



Executive Officer's Report

To: Imperial LAFCo Commissioners

From: Tyler Salcido, Executive Officer *TRS*

Item #: 7b

Subject: Update on CALAFCO Governance & Region Restructuring and Direction for Voting Delegate

Date: January 22, 2026

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: El Centro City Council Chambers
1275 W. Main Street, El Centro, CA 92243

Report

BACKGROUND

In response to membership concerns regarding leadership and organizational effectiveness, the CALAFCO Board retained a consultant (Pamela Miller) in 2025 to review the Association's governance structure. Following this review, a Regional and Board Structure Working Group, of which I serve as the Southern Regional Officer, was formed in September to develop recommendations for modernizing the Board's composition and regional map.

On December 9, 2025, the Working Group released a draft proposal that included a new 9-region map, a reduction of the Board to 16 members, elimination of seat types, and a new rule limiting member LAFCOs to one Board representative at a time. Feedback was requested from all Executive Officers by January 10, 2026.

DISCUSSION

Feedback on the Initial Proposal

The Working Group received responses from 24 member LAFCOs (49% response rate). The feedback revealed a clear divide between "consensus" items and "non-consensus" items:

- **Consensus Items:** There is broad support for eliminating the specific "seat types" (e.g., reserving seats specifically for City or County members) to allow the most qualified candidates to run. There is also strong support for allowing Executive Officers to serve on the Board.
- **Non-Consensus Items (Regional Map):** Nearly half of the respondents (46%) expressed concerns or opposition to the proposed 9-region map. Specifically, a coalition of northern counties submitted an alternative proposal to split the "Cascade-Sierra" region due to geographic size and representation concerns.
- **Non-Consensus Items (Vacancy Rules):** Some large LAFCOs strongly opposed the "one member per LAFCO" limit, with Los Angeles citing it as "unworkable" and a barrier to them rejoining the Association.

Working Group Action: The "Split" Strategy

On January 13, 2026, the Working Group met to review this feedback. The Group determined that the map and vacancy rules require further refinement and dialogue before they are ready for a vote.

To avoid delaying necessary governance modernizations, the Working Group decided to separate the issues. For the February 23 Special Business Meeting, the membership will vote *only* on the items where consensus exists. This single recommendation (eliminating seat types and allowing EO eligibility) cannot be bifurcated and will be voted on as one package.

February 23 Special Meeting Scope

The agenda for the Special Business Meeting will be limited. The voting item will strictly cover Board eligibility and composition rules.

Regarding the regional map and broader changes: The February meeting will also include an informational update on the broader regional and governance restructuring effort. No action will be requested on those items at that time.

Next Steps

The Working Group will continue to refine the regional map and governance structure. A dedicated General Session to discuss these topics is scheduled for the Staff Workshop in May 2026. The intent is to bring a final regional map proposal to the membership for consideration at the October 2026 Annual Business Meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with these Bylaws amendments. Future discussions regarding the regional map may impact dues structures, but that is not currently up for a vote.

Recommendation by the Executive Officer

As your Executive Officer and a member of the Working Group, I recommend that the Commission direct the Voting Delegate to vote YES on these amendments. Eliminating seat types provides greater flexibility in electing qualified Board members, and allowing

EOs to serve ensures that professional staff expertise is represented in the Association's governance, a change that is necessary for the long-term stability of CALAFCO.

EXHIBIT A: CALAFCO Regional Draft Map Memo to EOs Dec. 9, 2025

EXHIBIT B: CALAFCO Current Regional Structure

EXHIBIT C: Feedback Received from EOs as of Jan. 10, 2026

EXHIBIT D: CALAFCO Special Meeting Notice and Agenda (Feb 23, 2026)