

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

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February 2, 2006 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street, Room 403
Santa Barbara CA 93101

Preparation and Adoption of LAFCO Budget for FY 2006-2007

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission adopt the following budget schedule:

- Review and adopt a Proposed Budget at the April 6 LAFCO meeting.
- Distribute the Proposed Budget to the County, cities and independent special districts for their review.
- Consider and adopt the Final Budget at the June 1 LAFCO meeting.

It is further recommended the staff be directed to advise the Commission if any changes that might adversely affect LAFCO's ability to fulfill its responsibilities in the coming fiscal year.

DISCUSSION

Authority for LAFCO to Develop and Adopt its Budget

The Commission is responsible for adopting an annual budget. The Cortese/Knox/ Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act creates a specific budgetary process for LAFCO.

Section 56381 of the Government Code provides that:

- (a) The commission shall adopt annually, following noticed public hearings, a proposed budget by May 1 and final budget by June 15.

At a minimum, the proposed and final budget shall be equal to the budget adopted for the previous fiscal year unless the commission finds that reduced staffing or program costs will nevertheless allow the commission to fulfill the purposes and programs of this chapter.

Commissioners: Tim Campbell, Chair ♦ Joe Centeno ♦ Dick DeWees ♦ John Fox ♦ Bob Orach ♦ Susan Rose ♦ Bernice Stableford

♦ Jack Hawxhurst ♦ Brooks Firestone ♦ Penny Leich ♦ Cathy Schlottmann ♦ **Executive Officer:** Bob Braitman

The commission shall transmit its proposed and final budgets to the board of supervisors; each city; clerk and chair of the city selection committee []; each independent special district; and clerk and chair of the independent special district selection committee [].

The Commission has no employees. It receives Executive Officer and administrative support services by means of an agreement with Braitman & Associates. Compensation for these services is a matter of Commission policy. In prior years the Commission formed an ad hoc committee to review and recommend staff compensation. The Commission may choose to utilize a similar procedure for the coming fiscal year's budget, with a report to the Commission on March 2.

When the Final Budget is adopted the County Auditor, after crediting the year end available fund balance and projected processing fee income, allocates LAFCO's net budget to all participating local agencies. The County, the cities and the independent special districts fund equally the net cost of the LAFCO budget.

For accounting purposes LAFCO is a stand-alone Operating Fund in the County financial system and participates in the County Treasurer's investment pool. The relationship between the County and LAFCO is a cooperative one and the LAFCO staff complies with County accounting procedures for ease of processing LAFCO deposits and payments.

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer