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

7a

AGENDA REPORT
Business | Action

August 5, 2024

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Keene Simonds, Executive Officer
Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

SUBJECT: **Proposed Update to the Rolling Five-Year Study Schedule**

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will consider approving a proposed update to its rolling five-year study schedule and marked by resetting coverage from FY 2024-2025 to FY 2028-2029. The proposed update is part of an annual process to resync the study schedule to actual authorizations set by the Commission in adopting the annual workplan. The first two years of the proposed update remain largely intact and mirror the adopted workplan. One exception involves adding the previously unscheduled municipal service review on SANDAG and its regional housing, transportation and climate adaption functions. A limited number of other changes in the proposed update are detailed within the report and include adding a new municipal service review on airports in the fifth year. Staff recommends the Commission approve the proposed update with any desired changes.

BACKGROUND

Study Directive | Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence Updates

State law directs San Diego LAFCO to review all local agencies' spheres of influence and update as needed every five years and in doing so actively manage what the Commission sets as the agencies' appropriate current and future boundaries and service areas. State law relatedly specifies LAFCO inform sphere updates by preparing municipal service reviews to

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independently assess the availability and adequacy of local services relative to community needs. The Commission's policies on preparing municipal service reviews are codified as L-106 and includes direction to maintain a five-year study schedule.

Current Study Schedule

San Diego LAFCO approved its current study schedule calendaring municipal service reviews and ancillary sphere of influence updates in November 2023. The current study schedule calendars between five and seven municipal service reviews each year over a rolling five-year period ending in 2028-2029. The five-year coverage period resets (rolls) each year thereafter subject to Commission approval.

A copy of the current study schedule is attached.

Study Schedule Status

San Diego LAFCO is making progress on the adopted study schedule with seven scheduled municipal service reviews currently underway. Three of the seven studies take priority (wholesale water services, healthcare districts, and SANDAG) consistent with the adopted workplan. The remaining municipal service reviews are expected to be completed in fiscal year 2024-2025 and involve regional studies on Carlsbad, Del Mar, Encinitas, Oceanside, Vista, and San Marcos. These studies also include special districts that overlap the regions.

DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to consider approving a proposed update to the five-year rolling study schedule calendaring municipal service reviews, and by extension sphere of influence updates for the affected agencies. The proposed update has been initiated by staff and would make the following changes.

- The proposed update resets the five-year period starting in FY2025.

- Consistent with the current rolling study schedule, the first two years (2025 and 2026) of the proposed update directly sync with the adopted workplan and capture all authorized municipal services reviews irrespective of their priority placement.

- The first two years also include seven municipal service reviews that cover 27 separate government agencies. Most of the seven studies are currently underway and headlined by municipal service reviews on wholesale water services (County Water Authority and Metropolitan Water District) and healthcare districts (Palomar, Fallbrook, Grossmont, and Tri-City).

- Several of the above-mentioned studies have also been recast within the proposed update with a new emphasis on combining regions while also dividing them into city and special district focuses – or parts – as shown in the tables below:

Current **Study Schedule** **Municipal Service Reviews Calendared for FY2023 and FY2024**	
Municipal Service Review	**Affected Agencies**
Wholesale Water Services	CWA + MWD
Healthcare Districts	Palomar, Fallbrook, Grossmont, and Tri-City
SANDAG	SANDAG
Oceanside Region	City of Oceanside, Morro Hills CSD, and Oceanside Harbor District
Carlsbad Region	City of Carlsbad, Carlsbad MWD, and Leucadia WD
San Marcos Region	City of San Marcos, San Marcos FPD, and Vallecitos WD
Vista Region	City of Vista, Vista ID, Vista FPD, and Buena SD
Del Mar – Solana Beach Region	Cities of Del Mar + Solana Beach, Santa Fe ID, and CSA 17
Encinitas Region	City of Encinitas, Olivenhain MWD, San Dieguito WD

Proposed Update **to Study Schedule** **Municipal Service Reviews Calendared for FY2024 and FY2025**	
Municipal Service Review	**Affected Agencies**
Wholesale Water Services	CWA + MET
Healthcare Districts	Palomar, Fallbrook, Grossmont, and Tri-City
… Part I: Macro	*(demographics + service functions*
… Part II: Micro	*(community needs)*
SANDAG	SANDAG
Oceanside Region	City of Oceanside, Morro Hills CSD, and Oceanside Harbor District
Carlsbad + Encinitas Region	
… Part I: Cities	Cities of Carlsbad + Encinitas
… Part II: Special Districts	Carlsbad MWD, Leucadia WD, Olivenhain WD, San Dieguito WD
Central 78 Corridor Region	
… Part I: Cities	Cities of San Marcos + Vista
… Part II: Special Districts	Vista ID, Buena SD, Vallecitos WD, San Marcos + Vista FPD
Del Mar + Solana Beach Region	
… Part I: Cities	Cities of Del Mar + Solana Beach
… Part II: Special Districts	CSA 17 and Santa Fe ID

- Consistent with the current rolling study schedule the third to fifth years of the proposed update are tentatively calendared and done so to help guide and telegraph future decision-making (i.e., adopt future workplans and reset future study schedules). The municipal service reviews will remain in tentative status until added to the first year and concurrently placed in the workplan. Notable changes include the addition of two new municipal service reviews involving the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System and San Diego Airports – to include airports within the County and jurisdictions – in FY2027 and FY2029, respectively.

ANALYSIS

The proposed update to the rolling Study Schedule before San Diego LAFCO is part of an annual process to resync the schedule to actual authorizations set by the Commission in adopting the annual workplan. This proposed update – markedly – resets the five-year calendar in preparing municipal service reviews and any related sphere of influence updates to reflect the recently adopted workplan for FY 2024-2025. The first two years of the proposed update remain largely intact with an exception involving the addition of a previously unscheduled municipal service review on SANDAG. Other changes as detailed in the preceding section include recasting some of the scheduled municipal service reviews with a new emphasis on combining regions while also dividing them into city and special district focuses. Additions to the study schedule – proposed within this update – include adding new municipal service reviews on the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System and San Diego Airports in the third and fifth year, respectively.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO approve the proposed update to the study schedule and in doing so replace the current version from November 2023. This recommendation is consistent with taking the actions outlined in the proceeding section as Alternative One.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The following alternatives are available to San Diego LAFCO:

Alternative One (recommended):
Approve the proposed update to the rolling study schedule as detailed with any desired changes with an immediate effective date.

Alternative Two:
Continue consideration of the item to a future meeting and provide direction to staff for more information and/or outreach as needed.

Alternate Three:
Take no action.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the agenda for action as part of San Diego LAFCO's business calendar. The following procedures, accordingly, are recommended.

1) Receive verbal report from staff unless waived.
2) Commission discussion.
3) Consider the staff recommendation.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,

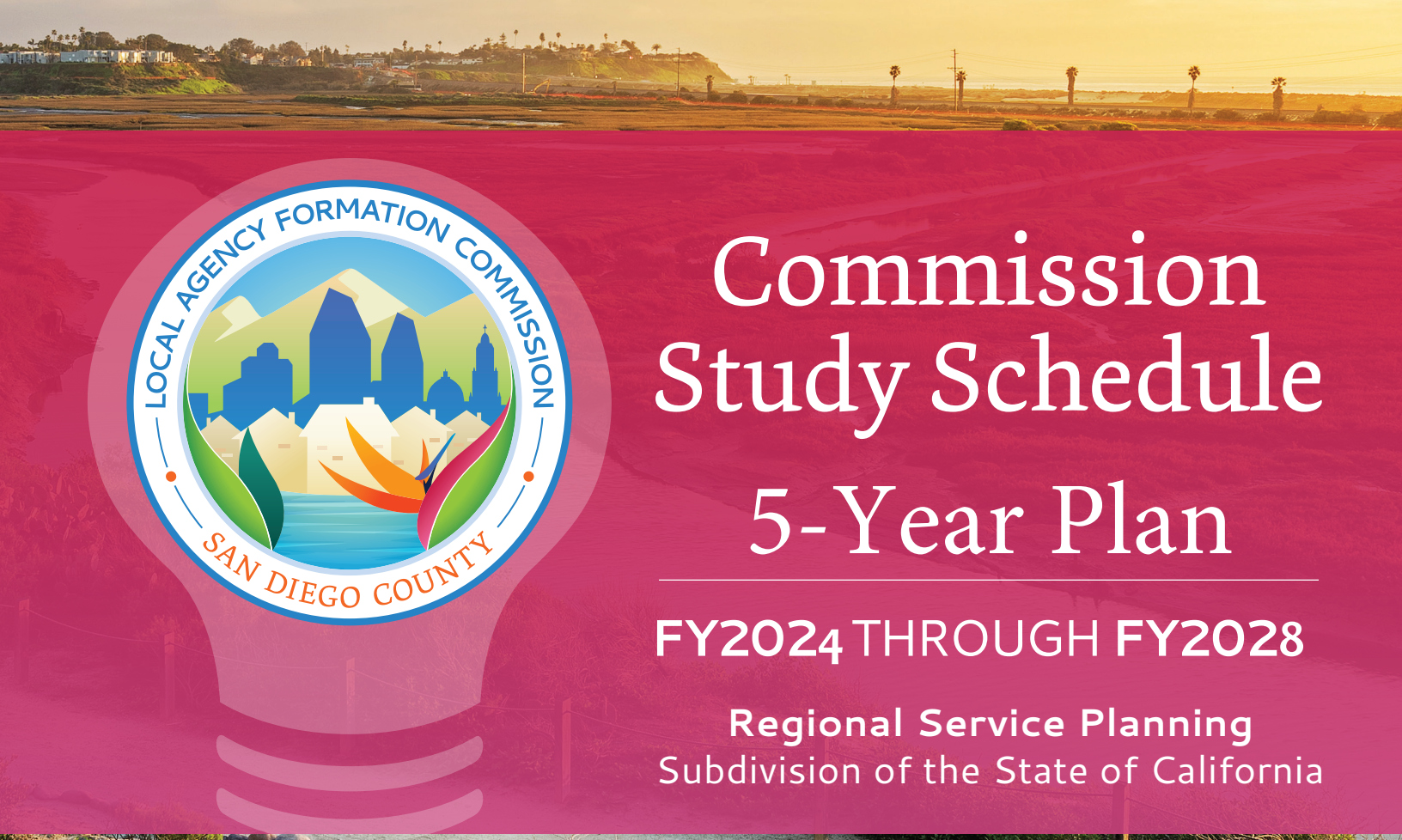


Priscilla Mumpower
Assistant Executive Officer

Attachments:

1) Current Five-Year Study Schedule: FY2023 to FY2028

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Commission Study Schedule 5-Year Plan

FY2024 THROUGH FY2028

Regional Service Planning
Subdivision of the State of California



Study Directive

State law directs San Diego LAFCO to review spheres of influence for all cities and special districts and update as needed (affirm, expand, reduce, etc.) every five years and by extension mark the agencies' appropriate current and future boundaries and service areas. Pertinently, local agencies cannot annex and/or extend services outside their spheres with limited exceptions. State law also specifies San Diego LAFCO must inform the sphere updates by preparing comprehensive evaluations – titled municipal service reviews – to determine the availability and adequacy of local governmental services as well as governance responsiveness relative to community needs.

Study Schedule

San Diego LAFCO has established a five-year rolling Study Schedule to guide its statutory task to review and update as appropriate the spheres of influence of cities and special districts under the Commission's oversight. The rolling Study Schedule is premised on the Commission's policy interest to proactively calendar municipal service reviews and use these documents to determine the subsequent scope of any related sphere of influence updates for the affected agencies. The Commission also regularly draws on the municipal service reviews to inform its' decision-making on boundary changes.

Rolling Study Schedule Format

The Study Schedule is a living or rolling document that the Commission resets yearly in concert with the annual budget and workplan adoptions. The rolling study schedule spans 5 fiscal years with only the first year being set. The second through fifth years are tentatively calendared, and done so to help guide and telegraph future decision-making. This approach allows the Commission the flexibility to redirect staff resources where needed should calendar studies extend beyond one year while also granting staff the ability to prioritize applicant proposals.

SEE THE SCHEDULE »

2023-2024 + 2024-2025

NORTH COUNTY FOCUS

Carlsbad Region

- City of Carlsbad
- Carlsbad MWD
- Leucadia WD

Vista Region

- City of San Marcos
- Buena SD*
- San Marcos FPD
- Vallecitos WD
- Vista ID*

San Marcos Region

- City of Vista
- Vista ID*
- Vista FPD
- Buena SD*

Healthcare Districts

- Fallbrook HCD
- Grossmont HCD
- Palomar HCD
- Tri-City HCD

Del Mar – Solana Beach Region

- City of Del Mar
- City of Solana Beach
- Santa Fe ID
- CSA No. 17 – Ambulance *

Encinitas Region

- City of Encinitas
- Leucadia WWD *
- Olivenhain MWD
- San Dieguito WD
- CSA 17 – Ambulance*

Oceanside Region

- City of Oceanside
- Morreo Hills CSD
- Oceanside Harbor District

Wholesale Water Services

- San Diego County Water Authority
- Metropolitan Water District

*Denotes a special district included in more than one study.



Oceanside California State Beach ▶



Chula Vista is the second largest city in the San Diego metropolitan area.

2025 – 2026

SOUTHWEST COUNTY FOCUS

Macro Fire Service Study

- State: CAL FIRE
- Cities
- Special Districts
- Tribes

Metro San Diego Region

- City of San Diego
- San Diego Unified PD

Rancho Santa Fe Region

- Fairbanks Ranch CSD
- Questhaven MWD
- Rancho Santa Fe CSD
- Rancho Santa Fe FPD
- Whispering Palms CSD
- CSA No. 17 – Ambulance*
- CSA No. 83 – San Dieguito Parks

Silver Strand Region

- City of Coronado
- City of Imperial Beach

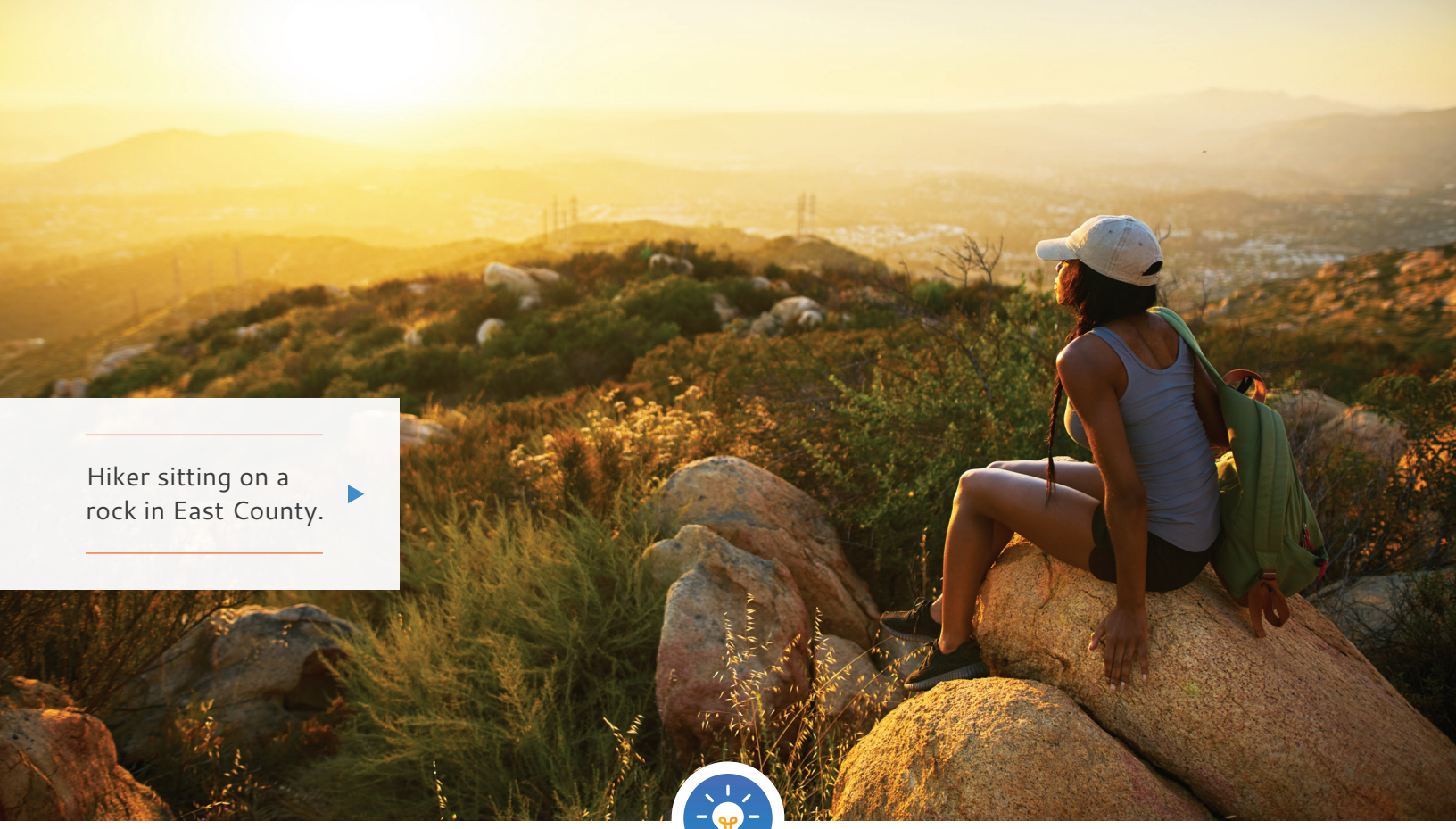
South Coast Region

- City of Chula Vista
- City of National City
- Bonita-Sunnyside FPD
- Lower Sweetwater FPD
- Otay WD*
- San Diego County SD*
- South Bay ID
- CSA No. 122 – Planning

Transit Services

- North County TD

*Denotes a special district included in more than one study.



Hiker sitting on a rock in East County.

2026 – 2027

EAST COUNTY FOCUS

Alpine – Lakeside Region

- Alpine FPD
- Lakeside FPD
- Lakeside WD
- Padre Dam MWD*
- San Diego County SD*
- CSA No. 69 – Ambulance
- CSA No. 136 – Sundance Basin

El Cajon – Santee Region

- City of El Cajon
- City of Santee
- Helix WD*
- Padre Dam MWD*

Pauma Valley Region

- Mootamai MWD
- Rincon Ranch CSD
- Pauma CSD
- San Luis Rey MWD
- Yuima MWD

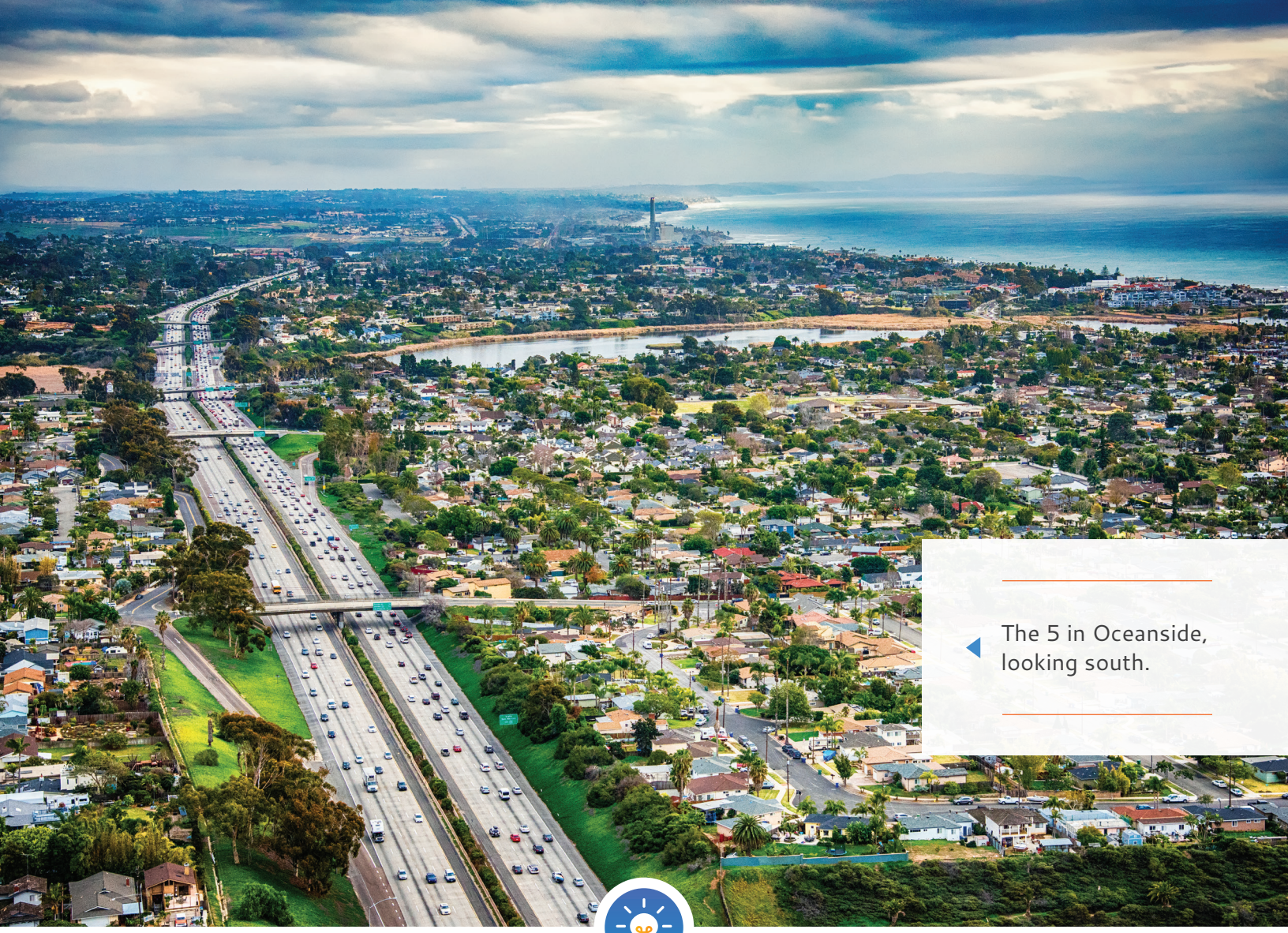
La Mesa – Lemon Grove Region

- City of La Mesa
- City of Lemon Grove
- Helix WD*
- Lemon Grove Roadway LD
- Lemon Grove SD
- San Diego County SD*

Spring Valley Region

- Otay MWD*
- San Miguel FPD
- San Diego County SD*
- CSA No. 69 – Ambulance*
- CSA No. 128 – Parks

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The 5 in Oceanside, looking south.

2027 – 2028

MISCELLANEOUS

Borrego Region
- Borrego Springs FPD
- Borrego WD
- Coachella Valley WD

Cemetery Services
- North County CD
- Pomerado CD
- Ramona CD
- Valley Center CD

Flood Control Services
- San Diego County FCD
- Cities
- Special Districts

Alpine - Lakeside Region
- Alpine FPD
- Lakeside FPD
- Lakeside WD
- Padre Dam MWD *
- San Diego County SD
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East Laguna Summit Region
- Canebrake WD
- Descanso WD
- Jacumba CSD
- San Diego County SD
- CSA No. 137 - Live Oak Springs

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2025 – 2026

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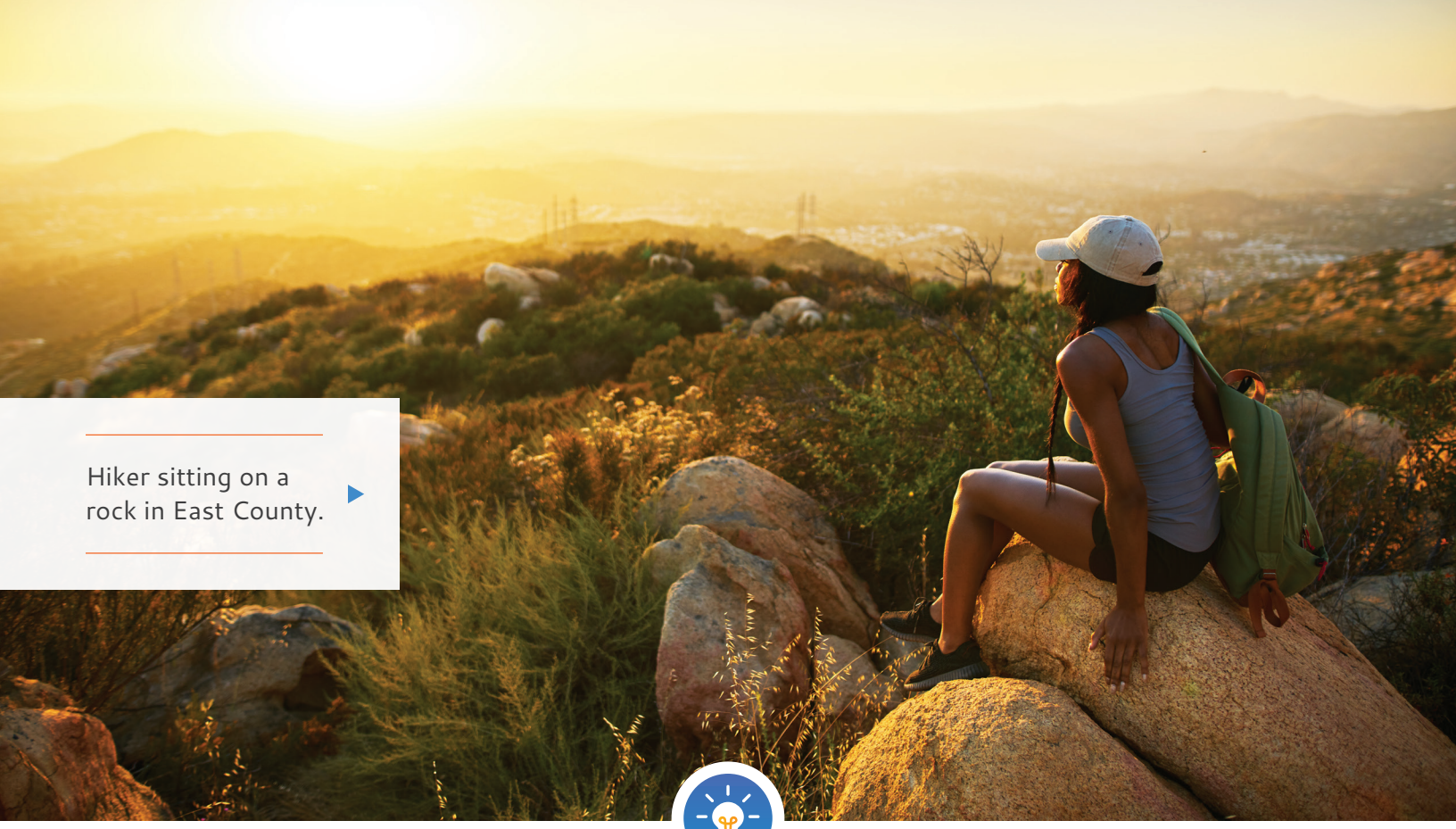
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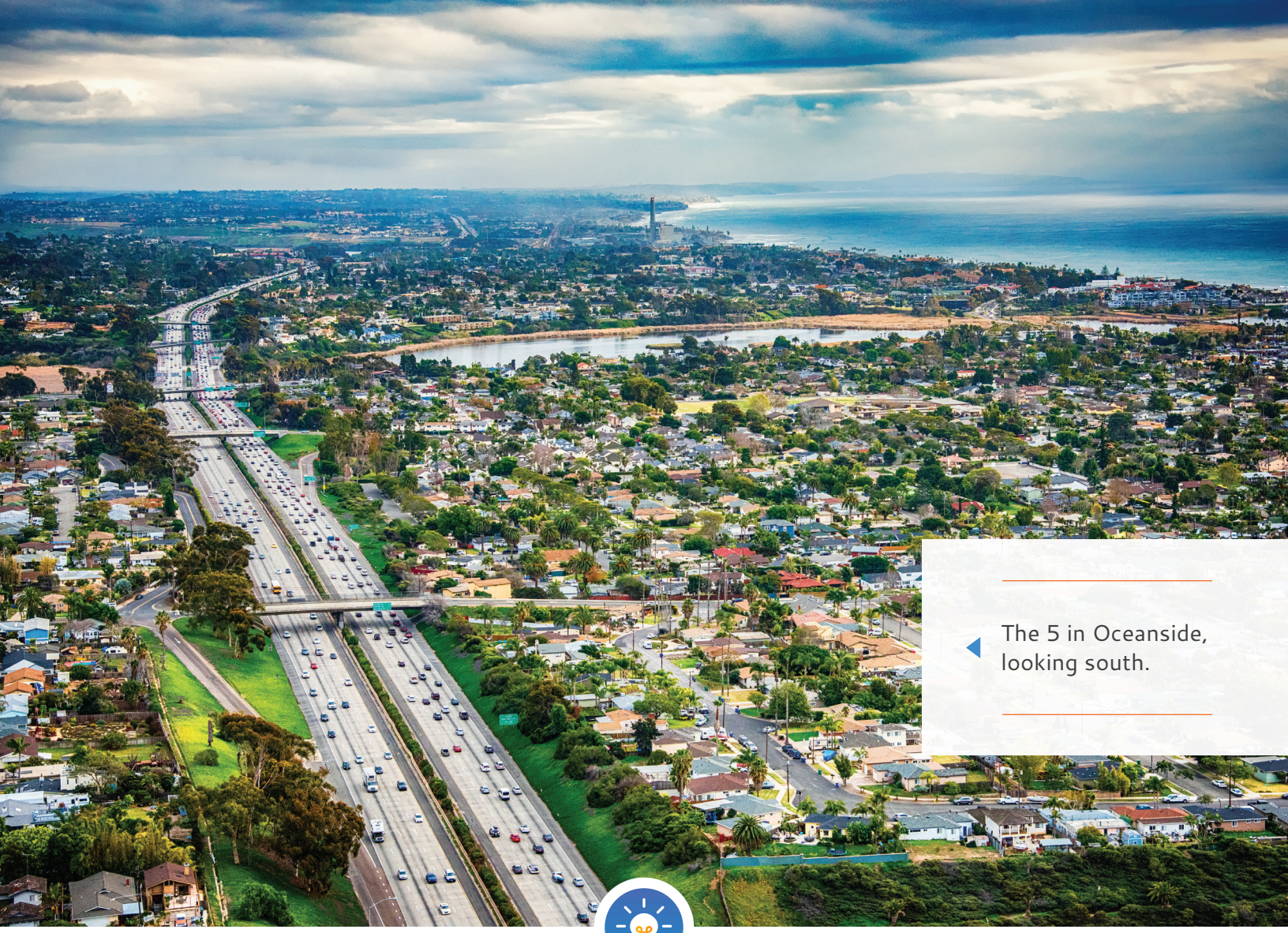
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