



MEMORANDUM

TO: PRESIDING OFFICER OF EACH INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT IN
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

FROM: WILLIAM F. KRUSE

RE: BALLOT; SPECIAL DISTRICT LAFCO REPRESENTATIVE

DATE: March 9, 2026

Enclosed is the Ballot and the supplementary materials submitted for each of the candidates for Special District LAFCO **VOTING MEMBER** for the term expiring in May 2030. Nominations closed as of 5:00 p.m. on March 6, 2026.

Please vote for ONE candidate for the position. The marked ballot should be placed in the envelope marked "Ballot Envelope" and sealed. Please write the name of your agency and sign your name on the outside of the ballot envelope and return the completed ballot by mail to:

William F. Kruse, Esq.
Lagerlof, LLP
155 N. Lake Avenue, 11th Floor
Pasadena, CA 91101.

No ballot will be counted if it is missing the name of the voting agency and the signature of the Presiding Officer on the ballot envelope.

The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be declared the Special District **Voting Member** to LAFCO.

Ballots must be returned by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2026.

WFK/kn
Enclosures

cc(w/ encls.): Paul Novak

BALLOT

SPECIAL DISTRICT LAFCO VOTING MEMBER

Please vote for no more than one candidate.

GARY BURNS

Occupation: Board of Directors

Sponsor: Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

VERA ROBLES DeWITT

Occupation: Board of Directors

Sponsor: Water Replenishment District of Southern California

ROBERT W. LEWIS

Occupation: Board of Directors

Sponsor: Rowland Water District

NOMINATION
OF
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT **VOTING MEMBER**
TO THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

To: Independent Special District Selection Committee

From: Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Date: 3/6/26

Name of Candidate: Gary Burns

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District is pleased to nominate
Gary Burns as a candidate for appointment as special district **voting**

member to the Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission. The nominee is an elected official or a member of the board of an independent special district appointed for a fixed term. For your consideration, we submit the following additional information together with a resume of the candidate's qualifications.

Elective office: Board of Directors

Agency: Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

Type of Agency: Special District Water and Wastewater

Term Expires: December 2026

Residence Address: 22118 Dardenne St. Calabasas CA 91302

Telephone: 818-326-2000

PLEASE ATTACH RESUME OR CANDIDATE STATEMENT (limit one page)

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(Name of Agency)

By: 

Its: Andy Coradeschi, Board President

NOMINATION

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO):

Nomination of Candidate for Special District Board Member

Gary Burns, Candidate for LAFCO Member Position 2026

I would like to thank each district board as I am asking for your vote, to become a full member of the LAFCO Board.

It is time to add "fresh" ideas and excitement to how LAFCO communicates and operates. To that end, please call me at 818 326 2000 to discuss your specific issues. I will listen intently, absorbing your insight.

I hope to visit each of your Board Meetings via zoom or in person to introduce myself, listen to what is important to your district and provide the confidence that I can lead LAFCO into the future.

I desire to serve as a LAFCO Board Member to further serve the community, each of our districts and provide "new" and "environmental" input to the Los Angeles Region and the Supervisors we report to. Few citizens know what LAFCO accomplishes or what the initials stand for. I intend to change that.

As with the homeowners of Calabasas and the entire www.LVMWD.com area, I am available to advocate for or listen to constituents whenever needed. I pledge to do the same for ALL LAFCO Districts.

Gary Burns was elected to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Board in 2022. (Division 3, currently Secretary). He is the first Calabasas resident to serve on the District Water Board. **Since his time on the District Board, he has imbued his efforts with energy and the desire to effect change.** He has visited various local and state water facilities and Districts. **He is a member of ACWA, CASA, WaterReuse and has attended their conventions throughout the year, attaining insight into District, State and Water Policy. He is serving on the Business Development Committee of ACWA Region 8. He is championing a Heli-Hydrant project with Los Angeles County Fire, the City of Calabasas and the local Council of Governments.**

In his efforts to search for new sources of water, Gary has visited the future SITES Reservoir Project, the Delta Project, and various Metropolitan Water District facilities, including the in-development Carson Pure Water Plant, etc. His goal is to ensure there is a sufficient water supply for future generations, while preserving the environment in Southern California, the State of California, and the United States.

Growing up on the East Coast, Gary moved to California in 1989, watched the City of Calabasas incorporate in 1991 and has been a resident of Calabasas for the past 35 years. He attended Fairleigh Dickenson (FDU) and Hofstra University where he received a BA and Master's in Psychology and an MBA in Business and Finance.

Gary has been President of the Mulholland Heights Homeowners Association for the past 10 years. Currently, he is a Board Member of The Valley Economic Alliance (ww.thevalley.net) Community Associations Institute, 2018 - 2024 (CAI of Greater Los Angeles County), a Board Member of CAI International, National Homeowner Leaders Council 2021 – 2024 and recognized by CAI Los Angeles for Excellence in Community Leadership.

He is also a founding member of EPIC, (Emergency Preparedness in Calabasas, www.epic-fsc.com), volunteers for many local community activities, and is a Life and Health Insurance Broker (<https://garyburns.businesslinksolutions.net>).

Thank You for your vote and consideration of Gary Burns for LAFCO Board Member (818 326 2000 mobile/text)

NOMINATION
OF
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT **VOTING MEMBER**
TO THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

To: Independent Special District Selection Committee

From: Sergio Calderon

Date: 3-3-26

Name of Candidate: Vera Robles DeWitt

Sergio Calderon is pleased to nominate
Vera Robles DeWitt as a candidate for appointment as special district **voting**

member to the Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission. The nominee is an elected official or a member of the board of an independent special district appointed for a fixed term. For your consideration, we submit the following additional information together with a resume of the candidate's qualifications.

Elective office: Director, Treasurer Div 5

Agency: Water Replenishment District of So Cal
WRD

Type of Agency: Groundwater Replenishment

Term Expires: Nov 2029

Residence Address: 24728 Panama Avenue
Carson, California 90745

Telephone: 310 505-8353

PLEASE ATTACH RESUME OR CANDIDATE STATEMENT (limit one page)

Water Replenishment District of So. Calif (WRD)
(Name of Agency)

By: 

Its: President, Board of Directors

NOMINATION



LAFCO

Independent Special District Member Candidate Statement

Vera Robles DeWitt

I respectfully seek your support for my candidacy to represent you as your representative on the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) as the designee for all Independent Special Districts.

I currently serve as an elected Director for the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD). I have served continuously on the WRD Board since 2018 and was overwhelmingly re-elected in November 2024. I was directly elected to represent an area with 738,851 residents that encompasses 14 special Districts; specifically, the following:

- 16 school districts
- 29 water districts
- And for geographic context 10 cities, Bellflower, Carson, Downey, Hacienda Heights, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Norwalk, Paramount, Santa Fe Springs and Whittier along with numerous unincorporated areas of LA County.

During my tenure I have made it a point to know and visit all special districts because I want to be accessible and available to you, which is what I promise to be if you elect me as your Independent Special District representative to LAFCO.

BACKGROUND

For years I have been involved in many civic/non-profit programs. In 1992 I was the founding president of our local chapter of the Boys and Girls Club, and a founding board member of the Dominguez Family Shelter for abused and battered women. I am on the board of directors for the Carson Community Foundation and currently serve as Vice President of my local Kiwanis Club. Also, for the last eight years I've served as a member of the Executive Board for the South County Labor, AFL-CIO. And for the last 3 years have served as a board member representing a special district on the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) formed for mitigating the growing risks of public agencies.

I have been a homeowner since 1964, and as a single parent I raised one son, a member of IBEW Local 47 and one granddaughter who is a commercial airline pilot Captain.

I would be honored to represent you and promise to provide you with updates of LAFCO's activities so you are no longer in the dark left wondering what is going on at LAFCO, and with your support I look forward to contributing in a meaningful way to LAFCO and be a compelling voice for you and on behalf of all Independent Special Districts.

Vera Robles DeWitt
310 505.8353
Veradewitt22@gmail.com

NOMINATION
OF
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT **VOTING MEMBER**
TO THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

To: Independent Special District Selection Committee

From: Rowland Water District

Date: February 23, 2026

Name of Candidate: Robert W. Lewis

Rowland Water District is pleased to nominate
Robert W. Lewis as a candidate for appointment as special district **voting**

member to the Los Angeles Local Agency Formation Commission. The nominee is an elected official or a member of the board of an independent special district appointed for a fixed term. For your consideration, we submit the following additional information together with a resume of the candidate's qualifications.

Elective office: Director, Division IV

Agency: Rowland Water District

Type of Agency: Special District Water Agency

Term Expires: December 2026

Residence Address: 2231 S. Fullerton Road Unit #8,
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Telephone: 626-964-0875

PLEASE ATTACH RESUME OR CANDIDATE STATEMENT (limit one page)

Rowland Water District

(Name of Agency)

By: 

Its: Board President

NOMINATION









LAFCO Candidate Statement

Robert W. Lewis

As the incumbent Special District Voting Member to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission, I am respectfully seeking reappointment to continue the work I have been privileged to take part in. With nearly 34 years of service to Rowland Water District and its ratepayers, and direct experience serving on this Commission, I bring institutional knowledge and operational continuity that serves LAFCO and the public it represents.

Residents rightly expect their government to operate with full transparency and accountability. As LAFCO’s special district representative, I have embraced that responsibility in every matter before the Commission. Whether reviewing agency boundaries, evaluating service adequacy, or weighing consolidation decisions, I have applied a consistent standard: the public must be able to understand what is being decided, why it is being decided, and how it serves their interests. Reappointment means that standard continues without interruption.

My career in local government began on the City of Fullerton’s Redevelopment Commission and has grown into decades of active participation across regional water, utility, and policy bodies. This experience has given me a firsthand understanding of how agencies interact, where collaboration succeeds, and where gaps in coordination create real costs for communities. I currently represent Rowland Water District across the following:

-  Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 8 Board Member; ACWA is a statewide industry group that monitors and influences legislation and policies affecting water supply
-  ACWA/Joint Powers Insurance Authority Alternate Voting Representative
-  Puente Basin Water Agency Board of Commissioners; this commission coordinates and secures supplemental funding for projects that improve regional water quality
-  California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA); this association represents its members’ interests on energy and water issues before the California Legislature, the Governor’s Office, and regulatory bodies
-  San Gabriel Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee Member
-  Several LAFCO Committees, including the Special Districts Ad Hoc Committee in the 1990s which was instrumental in establishing the LAFCO Special Districts seat, a seat I have now had the honor of holding as the incumbent voting member.

Continuity at the Commission level produces results. As the sitting voting member, I have developed working relationships with fellow commissioners, county staff, and agency representatives that allow business to move forward efficiently and collaboratively. The institutional memory I hold, from the history of the Special Districts seat itself to the current landscape of service challenges across Los Angeles County, is an asset that reappointment preserves.

I am proud of the record built during my tenure and remain fully committed to the responsibilities this seat carries. I respectfully request reappointment as the Special District Voting Member to LAFCO for the County of Los Angeles and look forward to continuing this important work on behalf of the districts and residents we serve.