

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 2/5/03  
**Department Name:** CA  
**Department No.:** 12  
**Agenda Date:** 2/18/03  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:** NA  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Michael F. Brown, County Administrator  
X-3400

**STAFF CONTACT:** Jim Laponis, Deputy County Administrator  
X-3400

**SUBJECT:** County Formation Proposal and Initial Public Hearing

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**Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Receive and file an update on County Formation Proposal initiated by Citizens For County Organization Inc.

**Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 6. A County Government that is Accessible, Open, and Citizen-Friendly.

**Executive Summary and Discussion:**

On January 14, 2003 Citizens For County Organization Inc. (CFCO), a 501 (c) 4 California Non-Profit Social Welfare Corporation, filed a 'Notice of Intention to Circulate a Petition' (notice) for the creation of a proposed new county. Attached is the transmittal letter from CFCO that states the objectives of the county formation proposal. Upon the receipt of the notice, the County is required to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of discussing the placement of boundaries for the proposed county. In addition to the discussion related to boundaries, it is anticipated that there will be public testimony related to the statement of objectives as set fourth by CFCO.

The hearing is required to be set not less than 30-days nor more than 60-days after the filing of the notice. As such, the public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2003, at 10:00 AM in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Betteravia Government Center, Santa Maria. The County Administrator, acting as Clerk of the Board, is required to provide notice and to act as an impartial moderator at the public hearing.

Staff from the County Administrator, County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor and County Counsel will be in attendance.

Legal noticing will be placed in the Santa Barbara News Press, Lompoc Record, Santa Maria Times and Santa Ynez Valley News. The public hearing will be broadcast live on Government Access TV Channel 20 and will be rebroadcast on Saturday March 1, 2003 at 12 Noon and 5:00 PM and on Sunday March 2, 2003 at 12 Noon and 5:00 PM.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

The county formation process is set forth in Government Code Section 23300 et seq. The County Formation Proposal, in and of itself, does not significantly impact county mandates or service levels. As this process moves forward, however, impacts to county mandates and service levels could be significant. A report on these issues will be provided to the Board as appropriate.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Costs for the noticing and conduct of the public hearing on February 27, 2003 are not significant. As the county formation process moves forward, however, additional significant fiscal and facilities impacts may be incurred. A report on these issues will be provided to the Board as appropriate.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board to provide legal notice for the public hearing as described in the board letter.