



# San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission

Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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## SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, April 18, 2025  
9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

### In-Person Participation

Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District  
4900 Bonita Road, Boardroom  
Bonita, California 91902

Ann Baldridge  
RCD of Greater SDC

James Gordon  
Deer Springs FPD

Dave McQuead  
Rancho Santa Fe FPD

Mike Sims  
Bonita-Sunnyside FPD

Jack Bebee  
Fallbrook PUD

Albert Lau  
Santa Fe ID

Marty Miller  
Vista ID

Oliver Smith  
Valley Center MWD

Paul Bushee  
Leucadia WWD

Hector Martinez  
South Bay ID

Mark Robak  
Otay WD

Kimberly Thorner  
Olivenhain MWD

Jeff Egkan  
North County FPD

Rachel Mason  
Fallbrook Regional HD

Joel Scalzitti  
Helix WD

**The Special Districts Advisory Committee is responsible for helping to inform the Commission on all germane items relating to San Diego LAFCO's regulatory and planning responsibilities affecting special districts.**

The Committee will hold the April 18, 2025 meeting in person at the Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District, Boardroom (4900 Bonita Road, Bonita, California 91902). In person attendance by the public is welcomed. The public may also watch, listen, and otherwise participate in the meeting remotely by any of the following options.

1. The public may watch and listen to the meeting live on YouTube using the link provided on our website homepage ([www.sdlafco.org](http://www.sdlafco.org)).
2. The public may watch, listen, and participate in the meeting by Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) or by telephone at (669) 900-9128 using Meeting/Webinar ID: 895 6767 7168 and Passcode 508649. Please use the "raise your hand" function in Zoom or push \*9 by telephone if/when you wish to speak. Then wait until your name is called before speaking.
  - a) The public may provide eComments on any item by emailing [erica.sellen@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:erica.sellen@sdcounty.ca.gov)
    - eComments received before 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 17, 2025, will be forwarded to the Committee and posted online before the meeting. They will also be referenced during the meeting.
    - eComments received during the meeting and before the subject item is concluded will be referenced and later posted online.

The Committee may proceed with the meeting, even where there is a disruption that prevents the Committee from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public or from receiving public comment from members of the public using a call-in option or internet-based service option, unless such disruption prevents a member of the Committee is participating under Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e) or (f).

**1. 9:30 A.M. – CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR**

- a) Roll Call
- b) Pledge Of Allegiance

**2. AGENDA REVIEW BY CHAIR**

**3. OPEN EXPRESSION**

This time is reserved for any member of the public to address the Committee on germane topics that are not directly part of the agenda. This includes requests for future Committee topics. Individuals are limited to three minutes.

**4. CONSENT ITEMS**

**a) Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2024 (action)**

The Committee will consider draft summary minutes prepared for the last meeting held on December 20, 2024. Staff recommends approval as presented. (Pages 5-10)

**b) Progress Report on 2024-2025 Workplan (information)**

The Committee will receive an update on the adopted workplan and activities related to the 30 special projects scheduled for 2024-2025. Information only. (Pages 11-20)

**c) Approved Policy on Public Member Appointments (information)**

The Committee will receive an update on a new policy that establishes rules and procedures for appointing regular and alternate public members to the Commission. The policy ties to the adopted workplan and aims to create a standardized process for public member appointments as well as setting related consideration priorities. Notable provisions in the policy not included in the draft presented to the Committee at its last meeting includes requiring one member—whether regular or alternate—be selected from the unincorporated community and another from an incorporated community. Another late revision added to the approved policy allows the Commission to draw from a pool of candidates from a previous recruitment under certain conditions. The Commission also considered a recommendation by the Committee to establish term limits but deferred any action for future consideration. Information only. (Pages 21-28)

**5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**a) Adopted Draft Workplan and Budget for 2025-2026 (discussion + possible action)**

The Committee will review a draft workplan and budget for 2025-2026, which were adopted by the Commission at its March 3, 2025 meeting. Both drafts largely represent the status quo with respect to continuing existing project activities and funding levels with targeted enhancements. The workplan identifies 30 special projects in priority order and headlined by forwarding active municipal service reviews on wholesale water service providers, healthcare districts, and local agencies within the Carlsbad-Encinitas region. New additions include commencing a municipal service review on the San Diego Unified Port District and establishing a pilot grant program to help fund special LAFCO projects. The budget draws on the workplan and totals \$3.164 million in matching expenses and revenues and reflects an overall increase of 8.6% or \$0.251 million. The budgeted increase in revenues to match expenses mostly involves raising local agency apportionments by 7.6% or \$0.156 million with the balance covered by drawing from additional reserves. The item is for Committee review and feedback with the opportunity to forward specific recommendations for consideration by the Commission in taking up final approvals in May. (Pages 29-40)

Contact: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

**BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED ...**

**b) Update on Implementing Policy on Out-of-Agency Services (discussion)**

The Committee will receive an update on the implementation of a new LAFCO policy governing out-of-agency services in San Diego County. The policy was established in May 2024 and provides rules for administering Government Code Section 56133 and its provisions requiring cities and special districts to obtain LAFCOs approval before providing out-of-agency services. LAFCO has processed several requests under the new policy and implemented related provisions including delegating authority to the Executive Officer for no-cost determinations on exemption eligibility. The update is being presented for discussion as part of a scheduled check-in to revisit implementation and identify potential amendments. (Pages 41-54)

Contact: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

**c) Implementing Report Recommendations from University of California Berkeley to Expand LAFCOs' Effectiveness (information)**

The Committee will receive a presentation on recent staff activities to advance critical recommendations involving LAFCOs' effectiveness in meeting statutory objectives from a report published by the University of California, Berkeley. The report outlines strategies to strengthen the relationship between State regulators, LAFCOs, and local communities in addressing the delivery of safe drinking water, with a focus on elevating municipal service reviews (MSRs) and facilitating water system consolidations. Consistent with feedback from the Commission, staff has been collaborating with the U.C. Berkeley author and other stakeholders in developing legislative amendments addressing the report's recommendations. This includes exploring legislation to expand LAFCOs authority to initiate annexations under certain circumstances to address public health considerations involving water and wastewater services. This update is being presented for informational purposes with an opportunity to provide input on staff activities going forward. (Pages 55-80)

Contact: Joelle Burila, Analyst I

**d) Policy Review | Draft Special Districts Advisory Committee Rules Update (discussion)**

The Committee will receive an update from the San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) staff regarding the review and update to modernize its formal Committee rules as part of the Commission's FY 24-25 adopted workplan. This item involves a comprehensive review of the Committee's rules, focusing on its purpose and core focuses, composition and elections, and place and time of meetings. The Ad Hoc Committee, which was formed during the September 2024 Committee meeting, has convened twice to review the Committee's rules to ensure their continued relevance and effectiveness. The item is being presented for discussion with the opportunity for the Committee to provide feedback and direction. The Committee rules must be presented to LAFCO for final approval. (Pages 81-92)

Contact: Joelle Burila, Analyst I

**e) Development of Weighted Water Rate Comparison Formula (discussion)**

The Committee will receive a verbal report on LAFCO staff's intent to develop a weighted water rate comparison formula with consultant Tom Kennedy. This formula will be used in Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs). LAFCO staff seeks the Committee's input on best practices for evaluating agencies' water rates, considering the unique characteristics of each agency, such as topography and infrastructure. This item is presented for discussion and feedback.

Contact: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

**6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

**7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Attest to Posting:



Erica Sellen  
Committee Secretary

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Any person with a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may receive a copy of the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet for a meeting upon request. Any person with a disability covered under the ADA may also request a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in a public meeting.

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