



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Meeting Agenda

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association
Monday, September 9, 2024
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

In-Person Location:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Administrative Office
5050 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/9747509355>

Meeting ID: 974 750 9355

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 9747509355#

1. **Call to Order**

Welcome and Introductions

2. **Public Comment**

Opportunity for members of the public to make comments (3 minutes/speaker)

3. **Presentation on Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's Wildland Fire Resiliency Program**

Coty Sifuentes-Winter, Senior Resource Management Specialist, Natural Resources

4. **State Legislative Office Updates**

Opportunity to hear updates and ask questions of attending legislative staff

5. **Business**

- a. Discussion and Approval of June 3, 2024 Meeting Minutes (Pages 3-5)
- b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report (Page 6)
- c. Discussion of Proposed Revisions to Current LAFCO Policies (Pages 7-9)

6. **Partner Agency Reports**

- a. Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO)
 - Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer
 - Yoriko Kishimoto, Special District Representative on LAFCO
- b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)
 - Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, CSDA



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

7. **Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports**

8. **Review of Action Items and Adjournment**

- a. Action Item Review
- b. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2024.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association

June 3, 2024

12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

SCCSDA President Sue Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Members:

Sue Fitzpatrick, Trustee, Saratoga Cemetery District (President)

Helen Chapman, Director, Santa Clara Valley Open Space District (Vice President)

Tony Estremera, Director, Valley Water Board of Directors (Treasurer)

Bill Bosworth, Director, Cupertino Sanitary District

Jo Anne "J" Logan, General Manager, Los Altos Hills County Fire District

Jonathan Cowan, Director of Government & Community Relations, El Camino Healthcare District

Peter Van Dyke, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District

Joshua Hugg, Governmental Affairs Specialist, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District,

Brian Glass, Assistant Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District

Gene Zambetti, Commissioner, Saratoga Fire Protection District

Brandon Kwan, Director, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District

Rita Delgado, Director, South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District

Suwanna Kerdkaew, Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department

Craig Gleason, Director, Midpeninsula Open Space District

Attendees (Non-Voting):

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County

Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, CSDA

SCCSDA Support Staff:

Genevieve Yip, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Roundtable Discussion on Member Plans through 2024.

Director Tony Estremera reported on Valley Water's latest progress on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project. Director Estremera also reported on the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and Valley Water's long-term planning efforts in the Water Supply Master Plan. Director Craig Gleason report that Midpeninsula Open Space District's fire season protocols go into place on June 10. Director Gleason also reported that the district chose the location for wildlife uncrossing that will connect the Bay Area Ridge trail from Sierra Azul to El Sereno. He also reported on the district's project to open the Bear Creek Redwoods Phase 2 trail system by end of year. Vice President Helen Chapman reported that the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve on June 8. She also reported on the latest progress on the Coyote Valley Conservation Areas Master Plan. Los Altos Hills County Fire District General Manager Jo Anne "J" Logan reported that the district held the Wildfire Community Preparedness Day in preparation for wildfire season and that the event featured Firewise USA educational updates, insurance updates and questions, as well as talks on how to protect your homes in and perform



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

vegetation mitigation/home gardening. Santa Clara County Fire Chief Suwana Kerdkaew reported on the collaboration between Santa Clara County Fire Department and Los Altos Hills County Fire District and their vested interest to educate and mitigate. She also reported on the County of Santa Clara's official emergency alert and warning system, AlertSCC, to ensure the community can get fire alerts in real time. El Camino Healthcare District Director of Government & Community Relations Jonathan Cowan reported the district is nearing end of annual grant review process and finalizing recommendations for next fiscal year, so that they can start executing grant agreements on the construction side. He also reported the district in the process of renovating the main hospital to include a new connectivity path between their main hospital and psychiatric hospital. He also reported on the district's NICU behavioral health support program for parents of children delivered early while they have a baby in the NICU, and that the district is hosting a Men's Health Fair on June 15. Director Barbara Keegan thanked Director Estremera for reporting on the progress of Valley Water's projects. Director Keegan briefly reported on the Water Resources Protection Zone Ordinance that Valley Water is developing to address the impacts on encampments along our waterways and that Valley Water is also working with the City of San Jose to potentially use Valley Water property for interim housing. Director Brandon Kwan reported on Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District's summer opening events and the district recently hired a new marketing director.

4. State Legislative Office Updates

None.

5. Business

a. Discussion and Approval of March 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Estremera, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the March 4, 2024 meeting minutes.

b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Vice President Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on May 21, 2024.

6. Partner Agency Reports

a. Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO)

LAFCO Executive Director Neelima Palacherla reported on LAFCO's completion of the Countywide Fire Service Review responses received from agencies and they sent out letters to the agencies, service provider agencies, fire districts, and cities that have fire departments with the recommendations that are applicable to each of those agencies and following up those agencies about their respective plans for implementation. Neelima also shared that the Annual CALAFCO Conference will be held October 16-18, 2024 at Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp.

b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

CSDA Public Affairs Field Coordinator Colleen Haley shared that the San Mateo Chapter will be hosting a Congressional Districts Forum in District 18. Colleen also provided advocacy updates on HR 7525 (Special District Grant Accessibility Act), which would direct federal agencies to recognize special districts as local governments for the purpose of ensuring that districts are eligible to receive appropriate forms of federal assistance, including funding and resources through key grant programs. She also reported that CSDA is monitoring the Governor's Budget proposal on Educational



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) that would take excess ERAF funding from local governments for charter schools and that CSDA has been very active in communicating to local government agencies special districts, cities, and asking them to send letters to the legislators to fight this.

7. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

Chair Fitzpatrick announced that this item would typically be used for Directors to share latest updates from their special districts, but that this item would be skipped since reports were given under Item 4.

8. Review of Action Items and Adjournment

a. Action Item Review

Valley Water staff will follow up with Midpeninsula Open Space District staff on coordination to host the next SCCSDA meeting on September 9th.

b. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Item 5B. Financial Report

Balance as of 5/21/2024	\$8,232.13
Deposits	+200.00
Withdrawals	-\$0.00
Balance on hand as of 9/6/2024	\$8,432.13



SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Item 5C. Discussion of Proposed Revisions to Current LAFCO Policies

The proposed Phase 1 Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO) policy revisions are now available for public review and comment. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Wednesday, October 2, 2024. Comments received by September 25, 2024, will be included in the October 2 LAFCO meeting agenda packet.

The Notice of Availability and Notice of Public Hearing are attached to this agenda packet on Pages 8-9.



**Local Agency
Formation Commission
of Santa Clara County**

777 North First Street
Suite 410
San Jose, CA 95112

SantaClaraLAFCO.org

Commissioners

Sylvia Arenas
Jim Beall
Rosemary Kamei
Yoriko Kishimoto
Otto Lee
Russ Melton
Terry Trumbull

Alternate Commissioners

Domingo Candelas
Helen Chapman
Cindy Chavez
Teresa O'Neill
Mark Turner

Executive Officer

Neelima Palacherla

DATE: August 30, 2024

TO: City Managers
Special District Managers
County Executive
County and City Planning Directors
Other Interested Parties

FROM: Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND UPDATE OF LAFCO POLICIES:
Notice of Availability and Notice of Public Hearing**

The proposed Phase 1 LAFCO policy revisions are now available for public review and comment.

The proposed revisions to the current LAFCO policies are recommended by the LAFCO Ad-Hoc Committee (LAFCO Chair Russ Melton, Vice Chair Sylvia Arenas, and Alternate Commissioner Helen Chapman) which was created to assist LAFCO staff with the comprehensive review and update of LAFCO policies.

The Ad Hoc Committee recommends these revisions to the LAFCO policies in order to:

- Better enable LAFCO to meet its legislative mandate,
- Make the policies consistent with recent changes to the CKH Act,
- Better document current and historic practices,
- Provide ease of use and better guidance to affected agencies, public, and potential applicants; and increase clarity and transparency of LAFCO’s policies and expectations.

The proposed Phase 1 LAFCO policy revisions and associated documents are available [here](#) for your review.

Written Comments

Your feedback on the proposed Phase 1 policy revisions is important to LAFCO.

Written comments will be accepted until **5:00 PM on Wednesday, October 2, 2024**. Comments received by **September 25, 2024**, will be included in the October 2 LAFCO meeting agenda packet.

You may email your comments to LAFCO@ceo.sccgov.org.

LAFCO Public Hearings

LAFCO will hold an **initial public hearing on October 2, 2024**, to receive public comments on the proposed Phase 1 policy revisions from affected agencies, interested parties, and members of the public. No final action will be taken by LAFCO at this hearing.

Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Time: 1:15 PM or soon thereafter

Place: Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose

Following the October 2 LAFCO public hearing, LAFCO staff, working closely with the Ad-Hoc Committee, will compile all written comments received, prepare a response to the comments received, and propose any further revisions to the policies as necessary.

It is anticipated that the responses to public comments and any revisions to the recommended policies will be published for additional public review and comment in early November.

Finally, LAFCO will hold a **second public hearing on December 4, 2024**, to consider and adopt the Phase 1 policy revisions.