

ABOUT

The Regional Council is the governing board of the Southern California Association of Governments and consists of 86 elected officials representing 191 cities, six counties, county transportation commissions, transportation corridor agencies, tribal governments and air districts in Southern California.

AGENDA

[Click here](#) for current and archived Regional Council meeting agendas.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING



In December 2021, SCAG leadership joined senior city officials for an informative presentation and tour of some of the exciting happenings in the City of Anaheim.

ACTION

REGIONAL COUNCIL VOTES TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY PLANNING VOTER INITIATIVE

SCAG's Regional Council today voted to support the proposed Community Planning Voter Initiative. The proposed initiative would amend the state's constitution to specify that local city and county land-use and zoning laws override state laws when they conflict. It does make some exceptions for coastal land-use regulations, power generating facilities, and the development of water, communication, or transportation infrastructure projects. Furthermore, it prevents the Legislature and local legislative bodies from passing laws invalidating voter-approved local land-use or zoning initiatives. Lastly, the proposed measure would prohibit the state from changing, granting or denying funding to local governments based on their implementation of this measure. As of Nov. 1, 2021, proponents of the initiative have 180 days to collect nearly one million signatures needed to appear on the November 2022 election ballot.

ACTION

SCAG AIMS TO SPONSOR STATE LEGISLATION FOR 2022

The Regional Council today voted to pursue an expansion to the “Infill Infrastructure Grant Program” and “Incentives for RHNA Production” as its first and second choice concepts, respectively, for a SCAG sponsored legislative bill for the 2022 state legislative year. Additionally, SCAG will pursue a long-term legislative goal of serving as a leader and convener of an effort to modernize the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). SCAG staff will provide regular updates to the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) on the progress of the legislative concept and advise on partnership, coalition building and advocacy opportunities and efforts. Learn more about SCAG’s legislative and advocacy efforts at scag.ca.gov/legislation.

INFO

REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES ONE-TIME FUNDS FOR TWO SCAG PROGRAMS

The Regional Council today approved the acceptance of one-time funds for the study of Supporting Infrastructure for Medium and Heavy Duty Zero Emission Trucks and SCAG’s Broadband Program respectively.

STUDY OF SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR MEDIUM AND HEAVY DUTY ZERO EMISSION TRUCKS

Connect SoCal, the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy, includes a technology advancement plan with the focus on the long-term goal of a zero-emission goods movement system where technically feasible and economically viable. The Electric Power Research Institute, on behalf of the California Energy Commission Research Hub for Electric Technologies in Truck Applications Grant, has provided a grant of \$600,048 to support SCAG’s study of Supporting Infrastructure for Medium and Heavy Duty Zero Emission Trucks. Through this grant, SCAG will develop a zero-emission charging and fueling infrastructure plan for medium and heavy-duty trucks.

BROADBAND PROGRAM

On Feb. 2, 2021, SCAG’s Regional Council resolved to assist in bridging the digital divide in underserved communities. To support this endeavor, the California Emerging Technology Fund has provided a grant of \$250,000 for overall general support for SCAG’s Broadband Program. Funding would assist in the procurement and development of general broadband strategic services and technical studies to develop solutions to assist in the rapid deployment of broadband infrastructure and technology.

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

SCAG KICKS OFF THE REGIONAL ADVANCE MITIGATION PLANNING ADVISORY TASK GROUP

SCAG held the kickoff meeting for the Regional Advance Mitigation Planning – Advisory Task Group (RAMP-ATG) on Dec. 10, 2021. The RAMP-ATG is chaired by President Clint Lorimore and includes Regional Council members Sean Ashton, Curt Hagman, Peggy Huang, and David Pollock. The meeting included a brief overview presentation from SCAG staff on Regional Advance Mitigation Planning, including its benefits for regional growth and examples of established initiatives across the SCAG region.

The RAMP-ATG will meet at least three more times before disbanding upon reporting to both the Regional Council and Energy & Environment Committee, which is anticipated in April 2022. The next meeting is planned for Jan. 28 from 3 to 5 p.m. Upcoming meetings will include presentations on existing regional advance mitigation programs, a review of feedback from interviews with the county transportation commissions, a presentation of the RAMP white paper outline and final draft, and the finalization of recommendations on a policy framework for advanced mitigation, including guidance for aligning the SoCal Greenprint and its data layers with related policy objectives. All meetings are open to the public and stakeholders are encouraged to submit public comments. For more information, please visit scag.ca.gov/ramp-atg.

SCAG LEADERSHIP MEETS WITH NEW ASSEMBLY HOUSING COMMITTEE CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY HOUSING WORKING GROUP

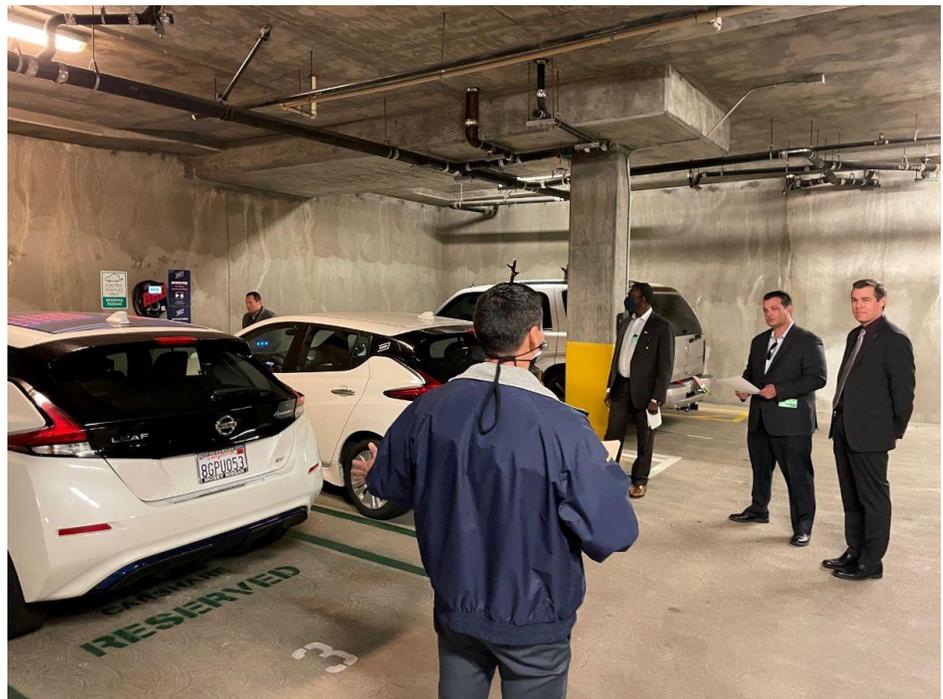
SCAG leadership met with Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland), the newly appointed Chair of the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, and Assemblymembers Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) and Timothy Grayson (D-Concord), in follow-up meetings to the Roundtable meetings hosted by the State Assembly's Housing Working Group last fall.

On Dec. 16, 2021, SCAG President Clint Lorimore, LCMC Chair Alan Wapner, and LCMC Vice –Chair Peggy Huang met with Assemblymember Rivas (D-Salinas), who expressed his support for more local tools to address housing affordability, including tax increment financing and revisiting redevelopment. He also suggested that the Assembly would focus its attention on housing production and the projected budget surplus in 2022.

On Dec. 20, 2021, President Lorimore, First Vice President Jan Harnik, Second Vice President Carmen Ramirez, LCMC Chair Wapner, and LCMC Vice-Chair Huang met with Assemblymember (D-Concord). Assemblymember Grayson expressed his support for regional solutions to the housing crisis instead of one-size-fits-all policies. As the former Chair of the City of Concord's Redevelopment Agency, Assemblymember Grayson appreciated SCAG's continued support for tax increment financing to fund housing development and the infrastructure to support it.

In the meeting with Chair Wicks, the board officers and LCMC leadership were anxious to lend their Southern California experience and expertise. Chair Wicks recognized that the state's diverse regions face different challenges to address the housing crisis and that the Housing Roundtables helped to convey that. She expressed the need for ongoing funding to incentivize the creation of affordable housing and expressed support for housing for the "missing middle." While the Chair's goal is to focus on housing production, she also stated that there will be ongoing conversations surrounding balancing local control and meeting the state's housing production goals.

SCAG leadership will continue to meet with other Assemblymembers who attended the Housing Roundtables and continue to share the Regional Council's housing legislative priorities with them.



SCAG TOURS THE CITY OF ANAHEIM

SCAG President Clint Lorimore and Executive Director Kome Ajise joined Regional Council member Trevor O'Neil and senior city officials for an informative presentation and tour of some of the exciting happenings in the City of Anaheim. Topics covered included the city's housing element and recent affordable housing developments, Smart Center City Anaheim parking guidance and mobile application (which received SCAG grant funding), and the income-qualified electric vehicle rideshare program developed by Anaheim's municipal public utility. Participants also learned about the proposed pedestrian-friendly OCV!be project that will bring many benefits for Anaheim residents and visitors. The City of Anaheim was an early leader in mixed-use development and allows for by-right housing development when certain

conditions are met. Many recent projects in the city have placed a strong emphasis on walkability and overall quality of life.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 SCAG SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SCAG is now accepting nominations for the [2022 SCAG Sustainability Awards](#). Each year, the Sustainability Awards celebrate plans and projects that use innovative planning to promote a healthier, happier, and resilient Southern California. **Now through Thursday, Jan. 13**, nominations will be accepted for the following award categories:

- Active, Healthy and Safe Communities
- Clean Cities: Alternative Fuels & Infrastructure
- Efficient & Sustainable Land Use
- Equity
- Green Region Initiative: Resource Conservation & Climate Action
- Housing Innovation

For questions regarding the 2022 Sustainability Awards, please contact Lyle Janicek at janicek@scag.ca.gov. For more information on the SCAG Sustainability Awards including the award criteria or to view past award winners visit scag.ca.gov/sustainabilityawards.

LAST CHANCE TO APPLY FOR THE HOUSING POLICY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The deadline to apply for the [Housing Policy Leadership Academy](#) is coming up! Apply today to join local and regional leaders in advancing policies to create more inclusive, vibrant communities with housing at all income levels.

Funded with support from the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grant program, the Housing Policy Leadership Academy engages emerging and established community leaders in a free, 10-session virtual workshop focused on best practice housing policy. Sessions explore how policy shapes our housing ecosystem, the fundamentals of housing policy and legislation, and opportunities to advance pro-housing policy in your community and region.

Submit your application by Monday, Jan. 10. Learn more about the program at scag.ca.gov/hpla.

Read the full [Executive Director's Report](#) for January 2022 and see past reports on the SCAG website.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

JANUARY

10th General Assembly Host Committee
18th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
20th Technical Working Group
20th Sustainable and Resilient Communities & Natural and Farm Lands Working Groups
25th Regional Transit Lanes Technical Advisory Committee
25th Transportation Conformity Working Group
26th Modeling Task Force
28th Regional Advanced Mitigation Planning – Advisory Task Group
31st Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee

FEBRUARY

1st Aviation Technical Advisory Committee
2nd Executive/Administration Committee
3rd Regional Council and Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees
15th Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee
18th Regional Advanced Mitigation Planning – Advisory Task Group
22nd Transportation Conformity Working Group
23rd Audit Committee
24th Emerging Technology Committee



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENTS

900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1800 | scag.ca.gov

COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICES

Imperial | Orange | Riverside | San Bernardino | Ventura

Copyright © 2022, SCAG

[Subscribe to the SCAG Spotlight newsletter.](#)

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For the December 9-10, 2021, Meetings

F/ETCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peggy Huang, **Chair**,
YORBA LINDA

Joseph Muller, **Vice Chair**,
DANA POINT

Trevor O'Neil,
ANAHEIM

Farah Khan,
IRVINE

Scott Voigts,
LAKE FOREST

Patricia Kelley,
MISSION VIEJO

Mark A. Murphy,
ORANGE

Anthony Beall,
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA

John Taylor,
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

David Penaloza,
SANTA ANA

Austin Lumbard,
TUSTIN

Donald P. Wagner,
COUNTY OF ORANGE, 3RD DIST.

Doug Chaffee,
COUNTY OF ORANGE, 4TH DIST.

Lisa Bartlett,
COUNTY OF ORANGE, 5TH DIST.

Ryan Chamberlain, Ex-Officio
Member, CALTRANS DIST. 12

SJHTCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Kelley, **Chair**,
MISSION VIEJO

Will O'Neil, **Vice Chair**,
NEWPORT BEACH

Richard Hurt,
ALISO VIEJO

Arlis Reynolds,
COSTA MESA

Richard Viczorek,
DANA POINT

Farah Khan,
IRVINE

Janine Heft,
LAGUNA HILLS

Fred Minagar,
LAGUNA NIGUEL

Cynthia Conners,
LAGUNA WOODS

John Taylor,
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

David Penaloza,
SANTA ANA

Donald P. Wagner,
COUNTY OF ORANGE, 3RD DIST.

Lisa Bartlett,
COUNTY OF ORANGE, 5TH DIST.

Ryan Chamberlain, Ex-Officio
Member, CALTRANS DIST. 12

TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCIES JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP DISCUSS PATHS FOR FUTURE

On December 9 and 10, the Boards of the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (F/ETCA) and San Joaquin Hills Transportation Corridor Agency (SJHTCA) expressed support for the seven pillars of the Transportation Corridor Agencies' (TCA) seven-year Strategic Plan: finance, capital project delivery, environmental stewardship, tolling technology, customer service, communications and regional mobility partnerships. The Agencies' Strategic Plan documents will include input provided by the Boards at their December meeting and presented in early 2022 for final consideration and adoption.



In addition to staff presentations for the Strategic Plan's seven pillars, two panels took place that 1) reflected on the founding of the Agencies' and 2) looked at what the future of transportation can look like in Orange County. The reflections panel included former Board Members who played pivotal roles in founding TCA and establishing a solid foundation that has enabled the Agencies to succeed through both prosperous and challenging times. The future of transportation panel included individuals from leading private sector companies in the field of transportation technology and transportation policy experts who provided an overview of how technologies such as autonomous vehicles and in-road charging are quickly being advanced and can soon become a reality in Orange County and across the globe.

F/ETCA BOARD APPROVES CONTRACTS TO COMPLETE REPAIR OF TOLL FACILITIES DAMAGED BY SILVERADO FIRE

The F/ETCA Board unanimously awarded construction contracts to SJD&B, Inc. and the Griffith Company to repair damages caused by the 2020 Silverado Fire to the State Route (SR) 241 Tomato Springs Mainline Toll Point buildings, a staircase on SR 133 at the Orange Grove Mainline Toll Point and landscaping and irrigation at both toll locations. Permanent repairs are required to restore the regular operation and maintenance of the tolling infrastructure.

By issuing separate contracts to complete the needed work, the F/ETCA was able to reduce the total cost of repairs by nearly \$600,000. Additionally, the F/ETCA is seeking reimbursement for the repair costs and associated fees for design and construction management from the Agency's insurance company. The insurance carrier has indicated their agreement with the amount submitted for full reimbursement, minus the Agency's deductible.



News from the Board of Directors **CALAFCO QUARTERLY**

December 2021



Greetings from your CALAFCO Board of Directors and Executive Director. As we wind down 2021, the holidays and year-end are a great time to reflect on where we've been and look to the future. We wish you and your families all the best in the coming year.

This Fourth Quarterly Report of 2021 will begin by highlighting the news in our CALAFCO family first, followed by Association updates. It's been a very busy 4th quarter so there's lots of news to report. Happy reading!

LAFcos in the News

Congratulations on these retirements

This year we've seen a lot of retirements, and this quarter is no different. We want to congratulate two long-time LAFCo leaders on their retirements. Their contributions to CALAFCO and to LAFCos statewide are far too numerous to list here. Needless to say, they both leave huge shoes to fill and will be greatly missed. We wish them both all the best in their retirement!

After a 35-year LAFCo career, **Roseanne Chamberlain**, Amador LAFCo Executive Officer (EO), is retiring. Roseanne began her LAFCo career as a public member Commissioner for Sacramento LAFCo. She served on the CALAFCO Board for 6 years with 2 of those years as Chair of the Board. Her distinguished career also includes work as EO and Interim EO for several LAFCos. In 2013, Roseanne was the recipient of CALAFCO's Distinguished Service Award.



Also calling it time to retire this month is San Mateo LAFCo Executive Officer (EO) **Martha Poyatos**. Her LAFCo career began 28 years ago in San Mateo and she's done it all there from commission clerk to analyst and EO. In 2008, Martha received CALAFCO's Outstanding LAFCo Professional Award. Martha also served two terms as CALAFCO Deputy Executive Officer for the coastal region from 2018-2021.



Los Angeles LAFCo Commissioner Retires

Long-time **LA LAFCo** commissioner **Richard Close**, the San Fernando Valley public member, retired after 25 years of service. Commissioner Close was re-appointed to consecutive four-year terms for more than two decades. He served with distinction, even surviving a challenge to his position on the Commission, given that he was a long-standing proponent of the proposed secession of the San Fernando Valley from the City of Los Angeles. Fellow commissioners lauded Commissioner Close's intellect, integrity, and independence in representing the San Fernando Valley.

Amador LAFCo Announces New Executive Officer

Amador LAFCo announced the hiring of **Kris Berry** as the new Executive Officer (EO). Kris retired earlier this year as the EO of Placer LAFCo.

San Mateo LAFCo Announces Interim Executive Officer

Rob Bartoli will transition to the Interim EO position for San Mateo LAFCo effective January 1, with the departure of Martha.

Napa LAFCo Announces New Quarterly Newsletter

Napa LAFCo began a Quarterly Newsletter earlier this year. The newsletter features local LAFCo news of note and what's on the horizon. You can find it on their website.

San Diego LAFCo Welcomes New Analyst

Carolanne Ieromnimon recently joined the San Diego LAFCo team. She started with San Diego LAFCo earlier this year as an intern and is now a full-time Analyst.



CALAFCO Educational Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING CALAFCO EDUCATIONAL EVENTS!

CALAFCO 2022 STAFF WORKSHOP

Join us **March 23- 25** at the **Hyatt Regency Newport Beach John Wayne Airport** when we FINALLY get LAFCo staff together for the Workshop. It's been so long since we've gathered in person and the time is finally here! All Workshop details including info about the program, registration and hotel reservations will be posted on the CALAFCO website the first week of January.



Deadline to register for the Workshop is March 9 and hotel reservation cutoff date is February 22.

CALAFCO UNIVERSITY

We are pleased to continue offering webinars at no cost to our members. We have two **CALAFCO U webinars** scheduled for the first quarter 2022, so *mark your calendars!*



First up on **January 10** is *The Property Tax Elements of Jurisdictional Changes and Fiscal Reviews*. Our property tax expert will share resource reports such as trends of value change, revenue calculations, and budget forecast tools that are useful resources for LAFcos when conducting MSR. Other panelists will share case studies and perspectives on budget forecasting. Registration for this session closes January 5.

Scheduled for **February 23** is a session on *Best Practices for Hiring in the New World (Post-Pandemic)*. We will feature a labor/employment law attorney, recruiting firm executive, and an Executive Officer, all of whom will share the myriad of things we need to know as we navigate the new (and wild) labor market seeking the best candidates in this post-pandemic world.

Details for all CALAFCO University courses are on the CALAFCO website.

2021 CALAFCO Achievement Award Recipients

CALAFCO Congratulates the 2021 Annual Achievement Award Recipients

We wish to congratulate all of this year's nominees, and especially those who received a 2021 Achievement Award.

- ❖ **Outstanding Commissioner** – *Olin Woods* (Yolo LAFCo)
- ❖ **Outstanding LAFCo Professional** – *Crystal Craig* (Riverside LAFCo)
- ❖ **Outstanding CALAFCO Associate Member** – *Planwest Partners*
- ❖ **Mike Gotch Excellence in Public Service** (protection of ag/open space land & urban sprawl prevention) – *Napa LAFCo, City and County of Napa and Senator Bill Dodd*
- ❖ **Mike Gotch Excellence in Public Service** (innovation, collaboration, outreach) – *Yolo LAFCo*
- ❖ **Lifetime Achievement** – *Jerry Gladbach* (LA LAFCo)



CALAFCO Board of Directors

CALAFCO Board and Regional Officer Changes

Results of the October CALAFCO Board of Directors elections netted several new Board members for 2022. Earlier this month, Board member **David West** (Imperial LAFCo) who held the southern region public member seat, resigned from the Board. With a term set to expire October 2022, at their January 21 meeting the Board will appoint a replacement to fill that unexpired term.

Current Board members include:

Northern: *Bill Connelly* (Butte), *Blake Inscore* (Del Norte), *Debra Lake* (Humboldt) and *Josh Susman* (Nevada).
Southern: *Mike Kelley* (Imperial), *Jo MacKenzie* (San Diego) and *Acquanetta Warren* (San Bernardino).
Coastal: *Chris Lopez* (Monterey), *Mike McGill* (Contra Costa), *Margie Mohler* (Napa) and *Shane Stark* (Santa Barbara).
Central: *Gay Jones* (Sacramento), *Daron McDaniel* (Merced), *Anita Paque* (Calaveras) and *Daniel Parra* (Fresno).

In October the Board said goodbye to **David Couch** (Humboldt) and **Tom Murray** (San Luis Obispo). We thank them for their service and many contributions to CALAFCO.

Additionally, at their November meeting the Board approved the new Coastal and Central region DEO appointments. We welcome **Dawn Mittleman Longoria** (Napa) and **José Henríquez** (Sacramento) to the team. We thank outgoing DEOs **Christine Crawford** (Yolo) and **Martha Poyatos** (San Mateo) for their service.

CALAFCO Board 2022 Officers and Committees

At the October 8 meeting, the CALAFCO Board elected their officers for 2022 as follows:

Chair – **Anita Paque** (Calaveras - central)
Vice Chair – **Bill Connelly** (Butte - northern)
Treasurer – **Margie Mohler** (Napa - coastal)
Secretary – **Acquanetta Warren** (San Bernardino - southern)

They also appointed members to the 2022 standing committees as follows:

Legislative Committee

Bill Connelly (North)
Anita Paque (Central)
Jo MacKenzie (South)
Mike McGill (Coastal)
Gay Jones (At-Large)
Margie Mohler (a) (At-Large)
Michael Kelley (a) (South)
Chris Lopez (a) (Coastal)
Daron McDaniel (a) (Central)
Josh Susman (a) (North)

Elections Committee

Bill Connelly
Jo MacKenzie (Chair)
Margie Mohler
Daniel Parra

Awards Committee

Blake Inscore (Chair)
Debra Lake
Daniel Parra
Shane Stark
Acquanetta Warren



2022 Annual Conference

Gay Jones
Daron McDaniel
Mike McGill
Josh Susman

CALAFCO BOARD ACTIONS

The Board met virtually on October 8 and appointed the staff members of the 2022 Legislative and Advisory Committees. In addition to the actions noted on page 2 of this Report, they also adopted their 2022 annual meeting calendar and approved the FY 2020-21 annual tax filings.



They met virtually on November 12 with a full agenda. Under the leadership of **Chair Anita Paque**, the Board took a number of actions.

- ✓ **The FY 2021-22 quarterly financial reports were received.** Revenues for the first quarter were mostly on track and expenses were far below the 24% point.
- ✓ **Received the annual Administrative and Operational Report.** This is an annual item as part of corporation best practice.
- ✓ **Approved amendments/updates to the CALAFCO Legislative Policies, Priorities and Issues of Interest.** All recommended changes by the Legislative Committee were approved and adopted.
- ✓ **Considered and reaffirmed legislative priorities for 2022.** The Board considered an additional proposal received from San Diego LAFCo to sponsor a bill making changes to Gov. Code Sec. 56430, requiring all LAFCos to consider Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs) in a 21-day noticed public hearing and all affected service providers to place the MSR on their meeting agenda for discussion. Given the Board previously approved the sponsorship of three (3) bills for 2022, this proposal was tabled for reconsideration again next year.

The Board's direction to staff in terms of 2022 legislative priorities include sponsoring the annual Omnibus bill, co-sponsoring changes to §56133 with San Diego LAFCo (an item tabled in 2021), and to proceed with wrapping up the work of the protest provision rewrite working group.

- ✓ **Closed session held to approve 2-month contract for Pamela Miller as Executive Director.** In closed session the Board approved a contract for Pamela Miller for Jan-Feb 2022 as a contract Executive Director (transitioning from employee), with limited hours of approx. 20 per week. There was also discussion about priorities during this critical transition period.

All Board meeting documents are on the CALAFCO website.

CALAFCO Administrative Update

The **2021 CKH Guides** are now available. You can download an electronic copy from the CALAFCO website. Pre-orders for printed hard copies are now being accepted. You will find all the details on the CALAFCO website at www.calafco.org.



We will be updating the **CALAFCO Member Directory** in the next two months, so watch for an email from us requesting your changes.

CALAFCO Legislative Update

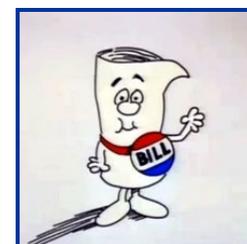


January 3, 2022 marks the start of the second year in the 2-year legislative cycle. Once again the year is expected to be wild and unpredictable. The State has a large budget surplus which is creating all kinds of early budget negotiating, as is the influx of Federal money.

Legislators will hit the ground running trying to move the large number of left-over 2-year bills through committee in January to meet deadlines. That action, along with introduction of new bills for the year, sets the table for a very busy January.

All bills being tracked by CALAFCO can be found on the CALAFCO website inside the Legislation section of the site (log in with your member id first to access this section). CALAFCO's position on all bills is reflected there, and any letters issued by CALAFCO are posted. The CALAFCO Legislative Committee meets regularly and all meeting materials are located in the Legislation section of the CALAFCO website.

Watch for the two Local Government Committee and OPR year-end legislative reports coming soon!





CALAFCO Associate Members' Corner



This section is dedicated to highlighting our Associate Members. The information below is provided to CALAFCO by the Associate member upon joining the Association. All Associate member information can be found in the CALAFCO Member Directory.

We are pleased to acknowledge our **Gold Associate Members** in this edition and thank all our Associate Members for their support and partnership.



Best Best & Krieger



BEST BEST & KRIEGER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

In meeting the needs of public and private sector clients, **BB&K** offers unique experiences in handling complex, multi-disciplinary issues and providing solutions of common interest to leaders of both business and government, including LAFCo law. **BB&K** has been CALAFCO's legal counsel since 1982. Visit www.bbklaw.com to learn more about the expert legal services provided by BBK.

Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC's attorneys are among just a few in California with deep expertise in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The firm currently serves as general counsel to Calaveras, San Diego and Yuba LAFCos and as alternate counsel to several other LAFCos on matters as to which their general counsels have conflicts of interest. The Firm's attorneys also serve as special counsel to LAFCos throughout the state and have deep litigation expertise representing LAFCos in court. **Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC** has been a Gold Associate member since July 2008. Learn more about them at www.chwlaw.us.

COLANTUONO
HIGHSMITH
WHATLEY, PC

CV Strategies

CV Strategies is a dedicated team helping companies with strategic planning, communications and training. **CV Strategies** joined the CALAFCO team as a Gold Associate Member in the fall of 2016. To learn more about their team and the services they offer, visit them at www.cvstrategies.com or contact Erin Kaiman at erin@cvstrat.com.



CALAFCO wishes to thank all of our Associate Members for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to continuing to highlight you in future Quarterly Reports.

Did You Know??



CALAFCO Webinars & Courses Archived

Did you know that all **CALAFCO Webinar recordings** on archived on the **CALAFCO website** and available at no cost for on-demand viewing? Visit the CALAFCO website in the CALAFCO Webinars section (log in as a member first). **There are now 49 CALAFCO U courses archived and 15 webinars are archived and available for on-demand viewing!**

Meeting Documents Online

Did you know that all **CALAFCO Board of Directors and Legislative Committee meeting documents** are online? Visit the Boards & Committees pages in the Members Section of the site. Board documents cover 2008 to present and Legislative Committee documents span 2007 to present.

Mark Your Calendars For These Upcoming CALAFCO Events

- ❖ CALAFCO U webinar on Rev & Tax Sharing - 1/10
- ❖ CALAFCO Board meeting - 1/21 (Sacto)
- ❖ CALAFCO Leg meeting - 1/28 (virtual)
- ❖ CALAFCO U webinar on Best Hiring Practices - 2/23
- ❖ CALAFCO Leg meeting - 3/11 (virtual)
- ❖ CALAFCO Staff Workshop - 3/23 - 3/25 (Newport Beach)



The **CALAFCO 2022 Calendar of Events** can be found on the CALAFCO website.





Oak Canyon
Nature Center in
Anaheim Hills



Douglass
Davert

Message *from the* Chair

Welcome to the first edition of *The Pulse*, where you can read up on the recent activities of the Commission and staff!

Over the past two years, OCLAFCO has embarked on an effort to enhance the agency's communications resources and outreach to our local agencies and communities. In part to that effort, the Commission adopted and implemented its first Communication Plan and completed an overhaul and redesign of the agency's website. The Communication Plan is flushed with new tools that include key messaging and monthly updates that are presented by Commissioners

and staff to our local agencies, OC legislators, communities, and other interested parties. The OC LAFCO website is the premier gateway to the agency, and its fresh look houses a wealth of information on our latest projects and activities. Functioning as our main communication resource, www.oclafco.org is where your agency may also gain access to key tools, such as the Shared Services and Fiscal Indicators Programs and the Municipal Services Dashboard.

So, take a read of *The Pulse* and learn more about what's on the horizon for OC LAFCO in the coming months.

We hope you enjoy it, and on behalf of the Commission and staff, we wish you and your agency a great start to a new year!

FIRST EDITION



Contents

- 1 Message from the Chair
- 2 First-Half Accomplishments
- 3 Second-Half – What's on the Horizon for OC LAFCO?
- 5 Message from the Executive Officer

A scenic landscape photograph showing a paved road winding through a field of yellow wildflowers. In the background, there are green hills and a river under a cloudy sky. A blue circular graphic is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Sunset over
Aliso Viejo
Wilderness Park

First-Half Accomplishments

The following is a look back at OC LAFCO's accomplishments through the end of 2021.



Blast from the Annexation Past

In early 2000, the Commission approved the annexation of approximately 871 acres to the City of Brea. The area annexed, well-known throughout the County as “Tonner Hills,” included multiple developers and is now home to many Brea residents. Fast forward to 20 years later, a portion of the project area that includes an inactive oil field is awaiting final recordation, the last step in the OC LAFCO process. Future development within the area includes residential areas and welcomed open space. The Commission's ultimate action on this project is expected to occur mid-2022 when the area will officially become a part of Brea. The effort represents the leadership and success of the Commission in annexing unincorporated areas.

Ensuring Efficient Delivery of Water and Wastewater Services

The annexation of the City of San Juan Capistrano's water and wastewater utilities to the Santa Margarita Water District represents a significant accomplishment of the Commission, District and City. After a deliberate Municipal Service Review process and thorough analysis of the District's Plan for Service, the Commission unanimously approved the annexation on August 19, 2021. In addition to representing OC LAFCO's collaboration with the affected agencies, the Commission's independent review of the District's application resulted in City residents experiencing the future stabilization of rates, improved infrastructure, and less reliance on imported water. Santa Margarita Water District welcomed the residents to the District's family at a ceremony this past November and officially assumed the provision of services to the City residents on November 10.

The Tale of a Shared Boundary

For the past several years, the Cities of Anaheim and Orange have engaged in discussions regarding establishing a more logical shared boundary along the Santa Ana River. To move in that direction, during the first half of the current fiscal cycle, the Commission approved a reorganization application submitted by the City of Anaheim. The completed change in boundary involved the realignment of a small parking lot adjacent to the Angel Stadium. With this area now located within the City of Anaheim, it will function more efficiently in providing parking accommodations for a future project already located within Anaheim's jurisdictional boundary. More adjustments to this boundary straddling both cities and adjacent to this area are expected in early 2022.

Second-Half – What’s on the Horizon for OC LAFCO?

Here’s what is expected on the OC LAFCO front during the second-half.

Capistrano Bay Community Services District Seeks to Provide Flood Control Protection

Capistrano Bay CSD currently serves a coastal community of 5,824 acres located within the City of Dana Point. Home to 189 residents, the area over the past 25 years, much like other coastal communities across the state, has experienced the challenges of sea level rise and shoreline erosion. To proactively address these issues, this past May, the District filed an activation of latent powers application with OC LAFCO. In accordance with State law, Capistrano Bay CSD must receive approval from OC LAFCO to provide flood control protection, a service the District has not previously nor currently provides. The District is currently conducting further assessment of taking on this new service and meeting the statutory requirements of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act (“The Act”). The Act outlines specific requirements and procedures that agencies must meet to expand its governance to include a new service. A more detailed Plan for Service and assessment are expected from the District during the second half of the current fiscal cycle.

Illogical Boundaries

The Orange County boundary includes 34 cities, formally incorporated over the past 100 years. During this time, and in some cases throughout the County, illogical boundaries occurred due to road realignment, development and topography.

Over the past two years, the Commission has seen an uptick in applications from landowners seeking to improve the boundary for their property. One application filed with OC LAFCO during the current fiscal year includes a landowner petition to realign a property that is currently split between the County of Orange and City of Tustin.



Marshlands at
Huntington Beach

The landowner is seeking to improve the boundary through the application to OC LAFCO to place the entire property within the jurisdiction of the County. Preliminary analysis completed by staff suggest that detachment of the portion of the property from the City of Tustin may result in a more logical boundary and efficient delivery of municipal services to the property. With application requirements still pending, the proposed project is anticipated to be considered by the Commission in early 2022.

Fourth Cycle MSR and Sphere Reviews

Since legislation was enacted by the State in 2000, OC LAFCO has proactively met the legislative mandate to prepare MSRs and concurrent spheres of influence reviews for each Orange County city and special district every five years. The Fourth MSR and SOI Cycle is expected to extend through 2024 and the current work plan includes the reviews of the County Service Areas 13, 22, and 26, Orange County Cemetery District and the Southeast and West MSR Regions.

You may visit the MSR webpage at www.oclafco.org to see when your agency’s MSR is scheduled. Not to worry though, as OC LAFCO staff will reach out to your agency directly in advance of your MSR/SOI Review to discuss the process and timeline.

We look forward to working with our local agencies and communities as we prepare these studies to address the delivery of municipal services to current and future Orange County residents. You may also find previous MSR and SOI reports on our website for your agency.

CONTINUED >



Vista Ridge Park in Newport Beach

▶ WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON FOR OC LAFCO'S SECOND HALF

County Unincorporated Areas Remain a Priority

One of OC LAFCO's key priorities is facilitating annexation of the county unincorporated areas to adjacent cities. With 24 unincorporated areas remaining, during the first half of the work plan cycle, there was an increased interest from multiple cities in annexing the areas located within their sphere of influence. Preliminary discussions with the Cities of Anaheim, Fountain Valley, and Orange on the annexation process and potential outreach to the respective communities have ensued. While these conversations are at the beginning stage, OC LAFCO staff embraces the opportunity to discuss potential annexation of unincorporated areas with interested cities and residents.

Additionally, OC LAFCO staff has worked collaboratively through providing information and participating in community workshops with the City of Placentia and County staff to move annexation of the Hamer Island forward. The City has proactively engaged the residents of the small island and is expected to submit an application early 2022.

Interested in learning more about the unincorporated areas? Visit the OC LAFCO website at www.oclafco.org, click on "How Can We Help?" where you will find the unincorporated areas page. You may also contact staff directly at (714) 640-5100 to discuss.

Legislative Affairs

The 2021-22 Legislative Session is just getting underway with the Legislature returning from recess this month. Last year, the Commission was active on this front with adopting positions on a total of eleven bills and monitoring several other areas of interest. The second part of the session, which is normally where most of the activity occurs, is expected to be busy with legislation of LAFCO interest. Also, OC LAFCO staff, as a participant of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee, has already begun monitoring the efforts of the annual Omnibus bill and the statewide association's other key priorities. To find out more about the Commission's legislative affairs and quarterly reports, contact [Luis Tapia](mailto:Luis.Tapia@oclafco.org) at (714) 640-5100.

CONTINUED ▶

OC LAFCO Executive Officer to Speak at the January 27 ISDOC Luncheon

On November 10, 2021, the Commission adopted the agency's 2021 **Strategic Plan**. With a refreshed mission statement and key strategic objectives, the Plan represents a comprehensive focus on ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of municipal services within cities, special districts, and the county. Hear from Carolyn Emery, OC LAFCO's Executive Officer, at the next ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon on January 27. She will share more information on the Strategic Plan and what's on the horizon for OC LAFCO.

Visit the Municipal Water District of Orange County at www.mwdoc.com to register for the luncheon. Interested parties may also access the 2021 OC LAFCO Strategic Plan at www.oclafco.org.

Welcome all 58 LAFCOs to Orange County

After multiple postponements due to the pandemic, OC LAFCO, in partnership with CALAFCO and Imperial LAFCO, is pleased to be a co-host of the 2022 CALAFCO Staff Workshop. The workshop will take place at the Hyatt Regency John Wayne Airport, in the beautiful City of Newport Beach, March 23–25. At the workshop we will showcase the delivery of municipal services by our coastal cities and special

districts during the mobile workshop entitled, “It’s a Shore Thing: Navigating Municipal Service Delivery within Coastal Areas.” Although the pandemic still presents some uncertainties, it’s our hope to welcome attendees from CALAFCO’s four regions to the OC!

Preserving The Past

Imagine documents transcribed on onion paper, or penned by hand and maps as large as a picture window! Well, you are bound to have all of these if you have been in existence for nearly 60 years.

OC LAFCO is pleased to step into the 21st century through the digitizing of the agency’s more current and historical documents. The Commission has implemented Laserfiche, a tool developed to assist agencies with the archival of documents within a structure that supports efficiency and secure storage of data. Whether you are a landowner interested in an annexation that occurred 25 years ago or agency staff researching the proceedings of your city’s incorporation, historical documents are now closer to our staff’s fingertips.

Interested parties may begin their research journey at the Resources page on the agency’s website where you can review our annexation reports dating back over 15 years.



Message from OC LAFCO Executive Officer



I’ve had the pleasure to participate as a member of the OC LAFCO team for over 21 years and as the Executive Officer since 2013. During this time, we’ve processed city incorporations, countless boundary changes to our cities and special districts, and prepared several studies. Each of these processes have been exciting experiences for me, and I look forward to continuing to lead our staff and implement the policies of the Board, with the ultimate mission of “serving Orange County cities, special districts, and the county to ensure effective and efficient delivery of municipal services.”



You may contact OC LAFCO staff at (714) 640-5100 or visit our “Contact Us” page at www.OCLAFCO.org.