



# COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2017



## COLAB San Luis Obispo County

# FALL FORUM

### WHAT CAN BE DONE TO SAVE CALIFORNIA



**Thursday, October 12th**

**5:30—7:30 PM**

Holland Barn  
2275 Carpenter Canyon Rd.  
San Luis Obispo

From SLO: Just past the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the right. From AG: just past the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the left.

**Speaker**

**Dan Walters**  
Sacramento Watchdog &  
California Expert



Dan Walters is the preeminent interpreter of California politics and public policy. In a 57 year career as a reporter, editor, bureau chief, and columnist (over 9000 columns to date) he has developed the most in-depth and comprehensive understanding of the underlying causes of the State's deepening dilemma. His work appears in national publications such as the Wall St. Journal and Christian Science Monitor. He has authored a number of books and is an engaging and lively speaker. Spend a stimulating early evening at the rustically charming Holland Ranch Barn considering what is to be done to stem the spiraling economic, tax, and cost of living problems confronting our state and localities. Dan will entertain questions and suggestions at the end of his talk. This is a free educational sponsored event. Guests will enjoy local beers, wines, and hot and cold appetizers.

**RSVP's appreciated by Friday, October 9th.**

Email: [colabslo@gmail.com](mailto:colabslo@gmail.com) or call (805) 548-0340

## **THIS WEEK**

**BOS SHOULD SUPPORT NEW ART MUSEUM  
ONTARIO RIDGE (AVILA BEACH) PRIVATE  
PROPERTY TAKING ISSUE AT BOS  
SPECIAL APCD MEETING SEPT. 20<sup>TH</sup>**

## **LAST WEEK**

**PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTS  
MARIJUANA RECOMMENDATIONS  
CAL PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION HEARS  
LOCALS ON DIABLO CLOSURE PLAN**

## **SLO COLAB IN DEPTH**

**(SEE PAGE 16)**

**ADAM HILL USES THE HOMELESS AS A POLITICAL  
FOIL – HE COULD ZONE IN MORE HOMES INSTEAD**

**By Mike Brown**

# ASTONISHING WASTE ON HOMELESS PROGRAMS BY SAN FRANCISCO

By James V. Lacy

## THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

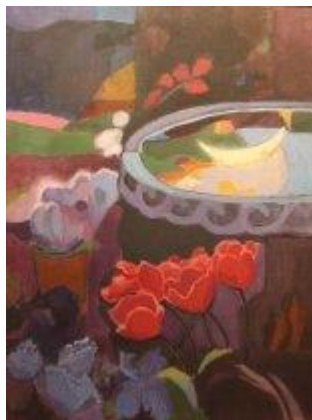
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### Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 19, 2017 (Scheduled)

**Item 22 - San Luis Obispo Museum of Art Request for \$400,000 County Contribution.** The County is being requested to provide a \$400,000 contribution toward the construction of a new building (replaces the existing building) in the Mission Plaza for the museum. The overall budget is in excess of \$12 million. Thus the County's contribution is relatively small.

The Board should approve this request for an expanded museum program in terms of both the permanent collection and traveling shows as an important short and long range investment in the economic development of the County. The benefit is not derived from the increased revenues from visitors alone. A growing art museum program is an important attractant to business location and retention as part of an increasingly sophisticated community fabric.

Beyond these practical considerations, the ability of the museum to provide rotating and permanent gallery space to exhibit painting and sculpture related to the County's history and heritage, both past and future, is actually more important. There are a number of private art collections in the County containing important local, regional, and national works, some of which might eventually need a home. The rich history of the County and California embodied in some of this art should have an accessible, attractive, and safe place for future generations to come to enjoy and reflect.



In the future the County should consider a further contribution to help establish an endowment fund that could be grown and matched over the decades to provide funding for additions to the permanent collection.



**Proposed Museum Building:** Is it a building or an abstract art object? Have the Trustees visited the Fort Worth Kimbell Art Museum, Williamstown Massachusetts's Clark Art Institute, and Sun Valley Art Center to gather some ideas about the most successful smaller regional museums?

**City of San Luis Obispo Issues:** COLAB support of the museum project does not signal that we endorse policies of the SLO City Council. Removing traffic lanes and parking to subsidize militant bike partisans at the expense of traffic flow and safety, not to mention access to commercial businesses, should be rejected. Screwball ideas such as mandatory inspection of private homes should also be rejected. Opposition to the County's fossil fuel industry and intrusion into County zoning matters reflect an uneducated and provincial ideological bias. The City is broke and cannot survive on its naturally growing revenues. It has to resort to endless tax overrides to feed its self-serving political machine.

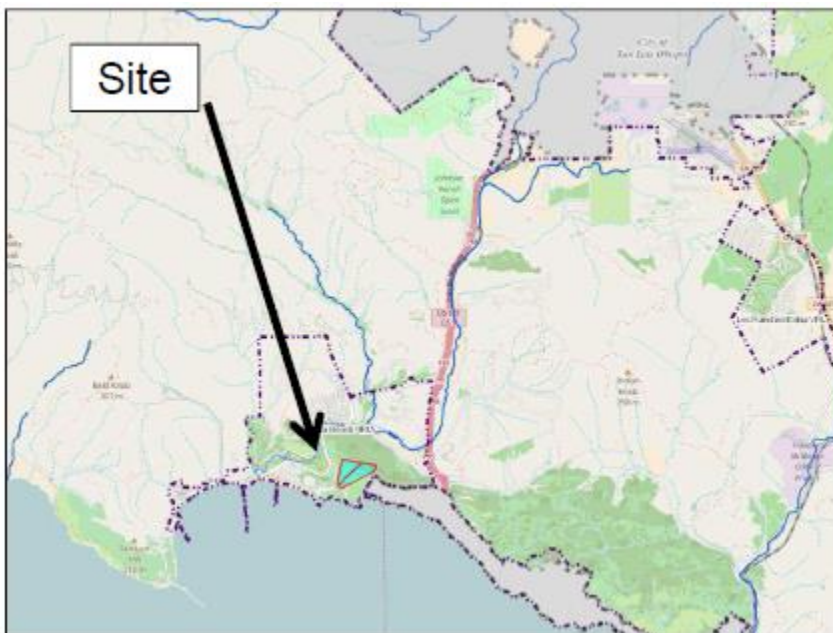
It is likely that someday and after the City government is replaced by some new and innovative structure or collapses altogether, the museum, like the Mission, will still be there as a functioning institution. After all, the Mission has survived the collapse of the Spanish empire, Mexican seizure of church property, and the California Republic, and will probably be conducting masses under whatever government regime succeeds the United States. Although it should be noted that a virulently totalitarian Atzlan modeled on the current Venezuela might incorporate both institutions into a memorial to the "heroes" of the Antifa.

**Item 27 - IS PRIVATE PROPERTY SAFE IN SLO COUNTY? - Hearing to consider an appeal by Tarren Collins of the Planning Commission's approval of the McCarthy Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit (DRC2014-00072) to allow relocation and construction of a public trail to the neighboring property to the west by amending the trail's legal description in the existing access easement (Cave Landing easement), in the**

**community of Avila.** The Board of Supervisors should promptly and forthrightly deny the appeal of the Planning Commission approval per the recommendation of staff.

Separately from the alleged technical planning and physical issues involved and which the Planning staff feels have been satisfied, this item is important because, at rock bottom, it deals with fundamental property rights. Can a group of people seize your private property simply because they believe it to be a good idea, or they like the view, or they don't want to see your house on the hillside? This outrageous story has played out over many years. Key facts include:

1. Tarren Collins, who is an Attorney by profession and who has been a longtime Sierra Club leader, has appealed the Planning Commission's approval of the relocation of a trail used by the public from one route across a residential lot to an alternate route. Collin's appeal does not state that she is representing any client. It does claim that 1,771 people support her appeal.
2. The trail crosses the property of Rob and Judi McCarthy, which is a spectacular view lot on the bluff (Ontario Ridge) above the Pirates Cove area of Avila Beach.



3. For many years the McCarthy's have attempted to receive a permit from the County for the construction of a residence.
4. After years of grueling effort and unconscionable foot dragging and nitpicking by the County, the permit (containing severe and expensive conditions) was approved. It is believed that the McCarthy's have spent several million dollars in government fees, engineering, legal, biological, architectural, environmental, geological, and other costs to professional experts in order to process their permit.



5. The next day the California Coastal Commission, which opposed the McCarthy's home project, seized jurisdiction and vitiated the County permit.

6. The McCarthy's sued the Coastal Commission, which relented on some of its objections but has sustained several and has also sent signals that if the trail could be relocated in a way more to the liking of the Commission, the issue might be resolved.

7. Accordingly, the McCarthy's applied to the County for a permit to relocate the trail. In the end and after 4 more years of contentious processing and huge expense, the County Planning Commission approved the relocation of the trail, again with difficult and costly conditions.



8. Now Attorney Tarren Collins, who lists her address as a Shell Beach Post Office box, has appealed that Planning Commission approval.



9. Supporters of the appeal claim that the current route of the trail is better and that they support improving it. The problem is that the Coastal Commission wants an alternate route. Failure to satisfy the Coastal Commission means the McCarthy's home project is dead. This exposes the opponents' real purpose and hypocrisy, which has always been to kill the McCarthy's home project in the first place.

**Discussion:** If the 1,771 opponents and Ms. Collins want to keep the property from being developed why don't they go to LAFCO and form an Ontario Ridge Protection District and tax themselves to buy and maintain it (if the McCarthy's are willing to sell it). We have no idea what the McCarthy's paid for the property or how much they have spent so far on permitting. At \$10 million each of the opponents would only have to pay \$5,646. Perhaps, as an alternative, they

could set up a charitable trust or use an existing land trust to buy it. Then they could deduct the cost from their Federal and State income taxes.

Alas, they don't have the sincerity to do this. Instead, they want to manipulate the County Board of Supervisors to use its police power to effectively take the property without compensation. If they can do it to the McCarthy's, they can eventually do it you.

**Special Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Meeting of Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 10:30 AM (Scheduled)**

**One-item Agenda.** The meeting concerns the appointment of a new Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to replace Larry Allen, who is retiring in December. The recruitment has been rumbling along for months. The meeting will be conducted as a closed session to interview finalists or to discuss them or both.

The regular meeting will be on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. It is expected that the agenda for that one will be posted next week.

## **LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS**

**Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 12, 2017 (Completed)**

**In General:** Items 2, 8, 21, and 22 on last week's agenda related to economic development. They did not represent new policy initiatives, but rather, were legally required implementing actions to carry out previously approved and budgeted programs.

**Background:** The County's economic development strategy was developed by the independent not-for-profit business-led Economic Vitality Corporation and was originally adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2009. It was updated and readopted in 2015.

**Item 2 - Approval of Contract for Tourism Promotion.** The Board approved a contract between the San Luis Obispo County Tourism Business Improvement District (CBID), and Mental Marketing Inc. and TJA Advertising in the total amount of \$755,000 to provide marketing services for FY 2017-18.

**Item 8 - Airline Leases for New Terminal.** The new terminal is slated to open in November. Accordingly, it is necessary to end the leases at the old terminal and provide new leases. The Board approved rate increases for landing fees, space rental, gate parking, and so forth, in recognition that the new terminal is much larger than the old terminal and operating and maintenance costs are proportionately higher.

**Item 21 - Annual Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) Contract Renewal.** The EVC is the County's contract not-for-profit economic development agency. Through an elaborated process, it has developed a County Economic Development Strategy and has worked heavily on obtaining the direct air service to Denver, noted in Item 8 above.

The Board approved a County contribution of \$148,775 per year, which is matched by others. The EVC also receives contributions from the private sector. The large Diablo pre-closure effort is expected to be funded by PG&E from its closure "Joint Proposal" package. That package is subject to California Public Utilities Commission rate setting proceedings, which are currently underway.

**Item 22 - Renewal of Cal Poly Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hot House Economic Development program.** The Board approved a \$200,000 contribution to this economic development incubator program, which assists new businesses to get started

**Item 35 - Fiscal Year 2016-17 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter/Full Year Financial Report.** The Board received the report.

**Background:** The County ended the fiscal year with lower expenditures than projected and more revenue, adding to its surplus and reserves. A key factor on the income side is higher property tax revenue than had been budgeted. On the expenditure side, departments underspent their operating budgets, largely due to carrying employee vacancies. While the County continues to add permanent staff positions, many remain vacant due to turnover, the ponderous slow government hiring process, and difficulty attracting some position classes such as psychiatrists and deputy sheriffs. It is possible that housing costs may be a factor. More than several employees have expressed dismay about the housing situation and the increasing inability to maintain a family in SLO County.

#### **Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, September 14, 2017 (Completed)**

**Item 6 - Marijuana Regulation.** The Commission adopted a series of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for the regulation of recreational marijuana. Key components include:

1. No more than 50 outdoor cultivation sites would be permitted within the entire unincorporated County. An unlimited number of indoor cultivation sites could be permitted. This is a controversial recommendation because there are 350 registered sites currently. It may be argued that the policy favors large, well-capitalized operators who can afford to invest in buildings and



greenhouses. One operator told us that a first class 1-acre greenhouse fully equipped and meeting all the standards could cost up to \$10 million.

2. Volatile manufacturing (use of solvents under pressure) will be allowed in industrial zones. Nonvolatile manufacturing (use of CO<sub>2</sub>) will be allowed on site in agricultural zones.

3. Dispensaries (retail outlets) will be allowed in commercial zones by land use permit. There are many restrictions with respect to siting, distance from youth-serving uses, prohibitions relating to installation in buildings containing liquor stores, and more. (See the portion of the matrices below on this subject.)

4. Transfer of cultivation permits will follow the ownership of the land. The permits have a time limit of 7 years and will have to be renewed. They can be revoked at any time if there are uncorrected violations.

5. Water issues and offsets seem to be a bit of a red herring. It turns out that there are only 94 acres of marijuana cultivation registered in the County at this point (there may be more unregistered). Given that there may be 45,000 acres of grapes, the water issue seems irrelevant here.

6. The banning of all cultivation in the Carrizo area remains a controversy. A number of long-term farmers and residents of that area believe they are being treated unfairly.

Again see the charts below (on page 10) to comprehend some of the issues and choices in more detail.

**Background:** On August 10, 2017, the Planning Commission began consideration of ordinances pertaining to the regulation of the cultivation, processing, refining, manufacturing, distribution, and retailing of recreational marijuana. In November 2016, voters approved the legalization of the adult use of recreational marijuana. The law gives cities and counties a choice under which they may set up their own scheme of regulation (within bounds of the State enabling legislation) or they may allow regulation within their jurisdictions to default to State control.

SLO County has opted for local control. Its focus is on the size and number of cultivation sites (both outdoor and greenhouse), manufacturing facilities, distribution and retailing. During August 10, 2017 meeting the Commissioners expressed varying opinions about these matters but did not take any express action. Accordingly the staff prepared matrices which contain examples of possible choices in an effort to assist the Commission in a structured manner. Those choice tables are listed below at the end of this article.

Interestingly and at the end of the day and just prior to the vote, Commissioner Campbell indicated that he would reluctantly vote for the package but only because he knew that statewide and locally voters supported legalization of recreational use of marijuana. In that context he felt that his job as a Commissioner was to help prepare the regulatory scheme. He expressed strong misgivings about the impact of legalization on the community.

The recommendations of the Commission will be transmitted to the Board of Supervisors for possible adoption on October 3, 2017. The fee and potential tax issues are on a separate path.

# **CHOICE MATRIXES:**

Major Changes	Section
1. Cultivation Limit. Alternative language is provided below relating to the limit on the number of cannabis cultivation land use permits. It is recommended that your Commission vote on one of the provided options below. Options 1, 2, and 3 would limit the number of cultivation sites, both indoor and outdoor, while Option 4 would limit the number of outdoor cultivation sites only.	22.40.050.A.1 22.40.050.A.2 23.08.424.a.1 23.08.424.a.2
<u>OPTION 1</u>	
1. Limit on the number of cannabis cultivation operations. No more than one hundred (100) permitted cannabis cultivation operations may be permitted within the unincorporated area of the County at any one time. Any "site", as defined by this Title, may receive land use permit	

approval for more than one cannabis cultivation operation, provided each cannabis cultivation operation does not exceed the size threshold established by state law. The Board of Supervisors shall by resolution or ordinance adopt such forms, fees, and procedures as are necessary to implement this Chapter with respect to the initial selection, future selection, and investigation process of land use permits issued for cannabis cultivation. No more than five (5) cannabis cultivation operations shall be permitted per site.	
2. Distribution of the number of cannabis cultivation operations. The allowed number of permitted outdoor cultivation sites (100) shall be distributed as follows by Planning Area based on the total number of available parcels in land use categories allowing cannabis cultivation. The distribution shall be a maximum for each Planning Area.	
North County	59
San Luis Obispo	5
South County	23
Coastal Planning Areas (combined)	13
(Estero, North Coast, San Luis Bay-Coastal, South County-Coastal)	
Carrizo	Prohibited

OPTION 2

1. Limit on the number of cannabis cultivation operations. No more than fifty (50) permitted cannabis cultivation operations may be permitted within the unincorporated area of the County at any one time. Any "site", as defined by this Title, may receive land use permit approval for more than one cannabis cultivation operation, provided each cannabis cultivation operation does not exceed the size threshold established by state law. The Board of Supervisors shall by resolution or ordinance adopt such forms, fees, and procedures as are necessary to implement this Chapter with respect to the initial selection, future selection, and investigation process of land use permits issued for cannabis cultivation. No more than five (5) cannabis cultivation operations shall be permitted per site.
2. Distribution of the number of cannabis cultivation operations. The allowed number of permitted outdoor cultivation sites (50) shall be distributed as follows by Planning Area based on the total number of available parcels in land use categories allowing cannabis cultivation. The distribution shall be a maximum for each Planning Area.

North County	30
San Luis Obispo	3
South County	11

**MORE ON THE NEXT PAGE:**

#### OPTION 3

1. Limit on the number of cannabis cultivation operations. No more than three hundred and fifty (350) permitted cannabis cultivation operations may be permitted within the unincorporated area of the County at any one time. Any "site", as defined by this Title, may receive land use permit approval for more than one cannabis cultivation operation, provided each cannabis cultivation operation does not exceed the size threshold established by state law. The Board of Supervisors shall by resolution or ordinance adopt such forms, fees, and procedures as are necessary to implement this Chapter with respect to the initial selection, future selection, and investigation process of land use permits issued for cannabis cultivation. No more than five (5) cannabis cultivation operations shall be permitted per site.
2. Distribution of the number of cannabis cultivation operations. The allowed number of permitted outdoor cultivation sites (350) shall be distributed as follows by Planning Area based on the total number of available parcels in land use categories allowing cannabis cultivation. The distribution shall be a maximum for each Planning Area.

North County	207
San Luis Obispo	18
South County	79
Coastal Planning Areas (combined)	46
(Estero, North Coast, San Luis Bay-Coastal, South County-Coastal)	
Carrizo	Prohibited

#### OPTION 4

1. Limit on the number of cannabis cultivation operations.
  - a. Indoor Cultivation. There is no limit to the number of permitted indoor cannabis cultivation operations that may be permitted within the unincorporated area of the County at any one time.
  - b. Outdoor Cultivation. No more than fifty (50) permitted outdoor cannabis cultivation operations may be permitted within the unincorporated area of the County at any one time. The Board of Supervisors shall by resolution or ordinance adopt such forms, fees, and procedures as are necessary to implement this Chapter

<p>with respect to the initial selection, future selection, and investigation process of land use permits issued for outdoor cannabis cultivation.</p> <p>c. Multiple Operations. Any site, as defined by this Title, may receive land use permit approval for up to five (5) cannabis cultivation operations, provided each cannabis cultivation operation does not exceed the size threshold established by state law.</p> <p>2. Distribution of the number of outdoor cannabis cultivation operations. The allowed number of permitted outdoor cultivation sites (100) shall be distributed as follows by Planning Area based on the total number of available parcels in land use categories allowing cannabis cultivation. The distribution shall be a maximum for each Planning Area.</p> <table> <tr> <td>North County</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Luis Obispo</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South County</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Coastal Planning Areas (combined)</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">(Estero, North Coast, San Luis Bay-Coastal, South County-Coastal)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carrizo</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prohibited</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	North County	30	San Luis Obispo	3	South County	11	Coastal Planning Areas (combined)	7	(Estero, North Coast, San Luis Bay-Coastal, South County-Coastal)		Carrizo		Prohibited		
North County	30														
San Luis Obispo	3														
South County	11														
Coastal Planning Areas (combined)	7														
(Estero, North Coast, San Luis Bay-Coastal, South County-Coastal)															
Carrizo															
Prohibited															
<p>2. Volatile Manufacturing. This option would allow volatile manufacturing in the Industrial land use category with Conditional Use Permit approval. Proposed language for this option is provided below.</p> <p>A. Limitation on use. Non-volatile cannabis manufacturing facilities may be permitted in the Commercial Service (CS), Industrial (IND), Agriculture (AG), and Rural Lands (RL) land use categories subject to a land use permit in each case, as required below. Cannabis manufacturing facilities involving volatile processes or substances (requiring a volatile manufacturing State license) shall be permitted only in the Industrial land use category.</p> <p>2. Conditional Use Permit. Volatile manufacturing facilities of any size and non-volatile manufacturing facilities of 40,000 square feet or more shall require Conditional Use Permit approval.</p>	<p>22.40.070.A 22.40.070.B.2 23.08.426.a 23.08.426.b.2</p>														
<p>3. Dispensaries. Optional language regarding the location of dispensaries is provided below. Dispensaries with storefronts open to the public would still require a 1,000 foot separation from sensitive uses. Dispensaries with storefronts not open to the public (mobile deliveries) would require the State-mandated 600 foot separation from sensitive uses. Dispensaries with storefronts open to the public would be required to be separated from liquor storefronts open to the public would be required to be separated from liquor</p>	<p>22.40.090.D.1 22.40.090.D.1.a 22.40.090.D.1.b 22.40.090.D.1.c 22.40.090.D.1.d 23.08.428.d 23.08.428.d</p>														



storefronts open to the public would be required to be separated from liquor stores, tobacco stores, and stores marketed for minors.

23.08.428.d

23.08.428.d.1.i

23.08.428.d.1.ii

23.08.428.d.1.iii

23.08.428.d.1.iv

#### 22.40.090.D – Dispensary Standards

##### 1. Location.

- a. Cannabis dispensaries with storefronts open to the public shall not be located within one thousand (1,000) feet from any pre-school, elementary school, junior high school, high school, library, park, playground, recreation or youth center, licensed drug or alcohol recovery facility, or licensed sober living facility. Distance shall be measured from the structure that contains the manufacturing to the property line of the enumerated use using a direct straight line measurement.
- b. Cannabis dispensaries with storefronts not open to the public (mobile deliveries) shall not be located within six hundred (600) feet from any pre-school, elementary school, junior high school, high school, library, park, playground, recreation or youth center, licensed drug or alcohol recovery facility, or licensed sober living facility. Distance shall be measured from the structure that contains the manufacturing to the property line of the enumerated use using a direct straight line measurement.
- b. Cannabis dispensaries with storefronts not open to the public (mobile deliveries) shall not be located within six hundred (600) feet from any pre-school, elementary school, junior high school, high school, library, park, playground, recreation or youth center, licensed drug or alcohol recovery facility, or licensed sober living facility. Distance shall be measured from the structure that contains the manufacturing to the property line of the enumerated use using a direct straight line measurement.
- c. Cannabis dispensaries with storefronts open to the public shall not be located in the same structure or immediately adjacent to stores specializing in liquor or tobacco sales and shall also be located a minimum of 300 from any retail or service use marketed primarily for persons under the age of 18.
- d. A new adjacent use does not affect the continuation of an existing use that was permitted and legally established under the standards of this Section.

4. Transfer of Cultivation Land Use Permits (not allowed). This standard could be deleted. Currently, all land use permits issued under Title 22 and Title 23 stay with the land and are not dependent on the current landowner. Any subsequent landowner would be required to adhere to the standards in the proposed ordinance and the conditions of approval placed on the land use permit. Therefore, the quality of operation would always be at least the same as, if not better than, the originally approved operation. If this option is selected, language in other parts of the ordinance would be deleted to be consistent.	22.40.040.J 23.08.423.j 22.40.050.B 23.08.424.b
5. The water offset requirement for cultivation and nurseries could be revised to require a 1:1 offset for cannabis cultivation and nurseries in areas with a Groundwater Basin at LOS III, unless a higher offset is required by CEQA review through the land use permit process, and to require the offset be achieved through a County approved water conservation program for the respective groundwater basin. The language for this option is provided below.	22.40.050.D.5 22.40.060.D.5 23.08.424.d.5 23.08.425.d.6
1. Water. Cannabis cultivation sites that require a land use permit and are located in a groundwater basin at Level of Severity III pursuant to the last Biennial Resource Management System report shall provide an estimate of water demand prepared by a licensed professional engineer or other expert on water demand, as approved by the Director of Planning and Building, and a detailed description of how the new water demand will be offset. All water demand within a groundwater basin at Level of Severity III shall offset at a minimum 1:1 ratio, unless a greater offset is required through land use permit approval. Offset clearance shall be obtained through a County-approved water conservation program for the respective groundwater basin, prior to the establishment of the use or receipt of Business License Clearance pursuant to Section 22.62.020.	

### California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Meeting of Wednesday, September 14, 2017 (Completed)

An Administrative Law Judge representing the Commission heard testimony which was largely in support of PG&E's application to close the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant, which includes acquisition of huge amounts of green energy to replace the nuclear power. It also includes a proposal to cushion the economic impacts of the closure to local communities and the employees. These proposals will require rate increases over the years, which are the key subject of the PUC review.

Although not so many people and organizations favor closure of the plant in the first place, they do want PG&E's benefits proposals to go forward as it closes. Notably the Boards of Supervisors of SLO County and Santa Barbara County did nothing to support PG&E's application before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to relicense the plant. Instead they pandered to fears of "undiscovered" earthquake faults under the oceans which would cause Fukushima type tidal

waves and rupture the plant, creating a radiological disaster. The fact the plant sits on top of an 85ft high cliff above the ocean did not seem to register with the Supervisors.

Similarly none of the city councils in SLO County nor any of the school boards took action to support relicensing. Now they want the ratepayers statewide to help cover up their failure.

The Administrative Law Judge will make recommendations to the full Commission based on this and 9 other hearings, written briefs, expert testimony, and staff analysis. The Commission may rule before the end of the year or next spring.

## **COLAB IN DEPTH**

**IN FIGHTING THE TROUBLESOME, LOCAL DAY-TO-DAY ASSAULTS ON OUR FREEDOM AND PROPERTY, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THE LARGER UNDERLYING IDEOLOGICAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC CAUSES AND FORCES**

### **ADAM HILL USES THE HOMELESS AS A POLITICAL FOIL – WHERE ARE THE HOMES?**

**By Mike Brown**

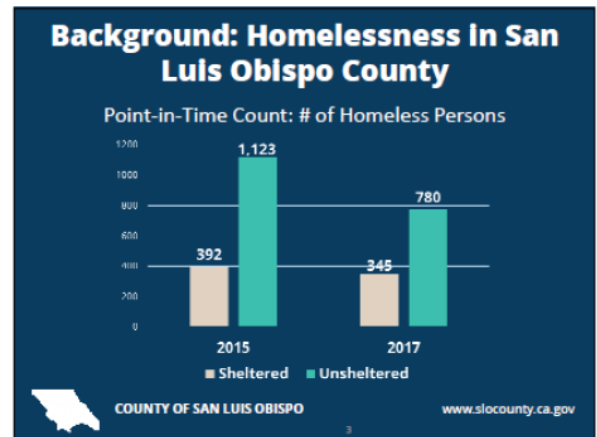
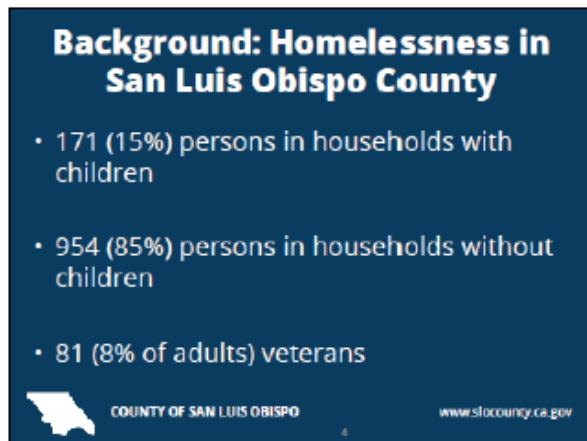
During last week's Board of Supervisors meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> District Supervisor Adam Hill took another swipe at 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor Lynn Compton over her steady support for the construction of a new County Animal Shelter. During the meeting staff recommended that a portion (\$3.8) of a positive \$7 million budget surplus from last year be placed in a capital reserve fund that is being accumulated to construct the new shelter. Hill's ire erupted with a comment that Compton is advocating spending "more money on homeless animals than homeless people."

Compton is known (and was well known before she became involved in electoral politics) as a staunch volunteer animal rescue person. Her home and yard are always filled with animals, including cats, horses, alpacas, and others. In fact she has achieved some renown around the State for



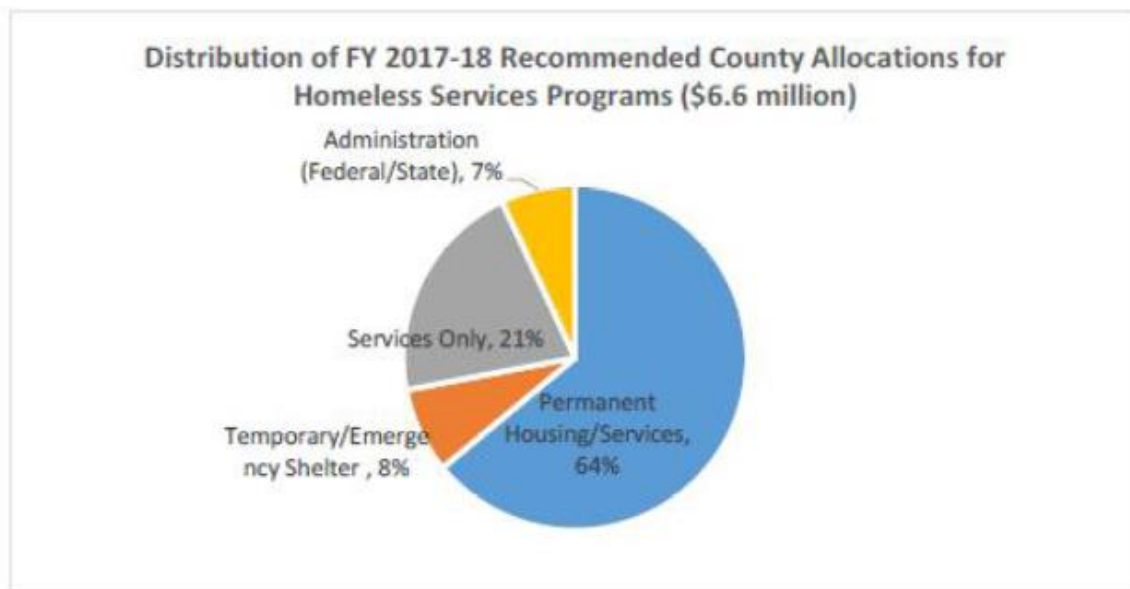
rescuing sick and abused Persian cats and restoring them to health. Apparently the species is especially vulnerable as people misinterpret the serious look.

Hill went on to rail about the County's lack of funding for improving the lot of the homeless. This seems bizarre inasmuch as recently as June 6, 2017; the Board received an extensive staff report detailing exactly how much money the County does spend on the homeless persons.



It contained statistical information about the number and status of homeless people. The good news is that the numbers seem to be decreasing. The report also described the expenditures on the homeless and the funding sources.

As best as can be determined per the pie chart below, the County spends a direct \$6.6 million on the programs annually. This would be an average of \$5,333 per individual.



Millions more are spent in the form of health care, behavioral health care, income maintenance, and social services, but data does not exist on how much of these County expenditures (largely Federally and State funded) actually go to the homeless versus other categories of recipients. The total expenditures for these services are summarized in the table below. Thus for example, if the homeless received \$10 million out of the total costs listed below, they would be receiving a total of \$16.6 million (when the direct known expenditures are added in). This would then amount to about \$14,755 per person per year.

Note that this figure does not contain direct expenditures from the Federal and State governments that some of these individuals are receiving, such as Social Security, Supplemental Social Security, disability payments, veterans' benefits, or Medicare payments to providers on their behalf.

All this information was generated in the first place because Supervisor Hill keeps whining that the County isn't doing enough for the homeless. He continuously postures that adding funding for road maintenance or state mandated groundwater management erodes the funding for the homeless. Now it's the animals that are the problem.

It would seem not to be the case.

As we have noted in the past, homelessness is a state of not having permanent shelter. A significant problem is that since the 1980's, instead of dealing with the fundamental concept of housing as shelter, government trendology has taken the therapeutic approach. Under this approach government policy makers, bureaucrats, and not-for-profits have determined that instead of building housing, they will cure the underlying causes of homelessness, which they regard primarily as mental illness, alcohol abuse, and drug abuse. They assume that if persons were not afflicted with these maladies (2 of which are self-inflicted), they would happily eke out a living doing whatever crummy menial jobs are available at the bottom end of the economic ladder.

While possibly well intended, this strategy fails to recognize that having permanent, decent, and secure shelter is an important component of not aggravating mental illness. It is also a necessary support to recovering from alcohol or drug abuse.

With only about 1,200 homeless individuals in the whole county, you would think the County government could solve the housing problem by approving homeless vehicle parks, "little houses," small manufactured home parks, low income single-room occupancy apartments, and so forth.





Of course this would be too dangerous politically, because the facilities would have to be located somewhere. Those “somewheres” would offend NIMBY’S, environmentalists, and other elites to whom Hill and his alt left buddies pander.

Moreover, if the problem were actually solved, there would be no need for a variety of homeless-serving agencies, County jobs, and endless handwringing. In effect, solving the problem would undermine an industry.

The sign in the photo to the right expresses the political left’s true approach to homelessness, in this case in a city politically dominated by a well-recognized leftist oligarchy.



If a huge earthquake destroyed most of the housing stock in San Luis Obispo and the 5 cities area, trailers, mobile homes, and other special units would be installed in weeks, housing tens of thousands. Where is Hill’s motion to direct staff to prepare a physical and fiscal triage plan to house only 1,200? I’m sure each city and each unincorporated urban village in the County would take their proportionate share. If it’s a humanitarian emergency, the normal glacially slow and costly zoning and permitting requirements could be suspended.

## ASTONISHING WASTE ON HOMELESS PROGRAMS BY SAN FRANCISCO

By James V. Lacy

I had to read the story in the **San Francisco Chronicle** twice to let the facts sink in. Over the last three years, The City has budgeted and [spent \\$821 million in public funds](#) on programs to address homelessness. My thought, and also the question posed by the piece, was that the problem must have surely improved. But the answer was no! “(D)espite all the money and effort, reality on the streets hasn’t improved. In many ways, homelessness in San Francisco is as bad as ever,” said the story. My God!

So, I decided to look a little deeper and ask the question, just how many homeless people live in San Francisco anyway? And the astonishing answer was also on the pages of the **Chronicle**, which has nobly established a “homeless” project to track, research and comment on programs serving the homeless and their degree of success. According to the newspaper, [there are 6,686 homeless on the streets in San Francisco](#) pursuant to a point-in-time count conducted in January 2015. The newspaper calls city efforts to address the problem “a disgrace.”

And that is an understatement! \$821 million divided by 6,686 equals \$122,793 per homeless person. If you divide that sum by 3 to account for three fiscal years of spending, the total is \$40,931 per homeless person. In other words, just San Francisco (remember there are also federal and state programs that fund homelessness assistance) has been spending over \$40,000 a year, for several years, on every homeless person in the city, and is not making any progress at all in helping to get this troubled community off the streets!

While San Francisco's liberal politicians are squandering huge sums of money on ineffective homelessness programs, and continuing to raise taxes by claiming deficits and rising needs, one thing is for certain. They are darn well NOT going to give in to that awful President Donald Trump and cooperate with federal authorities on enforcement of immigration laws against criminal illegal aliens like the one they released from jail, who famously murdered Kate Steinle with a stolen gun. Oh, and they aren't going to give up their lawsuit either to make sure they are paid the federal grants they say they are due for helping to enforce federal immigration laws, even though they won't help enforce those laws. Go figure.

*This article first appeared in the July 12, 2017 California Political Review, Publishers Corner. James V. Lacy is a frequent guest on Fox News Channel's "Varney and Company" and is author of "Taxifornia: Liberal's Laboratory to Bankrupt America."*



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