



**Contra  
Costa  
County**

To: Board of Supervisors  
From: John Kopchik, Director, Conservation & Development Department  
Date: June 21, 2022

Subject: El Sobrante and East Richmond Heights MAC Boundary Changes

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

ADOPT Resolution No. 2022/226 amending the boundaries of the El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) to exclude the North Arlington neighborhood; and ADOPT Resolution No. 2022/227 amending the boundaries of the East Richmond Heights MAC to include the North Arlington neighborhood, as recommended by Supervisor Gioia.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.

**BACKGROUND:**

Contra Costa County is in the process of updating the County General Plan, which includes an evaluation of land use designations and land use policies. During that process, residents of the North Arlington neighborhood indicated to County staff that their neighborhood is similar to and shares common interests with the East Richmond Heights community, and therefore should be included within the territorial area of the East Richmond Heights MAC instead of the El Sobrante MAC. Residents of the North Arlington neighborhood have approached the District One Supervisor with a request to move their neighborhood from the El Sobrante MAC to the East Richmond Heights MAC.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **06/21/2022** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

**VOTE OF SUPERVISORS**

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor  
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor  
Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor  
Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor  
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: June 21, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: June McHuen, Deputy

Contact: Will Nelson  
(925)655-2898

cc:

On December 16, 2008, the Board of Supervisors adopted the County's Municipal Advisory Council Policies, which include criteria for establishing MAC boundaries. Each of the three criteria is listed below, with its application to the proposed boundary revision:

a. Use of Borders: The unincorporated community of interest may be bounded by established borders such as county and city limit lines, special district boundaries (including, but not limited to, park and water districts), census tracts, geographic features such as highways or waterways, and/or the adopted Urban Limit Line.

The North Arlington neighborhood is an unincorporated island, bordered to the north and west by the City of San Pablo and to the east and south by the City of Richmond. The neighborhood lies close to the edges of, but doesn't touch, the unincorporated communities of El Sobrante and East Richmond Heights, which each has a MAC. From a proximity standpoint, inclusion in either MAC's territorial area could be appropriate.

## BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

b. Population Density and Community Affiliation: Population density and recognized population centers should be considered in determining boundaries (where established borders do not exist). The unincorporated community of interest should also include the neighborhoods or residential areas commonly or traditionally affiliated with the name of the community.

The North Arlington neighborhood shares characteristics and is logically associated with the East Richmond Heights community. The topography, development pattern, architecture, and population density of the North Arlington neighborhood are similar to those of the East Richmond Heights community; the North Arlington neighborhood is generally oriented westward and enjoys sweeping views of San Francisco, the Bay, and Marin County, making view protection a shared and primary issue of concern, as is the case with East Richmond Heights; and Arlington Boulevard, the main thoroughfare through East Richmond Heights, lends its name to the North Arlington neighborhood.

c. Areas of Special Interest: When an unincorporated community of interest is adjacent to industrial areas or facilities (e.g., refineries, power plants, gas fields), these areas should be included if there are known or anticipated matters of public health, safety, welfare, public works, and/or planning. When an unincorporated community of interest is adjacent to government-owned lands (e.g., airports, special district lands, transitional military bases, etc.), these areas should be included only if there are known or anticipated matters of public health, safety, welfare, public works, and/or planning.

The North Arlington neighborhood is not adjacent to industrial areas or facilities. The neighborhood is adjacent to Alvarado Park and Wildcat Canyon Regional Park; however, at this location those public facilities are within the City of Richmond and therefore are not included within any MAC's territorial area.

Application of the foregoing criteria demonstrates that it is appropriate to amend the El Sobrante MACs boundaries to exclude the North Arlington neighborhood, and amend the East Richmond Heights MACs boundaries to include the North Arlington neighborhood, as requested by North Arlington neighborhood residents.

## CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the Board does not adopt the proposed resolutions, then the North Arlington neighborhood will remain within the El Sobrante MAC boundaries.

## ATTACHMENTS

Resolution 2022/226

Resolution No. 2022/226 Exhibit A - El Sobrante MAC Boundary Map

Resolution No. 2022/227 Amending the Establishing Resolution of the East Richmond Heights MAC Boundaries

Resolution No. 2022/227 Exhibit A - East Richmond Heights MAC Boundary Map

Resolution No. 2022/227 Exhibit B - East Richmond Neighborhood Council Boundary Map

