



NOTICE AND AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: Wednesday, August 9, 2017, 1:30 PM

PLACE: Board of Supervisors Chambers
651 Pine Street, Martinez, CA 94553

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission will hear and consider oral or written testimony presented by any affected agency or any interested person who wishes to appear. Proponents and opponents, or their representatives, are expected to attend the hearings. From time to time, the Chair may announce time limits and direct the focus of public comment for any given proposal.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by LAFCO to a majority of the members of the Commission less than 72 hours prior to that meeting will be available for public inspection in the office at 651 Pine Street, Six Floor, Martinez, CA, during normal business hours as well as at the LAFCO meeting.

All matters listed under CONSENT ITEMS are considered by the Commission to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the Commission or a member of the public prior to the time the Commission votes on the motion to adopt.

For agenda items not requiring a formal public hearing, the Chair will ask for public comments. For formal public hearings the Chair will announce the opening and closing of the public hearing.

If you wish to speak, please complete a speaker's card and approach the podium; speak clearly into the microphone, start by stating your name and address for the record.

Campaign Contribution Disclosure

If you are an applicant or an agent of an applicant on a matter to be heard by the Commission, and if you have made campaign contributions totaling \$250 or more to any Commissioner in the past 12 months, Government Code Section 84308 requires that you disclose the fact, either orally or in writing, for the official record of the proceedings.

Notice of Intent to Waive Protest Proceedings

In the case of a change of organization consisting of an annexation or detachment, or a reorganization consisting solely of annexations or detachments, or both, or the formation of a county service area, it is the intent of the Commission to waive subsequent protest and election proceedings provided that appropriate mailed notice has been given to landowners and registered voters within the affected territory pursuant to Gov. Code sections 56157 and 56663, and no written opposition from affected landowner or voters to the proposal is received before the conclusion of the commission proceedings on the proposal.

American Disabilities Act Compliance

LAFCO will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend meetings who contact the LAFCO office at least 24 hours before the meeting, at 925-335-1094. An assistive listening device is available upon advance request.

As a courtesy, please silence your cell phones during the meeting.

AUGUST 9, 2017 CONTRA COSTA LAFCO AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Public Comment Period (please observe a three-minute time limit):
Members of the public are invited to address the Commission regarding any item that is not scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. No action will be taken by the Commission at this meeting as a result of items presented at this time.
5. Approval of Minutes for the July 12, 2017 regular LAFCO meeting

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE/BOUNDARY CHANGES

6. ***LAFCO 17-04 –North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation to Contra Costa Water District (CCWD)*** – consider annexing 9.68± acres (APN 138-270-002) to CCWD to extend treated water to the equestrian center. The parcel is located at 1550 Castle Rock Road in the unincorporated Walnut Creek area; and consider related actions under CEQA - ***Public Hearing***

BUSINESS ITEMS

7. ***West Contra Costa Healthcare District (WCCHD) Update*** - receive an update on matters relating to the WCCHD and provide direction to staff
8. ***CALAFCO 2017 Conference Material and Call for Board of Directors Candidates and Achievement Award Nominations*** – receive the annual CALAFCO conference packet, appoint voting delegate(s), and provide direction regarding nominations and other matters as desired
9. ***Legislative Report – Update and Position Letters*** – receive a legislative update

CORRESPONDENCE

10. Correspondence from Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association (CCCERA)

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. Commissioner Comments and Announcements
12. Staff Announcements
 - CALAFCO Updates
 - Pending Projects
 - Newspaper Articles

ADJOURNMENT

Next LAFCO meeting (Strategic Planning Workshop) – September 13, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. – Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Community Room – 5019 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA – Please note different meeting time and location

LAFCO STAFF REPORTS AVAILABLE AT http://www.contracostalafco.org/meeting_archive.htm

CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING

July 12, 2017

Board of Supervisors Chambers
Martinez, CA

August 9, 2017
Agenda Item 5

1. Chair Don Blubaugh called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Roll was called. A quorum was present of the following Commissioners:

County Members Candace Andersen and Alternate Diane Burgis.
Special District Members Mike McGill and Igor Skaredoff and Alternate Stanley Caldwell.
City Members Don Tatzin and Alternate Tom Butt.
Public Members Don Blubaugh and Alternate Sharon Burke.

Present were Executive Officer Lou Ann Texeira, Legal Counsel Sharon Anderson, and Clerk Kate Sibley.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion of Tatzin, second by Andersen, Commissioners, by a vote of 6-0, adopted the agenda.

AYES: Andersen, Blubaugh, Butt, McGill, Skaredoff, Tatzin
NOES: none
ABSENT: Glover (M)
ABSTAIN: none

5. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

6. Approval of May 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Upon motion of Andersen, second by Skaredoff, the minutes were approved by a vote of 6-0.

AYES: Andersen, Blubaugh, Butt, McGill, Skaredoff, Tatzin
NOES: none
ABSENT: Glover (M)
ABSTAIN: none

7. LAFCO 17-03 - Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Sphere of Influence (SOI) Amendment

The Executive Officer provided background on this proposal, noting that this request to amend the sphere of influence of CCWD precedes an application to annex the same parcel and adjacent road right of way in order to extend treated water to the North Peak Equestrian Center, which currently boards up to 150 horses on a year-round basis and supports classes for children and community events. This parcel is outside the ULL; however, its groundwater system is no longer able to provide the necessary quantity or quality of water to serve the property according to County Environmental Health, which surveyed the property in June 2016 and concluded that municipal water through CCWD is the only available option that would resolve the water supply and water quality issues on the property.

DRAFT

Because the neighboring Castle Rock County Water District (CRCWD) is a community of interest, serving 79 parcels, it is appropriate to provide a brief update on the CCWD and CRCWD activities. The 2014 LAFCO MSR prompted the two districts and affected property owners to discuss connecting to CCWD's treated water system, due, in part, to the aging condition of the CRCWD infrastructure. Terms of an agreement and a financing plan have been developed based on discussions among the districts and 10 affected property owners; and 9 of the property owners have signed individual letters of intent to move forward with connecting to CCWD. In May 2017, the CCWD board authorized treated water service agreements with the interested property owners. As of July 3rd, four of the property owners have signed agreements with CCWD; and in April, the districts entered into a one-year maintenance agreement for CCWD to perform repairs on CRCWD's distribution pipelines located in the public right-of-way. Both districts and their customers will benefit from these service and maintenance agreements.

Commissioner Skaredoff asked if this action will affect CRCWD at all; staff responded that it will not.

Commissioners Blubaugh and McGill commended the districts for their efforts.

Upon motion of Tatzin, second by McGill, the Commissioners, by a 6-0 vote, approved the proposed expansion of CCWD's SOI, limited CCWD service to the existing structures, and determined that the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15319.

AYES: Andersen, Blubaugh, Butt, McGill, Skaredoff, Tatzin

NOES: none

ABSENT: Glover (M)

ABSTAIN: none

8. LAFCO Strategic Planning Workshop

Commissioner Blubaugh introduced the item and provided an opportunity for Commissioners to weigh in on the strategic planning workshop scheduled for Wednesday, September 13. He suggested the workshop at 11:00 a.m.; and indicated that it will be held at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Community Room. A working lunch will be part of the workshop.

Commissioner Tatzin noted that Commissioner Glover might have a conflict with another meeting, and suggested that staff check with him on his availability at that time.

Commissioner McGill suggested addressing some of the items from the recent CALAFCO U (*When LAFCO Opinions Collide*). Commissioner Tatzin requested an update on the planned office relocation and staffing expansion. He also asked for some time to talk about initiatives that the Commission might want to pursue.

Commissioner McGill requested a discussion on how to establish conditions assertively and effectively. Commissioner Burke asked for an update on unincorporated islands.

Commissioner Blubaugh added that he would like an update from Commissioners Burke and Tatzin on policies and procedures they are planning to address.

Commissioner McGill suggested that the Commission should look ahead to the one-year review of the Agricultural & Open Space Preservation Policy, which will be in November.

9. Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Board Election

Commissioner Blubaugh presented the results of the committee that reviewed candidates for the SDRMA Board Election. They recommended Michael Scheafer (Incumbent), Director/President, Costa Mesa Sanitary District; Timothy Unruh, District Manager, Kern County Cemetery District No. 1; Jean Bracy (Incumbent), Deputy Director - Administration, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District; and David Aranda (Incumbent), General Manager, Mountain Meadows Community Services District for the open positions.

Upon motion of McGill, second by Tatzin, Commissioners, by a 6-0 vote, approved the subcommittee's recommendation; adopted Resolution No. 2017-02 containing the Official 2017 SDRMA Election Ballot; and directed staff to file the LAFCO resolution with SDRMA prior to August 29, 2017.

AYES: Andersen, Blubaugh, Butt, McGill, Skaredoff, Tatzin
NOES: none
ABSENT: Glover (M)
ABSTAIN: none

10. Financial Audit Report, Fiscal Year 2015-16

The Executive Officer presented the FY 2015-16 financial audit, reviewed by R.J. Ricciardi, Inc., whose auditor found LAFCO's financial statements fairly represent LAFCO's financial position in all material respects; are in conformance with generally accepted accounting principles; and are free of misstatements. The FY 2015-16 audit report also notes that *the economic condition of LAFCO as it appears on the Statement of Net Position reflects financial stability and the potential for organizational growth.*

Commissioner Tatzin noted the addition of the CCCERA prefunding this year and the benefit of earning interest on those funds, and thanked everyone for their good work.

Commissioners received and directed staff to file the audit report for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

11. Proposed Amendments to LAFCO Employee Benefit Plan

The Executive Officer reported that the County Human Resources Department recently notified LAFCO that the County has added several new health insurance plan options, and has also shifted from a 2-tier benefit structure (i.e., Employee and Employee +1 or more dependent) to a 3-tier benefit structure (i.e., Employee only, Employee +1 and Employee +2 or more). The County has asked that LAFCO amend its tier structure to coincide with the County's structure, which will become effective January 1, 2018.

Additionally, the current LAFCO Employee Benefit Plan includes a provision relating to participation in the County's catastrophic leave. Given that LAFCO employees are not County employees, this benefit is not available to LAFCO personnel. LAFCO employees consulted with human resource and legal experts as to whether LAFCO should create its own catastrophic leave program. The general consensus is that it's not feasible, and that LAFCO delete this provision from its benefit plan.

Upon motion of McGill, second by Andersen, Commissioners, by a 6-0 vote, approved the amendments to the LAFCO Employee Benefit Plan per Resolution 2017-01 and directed staff to confirm these changes with the County Human Resources Department.

AYES: Andersen, Blubaugh, Butt, McGill, Skaredoff, Tatzin
NOES: none

ABSENT: Glover (M)
ABSTAIN: none

12. Legislative Report - Update and Position Letters

The Executive Officer reported on the three bills (AB 1725, AB 464, AB 979) that CALAFCO is sponsoring this session and announced that Governor Brown has now signed AB 464 (Gallagher), which addresses out of agency service and subsequent annexations (in accordance with its policy, Contra Costa LAFCO had sent a letter to the Governor urging his signature).

Commissioner McGill added that he has been in attendance at the Legislative Committee meetings, and that, as usual, it's been fun.

13. 2016-2017 Contra Costa County Grand Jury Reports

The Executive Officer reported that the 2016-17 Grand Jury produced 12 reports, two of which are of interest to LAFCO: one on East Contra Costa FPD, directed at increasing funding and community outreach and communication, and another on CSA R-7 (Alamo Recreation & Park District), focusing on the district and the Alamo Municipal Advisory Council, with findings and recommendations aimed at developing a long-term plan for use of park funds, gauging and addressing community concerns, and meeting community park & recreation needs.

Discussion ensued among Commissioners regarding the need to provide LAFCOs with more power to address some of the needs pointed out in the Grand Jury reports; errors in the CSA R-7 report, and the County's response to the CSA R-7 report. Commissioner Burke suggested that the Grand Jury use LAFCO Municipal Services Reviews as a resource.

14. Correspondence - CALAFCO and CCCERA

There were no comments regarding correspondence.

15. Commissioner Comments and Announcements

Commissioner McGill reported that he attended the CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting on June 23. He also attended the CALAFCO/CSDA Legislative Days in Sacramento on May 16 and 17.

Commissioner Butt reported that the City of Richmond is holding public hearings over the next few months on the topic of annexing North Richmond. They expect an action item in late September.

16. Staff Announcements

The Executive Officer had no announcements beyond the materials in the agenda packet.

The meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Final Minutes Approved by the Commission August 9, 2017.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

By _____
Executive Officer

CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

August 9, 2017 (Agenda)

August 9, 2017
Agenda Item 6

LAFCO 17-04

North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation to Contra Costa Water District

PROPONENT

Contra Costa Water District by Resolution No. 17-08 adopted February 15, 2017

SYNOPSIS

The applicant proposes to annex 10.03± acres (APN 138-270-002) located at 1550 Castle Rock Road in the unincorporated Walnut Creek area (Attachment 1). Annexation will bring the property and a portion of road right-of-way into the service boundary of CCWD, and will allow for the extension of municipal water service to the equestrian center property. The area proposed for annexation is outside the County's Urban Limit Line (ULL).

DISCUSSION

Government Code §56668 sets forth factors that the Commission must consider in evaluating a proposed boundary change as discussed below. In the Commission's review, no single factor is determinative. In reaching a decision, each is to be evaluated within the context of the overall proposal.

1. Consistency with the Sphere of Influence (SOI) of Any Local Agency:

In July 2017, the Commission amended the SOI for CCWD to coincide with the proposed annexation. Thus, the area proposed for annexation is within CCWD's SOI.

2. Land Use, Planning and Zoning - Present and Future:

The subject property has been used for public equestrian activities since 1985, and is the largest horse stable in Contra Costa County, currently boarding up to 150 horses on a year-round basis. The equestrian center supports classes for children and community events. The property is developed with a total of 11 large buildings (119,000 square feet), a number of smaller structures and related facilities including a covered arena, outdoor arena, covered round pen, open round pen, 148 stalls with six barns and a mare motel, large turn outs, office, small single wide trailer to house staff, parking for trailers, a single family residential home where a caretaker resides, along with two other structures.

The County land use designations include Agricultural (General Plan) and Agricultural A-2 (zoning). The project site is bounded on the east by land designated as "agricultural", on the west by the Diablo Foothills Regional Park, on the north by residential, and on the south by the Castle Rock Park staging area. The proposed annexation will have no effect on the land uses.

3. The Effect on Maintaining the Physical and Economic Integrity of Agricultural Lands and Open Space Lands:

There are no proposed land use changes associated with the annexation; the subject area will remain an equestrian center. No portion of the subject area is subject to a Williamson Act contract.

4. Topography, Natural Features and Drainage Basins:

The subject property is generally flat. Little Pine Creek runs to the east and Diablo Foothills/ Castle Rock Regional Park characterized by hilly ranch and park lands surround the site.

5. Population:

No development is proposed in conjunction with the annexation, and no population increase will result from this proposal.

6. Fair Share of Regional Housing:

In its review of a proposal, LAFCO must consider the extent to which the proposal will assist the receiving entity in achieving its fair share of the regional housing needs as determined by the regional council of governments. Regional housing needs are determined by the State Department of Housing and Community Development; the councils of government throughout the State allocate to each jurisdiction a "fair share" of the regional housing needs.

In Contra Costa County, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) determines each city's fair share of regional housing needs. Each jurisdiction is required, in turn, to incorporate its fair share of the regional housing needs into the housing element of its General Plan. In July 2013, ABAG adopted the 2014-2022 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area. The proposed annexation will have no effect on regional housing, as no development is proposed.

7. Governmental Services and Controls - Need, Cost, Adequacy and Availability:

Whenever a local agency submits a resolution of application for a change of organization or reorganization, the local agency shall also submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory (Gov. Code §56653). The plan shall include all of the following information and any additional information required by the Commission or the Executive Officer:

- (1) An enumeration and description of the services to be extended to the affected territory.
- (2) The level and range of those services.
- (3) An indication of when those services can feasibly be extended to the affected territory.
- (4) An indication of any improvement or upgrading of structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other conditions the local agency would impose or require within the affected territory if the change of organization or reorganization is completed.
- (5) Information with respect to how those services will be financed.

The subject property receives municipal services from a number of public agencies including Contra Costa County and Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. An on-site septic system serves the property.

The proposal before the Commission is to annex the property to CCWD for the provision of municipal water service. Municipal water service is needed to support the equestrian center due to an unreliable ground water system currently serving the property. No other changes to services are proposed.

Since 1985, a groundwater system has been used to serve the property. The groundwater system supplies all water uses on site including public consumption, public restrooms, equine consumption and bathing, and dust control. The equestrian center has several large capacity water tanks that allow it to regulate supply depending on the needs of the horses and as temperatures vary. A caretaker lives onsite to ensure security.

On warm days, water consumption can be as high as 3,000 – 5,000 gallons per day. Until the onset of the extended drought in 2012, the equestrian center relied on its groundwater system to meet water demands at the site. The groundwater system is no longer able to provide the

necessary quantity or quality of water needed by the equestrian center. When no groundwater is available, the equestrian center has resorted to obtaining trucked water from CCWD.

In June 2016, Contra Costa Environmental Health (CCEH) conducted a survey of the subject property and water system and found that the water system meets the statutory definition of a "public water system" and therefore must be permitted. In a letter dated October 10, 2016 (Attachment 2), CCEH concluded that the equestrian center would likely not be able to obtain a permit due to the lack of a reliable and safe water supply from the on-site wells or cistern, and that CCWD is the only available option that would resolve the water supply and water quality issues at the property. The District's service area extends beyond the equestrian center to provide water service to East Bay Regional Park District's Castle Rock staging area at the base of Mount Diablo. CCWD reports that there is an existing treated water distribution pipeline approximately 800 feet from the subject property. To obtain water from CCWD, a 2-inch water line would need to be extended from the terminus of the existing 8-inch water line within Castle Rock Road to the property, approximately 800 feet. In addition, a water meter, backflow device and one inch service line would be needed.

Should LAFCO approve the annexation, CCWD will work with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to obtain Central Valley Project (CVP) contract inclusion, which is required before the District can deliver CVP water to the property.

8. Timely Availability of Water and Related Issues:

Pursuant to the CKH, LAFCO must consider the timely and available supply of water in conjunction with a boundary change proposal. Contra Costa LAFCO policies state that any proposal for a change of organization that includes the provision of water service shall include information relating to water supply, storage, treatment, distribution, and waste recovery; as well as adequacy of services, facilities, and improvements to be provided and financed by the agency responsible for the provision of such services, facilities and improvements.

The proposal before the Commission includes annexation of the subject property to CCWD. CCWD's boundary encompasses 220± square miles in central and eastern Contra Costa County. CCWD's untreated water service area includes Antioch, Bay Point, Oakley, Pittsburg, and portions of Brentwood and Martinez. The District's treated water service area includes Clayton, Clyde, Concord, Pacheco, Port Costa, and parts of Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek. CCWD also treats and delivers water to the City of Brentwood, Golden State Water Company (Bay Point), Diablo Water District (Oakley), and the City of Antioch. CCWD serves approximately 500,000 (61,085 water connections). The primary sources of water are the USBR CVP and delta diversions. One of CCWD's prerequisites for service, including annexation, is inclusion in the CVP service area. The CVP inclusion review is a separate process, and requires specific environmental documents. The City, the landowners and CCWD will work together to complete the CVP process.

The District's Plan for Services provides for a water meter, backflow device, one inch service line, an 800 foot mainline extension on Castle Rock Road, and a 700 foot service line on the equestrian center property.

Based on the existing land use, the maximum demand for service is approximately 10,000 gallons of water per day. CCWD has the capacity to serve the property; the 5/8 inch meter is capable of providing 20 gallons per minute or almost 28,880 gallons per day.

9. Assessed Value, Tax Rates and Indebtedness:

The annexation area is within tax rate area 79051. The assessed value for the annexation area is \$3,186,900 (2016-17 roll). The territory being annexed shall be liable for all authorized or existing taxes and bonded debt comparable to properties presently within the annexing agencies.

10. Environmental Impact of the Proposal:

CCWD, as Lead Agency, has determined that the proposed SOI amendment and corresponding annexation are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15303 and 15319, as the service extension would serve only the existing facility.

11. Landowner Consent and Consent by Annexing Agency:

According to County Elections, there are fewer than 12 registered voters in the subject area; thus, the area proposed for annexation is considered uninhabited. The applicant indicates that 100% of the affected landowners have provided written consent to the annexation. Thus, if the Commission approves the annexation, the Commission may waive the protest hearing (Gov. Code §56662). All landowners and registered voters within the proposal area and within 300 feet of the exterior boundaries of the area have received notice of the LAFCO hearing.

12. Boundaries and Lines of Assessment:

The annexation area is within the SOI of CCWD; a SOI amendment was approved by the Commission on July 12, 2017 to include the subject area. A map and legal description to implement the proposed boundary changes have been received and are subject to final approval by the County Surveyor.

13. Environmental Justice:

LAFCO is required to consider the extent to which proposals will promote environmental justice. As defined by statute, "environmental justice" means the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the location of public facilities and the provision of public services. The proposed annexation is not expected to promote or discourage the fair treatment of minority or economically disadvantaged groups.

14. Disadvantaged Communities:

In accordance with recent legislation (SB 244), local agencies and LAFCOs are required to plan for disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs). Many of these communities lack basic infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, storm drainage, clean drinking water, and adequate sewer service. LAFCO actions relating to Municipal Service Reviews, SOI reviews/amendments, and annexations must take into consideration DUCs, and specifically the adequacy of public services, including sewer, water, and fire protection needs or deficiencies, to these communities. According to the County's Department of Conservation and Development, the annexation area does not meet the criteria of a DUC.

15. Comments from Affected Agencies/Other Interested Parties:

To date, LAFCO has received no comments from affected agencies or other interested parties.

16. Regional Transportation and Regional Growth Plans:

In its review of a proposal, LAFCO shall consider a regional transportation plan adopted pursuant to Section 65080 [Gov. Code section 56668(g)]. Further, the commission may consider the regional growth goals and policies established by a collaboration of elected officials only,

formally representing their local jurisdictions in an official capacity on a regional or subregional basis (Gov. Code section 56668.5).

Regarding these sections, LAFCO looks at consistency of the proposal with the regional transportation and other regional plans affecting the Bay Area.

SB 375, a landmark state law, requires California's regions to adopt plans and policies to reduce the generation of greenhouse gases (GHG), primarily from transportation. To implement SB 375, in July 2013, ABAG and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted Plan Bay Area as the "Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy" for the San Francisco Bay Area. Plan Bay Area focuses on where the region is expected to grow and how development patterns and the transportation network can work together to reduce GHG emissions. The Plan's key goals are to reduce GHG emissions by specified amounts; and to plan sufficient housing for the region's projected population over the next 25 years.

The Plan Bay Area directs future development to infill areas within the existing urban footprint and focuses the majority of growth in self-identified Priority Development Areas (PDAs). PDAs include infill areas that are served by transit and are located close to other amenities, allowing for improved transit, bicycle and pedestrian access thereby reducing the amount of transportation related GHG generated. Plan Bay Area also aims to protect open space and agricultural land by directing 100% of the region's growth inside the year 2010 urban footprint, which means that all growth occurs as infill development or within established urban growth boundaries or urban limit lines. As the plan assumes that all urban growth boundaries/urban limit lines are held fixed through the year 2040, no sprawl-style development is expected to occur on the region's scenic or agricultural lands.

Plan Bay Area also includes projections for the region's population, housing and job growth, and indicates that the region has the capacity to accommodate expected growth over the next 25 years without sprawling further into undeveloped land on the urban fringe.

ABAG and MTC are in the process of updating the Plan Bay Area. The final Plan and EIR are expected to be approved this summer.

The subject property is not designated as a "Priority Conservation Area" or a "PDA", and the proposed annexation will have no impact on the regional plan.

ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMISSION ACTION

After consideration of this report and any testimony or additional materials that are submitted the Commission should consider taking one of the following actions:

- Option 1** Approve the annexation as proposed.
- A. Determine that the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15303 and 15319.
 - B. Adopt this report, approve LAFCO Resolution No. 17-04 (Attachment 2), and approve the proposal, to be known as the *North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation to CCWD* subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - 1. The territory being annexed shall be liable for the continuation of any authorized or existing special taxes, assessments and charges comparable to properties presently within the annexing agencies.

2. CCWD has delivered an executed indemnification agreement providing for the District to indemnify LAFCO against any expenses arising from any legal actions challenging the annexation.
 3. Water service is conditional upon CCWD receiving acceptance for inclusion of the annexed areas from the USBR, pursuant to the requirements in CCWD's contract with USBR for supplemental water supply from the CVP.
- C. Find that the subject territory is uninhabited, the proposal has 100% landowner consent, and the conducting authority (protest) proceedings are hereby waived.

Option 2 Accept this report and DENY the proposal.

Option 3 If the Commission needs more information, CONTINUE this matter to a future meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option 1 – Approve the annexation as proposed.

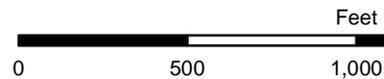
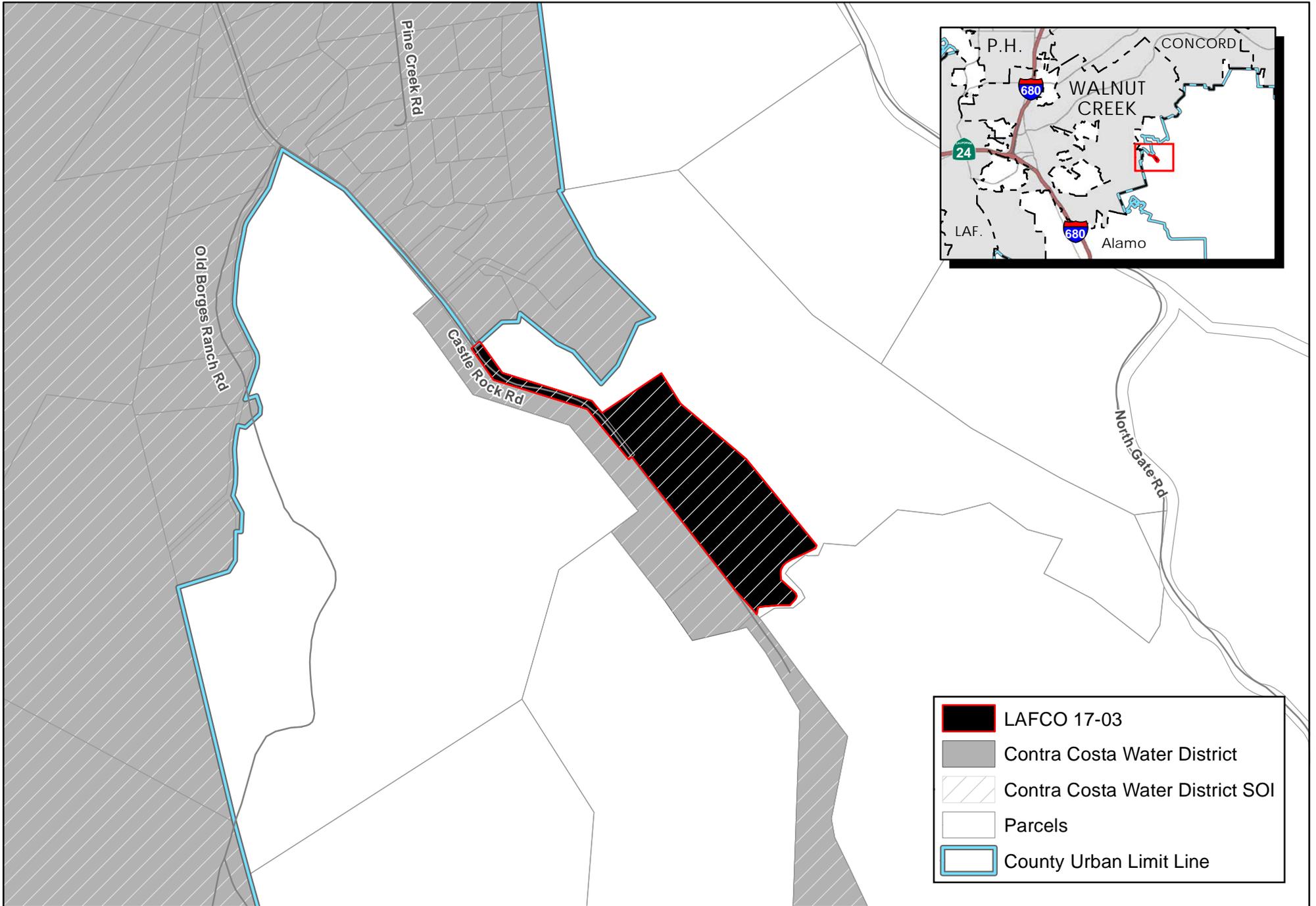
LOU ANN TEXEIRA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Attachments

- 1 – Annexation Map
- 2 – Letter dated October 10, 2016 from Contra Costa Environmental Health
- 3 – Draft LAFCO Resolution 17-04

c: Distribution

LAFCO No.17-04 No Peak Equestrian Center Annexation to CCWD



William B. Walker, MD
Health Services Director

Randall L. Sawyer
Chief Environmental Health & HazMat Officer

Marilyn C. Underwood, PhD, REHS
Director of Environmental Health



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October 10, 2016

Mr. Jeff Quimby
Director of Planning
Contra Costa Water District
1331 Concord Avenue
Concord Ca. 94524

**Subject: Water Supply at the North Peak Equestrian Center
1550 Castle Rock Road, Walnut Creek
APN 138-270-002**

Dear Mr. Quimby:

The property owner of 1550 Castle Rock Road requested the support of Contra Costa Environmental Health (CCEH) in the evaluation of water supply alternatives for the subject property, including the continued use of groundwater and extension of the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) water service line. The property is outside of the existing CCWD service area.

On June 28, 2016, CCEH conducted a survey of the subject property and water system and determined that the system supplies water to at least 25 individuals daily for at least 60 days out of the year, meeting the definition of a public water system as defined in section 116275 of the California Health and Safety Code.

Per the manager of the North Peak Equestrian Center, the on-site wells are no longer producing an adequate water supply. The current water supply is from a cistern located adjacent to the creek along the Northeast property line. The cistern is approximately 30 feet deep and there are several large holes in the metal plate covering the cistern which may allow surface contaminants to enter the water supply. The subsurface condition and construction details of the cistern are not known.

Section 116525 of the California Health and Safety Code requires a Water Supply Permit to operate a public water system, however, a permit application to operate a Public Water System would be denied when there is the potential to consolidate with an existing Public Water System.



Jeff Quimby
September 1, 2016
Page 2 of 2

Due to the lack of a reliable and safe water supply from the on-site wells or cistern, and the likely inability of CCEH to issue a Water Supply Permit to the property owner to operate a Public Water System, CCEH views water service from CCWD as the only available option that would resolve the water supply and water quality issues at the property. CCEH requests your support in resolving this matter, and requests completion of a safe water supply to the North Peak Equestrian Facility as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Marilyn C. Underwood, PhD, REHS
Director of Environmental Health

MCU:cdm

cc: Lou Ann Texiera, Contra Costa County LAFCO

RESOLUTION NO. 17-04

**RESOLUTION OF THE CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
MAKING DETERMINATIONS AND APPROVING
NORTH PEAK EQUESTRIAN CENTER ANNEXATION TO
CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation to Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) was filed with the Executive Officer of the Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (Government Code §56000 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, at the time and in the manner required by law the Executive Officer has given notice of the Commission's consideration of the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Commission held a public hearing on August 9, 2017 to consider the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard, discussed and considered all oral and written testimony related to this proposal including, but not limited to, the Executive Officer's report and recommendation, the environmental documents and determinations, Spheres of Influence and applicable General and Specific Plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER as follows:

1. Determine that the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15303 and 15319.
2. Said annexation is hereby approved.
3. The subject proposal is assigned the distinctive short-form designation:

NORTH PEAK EQUESTRIAN CENTER ANNEXATION TO CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT

4. The boundaries of the affected territory are found to be definite and certain as approved and set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and made a part hereof.
5. Approval of the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation is subject to the following:
 - a. The territory being annexed shall be liable for the continuation of any authorized or existing special taxes, assessments and charges comparable to properties presently within the annexing agencies.
 - b. The CCWD has delivered an executed indemnification agreement between CCWD and Contra Costa LAFCO providing for CCWD to indemnify LAFCO against any expenses arising from any legal actions challenging the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation.
 - c. Water service is conditional upon CCWD receiving acceptance for inclusion of the annexed area from the United States Bureau of Reclamation, pursuant to the requirements in CCWD's contract with USBR for supplemental water supply from the Central Valley Project.
6. The territory proposed for annexation is uninhabited, the proposal has 100% landowner consent, and the conducting authority (protest) proceedings are hereby waived.

Contra Costa LAFCO
Resolution No. 17-04

7. All subsequent proceedings in connection with the North Peak Equestrian Center Annexation shall be conducted only in compliance with the approved boundary set forth in the attachments and any terms and conditions specified in this resolution.

* * * * *

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 9th day of August 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

DONALD A. BLUBAUGH, CHAIR, CONTRA COSTA LAFCO

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of a resolution passed and adopted by this Commission on the date stated.

Dated: August 9, 2017

Lou Ann Texeira, Executive Officer



Lou Ann Teixeira
 Executive Officer

MEMBERS

Candace Andersen <i>County Member</i>	Michael R. McGill <i>Special District Member</i>
Donald A. Blubaugh <i>Public Member</i>	Rob Schroder <i>City Member</i>
Federal Glover <i>County Member</i>	Igor Skaredoff <i>Special District Member</i>
	Don Tatzin <i>City Member</i>

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Diane Burgis <i>County Member</i>
Sharon Burke <i>Public Member</i>
Tom Butt <i>City Member</i>
Stanley Caldwell <i>Special District Member</i>

August 9, 2017
 Agenda Item 7

August 9, 2017

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor
 Martinez, CA 94553

West Contra Costa Healthcare District Update

Dear Commissioners:

BACKGROUND: In 2016, Contra Costa LAFCO completed a special study of the West Contra Costa Healthcare District (WCCHD). The special study provides findings; a synopsis of State, County and West County healthcare district issues; governance options; and an update on the 2016 WCCHD bankruptcy filing.

Major findings identified in the study include the following:

1. Significant healthcare needs exist in West Contra Costa County
2. Justification exists to dissolve the WCCHD due to the loss of the hospital, lack of service, and overwhelming debt
3. Organizational options exist that are less costly than status quo
4. Special legislation could be pursued to address WCCHD’s specific situation
5. Contra Costa County could consider creating a new county service area (CSA) to provide additional healthcare services in the same geographic area as the WCCHD

The study also provides a number of governance options as listed below, some of which would enable the continuation of tax money to fund healthcare purposes in the community, while others provide for dissolving WCCHD and naming a successor agency to wind up the District’s affairs.

- Maintain the status quo
- Consolidation with Los Medanos Community Healthcare District (LMCHD)
- Reorganize as a subsidiary district
- Consolidation with County Service Area (CSA) EM-1
- Reorganization with creation of a new CSA
- Dissolution with appointment of successor to wind-up affairs
- Special legislation

One of the governance options identified provides that WCCHD or the County could seek special legislation that would allow the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to appoint the District’s governing body. The BOS could decide to appoint themselves or appoint members of the

community. The appointed board could be either permanent or temporary. This option would keep WCCHD intact while eliminating election costs, and enable County oversight during the next 10-year period of relative inactivity by the District. Subsequently, the District could remain County-dependent, or return to independence in the future. This option would require the County's cooperation but would not require voter approval.

The LAFCO special study underwent a thorough public review process. A number of individuals and agencies, including WCCHD, Contra Costa County, the cities of Richmond and San Pablo, and LMCHD provided comments to LAFCO. The majority of comments received expressed support for a governance option that would preserve funding to meet the critical healthcare needs in West Contra Costa County.

In December 2016, the Commission accepted the WCCHD special study and, at the request of the County, agreed to defer any action to reorganize or dissolve the District pending completion of the bankruptcy proceedings. Following the bankruptcy proceedings, the Commission will consider further action with regard to future governance options for the WCCHD.

DISCUSSION: In conjunction with the current bankruptcy proceedings, WCCHD is seeking the bankruptcy court's approval of a plan of adjustment that would allow the District to modify its debts and ongoing costs so that it may emerge from bankruptcy. After WCCHD emerges from bankruptcy, which is estimated to occur by late 2017, the District will begin the process of repaying creditors. Certain payments under the proposed plan will be made over a series of years. For example, the District's obligations related to certain bonds will not be retired until approximately 2042.

Currently, WCCHD is governed by a directly elected board of directors pursuant to the District's enabling act (Health & Safety Code sections 32100 et seq.). Due to the large size of WCCHD, which covers all of west Contra Costa County, the District's election costs can be substantial.

To minimize WCCHD's operating costs under the bankruptcy plan, there is a desire to change from an elected board to a board of directors that is appointed by the BOS.

On August 1, 2017, the BOS unanimously voted to seek special legislation to support such a change. Such legislation could be drafted to allow for one or more members of the BOS to sit on the WCCHD's board of directors.

Contra Costa LAFCO is being asked by the bankruptcy attorney to support the County's effort to seek special legislation to change the WCCHD board from an elected board to a board of directors that is appointed by the BOS. The special legislation governance option was on one the preferred options for District as mentioned in LAFCO's special study as it would enable the continuation of the WCCHD and of critical healthcare services to West Contra Costa County, which Contra Costa LAFCO supports.

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is recommended that the Commission find that 1) the pursuit of special legislation to change the WCCHD board from an elected board to a board of directors was identified in LAFCO's special study, and 2) that this is a preferred governance option as it would enable the continuation of the WCCHD and of critical healthcare services to West Contra Costa County, which Contra Costa LAFCO supports.

It is also recommended that the Commission direct LAFCO staff to send a letter to the bankruptcy attorney confirming LAFCO's position.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Lou Ann Teixeira
 Executive Officer

MEMBERS

Candace Andersen <i>County Member</i>	Michael R. McGill <i>Special District Member</i>
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Federal Glover <i>County Member</i>	Igor Skaredoff <i>Special District Member</i>
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August 9, 2017

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor
 Martinez, CA 94553

August 9, 2017
 Agenda Item 8

CALAFCO Annual Conference - Call for Board Members & Achievement Award Nominations

Dear Commissioners:

The annual CALAFCO conference will be held October 25-27, 2017 at the Bahia Hotel on Mission Bay in San Diego; conference and registration materials are attached (Attachments 1 and 2). Conference updates will be posted on the CALAFCO website at www.calafco.org.

Each year, prior to the annual conference, CALAFCO calls for Achievement Award and Board of Director nominations. Nominations are now open for the 2017 CALAFCO Achievement Awards. The awards recognize outstanding achievements by individuals and organizations committed to LAFCO goals and principles. The deadline for award nominations is **August 31, 2017** (Attachment 3). Nominations are also open for seats on the CALAFCO Board of Directors. There are eight seats up for election this fall, two from each of the four regions. The Coastal Region seats include a City Member and a Public Member. Candidates must be nominated by the Commission on which they serve. The deadline for Board nominations is **September 25, 2017** (Attachment 4). The election of CALAFCO Board members and Achievement Award ceremony will take place at the annual CALAFCO conference on Thursday, October 26th.

The CALAFCO bylaws require that each LAFCO designate a voting delegate to vote on behalf of their Commission. The voting delegate may be a commissioner, alternate commissioner or executive officer. Voting delegates must be designated by **September 25, 2017**.

Recommendations: Advise as to any Board and/or Achievement Award nominations, appoint a voting delegate and alternate, and direct staff to forward the information to CALAFCO.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- Attachment 1 – CALAFCO Conference Announcement
- Attachment 2 – CALAFCO Registration Form
- Attachment 3 - CALAFCO Achievement Awards Nomination Packet
- Attachment 4 - CALAFCO Board Nomination Packet



Announcing The 2017 CALAFCO Annual Conference

Hosted by CALAFCO

October 25-27, 2017

Bahia Hotel in Mission Bay
San Diego, CA



Value-Added and Diverse General & Breakout Session Topics

- ▶ Branding and marketing your LAFCo - Your LAFCo story – don't let someone else tell it!*
- ▶ Presentation of public statewide LAFCo survey results and what that means for LAFCos – where do we go from here?*
- ▶ Long-term sustainability of local agencies
- ▶ Future funding of LAFCos
- ▶ Dealing with unincorporated islands
- ▶ Healthcare districts and LAFCos
- ▶ Commission decision making – making the tough choices
- ▶ What do Commissioners and Staff really want from each other?
- ▶ Making the right choices ethically*
- ▶ Annual CALAFCO Legislative Update*
- ▶ CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting*

Plus more!

Note: The Program is subject to change.

*Indicates General Session

Mark your calendar and plan to attend!



Registration is now open!
Visit www.calafco.org

Special Highlights

Mobile Workshop

We will tour the nation's largest desalination plant in Carlsbad at the San Diego Water Authority's Claude "Bud" Lewis Desalination Plant. This award winning plant delivers approx. 50 million gallons of water per day to area residents. We are also working on a tour of the adjacent Encina Power Station. A stop for lunch is also planned.

Details will be announced shortly – but register now to secure your seat!

**Wednesday from
7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**
(times approx..)

LAFCo 101

An introduction to LAFCo and LAFCo law for Commissioners, Staff, and anyone interested in learning more about LAFCo

**Wednesday from
10:00 a.m. to Noon**

**Thursday Luncheon
Keynote**

To Be Announced

Invaluable Networking Opportunities

- ▶ Regional Roundtable discussions on current regional LAFCo issues
- ▶ Roundtable discussions for LAFCo legal counsel
- ▶ Pre-dinner Reception with Sponsors Thursday
- ▶ Networking breakfasts and breaks
- ▶ Welcome Reception Wednesday
- ▶ Awards Banquet Thursday



Bahia Hotel Mission Bay



Make your reservations now at the **Bahia Hotel** Mission Bay at the special CALAFCO rate of \$125. Special rates available 3 days pre and post-conference on availability. Reservation cutoff date is 9/22/17. Reserve your room at <http://bahiahotel.com/groups/CALAFCO/>

Visit www.calafco.org for Conference details or call us at 916-442-6536.



2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 25-27 REGISTRATION FORM

For Registration by Check

To pay with credit cards please visit www.calafco.org

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 6, 2017

LAFCo _____
Received _____
Check # _____

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION RATES

	PAYMENT Received by August 31 st	PAYMENT Received after August 31 st	Amount Due
Member – Full Conference	\$490	\$530	
Non-member – Full Conference	\$590	\$630	
Guest/Spouse* – All Meals	\$250	\$275	
Guest/Spouse* – Wed Reception/ Thu Banquet Only	\$150	\$200	
Member – One Day (<input type="checkbox"/> Wed or <input type="checkbox"/> Thur or <input type="checkbox"/> Fri)	\$310	\$330	
Non-Member – One Day (<input type="checkbox"/> Wed or <input type="checkbox"/> Thur or <input type="checkbox"/> Fri)	\$410	\$430	
Mobile Workshop – Wednesday	\$50	\$50	
Attorney MCLE Credit (LAFCo counsel only)	\$50	\$50	
LAFCo 101 (no charge for those with full conf. registration. \$35 for those just attending this session.)	\$35	\$35	
TOTAL REGISTRATION RATE DUE			\$

Please submit one form for each person registering

FIRST NAME _____ LAST NAME _____

NAME ON NAMETAG _____

LAFCO/ORGANIZATION _____ POSITION _____

GUEST NAME (For guest/spouse registration) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE # _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____

PHONE # _____

Payment must accompany registration. Early registration rate payments MUST be received by August 31, 2017 in order for that rate to apply. NO EXCEPTIONS. Please make checks payable to "CALAFCO."

Mail completed forms and payment to:

CALAFCO
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hotel Information:
***Bahia Hotel* Mission Bay, San Diego**

ROOMS STARTING AT \$125 PER NIGHT. CUT-OFF DATE IS SEPTEMBER 22, 2017. Special rate 3 days pre and post conference based on availability.

TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS, PLEASE VISIT: <http://bahiahotel.com/groups/CALAFCO/> or call 858-488-0551 and use promo code CALAFCO

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

1. Registrations are considered complete upon receipt of fees.
2. Cancellation requests made in writing and received by October 11, 2017 receive a 100% refund less \$20 handling fee and any transaction fees.
3. Credits are not issued for any cancellations.
4. Registration fees are transferable to another person not already registered provided the request is received in writing. Deadline to transfer registrations is October 13, 2017.
5. Registration fees for guests and special events are not transferable and are fully refundable (minus any transaction fees) if requests are made in writing and received by October 11, 2017 or if the special event is cancelled.
6. Cancellation requests must be made by e-mail, fax or mail to the CALAFCO office.
7. Cancellation requests made after October 11, 2017 are not eligible for a refund.



Date: 5 July 2017

To: LAFCo Commissioners and Staff
CALAFCO Members
Other Interested Organizations

From: CALAFCO Achievement Awards Committee

Subject: **2017 CALAFCO Achievement Award Nominations**



Each year, CALAFCO recognizes outstanding achievements by dedicated and committed individuals and/or organizations from throughout the state at the Annual Conference Achievement Awards Ceremony.

Recognizing individual and organizational achievements is an important responsibility. It provides visible recognition and support to those who go above and beyond in their work to advance the principles and goals of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. We invite you to use this opportunity to nominate the individuals and organizations you feel deserve this important recognition. ***Please carefully review the nomination instructions.***

To make a nomination, please use the following procedure:

1. Nominations may be made by an individual, a LAFCo, a CALAFCO Associate Member, or any other organization. There is no limit to the number of nominations you can submit.
2. Please use a separate form (attached) for each nomination. Nominations must be submitted with a completed nomination form. The form is your opportunity to highlight the most important points of your nomination.
3. Nominations must be limited to no more than 1500 words or 3 pages in length maximum. You are encouraged to write them in a clear, concise and understandable manner. If the Awards Committee members require additional information, you will be contacted with that request.
4. All supporting information (e.g. reports, news articles, etc.) must be submitted with the nomination. Please limit supporting documentation to no more than 5 pages. If the Awards Committee members require additional information, you will be contacted with that request.
5. All nomination materials must be submitted at one time and must be received by the deadline. Electronic submittals are encouraged.
6. **Nominations and supporting materials must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 31, 2017.** Send nominations via e-mail, or U.S. mail to:

Stephen Lucas, CALAFCO Executive Officer
c/o Butte LAFCo
1453 Downer Street, Suite C
Oroville, CA 95965
slucas@calafco.org

Members of the 2017 CALAFCO Board of Directors Awards Committee are:

Ricky Samayoa, Committee Chair (Yuba LAFCo, Northern Region)
Mike Kelley (Imperial LAFCo, Southern Region)
Gerard McCallum (Los Angeles LAFCo, Southern Region)
John Marchand (Alameda LAFCo, Coastal Region)
Anita Paque (Calaveras LAFCo, Central Region)

rsamayoa@calafco.org
mkelley@calafco.org
gmccallum@calafco.org
jmachand@calafco.org
apaque@calafco.org

Please contact Steve Lucas, CALAFCO Executive Officer, at slucas@calafco.org or (530) 538-7784 with any questions. A list of the previous Achievement Award recipients is attached to this announcement.



Nomination Form

NOMINEE - Person or Agency Being Nominated:

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

NOMINATION CATEGORY (check one – see category criteria on attached sheet)

- Outstanding CALAFCO Member
- Most Effective Commission
- Outstanding Commissioner
- Outstanding LAFCo Professional
- Outstanding LAFCo Clerk
- Outstanding CALAFCO Associate Member
- Project of the Year
- Distinguished Service Award
- Government Leadership Award
- Legislator of the Year (must be approved by the full CALAFCO Board)
- Mike Gotch Courage and Innovation in Local Government Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award

NOMINATION SUBMITTED BY:

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

ACHIEVEMENTS

Please indicate the reasons why this person or agency deserves to be recognized (Remember to keep this portion to 1500 words or 3 pages maximum and use additional sheets as needed):



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

CALAFCO ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CATEGORIES

CALAFCO recognizes excellence within the LAFCo community and the full membership by presenting the *Achievement Awards* at the CALAFCO Annual Conference. Nominations are being accepted until *Thursday, August 31, 2017* in the following categories:

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Recognizes a CALAFCO Board Member or staff person who has provided exemplary service during the past year.
Distinguished Service Award	Given to a member of the LAFCo community to recognize long-term service by an individual.
Most Effective Commission	Presented to an individual Commission to recognize innovation, streamlining, and/or initiative in implementing LAFCo programs; may also be presented to multiple Commissions for joint efforts.
Outstanding Commissioner	Presented to an individual Commissioner for extraordinary service to his or her Commission.
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Recognizes an Executive Officer, Staff Analyst, or Legal Counsel for exemplary service during the past year.
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Recognizes a LAFCo Clerk for exemplary service during the past year.
Outstanding CALAFCO Associate Member	Presented to an active CALAFCO Associate Member (person or agency) that has advanced or promoted the cause of LAFCos by consistently producing distinguished work that upholds the mission and goals of LAFCos, and has helped elevate the roles and mission of LAFCos through its work. Recipient consistently demonstrates a collaborative approach to LAFCo stakeholder engagement.
Project of the Year	Recognition for a project-specific program that involved complex staff analysis, community involvement, or an outstanding solution.
Government Leadership Award	Presented to a decision-making body at the city, county, special district, regional or state level which has furthered good government efforts in California.
Legislator of the Year	Presented to a member of the California State Senate or Assembly in recognition of leadership and valued contributions in support of LAFCo goals. Selected by CALAFCO Board.
Mike Gotch Courage and Innovation in Local Government Award	Presented to an individual who has taken extraordinary steps to improve and innovate local government. This award is named for Mike Gotch: former Assembly Member, LAFCo Executive Officer and CALAFCO Executive Director responsible for much of the foundations of LAFCo law and CALAFCO. He is remembered as a source of great inspiration for staff and legislators from throughout the state.
Lifetime Achievement Award	Recognizes any individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the LAFCo community in terms of longevity of service, exemplary advocacy of LAFCo-related legislation, proven leadership in approaching a particular issue or issues, and/or demonstrated support in innovative and creative ways of the goals of LAFCos throughout California. At a minimum, the individual should be involved in the LAFCo community for at least ten years.

CALAFCO ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS**2016**

Distinguished Service Award	Peter Brundage , Sacramento LAFCo
Most Effective Commission	San Luis Obispo LAFCo
Outstanding CALAFCO Member	John Leopold , Santa Cruz LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Don Tatzin , Contra Costa LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Steve Lucas , Butte LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Cheryl Carter-Benjamin , Orange LAFCo
Project of the Year	Countywide Water Study , (Marin LAFCo)
Government Leadership Award	Southern Region of CALAFCO
Lifetime Achievement Award	Bob Braitman (retired Executive Officer)

2015

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award	Yuba County Water Agency
Distinguished Service Award	Mary Jane Griego , Yuba LAFCo
Most Effective Commission	Butte LAFCo
Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Marjorie Blom , formerly of Stanislaus LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Matthew Beekman , formerly of Stanislaus LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Sam Martinez , San Bernardino LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Terri Tuck , Yolo LAFCo
Project of the Year	Formation of the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 38 (Ventura LAFCo) and 2015 San Diego County Health Care Services five-year sphere of influence and service review report (San Diego LAFCo)
Government Leadership Award	The Cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore and San Ramon, the Dublin San Ramon Services District and the Zone 7 Water Agency
CALAFCO Associate Member of the Year	Michael Colantuono of Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley
Legislators of the Year Award	Assembly member Chad Mayes
Lifetime Achievement Award	Jim Chapman (Lassen LAFCo) and Chris Tooker (formerly of Sacramento LAFCo)

2014

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award	David Church , San Luis Obispo LAFCo
Distinguished Service Award	Kate McKenna , Monterey LAFCo
Most Effective Commission	Santa Clara LAFCo
Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Stephen Lucas , Butte LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Paul Norsell , Nevada LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Kate McKenna , Monterey LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Paige Hensley , Yuba LAFCo
Project of the Year	LAFCo Procedures Guide: 50th Year Special Edition , San Diego LAFCo



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

Government Leadership Award

Orange County Water District, City of Anaheim, Irvine Ranch Water District, and Yorba Linda Water District

Legislators of the Year Award

Assembly member Katcho Achadjian

Lifetime Achievement Award

Susan Wilson, Orange LAFCo

2013

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award

Simón Salinas, Commissioner, Monterey LAFCo

Distinguished Service Award

Roseanne Chamberlain, Amador LAFCo

Most Effective Commission

Stanislaus LAFCo

Outstanding CALAFCO Member

Harry Ehrlich, San Diego LAFCo

Outstanding Commissioner

Jerry Gladbach, Los Angeles LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Professional

Lou Ann Texeira, Contra Costa

LAFCo Outstanding LAFCo Clerk

Kate Sibley, Contra Costa LAFCo

Project of the Year

Plan for Agricultural Preservation, Stanislaus LAFCo

Government Leadership Award

Orange County LAFCo Community Islands Taskforce, Orange LAFCo

Legislators of the Year Award

Senators Bill Emerson and Richard Roth

Lifetime Achievement Award

H. Peter Faye, Yolo LAFCo; Henry Pellissier, Los Angeles LAFCo; Carl Leverenz, Butte LAFCo; Susan Vicklund-Wilson, Santa Clara LAFCo.

2012

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award

Bill Chiat, CALAFCO Executive Director

Distinguished Service Award

Marty McClelland, Commissioner, Humboldt LAFCo

Most Effective Commission

Sonoma LAFCo

Outstanding CALAFCO Member

Stephen A. Souza, Commissioner, Yolo LAFCo and CALAFCO Board of Directors

Outstanding Commissioner

Sherwood Darington, Monterey

LAFCo Outstanding LAFCo Professional

Carole Cooper, Sonoma LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Clerk

Gwenna MacDonald, Lassen LAFCo

Project of the Year

Countywide Service Review & SOI Update, Santa Clara LAFCo

Government Leadership Award

North Orange County Coalition of Cities, Orange LAFCo

Lifetime Achievement Award

P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel LAFCos

2011

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award

Martin Tuttle, Deputy Director for Planning, Caltrans

Distinguished Service Award

Mike McKeever, Executive Director, SACOG

LAFCo Most Effective Commission

Carl Leverenz, Commissioner and Chair, Butte

Outstanding CALAFCO Member

San Bernardino LAFCo

Outstanding Commissioner

Keene Simonds, Executive Officer, Napa LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Professional

Louis R. Calcagno, Monterey LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Clerk

June Savala, Deputy Executive Officer, Los Angeles LAFCo

Debbie Shubert, Ventura LAFCo



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

Project of the Year

Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Definitions Revision

Bob Braitman, Scott Browne, Clark Alsop, Carole Cooper, and George Spiliotis

Government Leadership Award

Contra Costa Sanitary District

Elsinore Water District and Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

2010

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award

Helen Thompson, Commissioner, Yolo LAFCo

Distinguished Service Award

Kathleen Rollings-McDonald, Executive Officer, San Bernardino LAFCo

Bob Braitman, Executive Officer, Santa Barbara LAFCo

Most Effective Commission

Tulare LAFCo

Outstanding CALAFCO Member

Roger Anderson, Ph.D., CALAFCO Chair, Santa Cruz LAFCo

Outstanding Commissioner

George Lange, Ventura LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Professional

Harry Ehrlich, Government Consultant, San Diego LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Clerk

Candie Fleming, Fresno LAFCo

Project of the Year

Butte LAFCo

Sewer Commission - Oroville Region Municipal Service Review

Government Leadership Award

Nipomo Community Services District and the County of San Luis Obispo

Special Achievement

Chris Tooker, Sacramento LAFCo and CALAFCO Board of Directors

2009

Mike Gotch Courage & Innovation in Local Government Leadership Award

Paul Hood, Executive Officer, San Luis Obispo LAFCo

Distinguished Service Award

William Zumwalt, Executive Officer, Kings LAFCo

Most Effective Commission

Napa LAFCo

Outstanding CALAFCO Member

Susan Vicklund Wilson, CALAFCO Vice Chair

Jerry Gladbach, CALAFCO Treasurer

Outstanding Commissioner

Larry M. Fortune, Fresno LAFCo

Outstanding LAFCo Professional

Pat McCormick, Santa Cruz LAFCo Executive Officer

Outstanding LAFCo Clerk

Emmanuel Abello, Santa Clara LAFCo

Project of the Year

Orange LAFCo Boundary Report

Government Leadership Award

Cities of Amador City, Jackson, Ione, Plymouth & Sutter Creek; Amador County; Amador Water Agency; Pine Grove CSD – Countywide MSR Project

Legislator of the Year Award

Assembly Member Jim Silva



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

2008

Distinguished Service Award	Peter M. Detwiler , Senate Local Government Committee Chief Consultant
Most Effective Commission	Yuba LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Dennis Hansberger , San Bernardino LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Michael Ott , San Diego LAFCo Executive Officer Martha Poyatos , San Mateo Executive Officer
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Wilda Turner , Los Angeles LAFCo
Project of the Year	Kings LAFCo City and Community District MSR and SOI Update
Government Leadership Award	San Bernardino Board of Supervisors
Legislator of the Year Award	Assembly Member Anna M. Caballero

2007

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Kathy Long , Board Chair, Ventura LAFCo
Distinguished Service Award	William D. Smith , San Diego Legal
Counsel Most Effective Commission	Santa Clara LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Gayle Uilkema , Contra Costa LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional	Joyce Crosthwaite , Orange LAFCo Executive Officer
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk	Debby Chamberlin , San Bernardino LAFCo
Project of the Year	San Bernardino LAFCo and City of Fontana Islands Annexation Program
Government Leadership Award	City of Fontana - Islands Annexation Program
Lifetime Achievement	John T. "Jack" Knox

2006

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Everett Millais , CALAFCO Executive Officer and Executive Officer of Ventura LAFCo
Distinguished Service Award	Clark Alsop , CALAFCO Legal Counsel
Most Effective Commission Award	Alameda LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner Award	Ted Grandsen , Ventura LAFCo Chris Tooker , Sacramento LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Larry Calemine , Los Angeles LAFCo Executive Officer
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Janice Bryson , San Diego LAFCo Marilyn Flemmer , Sacramento LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	Sacramento Municipal Utility District Sphere of Influence Amendment and Annexation; Sacramento LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Cities of Porterville, Tulare, and Visalia and Tulare LAFCo Island Annexation Program
Legislator of the Year Award	Senator Christine Kehoe

2005

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Peter Herzog , CALAFCO Board, Orange LAFCo
Distinguished Service Award	Elizabeth Castro Kemper , Yolo LAFCo
Most Effective Commission Award	Ventura LAFCo



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

Outstanding Commissioner Award	Art Aseltine , Yuba LAFCo Henri Pellissier , Los Angeles LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Bruce Baracco , San Joaquin LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Danielle Ball , Orange LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	San Diego LAFCo MSR of Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG)

2004

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Scott Harvey , CALAFCO Executive Director
Distinguished Service Award	Julie Howard , Shasta LAFCo
Most Effective Commission Award	San Diego LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner Award	Edith Johnsen , Monterey LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	David Kindig , Santa Cruz LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	San Luis Obispo LAFCo Nipomo CSD SOI Update, MSR, and EIR

2003

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Michael P. Ryan , CALAFCO Board Member
Distinguished Service Award	Henri F. Pellissier , Los Angeles LAFCo
Most Effective Commission Award	San Luis Obispo LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner Award	Bob Salazar , El Dorado LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Shirley Anderson , San Diego LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Lori Fleck , Siskiyou LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	Napa LAFCo Comprehensive Water Service Study
Special Achievement Award	James M. Roddy

2002

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Ken Lee , CALAFCo Legislative Committee Chair
Most Effective Commission Award	San Diego LAFCo Outstanding
Commissioner Award	Ed Snively , Imperial LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Paul Hood , San Luis Obispo LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Danielle Ball , Orange LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	San Luis Obispo LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Napa LAFCo, Napa County Farm Bureau, Napa Valley Vintners Association, Napa Valley Housing Authority, Napa County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, Napa County Counsel Office, and Assembly Member Patricia Wiggins

2001

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	SR Jones , CALAFCO Executive Officer
Distinguished Service Award	David Martin , Tax Area Services Section, State Board of Equalization
Outstanding Commissioner Award	H. Peter Faye , Yolo LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Ingrid Hansen , San Diego LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	Santa Barbara LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Alameda County Board of Supervisors, Livermore City Council, Pleasanton City Council
Legislator of the Year Award	Senator Jack O'Connell



2017 Achievement Award Nominations

2000

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Ron Wootton , CALAFCO Board Chair
Distinguished Service Award	Ben Williams , Commission on Local Governance for the 21st Century
Most Effective Commission Award	Yolo LAFCo
Outstanding Commissioner	Rich Gordon , San Mateo LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award	Annamaria Perrella , Contra Costa LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Susan Stahmann , El Dorado LAFCo
Project of the Year Award	San Diego LAFCo
Legislator of the Year Award	Robert Hertzberg , Assembly Member

1999

Distinguished Service Award	Marilyn Ann Flemmer-Rodgers , Sacramento LAFCo
Most Effective Commission Award	Orange LAFCo
Outstanding Executive Officer Award	Don Graff , Alameda LAFCo
Outstanding LAFCo Clerk Award	Dory Adams , Marin LAFCo
Most Creative Solution to a Multi-Jurisdictional Problem	San Diego LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Assembly Member John Longville
Legislator of the Year Award	Assembly Member Robert Hertzberg

1998

Outstanding CALAFCO Member	Dana Smith , Orange LAFCo
Distinguished Service Award	Marvin Panter , Fresno LAFCo
Most Effective Commission Award	San Diego LAFCo
Outstanding Executive Officer Award	George Spiliotis , Riverside LAFCo
Outstanding Staff Analysis	Joe Convery , San Diego LAFCo Joyce Crosthwaite , Orange LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	Santa Clara County Planning Department

1997

Most Effective Commission Award	Orange LAFCo
Outstanding Executive Officer Award	George Finney , Tulare LAFCo
Outstanding Staff Analysis	Annamaria Perrella , Contra Costa LAFCo
Outstanding Government Leadership Award	South County Issues Discussion Group
Most Creative Solution to a Multi-Jurisdictional Problem	Alameda LAFCo and Contra Costa LAFCo
Legislator of the Year Award	Assembly Member Tom Torlakson

**Please join us for the
CALAFCO Annual Conference
October 25 – 27, 2017
San Diego, California**



July 6, 2017

To: Local Agency Formation Commission
Members and Alternate Members

From: John Leopold, Committee Chair
CALAFCO Board Election Committee
CALAFCO Board of Directors



RE: Nominations for 2017/2018 CALAFCO Board of Directors

Nominations are now open for the fall elections of the CALAFCO Board of Directors. Serving on the CALAFCO Board is a unique opportunity to work with other commissioners throughout the state on legislative, fiscal and operational issues that affect us all. The Board meets four to five times each year at alternate sites around the state. Any LAFCo commissioner or alternate commissioner is eligible to run for a Board seat.

CALAFCO's Election Committee is accepting nominations for the following seats on the CALAFCO Board of Directors:

Northern Region

County Member
District Member

Central Region

City Member
Public Member

Coastal Region

City Member
Public Member

Southern Region

County Member
District Member

The election will be conducted during Regional Caucuses at the CALAFCO Annual Conference prior to the Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at the Bahia Hotel Mission Bay in San Diego, CA.

Please inform your Commission that the CALAFCO Election Committee is accepting nominations for the above-cited seats until *Monday, September 25, 2017*.

Incumbents are eligible to run for another term. Nominations received by September 25 will be included in the Election Committee's Report and will be on the ballot. The Report will be distributed to LAFCo members no later than October 11 and ballots made available to Voting Delegates at the Annual Conference. Nominations received after this date will be returned; however, nominations will be permitted from the floor during the Regional Caucuses or during at-large elections, if required, at the Annual Membership Meeting.

For those member LAFCos who cannot send a representative to the Annual Meeting an electronic ballot will be made available if requested in advance. The ballot request must be made no later than Monday, September 25, 2017. Completed absentee ballots must be returned by October 23, 2017.

Should your Commission nominate a candidate, the Chair of your Commission must complete the attached Nomination Form and the Candidate's Resume Form, or provide the specified information in another format other than a resume. Commissions may also include a letter of recommendation or resolution in support of their nominee.

The nomination forms and materials must be received by the CALAFCO Executive Director no later than *Monday, September 25, 2017*.

Here is a summary of the deadlines for this year's nomination process:

- **July 6** – Nomination Announcement and packet sent to LAFCo membership and posted on the CALAFCO website.
- **September 25** – Completed Nomination packet due
- **September 25** – Request for an absentee/electronic ballot due
- **September 25** – Voting delegate name due to CALAFCO
- **October 11** – Distribution of the Election Committee Report (includes all completed/submitted nomination papers)
- **October 11** – Distribution of requested absentee/electronic ballots.
- **October 23** – Absentee ballots due to CALAFCO
- **October 26** - Elections

Returning the nomination form prior to the deadline ensures your nominee is placed on the ballot. Names will be listed in the order nominations were received should there be multiple candidates. Electronic filing of nomination forms and materials is encouraged to facilitate the recruitment process. Please send e-mails with forms and materials to info@calafco.org. Alternatively, nomination forms and materials can be mailed or faxed to the address or fax number below. Please forward nominations to:

CALAFCO Election Committee c/o Executive Director
California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, California 95814
FAX: 916-442-6535
EMAIL: info@calafco.org

Questions about the election process can be sent to the Chair of the Committee, John Leopold, at jleopold@calafco.org or by calling him at 831-454-2055. You may also contact CALAFCO Executive Director Pamela Miller at pmiller@calafco.org or by calling 916-442-6536.

Members of the 2017/2018 CALAFCO Election Committee are:

John Leopold, Chair jleopold@calafco.org	Santa Cruz LAFCo (Coastal Region) 831-454-2200
Cheryl Brothers cbrothers@calafco.org	Orange LAFCo (Southern Region) 714-640-5100
Shiva Frentzen sfrentzen@calafco.org	El Dorado LAFCo (Central Region) 530-295-2707
Josh Susman jsusman@calafco.org	Nevada LAFCo (Northern Region) 530-265-7180

Attached please find a copy of the CALAFCO Board of Directors Nomination and Election Procedures as well as the current listing of Board Members and corresponding terms of office.

Please consider joining us!

Enclosures

Board of Directors Nomination and Election Procedures and Forms

The procedures for nominations and election of the CALAFCO Board of Directors [Board] are designed to assure full, fair and open consideration of all candidates, provide confidential balloting for contested positions and avoid excessive demands on the time of those participating in the CALAFCO Annual Conference.

The Board nomination and election procedures shall be:

1. APPOINTMENT OF A RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

- a. Following the Annual Membership Meeting the Board shall appoint a Committee of four members of the Board. The Recruitment Committee shall consist of one member from each region whose term is not ending.
- b. The Board shall appoint one of the members of the Recruitment Committee to serve as Chairman. The CALAFCO Executive Officer shall appoint a CALAFCO staff member to serve as staff for the Recruitment Committee in cooperation with the CALAFCO Executive Director.
- c. Each region shall designate a regional representative to serve as staff liaison to the Recruitment Committee.
- d. Goals of the Committee are to encourage and solicit candidates by region who represent member LAFCoS across the spectrum of geography, size, and urban-suburban-rural population, and to provide oversight of the elections process.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL MEMBER LAFCoS

- a. No later than three months prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, the Recruitment Committee Chair shall send an announcement to each LAFCo for distribution to each commissioner and alternate. The announcement shall include the following:
 - i. A statement clearly indicating which offices are subject to the election.
 - ii. A regional map including LAFCoS listed by region.
 - iii. The dates by which all nominations must be received by the Recruitment Committee. The deadline shall be no later than 30 days prior to the opening of the Annual Conference. Nominations received after the closing date shall be returned to the proposing LAFCo marked "Received too late for Nominations Committee action."
 - iv. The names of the Recruitment Committee members with the Committee Chair's LAFCo address and phone number, and the names and contact information for each of the regional representatives.
 - v. The address to send the nominations forms.
 - vi. A form for a Commission to use to nominate a candidate and a candidate resume form of no more than one page each to be completed for each nominee.
- b. No later than four months before the annual membership meeting, the Recruitment Committee Chair shall send an announcement to the Executive Director for distribution to each member LAFCo and for publication in the newsletter and on the website. The announcement shall include the following:

Key Timeframes for Nominations Process	
<u>Days*</u>	
90	Nomination announcement
30	Nomination deadline
14	Committee report released
<small>*Days prior to annual membership meeting</small>	

- i. A statement clearly indicating which offices are subject to the election.
 - ii. The specific date by which all nominations must be received by the Recruitment Committee. Nominations received after the closing dates shall be returned to the proposing LAFCo marked "Received too late for Recruitment Committee action."
 - iii. The names of the Recruitment Committee members with the Committee Chair's LAFCo address and phone number, and the names and contact information for each of the regional representatives.
 - iv. Requirement that nominated individual must be a commissioner or alternate commissioner from a member in good standing within the region.
- c. A copy of these procedures shall be posted on the web site.

3. THE RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

- a. The Recruitment Committee and the regional representatives have the responsibility to monitor nominations and help assure that there are adequate nominations from each region for each seat up for election. No later than two weeks prior to the Annual Conference, the Recruitment Committee Chair shall distribute to the members the Committee Report organized by regions, including copies of all nominations and resumes, which are received prior to the end of the nomination period.
- b. At the close of the nominations the Recruitment Committee shall prepare regional ballots. Each region will receive a ballot specific to that region. Each region shall conduct a caucus at the Annual Conference for the purpose of electing their designated seats. Caucus elections must be held prior to the annual membership meeting at the conference. The Executive Director or assigned staff along with a member of the Recruitment committee shall tally ballots at each caucus and provide the Recruitment Committee the names of the elected Board members and any open seats. In the event of a tie, the staff and Recruitment Committee member shall immediately conduct a run-off ballot of the tied candidates.
- c. Make available sufficient copies of the Committee Report for each Voting Member by the beginning of the Annual Conference.
- d. Make available blank copies of the nomination forms and resume forms to accommodate nominations from the floor at either the caucuses or the annual meeting (if an at-large election is required).
- e. Advise the Annual Conference Planning Committee to provide "CANDIDATE" ribbons to all candidates attending the Annual Conference.
- f. Post the candidate statements/resumes organized by region on a bulletin board near the registration desk.
- g. Regional elections shall be conducted as described in Section 4 below. The representative from the Recruitment Committee shall serve as the Presiding Officer for the purpose of the caucus election.
- h. Following the regional elections, in the event that there are open seats for any offices subject to the election, the Recruitment Committee Chair shall notify the Chair of the Board of Directors that an at-large election will be required at the annual membership meeting and to provide a list of the number and category of seats requiring an at-large election.

4. ELECTRONIC BALLOT FOR LAFCO IN GOOD STANDING NOT ATTENDING ANNUAL MEETING

Limited to the elections of the Board of Directors

- a. Any LAFCo in good standing shall have the option to request an electronic ballot if there will be no representative attending the annual meeting.
- b. LAFCos requesting an electronic ballot shall do so in writing no later than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.
- c. The Executive Director shall distribute the electronic ballot no later than two weeks prior to the annual meeting.
- d. LAFCo must return the ballot electronically to the executive director no later than three days prior to the annual meeting.
- e. LAFCos voting under this provision may discard their electronic ballot if a representative is able to attend the annual meeting.
- f. LAFCos voting under this provision may only vote for the candidates nominated by the Recruitment Committee.

5. AT THE TIME FOR ELECTIONS DURING THE REGIONAL CAUCUSES OR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- a. The Recruitment Committee Chairman, another member of the Recruitment Committee, or the Chair's designee (hereafter called the Presiding Officer) shall:
 - i. Review the election procedure with the membership.
 - ii. Present the Recruitment Committee Report (previously distributed).
 - iii. Call for nominations from the floor by category for those seats subject to this election:
 1. For city member.
 2. For county member.
 3. For public member.
 4. For special district member.
- b. To make a nomination from the floor, a LAFCo, which is in good standing, shall identify itself and then name the category of vacancy and individual being nominated. The nominator may make a presentation not to exceed two minutes in support of the nomination.
- c. When there are no further nominations for a category, the Presiding Officer shall close the nominations for that category.
- d. The Presiding Officer shall conduct a "Candidates Forum". Each candidate shall be given time to make a brief statement for their candidacy.
- e. The Presiding Officer shall then conduct the election:
 - i. For categories where there are the same number of candidates as vacancies, the Presiding Officer shall:
 1. Name the nominees and offices for which they are nominated.
 2. Call for a voice vote on all nominees and thereafter declare those unopposed candidates duly elected.

- ii. For categories where there are more candidates than vacancies, the Presiding Officer shall:
 - 1. Poll the LAFCoS in good standing by written ballot.
 - 2. Each LAFCo in good standing may cast its vote for as many nominees as there are vacancies to be filled. The vote shall be recorded on a tally sheet.
 - 3. With assistance from CALAFCO staff, tally the votes cast and announce the results.
- iii. Election to the Board shall occur as follows:
 - 1. The nominee receiving the majority of votes cast is elected.
 - 2. In the case of no majority, the two nominees receiving the two highest number of votes cast shall face each other in a run-off election.
 - 3. In case of tie votes:
 - a. A second run-off election shall be held with the same two nominees.
 - b. If there remains a tie after the second run-off, the winner shall be determined by a draw of lots.
 - 4. In the case of two vacancies, any candidate receiving a majority of votes cast is elected.
 - a. In the case of no majority for either vacancy, the three nominees receiving the three highest number of votes cast shall face each other in a run-off election.
 - b. In the case of no majority for one vacancy, the two nominees receiving the second and third highest number of votes cast shall face each other in a run-off election.
 - c. In the event of a tie, a second run-off election shall be held with the tied nominees. If there remains a tie after the second run-off election the winner shall be determined by a draw of lots.

6. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

- a. For categories where there are more candidates than vacancies, names will be listed in the order nominated.
- b. The Recruitment Committee Chair shall announce and introduce all Board Members elected at the Regional Caucuses at the annual business meeting.
- c. In the event that Board seats remain unfilled after a Regional Caucus, an election will be held immediately at the annual business meeting to fill the position at-large. Nominations will be taken from the floor and the election process will follow the procedures described in Section 4 above. Any commissioner or alternate from a member LAFCo may be nominated for at-large seats.
- d. Seats elected at-large become subject to regional election at the expiration of the term. Only representatives from the region may be nominated for the seat.
- e. As required by the Bylaws, the members of the Board shall meet as soon as possible after election of new board members for the purpose of electing officers, determining meeting places and times for the coming year, and conducting any other necessary business.

7. LOSS OF ELECTION IN HOME LAFCO

Board Members and candidates who lose elections in their home office shall notify the Executive Director within 15 days of the certification of the election.

8. FILLING BOARD VACANCIES

Vacancies on the Board of Directors may be filled by appointment by the Board for the balance of the unexpired term. Appointees must be from the same category as the vacancy, and should be from the same region.

These policies and procedures were adopted by the CALAFCO Board of Directors on 12 January 2007 and amended on 9 November 2007, 8 February 2008, 13 February 2009, 12 February 2010, 18 February 2011, and 29 April 2011. They supersede all previous versions of the policies.

CALAFCO Regions

FOUR REGIONS



The counties in each of the four regions consist of the following:

Northern Region

Butte
Colusa
Del Norte
Glenn
Humboldt
Lake
Lassen
Mendocino
Modoc
Nevada
Plumas
Shasta
Sierra
Siskiyou
Sutter
Tehama
Trinity
Yuba

CONTACT: Steve Lucas
Butte LAFCo
slucas@buttecounty.net

Southern Region

Orange
Los Angeles
Imperial
Riverside
San Bernardino
San Diego

CONTACT: Carolyn Emery
Orange LAFCo
cemery@oclafco.org

Coastal Region

Alameda
Contra Costa
Marin
Monterey
Napa
San Benito
San Francisco
San Luis Obispo
San Mateo
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz
Solano
Sonoma
Ventura

CONTACT: David Church
San Luis Obispo LAFCo
dchurch@slolafco.com

Central Region

Alpine
Amador
Calaveras
El Dorado
Fresno
Inyo
Kern
Kings
Madera
Mariposa
Merced
Mono
Placer
Sacramento
San Joaquin
Stanislaus
Tulare
Tuolumne
Yolo

CONTACT: Kris Berry, Placer LAFCo
kberry@placer.ca.gov

Board of Directors 2017/2018 Nominations Form

Nomination to the CALAFCO Board of Directors

In accordance with the Nominations and Election Procedures of CALAFCO,

_____ LAFCo of the _____ Region

Nominates _____

for the (check one) City County Special District Public

Position on the CALAFCO Board of Directors to be filled by election at the next Annual
Membership Meeting of the Association.

LAFCo Chair

Date

NOTICE OF DEADLINE

Nominations must be received by **September 25, 2017**
to be considered by the Recruitment Committee. Send
completed nominations to:
CALAFCO Recruitment Committee
CALAFCO
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814

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Board of Directors 2017/2018 Candidate Resume Form

Nominated By: _____ LAFCo Date: _____

Region (please check one): Northern Coastal Central Southern

Category (please check one): City County Special District Public

Candidate Name _____

Address _____

Phone Office _____ Mobile _____

e-mail _____ @ _____

Personal and Professional Background:

LAFCo Experience:

CALAFCO or State-level Experience:

Availability:

Other Related Activities and Comments:

NOTICE OF DEADLINE

Nominations must be received by **September 25, 2017** to be considered by the Recruitment Committee. Send completed nominations to:
CALAFCO Recruitment Committee
CALAFCO
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814

CALAFCO Board Members 2016-17*(as of July 5, 2017)*

Board Member Name	LAFCo - Region	Type (Term Expires)
Cheryl Brothers	Orange - <i>Southern</i>	City (2018)
Bill Connelly	Butte - <i>Northern</i>	County (2017)
James Curatalo – Chair	San Bernardino - <i>Southern</i>	District (2017)
Shiva Frentzen	El Dorado - <i>Central</i>	County (2018)
Gay Jones – Vice Chair	Sacramento - <i>Central</i>	District (2018)
Michael Kelley	Imperial - <i>Southern</i>	County (2017)
Dr. William Kirby	Placer - <i>Central</i>	City (2017)
John Leopold	Santa Cruz - <i>Coastal</i>	County (2018)
Gerard McCallum	Los Angeles - <i>Southern</i>	Public (2018)
Michael McGill - Treasurer	Contra Costa - <i>Coastal</i>	District (2018)
John Marchand	Alameda - <i>Coastal</i>	City (2017)
Anita Paque	Calaveras - <i>Central</i>	Public (2017)
Ricky Samayoa	Yuba - <i>Northern</i>	City (2018)
Sblend Sblendorio	Alameda - <i>Coastal</i>	Public (2017)
Josh Susman - Secretary	Nevada - <i>Northern</i>	Public (2018)
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Northern</i>	District (2017)



Lou Ann Texeira
 Executive Officer

MEMBERS

Candace Andersen <i>County Member</i>	Michael R. McGill <i>Special District Member</i>
Donald A. Blubaugh <i>Public Member</i>	Rob Schroder <i>City Member</i>
Federal Glover <i>County Member</i>	Igor Skaredoff <i>Special District Member</i>
	Don Tatzin <i>City Member</i>

ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Diane Burgis <i>County Member</i>
Sharon Burke <i>Public Member</i>
Tom Butt <i>City Member</i>
Stanley Caldwell <i>Special District Member</i>

August 9, 2017
 Agenda Item 9

August 9, 2017

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor
 Martinez, CA 94553

Legislative Report - Update and Position Letters

Dear Members of the Commission:

This is an update on legislative activities that have direct and indirect effects on LAFCOs (see CALAFCO Legislative Update – Attachment 1). This year, CALAFCO is sponsoring three bills as summarized below:

- **AB 464** (Gallagher). This bill makes the necessary corrections to LAFCO law to allow LAFCOs to continue to approve annexations of areas already receiving services via an out of area service agreement. This bill was signed by the Governor.
- **AB 1725**, the annual Omnibus bill which makes technical, non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. This bill was last amended on July 20th to remove one of the five proposed changes and was ordered to a second reading.
- CALAFCO and the California Special Districts Association are co-sponsoring **AB 979** which facilitates the seating of special district members on LAFCO. This bill was last amended on July 11th and was ordered to a third reading.

The legislature will resume on August 21st following summer recess.

Last month, CALAFCO issued two urgent calls for legislative action requesting that LAFCOs send letters opposing **AB 1361** (Garcia) and letters supporting **SB 448**. **AB 1361** was recently gutted and amended to essentially allow water districts to provide service to Indian tribal lands that are not within the district boundaries and without going through the LAFCO approval process. The bill is sponsored by the Rincon tribe (Harrah’s owns the casino on their land). **AB 448** provides a streamlined process for LAFCO to dissolve inactive districts. CALAFCO staff has spent considerable time working with the authors and their staff on needed amendments. Timing of the letters was critical as the bills were set for hearings in July.

Contra Costa LAFCO's legislative policy provides our LAFCO with flexibility to respond to urgent legislation that affects LAFCO. Specifically, the policy provides that in "*situations when proposed legislation affecting LAFCO cannot be considered by the full Commission due to timing, the Executive Officer, in consultation with the LAFCO Chair (or Vice Chair in the absence of the Chair), is authorized to provide written or email comments communicating the Commission's position if the position is consistent with the adopted legislative policies of the Commission. The Chair or Vice Chair would review the letter or email prior to it being submitted. The Executive Officer will forward the email or letter to the Commission as soon as possible. The item will be placed on the next regular LAFCO meeting agenda as either "informational" or for discussion purposes.*"

In response to CALAFCO's request, and in accordance with the Commission's policy, a letter opposing **AB 1361** was sent (Attachment 2), and a letter supporting **AB 448** was sent (Attachment 3).

The next CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for August 25th. Commissioner McGill and the Commission's Executive Officer are happy to provide additional information and respond to questions at the LAFCO meeting on August 9th.

RECOMMENDATION – Receive legislative update.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment 1 - CALAFCO Legislative Update – August 2, 2017

Attachment 2 - Letter Opposing AB 1361

Attachment 3 – Letter Supporting SB 448

CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Wednesday, August 02, 2017

1

[AB 464](#) ([Gallagher R](#)) Local government reorganization.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2017

Last Amended: 3/14/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 43, Statutes of 2017.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, current law requires that an applicant seeking a change of organization or reorganization submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory that includes, among other requirements, an enumeration and description of the services to be extended to the affected territory and an indication of when those services can feasibly be extended. This bill would specify that the plan is required to also include specific information regarding services currently provided to the affected territory, as applicable, and make related changes.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature](#)

[CALAFCO Letter of Support April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: Annexation Proceedings

CALAFCO Comments: This bill makes a fix to Gov. Code Sec. 56653 based on the court finding in the case of The City of Patterson v. Turlock Irrigation District. The court found that because the services were already being provided via an out of area service agreement, the application for annexation was deemed incomplete because it was not a new service to be provided. By making the fix in statute, any pending/future annexation for a territory that is already receiving services via an out of area service agreement will not be in jeopardy.

As amended, corrections were made to: 56653(b)(3) reading "proposed" rather than "provided", and in Government Code Section 56857 an exemption added pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 9608 for territory already receiving electrical service under a service area agreement approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 9608.

[AB 979](#) ([Lackey R](#)) Local agency formation commissions: district representation.

Current Text: Amended: 5/15/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2017

Last Amended: 5/15/2017

Status: 7/11/2017-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides for the selection of representatives of independent special districts on each local

agency formation commission by an independent special district selection committee pursuant to a nomination and election process. This bill would additionally require the executive officer to call and hold a meeting of the special district selection committee upon the adoption of a resolution of intention by the committee relating to proceedings for representation of independent special districts upon the commission pursuant to specified law.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Sponsor/Support Letter April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is co-sponsored by CALAFCO and CSDA. As amended, the bill amends code Sec. 56332.5 to streamline the process of seating special districts on LAFCo by mirroring current statute 56332 (the process for electing special district representatives into the special district seats). Keeping the process voluntary, it allows for voting by mail whether or not the district wants to have special districts represented on LAFCo. Further, it will allow for the consolidation of that question with the independent special district selection committee appointment to a countywide redevelopment agency oversight board pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34179 (j)(3).

[AB 1361](#) ([Garcia, Eduardo D](#)) **Municipal water districts: water service: Indian tribes.**

Current Text: Amended: 6/28/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 6/28/2017

Status: 7/19/2017-VOTE: Do pass as amended

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

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 to the Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district, as prescribed. This bill would additionally authorize a district to provide this service of water to an Indian tribe's lands that are not within the district if the Indian tribe's lands are owned by the tribe.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Oppose letter_07_12_17](#)

Position: Oppose

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, this bill allows water districts to provide service to an Indian tribe's lands that are not within the district boundaries without going through the current statutory process of approval by the local agency formation commission (LAFCo). Amendments were taken by the author during the Senate Governance and Finance Committee hearing July 19 that include LAFCo's ability to apply certain terms and conditions to the application by the water agency and limits the land to be served to lands in trust. However, CALAFCO still has a number of concerns and will continue to work with the author and sponsor.

[AB 1725](#) ([Committee on Local Government](#)) **Local agency formation.**

Current Text: Amended: 7/20/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 3/20/2017

Last Amended: 7/20/2017

Status: 7/20/2017-Read third time and amended. Ordered to second reading.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

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, as specified. The act defines various terms for these purposes, including the term “contiguous,” which the act defines as territory adjacent to territory within the local agency. This bill would instead define “contiguous” as territory that abuts or shares a common boundary with territory within a local agency.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter of Support April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This is the annual Omnibus bill. The bill makes only minor, non-substantive technical changes to CKH.

[SB 37](#) (Roth D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 [Text](#)

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 5/26/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/25/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	Policy	2 year	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Beginning with the 2004–05 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, existing law requires that each city, county, and city and county receive additional property tax revenues in the form of a vehicle license fee adjustment amount, as defined, from a Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund that exists in each county treasury. Current law requires that these additional allocations be funded from ad valorem property tax revenues otherwise required to be allocated to educational entities. This bill would modify these reduction and transfer provisions for a city incorporating after January 1, 2004, and on or before January 1, 2012, for the 2017–18 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, by providing for a vehicle license fee adjustment amount calculated on the basis of changes in assessed valuation.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies, Tax Allocation

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is identical to SB 817 (Roth, 2016), SB 25 (Roth, 2015) and SB 69 (Roth, 2014) with the exception of the chaptering out language included in the 2016 version (which addressed the companion bill AB 2277 (Melendez, 2016)). The bill calls for reinstatement of the VLF through ERAF for cities that incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012. There are no provisions for back payments for lost revenue, but the bill does reinstate future payments beginning in the 2017/18 year for cities that incorporated between 1-1-2004 and 1-1-2012.

SB 448 (Wieckowski D) Local government: organization: districts.

Current Text: Amended: 7/17/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2017

Last Amended: 7/17/2017

Status: 7/17/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

(Amended 7/17/2017)

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law requires a report of an audit of a special district’s accounts and records made by a certified public accountant or public accountant to be filed with the Controller and the county auditor of the county in which the special district is located within 12 months of the end of the fiscal year or years under examination. This bill would instead require special districts defined by a specified provision to file those audit reports with the Controller and special districts defined by another specified provision to file those audit reports with the Controller and with the local agency formation commission of either the county in which the special district is located or, if the special district is located in 2 or more counties, with each local agency formation commission within each county in which the district is located.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter July 2017](#)

[CALAFCO Oppose Unless Amended Letter](#)

Position: Support

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: As amended on July 17, this bill authorizes LAFCo to dissolve inactive districts (after determining they meet the criteria set forth in the statute) by holding one hearing, without conducting a special study and with the waiver of protest proceedings. The State Controller is required to notify LAFCo when a district is inactive. LAFCo then has 90 days to initiate dissolution, and another 90 days in which to hold the hearing to dissolve. Should the LAFCo determine the district does not meet the criteria, no dissolution occurs and LAFCo notifies the Controller the district is not inactive. Should the LAFCo determine the district does meet the criteria then it is ordered to be dissolved. The bill also requires a district to provide LAFCo with their audits at the same time they provide them to the Controller.

All of our issues have been resolved with the current version and as a result our position has been changed from Oppose Unless Amended to Support.

AB 267 (Waldron R) Community services districts.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/1/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/1/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

2 year	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law provides for the organization and powers of community services districts, including the continuation of any community services district, improvement district of a community services district, or zone of a community services district, that was in existence on January 1, 2006. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these

provisions.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office this is a spot bill.

[AB 548](#) ([Steinorth R](#)) Omnitrans Transit District.

Current Text: Amended: 4/4/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 4/4/2017

Status: 4/28/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/23/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptored
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would create the Omnitrans Transit District in the County of San Bernardino. The bill would provide that the jurisdiction of the district would initially include the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Upland, and Yucaipa, and unspecified portions of the unincorporated areas of the County of San Bernardino. The bill would authorize other cities in the County of San Bernardino to subsequently join the district.

Position: None at this time

CALAFCO Comments: This bill, as amended, appears to dissolve the Omnitrans JPA and form a new independent special district to be known as the Omnitrans Transit District. The formation process does not include LAFCo. CALAFCO is reaching out to the author's office for more details.

[AB 577](#) ([Caballero D](#)) Disadvantaged communities.

Current Text: Amended: 3/9/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 3/9/2017

Status: 4/28/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.S. & T.M. on 2/27/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptored
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law defines a disadvantaged community as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household income for various purposes, that include, but are not limited to, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, eligibility for certain entities to apply for funds from the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account, and authorization for a community revitalization and investment authority to carry out a community revitalization plan. This bill would expand the definition of a disadvantaged community to include a community with an annual per capita income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual per capita income.

Position: Watch

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities

CALAFCO Comments: Sponsored by the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water, this bill is intended to expand the definition of disadvantaged communities to include multi-family households. According to the author's office this will be a two-year bill. CALAFCO will retain a Watch position until any amendments are in print.

[AB 645](#) ([Quirk D](#)) Local government: organization: dissolution.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Status: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/2/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Under current law, if a change of organization consists of a dissolution, the commission is required to order the dissolution subject to confirmation of voters if, among other things, the proposal was not initiated by the commission and if a subject agency has not objected to the proposal, the commission has found that, for an inhabited territory protests have been signed by either 25% of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory or 25% of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the affected territory. This bill would decrease that threshold to 10% of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory or 10% of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the affected territory.

Position: Watch

Subject: CKH General Procedures, Disincorporation/dissolution, Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office this is a spot bill pending the outcome of the Alameda LAFCo special study on Eden Healthcare District. Update: The author's office indicates they will hold off moving this bill. CALAFCO will continue to Watch.

[AB 892](#) ([Waldron R](#)) Municipal water districts: water service: Indian tribes.

Current Text: Amended: 3/23/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2017

Last Amended: 3/23/2017

Status: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/23/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

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 to the Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district, as prescribed. This bill would authorize, rather than require, a district to provide this service of water. The bill would apply this authorization to all Indian tribes whose lands are owned by the tribe.

Position: Watch

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office, this may very well become a two-year bill. The intent of the bill was to make it permissive for an Indian tribe to negotiate directly with a water provider to obtain water services. This would circumvent LAFCo. This bill expands on last year's bill by Gonzalez-Fletcher, AB 2470. The author's office has indicated the bill will not move forward in it's current version. They understand CALAFCO's concerns. CALAFCO will continue to monitor the bill for any amendments and will consider a position if/when amendments are in print.

[AB 1479](#) ([Bonta D](#)) Public records: custodian of records: civil penalties.

Current Text: Amended: 7/18/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/18/2017

Status: 7/18/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

8/21/2017 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203)
 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS, LARA, Chair

Summary:

Would, until January 1, 2023, require public agencies to designate a person or persons, or office or offices to act as the agency's custodian of records who is responsible for responding to any request made pursuant to the California Public Records Act and any inquiry from the public about a decision by the agency to deny a request for records. The bill also would make other conforming changes. Because the bill would require local agencies to perform additional duties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position: Oppose

Subject: Public Records Act

CALAFCO Comments: As amended this bill requires any public agency to designate a person/office to act as the agency's custodian of records who will be responsible for responding to all public records requests and to respond to an inquiries as to why the agency denied the request for records. Further the bill adds a failure to respond for records or an improperly assessed fee can be considered a civil penalty and allows the courts to issue fines ranging from \$1000 - \$5000.

[AB 1728](#) (Committee on Local Government) Health care districts: board of directors.

Current Text: Introduced: 3/22/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 3/22/2017

Status: 7/12/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 12). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

8/21/2017 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203)
 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS, LARA, Chair

Summary:

Each health care district has a board of directors with specific duties and powers respecting the creation, administration, and maintenance of the district, including purchasing, receiving, having, taking, holding, leasing, using, and enjoying property. This bill would require the board of directors to adopt an annual budget in a public meeting, on or before September 1 of each year, that conforms to generally accepted accounting and budgeting procedures for special districts, establish and maintain an Internet Web site that lists contact information for the district, and adopt annual policies for providing assistance or grant funding, if the district provides assistance or grants.

Attachments:

[AB 1728 CALAFCO Letter of Support](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Other

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill requires healthcare districts to adopt annual budgets, establish and maintain a website (and prescribes the required site content), and adopt policies for grant funding.

SB 206 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 57, Statutes of 2017.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature_06_26_17](#)

[CALAFCO Support Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

SB 207 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 58, Statutes of 2017.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature_06_26_17](#)

[CALAFCO Support Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

SB 208 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 59, Statutes of 2017.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature 06_26_17](#)
[CALAFCO Support Letter Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support
Subject: LAFCo Administration
CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

[SB 365](#) (Dodd D) Regional park and open-space districts: County of Solano.

Current Text: Amended: 7/13/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 7/13/2017

Status: 7/18/2017-In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law authorizes proceedings for the formation of a regional park and open-space or regional open-space district in specified counties in the state to be initiated by resolution of the county board of supervisors adopted after a noticed hearing, and specifies the contents of the resolution. This bill, in addition, would authorize the formation of a regional district in the County of Solano to be initiated by resolution of the county board of supervisors after a noticed hearing. The bill would specify the contents of the resolution, including the calling of an election, as prescribed.

Attachments:

[SB 365 CALAFCO Letter of Oppose_03_28_17](#)

Position: Oppose
Subject: LAFCo Administration
CALAFCO Comments: This bill calls for the formation of a regional park and open space district which will circumvent the LAFCo formation process.

[SB 435](#) (Dodd D) Williamson Act: payments to local governments.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2017

Last Amended: 5/2/2017

Status: 5/25/2017-May 25 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would, under the Williamson act, reduce the amount per acre paid to a city, county, or city and county under these provisions to \$2.50 for prime agricultural land, \$0.50 for all other land devoted to open-space uses of statewide significance, and, for counties that have adopted farmland security zones, \$4 for land that is within, or within 3 miles of the sphere of influence of, each incorporated city.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter_May 2017](#)

Position: Support
Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson
CALAFCO Comments: This bill renews partial subvention funding for the Williamson Act as a fiscal incentive to lift contract moratoria, implements solar use easements and Farmland Security Zone Contracts, and increases subvention funding for counties that adopt conservation planning strategies for agriculturally zoned property that further our state's sustainable community goals.

SB 634 (Wilk R) Santa Clarita Valley Water District.

Current Text: Amended: 7/12/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/12/2017

Status: 7/12/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law, the Castaic Lake Water Agency Law, created the Castaic Lake Water Agency and authorizes the agency to acquire water and water rights, including water from the State Water Project, and to provide, sell, and deliver water at wholesale for municipal, industrial, domestic, and other purposes. This bill would repeal the Castaic Lake Water Agency Law.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Removing Opposition_06_26_17](#)

[CALAFCO Letter Oppose Unless Amended_03_27_17](#)

Position: Neutral

Subject: Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, this bill consolidates two independent water districts in Los Angeles. The bill was amended to include LAFCo in the process via an application for binding conditions. As statute does not allow the local LAFCo to deny the application when both district boards have adopted resolutions of support, the amendments of May 26 address all of CALAFCO's concerns. As a result CALAFCO has removed our opposition and now is neutral on the bill.

SB 693 (Mendoza D) Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District.

Current Text: Amended: 7/3/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/3/2017

Status: 7/11/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 4.) (July 11). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would specifically authorize the establishment of the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District, by petition or resolution submitted to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission before January 1, 2020, subject to specified existing laws governing recreation and park districts, including their formation, except as provided. The bill would authorize specified city councils and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to appoint members to, and the executive officer of the conservancy to serve as a member on, the initial board of directors of the district.

Position: Watch

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This bill forms the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District while leaving a majority of the LAFCo process intact. CALAFCO will keep watching to ensure it stays that way.

Total Measures: 20

Total Tracking Forms: 20

8/2/2017 9:03:07 AM



CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
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Lou Ann Teixeira
 Executive Officer

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Donald A. Blubaugh
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Special District Member

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Don Tatzin
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Sharon Burke
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Tom Butt
City Member

Stanley Caldwell
Special District Member

July 14, 2017

Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia
 California State Assembly
 California State Capitol, Room 4140
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1361 – OPPOSE (as amended June 28, 2017)

Dear Assembly Member Garcia:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has been following your bill, **AB 1361**, which was recently gutted and amended to allow water districts to provide service to Indian tribe lands that are not within the district boundaries without going through the statutory process of approval by LAFCO. Because this bill as amended on June 28, 2017, allows for an extension of services without annexation or even an expedited out of agency service extension approval by LAFCO, Contra Costa LAFCO respectfully opposes **AB 1361**.

It seems **AB 1361** is a solution in search of a problem. As written, the bill does not address any specific service provision problem. Instead, it seeks to subvert existing law by granting a special exception for any potential extension of water service by any public agency to any tribal land in the state.

The current decades-old annexation and out of agency service extension processes are uniquely crafted by the legislature to ensure the provision of local public agency services, and are carefully regulated by another neutral public body in the form of the LAFCO in each county. LAFCOs have authority over boundaries of and service extensions by local agencies and **AB 1361** gives no consideration to this existing local authority.

We understand the bill's sponsor believes that LAFCOs have no authority over tribal lands. Further, we recognize that there is a unique relationship between the State and Indian tribes, and that Indian nations have status beyond some local control matters.

However, the fact of the matter is that LAFCOs have statutory authority over the boundaries of *public agency service providers* irrespective of the service recipient (e.g., tribe).

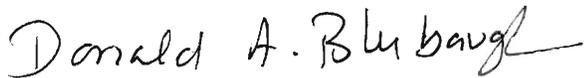
Thus, when a service extension is sought by a service provider to an area outside the existing service boundary, the LAFCO process ensures that all public agency service extensions do not cause harm to either other local agencies or their constituents, and that the matter is fully vetted at a local public hearing. This transparent process allows the public to have meaningful opportunities to comment and seek remedies at the local level. By contrast, **AB 1361** would allow for a blanket statewide loophole that removes all local control and cannot foresee local circumstances and influences that a local LAFCO process provides.

Further, allowing a water agency to serve tribal lands even if a LAFCO Municipal Service Review concludes that the local agency has existing service issues will only exacerbate service deficiencies for existing users. The existing, longstanding annexation process allows for a thorough, publicly transparent evaluation of both service needs and service capacity before allowing such a service extension to occur. This protects everyone affected by such a decision and has proven to be good public policy.

Finally, it is imperative that all Californians be treated equally under the law and specifically when creating policy that involves the provision of water service. Giving any special interest an "automatic" approval to water supplies without local review authority is bad public policy.

For these reasons, Contra Costa LAFCO opposes **AB 1361** as currently written.

Sincerely,



DONALD A. BLUBAUGH, CHAIR
CONTRA COSTA LAFCO

c: Committee Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Anton Favorini-Csorba, Consultant, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Ryan Eisberg, Senate Republican Caucus Consultant
Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CA Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

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ALTERNATE MEMBERS

Diane Burgis
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Sharon Burke
Public Member

Tom Butt
City Member

Stanley Caldwell
Special District Member

July 25, 2017

Senator Bob Wieckowski
 California State Senate
 California State Capitol, Room 4085
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SB 448 – SUPPORT (As amended July 17, 2017)**

Dear Senator Wieckowski:

On behalf of the Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), we have been monitoring your bill **SB 448**. The July 17 amendments remove the remaining LAFCO concerns and as a result, we are pleased to support the bill. We thank you for working closely with CALAFCO to resolve our concerns with the bill.

The proposed authority for LAFCOs to dissolve inactive districts as defined in the bill and identified by the State Controller's Office (SCO) through the contemplated streamlined process creates great efficiencies for LAFCO.

Further, we support the idea of increased communication and enhanced transparency through LAFCO directly receiving reports from the special districts for which they have authority. Having the SCO clearly identify independent special districts on their website is also a great step in gaining efficiencies and greater transparency at the state level.

Thank you again for taking our concerns into consideration and for your work with CALAFCO on this bill. We are pleased to support **SB 448**.

Yours sincerely,

Donald A. Blubaugh, Chair
 Contra Costa LAFCO

c: Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

Kate Sibley

From: CCCERA <info=cccera.org@mail100.suw17.mcsv.net> on behalf of CCCERA <info@cccera.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Kate Sibley
Subject: 2016 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) Now Available

August 9, 2017
Agenda Item 10



July 19, 2016

Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association »

2016 Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)

Summary of CAFR highlights

Now available.

[December 31, 2016 PAFR](#)

[See the 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report \(CAFR\)](#)

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This email was sent to Kate.Sibley@lafco.cccounty.us

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Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association · 1355 Willow Way · Suite 221 · Concord, CA 94520 · USA

2016

Popular

Annual Financial Report

for the Year Ended December 31, 2016



A Message to Members

I am pleased to present the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the year ended December 31, 2016. The financial data presented in the PAFR is derived from the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and is consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The goal is to provide a summary of CCCERA's annual financial report that allows members and other interested parties to review the fund's fiscal information and demographics.

CCCERA's Total Fund returned 7.4% (gross of investment management fees) for the year ending December 31, 2016. This was greater than the long-term objective of delivering CPI plus 400 basis points, which was 6.2% for 2016.

As of December 31, 2016, CCCERA's net position totaled \$7.4 billion which means that assets of \$8.1 billion exceed liabilities of \$0.7 billion. The primary use of assets includes benefit payments to retirees and their beneficiaries, contribution refunds to terminating employees, and the cost of administering the system. The funded ratio is 84.5%, as of December 31, 2015, the date of CCCERA's most recent actuarial valuation.

CCCERA has a net pension liability (NPL) of \$1.4 billion as of December 31, 2016. The plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability as of December 31, 2016 is 84.2%. The net pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll is 185.5% as of December 31, 2016. The associated schedules and additional information for this requirement are shown in the Financial Section of the CAFR.

This report does not replace the CAFR. Detailed information on the subjects included here and other important aspects of CCCERA's administration are in our CAFR at cccera.org.

Gail Strohl
Chief Executive Officer

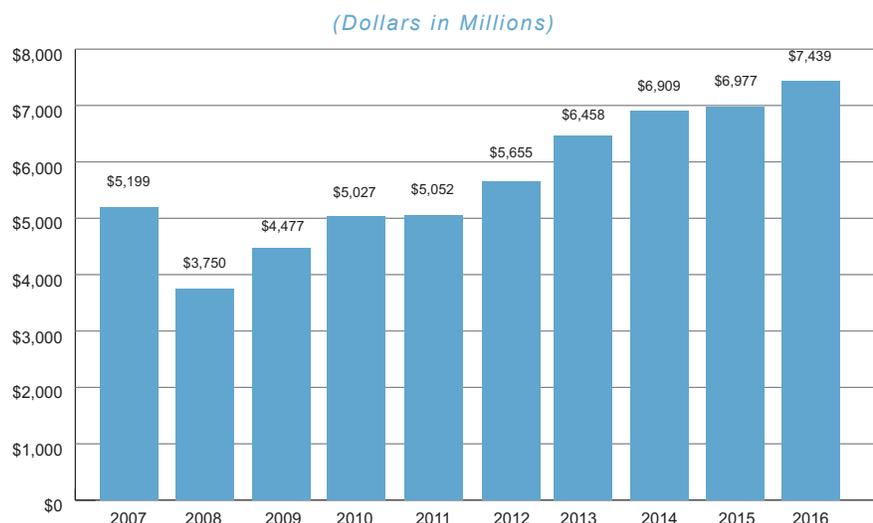


FIDUCIARY NET POSITION RESTRICTED FOR PENSION BENEFITS

As of December 31, 2016, CCCERA had \$7.4 billion in net position restricted for pensions, which means that assets of \$8.1 billion exceeded liabilities of \$0.7 billion.

The Statement of Fiduciary Net Position and the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position report CCCERA's net position restricted for pensions and is one way

to measure the plan's financial position. Over time, increases and decreases in CCCERA's net position are indicators of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating. Other factors, such as market conditions, should be considered in measuring CCCERA's overall financial position.



As of December 31, 2016, the net position restricted for pensions increased by 6.6% over 2015, primarily due to positive investment returns. CCCERA's total fund returned 7.4% before fees for the one-year period ending December 31, 2016, greater than the long-term objective of delivering CPI plus 400 basis points, which was 6.2% for 2016. CCCERA's gross annualized rate of return was 6.1% over the last three years, 9.7% over the last five years, and 6.0% over the last 10 years.

FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

(Dollars in Thousands)

	2016	2015	Amount Increase/ (Decrease)	Percent Increase/ (Decrease)
Assets				
Current and Other Assets	\$921,158	\$1,125,848	(\$204,690)	(18.2%)
Investments at Fair Value	7,191,764	6,922,863	268,901	3.9%
Capital Assets, Net	97	302	(205)	(67.9%)
Total Assets	8,113,019	8,049,013	64,006	0.8%
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities	674,499	1,072,431	(397,932)	(37.1%)
Total Liabilities	674,499	1,072,431	(397,932)	(37.1%)
NET POSITION - RESTRICTED FOR PENSIONS	\$7,438,520	\$6,976,582	\$461,938	6.6%

CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

The primary sources of funding for CCCERA member benefits are employer contributions, plan member contributions and net investment income. Total additions to fiduciary net position for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, were \$900.1 million and \$492.7 million, respectively. The increase in the current year is primarily due to investment gains being higher than in the previous year. The decrease in employer contributions is mostly due to lower employer contribution rates over the prior year. Employee contributions increased over the prior year mostly due to an increase in plan members. Net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2016 totaled \$501.7 million.

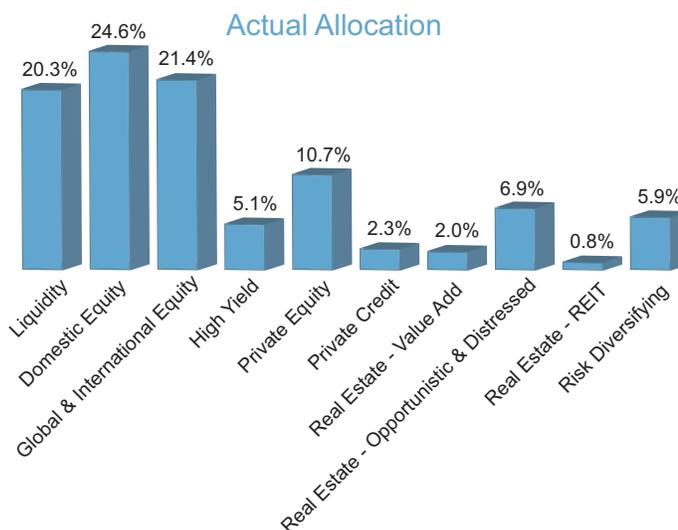
CCCERA's assets can only be used to make benefit payments to retirees and beneficiaries, contribution refunds to terminated employees, and pay the costs of administering the system. Total deductions from fiduciary net position for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, were \$438.1 million and \$425.0 million, respectively. Benefits paid to retirees and beneficiaries were \$412.1 million in 2016, an increase of \$11.3 million, or 2.8% over 2015. The growth in benefit payments was due to a combination of the following: (1) the net increase in the number of retirees and beneficiaries for the year and (2) the increase in the average retirement allowances of those who were added to the retirement payroll.

CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

	<i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>			
	2016	2015	Amount Increase/ (Decrease)	Percent Increase/ (Decrease)
Additions:				
Employer Contributions	\$307,457	\$323,720	(\$16,263)	(5.0%)
Plan Member Contributions	89,240	85,361	3,879	4.5%
Net Investment Income	501,733	82,429	419,304	508.7%
Net Securities Lending Income	1,630	1,165	465	39.9%
Total Additions	900,060	492,675	407,385	82.7%
Deductions:				
Benefits Paid	412,073	400,759	11,314	2.8%
Contribution Prepayment Discount	9,489	9,983	(494)	(4.9%)
Administrative	8,486	8,115	371	4.6%
Refunds	7,154	4,434	2,720	61.3%
Other Expenses	920	1,712	(792)	(46.3%)
Total Deductions	438,122	425,003	13,119	3.1%
NET INCREASE IN NET POSITION - RESTRICTED FOR PENSIONS	\$461,938	\$67,672	\$394,266	582.6%

ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset allocation is an integral part of CCCERA's investment policy. The Retirement Board (Board) implements the asset allocation plan by hiring investment managers to invest assets on CCCERA's behalf, subject to specific guidelines incorporated into each firm's contract. CCCERA's chief investment officer and the outside investment consultant (Verus) assist the Board in designing strategic diversification strategies to maintain steady, long-term gain, with appropriate risk. Please refer to the CAFR for additional information.



The main investment goal is for the total fund return to exceed the long-term objective of delivering CPI plus 400 basis points, which was 6.2% for 2016. As mentioned, for the year ended December 31, 2016, the total fund return was 7.4% before fees, greater than the performance objective and less than the median public fund return of 7.9%.

Investment Results Based on Fair Value* As of December 31, 2016

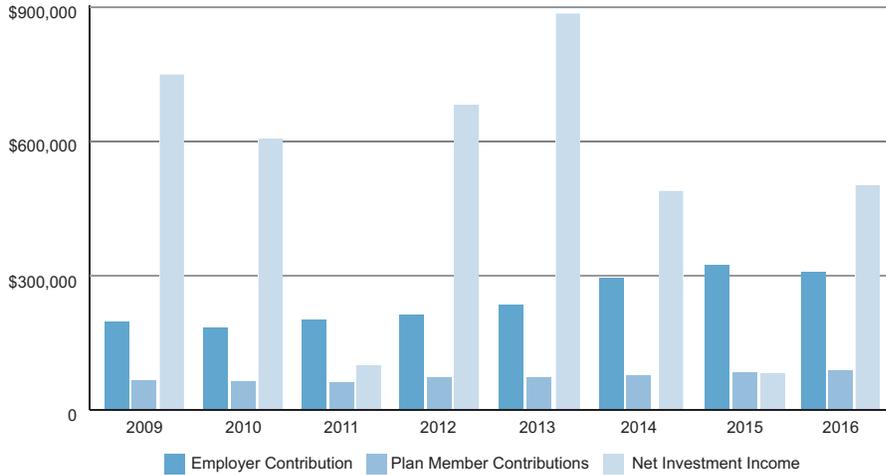
Asset Class:	Benchmark:	Current Year	Annualized (gross of fees)		
			3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Domestic Equity		11.5%	7.9%	15.1%	7.7%
	Russell 3000	12.7%	8.4%	14.7%	7.1%
International Equity		1.2%	0.1%	7.0%	0.7%
	MSCI ACWI ex-USA Gross	5.0%	-1.3%	5.5%	1.4%
	MSCI EAFE Gross	1.5%	-1.2%	7.0%	1.2%
Global Equity		7.6%	5.0%	9.7%	-
	MSCI ACWI	7.9%	3.1%	9.4%	-
Domestic Fixed Income		4.8%	4.5%	4.9%	5.6%
	BBgBarc US Aggregate TR Universal	2.6%	3.0%	2.2%	4.3%
	BBgBarc US Govt/Credit 1-3 TR	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%	2.4%
High Yield		14.3%	3.7%	6.7%	7.5%
	BofA ML High Yield Master II	17.5%	4.7%	7.4%	7.3%
Inflation Hedge		7.4%	0.5%	-	-
	CPI + 4%	6.2%	5.2%	-	-
Real Estate		5.5%	13.1%	13.3%	4.6%
	Real Estate Benchmark	6.7%	11.1%	10.8%	6.9%
	NCREIF (ODCE) Index	8.8%	12.1%	12.2%	5.8%
	NCREIF Property Index	8.0%	11.0%	10.9%	6.9%
Alternatives		9.0%	13.2%	13.1%	11.6%
	S&P 500 + 4% Lagged	20.0%	15.6%	21.0%	11.5%
Opportunistic		10.1%	1.7%	6.9%	-
	CPI + 4	6.2%	5.2%	5.4%	-
Total Fund		7.4%	6.1%	9.7%	6.0%
	Policy Index	8.8%	6.1%	9.6%	-
	CPI + 4%	6.2%	5.2%	5.4%	-

*Using time-weighted rate of return based on the market rate of return.

REVENUE BY SOURCE

Employer and plan member basic and COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) contributions are based on statute and rates recommended by an independent actuary and adopted by the Board.

(Dollars in Thousands)

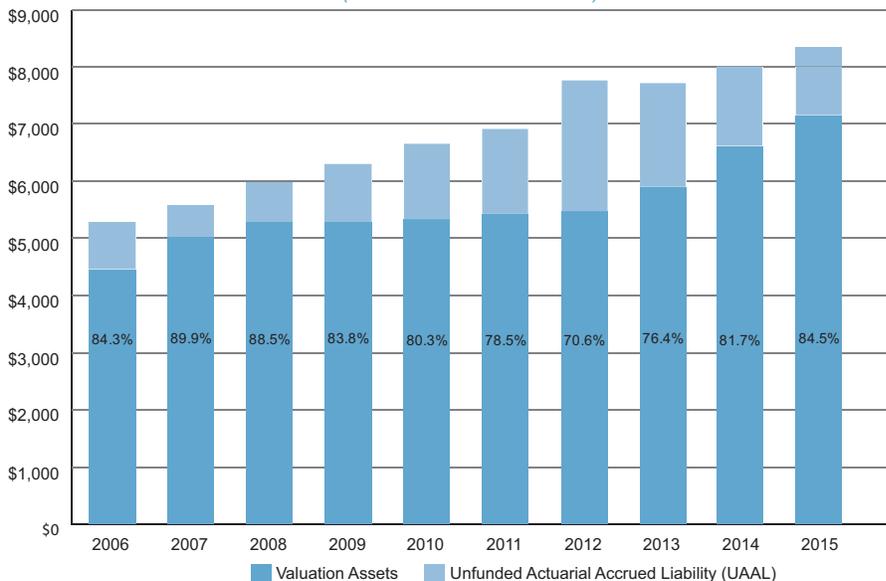


CCCERA's actuarial valuations are performed as of December 31 of each year; contribution requirements resulting from such valuations become effective 18 months after the valuation date (i.e., December 31, 2015 rates become effective on July 1, 2017).

ACTUARIAL FUNDING STATUS

In order to determine whether the pension plan's net position restricted for pensions will be sufficient to meet future obligations, the actuarial funding status needs to be calculated. An actuarial valuation is similar to an inventory process. On the valuation date, the assets available for the payment of retirement benefits are appraised, with gains and losses over the previous five years smoothed to avoid significant swings in the value of assets from one year to the next. These assets are compared to the actuarial accrued liabilities, which are the actuarial present value of future benefits (attributable to service already earned) expected to be paid for each member.

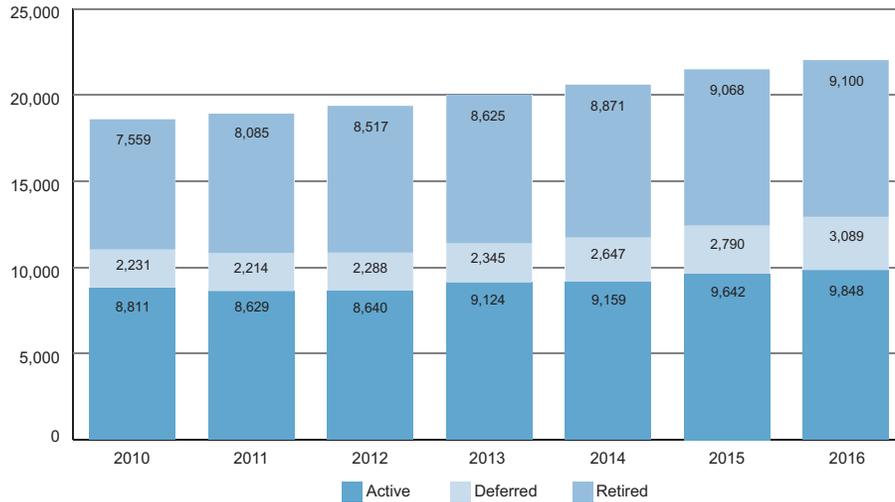
*Funded Ratio
(Dollars in Thousands)*



The purpose of the valuation is to determine what future contributions by the members and by the employers are needed to pay all expected future benefits.

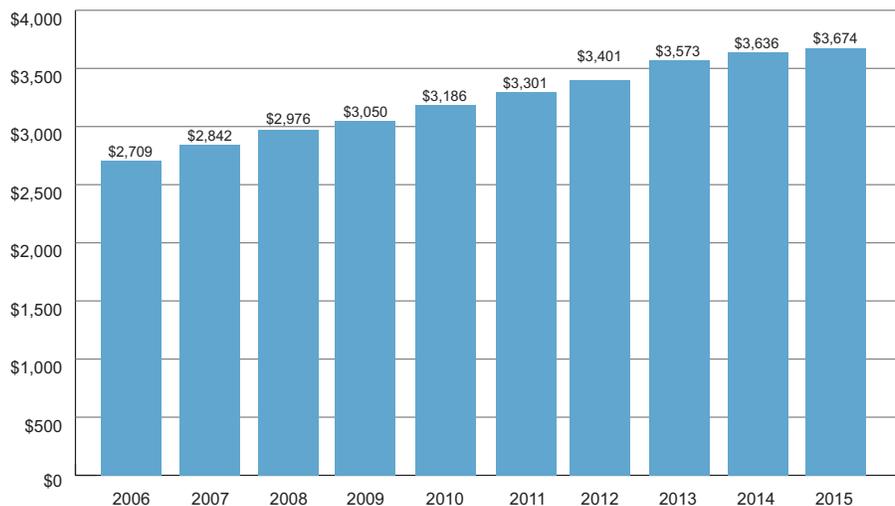
MEMBERSHIP

CCCERA's membership consists of full and part-time employees, members who have left service and have deferred their receipt of retirement benefits, and retirees and their beneficiaries from Contra Costa County and participating agencies. CCCERA's total membership as of December 31, 2016 is 22,037.



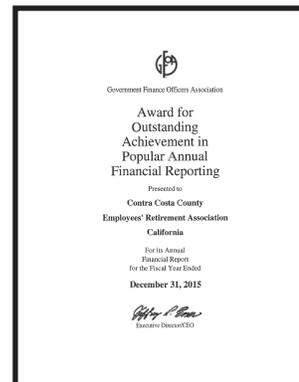
AVERAGE BENEFIT PAYMENTS

The chart below is a broad representation of average benefits paid monthly over 10 years to retirees and survivors. Both general and safety member figures are combined in this calculation, as are all tiers. The chart includes all members who have retired through December 31, 2015.

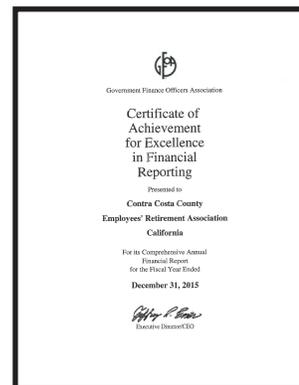


AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to CCCERA for its PAFR for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government reports. In order to receive this award, a government unit must publish a PAFR whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal. The award is valid for a period of one year only. CCCERA has received this award for the last seven consecutive years since fiscal year ended 2009. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements and will submit it to the GFOA.



The GFOA has also awarded CCCERA its sixteenth Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for its CAFR for every year from 2000 through 2015. This is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government reports.



CCCERA has also earned the Public Pension Coordinating Council's (PPCC) Public Standards Award for 1998, 2000, and 2003 through 2016. The award is intended to reflect minimum expectations for public retirement system management and administration, and to serve as a benchmark by which all defined benefit public plans should be measured.

2016 BOARD OF RETIREMENT (As of December 31, 2016)

John B. Phillips *Chairperson*
Todd Smithey *Vice-Chairperson*
Scott Gordon *Secretary*
Candace Andersen
Debora Allen
David MacDonald

Gabe Rodrigues
Jerry Telles
Russell V. Watts *County Treasurer*
Jerry R. Holcombe *(Appointed Alternate)*
Louie Kroll *(Retiree Alternate)*
William Pigeon *(Safety Alternate)*

ABOUT CCCERA

CCCERA is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; counselors are available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office is closed daily from Noon to 12:30 p.m.

CCCERA's website, cccera.org, provides resources for members, employers and the public. It features forms, handbooks, policies, a calculator to estimate retirement benefits, and more.



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OAKLAND, CA
PERMIT # 3729

1355 Willow Way, Suite 221, Concord, CA 94520
Phone: (925) 521-3960 Fax: (925) 521-3969
cccera.org

2016

Popular Annual Financial Report

for the Year Ended December 31, 2016

CCCERA's mission is to deliver retirement benefits to members and their beneficiaries through prudent asset management and effective administration, in accordance with all plan provisions.

CCCERA PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Contra Costa County
- Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District
- Byron-Brentwood-Knightesen Union Cemetery
- Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
- Contra Costa County Employees' Retirement Association
- Contra Costa Housing Authority
- Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District
- First 5 – Children & Families Commission
- In-Home Supportive Services Authority (IHSS)
- Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)
- Rodeo Sanitary District
- Superior Court of California, County of Contra Costa
- Contra Costa Fire Protection District
- East Contra Costa Fire Protection District
- Moraga-Orinda Fire District
- Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District
- San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 1, 2017
To: Employers
From: Gail Strohl, Chief Executive Officer
Subject: August 9, 2017 CCCERA Retirement Board Meeting

On August 3, 2017, you will receive the agenda for the Retirement Board meeting on August 9, 2017. Of particular importance, Segal Consulting will present the results of the annual *Actuarial Valuation and Review as of December 31, 2016*. The report will include proposed employer and member contribution rates for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. You are invited to attend this meeting.

One of the general goals of an actuarial valuation is to establish contributions which fully fund the system's liabilities, and which, as a percentage of payroll, remain as level as possible for each generation of active members. Annual actuarial valuations measure the progress toward this goal, as well as test the adequacy of the contribution rates.

Copies of the full Valuation Report:

- Will be provided to attendees at the meeting.
- May be picked up from CCCERA starting on August 2, 2017.
- Will be mailed to employers who were not able to attend the meeting.
- Will be available on our website at www.cccera.org on Thursday, August 3, 2017.

This is an opportunity for all interested parties, including staff and Boards of our participating employers, to learn more about the actuarial process. Segal Consulting will present their findings and answer questions regarding the valuation.

We invite you to attend this meeting, ask questions and learn more about this critical subject.

**CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
PENDING PROPOSALS –AUGUST 9, 2017**

August 9, 2017
Agenda Item 12b

LAFCO APPLICATION	RECEIVED	STATUS
Town of Discovery Bay Community Services District (DBCSD) sphere of influence (SOI) Amendment (Newport Pointe): proposed SOI expansion of 20± acres bounded by Bixler Road, Newport Drive and Newport Cove	July 2010	Currently incomplete
DBCSD Annexation (Newport Pointe): proposed annexation of 20± acres to supply water/sewer services to a 67-unit single family residential development	July 2010	Currently incomplete
Bayo Vista Housing Authority Annexation to RSD: proposed annexation of 33± acres located south of San Pablo Avenue at the northeastern edge of the District's boundary	Feb 2013	Continued from 11/12/14 meeting
Reorganization 186 (Magee Ranch/SummerHill): proposed annexations to Central Contra Costa Sanitary District (CCCSD) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) of 402± acres; 9 parcels total to CCCSD (8 parcels) and EBMUD (7 parcels)	June 2014	Removed from the Commission's calendar pending further notice
Tassajara Parks Project – proposed SOI expansions to CCCSD and EBMUD of 30± acres located east of the City of San Ramon and the Town of Danville	May 2016	Currently incomplete
Tassajara Parks Project – proposed annexations to CCCSD and EBMUD of 30± acres located east of the City of San Ramon and the Town of Danville	May 2016	Currently incomplete
Heyden-Montalbo Annexation to City of Martinez – proposed annexation of 0.12+ acres (one parcel) on Sierra Avenue	Jan 2017	Currently incomplete
151 Circle Drive – Annexation to City of Walnut Creek – proposed annexation of 0.179± acres located at 151 Circle Drive	Mar 2017	Currently incomplete
West County Wastewater District Annexation 316 (Goodrick Avenue) – proposed annexation of 13.89± acres located south of the intersection of Protectocoat Lane and Goodrick Ave in unincorporated North Richmond	June 2017	Currently incomplete
Pittsburg/Antioch SOI Amendments (Tuscany Meadows) – proposed amendments to the SOIs of the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch totaling 193.48± acres located south of Buchanan Road (APNs 089-150-015, -016 and adjacent road right-of-ways)	July 2017	Under review
Tuscany Meadows Reorganization: Annexations to the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch, Contra Costa Water District, Delta Diablo and detachment from CSA P-6 – proposed annexations and corresponding detachment of 193.48± acres located south of Buchanan Road (APNs 089-150-015/-016 and adjacent road right-of-ways)	July 2017	Under review

Cordelia, Vacaville rural fire districts seek to merge

By [Todd R. Hansen](#) [From page A1](#) | July 19, 2017

CORDELIA — The Vacaville and Cordelia fire protection districts have taken the beginning steps toward consolidation, citing financial issues and the risk of not being able to provide adequate service as the primary reasons.

The boards of each rural fire district – Cordelia on May 18 and Vacaville on May 25 – adopted resolutions outlining the financial difficulties and the need to consolidate into a single district.

“ . . . (The) interests of the residents of the areas serviced by the Vacaville Fire Protection District and the Cordelia Fire Protection District are best served by the reorganization of the two districts into one entity or by certain functional consolidation . . . ,” the resolutions state.

Both resolutions cite declining revenues and increasing operations costs for the volunteer departments. The name of the consolidated district would be the Solano Fire Protection District.

Critical issues to address will be how the new district is financed, and how operations will be structured.

Chiefs Howard Wood (Vacaville) and Keith Martin (Cordelia) could not be reached Monday for comment. Messages were left with the district offices.

“Due to the complexity of issues that must be analyzed in advance of a consolidation of our districts, we are requesting the Solano LAFCO establish a reorganization committee to prepare a proposed plan for reorganization,” states a letter to commission Chairwoman Nancy Shopay. It is dated May 15.

That letter also states that the board chairmen of each rural fire district – Jeff Dittmer for Cordelia and Chris Calvert for Vacaville – have been authorized to work with the Solano Local Agency Formation Commission to “develop a roadmap to improve fire protection services to our respective jurisdictions.”

The commission on June 12 agreed to form a reorganization committee, but does not expect that committee to begin its work until new LAFCO Executive Officer Richard Seithel begins his duties Aug. 9.

“He has worked on fire district consolidation,” Roseanne Chamberlain, the interim executive officer, said Monday.

The employees of each district would come under the authority of the consolidated district, according to the resolution. All assets and liabilities also would come under the new organization.

Cordelia has two paid staff members, while the rural Vacaville district has eight, according to their respective websites.

“Any proposed reorganization would recognize and preserve the existing revenue source of the existing districts, with particular emphasis on Cordelia Fire Protection District’s Measure I,” the resolutions state.

Measure I, enacted in 2002, is a special tax that charges \$260 for each residential parcel, and has a host of other taxes ranging from \$150 to \$350 depending on land use. The idea was to provide a “stable source of supplementary revenue” for the Cordelia Fire Protection District. There is no sunset on the tax.

The resolutions state that the entirety of each district would become part of the new district, although there is language that suggests flexibility in that decision.

The Cordelia district covers 56 square miles and includes Green Valley, Rockville, Cordelia and Lower Suisun Valley.

The Vacaville Fire Protection District consolidated with Elmira in 1984. It covers 135 square miles.

The district wraps around the city of Vacaville along the Dixon fire district line to the north and northeast. It is bordered to the south by Travis Air Force Base and the Montezuma Fire Protection District, east of Fairfield, and is separated from Cordelia by the Suisun Fire Protection District west of Fairfield.

Reach Todd R. Hansen at 427-6932 or thansen@dailyrepublic.net

Daily Republic

LAFCO has hired new, full-time executive officer

By [Todd R. Hansen](#) From page A3 | July 19, 2017



Solano LAFCO executive officer Richard Seithel

FAIRFIELD — The new executive officer for the Solano Local Agency Formation Commission will begin his duties Aug. 9.

Richard Seithel, of Antioch, was hired July 10. He will receive an annual salary of \$135,000.

“We are pleased to have Richard Seithel as our new LAFCO executive officer,” Nancy Shopay, chairwoman of the LAFCO board, said in a statement posted Thursday to the organization’s website.

“(Seithel) brings his experience and knowledge about city and county projects as well as his private interaction with members of the public, which will be a valuable asset to Solano County,” Shopay said in the statement.

The commission has been searching for a replacement for Elliot Mulberg, who left at the end of 2016. He had worked as a part-time contractor for three years, replacing what had been a full-time executive.

Roseanne Chamberlain, who has more than 20 years in LAFCO, has been the interim executive officer since January and will continue her duties as the part-time Amador executive officer.

She said she hopes to help Seithel in his transition into the job.

“I have to see what he wants me to do. . . . I just want to pass the baton so he has sufficient information to pick up where I left off,” Chamberlain said Monday in a phone interview.

Seithel is currently the chief of Annexations and Economic Stimulus Programs for Contra Costa County, and was critical in the development of the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative, according to the LAFCO statement. Additionally, he has been responsible for negotiating annexations and property tax agreements.

He has been with the county for 15 years, including serving as senior deputy county administrator.

Prior to working for Contra Costa County, Seithel worked as an executive in the transportation and building materials sector, including more than 15 years with the Canadian Pacific Railroad, the LAFCO statement said.

He has two bachelor's degrees from the University of Missouri, and a master's in business administration from St. Mary's College-Moraga with honors in advanced strategic marketing, the LAFCO statement said.

Reach Todd R. Hansen at 427-6932 or thansen@dailyrepublic.net.

Water Deeply

Clean Water Plan for Long-Suffering San Joaquin Valley Towns Derailed

An innovative project would see seven Tulare County towns plagued by polluted wells sharing a water treatment plant, but political infighting stalled the proposal days before a funding deadline.

Written by [Mark Grossi](#) Published on σ **Jul. 20, 2017** Read time Approx. 7 minutes



Canal water from Sierra snowmelt moves through Tulare County, California. A plan to help seven nearby communities with polluted groundwater wells gain access to surface water for their drinking supply recently stalled after years of effort. *Tara Lohan*

SEVILLE, California – Fresh Sierra mountain snowmelt would make a better drink of water for rural Tulare County folk who currently rely on wells tainted by fertilizers, leaky septic systems and decades-old pesticide residues. Nobody argues with that here in California’s San Joaquin Valley.

The problem is obtaining even a tiny fraction of the average [1.7 million acre-feet of Kings River snowmelt](#) that heads mostly to farm fields each year. Even after securing the water, millions of dollars would be needed for a treatment plant, which is required for surface water.

But over the past several years, a rare opportunity has appeared for seven towns in northern Tulare County: Cutler, Orosi, East Orosi, Monson, Seville, Sultana and Yettem. The river water is available, and the state is willing to help build the treatment plant for the 17,000 people in these towns.

Clustered together in a broad, rural citrus belt, the towns have been [suffering from contaminated wells](#) for at least two decades. Children here are taught not to drink from the tap, and families living below the federal poverty line have often been forced to spend up to 10 percent of their income on bottled water. When the drought hit, wells dried up, leaving people in more misery.

Now, after enduring years of contamination, a devastating drought and the scuttling of a similar project six years ago due to a legal technicality, these rural residents are on the verge of replacing polluted groundwater with unsullied river water.

A regional water treatment system shared among several rural towns would be a first for the San Joaquin Valley, but it is threatened by self-inflicted delays and local political slowdowns, including one that last month stalled the estimated \$30 million [treatment plant](#).

This time the conflict is a home-grown squabble over the benefits of the treatment plant. The two largest towns, Cutler and Orosi, stand together in pushing for the majority of the benefits in perpetuity, leaving the five smaller communities on the opposing side. People on both sides are deflated, but still dedicated to building the plant.

One of them is Argelia Flores, a resident in Seville, one of the smaller five towns. She served on the committee to set up the owner-operator agency for the treatment plant.

“This treatment plant is a very good idea, and probably a necessity in future droughts – it is so hard to live without water in your home,” she says. “We thought this was going well until last month. But we’re not giving up.”

River water instead of groundwater is perhaps the most elegant long-term solution to the chronic contamination of drinking-water wells in this farm belt. The state’s 2014 [groundwater sustainability law](#) won’t protect the groundwater supply for another two decades and treating the contamination is too costly for small communities.

Around the San Joaquin Valley, many rural communities with contaminated or dried-up wells are connecting with bigger cities. One example is the [Matheny Tract](#) just outside the city of Tulare.

The northern Tulare County towns aren’t close enough to connect with big cities, such as Visalia, which has a population of about 130,000. The smaller five of the seven towns have stopgap measures in place that would have served residents until the river water treatment plant was built.

The towns of [Seville](#) and Yettem are working together on a well. The town of [Monson](#) is getting a new well and distribution system, and soon will join nearby Sultana’s community service district. [East Orosi](#) is also working on a new well. Engineers say those projects are vulnerable to the same fate as other wells in the area – nitrate contamination from agricultural fertilizers. But folks were hoping to have the treatment plant built by 2020, to ensure a long-term solution.

Instead, Cutler and Orosi pulled out of the water treatment project talks just days shy of a deadline to acquire \$250,000 for planning through a \$7.5 billion state water bond, [Proposition 1](#).

What happened? According to the revised contract language circulated at a meeting among the attorneys, the lawyer for Orosi Public Utility District proposed the benefits of the water treatment plant should remain in perpetuity as they were initially allocated – proportionately by

population size. Cutler and Orosi have 80 percent of the 17,000 residents who would be served. But the numbers might change in future years as communities grow, opponents argued.

Before lawyers became involved in the negotiations this year, representatives of the seven towns had a tentative agreement to give Orosi and Cutler a majority vote on the board of a new agency that would own and operate the treatment plant.

But Orosi's lawyer, Moses Diaz, sought to add the language about water benefits, according to a source familiar with the negotiations. Diaz did not respond to requests for comment.

Ryan Jensen of the nonprofit [Community Water Center](#) in Visalia worked with the communities for many months, trying to set up the new agency. He says informal polls of the communities show 85 percent of the people in the area want the project, and many are surprised and disappointed.

"If local leaders can't take a strong project proposal and carry it through to develop shovel-ready projects, they won't be in a position to take advantage of new opportunities for construction funding," he says. "And the funding will pass by our valley communities."

Jose Guerrero, a board member for the [Cutler Public Utilities District](#), says there is talk of Cutler and Orosi moving forward with the project on their own. He says Cutler has been working on the water treatment concept since 2004.

"This is something the community needs," he says. "But there was a disagreement among the lawyers about how the treatment project should be shared. It's disheartening, but we have the greater population, and we have the greater need to serve more people."

If Cutler and Orosi move forward on the project together, it would leave the other five towns vulnerable to continued contamination and dried-up wells. During the drought, Monson residents Ben and Lazara Luengas saved water any way they could – which meant their landscaping died and water was rationed for bathing, laundry, dishwashing and other household needs.

"It's very hard," Lazara says. "They delivered water to a big tank for us to use. You shower every day and do laundry once a week. But there isn't much water left over for anything."

The water treatment idea has run aground before. In 2007, the local [Alta Irrigation District of Dinuba](#) designed a plan to use some of its own Kings River water for towns in the area. Orosi, which had long been pursuing the river water along with Cutler, would be the lead applicant for grant money from the state.

Funding efforts languished on the state's priority list until a highly publicized visit to the area from the [United Nations](#) in March 2011. A U.N. representative toured Seville, taking note of the crumbling, century-old distribution pipes and the town's only well, which was contaminated. The U.N. urged California to act quickly in cleaning up the water.

The state publicly agreed, but then quietly balked again, citing a funding technicality: The funding would not be high priority because the lead applicant, Orosi, had a water supply that was not currently out of compliance with standards.

Local engineers unsuccessfully argued it was only a matter of time before Orosi would be out of compliance again. Months later, the seven communities got together and tried to obtain funding with the county taking the lead, but the delays and false starts continued throughout 2012 and 2013.

It has been frustrating for residents, because Alta Irrigation District's plan to deliver about 23,000 acre-feet is still ready to go. The water would come from excess river runoff from wet winters, such as the latest wet season. The runoff would be allowed to percolate into two groundwater holding areas, which could be pumped for farm irrigation. The seven towns would get fresh river water that would not have to be sent to farms. State officials are confident Alta could make the deliveries even during droughts.

"In California, you always figure the tough part is getting the water," retired Alta general manager Chris Kapheim said last year. "Not this time."

The pain of the recent five-year drought changed minds. The state altered the management of funding for water fixes, making it more responsive to helping these impoverished towns.

Chad Fischer, Tulare district engineer for the California [State Water Resources Control Board](#), which is involved in funding, says he, too, was surprised the seven towns could not reach an agreement in June. But he says the door is not closed on funding.

"It is a good project, aligned with State Water Resources Control Board's approach," he says. "I want to see this go through."

Tulare county supervisor [Steve Worthley](#), who has been involved in the project, says the group of five smaller towns might improve their chances by finding a larger community to join their effort – perhaps [Dinuba](#), which has about 24,000 residents.

Would the state have to someday choose between a Cutler-Orosi application or an application from the smaller five? Fischer declines to comment. But he says, "We would prefer that the seven communities work together because it makes more sense for the region."

The Sacramento Bee

Let the lawsuits begin: Delta tunnels get official state green light

By Ryan Sabalow and Dale Kasler, July 21, 2017

rsabalow@sacbee.com

Gov. Jerry Brown's administration gave the official go-ahead Friday for his controversial plan to bore two huge tunnels through the heart of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The state Department of Water Resources said it had finalized the lengthy environmental review of the \$17.1 billion Delta tunnels project, officially known as California WaterFix. In what's known as a "Notice of Determination," regulators said building and operating the tunnels won't violate the California Environmental Quality Act or harm fish, wildlife and human health.

The move came as little surprise to those closely following the decade-long push to build the project. Brown's administration has long argued the tunnels would improve environmental conditions in the troubled Delta. By doing so, Brown has said the federal and state pumping stations in the southern part of the estuary will be able to deliver water more reliably to 25 million Southern Californians and Bay Area residents, and millions of acres of San Joaquin Valley farmland.

"Today, we have reached our next important benchmark in moving California towards a more reliable water supply," said DWR Acting Director Cindy Messer in a prepared statement. "With this certification, our state is now closer to modernizing our aging water delivery system in a way that improves reliability and protects the environment."

Friday's decision, more than any other, paves the way for a flood of litigation. Legal experts said the state's strict environmental law, known as CEQA, can often serve as a powerful tool for opponents to stand in the way of a project, at least temporarily.

"It does slow things down for sure," said George Hartmann, a Stockton lawyer who represents Delta farmers opposed to the tunnels. He said litigation is likely to begin "in short order."

Barbara Barrigan-Parilla of Restore the Delta, one of the project's fiercest opponents, added, "The bottom line is there are so many flaws in the project ... that we and other parties throughout the Delta and the state will prepare to litigate."

The official approvals don't mean the project is a certainty. The south-of-Delta water agencies that would have to pay for the tunnels still haven't signed off on the project. The powerful Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is expected to make its financial [commitment this fall](#). But other key water agencies are wavering. Farmers at the influential Westlands Water

District, which covers much of Fresno and Kings counties, said they remain unconvinced after hearing detailed [projections on cost](#) during a meeting earlier this week.

The state action comes less than a month after two federal fisheries agencies [gave their approvals](#) to the project. In a pair of long-awaited decisions, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service said the tunnels aren't likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Delta smelt, Chinook salmon, steelhead and other fish protected by the Endangered Species Act.

Days later, fishing groups and environmentalists sued in U.S. District Court.

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Water Deeply

Why Some Western Water Agencies Are Writing 100-Year Water Plans

Climate change is causing water managers to think long term about their resources. Several western agencies are planning a century in advance, but that's not without its headaches.

Written by [Jerry Redfern](#) Published on **Jul. 25, 2017** Read time Approx. 4 minutes



Water flows through one of the irrigation canals in Albuquerque, N.M., on Friday, March 31, 2017. A few water agencies across the West, including the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, have begun writing 100-year water plans. *AP/Susan Montoya Bryan*

In February of this year, the largest water district in a state with little water enacted a plan that attempts to manage that increasingly fickle resource for 100 years.

The plan, [Water: 2120](#), is the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA) in New Mexico's blueprint to direct water procurement, protection and use for the next century.

“This really came out of eight to 10 of us sitting around in a room every Wednesday morning and talking this through,” said Katherine Yuhas, water resources manager at ABCWUA and one of the lead planners on the project.

It's common for water agencies to develop plans looking 20 to 40 years ahead, or in some cases 50 to 60 years. And ABCWUA, of course, has had planning documents in the past, the last one looking 60 years out. But “this is the first one to take into account climate change,” Yuhas said, and “it's the first one to look out 100 years.” Plus, it covers everything from watersheds to infrastructure to household use.

Other Western water groups are also working on long-range plans. Santa Fe is looking closely at Water: 2120. Next year, Austin Water plans to unveil [Water Forward](#), which it calls, “a water plan for the next century.” And in Arizona, the [Office of Assured and Adequate Water Supply Program](#) at the Department of Water Resources requires new developments in certain metropolitan areas to show they have physical and legal access to water for 100 years.

Last year, the United States Environmental Protection Agency published “[What Climate Change Means for New Mexico](#),” with a blunt assessment: “The changing climate is likely to increase the need for water but reduce the supply.” The future is predicted to be hotter, drier and subject to “extreme precipitation events.” Plus, population is growing. The ABCWUA serves more than 700,000 people today and before 2060 that number is expected to top 1 million.

Climate-change predictions were the prompt for the extensive plan, Yuhas said. “One hundred years seemed like about as far out as we could push.”

The plan calls for increased water conservation through groundwater management (including recharging the aquifer beneath Albuquerque), surface-water management (including protecting current water rights and buying more in the future), [watershed restoration](#), water recycling and reuse programs and stormwater capture and storage.

Kimery Wiltshire, chief executive of Carpe Diem West, a nonprofit group that works on water issues in the Western U.S., said the plan is “a very smart thing for them to do” because it’s “really taking into account that climate change is going to be with us for a very long time.”

But it’s tough to plan that far into the future. Wiltshire noted. “There’s no standard for writing a water plan under climate change. There is no checklist.”

Tony Pulokas, a developer and senior engineer with HydroLogics, a firm that develops large-scale water resource models for government groups around the globe, sounds a note of caution about plans that contain multiple threads of uncertainty – namely: climate, water supplies, population and government itself.

“In general I think it’s wise to be looking well ahead in the future,” he said. “It’s also true that there is a great deal of uncertainty as to what the demand for water will be in 100 years, what the effects of climate change might be, and really, what sort of changes there might be to the whole legal framework as for how water is managed.”

The New Mexico plan sounds “more ambitious than usual,” Pulokas said.

“We feel very confident about what we’re going to see over the next 10 years,” Yuhas said. “We feel far less confident about what we’re going to see 90 years out. But the goal of this plan is to update it every 10 years. So as we get better and better information ... we will be updating the plan.”



A trickle of water left in the Rio Grande is pushed downstream by the wind near the chili-growing community of Hatch, N.M., in March 2013. Concerned about the impact of climate change on water resources, the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority has written a 100-year blueprint for managing its water. (AP/Susan Montoya Bryan, File)

Sterling Grogan is a watershed ecologist who spent eight years at the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District as a biologist and planner, and 10 years before that as a graduate fellow at the University of New Mexico in biology. He sees the plan's long-term strength [in its trees](#). "The way that the plan deals with watersheds I think is very important," he said. That's because the plan connects the dots between customers' taps and the upstream forests that naturally gather and store the water. Protecting those forests is a key part of the plan for securing water for future generations.

Grogan calls it progressive, "in terms of connecting watersheds with their water customers. And that's the big connection – the big important connection that is going to allow these utilities to be resilient in the face of the inevitable effects of climate change."

Some scientists say New Mexico's plan could be a global model. "Other regions of the world can look to New Mexico's growing leadership on planning for water-resource stress periods and increasing drought-resilient renewable energy sources," according to a report issued by the Union of Concerned Scientists, "[Confronting Climate Change in New Mexico](#)."

The ABCWUA might be in front of a coming wave of climate-change lawmaking in response to the Trump administration. Since Trump announced the U.S. would withdraw from the Paris agreement, [state](#) and [local governments](#), as well as [companies](#), have pledged to act on climate regardless.

Yuhas said she is also hearing from other water managers in the West in the wake of Water: 2120. "Yes, there is interest beyond New Mexico," she said. "They have said, 'This is great. Tell us about how you did this. What did it take to get this done?'"

Climate change may confuse and confound water planners, but the goals are clear. "One hundred years isn't forever, but it's several generations out," Yuhas said. "You're now talking about your great-great-great grandchildren who will benefit from this program."

Published July 26th, 2017

Total devastation in Lafayette Circle fire

By Nick Marnell



100 Lafayette Circle after the fire Photo courtesy ConFire

A discarded cigarette on a restaurant patio likely caused the explosion and fire that ripped through the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce building, fire officials said. In minutes the fire wiped out more than 40 years of Lafayette history, completely destroying an iconic restaurant, the Chamber and a number of small businesses.

"We determined that the cause of the fire was accidental," said Robert Marshall, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District fire marshal, a fact of little solace to those who lost everything.

As he's done countless times in his 17 years at the restaurant, Jeff Assadi closed La Finestra at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 12 and brought in a company to do after-hours maintenance. Chris Rossi of Siggy's Carpet Cleaning of Lafayette shampooed the restaurant carpets, completed the job in an hour and departed. A restaurant

employee who assisted Rossi then left, and Assadi locked up the restaurant, noticing nothing at all out of order. "Whatever happened after that, I have no idea," Assadi said.

Whatever happened after that, arrived in a fury from the depths of hell.

"I've never been close to a wildfire or any kind of serious fire before, but I'll tell you the sound it made was mind-boggling. It sounded like a jet taking off, or a tornado. I've never seen or heard anything quite like it before," Lafayette resident Mark Robinson said.

By the time Capt. Jared Palant and his ConFire engine company arrived at the scene near midnight, the building at 100 Lafayette Circle was completely engulfed in flames.

"We knew instantly this was huge by the number of 911 calls we got," Marshall said. "Unless we had been there 30 minutes earlier, there was no way we were saving that building."

Palant immediately called for a third alarm. "A wood-sided building, with a shake roof, surrounded by two-story apartment buildings and another two-story commercial building, a eucalyptus tree - our goal was to contain the fire to the building of origin," he said. "We had to prevent large chunks of ash from landing on the roofs of the neighboring buildings."

Crews pumped water out of five hydrants to fight the fire, requiring thousands of gallons of extra water from the East Bay Municipal Utility District; a typical fire would need one hydrant. "It was the biggest fire I've ever seen as the captain of a first-responding unit," said Palant, an eight-year ConFire veteran.

"I was afraid the whole town would go," Marilyn Finn, a 101 Lafayette Circle resident, said. "It's a miracle that they held it to that one building."

Nearly 50 firefighters contained the blaze within two hours, and several fire personnel remained on the scene throughout the day. The fire caused an estimated \$1.1 million in damage with no reported injuries. Stunned tenants and residents caught their first glimpse of the devastation Thursday morning, the historic building constructed in the 1970s burnt to the ground.

Assadi heard the news at 6:30 a.m. "I'm in shock," he said. "I just don't understand. How could a fire spread that quickly?" Assadi said he wants to reopen La Finestra as soon as possible, and he is searching for a suitable location in the city.

He praised, and expressed pain for, his employees, particularly server Tony Lavino, whom he called a local icon. "I want to have my people back," a crushed Assadi said.

"All of our work was saved in the cloud," said Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jay Lifson, scrambling to help displaced tenants find new locations. He landed a temporary home for the Chamber at Stanley Middle School and an additional meeting location at the Stanley Smith Insurance agency.

Marta Chavalas of Skincare by Marta said finding a new location has been difficult because of the tight real estate market. "I would like to stay in Lafayette, if possible," she said.

One business owner at 110 Lafayette Circle, unaffected directly by the incident, was moved by the response of Lafayette residents. Heidi Simarro of Phoenix Skincare and Waxing said that nothing was even singed at her building, and other than parking problems because of the newly fenced-off area, she was doing OK. "Competitors called and offered me space," she said. "I almost cried when I heard that."

Lifson plans a meeting with the displaced tenants to go over his attempts to secure government loans and Workforce Development assistance from Contra Costa County.

According to Lafayette Chief of Police Eric Christensen, the property has been released to its insurance company which will conduct its own investigation. After the investigation the property manager, Wells and Bennett of Walnut Creek, will handle removal of the debris. Christensen estimated the process will take several months.

Lafayette City Manager Steve Falk said he will set up a meeting with Lafayette Circle property owners to discuss reasonable and appropriate land use opportunities in the area, an area to be long remembered as the site of one of the city's most spectacular structure fires.



The morning after. Photo Nick Marnell



The Lafayette Chamber offices and other businesses in flames. ConFire

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[back](#)

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Published July 26th, 2017

Morale plummeting at MOFD due to board actions

By Nick Marnell



Capt. Mark McCullah shares his frustrations with MOFD board. Photo Nick Marnell

pension liability, a pension obligation bond and retiree health care liability.

"You need to increase revenue, or make operational changes like eliminating a fire house," Jex said. "You have to make those kinds of determinations."

Director Steve Anderson pleaded for the board to keep the district on track with its mission to provide the highest possible level of emergency and public service to the community. "In the last 60 days, we are at the lowest morale that I have seen in this organization. These people have lost their leader and they have no confidence in their board," Anderson said, referring to Healy's announced September departure and urging passage of the original budget. "There is a toxic environment going on here, and we've got to fix the morale now."

Three directors remained unmoved, as Jex, Craig Jorgens and Brad Barber voted to pass the revised budget, with \$100,000 added back for the chief to use for contingencies. Anderson and board President Kathleen Famulener voted against the cuts.

Firefighter-paramedic Lucas Lambert, district union representative, lashed out at the board's decision to reduce operating expenses. "The MOFD board of directors has created an unnecessarily chaotic environment at our meetings. This type of chaos is not conducive to the high level of service that we aim to provide and the professional environment we pride ourselves on," Lambert said, urging the public to pay close attention and not stand for service cuts in the community.

Local 1230 President Vince Wells said he understands the need for MOFD to be financially responsible, especially with the district history of financial mismanagement, but he said there needs to be a proper balance between financial restraint and providing adequate service. "A couple of new board members have financial backgrounds, and are putting financial stability ahead of fire service, and that has the troops concerned," Wells said.

Wells also talked about the soon-to-begin 2018 labor negotiations. "I'm concerned," Wells said. "Because of the actions this board has taken so far, we expect it will push for reduced resources. With this group, it seems everything is on the table, and that makes everyone uneasy."

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[back](#)

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East Bay Times

Changes to rules for controversial Antioch development might be tabled

Critics jumped on proposed revisions to the document guiding construction in the Sand Creek Focus Area, where the city plans to build up to 4,000 homes



Courtesy Joel Devalcourt

Antioch's planning commission might table proposed changes to the city's General Plan, which guides development of the controversial swath of open space known as the Sand Creek Focus Area.

By [Rowena Coetsee](mailto:rcoetsee@bayareanewsgroup.com) | rcoetsee@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group

PUBLISHED: **July 28, 2017** at 12:41 pm | UPDATED: July 28, 2017 at 12:41 pm

ANTIOCH — Residents and environmental groups concerned about plans to develop Antioch's largest remaining swath of open space are closely scrutinizing proposed changes to the document that describes what this growth will look like.

If those revisions materialize, it likely won't be any time soon, however.

A flurry of letters that stakeholders submitted only hours before last week's planning commission meeting prompted city officials to postpone the matter, and now they're suggesting that commissioners table the matter [indefinitely](#).

Antioch Planning Commission is set to meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at City Hall, 200 H St.

The commission is scheduled to recommend that council members [amend](#) some of the policies in the city's General Plan, which lays out long-term goals pertaining to various aspects of life that are affected as the population expands, such as traffic, noise and public safety.

In particular, the focus is on how the General Plan describes the type, density and location of construction that's envisioned for approximately 2,712 acres at the city's southern end known as the Sand Creek Focus Area.

Whatever action planning commissioners take won't be ramrodded through, said Forrest Ebbs, the city's community development director.

“This is a big deal,” he said, noting the importance of properly planning Antioch’s final large-scale development. “This is the last great neighborhood, the end of the frontier.”

Approved in 2003, the General Plan allows for up to 4,000 homes in the Sand Creek Focus Area.

The city already has given two developers the green light to build 1,174 residential units between them: It approved 533 units known as Aviano Farms in fall 2015, and an additional 641 homes that comprise the Vineyards at Sand Creek project in February 2016.

A third development is on the city’s radar: Richland Communities wants to build 1,307 homes and the company has applied for the various approvals it needs before it can start.

With the goal of updating and clarifying the General Plan, one of the suggested changes is to remove the mention of a golf course; the city already has one and the sport isn’t as popular as it used to be, Ebbs said.

Another possible revision would define the term “hilltop” as the top 25 percent of a slope and identify that area as off-limits to development, leaving “hillsides” available to builders.

Instead of leaving developers guessing how close to Sand Creek they can build, one potential edit would create a 125-foot buffer zone on each side of the tributary.

Whereas the current General Plan sets a minimum lot size of about 10,000 square feet for nearly all residential construction, the amended version would lower it to 7,000 square feet, Ebbs added.

He describes the potential change as a win-win: Developers still would be able to achieve economies of scale by building the number of homes they planned without having to spend as much on installing sewer lines, sidewalks and other infrastructure. And because the projects would have a smaller “footprint,” more open space would be saved.

“(Builders) are happy that it’s been lowered down somewhat,” Planning Commissioner Kerry Motts said.

The revised General Plan also would specify how many homes a developer can build on a particular property; the existing map doesn’t show where open space ends and residential areas start, which creates uncertainty for builders, Ebbs said.

Regardless of whether the Planning Commission likes or disagrees with the proposed changes, its vote is non-binding; council members will make the final decision.

Commissioners originally were also expected to decide at Wednesday’s meeting whether to recommend that the City Council approve an amendment to the environmental impact report that was done before the General Plan was adopted.

Some critics of the city's plans for the Sand Creek Focus Area want the city to undergo another complete environmental review, however, arguing that the proposed changes to the General Plan would affect the area in ways that the original report did not consider.

Their comments have prompted Ebbs to suggest that planning commissioners hold off on a vote until he has determined how much a full environmental review would cost and, in light of that expense, whether it's still worth pursuing revisions to the General Plan.

Ebbs also noted that the City Council might want to wait to change the General Plan until it has decided whether to approve Richland Communities' application to build The Ranch.

East Bay Times

Grant will bring big improvements to Bay Point Regional Shoreline



The East Bay Regional Park District has received a grant that it will use to make improvements along the Harrier Trail. (Dan Honda/Bay Area News Group)

By [Aaron Davis](#) | aarondavis@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group
PUBLISHED: **July 27, 2017** at 1:55 pm | UPDATED: July 27, 2017 at 2:58 pm

BAY POINT — The Bay Point Regional Shoreline struck it big this week with the announcement of a \$750,000 grant awarded to the park to improve access and prepare the trails for rising sea levels.

The 150-acre park will see new drinking fountains, walking and hiking trails, signage and enhanced access for the disabled.

The announcement came on Wednesday that East Bay Regional Park District was one of 22 recipients in the country for the National Park Service's Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership program, which is awarded to projects that will improve parks in urban areas.



A trail map for the Bay Point Regional Shoreline. (Map provided by East Bay Regional Park District.)

“We’re excited about this project and the ability to improve parks in East Contra Costa County,” said Dave Mason, public information supervisor for the EBRPD. “This grant is for putting improvements in areas that may not have as much access to nature.”

The grant comes from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is funded through royalties from oil and gas drilling. The Bay Point Regional Shoreline project received the maximum amount considered for projects. Past recipients from the fund include the Tidewater Park trail in Oakland’s Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline and Visitacion Valley Greenway in San Francisco.

On top of the NPS grant, the Bay Point Regional Shoreline has also received a \$200,000 grant for trail improvements from the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

With the help of the state grant, the 1.1-mile Harrier Loop Trail will be raised, as much as 5 feet in some areas, to prevent the trail from flooding in the future.

Although the trail currently floods in the winter time, the newly elevated trail [will stay dry for the next 60 years.](#)

The Press Democrat

Santa Rosa's plans to annex Roseland head for key vote

KEVIN MCCALLUM

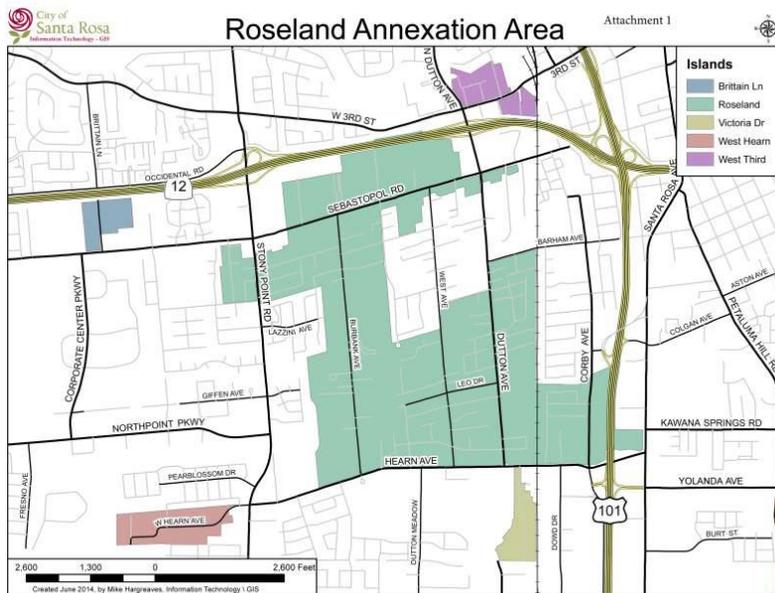
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT | July 29, 2017, 5:53PM

Santa Rosa annexation plans

If Santa Rosa is allowed to annex Roseland, it will be taking responsibility for five county islands totaling 714 acres of land in 1,614 parcels. Roseland itself is by far the largest island, comprising 85 percent of the annexation area. Here's the breakdown.

Area Acres Parcels

- Roseland 621 acres, 1,417 parcels
- Victoria Drive 19 acres, 47 parcels
- West Third Street 23 acres, 80 parcels
- Brittain Lane, 17 acres, 21 parcels
- West Hearn Avenue 34 acres, 49 parcels



LAFCO meeting on Roseland annexation
2p.m. Wednesday, Board of Supervisors chambers, 575 Administration Drive

When Santa Rosa began talking seriously about annexing Roseland decades ago, most current City Council members weren't yet involved in local government and politics. Two weren't even born.

The year was 1977, and a group of civic-minded Santa Rosa residents concerned about growth in the unincorporated areas southwest of Santa Rosa formed an organization called "Concerned Citizens of Roseland for Better Government."

Forty years later, the city says the time for better government in Roseland has arrived.

The City Council last year agreed to annex the remainder of the Roseland neighborhood and four smaller unincorporated islands in southwest Santa Rosa.

The move would bring 714 acres and 7,400 residents into the city and be the single largest expansion of the city limits in its history.

"It's is a big deal," Mayor Chris Coursey said. "This is something that's long overdue."

The annexation will be far larger than the 1997 agreement that brought 300 acres of Roseland under city control, making instant city dwellers out of 4,700 residents of unincorporated Sonoma County. It will even top the 1955 annexation of Montgomery Village, which made city residents out of an estimated 7,100 residents of the neighborhood and shopping center prominent developer Hugh Coddling built in east Santa Rosa.

Seeking approval

But before its police officers can begin patrolling Roseland streets, its engineers can start designing new streets or its inspectors begin ensuring buildings are up to code, the city needs the approval this week of an obscure government agency known as the Sonoma Local Agency Formation Commission.

The mission of LAFCO, as it is known, is to make sure local government services are efficient by ensuring their boundaries are "sensible and coherent."

The board will meet Wednesday at 2 p.m. to consider the city's annexation request. LAFCO staff are recommending approval and think it highly likely the board will agree.

"I think it's teed up completely and ready to go," Mark Bramfit, LAFCO's executive director, said of the city's application for annexation, which it submitted in April.

The seven-member board is chaired by Petaluma Vice Mayor Teresa Barrett, and includes county Supervisors Susan Gorin and Lynda Hopkins. The meeting takes place at the Board of Supervisors chambers, 575 Administration Drive, Santa Rosa.

Bramfit said he thinks approval is likely because the city and the county have made thorough preparations.

They include, over the past three years, hammering out a financing agreement with the county, performing detailed environmental studies, pre-annexing all the parcels so people know what their new zoning regulations will be, and hosting dozens of outreach meetings with residents.

The financing agreement with the county presented some delicate negotiations, but resulted in a deal providing the city about \$12 million toward its increased costs for roads, parks and policing in Roseland over the next decade. It also included a permanent tax-sharing deal that kicks the city an extra amount — starting at \$226,400 and adjusted annually.

Costly proposal

The city is still going to bear the brunt of the costs, however. A 2015 city report estimated that Roseland would need to invest at least \$80 million in parks, roads and storm drains to bring the area up to the same level as the rest of the city.

While the LAFCO board decision is crucial, Roseland residents get the final say.

They could block the annexation one of several ways, all of them long shots.

If LAFCO approves the expansion, a 30-day reconsideration period follows during which residents can request the board change its mind. If passed on Tuesday, the reconsideration period would run through Sept. 1.

Then there is a protest period during which property owners and registered voters in Roseland can formally protest the annexation.

This provision is important because past opposition by residents has long been cited as one of the reasons the city never pursued full annexation. Significant underground pollution in the area from historically leaky underground storage tanks and dry cleaners has also loomed as another legacy the city would have to confront in an expansion.

Expressing opposition

LAFCO staff are proposing the protest period open Sept. 5, and run from 30 to 58 days, depending on the board's preference. That would close the protest period on Oct. 4 or Nov. 1.

If less than 25 percent of the registered voters within the area or less than 25 percent of property owners who own at least 25 percent of the total assessed value of the parcels being annexed protest, the annexation is approved.

If more than 50 percent of the registered voters in the area protest, the annexation is blocked. If somewhere between 25 and 50 percent of voters or property owners protest, then an election is held, with annexation being decided by a majority vote of Roseland residents.

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East Bay Times

Contra Costa Elections puts campaign, financial docs online

By [Sam Richards](#) | srichards@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group
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MARTINEZ — In the name of a more transparent process, the Contra Costa County Elections Division has posted all campaign and candidate financial documents on its website (www.contracostacore.us) for real-time viewing.

“We want to make it easier for voters to be fully informed and know who lawmakers receive financial contributions from and where they spent campaign money,” said Joe Canciamilla, Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters. “The goal of the database is to promote transparency and voter confidence.”

Previously, those interested in viewing many of these documents had to come to the Elections Division office in downtown Martinez to view paper records. Elections officials have been working since early 2016 on scanning paper documents from previous years to make them available online.

The documents posted online date back seven years for most offices, and at least 20 years for the Board of Supervisors.

The online system features enhanced search capabilities. Users can search for information by candidate name, committee type, election date or candidate identification number.

The online data allows users to search for items such as how much companies or political groups support various candidates with independent expenditures, or search for levels and sources of support for individual candidates, searchable by name.

The Contra Costa Elections Division handles financial disclosure documents for all committees and campaigns pertaining to county offices, fire districts, water districts and school districts throughout the county. These records have been posted on the elections website in real time since early 2016.

To get to the specific page to find these records, click [here](#)

Cities administer financial documents for their own elected officials. Direct links to these websites for some Contra Costa cities can also be found on the improved county elections site. For more information, contact the Election Division at 925-335-7800.

Water Deeply

House Bill Redirects River Flows From Fish to Farms

A bill passed in the U.S. House of Representatives would loosen restrictions on Delta water diversions, halt restoration projects and weaken the Endangered Species Act.

Written by [Alastair Bland](#) Published on Aug. 2, 2017 Read time Approx. 5 minutes



A grove of young pistachio trees near Porterville, California, in August 2016. H.R. 23, supported by agricultural groups in California, would help direct more water to farms. *AFP/ROBYN BECK*

Republican-backed federal legislation with strong support from agricultural communities in California aims to eradicate salmon from much of the San Joaquin River. It will nullify numerous laws protecting wetlands and waterways in order to provide farmers south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta with more northern California water.

Environmentalists and fishery advocates are characterizing the bill, H.R. 23, or the Gaining Responsibility on Water Act of 2017, as one of the most aggressive attempts ever taken by the political allies of farming interests to divert maximum flows of water south from the Delta.

The 134-page bill strikes from existing laws a multitude of provisions that currently require water for fish and replaces them with measures that would redirect flows toward farmland.

“In this bill, they’re just saying, ‘Let’s turn the [Sacramento and San Joaquin] rivers into canals and forget about keeping fish alive and the many other natural benefits of rivers,’” said John McManus, the executive director of the Golden Gate Salmon Association. He says the bill benefits a small group of landowners “at the expense of the entire rest of the state.”

The bill, which was sponsored by Rep. David Valadao (R-Hanford), was passed on a party line vote in the House of Representatives last week. If the Senate approves the bill, it will loosen restrictions on Delta water diversions, stop river restoration projects and weaken the Endangered Species Act, all of which at times limit how much water reaches farmers in areas without reliable supplies of their own. The bill would also hasten the review processes for several proposed dams.

Kern County Water Agency staff confirmed that the agency supports the bill. So does the Fresno County Farm Bureau, whose executive director Ryan Jacobsen was quoted by the San Francisco Chronicle as saying, “This is the bill we need.” Jacobsen did not respond to multiple requests for comment. Neither did Valadao’s office or Westlands Water District.

A July 12 press release from Valadao’s office calls the bill “an effort to restore water deliveries for struggling communities.”

But according to Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, director of the group Restore the Delta, which advocates for protection of the San Francisco-Bay Delta, the familiar story of unemployment in farming communities is being used as part of a ruse to get more water delivered to prosperous landowners.

“These are some of the richest farmers in the country,” she said. “We now have a million acres of almonds in California. Acreage of almonds in Westlands Water District and Kern County has doubled since 2010.”

She says diverting more water to areas chronically stricken by job shortages will not alleviate economic hardships. “These communities will be challenged by unemployment whether the water is running or not,” she said.



Fingerling Chinook salmon swim in a holding pen after they were transferred from a truck into the Mare Island Strait on April 22, 2014, in Vallejo, California. A new bill that passed the U.S. House of Representatives would seek to divert more water from fish to farms. (Justin Sullivan/Getty Images/AFP)

One of Valadao’s bill’s key features is the abandonment of a years-long, ongoing project aimed at reviving the San Joaquin River and restoring its depleted runs of Chinook salmon. The language of the bill explicitly forbids reintroducing salmon to the San Joaquin and would require fish and wildlife agencies to remove any Chinook salmon that find their way into upstream lengths of the river. “No salmonids shall be placed into or allowed to migrate to the Restoration Area,” the bill reads. “If any salmonids are caught at the Hills Ferry Barrier, they shall be salvaged to the extent feasible and returned to an area where there is a viable sustainable salmonid population of substantially the same genotype or phenotype.”

“Not only that, it would completely dry up 60 miles of river and divert every last drop of water to agriculture – that’s the author’s vision of California’s rivers,” said Doug Obegi, a staff attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The bill expressly promotes converting parts of the San Joaquin into a “warm water fishery” environment – a type of ecosystem biologists warn is inhospitable to most native species and friendly toward invasive ones, like black bass and sunfish. It also adjusts the state’s water rights system by deprioritizing deliveries to wildlife refuge areas – generally characterized by vast

expanses of seasonally flooded wetland – and instead making the water more available to farmers.

The bill’s backers have said in media interviews that habitat restoration efforts, especially those allowing water to flow through the river and eventually out to sea, have had marginal success in reviving fisheries while causing economic harm in agricultural communities. The Fresno County Farm Bureau’s executive director told the San Francisco Chronicle that restoring the San Joaquin River’s salmon runs is a hopeless prospect.

Valadao’s bill would rewrite parts of 1992’s Central Valley Project Improvement Act, or CVPIA, which sought to double naturally produced populations of salmon by requiring that “water dedicated to fish and wildlife purposes by this part [of the CVPIA] is replaced and provided to Central Valley Project water contractors.”

It also would shift control of water resources from state agencies that manage water, fish and wildlife to the federal government – what California attorney general Xavier Becerra argued in a press release is an unconstitutional infringement on state sovereignty.

The bill will face some close scrutiny from at least two Democrats in the Senate.

“We’re really lucky to have [Kamala] Harris and [Dianne] Feinstein opposing this,” Barrigan-Parrilla said.

Feinstein has been an ally of San Joaquin Valley farmers in the past. In December, she coauthored a successful bill – S. 612 – that brought aid to residents of Flint, Michigan, but also allowed increased diversions from the Delta unless biologists could prove that doing so would harm endangered fish – something critics have said is difficult to do.

But Feinstein has stood up in opposition to H.R. 23. “California’s Central Valley helps feed the world,” Feinstein and Harris said in a statement released July 10. “It deserves sensible and responsible water solutions – this measure doesn’t even come close to meeting that test.”

Valadao, they said, is “giving the Trump administration greater control over water management in our state.”

Harris and Feinstein also warned that H.R. 23 undermines the Endangered Species Act. The bill would do this by liberating river management policy from the constraints of the most recent biological opinions drafted about nine years ago by federal fisheries and wildlife agencies for the management of endangered Delta smelt and winter-run Chinook. The senators said Valadao’s bill would revert management of these and other species to outdated scientific standards established in the 1990s.

“We will fight to defeat it in the Senate,” Harris and Feinstein said in their statement.

Obegi doubts the bill will receive the 60 votes it will need to pass the Senate, mainly because both senators from the only state affected by the bill oppose it. He believes the Senate’s vote will reflect what he thinks to be general public consensus.

“I don’t think the people of California want to see their rivers dry up and their native fish and wildlife go extinct,” he says.