



San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

5C

AGENDA REPORT
 Business | Discussion

September 20, 2024

TO: Special Districts Advisory Committee
FROM: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Updated Rolling Five-Year Study Schedule

SUMMARY

The Committee will receive an update on the Commission’s rolling five-year study schedule. This update follows the Commission’s action in August 2024 to adjust the coverage period from FY2024-2028 to FY2025-2029, aligning the study schedule with the Commission’s adopted workplan. The first two years of the rolling five-year schedule remain largely intact, continuing to cover municipal service reviews as outlined in the workplan while accommodating the fact that some studies may require more than one year to complete. A new study has been added to the first two-year period, focusing on a previously unscheduled municipal service review on SANDAG and its regional housing, transportation, and climate adaptation functions. Additionally, certain regional studies have been reorganized to better address multi-city special districts, and a new study on airports has been included in the fifth year. This item is being presented to the Committee for discussion only with the opportunity to advance formal comments and/or recommendations to the Commission as needed.

BACKGROUND

**Study Directive |
 Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence Updates**

State law directs San Diego LAFCO to review all local agencies’ spheres of influence and update as needed approximately every five years and in doing so actively manage what the

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Commission sets as the agencies' appropriate current and future boundaries and service areas. State law relatedly specifies LAFCO inform sphere updates by preparing municipal service reviews to independently assess the availability and adequacy of local services relative to community needs. The Commission's policies on preparing municipal service reviews are codified as L-106 and include direction to maintain a five-year study schedule.

Rolling Study Schedule + Implementation Practices

San Diego LAFCO annually reviews and resets a five-year rolling study schedule to calendar municipal service reviews and ancillary sphere of influence updates. Approvals to reset the rolling study schedule are typically considered in August and premised on two related implementation practices as summarized below.

1. The first two years of the five-year study schedule are combined and cover all municipal service reviews separately authorized by the Commission under the annual adopted workplan. The combination of the first two years provides LAFCO flexibility to pace work on the municipal service reviews in line with accommodating the agencies' resources and abilities therein to participate in the data collection and review process.
2. The third, fourth, and fifth years of the five-year study schedule serve as telegraphing tools to the affected agencies and other interested stakeholders with respect to the Commission's expectations of initiating future municipal service reviews. Actual work on any municipal service review – however – will not occur until the Commission formally authorizes the expenditure of LAFCO resources as part of the annual workplan.

DISCUSSION

This item is for the Committee to receive an update on SD LAFCO's five-year rolling study schedule calendaring municipal service reviews.

- The update has reset the five-year period from FY2024-2028 to FY2025-2029.
- The first two years of the proposed update (Years One and Two) remain largely intact and sync with the adopted workplan in covering all authorized municipal service reviews with a continued emphasis in the north and north-coastal communities. The referenced syncing produces one new previously unscheduled municipal service review on SANDAG. The remaining changes are structural to reorganize previously scheduled regional studies into parts to separately cover cities and districts.
- The final three years of the proposed update (Years Three, Four, and Five) also remain largely intact in telegraphing anticipated municipal service reviews in the near future. This includes continued emphasis to group the future municipal service reviews into regions and gradually progressing from the coast to the backcountry area. Structural changes to reorganize previously scheduled regional studies into parts to separately cover cities and districts also apply as well as adding a new study covering airports.

ANALYSIS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented to the Committee for discussion.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

None.

PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION

This item has been placed on the Committee’s agenda for discussion as part of the business calendar. The following procedures are recommended:

- 1) Receive verbal presentation from staff unless waived.
- 2) Invite comments from interested audience members if any.
- 3) Discuss and provide feedback – including any formal comments and/or recommendations to the Commission – as needed.

On behalf of staff,



Priscilla Mumpower
Assistant Executive Officer

Attachment:

1. Updated Five-Year Rolling Study Schedule (FY2025-2029)

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Commission Rolling Study Schedule 5-YEAR PLAN

FY2025 Through FY2029

Regional Service Planning
Subdivision of the State of California



Study Directive

State law directs San Diego LAFCO to review spheres of influence for all cities and special districts and update as needed (affirm, expand, reduce, etc.) every five years and by extension mark the agencies' appropriate current and future boundaries and service areas. Pertinently, local agencies cannot annex and/or extend services outside their spheres with limited exceptions. State law also specifies San Diego LAFCO must inform the sphere updates by preparing comprehensive evaluations – titled municipal service reviews – to determine the availability and adequacy of local governmental services as well as governance responsiveness relative to community needs.



Study Schedule

San Diego LAFCO has established a five-year rolling Study Schedule to guide its statutory task to review and update as appropriate the spheres of influence of cities and special districts under the Commission's oversight. The rolling Study Schedule is premised on the Commission's policy interest to proactively calendar municipal service reviews and use these documents to determine the subsequent scope of any related sphere of influence updates for the affected agencies. The Commission also regularly draws on the municipal service reviews to inform its' decision-making on boundary changes.



Rolling Study Schedule Format

The Study Schedule is a living or rolling document that the Commission resets yearly in concert with the annual budget and workplan adoptions. The rolling study schedule spans 5 fiscal years with only the first year being set. The second through fifth years are tentatively calendared, and done so to help guide and telegraph future decision-making. This approach allows the Commission the flexibility to redirect staff resources where needed should calendar studies extend beyond one year while also granting staff the ability to prioritize applicant proposals.



Otay Lakes in Chula Vista ▶

San Diego LAFCO's Commission

San Diego LAFCO is governed by a 13-member "Commission" comprising county, city, special district, and public members. All Commissioners are appointed elected officials with the exception of the two public members. Commissioners serve four-year terms and divided between "regulars" and "alternates" and must exercise their independent judgment on behalf of the interests of residents, landowners, and the public as a whole. Commissioners are subject to standard disclosure requirements and must file annual statements of economic interests. The Commission has sole authority in administering its legislative responsibilities and decisions therein are not subject to an outside appeal process.



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Public Member



David Drake
Alternate
Special District Member



John McCann
Alternate
City of Chula Vista



Nora Vargas
Alternate
County of San Diego



Marni von Wilpert
Alternate
City of San Diego



2024-2025 + 2025-2026: SET

NORTH COUNTY FOCUS

Carlsbad + Encinitas Region

- **Part I: Cities**
 - City of Carlsbad
 - City of Encinitas
- **Part II: Special Districts**
 - Carlsbad MWD
 - Leucadia WWD
 - Olivenhain WD
 - San Dieguito WD

Central 78 Corridor Region

- **Part I: Cities**
 - City of San Marcos
 - City of Vista
- **Part II: Special Districts**
 - Vista ID
 - Buena SD
 - Vallecitos WD
 - San Marcos FPD
 - Vista FPD

San Diego County Healthcare Districts

- **Part I: Macro + Part II: Micro**
 - Palomar HD
 - Tri-City HD
 - Fallbrook HD
 - Grossmont HD

Oceanside State Beach ►

Del Mar + Solana Beach Region

- **Part I: Cities**
 - City of Del Mar
 - City of Solana Beach
- **Part II: Special Districts**
 - Santa Fe ID
 - CSA 17 – Ambulance*

Oceanside Region

- City of Oceanside
- Morro Hills CSD
- Oceanside Harbor District

Wholesale Water Services

- San Diego County Water Authority
- Metropolitan Water District

Council of Governments

- San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

*Denotes a special district included in more than one study.





Chula Vista is the second largest city in the San Diego metropolitan area.



2026-2027: TENTATIVE

SOUTHWEST COUNTY FOCUS

Macro Fire Service Study

- State: CAL FIRE
- Cities
- Special Districts
- Tribes

Metro San Diego Region

- City of San Diego
- San Diego Unified PD

Rancho Santa Fe Region

- Fairbanks Ranch CSD
- Questhaven MWD
- Rancho Santa Fe CSD
- Rancho Santa Fe FPD
- Whispering Palms CSD
- CSA No. 17 – Ambulance*
- CSA No. 83 – San Dieguito Parks

Silver Strand Region

- City of Coronado
- City of Imperial Beach

South Coast Region

- City of Chula Vista
- City of National City
- Bonita–Sunnyside FPD
- Lower Sweetwater FPD
- Otay WD*
- San Diego County SD*
- South Bay ID
- CSA No. 122 – Planning

Transit Services

- North County TD
- Metropolitan Transit System

*Denotes a special district included in more than one study.



East County
Hiking Trails



2027-2028: TENTATIVE

EAST COUNTY FOCUS

Alpine – Lakeside Region

- Alpine FPD
- Lakeside FPD
- Lakeside WD
- Padre Dam MWD*
- San Diego County SD*
- CSA No. 69 – Ambulance
- CSA No. 136 – Sundance Basin

El Cajon – Santee Region

- City of El Cajon
- City of Santee
- Helix WD*
- Padre Dam MWD*

Pauma Valley Region

- Mootamai MWD
- Rincon Ranch CSD
- Pauma CSD
- San Luis Rey MWD
- Yuima MWD

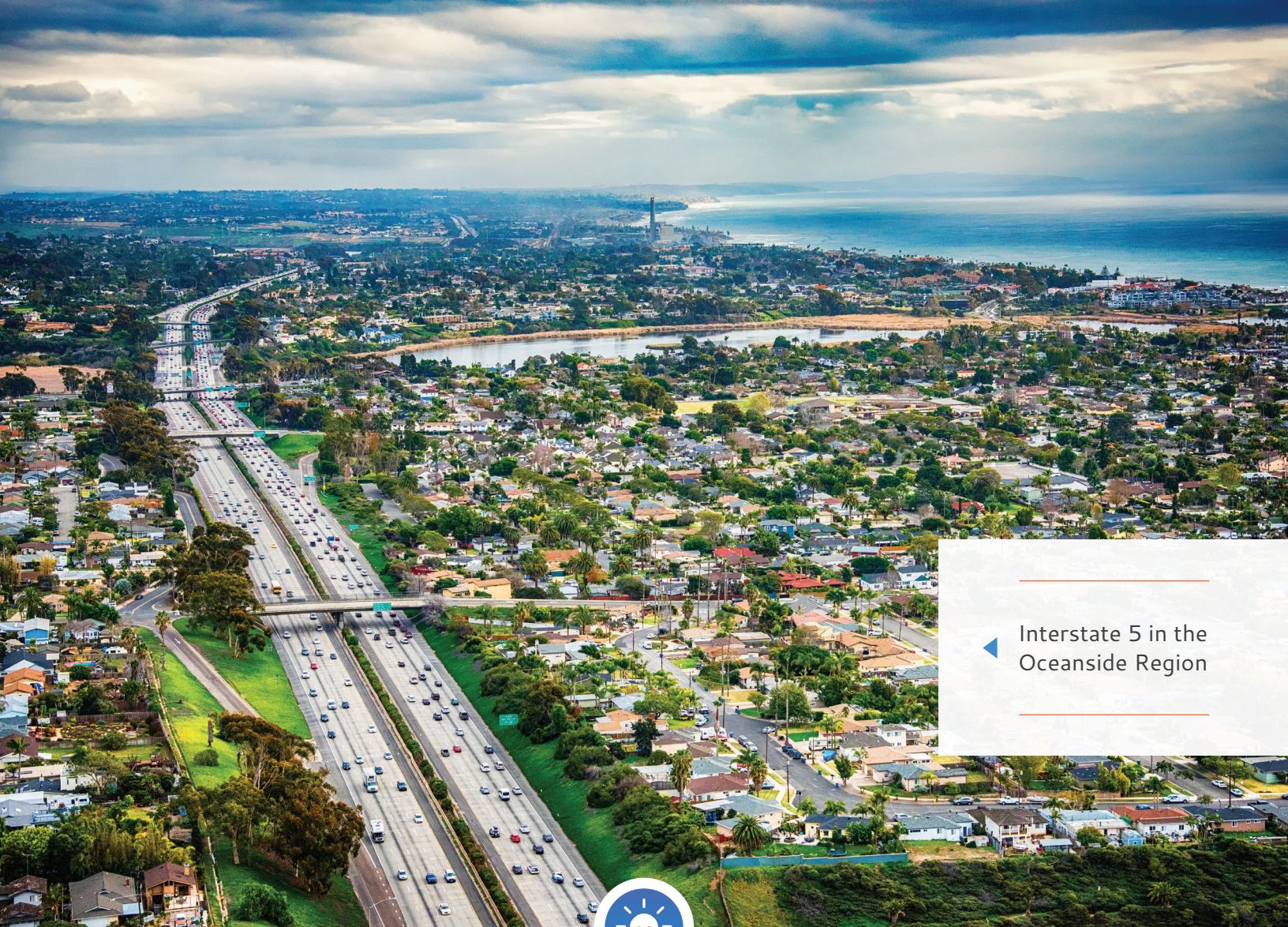
La Mesa – Lemon Grove Region

- City of La Mesa
- City of Lemon Grove
- Helix WD*
- Lemon Grove Roadway LD
- Lemon Grove SD
- San Diego County SD*

Spring Valley Region

- Otay MWD*
- San Miguel FPD
- San Diego County SD*
- CSA No. 69 – Ambulance*
- CSA No. 128 – Parks

*Denotes a special district included in more than one study.



Interstate 5 in the Oceanside Region



2028-2029: TENTATIVE

MISCELLANEOUS

Borrego Region

- Borrego WD
- Coachella Valley WD

Cemetery Services

- North County CD
- Pomerado CD
- Ramona CD
- Valley Center CD

Flood Control Services

- San Diego County FCD
- Cities
- Special Districts

Alpine – Lakeside Region

- Alpine FPD
- Lakeside FPD
- Lakeside WD
- Padre Dam MWD*
- San Diego County SD
- CSA No. 69 – Ambulance
- CSA No. 136 – Sundance Basin

East Laguna Summit Region

- Canebrake WD
- Descanso WD
- Jacumba CSD
- San Diego County SD*
- CSA No. 137 – Live Oak Springs

San Diego County Airports