



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

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AGENDA REPORT
 Consent | Information

December 1, 2025

TO: Chair Whitburn and Commissioners

FROM: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
 Erica Sellen, Commission Clerk

**SUBJECT: Election Update |
 Special Districts Advisory Committee**

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive an update on the election process to fill seven positions on the 15-member Special Districts Advisory Committee. An open nomination process among all 60 independent special districts was recently completed by LAFCO staff and produced 10 nominees. A special mail-ballot election to select the top seven nominees is underway through December 22, 2025 with winners assuming new four-year terms on January 1, 2026. This item is for information only.

BACKGROUND

San Diego LAFCO established the Advisory Committee in 1971 as a resource to support the Commission in its expanding responsibilities related to overseeing local agency jurisdictional boundaries. The Committee’s formation - notably - preceded the 1975 legislation authorizing formal special district representation on LAFCOs. The Committee is composed of 15 elected representatives from independent special districts with eligibility extended to both board members and senior agency staff. The Committee meets quarterly with all 15 members currently serving on expired terms as authorized by the Commission and done so to allow LAFCO to prioritize completing a comprehensive update to the governing rules, which was

<p>Administration Keene Simonds, Executive Officer 2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725 San Diego, California 92103 T 619.321.3380 E lafco@sdcountry.ca.gov www.sdlafco.org</p>	<p>Paloma Aguirre County of San Diego</p> <p>Joel Anderson County of San Diego</p> <p>Monica M. Steppe, 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>Brigitte Browning General Public</p> <p>Eileen Delaney, Alt. General Public</p>
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approved in June 2025. The update – among other changes – expands Committee’s scope to cover LAFCO planning activities, most notably municipal service reviews.

A listing of all 15 members of the Advisory Committee follows and is organized by the seven members whose terms are up for election in December 2025 and the other eight members whose terms are up for election in December 2028.

Members with Expired Terms December 2025 Election	Members with Expired Terms December 2028 Election
Jack Bebee (Vice Chair) Fallbrook Public Utility District	Ann Baldrige RCD of Greater San Diego
James Gordon Deer Springs Fire Protection District	Paul Bushee Leucadia Wastewater District
Albert Lau Rancho Santa Fe Irrigation District	Jeff Egkan North County Fire Protection District
David McQuead Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District	Tracy Largent San Diego Unified Port District
Mark Robak Otay Water District	Hector Martinez South County Water District
Mike Sims Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District	Rachel Mason Fallbrook Regional Healthcare District
Kimberly Thorner (Chair) Olivenhain Municipal Water District	Marty Miller Vista Irrigation District
	Joel Scalzitti Helix Water District

DISCUSSION

This item is being presented to San Diego LAFCO for information only and serves as an update on the election process to fill seven four-year terms on the 15-member Advisory Committee. The Independent Special Districts Selection Committee – consisting of the presiding officers of the 60 independent districts in San Diego County – forwarded 10 nominations to LAFCO ahead of an October 31 deadline set by the Executive Officer. These 10 nominees are listed in the appendix. A special election by mail is now underway through December 22. The top seven vote-getters will be seated to four-year terms beginning January 1.¹

ANALYSIS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

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

¹ A successful election requires a majority of independent special districts to submit ballots by the deadline – otherwise the process starts anew.

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,



Erica Sellen
Commission Clerk

Appendix:

- A) Official Nominees to the Special Districts Advisory Committee

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Appendix A

Official Nominees to the Special Districts Advisory Committee

Mike Sims (Chief, Bonita-Sunnyside FPD)
James Gordon (Director, Deer Springs FPD)
Erica Wolski (General Manager, Ramona MWD)
Jack Bebee (General Manager, Fallbrook PUD)
Kurt Worden (Director, Lower Sweetwater FPD)
Lindsay Leahy (General Manager, Valley Center MWD)
Abert C. Lau (General Manager, Santa Fe ID)
Kimberly Thorner (General Manager, Olivenhain MWD)
Dave McQuead (Chief, Rancho Santa Fe FPD)
Mark Robak (Director, Otay WD)

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