

## **PREFACE**

This *Directory of Local Agencies* was prepared by **Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)**. LAFCOs were created by the California State Legislature in 1963 to discourage urban sprawl, preserve open space and prime agricultural lands, facilitate efficient public services, and encourage the orderly formation and development of local governmental agencies based on local conditions and circumstances. There is one LAFCO in each county in California.

This *Directory* is consistent with LAFCO's enabling act, specifically Government Code ("GC") §56301, which states that:

One of the objectives of the commission is to make studies and to obtain and furnish information that will contribute to the logical and reasonable development of local agencies in each county and to shape the development of local agencies so as to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of each county and its communities.

GC §56378 directs LAFCO to prepare inventories of existing governmental agencies:

In addition to its other powers, the commission shall initiate and make studies of existing governmental agencies. Those studies shall include, but not be limited to, inventorying those agencies and determining their maximum service area and service capabilities.

Maps included in the 2023 *Directory* reflect LAFCO actions including spheres of influence (SOI) updates, boundary changes, dissolutions, and other LAFCO actions.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Commission gratefully acknowledges and thanks County, city, and special district staff who assisted LAFCO by providing information needed to update the *Directory* for, and for giving their time and expertise to better inform the public.

Special appreciation is extended to Contra Costa County Department of Conservation & Development, especially Chris Howard, Kristine Solseng, and Todd Fitzsimmons for their ongoing and consistently excellent work on *Directory* information and maps.

## INTRODUCTION

The *Directory of Local Agencies* provides information regarding each city and district, how they are governed, their elected and appointed officials, and the types of services they provide. The Directory includes maps of agency boundaries and spheres of influence (SOIs).

The *Directory* is a resource and is available on the Contra Costa LAFCO website ([www.contracostalafco.org](http://www.contracostalafco.org)). The Directory includes a profile page for each agency along with boundary map.

### County of Contra Costa

Contra Costa County is situated in the San Francisco Bay area, extending from San Pablo Bay on the west to San Joaquin County in the Central Valley on the east. Contra Costa County is currently ranked ninth in population among the 58 counties in California.

### Incorporated Cities

There are 19 cities in Contra Costa County. Their combined population of approximately 987,400 (2020 Census) represents approximately 85% of the total population of the County. The cities' combined 589,526 registered voters represent 84% of the 699,719 registered voters in the County as of March 2023.

### Special Districts

There are 73 special districts in Contra Costa County. Of these, 39 are governed by locally elected boards and four have appointed boards; these 43 districts are referred to as "*independent special districts*." The remaining 30 special districts are governed either by the Board of Supervisors or by appointed boards and are termed "*dependent special districts*."

### Directory Format

The Directory describes:

- City and Special District locations, boundaries, and spheres of influence

GC §56425 requires LAFCO to determine the sphere of influence of each city and special district. A SOI is "...a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the commission." LAFCO reviews and updates agency SOIs in conjunction with Municipal Service Reviews.

- City and Special District functions and services
- City and Special District governing boards and key staff members