



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

Mailing Address: 5750 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association

Monday, March 6, 2017

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Boardroom

5700 Almaden Expressway

San Jose, CA 95118

A. Call to Order

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Opportunity for Public Comment (3 minutes)

B. Approval of Minutes

1. Discussion and Approval of December 5, 2016, Meeting Minutes—**Page 2 (Action)**

C. Time Certain at: 12:30

Guest Speaker: Hon. Lan Diep, San Jose City Council District 4 – **Page 6**

D. Business

1. Officer Election (**Discussion and Action**)
2. Financial Report—**Page 8 (Discussion and Action)**
3. 2017 Confirmed Meeting Schedule **Page 8 (Information)**
4. Spring Newsletter Update—Articles due April 3, 2017 (**Information**)
5. LAFCO Special District Representative Report (**Information**)
6. CSDA Annual Conference SCCSDA Representative Update (**Information**)
7. Special District Leadership Foundation District Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewal (**Information**)

E. Partner Agency Reports

1. Local Agency Formation Commission—Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer
2. League of California Cities—Nancy Hall-Bennett
3. California Special Districts Association—Colleen Haley, Bay Area Network Field Coordinator

F. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

1. Round Robin

G. Review of Action Items and Adjournment

1. Action Item Review
2. The next meeting is scheduled for: **Monday, June 5, 2017**
3. Adjourn

Officers: Steve Wesolowski, Chair • Stephanie Moreno, Vice-Chair • Nai Hsueh, Secretary/Treasurer

Members: Cupertino Sanitary District • El Camino Healthcare District • Guadalupe Coyote Resource Conservation District

• Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District • Los Altos Hills County Fire District • Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

• Purissima Hills Water District • Rancho Rinconada Recreation & Park District • San Martin County Water District • Santa Clara County Fire Department

• Santa Clara County Library District • Santa Clara County Roads & Airports Department • Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

• Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority • Santa Clara Valley Water District • Saratoga Cemetery District • Saratoga Fire Protection District

• South Santa Clara County Fire District • South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District • West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

B1. Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association
Monday, December 5, 2016
12–1:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Steve Wesolowski called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and declared a quorum was present.
2. **Opportunity for Public Comment:** None

Santa Clara County Special District Association Attendees:

- Cupertino Sanitary District: Bill Bosworth
- El Camino Healthcare District: Brenda Taussig
- LAFCO of Santa Clara County: Neelima Palacherla
- Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority: Sequoia Hall
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District: Yoriko Kishimoto, Joshua Hugg
- Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District: Steve Wesolowski, Kevin Davis
- Santa Clara County Fire Department: Doug Baker
- Santa Clara Valley Water District: Director Nai Hsueh
- Saratoga Fire Protection District: Joe Long
- South Santa Clara County Fire District: John Justice
- South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District: Christine West

Guest Attendees: Dane Wadle and Christine Lokke, California Special Districts Association (CSDA); Colleen Haley

Santa Clara County Special District Association (support staff): Rachael Gibson, Charisse Ma Lebron, Ferlina Dela Cruz

B. Discussion and Approval of Minutes

Chair Wesolowski moved, and Bill Bosworth seconded, to approve the minutes for the December 5, 2016 meetings. This motion carried unanimously.

C. Guest Speaker: Hon. Rich Gordon, California State Assemblymember (Ret.)

Assemblymember Rich Gordon made a presentation to the SCCSDA on the topic of his tenure in elected public service for 24 years, and his thoughts on the role of special districts. His experience has been that there is too little understanding at the State Legislature about the function and activities of special districts. In fact, the State Legislature works to undo the role of special districts, sometimes without even knowing it. There is still much education that should be



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done about the role of special districts, and potential opportunities to engage in collaborative endeavors with other governing bodies by leveraging the unique role of special districts.

Assemblymember Gordon shared that one of the most valuable experiences he has had during his time in the State Assembly was in learning to work and appreciate colleagues who may not necessarily be aligned with him on important issues. During his time in office, he built a strong working rapport with a colleague who ultimately abstained from voting in favor of a measure that was discriminatory in nature, because of the mutual respect and understanding that he and the Assemblymember had built over time. Moreover, Assemblymember Gordon and the special districts have been engaging in dialogue about how best to educate and engage the State Legislature on the important role of special districts.

Assemblymember Rich Gordon has been succeeded by Assemblymember Marc Berman in representing Assembly District 24.

D1. Financial Report

The SCCSDA's current balance is \$2,945.74 as of November 1, 2016. Secretary/Treasurer Nai Hsueh moved, and Bill Bosworth seconded, to approve the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

D2. 2017 Membership Dues

Members were asked to refer to the budget in Item D3 of the Agenda packet to the 2017 SCCSDA Budget and 2017 membership dues information. A motion was made to retain the existing dues amount of \$100, Sequoia Hall seconded the motion. Staff noted that invoices for dues will go out in January 2017.

D3. 2017 SCCSDA Budget

Members discussed that dues are based upon the SCCSDA having 20 members, and other assumptions. Members discussed the item, but no action was taken.

D4. 2017 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Members approved the meeting schedule.

D5. Upcoming Officer Election

Members were reminded that at the next SCCSDA meeting on March 6, 2017, members would be electing officers (President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer).

D6. Fall Newsletter Update

Members were informed that the Spring Newsletter Update articles are due by April 3, 2017. Input for content in the next newsletter is encouraged.

Members suggested potential topics including the Loma Fire and its impact, and Fire-District Collaboration in which there is testing of different methods that helped plan fire suppression.



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D7. LAFCO Special District Representative Report

Information was shared that LAFCO is moving to a new office space, and fees charged by LAFCO to the special districts will increase due to paying for office space.

D8. California Special Districts Association Annual Conference SCCSDA Representative Update

No one from SCCSDA could attend the conference.

D9. Special District Leadership Foundation District Transparency Certificate of Excellence Renewal

Members were informed that the renewal is due July 31, 2017, and documents are now being prepared to process the renewal.

E1. Local Agency Formation Commission—Neelima Palacherla, Executive Director

LAFCO discussed SB 1226, which was a proposal signed into law in August 2016. It requires that joint powers authorities (JPA) or joint powers agencies who provide municipal services must file documents with LAFCO and the State Controller's Office whenever their agreements are changed or renewed. SB 1226 prohibits any agency or entity from issuing any bonds or incurring indebtedness of any kind until filings are completed. Many existing JPAs provide municipal services to communities throughout California, but LAFCO officials do not have the necessary information about the existence and activities of some JPAs that provide municipal services. This lack of information makes it difficult for LAFCO to fulfill their statutory responsibility to plan and oversee the responsive, efficient and effective delivery of local government services.

E2. League of California Cities—Nancy Hall-Bennett was not in attendance.

E3. California Special Districts Association —Dane Wadle, Public Affairs Field Coordinator

Dane Wadle shared that considering CSDA's current public outreach campaign, they have hired Colleen Haley as their new field coordinator. Colleen briefly introduced herself, and expressed that she is looking forward to working with the members, beginning a discussion around regional issues of interest, and exploring ways for CSDA to discuss and better leverage the role of special districts.

F. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

Sequoia Hall – Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority provided its first allocation of \$7-8 million in Measure Q revenues to spend on urban/rural area grants and money is given to nonprofits. Yet they received requests for more than double the amount of revenues available for allocation.



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John Justice - South Santa Clara County Fire District

It has been a very busy season for South Santa Clara County Fire District in addressing fires. This includes their work related to the Countywide Wildfire Community Protection Plan. Santa Clara County Fire Department recently asked residents to attend workshops to share local knowledge, propose projects, and offer suggested prioritization for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The Plan is a collaborative approach for reducing wildland fire risks to communities and the environment.

Bill Bosworth – Cupertino Sanitary District

All districts that have a sewer plant are now being asked to upgrade, which could cost as much as \$900m – \$1b. They can pay for five percent for their fair share, but can't just get a loan to defray the rest of the cost. This issue is now being addressed through arbitration meetings.

Christine West – South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District

This is the third year with the District. The District is now focusing on operations, including upgrading the restrooms in their building.

G. Review of Action Items and Adjournment

Action Item Review – there were three action items:

1. Spring Newsletter entries are due April 3, 2017;
2. During the next meeting in March, Officers will be elected; and
3. The next SCCSDA Meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2017.

G3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2017, from 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.



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Item C1

San Jose City Council District 4 – Councilmember Lan Diep



Councilmember Lan Diep is the eldest son of political refugees. Born in Houston, TX, he moved to the Bay Area with his family in 1994. He came to San José with his mom in 1999 and graduated from District 4’s Independence High School. He went on to earn dual bachelor degrees from the University of California, San Diego in Political Science and History. After college, Lan Diep worked as an international broadcaster for Radio Free Asia, where he reported on news that may have been censored by state-run media throughout Asia. He later went on to earn a law degree at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

After the BP Oil Disaster occurred in 2010, Lan Diep moved down to Biloxi, Mississippi to serve as an Equal Justice Works/AmeriCorps Legal Fellow at the Mississippi Center for Justice. In this capacity, he traveled throughout the five Gulf States of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida to provide free assistance to fishermen, small business owners, and other victims of the BP Oil

Spill who needed help pursuing their claims against BP. Fluent in Vietnamese, he particularly focused his efforts on aiding the limited-English-proficient Vietnamese American community in the Gulf, who account for over a third of the fishing industry in the area.

After two years of public service in the Gulf, Lan Diep returned to San José and took a job with the Legal Aid Society – Employment Law Center, directing the Vietnamese American Workers’ Rights Project, where he again used his Vietnamese language skills to help disenfranchised Vietnamese Americans learn about and pursue their rights, this time in the context of employment law. In this role, Lan Diep helped improve the condition of low-income workers while simultaneously combating the anticompetitive business practices of unethical employers.

Additionally, Lan Diep continues to be a charter member of the Department of Defense’s National Language Service Corps, a program that calls on multi-lingual Americans to help strengthen our national security through language.

Lan Diep’s record of service has won national recognition. The Huffington Post hailed him as the *Greatest Person of the Day* for April 27, 2011; President Barack Obama deemed him a *White House Champion of Change* in 2011; and President George H. W. Bush selected him a *Daily Point of Light* awardee in 2012.

Recognition for Lan Diep

- [Mercury News Editorial: Lan Diep is best choice in San Jose District 4](#) (San Jose Mercury News, March 2015)
- [Equal Justice Works: 25 Years of Innovative Solutions \[VIDEO \]](#) (Equal Justice Works)
- [Lan Diep Helps Vietnamese Fisherman Affected by the PB Oil Spill](#) (Huffington Post)
- [Lan Diep: Champion of Change](#) (The White House)



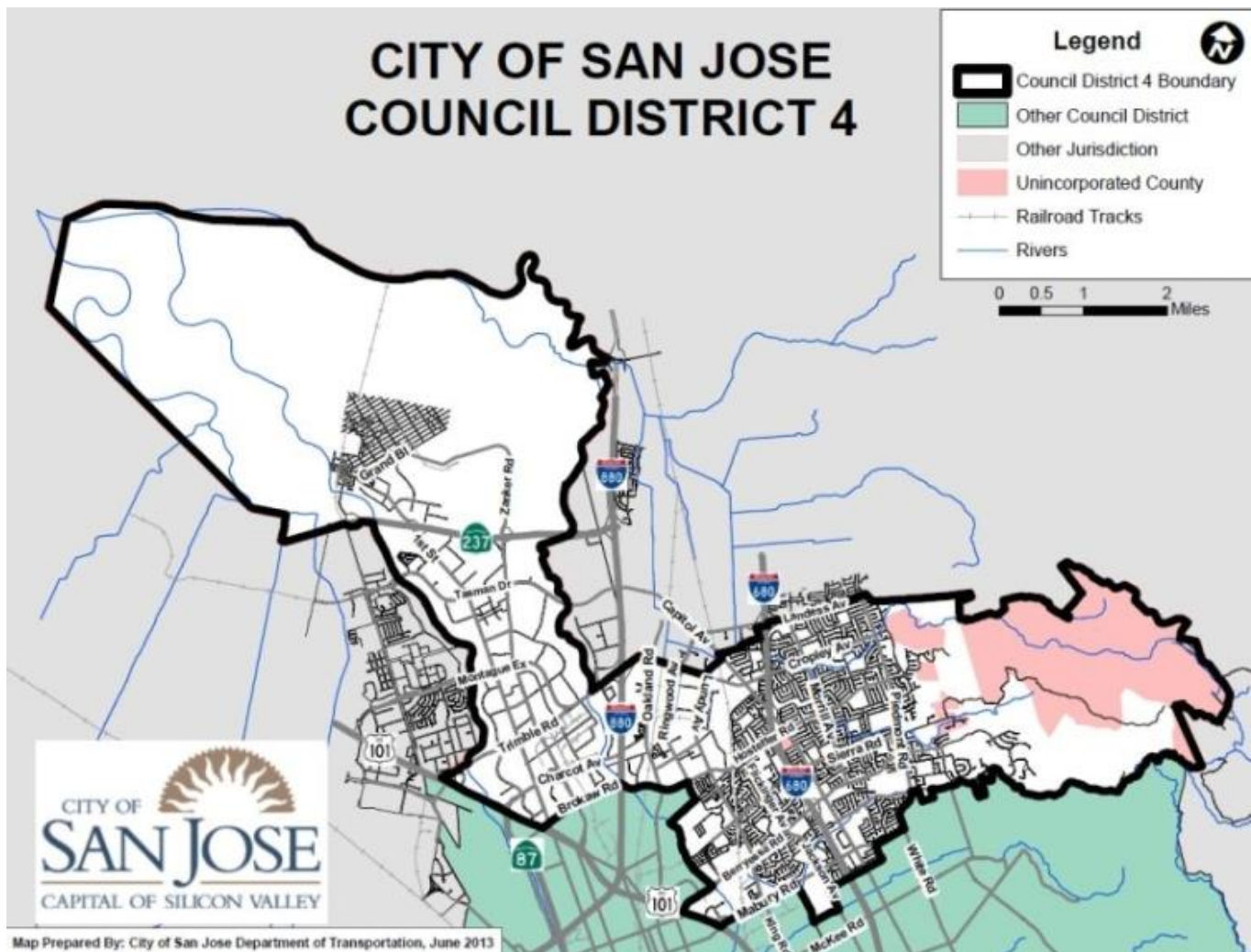
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SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Smart Cities and Service Improvements Committee
- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Transportation & Environment Committee (TE)

2017 Council Appointments

- ABAG - Executive Board
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Board
- Santa Clara VTA Policy Advisory Board - Silicon Valley Rapid Transit Corridor
- Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County
- Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee
- Santa Clara County Cities Association (Alternate)
- Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency Governing Board (Alternate)
- Santa Clara Valley Water District - Water Commission (two-year appt)
- SJ/SC Treatment Plant Advisory Committee





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D2. Financial Report

Balance as of 01/01/17		\$2,945.74
Expenses		
Lunch Stop, December Meeting		\$76.51
<u>Items reimbursed to SCVWD:</u>		\$511.44
Togo's, December Meeting	\$153.44	
Constant Contact	\$358.00	
<u>Service Fees:</u>		\$32.00
December 2016	\$16.00	
January 2017	\$16.00	
Deposits		
<u>2017 dues @ \$100 per year:</u>		\$700.00
El Camino Healthcare District		
Rancho Rinconada Recreation & Park District		
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority		
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority		
Santa Clara Valley Water District		
Saratoga Cemetery District		
West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County		
Balance on hand as of 02/22/17		<u>\$3,025.79</u>

D3. 2017 Meeting Schedule

June 5, 2017
September 11, 2017
December 4, 2017