San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

6b

AGENDA REPORT
Public Hearing | Action

August 5, 2024

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Alternate Public Member Recruitment Committee
- Chair Stephen Whitburn
- Vice Chair Barry Willis
- Commissioner Dane White

SUBJECT: **Appointment of an Alternate Public Member and Related Actions**

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will consider a recommendation from its Alternate Public Member Recruitment Committee (Whitburn, Willis, and White) to fill an unexpired term through April 2027. The recommendation follows the Commission's action in March to create and task the Committee to conduct an open recruitment to fill the alternate seat following the promotion of Commissioner Mathis to the regular seat. Eight candidates have been considered by the Committee with two receiving invitations to interview. Drawing from this process, the Committee unanimously recommends the Commission appoint Bridgette Browning. A successful appointment requires a majority vote among the other four membership categories (County of San Diego, City of San Diego, cities, and special districts) with at least one affirmative vote from each category. It is also recommended the Commission formally dissolve the Committee.

Administration:
Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725
San Diego, California 92103
T 619.321.3380
E lafco@sdcounty.ca.gov
www.sdlafco.org

Joel Anderson, County of San Diego
Jim Desmond, County of San Diego
Nora Vargas, Alt., County of San Diego
Krista Becker, City of Solana Beach
Dane White, City of Escondido
John McCann, Alt., City of Chula Vista
Chair Stephen Whitburn, City of San Diego
Marni von Wilpert, Alt., City of San Diego
Vice Chair Barry Willis, Alpine Fire Protection
Jo MacKenzie, Vista Irrigation
David A. Drake, Alt., Rincon del Diablo
Harry Mathis, General Public
Vacant, Alt., General Public

BACKGROUND

Membership Composition

San Diego LAFCO's membership is prescribed under State law to include 13 appointed Commissioners. The Commissioners are divided into five distinct categories – County of San Diego, cities less City of San Diego, City of San Diego, special districts, and the general public – and further distinguished between regular and alternate members. Only the public member category and its regular and alternate appointees are made by LAFCO; the appointments for the other four categories are externally determined under the statute.

Membership Terms

All terms are four years and commence on the first Monday in May in the affected year. There are no term limits involving LAFCO appointments in statute or under local policy.

Alternate Public Member Vacancy + Commission Action Creating an Ad Hoc Committee

San Diego LAFCO's alternate public member position became vacant on March 4, 2024 when the Commission appointed Harry Mathis to the regular seat following the resignation of Andy Vanderlaan.[1] Commissioner Mathis' appointment to the regular seat left the alternate seat open with an unexpired term running through April 2027.

The Commission took separate action on March 4th to create the Alternate Public Member Recruitment Committee consisting of Chair Whitburn, Vice Chair Willis, and Commissioner White. The Commission also authorized the Committee with discretion to recruit and advance one or more candidates for formal consideration at a future meeting.

DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to consider the recommendation of the Alternate Public Member Recruitment Committee to appoint Bridgette Browning to the open term. The recommendation follows the Committee conducting an open recruitment beginning with posting announcements online and publishing in local newspapers inviting candidates to submit letters of interest by June 10th. A total of eight candidates applied by the deadline with one candidate voluntarily withdrawing. The seven remaining candidates were directly screened by the Committee with two receiving invitations to interview on July 24th. The Committee proceeded to interview one of the two final candidates – Bridgette Browning – with the other candidate canceling immediately prior due to a personal emergency. Given the strength of the candidate and their interview, the Committee agreed to proceed with advancing Ms. Browning to the full Commission as their unanimous recommendation.

1 Mr. Vanderlaan served on the Commission since 1996 with the current four-year term extending through April 2025.

ANALYSIS

San Diego LAFCO has broad discretion in statute and policy in appointing a public member – regular or alternate. Statute only requires the appointment to follow notice to local agencies, the appointee be a resident of San Diego County, the appointee not be an employee or officer of a member agency (i.e., the County, cities, or special districts), and an affirmative vote is achieved by all appointing categories on the Commission. The Commission relatedly provided full discretion to the Committee to recruit, screen, interview, and recommend one or more candidates for Commission consideration at a future hearing.

As tasked, the Committee has performed an approximate four-month recruitment process with the assistance of the Assistant Executive Officer resulting in consideration of seven otherwise exceptionally qualified candidates. The Committee is unanimous in recommending Bridgette Browning based – and among other attributes – on her established and extensive ties throughout San Diego County and professional accomplishments as an executive of one of the largest labor organizations in California. A copy of Ms. Browning's letter of interest and professional resume is provided as Attachment One.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO take affirmative action on the Committee's recommendation to appoint Bridgette Browning as the alternate public member. This recommendation is consistent with Alternative One provided in the proceeding section.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The following alternative actions are available to San Diego LAFCO and can be accomplished with a single motion:

Alternative One:
(a) Appoint Bridgette Browning as the alternate public member to an existing four-year term commencing immediately and terming on the first Monday of April 2027.

(b) Dissolve the Committee.

Alternative Two:
Continue the item and provide direction to the Committee as needed.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on San Diego LAFCO's agenda as part of a noticed public hearing. The following procedures are recommended in the consideration of this item:

1) Disclose any material ex-parte communications.
2) Receive verbal presentation unless waived.
2) Open the hearing and invite public testimony.
3) Discuss the item and consider the recommendation or alternatives.

On behalf of the Committee,



Priscilla Mumpower
Assistant Executive Officer

Attachment:

1) Public Announcement in UT Inviting Applications
2) Public Notice of Intent to Appoint Alternate Public Member
3) Recommended Candidate's Letter of Interest and Resume – Bridgette Browning

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

NOTICE OF VACANCY & CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ALTERNATE PUBLIC MEMBER

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCO") welcomes all interested residents in San Diego County to apply for the alternate public member position with an expired term running through April 2027. The position – which is one of 13 seats on the LAFCO Commission – is currently vacant with the most recent incumbent now serving as the appointed regular public member. The position holder is expected to attend all regular monthly meetings and actively contribute to the Commission's deliberations in meeting the Legislature's prescribed regional growth management tasks. Most commonly, this includes overseeing local cities and special districts' boundaries and municipal service areas as well as preparing periodic studies to assess their performance relative to community needs. The alternate public member also votes whenever the regular member is excused or abstains. All Commissioners receive a per diem for each regular and special meeting attended, which is expected to increase to $291 starting July 1, 2024.

All interested candidates who are residents of San Diego County and not employees or officers of cities or special districts should submit a brief cover letter summarizing their interest and qualifications in serving as the alternate public member along with a resume. These materials should be e-mailed to Assistant Executive Officer Priscilla Mumpower at priscilla.mumpower@sdcounty.ca.gov no later than June 10, 2024. All candidate applications received by this date will be transmitted and screened by an Ad Hoc Committee comprising three members of the Commission. No more than four candidates will be selected for interview by the Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee will then proceed to invite no less than two finalist candidates to be interviewed by the full Commission at a noticed hearing with a formal selection to follow.

Additional information about LAFCO and the role of the Commission is available online at www.sdlafco.org. Interested candidates are also invited to discuss the position with Priscilla Mumpower either by email or telephone at (619) 321-3380.

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Vice Chair Barry Willis
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The San Diego Union-Tribune

5290929

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION (LAFCO)
2550 FIFTH AVESTE 725
SAN DIEGO, CA 92103

PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of San Diego

The Undersigned, declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California: That he/she is the resident of the County of San Diego. That he/she is and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and that he/she is not a party to, nor interested in the above-entitled matter; that he/she is Chief Clerk for the publisher of
The San Diego Union-Tribune
a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and which newspaper is published for the dissemination of local news and intelligence of a general character, and which newspaper at all the times herein mentioned had and still has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and which newspaper has been established, printed and published at regular intervals in the said City of San Diego, County of San Diego, for a period exceeding one year next preceding the date of publication of the notice hereinafter referred to, and which newspaper is not devoted to nor published for the interests, entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race, or denomination, or any number of same; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instruction of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

05/12/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at San Diego, California, on this 13th day of May, 2024.

CGaza
Signature

Legal No. **0011668055**

San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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PUBLISHED: May 12, 2024
(SDUT 11668055)

The San Diego Union-Tribune

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2550 FIFTH AVESTE 725
SAN DIEGO, CA 92103

PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of San Diego

The Undersigned, declares under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California: That he/she is the resident of the County of San Diego. That he/she is and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and that he/she is not a party to, nor interested in the above-entitled matter; that he/she is Chief Clerk for the publisher of
The San Diego Union-Tribune
a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and which newspaper is published for the dissemination of local news and intelligence of a general character, and which newspaper at all the times herein mentioned had and still has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and which newspaper has been established, printed and published at regular intervals in the said City of San Diego, County of San Diego, for a period exceeding one year next preceding the date of publication of the notice hereinafter referred to, and which newspaper is not devoted to nor published for the interests, entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race, or denomination, or any number of same; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instruction of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

05/19/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at San Diego, California, on this 20th day of May, 2024.

CGaza
Signature

Legal No. **0011668061**

San Diego County
Local Agency Formation Commission
Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

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PUBLISHED: May 19, 2024
(SDUT 11668061)

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY
LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Notice is given the San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission ("LAFCO") will hold a public meeting on **Monday, August 5, 2024 starting at 8:00 a.m.** at the County of San Diego Administration Center at 1600 Pacific Highway, Board Room 302, San Diego, California. At the public meeting, LAFCO will consider the following public hearing matter:

NOTICE ON ALTERNATE PUBLIC MEMBER APPOINTMENT

LAFCO will interview and consider candidates at its Monday, August 5, 2024 meeting with respect to making a new Alternate Public Member appointment to serve the remainder of an unexpired term set to expire in April 2027. The position – which is one of 13 seats on the LAFCO Commission – is currently vacant with the most recent incumbent now serving as the appointed regular public member. The position holder is expected to attend all regular monthly meetings and actively contribute to the Commission's deliberations in meeting the Legislature's prescribed regional growth management tasks. Most commonly, this includes overseeing local cities and special districts' boundaries and municipal service areas as well as preparing periodic studies to assess their performance relative to community needs. The alternate public member also votes whenever the regular member is excused or abstains. All Commissioners receive a per diem of $291 for each regular and special meeting attended.

An agenda report on this item will be posted online at www.sdlafco.org approximately one week ahead of the noticed meeting. Comments on this item are welcomed and should be submitted no later than Friday, August 2nd to Commission Clerk Erica Sellen by email erica.sellen@sdcounty.ca.gov or telephone at (619) 321-3380.

PUBLISHED: July 16, 2024

Administration:
Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
2550 Fifth Avenue, Suite 725
San Diego, California 92103
T 619.321.3380
E lafco@sdcounty.ca.gov
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PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of San Diego

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a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, and which newspaper is published for the dissemination of local news and intelligence of a general character, and which newspaper at all the times herein mentioned had and still has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and which newspaper has been established, printed and published at regular intervals in the said City of San Diego, County of San Diego, for a period exceeding one year next preceding the date of publication of the notice hereinafter referred to, and which newspaper is not devoted to nor published for the interests, entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race, or denomination, or any number of same; that the notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instruction of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

07/16/2024

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at San Diego, California, on this 16th day of July, 2024.

CGaza
Signature

Legal No. **0011681038**

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PUBLISHED: July 16, 2024
(SDUT 11681038)

June 10, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Brigette Browning. I am a native San Diegan. I reside in Chula Vista with my father, husband and two children. I am very aware of how LAFCO impacts our communities. I think I would be a wonderful asset to the Board. I have more than 25 years working with low-income workers. I am passionate about rebuilding the middle class and understand how governmental decisions can impact marginalized communities. I have many years mediating disputes and believe conflict resolution is one of my strengths. I welcome the opportunity to serve my community.

Sincerely,

Brigette Browning

BRIGETTE BROWNING





OBJECTIVE

To help raise the voice of working people into decisions made by LAFCO

SKILLS

I am an astute listener who thrives in environments where I need to resolve conflicts. I have worked for 25 years with workers predominately in the Southern part of our County and I feel like their voice is so important in regional decisions.

EXPERIENCE

SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL COUNTIES LABOR COUNCIL, CEO

5/21- Present

In charge of the federation of labor unions. We have more than 100,000 members and I am responsible for representing their diverse interests and promoting a more robust middle class.

UNITE HERE LOCAL 30 - PRESIDENT

2005-present

The top elected leader of a diverse union of more than 6000 workers. In charge of staff development, negotiating contracts, managing health and welfare funds.

EDUCATION

BA 6/1996 UCSD

Environmental Chemistry and Spanish Literature