



# County of Santa Cruz

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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October 29, 2019

Joe Serrano  
Executive Director, LAFCO  
701 Ocean Street, #318D  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED

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Dear Mr. Serrano:

**Santa Cruz LAFCO**

I am writing to you in reference to the Service and Sphere Review for the Mid-Peninsula Open Space District (District) on your next agenda. I request that you postpone this item and remove it from LAFCO's November 6<sup>th</sup> agenda until my office and the community has had more time to learn about the substance of the review and ultimate objectives of the District in Santa Cruz County.

My understanding is that the District has an existing, yet very small, portion of Santa Cruz County already in the District that was annexed in the 1980s and that reviewing an existing Sphere of Influence is a normal process initiated by LAFCO. However, from the agenda description, it appears as though this review asks LAFCO to analyze possible expansion of the sphere and/or annexation of District owned properties in Santa Cruz County into the District during the next review cycle. Any annexation would have far reaching implications for property owners living in the annexed areas. I have already heard from concerned community members who are unclear what this agenda item means for their rural neighborhoods and if this is the start of a longer process. Before moving forward with this agenda item, I request that the LAFCO staff and/or the District hold community meetings in each area where it is contemplated that an expanded sphere or annexation may occur, but at a minimum that community meetings be held in Bonny Doon and Davenport, in order to hear from the community and provide an opportunity for the community to learn about this process and the ultimate goals and objectives of the District in Santa Cruz County.

If you would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

RYAN COONERTY, Supervisor  
Third District