

LAFCO MEMORANDUM

SANTA BARBARA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

105 East Anapamu Street • Santa Barbara CA 93101 • (805) 568-3391 + Fax (805) 568-2249

March 5, 2026 (Agenda)

TO: Each Member of the Commission

FROM: Mike Prater
Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **Receive and File a Report on 2026 CALAFCO Workshop**

This is an Informational Report. No Action is Necessary

DISCUSSION

The 2026 CALAFCO Staff Workshop will be held at The Cliffs Hotel & Spa in Pismo Beach, CA on May 6–8, 2026. Staff will be attending the Workshop and will report back to the Commission at our next meeting. Copies of the Workshop Announcement are attached as Attachments A & B. Registration will be by online Form.

Registration for the Workshop is now open. Early registration rates are effective through April 3, 2026. Registration closes completely on April 17, 2026. Hotel reservation cut-off date is May 4, 2026. Payment may be made online using the LAFCO Credit Card which would include registration, hotel, travel and per diem expenses for staff attendees.

Attachments

Attachment A – Michelle Announcement of 2026 Staff Workshop

Attachment B – 2026 CALAFCO Staff Workshop Announcement

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

From: Michelle McIntyre <mmcintyre@calafco.org>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 4:26 PM
To: Info
Subject: Save the Date – 2026 CALAFCO Staff Workshop (May 6–8)
Attachments: CALAFCO Staff Workshop May 6-8 2026 Save the Date.pdf

Happy Friday, everyone!

I'm happy to share the attached Save the Date for the 2026 CALAFCO Staff Workshop, scheduled for May 6–8, 2026, at The Cliffs Hotel & Spa in Pismo Beach, hosted by San Luis Obispo LAFCO.

We are developing a program that directly addresses the operational and policy challenges you face every day. The ideas we have gathered so far are helping shape a practical, staff-focused agenda. The session ideas we've received, in no particular order, include:

- **CEQA for the Next Era:** Modern Approaches to Faster Review
- **The Modern LAFCO Application:** A Streamlined Path from Intake to Completion
- **Understanding Fiscal Impacts:** Practical Tools for Annexations, MSR's, & Fiscal Studies
- **Preparing for Complex Reorganizations:** Lessons from Recent Multi-Agency Projects
- **When Things Get Difficult:** Managing High-Conflict Hearings and Challenging Public Engagement
- **High-Performing LAFCO Offices:** Operational Practices for the Next Decade
- **Modern MSR's & Metrics:** Building Stronger, Data-Driven Evaluations
- **Strengthening Interagency Relationships:** Practical Methods That Build Trust
- **Practical Technology Tools:** What Actually Works for LAFCOs
- **Commission Onboarding for Today's Governance Environment**
- **Developing Future LAFCO Leaders:** Skills, Succession, & Capacity-Building
- **Writing Strong Staff Reports:** Findings, Conditions, & Clear Recommendations
- **Essential Skills for LAFCO Clerks:** Agendas, Records, Notices, & Meeting Management
- **Choosing the Right Path:** Practical Approaches to Fire Reorganizations
- **The Future of Local Boundaries:** Emerging demographic and fiscal trends influencing boundary changes and long-term service delivery
- **Legal Coordination for LAFCO Staff:** Working effectively with counsel, avoiding procedural pitfalls, and building defensible records.

Our hosts, SLO LAFCO, are also creating a Wednesday morning **mobile workshop** to highlight local projects and hands-on lessons for staff. More details about the mobile workshop will be shared as plans are finalized.

If you have additional ideas, suggested speakers, or topics you'd like us to consider, please feel welcome to email them to me. Your experience and expertise are what make our annual workshops valuable, and we appreciate your input as the program takes shape.

There is also limited room for LAFCO staff interested in serving on the planning committee. If you'd like to help with program development, please let me know.

Hotel booking information will follow soon. For now, I am pleased to share that the workshop rate is \$219/night, excluding taxes and fees, and that discounted rates are available before and after the workshop.

Thank you for all you do for your LAFCO and for CALAFCO. I'm looking forward to your ideas and to seeing many of you in Pismo Beach next May.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Michelle

SAVE THE DATE

CALAFCO

cliffs HOTEL & SPA

2026 Staff Workshop

May 6–8, 2026

Hosted by San Luis Obispo LAFCO

The Cliffs Hotel & Spa,
2757 Shell Beach Road, Pismo Beach, CA

Join us for a series of focused sessions addressing the most pressing issues facing California's LAFCOs and the communities they serve.



**Content
Rich Sessions**



**Valuable
Networking
Opportunities**



Mobile Workshop

Wednesday, May 6
– details to follow

Stay Tuned For Hotel Booking Information

The Cliffs Hotel & Spa (2757 Shell Beach Road, Pismo Beach, CA 93449) will offer a discounted workshop rate of \$219/night (plus taxes and fees), with additional reduced pricing available for early arrivals and extended stays. Onsite parking is available.



The Cliffs Hotel & Spa offers a standout coastal setting that elevates both focus and creativity. Perched on the bluffs above Shell Beach in Pismo Beach, the property combines sweeping ocean views, relaxed outdoor gathering areas, and a calm, retreat-like atmosphere. It's an ideal environment for engaging with colleagues, sparking new ideas, and returning to work recharged and ready for what's next. We're excited to bring our team together in such an inspiring location. The Cliffs is also a pet-friendly property, offering added convenience for attendees who travel with their pets.

ATTACHMENT B

www.calafco.org