

9335 Hazard Way • Suite 200 • San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 614-7755 • FAX (858) 614-7766

San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission

TO:

Website: www.sdlafco.org

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August 7, 2017

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Executive Officer

Michael D. Ott

Legal Counsel

Michael G. Colantuono

FROM: Executive Assistant

SUBJECT: August 7th Staff and Committee Recognition Event

Local Agency Formation Commission

This is to invite you to attend the August 7th meeting of the San Diego LAFCO. This will likely be the final opportunity to mingle with retiring and outgoing members of the LAFCO staff and various LAFCO committees before everyone heads off in different directions. Honorees include Mike Ott, Ingrid Hansen, Harry Ehrlich, John Traylor, Joe Serrano, and Bill Smith, plus members of the former East County Fire Protection Committee and Stakeholders Committee. There will be a few business items to transact in the beginning of the morning as part of the regular LAFCO meeting agenda, and then the remainder of the morning will be devoted to recognizing staff and committee members. Light refreshments will be available for meeting attendees. Below is a brief profile of the honorees:

Michael Ott. Mike Ott was hired by the San Diego LAFCO in 1983 and was appointed as the San Diego LAFCO's sixth Executive Officer in 1992. Prior to this appointment, he served as Acting Executive Officer in 1986 and Assistant Executive Officer from 1987-92. Under his leadership, the San Diego LAFCO received an unprecedented 18 statewide awards. He was the recipient of CALAFCO's Outstanding LAFCO Professional of the Year Award in 2008, and also received multiple awards on behalf of the Commission recognizing the San Diego LAFCO as the Most Effective Commission in California in 1998, 2002, and 2004. As the Commission's principal staff advisor, he oversaw eight municipal incorporation proposals, one special reorganization (secession), and one municipal disincorporation effort. He led and facilitated the consolidation of nearly 100 special districts -- and headed LAFCO's fire district reorganization projects during and after the historic wildfires of 2003 and 2007. He helped create and activate the LAFCO Task Force on Fire Protection, the Cities Advisory Committee; and the East County Fire Protection and Stakeholder's Committees, plus a number of

short-term ad hoc committees. Mike has been an active member of CALAFCO's Legislative Committee and oversaw the rewriting of a number of California statutes, most notably the protest and election provisions and electronic retention of public records regulations. From 1987-92, he served as the first Deputy Executive Officer of CALAFCO and wrote a landmark report resulting in the eventual reorganization of CALAFCO. He was appointed to the Governor's Office of Planning Research's Task Force on Incorporation and the Governor's Municipal Service Review Working Group. He was also a primary force behind the creation of the Coalition of California LAFCOs and is the immediate past Executive Officer of that organization. He will retire from the San Diego LAFCO on August 31, 2017; his forwarding email address is: <u>mikesbikes@roadrunner.com</u>.

Ingrid Hansen. Chief Analyst Ingrid Hansen was originally hired by the San Diego LAFCO in 1981 and then retired in 2007. She returned to LAFCO service in 2007 as a part-time retired worker and has been instrumental for the past ten years in the training of a number of administrative personnel. Ingrid helped standardize the Commission's proposal processing programs; assisted with the creation of the Commission's records management project; and helped launch an early Geographic Information System twenty years ago. She is the 2001 recipient of CALAFCO's *Outstanding LAFCO Professional of the Year Award*. Ingrid will retire on August 31, 2017.

Harry Ehrlich. LAFCO Consultant Harry Ehrlich has served as the Commission's Local Governmental Consultant for 10 years. During that time, he also served as the Director of the Commission's legislative program and Special Districts Advisory Committee. He is the 2010 and 2013 recipient of the *Outstanding CALAFCO Member Award*. Prior to LAFCO service, Harry was the Assistant General Manager of the Olivenhain Municipal Water District and Ramona Municipal Water District. He also has worked for several municipalities in public safety. Harry's last day with the San Diego LAFCO will be August 31, 2017, and he will continue his consulting practice and involvement with the Borrego Water District as an elected member of the Board of Directors.

John Traylor. John Traylor served as the Commission's Local Governmental Consultant from 2006-2009 and then from 2011-2017. He served as Executive Director of the Commission's Task Force on Fire Protection and assisted with the reorganization of fire protection services in San Diego County that resulted in expanded coverage for approximately 1.5 million acres of previously unserved territory. John previously served as Fire Chief of Coronado and Fire Marshall of El Cajon. Upon retirement from the San Diego LAFCO on August 31, 2017, John will continue to be active within the San Diego County fire community.

Joe Serrano. Chief Analyst Joe Serrano was hired in 2015 and most recently staffed the East County Fire Protection Committee. Within a short period of time, Joe helped reconcile 30-year old fire protection problems in North and East County. He has been an active member of CALAFCO and is a frequent guest speaker at CALAFCO Conferences. August 7, 2017 will be Joe's last day with the San Diego LAFCO and he will be moving to Monterey County for a senior analyst position with the Monterey LAFCO.

William Smith. Special Project Consultant William "Bill" Smith has worked with the Executive Officer and CALAFCO on legislative projects for the past five years following his retirement as the San Diego LAFCO's Legal Counsel and Chief Deputy County Counsel of the County of San Diego. He helped rewrite and simplify the protest provisions in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. His efforts resulted in an Omnibus bill that was approved by the State Legislature. Bill's last day as a special project consultant with the San Diego LAFCO was June 30, 2017.

East County Fire Protection and Stakeholders Committees. The East County Fire Protection Committee was formed in 2016 to assist with reconciling jurisdictional issues associated with the reorganization of County Service Area No. 115 (Pepper Drive). A stakeholders committee of affected agencies was also formed. Staff support was provided by Mike Ott, Joe Serrano, John Traylor, Rich Miller, Erica Blom, and Mike Colantuono. Members of the Commission that participated on the committee were Commissioners Jacob (Chair), MacKenzie (Vice Chair), Vanderlaan, and Sprague. The Committees held joint meetings in addition to hosting a field tour and a number of individual discussions with LAFCO staff. Current and past participants and appointees include: San Miguel Consolidated FPD (Criss Brainard, Darrin Howell, Theresa McKenna, Jim Ek, Dave Rickards, Darilyn O'Dell, Leah Harris, and Joe Sanchez); Lakeside FPD (Don Butz, Scott Walker, Bob Robeson, Jim Bingham, Robert Schiwitz, and Bernard Molloy); San Diego County Fire (Herman Reddick, Susan Quasarano); Cal FIRE (Tony Mecham); City of El Cajon (Colin Stowell); City of Santee (Richard Smith); County Auditor-Controller's Office (Rebecca Greene); and County Assessor's Office (Jeff Delarosa).

We hope that you can join us for this special event on August 7, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

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TAMARON R. LUCKETT Executive Assistant

<u>Attachment</u>

August 7th Staff and Committee Recognition Event Flyer

San Diego

Local Agency Formation

Commission

Committee Recognition

Join us in Recognizing the work and accomplishments of:

Michael D. Ott, Executive Officer Ingrid Hansen, Chief Analyst Harry Ehrlich, LAFCO Consultant John Traylor, LAFCO Consultant Joe Serrano, Chief Analyst William Smith, Special Project Consultant East County Fire Protection and Stakeholders Committees

Monday, August 7, 2017 ◆ 9:00 a.m. County Administration Center ; 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302 San Diego, CA 92101