

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) - Agricultural & Open Space Preservation Workshop

Wednesday, July 8, 2015 (1:00 – 5:00 pm)

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development Hearing Room - 30 Muir Road, Martinez

Purpose of Workshop: To engage a range of stakeholders in the development of a local agricultural and open space preservation policy to be used by LAFCO to help guide its decisions when considering a proposal that would impact agricultural and/or open space lands.

Time Allotment	Topic	Moderator(s)	Presenter(s)
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Introductions		LAFCO Chair Schroder
1:10 – 1:30	<i>What is LAFCO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal framework/statutory mandate/definitions • LAFCO's conditioning authority • Case studies – other LAFCO Policies 	LAFCO Executive Officer	Commissioners Burke & Tatzin
1:30 – 2:10	<i>Why should we care about ag and open space land</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State, regional, local efforts to preserve ag & open space land • Which areas in the County (incorporated and unincorporated) are identified as important ag and open space land and Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) 	Commissioner Blubaugh	-Serena Unger, American Farmland Trust -Kathryn Lyddan, BALT -Bob Doyle, EBRPD -John Kopchik, Director, DCD
2:10 – 2:50	<i>Agriculture in Contra Costa County</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How ag land has evolved in the County • What are ag uses in the County (including urban ag) and how much (e.g., crop types, grazing, etc.) • Biggest challenges facing the agricultural community 	Commissioner Piepho	-Chad Godoy, Contra Costa County Ag Commissioner -Al Courchesne, Farmer -Nancy Schaefer, California Rangeland Trust -Barbara Cecchini, Farm Bureau
2:50 – 3:00	<i>BREAK</i>		
3:00 – 3:30	<i>Open Space in Contra Costa County</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of open space in Contra Costa County • Biggest challenges to preserving open space 	Commissioner Skaredoff	-Joel Devalcourt, Greenbelt Alliance -Seth Adams, Save Mt. Diablo -Dick Schneider, Sierra Club
3:30 – 4:00	<i>Collaboration and Smart Growth</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Communities Strategy • Economic and development challenges 	Commissioner McGill	-Kristin Connelly, East Bay Leadership Council/Contra Costa Economic Partnership -Heather Schiffman, Contra Costa Association of Realtors -Lisa Vorderbrueggen, BIA
4:00 – 4:45	ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most significant challenges to ag & open space preservation in Contra Costa County • How can LAFCO help? 	Commissioner Burke	-All
4:45 – 4:55	NEXT STEPS		Commissioner Tatzin
4:55 – 5:00	THANK YOU/CLOSING COMMENTS		Chair Schroder