LAFCo “Lens”

- Regulates boundaries of cites and special districts (annexation, formation, incorporation, dissolution, consolidation)
- Study boundaries/organization in context of State policies promoting logical boundaries, efficient delivery of services and elimination of overlapping agencies
- County distinguished from cities: As subdivision of State, primary role: Health, Human Services, Criminal Justice (State Mandated Programs) not a municipal service provider by design
- Where feasible, areas needing municipal services should annex to cities (State policy and county general plan)
- LAFCo adopts sphere of influence as plans for the boundaries of cities and special districts
Types of Government

- State of California
- Counties
- Cities
- Independent and Dependent Special Districts
- School Districts
- Regional Government and Joint Powers Authorities
Types of Districts

• Independent (Harbor District, Menlo Fire District) v. Dependent – County or city governed (Crystal Springs County Sanitation District or Belmont Fire Protection District)

• Enterprise (fee for service such water or sewer) v. Non-enterprise (property tax funded such as fire or open space)
Resources

- www.sanmateolafco.org
- www.calafco.org

(Guide to CKH Act on-line at calafco.org)
- “What’s so special about special districts?
- League of Cities
- CA Special Districts Assoc.
- California Association of Counties