



August 12, 2019

**TO: Member LAFCos**  
**SUBJECT: Proposed new dues structure for approval at 2019 Annual Business Meeting**

Dear Member LAFCos:

The CALAFCO Board of Directors continues to develop services to meet the evolving needs of our members, yet we find ourselves continually challenged to meet those needs with limited resources.

At the CALAFCO Annual Meeting in Yosemite last fall, the Board explained that additional revenues must be raised to close the ongoing structural deficit, which the association has operated with since its inception. As many of you heard, CALAFCO has had an unhealthy reliance on Conference revenue to balance the budget which is not a sound fiscal practice. After receiving your feedback during the roundtable discussions at that Conference and after process of almost 18 months, the Board took a two-phase approach to addressing the ongoing structural deficit.

First, as a short-term strategy to address this structural deficit in FY 2019-20, the Board approved a one-time cost sharing option in which member LAFCo dues were increased by 16.25% and the Board used one-time Conference net profits to close the deficit (\$33,452 raised through the 16.25% increase and \$31,138 coming from Conference net profit). As we move into FY 2019-20, the adopted budget has a structural deficit of \$37,980.

The Board was also committed to a long-term strategy of revising the current dues structure into a more sustainable model. As a result, at their May 10, 2019 meeting, the Board considered several options for a new dues structure brought forward from the Finance Ad Hoc Committee. This Committee undertook a lengthy and detailed process, considering eleven (11) different options before deciding on the two brought to the Board.

After much discussion and careful consideration, the Board unanimously approved presenting the proposed new dues structure to you, the membership, for a vote at the October 31, 2019 Annual Business Meeting. A new dues structure requires the approval of the membership as it is a change in the Bylaws.

The structure is population based with a number of variables including an annual base rate, population threshold and a per capita rate. Population data will be updated annually.

The first step to changing the dues structure is for the membership to discuss it at the Annual Business Meeting and vote. Should the membership approve the new structure, the Board will adopt policies relating to the three variables. To help you better understand the process up to this point in time, a Q&A document has been created and included with this letter. It provides details and answers to the questions we know many of you have. Additionally we are including a matrix of what the new dues structure looks like for the first year of implementation (FY 2020-21) should the membership approve.

Also the Annual Business Meeting Agenda and meeting packet will contain a full staff report with details and the proposed changes to the Bylaws associated with the new dues structure. This will be published early August.

We understand raising dues at any time is a difficult proposition. Our work at CALAFCO strives to support the success and meet the needs of all member LAFCos, large and small. We are committed to continually enhancing the services of CALAFCO and fulfilling our mandate "to assist member LAFCos with educational and technical resources that otherwise would not be available." We hope you will agree when we discuss this at our Annual Business Meeting at this year's Conference.

We and the rest of the Board are available to answer any questions you may have. You are encouraged to seek out the feedback of your regional Board members.

On behalf of the CALAFCO Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua J. Susman".

Josh Susman  
Chair of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela Miller".

Pamela Miller  
Executive Director

Cc: CALAFCO Board of Directors  
enclosures