



San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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AGENDA REPORT
 Consent | Information

May 5, 2025

TO: Chair Whitburn and Commissioners
FROM: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Report on Cities and Special Districts Advisory Committee Activities

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive an update on the activities and meetings of the Cities and Special Districts Advisory Committees during Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and tied to the Commission’s adopted workplan. The report outlines meetings held, committee engagement, and highlights of key discussions. The item is for information in step with concluding this workplan assignment.

BACKGROUND

Special Districts’ Advisory Committee

The Special Districts Advisory Committee (SDAC) was established in 1971 to help inform and advise the Commission. SDAC’s role has actively evolved from its initial focus on just jurisdictional changes affecting special districts to now include other types of planning and regulatory activities under LAFCO’s purview. Elections are held every other year to fill 16 positions on the SDAC with eligibility limited to only independent special districts. The current Chair and Vice Chair are Kim Thorner (Olivenhain Municipal Water District) and Jack Beebe (Fallbrook Public Utility District). SDAC currently meets quarterly.

<p>Administration Keene Simonds, Executive Officer 2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92103 T 619.321.3380 E lafco@sdcounty.ca.gov www.sdlafco.org</p>	<p>Joel Anderson County of San Diego</p> <p>Jim Desmond County of San Diego</p> <p>Vacant, Alt. County of San Diego</p>	<p>Kristi Becker City of Solana Beach</p> <p>Dane White City of Escondido</p> <p>John McCann, Alt. City of Chula Vista</p>	<p>Chair Stephen Whitburn City of San Diego</p> <p>Marni von Wilpert, Alt. City of San Diego</p>	<p>Vice Chair Barry Willis Alpine Fire Protection</p> <p>Jo MacKenzie Vista Irrigation</p> <p>David Drake, Alt. Rincon del Diablo</p>	<p>Vacant General Public</p> <p>Brigitte Browning, Alt. General Public</p>
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Cities Advisory Committee

The Cities Advisory Committee (CAC) was reconstituted in 2018 after having become dormant beginning in the 1990s. It presently serves in an ad-hoc capacity and advises the LAFCO Executive Officer with specific focus on developing and implementing the Commission’s adopted workplan. All 18 cities in San Diego County are represented on the Committee by their city manager or designee with moderator duties assigned to the Executive Officer. CAC currently meets biannually.

Adopted Workplan & Advisory Committee Meetings

San Diego LAFCO’s current fiscal year workplan includes 30 projects and is divided into two distinct categories – statutory and administrative – along with priority assignments set by the Commission. This includes staffing regular quarterly and biannual meetings of the SDAC and CAC, respectively.

DISCUSSION

This item provides San Diego LAFCO with an update of both SDAC and CAC activities for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Key highlights follow.

Special Districts Advisory Committee

SDAC has held three meetings during the fiscal year - September 20, 2024, December 20, 2024, and April 18, 2025. These meetings offered the Committee opportunities to advance several key projects, including a policy review of its bylaws, which were formally approved by the Committee in April and are expected to be presented to the Commission for final review in June. The Committee also supported staff’s proposal to begin “Special District Spotlights,” a new engagement effort allowing individual districts to host meetings and showcase their facilities, operations, and current or upcoming projects. Additionally, SDAC received regular updates on high-priority municipal service reviews involving SANDAG, healthcare districts, and wholesale water agencies. At its most recent meeting in April, SDAC favorably discussed the adopted draft workplan and budget as well as creating a working group to consult with LAFCO on developing a weighted water/wastewater rate comparison for use in the municipal service reviews.

Cities Advisory Committee

CAC has held one meeting during the fiscal year on December 19, 2024. During this meeting, the CAC received informational updates on high-priority municipal service reviews covering SANDAG, wholesale water agencies, and healthcare districts. Additionally, CAC engaged in substantive discussions on two projects: the draft policy outlining procedures for appointing public members to LAFCO and the development of an informational report on homelessness services. The discussion on the public member policy resulted in a formal recommendation,

which was subsequently forwarded to the Commission for consideration. A second meeting scheduled for March 20, 2025 was canceled due to a lack of quorum. In lieu of the meeting, staff prepared a video presentation covering the workplan and budget updates, as well as other items of interest. A feedback form was also distributed to gather direct input from members, though no formal responses were received.

ANALYSIS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented to San Diego LAFCO for information only.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

None.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the San Diego LAFCO’s agenda as part of the consent calendar. A successful motion to approve the consent calendar will include taking affirmative action on the staff recommendation unless otherwise specified by the Commission.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,



Priscilla Mumpower
Assistant Executive Officer

Attachment:

- 1) Cities and Special Districts Advisory Committee Membership Rosters

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Cities Advisory Committee

The Cities Advisory Committee serves in an ad-hoc capacity and advises San Diego LAFCO on germane items of interest as requested by the LAFCO Chair or Executive Officer. The current Committee has been called by the Executive Officer to review and provide ongoing feedback to the Executive Officer on the adopted workplans. All 18 cities in San Diego County are represented on the Committee by the city manager or their designee and have one vote. Each city may also appoint one or more alternates. The Executive Officer is also a non-voting member on the Committee and serves as moderator and is responsible for scheduling meetings. The current Committee roster is below.



Paz Gomez
Deputy City Manager
City of Carlsbad



Tiffany Allen
Assistant City Manager
City of Chula Vista



Tina Friend
City Manager
City of Coronado



Ashley Jones
City Manager
City of Del Mar



Vince DiMaggio
Assistant City Manager
City of El Cajon



Pamela Antil
City Manager
City of Encinitas



Sean McGlynn
City Manager
City of Escondido



Tyler Foltz
City Manager
City of Imperial Beach



Lynette Santos
Community Development
Director
City of La Mesa



Lydia Romero
City Manager
City of Lemon Grove



Martin Reeder
Assistant Community
Development Director
City of National City



Jonathan Borrego
City Manager
City of Oceanside

Cities Advisory Committee (continued)



Chris Hazeltine
City Manager
City of Poway



Dion Akers
Office of the Mayor
Regional Government
Affairs Manager
City of San Diego



Michelle Bender
City Manager
City of San Marcos



Marlene Best
City Manager
City of Santee



Alyssa Muto
City Manager
City of Solana Beach



John Conley
City Manager
City of Vista

Special Districts Advisory Committee

The Special Districts Advisory Committee was created in August 1971 by San Diego LAFCO and consists of 16 members collectively drawn from the 59 independent special districts in San Diego County. Members serve four-year terms and are appointed by the independent special districts through an election process administered by LAFCO staff. Committee rules also allow the Committee Chair to appoint members to fill unexpired terms as needed. The Committee is tasked with providing feedback – including recommendations – on germane topics to assist LAFCO in fulfilling its regulatory and planning functions. The Committee meets quarterly with its current roster provided below.



Kimberly Thorner
Chair
Olivenhain MWD



Jack Bebee
Vice Chair
Fallbrook PUD



Ann Baldrige
Resource
Conservation District
of Greater San Diego



Paul Bushee
Leucadia MWD



Jeff Egkan
North County FPD



James Gordon
Deer Springs FPD



Rachel Mason
Fallbrook Regional
Health District



Albert Lau
Santa Fe Irrigation
District



Hector Martinez
South Bay Water
District



Dave McQuead
Rancho Santa Fe Fire
Protection District



Marty Miller
Vista Irrigation
District



Mark Robak
Otay Water District



Joel Scalzitti
Helix Water District



Mike Sims
Bonita–Sunnyside FPD

Special Districts Advisory Committee (continued)



Oliver Smith
Valley Center MWD



Vacant

