



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

**4C**

**AGENDA REPORT**  
 Consent | Information

March 19, 2026

**TO:** Cities Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Joelle Burila, Analyst I

**SUBJECT:** Legislative Report

**SUMMARY**

The Cities Advisory Committee (Committee) will receive a legislative update on existing and anticipated bills affecting LAFCO operations, both directly and indirectly, that are part of the second-year legislative session. This report is for information only.

**BACKGROUND**

San Diego LAFCO staff monitors pending legislation affecting LAFCO operations in line with the workplan and coordinates with the Alliance of California LAFCOs (ACL) on legislative analysis and positions. The California Legislature reconvened for the second year of the 2025–2026 Regular Session on January 5, 2026. The deadline for introducing new legislation was February 20, 2026. Following bill introduction, measures will be referred to their respective committees, with committee hearings and initial floor action expected to occur between March and April. Legislation that advances through both houses must be passed by August 31, 2026, which is the constitutional adjournment of the 2026 legislative session.

**DISCUSSION**

The Committee will receive a legislative update on proposals of interest. Since the last Committee meeting held on September 18, 2025, LAFCO staff provided the Commission with a full overview of bills divided into three categories: signed into law, introduced legislation and pending legislation. The item is presented for information with an opportunity to pull for discussion and provide input.

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## Passed Legislature & Signed into Law

- **AB 339 (Ortega, Liz)**

- **Local Public Employee Organizations: Notice Requirements**

- This bill affects public agencies regulated by the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act. These agencies must provide recognized employee organizations with at least 60 days' written notice before issuing RFPs or quotes, or before renewing or extending contracts covering services within represented job classifications. San Diego LAFCO employees are not presently represented by a recognized employee organization though most agencies under its oversight have labor organizations.

- **SB 489 (Arreguín, Jesse)**

- **Permit Streamlining Act**

- This bill improves the Permit Streamlining Act (PSA) by requiring all public agencies post online the information necessary for a housing development application to be deemed complete. The intent is to reduce costly delays in the permitting process and facilitate approval and construction of housing. LAFCO will be required to comply with these PSA requirements to post application information online for applications in connection with housing development projects. SB 489 would not apply any other provisions of the PSA to LAFCO approvals.

- **SB 707 (Durazo, María Elena)**

- **Open Meetings: Meeting and Teleconference Requirements**

- This bill makes various changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act), governing public meetings of local agencies. Beginning July 1, 2026, and through January 1, 2030, eligible legislative bodies will be required to allow remote public participation in their meetings. Additionally, before July 1, 2026, these bodies must, at a noticed public meeting, adopt a policy – in open session – addressing procedures for disruptions in telephonic or internet service during such meetings subject to these provisions. Notably, under SB 707, a governing legislative body may authorize an eligible subsidiary advisory body to meet via teleconference under specified conditions. The Cities Advisory Committee is an eligible legislative body given it is a committee created by the Commission that serves exclusively in an advisory capacity, does not have authority to take final action, and does not hold primary jurisdiction over elections, budgets, or spending proposals. The Commission adopted prescribed findings, including designation of a primary physical meeting location, on March 2, 2026 and in doing so allowing the Committee to meet remotely.

- **SB 777 (Richardson, Laura)**

- **Expanding LAFCOs Role to Include Endowment-Funded Cemeteries**

- This bill was initially introduced to require LAFCOs to identify local agencies to assume ownership and long-term maintenance responsibilities for abandoned (private) endowment-funded cemeteries, including title and fund transfers coordinated with the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau's procedures. In response to stakeholder feedback, the bill has been amended to remove direct mandates on LAFCOs and instead establish a state-convened working group with LAFCO participation – set to convene by March 1, 2026 – to evaluate the issue and develop policy recommendations.

## Pending from Prior Session

- **AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca)**

- **Open Meetings and Continued Access to Teleconferences**

- This bill is of statewide interest and would extend the authorization for legislative bodies of local agencies – including LAFCOs – to use modified teleconferencing procedures during declared emergencies through January 1, 2030. It preserves existing requirements related to public notice and agenda posting while allowing remote participation under defined emergency conditions. San Diego LAFCO adopted a support position on March 2, 2025. The bill passed the Assembly and a hearing of the bill by Senate Committees on Local Government and Judiciary have been postponed with it now reverting into a two-year bill.

- **AB 356 (Patel, Darshana)**

- **Healthcare Districts in Northern San Diego County**

- This bill is of local interest and was initially introduced to establish a state-directed working group to assess healthcare access in northern San Diego County and focusing on the Palomar Healthcare District's service area. In response to the Commission taking a support-if-amended position, the bill has been updated to include LAFCO as one of the listed stakeholders and in doing so providing connectivity to the Commission's oversight of Palomar and current municipal service review activities. LAFCO Consultant Adam Wilson provided supportive testimony for the author in conjunction with her accepting the Commission's amendments. While the bill passed through the Assembly, amendments requested by other stakeholders are currently under review, with the author agreeing to transition to a two-year bill.

## Pending Legislation

At San Diego LAFCO's February 2, 2026 meeting, Commissioners received a draft legislative proposal intended to strengthen LAFCOs' ability to carry out their statutory duties. The proposal, developed as part of the Commission's adopted workplan and informed by a University of California, Berkeley report, included three legislative changes: 1) authorize LAFCOs to initiate boundary changes and extraterritorial services in response to documented public health and safety threats involving water or wastewater; 2) require noticed hearings for municipal service reviews and written responses from subject agencies; and 3) extend information-sharing requirements to mobile home parks operating community water systems. Following discussion, the Commission requested the item be brought back for further consideration.

Staff have since been informed by the bill's tentative author, Senator Laird (Santa Cruz), that they will not proceed during the current legislative session due to the lack of broader support from LAFCOs, including a sponsor. Therefore, this item was not brought back to the Commission. San Diego LAFCO staff will continue working with stakeholders to refine the proposal and pursue introduction in the 2027 legislative session.

**ANALYSIS**

None.

**RECOMMENDATION**

This item is presented to the Committee for information only.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION**

None.

**PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION**

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

On behalf of staff,



Joelle Burila  
Analyst I