

CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF  
LOCAL AGENCY  
FORMATION  
COMMISSIONS



2 September 2009

**2009  
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Dear LAFCo Commission Chair:

For some time the CALAFCO Board of Directors has been considering how to engage member LAFCos on a regional level to discuss issues of mutual concern and to provide input to the Board on LAFCo policy and legislative issues. At our strategic retreat last February the Board discussed a proposal to create regions within CALAFCO. Over the intervening six months a Board committee studied the various options and brought a recommendation to the Board.

On August 7<sup>th</sup> the Board unanimously (and we might add enthusiastically) endorsed the committee's recommendation and asked that it be sent to the members for consideration and discussion at the upcoming CALAFCO conference.

By now your executive officer has received the details on the proposal to establish a regional structure for CALAFCO. We believe this is an important benefit to members by providing a structure to facilitate communication among commissioners within a region and assure that the many perspectives on LAFCo policies and issues are shared and considered by the Board. We hope that it will also encourage more regional sharing of information and resources amongst commissioners and staff. The staff report sent to your executive officer provides more depth on the purpose, benefits and implementation of a regional structure.

The Board is very interested in your input! We encourage you to discuss the proposal at an upcoming commission meeting and bring your thoughts and suggestions to the CALAFCO conference and business meeting for discussion. Two things we want to point out: 1) no specific number or boundaries of regions have been identified – we would first like your input on which LAFCos you share interests; and 2) the vote to make the implementing change to the Association By Laws will occur in 2010 after the Board has established the regions and members have provided input.

Clearly the governance world that LAFCos operate within is changing. We believe the proposal before you will strengthen the capacity of each member LAFCo and of the Association. The whole Board looks forward to talking with you about this at Tenaya Lodge on October 28-30. Thank you for taking time to discuss this with your commission and sharing your thoughts.

Yours Sincerely,

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