



**Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County**  
Subdivision of the State of California

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*We Manage Local Government Boundaries, Evaluate Municipal Services, and Protect Agriculture*

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**Agenda Item 8b (Action)**

**TO:** Local Agency Formation Commission

**PREPARED BY:** Legislative Committee (Dillon, Mohler, and Freeman)

**MEETING DATE:** February 5, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Proposed Adoption of a Legislative Platform

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**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the Commission adopt the draft resolution, included as Attachment One, adopting the Legislative Platform.

**BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY**

At its December 4, 2017, meeting, the Commission adopted a *Legislative Policy* (“the Policy”) and established a standing Legislative Committee (“the Committee”) with Commissioners Dillon and Mohler appointed to serve with the Executive Officer. The Policy is included as Attachment Two.

The Policy directs the Committee to review proposed legislation affecting LAFCOs. In addition, the Policy directs the Committee to return with a recommendation for the full Commission to adopt a Legislative Platform that will guide the Commission’s decision making as it relates to submitting letters of support or opposition for proposed state legislation affecting LAFCOs. Following adoption, the Committee shall annually review the Legislative Platform and return with recommended amendments as appropriate.

On December 18, 2017, the Committee held a noticed public meeting and prepared the draft Legislative Platform that is attached to the draft resolution (Attachment One). The Committee provided notice of the public meeting to all local agencies and the general public. The Committee recommends the Commission take formal action to adopt the draft resolution adopting the draft Legislative Platform.

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Scott Sedgley, Commissioner  
Councilmember, City of Napa

Margie Mohler, Commissioner  
Councilmember, Town of Yountville

Kenneth Leary, Alternate Commissioner  
Councilmember, City of American Canyon

Brad Wagenknecht, Chair  
County of Napa Supervisor, 1st District

Diane Dillon, Commissioner  
County of Napa Supervisor, 3rd District

Ryan Gregory, Alternate Commissioner  
County of Napa Supervisor, 2nd District

Brian J. Kelly, Vice Chair  
Representative of the General Public

Gregory Rodeno, Alternate Commissioner  
Representative of the General Public

Brendon Freeman  
*Executive Officer*

## **DISCUSSION**

State Legislators annually propose new legislation that can significantly impact LAFCOs. This includes bypassing the LAFCO process for boundary changes and governmental reorganizations, creating new unfunded mandates, and other legislative changes that reduce or eliminate local discretion. The Commission recently adopted a *Legislative Policy* for purposes of establishing a uniform process with respect to reviewing proposed state legislation and taking formal positions on individual bills.

At its public meeting on December 18, 2017, the Committee reviewed the legislative policies of the California Association of LAFCOs (CALAFCO). The Committee determined it would be appropriate for the Commission to adopt a Legislative Platform that is similar to CALAFCO's legislative policies with a handful of changes based on local conditions and circumstances. In particular, the Committee agreed the local Legislative Platform should emphasize the need for formal positions on proposed legislation related to LAFCO's purpose, authority, and potential impacts on agricultural, watershed, and open space lands. Additionally, the Committee agreed the local Legislative Platform should include the core guiding principles that underlie the Commission's activities. The Committee returns at today's meeting with a recommendation to adopt the draft Legislative Platform included as Attachment One.

## **ALTERNATIVES FOR COMMISSION ACTION**

Staff has identified two alternatives for Commission consideration.

### **Alternative Action One (Recommended):**

Adopt the draft resolution, included as Attachment One, adopting the Legislative Platform.

### **Alternative Action Two:**

Continue this item to the April 2, 2018, meeting and provide direction to the Legislative Committee to return with any changes to the Legislative Platform as desired by members of the Commission.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) Draft Resolution Adopting the Legislative Platform
- 2) Legislative Policy

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-02**

**RESOLUTION OF  
THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA COUNTY  
ADOPTING A LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that after considering a draft Legislative Platform at its meeting on December 18, 2017, meeting and after considering public comments on the draft Legislative Platform, the Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County hereby adopts the Legislative Platform attached hereto.

This Resolution shall take effect from and after the date of its passage and adoption.

The foregoing resolution was duly and regularly adopted by the Commission at a regular meeting held on February 5, 2018, after a motion by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: Commissioners \_\_\_\_\_

**DRAFT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad Wagenknecht  
Commission Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brendon Freeman  
Executive Officer

Recorded by: Kathy Mabry  
Commission Secretary



## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA

### *Legislative Platform*

(Adopted: February 5, 2018)

The following core guiding principles underlie the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Napa County's activities. Each of these principles is centered on Napa LAFCO having in-depth, active communication with respect to all relevant constituents.

- Municipal Service Reviews based on local agency, Napa County, & LAFCO needs
- Re-writing policies (on a schedule) to be comprehensive, effective, and transparent
- Forecasting issues relating to local services and boundaries, as well as State legislation
- Active involvement of agency constituents in problem-solving local agency sustainability
- Engagement with local city/town general plan updates
- Active with local agencies in managing housing growth and related issues including transportation

The following serves as Napa LAFCO's Legislative Platform for purposes of informing actions relating to proposed legislation.

### **1. LAFCO Purpose and Authority**

- 1.1 Support legislation which enhances Napa LAFCO's authority and powers to carry out the legislative findings and authority in Government Code §56000 et seq., and oppose legislation which diminishes Napa LAFCO's authority.
- 1.2 Support authority for Napa LAFCO to establish local policies to apply Government Code §56000 et seq. based on local needs and conditions, and oppose any limitations to that authority.
- 1.3 Oppose additional Napa LAFCO responsibilities which require expansion of current local funding sources. Oppose unrelated responsibilities which dilute Napa LAFCO's ability to meet its primary mission.
- 1.4 Support alignment of responsibilities and authority of Napa LAFCO and regional agencies which may have overlapping responsibilities in orderly growth, preservation, and service delivery, and oppose legislation or policies which create conflicts or hamper those responsibilities.
- 1.5 Oppose grants of special status to any individual agency or proposal to circumvent the Napa LAFCO process.
- 1.6 Support individual commissioner responsibility that allows each commissioner to independently vote his or her conscience on issues affecting his or her own jurisdiction.
- 1.7 Support the independence of Napa LAFCO from local agencies.
- 1.8 Support recognition of Napa LAFCO's spheres of influence by other agencies involved in determining and developing long-term growth and infrastructure plans.

**2. Agricultural, Watershed, and Open Space Protection**

- 2.1. Support legislation which clarifies Napa LAFCO's authority to identify, encourage, and ensure the preservation of agricultural, watershed, and open space lands.
- 2.2. Support policies which encourage cities, counties and special districts to direct development away from agricultural, watershed, and open space lands.
- 2.3. Support policies and tools which protect agricultural, watershed, and open space lands.
- 2.4. Support the continuance of the Williamson Act and restoration of program funding through State subvention payments.
- 2.5. Support the recognition and use of spheres of influence as a management tool to provide better planning of growth and development, and to preserve agricultural, watershed, and open space lands.

DRAFT



## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF NAPA

### *Legislative Policy* (Adopted: December 4, 2017)

- 1) The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Napa County (“the Commission”) shall establish a standing committee to review proposed legislation (“Legislative Committee”). At the beginning of each two-year legislative session, the Commission shall appoint (or re-appoint) two members to the Legislative Committee, in addition to LAFCO’s Executive Officer. Meetings of the Legislative Committee must be noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.
- 2) The Legislative Committee shall, at least annually, review the California Association of LAFCOs’ legislative platform as well as the Commission’s adopted legislative platform if applicable and determine what action is needed in terms of adopting or amending a local legislative platform. The Legislative Committee shall present recommendations to the full Commission with respect to actions related to the local legislative platform.
- 3) The Legislative Committee shall, at least annually, review proposed legislation affecting LAFCO. The Executive Officer shall continue monitoring proposed legislation and present recommendations to the full Commission with respect to formal positions on proposed legislation.
- 4) In the event that proposed legislation affecting LAFCO cannot be considered by the full Commission due to timing, the Executive Officer is authorized to submit written correspondence to the legislation’s author regarding the Commission’s position if the position is consistent with the adopted legislative platform of the Commission. The Chair, or the Vice-Chair if the Chair is unavailable, shall review and approve the written correspondence prior to it being submitted by the Executive Officer.
- 5) All submitted correspondence pursuant to this policy will be included on the next available Commission agenda.