

# COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9-15, 2012

ATTEND OUR UPDATES  
SAVE THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2012 AND THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 FOR COLAB MIXERS

IN PASO ROBLES

NEAR SAN LUIS OBISPO



**COLAB**  
*San Luis Obispo County*

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

Thursday, September 13, 2012  
5:30 to 7:30 pm

Next Steps & Opportunities with SLO County...  
**Come hear how to sieze the moment!**

Updates by Mike Brown and Andy Caldwell  
Guest Speaker - Andrea Seastrand

We have made our presence known in 2009, 2010,  
2011, and 2012. ***We are making a difference!***

Location: **Switzer Excavating**  
201 Cow Meadow Place, Paso Robles, CA  
Cow Meadow Place is off Ramada Drive, just north of  
John Deere, and dead ends into Switzer Excavating.

**RSVP** appreciated by Monday, September 10, 2012  
Call (805) 548-0340 or email [colabslo@gmail.com](mailto:colabslo@gmail.com)

Tasty BBQ appetizers will be provided by the  
San Luis Obispo County Cattlemen.  
***Wine and beer will be served***



**COLAB**  
*San Luis Obispo County*

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Thursday, September 20, 2012  
5:30 to 7:30 pm

Next Steps & Opportunities with SLO County...  
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Guest Speaker - Andrea Seastrand

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Location: **Holland Ranch Barn**  
2275 Carpenter Canyon Road, San Luis Obispo, CA  
From SLO: Just past the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the right.  
From AG: Just before the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the left.

**RSVP** appreciated by Monday, September 17, 2012  
Call (805) 548-0340 or email [colabslo@gmail.com](mailto:colabslo@gmail.com)

Tasty BBQ appetizers will be prepared by BBQ  
Extraordinaire Chris Darway.  
***Wine and beer will be served***

## PLEASE ATTEND THE COLAB SLO UPDATE/MIXERS

Friends and members of COLAB should plan on attending one or both of the updates. Celebrate progress and next steps. Enjoy wine, beer, and appetizers. For your convenience, one update is scheduled in the North county and one in the South county. Feel free to attend either or both (whatever is convenient). Be sure to bring and/or invite your friends. Enjoy a positive and informative early evening. Please call Elaine Castillo at 805-548-0340 or email [colabslo@gmail.com](mailto:colabslo@gmail.com) and let us know you are coming. We want to make sure we have plenty of beer, wine and appetizers.

## IN THIS ISSUE

SAVE THURSDAY EVENING OCTOBER 18, 2012  
DYNAMITE PROGRAM  
CALIFORNIA'S BIG NOVEMBER ELECTION DECISION  
(SEE PAGE 5 BELOW FOR DETAILS)

SUPERVISORS GIBSON AND PATTERSON DEFEND  
ADAM HILL ATTACKS ON PUBLIC COMMENTORS

SLOCOG TO DIVVY UP \$315 MILLION IN TRANSPORTATION  
FUNDING/MUST CONFORM TO SMART GROWTH

WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY PLASTIC BAG  
BAN/PAPER BAG "TAX" STARTS OCTOBER 1, 2012  
(NOT EVEN MENTIONED ON THE AGENDA)

### Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 4, 2012 (Completed)

There were no items of significant policy concern on this very short agenda. However, Board Majority reaction to Public Comment underscores its intolerance for dissent as outlined below:

#### **Supervisors Gibson and Patterson defend Supervisor Hill:**

**Background:** During the August 28, 2012 hearing on the Green Building Ordinance, Supervisor Hill negatively characterized the speakers who opposed adoption of the Ordinance. He described the speakers' objections as reacting to "phantom fears" and the speakers as ideologues. He went on to chastise the speakers for promulgating a "fear approach." He characterized the opposing speakers' positions as the "default position of the demagogue." In an appeal to class warfare (who's the real demagogue?), Hill stated that homeowners should be more interested in installing (compelled to install?) "new duct work and insulation" versus "fancy kitchens." He further characterized the opponents of the ordinance as lacking in "adult" behavior.

**The Speakers Respond:** Accordingly, during public comment at the subsequent September 4, 2011 meeting, a number of the previous week's speakers refuted Mr. Hill's comments and

criticized his demeaning behavior. It should be noted that at no time, during either hearing, did the opponents direct personal attacks at the Board members in general or Mr. Hill in particular. Nevertheless, Supervisors Patterson and Gibson felt obliged to defend Supervisor Hill. Gibson stated that the “criticisms of us are misplaced ... the public commenters are too sensitive.” Gibson went on to praise the Board’s conduct of public meetings and tolerance of public comment. Patterson chimed in that the Board has “one of the most generous public comment policies.” Both Supervisors underscored the idea that the Supervisors “properly” have and share their opinions. Hill remained silent during the discussion.

**Evasion of the Issue:** Patterson and Gibson’s comments evaded the real issue, which was that citizens expressed their opposition to further expansion (and cost) of government activity into their homes via the “Green Building Ordinance.” These supervisors did not attempt to refute that point of view on the merits. Instead, they chose to defend the rude and intimidating actions of their colleague who attacked the public speakers personally for expressing their opinions. The whole episode is yet another example of their arrogance in the single-minded drive to use regulations to undermine private property.

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| <b>Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 11, 2012 (Scheduled)</b> |
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There are no items of significant policy impact on this agenda.

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| <b>San Luis Obispo Council of Governments Meeting of Wednesday, September 12, 2012, 8:30 AM – County Building (Scheduled)</b> |
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**The Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).** The SLOCOG Board will consider the FTIP for 2013-2015. Essentially, they will be divvying up a projected \$315 million in various types of expected Federal transportation funds (there are many separate funding programs) among the 7 cities and the County. A long and complex process involving the cities, citizens, environmental groups, and various types of transportation advocates (elderly, people who like trains, people who like cars, people who don’t like cars, etc.) met in a number of subcommittees and community forums and worked up the particular projects. (Yes, the citizens had to paste colored dots.) These include new road construction, maintenance of existing roads, road enhancement, bus system funding, bikeways, and so forth. There is nowhere near enough money. There is also contention between pro-car and anti-car/environmental groups. The large staff report states:

*The Federally required Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a comprehensive listing of the San Luis Obispo County Region’s surface transportation projects that receive Federal funds or are subject to a federally required action, or are regionally significant. The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) prepares and adopts the FTIP every two years. According to Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the most recent Federal surface transportation act, the FTIP will now be prepared and adopted at least once every four years, and shall*

*cover at least a four-year period and contain a priority list of projects grouped by year. Furthermore, the FTIP must be financially constrained by year, meaning that the amount of dollars committed to the project (also referred as “programmed”) must not exceed the amount of dollars estimated to be available. The FTIP must include a financial plan that demonstrates that programmed projects can be implemented. Federal regulations also require an opportunity for public comment prior to FTIP approval. Air quality standards in accordance with Federal Clean Air Act requirements and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are such that SLOCOG’s FTIP does not have to be accompanied by an evaluation and finding of air quality conformity. Transit, highway, local roadway, and non-motorized investments are included in the FTIP.*

**Climate Action Strings Attached:** Note the highlighted sentence below. It references the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which **promises** that the County and cities will adopt and follow the smart growth doctrine – especially herding folks into dense, walkable villages. As far as we know, the SLOCOG is still working on the SCS, and it has not been adopted. How can they promise the Feds that they are “consistent”? Is a future vote a foregone conclusion? Maybe “preliminary” is not so preliminary.

*Transit, highway, local roadway, and non-motorized investments are included in the FTIP. All regionally significant transportation projects or projects requiring Federal action are part of the FTIP. All projects included in the SLOCOG-prepared FTIP are consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) – Preliminary Sustainable Community Strategies (PSCS) for the San Luis Obispo County.*

The report contains a set of overall goals for the County’s transportation system. Among these are the key enviro-socialist doctrinal canons:

### ***EQUITY***

*Avoid a disproportionately adverse impact on low-income, minority, elderly or disabled populations.*

*Provide equitable levels of funding and transportation services to all areas, communities, and socio-economic groups.*

### ***LIVABILITY***

*Support livable community concepts and efforts.*

*Reflect community values while integrating land use and transportation planning.*

### ***ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION***

*Conserve and protect natural and sensitive resources.*

*Preserve aesthetic resources and promote environmental enhancements with all transportation projects.*

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| <b>San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) Meeting of Wednesday September 12, 2012, 1:30 PM – County Building (Scheduled)</b> |
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**Plastic Bag Ban/Paper Bag “Tax” Starts October 1, 2012:** Mysteriously, the Bag Ban debut is not even mentioned. There is no report on preparations. We have seen no publicity, warnings, or instructions for assistance to low income people in the media or stores. The general public will be totally shocked when they are suddenly hit with the checker asking

them to buy reusable bags and/or pay 10 cents for each paper bag. There is no report on the status of the lawsuit challenging the ordinance.

**SAVE THURSDAY EVENING OCTOBER 18, 2012**

**Meet Me Half-way Annual Meeting**

**California's Big Decision 2012! Join Us!**

# **COLAB**

Santa Barbara County & San Luis Obispo County

## **Meet Me Half-way Annual Meeting**

Thursday, October 18, 2012  
Santa Maria Fair Park  
937 S.Thornburg Street, Santa Maria, CA

**Guest Speakers**

**Steven F. Hayward**  
Internationally known Conservative  
Columnist and Author



**Jon Coupal**  
President, Howard Jarvis  
Taxpayers Association



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Hosted Beer and Wine will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m.  
**DINNER & AUCTION - 6:15 p.m.**  
**\$50 per person/\$500 for a table of ten**

Purchase Tickets by Mail:  
COLAB PO Box 7523 Santa Maria CA 93456

Purchase Tickets Online:  
<http://www.colabsbc.org/events.aspx>