May 29, 2026

Board of Supervisors
575 Adminstration Drive, Room 102A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Subject: GAVMAC recommendation regarding LAFCO's decision to not allow the Petition and Application to form the AVWD to move to the landowner and registered voters protest proceeding phase.

Dear Board of Supervisors:

The Geyserville Alexander Valley-Municipal Advisory Council (GAV-MAC) members were dismayed to learn that LAFCO voted to deny the pending Petition and Application to form the Alexander Valley Water District (AVWD).

The GAV-MAC endorses the Russian River Property Owners Association and the petitioners in their effort create a Water District in Alexander Valley (AVWD) that would provide, manage, and fund needed local and regional water supply and conservation projects.

As residents, landowners, and representatives of other community-based organizations here in the Alexander Valley, the GAV-MAC fully understands our common interests and the critical need that the unfolding water shortage will be a disaster for our entire community. Agricultural landowners, private and mutual water companies, residents, industries, and businesses alike all depend on a sustained adequate water supply. We are also quite aware that no other existing public agency is willing to take on these important services and investments here in the Alexander Valley.

Therefore, the GAV-MAC recommends the Board of Supervisors urge LAFCO to reconsider its decision and move the AVWD Application forward to the required protest proceeding where landowners and registered voters alike can petition to prevent the Application from moving forward to a subsequent election to form the AVWD. Currently, there is no organized opposition to AVWD formation. We passionately believe in the community's sacred right to sign a protest petition and, if that petition is not sufficient to end consideration, to participate in the statutory landowner vote regarding the creation of the AVWD. The decision to form or reject the AVWD is a local matter, a decision that we here in Alexander Valley should make on its merits.

Consistent with the GAV-MAC Mission to improve public services and infrastructure here in the Alexander Valley, we look forward to collaborating with the AVWD, other public agencies that may be involved as well as Russian River conservation organizations. Together, we would work to create a sound water supply and conservation policies, projects, and programs. That work would enhance the resiliency and sustainability of Alexander Valley's agricultural and visitor-based economy. It is critical that we ensure quality of life while also contributing to regional water conservation and supply solutions.

Sincerely,
Sarah C. Hafner
Sarah Hafner
Chair
Geyserville-Alexander Valley Municipal Advisory Council

July 8, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the formation of the Alexander Valley Water District.

Alexander Valley currently lacks dedicated public agency representation, leaving us vulnerable to water supply uncertainties, including potential Potter Valley Project changes, water rights curtailments, and evolving groundwater management requirements. **A locally controlled landowner district is essential for the transparent, accountable leadership needed to solve these challenges.**

The proposed District would allow for a proactive approach by:

- **Coordinating** with regional partners (including the County, cities, and local Tribes) to ensure long-term water reliability.
- **Investing** in local infrastructure, including storage, groundwater recharge, and conservation.
- **Managing** water resources through collaborative planning and sustainable practices.

I respectfully urge the Commission to reconsider and rescind its May 6, 2026 denial of the Petition of the Formation of AVWD and enable our community to secure its water future. Additionally, I urge the Commission to approve the formation with the new conditions that ensure a diversity of representation of all interests of Alexander Valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rickie L. Pina
8090 Highway 128
Healdsburg, California 95448

Mendocino County

Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

PO Box 2104, Ukiah, CA 95482 707.462.5278 Website: RRFC.net DistrictManager@rrfc.net

July 8, 2026

Sonoma County Local Agency Formation Commission
11 Santa Rosa Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Commissioners,

RE: Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

The Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (RRFC) supports the formation of the Alexander Valley Water District, as first stated in our letter of support dated May 1, 2026.

The District now writes to encourage the Sonoma County LAFCo to reconsider and rescind the May 6, 2026 denial of the petition of formation and proceed with the formation as presented in the application.

RRFC is aware of concern regarding landowner representation if formation of the Alexander Valley Water District is a registered voter formed district rather than a landowner formed district as the form of governance for AVWD. It is the District's understanding that development of the proposed district spanned five years during which it was determined that a landowner district is the only viable model for this boundary.

Please refer to this District's original letter of support for more information and thank you for your focused attention on the approval of the Alexander Valley Water District formation.

Yours Sincerely,

Elizabeth Salomone

Elizabeth Salomone
General Manager

President	***Vice President***	***Treasurer***	***Trustee***	***Trustee***
Christopher Watt	*John Reardan*	*Tyler Rodrigue*	*John Bailey*	*Dave Koball*

July 8, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anthony S. Luci

Tony Luci
8989 Highway 128
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Date: 7-2-2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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- **Managing** water resources through collaborative planning and sustainable practices.

I respectfully urge the Commission to ***reconsider and rescind its May 6, 2026 denial of the Petition of the Formation of AVWD*** *and enable our community to secure its water future.* Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature John Armanino

Name JOHN ARMANINO

City, State, Zip 1138 Armanino Rd
Cloverdale, CA 95425

July 2, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO
111 Santa Rosa Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

To Whom it May Concern:

My property lies adjacent to the current proposed boundaries for the district so I can join if I like.

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the formation of the Alexander Valley Water District.

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I respectfully urge the Commission to ***reconsider and rescind its May 6, 2026 denial of the Petition of the Formation of AVWD*** *and enable our community to secure its water future.* Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name Steve and Wendy Smit

City, State, Zip Healdsburg, CA 95448

P.O. Box 466
Santa Rosa CA 95402
www.sierraclub.org/redwood

REDWOOD CHAPTER
SIERRA CLUB

LAFCO
Sonoma County
PO Box 1428
111 Santa Rosa Avenue, Suite 240
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Sonoma County LAFCO,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the "Alexander Valley Water District Formation" (AVWD). The mission of the Sierra Club Redwood Chapter Water Committee is to preserve and protect the water resources of the Redwood Chapter Region to include all surface, ground water, watersheds and outflow points and marine waters therein while ensuring their quantity and quality. The Redwood Chapter Water Committee works with legislators, state and local agencies and industrial/agricultural users to ensure that all Chapter water resources receive environmentally and socially sensitive management.

The first concern we listed regarding equitable representation relates to LAFCO's statutory responsibilities under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (CKH), which includes the adequacy of governance, representation, service feasibility, and impacts on the public interest and natural resources. The description in the application of governance structure does not provide good enough clarity on future representation or on the extensive authorities unless everything is decided by the elected Board of Directors.
There should be clarity and equal representation for decisions on changes, and on priorities. The proposal stipulates that the Board of Directors are to be elected by large landowners and hold ultimate control:

"The Board of Directors will have ultimate discretion over the services delivered and priorities for their implementation."
"The selection and phasing of program implementation will reflect the priorities of the Board of

Directors as may be influenced by established intergovernmental cooperation and terms of related agreements."

As it has been explained, there will be a slate of Directors proposed by the current organizing group offered to those eligible to vote. Others can run, but it would seem independent candidates could be disadvantaged. Will all the landowners (and/or leaseholders/tenants) be included in all decisions, including small parcel owners? Will they be consulted? Representation and protections of smaller landowners and domestic well owners must be explicitly spelled out, since the initial governing body appears to favor larger land holders. Domestic wells and smaller parcels typically have shallower wells which need equal representation, including affordable and adequate data collection to provide equal protections and opportunities. Small land holders should not bear the expense of impacts caused by others.

Our second query re: the application has to do with the proposed district boundaries not being consistent with water management either as watershed or GSA basin as described in Bulletin 118:
"The upland areas of the Alexander Area Subbasin, the Chalk Hill area, and the Mark West Creek watershed, are proposed to be excluded from the AVWD because these areas lack a sufficient nexus with the mainstem Russian River and its interconnected groundwater."

The described boundaries raise several hydrologic and governance concerns. Upland and municipal areas can materially affect groundwater levels, recharge dynamics and Russian River flows. The proposed district boundary as described is limited to the valley floor, explicitly not including upland and southernmost portions of the Alexander Valley Basin, cities and other jurisdictions which rely upon the same interconnected surface and groundwater. This limits ability to monitor and consider downstream and cumulative impacts of water use and management decisions, which will be required should a SGMA basin be formed, for example as a Groundwater Sustainability Basin. Downstream effects on users, groundwater wells connected to the basin but outside the AVWD boundary, instream conditions, and public trust resources beyond the proposed district boundary are not included for data collection or evaluation. Nor is there a described process for unbiased review, analysis or enforcement should mitigations be necessary. This needs to be addressed.

A third concern we have has to do with the Groundwater Recharge Program which states that the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians received a grant. It involved application of Russian River surface water to vineyards: Surface water will be extracted from new electrically powered shallow wells along the Russian River and pumped through a conveyance system to participating properties where the diverted water will be applied to land via existing water application infrastructure.

How this is managed can make a big difference to uses reliant on water downstream (dependent on the location and extraction of new wells) and to those not on the "participating" list. Real time groundwater metering and reporting would help - especially in sustainability planning. Seasonal and/or drought conditions can only be well managed with real time data and

reporting, which is not included. There is no description of cumulative impacts to downstream users or to Public Trust issues.

One final question regarding the AVWD application-- who exactly supports this proposed District, and/or who exactly have they met with and are working with. It was broadly stated that the urban areas, the tribes, and the community are in full support, but no specific municipalities or groups were named.

Sierra Club Redwood Chapter Water Committee recommends that in considering a newly formed Water District, that these and other issues of Public Trust are addressed formally prior to approval.

Thank you for your consideration.

Theresa Ryan
Chair, Water Committee
Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club

CAFF
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE with FAMILY FARMERS

Date: March 29, 2026

TO: LAFCO
Board Members & Staff
Sonoma County
PO Box 1428
111 Santa Rosa Avenue, Suite 240
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Submitted: Kasandra.Bowen@sonomacounty.gov

RE: Alexander Valley Water District Formation Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the "Alexander Valley Water District Formation Proposal" (AVWD). The Community Alliance with Family Farmers Community Alliance with Family Farmers, (CAFF), is a statewide organization that has been advocating for family farmers and sustainable agriculture since 1978; our mission is to build sustainable food and farming systems through policy advocacy and on-the-ground programs that create more resilient family farms, communities and ecosystems.

We recognize the challenges of sustainable water supply for all uses, and appreciate the time and effort the Alexander Valley property owners have taken to secure future water for users in their area. We understand the benefits of forming a locally focused public agency that could improve coordination among water users, including participation in regional water supply controls, the potential for increased capacity for data collection, planning, and long-term water resource management. We also recognize the potential value of a district that could participate in programs such as the Water Sharing Program (WSP), groundwater management programs, restoration projects, and regional water supply partnerships.

Concerns remain pursuant to LAFCO's statutory responsibilities under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (CKH), including the adequacy of governance, representation, service feasibility, and impacts on the public interest and natural resources.

As described, the governance structure "*encourages* … the AVWD Board represent a diversity of interests" but provides little clarity on future representation, or on the extensive authorities - unless everything is decided by the elected Board of Directors, which could be the case as the Board would serve as the Lead Agency. There should be clarity and equal representation for decisions on changes, and on priorities. The proposal stipulates that the Board of Directors are to be elected by large land owners and hold ultimate control:

> "The Board of Directors will have ultimate discretion over the services delivered and priorities for their implementation."
>
> "The selection and phasing of program implementation will reflect the priorities of the Board of Directors as may be influenced by established intergovernmental cooperation and terms of related agreements."

As it has been explained there will be a slate of Directors proposed by the current organizing group offered to those eligible to vote. Others can run, but it would seem independent candidates could be disadvantaged. Will all the landowners (and/or leaseholders/tenants) be included in all decisions, including small parcel owners? Will they be consulted?

Representation and protections of smaller landowners and domestic well owners must be explicitly spelled out, since the initial governing body appears to favor larger land holders. Domestic wells and smaller parcels typically have shallower wells which need equal representation, including affordable and adequate data collection to provide equal protections and opportunities. Small land holders should not bear the expense of impacts caused by others.

The proposed district boundaries are inconsistent with water management - either as a watershed or as GSA basin as described in Bulletin 118:

> "The upland areas of the Alexander Area Subbasin, the Chalk Hill area, and the Mark West Creek watershed, are proposed to be excluded from the AVWD because these areas lack a sufficient nexus with the mainstem Russian River and its interconnected groundwater."

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CAFF recommends that in considering a newly formed Water District, that these and other issues of Public Trust are addressed formally prior to approval.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Wendy Krupnick
President, CAFF Sonoma County Chapter

Date: July 23, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

To Whom it May Concern:

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Alexander Valley currently lacks dedicated public agency representation, leaving us vulnerable to water supply uncertainties, including potential Potter Valley Project changes, water rights curtailments, and evolving groundwater management requirements. **A locally controlled landowner district is essential for the transparent, accountable leadership needed to solve these challenges.**

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I respectfully urge the Commission to reconsider and rescind its May 6, 2026 denial of the Petition of the Formation of AVWD and enable our community to secure its water future. Additionally, I urge the Commission to approve the formation with the new conditions that ensure a diversity of representation of all interests of Alexander Valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature _____

Name __Nancy Harris Dalwin_____

City, State, Zip _Cloverdale, CA 95425_____

Date:

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111 Santa Rosa Ave

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature Edwin Acosta

Name Edwin Acosta

City, State, Zip 26870 Mountain Pine Road Cloverdale CA 95476

Docusign Envelope ID: 60B402D2-F655-802A-83DD-524CB8235324

Date:

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Sincerely,

Signature DocuSigned by: Mark Nagel 1023E96F0C4D49A...

Name _____Mark Nagel _____

City, State, Zip ____Cloverdale, CA 95425_____

Date: July 23, 2026

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111 Santa Rosa Ave

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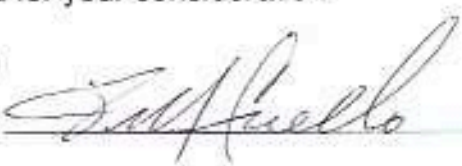
Signature 

Frank Crivello

Cloverdale, CA 95425

Date: July 23, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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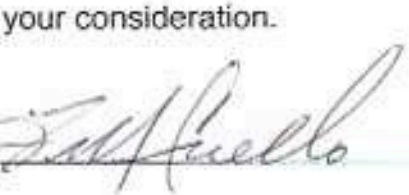
Signature 

Frank Crivello

Cloverdale, CA 95425

From: Tim McGaw
To: Kasandra Bowen
Subject: LAFCO - Alexander Valley
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026 9:51:42 AM

EXTERNAL

July 23, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Thank you for your consideration.

Tim McGaw
1106 Palomino Rd.
Cloverdale, CA. 95325

Sent from Gmail Mobile

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Date: 7/23/2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Sincerely,

Signature Rob Barsi

Name Robert Barsi

City, State, Zip Cloverdale, CA. 95425

Date: 07/23/2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the formation of the Alexander Valley Water District.

I live in the community of Palomino Lakes and formation of this water district is vital to maintaining the quality of our water sources.

Alexander Valley currently lacks dedicated public agency representation, leaving us vulnerable to water supply uncertainties, including potential Potter Valley Project changes, water rights curtailments, and evolving groundwater management requirements. **A locally controlled landowner district is essential for the transparent, accountable leadership needed to solve these challenges.**

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Sincerely,

Signature Penelope Gadd-Coster

Name Penelope Gadd-Coster

City, State, Zip Cloverdale, CA, 95425

July 23, 2006

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alison Finch

Alison Finch

Cloverdale/Asti, California 95425

From: Oveata Thomas
To: Kasandra Bowen
Subject: Letter
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026 11:44:09 AM

Date: July 23, 2026

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda Thomas

26859 Mtn. Pine Rd. Cloverdale. CA 95425

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From: steve martin
To: Kasandra Bowen
Subject: Alexander valley water district
Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026 11:57:38 AM

Hi there, this is my email comment for the public hearing that's happening for the Alexander valley water district on August 5th 2026. My name is Stephen Martin, I live on and own two acres on the Russian River just outside of Cloverdale, 31978 McCray road. I am opposed to creating the district and their having the capacity to Levy taxes and assessments. I see it as rich landowners wanting to tax everyone in order to protect their interests. At the Cloverdale city council meeting last night they said they don't keep track of how many people they represent, only amount of acres. That pretty much tells it all. I believe there's already an Alexander valley grape growers association which has a certain amount of clout when coming to governmental decisions and they can have their say just as the Fitch Mountain Association has their say when anything comes up concerning them. My perspective is that they're trying to grab more power and have the taxpayers pay for it. I am totally opposed to the creation of an Alexander valley water district. Sincerely, Stephen Martin

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Date:

Sonoma LAFCO

111 Santa Rosa Ave

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Formation of the Alexander Valley Water District

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the formation of the Alexander Valley Water District.

Alexander Valley currently lacks dedicated public agency representation, leaving us vulnerable to water supply uncertainties, including potential Potter Valley Project changes, water rights curtailments, and evolving groundwater management requirements. **A locally controlled landowner district is essential for the transparent, accountable leadership needed to solve these challenges.**

The proposed District would allow for a proactive approach by:

- **Coordinating** with regional partners (including the County, cities, and local Tribes) to ensure long-term water reliability.
- **Investing** in local infrastructure, including storage, groundwater recharge, and conservation.
- **Managing** water resources through collaborative planning and sustainable practices.

I respectfully urge the Commission to reconsider and rescind its May 6, 2026 denial of the Petition of the Formation of AVWD and enable our community to secure its water future. Additionally, I urge the Commission to approve the formation with the new conditions that ensure a diversity of representation of all interests of Alexander Valley.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature DocuSigned by: James Meese AEE87EE6728A458...

Name _____James Douglas Meese _____

City, State, Zip ____Cloverdale, CA 95425_____

From:	Carol Sklenicka
To:	Mark Bramfitt; Verne Ball; Kasandra Bowen
Cc:	Kate Fenton; Norma Jellison; Michelle Irwin
Subject:	Opposition to Formation of the Proposed Alexander Valley Water District as proposed
Date:	Monday, July 20, 2026 9:38:37 PM

July 21, 2026

Sonoma County Local Agency Formation Commission
111 Santa Rosa Avenue, Suite 240
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

RE: Opposition to Formation of the Proposed Alexander Valley Water District as proposed

Dear Chair and Commissioners:

On behalf of Friends of Jenner Creek, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposal to form the Alexander Valley Water District ("AVWD"). We recognize the significant water management challenges facing Alexander Valley and support efforts to improve long-term planning, coordination, and stewardship of local water resources. The issue before the Commission, however, is not whether improved water management is desirable, but whether the proposed governmental structure is the appropriate institutional vehicle for accomplishing those objectives.

Formation of a special district creates a permanent governmental entity that will likely exercise public authority for generations. Accordingly, the governance structure approved should be commensurate with the responsibilities that entity has requested and is expected to undertake in the future. As currently proposed, we do not believe the AVWD meets that standard.

The Proposed Governance Model Is Not Appropriate for the District's Intended Functions

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act ("CKH Act") recognizes that California employs different models of district governance. Government Code sections 56049 and 56050 define landowner-voter districts, while section 56072 separately defines registered-voter districts. Government Code section 56065 further provides that a district's governance structure is determined by its principal act.

Together, these provisions recognize that different governmental functions may warrant different governance structures. The issue before LAFCO is therefore not whether a landowner-voter district is legally permissible. Rather, it is whether that model of governance is appropriate for the public responsibilities this proposal seeks to assign to the district.

The proposal before the Commission contemplates a substantially broader institutional role. According to the Plan for Service, the AVWD may participate in regional water planning, groundwater management, groundwater recharge, water-sharing programs, conservation

initiatives, watershed wide programs, watershed restoration, and potentially future groundwater sustainability responsibilities. Those activities extend beyond the management of property interests as proposed to serve on the District Board, and involve interconnected water resources that affect domestic well users, neighboring jurisdictions, downstream communities, fisheries, public trust resources, and the broader Russian River watershed.

Although California law recognizes landowner-voter districts, that recognition reflects a legislative judgment that different governmental functions may warrant different governance structures. It does not relieve the Commission of its responsibility under Government Code section 56668 to determine whether the proposed governance model is appropriate for this particular district.

The Proposed Voting Structure Concentrates Political Authority Among the Largest Landowners

The proposal also raises concerns about allocating political influence based on the amount of land owned, including property improvements, and how that discrepancy could result in disproportionate harms to other district members.

The proposal therefore does more than limit participation to landowners—it concentrates decision-making authority among the district's largest landowners. Yet the district's decisions will affect all landowners and residents within its boundaries, including owners of smaller parcels, rural residents, leaseholders and domestic well users whose water supplies, property interests, and financial obligations may be directly affected by district policies. Decisions regarding groundwater management, conservation priorities, infrastructure investments, recharge projects, assessments, regional planning, and future district programs may therefore be disproportionately influenced by a relatively small number of large landowners despite affecting a much broader community.

The issue is not simply who may vote, but how political influence is distributed among those subject to the district's governance. By weighting votes according to acreage ownership, the proposal creates a governance structure in which representative participation decreases as the consequences of district decisions become more broadly shared. This allocation of political authority within a public agency and over crucial water decisions would establish a system where a select few wield disproportionate control and can impose widely disparate impacts.

The Proposed Boundaries Extend the District's Influence Beyond Those Represented in Its Governance

The governance concerns do not end at the district's proposed boundaries.

The Department of Water Resources has both defined and identified the Alexander Valley Groundwater Basin in Bulletin 118 as an interconnected hydrogeologic system. The proposed district, however, encompasses only a portion of that basin while contemplating groundwater management, recharge, watershed restoration, and other activities that inherently affect interconnected surface and groundwater resources extending beyond district boundaries.

The significance of this mismatch is not merely technical. Governmental boundaries determine who participates in district governance, while hydrologic boundaries often determine who experiences the effects of district decisions. Where those two boundaries diverge, questions naturally arise regarding whether those affected by district actions have meaningful opportunities for representation. Consequently, neighboring landowners, local governments,

domestic well users, downstream communities, and other watershed stakeholders may experience the effects of district decisions despite having no representation in district governance. The district's proposed sphere of influence would therefore extend beyond the communities represented by its governing body.

Government Code section 56668 directs the Commission to evaluate, among other considerations, the logical formation of boundaries, the interests of affected communities, and whether a proposal serves the public interest. Those considerations are directly implicated where a district's anticipated responsibilities extend beyond the boundaries of the electorate empowered to govern it, like here.

This proposal presents two related representational concerns. First, within the proposed district, political influence would be concentrated among the largest landowners despite district decisions affecting a much broader community of landowners, residents, and domestic well users. Second, beyond the district's boundaries, the proposal contemplates activities capable of affecting interconnected water resources and neighboring communities that would have no representation in district governance. That mismatch between governmental influence and public representation is precisely the type of institutional question the Legislature entrusted to LAFCO when evaluating proposals to create new governmental entities.

Water resources may be interconnected, but public accountability should not become disconnected from the communities affected by governmental decisions. The broader the district's proposed responsibilities become, the broader its representative governance should become. As currently proposed, the AVWD moves in the opposite direction.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Commission to deny the proposal unless and until a governance framework is developed that more appropriately aligns representative government with the scope of the district's intended authorities and functions.
Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Fenton, Norma Jellison, Michelle Irwin, Carol Sklenicka
Founding Members
Friends of Jenner Crek

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