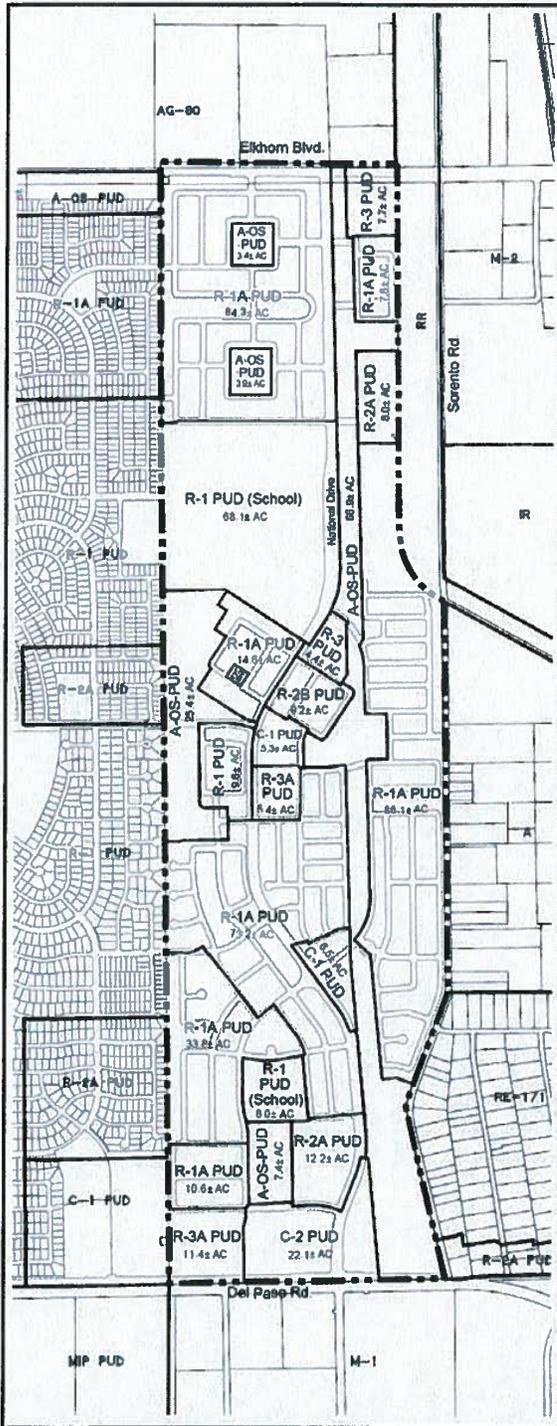
**Attachments:**

- Exhibit A.1 – Map of Panhandle Annexation Area
- Exhibit A.2 – Prezone Map of Panhandle Annexation Area
- Exhibit A.3 – Remainder Unincorporated Area
- Exhibit A.4 – North Area Corporation Yard Included within Panhandle Annexation Area

**Exhibit A.1 – Map of Panhandle Annexation Area**



**Exhibit A.2-1– Prezone Map of Panhandle Annexation Area –“Handle”**



**Handle**

PREZONE DESIGNATION	ACREAGE
R-1-PUD	9.6
R-1-PUD (School)	76.1
R-1A-PUD	310.4
R-2A-PUD	20.2
R-2B-PUD	8.2
R-3-PUD	12.1
R-3A-PUD	16.8
A-OS-PUD (Open Space)	107.4
C-1-PUD (Limited Commercial)	11.8
C-2-PUD (General Commercial)	22.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>594.7</b>

**Portion of the Pan**

DEVELOPED INDUSTRIAL AREA	
PREZONE DESIGNATION	ACREAGE
M-1	58

**Exhibit A.2-2 – Prezone Map of Panhandle Annexation Area – “Pan”**



**Exhibit A.3 – Remainder Unincorporated Area**

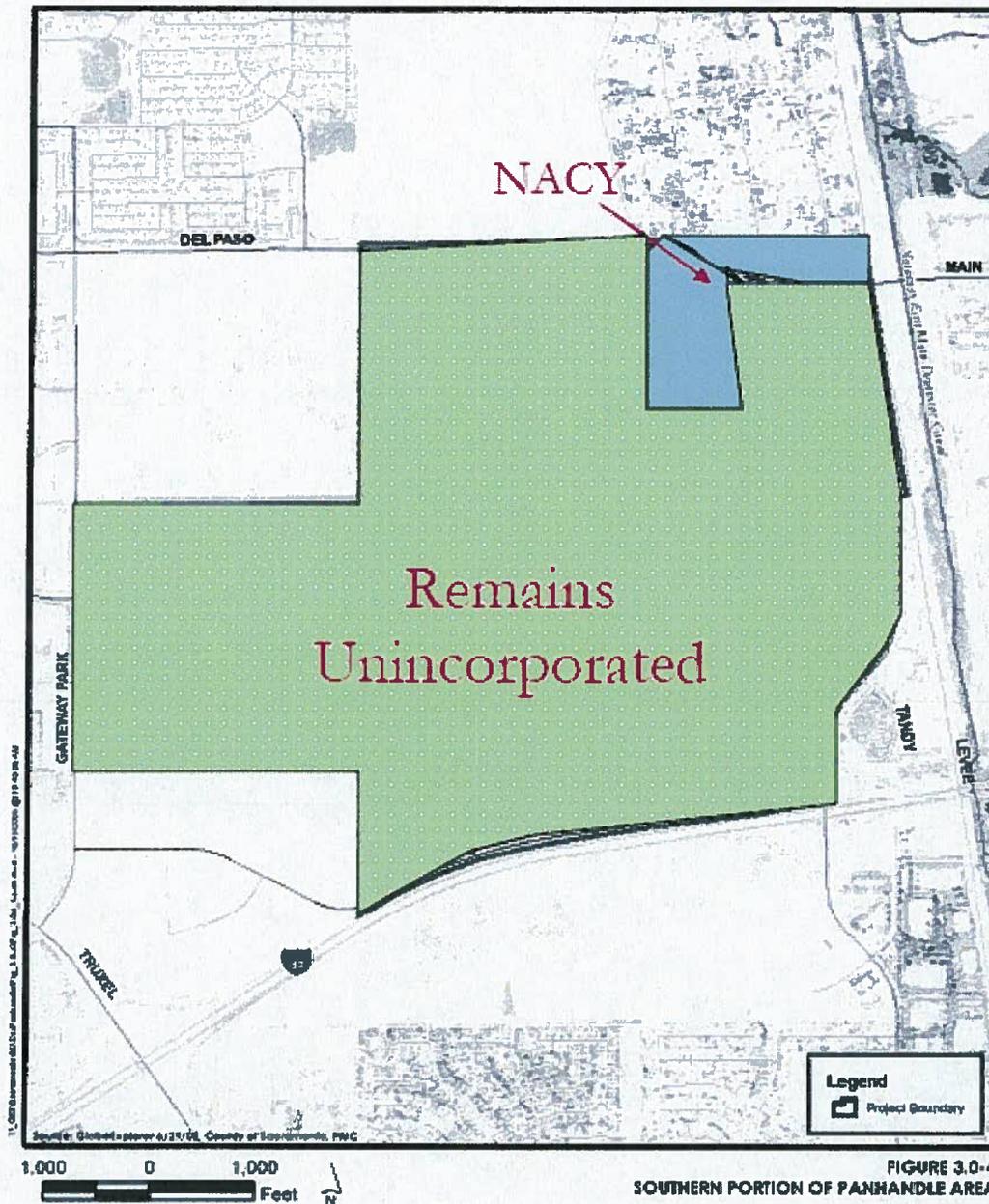
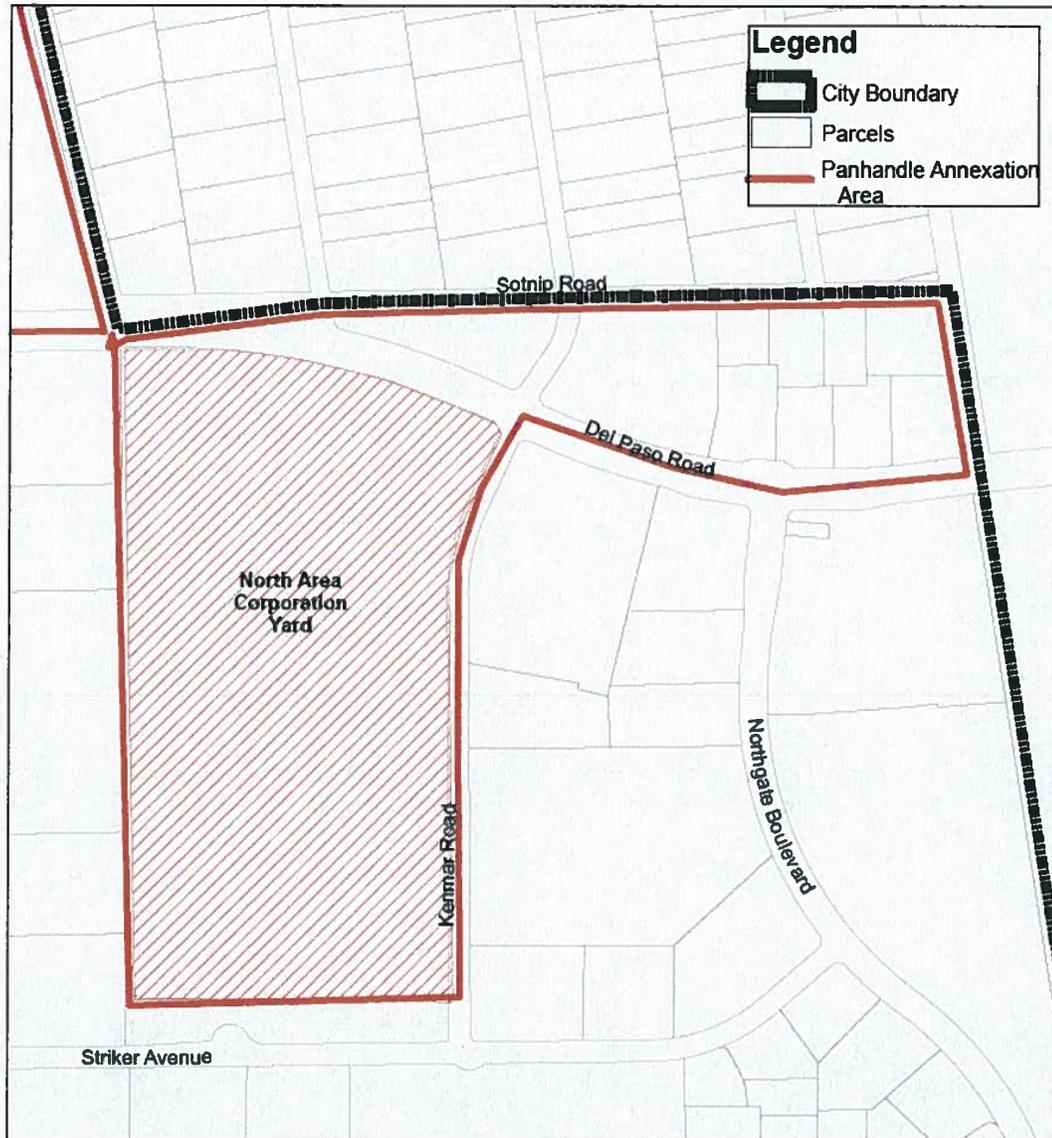


FIGURE 3.0-4  
SOUTHERN PORTION OF PANHANDLE AREA



The area depicted in pale green stipple – generally south of Del Paso Road – is proposed to remain in the unincorporated area of Sacramento County. The area depicted in solid lavender is proposed to be included in the Panhandle annexation.

**Exhibit A.4 – North Area Corporation Yard  
Included within Panhandle Annexation Area**



The boundaries of the Panhandle annexation include a “Portion of the Pan” consisting of the area south of Sotnip Road and north of Del Paso Road, plus the City of Sacramento’s corporation yard (approximately 33 acres), located at the southwest corner of Del Paso Road and Kenmar Road.

**Attachment No. 2**



# REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

12

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604  
www.CityofSacramento.org

Staff Report  
April 6, 2010

**Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council**

**Title: Panhandle Tax-Exchange Agreement (M05-031 / P05-077)**

**Location/Council District:** South of Elkhorn Boulevard, north of Del Paso Road, west of Sorento Road/Adjacent to Council District 1 ("the Panhandle area")

**Recommendation:** Adopt a Resolution approving a tax-exchange agreement between the City and the County of Sacramento relating to a proposed annexation of land in the Panhandle area to the City of Sacramento.

**Contact:** Scot Mende, New Growth Manager, (916) 808-4756; Leyne Milstein, Finance Director, (916) 808-8491

**Presenters:** Scot Mende

**Department:** Community Development and Finance

**Division:** Planning

**Organization No:** 21001221 and 06001411

## **Description/Analysis**

**Summary:** The Panhandle proposal is a request to allow the annexation of 653 acres into the City of Sacramento and the future development of a 595± acre master planned community. The project site consists of 595± acres of farmland within unincorporated Sacramento County, located north of Del Paso Road, and west of Sorento Road, as well as 58 acres of developed industrial properties immediately north and south of Del Paso Road. On September 18, 2007, the City Council approved an intent motion for the full slate of entitlements – not including a tax-exchange agreement. The tax-exchange agreement is now ready for Council and Board of Supervisors approval. Subsequent to the approval of the tax-exchange agreement, staff will bring forward the entitlements for final Council action and forward the proposed annexation to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) for annexation hearings.

The City will be responsible for the provision of municipal services after the annexation is approved and effective. An operating budgetary analysis of the costs of services and the area's generation of City revenue indicated that the projected costs of services and revenue are approximately equal assuming the property tax distribution contained within the proposed tax-exchange agreement.

**Policy Considerations:** The Mayor and City Council's sustainable budget policies would argue against taking on a fiscal liability in an annexation. The proposed tax-exchange agreement results in a fiscally neutral outcome for the City.

**Environmental Considerations:**

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** Approval of the subject tax-exchange agreement itself will not cause either a direct change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and does not constitute a "project" for purposes of the CEQA under Public Resources Code section 21065 and CEQA Guidelines section 15378. The tax-exchange agreement is a component within the annexation process for the Panhandle area. Approval of the tax-exchange agreement does not constitute approval of such annexation; the annexation will be considered by the City Council at a later date and as informed by full environmental review under CEQA.

**Sustainability Considerations:** The tax-exchange agreement fosters sustainability by encouraging economic development in the City. The urban development enabled by the annexation will follow the City's sustainability criteria.

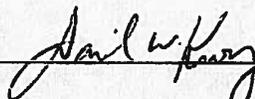
**Committee/Commission Action:** Not applicable.

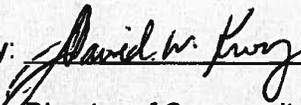
**Rationale for Recommendation:** Overall, the proposal is consistent with General Plan policies on annexation, development, and land use and the SACOG Blueprint. The tax agreement should provide sufficient revenue to support municipal services when, in the future, the area may be developed.

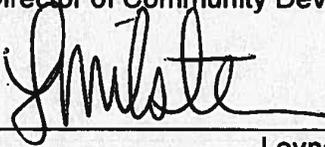
**Financial Considerations:** Under Revenue & Taxation Code Section 99(b)(1)(B)(6), the City and County must adopt a property-tax-exchange agreement at least 21 days prior to LAFCo public hearings on the annexation proposal. The proposed tax-exchange agreement calls for an equal sharing by the City and County of the municipal property tax revenue generated within the Panhandle area, exclusive of additional property tax revenue allocable to the City to compensate the City for transfers to the state of other taxes or fees payable or owing to the City such as the "triple flip" and vehicle license fee revenue shifts. The agreement also calls for an equal sharing by the City and County of any sales tax revenue generated by a big-box or regional-scaled retail in the Panhandle, or during any time the retail and industrial land uses exceed the 35.6 acre threshold established under the Panhandle Prezone Map. In addition, any Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) from hotel/motel projects (the City's General Fund portion) within the

Panhandle would be shared equally between the City and County. The tax-sharing agreement would commence on the annexation date and would continue into perpetuity. The tax-exchange agreement is consistent with the assumptions in the fiscal analysis prepared for the Panhandle project.

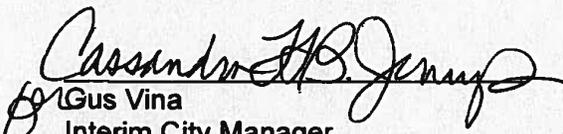
**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** No goods or services are being purchased under this report.

Respectfully Submitted by:   
David Kwong  
Planning Director

Approved by:   
David Kwong  
Acting Director of Community Development

Approved by:   
Leyne Milstein  
Director of Finance

Recommendation Approved:

  
Gus Vina  
Interim City Manager

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## **Background**

### Property Tax-Exchange Agreements

Property tax-exchange agreements between an annexing city and the county are a required part of the annexation approval process. A tax-exchange agreement between the City and County of Sacramento (County) must be in place before the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) will consider the annexation proposal. The agreements may take the form of project-specific tax-exchange agreement (applying to a single annexation) or master tax-exchange agreement (applying to all annexations). A master tax-exchange agreement between the City and County was terminated by the County several years ago. This tax-exchange agreement requirement essentially gives counties *de facto* veto power over city annexations. Should the county in question choose not to enter into a tax-exchange agreement, then the annexation will not be considered by LAFCo.

A tax-exchange agreement specifies the redistribution of property taxes among the city, the county, and other agencies such as special districts. Typically, tax revenues accruing to the county, some special county funds, and special districts are redistributed to the annexing city and the county. The county is responsible for representing the interests of special districts, and there is a meet-and-confer requirement if the tax-exchange will impact a special district.

### Property Tax Sharing

On and after the Annexation Date, the proposed tax-exchange agreement would require the City and County to share equally all Property Tax Revenue (post-Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF)) generated within the Panhandle Annexation Area, except that the City will receive 100 percent of any Property Tax Revenue Augmentation. Property Tax Revenue Augmentation includes any additional property tax revenues allocable to the City as a result of legislative or other legal action to compensate the City, or backfill for transfer from the City to the State of other taxes, fees, charges or revenues otherwise payable or owing to the City, including but not limited to the "triple flip" and vehicle license fee revenue shifts.

Equal sharing of the property tax available for local government is consistent with the revenue sharing agreement for Greenbriar approved by both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors in March 2008.

Approval of the tax-sharing agreement and the annexation would result in the City receiving approximately 17% of the property taxes generated within Panhandle. This is less than the citywide average of 24% outside of redevelopment areas. The reason for this lower share is that a lower proportion of property taxes are available from unincorporated Natomas than in other portions of the County. The shares of property tax revenue accruing to the County and the contributing special districts and county funds are based on tax rates imposed in the area at the time of Proposition 13. At that time, the Natomas Fire Protection District was primarily volunteer-based and had a low

tax rate. Only thirty-four percent (34%) of property taxes are currently allocated to local government in the Panhandle. The remainder is allocated to schools districts and agencies. In other portions of the County, including within the City, the overall share of property taxes to local government, as opposed to schools, is higher. For example, within the City the current average combined City and County share of property taxes is approximately 42%. In portions of Arden-Arcade or the Fruitridge pocket of the Unincorporated Area, the combined shares of the County and various special districts is close to 50%.

The proposed tax-exchange agreement provides that within the Panhandle Annexation Area, the following will be pooled and shared equally between the City and the County:

- County Library,
- County Roads,
- Sacramento County Water
- County General Fund
- Natomas Fire Protection District, and
- Rio Linda Elverta Recreation & Park (4.0628% of 1% tax levy)

The weighted average post-ERAF base tax factor for these pooled funds is 34.8990% to be split equally between City and County.

The Rio Linda Elverta Recreation & Park District (RLERPD) currently derives 30-40% of its current revenues from the Panhandle – most of which is from the “Pan” (i.e., the developed industrial property south of Del Paso Road) and approximately \$18,000 per year from the undeveloped “Handle”. Because RLERPD derives substantial revenues from the “Pan,” without providing any park service to this property, the loss of service territory would result in a loss of revenues with no loss of service responsibility. Accordingly, the proposed tax-exchange agreement deals only with the “Handle” and assumes that the “Pan” will remain unincorporated and within the RLERPD’s boundaries.

Additionally, the proposed tax-exchange agreement would provide that RLERPD shall receive \$18,000 per year (approximately equivalent to the 4.0628% share of existing base tax revenue from the annexation area) for a period of five years. No revenue from the annexation area will be distributed to the RLERPD after the five-year period.

#### Sales Tax Sharing

Although the City will continue to receive all Sales Tax Revenue and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenue on and after the Annexation Date, under the proposed tax-exchange agreement the City will have to share those tax revenues with the County if any of the following events occur:

- (i) in the event that the City allows certain land uses such as hotels, motels, auto dealers and big box establishments to conduct business in the area within the Panhandle Prezone Map (the Handle area), then the City and County will be required to share equally in all Sales Tax and the General-Fund portion of TOT generated by such businesses; and

- (ii) in the event that the City zones in excess of 105 percent (35.6 acres) of retail and industrial land uses originally zoned within the Panhandle Prezone Map (the Handle area), then the City and County will be required to share equally in all Sales Tax and the General-Fund portion of Transient Occupancy Tax generated in the Handle area during such times when retail and industrial zoned land uses exceed 35.6 acres.

The provisions of Article XIII, Section 29(b) of the California Constitution authorize the City and County to enter into a contract to apportion between them the revenue derived from any sales or use tax imposed by them pursuant to the local sales and use tax law, provided that the ordinance or resolution approving the contract is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors.

#### TOT Sharing

The City collects a 12% TOT on hotel/motel receipts within the City. Pursuant to City Code Title 3.28 (Uniform Transient Occupancy Tax), revenues from 10 percent of that tax is deposited into the Convention Center Fund; and revenue from the remaining two percent of the tax is transferred into the City's General Fund. The proposed tax-exchange agreement would require the City to share the City's General Fund portion of the TOT equally with the County under the circumstances described above.

#### Retention of the "Pan" as an Unincorporated Island

The tax-exchange agreement was negotiated with respect only to the subject territory (the "Handle" and a "portion of the Pan"). Any future tax-exchange agreement for additional properties south of Del Paso Road would need to be separately negotiated to acknowledge the myriad of issues associated with potential annexation of those properties.

- The RLERPD presently derives more than 25% of its total property tax revenues from the "Pan", yet it experiences no service costs by including the "Pan" within its territory; any annexation of the Pan could cause a dramatic revenue reduction with no attendant cost savings.
- The County General Fund derives significant property tax and approximately \$3 million per year in sales tax from the "Pan" while incurring minimal service costs. Any annexation of the Pan would have the potential for a dramatic revenue reduction with minimal cost savings to the County General Fund.
- The County Transportation Fund currently maintains roads in the business parks in the Pan. The City estimated (2007) that deferred road maintenance projects in the Pan would cost \$5.7 million to the City should the Pan be annexed.
- The County Storm Drain Fund currently maintains the storm drain system in the business park area. City Utilities staff estimated (2007) that the deferred maintenance amounted to \$2.4 million to the City should the Pan be annexed.
- The County Water Agency currently maintains the water system in the unincorporated area. City Utilities staff estimated (2007) that connecting and

retrofitting the water system would cost \$2.5 million to the City should the Pan be annexed.

- In the event of annexation, the existing landowners and tenants of the unincorporated area business parks would be required to pay higher taxes.
  - The City imposes an additional property transfer tax; a major landowner is anticipating a change in ownership in the mid-term future.
  - The County levies a 2.5% Utility Users Tax, whereas the City levies a 7.0% to 7.5% tax rate; a number of heavy utility users would experience substantial increased costs.
  - The City imposes a property tax assessment to fund the library system; the County does not have a library assessment.
  - The City imposes a property tax assessment to fund citywide landscape and lighting; the County does not have a similar assessment.

The City will be requesting that LAFCo approve an annexation that would create an unincorporated island (the "Pan"). In order to approve the requested action, LAFCo would need to make findings that creation of the island:

- Does not preclude what would otherwise be a viable annexation by an adjoining city, and
- Is in the interest of public health, safety and welfare, and contributes to the orderly development of the community.

The majority property owners of the island (the Pan) have expressed a concern that the City and LAFCo will take action in the future to annex the unincorporated island against the will of the property owners pursuant to Government Code Section 56375.3.

Staff believes that this concern is unfounded. Government Code Section 56375.3 (*Island annexations without protest proceedings*) authorizes LAFCo to waive protest proceedings for small island annexations only if the annexation area is less than 150 acres and the proposed annexation constitutes the entire island. Since the unincorporated island (the Pan) would be approximately 800 acres, the provisions of Section 56375.3 could not be invoked for a future annexation of the island.

However, notwithstanding the current limitations of Section 56375.3, the majority property owners have indicated a willingness to waive their objection to annexation of the "Handle" only if the City supports their request to have LAFCo include a special condition of annexation that the City cannot annex the "Pan" in the future without the consent of the majority property owners at the time of any such annexation. This issue will be presented to the Council in a staff report at a later date when the entitlements are brought forward for approval.

#### Additional Requirements

The Agreement also provides that the City cannot construct a solid waste transfer station in the annexed area south of Del Paso Road (in the vicinity of the City's North Area Corporation Yard). Also, requests for City police services in excess of mutual aid

**Panhandle Tax-Exchange Agreement**

**April 6, 2010**

**within the unincorporated island that is not being annexed will require separate agreements.**

**If approved, the proposed tax-exchange agreement would commence on the Annexation Date and continue into perpetuity.**

**Attachment No. 3**

*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Community Development

September 9, 2016

Don Lockhart, AICP, Assistant Executive Officer  
Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission  
1112 I Street, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2836

Dear Mr. Lockhart,

This letter is to notify LAFCo that on February 8, 2016, the City of Sacramento received an application (P16-013) requesting an annexation and the necessary legislative entitlements to develop the property known generally as "the Panhandle." The application, submitted by John Hodgson on behalf of the Hodgson Company, is specifically requesting annexation and legislative entitlements for the "Handle" portion, which consists of 589.4 acres, located south of Elkhorn Boulevard, west of Sorento Road, north of Del Paso Road, and east of the Regency Park neighborhood in the County of Sacramento.

Upon receiving the requested annexation proposal, the City of Sacramento began formal review and analysis of the project, including the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Consistent with LAFCo policies, the City of Sacramento is also analyzing potential annexation of the "Pan" portion of the property, located south of Del Paso Road, which contains approximately 835 acres of existing light industrial, commercial, and office uses.

As you know, the Panhandle property has a long history with the City of Sacramento and key dates are noted below:

- **1986:** Panhandle area was added to the North Natomas Community Plan.
- **1997:** Panhandle area was included in the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan (NBHCP), anticipated for future urban development.
- **1997:** Panhandle area was approved to be included in the City of Sacramento Sphere of Influence.
- **December 5, 2000:** City Council initiated annexation of the entire Panhandle area.
- **May 25, 2005:** City of Sacramento received a formal application requesting annexation and entitlements for the Panhandle area (only the Handle portion).
- **September 18, 2007:** City Council passed an intent motion to approve the full slate of entitlements (including annexation) of the Panhandle project contingent upon approval of a tax exchange agreement. The intent motion included the Handle and only a small portion of the Pan as part of the reorganization. (M05-031 / P05-077)
- **April 6, 2010:** City Council approved the Panhandle Tax-Exchange Agreement.
- The 2005 application was subsequently withdrawn by the applicant prior to final action.

300 Richards Blvd., 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Help Line: 916-264-5011  
CityofSacramento.org/dsd

*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Community Development

As previously noted, the City's analysis of the current project includes review of the impacts of annexation of not just the Handle, but of the Pan portion of the area, south of Del Paso Road. A number of challenges have been identified related to annexation of the Pan. The following points are currently being considered:

- Section 56744 of the Cortese Knox Herzberg Act states that, unless otherwise determined by the commission pursuant to subdivision (m) of Section 56375, territory shall not be incorporated into a city if, as a result of that incorporation, unincorporated territory is completely surrounded by that city. *Section 56375 (m) provides that the commission may waive the restrictions of Section 56744 if it finds that the application of the restrictions would be detrimental to the orderly development of the community;*
- While the city provides an enhanced level of services, the Pan industrial landowners and tenants object to the City's higher tax rates (Utility Users Tax and Transfer Tax) and have stated their intent to litigate the EIR and ultimately protest the annexation. The Pan landowners could challenge the attempt to annex the Handle if the Pan is included with the annexation request;
- The existing infrastructure (roadways, drainage, water) located in the Pan was built to County standards and would require significant capital investments to attain City standards, yet minimal capital reserves would be transferred from the County to the City to finance the estimated \$8.3 million worth of required upgrades;
- The Pan industrial landowners and tenants are concerned that the City would require landowner financing of these upgrades in the attempt to bring the property into conformance with adopted North Natomas development standards, burdening them with extensive new infrastructure costs;
- The Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District (RLERPD) derives approximately 30% - 40% of its current revenues from the Pan; the City acknowledges that the loss of this revenue source (with no corresponding decrease in service costs elsewhere within the District) would likely have a detrimental fiscal impact on the District;
- On September 18, 2007, the City Council passed an intent motion to approve all entitlements, including annexation, of the prior Panhandle project. The annexation boundary included the Handle and approximately 50 acres of the Pan including the City's North Area Corporation Yard, leaving the remainder of the Pan unincorporated;
- The Panhandle Tax-Exchange Agreement deals only with 50 acres of the Pan and the Handle and assumes that the majority of the Pan will remain unincorporated and within the County of Sacramento and RLERPD's boundaries;

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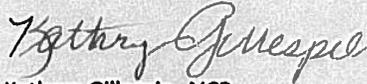
*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Community Development

- Retention of the Pan as an unincorporated island would not hamper the County of Sacramento's ability to continue providing the current level of municipal services to the Pan.

City planning staff continues to review the Panhandle project and acknowledges that an application submittal to LAFCo will be made by the City of Sacramento in the near future. Staff understands that through the public hearing process conducted by both LAFCo and the City Council, a decision on the scope of the annexation will ultimately be determined. However, in staff's review of the current Panhandle project, it is evident that substantial challenges exist in pursuing the annexation of the Pan. The challenges are such that they negatively impact the ability to annex the Handle. Staff expects to recommend to decision makers that the Pan should remain as an unincorporated island and not be included with the annexation application to LAFCo.

I hope this letter helps explain the planning staff's position on the subject and identifies the complex issues surrounding the Panhandle annexation. Please contact me at (916) 808-2691 should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Gillespie, AICP  
Planning Director

300 Richards Blvd., 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95811

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[CityofSacramento.org/dsd](http://CityofSacramento.org/dsd)

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## **Letter L2 Attachments**

**Derek P. Cole**  
dcole@cotalawfirm.com

REPLY TO:  
 ROSEVILLE     MONTEREY  
 ONTARIO

June 30, 2017

VIA EMAIL( [gnorman@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:gnorman@cityofsacramento.org))

Garrett Norman  
Community Development Department  
City of Sacramento  
300 Richards Blvd, 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, California 95811

Re: Panhandle Annexation and Planned Unit Development Project (P16-013)  
Administrative Draft Plan for Services

Dear Mr. Norman:

By way of introduction, our firm serves as general counsel for Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District (the “District”). We have reviewed the City of Sacramento’s Plan for Services (“PFS”) for the P16-013 Panhandle Annexation Project, which would annex approximately 600 acres at the south of Elkhorn Boulevard, north of Del Paso Road and west of Sorento Road, into the City of Sacramento for mixed-use development. In response to your June 14, 2017, we offer the following preliminary comments regarding the PFS.

While the District appreciates the City’s efforts in preparing the PFS, the City has not properly addressed the environmental and financial consequences of annexation. Most significantly, the PFS proposes annexing the northern portion of the Panhandle and leaving the southern portion as unincorporated County territory.<sup>1</sup> This will create an island within the City. Pursuant to Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (“LAFCo”) Policy, Standards, and Procedures Manual (“LAFCo Manual”) Chapter 4, subdivision C.3, “LAFCo will not approve applications with boundaries which . . . result in islands, corridors, or peninsulas of incorporated or unincorporated territory or otherwise cause or further the distortion of existing boundaries.” The PFS does not describe any feasible method for satisfying this requirement. Nor does the District believe the PFS could ever meet the requirement given the inherent incompatibility that arises whenever annexation results in unincorporated islands remaining within incorporated territories.

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<sup>1</sup> The Panhandle consists of two components: the area to the north of Del Paso Road (“Panhandle North”) and the area to the south of Del Paso Road (“Panhandle South”). All references herein will be made respectively.

Furthermore, while the PFS currently only considers the annexation of Panhandle North, the District is justifiably concerned about how the current annexation will impact service to the *entire* Panhandle. It is only reasonable for the District to conclude that the annexation of Panhandle North is simply a precursor to the annexation of Panhandle South in the reasonably foreseeable future. Nothing in the PFS provides any reliable assurance that the further annexation of Panhandle South will not be sought or assures there will be an enforceable guarantee that approval will not be given if an application for further annexation is made.

Lastly, according to LAFCo Manual Chapter 4, subdivision D:

“LAFCo will approve a proposal for change in organization or reorganization only if the Commission finds that the proposal is revenue neutral at the time the proposal comes before the Commission. A proposal is deemed revenue neutral if the proposal... ensures that the amount of revenue transferred from an agency currently providing services in the subject territory to the proposed service-providing agency equals the expense which the current service provider bears in providing the services to be transferred.”

As this policy provides, the current service provider should not be placed in a position of losing revenue because of the annexation; the transfer should balance out the revenue lost for the cost of service gained. This policy cannot be met in regard to the recreation and park services the District provides. The net effect of the annexation would be to deprive the District of a substantial revenue base that completely fails to ensure a fiscally neutral effect.

The District wishes to emphasize that it is not necessarily opposed to the concept of the annexation of the Panhandle North. As the District proposed when the annexation of the Panhandle was considered previously, the simple solution to the revenue neutrality concern is to allow the District to continue to be responsible for providing recreation and park services to the Panhandle area following annexation. As the Panhandle has long been in the District's jurisdictional boundaries, sound planning and fiscal practices would dictate that the District continue to provide such services to that area following any development that results from annexation.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments regarding the Draft PFS. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the above comments further, please feel free to contact my office at (916) 780-9009 or by email, [dcole@cotalawfirm.com](mailto:dcole@cotalawfirm.com).

Sincerely,

/S/

Derek P. Cole  
COTA COLE & HUBER LLP