

CODE OF ETHICS

The legislative intent for LAFCo is contained in Government Code Section 56300, as amended:

It is the intent of the Legislature that each commission establish policies and exercise its powers pursuant to this part in a manner that encourages and provides planned, well-ordered efficient urban development patterns with appropriate consideration of preserving open-space lands within those patterns.

LAFCo is an independent commission and is not a part of or subordinate to the County, any city or any special district.

Each Commissioner is independent in weighing and reviewing information and making determinations based upon the particular matter under review and in consideration of LAFCo's underlying purposes, as provided by the law:

56325.1., as amended, while serving on the commission, all commission members shall exercise their independent judgment on behalf of the interests of residents, property owners, and the public as a whole in furthering the purposes of this division. Any member appointed on behalf of local governments shall represent the interests of the public as a whole and not solely the interests of the appointing authority. This section does not require the abstention of any member on any matter, nor does it create a right of action in any person.

LAFCo's composition is a membership consisting of City, County and Public members. The mixed membership ensures that various backgrounds and perspectives are reflected on the Commission. As they carry out their LAFCo responsibilities, Commission members rely on the expertise and experience they have gained while serving on their appointing agencies. However, members will base their decisions on the policies and requirements of LAFCo law and the best interests of all the citizens.

The members of the Commission include both regular and alternate members. All members, both regular and alternate, should attend all meetings if at all possible, and all members, both regular and alternate, are responsible for participating in discussions of issues and in facilitating the work of the commission.

Participants in LAFCo proceedings are encouraged to be courteous and respectful. LAFCo expects to hear differing opinions and points of view during the course of its deliberations. Interruptions and discourteous comments will not be tolerated by the Commission.

Additionally, Commissioners agree to actively listen to each other, to voice their opinions, and to be respectful of staff, the public, and fellow commission members. Commissioners further agree to focus discussion on issues (as opposed to personalities), and to conclude issues in a timely manner. Each member accepts responsibility to stay focused on issues germane to the topic.