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San Luis Obispo County



The Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business

WEEKLY UPDATE FEBRUARY 9 - 15, 2020

11th ANNUAL

COLAB

San Luis Obispo County

DINNER & FUNDRAISER



Steve Hayward
UC Berkeley's Conservative Senior Resident Scholar
Why is the World So Crazy,
Can it Be Made Sane Again?

Thursday, March 26
Alex Madonna Expo Center

5:15 pm Social Hour, Open Bar
6:15 pm Filet Mignon Dinner including Wine
\$120 per person | \$1,200 per Table (Reserved Seating for 10)

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HEAR STEVE HAYWARD'S PHENOMENAL FIRST HAND ACCOUNT
WHY IS THE WORLD SO CRAZY? CAN IT BE MADE SANE AGAIN?

Steven F. Hayward is currently senior resident scholar at UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies, and a visiting lecturer at Berkeley Law. He was previously the Ronald Reagan Distinguished Visiting Professor at Pepperdine University's Graduate School of Public Policy, and was the inaugural visiting scholar in conservative thought and policy at the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2013-14. From 2002 to 2012 he was the F.K Weyerhaeuser Fellow in Law and Economics at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington DC, and has been senior fellow at the Pacific Research Institute in San Francisco since 1991.

He writes frequently for the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *National Review*, the *Washington Examiner*, the *Claremont Review of Books*, and other publications. The author of six books including a two-volume chronicle of Reagan and his times entitled *The Age of Reagan: The Fall of the Old Liberal Order, 1964-1980*, and *The Age of Reagan: The Conservative Counter-Revolution, 1980-1989*, and the *Almanac of Environmental Trends*. His most recent book is *Patriotism is Not Enough: Harry Jaffa, Walter Berns, and the Arguments That Redefined American Conservatism*.



THIS WEEK

NO BOARD MEETING

PLANNING COMMISSION CANCELLED

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
QUARTERLY REVIEW OF DUNES DUST REDUCTION – ALWAYS RISKY**

LAST WEEK

**\$827,000 “WHOLE PERSON” HOMELESS PROGRAM
CONCIERGE TO COORDINATE YOUR TREATMENT?**

**\$877,000 FOR NEW FEATURES AT DAIRY CREEK
GOLF COURSE APPROVED**

**\$4.2 MILLION TO REPAIR NACIMIENTO PIPELINE
IT'S ONLY 7 YEARS OLD**

THE WARRANTY ON YOUR SUBARU IS BETTER

**\$25 MILLION DEBT ISSUANCE FOR ANIMAL
SHELTER AND REFINANCING VINEYARD DRIVE
THE REFINANCE PORTION WILL SAVE SOME MONEY**

**SLOCOG BRIEFED ON HOUSING COSTS & AND NEW
VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED MANDATE**

**SLO COLAB IN DEPTH
SEE PAGE 14**

**DECENCY & DEVIANCY, WHO'S ABIDING ADAM HILL?
BY MIKE BROWN**

**SLO COUNTY SUPERVISOR ADAM HILL IS A
HYPOCRITE
BY T. KEITH GURNEE**

**WARNING! PROP. 13'S DEBT SPIRAL!
BY ANDY CALDWELL**

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2020

The next scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, February 13, 2020 (Cancelled)

The meeting has been cancelled. Apparently, there are no items ready for consideration.

California Coastal Commission Meeting: Long Beach City Hall, 4111W Ocean Blvd. (Thursday, February 13, 2020, 9AM)

Item 10 - Deputy Director's Report. This is a report by the Deputy Director on permit waivers, emergency permits, immaterial amendments & extensions, and comments from the public relating to the Deputy Director's report. For specific information contact the Commission's Santa Cruz office at (831) 427-4863. [Submit Comments](#).

Sub. Item 1 - [February 2020 ODSVRA PWP Update Report](#) ODSVRA PWP Update Report. The Commission will authorize expedited planting of the 48 acres just removed from the riding area. It will also conduct a quarterly review of the progress on their compliance directives of last summer.

Quarterly status report (currently scheduled for February 2020, April 2020, and July 2020 Commission meetings) by State Parks on the progress of State Parks' Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA) Public Works Plan (PWP) efforts. Please note that the hearing date for the ODSVRA PWP Update item has changed, and the item will now be heard on Thursday, February 13, 2020 as Agenda Item Th4.5 Submit Comment

This is always a tenuous situation, as they might determine to add more requirements and/or reduce the riding area further if they determine that State Parks is not making sufficient progress.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, February 4, 2020 (Completed)

Item 10 - Homeless Concierge - Request to: 1) approve a resolution authorizing the County's participation in a one-time funding allocation in the amount of \$827,627 from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for a Whole Person Care Pilot Program, which will focus on coordination of health, behavioral health, and social services for beneficiaries to improve the

health and wellbeing of individuals served. The Board unanimously and without comment authorized receipt of a 6-year state grant to provide an official who will coordinate services to the “fragile” homeless. You would think that with all the money spent over the years, the County would have already thought of this idea. Heck, people were trying it back in the 1960’s in various programs.

We are always astonished at the recycling of old ideas decade after decade with catchy names, such as “Whole Person Care Pilot Program.” What have all the homeless workers and social workers and workers at the various not-for-profits been doing? It never occurred to anyone that a client’s social service, clinical health, mental health, and housing issues needed to be coordinated?

The overarching goal of California’s Whole Person Care (WPC) Pilot is to coordinate health, behavioral health, and social services, as applicable, in a patient-centered manner to improve beneficiary health and wellbeing.

Whole Person Care	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total Budget
	FY 2019-20 (1/1/20- 6/30/20)	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	
Personnel Costs- Program Manager II	\$53,603	\$133,804	\$139,675	\$145,869	\$152,378	\$152,938	\$778,267
Total Salaries	\$53,603	\$133,804	\$139,675	\$145,869	\$152,378	\$152,938	\$778,267
Client Housing Services	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$25,000
Client Supports	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$1,375
Significant Value Purch	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$1,500
Overhead Cost	\$1,474	\$3,703	\$3,863	\$4,025	\$4,202	\$4,217	\$21,485
Total Services & Supplies	\$2,974	\$9,203	\$9,363	\$9,150	\$9,327	\$9,342	\$49,360
Total Expenditures	\$56,577	\$143,007	\$149,038	\$155,019	\$161,705	\$162,280	\$827,627

- a. How big is the target population?
- b. Where are they located?
- c. How will the new program manager fill his or her workdays?
- d. Will the program manager have authority to elicit the necessary cooperation from the various departments and outside agencies?
- e. What support staff will be necessary for the new manager to operate?

Item 11 - Parks Department Requests \$871,000 for next State of Golf Enhancements at Dairy Creek Golf at Chorro Regional Park. The budget transfers and expenditures were approved 5/0and without comment.

It was not clear from the write-up if this is part of an established capital budget or simply a make-it-up-as-you-go project.

Page 504 of the Current FY 2019-20 Fiscal Year Budget displays \$668,000 available for 2019-20 to be funded from the Parks Fund. If it's already budgeted, why do they need a transfer?

The write-up states in part:

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

One purpose of the approved Programming Plan is to recommend a course of action to keep the Golf Enterprise Fund financially viable. In order to ensure that operations can be sustained and to ensure that the Golf program can make its debt payments, the Board of Supervisors approved “a subsidy of as much below \$485,000 a year as feasible,” according to a motion passed on May 17, 2016. Approval of these expenditures will assist in adding facilities to increase revenues to reduce the required subsidy. \$300,000 of regional parks reserves and \$200,000 of PFF will be needed to complete the second stage of the Toptracer project with the resulting impact as follows:

	Regional Park Reserves	Public Facility Funds (PFF)
Current Balance	\$1,096,208	\$877,064
Amount Requested	\$300,000	\$200,000
New Balance	\$796,208	\$677,064

The below chart shows the annual use of General Fund subsidy that was used by Golf of the \$485,000 authorized. Golf has never used the entire amount authorized and intends to keep the subsidy as low as possible until it is eliminated by improved revenues.

Are the Public Facility Fees funds and regional parks reserve funds derived from exactions levied on development in the central county (that is, the area where the park is located)?

Does this request constitute an overrun, or is it a mechanical move to allot money which had previously been appropriated?

Item 14 - Request authorization to create a project for the Nacimiento Water Pipeline North Salinas River Crossing Repair; and approve a professional consultant services contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for engineering and design for the project. The Board unanimously approved the expenditure. This is the first step in repairing a break in the pipeline. The \$500,000 is for design.

Why does a pipeline that was new in 2011 require a major fix? The agenda report states in part:

On September 11, 2019, the Nacimiento water pipeline had to be shut down due to a significant leak that was discovered in a farm field near the Salinas River. After the leak was discovered, emergency response involved excavation of the pipeline and dewatering. A video inspection was conducted on October 13, 2019, and the inspection identified at least two holes in the horizontally directional drilled section of the pipe that goes under the Salinas River.

The full project cost is estimated per the table below:

Expenditures:	FY 2019/20 Estimate	Total Project
Emergency Response	\$208,000	\$208,000
Pre. Eng., Environmental, Design, Right of Way, Utility Coord., & AD-15 Processing	800,000	800,000
Construction	3,173,600	3,173,600
Total Expenditures	\$4,181,600	\$4,181,600
Funding Source:		
Nacimiento Operating Fund & Nacimiento Reserves	\$4,181,600	\$4,181,600
Total Funding	\$4,181,600	\$4,181,600



This is the second major break in the line in 2 years. The 45-mile long pipeline cost \$176 million and is funded by revenue bonds which must be paid off by ratepayers in Paso Robles, Templeton, Atascadero, the City of San Luis Obispo, and several smaller community services districts.

Ticking Time Bomb: Ominously, a question has now arisen concerning the quality of the welds. What will it cost in dollars and disruptions if the line has to be dug up and all the welds have to be redone?

Even more disturbing is the potential that the steel in the pipeline is faulty? What if the line has to be replaced entirely?

County legal and financial officials have insisted for years that the County has no financial responsibility. They state that the responsibility belongs to an authority that was set up by the member agencies.

The problem is that the County hired the construction contractors and supervised the construction of the pipeline. It also operates and maintains the pipeline on behalf of the authority.

Is there any kind of warranty on this line, which has been in service for only 7 years?

What will be the impact on water rates?

Item 21 - Debt Issuance for the New Animal Shelter and Re-funding of the Vineyard Drive/US 101 Interchange Bonds. The Board approved the issuance of \$25 million in principal debt for the new animal shelter and \$6 million in principal debt to refinance the remaining Vineyard Avenue interchange debt. The form of the debt will be certificates of participation (COPs), under which the County guarantees the debt by pledging assets as security. The asset in this case will be the County Administration Building.

This is a very common form of local debt issuance used in California, although it is frowned upon nationally. The debt is portrayed not as a debt of the County, but as of debt of a ghost financing authority created to issue the debt. In this way the County and other jurisdictions try to claim that they

have less debt than they really do. The system was invented in the 1980s by a clever San Francisco bond broker and the City of Berkeley to avoid the requirement that debt issuances historically required a vote of the people.

The Animal Services Facility bonds are estimated to issue at 2.88% all-in interest cost with maximum annual debt service of \$1.1 million based on January 9, 2020 market conditions plus 25 basis points. Debt service will be shared by the County and seven participating jurisdictions as specified in a memorandum of agreement. The refunded Vineyard Drive COP's are estimated to issue at 2.28% all-in interest cost with maximum annual debt service of \$362 thousand based on January 9, 2020 market conditions plus 25 basis points. The Vineyard Drive refunding will result in annual interest savings to be realized by the Road Impact Fees Special Revenue Fund.

Item 25 - Receive and file a presentation on the Central Coast Jobs Roadmap and Action Plan.

The Board received an update on the work of the Hourglass project to date. The Hourglass project is the entity which has been set up and funded by the County and others to deal with the economic impacts of the closure of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant in 2024-25.

Hill Leading Economic Development? The Board is very supportive. After the presentation, Supervisor Hill went into a long speech in which he insinuated that he is the key County official supporting the project. He also seemed to convey that he had inside scoop with PG&E and State officials. He is promoting the idea that he is “Mr. Economic Development.”

Background: Since April of 2019 the project staff has conducted a community outreach effort to synthesize a general plan for the execution of the next phase of the project, which starts on March 16, 2020. You can see what they did this past year in a PowerPoint that can be accessed at the link: <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/11646>

When it opens, click on the tab “Presentation,” and give it a minute because it’s fairly hefty. The report indicates that later in March a new entity designed to execute the program will be announced.



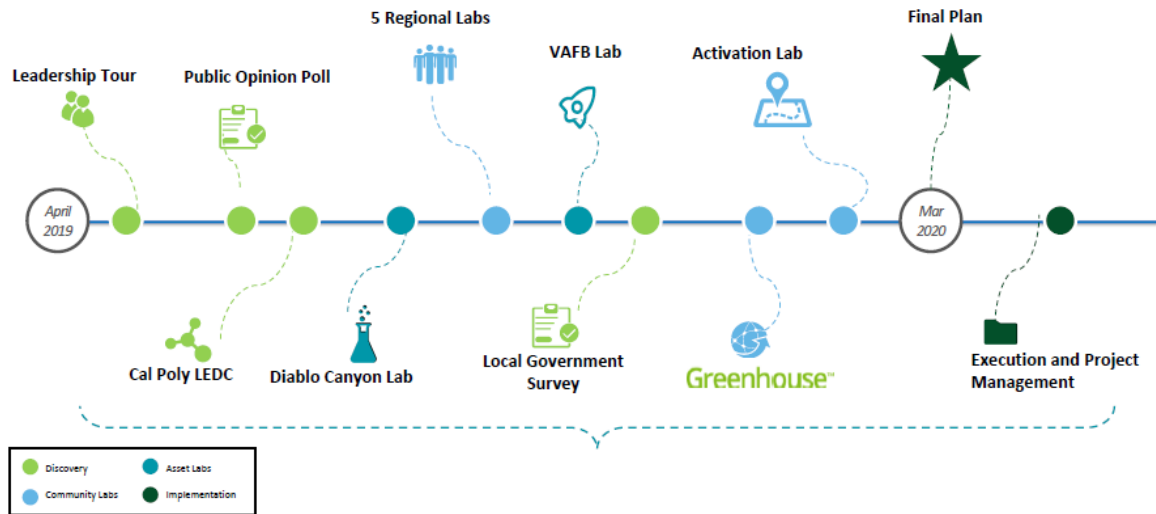
Hourglass Project

We are regional
We are private sector led
We are action oriented
Our Mission: to increase economic prosperity through big thinking, bold action and regional collaboration.

Why does the business community play footsy with Hill and give him tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions? See the articles starting on page 14 for perspective.

The Journey | Overview

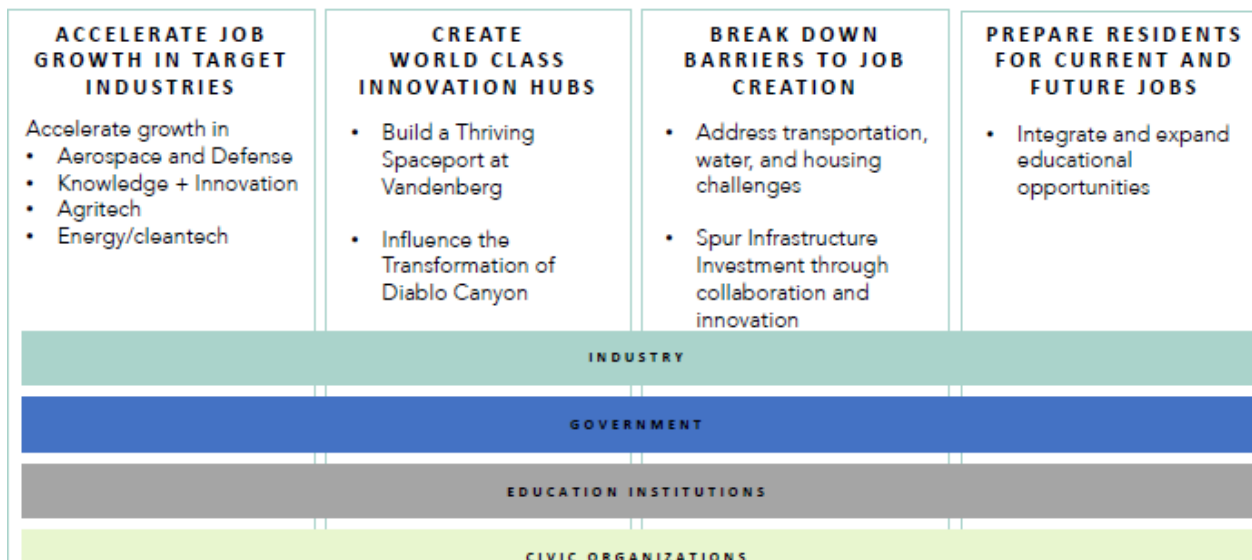
The Central Coast Region is embarking on a new journey to create a region of the future – and this journey needs everyone at the table to succeed.



Some key features of the report include:

1. An emphasis on engaging many different groups
2. Focus on key industry groups which have potential for expansion on the Central Coast

JOB CREATION ROAD MAP



Foster the Startup, Attraction, and Expansion of High Wage Industries



	Technology & Innovation	Energy and Cleantech	Agritech	Aerospace & Defense
Industry Stats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 53% local growth (past 10 years) \$2.3T US industry 90% of jobs high-paying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forecasted \$1.3T US value 2020 Cleantech jobs 5x fossil fuels in CA CA 100% goal to drive more jobs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60%+ Percent of national investment \$4B regional Ag industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37% local growth (past 10 years) \$8.7T global over the next decade
Key Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cal Poly Computer Science Program Community Colleges CIE/Hot House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cal Poly Research & Economic Dev. Diablo, Morro Bay, Vandenberg CIE/Hot House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cal Poly (multiple Centers) CIE/Hot House Regional Wine and Ag Industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Military Installations Airfields Cal Poly Cyber Institute CIE/Hot House
Anchor Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MindBody, Amazon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topaz, Duke, Offshore Wind Developers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hortau, Windset Farms, Voloagri 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raytheon, Boeing, Lockheed, SpaceX

17 of 25

3. Establishment of a spaceport

One of the priorities is to expand the use of Vandenberg as a commercial spaceport. How does the Air Force feel about this? As an active war fighting organization, including their ICBM interceptor squadrons, they may be rigorous in what they will allow. The fact that one of the leaders of the Hourglass project is a former Air Force officer will help.

Create a Thriving Space Enterprise at Vandenberg Air Force Base

ACTIONS

- Develop a VAFB Spaceport Master Plan
- Develop a multi-prong infrastructure financing strategy
- Attract private space companies



KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- VAFB
- Investors
- Federal government
- State government
- Local government
- Go-Biz
- Air Force
- Space Force
- Allan Hancock College
- UCSB
- Cal Poly
- Commercial space companies
- Economic development organizations
- Dept. of Defense

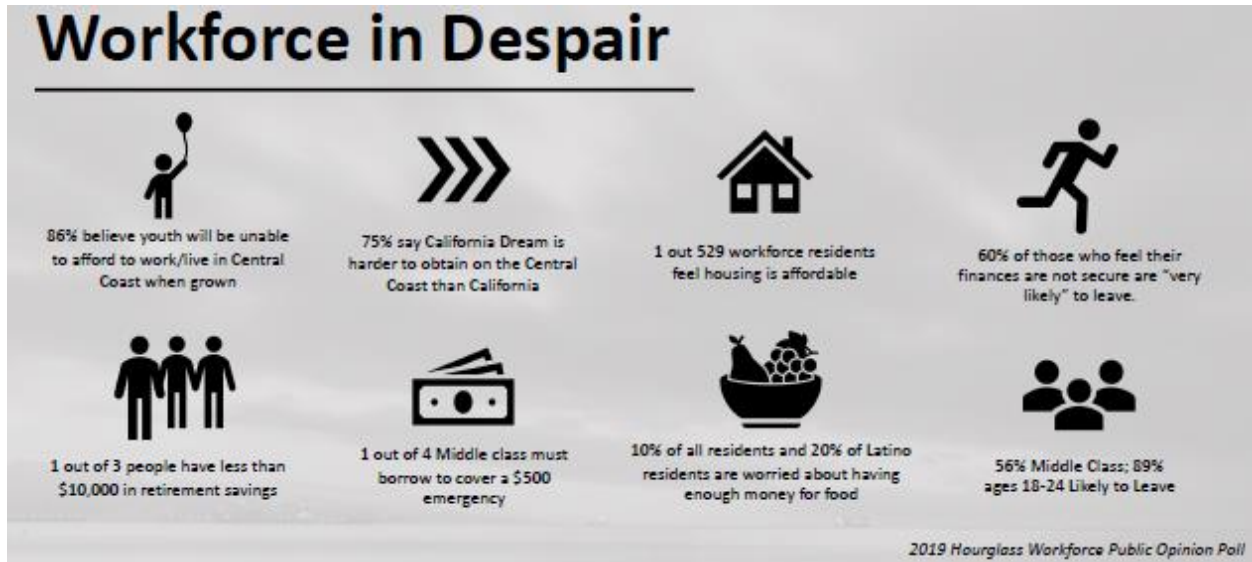
METRICS OF SUCCESS

- Number of rockets launched per year (YoY increase)
- Number of commercial space launch companies doing business on the Central Coast
- Dollars brought into the region by the space launch industry (direct, indirect and induced impacts)
- Total satellite mass launched to orbit (YoY increase)

18 of 25

4. Hourglass Research

One of the most interesting pieces of information comes from an opinion poll conducted by the Project. It is summarized in the graphic below:



Separately from the Project itself, what does this say about current state and local policies which have led to this situation?

5. Support of the closure of Diablo

The Hour Glass Project supports the closure of Diablo but is recommending that the 650-acre site P, where the current plant is located, be converted into some sort of economically productive uses. Most activities that will replace Diablo will have to be located elsewhere within SLO and Santa Barbara counties.

Influence the Transformation of Diablo Canyon

ACTIONS

- Advocate for safe and immediate decommissioning of DCPD
- Create a governing entity and model to steward the land and future use
- Attract R&D and commercial partners
- Facilitate and/or support land stewardship



KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- PG&E
- CPUC
- NRC
- State Lands Commission
- Coastal Commission
- Federal government
- State government
- Local government
- Tribal representatives
- Cal Poly
- PG&E's Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel
- Economic Development Organizations
- Environmental groups
- Decommissioning Collaborative
- Research institutions

METRICS OF SUCCESS

- Dollars brought into region to support R&D and reuse
- Decommissioning dollars spent locally
- Local decommissioning jobs created
- Acres conserved for public benefit

19 of 25

San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Meeting of Wednesday, February 5, 2019 (Completed)

Summary: Among the issues considered by the Commission was a statistical report containing information on housing, vehicular transportation (car travel), and personal income. The three are linked, as there are new State laws mandating less car travel and then linking that effort to denser and higher housing (stack-and-pack). Incomes are not sufficient to cover housing costs. State and local land and water rationing have created this disaster. Lack of capital investment versus current consumption by governments has exacerbated the problem. Retention of obsolete planning and zoning concepts developed during the early 20th century to create elite commuter train suburbs combined with current environmental doctrines have killed the American dream. SLOCOG statistics demonstrate this fact.

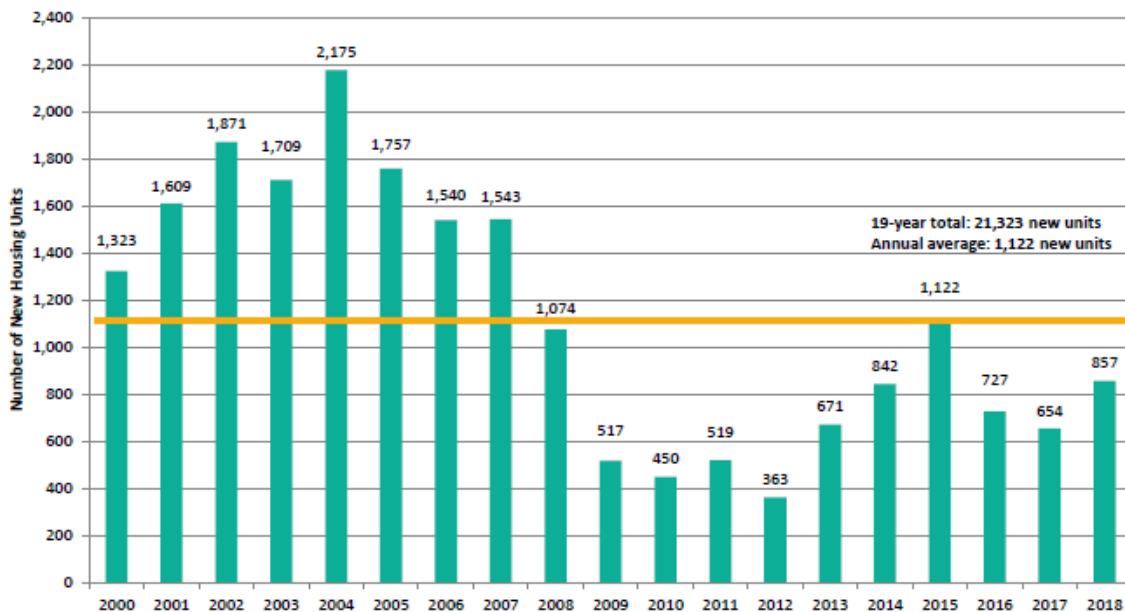
The report can be accessed at the link:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1b7ij0izr5nw3y2/AABhhQ_FE1-uuYKYKLl7Yxrna/February%202020/PowerPoint%20Presentations?dl=0&preview=B-5+SLOCOG+Planning+Division+Data+Efforts.pdf&subfolder_nav_tracking=1

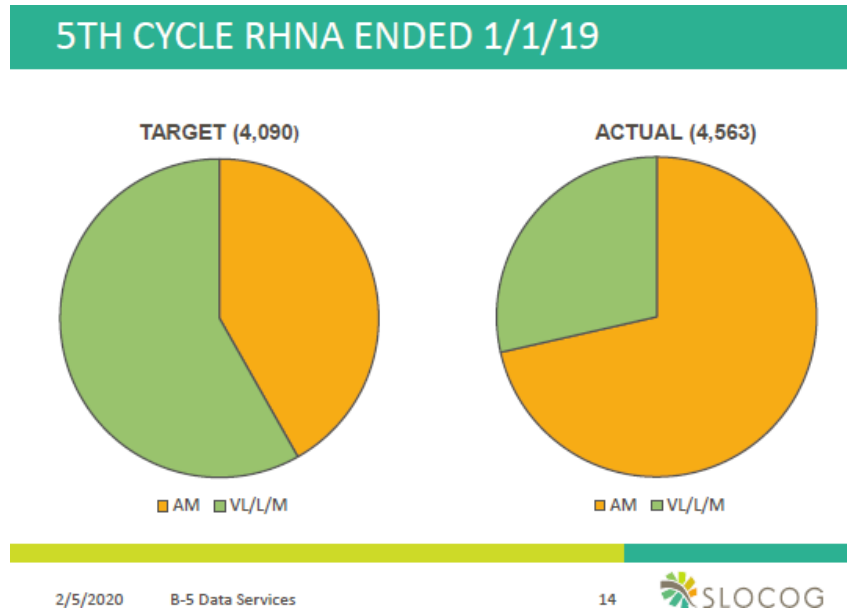
Be patient. It takes a few iterations to open.

The report recapitulates statistically what is well known, that housing is more and more expensive and that most of the housing being produced is market rate to luxury. As has been repeatedly pointed out, the cost and time to have an affordable home approved is the same as a luxury estate. Any smart developer chooses the latter unless some sort of government subsidy is involved.

NEW HOUSING UNITS BY YEAR (2000 TO 2018)



Of the homes constructed, most were above market (AM) price, as noted below. The very low (VL), Low (L), and moderate (M) were severely under target per the pie chart below:



VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled): In a separate report the SLOCOG began to consider the impact of the State’s switch in methodology for calculating traffic impacts. In the past and currently, traffic was rated on a level of service (LOS) scale of from **A-F**. **A** is very good while **F** is gridlock. A new State statute requires the State and all the cities and counties to switch to a calculation called vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

California Senate Bill 743 represents a new paradigm in development planning across the State. Adopted in 2013, the law changed how transportation impacts are measured in the review of plans and projects under the CEQA. SB 743 removes automobile delay-typically measured by traffic LOS as a significant environmental impact, and directed the selection of a new measurement to better address the state's goals on climate change and multimodal transportation. Since 2014, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) has recommended that VMT replace LOS as the primary measure of transportation impacts. In January 2018 OPR proposed a comprehensive update to the CEQA guidelines. The proposal included updates related to analyzing transportation impacts pursuant to SB 743. In late 2018 the Natural Resources Agency finalized the updates to the CEQA guidelines. The changes have been approved by the Office of Administrative Law and were filed with the Secretary of State. The guidelines became effective on December 28, 2018, which gives lead agencies until July 2020 to implement SB 743. In October 2019 SLOCOG Staff presented an item relating to SB 743 to the SLOCOG Board. At that time Staff received direction from the Board to host a CEQA workshop.

In the near term and once in effect this July, each development project will have to calculate its VMT and then calculate reduction measures and/or mitigation payments. This is particularly unfair for spread out rural counties.

In the long run, and given current trendology, you will have a meter on your car and receive a bill for each mile traveled. The machine is insatiable.

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

DECENCY & DEVIANCY, WHO'S ABIDING ADAM HILL? BY MIKE BROWN

The recent disclosure of 3rd District County Supervisor Adam Hill's salacious emails to KVEC Radio host Dave Congalton requires immediate and concrete investigation by the Board of Supervisors. This is simply the latest example of Hill's consistent record of abuse, threats, and crudeness.

It's time for the Board to launch a full and independent investigation of the emails. Simultaneously, the Board should request District Attorney Dan Dow to provide to them with the records of his investigation, which concluded that the vicious tirades filled with blatantly filthy and perverse sexual accusations originated from Hill's residence. The Board should require its members, including Mr. Hill, its management staff, and past victims from within the County structure to cooperate fully with the independent investigators. There are accusations that some employees who were abused in the past were bought off with County jobs outside of Hill's orbit.

Once completed, the results of the investigation should be fully published on the public record with the names of the witnesses redacted.

By way of context, if any County executive, manager, or other employee were suspected of such conduct, that person would be placed on administrative leave, and a formal investigation would be conducted. The County has invoked such investigations in the past when allegations of much less egregious behavior were suspected. For example, in 2009 the Board directed an investigation of its then former CEO David Edge for consensually advising his Deputy CEO on dating, dress, and potential partners. Edge was terminated.

Similarly, last year an investigation of former Public Works Director Colt Eisenwine was conducted after female employees asserted that he was giving them unwanted attention. Eisenwine resigned.

The emails, which have been published, attack private citizens, not County officials or other politicians. One is long-term radio host and community icon Dave Congalton. The other is CalCoastNews investigative reporter Karen Viele. Both have been highly critical of Hill in the past. Hill denies the allegations and claims that his internet address was hacked and that some conspirator was the author. No doubt Vladimir Putin recognizes the global strategic importance of the San Luis County.

The emails are so reprehensible and nasty that they cannot be published in the people's public forum. They in fact accuse the subjects and other persons of sodomy and bestiality. They are also filthily misogynistic.

They violate every County harassment, discrimination, civility, and other behavioral standard in the book.

It's time for the Board of Supervisors; the 6 other directly elected County officers (DA, Sheriff, Auditor Controller, Clerk Recorder, Assessor, and Treasurer); the County CEO; and the County Counsel to lay it on the line. Any one of them could place an item on the Board Agenda calling for an independent investigation and/or other actions.

They need to take a firm public stand for decency over deviancy.

SLO COUNTY SUPERVISOR ADAM HILL IS A HYPOCRITE

BY T. KEITH GURNEE

On the first of this month, San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Adam Hill sent out a vicious email blast from his personal computer excoriating his opponent Stacy Korsgaden. Then, after attacking her, he closed by saying “we will not... align with any attacks on my opponent.” What a hypocrite!

As the most troubled and troublesome politician we've had in this county in recent memory, Adam Hill is a human hand grenade whose obnoxious behavior has outlived his welcome.



Adam Hill

While he attributed a number of false allegations in his latest email blast to Stacy Korsgaden, it's time to enumerate some of the many truths about Adam Hill:

Hill has historically accepted thousands of dollars from the county's biggest developers, marijuana moguls, and the wine billionaires trying to privatize the North County groundwater basin at public expense.

Hill once impersonated an opponent in his 2012 race for supervisor in a phone call to a person who wrote a letter to the editor, leaving a scathing message that he attributed to his opponent at that time.

Hill has welcomed the marijuana industry to San Luis Obispo County, advocating against regulating that industry and the corruption that has come with it.

Hill has been investigated by the District Attorney's Office for sending vulgar and threatening emails to one of his critics, an investigation that concluded that the emails came directly from Hill's own computer.

Hill has used pay-to-play schemes to extract campaign contributions by telling potential contributors that if they didn't contribute to his campaigns, he would deny them access to his office.

Hill is a misogynist who regularly disrespects and verbally abuses the women serving as County Supervisors during the board's public meetings.

Hill continues to advocate for higher county fees on housing that only increase the cost of housing in the middle of a statewide housing crisis.

Hill, who touts himself as a champion of the homeless, strenuously fought against Supervisor Debbie Arnold's successful program called "50 Now" to house 50 of the most vulnerable and chronically homeless, only to turn around and take credit for its success.

Hill ignored the voter's decision in 2016 who voted by nearly 80 percent to have the county manage its local groundwater basins.

Hill violated the will of those voters in his attempt to invite the state to take over management of our local groundwater supplies.

Hill has attempted to close down the great investigative reporting of Cal Coast News by threatening its advertisers with reprisals that would economically damage them.

Hill has used county funds to retain expensive out-of-town lawyers to defend him from litigation that his actions have spurred.

Hill wants to take away funding for maintaining and improving key infrastructure including county roads in order to throw more public funding towards homelessness.

Hill attempted a cover-up to block the well-justified investigation into the corruption and financial mismanagement of the IWMA– the Integrated Waste Management Board.

Hill has used the county's email system to send obscene, sexually perverse, and slanderous emails to intimidate those who disagree with him.

Hill, when publicly called on the carpet for those vulgar emails, had to take a leave of absence from the Board of Supervisors claiming he was suffering from mental illness and depression, only to later resume his bad email habits.

Hill has used anti-gay slurs against people who are critical of him.

Hill took credit for trying to establish a desalinization plant at Diablo Canyon when he knew full well that it couldn't happen based on his inside knowledge of the imminent closure of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant.

If these aren't enough reasons for voters to forcibly retire Adam Hill from the Board of Supervisors, I don't know what else there is. After all, if we are to get rid of corruption in this county, we need to get Adam Hill out of politics. It's time we sent this Jersey boy back to Jersey!

This article first appeared in CalCoastNews on February 4, 2020.

WARNING! PROP. 13'S DEBT SPIRAL!

BY ANDY CALDWELL

Voters, prepare to be confused and bamboozled! A tsunami of tax hikes are coming your way. The first measure is on the March ballot. It is Proposition 13, not to be confused with another measure on the November ballot, which guts the original Prop. 13! For now, let's talk about the March 2020 Prop. 13 initiative.

Unfortunately, when voters see the word "bond" they think "free money". However, bonds are anything but free money. Bonds are borrowed money that is paid back with interest by taxpayers. The bottom line? The state, along with local school districts, are both borrowing us into oblivion! The reason they keep borrowing money for facilities is because all the rest of the money they get on an ongoing basis is spent on salaries, benefits and pensions. Prop 13 allows the state and local school districts to borrow even more money, which will serve to raise taxes, mortgage payments and rents!

The following facts are from the State's Legislative Analyst's office official review of the initiative. Do the math- we have borrowed \$200 billion to date!

A YES vote on Proposition 13 means: The state could sell \$15 billion in general obligation bonds to fund school, community college, and university facility projects. In addition, school districts and community college districts would be authorized to issue more local bonds, and school districts would have new limits on their ability to levy developer fees.

A NO vote on Proposition 13 means: The state could not sell \$15 billion in general obligation bonds to fund education facility projects. The state also would not make changes to school districts' and community college districts' existing local borrowing limits or the existing rules for school districts to levy developer fees. The cost of these bonds would depend on various factors, such as the interest rates on the bonds when sold and the time period over which they are repaid. We estimate that the cost to pay off the bonds would total \$26 billion—\$15 billion for the principal plus \$11 billion for the interest.

From 2002 through 2016, voters approved four education facility bond measures that provided a total of \$45 billion in state bond funding. The state's current annual payment on previously sold education facility bonds is \$2.9 billion.

School and community college districts tend to cover their local share of project costs using local general obligation bonds. Districts must get at least 55 percent of their voters to approve the sale of local general obligation bonds. Since 2002, voters have approved \$154 billion in local general obligation bonds for school and community college facility projects.

There are two more things you need to know about Prop. 13. This initiative would make key changes relating to school districts' and community college districts' local revenue-raising capacity, allowing debt limits to rise significantly. Second, those school districts which sign a project labor agreement to only use unionized construction labor, will have a better chance at getting state-matching funds!

Borrow \$200 billion and counting, all special interests accounted for, go further into debt...what is not to love?

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(Revised 2/2017)