

Alameda Local Agency Formation Commission

November 13, 2014

Mission

Alameda LAFCo works with integrity to protect the quality of life for the citizens of Alameda County by:

- Ensuring that government agencies provide efficient municipal services;
- Balancing infrastructure needs for sustainable growth; and
- Conserving the environment and limited resources including prime agricultural and open space lands.

Alameda LAFCo will accomplish its mission by:

- Curbing urban sprawl, preserving and protecting open space and agricultural lands, and supporting stewardship of the environment;
- Facilitating strategic planning of infrastructure and serving as a resource to the public and local agencies to support orderly growth and logical, sustainable service provision;
- Participating in regional planning efforts such as Plan Bay Area;
- Being proactive and a catalyst for change that supports Alameda County as a great place to live and work; and
- Operating with integrity as an efficient, visionary, independent “watchdog” agency with an overview of the county’s municipal service providers.

Alameda LAFCo Strategic Plan, 2014 – 2017

Priority Goal A: Curb urban sprawl, and preserve and protect open space and agricultural lands.		
Key Objectives	Key Action Steps	Critical Issues Addressed
<p>A1. Utilize sphere of influence plans and policies to promote logical and orderly growth and development.</p> <p>A2. Encourage infill development.</p> <p>A3. Mitigate for loss of agricultural and open space lands.</p> <p>A4. Discourage extension of urban services to non-urbanized areas of the county.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an ad hoc committee to guide policy review. • Review existing agricultural, in-fill, out-of-area service agreement, and sphere of influence polices. • Research other LAFCos’ policies and identify best practices. • Work with stakeholders to identify relevant local conditions. • Establish set of standards and policies based on best practices and local conditions. • Present recommendations to policy ad hoc committee. • Present ad hoc committee recommendations to full Commission. • Disseminate information to key stakeholders and post updates on Alameda LAFCo website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture preservation and urban growth boundaries • Accommodating population growth while maintaining desirable quality of life and responding to Plan Bay Area land use planning • Aging infrastructure as pertains to ag and open space • Climate change and adaptation, flooding, emergency responsiveness • Extension of services outside agency boundaries • Water supply and availability

Alameda LAFCo Strategic Plan, 2014 – 2017

Priority Goal B: Strengthen local agency oversight to encourage organizations to recognize their responsibilities to the public that they serve.		
Key Objectives	Key Action Steps	Critical Issues Addressed
<p>B1. Utilize municipal service reviews to highlight local agency successes and develop solutions for agencies with identified deficiencies.</p> <p>B2. Encourage and support local agency transparency via the municipal service review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage stakeholders to identify the most pressing local conditions and circumstances that influence the provision of municipal services in Alameda County. • Review and revise municipal service review policies to accommodate local conditions and circumstances. • Identify and adopt accountability and transparency standards for local agencies (e.g. Special District Leadership Foundation). • Present recommendations to policy ad hoc committee. • Present ad hoc committee recommendations to full Commission. • Disseminate information to key stakeholders and post updates on Alameda LAFCo website. • Update and implement prioritized municipal service review schedule. • Create local agency service inventory, including joint powers authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance of local agencies • Aging infrastructure: traffic (roads, public transit), sidewalks, underground utilities (water and sewer pipes), water supply • Accommodating population growth while maintaining desirable quality of life and responding to Plan Bay Area land use planning • Financial viability of local agencies and shared services • Extension of services outside agency boundaries

Alameda LAFCo Strategic Plan, 2014 – 2017

Priority Goal C: Be a catalyst and information resource to promote logical, efficient municipal service provision.

Objectives	Key Action Steps	Critical Issues Addressed
<p>C.1 Widely communicate Alameda LAFCo’s mission and goals to the community and identify strategies to achieve shared objectives.</p> <p>C.2 Convene or attend existing meetings in any community where major service issues are identified or boundary changes are being considered.</p> <p>C. 3 Promote efficient provision of municipal services by encouraging collaboration and sharing of resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate adopted strategic plan into LAFCo’s annual work plan and budget process. • Conduct “Old Systems Forum” to facilitate conversations about maintaining and/or upgrading aging infrastructure (water and recycled water, sewer, flood control, road maintenance) • Offer periodic informational briefings to a variety of groups, including the Special Districts Association, Mayors’ Conference, and other boards and councils. • Conduct general outreach to local agencies (e.g, planning depts. as they commence general plan updates). • Identify communities where major special studies or boundary changes are being considered. • Participate in update of Plan Bay Area. • Establish an electronic document management system and update Alameda LAFCo website to be more accessible to the public and local agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aging infrastructure: traffic (roads, public transit), sidewalks, underground utilities (water and sewer pipes), water supply • Accommodating population growth while maintaining desirable quality of life and responding to Plan Bay Area land use planning • Agriculture preservation and urban growth boundaries • Aging population (aging tsunami), socio-economic inequality, and generational divide and the impact on the role of government in service delivery • Climate change and adaptation, flooding, emergency responsiveness • Financial viability of local agencies and shared services • Bio-solids disposal • Expiration of East Bay Dischargers Authority joint powers agreement (JPA) • Solid waste and recycling capacity • Extension of services outside agency boundaries • Energy - Community choice aggregation • Governance of local agencies • Water supply and availability