

LAFCO

Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
105 East Anapamu Street ♦ Santa Barbara CA 93101
805/568-3391 ♦ FAX 805/647-7647
www.sblafco.org ♦ lafco@sblafco.org

April 12, 2001 (Agenda)

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

LAFCO 99-20 – Incorporation of Goleta Proposed Negative Declaration

Dear Members of the Commission:

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission

1. Accept all public comments regarding CEQA review, and
2. Direct the staff and environmental consultant to prepare responses for consideration and adoption at the April 26 LAFCO meeting.

DISCUSSION

Incorporating a city is a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which requires environmental review and the appropriate environmental document.

On August 3, 2000 the Commission authorized the staff to execute a contract with a consulting firm to prepare environmental documentation for the proposed incorporation. We arranged for the services of Rincon Consultants, Inc., a company that is experienced and recognized in the field of environmental compliance and reporting.

An Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration were prepared for the proposed incorporation and on February 22 a Notice of Availability was published and distributed, with March 26 as the date for the close of public comments. The notice was distributed to an extensive mailing list including the State Clearinghouse in the Office of Planning & Research.

An addendum to the Notice of Availability was distributed extending the public review period up to and including the LAFCO meeting on April 12.

Local Agency Formation Commission
April 12, 2001 (Agenda)
Page 2 of 2

In addition, the staff scheduled a public meeting on Wednesday evening April 4 as an opportunity for members of the public, especially those for find it difficult to attend afternoon meeting to provide comments regarding the environmental consequences of the incorporation and the correct documentation. We will summarize their comments at the Commission meeting.

At the meeting on April 12 the Commission should receive any public comments regarding the environmental aspects of the proposed incorporation and direct the staff to prepare appropriate responses and recommendations for consideration at the Commission meeting on April 26.

If you have any questions please contact the LAFCO office.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN
Executive Officer