SAN DIEGO LAFCO

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5a
Proposed Draft Update to the Rolling Five-Year Study Schedule

7/17/2026

Proposed Draft Update to Rolling Five-Year Study Schedule

1
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6

- Annual update to advance planning horizon one year
  - Reset: Fiscal Years 2026-2030 ➡ Fiscal Years 2027–2031
- Reflects FY 2026–2027 adopted workplan
- Incorporates:
  - Recently completed studies
  - Prior Commission direction
  - Evolving service delivery models
- Framework Remains Unchanged:
  - Years 1–2: Authorized & funded studies
  - Years 3–5: Long-range planning horizon

Years 1–2 (FY2027–FY2028): Authorized & Funded Studies

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Continuing Studies:

- Healthcare Services
- SANDAG
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Marcos/Vista
- Del Mar/Solana Beach
- Encinitas Subregion

Refinements:

- ✓ Carlsbad Subregion completed & removed
- ✓ Wholesale Water MSR removed and reprogrammed in years 4 & 5
- ✓ Healthcare study expanded to two-part study
- ✓ City of San Diego & South Coast Part II advanced
- ✓ Rancho Santa Fe Region, Wastewater Joint Powers Authorities, Silver Strand Cities, and Public Transit Services reviews have been shifted to FY2029.

Years 3–5 (FY2029–FY2031): Long-Range Planning

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New Study

- Mosquito Abatement & Vector Services

Shifted to FY 2029

- Rancho Santa Fe Region, Wastewater Joint Powers Authorities, Silver Strand Cities, and Public Transit Services reviews

Expanded & Advanced Study

- Cemetery Services (expanded & advanced to FY 2029)

Re-calendared Studies

- Metropolitan Water District (Year 4: FY2030)
- San Diego County Water Authority (Year 5: FY2031)

Today's Ask of the Committee

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Review, discuss, and provide feedback, as needed.

Proposed schedule will be presented to the Commission in August.

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Agenda Item No. 5a
Comments/Questions?

7/17/2026

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SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026

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Agenda Item No. 5b

Final Report on State Planning Grant (SALC 2.0)

7/17/2026

PROJECT ORIGINS

How This Project Began

SALC 1.0 surfaced three recurring challenges for regional agriculture.



Land Access

Securing farmable land



Water Availability

Reliable, affordable supply



Workforce

A skilled labor pipeline

PURPOSE

Why SALC 2.0?

Understand the economics of small-scale farming — and find ways to sustain it.

FUNDED BY
CA Strategic Growth Council

ADMINISTERED BY
Dept. of Conservation

PROTECTS
Ag land · climate goals

THE GRANT

Six Tasks, Four Deliverables



1. Grant Management
2. **Market Analysis**
3. **Gap Analysis**
4. Outreach & Education
5. **Strategic Action Plan**
6. **Final Report: Cultivating Solutions**

MARKET ANALYSIS

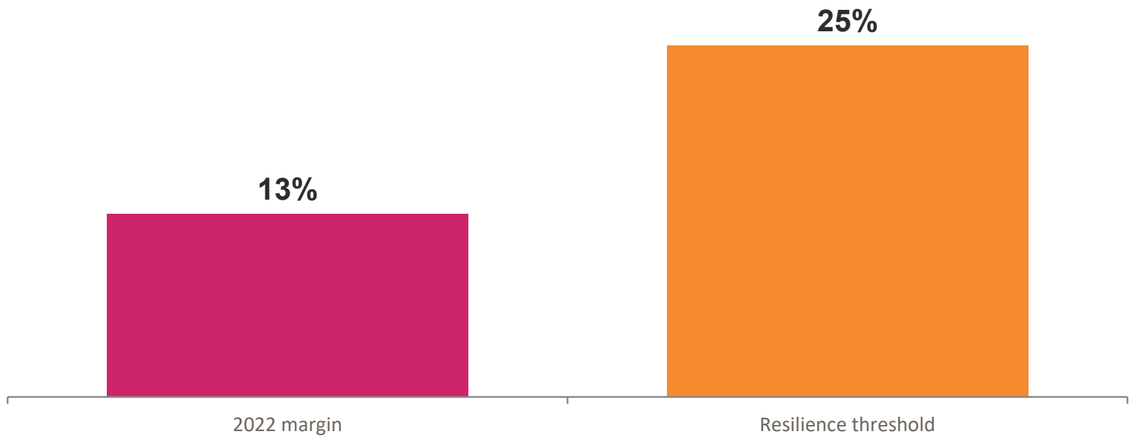
Viable — But Fragile

4,000+
farms countywide

18 / day
acres of ag land lost

-1 Farm
every 3 and half days

OPERATING MARGIN vs. RESILIENCE THRESHOLD



Profitable today — little cushion for new pressures.

GAP ANALYSIS

Profitability at the Farm Level

Avocados

Lemons

Tomatoes

Strawberries

Sensitive to four factors — water affordability is #1:

Labor

Prices

Yields

Water



AG-PAT

Model farm profitability under any conditions.

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

The Four "Seeds"

01

Strengthen Infrastructure

Support systems for producers

02

Grow Local Demand

Awareness & local markets

03

Cultivate Policy

A supportive environment

04

Coordinate Regionally

Partnership & advocacy

LAFCO'S ROLE

Where LAFCO Can Lead

Convene on Water

A regional ag water advisory committee

Expand Reviews

Ag economics within Municipal Service Reviews

Track Progress

Annual reporting on the action plan

The priority: *water affordability for producers.*

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Agenda Item No. 5b
Comments/Questions

7/17/2026

TABLE 5-1: Summary of Strategic Actions

Number	Strategic Action Recommendations
Seed 1 – Improve Infrastructure and Systems that Support Local Producers	
Tool 1A	Increase access to direct-to-consumer models, such as farmers' markets, food hubs, farm stands, and co-ops, by addressing barriers, streamlining permitting processes, and strengthening regional coordination.
Tool 1B	Identify opportunities to streamline the establishment of farm employee housing and explore scalable, low-cost, and flexible farm worker housing models (temporary, shared facilities).
Tool 1C	Support the expansion and promotion of the CropSWAP Program and similar incentive programs.
Tool 1D	Support the development of regional food system infrastructure (i.e. cold storage, processing, distribution centers, and packaging facilities) to reduce costs for local producers.
Tool 1E	Support local food procurement by local institutions and distributors (e.g., Sysco, public schools, County institutions) by addressing barriers and creating local sourcing initiatives that track and assess product origin to strengthen local supply chain visibility.
Tool 1F	Work with regional partners to create a centralized, multilingual user-friendly online platform to help producers navigate local regulations, access resources such as funding opportunities, permitting information, and connect with relevant agency staff.
Seed 2 – Grow Consumer Awareness and Local Market Demand	
Tool 2A	Support and expand existing efforts to develop a regional branding campaign and consumer education campaign that promotes San Diego-grown products, strengthens community connections, and encourages local purchasing programs to intensify demands for locally grown agricultural products and support a resilient, sustainable food system.
Tool 2B	Develop a coordinated outreach strategy to increase producer awareness of available programs, funding opportunities, technical assistance, and regulatory resources.
Tool 2C	Strengthen pathways into future agriculture partnerships with educational programs to support heritage farming, and cultivate the next generation of producers.

TABLE 5-1: Summary of Strategic Actions (Cont.)

Number	Strategic Action Recommendations
Seed 3 – Cultivate a Supportive Policy Environment	
Tool 3A	Ensure regulations and development standards enable on-farm marketing and direct-to-consumer systems (e.g., agritourism, farm stands, Pick-Your-Own).
Tool 3B	Promote the adoption of climate-smart land management practices that enhance soil health, use water efficiently, improve long-term productivity, soil sustainability, and create diversified revenue streams for producers.
Tool 3C	Support the protection of high-risk agricultural lands by purchasing conservation easements.
Tool 3D	Explore expanded leasing opportunities on publicly owned lands, with a focus on underserved and/or emerging producers.
Tool 3E	Develop a formal grants policy to guide future grant applications that prioritizes, and benefits farmers directly and includes opportunities for agricultural stakeholder input prior to submittal.
Seed 4 – Foster Regional Alignment and Agricultural Advocacy	
Tool 4A	Coordinate with regional partners to establish an Agricultural Ombudsman position to serve as a centralized point of contact to support producers with navigating government systems, gaining access to capital and land, grant funding, and other incentive programs and to coordinate efforts across cities and agencies.
Tool 4B	Coordinate with regional partners to establish a Regional Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to assess the impacts of state and local water policies on agriculture, advise on regulatory changes, explore targeted subsidy programs, identify tiered rate schedules, and guide research on irrigation efficiency and crop-specific water use.
Tool 4C	Develop and implement a cross-sector training and coordination program for local agency staff, organizations, and community leaders to build shared understanding of agricultural operational issues, concerns, access, and improve service delivery to producers.
Tool 4D	Expand agriculture analysis in local government planning documents to recognize the economic contribution of the local agricultural industry.
Tool 4E	Develop an implementation plan/strategy and present an annual report on the progress and status of the Strategic Actions to the LAFCO Commission and stakeholders.

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5c

Resource Conservation Districts 2.0 Update

7/17/2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5c
Comments/Questions

7/17/2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5d

Workplan Update on Medium Priority Project

San Diego LAFCO Website Refresh + Content Expansion

7/17/2026

WEBSITE REFRESH + CONTENT EXPANSION

HIGH-MID PRIORITY PROJECT
NO.13

AESTHETIC APPEAL

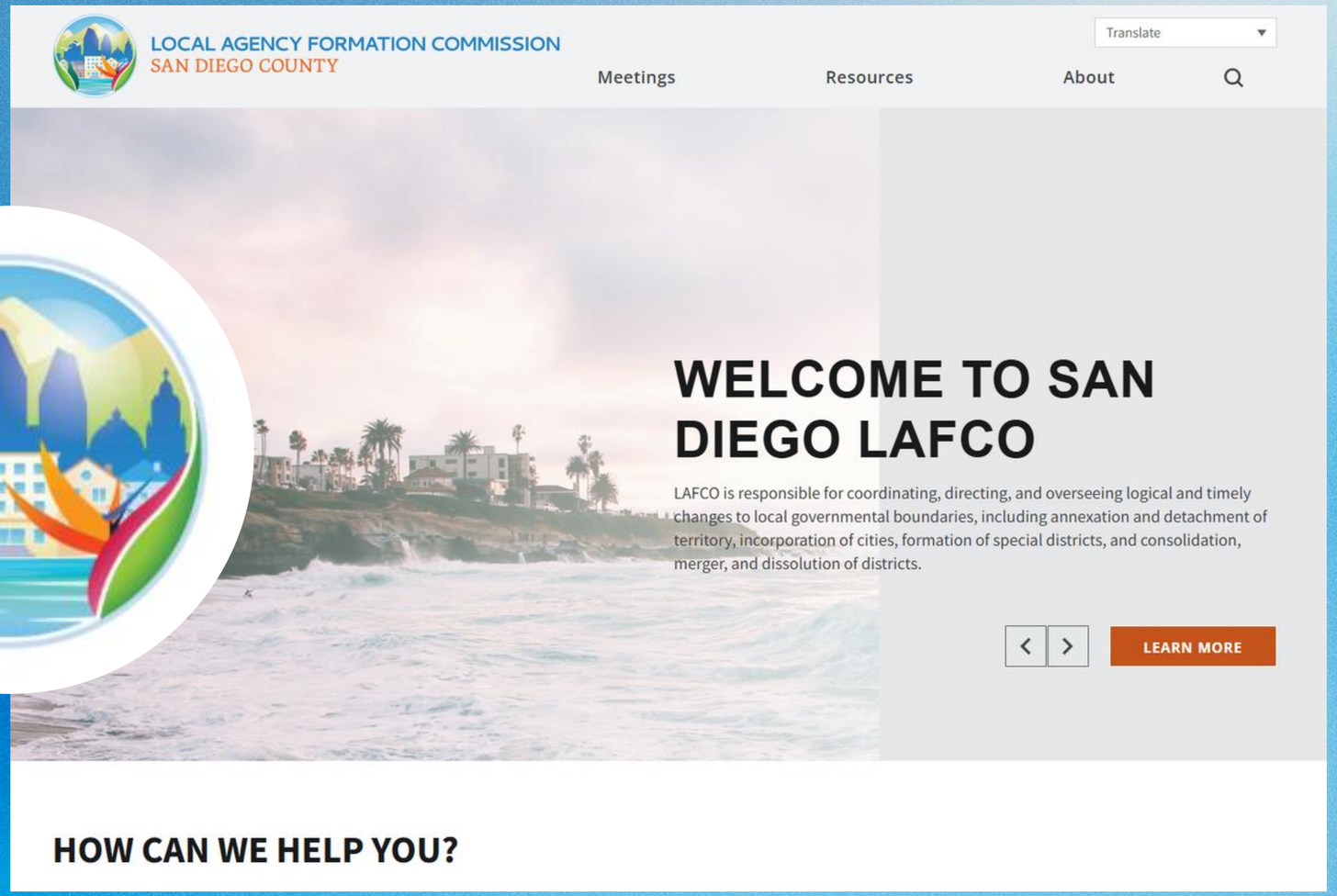
ACCESSIBILITY

USABILITY

EXPANDED CONTENT

LONG-TERM COMPLIANCE

OUR CURRENT LOOK



A FRESH LOOK

SAN DIEGO LAFCO EST. 1963

A FRESH LOOK

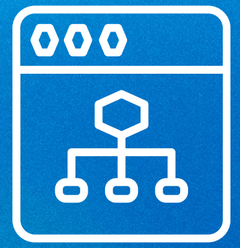

Welcome to the new San Diego LAFCO website! As our new website is being built, please enjoy our temporary home page.
SAN DIEGO LAFCO
EST. 1963
Meetings
Resources
About
English
What We Do
LAFCOs coordinate, direct, and oversee logical and timely changes to local governmental boundaries.

WEBSITE REFRESH + CONTENT EXPANSION

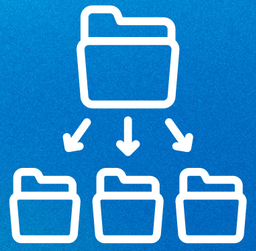
COMMITTEE FEEDBACK



USEFUL INFO



ORGANIZATION



YOUR TIPS



INSPIRATION

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5d
Comments/Questions?

7/17/2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5e
Approval of Meeting Calendar and Special District Spotlight

7/17/2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

Agenda Item No. 5e
Comments/Questions?

7/17/2026

SAN DIEGO LAFCO

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

JULY 17, 2026