

**2026 Commissioners**

**Chair**  
Wendy Root Askew  
*County Member*

**Vice Chair**  
Mary Ann Leffel  
*Special District Member*

Mike Bikle  
*Public Member, Alternate*

Kate Daniels  
*County Member*

Dennis Donohue  
*City Member*

Matt Gourley  
*Public Member*

David Kong  
*Special District Member, Alternate*

Chad Lindley  
*Special District Member*

Chris Lopez  
*County Member, Alternate*

Ian Oglesby  
*City Member*

Anna Velazquez  
*City Member, Alternate*

**Counsel**

Reed Gallogly  
*General Counsel*

**Executive Officer**

Kate McKenna, AICP

132 W. Gabilan Street, #102  
Salinas, CA 93901

P. O. Box 1369  
Salinas, CA 93902

Voice: 831-754-5838

[www.monterey.lafco.ca.gov](http://www.monterey.lafco.ca.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2026

TO: Independent Special District Presiding Officers c/o Clerks of the Districts, General Managers, Fire Chiefs, and Presidents/CEOs

FROM: Kate McKenna, AICP, Executive Officer



SUBJECT: Election of LAFCO Commissioners:  
(1) First Ballot Results – Special District Regular Member  
(2) Second Ballot For Your Action – Special District Alternate Member (Due April 20, 2026)

I am writing with results of the first ballot election that concluded on March 6, and to request your help in conducting a second election for Special District representation on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County.

### Special District Regular Member Election Results

Mary Ann Leffel, Board Member of the Monterey Peninsula Airport District, has been re-elected to a Special District Regular Member seat on LAFCO. She will be sworn in on April 27 to a term that will expire in May 2030. For your information, Chad Lindley, Board Member of the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District, also serves as a Special District Regular Member in a seat that will expire in May 2028.

### Special District Alternate Member Ballot (Due Monday, April 20, 2026)

A second election is now underway to fill the Special District Alternate Member seat for a four-year term that will expire in May 2030. This seat is currently held by David Kong, Board Member of the Greenfield Cemetery District and the Greenfield Public Recreation District. Enclosed are a ballot and voting instructions for the second round of voting between two candidates including David Kong and Bill Lipe, Board Member of the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County.

This sequential ballot process is intended to ensure diversity in representation. By policy, all three Special District LAFCO representatives should reflect a broad cross-section of services and geography, and no two Commissioners can be from agencies that provide like services. For this reason, Jonathan Ahmadi, Board Member of the Monterey Peninsula Airport District who ran in our initial Regular Member ballot, is unable to participate as a candidate for the Alternate Member position.

The two remaining candidates on the second ballot were also on the first ballot for the Regular Member position, and both agreed to run again for the Alternate Member position.

Thank you for participating in the election process. Please contact Associate Analyst Jeff Condit if you have any questions about the election process. He can be reached at (831) 754-5838 or by email at [conditj@monterey.lafco.ca.gov](mailto:conditj@monterey.lafco.ca.gov).

Enclosures:  
Ballot and Voting Instructions

# LAFCO *of Monterey County*

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LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

March 9, 2026

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE  
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

FOR ELECTION OF ONE ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO LAFCO

Voting Instructions:

1. The presiding officer of the legislative body of the District or the legislative body's alternate officer is authorized to vote. Please vote for one candidate. A majority of Districts must return ballots in order to conclude the election. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected to an Alternate Member seat.
2. Please return this ballot to LAFCO of Monterey County at P.O. Box 1369, Salinas, CA 93902 or at 132 W. Gabilan Street, Suite 102, Salinas, CA 93901 or by email to [mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov](mailto:mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov).
3. **Deadline** - Ballots must be received by **Monday, April 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.** LAFCO may extend this deadline if more time is needed to obtain ballots from a majority of Districts.

PLEASE VOTE FOR 1 CANDIDATE (ALTERNATE MEMBER SEAT):

- David Kong (Greenfield Public Recreation District and Greenfield Cemetery District)
- Bill Lipe (Resource Conservation District of Monterey County)

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VOTING MEMBER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# LAFCO of Monterey County

## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

### INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

#### NOMINATION FORM TO DECLARE CANDIDACY AND REQUEST NAME AND STATEMENT ON BALLOTS FOR ONE REGULAR POSITION AND ONE ALTERNATE POSITION ON THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

Due Date: January 20, 2026

Nominations will be considered to fill the four-year term for one Regular seat (expiring May 2030) and the four-year term for one Alternate seat (expiring May 2030) for Independent Special District Commissioners on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County.

By policy, all three Special District LAFCO representatives should reflect a broad cross-section of services and geography, and no two Commissioners shall be from agencies that provide like services. Therefore, candidates for this election shall not be from a Fire District.

#### Nomination Deadline and Process:

Nominations must be received in the LAFCO Office by Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Qualified persons may submit their own nominations using this form (no Board action is needed). You may email the completed form to [mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov](mailto:mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov) OR mail it to P.O. Box 1369, Salinas, CA 93902 OR hand-deliver it to 132 W. Gabilan Street, Suite 102 in Salinas.

#### Nomination Statement:

"I, DAVID KONG, hereby declare myself a candidate for the election to the position of Regular or Alternate Commissioner of the LAFCO of Monterey County. I am an elected or appointed Monterey County Independent Special District board member or trustee residing within the county and not a member of a legislative body of a city or county. I request my name be placed on the official ballot and, if elected, I will qualify and accept the office of Regular or Alternate LAFCO Commissioner for which I am selected and serve to the best of my ability."

#### Nominee Information:

Name: DAVID KONG

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

District represented: GREENFIELD PUBLIC RECREATION DISTRICT AND

Your position with the District: GREENFIELD CEMETERY DISTRICT

Number of years as a District Board Member or Trustee: RECREATION DISTRICT 6 YEARS  
I AM TRUSTEE FOR BOTH DISTRICTS CEMETERY DISTRICT 4 YEARS

Candidate Statement for the Ballot:

Please give reasons for wanting to be an elected LAFCO Commissioner and briefly summarize qualifications and background:

I AM A RETIRED EDUCATOR AFTER WORKING 35 YEARS  
IN EDUCATION IN VARIOUS ROLES. MY LAST ASSIGNMENT

WAS WORKING AT THE MONTEREY COUNTY OFFICE OF  
EDUCATION FOR 23 YEARS IN THE I.T. AND BUSINESS  
SERVICES. I AM ALSO A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER AT  
THE GREENFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT. I ~~WAS~~ AM  
ALSO A MEMBER OF THE GREENFIELD ROTARY CLUB. I ATTEND  
CONFERENCES TO MAKE ME A MORE INFORMED LAFCO BOARD  
MEMBER. I WISH TO CONTINUE TO GIVE BACK TO MY COMMUNITY.

Signed:

David Kong

Name (Print):

DAVID KONG

Date:

1/19/2026

Thank you for your interest in serving on LAFCO of Monterey County.

# LAFCO *of Monterey County*

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## LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

### INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

#### NOMINATION FORM

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#### Nomination Statement:

“I, Bill Lipe, hereby declare myself a candidate for the election to the position of Regular or Alternate Commissioner of the LAFCO of Monterey County. I am an elected or appointed Monterey County Independent Special District board member or trustee residing within the county and not a member of a legislative body of a city or county. I request my name be placed on the official ballot and, if elected, I will qualify and accept the office of Regular or Alternate LAFCO Commissioner for which I am selected and serve to the best of my ability.”

#### Nominee Information:

Name: Bill Lipe  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Phone and e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
District represented: Resource Conservation District of Monterey County  
Your position with the District: Director  
Number of years as a District Board Member or Trustee: 8+

#### Candidate Statement for the Ballot:

Please give reasons for wanting to be an elected LAFCO Commissioner and briefly summarize qualifications and background:

See attached for qualifications.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: William O. Lipe

Name (Print): William O. Lipe

Date: 1/12/2026

Thank you for your interest in serving on LAFCO of Monterey County.

## **COVER LETTER**

**Bill Lipe**

Salinas, California

### **Re: Candidacy for Independent Special District Alternate Seat – LAFCO of Monterey County**

Dear Selection Committee Members,

I am submitting my candidacy for the Independent Special District Alternate seat on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County, with a public-service background centered on land-use decision-making, agency authority, and the long-term governance of shared resources.

Much of my public service has involved advising and governing at the intersection of land use, water systems, and agricultural activity—areas where jurisdictional clarity and institutional coordination are essential. As a Director of the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, I participate in governance decisions affecting conservation programs, land stewardship priorities, and partnerships that directly shape how land and water resources are managed across jurisdictional boundaries.

Over the past fifteen years, I have also served on the Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Committee and on advisory committees of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, including the Basin Management Advisory Committee and the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee. In these roles, I have worked with County staff and policymakers on issues where land use, infrastructure operations, and regulatory authority converge—often requiring careful alignment between agency mandates and on-the-ground realities.

Across these appointments, my focus has been on ensuring that decisions are grounded in statutory authority, transparent governance processes, and a clear understanding of how service responsibilities affect communities over time. LAFCO’s mandate—to oversee agency boundaries, service extensions, and orderly growth—directly reflects this same responsibility.

I would welcome the opportunity to support LAFCO’s land-use and agency-formation mission as an Alternate Commissioner and to contribute disciplined, independent judgment to its deliberations.

Respectfully,

**Bill Lipe**

## **CV / RESUME**

### **BILL LIPE**

Salinas, California  
[REDACTED]

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## **PUBLIC SERVICE & LAND-USE GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE**

### **Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC)**

**Director, Board of Directors** | 2020–Present

- Provide governance oversight for a special district whose work directly intersects land use, watershed management, and agricultural conservation.
- Review and guide policies affecting conservation planning, land stewardship priorities, and inter-agency coordination.
- Support alignment between district authority, partner agencies, and landowners across multiple jurisdictions.
- Participate in long-range planning and policy discussions shaping how conservation services are delivered geographically.

### **Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA)**

**Director, Upper Valley (Elected)** | 2017–2021

- Participated in governance of basin-wide groundwater management affecting land use, pumping allocations, and long-term development constraints.
- Reviewed groundwater sustainability plans with direct implications for agricultural land use and regional planning.
- Helped balance statutory requirements with practical impacts on communities and landowners.

### **Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Committee**

**Committee Member / Chair (Various Periods)** | Past 15 Years

- Advised the County on agricultural land-use policy, zoning considerations, and related regulatory impacts.
- Worked with County departments to evaluate how land-use decisions affect agricultural operations and rural communities.

### **Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA)**

**Basin Management Advisory Committee — Member** | Various Periods, Past 15 Years

- Contributed to advisory discussions on basin management strategies influencing land use, water availability, and agency coordination.
- Helped frame technical water-management issues in policy terms relevant to land-use and service planning.

### **Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA)**

**Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee — Member** | Various Periods, Past 15 Years

- Advised on reservoir operations and flood-management considerations with direct land-use and public-safety implications.
- Supported coordination between operational authority, regulatory requirements, and downstream land uses.

### **PUBLIC-SERVICE FOCUS AREAS**

- Land-use governance and policy oversight
- Agency authority and jurisdictional coordination
- Special district governance
- Water-related land-use constraints
- Public-safety considerations in infrastructure planning
- Long-range service and boundary implications