

CITY of CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA



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May 27, 2014

Members of the City Council

BY: *J. Alexander*

J. Bradley Stein - Mayor
Gregg Carty - Vice Mayor
Al Clark
Wade Nomura
Fred Shaw

Paul Hood,
Executive Officer
Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission
103 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: 2014-15 Santa Barbara LAFCO Proposed Budget

Dear Mr. Hood:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on LAFCO's proposed annual budget. The proposed budget table provided as a part of the email notification on May 9, 2014, describes a significant increase in projected expenses over recent prior years; however, we were not provided any details to support the basis for the changes. We note that the budget anticipates financial support from Santa Barbara County government agencies increasing by nearly \$90,000 to over \$400K and believe that it would be appropriate, prior to the Commission's consideration of the budget, to provide information to the affected agencies sufficient to allow a better understanding of the proposal.

As you are aware, in recent years public agencies in our area have made significant reductions in service levels in order to bring expenses in line with available revenues. We believe that as an agency reliant upon local government and special district revenues to operate, LAFCO should be considerate of the financial constraints of these agencies and work hard to keep expenses down. We encourage LAFCO to reconsider the proposed budget in order to reduce expenditure amounts.

Please direct any additional LAFCO budget information made available prior to the June 5th hearing to our attention. Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Dave Durlinger
City Manager
City of Carpinteria

Mike Mingee
Fire Chief
Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection
District