

**CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report
as of Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

[AB 68](#) (Ward D) Land use: streamlined housing approvals: density, subdivision, and utility approvals.

Current Text: Amended: 4/12/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 12/8/2022

Last Amended: 4/12/2023

Status: 4/28/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/16/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would require a local government to approve a proposed housing development pursuant to a streamlined, ministerial approval process if the development meets certain objective planning standards, including, but not limited to, a requirement that the proposed parcel for the development be a climate-smart parcel, as described, or be included in the applicable region's sustainable communities strategy as a priority development area. The bill would set forth procedures for approving these developments and would set forth various limitations for these developments. The bill would authorize the Department of Housing and Community Development to review, adopt, amend, and repeal guidelines, rules, and regulations to implement uniform standards or criteria that supplement or clarify the terms, references, or standards set forth by this process.

Position: Watch

Subject: Planning

CALAFCO Comments: This bill was introduced as a spot holder in December, 2022, then was gutted and amended on March 16, 2023.

It now seeks to set up ministerial approvals for developments and certain water and sewer service extensions for developments that meet certain parameters. Parameters include that the parcel must be in a high or moderate resource area as categorized by the opportunity maps maintained by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee, be located within one-mile of transit but be in a very low vehicle travel area, and within one mile of assorted restaurants, bars, coffee shops, etc. Additionally, types of locations that do not qualify are also enumerated. Those include farmlands, wetlands, high fire hazard severity zones (as determined by Cal Fire), in proximity to a hazardous waste site, within a delineated earthquake fault zone, within a special flood hazard area or within a regulatory floodway, lands identified for conservation, protected habitat, and lands under a conservation easement.

3/31/2023: Watch position taken by Leg Committee.

4/21/2023: CALAFCO received word from the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, that this bill will not be heard this year.

Under the procedure that would be established by this bill, a minimum of 30 days notice to LAFCo would be required for the public hearing should a county seek to amend its general plan to increase the planned density on climate resilient lands.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

[AB 530](#) (Boerner D) Vehicles: electric bicycles.

Current Text: Amended: 7/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/8/2023

Last Amended: 7/13/2023

Status: 9/14/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 9/14/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would prohibit a person under 12 years of age from operating an electric bicycle of any class. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature to create an e-bike license program with an online written test and a state-issued photo identification for those persons without a valid driver's license, prohibit persons under 12 years of age from riding e-bikes, and create a stakeholders working group composed of the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, the Transportation Agency, bicycle groups, policy and fiscal staff, and other relevant stakeholders to work on recommendations to establish an e-bike training program and license.

Because the bill would prohibit certain persons from riding electric bicycles, the violation of which would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill was relative to greenhouse emissions. However, it was gutted and amended on 5/15/2023 and now addresses county water authorities.

Under existing law, the governing body of any public agency has an option (phrased as a "may") to submit to the voters any proposition to exclude the corporate area of that public agency from a county water authority. This bill would add the procedures under which that optional election would be conducted. Specifically, notice would be required in the manner already defined within subdivision (c) of Section 10. The election would be conducted and returns canvassed as provided by law for the elections in the public agency, and a majority of electors within county water authority territory would be needed for passage. The new procedure would also require that these elections will be separate elections but may run with another election.

On 6/16/2023, this topic was transitioned to AB 399 through the gut and amend process. Amendments of 7/13/2023 make this bill now relative to electric bicycles which is not a concern to CALAFCO. Position updated to -None-.

AB 805 (Arambula D) Drinking water consolidation: sewer service.

Current Text: Amended: 3/9/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amended: 3/9/2023

Status: 5/19/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/19/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	Policy	2 year	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board, if sufficient funds are available, to order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water systems when both of the receiving and subsumed water systems provide sewer service and after the state board engages in certain activities, including, but not limited to, consulting with the relevant regional water board and the receiving water system and conducting outreach to ratepayers and residents served by the receiving and subsumed water systems, as provided.

Position: Watch With Concerns

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would authorize the state board, if sufficient funds are available, to order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water systems when both of the receiving and subsumed water systems provide sewer service and after the state board engages in certain activities. Under existing section (b)(3) LAFcos must be consulted and their input considered in regards to the provision of water service but sewer systems seem to be lacking.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 817 (Pacheco D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

Current Text: Amended: 3/16/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amended: 3/16/2023

Status: 4/25/2023-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. (Set for hearing on 01/10/2024)

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

1/10/2024 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CARRILLO, JUAN, Chair

Summary:

Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing in certain circumstances related to the particular member if at least a quorum of its members participate from a singular physical location that is open to the public and situated within the agency's jurisdiction and other requirements are met, including restrictions on remote participation by a member of the legislative body. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions similar to the emergency provisions indefinitely and without regard to a state of emergency. In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, the bill would require the legislative body that established the subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action to make specified findings by majority

vote, before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing for the first time and every 12 months thereafter.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill appears to be a spot holder in that it currently only makes minor grammatical changes. The lack of substance raises concern regarding future changes to this bill.

3/16/2023: The bill was amended to speak specifically to teleconferenced meetings of subsidiary bodies, defined as a body that serves exclusively in an advisory capacity, and is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements. For qualifying bodies, this bill would remove the requirement to post an agenda at the location of the subsidiary body member who was participating from off site- providing that the legislative body that formed the subsidiary body has previously made findings noting that teleconferenced meetings of the subsidiary body would enhance public access, and would promote the attractions, retention and diversity of the subsidiary body. The superior legislative body would need to revisit the matter and repeat those finding every 12 months thereafter. This bill also reaffirms that other provisions of the Brown Act are applicable to subsidiary bodies.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 828 (Connolly D) Sustainable groundwater management: managed wetlands.

Current Text: Amended: 1/3/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amended: 1/3/2024

Status: 1/9/2024-VOTE: Do pass as amended and be re-referred to the Committee on [Appropriations] (PASS)

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources that are designated as basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. Existing law defines various terms for purposes of the act. This bill would add various defined terms for purposes of the act, including the terms "managed wetland" and "small community water system."

Position: None at this time

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: Adds definitions for Managed Wetlands, and Small community water system to Water Code Section 10721.

4/17/2023: Amended to define agencies and entities required or excluded from existing 10726.4 (a)(4). Amends Water Code section 10730.2 to add language regarding fees, and amends Water Code section 10733 to address groundwater sustainability plans.

Failed to make April policy committee deadline and now cannot be acted upon until January 2024.

AB 930 (Friedman D) Local government: Reinvestment in Infrastructure for a Sustainable and Equitable California (RISE) districts.

Current Text: Amended: 4/26/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2023

Last Amended: 4/26/2023

Status: 5/19/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 4/25/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	Policy	2 year	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law authorizes certain local agencies to form a community revitalization authority within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined, and authorizes an authority to, among other things, provide for low- and moderate-income housing and issue bonds, as provided. Current law authorizes a community revitalization and investment plan to provide for the division of taxes within the plan area. This bill would authorize the legislative bodies of 2 or more cities or counties to jointly form a Reinvestment in Infrastructure for a Sustainable and Equitable California district (RISE district) in accordance with specified procedures. The bill would authorize a special district to join a RISE district, by resolution, as specified.

Position: Neutral

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: This bill has a similar overtone to SB 852 Dodd in 2022 regarding the formation of climate resilience districts outside of the LAFCo process.

As introduced, this bill (AB 930) is focused on the generation of funding and the governance of the expenditure of those funds. However, it should be carefully tracked in case that mission is expanded.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 1379 (Papan D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Amended: 3/23/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2023

Last Amended: 3/23/2023

Status: 4/28/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/23/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

The Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body be open and public, and that all persons be permitted to attend unless a closed session is authorized. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. This bill, with respect to those general provisions on teleconferencing, would require a legislative body electing to use teleconferencing to instead post agendas at a singular designated physical meeting location, as defined, rather than at all teleconference locations. The bill would remove the requirements for the legislative body of the local agency to identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, and that at least a quorum of the members participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: Originally introduced as a spotholder to address "Local agencies: financial affairs", this bill was gutted and amended on March 23, 2023, and now seeks amendment of the Brown Act's teleconferencing provisions. If successful, GC Section 54953 (b)(3) would be amended to remove the requirement to post agendas for teleconferenced meetings at all locations, and would instead limit the posting to a newly defined "singular designated physical meeting location", which is required to have either two-way audiovisual capabilities, or two-way telephone service for the public to remotely hear and address the body. Additionally, the body would have to hold at least two meetings in person each year.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 1460 (Bennett D) Local government.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2023

Status: 5/5/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/17/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

2 year	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Existing law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to the provision naming the act.

Position: Neutral

Subject: CKH General Procedures, Other

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill makes only a minor nonsubstantive change to CKH in that it would merely add commas to Section 56000 so that it would read: "This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000."

1st House	2nd House	
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Calendar:

1/10/2024 9:30 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 2200 SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, ALLEN, BENJAMIN, Chair

Summary:

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. CEQA prohibits a public agency from approving or carrying out a project for which a certified EIR has identified one or more significant effects on the environment that would occur if the project is approved or carried out unless the public agency finds either (1) changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project that mitigate or avoid the significant effects on the environment, (2) those changes or alterations are within the jurisdiction of another public agency and have been, or can and should be, adopted by the other agency, or (3) specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations make infeasible the mitigation measures or alternatives identified in the EIR and the public agency finds that those specific considerations outweigh the significant effects on the environment, commonly known as a statement of overriding consideration. This bill would provide that a public agency, in approving or carrying out a housing development project, as defined, a commercial project, or an industrial project, is not required to issue a statement of overriding consideration for significant effects on the environment identified by a project's vehicle miles traveled or similar metrics if the lead agency has imposed all feasible mitigation measures on the project and it finds no feasible alternatives to the project..

Position: Neutral

Subject: CEQA

CALAFCO Comments: Introduced as a spotholder bill that noted an intent to enact subsequent legislation that would create a new transportation impact analysis for rural areas for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act.

3/22/2023: The bill was amended and would add language into the Public Resource Code to provide that a public agency, in approving or carrying out certain types of projects, is not required to issue a statement of overriding consideration for significant effects on the environment identified by a project's vehicle miles traveled if the lead agency has imposed all feasible mitigation measures on the project and it finds no feasible alternatives to the project.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

SB 865 (Laird D) Municipal water districts: automatic exclusion of cities.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2023

Status: 4/28/2023-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 3/1/2023)(May be acted upon Jan 2024)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law authorizes a governing body of a municipal water district to adopt an ordinance excluding any territory annexed to a metropolitan water district organized under the Metropolitan Water District Act, if the territory is annexed prior to the effective date of the formation of the municipal water district. Current law requires the Secretary of State to issue a certificate reciting the passage of the ordinance and the exclusion of the area from the municipal water district within 10 days of receiving a certified copy of the ordinance. This bill would extend the number of days the Secretary of State has to issue a certificate to 14 days.

Position: Neutral

Subject: Annexation Proceedings

CALAFCO Comments: Existing law authorizes a governing body of a municipal water district may adopt an ordinance excluding any territory annexed to a metropolitan water district organized under the Metropolitan Water District Act, providing that the territory is annexed prior to the effective date of the formation of the municipal water district. If that happens, the Secretary of State must, within 10 days of receiving a certified copy, issue a certificate reciting the passage of the ordinance that excludes the area from the municipal water district. This bill would extend the Secretary of State's window to issue that certificate from 10 to 14 days.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.