



December 1, 2022

Dear District Board Directors,

The KPOA (Kensington Property Owners Association) has advocated for consolidation of the two Kensington districts for considerable time. The recent election is a clear indication that Kensington residents support consolidation of the two districts. We are strong supporters of this strategy and are willing to help achieve a successful outcome.

The LAFCO consolidation process takes time. Therefore it is important that both boards work together to initiate and complete the consolidation process. We recommend that following actions be taken beginning either in the December 2022 board meetings, or in the January meetings.

- We suggest both district boards vote to pursue consolidation and agree to create a committee of members of both boards to oversee the process. It is important to send a joint notice to LAFCO indicating that the two districts have voted to pursue consolidation, and propose a meeting with the Executive Officer Lou Ann Texeira. During KPOA's discussions with Ms. Texeira, she has emphasized the importance of meeting with LAFCO to ensure that the boards' written consolidation proposal meets LAFCO's requirements. Such a meeting might be held in a public forum, which would allow residents to understand the process and ask questions. A financial analysis and Municipal Services Review (MSR) is required by LAFCO to be completed by a LAFCO-approved consultant. Given that in Kensington's two previous MSRs LAFCO recommended the two districts consider consolidating, KPOA is confident the LAFCO consultant's analyses will confirm the prudence of consolidation, and that LAFCO will authorize the action.
- The consolidation process will require staff who can work with LAFCO and the consultant to complete the consolidation proposal. The Kensington Fire Protection District may soon hire an interim General Manager (GM) and the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District has a part-time interim GM whose contract will soon end. KPOA suggests the Districts consider having their human resource recruiters evaluate the option of the two districts jointly hiring a GM prior to completion of consolidation. If feasible, having a single GM would be prudent given: a) the intent to consolidate the two districts; and b) the inefficiency of working with another two part-time interim GMs to serve while consolidation is processing. The new single GM's performance can be evaluated during the time required to complete consolidation, while the GM gains knowledge and experience with the current two district's responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Rob Firmin, KPOA President
and the KPOA Board of Directors

