

LAFCO 4/7 meeting

LAFCO Boardmembers,

With the Natural History Museum's annexation application, one can argue that the city Sphere Of Influence is and encroachment on the County.
The properties in proximity to the woodland acres are in the County with the exception of the Museum campus that was originally in the county.

Neither the Sphere of Influence, being minor in this case nor consideration of the Museum's ease of operations under one entity is justification for annexation.
Reviewing the annual reports and audits of this complex non-profit, one audit particularly stood out.

On page 28 of the 2013-14 independent audit done by McFarland Faleiti & Co LLP
It shows the Museum entered into agreements with planning consultants totaling 627,000 Thru 12/31/14 with an additional 63,595 for 3/5/15 for the conditional use update prior to the annexation application.

It was also noted that the studies and plans would ultimately lead to land use permits and the costs of consultant's expenses are being capitalized.

This Commission's duty is to take into account the local conditions and needs.
This is very special open space in a historic area.
The Coalition to Preserve Mission Canyon feels the woodland acres are better protected under County, as with the potential for future development the density allowed in the County is considerably less than the City.
The Museum has said there will be no change in Land use, so the need for annexation is being questioned by the neighborhood.

From The document library of the LAFCO web site, under Policies encouraging orderly Urban Development and Preservation of open space (www.sblafco.org/policy_04.sbc)
Item 3 states: Proposals to annex **undeveloped or** agricultural parcels to cities or districts providing urban services shall demonstrate that urban development will be contiguous with existing or proposed development; and that a planned, orderly and efficient urban development pattern will result. Proposals resulting in leapfrog, non- contiguous urban pattern will be discouraged.

Lastly, under this LAFCO policy, we feel there is direct conflict with this annexation application because at this time, there are no plans for development of the woodland acres.

Thank you,
Rosanne Crawford
Mission Canyon Resident