



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

5h

AGENDA REPORT
 Consent | Information

April 6, 2026

TO: Chair Becker and Commissioners
FROM: Erica Sellen, Commission Clerk
SUBJECT: Report on Cities Advisory Committee Meeting | March 19, 2026

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive a report on the most recent meeting of its Cities Advisory Committee held on March 19th. The report is in the form of draft minutes and is being presented for information only consistent with an earlier request by Commissioner MacKenzie.

BACKGROUND

Cities Advisory Committee

San Diego LAFCO’s Cities Advisory Committee advises the Commission with specific focus on developing and implementing LAFCO’s adopted work plan with increasingly input on municipal service reviews. 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. The Committee meets biannually, typically in September and March. LAFCO recently authorized the Committee to conduct meetings remotely in accordance with Senate Bill No. 707 (“SB 707”) and Government Code Section 54953.8.6.

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|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| 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 | Paloma Aguirre County of San Diego Joel Anderson County of San Diego Monica M. Steppe, Alt. County of San Diego | Chair Kristi Becker City of Solana Beach Dane White City of Escondido John McCann, Alt. City of Chula Vista | Stephen Whitburn City of San Diego Marni von Wilpert, Alt. City of San Diego | Vice Chair Barry Willis Alpine Fire Protection Jo MacKenzie Vista Irrigation David Drake, Alt. Rincon del Diablo | Brigitte Browning General Public Eileen Delaney, Alt. General Public |
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DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to receive a report on the Cities Advisory Committee's most recent meeting held on March 19th. The Committee met using a hybrid approach recently authorized by the Commission under new legislation. The report is provided in the form of attached draft minutes and is consistent with Commissioner MacKenzie's recent request for the Commission to receive timely updates on deliberations of its two advisory committees — Special Districts and Cities.

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 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.

Respectfully,



Erica Sellen
Commission Clerk

Attachment:

- 1) DRAFT: CAC Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2026

DRAFT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
AD HOC CITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 19, 2026

REMOTE and IN PERSON ATTENDANCE
- Consistent with SB 707 -
San Diego County LAFCO
2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725
San Diego, California 92103

1. 1:30 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Executive Officer Keene Simonds called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

Item 1a

ROLL CALL

Committee Secretary Erica Sellen performed the roll call with the following attendance recorded. Twelve cities were represented and a quorum was accordingly confirmed.

Regular Members Present:

Carlsbad | Paz Gomez
Chula Vista | Tiffany Allen
El Cajon | Vince DiMaggio
Encinitas | Jennifer Campbell
Imperial Beach | Tyler Foltz
La Mesa | Lynnette Santos (left at 2:41 p.m.)
National City | Martin Reeder
San Marcos | Michelle Bender
Solana Beach | Alyssa Muto (joined at 1:53 p.m.)
Vista | John Conley

Alternate Members Present:

Del Mar | Clem Brown (voting)
Escondido | Chris McKinney (voting)

Regular Members Absent:

Coronado | Tina Friend
Del Mar | Ashley Jones
Escondido | Sean McGlynn
Lemon Grove | Lydia Romero
Oceanside | Jonathan Borrego
Poway | Chris Hazeltine
San Diego | Keith Corry
Santee | Wendy Kaserman

The following members of San Diego LAFCO staff were present at roll call: Executive Officer Keene Simonds; Assistant Executive Officer Priscilla Mumpower; Local Government Analyst I Joelle Burila; Local Government Analyst I Meghan Traynor; Communications Associate Aiden Velasquez; GIS Analyst Dieu Ngu; and Commission Clerk Erica Sellen serving as Committee Secretary. LAFCO Consultant Tom Kennedy was also present at the meeting.

Item 1b

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Christopher McKinney, Escondido, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. AGENDA REVIEW

Executive Officer Keene Simonds stated Agenda Item No. 3 will be moved to after the Business Items. The Executive Officer also noted the meeting was being live-streamed and provided virtual housekeeping for Committee members and instructions on how to participate for members of the public. An update on LAFCO's Commissioners and staff was also provided as part of the agenda review.

3. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS (moved to after Business Calendar)

None.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

a) Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 18, 2025

The Committee considered draft summary minutes prepared for the last meeting held on September 18, 2025. Recommendation to approve as presented.

b) Progress Report on 2025-2026 Workplan

The Committee received an update on the adopted workplan and activities related to the 30 special projects scheduled for 2025-2026. Information only.

c) Legislative Report

The Committee received a legislative update on existing and anticipated bills affecting agency operations, both directly and indirectly, that are part of the second-year legislative session. Information only.

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On motion by Martin Reeder (National City), seconded by Jennifer Campbell (Encinitas), with Paz Gomez (Carlsbad) abstaining, the Committee approved the Consent Calendar with all voting members present voting in favor.

Roll call requested:

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|-------------|---|
| AYES: | Chula Vista, Del Mar, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, National City, San Marcos, and Vista |
| NOES: | None |
| ABSENT: | Coronado, Lemon Grove, Oceanside, Poway, San Diego, Santee, and Solana Beach |
| ABSTAINING: | Carlsbad |

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 10-0.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a) Draft Workplan and Budget for 2026-2027

The Committee reviewed a draft workplan and budget for 2026-2027, which were tentatively adopted by the Commission at its March 2, 2026 meeting. Both items continue current priorities and funding levels with targeted enhancements. The draft workplan largely rolls forward the existing special project commitments from this fiscal year that are expected to remain active past July 1st, anchored by continuing high-priority municipal service reviews involving wholesale water service providers, healthcare districts, and SANDAG. The total budget – combining operating and non-operating units – is proposed to decrease overall by (8.2%) to \$2.904 million in balanced expenses and revenues, largely attributable to the winddown of grant activities. The operating budget is set to increase 3.4% – or \$90,379 – primarily driven by the addition of a ninth full-time position (Analyst I) and a preapproved cost-of-living adjustment, with costs partially offset through reduced consultant usage. Agency apportionments, however, are proposed to increase 18.7% – or \$407,580 – over the current fiscal year, exceeding the growth in operating expenses and entirely attributable to eliminating reserves as offsetting revenues. Item was presented for review and feedback with the opportunity to forward specific recommendations for consideration ahead of final Commission action in May.

Staff presentation provided by Assistant Executive Officer Priscilla Mumpower.

Comments regarding the workplan were received from the following members:

- Alyssa Muto, Solana Beach
- Clem Brown, Del Mar
- John Conley, Vista
- Christopher McKinney, Escondido
- Lynnette Santos, La Mesa

No immediate comments from the Committee regarding the budget.

b) Development of Weighted Water Rate Comparisons

Presentation of Draft Report by Kennedy Water Consulting, LLC

The Committee received an update on the development of water rate comparator report underway by the Special Districts Advisory Committee with assistance from Kennedy Water Consulting, LLC and support from LAFCO staff. Water rates across San Diego County continue to rise, with variations among agencies often driven by factors not well understood by the public. In response to frequent discussions of water rate impacts during Municipal Service Reviews (MSR), the Commission requested LAFCO staff to conduct a study on water rates in the San Diego region. The Special Districts Advisory Committee led this effort to help the Commission and the public better understand why water rates vary among agencies, while also creating a diagnostic tool to inform future MSRs.

Staff presentation provided by Local Government Analyst I Joelle Burila and LAFCO Consultant Tom Kennedy.

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED...

Item 5b Continued...

Comments were received from the following members:

- Christopher McKinney, Escondido
- Paz Gomez, Carlsbad

6. LAFCO EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

None.

7. OPEN EXPRESSION

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Cities Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Attest:

Erica Sellen
Committee Secretary

DRAFT