TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

LAFCO MEETING AGENDA

March 2, 2022 @ 2:00 P.M.

NOTE: This meeting will allow Board Members and the public to participate in the meeting via Teleconference, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, available at https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill id=202120220AB361

The toll free call-in number for this meeting is: 888-475-4499 | Meeting ID: 876 2737 6776 | Passcode: 399803

Assembly Bill 361 requires agencies holding meetings via teleconferences to designate a publicly accessible location from which members of the public may observe and provide public comment. Although members of the public are encouraged to participate via teleconference, LAFCo has designated the following physical location for public participation:

> TULARE COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT 2500 West Burrel Avenue Visalia, CA 93291

Ι. Call to Order

Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2022 П.

III. Public Comment Period

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda and that is within the scope of matters considered by the Commission. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the LAFCO Commission at this time. So that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Commission may be limited at the discretion of the chair. At all times, please use the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

IV. **Action Items and Presentations**

1. <u>Remote Attendance at Public Meetings Pursuant to State Assembly Bill 361</u> (Pages 03-04)

LAFCO commissioners may continue to have the option to participate in governing board meetings remotely through the use of the teleconferencing provisions of AB 361.

2. Sphere of Influence Amendment to the City of Porterville, Case 1560-P-323A (Pages 05-12)

The City of Porterville has submitted a request for a Sphere of Influence amendment of

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste. B Visalia CA 93291

COMMISSIONERS: Rudy Mendoza. Chair Dennis Townsend, V-Chair Julie Allen Pete Vander Poel Liz Wynn

ALTERNATES: Larry Micari Fred Sheriff Steve Harrell

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Ben Giuliani

(Pages 01-02)

A F C C approximately 45 acres located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Linda Vista Avenue and North Newcomb Street. This item was continued from the July 7, 2021, September 1, 2021 and December 1, 2021 commission meetings for further study. A Mitigated Negative Declaration and addendum has been prepared in compliance with CEQA by the City of Porterville.

3. Public Member Selection Committee (Pages 13-18)

At least one month prior to the expiration of the term of office of the Public or Alternate Public Member, the Commission shall appoint a selection committee consisting of one County Member and one City Member. The term of office of the Public Member representing the general public on the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission expires on May 2, 2022. It is recommended that the Commission initiate action to appoint the members of the selection committee.

4. <u>Commissioner Code of Ethics and Roles & Responsibilities</u> (Pages 19-28) [No Public Hearing]Recommended Action: Approval

Enclosed is a Commissioner Code of Ethics and Roles & Responsibilities based off El Dorado County's policy with modifications based off of Commissioner feedback at the January meeting.

V. **Executive Officer's Report**

1. LAFCO 101

Enclosed is a presentation that has been summarized from CALAFCO's LAFCO 101 presentation. This presentation reviews the purpose and role of LAFCO with a focus on Tulare County LAFCO.

- 2. Legislative Update Enclosed is the list of 2-year bills carried over from the last legislative session with some additional new bills that CALAFCO is tracking.
- 3. Upcoming Projects The Executive Officer will provide a summary and tentative schedule of upcoming LAFCO projects.

VI. Correspondence

None

I. **Other Business**

1.	Commissioner Report	(No Page)
2	. Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas	(No Page)

П. Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting

1. April 6, 2022 @ 2:00 P.M in the Tulare County Human Resources and Development Building, 2500 W. Burrel Ave., Visalia, CA 93291.

III. Adjournment

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste. B Visalia CA 93291

(Pages 29-44)

(Pages 45-54)

(No Page)

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION 2500 W. Burrel Ave., Visalia, CA 93291 Tulare County Human Resources and Development Building January 19, 2022 – Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Members Absent:	Allen, Mendoza, Vander Poel, Townsend, Wynn
Alternates Present:	
Alternates Absent:	Valero, Sheriff, Harrell
Staff Present:	Giuliani, Ingoldsby, & Kane recording
Counsel Present:	Matt Pierce

I. <u>Call to Order:</u> Chair Mendoza called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the December 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Upon motion by Commissioner Vander Poel and seconded by Commissioner Wynn, the Commission unanimously approved the LAFCO minutes.

III. Public Comment Period:

Chair Mendoza opened/closed the Public Comment Period at 2:02 p.m. No public comments received.

IV. <u>New Action Items:</u>

1. Remote Attendance at Public Meetings Pursuant to State Assembly Bill 361

EO Giuliani explained the conditions outlined in AB-361 which had been created after the Governor's provision expired on September 30, 2021, and stated conditions would need to be reaffirmed every 30 days to allow for remote access.

Upon motion by Commissioner Vander Poel and seconded by Commissioner Townsend, the Commission unanimously reaffirmed AB-361 conditions.

2. Central California Emergency Medical Services Agency

Chair Mendoza introduced Mr. Dan Lynch, EMS Director; and Dale Dotson, Operations Coordinator; both with the Central California EMS Agency. Mr. Lynch shared the organization background and responsibilities for the agency. Mr. Dotson reviewed the ambulance zone map, response times, and performance standards. Discussion ensued regarding operating areas for ambulance districts and design for planning purposes.

3. Legislative Policy

EO Giuliani discussed the CALAFCO legislative platform and reviewed changes made for 2022. He requested that the Commission review the legislative platform for potential adoption or if any revisions should be made. No changes or revisions were recommended.

Upon motion by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Townsend, the Commission unanimously approved the legislative platform as presented.

4. Commissioner Training Policy

EO Giuliani outlined the commissioner training policy and noted that this item had been previously discussed during the December LAFCo meeting with verbiage recommended.

Upon motion by Commissioner Vander Poel and seconded by Commissioner Wynn, the Commission unanimously approved Commissioner Training Policy as presented.

V. Executive Officer's Report

1. Agriculture Report

EO Giuliani provided a review of the Agriculture Report that had been released recently and the Department of Conservation field report and farmland mapping.

2. Code of Ethics and Roles & Responsibilities

EO Giuliani presented the code of ethics from El Dorado County. Much discussion was had among the Commission and suggested edits were requested to better fit the Tulare County LAFCo. EO Giuliani stated that he would make the edits accordingly and bring back the code of ethics for review and adoption.

3. Public Cemetery District Report

EO Giuliani provided information on public cemetery districts in Tulare County with a focus on their finances.

4. Legislative Update

EO Giuliani reviewed the legislative report and stated that currently the bills listed are two year bills that had been carried over from the previous report.

5. Upcoming Projects

EO Giuliani stated that the code of ethics, ESA amendment agreement for the Sequoia gateway project, and a LAFCo 101 review were amongst the upcoming projects.

VI. <u>Correspondence:</u>

1. December 2021 – CALAFCO Quarterly Report

EO Giuliani reported that CALAFCO had been looking for a new Executive which was still ongoing. Commissioner training opportunities were discussed and EO Giuliani would forward any opportunities that became available.

2. SWRCB Letters to the City of Exeter and Tooleville MCW

EO Giuliani announced that this letter was informational regarding the ongoing process for the proposed consolidation of the water systems.

VII. Other Business:

1. Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Mendoza announced that the city of Woodlake had been continuing to grow and is in the middle of the fourth residential housing development, working in industrial park, roundabout projects, and overall much good work ongoing in the community.

2. <u>Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas:</u> None

VIII. Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting:

The next Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting is scheduled for **March 2**, **2022 at 2:00 p.m**. in the Tulare County Human Resources and Development Building, 2500 W. Burrel Ave., Visalia, CA 93291.

IX. <u>Adjournment:</u> The Tulare County LAFCO meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

LAFCO

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS: Rudy Mendoza, Chair Dennis Townsend, V-Chair Julie Allen, Pete Vander Poel Liz Wynn

ALTERNATES Larry Micari Fred Sheriff Steve Harrell

EXECUTIVE OFFICER Ben Giuliani

To: LAFCO Members, Alternates and Executive Officer

From: Matt Pierce, County Counsel

Subject: Confirm Conditions of State Assembly Bill 361 to Continue Remote Attendance

BACKGROUND:

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor suspended part of the Brown Act concerning the requirements for allowing Governing Board members to remotely participate in Board meetings. The suspended provisions require that (1) Governing Board meeting agendas allowing remote Board Member participation list each of the specific locations from which Board members will be remotely participating, (2) such agendas be posted at each such location, and (3) members of the general public must be allowed to remotely participate in the meeting from each of the listed locations. The suspension was done to promote social distancing and so to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

DISCUSSION:

The Governor's suspension of these Brown Act provisions expired as of September 30 and was replaced by new AB 361, an urgency statute that became effective as of September 30. Under AB 361, Governing Boards can continue to allow remote Board members participation in Brown Act public meetings if several conditions are met:

- 1. The meeting is held during a declared State of Emergency (Like the Governor's COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency that's still in effect in California);
- 2. The Governing Board adopts findings to the effect that allowing remote meeting participation by Governing Board members promotes social distancing, which in turn helps prevent the spread of COVID-19;
- 3. The Governing Board confirms these conditions continue to be met every 30 days.

RECOMMENDATION:

Confirm the conditions to continue allowing the option to participate in its governing board meetings remotely through the use of the teleconferencing provisions of AB 361

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENT:

None



TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 (559) 624-7274 FAX (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS: Rudy Mendoza, Chair Dennis Townsend, V-Chair Julie Allen Pete Vander Poel Liz Wynn

ALTERNATES:

Larry Micari Fred Sheriff Steve Harrell

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Ben Giuliani

March 2, 2022

TO: LAFCO Commissioners, Alternates, Counsel

FROM: Steven Ingoldsby, Staff Analyst

SUBJECT: LAFCO Case 1560-P-323A, Continuance

Background

At the July 7, 2021 LAFCO meeting, the commission continued a decision on LAFCO Case 1560-P-323A. This was a request for a Sphere of Influence amendment that would have accommodated a proposed annexation (LAFCO Case 1560-P-323) and included 3 additional lots to the south of the proposed annexation area. The Commission requested that the City of Porterville consider adding 4 additional parcels to the northwest of the original SOI amendment request to better square off the boundary.

On September 1, 2021, the case was heard for reconsideration. The request for reconsideration for the annexation was denied and the Sphere of Influence amendment was continued for further study by the City to add the requested lots. The Sphere of Influence amendment was again continued at the December 1, 2021 LAFCO meeting to allow for additional time to update the environmental analysis by the City.

Discussion

Though the proposed annexation was denied at the July 7, 2021 meeting, the commission chose to continue the sphere of influence amendment request and refer it back to staff and the city for further study, comment, and recommendations. As part of the discussion at the meeting, some commissioners expressed interest in potentially expanding the City of Porterville's Sphere of Influence to include additional parcels to the west of the requested area but wanted more information from city staff before making a decision. In addition to the four parcels identified by the Commission, the City is requesting to add three additional parcels to the SOI that would square off the boundary at the Friant-Kern Canal.

The current Sphere of Influence amendment request is for approximately 45 acres and includes the original proposal area and extends west to the canal right-of-way (**Figure 1**). All of the additional parcels are large-lot rural residential parcels.

Environmental Impacts

The City of Porterville is the lead agency for this proposal. The City prepared an initial study/environmental checklist and on the basis of that study and other planning documents, a Mitigated Negative Declaration and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) were approved for use with this proposal.

The City of Porterville has completed the study of the additional parcels to the west and has updated the Mitigated Negative Declaration to include an addendum that addresses the additional parcels for consideration in an expanded Sphere of Influence area. The addendum determined that there were no changes to the project that would cause an increase in impacts beyond what was previously analyzed. A copy of those documents is included in the application materials.

Impact on Prime Agricultural Land, Agriculture and Open Space:

The parcels in the proposed Sphere of Influence amendment are not under Williamson Act contract or Farmland Security Zone contract.

<u>Notice</u>

In addition to the noticing requirements found in Government Code Sections 56660 and 56661, notice was mailed to landowners and registered voters inside the expanded SOI amendment proposal area. Though mailed notice to landowners and registered voters is not required for SOI amendments, it was done in this case because of how much time had passed since the original hearing for the SOI amendment and annexation and in order to provide additional clarity that only the SOI amendment was being considered and not an annexation.

Required Determinations

GC §56425(e) requires that in determining the Sphere of Influence of each local agency the Commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to certain factors prior to making a decision.

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

The amendment to the Sphere of Influence includes land that is used for agricultural production and for rural residential and is anticipated for residential development.

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

The area will need increased services, including planning, building, police and fire protection, water and sewer service.

(3) The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services.

The City has adequate water and sewer capacity to serve the site. Other services which would

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT 1560-P-323A CONTINUATION

be extended to this area would be funded through the City General Fund, applicant and developer fees, and user fees.

(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.

The subject area does not contain social or economic communities of interest.

(5) The present and probable need for those public facilities and services (sewer service, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection) of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

There are no adjacent disadvantaged unincorporated areas (DUCs) adjacent to the proposed SOI amendment. DUCs in other areas of the SOI are addressed in the MSR for the City of Porterville.

Recommendations:

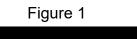
It is recommended that the Sphere of Influence amendment with the seven additional parcels be approved and that the Commission take the following actions:

- A. Find that the Commission has reviewed and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration, its addendum, and the Mitigation and Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared by the City of Porterville for this project and find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made or agreed to by the project proponent and that the inclusion of the seven western parcels does not add any additional environmental impacts.
- B. Adopt the written statement of determinations and find that the proposed City of Porterville Sphere of Influence amendment complies with the GC §56425.
- C. Find that there are no Williamson Act contracts within the SOI amendment area.
- D. Approve the Sphere of Influence amendment to be known as LAFCO Case 1560-P-323A

Figures & Exhibits

- Figure 1 Site Location
- Figure 2 Resolution

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT 1560-P-323A CONTINUATION



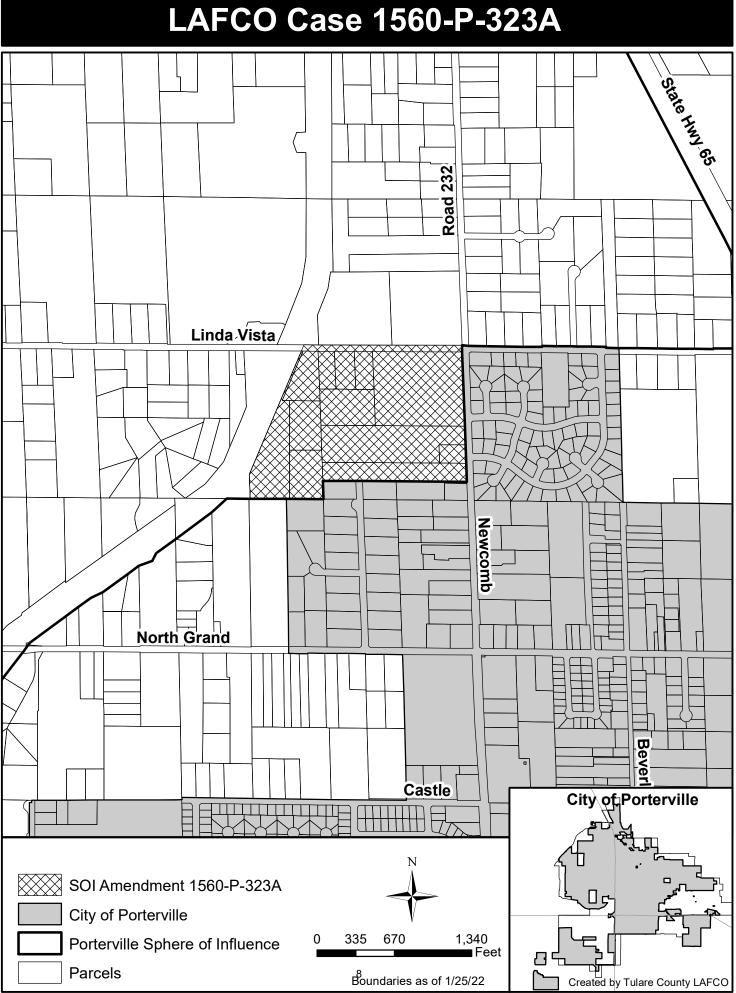


Figure 2

BEFORE THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF THE

COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Proposed Amendment to the)	
City of Porterville Sphere of Influence)	
LAFCO Case No. 1560-P-323A)	RESOLUTION NO. 22-XXX

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425, Local Agency Formation Commissions are required to establish, periodically review and revise or amend Sphere of Influence boundaries; and

WHEREAS, this Commission has adopted a Sphere of Influence Policy which requires that wherever possible, the Spheres of Influence for each of the incorporated cities and various special districts which provide urban services to unincorporated communities in the County reflect a twenty year growth area; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has read and considered the reports and recommendations of the Executive Officer; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2021, September 1, 2021, December 1, 20201 and March 2, 2022 this Commission heard, received, and considered testimony, comments, recommendations and reports from all persons present and desiring to be heard concerning this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The boundaries of the Sphere of Influence amendment are definite and

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certain as shown in Exhibit "A".

2. The information, materials, and facts set forth in the application and the reports of the Executive Officer, including any corrections, have been received and considered in accordance with GC §56427.

3. The Commission has reviewed and considered the information, materials and facts presented by the following persons who appeared at the March 2, 2022, public hearing and commented on the proposal:

XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX

4. All required notices have been given and all proceedings taken in this matter have been and now are in all respects taken in accordance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, as amended.

5. Pursuant to Commission Policy C-5.1, this proposal is a minor SOI amendment which is not subject to a MSR.

6. Pursuant to GC §56426.6, the Commission finds that the SOI amendment area contains no Williamson Act land.

7. The Commission has considered the following criteria as required under GC §56425(e):

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

The amendment to the SOI includes land that is used for agricultural production and for rural residential and is anticipated for residential development.

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

LAFCO RESOLUTION NO.**22-XXX** PAGE NO. 3 The area will need increased services, including planning, building, police and fire protection, water and sewer service.

(3) The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services which the agency provides or is authorized to provide.

The City has adequate water and sewer capacity to serve the site. Other services which would be extended to this area would be funded primarily through the City General Fund, applicant and developer fees, and user fees.

(4) The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area.

The subject area does not contain social or economic communities of interest.

(5) The present and probable need for those public facilities and services (sewer service, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection) of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

There are no adjacent disadvantaged unincorporated areas (DUCs) adjacent to the proposed SOI amendment. DUCs in other areas of the SOI are addressed in the MSR for the City of Porterville.

8. The City of Porterville, as Lead Agency, filed a Mitigated Negative Declaration,

its addendum, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Commission has reviewed and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration, its addendum and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program prepared by the City of Porterville for this project and finds that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made or agreed to by the project proponent.

9. The Commission hereby finds that the proposed amendment to the City of Porterville Sphere of Influence is in compliance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, GC

LAFCO RESOLUTION NO.22-XXX

PAGE NO. 4

§56425:56430 and 56377, and Tulare County LAFCO Policy and Procedure section C-5, Spheres of Influence.

10. The Sphere of Influence for the City of Porterville is hereby amended.

11. This Sphere of Influence Amendment shall be known as LAFCO Case 1560-P-323A

12. The Executive Officer is hereby authorized and directed to sign and file the Notice of Determination on behalf of the Commission and file said notice with the Tulare County Clerk pursuant to Section 21152 (a) of the Public Resources Code.

The foregoing resolution was adopted upon the motion by Commissioner ______ and seconded by Commissioner _____, at a regular meeting held this 2nd day of March 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

si



March 2, 2022

ALTERNATES: Larry Micari Fred Sheriff Steve Harrell

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Ben Giuliani

Liz Wynn

To: LAFCO Commissioners and Alternates, Executive Officer

From: Steven Ingoldsby, Staff Analyst

Subject: Public Member Selection Process

BACKGROUND

Members of the Commission are appointed to four-year terms of office and may be reappointed. Government Code §56325 states the Commission shall include:

(d) One representing the general public appointed by the other members of the commission. The other members of the commission may also designate one alternate member who shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56331. Selection of the public member and alternate public member shall be subject to the affirmative vote of at least one of the members selected by each of the other appointing authorities. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the public member or alternate public member position, the commission shall cause a notice of vacancy to be posted as provided in Section 56158. A copy of this notice shall be sent to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body of each local agency within the county. Final appointment to fill the vacancy may not be made for at least 21 days after the posting of the notice.

The Tulare County LAFCO Policy A-4 outlines the process for Selection of Members.

4.4 <u>Public Member Selection and Appointment Policy</u> (Resolution 96-06, 4-3-96)

The method for selecting the Public Member and Alternate Public Member should be equitable, efficient and clearly articulated for all concerned.

- A. In accordance with GC §56334, the term of office for the Public Member and Alternate Public Member shall be four years to expire on the first Monday in May or upon the qualification of the Commissioner's successor. The terms of office of the Public Member and Alternate Public Member shall be staggered by two years. The first full term for the Alternate Public Member shall begin on the first Monday in May, 1996.
- B. At least two months prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Executive Officer

shall seek application to the position from the community at large. Reasonable effort shall be taken to advertise the opening of the broadest selection of candidates possible. Candidates should be encouraged to submit a resume and statement regarding their qualifications and interest in serving on the Commission. This does not preclude the incumbent Public or Alternate Public Member from applying for appointment.

- C. At least one month prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Commission shall appoint a selection committee consisting of one County Member and on City Member. The committee will consider any materials submitted by the applicants and may conduct interviews of the candidates. It is anticipated that the candidates will be asked to present their qualification in an initial statement to be followed by questions from the members of the selection committee. Following this process, the committee will select a candidate to recommend to the commission. The Executive Officer will place the matter of the selection of the Public member or Alternate Public Member on the agenda of a regular meeting of the Commission. The recommendation of the selection committee will be presented to the Commission at the meeting. The Commission will select the successful candidate by a majority vote on a motion to appoint the candidate to the Commission.
- D. The application and selection process as outlined above shall begin immediately following a Commission determination that a Public Member or Alternate Public Member position has become vacant before the expiration of the term.

DISCUSSION

The Commission amended (10/5/11) the Public Member and Alternate Member selection and appointment process to open the positions to the community at large at least two months before the expiration of the Member's term of office. The incumbent member may also reapply for another term. The Public Member's term, currently held by Julie Allen, is expiring on May 2, 2022.

Listed below is the proposed timeline for the selection and appointment of the Public Member for the term from May 2, 2022 to May 4, 2026. The timeline can be extended if there or no applications for the position or at Commission discretion.

2/28/22 to 3/28/22	Advertise the Public Member position to the public.
3/2/22	The Commission appoints a selection committee consisting of one County of Tulare member and one City member.
3/2/22 to 3/28/22	The selection committee reviews applications, interviews as necessary and selects a candidate to recommend to the Commission.
4/6/22	The Commission takes action to appoint the Public Member. (Note: the appointment of the Public Member shall be subject to the affirmative vote of at least one County member and one City member.)

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission take action to appoint the members of the public member selection committee consisting of one County member and one City member.

BEFORE THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

OF THE

COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Committee)	RESOLUTION NO. 22-XXX
The Public Member Selection)	
In the Matter of the Appointment of)	

WHEREAS, the term of office of the Public Member representing the general public on the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission expires on May 2, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 56325 (d) provides that the Public Member of the Commission shall be appointed by the other members of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Tulare County LAFCO Policy A-4 at least one month prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Commission shall appoint a selection committee consisting of one County Member and on City Member; and

WHEREAS, the committee members will consider any materials submitted by the applicants, may conduct interviews of the candidates; and select a candidate to recommend to the Commission.

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LAFCO RESOLUTION NO. **22-XXX** Page 2

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

For the Public Member position due to expire on May 2, 2022, Commissioner (County Member) and Commissioner (City Member) are hereby appointed to the Selection Committee. The Committee will be charged with selecting a candidate to recommend to the Commission. The recommendation of the Selection Committee will be presented to the Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission. The Commission will select the successful candidate by a majority vote on a motion to appoint the candidate to the Commission.

The forgoing resolution was adopted upon motion of Commissioner XXXXX, seconded by Commissioner XXXX, at a regular meeting held on this 2nd day of March, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

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LAFCO

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 (559) 624-7274 FAX (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS: Rudy Mendoza, Chair Dennis Townsend, V-Chair Julie Allen Pete Vander Poel Liz Wynn

ALTERNATES:

March 2, 2022

 TO:
 LAFCO Commissioners, Alternates, Counsel
 Larry Micari
Fred Sheriff
Steve Harrell

 FROM:
 Ben Giuliani
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Ben Giuliani

 SUBJECT:
 Commissioner Code of Ethics and Roles & Responsibilities

Background

At the December 1st meeting, the Commission requested that a Commissioner Code of Ethics and Roles and Responsibilities be brought back to the Commission for review. Tulare County LAFCO does not currently have an adopted Commissioner Code of Ethics and Roles and Responsibilities policy. At the January 19th meeting, the Commission gave feedback regarding making modifications to the code of ethics and commissioner roles and responsibilities from El Dorado County LAFCO.

Discussion

Attached is the first draft of a code of ethics and roles and responsibilities for Tulare County LAFCO that were modified from El Dorado County LAFCO. Under the Code of Ethics, the reference to GC §56301 (regarding policies and procedures) was removed and replaced with GC §56001, the legislative intent for LAFCOs. The remainder of the code of ethics is a more summarized form of El Dorado's code of ethics. The Responsibilities of Commissioners is mostly the same as El Dorado's with the exception of the removal of the violation of the code of conduct section. That section just doesn't apply to Tulare County LAFCO.

Recommendation

The Commission can either adopt the attached documents with any potential edits or if there are significant edits needed, it can be further modified and brought back to the Commission at the next meeting for action.

Attachments: Draft Tulare County LAFCO Code of Ethics Draft Tulare County LAFCO Responsibilities of Commissioners El Dorado LAFCO Code of Ethics and Responsibilities of Commissioners

CODE OF ETHICS

The legislative intent for LAFCO is contained in Government Code Section 56001:

The Legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development which are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the state. The Legislature recognizes that the logical formation and determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor in promoting orderly development and in balancing that development with sometimes competing state interests of discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime agricultural lands, and efficiently extending government services. The Legislature also recognizes that providing housing for persons and families of all incomes is an important factor in promoting orderly development. Therefore, the Legislature further finds and declares that this policy should be effected by the logical formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, with a preference granted to accommodating additional growth within, or through the expansion of, the boundaries of those local agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services and housing for persons and families of all incomes in the most efficient manner feasible.

LAFCO is an independent commission and is not a part of or subordinate to the County, any city or any special district. Each Commissioner is independent in weighing and reviewing information and making determinations based upon the particular matter under review and in consideration of LAFCO's underlying purposes, as provided by the law (GC §56331.4). As they carry out their LAFCO responsibilities, Commission members rely on the expertise and experiences they have gained while serving on their appointing agencies. However, members will base their decisions on the policies and requirements of LAFCO law and the best interests of all the citizens.

Rules of conduct have been adopted by the Commission in order to conduct its business in a productive, thoughtful manner. Participants in LAFCO proceedings are encouraged to be courteous and respectful. LAFCO expects to hear differing opinions and points of view during the course of its deliberations. Interruptions and discourteous comments will not be tolerated by the Commission. Additionally, Commissioners agree to actively listen to each other, to voice their opinions, and to be respectful of staff, the public, and fellow commission members. Commissioners further agree to focus discussion on issues and to conclude issues in a timely manner. Each member accepts responsibility to stay focused on issues germane to the topic.

Commissioner (or Alternate) Name

Signature

Date

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSIONERS

Each member of the Tulare County LAFCO has a duty to:

- Diligently prepare for meetings by understanding the background, purpose, and arguments for and against items of business before a meeting.
- Seek background information about agenda items and operational matters by contacting the LAFCO's Executive Officer prior to the Board Meeting.
- Respect confidences and information designated as "confidential." Do not disclose information received during a Closed Session of the LAFCO Board held pursuant to state law.
- Treat everyone with respect by actively listening to other viewpoints, and not interrupting, ignoring, or belittling the contributions of others. Members of the Commission will use professional language.
- State views briefly and clearly during LAFCO Board and Committee meetings. Refrain from discussing non-agenda items.
- Refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges, or verbal attacks upon the character, motives, ethics, morals, or comments of other Commissioners, staff, or the public.
- Make impartial decisions in the best interest of the public, free of narrow political interest, financial, and other personal interests that impair independence of judgment or action, and are consistent with, but not limited to, the requirements of the Political Reform Act and other state and local laws.
- Recognize and accept legitimate differences of opinion. Act with integrity in accepting, supporting, and defending LAFCO. Once the Commission takes action, all Commissioners should respect the decision of LAFCO and not create barriers to the implementation of said action. The dissenting Commissioner(s) should acknowledge the decision of the Board and current position of LAFCO.
- Provide fair and equal treatment of all persons and matters coming before the Commission.

Rules of Conduct in Office. Each member of the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission has a duty to:

- Support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitutions of the United States and the State of California; and well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office.
- Commissioners will strive to work in cooperation with other public officials unless prohibited from so doing by law or officially-recognized confidentiality of their work.
- Abide by and defend all applicable laws and policies, especially the political campaign, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws enforced by the Fair Political Practices Commission, state laws, and the Tulare County LAFCO's Policies and Guidelines.
- Safeguard LAFCO's ability to make independent, objective, fair and impartial judgments by scrupulously avoiding financial and social relationships and transactions that may compromise, or give the appearance of compromising objectivity, independence, and honesty.
- Carefully consider if exceeding or appearing to exceed authority of office for personal or financial gain. When in doubt, avoid actions that create, in the mind of a reasonable

observer, the appearance of impropriety, ethical lapses, legal violations, or actions inconsistent with this Policy.

- Refrain from making unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind LAFCO.
- Refrain from using status as a public office holder to influence the outcome of a community meeting. When attending as a citizen, indicate when expressing personal opinions, and refer questions related to LAFCO policies to LAFCO's Executive Officer.
- Utilize LAFCO resources, including but not limited to, equipment, supplies, staff time, telephones, computers, and fax machines in a manner consistent with LAFCO policies and state laws.
- Correspondence paid for with public funds or on agency stationery must relate to bona fide LAFCO business and must not purport to advance or advocate a policy not previously approved by the Commission as a whole. No individual Commissioner shall create or transmit any LAFCO correspondence without authorization from LAFCO to serve as spokesperson for this purpose.

EL DORADO LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Appendix X

Code of Ethics

The legislative intent for LAFCO is contained in Government Code Section 56300:

It is the intent of the Legislature that each commission establish policies and exercise its powers pursuant to this part in a manner that encourages and provides planned, wellordered efficient urban development patterns with appropriate consideration of preserving open-space lands within those patterns.

LAFCO is an independent commission and is not a part of or subordinate to the County, any city or any special district. Each Commissioner is independent in weighing and reviewing information and making determinations based upon the particular matter under review and in consideration of LAFCO's underlying purposes, as provided by the law:

56325.1. While serving on the commission, all commission members shall exercise their independent judgment on behalf of the interests of residents, property owners, and the public as a whole in furthering the purposes of this division. Any member appointed on behalf of local governments shall represent the interests of the public as a whole and not solely the interests of the appointing authority. This section does not require the abstention of any member on any matter, nor does it create a right of action in any person.

LAFCO's composition is a balanced membership consisting of City, County, Public, and Special District members. The mixed membership ensures that various backgrounds and perspectives are reflected on the Commission.

As they carry out their LAFCO responsibilities, Commission members rely on the expertise and experiences they have gained while serving on their appointing agencies. However, members will base their decisions on the policies and requirements of LAFCO law and the best interests of all the citizens.

The members of the Commission include both regular and alternate members. All members, both regular and alternate, should attend all meetings, and all members voting are responsible for participating in discussions of issues and in facilitating the work of the commission.

Rules of conduct have been adopted by the Commission in order to conduct its business in a productive, thoughtful manner. Participants in LAFCO proceedings are encouraged to be courteous and respectful. LAFCO expects to hear differing opinions and points of view during the course of its deliberations

Interruptions and discourteous comments will not be tolerated by the Commission.

Additionally, Commissioners agree to actively listen to each other, to voice their opinions, and to be respectful of staff, the public, and fellow commission members. Commissioners further agree to focus discussion on issues (as opposed to personalities), and to conclude issues in a timely manner. Each member accepts responsibility to stay focused on issues germane to the topic.

Signature

Date

1.8 **RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSIONERS**

1.8.1 Each member of the El Dorado LAFCO has a duty to:

- 1.8.1.1 Diligently prepare for meetings by understanding the background, purpose, and arguments for and against items of business before a meeting.
- 1.8.1.2 Seek background information about agenda items and operational matters by contacting the LAFCO's Executive Officer prior to the Board Meeting.
- 1.8.1.3 Respect confidences and information designated as "confidential." Do not disclose information received during a Closed Session of the LAFCO Board held pursuant to state law.
- 1.8.1.4 Treat everyone with respect by actively listening to other viewpoints, and not interrupting, ignoring, or belittling the contributions of others. Members of the Commission will use professional language.
- 1.8.1.5 State views briefly and clearly during LAFCO Board and Committee meetings. Refrain from discussing non-agenda items.
- 1.8.1.6 Refrain from abusive conduct, personal charges, or verbal attacks upon the character, motives, ethics, morals, or comments of other Commissioners, staff, or the public.
- 1.8.1.7 Make impartial decisions in the best interest of the public, free of narrow political interest, financial, and other personal interests that impair independence of judgment or action, and are consistent with, but not limited to, the requirements of the Political Reform Act and other state and local laws.
- 1.8.1.8 Recognize and accept legitimate differences of opinion. Act with integrity in accepting, supporting, and defending LAFCO. Once the Commission takes action, all Commissioners should respect the decision of LAFCO and not create barriers to the implementation of said action. The dissenting Commissioner(s) should acknowledge the decision of the Board and current position of LAFCO.
- 1.8.1.9 Provide fair and equal treatment of all persons and matters coming before the Commission.

1.8.2 Rules of Conduct in Office

- 1.8.2.1 Each member of the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission has a duty to:
 - 1.8.2.1.1 Support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitutions of the United States and the State of California; and well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office.
 - 1.8.2.1.2 Commissioners will strive to work in cooperation with other public officials unless prohibited from so doing by law or officially-recognized confidentiality of their work.
 - 1.8.2.1.3 Abide by and defend all applicable laws and policies, especially the political campaign, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws enforced by the Fair Political Practices Commission, state laws, and the El Dorado LAFCO's Policies and Guidelines.
 - 1.8.2.1.4 Safeguard LAFCO's ability to make independent, objective, fair and impartial judgments by scrupulously avoiding financial and social relationships and transactions that may compromise, or give the appearance of compromising objectivity, independence, and honesty.
 - 1.8.2.1.5 Carefully consider if exceeding or appearing to exceed authority of office for personal or financial gain. When in doubt, avoid actions that create, in the mind of a reasonable observer, the appearance of impropriety, ethical lapses, legal violations, or actions inconsistent with this Policy.
 - 1.8.2.1.6 Refrain from making unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind LAFCO.
 - 1.8.2.1.7 Refrain from using status as a public office holder to influence the outcome of a community meeting. When attending as a citizen, indicate when expressing personal opinions, and refer questions related to LAFCO policies to LAFCO's Executive Officer.

- 1.8.2.1.8 Utilize LAFCO resources, including but not limited to, equipment, supplies, staff time, telephones, computers, and fax machines in a manner consistent with LAFCO policies and state laws.
- 1.8.2.1.9 Correspondence paid for with public funds or on agency stationery must relate to bona fide LAFCO business and must not purport to advance or advocate a policy not previously approved by the Commission as a whole. No individual Commissioner shall create or transmit any LAFCO correspondence without authorization from LAFCO to serve as spokesperson for this purpose. When otherwise signing correspondence using their title as Commissioner and presenting their individual opinions and positions, Commissioners shall explicitly state they do not represent LAFCO and will not allow the inference that they do. The following disclaimer shall be personal communication: used on "This correspondence and any documents attached hereto, reflects the individual opinions and positions of the above-named Director and does not represent the opinions or positions of LAFCO's Board of Directors or LAFCO. Pursuant to Section 1.8.1-1.8.1.9 of the LAFCO Policies and Guidelines, individual Commissioners, except as otherwise authorized by LAFCO, shall have no power to act for LAFCO or its Commissioners."

1.8.3 Violation of Code of Conduct and Decorum Policy

- 1.8.3.1 <u>Presiding Officer</u>. The presiding officer shall request that a person who is breaching the rules of decorum be orderly and comply with this Policy. After receiving a warning from the presiding officer, the presiding officer may agendize an item for the next LAFCO meeting to discuss the conduct and have the Commission determine if the conduct is in violation of this Policy. If a super-majority of the Commission determines the conduct was in violation of this Policy, the Commission's super-majority may impose any of the following remedial actions:
 - (a) Issue a letter of warning from the Commission;
 - (b) Adopt a resolution expressing disapproval of the conduct of the Commissioner and censure by the Commission;
 - (c) Remove the Commissioner from their position on any LAFCO committees;

- (d) Deny or reduce payment of stipend and/or expense reimbursement for meetings of outside organizations, if applicable; or
- (e) Deny or reduce payment of stipend and/or expense reimbursement for the LAFCO meetings at which the violations(s) occurred.
- 1.8.3.2 <u>Motion to Enforce</u>. If the presiding officer of the Commission fails to enforce the rules set forth above, any Commissioner may move to require the presiding officer to do so, and an affirmative vote of a super-majority of the Commission shall require him or her to do so. If the presiding officer of the Commission fails to carry out the will of a super-majority of the Commission, the super-majority may designate another member of the Commission to act as presiding officer for the limited purpose of enforcing any rule of this Policy it wishes be enforced.

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Item V.1 LAFCO 101

LAFCO 101

Helping to Shape Local Agency Growth

Tulare County LAFCO, 3/2/22

What is LAFCO?



- No, its not a comedy club
- LAFCO = Local Agency Formation Commission
- LAFCO is an independent agency charged with promoting orderly growth, discouraging urban sprawl, preserving natural resources, and ensuring efficient governmental services.
- Each County is required to have a Local Agency Formation Commission.

50+ Years of LAFCo

- 1963 Knox-Nesbitt Act
- 1965 District Reorganization Act
- 1971 Spheres of Influence
- 1972 Districts seated on LAFCo
- 1985 Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act
- 2000 Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act



What does LAFCO do?



The Commission reviews and approves or disapproves:

- Changes in boundaries (annexations, detachments, incorporations, formations, mergers and consolidations)
- Extensions of services beyond agency boundaries
- New special district services
- Municipal Service Reviews
- Spheres of Influence

Who is on LAFCO?



Our Commission Members:

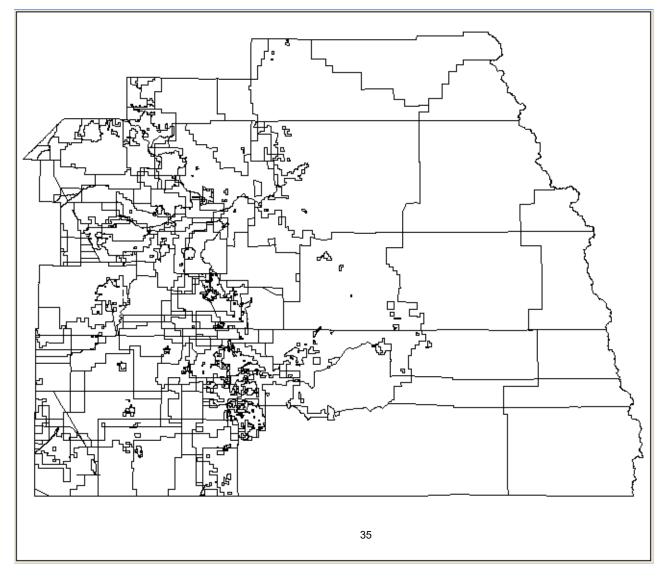
- County Pete Vander Poel, Dennis Townsend
- City Rudy Mendoza, Liz Wynn
- Public Julie Allen
- Alternates Larry Micari, Steve Harrell, Fred Sheriff

Our County

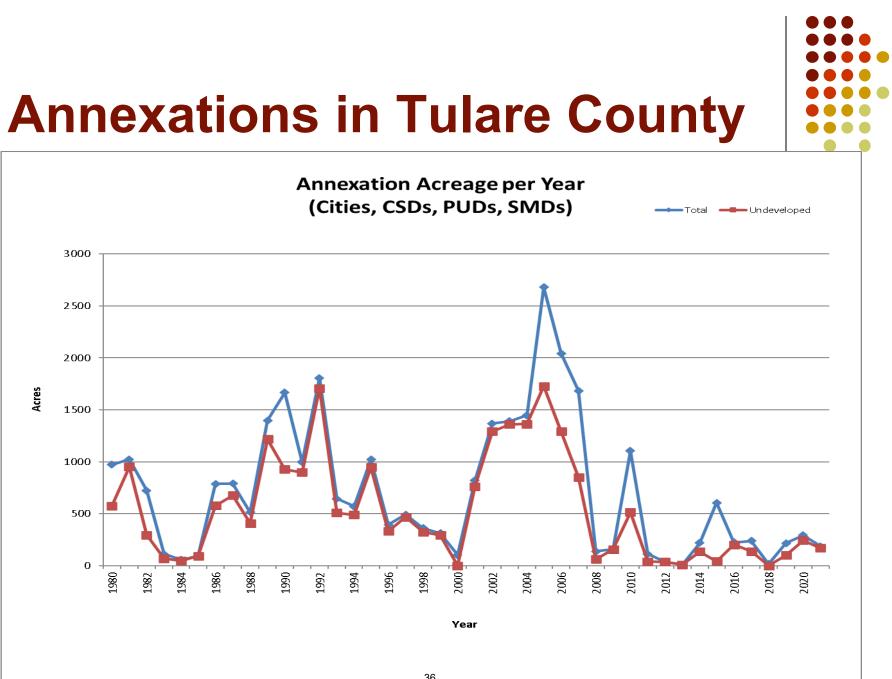


- 8 Incorporated Cities
- 94 Special Districts (Principal County)
 - Includes Irrigation, Community Services, Public Utility, Memorial, Cemetery, Hospital, etc.
 - Does not include School Districts, Air Districts and Financing Districts such as landscape and lighting districts
- 22 Special Districts (not Principal County)

Boundaries







MSR Purpose



- A Municipal Service Review (MSR) serves as the analytical basis used to develop the Sphere of Influence SOI for a city or special district.
- An MSR must be prepared at the time or prior to consideration of a SOI Amendment or Update.

MSR Contents



An MSR must contain written determinations with respect to seven factors:

- 1. Growth and population projections for the affected area
- 2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the SOI
- Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs and deficiencies
- 4. Financial ability of agency to provide service
- 5. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities
- 6. Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.
- Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by Commission policy.



Services Subject to Review

- Police Protection
- Fire Protection
- Water and Wastewater
- Solid Waste Collection and Disposal
- Streets and Traffic Circulation
- Power Generation and Distribution
- Health Care
- Mosquito Abatement

SOI Purpose

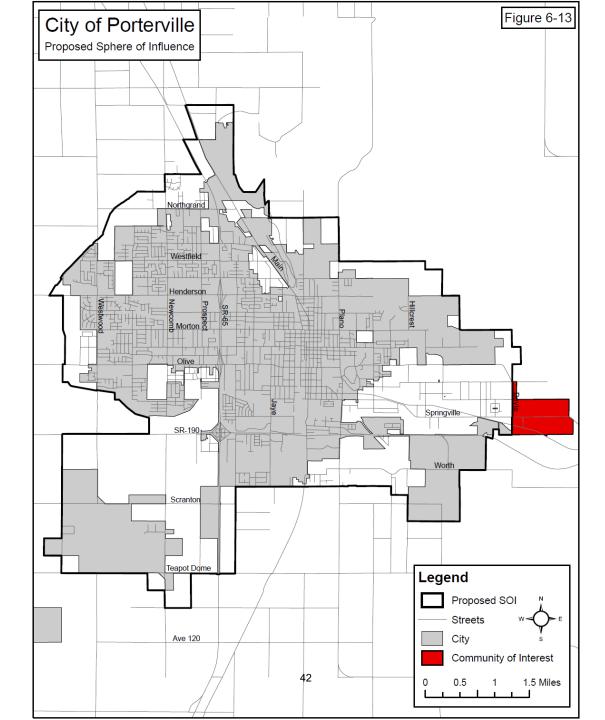
- LAFCO is charged with ensuring and enforcing orderly and logical growth and uses SOIs (Spheres of Influence) to do this.
- An SOI is LAFCO's determination of the probable growth and future physical boundary and service area of a local agency over a 20-year period.
- An SOI guides growth because a city or a district growth is limited to within the SOI boundary.
- A City or District can only annex land that is within the established SOI and adjacent to the city's boundaries.
- An established SOI can be amended; however, approval of an SOI amendment must undergo a detailed analysis (with a focus on why a deviation from the established SOI is necessary) and should only be approved in extraordinary situations.

SOI Determinations



In determining the SOI, the Commission must prepare a written statement of determinations with respect to the following:

- Present & planned land uses within area, including ag & open-space
- Present & probable need for public facilities & services in the area
- Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency is provides
- The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the Commission determines they are relevant to the agency
- The present & probable need for sewer, water and fire services for disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the SOI







 Information and resources on LAFCo law and process

Tulare County LAFCo: www.lafco.co.tulare.ca.us\lafco

Questions?





CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Tuesday, February 22, 2022

<u>AB 1195</u> (Garcia, Cristina D) Drinking water.

Current Text: Amended: 5/24/2021 <u>html pdf</u>

Introduced: 2/18/2021

Last Amended: 5/24/2021

Status: 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/9/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Summary:

Current law establishes the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury to help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and long terms. Current law authorizes the state board to provide for the deposit into the fund of certain moneys and continuously appropriates the moneys in the fund to the state board for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist eligible recipients. This bill would prohibit a public water system from transferring or abandoning a water right held by the public water system except upon approval of the state board, as prescribed.

Attachments:

CALAFCO Letter of Concern - April 2021

AB 1195 Fact Sheet

Position: Watch With Concerns

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: As amended on 4-6-21, the bill was gut and amended and now creates the So LA County Human Rights to Water Collaboration Act. It requires the Water Board to appoint a commissioner to implement the Safe & Affordable Funding for Equity & Resilience Program and gives the commissioner certain authorities (although they are not clearly spelled out). It requires the commissioner by 12-31-24 to submit to the Water Board a plan for the long-term sustainability of public water systems in southern LA County and prescribes what shall be included in the plan. The bill also creates a technical advisory board and requires the commissioner to oversee the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

In its current form the bill creates numerous concerns. CALAFCO's letter of concern is posted in the tracking section of the bill, and includes: (1) Focus of the bill is very broad as is the focus of the commissioner; (2) In an attempt to prevent privatization of water systems there is language regarding severing water rights. That language could be problematic should a consolidation be ordered; (3) Diminishing local control that is being invested in the state (an ongoing concern since SB 88); (4) A clear distinction needs to be made between an Administrator and Commissioner; (5) The poorly written section on the technical advisory board; and (6) The lack of LAFCO involvement in any consolidation process.

As amended on 5-24-21, the bill changes the water rights provision now requiring approval by the water Board; uses the definitions of "at risk system" and "at risk domestic well" found in SB 403 (Gonzalez) as well as the 3,300 connect cap; requires the commissioner appointed by the board to be from the local area; requires the commissioner to do certain things prior to completing the regional plan; and requires the commissioner to apply to LA LAFCo for extension of service, consolidation or dissolution as appropriate. The bill also creates a pilot program for LA LAFCo giving them the authority to take action rather than the water board, providing it is within 120 days of receipt of a completed application. If the LAFCo fails to take action within that time, the matter goes to the water board for their action.

The pilot program also gives LA LAFCo the authority to approve, approve with conditions or deny the application; further giving LAFCo authority to consider consolidation or extension of service with a local publicly

owned utility that provides retail water, a private water company or mutual; the bill also waives protest proceedings, gives the LAFCo authority to address governance structure and CEQA is waived, provides full LAFCo indemnification and funding.

There are still issues with the proposed technical advisory board section of the bill, and questions about timing of some of the processes. CALAFCO continues to work with the author and speakers' offices as well as other stakeholders on ongoing amendments. The bill is author-sponsored and we understand there is currently no funding source. A fact sheet is posted in the tracking section of the bill. CALAFCO's letter of concern is also posted there.

UPDATE AS OF 2/10/22 - According to the author's office, the author is not intending to move the bill forward at this time. CALAFCO will continue to WATCH and monitor the bill.

<u>SB 852</u> (Dodd D) Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/18/2022 html pdf

Introduced: 1/18/2022

Status: 2/7/2022-Art. IV. Sec. 8(a) of the Constitution dispensed with. (Ayes 31. Noes 6.) Joint Rule 55 suspended. (Ayes 31. Noes 6.)

Summary:

Current law authorizes certain local agencies to form a community revitalization authority (authority) within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined, to carry out provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law in that area for purposes related to, among other things, infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization. Existing law provides for the financing of these activities by, among other things, the issuance of bonds serviced by property tax increment revenues, and requires the authority to adopt a community revitalization and investment plan for the community revitalization and investment area that includes elements describing and governing revitalization activities. This bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, special district, or a combination of any of those entities to form a climate resilience district for the purposes of raising and allocating funding for eligible projects and the operating expenses of eligible projects. The bill would define "eligible project" for these purposes.

Position: Watch

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: This bill creates the Climate Resilience Districts Act. The bill completely bypasses LAFCo in the formation and oversight of these new districts because the districts are primarily being created as a funding mechanism for local climate resilience projects (as a TIF or tax increment finance district - for which LAFCos also have no involvement).

The bill authorizes a city, county, city and county, special district, or a combination of any of those entities to form a climate resilience district for the purposes of raising and allocating funding for eligible projects and the operating expenses of eligible projects. The bill defines "eligible project" to mean projects that address sea level rise, extreme heat, extreme cold, the risk of wildfire, drought, and the risk of flooding, as specified. The bill authorizes a district created pursuant to these provisions to have boundaries that are identical to the boundaries of the participating entities or within the boundaries of the participating entities. The bill also authorizes specified local entities to adopt a resolution to provide property tax increment revenues to the district. The bill would also authorize specified local entities to adopt a resolution allocating other tax revenues to the district by, among other things, levying a benefit assessment, special tax, property-related fee, or other service charge or fee consistent with the requirements of the California Constitution. It requires 95% of monies collected to fund eligible projects, and 5% for district administration. The bill would require each district to

prepare an annual expenditure plan and an operating budget and capital improvement budget, which must be adopted by the governing body of the district and subject to review and revision at least annually.

Section 62304 details the formation process, Section 62305 addresses the district's governance structure, and 62307 outlines the powers of the district. This bill is sponsored by the Local Government Commission and is keyed fiscal.

<u>SB 938</u> (<u>Hertzberg</u> D) The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: protest proceedings: procedural consolidation.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/8/2022 <u>html</u> pdf Introduced: 2/8/2022 Status: 2/16/2022-Referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified. Under current law, in each county there is a local agency formation commission that oversees these changes of organization and reorganization. With a specified exception, current law provides for protest proceedings for a change of organization or reorganization following adoption of a resolution making certain determinations by the commission, as provided. Current law sets forth required procedures for the commission following a protest hearing depending on the nature of the conducting authority, as defined, the type of change of organization or reorganization, and the results of the protest proceeding. The bill would reorganize and consolidate the above-described procedures. The bill would make conforming changes and remove obsolete provisions.

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures, Other

<u>AB 1944</u> (Lee D) Local government: open and public meetings.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/10/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/10/2022

Status: 2/18/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary:

Current law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Current law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with those specified teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. This bill would specify that if a member of a legislative body elects to teleconference from a location that is not public, the address does not need to be identified in the notice and agenda or be accessible to the public when the legislative body has elected to allow members to participate via teleconferencing.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would delete the requirement that an individual participating in a Brown Act meeting remotely from a non-public location must disclose the address of the location. If the governing body chooses to allow for remote participation, it must also provide video streaming and offer public comment via video or phone.

<u>AB 2449</u> (Rubio, Blanca D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2022 html pdf

Introduced: 2/17/2022

Status: 2/18/2022-From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

Summary:

Current law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with specified teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. This bill would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with those specified teleconferencing requirements if at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the local agency's jurisdiction. The bill would impose prescribed requirements for this exception relating to notice, agendas, the means and manner of access, and procedures for disruptions. The bill would require the legislative body to implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with federal law.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill authorizes the use of teleconferencing without noticing and making available to the public teleconferencing locations if a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate in person from a singular location that is noticed and open to the public and require the legislative body to offer public comment via video or phone.

<u>AB 2647</u> (Levine D) Local government: open meetings.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/18/2022

Status: 2/18/2022-Introduced. To print.

Summary:

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires the meetings of the legislative body of a local agency to be conducted openly and publicly, with specified exceptions. Current law makes agendas of public meetings and other writings distributed to the members of the governing board disclosable public records, with certain exceptions. Current law requires a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency designates. This bill would instead require a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency designates or post the writings on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting.

Position: Watch Subject: Brown Act

<u>SB 1100</u> (<u>Cortese</u> D) Open meetings: orderly conduct.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/16/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/16/2022 Status: 2/17/2022-From printer.

Summary:

(1)Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Existing law requires every agenda for regular meetings of a local agency to provide an

opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Existing law authorizes the legislative body to adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of the provisions relating to this public comment requirement is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker. Existing law authorizes the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting to order the meeting room cleared and continue in session, as prescribed, if a group or groups have willfully interrupted the orderly conduct of a meeting and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting. This bill would authorize the members of the legislative body conducting a meeting to remove an individual for willfully interrupting the meeting. The bill, except as provided, would require removal to be preceded by a warning, either by the presiding member of the legislative body or a law enforcement officer, that the individual is disrupting the proceedings and a request that the individual curtail their disruptive behavior or be subject to removal. The bill would similarly require a warning before clearing a meeting room for willful interruptions by a group or groups. The bill would define "willfully interrupting" to mean intentionally engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that substantially impairs or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting in accordance with law. The term would include failure to comply with a reasonable regulation adopted in accordance with existing law after a warning and request in accordance with the bill, as applicable. By establishing new requirements for local legislative bodies, this bill would impose a state-mandated program.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would authorize the removal of an individual from a public meeting who is "willfully interrupting" the meeting after a warning and a request to stop their behavior. "Willfull interrupting" is defined as intentionally engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that substantially impairs or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting in accordance with law. The bill is author-sponsored and keyed fiscal.

<u>AB 897</u> (<u>Mullin</u> D) Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans.

Current Text: Amended: 7/14/2021 <u>html_pdf</u> Introduced: 2/17/2021 Last Amended: 7/14/2021 Status: 8/27/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(12). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/16/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Summary:

Current law requires, by July 1, 2017, and every 3 years thereafter, the Natural Resources Agency to update, as prescribed, the state's climate adaptation strategy, known as the Safeguarding California Plan. Current law establishes the Office of Planning and Research in state government in the Governor's office. Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program to be administered by the office to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as prescribed. This bill would authorize eligible entities, as defined, to establish and participate in a regional climate network, as defined. The bill would require the office, through the program, to encourage the inclusion of eligible entities with land use planning and hazard mitigation planning authority into regional climate networks. The bill would authorize a regional climate network to engage in activities to address climate change, as specified.

Attachments:

CALAFCO Support July 2021 AB 897 Fact Sheet

Position: Support **Subject:** Climate Change

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, the bill builds on existing programs through OPR by promoting regional collaboration in climate adaptation planning and providing guidance for regions to identify and prioritize projects necessary to respond to the climate vulnerabilities of their region.

As amended, the bill requires OPR to develop guidelines (the scope of which are outlined in the bill) for Regional Climate Adaptation Action Plans (RCAAPs) by 1-1-23 through their normal public process. Further the bill requires OPR to make recommendations to the Legislature on potential sources of financial assistance for the creation & implementation of RCAAPs, and ways the state can support the creation and ongoing work of regional climate networks. The bill outlines the authority of a regional climate network, and defines eligible entities. Prior versions of the bill kept the definition as rather generic and with each amended version gets more specific. As a result, CALAFCO has requested the author add LAFCOs explicitly to the list of entities eligible to participate in these regional climate networks.

As amended on 4/7, AB 11 (Ward) was joined with this bill - specifically found in 71136 in the Public Resources Code as noted in the amended bill. Other amendments include requiring OPR to, before 7-1-22, establish geographic boundaries for regional climate networks and prescribes requirements in doing so. This is an authorsponsored bill. The bill necessitates additional resources from the state to carry out the additional work required of OPR (there is no current budget appropriation). A fact sheet is posted in the tracking section of the bill.

As amended 4/19/21: There is no longer a requirement for OPR to include in their guidelines how a regional climate network may develop their plan: it does require ("may" to "shall") a regional climate network to develop a regional climate adaptation plan and submit it to OPR for approval; adds requirements of what OPR shall publish on their website; and makes several other minor technical changes.

As amended 7/1/21, the bill now explicitly names LAFCo as an eligible entity. It also adjusts several timelines for OPR's requirements including establishing boundaries for the regional climate networks, develop guidelines and establish standards for the networks, and to make recommendations to the Legislature related to regional adaptation. Give the addition of LAFCo as an eligible entity, CALAFCO is now in support of the bill.

Amendments of 7/14/21, as requested by the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee, mostly do the following: (1) Include "resilience" to climate adaptation; (2) Prioritize the most vulnerable communities; (3) Add definitions for "under-resourced" and "vulnerable" communities; (4) Remove the requirement for OPR to establish geographic boundaries for the regional climate networks; (5) Include agencies with hazard mitigation authority and in doing so also include the Office of Emergency Services to work with OPR to establish guidelines and standards required for the climate adaptation and resilience plan; and (6) Add several regional and local planning documents to be used in the creation of guidelines.

UPDATE: The bill was held in Appropriations as a 2-year bill.

<u>AB 903</u> (Frazier D) Los Medanos Community Healthcare District.

Current Text: Amended: 4/19/2021 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/17/2021 Last Amended: 4/19/2021 Status: 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 5/19/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Summary:

Would require the dissolution of the Los Medanos Community Healthcare District, as specified. The bill would require the County of Contra Costa to be successor of all rights and responsibilities of the district, and require the county to develop and conduct the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program focused on comprehensive health-related services in the district's territory. The bill would require the county to complete a property tax transfer process to ensure the transfer of the district's health-related ad valorem property tax revenues to the county for the sole purpose of funding the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program. By requiring a higher level of service from the County of Contra Costa as specified, the bill would impose a statemandated local program.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: This bill mandates the dissolution of the Los Medanos Community Healthcare District with the County as the successor agency, effective 2-1-22. The bill requires the County to perform certain acts prior to the dissolution. The LAFCo is not involved in the dissolution as the bill is written. Currently, the district is suing both the Contra Costa LAFCo and the County of Contra Costa after the LAFCo approved the dissolution of the district upon application by the County and the district failed to get enough signatures in the protest process to go to an election.

As amended on 4/19/21, the bill specifies monies received by the county as part of the property tax transfer shall be used specifically to fund the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program within the district's territory. It further adds a clause that any new or existing profits shall be used solely for the purpose of the grant program within the district's territory. The bill did not pass out of Senate Governance & Finance Committee and will not move forward this year. It may be acted on in 2022.

2022 UPDATE: Given Member Frazier is no longer in the Assembly and the appellate court overturned the lower court's decision, it is likely the bill will not move forward. CALAFCO will retain WACTH on the bill.

AB 975 (Rivas, Luz D) Political Reform Act of 1974: statement of economic interests and gifts.

Current Text: Amended: 5/18/2021 <u>html</u> pdf Introduced: 2/18/2021 Last Amended: 5/18/2021

Status: 2/1/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

Summary:

The Political Reform Act of 1974 regulates conflicts of interests of public officials and requires that public officials file, with specified filing officers, periodic statements of economic interests disclosing certain information regarding income, investments, and other financial data. The Fair Political Practices Commission is the filing officer for statewide elected officers and candidates and other specified public officials. If the Commission is the filing officer, the public official generally files with their agency or another person or entity, who then makes a copy and files the original with the Commission. This bill would revise and recast these filing requirements to make various changes, including requiring public officials and candidates for whom the Commission is the filing officer to file their original statements of economic interests electronically with the Commission.

Position: Watch

Subject: FPPC

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill makes two notable changes to the current requirements of gift notification and reporting: (1) It increases the period for public officials to reimburse, in full or part, the value of attending an invitation-only event, for purposes of the gift rules, from 30 days from receipt to 30 days following the calendar quarter in which the gift was received; and (2) It reduces the gift notification period for lobbyist employers from 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter in which the gift after the end of the calendar quarter in which the gift was received; and (2) It reduces the gift was provided to 15 days after the

calendar quarter. Further it requires the FPPC to have an online filing system and to redact contact information of filers before posting. The amendments on 5/18/21 clarify who is to file a statement of economic interest to include candidates (prior text was office holders).

<u>AB 1773</u> (<u>Patterson</u> R) Williamson Act: subvention payments: appropriation.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/3/2022 html pdf

Introduced: 2/3/2022

Status: 2/10/2022-Referred to Coms. on AGRI. and L. GOV.

Summary:

The Williamson Act, also known as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, authorizes a city or county to enter into contracts with owners of land devoted to agricultural use, whereby the owners agree to continue using the property for that purpose, and the city or county agrees to value the land accordingly for purposes of property taxation. Existing law sets forth procedures for reimbursing cities and counties for property tax revenues not received as a result of these contracts and continuously appropriates General Fund moneys for that purpose. This bill, for the 2022–23 fiscal year, would appropriate an additional \$40,000,000 from the General Fund to the Controller to make subvention payments to counties, as provided, in proportion to the losses incurred by those counties by reason of the reduction of assessed property taxes. The bill would make various findings in this regard.

Position: Watch **Subject:** Ag Preservation - Williamson

AB 1935 (Grayson D) Resource conservation districts: formation.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/10/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/10/2022

Status: 2/18/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary:

Current law authorizes the formation of a resource conservation district in accordance with prescribed procedures for the control of runoff, the prevention or control of soil erosion, the development and distribution of water, and the improvement of land capabilities. Under current law, a proposal to form a district may be made by a petition of registered voters, as specified. Current law requires, within 30 days after the date of filing a petition, the executive officer of the local agency formation commission to cause the petition to be examined and prepare a certificate of sufficiency, as provided. Current law authorizes, within 15 days after a notice of insufficiency, the chief petitioners to file with the executive officer a supplemental petition, as provided. Current law requires, within 10 days after the date of filing a supplemental petition, the executive officer to examine the supplemental petition and certify in writing the results of their examination. This bill would increase the amount of time, from 30 to 45 days after the date of filing a petition, for the executive officer of the local agency formation commission to cause the petitioners. Placeholder - Spot Bill

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office, this is a spot bill and the topic will change. CALAFCO was unaware of the bill prior to introduction.

<u>AB 2041</u> (<u>Garcia, Eduardo</u> D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: primary drinking water standards: compliance.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/14/2022 Status: 2/15/2022-From printer. May be heard in committee March 17.

Summary:

Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to take specified actions if the state board adopts a primary drinking water standard with a compliance period for which public water systems are given a designated period of time to install necessary measures, including, but not limited to, installation of water treatment systems, to comply with the primary drinking water standard without being held in violation of the primary drinking water standard. Those actions would include, among other actions, developing a financial plan to assist public water systems that will require financial assistance in procuring and installing the necessary measures.

Position: Watch Subject: Water

<u>AB 2081</u> (Garcia, Eduardo D) Municipal water districts: water service: Indian lands.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2022 html pdf

Introduced: 2/14/2022

Status: 2/15/2022-From printer. May be heard in committee March 17.

Summary:

The Municipal Water District Law of 1911 provides for the formation of municipal water districts and grants to those districts specified powers. Current law permits a district to acquire, control, distribute, store, spread, sink, treat, purify, recycle, recapture, and salvage any water for the beneficial use of the district, its inhabitants, or the owners of rights to water in the district. Current law, upon the request of certain Indian tribes and the satisfaction of certain conditions, requires a district to provide service of water at substantially the same terms applicable to the customers of the district, until January 1, 2023, under specified circumstances, to apply to the applicable local agency formation commission to provide this service of water to Indian lands, as defined, that are not within the district and requires the local agency formation commission to approve such an application. This bill would extend the above provisions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commissions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commissions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation.

Position: Watch Subject: Water

SB 12 (McGuire D) Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.

Current Text: Amended: 7/1/2021 <u>html pdf</u>

Introduced: 12/7/2020

Last Amended: 7/1/2021

Status: 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 6/24/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

Summary:

Current law requires that the Office of Planning and Research, among other things, coordinate with appropriate entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided. This bill would require the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element or the hazard mitigation plan, on or after July 1, 2024, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to reduce the risk of property loss and damage during wildfires, as specified, and would require the planning agency to submit the adopted strategy to the Office of Planning and Research for inclusion into the above-described clearinghouse.

Position: Watch

Subject: Growth Management, Planning

<u>SB 418</u> (Laird D) Pajaro Valley Health Care District.

Current Text: Chaptered: 2/4/2022 <u>html pdf</u>

Introduced: 2/12/2021

Last Amended: 1/24/2022

Status: 2/4/2022-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 1, Statutes of 2022. **Summary:**

Would create the Pajaro Valley Health Care District, as specified, except that the bill would authorize the Pajaro Valley Health Care District to be organized, incorporated, and managed, only if the relevant county board of supervisors chooses to appoint an initial board of directors.

Position: Watch

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: Gut and amended on 1/14/22, this bill forms the Pajaro Valley Health Care District within Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. The formation, done by special legislation, bypasses the LAFCo process, with language explicitly stating upon formation, LAFCo shall have authority. The bill requires that within 5 years of the date of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the district, the board of directors shall divide the district into zones. The bill would require the district to notify Santa Cruz LAFCo when the district, or any other entity, acquires the Watsonville Community Hospital. The bill requires the LAFCo to order the dissolution of the district if the hospital has not been acquired by January 1, 2024 through a streamlined process, and requires the district to notify LAFCo if the district sells the Watsonville Community Hospital to another entity or stops providing health care services at the facility, requiring the LAFCo to dissolve the district under those circumstances in a streamlined process.

Given the hospital has filed bankruptcy and this is the only hospital in the area and serves disadvantaged communities and employs a large number of people in the area, the bill has an urgency clause. Several amendments were added on 1/24/22 by the ALGC and SGFC all contained within Section 32498.7.

CALAFCO worked closely with the author's office, Santa Cruz County lobbyist and the Santa Cruz and Monterey LAFCos on this bill. We have requested further amendments which the Senator has agreed to take in a follow-up bill this year. Those amendments include requiring Santa Cruz LAFCo to adopt a sphere of influence for the district within 1 year of formation; the district filing annual progress reports to Santa Cruz LAFCo for the first 3 years, Santa Cruz LAFCo conducting a special study on the district after 3 years, and representation from both counties on the governing board. The bill is sponsored by the Pajaro Valley Healthcare District Project and is not keyed fiscal.

<u>SB 1449</u> (<u>Caballero</u> D) Unincorporated areas.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2022 <u>html pdf</u> Introduced: 2/18/2022

Status: 2/18/2022-Introduced. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. To print. Article IV Section 8(a) of the Constitution and Joint Rule 55 dispensed with February 7, 2022, suspending the 30 calendar day requirement.

Summary:

Would state the intent of the Legislature to establish the policy of the state to ensure that the living standards within unincorporated areas of the state are consistent with standards of cities within the same county and funding mechanisms to support the financial investments required by cities and counties to accomplish this goal. **Position:** Watch

Subject: Other