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May 26, 2016

Dear All:

On Thursday June 2 (a week from today), LAFCO is having a hugely important meeting on the matter of Los Olivos moving forward with the Santa Ynez Community Services District (SYCSD), to build a "pocket" (stand-alone) wastewater treatment plant for Los Olivos - so that you can get off your septic system.

It is important that as many of you as possible come to this hearing! It's in Santa Maria - 30 minutes up the road from you - on THURSDAY JUNE 2, 1 P.M. in the Board of Supervisors hearing room.

Enclosed are: 1) the Agenda; 2) the Staff report about SYCSD providing service, and also driving directions to the Santa Maria Board of Supervisors hearing room.

Also: a representative letter that you can type whatever pieces you want to, and please note in your letter if you are in the Special Problems area.

SEND IN your letter ASAP, since this hearing is only a week away.

You can also e-mail it to 1) lafco@sblafco.org (subject line: **SYCSD SPHERE OF INFLUENCE- LOS OLIVOS – LAFCO MEETING JUNE 2, 2016 BUSINESS ITEM #3**). Please ALSO e-mail it TO: Mike Allen allen@co.santa-barbara.ca.us (this is important)

Also enclosed is SUGGESTED LIST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes) suggested list to speak about

We need you there to speak loud and clear about what you want. LAFCO is now listening! Please don't hesitate to call with any questions. Thank you!

With very best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Hillary Hauser'.

Hillary Hauser, Executive Director

Santa Barbara LAFCO Commission
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**RE: LAFCO June 2, 2016 - BUSINESS ITEM #3: Santa Ynez Community Services District
To Include Los Olivos in The District's Sphere Of Influence**

Dear LAFCO COMMISSION:

I am _____, a property owner in the Special Problems Area of Los Olivos.

I ask you to please approve the application of the Santa Ynez Community Service District for Sphere of Influence change (your LAFCO File 16-01) to include Los Olivos. And to provide direction to Staff to proceed with processing this application.

I am among a majority of Los Olivos residents who do NOT want to wait for the formation of a Los Olivos CSD - leaving us without the means to move forward to do something about our septic system problems, which are now regulated by the Santa Barbara County LAMP.

I am concerned about (PICK A SUBJECT):

1) THE NEW LAMP regulations for septic systems. If my septic system fails, I am required to install an advanced system at a cost of \$40K, PLUS monitor it and turn in monitoring reports once a year. *Environmental Health Services has told us this - and that they will have to enforce.*

- Advanced septic systems are 2x more expensive than sewer service.
- This expense means that when sewer service comes around, I'll not be able to participate because I've already spent the money on an advanced system.
- If some of us start putting in advanced systems, Los Olivos will never get off septic systems.
- We do not feel septic systems are environmentally friendly, and they have become a nuisance to us.

2) We want a reliable wastewater service from a reliable operator already in business. we are not willing to wait for the formation of a new CSD in Los Olivos.

3) **COSTS OF WAITING - Proposition 1 funding help**

- If we wait for the formation of a Los Olivos CSD, we can easily lose MUCH funding help from Proposition 1, the State Water Bond funding that could help us. We are NOT willing to take this risk!
- \$14 million is a lot of money to miss out on!

4) **REGIONAL BOARD ACTION:**

Los Olivos does not want to wait until the Regional Board comes in and regulates as it did Los Osos. (and they will).

5) **Santa Ynez Community Services District has said repeatedly, in public meetings, that if/when a Los Olivos CSD is formed, will get the keys to the wastewater plant anyway!**

- SYCSD has explained to the Los Olivos Water Reclamation Steering Committee that while they proceed with working on getting their own CSD SYCSD would get the facility built, **and then turn over the keys** to the Los Olivos CSD whenever it gets formed. Then the citizens can vote to detach from SYCSD, and pay the District a fee to run the plant (as it would have to under its own wastewater plant).
- We would have been able to get the plant built with a lot of state funding, which you can't get otherwise.

In the conclusion of your staff report for this item, Executive Officer Paul Hood states the SYCSD "application...presents an attractive alternative to forming a separate independent special district. The SYCSD has experience and is willing to step in to address the community's wastewater collection and disposal issues." We agree with this statement.

We do not agree with the following sentence that "the community of Los Olivos wishes to maintain a separate identity and is looking at forming a community services district to maintain local control." This "wish" is that of one citizen and a few people who are going along with it. The COMMUNITY of Los Olivos is a much bigger population of people who want to get moving forward with a realistic plan to handle our wastewater, to save us from being slapped with LAMP regulations, and do it while State Grant Funds are still available to help us.

Thank you,

YOUR NAME
ADDRESS

Thursday June 2 at 1 p.m. LAFCO hearing – it's in Santa Maria.

Address:

Joseph Centeno Betteravia Government Administration hearing room
511 E. Lakeside Parkway
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Driving Directions from Los Olivos: (1/2 hour drive)

Head west on CA-154 W toward CA-154 W
3.3 mi

Turn right to merge onto US-101 N
23.3 mi

Take exit 169 for Betteravia Rd
0.2 mi

Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto E Betteravia Rd
0.7 mi

Turn left onto Centerpointe Pkwy
302 ft

Turn left onto Lakeside Pkwy

Destination will be on the left