



## CALIFORNIA (un)INCORPORATED

*A coalition of unincorporated communities in California whose residents and businesses are effectively denied a municipal level of government.*

*<https://www.caunincorporated.com> • [caunincorporated@gmail.com](mailto:caunincorporated@gmail.com)*

May 1, 2025

Board of Directors  
El Dorado Hills Community Services District  
1021 Harvard Street  
El Dorado Hills CA 95762

Dear Board Members,

California (un)Incorporated is a statewide coalition of unincorporated communities that gives voice to the needs of urbanized, unincorporated communities in California. We SUPPORT your District's Resolution 2025-09 to initiate the process for incorporation of the City of El Dorado Hills by assuming lead agency status for the incorporation. Among other things, doing so is completely within your District's authority under the Community Services District Law (Government Code Section 61000 et seq.), which makes clear that one of the purposes of a community services district is to serve as an intermediate step in the direction of cityhood.

El Dorado Hills has roughly 4 times the population of the El Dorado County seat (City of Placerville) and is about double the population size of the county's other municipality (City of South Lake Tahoe). The people of El Dorado Hills do not have the same rights and privileges as the residents of those two cities or any of the other 481 cities in California. The growth pressure on El Dorado Hills is intense, far in excess of growth pressures felt by either of the two cities in the county. So, we think the time is right for El Dorado Hills to change its governance arrangement from the limited powers of a community services district to the full powers of a California municipality.

Unfortunately, the procedures of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Act hamper new municipal incorporations and perpetuate the unfair treatment of residents and businesses of unincorporated communities. Reform of the CKH Act can provide equity, remove regulatory barriers and substantially lower costs that work against local control. The Legislature has been slow to even acknowledge the plight of unincorporated communities. Sadly, the incorporation process for El Dorado Hills must follow the existing rules of El Dorado County's Local Agency Formation Commission, however unfair and expensive those rules may be. Yet we applaud your District's effort because, while working towards incorporation of El Dorado Hills, it can also inspire other communities to consider local control, and perhaps help bring about the long-overdue reforms.

As explained in our website (<https://www.caunincorporated.com>), the state does not seem to recognize the importance of better municipal governance for the 5-6 million Californians who live in urbanized, unincorporated communities. Self-determination is the key to improving the circumstances of people and businesses in unincorporated areas. Your District's resolution conveys a clear understanding of the significance of local control and moves the needle in the direction of democracy and fairness for the citizens of El Dorado Hills. We respectfully request that your Board, in addition to passing its resolution, will follow up by seeking support from the Legislature for relief from the burdens of the CKH Act as well.

Sincerely,

Michael Seaman  
Chair, California (un)Incorporated

*Participating communities (counties): Ashland, Castro Valley (Alameda) • El Dorado Hills (El Dorado) • McKinleyville (Humboldt) • Lamont (Kern) • Stratford (Kings) • Altadena, East Los Angeles, Willowbrook, West Athens, Westmont (Los Angeles) • Ladera Ranch (Orange) • North Lake Tahoe (Placer) • Winchester/Homeland (Riverside), Antelope, Arden Arcade, Rio Linda Elverta, Vineyard (Sacramento) • Mentone (San Bernardino) • Isla Vista (Santa Barbara) • Guerneville/Lower Russian River (Sonoma) • Salida (Stanislaus)*