

SAN MATEO



# LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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November 8, 2017

**To:** LAFCo Commissioners

**From:** Martha Poyatos, Executive Officer *M. Poyatos*

**Subject:** Report on Attendance at CALAFCO 2017 Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, October 25-27, 2017

Along with Chair Horsley and Commissioners O'Neill, and Draper, I attended the CALAFCO conference at the Bahia Hotel in Mission Bay, San Diego, from Wednesday, October 25 through Friday, October 27, 2017. The program included several valuable sessions covering a variety of topics, including "LAFCo 101," Public Perception of LAFCos, Communicating LAFCo's Mission, Local Agencies' Fiscal Health, Unincorporated Islands and Strategies to Promote Annexations, LAFCo and Health Care Districts, and Legislation Affecting LAFCos.

The conference also included a mobile workshop to the Carlsbad Desalination Plant and regional roundtable sessions for networking with other LAFCos from around the state. Speakers and panelists included state officials and experts in several areas of interest to LAFCos. Conference materials are available on the CALAFCO website at [www.calafco.org/resources/education-training-annual-conferences/2017-conference-materials](http://www.calafco.org/resources/education-training-annual-conferences/2017-conference-materials).

Please see the attached conference program for more detailed information.

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**STAFF:** MARTHA POYATOS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER ▪ REBECCA ARCHER, LEGAL COUNSEL ▪ JEAN BROOK, COMMISSION CLERK

# WELCOME TO THE CALAFCO 2017 CONFERENCE

## *Corners of* **CALIFORNIA** *2017 Conference*

OCTOBER  
25-27

BAHIA MISSION BAY

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SAN DIEGO, CA 92109



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# Welcome

## From the Chair of the Board

On behalf of the CALAFCO Board of Directors, I want to welcome you to our Annual Conference in San Diego. The diversity of our LAFCOs reflects the diversity of our great state, and we applaud you for your leadership in shaping the future of California. I encourage you to take advantage of the various educational and networking opportunities that are planned over the next several days. We've come from around the state – from urban, suburban and rural areas - to discuss statewide and local issues critical to LAFCO.



I hope you enjoy the Conference!

**James Curatalo** Commissioner, San Bernardino LAFCO  
Chair, CALAFCO Board of Directors

## From the Conference Chair

Welcome to the 2017 CALAFCO Annual Conference! The CALAFCO Conference Committee thanks you for taking time away to attend and for your participation. The program is filled with topics critical to LAFCOs and fabulous speakers and consultants who are experts in their fields. Many of our own LAFCO commissioners and staff will present best practices. We hope that you leave San Diego with new resources, fresh ideas and a renewed desire to affect positive change in the communities we serve.



**Dr. William Kirby**, Commissioner, Placer LAFCO  
Member, CALAFCO Board of Directors

## The Bahia Resort Hotel Floor Plan



## GOLD ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



## 2017 Conference Schedule At-a-Glance

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

- 7:30 am Mobile Workshop
- 10:00 am LAFCO 101: Understanding and Applying the Basics
- 1:30 pm Conference Opening: Welcoming Remarks
- 2:00 pm General Session: How They See LAFCOs: A Statewide Poll on Accountability, Consolidation, Local Control, Transparency and Communicating with the Public
- 3:15 pm Refreshment Break
- 3:30 pm General Session: Your LAFCO Story: Don't Let Someone Else Tell it!
- 5:30 pm CALAFCO Welcome Reception

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

- 7:30 am Continental Breakfast Buffet
- 8:00 am Regional Caucus Meetings & Elections
- 9:00 am CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting
- 10:00 am Refreshment Break with Sponsors
- 10:30 am Breakout Session: Regional Roundtables
- 12:00 pm Luncheon and Keynote Speaker
- 1:45 pm Breakout Session: Local Agencies' Fiscal Health: What is LAFCOs' Role?
- 1:45 pm Breakout Session: Commissioners and Executive Officers: Great Expectations
- 1:45 pm Breakout Session: Unincorporated Islands: Rescuing City Castaways
- 3:15 pm Refreshment Break
- 3:30 pm Breakout Session: Show Me the Money! - Challenges and Opportunities for LAFCO Funding
- 3:30 pm Breakout Session: LAFCO and Healthcare Districts: Preparing for the Silver Tsunami
- 3:30 pm Breakout Session: Commission Decisions: The Great Balancing Act
- 6:00 pm Pre-dinner Reception
- 7:00 pm Banquet and Awards

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

- 7:30 am Breakfast Buffet
- 7:30 am CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting
- 9:00 am General Session: Avoiding an Ethical Crisis: Why it's Sometimes Difficult to do the Right Thing
- 10:30 am Refreshment Break
- 10:45 am General Session: CALAFCO Legislative Update – 2017 Legislative Impacts on LAFCOs

# 2017 Conference Schedule

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Bus Boards at 7:15 am and departs promptly at 7:30 am

7:30 am – 12:30 pm

### Mobile Workshop

#### GATHER NEAR THE FLAGPOLE IN PARKING LOT

We will visit the Carlsbad Desalination Plant, the largest and most technologically advanced desal plant in the nation. Also on tap is a tour of the adjacent Encina Power Station, a major supplier of electricity for the region. We will also learn about the new power plant project underway. The Mobile Workshop will end with lunch at the beautiful Marina Village.

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

### LAFCo 101: Understanding and Applying the Basics

#### BAY E

Approved  
for 2.0  
AICP CM  
Credits

This informative presentation is intended to assist elected officials and staff members of counties, cities and special districts who may be new to LAFCo and the work we do. Panelists will discuss a number of topics: the authority and purpose of LAFCo, the LAFCo review process, the laws involved in LAFCo decisions and updating Spheres of Influence and Municipal Service Reviews. We will review Legal Counsel and Commissioner perspectives on what makes an effective Commission. We will share insights on why decisions are made the way they are and explore various experiences. Join us for this fun and informative session on the LAFCo basics, plus a little more.

**Speakers:** Michael Colantuono, President, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC  
SR Jones, Executive Officer, Nevada LAFCo  
David West, Commissioner, Imperial LAFCo

**Moderator:** David Church, Executive Officer, San Luis Obispo LAFCo

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

### Conference Opening: Welcoming Remarks

#### MISSION B-C-D-E

Sam Abed, Commissioner, San Diego LAFCo; City of Escondido Mayor  
James Curatalo, CALAFCO Board Chair; Commissioner, San Bernardino LAFCo  
Dr. William Kirby, CALAFCO Conference Chair; Commissioner, Placer LAFCo  
Pamela Miller, CALAFCO Executive Director

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

### How They See LAFCos: A Statewide Poll on Accountability, Consolidation, Local Control, Transparency and Communicating with the Public

#### GENERAL SESSION – MISSION B-C-D-E

Approved  
for 1.25  
AICP CM  
Credits

Probolsky Research regularly polls California voters for local government agencies. In this session, they will present the findings from their newest statewide poll specifically conducted for CALAFCO. Join us as we learn how the public identifies with and relates to LAFCo responsibilities and authority. This interactive session will allow you to test your knowledge of the public's perceptions real-time as the information is presented.

**Speaker:** Adam Probolsky, President, Probolsky Research

**Moderator:** Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO



# 2017 Conference Schedule

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 *(Continued)*

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

**Refreshment Break** *(Mission A)*

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

**Your LAFCo Story: Don't Let Someone Else Tell it!**

### GENERAL SESSION – MISSION B-C-D-E

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

Now more than ever, LAFCos across California need to emphasize their relevance and influence among stakeholders. Creative messaging is critical to every LAFCo's success in leading public initiatives and governance in a continuously changing legislative and economic environment. Join us to learn how the nexus of opinion research and artful storytelling deliver compelling brands and effective, lasting messaging strategies for public agencies. Every LAFCo has a story to share – don't let someone else tell it for you!

**Speakers:** Erin Gilhuly, President, CV Strategies  
Justin I. Wallin, CEO, Wallin Opinion Research

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

**CALAFCO Reception** *(Pond area)*

Join us outdoors in the beautiful and relaxing pond area for beverages and hors d' oeuvres. This is a great chance to network with your colleagues and our Conference Sponsors. Bring your drink tickets.

— Dinner on your own —

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

7:30 am – 9:00 am

**Continental Breakfast Buffet** *(William D. Evans I)*

8:00 am – 8:45 am

**Regional Caucus Meetings & Elections**

*Southern Region* – Ventana  
*Coastal Region* – William D Evans II

*Northern Region* – La Jolla  
*Central Region* – Bahia Belle I

9:00 am – 10:00 am

**CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting**

### MISSION B-C-D-E

10:00 am – 10:30 am

**Refreshment Break with Sponsors** *(Mission A)*

10:30 am – 11:45 am

**Regional Roundtables**

### BREAKOUT SESSION

*Southern Region* – Ventana  
*Coastal Region* – William D Evans II  
*Legal Counsel* – Shell

*Northern Region* – La Jolla  
*Central Region* – Bahia Belle I

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

**Luncheon and Keynote Speaker**

### MISSION B-C-D-E

Learn about the unique Santa Margarita River Conjunctive Use Project, which partners the Federal Government (Camp Pendleton) and local water agencies. This interesting and informative presentation will include information about Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, the Corps' largest West Coast expeditionary training facility and their need to partner with local agencies for water supply and management.

John Simpson, DPPD, P.E., General Manager, Water Resources Division at Marine Corps Installations West/ Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm

## Local Agencies' Fiscal Health: What is LAFCo's Role?

### BREAKOUT SESSION – DEL MAR

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

A study recently cited that California cities are more fiscally challenged than other cities across the nation. Special districts, particularly fire districts, are increasingly proposing consolidation in a reaction to their fiscal challenges. Many are aware of the fundamental issues: retirement liabilities, Proposition 13 and redevelopment elimination among others. What can your LAFCo actually do to avert what seems to be a crisis happening in slow motion with little relief on the way from Sacramento? Should LAFCos do more, and if so, what?

**Speakers:** Andrew Belknap, Regional Vice President, Management Partners  
Marlene Best, City Manager, City of Santee  
Joone Lopez, General Manager, Moulton Niguel Water District

**Moderator:** Jim Simon, President/Principal, Rosenow Spevacek Group, Inc.

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm

## Commissioners and Executive Officers: Great Expectations

### BREAKOUT SESSION – WILLIAM D EVANS I

A panel of seasoned Commissioners and Executive Officers will examine the relationship between these two essential LAFCo elements. A variety of topics will be explored as panelists engage in a candid discussion of the expectations Executive Officers and Commissioners have for each other.

**Speakers:** Marjorie Blom, retired Executive Officer, Stanislaus LAFCo  
Jerry Gladbach, Commissioner, Los Angeles LAFCo  
Gay Jones, Commissioner, Sacramento LAFCo  
Patrick McCormick, Executive Officer, Santa Cruz LAFCo  
Keene Simonds, Executive Officer, San Diego LAFCo  
Don Tatzin, Commissioner, Contra Costa LAFCo

**Moderator:** Rick Bishop, Executive Director, Western Riverside Council of Governments

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm

## Unincorporated Islands: Rescuing City Castaways

### BREAKOUT SESSION – WILLIAM D EVANS II

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

This session will provide case studies of LAFCo Unincorporated Island Programs from different regions of the state. Specifically, the panel will share their strategies for outreach and coordination with cities, counties and local community groups; identified opportunities/constraints for city island annexations; and, local policies and procedures developed from Island Program implementation.

**Speakers:** David Fey, AICP, Executive Officer, Fresno LAFCo  
Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, Santa Clara LAFCo  
Luis Tapia, Policy Analyst, Orange LAFCo

**Moderator:** Robert Barry, Chief Analyst, San Diego LAFCo

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

## Refreshment Break (Del Mar Patio)

# 2017 Conference Schedule

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26 *(Continued)*

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### Show Me the Money! - Challenges and Opportunities for LAFCo Funding

#### BREAKOUT SESSION – DEL MAR

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

This unique session features a panel of Commissioners representing LAFCOs from each region of the state and with varying budget sizes. Join us to learn from the perspectives of representatives of rural, suburban and urban LAFCOs as they grapple with budget and funding issues. The panel will also share some unique funding opportunities they've created for themselves to help address the funding squeeze. Small group discussions will give you the chance to share best practices and generate fresh ideas on funding resources for your own LAFCo. We will also hear from CALAFCO on the fiscal-related results of the most recent CALAFCO Biennial Survey and the session will close with a chance to learn more about a potential legislative option for a one-time funding opportunity for LAFCOs.

**Speakers:** Virginia Bass, Commissioner, Humboldt LAFCo  
Amanda Folendorf, Commissioner, Calaveras LAFCo  
Michael Kelley, Commissioner, Imperial LAFCo  
Susan Vicklund Wilson, Commissioner, Santa Clara LAFCo

**Moderator:** Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### LAFCo and Healthcare Districts: Preparing for the Silver Tsunami

#### BREAKOUT SESSION – WILLIAM D EVANS I

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

This session will start with an overview of the legal relationship between LAFCOs and Healthcare Districts. We will then explore how local Healthcare Districts are preparing programs and services for the expected increase in the 65-85+ population. The panel will also engage in a discussion of ongoing and future policy and legislative issues with LAFCOs and Healthcare Districts.

**Speakers:** Michael Colantuono, President, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC  
Barry Jantz, CEO, Grossmont Healthcare District  
Amber King, Senior Legislative Advocate, Association of California Healthcare Districts  
Martha Poyatos, Executive Officer, San Mateo LAFCo  
Sblend Sblendorio, Commissioner, Alameda LAFCo

**Moderator:** Robert Barry, Chief Analyst, San Diego LAFCo

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

### Commission Decisions: The Great Balancing Act

#### BREAKOUT SESSION – WILLIAM D EVANS II

Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits

How is Commission decision making clouded in light of differences between technical analysis, political will, and/or community opposition? What are the obstacles for staff and the Commission when evaluating and making these decisions? What key factors impact your decisions? Join us for this provocative exploration of the Commission decision making process. You will hear compelling examples of struggles and successes from Commissioners representing each of the four CALAFCO regions.

**Speakers:** Shiva Frentzen, Commissioner, El Dorado LAFCo  
Michael McGill, Commissioner, Contra Costa LAFCo  
Derek McGregor, Commissioner, Orange LAFCo  
Josh Susman, Commissioner, Nevada LAFCo

**Moderator:** Brendon Freeman, Executive Officer, Napa LAFCo

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### Pre-dinner Reception *(Mission A)*

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

### Banquet and Awards *(Mission B-C-D-E)*



# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:30 am – 9:00 am

**Breakfast Buffet** (*William D. Evans I*)

7:30 am – 8:45 am

**CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting** (*Del Mar*)

9:00 am – 10:30 am

**Avoiding an Ethical Crisis: Why it's Sometimes Difficult to do the Right Thing**

## GENERAL SESSION – MISSION B-C-D-E

**Approved  
for 1.5  
AICP CM  
Credits and  
1.5 Ethics  
Credits**

In today's highly transparent world, public officials are under great scrutiny to always do the right thing. So why are there so many news stories about local government ethical issues? Don't we learn from others' mistakes? What happens when decisions are not clear-cut or it seems like a no-win situation? Join us as we explore how ethical lapses occur using real case studies, and discuss practical strategies for LAFCo's to use to decrease the possibility of your commission and staff experiencing an ethical lapse.

**Speakers:** Kevin Duggan, Regional Director, ICMA West Coast  
**Moderator:** Carolyn Emery, Executive Officer, Orange LAFCo

10:30 am – 10:45 am

**Refreshment Break**  
(*Mission A*)

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

**CALAFCO Legislative Update – 2017 Legislative Impacts on LAFCos**

## GENERAL SESSION – MISSION B-C-D-E

**Approved  
for 1.25  
AICP CM  
Credits and  
1.25 Law  
Credits**

Here we are at the end of another full legislative year. Join us as we recap the 2017 legislative impacts on LAFCos. We will hear from members of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee as well as the Consultant for the Assembly Local Government Committee. We will also discuss the final report from the Little Hoover Commission and how this may impact the CALAFCO legislative platform for 2018.

**Speakers:** Misa Lennox, Principal Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee  
Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO  
Paul Novak, AICP, Executive Officer, Los Angeles LAFCo  
Lou Ann Texeira, Executive Officer, Contra Costa LAFCo





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## CALAFCO CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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**Carolyn Emery, Program Committee Chair, Orange**

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# SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

*Through careful planning the Cucamonga Valley Water District ensures families, businesses, and visitors have the water resources they need.*



## **Tours & Community Engagement**

*Each year CVWD hosts multiple community events such as the Cucamonga Water Tour, Water Savvy Landscape Contest, Water Savvy Landscape Tour, and Earth Day & Open House.*



## **Open Governance & Transparency**

*Since our incorporation in 1955, we have worked closely with the public in an open and honest manner to build the highest level of public trust. The District is an accredited District of Distinction through the Special Districts Leadership Foundation.*



## **Educational Programming**

*Last year CVWD educated over 2,000 local students on water conservation and environmental stewardship through trips to our Environmental Learning Center and other programs.*



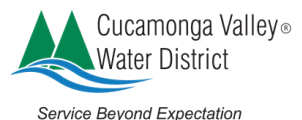
## **Engaged in Community & Industry Groups**

*CVWD Board of Directors and staff participate in leadership roles in the Chamber of Commerce, Assoc. of California Water Agencies, American Water Works Assoc., California Special Districts Assoc., Assoc. of San Bernardino County Special Districts & CALAFCO.*



**CVWDwater.com**

**909-987-2591**





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## Erin Gilhuly President & Founder

An Emmy award-winning journalist with nearly 25 years in the communications industry, Erin leads a versatile team of former journalists and communications specialists in the development and deployment of comprehensive communications strategies that combine media definition, audience identification, targeted positioning, and focused implementation.

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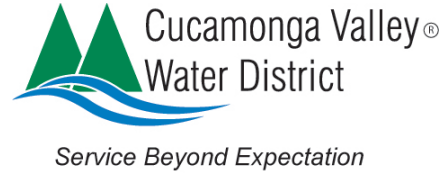


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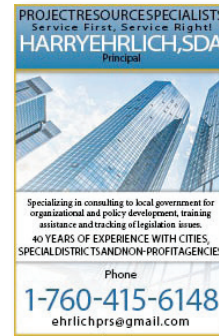
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**NEXT CONFERENCE IS  
OCTOBER 3 – 5, 2018**

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