



# Announcing The 2018 CALAFCO Annual Conference Preliminary Program

(Last updated August 14, 2018)  
*Final Program to be published soon*

Wednesday – October 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Mobile Workshop** *info coming soon*

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Salon IV

**LAFCo 101 – Understanding and applying the basics**

*Moderator: David Church, Executive Officer, San Luis Obispo LAFCo. Speakers: George Spiliotis, Executive Officer, Riverside LAFCo; Kara Ueda, Attorney, BB&K; Susan Vicklund-Wilson, Commissioner, Santa Clara LAFCo*

This informative and interactive session is intended to provide elected officials and staff members of LAFCo's, counties, cities, and special districts with a better working knowledge of LAFCo's history, processes, legal framework and procedures. Participants will also have the opportunity to work together in small groups to discuss and resolve some challenging LAFCo scenarios. Panelists and participants will discuss a number of topics including the authority and purpose of LAFCo; the LAFCo review process; the laws involved in LAFCo decisions; and updating Spheres of Influence and Municipal Service Reviews. You always learn something by attending a LAFCo 101 session!

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Salons I – II - III

**Conference Opening**

*Welcoming Remarks*

*Gay Jones, CALAFCO Board Chair; Anita Paque, CALAFCO Conference Chair; Pamela Miller, CALAFCO Executive Director*

Welcome to the 2018 CALAFCO Annual Conference in Yosemite!

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Salons I – II - III

**General session: The natural disaster phenomenon: how they are changing the way LAFCos plan and respond**

*Moderator: Anita Paque, Commissioner, Calaveras LAFCo. Speakers: Robert Barry, Chief Analyst, San Diego LAFCo; Mark Bramfitt, Executive Officer, Sonoma LAFCo; Jan Coppinger, Lake County Special Districts Administrator; Michelle Frederick, Consolidation Coordinator, State Water Resources Control Board; Steve Lucas, Executive Officer, Butte LAFCo; Ed Robey, Commissioner, Lake LAFCo; Ricky Samayoa, Commissioner, Yuba LAFCo*





Recently Californians have experienced numerous disasters, both natural and human-created, from wildfires, earthquakes, floods, droughts, and dam failures. This session will focus on the way LAFCo's are responding to disasters be it through facilitating partnerships, renewed awareness for Municipal Service Reviews, Spheres of Influence or changes of organization. Increasingly, LAFCo's are playing a larger, more specialized role in disaster recovery, such as resolving barriers to agency consolidations that would have not occurred if it hadn't been for the disaster. This will be a facilitated session in which panel members and the audience will provide feedback on how LAFCo's can continue to assist and add value to our communities and meet the service demands of "the new normal".

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Refreshment Break - Foyer

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Salons I – II - III

### **General session: Municipal Service Reviews – Friend or foe? Using MSR's for more than a bookend**

*Moderator: Christine Crawford, Executive Officer, Yolo LAFCo. Speakers: Michael Colantuono, President, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC; Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO; various LAFCo Commissioners*

The legislature gave LAFCo's flexibility in implementing MSR's, and as we all know "one size does not fit all". This session will explore the successes and challenges of fulfilling our mandate and significant variations in implementation across the state. The speakers will engage the audience in an honest dialogue of MSR questions we all face: Are we meeting its intended purpose? How should we balance "comprehensive" yet be practical with resources? Are they worth the tremendous effort? What's the value and how MSR's being used creatively? What's the legislature's next step thinking for MSR's?

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Pavilion

**CALAFCO Reception**

*Dinner on your own*

**Thursday – October 4<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Foyer with seating in Salon IV

**Continental Breakfast Buffet**

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

### **Regional Caucus meetings and Elections**

Southern region – Madera/Mariposa rooms

Northern region – Sugar Pine

Coastal region – Evergreen/Ponderosa rooms

Central region – Salons VI - VII

Legal Counsel Roundtable – Salon VIII





9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Salons I – II - III

### **CALAFCO Annual Business meeting**

*All members are invited to attend.*

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break with Sponsors - Foyer

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

### **Regional Roundtables**

Southern region – Madera/Mariposa rooms

Northern region – Sugar Pine

Coastal region – Evergreen/Ponderosa rooms

Central region – Salons VI - VII

Legal Counsel Roundtable – Salon VIII

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Salons I-II-III

### **Luncheon Keynote – California’s tree mortality crisis.**

*Join us for this unique and multi-dimensional look at the state of tree mortality in California and the short and long term impacts being felt statewide. After the presentation, there will be a chance for audience discussion on this critical topic.*

*Speakers: Tom Wheeler, Madera County Supervisor and member of the Governor’s Tree Mortality Task Force; Brittany Dyer, Chief of Staff to Supervisor Wheeler; representatives from CAL FIRE and CA. Department of Forestry.*

**1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. - Breakout Sessions**

### **Agricultural preservation: From vision to action**

#### **Salon IV**

*Moderator: Serena Unger, American Farmland Trust. Speakers: Kai Luoma, Executive Officer, Ventura LAFCo; Kate McKenna, AICP, Executive Officer, Monterey LAFCo; Andrea Mackenzie, GM Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority; Nathaniel Roth, Geographic Information Officer, CA Department of Conservation; Don Tatzin, Commissioner, Contra Costa LAFCo*

A diverse panel of experts/practitioners will share their deep knowledge and first-hand experience on some hot topics covered in American Farmland Trust and CALAFCO’s recent White Paper – *State of the Art on Agricultural Preservation*, including: preserving farmland in this age of climate change, strategic tools for preserving farmland in your county, and LAFCo vs. Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program’s definitions for prime farmland, and LAFCo’s role in leading ag preservation.





## LAFCo's role to encourage and support local agency accountability and transparency

### Salon V

*Moderator: David Fey, Executive Officer, Fresno LAFCo. Speakers: Sloane Dell'Orto, COO, Digital Deployment; Mario Santoyo, Commissioner, Fresno LAFCo; John B. Withers, Former Commissioner, Orange LAFCo*

What happens when an MSR reveals that a local agency is not performing to the standard of its principal act? Or when facts in the MSR demonstrate a local agency's lack of accountability to its constituents. What can - and should - a LAFCo do to encourage a local agency's accountability and transparency? The panelists will explore the range of statutory and local policy options, as well as web-based services, to encourage local agency accountability, offer their insights into how LAFCo determinations can be guided through political minefields, and describe how local agencies' accountability to the public can be supported through web-based products and services.

## LAFCo's & affordable housing: What's the connection?

### Forest View

*Moderator: Bill Nicholson, Executive Officer, Merced & San Benito LAFCos. Speakers: Robert Barry, Chief Analyst, San Diego LAFCo; Daron McDaniel, Commissioner, Merced LAFCo; Betsy McGovern-Garcia, Program Director, Self-Help Enterprises*

LAFCos are to look at the extent to which a project will help a city or county achieve their fair share of regional housing needs during the review of a proposal, but are not allowed to directly condition land use density, intensity or subdivision requirements. This session will explore LAFCo's role in addressing the housing shortage in California and present examples where commissions have been a positive partner in helping communities accommodate affordable housing. Small group discussions will give you the chance to share challenges and identify best practices among the different regions of the state.

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Refreshment Break - Foyer

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - Breakout Sessions

## State tools for climate smart growth

### Salon IV

*Moderator: Emily Tibbott, Senior Advisor, Environmental Science & Policy, Strategic Growth Council. Speakers: Jim DeMartini, Commissioner, Stanislaus LAFCo; Andrew Fetterer, VP of Product Management and Marketing, Urban Footprint; Ena Lupine, Communications and Policy Advisor, Strategic Growth Council; Susan Vicklund-Wilson, Commissioner, Santa Clara LAFCo*

In partnership with CALAFCO, the Strategic Growth Council and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research have developed a paper on climate smart growth practices to support LAFCos and other local agencies by encouraging efficient development and protecting natural and working lands. The session will highlight information about State tools and resources that support LAFCos' work, including Urban Footprint, a powerful urban planning software. The session will also feature case studies from several LAFCos of successful climate smart growth policies and practices.





## **LAFCo in a “perfect world”: A facilitated creative discussion on making LAFCo’s more effective**

### **Salon V**

*Moderator: John Leopold, Commissioner, Santa Cruz LAFCo*

All of us who participate in the LAFCo world are painfully aware of limitations that constrain LAFCo from achieving its full potential. Many of us have no doubt thought “If only LAFCo could do this” a better result would be achieved. This session is your opportunity to share those thoughts and ideas with your LAFCo colleagues. It is an opportunity to think outside the box about what could be done to make LAFCo more effective. This is entirely an audience participation session in which you will have the chance to brainstorm creative solutions to LAFCo dilemmas.

## **LAFCo’s and fire protection services: Synching up spheres, boundaries, contracts and auto-aid**

### **Forest View**

*Moderator: Gay Jones, Commissioner, Sacramento LAFCo. Speakers: Steve Abbott, Fire Chief, North County Fire Protection District; Don Butz, Fire Chief, Lakeside Fire Protection District; Jeff Meston, Retired Fire Chief, President, CA Chiefs Association; Keene Simonds, Executive Officer, San Diego LAFCo*

This session will explore recent changes and emerging trends in fire protection services in California and relationships therein with LAFCos. Distinguished practitioners will discuss the challenges and opportunities underlying the delivery of fire protection relative to LAFCos’ prescribed directives from the Legislature. Topics include: funding fire protection, effects of climate change, implementing SB 239, and spheres v. boundary drops.

**6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Foyer**

**Pre-dinner Reception with Sponsors**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**Salons I – II - III**

**Banquet and Awards**

**Friday – October 5<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

**Breakfast Buffet – Foyer with seating in Salons IV & V**

**7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.**

**Forest View**

**CALAFCO Board of Directors meeting**





9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Salons I – II - III

**General session: Promoting adaptive change in a messy world**

*Moderator: Debra Kurita, Asst. Executive Officer, Orange LAFCo. Speaker: Dr. Frank Benest, former City Manager of Palo Alto, CA, and ICMA Liaison for Next Generation Initiatives*

Local governments now operate in a messy, disruptive world. This interactive session explores the need for all public-sector leaders to experiment, cross boundaries, take “smart risks” and adapt over time. You will help identify the big challenges facing your LAFCos in the next five years and the competencies needed by leaders at all levels to address those challenges.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Refreshment Break - Foyer

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Salons I – II - III

**General session: CALAFCO legislative update – A conversation with the Assembly Local Government Committee Chair and 2018 legislative impacts on LAFCos**

*Speakers: Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee; Jimmy MacDonald, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee; Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO; Paul Novak, AICP, Executive Officer, Los Angeles LAFCo; Lou Ann Texeira, Executive Officer, Contra Costa LAFCo*

Here we are at the end of another full legislative year. Join us as we recap the 2018 legislative impacts on LAFCos. We will hear from the Chair of the Assembly Local Government Committee (ALGC), the Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, on the focus of the ALGC and her unique Capitol perspective as a former LAFCo Commissioner. There will be an opportunity for Q&A with the Chair. We will also get updates from the ALGC's Consultant and members of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee. Join us as we recap 2018 and look ahead to 2019.

