

MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE PLAN UPDATE

FOR

PINE CREEK CEMETERY DISTRICT



ADOPTED OCTOBER 3, 2019
BUTTE LAFCO RESOLUTION No. 04 2019/20

DISTRICT DATA SHEET

PINE CREEK CEMETERY DISTRICT

Contact: J. Baxter Knight, Trustee
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GOVERNING BOARD

The District is governed by a three-member Board of Trustees, who are appointed by the Butte County Board of Supervisors to serve four-year, staggered terms. The Board of Trustees meet at the direction of the Chairman.

FORMATION INFORMATION

The District was formed by the Butte County Board of Supervisors on February 1, 1937.

PURPOSE

- Enabling Legislation: Division 8 of the CA Health & Safety Code relating to cemeteries and specifically pursuant to Public Cemetery Districts (Health and Safety Code §9000 et seq.)
- Empowered Services: To own, operate and maintain cemeteries within jurisdictional boundary and provide interment services to district residents and property owners, as well as eligible non-residents.
- Provided Services: Sale of Burial Plots and Provision of Endowment Care.

AREA SERVED

- Supervisorial District: 2 & 3
- Number of Parcels: 645
- Acreage: 32,925 (51 Square Miles)
- Estimate Population: 1,857
- Location: Northwestern portion of Butte County, near Chico.
- Sphere of Influence: Coterminous.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

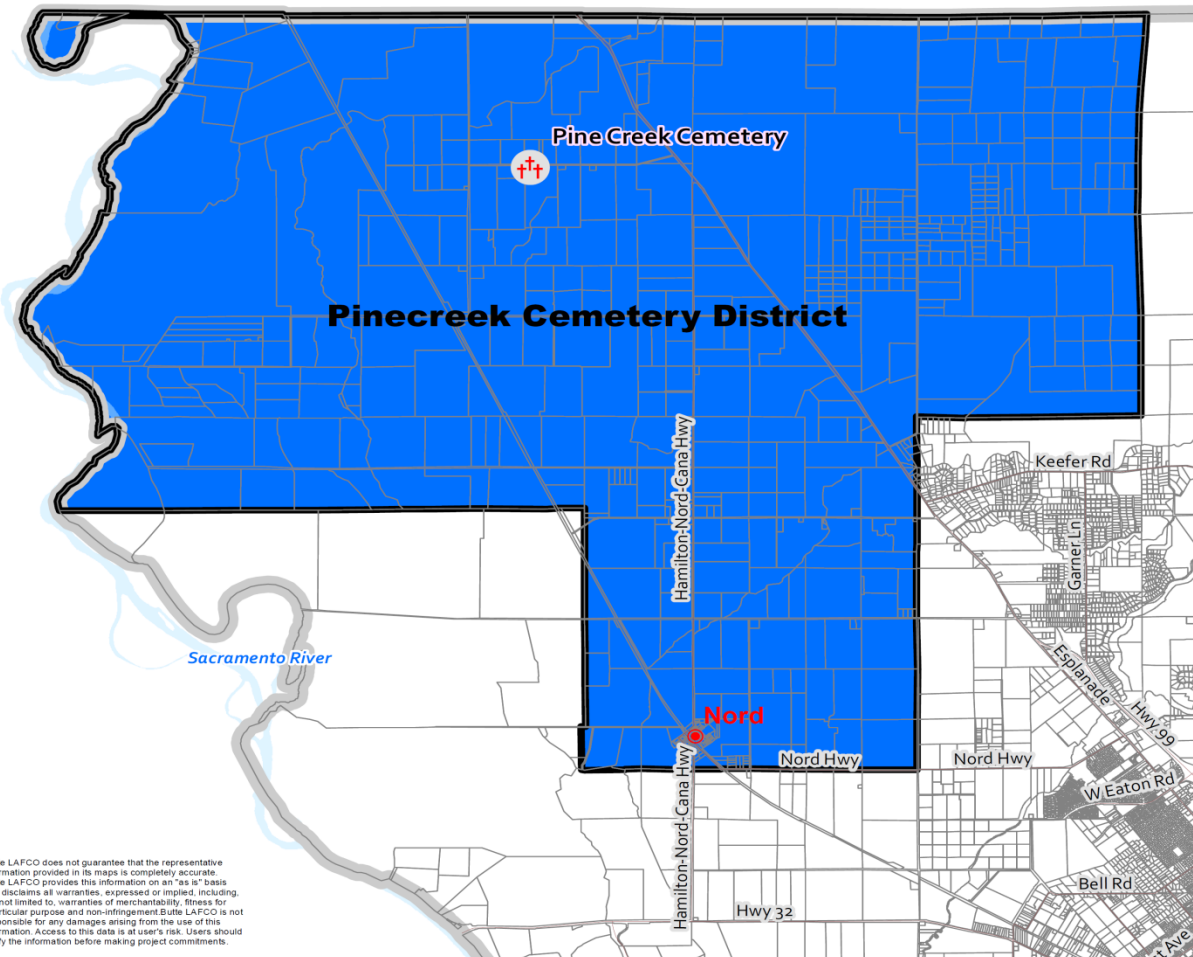
Fiscal Year 2018-19

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|--|
| Revenues: | \$14,488 | Property Tax Allocation, Charges for Services and Interest |
| Expenditures: | \$6,901 | Services & Supplies |
| Fund Balance, Year End: | \$43,421 | |

Pine Creek Cemetery District Boundaries and Sphere of Influence

Butte County Cemetery Districts

- Pinecreek Cemetery District Jurisdictional Boundary
- Pinecreek Cemetery District Sphere of Influence
- + Butte County Cemeteries
- Butte County Communities
- Butte County Major Roads
- Butte County Parcels
- Butte County Boundary



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Butte Local Agency Formation Commission

Sphere of Influence & District Boundary

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Action: Approved | Date: October 3, 2019 | Resolution: 04 2019/20 |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|



Pinecreek Cemetery District

0 1,250 2,500 5,000 7,500 10,000 12,500 Feet

C:/Projects/lafo_projects/lafo_cemetery_msr/cemetery_msr_pinecreek.mxd
Update: 6/14/2019

Data: Butte County & LAFCO

NOTE:

Upon commencement of the Butte County Public Cemetery District MSR/SOI Plan Update, LAFCo sent a memorandum, dated May 10, 2019 to the eight Public Cemetery Districts in Butte County. The memorandum provided the Districts with an thoroughly outlining the process, an evaluation questionnaire, a desired outcome and requested actions. *The Pine Creek Cemetery District did not respond, nor did it provide documents, as requested.*



District Characteristics

Formed in 1937, the Pine Creek Cemetery District is located in north western portion of Butte County, near Chico. The District is bordered by Glenn County and the Sacramento River to the west, Tehama County to the north, and the City of Chico to the southeast. The District includes no incorporated cities, but does include the unincorporated community of Nord. Since formation, no annexations or detachments have occurred. *The District owns and operates the Pine Creek cemetery located at 6195 Broyles Road in Nord.*

Municipal Service Review Factors for Pine Creek Cemetery District

Pursuant to GC §56430, in order to update a SOI for a city or special district, the associated MSR must include written determinations that address various factors regarding the ability of the subject agency to provide services. The following provides an analysis of the seven categories or components required by §56430 for the Municipal Service Review for the Pine Creek Cemetery District:

MSR Factor No. 1: Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District's jurisdictional boundaries consist of the northwestern portion of Butte County, near Chico. Population growth within the District varies by location. The following table provides population data for Butte County for the years 2010 to 2019:¹

California Department of Finance Historical Population Estimates

| Butte County | 4/1/2010 | 1/1/2011 | 1/1/2012 | 1/1/2013 | 1/1/2014 | 1/1/2015 | 1/1/2016 | 1/1/2017 | 1/1/2018 | 1/1/2019 | 2010-2019 Growth Rate | Compound Annual Growth Rate 2010-2019 |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Biggs | 1,707 | 1,711 | 1,703 | 1,713 | 1,708 | 1,767 | 1,899 | 1,905 | 1,894 | 2,066 | 21.0% | 2.34% |
| Chico | 86,187 | 86,819 | 88,068 | 89,283 | 90,217 | 91,306 | 92,117 | 93,383 | 92,861 | 112,111 | 30.1% | 3.34% |
| Gridley | 6,584 | 6,585 | 6,519 | 6,648 | 6,655 | 6,654 | 6,663 | 6,704 | 6,921 | 7,224 | 9.7% | 1.08% |
| Oroville | 15,546 | 15,532 | 15,524 | 15,989 | 15,994 | 16,139 | 17,999 | 18,037 | 18,091 | 21,773 | 40.1% | 4.45% |
| Paradise | 26,218 | 26,215 | 25,915 | 25,759 | 25,769 | 25,739 | 25,755 | 25,841 | 26,423 | 4,590 | -82.5% | -9.17% |
| Uninc. | 83,758 | 83,966 | 83,335 | 82,949 | 82,958 | 82,862 | 80,270 | 80,534 | 81,706 | 78,702 | -6.0% | -0.67% |
| Inc. | 136,242 | 136,862 | 137,729 | 139,392 | 140,343 | 141,605 | 144,433 | 145,870 | 146,190 | 147,764 | 8.5% | 0.94% |
| Total | 220,000 | 220,828 | 221,064 | 222,341 | 223,301 | 224,467 | 224,703 | 226,404 | 227,896 | 226,466 | 2.9% | 0.33% |

The growth rate of Butte County as a whole for 2010 to 2019 was 2.9 percent, which is a compounded annual growth rate of approximately 0.33 percent. As of January 1, 2019, the table reflects a population redistribution due to the devastating Camp Fire in November of 2018.

In May 2019, the Demographic Research of the California Department of Finance released updated population growth projections for all of the counties in the State of California². In 2030, the population projection for Butte County is 246,880 and is approximately nine percent higher than the county's current population. This represents a compounded annual growth rate of approximately one percent.

Based upon historical growth rates, the anticipated growth rate of one percent for Butte County as projected by the California Department of Finance for Butte County appears to be the most accurate. The current population project for the Pine Creek Cemetery District is 1,857 and is anticipated to grow at an annual rate of one percent.

¹ State of California, Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State, 2011-2019, with 2010*. Sacramento, California, May 2019.

² Projections prepared by the Demographic Research Unit, California Department of Finance, May 2019.

MSR Determination 7.1.1: The District's current population is anticipated to grow at an annual rate of one percent with no demonstrable effect on District services.

MSR Factor No. 2: The Location and Characteristics of any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

In accordance with CKH, §56425-56430, LAFCo is required to address the location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to a special district's sphere of influence if that city or special district provides sewer, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection services.

As a California PCD, the District was formed in 1954 pursuant to Division 8 of the HSC relating to cemeteries and specifically pursuant to Public Cemetery Districts (HSC §9000 et seq.) with the purpose to own, operate and maintain cemeteries within jurisdictional boundary and provide interment services to district residents, property owners and eligible non-residents. The District does not provide domestic water, fire protection or wastewater services. Therefore, pursuant to CKH, §56425(e)(5); LAFCo is not required to address disadvantaged communities within the MSR.

MSR Determination 7.2.1: The District does not provide domestic water, fire protection or wastewater services. Therefore, pursuant to CKH, §56425(e)(5); LAFCo is not required to address disadvantaged communities within the MSR.

MSR Factor No. 3: Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities, Adequacy of Public Services, and Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies including Needs or Deficiencies related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Capacity of Public Facilities

The Pine Creek Cemetery consists of 2.7 acres of which *one acre remains available for future use*. A conservative estimate for burials and disposal of remains allows that 800-1,000 persons can be accommodated per acre of land, which accounts for the variety of space needs for cremation and single-depth burials. The demand for services has averaged between two and three in recent years; therefore, it is anticipated that they will generally increase at the same rate as population growth.



With an average population growth of approximately one percent annually, it is estimated that the District could experience 36 calls for service through 2030.

Public Services

Pursuant to Division 8 of the HSC, the District:

- May own, operate, improve, and maintain cemeteries and provide interment services within its boundaries.
- Shall maintain the cemeteries owned by the District.
- Shall have exclusive jurisdiction and control over its maintenance and management.

The facilities of the Pine Creek Cemetery District are minimal and reflect the rural level of public service it provides.

Infrastructure

The District's infrastructure is limited to the physical facilities located at the Pine Creek Cemetery and includes an entrance gate, sign, irrigation and perimeter fencing, all of which appear to be in good condition. Although the District has no structures, it may have a well, as it appears there is an on-site water distribution system.



Equipment

It is unknown if the District owns equipment related to the operation or maintenance of the Pine Creek Cemetery. However, it is LAFCo's understanding that the District's Board President may use his personal equipment to open and close graves and that in the past, a part-time gardener, contracted for landscaping maintenance utilized his own equipment.

It is also unknown if the District has a capital improvement plan or other planning documents for the purpose of projecting future infrastructure needs, or if it has financial mechanisms in place to address said needs.

MSR Determination 7.3.1: Based on population estimates, the District has sufficient land resources to accommodate projected service demands beyond 2060.

MSR Determination 7.3.2: The District's facilities are minimal and reflect the rural level of public service it provides.

MSR Determination 7.3.2: The District currently has sufficient land resources and limited infrastructure to ensure that ongoing operations can accommodate projected services demands beyond 2030; however, lacks sufficient facilities and infrastructure planning, financial commitment and practices to ensure future facilities and infrastructure needs are addressed.

MSR Determination 7.3.3: The District currently has access to limited equipment to ensure ongoing operation and maintenance to existing equipment can be made in a timely and efficient manner; however, lacks sufficient equipment planning, financial commitment and practices to ensure future equipment needs are addressed.

MSR Determination 7.3.4: The District does not provide water, sewer, or fire protection services and therefore, is not responsible for assuring that these services are adequately provided to the area within its boundaries.

MSR Factor No. 4: Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

The District is financially solvent with respect to operating revenues and expenditures. In reviewing the District's services and supplies budget line items in both the current year and previous years' budgets, it appears that the District has no outstanding indebtedness, nor has it been a party to a legal action within the past five years, nor does it currently have outstanding litigation.

Revenues are primarily drawn from property taxes and interest, while expenditures consist of services and supplies. It appears that the District does not maintain a reserve fund and without any other financial mechanisms in place, it is probable that funding for future infrastructure and/or equipment would be budgeted and funded through its general fund.

Budget

On or before August 30th of each year, the District's Board of Trustees shall adopt a final budget (HSC §9070(a)). The District's Board of Trustees prepares a budget, including revenues and expenditures and submits it to the Butte County Auditor-Controller in August of each year. The final budget in which the District's Board adopts becomes operative on July 1st each year. The District's Board of Trustees must approve all supplemental appropriations to its' budget and transfers between major funds. District budgets are available upon request at the Butte County Auditor-Controller's Office, located at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 120 in Oroville.

Funds

The District's funds are deposited with, and maintained by, the Butte County Treasurer and Tax Collectors Department. The funds that the District deposits with the County Treasurer are placed in the County's Investment Trust Fund, which accounts for the assets of legally separate entities that deposit cash with the County Treasurer in an investment pool, which commingles resources in the investment portfolio for the benefit of all participants. The District receives dividends from the Investment Trust Fund. Because the County Treasurer and Tax Collectors Department maintains the District's funds, the District's annual budget is included as a part of the County's overall annual budget.

Following are the funds in which the District utilizes:

- General Fund. This fund accounts for all financial resources except those to be accounted for in another fund. It is the general operating fund of the District. As of June 30, 2019, the District's General Fund balance is \$43,421. The following funds are reported within the General Fund.
- Endowment Care Principal Fund. A permanent fund which is used to account for deposits for endowment care. A fee is charged for each burial right sold by the District. The principal amounts of the trust may not be expended, but earnings of the fund are transferred to the Endowment Care Interest Fund and may be expended for the endowment care of burial plots. As of June 30, 2019, the District's Endowment Care Principal Fund balance is \$47,590.
- Endowment Care Interest Fund. This fund is a fiduciary fund for the benefit of the district and are reported as reserved assets of the General Fund. As of June 30, 2019, the District's Endowment Care Interest Fund balance is \$14,137.



Pine Creek Cemetery District Budgets

| FUND | REVENUE | 2016-17 | | 2017-18 | | 2018-19 | |
|------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Adopted | Actual | Adopted | Actual | Adopted | Actual |
| 2220 | Current Secured Property Tax | 7,000 | 8,279 | 7,000 | 8,772 | 7,000 | 8,821 |
| 2220 | Current Supplemental Property Tax | 70 | 109 | 70 | 125 | 70 | 119 |
| 2220 | Current Unsecured Property Tax | 400 | 431 | 400 | 423 | 400 | 461 |
| 2220 | Prior Unsecured Property Tax | - | 10 | - | 15 | - | 12 |
| 2220 | Miscellaneous Taxes | - | 6 | - | 6 | - | 6 |
| 2220 | Interest | - | 136 | - | 206 | - | 245 |
| 2220 | FMV Adjustment - Unrealized Gain (Loss) | - | (121) | - | (178) | - | 211 |
| 2220 | Property Tax Backfill Secured | - | - | - | - | - | 451 |
| 2220 | Property Tax Backfill Unsecured | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 2220 | Homeowners' Property Tax Relief | - | 119 | - | 118 | - | 117 |
| 2220 | Charges for Current Services | 2,200 | 450 | 2,200 | 1,650 | 2,200 | 1,950 |
| 2221 | FMV Adjustment - Unrealized Gain (Loss) | - | - | - | (532) | - | 532 |
| 2221 | Miscellaneous Revenue | - | 700 | - | 350 | - | 600 |
| 2222 | Interest | - | 597 | - | 777 | - | 816 |
| 2222 | FMV Adjustment - Unrealized Gain (Loss) | - | (494) | - | (10) | - | 145 |
| | Total Revenue | 9,670 | 10,222 | 9,670 | 11,721 | 9,670 | 14,488 |
| FUND | EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
| 2220 | Services & Supplies | 12,500 | 9,202 | 12,500 | 7,635 | 12,500 | 6,901 |
| | Total Expenditures | 12,500 | 9,202 | 12,500 | 7,635 | 12,500 | 6,901 |

Camp Fire Impacts

The District experienced a \$454 property tax loss in the FY 2018/19 resulting from properties destroyed by the Camp Fire. State legislation allowed for a temporary backfill of this loss in revenue, as shown in the budget above.

Fees

It is unknown as to if the District has an adopted Fee Schedule, as the District did not provide a copy, as requested. However, in reviewing the Districts' budgets found within the County of Butte budget documents, the District is in fact collecting fees for current services.

Audits & Financial Statements

The HSC §9079(a), states that "the board of trustees shall provide for regular audits of the district's accounts and records and the district's endowment care fund pursuant to §26909 of the GC." In addition, §9079(b) states "the board of trustees shall provide for the annual financial reports to the Controller pursuant to Article 9 (commencing with §53890) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the GC."

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the District's financial statements. The District's financial statements include all transactions for which the District is financially accountable. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

According to the Butte County Auditor-Controller, *the District is on an approved, three year audit schedule*. Therefore, every three years, the District retains the services of a certified public accountant to prepare the District's financial audit. The District's last audit was for fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, 2015 & 2014.

Although the District did not respond to the LAFCo Evaluation Questionnaire, nor did it provide a copy of its latest audit, as requested; LAFCO staff was able to obtain copies from the Butte County Auditor-Controller. In reviewing the audit for fiscal years ending June 30, 2016, 2015 & 2014, the District was shown to be *in conformity with auditing standards* generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Controller General of the United States. The Financial Reports did not identify any deficiencies in the District's internal financing controls, material weaknesses, or significant deficiencies in the District's financial reporting.

The District's audit is available upon request at the office of the Butte County Auditor Controller, located at 25 County Center Drive, Suite 120 in Oroville.

According to comments received from the District's Board Chair, the District is currently undergoing an audit for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2019, 2018 and 2017.

| |
|---|
| <p>MSR Determination 7.4.1: The District is financially solvent and is in conformity with governmental requirements for financial accounting and auditing.</p> |
|---|

MSR Factor No. 5: Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

Due to geographic constraints, it is difficult for the District to easily share facilities with other public cemetery districts as none of the eight cemetery districts in Butte County are within close enough proximity to one another to make shared facilities and equipment an easy or profitable operation and thus, financially beneficial. It is unknown as to if the District has ever considered consolidation or reorganization with another cemetery district, or if it has an interest to do so.

MSR Determination 7.5.1: Opportunities for sharing facilities and/or resources are limited; therefore, no deficiencies exist as a result of the lack of shared facilities as basic maintenance and operational needs of the District are met through its current resources.

MSR Factor No. 6: Accountability for Community Service Needs, including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

The Pine Creek Cemetery District is the only public cemetery authorized to own, operate and maintain cemeteries within its jurisdictional boundary.

Government Structure

The Pine Creek Cemetery District is an independent special district governed by a three member Board of Trustees, with four-year, staggered terms, appointed by the Butte County Board of Supervisors. Members serve voluntarily and receive no stipends. According to the Butte County Registry, the District's Board of Trustees are as follows:

| Name | Term | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Start | End |
| J. Baxter Knight | 7/22/2008 | 7/31/2014 |
| Philip Wilson | 7/22/2008 | 7/31/2012 |
| Dan Marron | | |

Meetings

According to the District's Board Chair, the Board of Trustees meet once a year. An agenda for the Board of Trustees is publicly noticed approximately one month prior to the meeting at the entrance of the cemetery. Pursuant to HSC §9029, the District's Board of Trustees shall meet at least once every three months. Meetings are subject to the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, Chapter 9 (commencing with §54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the GC, as well as Title 42 of the , USC, Chapter 21.

The District's Board meetings shall be open to the public. Public comment shall be encouraged and any member of the public is welcome to address the Board with issues related to the District's areas of concern. No actions can be taken by the Board on such items at the time it is presented; however, the Board may agendize



such items for consideration at a future meeting. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Meeting agendas and minutes, including all records of the District shall be kept in a secure location, preferably in an electronic format for ease of access, retrieval and dissemination to the public, if at all possible via an internet presence.

Staffing

While public sector management standards vary depending on the size and scope of the organization, there are minimum standards. Well-managed organizations evaluate employees annually, track employee and agency productivity, periodically review agency performance, prepare a budget before the beginning of the fiscal year, conduct periodic financial audits to safeguard the public trust, maintain relatively current financial records, conduct advanced planning for future service needs, and plan and budget for capital needs.

The structure of the District is simple in that it **has no employees**, with all administrative and organizational needs, including budgets and review of financial information **accomplished voluntarily by the District's Board of Trustees**. The District did not respond to LAFCo's Evaluation Questionnaire, nor did it provide key documents, i.e., adopted budgets, independently prepared audits, rules, regulations, fee schedules or bylaws, as requested. Often the inability to readily provide key District documents and other service information is an indicator of administrative inefficiencies.

In addition, it appears that all cemetery maintenance and operations are conducted voluntarily either by the District's Board of Trustees or outside contractors.

Website

The District does not have a website, and although the costs associated may be prohibitive due to potential financial constraints, as well as lack of staff, establishing a website would enhance service provisions by making Board meeting notices, agendas, meeting minutes, financial information, audits, rules and regulations, fees and general information readily available to the public.

Every California independent special district is required to maintain a website by January 1, 2020. Senate Bill 929 added GC §6270.6 and §53087.8 to provide the public easily accessible and accurate information about the district.

A special district does not have to have a website if, with a majority vote of its governing body at a regular meeting, the district adopts a resolution declaring that a hardship exists that prevents it from establishing or maintaining a website. The resolution adopted under this exception must include detailed findings based on evidence included in the meeting's minutes that support the board's determination. Examples of hardship include inadequate access to broadband network facilities, significantly

limited financial resources, or insufficient staff resources. Finally, the resolution is only valid for one year. To continue to be exempt, the governing body must adopt a resolution pursuant to this exception every year so long as the hardship exists.

The California Special Districts Association has partnered with StreamlineWeb who provides a fully supported and hosted website template for special districts. More information is available at www.getstreamline.com/web/.

Community Service Needs

It is unknown if the District is closely aligned with the surrounding communities, or if it participates in activities with local community groups.

Operational Efficiencies

It is unknown as to how the Districts preserves its burial, financial and other general information. If the District is not performing backups to an off-site server, or at the very least, zip drives and then stored in a secure location, the District should endeavor to do so.

The District's current structure is minimally sufficient to provide basic services necessary to maintain operations in an effective and efficient manner.

MSR Determination 7.6.1: The District is the only public cemetery authorized to own, operate and maintain cemeteries within its jurisdictional boundary.

MSR Determination 7.6.2: The District should coordinate with the Butte County Board of Supervisors in an effort to fill existing vacancies on its Board of Trustees.

MSR Determination 7.6.3: The District does not appear to meet the Public Cemetery District Law requirement in that the Board of Trustees shall meet at least once every three months; nor does it appear that if public meetings are held, they are in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

MSR Determination 7.6.4: The District's information, i.e., agendas, minutes and records do not appear to be readily available to members of the public upon request. District records and information should be kept in a secure location, preferably in electronic format for the ease of access, retrieval and dissemination to the public, if at all possible, via an internet presence.

MSR Determination 7.6.5: In an effort to preserve burial records and all other records, the District should establish and adopt a record retention procedure to include a backup procedure to an off-site server, or at the very least, onto portable hard drives; and storing them in a secure location.

MSR Determination 7.6.6: The District should consider creating a website to enhance its service provisions, which will become a legal requirement on January 1, 2020.

MSR Determination 7.6.7: The District's current structure is minimally sufficient to provide basic services necessary to maintain operations in an effective and efficient manner.

MSR Factor No. 7: Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

None noted.

Sphere of Influence Factors for Pine Creek Cemetery District

There are numerous factors to consider in reviewing a SOI Plan, including current and anticipated land uses, facilities, and services, as well as any relevant communities of interest. Updates generally involve a comprehensive review of the entire SOI Plan, including boundary and SOI maps and the District's MSR. In reviewing an agency's sphere, the Commission is required to consider and prepare written statements addressing five factors enumerated under GC §56425(e). Each of the SOI review factors for Pine Creek Cemetery District is listed below, with a corresponding determination.

Located in the northwestern corner of Butte County, the Pine Creek Cemetery District includes no incorporated cities, but does include the unincorporated community of Nord. The District is bordered by Glenn County and the Sacramento River to the west, Tehama County to the north, and the City of Chico to the southeast. The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its jurisdictional boundaries. The District has not requested any changes to current SOI boundaries.

SOI Factor No. 1: The Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, including Agricultural and Open Space Lands

Cemetery Districts perform a unique and vital service to the communities they serve and are responsible for the efficient and effective operation of cemeteries and the protection of historic gravesites in perpetuity. They do not have any authority to make land use decisions which is solely the responsibility for the County and/or city in which their boundaries are located. As such, the District is subject to the land use ordinances, zoning laws, and regulations established by the responsible jurisdiction.

SOI Factor No. 4.6.1: The District has no authority over land uses nor are its services considered to be essential to the development of land use patterns.

SOI Factor No. 2: The Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

Population is projected to grow annually, at approximately one percent; the present and probable need for cemetery facilities and services within the District is anticipated to remain minimal.

SOI Factor No. 4.5.2: The District has sufficient land resources to provide public services and facilities to its residents and to the future growth that has been projected for the unincorporated community of Nord, as well as surrounding areas, particularly northwestern Butte County.

SOI Factor No. 3: The Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District has sufficient land resources to provide burial space to the existing and projected population within the District. The District's services and facilities are provided at a level commensurate with the expected operation of a small cemetery district.

SOI Factor No. 4.5.3: The District's present facilities and services are adequate for current and projected needs for the foreseeable future.

SOI Factor No. 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

In general, the District provides respectful and cost-effective interments.

SOI Factor No. 4.5.4: The District encompasses essentially the rural area in the northwest corner of Butte County, which includes the unincorporated community of Nord.

SOI Factor No. 5: For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District that Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, that Occurs Pursuant to Subdivision (G) on or after July 1, 2012, the Present and Probable Need for those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

The District provides a unique and vital service to the communities it serves. It is responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the cemetery, as well as, the protection of historic gravesites in perpetuity. While there are disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the District's sphere, the District does not provide public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection.

SOI Factor No. 4.6.5: The District does not provide public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection.

Sphere of Influence Findings and Recommendations

The Pine Creek Cemetery District SOI analysis and determinations indicate that:

1. The services being provided by the District are adequate and are being provided in a reasonably effective manner.

2. There are no substantial land use or service delivery deficiencies that demand modifications to the Districts' existing coterminous SOI boundary. In addition, neither the District nor LAFCo has requested any modifications to the existing SOI boundary.
3. The Commission affirms the existing coterminous SOI boundary as presented by the map in Section 7, Page 3.