TO: MEMBERS, FORMATION COMMISSION
FROM: DAVID CHURCH, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 2018
SUBJECT: CALAFCO ACTIVITIES

Recommendation. It is respectfully recommended that the Commission consider this CALAFCO Activities and Legislative Update and receive and file this report.

CALAFCO University. On January 22 a CALAFCO University course, LAFCO’s Evolving Mission; New Laws, Requirements, and Transparency was conducted in Sacramento. The session was series of panels that helped LAFCOs keep up with the changing legislative landscape and to discuss the issue of transparency. The SLO LAFCO Executive Officer was the moderator for this course that included four panels. The first panel discussed laws from 2016 and their impacts on LAFCO. The second panel included laws enacted in 2017 and how these affect LAFCOs around the state. The third speaker reviewed the recent work by the Little Hoover Commission regarding LAFCOs. Attachment A contains the agenda and powerpoints from the session as well as Transparency checklist that was completed by each person attending the course. The course was highly rated by the 22 people from around the State who attended.

Current Legislation. Attachment B contains CALAFCO legislative policies adopted by the Board of Directors for 2018, the agenda for the most recent Legislative Committee meeting, and the CapitolTrack print out that monitors bills that on CALAFCO’s radar at this point in time. The key bills being monitored by CALAFCO in 2018 include; SB 778 (Hertzberg) Water Systems Consolidations, AB 272 (Gipson) Water Utility Service Sale, SB 522 (Glazer) West Contract Costa Healthcare District, SB 561 (Gaines) Fallen Leaf CSD Elections. Many of the bills on the CapitolTrack list are “dead” from 2017. Some are considered two year bills, meaning they will move through the process of committee review and legislative approval in 2018/19, but at a slower pace.

CALAFCO Events Calendar. The 2018 events calendar for CALFCO is included in Attachment C. The calendar shows the key events in the 2018 year.
Attachment A

CALAFCO U Materials
CALAFCO UNIVERSITY
January 22, 2018 – CALAFCO Office
Sacramento, Ca
LAFCO’s Evolving Mission:
New Laws, Requirements, and Transparency
10:00 – 3:30 P.M.

AGENDA

10:00 Welcome – David Church, Moderator, Executive Officer, SLO LAFCo

10:10 Panel #1 - Review of laws from 2016

Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO; Keene Simonds, Executive Officer, San Diego LAFCo; Kara Ueda, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger

11:10 Short Break

11:15 Panel #2 - New laws for 2017

Kara Ueda, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger; Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

12:15 Networking Lunch

1:00 Panel #3 - Little Hoover Commission Report

Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

1:45 Short Break

1:55 Panel #4 - Transparency: How are we doing? What is coming?

Carolyn Emery, Executive Officer, Orange LAFCo; Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO; Kara Ueda, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger;

3:10 Questions and Answers (for all panellists)

3:20 Wrap Up and Evaluations
Transparency Guideline Checklist

REQUIRED: Do you have or do the following (1 point each)?

___ Comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act, including posting current agenda on website
___ Comply with the Public Records Act
___ Comply with applicable conflict of interest laws
___ Adopted Annual Budget
___ Adopted policies and procedures and posted on web site
___ Online catalog of enterprise systems pursuant to SB 272 with link on homepage
___ All required notices and public hearing notices posted on web site
___ Total Points (7 possible)

Website – Do you maintain a website with the following basic items (1 point each):

___ Adopted fee schedule and all forms/applications
___ Information about how to serve on Commission and deadlines
___ Names and contact information of executive officer and key staff
___ Board/Commission meeting schedule (this is in addition to current agenda and staff reports)
___ Agency mission statement and/or by-laws
___ Description of LAFCo’s services/functions and service area
___ Authorizing statute/enabling act (CKH Act and, if applicable, others)
___ Current and prior year budgets
___ Maps of jurisdictional boundaries/service area and spheres
___ Archive of meeting agendas, minutes, and video and/or audio recordings (if applicable) for at least the last 6 months
___ Information about how to receive email notices and meeting agendas
___ Information about how to ask for public records
___ Total Points (12 possible)
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___ Maps of jurisdictional boundaries/service area and spheres
___ Archive of meeting agendas, minutes, and video and/or audio recordings (if applicable) for at least the last 6 months
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___ Information about how to ask for public records
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CALAFCO University

LAFCos’ Evolving Mission: New laws, requirements and transparency

January 22, 2018
Sacramento

Panelists:

Pamela Miller, CALAFCO
Keene Simonds, San Diego LAFCo
Kara Ueda, Best Best & Kreiger

2016 LAWS AND THEIR IMPACT TO LAFCO
California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

AB 2257 (2016)

- Goes into effect 1/1/19

- Amended the Brown Act to require agendas to be posted on agency’s primary website accessible through a “prominent, direct link” (Gov’t Code Sec. 54954.2(a)(2))

- Direct link may not be just in a “contextual menu”

- Additional requirements for using an integrated agenda management platform

- Does not apply to committees formed by legislative body (e.g. subcommittees)
**AB 2853 (2016)**

- Amended Gov’t Code Sec. 6253 to allow a public agency to post any public record on its website and in response to a public record request, direct the requestor the location on the website where the record exists to fulfill the public record request.
- If requestor wants a hard copy from the agency, the agency must comply and provide to requestor.

**SB 1436 (2016)**

- Amends Gov’t Code Sec. 54953
- Requires legislative body, prior to taking final action, to orally report summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of a local agency executive, as defined in existing law, during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken.
Definition of “Local agency executive” ...

- Defines "local agency executive" to mean any person employed by a local agency who is not subject to the Meyers-Millas-Brown Act or similar provisions, as specified, and who meets any of the following requirements:

- The person is the chief executive officer (CEO), a deputy CEO, or an assistant CEO of the local agency;

- The person is the head of a department of a local agency; or,

- The person’s position within the local agency is held by an employment contract between the local agency and that person.
SB 272: Enterprise Systems Catalog

- Most public agencies must create and make available a catalog of “enterprise systems” the agency uses.

- **Enterprise system**: software application that collects, stores, exchanges, and analyzes information that is a multi-departmental system or contains information collection about the public AND is a system of record.

- **Deadline**: 7/1/16 to complete, make copies available upon request, and post on agency’s web site.

SB 272: Enterprise Systems Catalog

- **What is NOT covered**:
  - Cybersecurity systems & security records
  - Systems for physical access
  - Systems controlling/managing public utilities
  - Public safety systems
  - Actual records that are collected or stored by a system/application.
**SB 272: Enterprise Systems Catalog**

- What ARE Enterprise Systems:
  - Applications used in ordinary course of business
  - Time card processing
  - Financial data applications

What to put in the catalog:
- Current system vendor
- Current system product
- Brief statement of system’s purpose
- General description of categories/data types
- Department that serves as primary custodian
- Frequency of data system collection
- Frequency of data system updates
SB 1266 (McGuire)

- Sponsored by CALAFCO
- Two-Year Stakeholder Process
  - Initial proposal from Marin LAFCO
  - Builds on AB 2156 (Achadjian) in 2014
  - Also follows LAO recommendation
- The Big Takeaway...
  - Requires JPAs to file agreements and amendments with LAFCOs

Bonus Slide...

Question:
Why did Marin LAFCO become preoccupied with JPAs?

Answer:
Political fallout from JPAs’ behaving badly
SB 1266 (McGuire)

What is means (explicit)...
✓ Creates formal reporting relationship between JPAs and LAFCOs in State law

What is means (implicit)...
✓ Keeps up with the Joneses (101)
✓ Repository on local government (56301)
✓ Comprehensive reviews (56340)
✓ Jumping point to more?

SB 1266 (McGuire)

Brass Tacks to JPAs...
✓ Amends the Joint Power Authorities Act
✓ January 1, 2017: all stand-alone JPAs providing “municipal services” shall start filing agreements and amendments
✓ July 1, 2017: all preexisting agreements and amendments to be filed
✓ Filing incentive: JPAs cannot incur new bonded debt without LAFCO filing
SB 1266 (McGuire)

- **Brass Tacks for LAFCOs...**
  - Two options:
    - a) you make use of information 😊
    - b) you can do nothing 😞
- **Assuming the Choice is Doing...**
  - Define “municipal services” for SB 1266
  - Create public repository on website
  - Expand MSRs; promote the good and rein-in the not-so-good

SB 239 (2015)

- Took effective January 1, 2016
- Amends Gov’t Code Secs. 56017.2 and 56133, and adds GC §56134 relating to the extension of fire protection services outside existing city or district boundaries.
- Deems “existing boundaries” as those that exist as of 12-31-15.
SB 239 (2015)

- Requires LAFCo approval on any new contract for the extension of fire services or a contract extension or amendment that transfers greater than 25% of the service area or changes the employment status of more than 25% of employees of any affected agencies.
- Requires applicant to provide LAFCo, as part of the application, proof that the 25% trigger is occurring.
- Up to LAFCo to determine what the required proof would be.

SB 239 (2015)

Not intended to...

- Apply to the renewal of existing contracts, unless the renewal included amendments or the inclusion of new territory that triggered the +25% change in service area or employment status.
- Apply to mutual or automatic aid agreements.
- Apply to ambulance services agreements.
- If a current contract expires and a service area no longer wants to contract for services and will take over providing the services themselves, this bill does not apply, as there is no contract to review and approve.
CALAFCO Bulletin on SB 239

- Distributed in December 2015 (and several times since then)
- Posted on CALAFCO website
- In session packet for reference
2017 LAWS AND THEIR IMPACT TO LAFCO

Panelists:
Pamela Miller, CALAFCO
Keene Simonds, San Diego LAFCo
Kara Ueda, Best Best & Kreiger

AB 464 (Gallagher)

- Sponsored by CALAFCO
- Reaction to Court Decision
  - Responds to City of Patterson v. Turlock Irrigation District (2014)
  - Legal issue arising from annexation to address claim by Turlock of “taxation without representation”
  - Spawned into an important procedural matter and LAFCOs’ authority to manage service extensions and annexations
AB 464 (Gallagher)

- Humble Beginnings...
  - Dispute over Turlock seeking annexation of land to Turlock Irrigation that was already being served (electricity) by the District through an earlier OSA.
  - Turlock Irrigation sought termination of proposal on basis of financial hardship.
  - Trail Court agreed with Turlock Irrigation; Turlock appealed.

  Not a Concern at this Point

AB 464 (Gallagher)

- Appeal Court | Now a Concern...
  - Appeal Court created two-year upside-down universe regarding LAFCOs’ ability (or lack therein) to annex “served lands”.
  - Appeal Court focused on CKH’s 56653 to prescribe the application requirements and “plan to extend service to territory”.
  - Appeal Court flags issue LAFCOs missed for 50 years; 56653 contemplates annexation of only unserved lands.
AB 464 (Gallagher)

- Initial Reaction @ Leg Cmte...

- CALAFCO Responds
  - Effort to add to annual omnibus bill rebuffed in 2015
  - CALAFCO Board makes priority going into 2016; Butte LAFCO takes lead

- The Big Takeaway...
  - CKH now reflects decades of practice
  - AB 464 amends LAFCO law to make explicit LAFCOs’ authority to annex served lands to agencies
AB 979 (Lackey)

- Co-Sponsored by CALAFCO & CSDA
- Legislative Twofer
  - **Primary** | Addresses long-standing interest of both sponsors to make process easier for independent districts to join LAFCOs
  - **Secondary** | Addresses role for LAFCOs and thru EOs – to administer appointment of district representatives to consolidated redevelopment oversight boards

AB 979 (Lackey)

- **Primary Focus** | Encouraging District Seats on LAFCOs
- **Background…**
  - Independent districts have been allowed to join LAFCOs since 1972
  - Process for districts to join LAFCOs viewed cumbersome & time-consuming
  - As of January 1, 2017 only 30 of 58 LAFCOs have district representation
**AB 979 (Lackey)**

- **What Changed in Seating Districts...**
  - **Before AB 979** | CHK required a majority of districts to pass resolutions w/in one year to call a vote on seating on LAFCO
  - **After AB 979** | CKH now provides two means to call a vote on independent district seating on LAFCO:
    1) written requests signed by one or more districts having 10% or more of AV; or
    2) adoption of resolution by Commission

- **Secondary | District Appointments to Consolidated RDA Oversight Board**
  - **Background...**
    - State abolishes redevelopment agencies (RDA) in 2011; existing RDAs converted into oversight boards (one for each RDA)
    - State requires all oversight boards be consolidated into one per county by 7/1/18; one of seven board seats goes to districts with cross reference to CKH process
**AB 979 (Lackey)**

**What AB 979 Does…**

- Updates CKH to address LAFCOs’ role that was previously cross-referenced in Health and Safety Code to now administer district appointments to consolidated RDA oversight boards

**What AB 979 Doesn’t Do…**

- Does not attempt to uniformly prescribe how each LAFCO goes about appointment process; leaves it to each LAFCO

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**AB 979 (Lackey)**

**Big Takeaways**

- **On Seating Districts on LAFCO** | Make use of new power and openly discuss adopting a resolution to call vote on establishing district seats on your LAFCO

- **On Consolidated RDA Oversight Board Appointments** | This is a big deal for districts with the Board deciding how to restore property taxes. How LAFCOs go about appointment matters; opportunity to also engage interest in joining LAFCOs
SB 448 (2017)

- Focus on special districts, Controller lists and LAFCO actions
- Began very broad with many requirements and unfunded mandates
- Narrowed scope considerably to final version

SB 448 (2017)

- Requires Controller to publish and update annually list of independent special districts beginning July 1, 2019 (Gov’t Code Sec. 12463.4)
- Requires special district (as defined in 56036) to file audits with LAFCO and Controller (Gov’t Code Sec. 26909 (a)(2)(B)(ii))
SB 448 (2017)

- Adds Gov’t Code Sec. 56042 to define new category of district called “inactive district”. Must meet all of the following:
  - (a) The special district is as defined in Section 56036.
  - (b) The special district has had no financial transactions in the previous fiscal year.
  - (c) The special district has no assets and liabilities.
  - (d) The special district has no outstanding debts, judgments, litigation, contracts, liens, or claims.

SB 448 (2017)

- Amends the definition of “resolution of application” (Gov’t Code Sec. 56073.1)
  
  *A bonus add as requested by the Legislative Committee*

- Adds Gov’t Code Sec. 56879 requiring Controller to create list of inactive special districts and post on their website and notify the district and the LAFCO.
**SB 448 (2017)**

- LAFCO to initiate dissolution within 90 days of notification unless LAFCO determines district does not meet criteria.
- LAFCO to hold one public hearing on the dissolution within 90 days of adopting the resolution initiating dissolution.

**SB 448 (2017)**

- Streamlined dissolution process not subject to:
  - Chapter 1 through Chapter 7 of Part 4 inclusive (Gov’t Code Secs. 57000 through 57179) – including protest provisions
  - Determinations pursuant to subdivision (b) of Sec 56881 (commission initiated proposals)
  - Special study or MSR preceding initiation of action
AB 1361 (2017)

Origins in AB 2470 regarding provision of water to Indian tribal land under specified conditions
- Lands must have been owned by tribe on 1/1/16
- Lands must be contiguous with at least two districts
- Lands lie within special study area of one
- 70% or more land w/in at least one district

If tribe does not meet requirements under 2470, special district may ask LAFCO to extend water service to tribal land as if lands had been fully annexed into district and any other public agencies required for water service (Water Code Sec. 71611.5 (a)(2))
AB 1361 (2017)

- Indian tribe must meet certain conditions:
  - Federal and tribal law compliance
  - Federal and tribal approvals in order for district to provide water service
  - Acceptance, by agreement, all terms and payments of the district and any other public agency providing water to the district as if tribal land was annexed

AB 1361 (2017)

- LAFCO must (shall) approve the application
- LAFCO may impose conditions pursuant to 56886 provided that conditions don’t impair water service to Indian land and on terms similar to other recipients of services
AB 1361 (2017)

- New applications may only be approved by LAFCOs until 1/1/23
- But water may be still provided to Indian lands after 1/1/23 provided terms and conditions imposed by LAFCO are being met
LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Impact to LAFCos and the path forward

Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

Recommendations regarding OVERSIGHT

8 total recommendations

6 directly related to LAFCo
**Recommendation #1**

The Legislature and the Governor should curtail a growing practice of enacting bills to override LAFCO deliberative processes and decide local issues regarding special district boundaries and operations.

**Recommendation #2**

The Legislature should provide one-time grant funding to pay for specified LAFCO activities, to incentivize LAFCOs or smaller special districts to develop and implement dissolution or consolidation plans with timelines for expected outcomes. Funding should be tied to process completion and results, including enforcement authority for corrective action and consolidation.
Recommendation #3

The Legislature should enact and the Governor should sign SB 448 (Wieckowski) which would provide LAFCOs the statutory authority to conduct reviews of inactive districts and to dissolve them without the action being subject to protest and a costly election process.

Recommendation #4

The Governor should sign AB 979 (Lackey), co-sponsored by the California Special Districts Association and the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions. The bill would strengthen LAFCOs by easing a process to add special district representatives to the 28 county LAFCOs where districts have no voice.
Recommendation #5

The Legislature should adopt legislation to give LAFCO members fixed terms, to ease political pressures in controversial votes and enhance the independence of LAFCOs.

Recommendation #6

The Legislature should convene an advisory committee to review the protest process for consolidations and dissolutions of special districts and to develop legislation to simplify and create consistency in the process.
Recommendations regarding TRANSPARENCY

3 total recommendations

1 directly related to LAFCo

Recommendation #9

Building on the recommendation that the Legislature should require that every special district have a website…

Every LAFCO should have a website that includes a list and links to all of the public agencies within each county service area and a copy of all of the most current Municipal Service Reviews.
Recommendations regarding HEALTHCARE DISTRICTS

3 total recommendations

1 directly related to LAFCo

Recommendation #13

The Legislature, which has been increasingly inclined to override local LAFCO processes to press changes on healthcare districts, should defer these decisions to LAFCOs, which in statute already have that responsibility.
What’s next?

✓ CALAFCO facilitating conversations about website transparency with our member LAFCOs
  ➢ CALAFCO University course
  ➢ CALAFCO Staff Workshop

✓ CALAFCO having internal conversations regarding potential issues with protest provisions (also looking at survey feedback)

What’s next?

✓ CALAFCO Board unanimously approved sponsorship of a bill in 2018 to seek the one-time grant funding

✓ CALAFCO solicited information to support the ask from all 58 LAFCos. As of January 10th, 39 of 58 LAFCos responded. *YOUR FEEDBACK IS CRITICAL TO OUR SUPPORTING ARGUMENT FOR THIS ASK!*

✓ CALAFCO secured an author in Assm. Caballero and submitted spot bill language to Leg Counsel
CALAFCO University
LAFCo’s Evolving Mission: New Laws, Requirements and Transparency
Little Hoover Commission Report and Recommendations and Impacts to LAFCos

What’s next?

✓ Ad-hoc committee of the Legislative Committee formed (Board + LAFCo staff) to develop parameters for application – use of funds - reporting requirements
  ➢ Met by phone once and work underway

✓ Board unanimously approved hiring of lobbyist to assist in navigating the budget committees process
  ➢ Their time combined with Executive Director time shall not exceed 20% of the Association’s annual expense budget

What’s next?

✓ CALAFCO is researching best entity to issue funds directly to LAFCos

✓ CALAFCO may come back to member LAFCos with a few additional follow-up questions

✓ LAFCos encouraged to consider potential entities for further and more in-depth studies for greater efficiencies so that if bill passes, you are ready to submit grant application
Thank you for your time

Pamela Miller
CALAFCO Executive Director
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916-442-6536
LAFCOs and Transparency

✓ What is required?
✓ What are best practices?
✓ How are we doing?

Panelists:
Carolyn Emery, Orange LAFCo
Pamela Miller, CALAFCO
Kara Ueda, Best Best & Kreiger

Overview: LAFCO and Transparency

❖ Why are we talking about this?
❖ Are LAFCOs meeting basic legal requirements?
❖ What are the risks for LAFCOs that don’t meet basic requirements?
❖ Who’s interested in LAFCOs being transparent?
LAFCO's Evolving Mission: New laws, requirements and transparency

Transparency: Basic Requirements

LAFCOs are required to:

- Comply with the Brown Act (Gov't Code Sec. 54950 et seq.), Public Records Act (Gov't Code Sec. 6250 et seq.), Political Reform Act (Gov't Code Sec. 81000 et seq.), and Gov't Code Sec. 1090

- Establish and maintain website with notices and other Commission information for the public. (Gov't Code Sec. 56300(f)(1))

Transparency: Basic Requirements

LAFCOs are required to:

- Establish written policies and procedures and follow them (Gov't Code Sec. 56300(a))

- Post agendas required to be posted under the Brown Act on website (Gov't Code Sec. 54954.2(a)(1))
Transparency: Basic Requirements

LAFCOs are required to:

- Adopt and transmit draft and final budgets. *(Gov’t Code Sec. 56381(a))*.
- Post all required notices and public hearing notices in electronic format on LAFCO’s web site if the LAFCO maintains a web site *(Gov’t Code Secs. 56150, 56661)*
- Catalog enterprise systems pursuant to SB 272 *(Gov’t Code Sec. 6270.5)*

Transparency: Best Practices – “beyond the basics”

- To promote transparency LAFCOs may:
  - Post both current and past meeting agendas, minutes, staff reports and public notices on website
  - Prominently display current agenda on first page of website
  - Post both current and past draft and final budgets on website
Transparency: Best Practices – “beyond the basics”

To promote transparency LAFCOs may:

✓ Post Commission adopted bylaws, policies and procedures on website

✓ Provide sphere maps to each agency and also publish on website

✓ Publish MSRs on website

Transparency: Best Practices – “beyond the basics”

To promote transparency LAFCOs may:

✓ Comply and demonstrate compliance with ethics and sexual harassment training

✓ Hire independent auditor to prepare audited financial statements

✓ Publish compensation information on website (pay schedules may be required if in CALPERS)
Transparency: Orange County LAFCO’s Website

http://oclafco.org/

Transparency: How is your LAFCO doing?
Transparency: Preparing An Action Plan

- What are next steps for my agency to meet basic transparency requirements?
- What are the resources available that support implementing transparency requirements and best practices?

Transparency: My Action Plan

[Image of an action plan diagram with columns for WHO, WHAT, WHEN, AND NOW]
Transparency: Resources


- Special Districts Leadership Foundation (SDLF): [https://www.sdlf.org/checklists](https://www.sdlf.org/checklists)

Thank you for your time

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1. Welcome, Roll Call, Review Agenda

2. Approval of minutes of the December 15, 2017 meeting

3. Report from subcommittee reviewing CALAFCO Legislative Policies

4. 2018 Omnibus Bill items for further discussion
   a. 56015 – Definition of “affected territory”
   b. 56325 etc. – Appointment of commissioners
   c. 56332 – Special District Select. Comm. procedure change

5. 2018 Omnibus Bill items passed (no discussion today)
   a. 56046 – Definition of “Inhabited territory”
   b. 56157 – Protest hearing clarifications
   c. 56375(o) – Tax revenue determination
   d. 56668(a) – Remove “per capita”

6. Update on other CALAFCO Sponsored legislation

7. Current and potential legislation impacting LAFCo
   a. EMWD proposal on formation of water systems
   b. SB 778 (Hertzberg) Water systems consolidations
   c. CSDA proposal to amend definitions of “special district” and “independent special district”

8. CALAFCO tracked legislation
   a. AB 272 (Gipson) Water utility service sale
   b. SB 522 (Glazer) West Contra Costa HCD governing board
   c. SB 561 (Gaines) Fallen Leaf CSD elections

9. Items for next meeting

Adjournment to 16 February 2018 in Sacramento
1. **LAFCo Purpose and Authority**
   1.1. Support legislation which enhances LAFCo authority and powers to carry out the legislative findings and authority in Government Code §56000 et seq., and oppose legislation which diminishes LAFCo authority.
   1.2. Support authority for each LAFCo to establish local policies to apply Government Code §56000 et seq. based on local needs and conditions, and oppose any limitations to that authority.
   1.3. Oppose additional LAFCo responsibilities which require expansion of current local funding sources. Oppose unrelated responsibilities which dilute LAFCo ability to meet its primary mission.
   1.4. Support alignment of responsibilities and authority of LAFCo and regional agencies which may have overlapping responsibilities in orderly growth, preservation, and service delivery, and oppose legislation or policies which create conflicts or hamper those responsibilities.
   1.5. Oppose grants of special status to any individual agency or proposal to circumvent the LAFCo process.
   1.6. Support individual commissioner responsibility that allows each commissioner to independently vote his or her conscience on issues affecting his or her own jurisdiction.

2. **LAFCo Organization**
   2.1. Support the independence of LAFCo from local agencies.
   2.2. Oppose the re-composition of any LAFCo to create special seats and recognize the importance of balanced representation provided by cities, the county, the public, and special districts in advancing the public interest.
   2.3. Support representation of special districts on all LAFCos in counties with independent districts and oppose removal of special districts from any LAFCo.
   2.4. Support communication and collaborative decision-making among neighboring LAFCos when growth pressures and multicounty agencies extend beyond a LAFCo’s boundaries.

3. **Agricultural and Open Space Protection**
   3.1. Support legislation which clarifies LAFCo authority to identify, encourage and ensure the preservation of agricultural and open space lands.
   3.2. Encourage a consistent definition of agricultural and open space lands.
   3.3. Support policies which encourage cities, counties and special districts to direct development away from prime agricultural lands.
   3.4. Support policies and tools which protect prime agricultural and open space lands.
   3.5. Support the continuance of the Williamson Act and restoration of program funding through State subvention payments.

4. **Orderly Growth**
   4.1. Support the recognition and use of spheres of influence as a management tool to provide better planning of growth and development, and to preserve agricultural, and open space lands.
4.2. Support recognition of LAFCo spheres of influence by other agencies involved in determining and developing long-term growth and infrastructure plans.

4.3. Support orderly boundaries of local agencies and the elimination of islands within the boundaries of agencies.

4.4. Support communication among cities, counties, and special districts through a collaborative process that resolves service, housing, land use, and fiscal issues prior to application to LAFCo.

4.5. Support cooperation between counties and cities on decisions related to development within the city’s designated sphere of influence.

5. Service Delivery and Local Agency Effectiveness

5.1. Support the use of LAFCo resources to review Regional Transportation Plans, including sustainable communities strategies and other growth plans to ensure reliable services, orderly growth, sustainable communities, and conformity with LAFCo’s legislative mandates. Support efforts that enhance meaningful collaboration between LAFCos and regional planning agencies.

5.2. Support LAFCo authority as the preferred method of local governance. Support the availability of LAFCo tools which provide communities with local governance and efficient service delivery options, including the authority to impose conditions that assure a proposal’s conformity with LAFCo’s legislative mandates.

5.3. Support the creation or reorganization of local governments in a deliberative, open process which will fairly evaluate the proposed new or successor agency’s long-term financial viability, governance structure and ability to efficiently deliver proposed services.

5.4. Support the availability of tools for LAFCo to insure equitable distribution of revenues to local government agencies consistent with their service delivery responsibilities.

5.5. Support collaborative efforts among agencies and LAFCOs that encourage opportunities for sharing of services, staff and facilities to provide more efficient and cost effective services. Support legislation which provides LAFCo with additional opportunities to encourage shared services.

2018 Legislative Priorities

Primary Issues

Authority of LAFCo

Support legislation that maintains or enhances LAFCo’s authority to condition proposals to address any or all financial, growth, service delivery, and agricultural and open space preservation issues. Support legislation that maintains or enhances LAFCo’s ability to make decisions regarding boundaries and formations, as well as to enact recommendations related to the delivery of services and the agencies providing them, including consolidations, reorganizations or dissolutions.

Agriculture and Open Space Protection

Support policies, programs and legislation that recognize LAFCo’s mission to protect and mitigate the loss of prime agricultural and open space lands and that encourage other agencies to coordinate with local LAFCOs on land preservation and orderly growth. Support efforts that encourage the creation of habitat conservation plans.
**Water Availability**

Support policies, programs and legislation that promote an integrated approach to water availability and management. Promote adequate water supplies and infrastructure planning for current and planned growth as well as to support the sustainability of agriculture. Support policies that assist LAFCo in obtaining accurate and reliable water supply information to evaluate current and cumulative water demands for service expansions and boundary changes including impacts of expanding water company service areas on orderly growth, and the impacts of consolidation or dissolution of water companies providing services.

**Viability of Local Services**

Support legislation that maintains or enhances LAFCo’s ability to review and act to determine the efficient and sustainable delivery of local services and the financial viability of agencies providing those services to meet current and future needs including those identified in regional planning efforts such as sustainable communities strategies. Support legislation which provides LAFCo and local communities with options for local governance and service delivery to ensure efficient, effective, and quality service delivery. Support efforts which provide tools to local agencies to address aging infrastructure, fiscal challenges and the maintenance of services.

**Issues of Interest**

**Housing**

Provision of territory and services to support housing plans consistent with regional land use plans and local LAFCo policies.

**Transportation**

Effects of Regional Transportation Plans and expansion of transportation systems on future urban growth and service delivery needs, and the ability of local agencies to provide those services.

**Flood Control**

The ability and effectiveness of local agencies to maintain and improve levees and protect current infrastructure. Carefully consider the value of uninhabited territory, and the impact to public safety of proposed annexation to urban areas of uninhabited territory which is at risk for flooding. Support legislation that includes assessment of agency viability in decisions involving new funds for levee repair and maintenance. Support efforts that encourage the creation of habitat conservation plans.

**Adequate Municipal Services in Inhabited Territory**

Expeditious processes for inhabited annexations should be consistent with LAFCo law and be fiscally viable. To promote environmental justice for underserved inhabited communities, funding sources should be identified for extension of municipal services, including options for annexation of contiguous disadvantaged unincorporated communities. Promote the delivery of adequate, sustainable, efficient, and effective levels of service through periodic updates of Municipal Service reviews, Spheres of Influence, and other studies.
Attachment C

CALAFCO 2018 CALENDAR
# 2018 Events Calendar

## JANUARY
- **17-19** League New Mayor & Council Academy (Sacramento)
- **19** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (San Diego)
- **22** CALAFCO U (Sacramento) Legislation Implementation & Transparency
- **24-26** CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Conference (Palm Springs)

## FEBRUARY
- **16** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacramento)
- **23** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (San Diego)

## MARCH
- **14** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Legislative Symposium (Sacramento)
- **15-18** Local Government Commission Ahwahnee Conference (Yosemite)
- **16** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Irvine)

## APRIL
- **11-13** CALAFCO Staff Workshop (San Rafael)
- **11-13** Fire District Assn. Annual Meeting (Monterey)
- **18** League of Cities Legislative Day (Sacramento)

## MAY
- **4** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacramento)
- **11** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)
- **8-11** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Sacramento)
- **16-17** CA State Assn. of Counties Legislative Days (Sacramento)
- **22-23** CA Special Districts Assn. Legislative Days (Sacramento)

## JUNE
- **8** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Conference call)
- **27-28** League Mayor & Council Executive Forum (Monterey)

## JULY
- **20** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Ontario)
- **27** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Conference call)

## AUGUST
- **8-10** CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Annual Conference (Monterey)
- **17** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Conference call)

## SEPTEMBER
- **12-14** League Annual Conference (Long Beach)
- **19-21** Regional Council of Rural Counties Annual Conference (Napa)
- **24-27** CA Special Districts Assn. Annual Conference (Indian Wells)

## OCTOBER
- **3-5** CALAFCO Annual Conference (Yosemite)
- **4** CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting (Yosemite)
- **5** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Yosemite)
- **26** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (2019) (Conference call)

## NOVEMBER
- **9** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (2019) (Sacramento)
- **27-30** CA State Assn. of Counties Annual Conference (San Diego)
- **27-30** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (San Diego)

## DECEMBER
- **7** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)