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AGENDA REPORT
Consent | Information

February 2, 2026

TO: Chair Whitburn and Commissioners

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

SUBJECT: **Progress Report on 2025-2026 Workplan**

SUMMARY

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive an update on the adopted 2025–2026 workplan and related staff activities. Eleven projects have been completed or are nearing completion. Among those advancing, two high-priority municipal service reviews — Carlsbad Region and Wholesale Water Providers — have entered their 60-day administrative review with subject agencies, and a third involving the Encinitas Region is anticipated to follow within the next month. The annual updates to the Local Agency Directory and the Sphere of Influence – Municipal Service Review Registry are separately nearing completion, with both items scheduled for action on the consent calendar. This item is provided for information only.

BACKGROUND

San Diego LAFCO adopted its current fiscal year workplan at a public hearing in May 2025. The workplan includes 30 special projects divided into two distinct categories – statutory and administrative – with priority assignments established by the Commission.

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

Paloma Aguirre, County of San Diego
Joel Anderson, County of San Diego
Monica M. Steppe, Alt., County of San Diego
Kristi 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 Drake, Alt., Rincon del Diablo
Brigette Browning, General Public
Eileen Delaney, Alt., General Public

DISCUSSION

This item provides the Commission with an update on the adopted 2025–2026 workplan. Attachment One provides a status on all 30 projects and is supplemented by the following summary of recent project milestones.

Priority No. 1a | Municipal Service Review: Wholesale Water Service Providers
This study evaluates the performance and governance of the two wholesale water agencies serving the region — San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). The administrative draft of the CWA document is now under 60-day review by the agency and is scheduled for initial Commission discussion as early as April 2026. An administrative draft of the MWD document is expected to be issued within the next 30 days.

Project Manager: Priscilla Mumpower, Assistant Executive Officer

Priority No. 4a | Municipal Service Review: Carlsbad Subregion
The first part of this bifurcated study covers the City of Carlsbad and the Carlsbad Municipal Water District. Staff has issued administrative drafts to both agencies as part of a 60-day review period. The public draft is expected to be presented to the Commission as early as March 2026.

Project Manager: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

Priority No. 4b | Municipal Service Review: Encinitas Subregion
The second part of this bifurcated study covers the City of Encinitas, Olivenhain Municipal Water District, Leucadia Wastewater District, and San Dieguito Water District. Staff is currently circulating technical write-ups with subject agencies and anticipates issuing administrative drafts within the next two months. The public draft is expected to be presented to the Commission as early as May 2026.

Project Manager: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

Priority No. 15 | Special Study: Oceanside Small Craft Harbor District
This special study assesses available governance options for the Oceanside Small Craft Harbor District given its status as a dependent district of the City of Oceanside. Staff has been working with a community stakeholder group and recently completed interviews with potential consultants to assist in a technical review of the agency's finances, including revenue enhancement opportunities under baseline and expanded service functions. Contract negotiations have commenced with the stakeholder group's selected consultant, with work expected to begin later this spring.

Project Manager: Michaela Peters, Analyst II

ANALYSIS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is presented to San Diego LAFCO for information only.

ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

None.

PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on San Diego LAFCO's agenda as part of the consent calendar. A successful motion to approve the consent calendar will include taking affirmative action on the staff recommendation unless otherwise specified by the Commission.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,



Priscilla Mumpower
Assistant Executive Officer

Attachment:

1) 2025-2026 Workplan Status

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ADOPTED WORKPLAN FOR FY2025-2026
Status as of January 23, 2026

Priority	Tier	Type	Project	Description
Ongoing	…	Statutory	Applicant Proposals and Requests	Prioritize resources to address applicant proposals and related requests
Ongoing	…	Administrative	Targeted LAFCO Presentations	Coordinate timely public outreach; emphasis on informing stakeholders ahead of MSR work
Ongoing	…	Statutory	Workplan and Budget Management	Actively manage the workplan and budget resources with regular updates to the Commission

Priority	Tier	Type	Project	Description	Status
1a	Highest	Statutory	MSR | Wholesale Water Service Providers	Service-specific study on principal wholesale water suppliers – CWA (comprehensive) + MET (abbreviated)	
1b	Highest	Statutory	MSR | Healthcare Districts	Service-specific study of the four healthcare districts in San Diego County; addendum expected	
3	Highest	Statutory	MSR | SANDAG	Agency-specific study of SANDAG (transportation, housing planning, + climate adaption planning)	
4a	Highest	Statutory	MSR | Carlsbad-Encinitas Region I: Carlsbad	Region-specific study on City of Carlsbad + Carlsbad MWD	
4b	Highest	Statutory	MSR | Carlsbad-Encinitas Region II: Encinitas	Region-specific study on City of Encinitas + special districts (Olivenhain, Leucadia, San Dieguito)	
6a	High	Statutory	MSR | Vista-San Marcos Region I: San Marcos	Regional MSR on City of San Marcos + special districts (Vallecitos, San Marcos FPD, Vista ID)	
6b	High	Statutory	MSR | Vista-San Marcos Region II: Vista	Regional MSR on City of Vista + Buena SD	
8	High	Administrative	White Paper | Homeless Services	Evaluate the scope-scale of homeless services in SD County + potential governance options	
9	High	Administrative	White Paper | Public Recreation @ City Reservoirs	Assess public recreation at City of SD's unincorporated reservoirs + potential governance alternatives	
10	High	Administrative	SALC Planning Grant 2.0	Complete multi-year grant to inform + enhance small farming operations in SD County	
11a	High-Mid	Statutory	MSR | Solana Beach – Del Mar Region I: Cities	Region-specific study on mid coast I-5 municipalities (Solana Beach and Del Mar)	
11b	High-Mid	Statutory	MSR | Solana Beach – Del Mar Region II: Districts	Regional MSR on mid coast I-5 districts (Santa Fe ID + CSA 17)	
13	High-Mid	Administrative	Website Refresh + Content Expansion	Work with outside consultant to design and launch website refresh w/enhanced end-user features	
14	High-Mid	Statutory	MSR | San Diego Unified Port District	Agency-specific study of the Port (harbor, recreation, public safety, + community development)	
15	High-Mid	Statutory	Special Study | Oceanside SCHD	Prepare special study on SCHD detailing revenues/expenses + potential governance alternatives	
16	Mid	Administrative	Outside Audit | RFP + Selection	Prepare and circulate RFP and select new outside auditor per GASB best practices	
17	Mid	Administrative	Outside Audit | FY2025	Complete outside audit of financial statements for FY25 with supplemental information	
18	Mid	Administrative	Pilot Grant Program	Establish pilot program to explore grant opportunities to help fund special projects at LAFCO	
19	Mid	Administrative	Special Districts Advisory Committee	Provide administrative support to the SDAC and hold no less than three meetings in FY2026	
20	Mid	Administrative	Cities Advisory Committee	Provide administrative support to the CAC and hold no less than two meetings in FY2026	

Priority	Level	Type	Project	Description	Status
21	Mid-Low	Statutory	RCD Ad Hoc Committee: Part II	Complete part II of RCD boundary true ups to inform sphere updates for local RCDs	
22	Mid-Low	Statutory	MSR | South Coast Region I – Cities	Region-specific study on south coast Cities (Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach and National City)	
23	Mid-Low	Statutory	MSR | Healthcare Districts: Addendum	Address community healthcare needs and related resources + potential governance alternatives	
24	Mid-Low	Administrative	Alternative Membership Organization	Work with other LAFCOs to receive/provide ongoing education and legislative advocacy services	
25	Mid-Low	Administrative	Annual Local Agency Directory	Update and publish annual local agency directory subject to LAFCO oversight	
26	Low	Administrative	Legislative Proposal | UC Berkeley Report	Sponsor/facilitate legislation implementing UC report recommendations on LAFCO efficiencies	
27	Low	Administrative	Commissioner Onboarding	Create a digital toolkit for new Commissioners to help acclimatize to LAFCO	
28	Low	Administrative	Annual SOI-MSR Registry	Update and publish annual registry showing all recorded SOI and MSR actions	
29	Low	Statutory	Applicant Procedures	Update and streamline LAFCO application materials + establish related protocols	
30	Low	Administrative	Featured Work + Tutorial Videos	Produce videos featuring special projects as well as primers on LAFCO duties for online distribution	
	Bullpen	Statutory	MSR | City of San Diego	Agency-specific study and core municipal service functions (water, wastewater, public safety, etc.)	
	Bullpen	Statutory	White Paper | Community Choice	Evaluate the scope and scale of CCAs in SD County and connectivity to LAFCO duties and interests	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Outreach to Sunset/Melrose "Island"	Perform targeted outreach to the island between Oceanside + Vista to assess service needs + possible annexation interests	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Service + Fiscal Indicators	Develop online browser feature to depict service + fiscal indicators among local agencies in SD County	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Liaison with Local Tribes	Establish communication protocols with local tribes with respect to shared interests in regional services + CEQA consultations	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Morro Hills CSD Follow Up	Coordinate and/or otherwise facilitate discussions with County Sheriff to enhance traffic enforcement within the CSD	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Policy Review | Health + Safety Fee Reductions	Review options to revise existing fee reductions for proposals/requests involving public health or safety threats	
	Bullpen	Administrative	LAFCO Meeting Room	Explore opportunities to secure a dedicated LAFCO meeting room with scaled dais and A/V enhancements	
	Bullpen	Statutory	White Paper | Garbage + Landfill Services	Evaluate the scope and scale of garbage collection and disposal services in SD County	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Legislative Proposal | G.C. 56430	Sponsor and/or facilitate amendments establishing community engagement enhancements in MSR statute	
	Bullpen	Statutory	White Paper | School Districts	Evaluate scope and scale of school districts and their baseline capacities for reference in municipal service reviews	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Policy Review | Island Annexations	Consider options to define "substantially surrounded" and provide related mapping services	
	Bullpen	Administrative	LAFCO Workshop	Organize a special workshop for the Commission to discuss strategic objectives over the next five-year period	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Public Access Television	Establish public broadcasting LAFCO meetings on local government channels	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Procedural Flow Charts	Create user friendly flow charts for various LAFCO statutory processes for online publication	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Policy | Fee Schedule Update	Review and update fee schedule to sync with current costs and related considerations	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Policy | CEQA Guidelines	Review and update existing CEQA Implementation guidelines relative to current statute and best practices	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities	Update DUC mapping designations (DUC) in San Diego County based on current census information	
	Bullpen	Administrative	County Planning Groups	Monitor regular meetings of the County's 28 Planning and or Sponsor Groups and directly engage as appropriate	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Local Agency Finder Tool	Develop online feature for users to enter address to identify all overlapping local jurisdictions (cities and districts)	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Policy | Commission Rule No. 4	Modernize Rule No. 4 and its provisions to regulate special districts' service functions and classes	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Special Study | Escondido + Rincon	Study options to consolidate (functional and political) the City of Escondido and Rincon del Diablo MWD	
	Bullpen	Statutory	White Paper | JPAs	Evaluate the status of JPA filings in SD County relative to LAFCO's task in SB 1261	
	Bullpen	Administrative	Policy | Cities Advisory Committee	Coordinate with CAD in updating bylaws and related procedures to sync with current interests/priorities	
	Bullpen	Statutory	Legislative Proposal | G.C. 56133	Sponsor/facilitate amendments to clarify LAFCOs' authority to determine out-of-agency exemptions in (e)	

Complete | Near Complete | Underway | Pending