



COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO WEEK OF APRIL 1 - 7, 2018

THIS WEEK

**SLOCOG INFORMATIVE, TESTING STACK AND
PACK, & FISHING ON NEW TAX MEASURE**

QUESTIONS ON PARTIAL PENSION DEBT PAYOFF

**BETTER LOT SPILT REGULATION PROPOSED
(LESS HASSEL AND LESS COST)**

LAST WEEK

NO REGULAR BOS MEETING

**SPECIAL BOS MEETING ON MARCH 27
(HEALTH AGENCY DIRECTOR INTERVIEWS)**

**APCD MEETING – GOOD WRANGLE ON ITS
HEARING BOARD WITH DUNES IMPACTS**

**SLO COLAB IN DEPTH
SEE PAGE 14**

**OPIOID USE DISORDER HIGH IN SLO COUNTY
BY MIKE BROWN**

PROHIBIT PUBLIC MONEY IN CAMPAIGNS FOR NEW TAXES AND NEW BONDS

BY ED RING

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, April 3, 2018 (Scheduled)

Item 1 - Request to approve the employment agreement with Daniel Colt Esenwein as the Director of Public Works. The Board has appointed Esenwein at a salary of \$181,000 per year to start. He has considerable engineering and management experience in the public sector.

Item 3 - Request to authorize a budget adjustment in the amount of \$45,557,745 in the Pension Obligation Bond (POB) Debt Service Fund to pay off the balance of the 2009 Series A Pension Obligation Bonds using the POB Debt Service Designation and transfers from the Teeter Fund and Tax Loss Reserve Funds as the funding sources by 4/5 vote. Back in 2003 the County issued pension obligation bonds because the pension system was underfunded. It was believed that by issuing tax-exempt bonds (say 4%), the pension debt could be paid off, and if the pension system achieved its 8% interest rate assumption, the County would not have to make as large annual pension contributions and would thereby save money. The write-up below states that the County process “resulted in a net savings to the County.” This needs further explanation, perhaps in tabular form. Currently the unfunded pension liability is somewhere around \$550 million.

In 2003, the County issued three series of Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs) totaling \$137.2 million to reduce the balance owed to the San Luis Obispo County Pension Trust (SLOCPT) for unfunded pension liability. The bonds were issued at rates below the SLOCPT's assumed earnings rate in place at the time. The difference in the earnings rate of the SLOCPT and the POB interest rates resulted in net savings to the County.

For whatever reason (probably IRS rules) a portion of the original issue was taxable bonds. This issue was refinanced in 2009. These were interest only and resulted in a balloon payment of \$42.5 million due in 2019. As noted in the paragraph below, the County has been pulling money out of various savings accounts to build up the necessary amounts.

The POBs were initially issued in three series of which two series are currently outstanding, the 2003 Series C Capital Appreciation Bonds and the 2009 Series A Interest Only Bonds which include a \$42.5 million deferred principal payment due in September 2019. On May 17, 2016,

your Board approved a financing plan to fully fund the final payment of \$42,565,000. The plan included a series of annual transfers from the Teeter Fund and the Tax Loss Reserve Fund (TLRF) to the Pension Obligation Debt Service Fund where the cash will be held until the final payment is made. The table below illustrates the funding progress.

The table below shows the sources and amounts, including the subject of this Board item, which is an \$8.9 million transfer necessary to accumulate the total amount.

The total impact on the Teeter Fund and the Tax Loss Reserve Fund are not known.

- a. What were the balances in these funds prior to 2016 when the transfers began?
- b. How much new revenue has flowed into these since the transfers began?
- c. What are the current balances?
- d. What will the balances be after the final transfer here?
- e. Since these funds were set up for other important purposes, why can the funds be transferred to pay off this debt?
- f. What if the emergencies for which they were set up occur – how would the County manage the situation?
- g. If on the other hand such occurrences are not possible or are remote, why were they set up in the first place?

Pension Obligation Bond Debt Prefunding Schedule
March 31, 2018

Description	Transfer Date	From Fund	Amount
Beginning Balance-Desig POB Debt Svc			\$9,760,771
Designation-POB Obligation	July 1, 2016	General Fund	9,688,657
Scheduled Transfer	July 1, 2016	Tax Loss Reserve Fund (TLRF)	2,054,317
Scheduled Transfer	July 1, 2016	Teeter Fund	7,668,176
Final Budget Action FY 2016-17	September 14, 2016	POB FBA	1,188,755
Scheduled Transfer	July 1, 2017	TLRF	2,054,317
Scheduled Transfer	July 1, 2017	Teeter Fund	2,410,042
Final Budget Action FY 2017-18	September 13, 2017	General Fund/POB FBA	3,158,166
Cumulative Balance as of March 31, 2018			\$37,983,201
Scheduled Future Transfers Per May 2016 Financing Plan			\$8,928,720

The schedule from the 2009 Offering Statement depicts the total situation, including the principal in interest payments. How does the ultimate \$269.3 million in principal and interest add up to a savings? Remember, there is still \$124.7 million to go on these payments after the \$42.5 million. And then the direct annual payments to the pension system are escalating as well. The red arrow points to the balloon payment.

\$42,565,000
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
TAXABLE PENSION OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS
2009 SERIES A

DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE

The following table presents the annual debt service for the 2003 Bonds that will remain Outstanding under the Trust Agreement following the refunding of the 2003 Called Bonds and the 2009 Bonds.

<u>Date</u>	<u>2003 Bonds[†]</u>	<u>2009 Bonds</u>			<u>Total Fiscal Year Debt Service</u>
		<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	
September 1, 2009	\$3,140,196.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2010	812,640.00	—	\$1,638,397.79	\$1,638,397.79	\$5,591,233.79
September 1, 2010	3,567,640.00	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2011	763,187.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	7,501,920.25
September 1, 2011	4,023,187.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2012	701,410.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	7,895,691.00
September 1, 2012	4,506,410.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2013	626,452.25	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	8,303,955.50
September 1, 2013	5,016,452.25	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2014	537,115.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	8,724,660.50
September 1, 2014	5,567,115.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2015	431,485.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	9,169,694.00
September 1, 2015	6,146,485.75	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2016	308,327.50	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	9,625,905.75
September 1, 2016	6,768,327.50	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2017	164,915.50	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	10,104,335.50
September 1, 2017	7,429,915.50	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2018	—	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	10,601,008.00
September 1, 2018	7,945,000.00	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	—
March 1, 2019	—	—	1,585,546.25	1,585,546.25	11,116,092.50
September 1, 2019	8,480,000.00	\$42,565,000	1,585,546.25	44,150,546.25	—
March 1, 2020	—	—	—	—	52,630,546.25
September 1, 2020	9,040,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2021	—	—	—	—	9,040,000.00
September 1, 2021	9,620,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2022	—	—	—	—	9,620,000.00
September 1, 2022	10,225,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2023	—	—	—	—	10,225,000.00
September 1, 2023	10,850,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2024	—	—	—	—	10,850,000.00
September 1, 2024	11,505,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2025	—	—	—	—	11,505,000.00
September 1, 2025	12,185,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2026	—	—	—	—	12,185,000.00
September 1, 2026	12,890,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2027	—	—	—	—	12,890,000.00
September 1, 2027	13,625,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2028	—	—	—	—	13,625,000.00
September 1, 2028	14,390,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2029	—	—	—	—	14,390,000.00
September 1, 2029	15,185,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2030	—	—	—	—	15,185,000.00
September 1, 2030	8,540,000.00	—	—	—	—
March 1, 2031	—	—	—	—	8,540,000.00
TOTAL	\$194,991,266.50	\$42,565,000	\$31,763,776.54	\$74,328,776.54	\$269,320,043.04

[†] Represents the debt service on the 2003 Series A (Standard Bonds) and the 2003 Series C (Capital Appreciation Bonds) only.

Item 20 - Vacation Rental Appeal – Cabrillo Estates, Los Osos. This is a classic case in which the homeowner has appealed denial of a permit to allow his residence to be used as a

vacation rental. The appeal is complicated by the fact that the County did approve some additions and a small guesthouse with some conditions to which the applicant is also objecting.

We confine our review to the vacation rental issue. A key factor is that the area is not saturated with other vacation rentals, which is the primary reason for their denial. Instead, the staff reaches for a number of subjective and questionable reasons for recommending denial of the permit.

These include:

Appeal Issue 5:

Issues related to five of the denial findings adopted by the Hearing Officer. These findings addressed concerns regarding:

- Large size of the residence and difficulty in managing large groups
- Pedestrian safety including lack of sidewalks
- Neighborhood traffic and vacation rental visitors who are not familiar with road and driveway specifics
- Fire safety including lack of understanding of wildland fire danger
- Precedent setting nature of allowing a vacation rental resulting in additional rentals in this neighborhood.

The staff analysis states that the property could accommodate groups of up to 10. Why not limit the number to 4? It is likely that Hill and Gibson will invoke the issue that vacation rentals will displace needed annual rentals. Is this social engineering approach to housing problems really any of their business?

The vacation rental ordinance is a slippery slope. While we agree you don't want a large group from the Chico State Motorcycle Club or a large multi-generational family reunion in a residential neighborhood, the County could restrict the guest count. Owners and agents can skip the wild applicants.



VRBO has a very detailed application form for screening.

Are they hard to manage?

The vacation rental ordinance, unfettered, is a slippery slope. If you can overregulate this legal use, what about others, such as the terms and amount of the rentals? Or what about imposing affirmative action, age, child friendly and other requirements? If you have a sanctuary city or county could you have sanctuary rental requirements? There is no limit to what the progressive left will conger over the years.

Item 29 - Hearing to consider a request by the County of San Luis Obispo to amend the County Real Property Division Ordinance, Title 21 of the County Code, to allow for administrative approval of proposed lot line adjustments that are deemed "minor" based on specified eligibility criteria. This item is an improvement to the permitting process and allows staff to approve lot line adjustments under certain circumstances. It would eliminate the need for costly “minor use” permits and is an example of permit streamlining (up to a max of 4 parcels).

Specific Criteria

- No parcel is located within the Coastal Zone of the county;
- The adjustment is not being processed in conjunction with any land use permit application;
- No parcel is completely relocated;
- For existing parcels that do not meet minimum parcel size, resulting parcels shall not be reduced in size by more than 10 percent;

San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Meeting of Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 8:30 AM (Scheduled)

Item A-8: 2019 RTP - Status Update. The item provides an excellent and comprehensive review of the status of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and should be read by everyone in government or anyone who claims to be interested in civic affairs on the central coast and especially San Luis Obispo County. Even if you don’t agree with some of the substantive ideas (like “smart growth”), it is an important and useful document which actually contains planning concepts.

Some Highlights:

2050 REGIONAL GROWTH FORECAST (adopted June 2017)

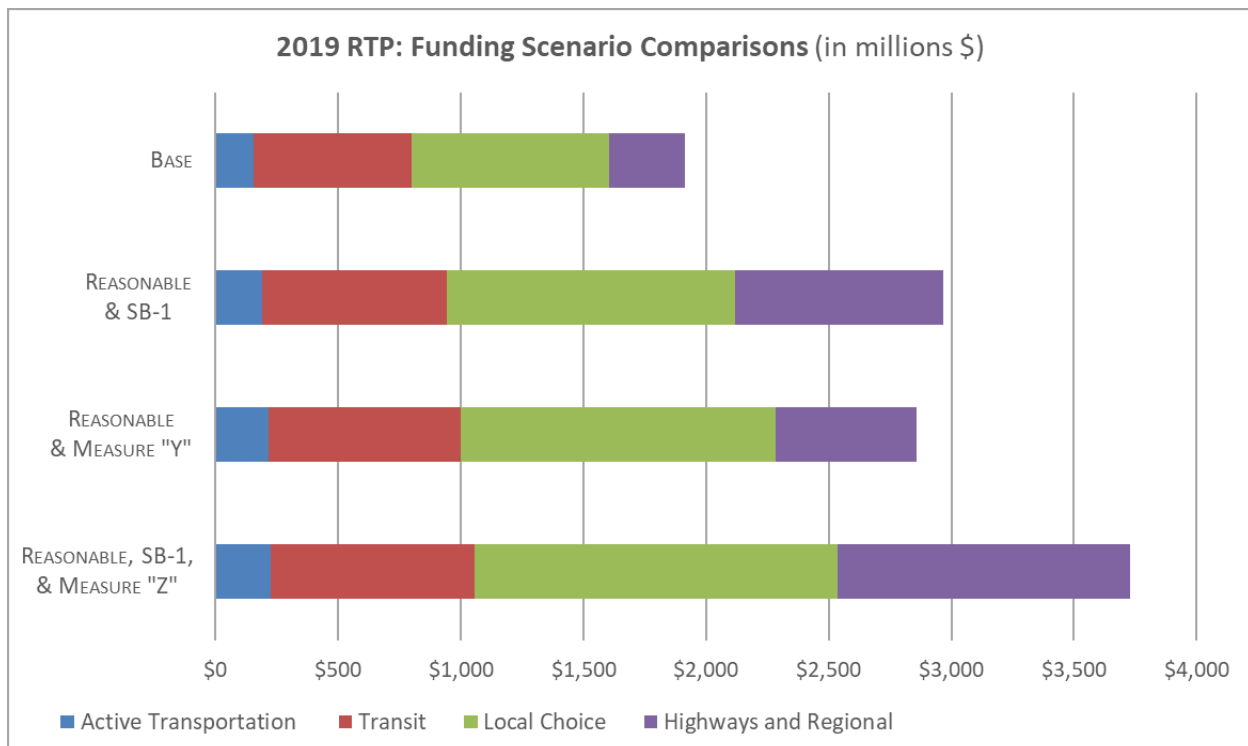
The 2050 Regional Growth Forecast (2050 RGF) projected needs by 2045 (relative to 2015) of:

- ☐ *Population: 41,600 new people*
- ☐ *Housing: 18,000 new homes*
- ☐ *Employment: 18,200 new jobs*

2019 RTP: INITIAL OUTREACH SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

1. Water supply, housing affordability, and loss of open space were the top three land use issues.
2. 73% of respondents feel that proximity (for new growth) to bus services is either very important or somewhat important.
3. 92% of respondents desire job and housing growth in close proximity.
4. 47% of all respondents support a balanced, intermodal funding approach; 24% favored roads and highways; 23% favor transit, bike, and pedestrian improvements.
5. 75% of respondents identified the need for more compact housing (includes single family detached small lot).

Financial Summary



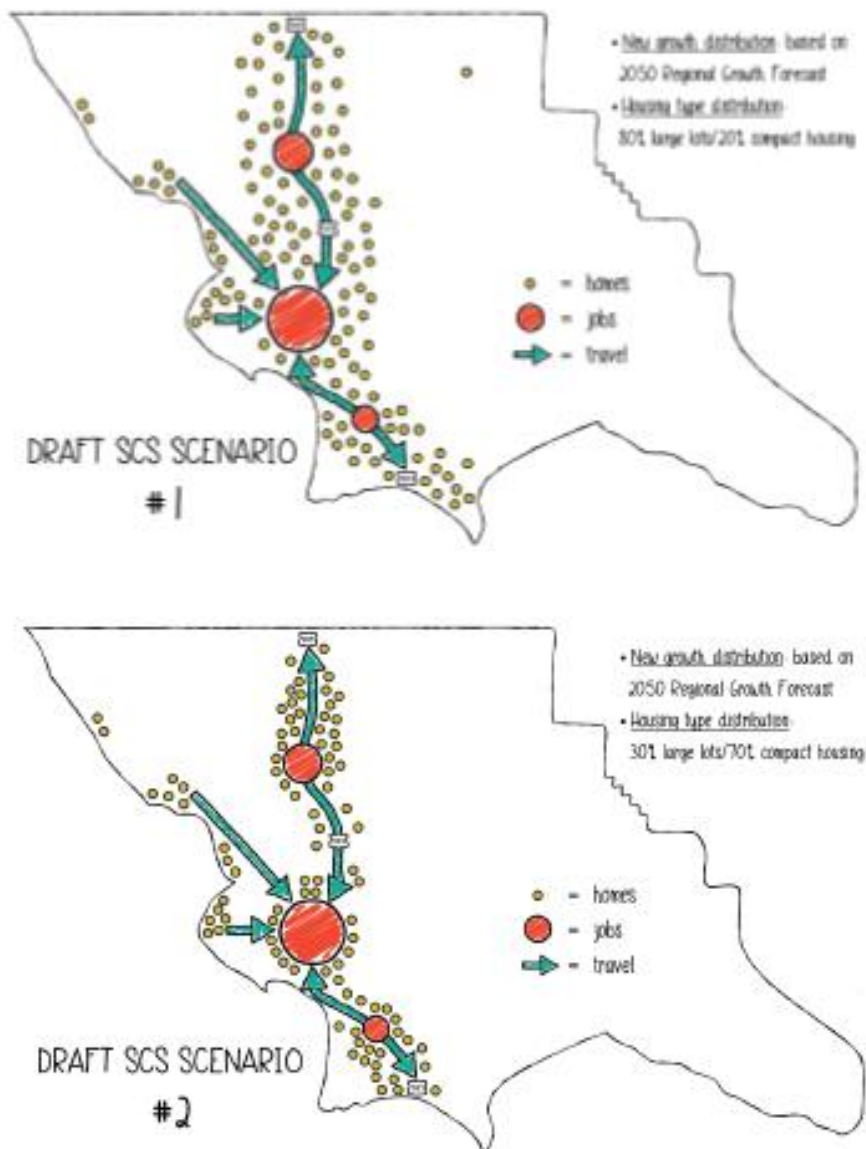
Note the references to a new ballot measure for a hypothetical countywide sales tax in combination with other sources (measure x or y).

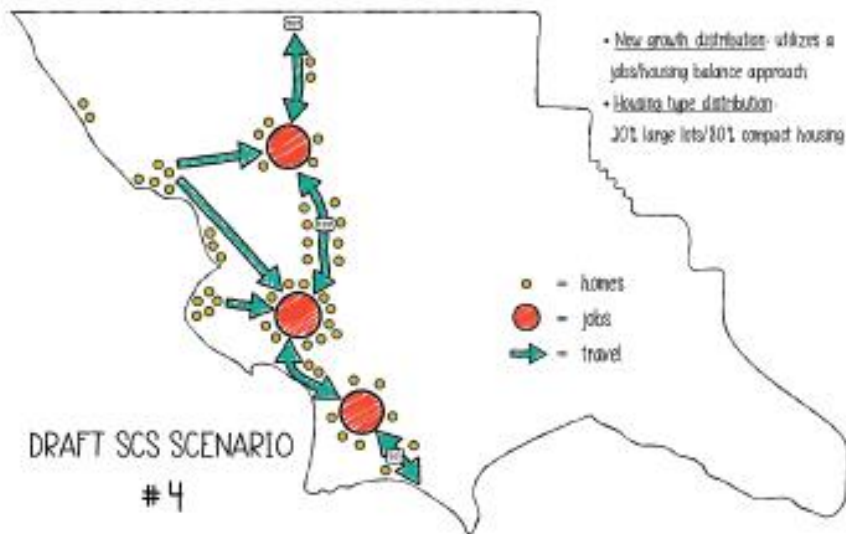
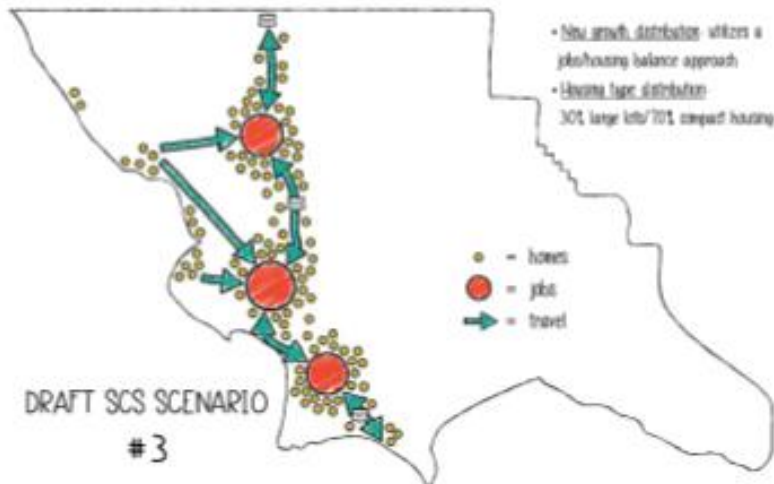
The Sustainable Communities Strategies (the State's stack-and-pack doctrine) is still part of the plan.

DEVELOPING THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES (SCS)

The SCS is a required element of the RTP. The SCS identifies a forecasted development pattern for the region, which is informed by the inventory of existing land use throughout the region, along with the identification of sites where future development can be located, while still reducing VMT and GHG emissions. SB 375 establishes an approach to ensure that cities, counties, and the public are involved in the development of regional plans to achieve targets set by the ARB for reducing GHG emissions from passenger vehicles and light-duty vehicles. An SCS must also be consistent with other plans prepared by local, state, and federal agencies. Consistency can be described as a balance and reconciliation between different policies, programs, and plans. To collect background information to prepare land use scenarios, staff reviewed local jurisdictions' general plans, zoning, and pending and approved specific plans.

Different overall theoretical density patterns are hypothesized:





Download the full report here. It's a little clumsy because SLOCOG has made its website over complicated and too layered. You have to control click and then follow the instructions to download it. It's slow.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/d3nl4jr2qzbqsi6/AABx5YVeIb5EkTnLTDkwV7mqa/April%202018/Agendas%20%26%20Reports?dl=0&preview=A-8+2019+RTP+Status+Update.pdf>

SLOCOG IS PROMOTING THE RETENTION OF THE SB-1 TAX INCREASES LIKE MAD. CHECK OUT THE NEWS RELEASE BELOW ON THE NEXT PAGE:

Please see the related article, **“Prohibit Public Money in Campaigns for New Taxes and New Bonds”**, on page 17, which discusses ways in which government agencies violate state law as they promote taxes. It is in the COLAB In Depth section. Now that a ballot measure to repeal the SB-1 fuel and excise taxes may qualify, should SLOCOG be blatantly promoting its retention?



MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

California Transportation Commission (CTC) Allocates Over a Quarter Billion Dollars in Funding to San Luis Obispo Region

Region receives historic level of transportation funding

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. – March 22, 2018 – On Wednesday, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved over a quarter billion dollars in transportation funding for crucial infrastructure projects on the California Central Coast. The CTC's action represents the largest amount of transportation funding the San Luis Obispo region has ever received, a total of \$261 million. This funding is largely a result of the predictability and stability provided by the recent statewide gas tax increase and new vehicle registration fees, implemented with the enactment of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1). It restores FY 2014-15 levels with an adjustment for inflation. In addition, the region also stands to benefit from the ability to leverage nearly \$100 million more from other funding sources.

"This level of funding was made possible with the advent of new money from SB 1 that eliminates the volatility of available funding, which makes it difficult to plan projects, and allows for the delivery of projects that had to be cut previously. It also creates added capacity for consideration of new projects, including competitive programs to further supplement our region's multi-modal transportation needs," San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Executive Director Ron DeCarli said.

At its December board meeting, SLOCOG, the area's regional transportation planning agency, supported Caltrans' request for \$197 million for improvements on State Route 46 and \$12.5 million for a rail layover facility in the City of San Luis Obispo to bring more train services to the region. Additional discretionary transportation investments of \$39 million have the potential to leverage \$60 million in new SB 1 grant programs specifically targeted for improvements on the US Highway 101 South County corridor and State Route 46 corridor. SLOCOG's discretionary funds also match approximately \$15 million of its member agencies' local funding commitments.

"The CTC has approved our request for \$197 million to continue much needed improvements along State Route 46 near Cholame," said Richard Rosales, acting Caltrans District 5 Director. "With new funds now available, we can keep widening SR 46 into its next phases including grade separation at the Highway 41 Wye intersection, our major connection between the central coast and the valley."

MORE ON THE NEXT PAGE

SLOCOG, Kern Council of Governments, Caltrans and State Legislators have been actively working together as part of a larger coordinated effort to secure funding to ensure safety and improve operations on the route.

“The goal of SB 1 was to immediately invest in the state’s aging road and transportation infrastructure. The CTC’s approval of \$261 million for the San Luis Obispo region will have tangible, long lasting impacts that will improve safety and mobility for residents and visitors alike,” said Senator Bill Monning.

SLOCOG Board President Tom O’Malley praised Senator Monning, Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham, and Caltrans for their “long-standing support and advocacy in securing these much needed improvements, saving lives, reducing accidents and improving operations”.

Projects that will move forward as a result of today’s CTC announcement include:

- Continue construction of the four-lane expressway east of Shandon with grade separation at the Wye (41/46 intersection)
- Expanded train layover facility in the City of San Luis Obispo
- US 101 South Bound Pismo Congestion Relief Project – local match for State Congested Corridors Grant (pending)
- Short term improvements on SR 227 Corridor (Aero Dr. to Los Ranchos Drive in San Luis Obispo)
- US 101/Prado Rd. Interchange (Phase 1) in San Luis Obispo
- US 101/Tefft St. Interchange Improvements in Nipomo
- SR 1/41 intersection improvements in Morro Bay
- US 101/Brisco Rd/Grand Ave interchanges in Arroyo Grande
- Templeton Atascadero Bike and Pedestrian Connector
- Environmental engineering funding for:
 - US 101/46W interchange in Paso Robles/Templeton
 - US 101/Avila Beach interchange
 - SR 46/Union Rd. under/over crossing in Paso Robles
 - SR46 four-lane extension east from the Wye to the County line
- Other Local Street and Road Maintenance

LAST WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

No Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 (Not Scheduled)

March 27th was a 4th Tuesday and the Board does not normally meet.

Special Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, March 27, 2018 (Completed)

Item 1 - PERSONNEL (Government Code section 54957). It is the intention of the Board to meet in closed session to: **(1) Consider Public Employee Appointment for the Position of County Health Agency Director.** It is not known at what stage the process had reached, but this could have been Board interviews of finalists.

**San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District APCD Meeting of Wednesday,
March 28, 2018 (Completed)**

Item A1 – 5: Consideration of Reappointment of Air Pollution Control District Hearing Board Member (Robert W. Carr). This was to be a routine reappointment of Carr, who has served on the panel since 2004 and had previously held the position of Executive Officer of the APCD for 25 years. Some APCD Board members were surprised to find out that reappointments are not subject to advertising and solicitations of public applications. Moreover the State Parks Department apparently sent a letter asserting that Carr appeared to be biased in the current hearing process wherein the APCD has filed a violation notice on the State Parks Department for failing to comply with or make adequate process on compliance with the Dune Dust Rule.

We have either attended or watched the 3 sessions on the Web of the Hearing Board's proceedings on this matter in their entirety (except for the last half hour of the March version).

Beyond the Carr issue and as a quasi-adjudicatory proceeding, we find the whole conduct of the meetings outrageous. The general public is allowed to come and blither on as if it were a legislative proceeding of a policy board such as a city council, board of supervisors, or the APCD Board.

The APCD Hearing Board, as a quasi- adjudicatory body, is supposed to consider written and expert witness evidence and to allow cross-examination of the APCD and the accused violator State Parks Department. Instead, we have been treated to almost 3 full days of random public advocacy by perhaps 100 opponents of the State Parks Department, as well as a few advocates for dunes dust riding and camping.

Carr, who is sitting there as a judge, is supposed to hear all the evidence, question witnesses, and form an independent and unbiased decision with the other four Hearing Board members. At one point during the proceeding, he opined to the room, "Why don't we just shut the thing down for 3 years and see if the dust is reduced below the established violation levels?" They hadn't even finished the public comment, questioned the APCD, heard the State's case, or had their own deliberations.

If they do shut "the thing down for 3 years," Carr and his colleagues will have some explaining to do when the State sues the APCD.

In this regard the APCD's own Board letter on this item states in part:

The Hearing Board is a quasi-judicial panel authorized under the California Health and Safety Code to provide relief from air district regulations under certain circumstances. As defined in State law, the Hearing Board is the sole entity in the District authorized to hear and act on: • Petitions by companies for variances from permit conditions or regulations; • Petitions by the District for abatement orders (an abatement order requires a company operating out of

compliance to take specific actions or shut down its operation; this is a severe remedy reserved for serious violators or immediate threats to public health and safety); • Appeals by companies and third parties from the granting of permits, permit conditions, permit denials or suspensions, denials of emission reduction credits and denials of pollution control plans.

The Board letter goes on to state:

Hearing boards perform the quasi-judicial function of the district by applying legal criteria to reach decisions specific to a particular regulated emission source for a specific factual situation. Hearing boards do not make rules, but rather are bound to apply the standards set forth in district rules and regulations and State law to the specific cases brought before them for resolution. After hearing all sides of a case in which individuals or companies come into conflict with APCD rules and regulations, the Hearing Board weighs the evidence and reaches a decision.

This thing looks more like a Kangaroo Court than an objective quasi-judicial body.

At the Meeting: After the staff presentation recommending the appointment of Carr, Board members Arnold, Barbara Harmon, Compton, Fonzi, and Waage all expressed concerns about the lack of public notice on the reappointment and the inability of others to apply. Staff indicated that this was a procedure which had been approved by the Board in the past. At this point the Board's choice was to either approve or reject the appointment (a 3-year term).

Gibson then acerbically stated that questioning the appointment of a long-term highly qualified appointee was outrageous, was not policy based, and represented the inadequacies of the people questioning the appointment. Hill chimed in that it was a mugging.

After much wrangling and the need for Waage as Chair to tell Hill and Gibson to lay off the personal attacks (to which Gibson objected strenuously), Waage called for the vote. The vote that followed rejected the appointment 6/5 with Arnold, Barbara Harmon, Compton, Fonzi, and Hamon voting to reject. Shah, Hill, Gibson, Heidi Harmon, and Heading voted to approve.

There then followed a long wrangle led by Gibson about ways to get around the 3-year appointment rule, which were viewed as not legal by the Boards Counsel. Eventually, Gibson asked if anyone on the prevailing side would reconsider. After more discussion Chairman Waage said he would. Gibson made a combined motion to both reconsider and make the appointment of Carr, which passed 7/4 with Shah, Hill, Gibson, Heidi Harmon, Heading, and Hamon, and Waage voting yes. Arnold, Compton, Barbara Harmon, and Fonzi voted no.

If the Hearing Board ends up closing the park to riding and camping or severely restricts the areas where these activities can occur, Mayor Waage will have some explaining to do to the business community and workforce.



FASCINATING AND EXASPERATING

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

OPIOID USE DISORDER HIGH IN SLO COUNTY

By Mike Brown

While the so-called progressive left obsesses about all manner of causes, a national study by the Urban Institute in Washington DC found that SLO County has one of the highest incidences of opioid use disorder (OUD) and treatment needs in California.

Dune buggies, plastic straws, plastic grocery bags, semi-automatic rifles, campfires, poison oak and sumac fires, vacation rentals, wine country events, driving your car to work, and living in a single-family detached home are all on the list of current or proposed taboo items and activities.

Can cat dander and red meat be far behind?

The study, based on 2016 data and published in March 2018 indicates that:
There were 20 deaths in the County due to OUD.

There were 17,384 who misused opioids.

There were 3,130 people with OUD.

No one has produced any verified medical data on dunes dust for any years.

The color-coded map of California counties on the next page below illustrates SLO County in relation to the others. Dark blue is not good

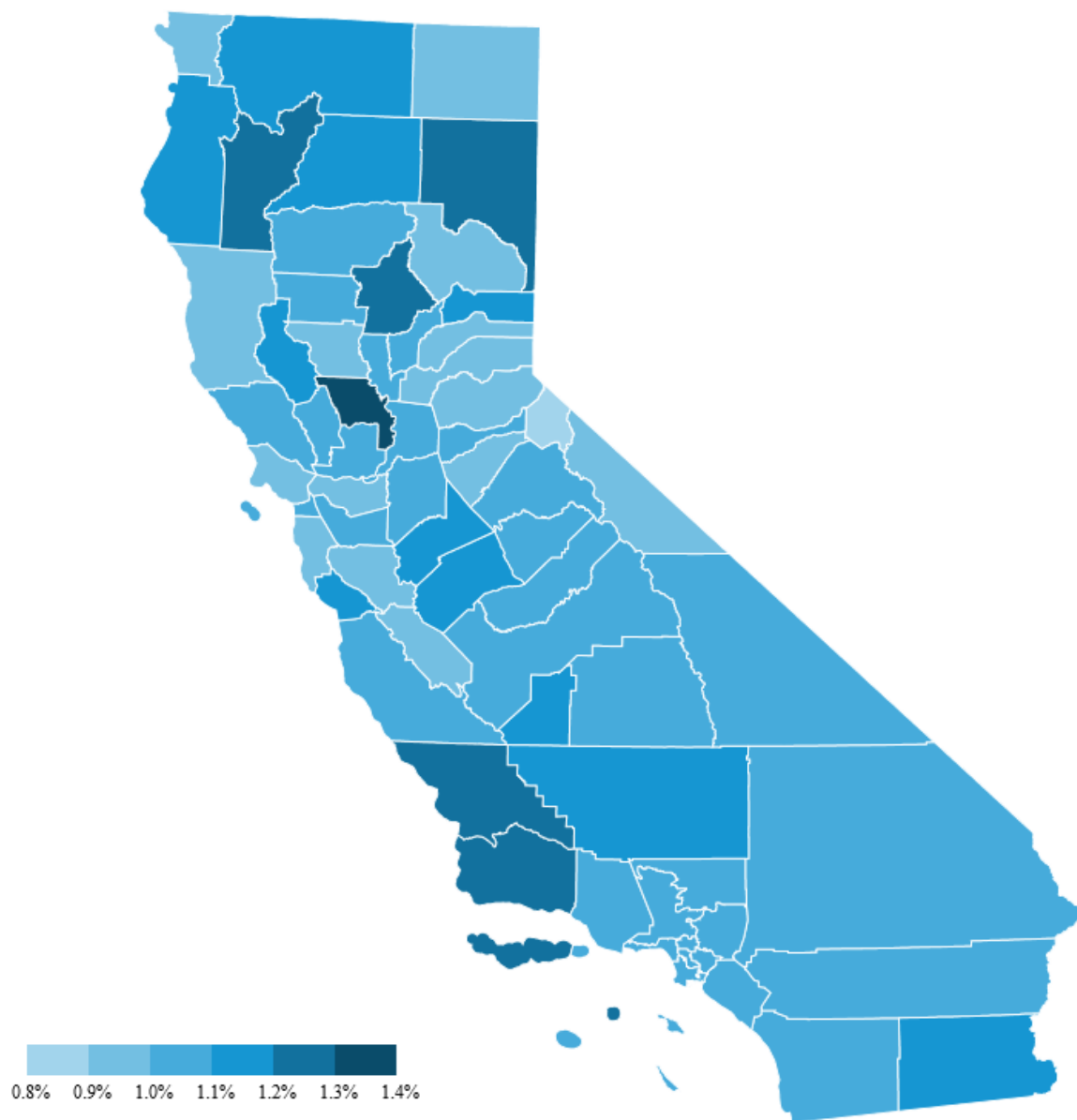
The study methodology states in part:

This analysis presents county-level estimates of opioid use disorder and treatment needs in California counties. Estimated rates of OUD, which we define as opioid abuse or dependence, are based on California, regional, and national estimates from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. We estimate the demand for treatment in each county based on several data sources, assuming all people with OUD seek opioid-agonist treatment (i.e., buprenorphine or methadone). We estimate each county's opioid-agonist treatment capacity based on data from the Drug Enforcement Administration and the state, as well as opioid treatment program data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The study was prepared for the Urban Institute by [Lisa Clemans-Cope](#), [Douglas A. Wissoker](#), and [Marni Epstein](#).

Control Click on the blue links to check out the qualifications on these guys

Please continue to the next page.

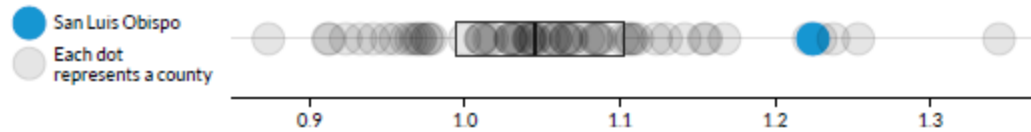


County Estimates of Opioid Use Disorder and Treatment Needs in California

California County Spotlight: San Luis Obispo County, March 19, 2018

- In 2016, an estimated 6.8 percent of people ages 12 years and older (17,384 people) misused opioids in San Luis Obispo, and 1.2 percent of people (3,130 people) had an opioid use disorder (OUD),^a defined as opioid abuse or dependence. Approximately one-fifth of those who misuse opioids have an OUD.
- The county had 20 opioid overdose deaths in 2016.
- There are 921 to 2,169 people with OUD in the county without local access to opioid agonist treatment (i.e. buprenorphine or methadone). Since there are no regulatory barriers to naltrexone and counseling treatments, this snapshot focuses on agonists.

Percent of the Population 12 Years and Older with Opioid Use Disorder (Abuse or Dependence) in California Counties, Highlighting San Luis Obispo^b



County Measure	
All opioid overdose deaths, 2016 ^c	20 deaths; 7.1 per 100,000 people
Buprenorphine prescriptions, 2016 ^c	7,805 prescriptions; 27.6 per 1,000 people
Methadone patients at OTPs, 2016 ^d	265 methadone patients at OTPs; 106.3 per 100,000 people
Buprenorphine-waivered prescribers, February 2018 estimate ^e	29 prescribers with a 30-patient limit, 9 prescribers with a 100-patient limit, 4 prescribers with a 275-patient limit; up to 59 prescribers from out of county prescribe to patients in the county.
Estimated count and rate of opioid misuse ^f	17,384 people misused opioids; 6.8 per 100 people
Estimated count and rate of OUD ^f	3,130 people with OUD; 1.2 per 100 people
Estimated number of people with OUD who could be treated, given current buprenorphine and methadone treatment capacity ^g	Between 961 and 2,209 people could be treated given current capacity, depending on how many patients each buprenorphine prescriber treats.
Estimated treatment gap, assuming all people with OUD seek treatment ^g	Between 921 and 2,169 people with OUD do not have access to treatment, based on current opioid agonist treatment capacity.
Count and percent of prescribers with a buprenorphine waiver ^e	There are 1,497 prescribers in the county, and 2.8% have a buprenorphine waiver.
Strategies to Meet Demand for Treatment	
Increase prescribers: ^h Adding at least 42 prescribers with a 30-patient limit would double the county's waived prescribers and fill 17.0% of the treatment gap (if all prescribers treat an average of 9 patients each) or 68.5% of the treatment gap (if new prescribers treat an average of 15 patients and current prescribers treat half of their maximum waiver capacity).	
Increase resources: Work with health plans for prescriber outreach; add MAT in health centers, jails, EDs, hospitals, maternity practices, and existing addiction treatment programs; market MAT telehealth to the public; work with opioid treatment programs to add med units and spokes; work with county Alcohol and Drug departments to coordinate counseling and other services; expand MAT services through the Drug Medi-Cal waiver; engage with local opioid safety coalition.	

Prohibit Public Money in Campaigns for New Taxes and New Bonds Sample Reforms

By Ed Ring

What's the difference between "communications" and a political campaign? The difference should be obvious. When you engage in a political campaign, you are explicitly supporting a particular candidate or ballot measure. When you are "communicating," you are compelled to limit yourself to presenting objective facts and information to the public; you cannot take a stand for or against a candidate or ballot measure.

What if, sometimes, it doesn't matter? In the case of California's cities and counties that are desperate to raise taxes and secure additional bond financing, their taxpayer-funded "communications" efforts vs. political campaigning is a distinction with almost no difference.

After all, it is merely informative to tell voters that the city needs more money to hire more police and firefighters so octogenarian widows aren't sexually assaulted in their burning houses. These sorts of messages are not political ads, they're just "communications."

And through that massive loophole pours countless millions of taxpayers money every election season, out of city or county coffers and into the hands of political – oops, communications – consultants. The results are not ambiguous. California's voters routinely approve 70% of all local tax increases and 80% (or more) of local bond measures. And these voters, as taxpayers, fund the communications campaigns that often wield decisive influence over how they decide to vote.

A California Policy Center report from October 2016, "In a Political Campaign, City Officials Can Spend Your Money Against You. They Call it 'Education'." provides more information on this arguably corrupt practice. In the article, a consulting firm that specializes in this sort of work is identified, the Lew Edwards Group based in Oakland. On their website, two of their "areas of expertise" are "public agency services" and "political consulting." Here are the respective activities in each of those areas – can you tell which is which?

- Assessing community support through public opinion research
- Developing an informational communications plan to expand community awareness of fiscal/service needs
- Finalizing a planning timeline and budget
- Helping to identify other professionals as needed for your team
- Training public agency staff on external Speakers' Bureau activities and other informational outreach
- Developing an earned/social media/web-based strategy and content
- Developing informational collaterals

- Providing Rapid Response services
- Providing input to the Agency Counsel on voter handbook materials

vs.

- Developing a political strategy, calendar, campaign budget, & voter targeting
- Directing polling efforts
- Drafting candidate statements, ballot arguments & rebuttals
- Providing advice, strategies and content for fundraising, traditional/social media, & websites
- Conceiving, writing and producing your campaign's media program, including logo, mailers, signs, radio/TV/YouTube or Vimeo spots, e-organizing and outreach
- Overseeing volunteer/field operations, including designing field goals, a visibility plan, voter registration, volunteer trainings & vote reminders
- Managing vendors to the campaign, including printers, mail houses, graphics, media & polling professionals

A careful review of these two lists shows remarkable congruence.

If you want to ensure that your city or county does not spend taxpayer money to engage in “information campaigns” that for all practical purposes are highly effective advocacy efforts that routinely convince voters to support higher taxes and more public debt, you can enact local measures to curtail this activity. What follows is an example of a resolution banning the use of public money to pay for staff time or outside vendors to conduct political campaigns under the color of “education” or “communications”:

PUBLIC ‘INFORMATION CAMPAIGN’ REFORM – SAMPLE LANGUAGE

WHEREAS, California’s public officials have sought to raise local taxes and fees through political campaigns designed to appeal to local voters;

WHEREAS, in preparing for these campaigns, city officials have increasingly used the public’s money to pay for staff time, outside vendors to conduct political campaigns under the color of “education” or “communications” efforts that are otherwise protected by the First Amendment.

*WHEREAS, in the 1976 case *Stanson v. Mott*, the California Supreme Court explicitly prohibited the use of public money in political campaigns, saying, “A fundamental precept of this nation’s democratic electoral process is that the government may not ‘take sides’ in an election contests or bestow an unfair advantage on one of several factors.*

WHEREAS, the Californians we represent expect that this body will not use public funds in any way that may be reasonably construed as an attempt to influence an election;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Article 1. This city/county will not use public money – either internally, through its own staff and treasury, or externally, through the hiring or use of outside vendors – to engage in public education; public opinion polling or studies; or communications intended or may seem to be intended to determine the outcome of political campaigns.

Article 2. This city/county will fully disclose and make available – online and in public meetings and in public places – any documents, including contracts, communications, or proposals with vendors and/or staff which touch on public education; public opinion polling or studies; or communications which might seem to a reasonable person designed to determine the outcome of political campaigns.

Article 3. Every city/county official – elected, appointed or in any way employed with this city – is duty-bound to declare publicly a violation of this resolution.

Article 4. This city/county will never use force – including lawsuits – to derail an attempt to disclose the potential violation of this resolution.

ADOPTED ON THIS DAY OF _____

This article and proposal first appeared in the California Public Policy posting of December 11, 2017 and has now been widely distributed. Ed Ring is a policy analyst, commentator, and frequent contributor to a number of reform oriented publications.

Is your city using taxpayer dollars to campaign for higher taxes? HOW ABOUT SLOCOG?

For two years beginning in 2014, Stanton, California, residents were pounded by half a million dollars in advertising calling for a hike in the city's sales tax. They surrendered to the wall-to-wall messaging, voting once for the tax hike and then against a repeal effort.

In a painful irony, the tsunami of advertising was paid for by city taxpayers themselves.



Will O'Neill – "Steal my ordinance"

Translation: city officials used taxpayer money to persuade taxpayers to give city officials more money.

Shortly after the Stanton campaign, California Policy Center created a model resolution prohibiting the use of taxpayer dollars in political campaigns. Newport Beach City Councilman Will O'Neill worked with his council colleagues to turn that resolution into a city ordinance – the first of its kind in California. O'Neill published a commentary on that ordinance in the Orange County Register.


Now there's this **by Dan Walters, the dean of California reporters** (alongside CPC's own Steve Greenhut). Walters calls the practice of government's running pro-tax campaigns "very clever, even propagandistic, packaging . . . by political consultants who boast of their ability to overcome resistance to such measures."



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(Revised 2/2017)