



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 26, 2026

**Placer LAFCO Names Jason Fried  
as New Executive Officer**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Whitney Eklund  
Chair  
(City)

Susan Rohan  
Vice Chair  
(Public)

Joshua Alpine  
(Special District)

Anthony DeMattei  
(County)

Judy Friedman  
(Special District)

Cindy Gustafson  
(County)

Stephanie  
Youngblood  
(City)

**ALTERNATE  
COMMISSIONERS**

David Bass  
(City)

Shanti Landon  
(County)

Cherri Spriggs  
(Public)

Scott Wilson  
(Special District)

**COUNSEL**

Michael Walker  
General Counsel

**STAFF**

Colette Santsche  
Interim  
Executive Officer

Amanda Ross  
Acting Assistant  
Executive Officer

Amy Engle  
Commission Clerk/  
Analyst

**AUBURN, Calif.** — The Placer Local Agency Formation Commission (Placer LAFCO) is pleased to announce the hiring of Jason Fried as its new Executive Officer, effective August 1, 2026. Following a competitive recruitment process and a thorough review of a highly qualified pool of finalists, the Commission selected Mr. Fried for his exceptional depth of LAFCO-specific leadership experience, collaborative approach, and demonstrated success in strengthening agency operations.

Mr. Fried brings more than 15 years of experience serving as a LAFCO Executive Officer, most recently at Marin LAFCO and previously at San Francisco LAFCO. Throughout his career, he has successfully managed complex jurisdictional changes, including fire district consolidations, while building strong relationships with local agencies, elected officials, and community stakeholders. His experience in budgeting, organizational management, policy development, and intergovernmental coordination aligns well with the needs of Placer LAFCO.

As Executive Officer, Mr. Fried will lead Placer LAFCO through its next phase of organizational growth. His experience recruiting and mentoring staff, managing increasing workloads, and building high-performing teams will support the Commission as it continues to expand its capacity to meet the growing demand for LAFCO services throughout Placer County.

The Commission extends its sincere thanks to Interim Executive Officer Colette Santsche and the LAFCO staff for their dedicated service during the transition. The Commission looks forward to welcoming Mr. Fried and to the next chapter of leadership at Placer LAFCO.

**About Placer LAFCO**

Placer LAFCO is an independent government agency established under California law to discourage urban sprawl, preserve open-space and prime agricultural lands, encourage the efficient delivery of local government services, and support the orderly formation and development of local agencies.

**Media Contact:** Placer LAFCO • 110 Maple Street, Auburn, CA 95603 • (530) 889-4097 • [placerlafcoa.gov](http://placerlafcoa.gov)