



Join Us for a Very Special Virtual Series Fire & EMS Service Basics, Challenges and LAFCo's Role & Responsibility



ABOUT THIS SERIES

California wildfires burned 4.2 million acres in 2020 and 1.3 million acres in 2017. In 1964, it took four days for a wildfire to travel from Calistoga in Napa County to Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. In 2017, it took only four hours for a wildfire to travel that same route. Local and state firefighting resources have been stretched beyond imagination. Wildland firefighting is only one of the many functions of an all-risk agency. With the majority of the state in a declared drought emergency as of early May, it is sure to be another record-setting year for wildfires. So, what are LAFCo's role and responsibilities in terms of overseeing these complex services? How can we create Municipal Service Reviews with information and determinations that have meaning and create value both short-and-long-term? What should we be looking at and considering that we aren't?

This very special 4-part series will take a deep dive into Fire and EMS services and LAFCo's role and responsibility in understanding, studying, and making determinations regarding these complex services. Each session builds on the prior one, concluding the series with a session that explores several case studies highlighting urban, suburban and rural fire service providers.

SESSION ONE

Understanding the basics of service models, preparing for the Municipal Service Review and evaluating community needs

DATE: Monday, August 9, 2021

TIME: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Presenters: Mark Bramfitt, Executive Officer, Sonoma LAFCo; Kurt Latipow, Retired Fire Chief and Consultant; Dawn Longoria, Staff Analyst II, Napa LAFCo

SESSION TWO

Evaluating current staffing, training, facilities, operations, equipment, anticipated growth and service needs projections, and finances

DATE: Monday, August 16, 2021

TIME: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Presenters: Richard Berkson, Principal, Berkson & Associates; Mark Bramfitt, Executive Officer, Sonoma LAFCo; Kurt Latipow, Retired Fire Chief and Consultant; Dawn Longoria, Staff Analyst II, Napa LAFCo

SESSION THREE

Evaluating governance, DUCs, shared services opportunities, updating the Sphere of Influence and contracts

DATE: Monday, August 23, 2021

TIME: 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Presenters: Mark Bramfitt, Executive Officer, Sonoma LAFCo; Kurt Latipow, Retired Fire Chief and Consultant; Dawn Longoria, Staff Analyst II, Napa LAFCo

SESSION FOUR

So, you've done a great Municipal Service Review, now what? A look at rural, suburban and urban case studies

DATE: Thursday, August 26, 2021

TIME: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Presenters: Tom Cooley, Commissioner, Plumas LAFCo; Mike McMurray, Retired Fire Chief and Past President, Fire Districts Association of California; Holly Whatley, Shareholder, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

Sessions 1-3 are approved for 2.5 & Session 4 is approved for 2 AICP CM credits

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NO REGISTRATION FEE IS REQUIRED FOR ANY OF THE SESSIONS FOR MEMBERS OF CALAFCO. THIS SERIES IS DESIGNED ONLY FOR THE MEMBERS OF CALAFCO.

One registration covers sessions 1 thru 3 and a second registration covers session 4 – all at no cost to CALAFCO members. Registrations are online only.

Registration must be received **July 23, 2021 for all sessions. No late registrations will be accepted.**

Click here to register for sessions 1 thru 3:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fire-ems-service-basics-challenges-and-lafcos-role-responsibility-tickets-156597093121>

Click here to register for session 4:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fire-ems-service-basics-challenges-and-lafcos-role-responsibility-tickets-156600366913>

Once you register on Eventbrite you will receive the Zoom Registration link with your confirmation email. You will then need to use that Zoom Registration link prior to the session to get the Webinar link to join that session. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO DO THIS STEP.**

You can also find this information on the CALAFCO website at www.calafco.org.

For additional information or questions, please contact CALAFCO University lead Martha Poyatos at mpoyatos@smcgov.org or CALAFCO Administrator Jeni Tickler at jtickler@calafco.org.

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Series Summary

Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are highly complex municipal services. There are various types of providers (all-paid, all-volunteer, hybrid) governed by a broad set of regulations and standards. Services provided in rural areas are vastly different than services provided in dense urban areas. And yet, LAFcos are responsible for reviewing these services across the state.

With wildfires steadily increasing in size and intensity each year, creating effective and efficient fire services has become more important than ever before. California wildfires burned 4.2 million acres in 2020 and 1.3 million acres in 2017. In 1964, it took four days for a wildfire to travel from Calistoga in Napa County to Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. In 2017, it took only four hours for a wildfire to travel that same route. These are some of the results of climate change. Local and state firefighting resources have been stretched beyond imagination. Yet, wildland firefighting is only one of the many functions of these agencies.

We've created this very unique four-part series on Fire & EMS services. Sessions 1 through 3 use factors for consideration in Municipal Service Reviews outlined in the Act as the basis for our discussions. Session 4 will focus on case studies of fire service reorganizations with examples covering urban, suburban and rural areas of the state. Each session is planned to be interactive and a special short data-gathering survey will be sent to all registrants prior to the first session.

Join our expert panels of Executive Officers, retired Fire Chief (now consultant), Legal Counsel and Commissioners for this very unique four-part series, offered at no cost to members of CALAFCO. Each session builds on the prior session, so you are encouraged to attend all of them.

Series Schedule

Session One Monday, August 9, 2021 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

- What constitutes fire and EMS services and agency type
- Standards that apply to fire and EMS services
- The MSR: Getting the information you need
- Evaluation of community needs

Session Two Monday, August 16, 2021 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

- Evaluation of current staffing, training, facilities, operations, equipment
- Growth and projected need for services
- Financial ability to provide services

Session Three Monday, August 23, 2021 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

- Evaluating governance
- Opportunities for shared services
- Service to Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs)
- Sphere of Influence evaluation and amendments
- LAFCo evaluation of contracts for service (per CKH 56134)

Session Four Thursday, August 26, 2021 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

- Case studies and examples of reorganizations in rural, suburban and urban areas
- What do you do when MSR determinations don't call for LAFCo action

Who Should Attend?

This session is for LAFCo staff and commissioners and CALAFCO Associate members.