



**WEEKLY UPDATE  
AUGUST 30 - SEPT. 5, 2020**

**THIS WEEK**

**TEST FOR PEACE AND ORDER  
IF TIANNA ARATA OR OTHERS CHARGED FOR RIOT ACTIONS**

**BOS CAN SPEND QUALITY TIME ON REGIONAL  
WATER PLAN – IRWM  
WHO OWNS AND CONTROLS THE ENHANCED RECHARGE?**

**MORE 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT PORK FOR CAYUCOS**

**WASTE BOARD AND SLOCOG BOTH CANCELLED**

**LAST WEEK**

**NO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**SLO PENSION TRUST  
VOLATILE INVESTMENT MARKETS  
RATES DOWN - COUNTY COSTS UP**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
HIGHER DENSITY HOUSING MANDATES APPROVED  
TWO CANNABIS APPLICATIONS DENIED**

# COLAB IN DEPTH

SEE PAGE 18

## CALIFORNIA APOCALYPTO

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

*Power outages, fires, water shortages, rising taxes, crumbling and congested highways, dismal schools, lawlessness ...*

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## THE ONGOING RIOTS PROVE AGAIN THE DANGERS OF APPEASEMENT

BY BRUCE THORNTON

*The lessons better be learned soon*

### THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS



#### Peaceful Demonstrations or Calculated Violence?

If Tianna Arata and/or any of her companions are charged with a number of violations recommended by the San Luis Obispo City Police Department, will the local activist organizations be able to present a peaceful protest demonstration? Or will hardcore agitators abetted by outsiders imported from the Bay Area and LA trash downtown San Luis Obispo?

Apparently Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> is a scheduled court date for arraignment purposes. It is not known as of this writing if the District Attorney's investigation will be completed by that time. Potential charges include four felony counts of false imprisonment; one felony count of conspiracy; and three misdemeanor counts for resisting or obstructing a peace officer, participating in a riot, and unlawful assembly.

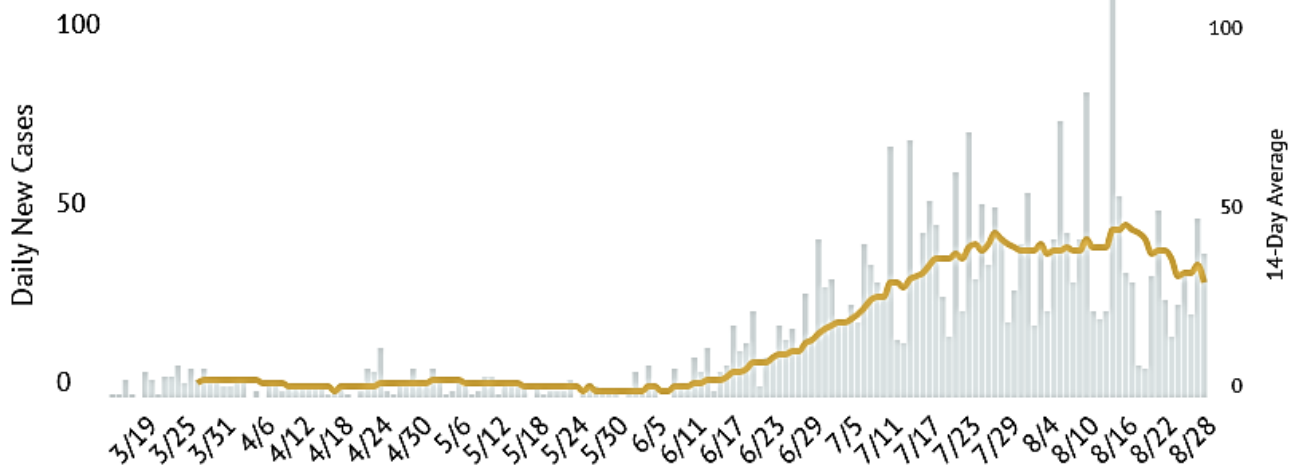
The SLO County Democratic Party has made a demand that the DA not file charges. Further complicating the picture, the SLO Police Chief just announced she will be resigning in September to take the job as Police Chief in Fairfield, California, a larger jurisdiction than SLO (population 116,000). See page 26 for a related and incisive article – *Riots and the Dangers of Appeasement*.

**Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 1, 2020 (Scheduled)**

**Item 1 - Update on COVID-19 in San Luis Obispo County.**

**Current Situation**

**Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average)**



Very few are in the hospital. Most have recovered. Why can't you lay on a towel at the beach on Labor Day weekend?

**Item 13 - Request to:** 1) accept a grant from the California Natural Resources Agency Cultural, Community and Natural Resources Proposition 68 Grant Program, in the amount of \$1,937,000; 2) authorize advertisement for construction bids for the Cayucos Veteran's Hall Rehabilitation project; and 3) authorize a budget adjustment, in the amount of \$1,987,000 to increase appropriation and fund the project through the USDA loan acceptance, using \$1,937,000 from Cultural Community and Natural Resource Agency funds and \$50,000 interim loan from the Tax Reduction Reserve Fund, by 4/5 vote. **District 2.** All in, this is a \$4.2 million scheme using a combination of State grants, County general fund, internal loans, and a roll of the dice on a long term State loan to rehab a historic building in Cayucos which is to be used as a kind of event center.

The building was constructed in 1872 and is structurally deteriorated. For all intents and purposes, it is really going to be a new building on the pattern of the original.

Supervisor Gibson knows how to deliver the bacon in his district – rehabilitation of the Cayucos Pier, County takeover and funding of the Cayucos Fire Department, fancy golf electronic simulators and go-cart stuff at the Diary Creek Golf Course, Cambria Emergency water facilities (\$4.4 million), and of course the Los Osos Sewer Treatment Plant.

- a. What is the cost of this project per square foot?
- b. What are both the principal and interest on the \$2.2 million putative State loan over 40 years? Based on the operations proforma, the debt service (at \$ 87,252 per year) is \$3.3 million over the 40-year term which will need to be booked as a long term County liability.
- c. The operations proforma shows that the facility will have to clear over \$127,000 in its early years to break even. The number increases over time. What is the basis for the rental revenues projected on a number of event rentals? For example, the projection is for 81 rentals per year of various types after the first two years. Has anyone checked the rentals for comparable facilities in San Simeon or Cambria? What is the rental record for the clubhouse at the Morro Bay Golf Course or the Botanic Garden building at El Chorro Park?

Attachment 5  
Cayucos Veteran's Hall Rehabilitation - Perspective Renderings



It doesn't seem to have anything to do with current veteran's affairs at this point.

**EXHIBIT A**

**Project Cost Estimates**

Cayucos Veteran's Hall Rehabilitation  
Cayucos, CA  
Project No. 320089  
(Through Project Completion)

Expenditures:	Prior Year Costs through FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21 Budget	Total Budget	Estimated Project Costs	Variance
Preliminary Engineering, Environmental, & Design	\$445,573	\$26,027	\$471,600	\$521,600	(\$50,000)
Construction	-	0	0	3,103,000	(3,103,000)
Construction Contingency	-	0	0	1,044,205	(1,044,205)
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$445,573</b>	<b>\$26,027</b>	<b>\$471,600</b>	<b>\$4,668,805</b>	<b>(\$4,197,205)</b>
<b>Funding Source:</b>					
General Fund	\$445,573	\$26,027	\$471,600	\$471,600	(\$0)
Grant Award - Cultural, Community and Natural Resources Grant Program (CCNR)	0	0	0	1,937,000	(1,937,000)
Interim Loan - Tax Reduction Reserve	0	0	0	50,000	(50,000)
USDA Loan - BAR will be requested with USDA Loan Acceptance at a later date	0	0	0	2,210,205	(2,210,205)
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$445,573</b>	<b>\$26,027</b>	<b>\$471,600</b>	<b>\$4,668,805</b>	<b>(\$4,197,205)</b>

\*Cost estimates will be more accurate at time of award

How come the construction contingency is 25% of the entire construction budget itself? Do they suspect a lurking problem?

How can the Board justify spending \$4.2 million in view of sea level rise & when they let a power plant on a 75 ft. high bluff be shut down due to tidal wave threats?

No doubt any efforts to entice the private sector to rehab it as a destination restaurant would be annihilated by the Planning and Building Department, Coastal Commission, Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary, and all the local Woke elitists.

**Item 20 - Submittal of resolutions approving the 2019 San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.** The item was previously scheduled on the agenda of August 11, 2020. It was pointed out that the 429-page item contains a considerable amount of implied water policy and should have been scheduled as a regular business item. Apparently the Board agreed, and it is now posted for this week.

For the County and other local jurisdictions to be eligible for State water funding grants, an IRWM plan must periodically be submitted to the State Department of Water Resources



(DWR) for review and must meet the stringent requirements. It is somewhat analogous to the SLOCOG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in the road and transit universe. At its most general level (429 very technical pages), the Plan:

- *Describes the Region and its water management strategies*
- *Reviews the Region's water issues (e.g., supply, quality, storage, conveyance, etc.)*
- *Puts forward strategies to address solutions for those issues*
- *Suggests actions, programs, and capital projects to carry out those strategies*
- *Prioritizes and integrates those actions, programs, and capital projects*
- *Establishes metrics to measure and manage collected data to show the potential improvements, benefits, and impacts of the plan*
- *Provides a methodology to carry out those actions, programs and capital projects*
- *Monitors the plan's progress and adjusts when needed*

The full Plan can be seen at the link:

<https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/getattachment/fd41c16f-f29e-4ef0-be2c-cd3e7197ebe3/2019-IRWM-Plan.aspx>

The flock of both bureaucratic and volunteer water groupies in the County study the Plan intensively, influence it, and use it to help push whatever policies they support. For our readers with insomnia, download the Plan and read it at night.

Some of the portions which need close Board and public scrutiny include:

### **Conjunctive Management and Groundwater Storage**

*The evaluation and development of groundwater recharge projects/programs aligns directly with Objectives of the Groundwater Management Goal, and crosses over to multiple Objectives in other Goals, specifically, "Enhance Natural Recharge" as listed in the Flood Management Goal.. The primary goal is to enhance recharge to groundwater basins, especially where demand meets or exceeds the existing perennial yield.. Supplementing groundwater in storage would help to meet the goal to diversify the regional water supply portfolio and to ensure a long-term, verifiable, reliable and sustainable supply to meet current and future agricultural, urban, rural, and environmental demands. Any projects would need to be implemented in a way that would not harm overlying users in the basin. Groundwater recharge would help meet multiple Objectives by:*

- *Helping to avoid impacts to existing users*
- *Providing a firm, verifiable, and sustainable supply*
- *Supporting protection of surface water rights by making full use of entitlements for groundwater recharge purposes*

a. What is the status of the water vis-a-vis the preeminent rights of overlayers?

b. Who controls the water?

c. How is the "enhanced" recharged water distinguished from the "regular" recharged water once it is in the ground?

d. Can State water be recharged? What is its legal status once it is in the ground?

e. How can the State recharged water be distinguished from the “regular” recharged water?

### **Recommended Project Elements**

*The following Recommended Project Elements were provided:  
San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan*

- Develop groundwater recharge facilities to enhance recharge to basins and/or capture and protect surface water rights*
- Develop groundwater management plan elements to support groundwater recharge projects and to meet requirements for state grant funding*
- Conduct needed feasibility studies and/or pilot and demonstration projects to obtain needed data*
- Select a preferred groundwater recharge alternative and develop final project designs and funding requirements*
- Seek state and federal grant funding to conduct the needed evaluations and pilot projects*

### **Climate Change**

The Plan contains a substantial chapter on climate change including data about how it is expected to impact water supply and therefore water management efforts. The underlying support is based on the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) data, which has been shown to be highly suspect and consistently wrong over time. Thus the chapter needs to be pulled out and presented as a Board item in and of itself.

**Background:** The table below on the next page is a high-level summary of the changes made in updating the 2014 IRWM Plan to the 2019 IRWM Plan.

**PLEASE CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE:**



**Summary of Changes  
2014 IRWM Plan to 2019 IRWM Plan**

This table is a high-level summary of the changes made in updating the 2014 IRWM Plan to the 2019 IRWM Plan. The District encourages reviewing **Appendix L - State Guidelines Requirements Table** to see the extensive list of DWR requirements for the plan, what section meets the requirement and a brief qualitative explanation.

Section	Title	Type of change, if any	Description
1	Introduction	Minor	General updates. No structural changes to section.
2	Governance and Stakeholder Involvement	Significant	Section now includes Stakeholder Integration and Plan Implementation subsections to meet Guidelines. Also includes Outreach and Communication Plan
3	Region Description	Significant	Watersheds updated from CalWater boundaries to USGS Hydrologic Units. Added water quality issues, per Guidelines. Updated Groundwater subsection to reflect SGMA.
4	IRWM Goals and Objectives	Minor	Updated goals and objectives to reflect SGMA. Updated survey information.
5	Resource Management Strategies	Significant	Replaced "water management strategies" with the State's "Resource Management Strategies"
6	Project Review Process	Significant	Overhauled based on RWMG efforts in 2018 and 2019 regarding the Implementation List and Grant Opportunity List processes.
7	Plan Benefits and Impacts	Minor	Updated to reflect current project list, no structural changes to section.
8	Plan Performance and Monitoring Results	Minor	Updated to reflect current project list, no structural changes to section.
9	Data Management	Minor	Updated to reflect current practices and upcoming new systems, no structural changes to section.
10	Financing Strategies	Minor	Updated to reflect current opportunities and project list, no structural changes to section.
11	Technical Analysis	Minor	Updated to reflect latest technical studies and reports, no structural changes to section.
12	Relation to Local Water and Land Use Planning	Minor	Updated to include GSP efforts and latest agency documents (i.e. UWMPs)
13	Planning Coordination	Minor	Updated with latest funding area and regional coordination, also reflects GSA formation across region
14	Climate Change	Significant	Overhauled based on Guidelines requirements. Added the Vulnerability Assessment and Prioritization as required.



The red starred sections should be reviewed with particular care.

The logic diagram below summarizes the main goals and objectives in a succinct format.



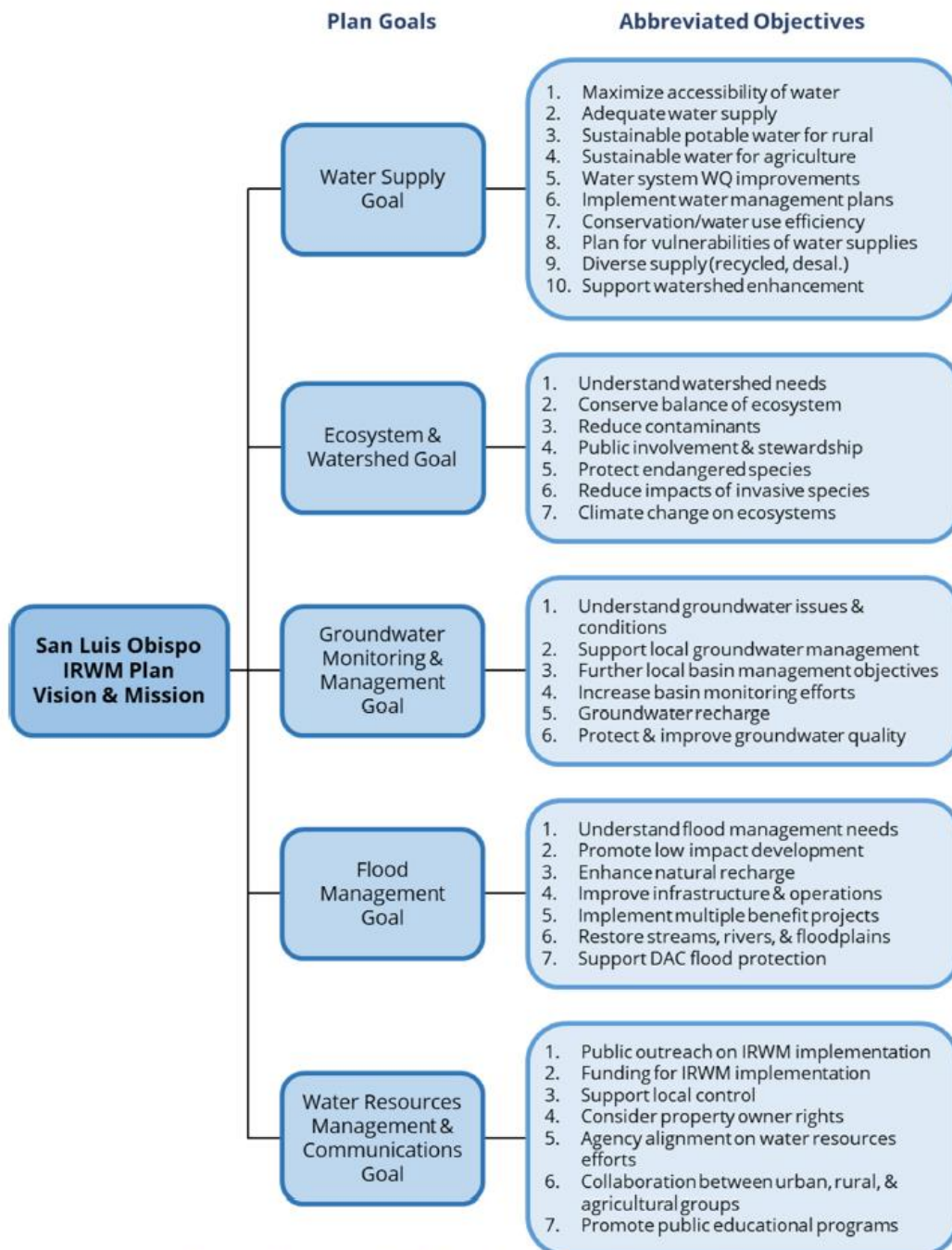


Figure 4-4: Summary of IRWM Goals, Objectives, and Sub-Region Priorities

Various grants, the awardees, and amounts are listed in the table below.

San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Funding Awards Summary May 2020

IRWM Grant Funding Source and Funded Projects	Grant Funding	Status	Project Sponsor
<b>Prop 50 Planning Grant (2008) - DWR No. 460000450</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
Data Enhancement Plan	\$72,500	Complete	Flood Control District
Flood Management Plan	\$55,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Groundwater Banking Plan	\$185,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Regional Permitting Plan	\$187,500	Complete	County of San Luis Obispo
<b>Prop 84 Planning Grant (2012) - DWR No. 4600010061</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
Update Plan to Meet Standards	\$185,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Identification of Basins Requiring SNMPs	\$15,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Santa Maria Groundwater Basin Study	\$200,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin SNMP	\$100,000	Complete	City of Paso Robles
Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model	\$50,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Regional Recycled Water Planning	\$200,000	Complete	Flood Control District
Watershed Management Planning	\$250,000	Complete	Upper Salinas/Coastal SLO RCD
<b>Prop 1E Stormwater Flood Mgmt Grant (2011) - DWR No. 4600009714*</b>	<b>\$2,797,000</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	
Flood Control Zone 1/1A - Modified 3a Project	\$2,797,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2011) - DWR No. 4600009717</b>	<b>\$10,401,000</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	
Los Osos Wastewater Project	\$5,945,444	Complete	County of San Luis Obispo
Flood Control Zone 1/1A - Modified 3c Project	\$2,200,000	In Progress	Flood Control District
Nipomo Supplemental Water Project	\$2,200,000	Complete	Nipomo CSD
Grant Administration	\$55,556	In Progress	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 84 Expedited Drought Grant (2014) - DWR No. 4600010880</b>	<b>\$6,323,610</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
CSA 23-AMWC-Garden Farms Emergency Intertie	\$1,404,290	Complete	County of San Luis Obispo
Emergency Turnout	\$255,226	Complete	Heritage Ranch CSD
Emergency Water Supply	\$4,382,255	Complete	Cambria CSD
Grant Administration	\$281,839	Complete	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 84 Implementation Grant (2015) - DWR No. 4600011487</b>	<b>\$3,702,762</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
Upper Salinas River Basin Conjunctive Use	\$2,956,796	Complete	Templeton CSD
Well Head Treatment	\$362,431	Complete	San Simeon CSD
Water Resources Reliability Program - Planning Study	\$198,397	Complete	Oceano CSD
Grant Administration	\$185,138	Complete	Flood Control District
<b>Prop 1 Planning Grant (2016) - DWR No. 4600011892</b>	<b>\$204,183</b>	<b>Complete</b>	
IRWM Plan Update & Region-Wide Stormwater Resource Plan	\$204,183	Complete	FC&WCD, USLTRCD & CSLRCD
<b>Prop 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement (2017)</b>	<b>\$877,563</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	
FCD Funding Administration	\$20,700	In Progress	Flood Control District
Disadvantaged Community Needs Assessment	\$67,738	In Progress	Flood Control District
Water Resource Reliability Program, Phase 2 Pre Construction Activities	\$177,750	In Progress	Oceano CSD
Turnout Pump Station Design and Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	In Progress	City of Grover Beach
Water Resource Recovery Facility Project, Value Engineering at 60% Design	\$78,125	Complete	City of San Luis Obispo
Reservoir Expansion Project Development & Water Master Plan Update	\$177,750	In Progress	San Simeon CSD
Wastewater Plant Upgrade Study and Recharge Basin Study	\$177,750	Complete	San Miguel CSD
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 1 - draft award received 5/7/2020</b>	<b>\$3,282,130</b>		
Grant Administration	\$155,000	Draft Award	Flood Control District
One Water SLO, MBR/UV Component	\$1,314,530	Draft Award	City of San Luis Obispo
8th Street Well Construction	\$238,100	Draft Award	Los Osos CSD
Supplemental Water Project, Final Phase	\$800,000	Draft Award	Nipomo CSD
Water Resource Reliability Program, Projects #1-1, #1-9	\$274,500	Draft Award	Oceano CSD
Reservoir Expansion Project - Phase 1 Distribution System	\$500,000	Draft Award	San Simeon CSD
<b>Prop 1 Implementation Grant, Round 2 (est. 2021)</b>	<b>\$3,282,129</b>		
Implementation Projects, including DAC Projects	TBD	TBD	Project Sponsors
<b>Total IRWM Funding Awards Received to date</b>	<b>\$29,088,248</b>	Includes Prop 1 Round 1 Draft Award	
<b>Total IRWM Funding Awards Received (incl. anticipated future awards)</b>	<b>\$32,370,377</b>		

It is not clear over what time period these were approved. The Plan document itself makes it clear that policies and provisions of the Plan can impact various jurisdictions' land use policies and can be used to assist or forestall development. Again and through this process, smart growth, greenhouse gas reduction, and other efforts to reformat society are promulgated.

In this regard, the new Plan contains a major new chapter on climate change. The participating jurisdictions must commit to policies and objectives that meet State mandated climate change policies. This insidious process never sees the light of day in the Boardroom and probably not at the city councils and other participating jurisdictions as listed below.

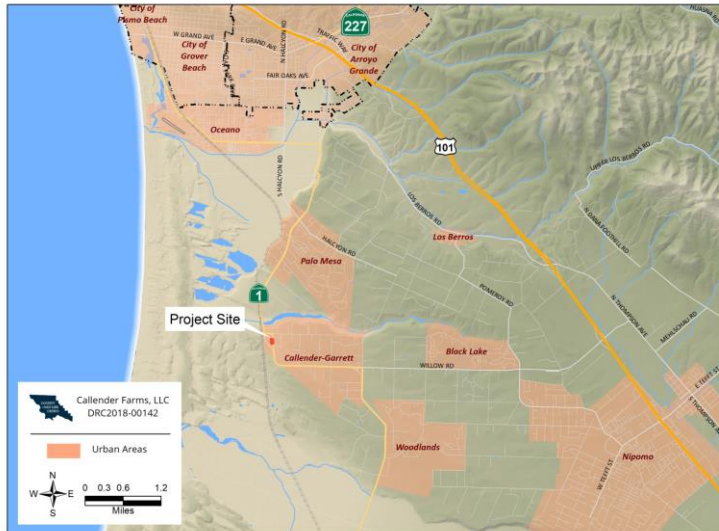
Avila Beach CSD  
California Men's Colony  
Cambria CSD  
Cayucos Sanitary District  
Central Coast Salmon Enhancement  
City of Arroyo Grande  
City of Grover Beach  
City of Morro Bay  
City of Paso Robles  
City of Pismo Beach  
City of San Luis Obispo  
Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District  
County of San Luis Obispo  
Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District  
Heritage Ranch CSD  
Land Conservancy  
Los Osos CSD  
Morro Bay National Estuary Program  
Nacimiento Regional Water Management Advisory  
Committee  
Nipomo CSD  
Oceano CSD  
San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water  
Conservation District  
San Miguel CSD  
San Miguelito Mutual Water Company  
San Simeon CSD  
Shandon-San Juan Water District  
South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District  
S&T Mutual Water Company  
Templeton CSD  
Upper Salinas - Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

**Item 21 - Hearing to consider an appeal (APPL2019-00004) by Callender Farms LLC (formerly Donovan Viera, DCD Membership Group) of the Planning Commission's denial of their request for a Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit (DRC2018-00142) to establish 2,500 square feet of indoor cannabis cultivation, an indoor cannabis nursery, and a non-storefront cannabis dispensary within an existing building located at 1291 Mesa View Drive approximately two miles south of the community of Oceano in the Callender-Garrett Village Area in the Coastal Zone of the South County Planning Area. This is an**



appeal of the denial of a permit by the Planning Commission for an indoor cannabis operation in an industrial section of Nipomo. The vote was tied 2/2.

There is considerable disagreement involving a number of regulatory agencies about whether the original applicant (which has now been replaced) had committed various violations.



Other appeals will be coming to the Board. Soon it will have to have a name change - The Board of Cannabis Appeals, The BCA!

**San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority Meeting Wednesday, September 2, 2020 (Cancelled)**

**The notice below was received last Thursday:**

*You are hereby notified that the San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority **Executive Committee** has canceled their **September 2, 2020, meeting** scheduled for 12:00 noon via Zoom. The next scheduled meeting will be **October 7, 2020, at 12:00 noon**. Meeting location and format has not been determined as of August 27, 2020.*

**San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments meeting of Wednesday, September 2, 2020 (Cancelled)**

The meeting was cancelled, probably for lack of business as well as the fact that the week of the 2<sup>nd</sup> leads up to Labor Day weekend. People may be taking off for the woods.

**LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS**

**San Luis Obispo County Pension Trust Meeting of Monday, August 24, 2020 (Completed)**

**In General:** The Pension Trust Board held a lengthy and detailed discussion of the investment markets. Uncertainty is a paramount concern due to COVID lockdowns and speculation about when and if a vaccine might be tested and approved and then deployed in sufficient quantity to have broad societal impact.

The phenomenon of the stock market bouncing back is hard to explain. It is speculated that the large tech companies, such as Amazon and Apple, etc., are benefiting from the lockdown. The Fed has kept the interest rates low and pumped trillions into the economy. Real trouble will come when the interest rates rise.

The Trust's financial advisors confirmed their recommendation that the Board lower its expected long-term return on investments to 6.4% (the discount rate). This will continue to keep pressure on the County budget, as funds must be shifted from the service budget to higher pension contributions.

**Background:** The current volatility in markets resulting from COVID and the rebound so far will certainly constitute a major discussion. The tables below highlight the situation.

	June	Year to Date 2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Total Trust Investments (\$ millions)	\$1,351		\$1,446 year end	\$1,285 year end	\$1,351 year end	\$1,196 year end	\$1,148 year end
Total Fund Return	1.8% Gross	-4.1% Gross	16.3 % Gross	-3.2 % Gross	15.5 % Gross	6.6 % Gross	-0.8% Gross
Policy Index Return (r)	0.4%	-2.5%	16.4 %	-3.2 %	13.4 %	7.7 %	-0.5 %

(r) Policy index as of April 1, 2020 revision to Strategic Asset Allocation Policy: 21% domestic equity, 21% international equity, 15% core bonds, 6% bank loans, 5% global bonds, 5% emerging market debt, 17% real estate, 0% commodities, 5% private equity, 5% private credit.

Note that even with the market bounce back, the fund is down \$95 million from last December.

**SLOCPT Investment Returns:**

The attached report from Verus covers the preliminary investment returns of the SLOCPT portfolio and general market conditions through the end of June. The attached market commentary from Verus details market conditions in June, but subsequent activity in July is not yet factored into these numbers.

The dramatic path of total fund returns in 2020 is shown in the following table. **The Total Fund Return has recovered about 2/3rds of its losses at the low point in March.**

Total Fund Return (gross)	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Month by Month	-0.9%	-3.3%	-8.7%	+4.7%	+3.3%	+1.8%
Cumulative Year-To-Date	-0.9%	-4.1%	-12.4% lowest	-8.2%	-5.7%	-4.1%

**No Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, August 25, 2020 (Not Scheduled)**

The next scheduled meeting is set for Tuesday, September 1, 2020.

**Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, August 27, 2020 (Completed)**

**Item 4 - Expanded Density Bonuses for Various Types of Affordable Housing.** The Commission approved the changes. They really didn't have any choice, as the more liberal rules are mandated in State Statute.

**Background:** Many problems have been created by State and local governments which have caused the price of housing to rise exponentially in California. The greatest one is the artificial rationing of the amount of land available for housing in the name of preventing sprawl and greenhouse gas emissions. In an effort to appear to be attempting to resolve the problem, the State periodically adopts enabling legislation and mandates requiring the cities and counties to provide more "affordable" housing.

One of these techniques is to require the localities to give housing density bonuses for various classes of affordable housing. Over the last year the State has adopted a number of provisions that will require SLO County to revise its zoning ordinance to grant various forms of density bonuses beyond what it already provides. The table below on the next page summarizes the new provisions.



Eligible projects	Applies only to projects with affordable housing units for rent or for sale.	Expanded list of eligible projects.	Eligible projects now include senior housing, special needs housing (i.e. transitional foster youth, disabled veterans or homeless persons), low-income student housing, housing that offers childcare facilities, and land donations.
Sliding scale of bonus units	Not included.	A greater number of affordable units is rewarded with a	Example: a project that designates 10% of the original number of housing units as lower income units is
		greater number of bonus units.	allowed to increase its total number of housing units by 20%. And a project that designates up to 20% of the original number of units as lower income units will be allowed to increase its total number of housing units by up to 35%.
Long term affordability	Defers to the County's affordable housing standards in LUO 22.12.070 and CZLUO 23.04.094.	Supersedes local affordability standards.	Rental units shall have a 55-year affordability period.  Ownership units shall have an equity sharing agreement.
Protect existing rental units.	Not required.	Protect existing affordable rental units. Retain them or replace at a 1-to-1 ratio.	Applies to sites with existing rental units. The tenant income and rental rates must be disclosed in the density bonus application.
Findings required for incentives and waivers	None required.	Establishes specific findings.	Each incentive must result in a clear cost saving for the affordable unit.  Each waiver of a development standard must demonstrate that the development standard would prevent a density bonus project.
Reduced Parking Requirement	None provided.	Provides reduced parking standards for some density bonus projects.	State parking standards override local parking standards.
Special Provisions	None provided.	Special provisions apply.	The granting of bonus units and incentives shall not in and of itself require a general plan amendment, zoning change or coastal plan amendment.  Density bonus calculations shall be rounded up, and the density bonus law shall be interpreted liberally in favor of producing the maximum number of total housing units.

Failure of the County to ultimately adopt them could result in the State suspending housing and transportation funds and/or initiating litigation.

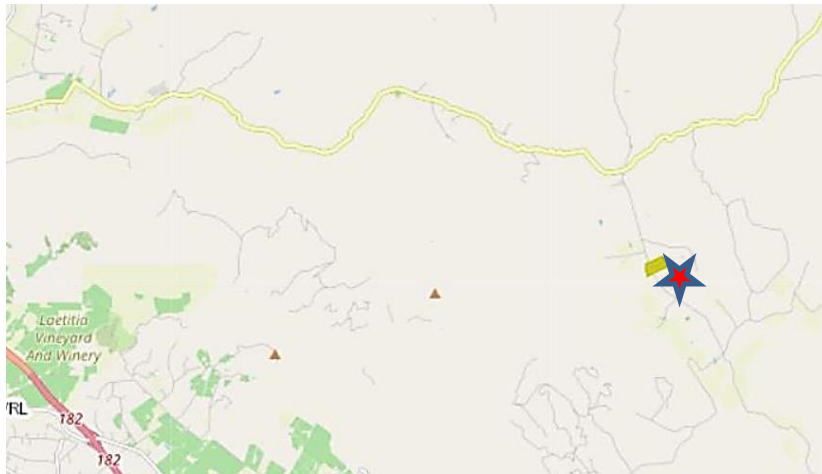
The bottom line is more stack-and-pack. It also means more cars parked on the streets.

**Item 5 - Hearing to consider a request by AG Harvest, Inc. (Anna Gabriel) for a Minor Use Permit (DRC2018-00156) to authorize the establishment of up to 29,232 square feet of outdoor cannabis cultivation canopy. The project also proposes 640 square feet of ancillary processing activities such as trimming, drying, curing, storage, and packaging. Project development would include partial relocation of an existing outdoor cultivation area and installation of two 320-square foot trailers for ancillary processing activities. The**

project site is in the Agriculture land use category on a 10-acre parcel located at 6135 Huasna Townsite Road, Arroyo Grande, approximately ten miles southeast of the City of Arroyo Grande. The Board denied the project 3/0 with commissioner Ortiz-Legg absent and the 4<sup>th</sup> District seat vacant.

Concerns about odor, lack of neighborhood compatibility, and the size of the operation were all cited as reasons for the denial.

There was substantial public opposition from the Hausna Valley neighbors.

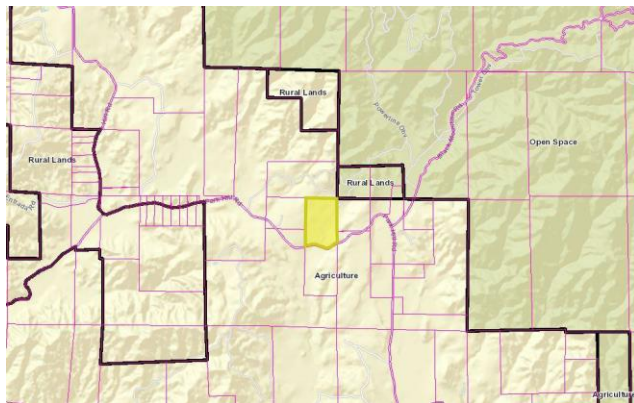


**Item 6 - Hearing to consider a request by Brian Beanway for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2019-00129) (Previously DRC2018-00190) to authorize the multi-phased development of up to 2.98 acres gross of outdoor cannabis cultivation within hoop houses; up to 25,200 square feet gross (22,000 square foot canopy) of indoor cannabis cultivation; up to 47,580 square feet gross of indoor cannabis nursery (ancillary and commercial); up to 6,000 square feet of indoor ancillary cannabis processing and manufacturing; ancillary transport; and related site improvements, including storage containers for nutrients and pesticides, composting and trash/recycling area, and water storage tanks. The project site is in the Agricultural land use category and is located at 880 Parkhill Road,**

**approximately fifteen miles southeast of the community of Santa Margarita in the North County Planning Area.** The Commission unanimously voted 3/0 (Commissioner Ortiz-Legg absent and District 4 Commissioner seat vacant) to deny the project. The Commissioners expressed concerns that the project was too large, incompatible with the neighborhood, too close to the neighbors, and could use too much water. Commissioner Multari stated that his vote should not be interpreted as being anti-cannabis or cannabis on this site. The project as proposed is just too much.

There was substantial neighborhood opposition by various public speakers. The project will in all likelihood be appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

There appears to be considerable neighboring area opposition to this one. Water usage and crime are cited as problematical. The staff found that the project meets the legal requirements for approval. The record demonstrates considerable analysis by the applicant's professionals. This, notwithstanding, the Commission was fairly strong in expressing its denial of the permit.



The Santa Margarita Area Advisory Council opposed the project and recommended denial.

The denial of this item, the denial of the previous item, and the fact that several others have been sent back for rework suggests that the Commission is taking a strict view and perhaps stiffening its policy position on cannabis.



## **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**

## **CALIFORNIA APOCALYPTO**

**BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON**

*Power outages, fires, water shortages, rising taxes, crumbling and congested highways, dismal schools, lawlessness ...*

It is now August in California.

### *Green Napalm*

So we can expect the following from our postmodern state government. There are the now-normal raging wildfires in the coastal and Sierra foothills. And they will be greeted as if they are not characteristic threats of 500 years of settled history, but leveraged as proof of global warming as well as the state's abject inability to put them out.

When the inept state can't extinguish them as it has in the past, it suggests that it's more "natural" to let them burn. Jerry Brown's team told us that the drought's toll — millions of dead trees and tens of millions of acres of parched grass and calcified shrubs on hillsides — provided a natural source of food and shelter for bugs and birds and thus need not be grazed or thinned or harvested. And so the wages of drought could be in a sense good for an "ecosystem" that otherwise proved to be green napalm for the people of foothill communities.

We can expect power outages, because we don't believe in releasing clean heat to make energy. Note that we do not mind people heating up in their 108-degree apartments without power. The planet is always more important than the non-privileged people who inhabit it.

For some reason, solar panels don't create much power when the state is engulfed in dust, haze, and smoke.

Note the synergism of the California postmodern apocalypse: The hotter it gets, the more fires burn on ecological fuel and hillside natural "compost," the smokier the air becomes, the less efficiently California's solar pathway to the future generates, the more power outages ensue, the more real people are put in danger from either being incinerated by fire or suffocated by smoke or boiled inside without air conditioning. Last week, I asked an elderly patient at the allergy clinic whether, in the 108-degree heat, he preferred to stay outside to breathe smoke and haze, or stay inside his uncooled apartment. He gave a novel answer: He didn't care about the power outages since he couldn't pay the exorbitant electricity charges anyway to turn on his air conditioner. And he added that, in California these days, you can't tell whether mask wearers are fighting the virus, the smoke, or the police.

We can expect shortages of water, because the state blocks new reservoirs and aqueducts, and drains those we do have to send millions of acre-feet to the sea. State officials now suddenly stop bashing "last generation" hydroelectric power as not really "green" (after all, dams are not quite "natural") and instead try to use every last drop of stored water to generate hydroelectricity amid brownouts, scorching temperatures, and fires.

We can expect lots of crime, because in fear of COVID-19 and in line with no-to-little bail policies, lots of criminals roam our streets. The state was once far safer after the adoption of the three-strikes law, but as crime radically declined, the imprisoned criminal, not his prey, was recalibrated as a victim. Gun sales are soaring, in the bluest of states, as if carjackers and home invaders just might not extend exemption to the woke.

California, as some of the Democratic primary candidates bragged last year, is the progressive model of the future: a once-innovative rich state that is now a civilization in near ruins. The nation should watch us this election year and learn of its possible future.

After one of the primary debates in late 2019, I drove to San Francisco. On checking into the hotel, I was reminded (off the record) by the officious hotel doorman of the city's Third World protocols:

- 1) Do not park your car on the street, because it most surely will have its windows smashed and its contents stolen, and the police will either not respond if called or the city would not prosecute the criminal if arrested.
- 2) Check the soles of your shoes before entering the hotel lobby to ensure that human feces or needle remnants are not stuck to the bottoms.
- 3) Do not offer food/money/"help" if walking along nearby homeless corridors, given the uncertain and possibly violent reaction that such outreach might incur.



As he warned me, I kept thinking of scenes in the Hitchcock films of a 1950s San Francisco with streets that were clean and safe, with people polite and mannered. No doubt that world is written off now as racist and exploitive by the morally superior San Francisco of the woke, who 60 years later have created their own wasteland and called it civilization. Once-successful civilizations implode not only from moral laxity, debt, inflation, and luxury, but also from a sort of psychological stasis by which the bureaucracy would rather die in place as it is than change and survive.

### *How to Destroy a Once-Successful State*

I wonder whether their high-tech world reflects or advances such moral regress? Is there some strange unexplored relationship between having sophisticated phone apps that can plot San Francisco's walking routes to ensure they're free of human feces, and the fact that human feces from the progressive paradise on the sidewalks are thus far more common than they were 60, 70, or 80 years ago?

Our beleaguered governor Newsom is no longer just leveraging the lockdown and boasting of the virus as "an opportunity for reimagining a more progressive era."

Instead, he is now worried about our the Frankensteinian Green New Deal state that he, in his earlier political incarnations, helped create: "We cannot sacrifice reliability as we move on."

That means something like, "We built so many subsidized solar and wind farms, and retired or canceled so many clean-burning natural-gas power plants, that we don't have enough electricity for 40 million sweltering residents when the annual green napalm hits." Who would have figured?

So Newsom has announced that his state's shutting off the power without much warning is "unacceptable." He fears there will be lots of blackouts if the heat wave and fires continue. Apparently, Newsom now has some doubt that we have really "move[ed] on" to a green utopia. Could someone hooked up on electrically dependent dialysis actually be more important than taking a ranting call from billionaire Tom Steyer?

I would add lots to the governor's list of California lapses: It might have been a mistake to cancel water projects, like the raising of dams on large existing reservoirs central to the California Water Project and Central Valley project, or the construction of the planned Sites Reservoir, or the Los Banos Grandees or Temperance Flat proposed reservoirs. The Left is instead talking about destroying dams in the far north of the state that store water, generate clean electricity, and stop flooding. We haven't seen such year-zero nihilism since Mao unleashed the Red Guard.

Some 30 million of 40 million Californians live crowded along a desert-like coastal strip from La Jolla to Berkeley, with a water storage system designed for 20 million state residents that is now woefully inadequate. Yet most in the Bay Area seem to oppose more water-transfer investments.

Their ideology dictates that "dams are bad because they are unnatural and won't allow rivers to run to the sea as we read about in the mid 19th century."



Their new reality answers, “How else can we supply water in a state where two-thirds of the precipitation falls where one-third of the population lives, and two-thirds live where one-third falls?”

Is not the most green of all methods of power generation, the cheapest way to store water, the best method to stop flooding, and the most scenic of opportunities for recreation a mountain reservoir that allows gravity-driven water to create electricity, ensures water will flow to the cities without much pumping, stops flooding that destroys civilization, provides water for irrigated food, and endows the middle classes with clean, natural outdoor relaxation?

Was it not a mistake, Governor Newsom, for premodern California to attempt postmodern high-speed rail?

The skeleton of a now mostly canceled high-speed-rail project looms like Stonehenge about 15 miles from where I live. The frozen overpasses remain half-built and are now stained with graffiti. They are religious totems to a now discredited post-viral, post-quarantine, post-rioting/defund-the-police urban model of cramming citizens into trains to send them into crammed stations and on into crammed elevators up to crammed offices and apartments — whose thin margin of safety and efficacy hinges on mayors such as Bill De Blasio, Ted Wheeler, and Lori Lightfoot.

On one side of the high-speed proposed corridor, Amtrak trains sit still on their side turnouts while trains on the opposite side roar by. Would it have been wiser to first create two parallel Amtrak tracks to facilitate nonstop train travel than spend ten times more on a pipe dream now wafting away? Again, when California cannot solve the premodern problem, it hides its impotence by futilely pursuing the postmodern fantasy.

On the other eastern parallel side, Freeway 99 is often backed up with traffic because of constant ad hoc reconstruction. The old 1960s goal of having six lanes in the state’s major central longitudinal freeway was never realized — given the Jerry Brown theory that the worse California roads became, the slower traffic would move, and thus the more that exasperated commuters would cry uncle to mass or high-speed transit.

Might it also have been smarter not to raise income taxes on top tiers to over 13 percent? After 2017, when high earners could no longer write off their property taxes and state income taxes, the real state-income-tax bite doubled. So still more of the most productive residents left the state.

Yet if the state gets its way, raising rates to over 16 percent and inaugurating a wealth tax, there will be a stampede. It is not just that the upper middle class can no longer afford coastal living at \$1,000 a square foot and \$15,000–\$20,000 a year in “low” property taxes.

The rub is more about what they get in return: terrible roads, crumbling bridges, human-enhanced droughts, power blackouts, dismal schools that rank near the nation’s bottom, half the nation’s homeless, a third of its welfare recipients, one-fifth of the residents living below the poverty level — and more lectures from the likes of privileged Gavin Newsom on the progressive possibilities of manipulating the chaos. California enshrined the idea that the higher taxes become, the worse state services will be.

Or is the state's suicide one Orwellian nightmarish plan? The worse California becomes, the less attractive it will be for illegal immigrants? The more who flee, the more affordable will be their abandoned homes? The fewer Californians, the less need for water and power? The more congested the ossified highways, the fewer will try to drive? The more the middle class shrinks, the more powerful the wealthy and the more dependent the poor?

### ***The New Dark Ages***

Through history, Dark Age man relies on his own arms for protection. He travels as little as possible. He trusts no stranger. He has no state service for aid. He fears disease, eats no food not his own, and does not ever sleep far from home. And he prefers only those of this tribe. In other words, whether 900 B.C. or A.D. 900 or 2020, he is a Californian.

It might have been wiser for Newsom and his predecessors to have ensured a secure border and legal, diverse, meritocratic, and measured immigration. Some 27 percent of the state was not born in the U.S. They arrived at a time when California was championing sanctuary cities and a "diversity" K-12 curriculum, and the state was treating with contempt the ancient idea of the melting pot.

The state's implicit message to new arrivals was that the now long dead who built California — which everyone wished to come to — were racists deserving of contempt and Trotskyization, despite immigrants' dependence on their strange 1950s and 1960 freeways, UC/CSU/JC master education plan, once-modern airports, and ingenious water projects.

The result of lots of fresh newcomers, a politicized education system, and an inert infrastructure is now that Californians live in something akin to the Greek Dark Ages. They wander about looking at the ruins of prior civilizations and seem dumbstruck at the nature and purpose of decaying monuments in their midst. The problem is not just that the state does not wish to build a new dam, but it is questionable whether it *can* anymore, even if it wished.

Millions drive along the California aqueduct and have no idea who built it or why, only perhaps that it gives them life. Californians love their Sierra reservoirs but haven't a clue how hard it once was to build them or why they were ever created in the first place, much less who planned and constructed them — and who is draining them.

When so many poor came to California from abroad, many without English, a high-school diploma, or legality, the state was faced with two choices.

One was a radical plan of assimilation and integration — to ensure that their new home would be what they expected, something far superior to what they had left — and an educational curriculum that apprised newcomers of why and how California's infrastructure, universities, and industries had led to such wealth.

Unfortunately, the state preferred the easier alternative strategy of reassuring poor and future voters that upon arrival they were victims of native-born citizens, who had rigged the system to benefit their own race and class.

The latter message of victimization and exemption only fueled immigrant poverty.

In response to the new pyramidal society, the exasperated state decided that it could hardly apply California Bay Area utopian standards of regulation and nanny-state control to the poor and the foreign-born. So they created two sets of laws: one for those who would follow them, and another consisting of exemptions for those who couldn't or wouldn't follow the laws.

Translated, that means millions of Californians from Sacramento to Bakersfield, from the foothills to the Sierra, live in shacks and trailers. They eat at roadside canteens without running water or bathrooms. They buy gas at rural stations that have no facilities. In other words, they are poor and do not care to follow the hyper-rules made by the rich.

In the most highly taxed state in America's history, there is a huge black market of cash exchanges, much of it run by the poor and the recent immigrants, that the state doesn't dare stop. When I leave my driveway, I see four "restaurants" on the side of the road, without running water or flush toilets — mobile canteens that almost always remain immobile.

On the next two intersections, I can buy flowers, homemade soft drinks, even clothes or tools — for cash only. The local "swap" meet on Sundays near my house is a huge mostly tax-free sort of outdoor ad hoc Costco.

### ***Darkness at the End of the Tunnel?***

When will the madness end?

Not until Nancy Pelosi's Napa Valley estate is without power and her boutique ice cream collections all melt.

Not until the Silicon Valley private academies are forced to diversify, as inclusion trainers recruit the very poor and undocumented from Mexico and Central America into their student bodies.

Not until the Google and Facebook employees leave their beds in parked cars and buses and break into their employers' lobbies to sleep better at night.

Not until the Malibu "help" strike, demand unionization, and are paid for nannying, housecleaning, yardwork, and cooking at the going SEIU rates.

Not until Antifa and BLM begin prying up 2,000–2,500 terrazzo stars of all the Hollywood Walk of Fame living and dead who did not meet their 2020 woke requirements.

Not until a retired Jerry Brown is forced to commute daily to a new consulting job on the 99.

Not until the showers in the Zuckerberg estates blast out sand rather than water.

And not until Gavin Newsom finally is forced to pay own his delinquent property-tax bill and comply with tax laws governing the huge gifts bequeathed to him.

Not until they put homeless tents and shelters on the curb outside Diane Feinstein's mansion.

Not until the homeless and paroled are put up at the Fairmont and the Mark Hopkins.

Not until Barbra Streisand gets a recording when she calls 911 after her seaside estate is besieged.

Not until Hetch Hetchy and its artificially constructed aqueducts dry up and the Bay Area has no water delivered from afar, as it resorts to its preferable natural arid state.

When all that happens, California will begin to change.

In other words — never.

*Victor Davis Hanson is the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution; his focus is classics and military history.*

*Hanson was a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford, California (1992–93), a visiting professor of classics at Stanford University (1991–92), the annual Wayne and Marcia Buske Distinguished Visiting Fellow in History at Hillsdale College (2004–), the Visiting Shifron Professor of Military History at the US Naval Academy (2002–3), and the William Simon Visiting Professor of Public Policy at Pepperdine University (2010).*

*In 1991 he was awarded an American Philological Association Excellence in Teaching Award. He received the Eric Breindel Award for Excellence in Opinion Journalism (2002), presented the Manhattan's Institute's Wriston Lecture (2004), and was awarded the National Humanities Medal (2007) and the Bradley Prize (2008).*

*Hanson is the author of hundreds of articles, book reviews, and newspaper editorials on Greek, agrarian, and military history and essays on contemporary culture. He has written or edited twenty-four books, the latest of which is *The Case for Trump* (Basic Books, 2019). His other books include *The Second World Wars* (Basic Books, 2017); *The Savior Generals: How Five Great Commanders Saved Wars That Were Lost - from Ancient Greece to Iraq* (Bloomsbury 2013); *The End of Sparta* (Bloomsbury, 2011); *The Father of Us All: War and History, Ancient and Modern* (Bloomsbury, 2010); *Makers of Ancient Strategy: From the Persian Wars to the Fall of Rome* (ed.) (Princeton, 2010); *The Other Greeks* (California, 1998); *The Soul of Battle* (Free Press, 1999); *Carnage and Culture* (Doubleday, 2001); *Ripples of Battle* (Doubleday, 2003); *A War Like No Other* (Random House, 2005); *The Western Way of War* (Alfred Knopf, 1989; 2nd paperback ed., University of California Press, 2000); *The Wars of the Ancient Greeks* (Cassell, 1999; paperback ed., 2001); and *Mexifornia: A State of Becoming* (Encounter, 2003), as well as two books on family farming, *Fields without Dreams* (Free Press, 1995) and *The Land Was Everything* (Free Press, 1998). Currently, he is a syndicated columnist for Tribune Media Services and a weekly columnist for the National Review Online.*

## Satellite Images of Earth at Night



# THE ONGOING RIOTS PROVE AGAIN THE DANGERS OF APPEASEMENT

BY BRUCE THORNTON

*The lessons better be learned soon*

The riots and protests that began in late May have been like wildfires of the sort currently blazing in California. Just as riots have lessened in intensity in some cities, in others they have flared up to new levels of destruction. In Kenosha Wisconsin, the arson has spread more widely, and fatal gun-battles have erupted between the “peaceful protestor” thugs and armed citizens defending their lives and property.

Also like the wildfires, the continuing violence is the consequence of unforced errors made by civic leaders in thrall to dubious ideologies. California is burning because of government environmental policies that encourage mismanagement such as not thinning its huge tracts of forest, resulting in lethal loads of dead and dying trees that provide abundant the fuel for the fires.

In the cities most afflicted with violent protests, mayors who embrace the progressive demonization of law enforcement and the racial melodrama about “systemic racism” have not acted quickly and vigorously enough to stop the violence before it escalated. Police have been ordered to stand down, restricted in their tactics and weapons, and left on their own without moral and material support from their civic bosses.

The ancient lesson has once again been proven: Failure to act preemptively and forcefully to violent disorder, and the appeasement of aggressors with concessions, lead to ever escalating levels of violence and mayhem.

America’s historically most destructive riot provides an object lesson. In July of 1863, New York erupted in widespread rioting over a recently passed federal law instituting a draft-lottery. Working class New Yorkers went on a rampage, attacking buildings and free blacks, who were not subject to the lottery. Five days of rioting left over 100 dead, including 11 black men who were lynched, 3000 blacks left homeless, 2000 blacks and whites wounded, and millions of dollars in property damage.

The level of death and destruction was in part a consequence of the city government’s reluctance to confront the rioters. New York was run by Tammany Hall Democrats—whose power was threatened by the recently elected Republican mayor. But the mayor was politically crippled by an ongoing corruption scandal, and so was slow to declare martial law. The Democrats’ base comprised recent immigrants, mostly Irish, the bulk of the rioters who believed that the September, 1862 Emancipation Proclamation, soon to be implemented, would lead to their jobs being taken by newly freed blacks, even as white workers were being conscripted to fight in the war. Additionally, financial ties between New York merchants and the Southern slavocracy also made civic leaders reluctant to forcefully put down the riots: Before the war, 40% of the trade from New York comprised Southern cotton.

The riot ultimately was ended by an influx of thousands of state militiamen and Union Army troops, some arriving from the recent battle of Gettysburg. In the final confrontation between the police and military and the rioters, twelve were killed.

The parallels with today’s riots are obvious. City and state governments have been reluctant to confront decisively the violent protestors because they are sympathetic to their racist ideology of “systemic racism” and the false narrative of racist police arbitrarily executing black men. Indeed, civic leaders have been publicly sympathetic and supportive of the protests despite the attendant violence. Also, the protestors and rioters comprise the base of blue-state mayors and council members, who are loath to alienate their voluble constituents who could turn their telegenic violence against them. As a result, police have been limited in numbers and tactics, reduced to merely containing the mayhem rather than ending it, and mayors and governors have refused federal help, leaving their own police outnumbered.



Just as in 1863, when the city leaders in New York were sympathetic to the rioters because merchant and government financial interests in the slave trade were not served by the war, so too today blue-state mayors and governors align with the protestors' hatred of Donald Trump, and see the riots as yet another tool for weakening the president's chances for reelection. After all, another term for Trump would mean a continuation of policies that damage the ideological and economic interests of big-government, hyper-regulatory, tax-and-spend progressives.

Next, as in 1863, numerous blacks have been victimized by the riots. Most of the 30 dead have been black people, with many hundred more killed in the crime-waves that have followed the pull-back of police and reduced funding of police departments. Hundreds of black-owned businesses have been looted and destroyed, some never to return. The difference is, in 1863 there was no hypocrisy perfuming the violence. Today, the shameless dishonesty of Black Lives Matter instigating violence—the disproportionate victims of which are blacks—is blatant.

The lesson is clear. When violence erupts, the response must be swift and forceful. Any hesitation, any statements of solidarity, any specious rationalizations for violence, are acts of appeasement that only fuel the flames. The primary duty of any government at any level is to protect the safety and well-being of its citizens. Even in a noble cause, the use of violence discredits it and must be swiftly ended. Civic authority needs to make it clear that once violence starts, all discussion of alleged grievances stops. This means the so-called “peaceful protestors” must take the lead in helping the police stop the violence, rather than being excused as “peaceful” and thus free of responsibility for the mayhem that attends their protest.

This point is illuminating for the Draft Riots and today's riots: violence that serves political interests always finds an excuse in some principle, and most of the time the principle is specious. In 1863, free blacks were not numerous enough to threaten white workers, and the Emancipation Proclamation, which applied only to Confederate states still controlled by the South, was unlikely to create a tsunami of free blacks who would threaten white jobs. The riot was really about politics, business, and white bigotry.

Similarly, the pretext for today's ongoing violence, police targeting of innocent black men, is unsupported by fact. As commentator Larry Elder recently tweeted, “Cops kill 2x as many whites as blacks. Cops kill at least [as] many unarmed whites as unarmed blacks. In USA, 1/2 of homicide victims are black, almost all killed by blacks. #1 cause of preventable death for white males: accidents. #1 cause of death for black males: homicide by blacks.” If black lives really mattered, BLM would be protesting this scandalous reality rather than inventing an epidemic of extrajudicial police murders.

Thus the effects of both riots are the same—harm to black people. So who are the real racists today? An organization raking in millions of dollars in white-guilt danegeld by fomenting racial division, or an administration that has increased funding for black colleges and universities, lowered black unemployment to historical levels, reformed sentencing guidelines that freed thousands of black prisoners, and championed school choice that would allow black children to escape the failing, violent public schools? The Obama-Biden administration had control of both Congress and the Executive for two years, and didn't achieve a fraction of what the alleged “racist” Donald Trump did.

Finally, stopping a riot in its early stages requires mind-concentrating force, not “containment” and stand-downs, not pepper spray and rubber bullets. Those half-measures only prolong the

disorder, as we see today as we start month number four of rioting. That's a tragic truth many of us don't want to face, since our therapeutic delusions make us think that violence can be neutralized without commensurate violence. We've seen that tried over and over, and the result ends up more dead innocents than instigators. We willfully ignore what Lincoln called the "awful arithmetic": That some must die now so more do not die later.

These are lessons that better be learned soon. If, as seems likely at this point, Trump gets reelected, there will be even more blood in the streets.

*This article first appeared in Front Page Magazine and the Hoover Institution Daily xxx of August 27, 2020.*

*Bruce S. Thornton, a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, grew up on a cattle ranch in Fresno County, California. He received his BA in Latin from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1975, as well as his PhD in comparative literature—Greek, Latin, and English—in 1983. Thornton is currently a professor of classics and humanities at California State University, Fresno. He is the author of several books on a variety of topics, including Greek Ways: How the Greeks Created Western Civilization; Searching for Joaquin: Myth, Murieta, and History in California; with Victor Davis Hanson, Bonfire of the Humanities: Rescuing the Classics in an Impoverished Age; Decline and Fall: Europe's Slow-Motion Suicide; and most recently The Wages of Appeasement: Ancient Athens, Munich, and Obama's America. His numerous essays and reviews on Greek culture and civilization and their influence on Western civilization, as well as on other contemporary political and educational issues, have appeared in both scholarly journals and magazines such as the New Criterion, Commentary, National Review, the Weekly Standard, and the Claremont Review of Books.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CENTRAL COAST**   
**TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION**

## **CCTA OPPOSES NOVEMBER BALLOT SALES TAX INCREASES OF SIX CITIES IN SLO COUNTY**

When cities need money, the default reaction is always to raise taxes: sales taxes, transient occupancy taxes, surcharges on utility bills, increases in every fee and additional fees, ad nauseam. Senior staff has a vested interest in staving off bad news, wrapping their tax proposals as reasonable, logical, and painless. “It will be paid by tourists,” “it’s only one percent,” and of course, “Everyone is doing it so we won’t be uncompetitive.” It’s so easy.

But we know from recent past experience that this approach doesn’t work. Taxes with sunset clauses, pushed to provide “extras,” are now funding routine maintenance and permanent positions. And now the demand is for even more taxes, permanently.

No tax increase should even be considered without a thorough review of the structure of the city and its long and short term goals. Consolidation of services and outsourcing are only a start. No amount of sales taxes, TOT and other fees can make up for the structural compounding growth in salaries, staffing and pension debts of small cities. These pension debts have been growing exponentially for at least two decades. Administrators and department heads, often paid more than the Governor, will block any and every attempt to make reforms, preferring a permanent sales tax hike to create another source for leveraging debt, via bonds. Thus they can postpone the inevitable pain a little longer or at least until retirement looms.

The current pandemic provides an excellent opportunity to break this cycle of tax and overspend and finally institute overdue, sound, long term financial planning in city government. Anyone breathing knows the lockdowns have created unprecedented drops in revenue for everyone. We literally are all in this together. It is time that local governments, like families and businesses, take a good long hard look at their expenses and priorities, or risk losing everything.

**Six Cities have sales tax increases on the November ballot. Only the City of Arroyo Grande does not! See below!**

## **City of Arroyo Grande - No Sales Tax Increase on November Ballot**

Arroyo Grande's proposed sales tax increase fails - Cal Coast ...

### **City of Atascadero - 1%**

Council Votes to Add Sales Tax Measure to Ballot

### **City of Grover Beach - 1%**

Grover Beach City Council supports raising sales tax

### **City of Morro Bay - 1%**

UPDATE: Morro Bay City sales tax increase placed on ...

### **City of Paso Robles - 1%**

Paso Robles City Council votes to put 1-cent sales tax ...

### **City of San Luis Obispo - 1%**

UPDATE: SLO City Council approves added 1% sales tax for ...

### **City of Pismo Beach - 1%**

The City Council has adopted Resolution R-2020-053, adding the following measure to the November 3, 2020 ballot.

#### **CITY OF PISMO BEACH**

#### **MEASURE B-20**

**PISMO BEACH PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PROTECTION MEASURE.** To maintain police and firefighter service levels; reduce 911 emergency response times; protect local groundwater and beaches; and enhance senior programming and other essential services, shall the hotel/visitor tax be increased by 1%, paid by visitors, generating approximately \$1 million annually, until ended by voters, requiring annual audits and local control of funds?

**ALERT**  
**ANDY CALDWELL SHOW NOW LOCAL IN SLO**  
**COUNTY**

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in *Santa Barbara, Santa Maria & San Luis Obispo  
Counties!*

We are pleased to announce that The Andy Caldwell Show is now  
broadcasting out of San Luis Obispo County on FM 98.5 in addition to AM  
1290 Santa Barbara and AM 1440 Santa Maria



The show now covers the broadcast area from Ventura to Templeton -  
THE only show of its kind on the Central Coast covering local, state,  
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3:00 – 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS

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**COUNTY UPDATES OCCUR MONDAYS AT 4:30 PM**



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LAST PAGE BELOW**



**MIKE BROWN  
ADVOCATES BEFORE THE BOS**



**VICTOR DAVIS HANSON ADDRESSES A COLAB FORUM**



**DAN WALTERS EXPLAINS SACTO MACHINATIONS AT A COLAB FORUM**  
See the presentation at the link: <https://youtu.be/eEdP4cvf-zA>





AUTHOR & NATIONALLY SYNDICATED COMMENTATOR BEN SHAPIRO APPEARED  
AT  
A COLAB ANNUAL DINNER



NATIONAL RADIO AND TV COMMENTATOR HIGH HEWITT AT COLAB DINNER



MIKE BROWN RALLIES THE FORCES OUTDOORS DURING COVID LOCKDOWN.

Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business  
San Luis Obispo County  
"Your Property - Your Taxes - Our Future"  
PO Box 13601 - San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 / Phone: 805.548-0340  
Email: colabslo@gmail.com / Website: colabslo.org

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

General Member: \$100 - \$249  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Voting Member: \$250 - \$5,000  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sustaining Member: \$5,000 +  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(Sustaining Membership includes a table of 10 at the Annual Fundraiser Dinner)*

General members will receive all COLAB updates and newsletters. Voting privileges are limited to Voting Members and Sustainable Members with one vote per membership.

### MEMBER INFORMATION:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### How Did You Hear About COLAB?

Radio  Internet  Public Hearing  Friend

COLAB Member(s) / Sponsor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

### NON MEMBER DONATION/CONTRIBUTION OPTION:

For those who choose not to join as a member but would like to support COLAB via a contribution/donation. I would like to contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to COLAB and my check or credit card information is enclosed/provided.

Donations/Contributions do not require membership though it is encouraged in order to provide updates and information.  
Memberships and donation will be kept confidential if that is your preference.  
Confidential Donation/Contribution/Membership

### PAYMENT METHOD:

Check  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  Amex NOT accepted.

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Revised 2/2017)