



TO: Port Commission
FROM: Holland MacLaurie, Port Director
DATE: April 24, 2025
SUBJECT: 2025 LAFCO Run-Off Election

Recommendation: *Provide direction to staff on casting the Port District's run-off vote for one regular member and one alternate member on the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).*

BACKGROUND

LAFCO recently conducted an election to fill one regular and one alternate special district member seat. As part of that election, the Port Commission directed staff to cast the Port District's vote for Lani Faulkner (regular seat) and Ed Banks (alternate seat). A total of 19 ballots were submitted to LAFCO, however, no candidate received the required majority vote for either seat. LAFCO is conducting a run-off election to determine the appointments.

The LAFCO run-off election information is attached. The Port Commission may consider reaffirming its prior direction or revising the District's vote for the run-off election. The District's vote must be submitted to LAFCO, by no later than May 1, 2025.

ATTACHMENTS: A. LAFCO Run-Off Election Material
B. Letter from L. Faulkner to Port Commission
C. Letter from E. Banks to Port Commission

RECEIVED

JAN 14 2025



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Santa Cruz LAFCO

NOMINATION FOR LAFCO'S SPECIAL DISTRICT REGULAR & ALTERNATE MEMBER SEATS (TERM BEGINNING MAY 2025 AND ENDING IN MAY 2029)

INSTRUCTIONS:

If you are interested in serving as a special district member on LAFCO, please complete and sign the following application. The completed application can be mailed, hand delivered, or emailed (as a PDF with signature) to: 701 Ocean Street, Room 318-D, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (mailing address) or joe@santacruzlafco.org (email).

Applications must be submitted to LAFCO no later than 3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2025

I am applying for (CHECK ONE):

Table with 2 columns: Position and Checkmark. Rows: Special District Regular Member ONLY (checked), Special District Alternate Member ONLY (checked), Either Position.

Note that water district board members are NOT eligible for the proposed regular member position because a water district board member currently occupies the other regular seat.

NAME: Jim Anderson

MAILING ADDRESS: [Redacted]

PHONE(s): Home: [Redacted] Cell/Business: [Redacted]

EMAIL: jimwanderson@comcast.net

DISTRICT BOARD ON WHICH YOU CURRENTLY SERVE: Felton Fire Protection District

PREVIOUS BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE SERVED (Identify organization[s] and length of term[s]):

Felton Fire Protection District : 1999 - Present

Mtn. Parks Foundation : 1995 - Present

Santa Cruz LAFCO : 2006 - Present

Santa Cruz County Substance Abuse Commission : 2015 - 2024

S.C. County Sheriff's Advisory Council : 2019 - 2021

S.C. County R.D.A. Oversight Committee : 2021 - Present

STATEMENT OF INTEREST:

You may attach a separate sheet to present additional qualifications or a statement of interest in serving on LAFCO.

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the above information is true and correct and I authorize the verification of the information in the application.

Signature of Board Member Interested in Serving on LAFCO (Handwritten signature)

Date: 1-14-2025

Jim Anderson

Statement of Interest

I am a lifelong resident of Santa Cruz County, living in Felton. I have served as a Commissioner on LAFCO since September, 2006. During this time, I have held the position of Chair, Vice Chair and served on both the personnel and budget committees.


I am 1 of 2 special district members representing the 20 independent special districts. I come from the Felton Fire District where I started my career in 1976 as a firefighter and captain for 26 years, then joining the Felton Fire Board in 1999.

In addition to the public sector, my 42-year professional career includes the position of Senior Technical Manager in the telecommunications industry. I retired in October 2015 from my professional career and to date continue my pursuit as a public servant in Santa Cruz County. As with many local government boards, members are always challenged to learn new things and LAFCO is no exception.

I find the many different issues dealt with make it a very interesting and rewarding endeavor of which I enjoy. I have had the pleasure to champion various successful boundary changes over the years as a LAFCO commissioner, including but not limited to, the recent fire consolidation between Central Fire and Aptos/LaSelva Fire Protection Districts as well as the Scotts Valley Fire/Branciforte Fire Consolidation. The purpose of these consolidations is to facilitate the efficient delivery of fire protection to the communities within the affected territories. These consolidations will preserve the current levels of service, maintain local expectations and continue the existing funding sources.

I look forward to supporting all of the 20 independent special districts as the Special District Representative on the LAFCO Board.

Respectfully,



Jim Anderson



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

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Applications must be submitted to LAFCO no later than

3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2025

I am applying for (CHECK ONE):

Special District Regular Member ONLY	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special District Alternate Member ONLY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Either Position	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note that water district board members are NOT eligible for the proposed regular member position because a water district board member currently occupies the other regular seat.

NAME: EDWARD K. BANKS

MAILING ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PHONE(s): Home: [REDACTED] Cell/Business: [REDACTED]

EMAIL: EDBANKS@KBKINSURANCE.COM

DISTRICT BOARD ON WHICH YOU CURRENTLY SERVE: PATJARO VALLEY PUBLIC CEMETERY DIST.

PREVIOUS BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE SERVED (Identify organization[s] and length of term[s]):

CURRENT SPECIAL DISTRICT ALTERNATE MEMBER TO SANTA CRUZ LAFCO.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST:

You may attach a separate sheet to present additional qualifications or a statement of interest in serving on LAFCO. SEE ATTACHED

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the above information is true and correct and I authorize the verification of the information in the application.

Ed K Banks
Signature of Board Member Interested in Serving on LAFCO

1-14-2025
Date

Edward K. Banks

Ed Banks, a native Californian, was born in San Francisco and grew up in La Selva Beach. He attended Aptos Elementary School and is a 1966 graduate of Watsonville High School. He received his A.A. degree from Cabrillo College in 1968 and Bachelor of Arts degree from Sonoma State University in 1970. His military commitment commenced as a Naval Reservist in November of 1970, being stationed at Flag Administrative Unit, Naval Air Station Barbers Point, Hawaii. His active-duty assignment concluded in August of 1972, and ultimate honorable discharge in August of 1975.

Ed has been in the insurance profession since 1972, beginning with commercial underwriting assignments at the Hartford Insurance Company, San Francisco, and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, San Jose. In 1977, he moved back to Watsonville to join the firm of Martin & Friend Insurance Agency. In April of 1996, he merged the agency with Kane-Hall-Palmtag Insurance to form KBK Insurance Agency.

Ed's community service has included service on the following organizations' boards of directors: Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West, Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of Watsonville (past president), Watsonville National Little League, Watsonville YMCA, Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club of Watsonville (past President 1993-94), Monterey Bay Bank and Watsonville Firefighters' Association. He was a reserve lieutenant for the Watsonville Fire Department from 1981 to 2006. During his 25-year career with the fire department, he successfully completed courses of study in Fire Command Operations and Fire Cause Determination at the National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland. He also served on the Santa Cruz County Grand Jury in 1985-86 as well as the Santa Cruz County Hazardous Materials Advisory Commission 2007-2009. In 2010, Ed attended the National Emergency Training Center, Emmitsburg, Maryland, receiving certificates of completion in Community Emergency Response Team Operations and Program Management.

He is past president of the board of directors of the Cabrillo College Foundation as well as past governing board chair and former Area VII Trustee for Cabrillo Community College. Ed currently serves as a trustee of the Pajaro Valley Cemetery District as well as Special Districts alternate member, Santa Cruz County LAFCO.

An avid San Francisco Giants' fan has taken "road trips" with his sons and Father-in-law. Ed also likes gardening, traveling and golf with friends.

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LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

NOMINATION FOR LAFCO'S SPECIAL DISTRICT REGULAR & ALTERNATE MEMBER SEATS (TERM BEGINNING MAY 2025 AND ENDING IN MAY 2029)

INSTRUCTIONS:

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Applications must be submitted to LAFCO no later than 3:00 p.m. on January 24, 2025

I am applying for (CHECK ONE):

Table with 2 columns: Position and Selection. Rows: Special District Regular Member ONLY (Prefer), Special District Alternate Member ONLY, Either Position (X).

Note that water district board members are NOT eligible for the proposed regular member position because a water district board member currently occupies the other regular seat.

NAME: Iwalani (Lani) N. Faulkner

MAILING ADDRESS: [Redacted]

PHONE(s): Home: [Redacted] Cell/Business: [Redacted]

EMAIL: EquityTransitSantaCruz@gmail.com

DISTRICT BOARD ON WHICH YOU CURRENTLY SERVE: Central Fire Board

PREVIOUS BOARD, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE SERVED (Identify organization[s] and length of term[s]):

- Santa Cruz Central Fire Board (Dec 2024 – current)
CA State Democratic Delegate (2023 – current)
Democratic National Delegate to the 2024 Convention, Elected (2024)
Democratic Central Committee Alternate (2022 – current)
Mid County Dems Executive Board (Current until 2026)
Santa Cruz County Democratic Women’s Club Board (2025 -)
Sierra Club Executive Committee, Santa Cruz Group Ventana Chapter (2023 – current)
Santa Cruz County Friends of the Rail and Trail, Equity Officer (2022)
Community Traffic Safety Coalition, Stakeholder (2022 – current)
Climate Action and Adaptation, Planning & Grants with the Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience, Stakeholder (2022 - current)
Santa Cruz Metro “ReImagine Metro”, Stakeholder (2022 - 2023)
Santa Cruz County Housing Element Community Stakeholder (2023)
Caltrans Stakeholder on Housing Working Group (2023)
Caltrans Stakeholder on Equity, Engagement and Health Working Group (2023)
Rainbow Defense Coalition, Safety and de-escalation volunteer (2023 – current)
Santa Cruz City Climate Action Task Force, Stakeholder (2022)
Equity Transit, Founder (2021)
Little People’s Repertory Theater, Video Production and Grant Assistance (2008 – 2014)
Buena Vista Road Association, Boulder Creek, President (2001 - 2004)

STATEMENT OF INTEREST:

You may attach a separate sheet to present additional qualifications or a statement of interest in serving on LAFCO.

Our county is at a critical juncture as we face a number of challenges. Climate change continues to stress our emergency response capabilities, particularly as fire departments strive to maintain economic strength while ensuring safe and effective service amidst rising equipment and resource costs. Compounding this is the increasing pressure on our clean water supply due to prolonged drought and factors affecting water quality. Additionally, the state's mandate to significantly expand housing development over the next eight years—through county and city Housing Elements—will place additional demands on special districts, emergency services, and our natural resources. I am eager to leverage my collaborative skills and experience to work with stakeholders across the county to address these pressing issues.

Currently, I serve on the Central Fire District Board of Directors, an honor that carries personal significance as my grandfather, John A. Gilman, was one of only nine civilian firefighters awarded the Purple Heart for his service in Oahu during the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Moreover, my mother committed decades to volunteering with our local fire auxiliary. I have been a certified NOLS Wilderness Medicine first responder since 2007.

Having spent my formative years in the fire-prone Sierra Nevada Foothills of California, I developed an understanding of the importance of creating defensible spaces and being fire-ready as well as understanding proper installment and care of wells on our property. As a nearly 30-year resident of Santa Cruz County—over a decade in rural areas like Boulder Creek and Happy Valley—I recognize the critical need for community collaboration to mitigate and respond to challenges and disasters and ensuring critical services, including fire prevention, water, and waste management.

As a scientist, woman of color, and educator, I bring a history of facilitating informed and equitable decision-making. I understand the importance of addressing a myriad of complex issues such as agricultural land preservation, population growth, land use, fire protection, water and waste management, and other important considerations which impact our local community members and natural resources. My academic background includes a Master of Science, equipping me with extensive research and analytical experience.

I am committed to contributing my skills and experiences to help our county navigate the challenges ahead. I kindly request your vote in support of my appointment as a LAFCO Commissioner. Thank you for consideration.

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the above information is true and correct and I authorize the verification of the information in the application.



Signature of Board Member Interested in Serving on LAFCO

January 21, 2025
Date



LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

**2025 BALLOT FOR THE SPECIAL DISTRICT
REGULAR & ALTERNATE MEMBER SEATS ON LAFCO
(RUN-OFF ELECTION)**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please check the box to the left of the person you are voting for. **Vote ONLY for one candidate in each category.**

REGULAR MEMBER SEAT (vote for <u>one</u>)		
Candidate	District	Vote By Marking (X)
Jim Anderson (<i>incumbent</i>)	Felton Fire Protection District	
Lani Faulkner	Central Fire District	

ALTERNATE MEMBER SEAT (vote for <u>one</u>)		
Candidate	District	Vote By Marking (X)
Ed Banks (<i>incumbent</i>)	Pajaro Valley Cemetery District	
Lani Faulkner	Central Fire District	

NEXT STEPS

After voting, please hand-deliver, mail, or email the signed ballot back to LAFCO. If emailed, please follow-up by mailing the ballot with an original signature. The ballots will be collected until 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2025. Any ballots received after 8:00 a.m. will not be counted.

CERTIFICATION:

I, _____, am voting on behalf of the following independent special district: _____.

Voting Designee Signature

Date

From: [Iwalani Faulkner](#)
To: [scpd@ SCPD](mailto:scpd@scpd.org); [Holland MacLaurie](#)
Subject: Run-Off for LAFCO Commission by the Santa Cruz Port District
Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 8:00:38 AM

Dear Ms. MacLaurie and Santa Cruz Port District Board Members:

I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to speak at your last board meeting and for the thoughtful consideration you gave to the LAFCO nominations for the upcoming special district election. Your willingness to ask questions and engage with me about my experience means a great deal. I am grateful for your nomination for the Voting Member LAFCO special district election seat.

I am honored to have received nominations for the Voting Member seat from eight special districts, including unanimous support from all Central Fire Board Members, the Ben Lomond Fire Board, and for the Alternate seat from seven other special districts, including the Scotts Valley Fire Department and the Scotts Valley Water District. These endorsements speak to my commitment to advancing the interests of our community and the role special districts hold countywide.

As you may have heard from Mr. Joe Serrano, our LAFCO Executive Officer, there will be a run-off election for both the Voting Member and Alternate seats, as no candidate received more than 50% of the votes in the initial round. I am writing to humbly ask for your continued support and nomination in this upcoming run-off, and to encourage your consideration of me for both the Voting Member and Alternate seats.

My experience – spanning rural agriculture, medicine, governance, environmental education, as well as fire and water services – equips me with a broad and deep understanding of the complex issues we face. One of my primary concerns is how we can effectively plan for the future and protect our natural resources in light of the state's growing housing requirements. I believe it is essential that LAFCO represents not only the immediate needs of our districts but also anticipates the long-term impacts on infrastructure, services, and resources.

I encourage you to reach out to Chief Nee and the Central Fire Board members to better understand my contributions and leadership on the Central Fire Board. Central Fire, as the largest local fire district in the county, has led the way in setting operational trends and best practices, offering support and guidance to other fire districts when needed. Despite its significant presence and leadership, Central Fire has never had a representative seated on the County LAFCO – a gap I am eager to help fill.

If nominated and elected, I would make it a priority to engage with every special district, ensuring that their unique needs and concerns are understood and represented. This dialogue

will help ensure that our special districts receive the attention they deserve at the County LAFCO table, contributing to better, more effective policy decisions that reflect the diverse needs of our community.

As we look at the challenges ahead for our county and its growing population, I believe it is crucial that we strengthen the voice of our special districts at the LAFCO level, ensuring our leadership continues to meet the high standards our communities expect.

Thank you again for your support and for considering my nomination. I look forward to working alongside you to enhance the future of our special districts.

Warm regards,
Lani Faulkner

From: [Ed Banks](#)
To: scpd@SCPD
Subject: LAFCO Special District Representative election
Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 3:30:32 PM
Attachments: [EB Spec Dist Appt Appl 01142025.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Note doubt you have heard by now the results of the special district seats (regular and alternate) election will result in a runoff to be conducted between April 2, 2025, and May 1, 2025. Both Jim Anderson (Felton Fire District) and I (Pajaro Valley Public Cemetery District), while receiving the most votes (Jim for the regular LAFCO seat and me for the alternate's seat), were short by two votes of receiving the necessary votes to retain our seats. Jim and I are committed to representing the Special districts of Santa Cruz County on the commission in such a manner as to benefit the interests of all.

I would like to ask for the Santa Cruz Port District Board to vote Jim Anderson to the Special District regular seat and me to the alternate seat. Your board will be receiving a "run-off" ballot within the week or so. I hope we can count on your and the board's support. In case you didn't see it, I've enclosed my election application for board review.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or specific concerns as it relates to SCPD and LAFCO.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully,

Ed Banks
KBK Insurance Agency
1006 Freedom Boulevard
Watsonville, CA 95076
Email: edbanks@kbkinsurance.com
Phone: (831.724.1085 ext 305)