

September 19, 2006

Bob Braitman, Executive Officer  
Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**Re: Special LAFCO Meeting – Eastern Goleta Valley**

Dear Mr. Braitman:

We are writing in response to your memorandum dated August 31, 2006 relating to the special LAFCO meeting to discuss governmental options for the Eastern Goleta Valley scheduled for October 7. The Goleta Sanitary District (GSD) did not receive your memorandum in time for it to be considered at the District's September 7 Board meeting. Accordingly, at its meeting on September 18, the GSD Governing Board discussed the matter and authorized the submission of this letter.

As you know, GSD owns and operates a regional wastewater treatment plant that serves the entire Goleta Valley. The treatment plant receives wastewater from GSD's own collection system, which serves the eastern Goleta area from the City of Santa Barbara's boundary to approximately the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport. In addition, pursuant to a contractual arrangement with the Goleta West Sanitary District, the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, the University of California at Santa Barbara and the County of Santa Barbara, the GSD treatment plant also treats and disposes of wastewater collected from those agencies' jurisdictional boundaries. These collection systems cross the boundaries of a number of different agencies, including incorporated cities. The collection system infrastructure was designed and constructed based largely on the area's topography to maximize gravity flow of wastewater without the use of pumps and does not correspond to jurisdictional boundaries of the various governmental agencies located in the area.

The GSD regional treatment plant will remain capable of serving the entire area without regard to jurisdictional boundaries, and any fragmenting of service should be avoided. As such, in the event that the form of governance is changed for the Eastern Goleta Valley area, GSD does not believe it would be prudent to make any changes to the manner in which wastewater services are delivered.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

GOLETA SANITARY DISTRICT

George W. Emerson  
President Pro Tem