

# Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission

Policy Manual Workshop

February 9, 2022

# Objectives

- ▶ Construct a statutory foundation for LAFCo
- ▶ Describe how the policy manual implements statute
- ▶ Proposed update review process
- ▶ Discussion and Commission's direction

## Thus, spake the Legislature...

Orderly growth and development are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the state.

The logical formation of local agency boundaries promotes orderly development and balances competing state interests.

The Commission has the purpose and responsibility to plan and shape the logical and orderly development of local governmental agencies to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities

In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities, the commission develops and determines the sphere of influence of each city and each special district, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere.

The “sphere of influence” is the Commission’s plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency

# The SOI is central to the Commission's actions

Every determination made by a commission shall be consistent with the spheres of influence of the local agencies affected by those determinations.

# Plan, shape, order, logic, efficiency...

What land uses are present and planned in the area.

What services and facilities are present and probable in the area.

What is the present and future capacity of services and facilities that the agency provides.

Are there any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

The present and probable need for public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.



# LAFCo shall have written policies

...Each commission shall establish written policies and procedures and exercise its powers pursuant to this part in a manner consistent with those policies and procedures and that encourages and provides planned, well-ordered, efficient urban development patterns with appropriate consideration of preserving open-space and agricultural lands within those patterns.

# LAFCo's broad discretion and legislative support

This division shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.

No determination shall be invalidated because of any defect, error, irregularity, or omission in any act, determination, or procedure which does not adversely and substantially affect the rights of any person, city, county, district, the state, or any agency or subdivision of the state.

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual TOC

1. *INTRODUCTION*
2. *COMMISSION POLICIES*
3. *COMMISSION STANDARDS FOR CHANGES OF ORGANIZATION*
4. *PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS*
5. *COMMISSION FEE SCHEDULE*
6. *PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION OF SERVICE PLANS*
7. *REGULATIONS AFFECTING SPECIAL DISTRICTS*
8. *REGULATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF HEARING AND COMMISSION BUSINESS*
9. *CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE*
10. *PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT*
11. *CEQA*
12. *CONDUCTING AUTHORITY PROCEEDINGS*
13. *COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION*
14. *PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES*
15. *BUDGETARY MATTERS*

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual update triage

1. Full commission policy discussion
  - ▶ Narrow focus of strategically important policies.
2. Subcommittee Review
  - ▶ For procedures and administrative activities that implement policy
  - ▶ Recommendation by subcommittee to full commission.
3. Omnibus updates
  - ▶ Update of requirements mandated by statute
  - ▶ “Clean-up” of policies and procedures superseded by other instruments

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual update triage

Level 1 (Full Commission discussion)

*INTRODUCTION, and COMMISSION POLICIES*

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual update triage

Level 2 (subcommittee review/recommendation)

- ▶ *COMMISSION STANDARDS FOR CHANGES OF ORGANIZATION,*
- ▶ *PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS,*
- ▶ *COMMISSION FEE SCHEDULE,*
- ▶ *PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION OF SERVICE PLANS, AND*
- ▶ *REGULATIONS AFFECTING SPECIAL DISTRICTS*

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual update triage

Level 3 (Omnibus):

*REGULATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF HEARING, COMMISSION  
BUSINESS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE, PROCEDURES TO  
IMPLEMENT THE POLITICAL REFORM ACT,  
CONDUCTING AUTHORITY PROCEEDINGS, and*

# Fresno LAFCo policy manual update triage

Level 3 (Omnibus):

*CEQA* – Delete and rely on CEQA Guidelines

*COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION, BUDGETARY MATTERS* – Delete  
and amend Financial and Accounting Procedures

*PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES* – Delete and rely on Employee Handbook  
and amend Financial and Accounting Procedures



▶ Discussion and direction