



San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission

Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, October 17, 2025
9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

In-Person Participation

Sweetwater Authority's
Richard A. Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility
3066 N. 2nd Avenue, Hydro Station Room
Chula Vista, California 91910

Ann Baldrige
RCD of Greater SDC

James Gordon
Deer Springs FPD

Rachel Mason
Fallbrook Regional HD

Joel Scalzitti
Helix WD

Jack Bebee
Fallbrook PUD

Tracy Largent
Port of San Diego

Dave McQuead
Rancho Santa Fe FPD

Mike Sims
Bonita-Sunnyside FPD

Paul Bushee
Leucadia WWD

Albert Lau
Santa Fe ID

Marty Miller
Vista ID

Kimberly Thorne
Olivenhain MWD

Jeff Egkan
North County FPD

Hector Martinez
South Bay Water

Mark Robak
Otay 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 October 17, 2025 meeting in person at the Sweetwater Authority's Richard A. Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility, Hydro Station Room (3066 N. 2nd Avenue, Chula Vista, California 91910). 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).
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
 - eComments received before 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 16 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 July 18, 2025 (action)

The Committee will consider draft summary minutes prepared for the last meeting held on July 18, 2025. Staff recommends approval as presented. (Pages 5-10)

b) Progress Report on 2025-2026 Workplan (information)

The Committee will receive an update on the adopted workplan and activities related to the 30 special projects scheduled for 2025-2026. Information only. (Pages 11-16)

c) Legislative Report (information)

The Committee will receive a report on legislation introduced this session relevant to San Diego LAFCO's regulatory and planning responsibilities. The item also provides an update on the Committee's interest and related San Diego LAFCO workplan direction to pursue legislation addressing recent recommendations in a U.C. Berkeley study. Item is presented for information with the opportunity for the Committee to pull for discussion. (Pages 17-22)

d) Update on Commission Action to Join Monterey LAFCO Amicus Brief (information)

The Committee will receive an update on San Diego LAFCO's recent action to join an amicus brief in support of Monterey LAFCO's appeal of a trial court decision with potential statewide implications. The Commission approved participation at its October 6th meeting and authorized contribution of up to \$1,200. The brief, led by Monterey LAFCO and prepared by Nossaman LLP, seeks to affirm LAFCO decisions are governed by substantial evidence as provided under LAFCO law. Information only. (Pages 23-58)

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a) Updated Rolling Five-Year Study Schedule (information)

The Committee will receive a report on the Commission's rolling five-year study schedule. This update follows the Commission's action in October 2025 to roll the existing schedule forward and reset the coverage period from FY 2026 through FY 2030, and aligning the study schedule with the adopted workplan. Two notable adjustments are included: removal of the now-completed Oceanside regional review and addition of several new reviews. Consistent with prior practice, the first two years correspond to municipal service reviews authorized and funded in the adopted workplan, including the newly added review of the Port District. The final three years function as an advanced planning tool to signal long-term intentions and provide local agencies and the public with notice of upcoming reviews. This item is presented to the Committee for information with the opportunity to advance formal comments and/or recommendations to the Commission as needed. (Pages 59-68)

Contact: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED ...

b) Update on High Priority Project |

Municipal Service Review on Wholesale Water Agencies in San Diego County (discussion)

The Committee will receive an update on San Diego LAFCO’s municipal service review (MSR) of wholesale water agencies in San Diego County—one of ten high-priority projects in the adopted 2025–2026 workplan. The study includes a comprehensive review of the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) and a proportional review of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET). This item is presented for discussion, with an opportunity for the Committee to provide input on interests or priorities related to wholesale water service delivery and governance on behalf of special districts in San Diego County. (Pages 69-78)

Contact: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

c) Update on Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Grant (SALC 2.0) (discussion)

The Committee will receive an update on the Commission’s ongoing Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) planning grant, known as “SALC 2.0.” This project is being conducted in partnership with the County of San Diego’s Planning and Development Services and builds on findings from the initial SALC grant to analyze economic challenges facing small-scale agricultural operations and identify policy solutions. SALC 2.0 is currently in its fifth phase to develop a strategic plan for incentives, technical assistance, regulatory improvements, and other support mechanisms for small-scale agriculture. Staff seeks Committee input on two key topics: incorporating agricultural analysis into the municipal service review program and establishing a regional working group to promote affordable water access for farmers and potential special district participation. (Pages 79-84)

Contact: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

d) Workplan Update on High-Mid Priority Project |

San Diego LAFCO Website Refresh + Content Expansion (information)

The Committee will receive an update on one of San Diego LAFCO’s high- to mid-priority projects included in the current adopted workplan: the redesign of the LAFCO website. The project is currently underway with consultant Chase Design and explores website enhancement options, with a focus on aesthetic design, accessibility, usability, and expanded content. As part of this broader modernization effort, the project also includes reimagining the LAFCO logo to reflect a more streamlined design. The Committee will receive a verbal report – including a walk-through presentation of the current website – with the opportunity to provide feedback and input to staff. (Pages 85-88)

Contact: Aiden Velasquez, Communications Associate

e) Introduction | San Diego Unified Port District + Related Activities (information)

The Committee will receive an introduction to the San Diego Unified Port District. This introduction follows recent actions by San Diego LAFCO to formally include the Port as a special district under its oversight. As part of this action, the Port is now contributing an annual apportionment to LAFCO and is featured in the FY 2025–2026 workplan through the initiation of an inaugural Municipal Service Review. Tracy Largent, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer of the Port, will provide the Committee with an overview of the Port’s mission, governance, and key activities relevant to special districts within San Diego County. The item is presented for information with an opportunity to provide feedback. (Pages 89-92)

Contact: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED ...

f) Update: Development of Weighted Water Rate Comparison Formula (discussion)

The Committee will receive a verbal report on the development of a weighted water rate comparison formula being prepared in collaboration with consultant Tom Kennedy. The formula is intended for use in upcoming Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs) to enhance the evaluation of agencies' water rates. The update will highlight progress to date and next steps in incorporating factors such as topography and infrastructure variations among agencies. This item is presented for discussion and feedback.

Contact: Tom Kennedy, LAFCO Consultant

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

7. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

8. ADJOURNMENT

Attest to Posting:



Erica Sellen
Committee Secretary

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.
