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Placer County LAFCO Discusses the Proposal to Incorporate Olympic Valley

*Resort at Squaw Creek and Squaw Valley Lodge join
Squaw Valley Ski Holdings in opposing incorporation and requesting exclusion*

[Olympic Valley, Calif.] June 13, 2014 - On Wednesday, June 11, the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) met to hear comments and review the latest correspondence related to the request for the incorporation of Olympic Valley (IOV). LAFCO heard from proponents of incorporation, as well as from representatives of Save Olympic Valley (SOV), a community group working to raise important questions related to the fiscal and practical viability of the IOV plan.

Central to the discussion were letters in opposition to the incorporation effort recently submitted to LAFCO by Eric Sather, general manager of the Resort at Squaw Creek and Mike Syiek, president of the board of directors of Squaw Valley Lodge. In their letters, both entities expressed serious concerns with the IOV proposal. [Click here](#) to view the letters in their entirety.

In his letter to LAFCO on behalf of Squaw Valley Lodge, Syiek wrote, “We strongly believe that if incorporation of Olympic Valley were approved, the newly created city would ultimately fail, resulting in ramifications that would be felt well-beyond Placer County and the Tahoe region.”

Syiek’s letter substantiated his organization’s belief by citing ten separate concerns, ranging from lack of resources and tax risk to the effects on the remaining unincorporated areas in the Tahoe Basin.

In addition to expressing serious concerns with the viability of incorporation, the spokespeople for the Resort at Squaw Creek and Squaw Valley Lodge joined Squaw Valley Ski Holdings in requesting that their properties be excluded should LAFCO approve the incorporation of Olympic Valley.

In his letter on behalf of the Resort at Squaw Creek, Sather noted, “We believe that incorporation of the Town of Olympic Valley would diminish the benefits that all Placer County residents receive from the thousands of visitors to our region annually.”

In addition to reviewing the opposition letters, LAFCO also determined that the Incorporate Olympic Valley committee would be required to pay up-front for the additional fiscal and environmental analyses needed to assess the viability of incorporation.

The Incorporate Olympic Valley committee is currently under investigation by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) for their fundraising practices following a recent complaint. The complaint raised the IOV committee's use of tax-deductible donations for political purposes, in violation of state and federal law— as well as their failure to file required monthly reports of their contributions and expenditures.