

The Special Districts Dialogue

Volume 5, Number 1, January 2026

An update from your Special Districts Representatives on OC LAFCO



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Dear Honorable Special Districts Members: The [Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission](#) (OC LAFCO, the Commission) held meetings on [November 12, 2025](#), and [January 14, 2026](#). OC LAFCO's next meeting is **Wednesday, February 11, 2026, starting at 8:15 a.m.**, in the County Administration North (CAN) First Floor Multipurpose Room 101, at 400 W. Civic Center Drive, Santa Ana, CA 92701. The Commission's recent items relevant to special districts include the following:

- [New OC LAFCO Officers](#) – At its January 14, 2026 meeting, the Commission reorganized its leadership and appointed **Wendy Bucknum** as **Chair** and **James (Jim) R. Fisler** as **Vice Chair**.
- [Fiscal Year 2025/26 Second Quarter Financial Report](#) & [Mid-Year Workplan Update](#) – The Commission received the Second Quarter Financial Report, which shows expenditures remain well below budget. Staff also presented a mid-year update on the Commission's 2025-2028 Workplan, highlighting progress on multiple objectives, including Municipal Service Reviews completion, staff recruitment, public engagement, and regional collaboration through the Alliance of LAFCOs.
- [Municipal Service Review \(MSR\) Schedule](#) – The North Region's MSRs and Spheres Of Influence (SOI) update is on track for completion by June 2026. The Southeast Region MSR/SOI updates follow, with the Coastal Region MSR/SOI updates concluding OC LAFCO's 4th Cycle MSR/SOI program.
- [Commissioner Terms & Vacancies](#) – Terms for a Regular County, City, Special District, and Public Member seat—as well as the Alternate Special District seat—will expire on June 30, 2026. A selection process report (posted [here](#) on OCLAFCO.org) was presented at the Commission's January meeting.
- [OC LAFCO on YouTube](#) – Commission meeting live streams and archived meeting videos are available at <https://www.youtube.com/@OrangeCountyLAFCO/streams>.
- [OC LAFCO 2026 Calendar](#) lists meetings, office closures, and the [CALAFCO Annual Conference](#).



In Memoriam – We mourn the passing of Paul Mesmer, President of [Surfside Colony Community Services District](#), and dedicated voice for Orange County's special districts. Paul served in leadership roles with [ISDOC](#), recently as 1st Vice President, and was an active [CSDA](#) member. A retired aerospace and defense executive, Paul brought strategic insight, professionalism, and heartfelt commitment to every role he held. His decades of public service also included leadership in the Sons of the American Legion and other civic organizations. We extend our condolences to his family and to all those privileged to have worked alongside him.



2026

MEETING AND EVENTS CALENDAR

Approved _____

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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April						
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July						
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October						
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February						
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May						
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31						

August						
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November						
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March						
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June						
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28	29	30				

September						
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27	28	29	30			

December						
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27	28	29	30	31		

 OC LAFCO Regular Meeting (*begins at 8:15 a.m.*)
Location: County Administrative North, First Floor
 Multipurpose Room 101, 400 W. Civic Center Dr.,
 Santa Ana, CA 92701.

 Office closure due to legal holidays and flexible work schedule.

 No scheduled regular meeting due to legal holiday.