

# LAFCO

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## Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission

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March 4, 2004 (Agenda)

Local Agency Formation Commission

105 East Anapamu Street

Santa Barbara CA 93101

### Dates for Commissioner Terms of Office

Dear Members of the Commission:

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission consider this matter and provide direction as appropriate.

#### DISCUSSION

Members of the Commission have discussed the possibility of changing terms of office to more closely coincide with terms of elective office. These often begin near the first of the calendar year.

The relevant LAFCO statute is Government Code §56334, which states in part as follows:

The term of office of each member shall be four years and until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor. The body which originally appointed a member whose term has expired shall appoint his or her successor for a full term of four years.

Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the body which originally appointed the member whose office has become vacant.

The expiration date of the term of office of each member shall be the first Monday in May in the year in which the term of the member expires, unless procedures adopted by the commission specify an alternate date to apply uniformly to all members. However, the length of a term of office shall not be extended more than once. (Emphasis added)

The Commission, as specified in the statute, has flexibility to set its own terms of office.

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One Commission that has modified the dates of office for its members is the Ventura LAFCO. Its Commissioner Handbook states:

Term of Office- The term of office for each member shall be set forth in the CKH except that for any member appointed after January 1, 2002 the expiration date of the term of office shall be January 1 in the year in which the term of that member expires. For any member appointed prior to January 1, 2002, the term of office for that member shall be extended from the first Monday in May in the year that member's current term expires to January 1 of the following year.

It is my understanding that if the Ventura LAFCO were to do it again there would be interest in having terms start later than January 1, perhaps a month or two later. This would allow newly constituted Boards of Supervisors and City Councils to be seated and organized before making appointments to the Commission.

This subject is a matter of policy for the Commission. Attached is a Commission roster showing the expiration dates for the current terms. Only the Public Member's term of office is scheduled to expire in 2004. All other terms will not expire until 2005, 2006 or 2007.

Please contact the LAFCO office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

BOB BRAITMAN  
Executive Officer