

LAFCO • The Local Agency Formation Commission
Serving the Area of San Luis Obispo County



TO: MEMBERS, FORMATION COMMISSION

FROM: PAUL L. HOOD, EXECUTIVE OFFICER ^{PLH}

DATE: AUGUST 20, 2009

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF COMMISSIONER'S
ATTENDANCE AT THE 2009 CALAFCO ANNUAL
CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT THE TENAYA
LODGE ON OCTOBER 28-30, 2009

COMMISSIONERS

DAVID L. BROOKS
CHAIR, Special District
Member

DUANE PICANCO
Vice-Chair,
City Member

K.H. "KATCHO" ACHADJIAN
County Member

BRUCE GIBSON
County Member

BARBARA MANN
Special District Member

Richard Roberts
Public Member

ALLEN SETTLE
City Member

ALTERNATES

Ed EBY
Special District Member

TOM MURRAY
Public Member

JAMES R. PATTERSON
County Member

KRIS VARDAS
City Member

STAFF

PAUL L. HOOD
Executive Officer

RAYMOND A. BIERING
Legal Counsel

DAVID CHURCH
Deputy Executive Officer

DONNA J. BLOYD
Commission Clerk

Recommendation: It is respectfully recommended that the Commission select four Commissioners to attend the 2009 CALAFCO Annual Conference.

Discussion: The California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) Annual Conference will be held on October 28-31, 2009 at the Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite. The conference is hosted by Fresno County LAFCO and the Preliminary Program is attached for your review.

The 2009-10 Budget approved by the Commission includes the attendance of four Commissions and three staff to the conference. The Commission normally decides to send members according to each category:

- 1 County member
- 1 City member
- 1 Special District member
- 1 Public member

Alternates are selected if the regular members cannot attend. **It is important to check your calendars carefully since last minute cancellations in most cases result in a forfeiture of the conference registration fee.** The deadline to cancel the hotel room (\$139/Night) is September 15, 2009. The deadline for canceling the registration is October 5, 2009 (\$390). Any cancellations later than these dates and SLO LAFCO will not receive a refund.

It is recommended that the Commission decide who will attend the CALAFCO Annual Conference. Staff will make hotel and conference reservations.

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www.slolafco.com

CALAFCO Annual Conference
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Wednesday, 28 October 2009

7:00 Registration Opens

7:30 **Mobile Workshop – San Joaquin River Parkway**
 Learn about the creation and mission of the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust. Our guides will paint a picture of the River's history and will describe how encroachment of residential development along the river in the early 1980s culminated in citizen groups banning together to challenge urban development. *Advance registration required (\$40). Lunch included.*

SPEAKER - Dave Koehler, Executive Director, River Parkway Trust

11:00 **LAFCo 101 – Pre-Conference Session**
 This is an informative introductory course designed for new commissioners and staff. It also is a welcome refresher course to assist all in remaining focused on the purpose of LAFCo. *Advance registration required (no charge). Lunch included.*

SPEAKERS - Bob Braitman and Commissioner Cathy Schlottmann, Santa Barbara LAFCo

1:15 **Conference Opening – Welcoming Remarks**

SPEAKERS - Supervisor Susan Anderson, Fresno Board of Supervisors; Commissioner Roger Anderson, CALAFCO Chairman; and Rick Ballantyne, Executive Officer, Fresno LAFCo

1:30 **General Session – Climate Change and Water Supply: Challenges in a Hotter, Drier and more Crowded California**

A discussion of climate change, how it will impact the available water supply and how agricultural and urban water agencies are planning to meet the challenges of their future water supply and still meet the needs of a larger population.

SPEAKERS - Guido Franco, California Energy Commission; Robert Shibatani, Shibatani Group; Don Kendall, General Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District; and Jim Beck, General Manager, Kern County Water Agency

3:00 **Roundtable Discussion Sessions**

A unique opportunity to share and discuss issues and perspectives with peers from around the state.

- ♥ *Commissioner Roundtable*
- ♥ *Staff Roundtable*
- ♥ *LAFCo Counsel Roundtable*

5:00 **Welcome Reception – CALAFCO Wine Competition at Summerdale**

CALAFCO's 3rd Wine Competition and Reception. Enter your best wine and vote on your favorites! Great opportunity to network with LAFCo staff and commissioners from around the state. Entertainment by "Pipe on the Hob" – a Celtic/American band.

**A NEW DEAL OR
 A HOUSE OF CARDS?**

*LAFCo's Role in Preparing for
 California's Recovery and the Future*



California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions
2009 Annual Conference


TENAYA LODGE
EST. 1957

28-30 October 2009



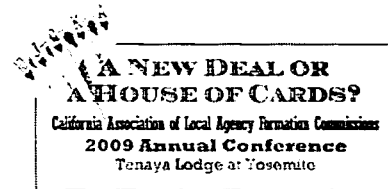
These could be yours!
 Enter the CALAFCO
 Wine & Beer Competition
 2009 Annual Conference
 Welcome Reception
 Wednesday, 28 October 2009
 \$30.00 per person

SUMMERDALE
The western town of Tenaya

CALAFCO
2009 Annual Conference

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION
www.calafco.org

Thursday, 29 October 2009



7:00 Registration Opens

7:30 Business Meeting Breakfast

8:00 CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting

Action items include election of Board of Directors, annual report to members, and discussion of a new regional structure for the Association.

10:15 General Session – Collaborative Strategies for Regional Governance

A panel of local government officials and regional leaders discusses new collaborative governance strategies that involve multiple local governments and non-governmental organizations on a regional scale and how they are being used.

SPEAKERS – Mayor Ashley Swearingin, Fresno; and James Mayer, Executive Director, California Forward

11:45 Luncheon – A Visit with John Muir

The John Muir story in a riveting first-person account performed by Fresno's own adventurer and naturalist Frank Helling.



1:00 General Session – Real-Time Survey of LAFCo Perspectives and Priorities

A participatory workshop using wireless remote technology to facilitate discussion of a variety of issues critical to LAFCo commissioners.

2:00 Breakout Sessions

▲ **Casinos, Infrastructure Needs, and LAFCo**

Although tribes are sovereign entities, they often require infrastructure and various services from outside governmental agencies. This session examines the relationship between Native American tribes, non-tribal governmental entities, and LAFCos. The formal and informal roles LAFCo can play in relationships between tribes and local agencies are explored.

▲ **Judicial Review of LAFCo Decisions**

Although LAFCo decisions are quasi-legislative and do not require formal findings, they are nonetheless subject to review by a court to determine whether they are supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. LAFCo legal experts will clarify the relevant statutory/case law and offer tips to commissioners and staff on how to improve the legal defensibility of LAFCo decisions.

▲ **Coping with Local Agency Financial Stress**

A panel of experts will tackle the various fiscal issues and threats currently facing cities and districts in financial distress and LAFCo's role in helping them cope.

▲ **Environmental Justice**

Addresses the conditions that led the legislature to add "environmental justice" as a factor LAFCo's must consider when reviewing boundary changes, and discusses practical methods LAFCo staffs and commissions may apply to this effort.

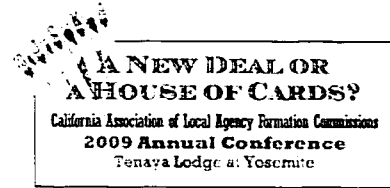
3:15 Breakout Sessions

◆ **Annexations as a Means to Preserve Open Space Lands**

Some LAFCos have received (and approved) annexation requests from cities that express a desire to preserve open space or agricultural lands. Using actual case studies, this session will explore the open space annexation issue from a number of perspectives and what, if any, role LAFCo should take to validate or enforce a city's commitment to preservation.



REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION
www.calafco.org



◆ *Is the Williamson Act Sustainable?*

One of the most cost-effective mechanisms available to local governments to preserve farmland faces an uncertain future, particularly with the Governor's elimination of the subvention funding to counties for the program. Discuss where the program is headed and how some agencies are working to bolster the program while others are faced with the challenges of urban growth.

◆ *CEQA for LAFCo Commissioners and Staff*

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has a tremendous impact on how all public agencies in California operate, including LAFCo. This session will go through the basic concepts and jargon of CEQA and what LAFCo's must do to comply. It is intended for new commissioners and staff, and for others who want a brush up on this very important aspect of LAFCo decision making.

6:30 **CALAFCO Reception and Achievement Awards Banquet**

Reception and dinner to honor LAFCo annual achievements. Casual clothing is appropriate and "western wear" most appropriate.

Friday, 30 October 2009

7:30 **Networking Breakfast**

9:00 **Breakout Sessions**

✦ *New Paradigm for Managing Growth*

Preservation of agriculture and open space, discouraging urban sprawl, infill development, and the logical extension of services are the goals of LAFCo. Join two city managers who have successfully implemented these "smart growth" concepts and practices in a discussion of how California cities and counties can benefit through the application of these principles.

✦ *LAFCo's Role as a Regulatory Agency: Terms and Conditions*

An overview of LAFCo responsibilities and required findings regarding spheres, incorporations, and annexations, including CEQA requirements. This session includes a review of applicable court cases and strategies for developing effective and defensible "terms and conditions."

✦ *The Perfect Storm: The Crunch Facing Local Agencies*

Local agencies are caught in a vise between escalating regulatory requirements and falling revenue. On top of that, Prop 218 places significant limitation on their ability to raise fees and other sources of revenue. Some agencies face insolvency and all face significant limitations on their ability to maintain services levels. A case study examines a small city's experience and discussion focuses on how to address these issues in LAFCo decision-making.

10:30 **General Session – Legislative Update and the Next Year in Sacramento**

CALAFCO sponsored a number of bills this year, and a number of others will affect LAFCos and local agencies. Join the annual roundup of what happened (or didn't happen) in Sacramento and hear about CALAFCO legislative priorities for the coming year.

SPEAKERS – Peter Detwiler, Senior Consultant, Senate Local Government Committee; Debbie Michael, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee; Bill Chiat, Executive Director, CALAFCO

11:45 **Adjourn**

Thank you for attending the 2009 CALAFCO Conference. We hope you enjoyed your time in Yosemite.

12:00 **CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting**