

## **County Service Area #10**

### Agency Profile

County Service Area No. 10 (the "CSA") is a dependent special district formed in 1988 that serves as a funding vehicle for enhanced waste management and library services to the area. The CSA does not have any staff or assets. The CSA library services are divided into five separate "zones of benefit" (D, E, F, G, and H) that each contributes various levels of funding from special taxes or a property assessment. Waste management assessments vary by service but are the same throughout the county. The amount of special taxes or property assessment is transferred to the County and provides the revenue for "enhanced" library or waste recovery/retrieval services within the zone that generates the revenue. All library service is provided by the County of El Dorado and expenditures not paid for by the CSA special taxes or property assessments are funded from the County General Fund. All waste management services in the unincorporated area and outside of El Dorado Hills is provided by the County of El Dorado and expenditures not paid for by the CSA special taxes or property assessments are funded from the County General Fund.

### *Land Use Character*

El Dorado County is at the heart of California's Gold Rush country, often called the "Mother Lode." There are two incorporated cities, Placerville, which is the County seat, and South Lake Tahoe. Two major highways, U.S. 50 and State Route 49, intersect the western county, while State Route 88 establishes the county's southern border with Amador County.

Over 78% of the county residents live in unincorporated areas outside of city limits. Major residential communities (El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park and Shingle Springs) in the western part of the county serve as suburban areas to the Sacramento Metropolitan Region. The county roads in the southern portion of the county lead to El Dorado wine country, which draws many tourists and locals to the otherwise rural area. The northwestern part of the county is rural, with small, historic communities peppering the landscape.

The northeastern part of the county is a predominantly forested area that provides trees for the timber industry and recreation to the county's residents. In the Tahoe Basin, most residents live in either the City of South Lake Tahoe or in the unincorporated community of Meyers or Meeks Bay. Principal land uses in the area include residential uses and typical recreation and tourism activities associated with Lake Tahoe, such as camping, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, winter snow sports and summer water sports. Development is heavily regulated by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

*Level of Service*

As mentioned above, CSA 10 is not a service provider per se, but a funding mechanism providing additional revenues for waste management and library services. Waste management services are provided by the County’s Environmental Management Department and library services are provided by Library Services. Each of those two departments are staffed and funded by the County and receive most, if not all, of their funding from the County General Fund.

The assessments for the two types of services are:

- Waste Management:
  - Liquid Waste Fee: \$15 (only charged if home is on a septic system)
  - Household Hazardous Waste: \$3
  - Solid Waste: \$17

Library Services:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Region(s)</u>	<u>Annual Assessment</u>	<u>Expiration Date</u>
D	Cameron Park	\$25.00	none
E	El Dorado Hills, Latrobe	\$25.00	none
F	Kirkwood, South Lake Tahoe	\$15.00	2015
G	Georgetown, Garden Valley, Kelsey	\$15.00	2015
H	Pilot Hill, Placerville, El Dorado, Pollock Pines, Strawberry	none	N.A.

Commission’s Policies and Guidelines

LAFCO Policy 4.4 requires the Commission to review the following topics before making sphere of influence determinations. The Commission’s review of library services addressed these requirements as noted below (waste management services were not studied). All citations are from the Final General Government Services II Municipal Services Review, scheduled to be adopted by the Commission in December 5, 2007.

**1. *Service capacity, level and types of services currently provided by the agency, and areas where these services are provided***

Library Services – Refer to page 17, “Determination 1 – Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies;” and page 19, “Determination 8 – Evaluation of Management Efficiencies.”

**2. *Financial capabilities and costs of service***

Library Services – Refer to page 18, “Determination 3 – Financing Constraints and Opportunities;” page 19, “Determination 4 – Cost Avoidance Opportunities” and “Determination 5 – Opportunities for Rate Restructuring.”

**3. *Topographic factors and areas of social and economic interdependencies***

The topography within El Dorado County varies from the foothills on its western edge to the peaks of the Sierra Nevada and the Tahoe Basin on the eastern end. The County is bisected by two major highways: Highway 50 running east to west approximately down the middle of the county and Highway 49 running north to south on the Midwestern section of the county. Large areas of social and economic interdependencies include the communities of Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Georgetown-Garden Valley-Greenwood, Shingle Springs-El Dorado-Diamond Springs and the Cities of Placerville and South Lake Tahoe.

**4. *Existing and planned land uses, land use plans and policies, consistency with county and city general plans, and projected growth in the affected area***

Library Services – Refer to pages 17 to 18, “Determination 2 – Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area.”

**5. *Potential effects on agricultural and open space lands***

The 2004 General Plan directs unincorporated growth to already existing population centers, or “community regions.” As noted above, CSA 10 encompasses the all of El Dorado County, which has various land uses. However, any reorganization of CSA 10 should not have a detrimental effect on open space lands since library and waste management services are not growth-inducing or lead to the premature conversion of agricultural or open space lands to urban uses. To a large extent, these services provide “quality of life” services that enhance the human, economic and resource assets of the county.

**6. *A description of the services that will be provided to any areas which may be added to the sphere and the timing and method for funding expansion of facilities or services***

Library Services – Refer to page 17, “Determination 1 – Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies;” and page 19, “Determination 8 – Evaluation of Management Efficiencies.”

**7. *An analysis of the effects of a proposed sphere of influence on other agencies and their service capabilities:***

Library Services – Any discussion of a reorganization that would affect CSA 10 would most likely not involve the CSA itself but the respective County departments.

**DETERMINATIONS**

In determining the sphere of influence for each local agency, Government Code §56425(e) requires the Commission to consider and prepare a written statement of determinations with respect to four factors. Staff recommends the following determinations for updating the sphere for CSA 10:

**1. *The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.***

The present land use in the CSA 10 service area varies, from urban areas (Cities of Placerville and South Lake Tahoe) to suburban areas (El Dorado Hills and Cameron Park) to rural and semi rural (i.e. Georgetown Divide, Tahoe Basin or South County) to open space and natural (such as the Eldorado National Forest or the areas along Cosumnes River and the North and South Forks of the American River). The 2004 General Plan would direct growth to already-existing communities. Consequently, growth will most likely occur in already-populated areas, increasing the service demand.

**2. *The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.***

Presently, all developed and undeveloped areas within the CSA 10 service area receive waste management and library services from two County departments, Environmental Management and Library, respectively. CSA 10 serves as a funding mechanism that enhances the revenue streams for these two departments. Given this background, there are no areas outside of the current CSA 10 service boundaries that are likely to require inclusion consideration within its sphere of influence in the foreseeable future.

**3. *The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.***

CSA 10 does not have staff or provide services by itself. It is a funding mechanism that enhances the revenues available to the Library Services and Environmental Management Departments. Primary funding for these two agencies comes from the County budget; however, these two departments would be severely impacted should the revenues raised by CSA 10 disappear.

**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.***

Because the CSA 10 covers the entire county, there are multiple communities of interest; however, while relevant to the agency, this sphere of influence would not separate or split a social or economic community of interest.

Based upon the information contained in this document, it is recommended that the County Service Area No. 10 Sphere of Influence be updated to be coterminous with its service boundaries, as shown in the map attached to Resolution L-2007-51.