

**WEEKLY UPDATE
AUGUST 15 -21, 2021**

COLAB
San Luis Obispo County

12th Annual

**DINNER &
FUNDRAISER**

**2020-2021 What the Heck Happened?
There has never been a more crucial time
To Raise the Lantern of Liberty**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021
ALEX MADONNA EXPO CENTER**

5:00 pm Social Hour, Open Bar

6:15 pm Filet Mignon Dinner including Wine

\$125 a person

\$1,250 a table, seating for 10

For tickets:

On-Line Reservations & Payment can be made **HERE** at
www.colabslo.org/events.asp

or

Mail your check to

COLAB SLO County, PO Box 13601, SLO, CA 93406

Cocktail Attire Optional

More info at (805) 548-0340 or colabslo@gmail.com

THIS WEEK

NO BOS MEETING

SLO LAFCO VERY LIGHT

LAST WEEK

**EXTENSION OF PASO BASIN WATER MORATORIUM
(HEARING SET FOR AUGUST 24)**

**MAJOR REORGANIZATION OF PLANNING & BUILDING
(APPROVED WITHOUT QUESTION – DIFFICIENT REVIEW)**

**MAJOR HOMELESS SERVICE EXPANSION APPROVED
(FINALLY INCLUDES HOMELESS CAMPGROUNDS)**

**COUNTY/IWMA DIVORCE APPROVED
SUPERVISOR COMPTON TAKES THE BOARD TO SCHOOL
SHOWS HOW DELIBERATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED**

**IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WATER
TOOLS AND WATER BANKING?
(DOES THE COUNTY HAVE THE POWER TO FORBID BANKING?)**

**COASTAL COMMISSION
(RE-ADOPTED THE DUNES CLOSURE FINDINGS)
AND CONSTRAINED PUBLIC COMMENT**

**TOOK CONTROL OF CAYUCOS BOTIQUE HOTEL APPLICATION
(REJECTED LOCAL CONTROL)**

**IWMA MEETING
MORE CORRUPTION
BUDGET TRAIN WRECK
PAAVO OGREN (NEW INTERIM EXEC DIRECTOR) RESIGNS
AFTER ONLY 1 WEEK - LOCAL TRASH-O-CRATS IN DISARAY**



EMERGENT ISSUES

COVID RATCHETING UP IN SLO AGAIN

COLAB IN DEPTH

SEE PAGE 23

FADING RULE OF LAW IN CALIFORNIA

BY JON COUPAL

AMERICAN ARMAGEDDON

***WHAT STARTED OUT AS ELITE WOKE NONSENSE NOW WARPS
EVERYONE'S DAILY LIFE***

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 (Not Scheduled)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24th.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Thursday, August 19, 2021 (Scheduled)

The agenda is short and contains housekeeping and administrative items. There are no major policy items.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisor's Meeting of Tuesday, August 10, 2021 (Completed)

Item 28 - Set a Hearing for September 24, 2021 to amend the Agricultural Offset (Water) Requirements for the Paso Basin (County Land Use Ordinance, Title 22, Section 22.30.204) to (1) extend the requirements termination date from January 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022, and (2) change the water duty factor for table grapes from 1.25 acre-feet per year (AFY) per acre to 3.0 AFY per acre. Supervisor Arnold has questions, which will be brought up at the actual hearing at the next Board meeting. The item will continue to be controversial. The Board should have sent it back for a proper report per the outline in the Background section below.

Background: This was an early alert. The proposed ordinance amendments would (1) extend the water moratorium to August 24, 2022. The urgency ordinance adopted in 2013 was converted to a permanent ordinance that restricts the use of water in the Paso Basin. If a farmer or homeowner wishes to increase water use, that person must first find a way to reduce use on another part of the holdings or pay someone else to reduce their use. These are termed offsets.

The ordinance was originally supposed to sunset when the State Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Basin was completed in January 2020. At that time everyone realized that completion of the plan would actually do nothing to save water or protect the Basin, as it will take decades for the various authorities over the Basin to actually begin to implement the various measures contained in the Plan, especially phased reductions in pumping by large users and construction of works to move water around and recharge the Basin.

The staff is working on major amendments to the ordinance, which will be brought back for Board consideration next spring in an effort to determine how to manage the Basin in the near-term decade. The key action here is to extend the Ordinance until August 2022 to provide time for the work.

Separately from the major issues outlined above is to amend the ordinance to recognize that table grapes use more water than wine grapes. This requires that table grapes be assigned a higher use factor. The wine grapes use 1.8 acre-feet per year. The table grapes use 3.0 acre-feet but had previously been charged the wine grape number. The table grape issue is a ploy to assign greater past use to certain property owners who can then pull out the grapes, claim higher water use for the look back period, and then sell water credits which will be generated based on their “savings”.

The whole issue is a huge train wreck, which will culminate in August of 2022 unless they kick the can down the road again. Meanwhile, a number of agriculturalists are trapped in limbo because they suspended pumping during the last drought, and then when it ended, they were told that they could not resume their historical pumping. This is an immediate problem.

Please see Agenda **Item 51**, below, for a related discussion on water banking.

Item 29 - Planning and Building Department Requests Major Staffing Expansion and Managerial Restructuring. The reorganization was approved on the consent calendar without discussion or examination by the Board. There were no questions. The outcome is extremely disappointing.

Background: The net new cost is reported to be about \$500,000. This includes the addition of managerial positions, but the deletion of 6.5 frontline planner positions to help cover the cost would otherwise be over \$1 million more. The Board already approved major additions at Budget time.

FY 2020-21 Mid-Year PAL Changes: *On November 17, 2020, the Board approved the following changes to the Department’s PAL:*

- *Deletion of 1.00 FTE Planning Division Manager*
- *Addition of 1.00 FTE Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning Manger*
- *Addition of 1.00 FTE Limited Term Program Manager on February 9, 2021,*

The Board approved the following changes to the department’s PAL:

- *Addition of 1.00 FTE Limited Term Principal Environmental Specialist*
- *Addition of 1.00 FTE Limited Term Senior Planner*

1. The fundamental question is: What problem or problems are we attempting to solve by this off-budget set of changes? Will these changes:

- a. Improve the velocity of general permitting through the system?
- b. Improve the velocity of cannabis permitting through the system (remember substantial staff has already been added for this purpose over the past several years)?
- c. Reduce costs to permit applicants?
- d. Build confidence in the cannabis applicant community with respect to the fairness of the process? Some have asserted that the Planners, code enforcers, and reps of other departments are

playing favorites and are expressly supportive of large entities, including Helios Dayspring's Natural Healing Center. At the same time it is asserted that some small applicants are delayed and run ragged in an effort to forestall competition.

e. Reduce turnover?

f. Improve customer service?

g. Make the online permitting system actually work after the millions of expenditures that have already occurred?

h. Finish important policy studies (we have heard nothing) that the Board assigned, such as determining what areas could be rezoned for housing and establishing a fair method of financing new affordable housing to eliminate the housing in lieu fee?

i. Provide adequate water to facilitate such development?

j. Improve revenue and/or forestall the need for fee increases?

k. Enable the main Department phone number to be answered from 8:00 AM to 5:00 Monday through Friday by a human?

l. Restore the in-person hours to a full 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday through Friday? The Department is currently budgeted at about 110 FTE. Someone should be assigned to answer the phone at all times, by rotation if necessary.

2. Reorganizations that eliminate front line staff and add management, as this one does, require scrutiny. Does SLOCEA agree with this proposal?

3. The write-up did not contain the proper analysis for the Board or citizens to judge the proposal. The Department displays only 4 performance measures in the current budget and has abandoned providing data for the FY 2021-22 column. How does management or the Board have any idea what they are doing with this proposal? See pages 128 and 129 for the pathetic situation.

a. The workloads and velocities of the various parts of the Department are not included in the analysis.

b. There are no efficiency measures of how many cases a case planner carries or how fast the planner can get them to the point of a decision maker.

c. There is no data about the number of building inspections, plan reviews, site visits per day or per year, or the number per employees assigned.

d. Did the CAO and Budget staff support the recommendation, and did they analyze the matters listed above?



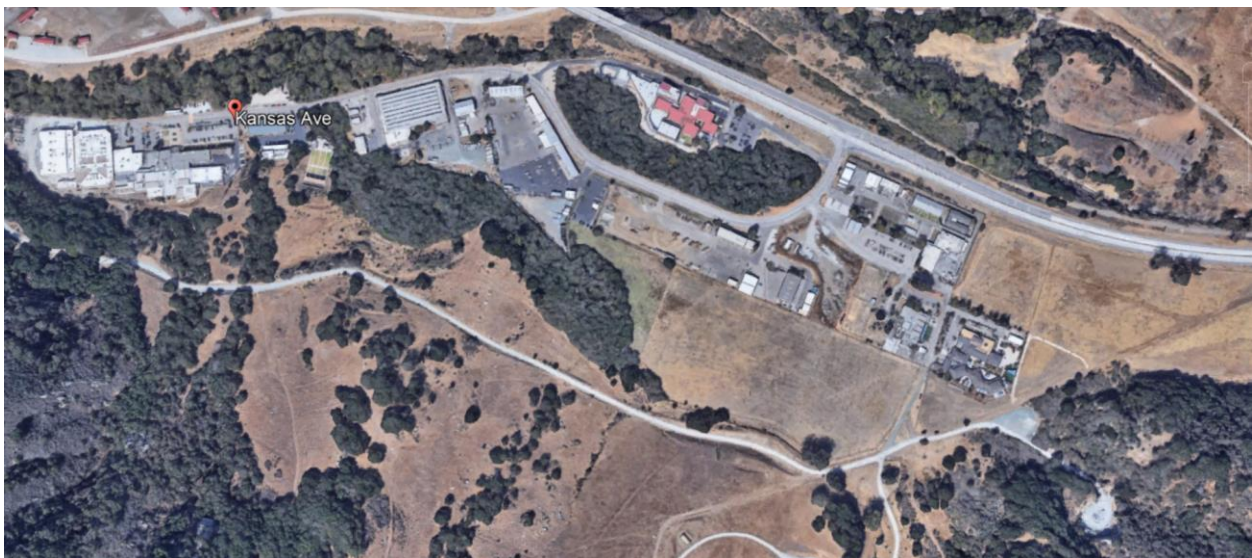
Item 45 - Expansion of Near Term Homeless Services. Everyone loves the homeless but they are less keen on having them for neighbors. As noted below, the new program contains an effort to establish homeless campgrounds. These are characterized euphemistically as the “Safe Parking Pilot Program.” The camp would provide areas for working vehicles and tents.

At this point the only site selected is the vacant County property at its Kansas Avenue support center, which includes jails, a juvenile hall, a fleet and equipment maintenance facility, an animal shelter, and the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Immediately critics mobilized, stating that the site is too remote and isolated and consequently the homeless will refuse to move and stay there.

You can’t run down to the local grocery or drug store to pick up a quick quart of Seagram’s Vodka.

Critics also believe that the site will be in an open field with no shade, no running water, or other amenities except porta-potties. They are suggesting that the site be set up at the existing El Chorro Regional Park, which already offers camping and other amenities. The County Parks Department and policy makers are opposed to this solution. The site deed restrictions on the Park use and incompatibility with golf, go cart track, horticultural center and other Park services are listed as reasons not to use El Chorro Park.

It is likely that other sites proposed around the County will run into similar opposition. The Board item did not specify the exact location on the Kansas Avenue site that would be designated, but it appears from the aerial photo below that there is ample opportunity to develop a mixed shade and open site. It would also seem that room is available to provide a wash house, bathroom, and shelter area. The homeless would still have to catch a bus to a store in SLO to buy groceries, etc. It is not known if the County will provide needle exchange services at the site.



The first tranche of homeless to be moved to the Kansas Ave. site would be those inhabiting the large and growing Los Osos Palisades Ave. camp. The Ossians are fed up with some vagrants

drinking, defecating, acting crazy and leaving syringes in the neighborhood park. They recognize that some of the people are not a problem but are concerned about the addicts, alcoholics, and mentally disturbed.



Camp site off Palisades Avenue

Background: Readers may recall that earlier in the year, the Board approved yet another effort to develop a long-term plan to help reduce homelessness. Over the decades, we have not seen any benefit from such plans, as the problem keeps getting worse and worse. In the end, people who are permanently addicted to alcohol and drugs and/or who are so mentally ill that they cannot function in society must be institutionalized.

In the meantime, the Board was requested to allocate a significant chunk of general fund money to “near term actions” designed to reduce the problems immediately. The write-up states in part:

It is focused on taking near-term actions that bridge homeless individuals into safer situations, while the region’s stakeholders develop an updated regional strategic plan (i.e. 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness) that identifies the region’s priorities and paths to implementation (e.g. increasing permanent supportive housing).

Finally, after over a decade, the staff is taking action to attempt to set up some homeless campgrounds. To this end the report states:

1a. Safe Parking Pilot Program: During the 2019 point-in-time count, 387 of the total 1,483 unhoused population were considered unsheltered and living in vehicles at that time. While longer term solutions are identified and prioritized during the 10 Year Plan update process this year, the safe parking pilot program allows one strategy for providing a safe and sanctioned place for unsheltered residents living in vehicles to park overnight.

And

County staff, in coordination with partner organizations, is currently working on identifying priority locations for at least three pilot safe parking programs distributed throughout the region in effective and feasible locations. It is important to note that staff is looking for pilot sites in north county, north coast, and south county, to supplement existing safe parking sites already in place in the Cities of San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande. The pilot program sites are

recommended to be in place for a period of one-year each, once sites are identified and approved. Staff developed an estimated one year pilot program cost estimate and intends to publish a request for proposal to seek external agency support for site management. The initial cost estimate includes site management, basic hygiene services (i.e. portable bathrooms and showers, hand wash stations), outreach to connect users to services, and security cameras

This and other programs are listed in the 2 tables below.

Table 1. Summary of Today's Budget Adjustment Request for Additional Homeless Initiatives

Program Element	Nature of Funding	Budget Adjustment Request being considered by Board
Near-Term Actions		
1a. Safe Parking Pilot Program	One-time	\$500,000
1b. Blue Bag Pilot Program	One-time	\$225,000
1c. Increase Housing Now units (from 70Now to 80Now)	Ongoing will be continued in subsequent fiscal years	Year one increase: \$149,509
<i>1d. Additional Pilot Program(s) identified in 10 Year Plan update</i>	<i>One-time; to be determined in 10 Year Plan update</i>	<i>To be determined</i>
1e. 1.00 FTE Limited Term Program Manager II or similar	One-time; Limited term position to be in place for two years once hired	Year one: \$125,735.25
1f. 1.00 FTE Behavioral Health Case Manager via contract with Transitions Mental Health Association	Ongoing will be continued in subsequent fiscal years	\$111,540
1g. Encampment Abatement Measures	One-time	\$250,000
Regional Strategic Planning		
2a. Regional Communications Strategy	One-time	\$125,000
2b. Maintenance and Multiagency Licenses for Mapping Tool	Ongoing will be continued in subsequent fiscal years	\$52,600
Total		\$1,539,384.25

1. Program Element - Develop and Implement near-term actions:

Table 3. Summary of Outcomes Expected from Additional Homeless Initiatives

Program Element	Outcome(s)
1a. Safe Parking Pilot Program	Create three subregional sites for vehicle-based unhoused residents to safely park overnight for up to one year
1b. Blue Bag Pilot Program	Create program to reduce health and safety issues at unsanctioned encampments by collecting and disposing of waste, as well as conduct outreach to residents, at seven sites for 12- to 24- week pilot periods
1c. Increase Housing Now units	House an additional 10 vulnerable, chronically homeless persons and provide supportive services
<i>1d. Add'l Pilot Program(s) per 10 Year Plan update</i>	<i>To be determined as a part of 10 Year Plan update</i>
1e. 1.00 FTE Limited Term Program Manager or similar	DSS staff to oversee implementation of pilot programs and related administration of day-to-day efforts
1f. 1.00 FTE Behavioral Health Case Manager via contract with TMHA	Provide roving behavioral health supportive services in relationship with pilot programs and sites throughout the region
1g. Encampment Abatement Measures	Removal of priority encampments, esp. that pose a health and safety risk
2a. Communications Strategy	Develop and implement a consistent and understandable regional message; Effectively communicate resources available for unhoused individuals and communities
2b. Maintenance and Multiagency Licenses for Mapping Tool	Refine and expand an encampment mapping tool to improve coordination and information sharing

Item 47 - Request to receive and file a report by MSW Consultants regarding a cost-benefit analysis of the County's proposed departure from the Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) and provide direction to staff. The Board voted 3/2 (Ortiz-Legg and

Gibson dissenting) for the County to begin the process of withdrawing from the IWMA. Supervisors Arnold and Peschong summarized reasons for their vote to withdraw. Supervisor Gibson characterized the decision a failure of public policy by the Board Majority.

Supervisor Compton’s Speech: Supervisor Compton provided the closing argument, which was detailed, concise, and built on accumulative historical fact and law. It was the best deliberative speech delivered at the San Luis Obispo Board that we have seen in over ten years. It was devastating not only to the Board members who wish to continue the IWMA, and its supporters on various city councils and elsewhere in the County.

Beyond the issue at hand, it was a stunning example of how the Supervisors and elected officials on other bodies should conduct their debates. Usually, they provide a few terse comments lasting a minute or two. There is no rebuttal or real back and forth. Usually, the presiding officers are pushing their colleagues to hurry up and get to the next item. See it at the link below. When it opens, slide the time control to 5:25:40 and enjoy.

[Board of Supervisors - Aug 10th, 2021 \(granicus.com\)](#)

Background: The analysis was commissioned by the Board majority to ascertain the financial and operational feasibility of the County withdrawing from the IWMA and operating solid waste source reduction and recycling on its own. As outlined below, the consultant determined that a County takeover would cost substantially more, which in turn would require rate increases for both residential and commercial users.

Sudden Changes: Several events happened after the posting of the original report:

1. After posting of the original report, staff posted an update, which due to an arithmetic error in one the calculations in turn affected several of the analytical tables. However, this did not change the overall conclusions.
2. After the consultant finished conducting its analysis and after the original posting of the item, the new Executive Director of the IWMA discovered that the FY 2021-22 Budget, which was adopted in June, contains significant deficiencies, in that certain proposed rate increases will require Proposition 218 approval by each of the member jurisdictions. There is not sufficient time to legally process these changes in time to cover the full fiscal year operation of the agency at the adopted expenditure levels.

This train wreck is detailed below under the IWMA Board meeting **Item 8**, which begins on page 17 below. Readers should consider both items in conjunction.

3. The fact that the IWMA may not be able to execute its adopted budget raises the risk that it may not be able to meet requirements of the massive “new organic materials recycling State mandate” embodied in SB 1383, which became enforceable this year. It is not known how the IWMA dealt with this circumstance at its meeting last Wednesday, August 11, 2021, as the video has not been posted. There is some indicia that the staff may edit the record. The District Attorney needs to investigate this one too.

4. Once the IWMA takes action at some unknown point to recast its budget, the numbers within the County consultant's analysis are likely to become obsolete. This in turn may require a re-analysis once the situation is stabilized and firmed up.

The Report: As noted above, the report found that it will cost the County between \$1,585,400 to \$2,084,000 to operate the system on its own and if no other jurisdictions switch over to the County as customers. There are also variables derived from whether the remaining IWMA will grant the County its accumulated share of the financial and physical assets of the IWMA. The rate impacts are forecast as:

Table B – Required Revenue Needed, Full Cost Recovery from IWMA

Customer Sector	Hauler Revenues	Additional Needed Fee Revenue	Required Rate Adjustment Percent
Residential	\$7,147,000	\$696,400	9.7%
Commercial	5,870,800	782,700	13.3%
Rolloff	<u>3,883,800</u>	<u>106,300</u>	2.7%
Total	\$16,901,600	\$1,585,400	9.4%

But the Analysis is not Apples and Apples – See the table on the next page.

Table 7 – Estimated Annual Expenditures

Description	Education & Outreach	Contamination Monitoring	Monitoring & Reporting	Compliance Review & Enforcement	Household Hazardous Waste	Program Administration	Total Estimated Expenditures
Program Manager II	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$162,200	\$162,200
Solid Waste Coordinator II	163,300	0	163,300	163,300	0	0	489,900
Solid Waste Coordinator I	0	134,000	0	0	0	0	134,000
Department Overhead	26,800	22,000	26,800	26,800	0	26,600	129,000
Division Overhead	<u>35,200</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>35,200</u>	<u>176,000</u>
Subtotal - Personnel Expenditures	\$225,300	\$191,200	\$225,300	\$225,300	\$0	\$224,000	\$1,091,100
HHW Contractor					\$400,000		\$400,000
Property Lease Expense					105,000		105,000
Contract Services						200,000	200,000
General and Admin Expense	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000		25,000	125,000
Dept Accounting Support						25,000	25,000
County Legal Costs						50,000	50,000
Office Rent						30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	8,000			8,000			16,000
Department Overhead	1,500	1,100	1,100	1,500	22,200	14,500	41,900
Countywide Overhead	<u>5,900</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,700</u>	<u>5,900</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>47,500</u>
Subtotal - Operating Expenditures	\$40,400	\$31,100	\$31,800	\$40,400	\$539,200	\$357,500	\$1,040,400
Total Estimated Expenditures	\$265,700	\$222,300	\$257,100	\$265,700	\$539,200	\$581,500	\$2,131,500

The lower section of Table 7 (Operating Expenditures) itemizes the estimated operating expenditures. The major categories of these operating expenditures include:

A problem with this table and the related supporting analysis (from which the rates were derived) is that the net costs of the implementation of **SB 1383** are included. Thus, the policy makers and Board of Supervisors cannot ascertain how much of the cost is base-cost of the existing program versus base cost-plus the new SB1383 costs. Even if the County remains with the IWMA, its residents and commercial customers will experience significant new costs in any case.

Thus, there needs to be an apples-to-apples analysis .The report text actually admits this problem:

Finding 7 – For the County to perform the responsibilities currently undertaken by the Authority, and to comply with SB 1383, it will require five (5) additional positions in the Public Works Department. Table 6 on the following page shows the five (5) new positions that would be required for the County to perform the responsibilities now undertaken by the Authority and those that will be required by SB 1383. An outline of the expected responsibilities of each staff member is listed below.

This structural aspect to the report presentation effectively camouflages the true breakdown of the cost increase. The Board should request a separate breakout.

There are also questions related to the cost of household hazardous waste HHW program. Currently and over all, the IWMA cost is about \$900,000 plus per year. The consultant assigns a projected cost to the county customers of about \$400, 000 per year if the County leaves the IWMA. But the unincorporated County customers constitute only 25% of the base.

Also related to the cost is the method of collecting the paint, oil, chemicals, sharps, and other components of the waste. Separate recycling centers are set up, staffed, and run by a private sector company expert in disposing of the stuff. In some jurisdictions the regular refuse route trucks contain side bins in which the HHW can be deposited, eliminating the need for a separate contractor. The private haulers would have to be compensated, but the economies of scale and the elimination of special sites could reduce the cost.

Industrial engineering is a wonderful discipline that governments rarely use to analyze the work.

Item 51 - Request to review and provide direction on staff’s process for using the new water management tools for future State Water Project water management actions. The term management tools is euphemistic wording for allowing the County and water agencies within the County to conduct water supply exchanges and transfers of State water. “Water supply exchanges and transfers” generally refers to sales of surplus State water in the system to other entities in the State that is being stored on behalf of the County or one of the other water supply entities within the County. It also refers to storage of State water that has reached the County (for example the Paso Basin) and is to be used for water banking. This item should be read in conjunction with its **Background** section to fully understand the issue. That section begins on **page 14** below.

Many Paso Basin residents and overlies are concerned that the import and banking of State water within the basin can impact their primary water rights and the legal status of that portion of the basin which contains room for extra water. (Again, see the background section for a schematic which illustrates some of the issues.)

Accordingly, when the Board, on a split vote, approved the contract amendment with the State to allow for such exchanges and uses, it directed the staff to return with a strict process for implementing any requests for such actions for Board consideration. This is a discussion item in which staff presents such a process and solicits Board direction about whether it is adequate.

The key portion of this item states in this regard:

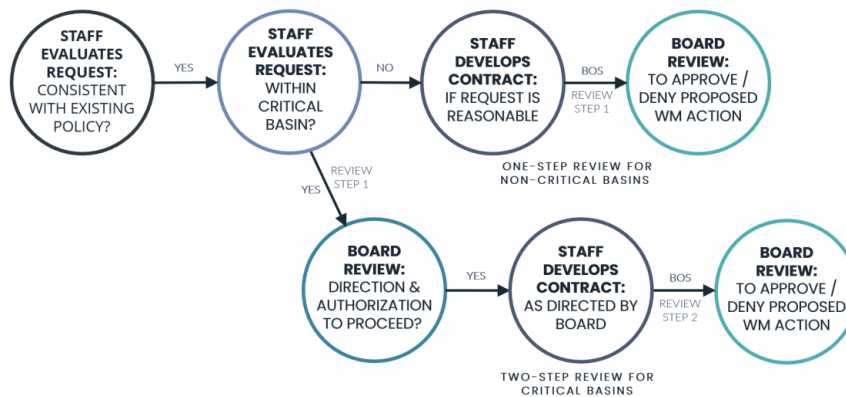
Thus, for SWP water exchange or transfer opportunities that pertain to basins identified by the DWR as “subject to critical conditions of overdraft” (Critical Basins) pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Water Code §§ 10720 et seq.), staff will employ a “Two-Step Review” process. This extra step will provide the Board and members of the public with additional time for review (Attachment 3). More specifically, staff will first seek direction from the Board to pursue such transfer or exchange (Step 1) before bringing a contract effectuating an exchange or transfer of SWP water pertaining to a Critical Basin (Step 2). In addition, and in response to Section 8 of the Approval Resolution, this extended process will provide additional time for staff to present, and the Board to consider, the ways in which the District may seek to limit the ability of a buyer or recipient to bank SWP project water. For example, it will afford additional time for the Board to review in context contract language stating that the District is/remains the “importer” of the SWP water such that only the District has the right to “recapture” the water and/or the right to the return flows therefrom. Lastly, and also consistent with Section 8, this process will supply additional opportunity to discuss/complete the necessary review under CEQA.

The staff has provided a flow chart to illustrate the process:

Attachment 3 - Staff's Process Flowchart

State Water Management Tools Requests

Proposed process for vetting requests associated with critical vs. non-critical basins/areas



Some questions arise:

Does the Board have the absolute authority to reject a proposal for storage in an eligible basin? If so, what does this clause of the contract signed by the County with the State mean?

The Agency shall cooperate with other contractors in the development and establishment of groundwater storage programs. The Agency may elect to store Project Water in a groundwater storage program outside its service area for later use within its service area. There shall be no limit on the amount of Project Water the Agency can store outside its service area during any year in a then existing and operational groundwater storage program.

What about storage of such water within its service area?

Background: To better understand this issue please read the article from March 2, which outlines the risks that caused the Board to request staff to return with a process to consider any proposal to store State water.

1. The contract allows sale of “excess water” to other state water contractors rather than simply have it go down the State Water Project canal to benefit others. (This is termed as spilling.) The tables below illustrate the staff policy recommendation:

There are two versions which appear in the County’s agenda packages.

Greater Ability to Move Water Prior to Spills

Year	Annual Allocation %	Stored Water Lost to San Luis Reservoir Spill (AF)	Water Lost Due to Storage Limits (AF)	Total Water Lost to Spill or Storage Limits (AF)
2007	60	12,500	None	12,500
2010	50	No Spill	2,201	2,201
2011	80	6,009	4,160	10,169
2012	65	No Spill	3,139	3,139
2017	85	15,267	6,487	21,754
2019	85	18,639	3,719	22,358
TOTAL		52,415	19,706	72,121

What is the difference between water lost due to Reservoir Spill and Water Lost Due to Storage Limits? Why would the State “spill” a reservoir unless it has reached its storage limits or it expects future flooding?

Year	Annual Allocation %	Total Water Available and Not Delivered (AF)	Unused Water (AF)	Water Lost to Spill (AF)	Total Unused Water and Water Lost to Spill (AF)	Estimated Average Annual Cost for Right to Water (\$/AF)	Estimated Value of Lost Asset & Potential Cost Recovery (\$)
2007	60	10,170	0	12,500	12,500	\$75	\$937,500
2010	50	7,670	2,201	No Spill	2,201	\$75	\$165,075
2011	80	15,170	4,160	6,009	10,169	\$75	\$762,675
2012	65	11,420	3,139	No Spill	3,139	\$100	\$313,900
2017	85	16,420	6,487	15,267	21,754	\$125	\$2,719,250
2019	85	16,420	3,719	18,639	22,358	\$125	\$2,794,750
TOTAL	62%	246,410	19,706	52,415	72,121		\$7,693,150

This year’s State water annual allocation is only 10%. How does this work in low allocation years? Is there a table that shows all the years so that the public and

Supervisors can have a perspective? What are the impacts of out-of-County transfers on water supplies for the County and the subcontractors? (See the table below.)

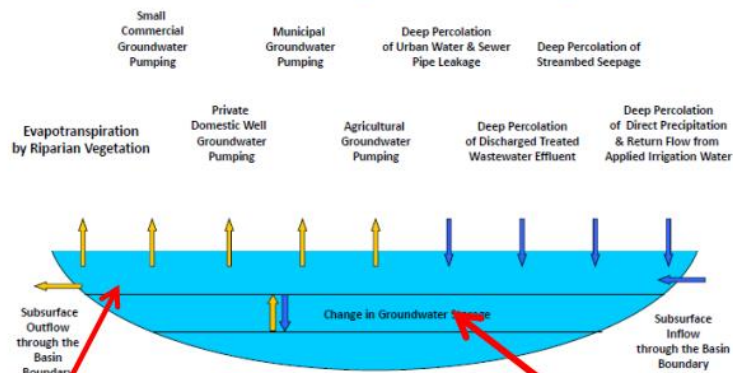
State Water Project Subcontractor Water Amounts

SUBCONTRACTOR	Water Service Amount (AFY)	Drought Buffer Amount (AFY)	Total Water Amounts (AFY)
CSA 16 (Shandon)	100	0	100
City of Morro Bay	1,313	2,290	3,603
CMC	400	400	800
County Ops Center	425	425	850
Cuesta College	200	200	400
City of Pismo Beach	1,240	1,240	2,480
Oceano CSD	750	750	1,500
San Miguelito MWC	275	275	550
Avila Beach CSD	100	100	200
Avila Valley MWC	20	20	40
San Luis Coastal USD	7	7	14
Subcontractor Total =	4,830	5,707	10,537
Unsubscribed "Excess Allocation" =			14,463
District's Total Contract Allocation =			25,000

2. What will be the potential impact of sale and transfers of water supply from the San Luis Reservoir to out-of-county contractors? The Board has made a big deal about prohibiting export of water from within the county to outside the county. Does it make sense to allow export of water allocated to the County, which is still in the state system? In other words, does it make any difference whether water reserves are exported from within the county or outside the county storage? In either case, shortages will be made up from groundwater.

3. The Water Resources Advisory Committee, in recommending the proposal, contemplates the use of supplemental State Water for “recharge and stability of high priority ground water basins...”
 Actually, recharge is water which is naturally occurring from within a basin. It comes from rain, recycled municipal water, ag runoff percolation, and so forth, per the graphic below. Note that imported state water is not included in recharge.

Groundwater Recharge and Discharge Terms



Water which is injected from outside the basin, such as State Water is banked water. Once banked water such as State water is introduced from outside, who owns the rights to **the water** and who owns the right to **the space**? Is it the State, County, water purveyor which imports the water, or who? Do the water bankers have superior rights to the overlies? The Board needs a well-researched expert analysis on this subject so it can understand the future implications as it considers this matter. One clause of the contract amendment states:

Groundwater Storage Programs

The Agency shall cooperate with other contractors in the development and establishment of groundwater storage programs. The Agency may elect to store Project Water in a groundwater storage program outside its service area for later use within its service area. There shall be no limit on the amount of Project Water the Agency can store outside its service area during any year in a then existing and operational groundwater storage program.

There could be substantial interest by other project contractors (agencies) and the State itself for storing water in the very large and drawn down Paso Basin Aquifer. What does **shall cooperate** mean contractually? Is the County obligated to negotiate water storage in the Basin once it signs this contract?

Another clause states:

In accordance with applicable water rights law and the terms of this Article, the Agency may exchange any Annual Table A Amount stored on or after the effective date of the Water Management Amendment in a groundwater storage program outside its service area with another contractor for use in that contractor's service area. These exchanges must comply with the requirements in Article 56(c)(4)(i)-(v). The Agency shall include these exchanges in its preliminary water delivery schedule pursuant to Article 12(a).

4. As a result of the adjudication many overlayers in the Paso Basin have senior appropriative water rights to the County, City of Paso Robles, and other entities. (The judge awarded these prescriptors only 2000 acre-feet per year.) The new El Pomar Water District and the new Shandon-San Juan Water District will be last in line if they seek to pump the basin. Nevertheless, do the County staff and Board of Supervisors know if there are plans by any of these entities to sell allotments which they have or may have in the future that is in excess of customer demand in the adjudicated Paso Basin and adjudicated Santa Maria Basin? Do they plan to import State water and bank it?

5. Would the State Department of Water Resources envision the Paso Basin as a major groundwater storage facility (water bank)? It would be less costly than building the Bay Delta Water Project, raising Oroville and Shasta Dams, and building new reservoirs.

6. It has been asserted by opponents of the Bay Delta Project that one reason the State Department of Water Resources is now willing to allow water exchanges and sales within its system is that in addition to the normal charges for moving and storing the water, it will be able to charge new fees in exchange for the extra benefit under the rubric of Bay Delta water. In this way and if contractors do not vote to support the Bay Delta project, the State could nevertheless capture new revenue to help build and run it.

More significantly, if the project is built and more water becomes deliverable south of the Delta, will contractors that signed amended contracts be deemed to have to pay towards the Bay Delta Project either in the future and/or retroactively?

The ability to sell the surplus water in storage may be fine. The Board needs firm expert answers to these any many other questions. Its job is to be skeptical and ask penetrating questions, especially on major issues.

Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) Meeting of Wednesday, August 11, 2021 (Completed)

In General: Just prior to the meeting, the new interim Executive Director (Paavo Ogren) resigned. Ogren served as the County Public Works Director and then as director of various smaller utilities over the years. It is not known how or if he interacted with the IWMA as Public Works Director.

The week prior it was disclosed that the DA has charged the agency's former Board Clerk of embezzling thousands of dollars. The former executive Director, Bill Worrell, who retired after other misappropriation of funds had been discovered, may have escaped prosecution due to not having been prosecuted within 3 years of the discovery of his illegal actions.

In the meantime it appears that an FBI investigation of major allegations of contract fixing, failure to bid major contracts, provision of trucks to customers and suppliers, and other issues is active and may be closing in. Again, you can hear the sphincter mussels snapping shut in various governmental and private sector venues within the area.



Item 8 - Discussion of the 2021-2022 Budget with Anticipated Revenue Shortfalls and Board Direction As Deemed Appropriate (IWMA BUDGET TRAIN WRECK).

It turned out that the adopted FY 2021-2022 Budget is a fake. The Budget was increased 53% to incorporate the significant new activities mandated by SB 1383. The problem is that there is not enough time for the IWMA, its member jurisdictions, and its contractors to take the necessary legal actions or raise charges to the citizens, haulers, and landfill operators to generate the new funding.

The IWMA Budget is based on several significant changes from the prior year 2020-21 budget. The expenditure plan increased \$1,548,650 (53%) from \$2,941,885 to \$4,490,535. To fund the increase in expenditures, existing reserves are budgeted to cover approximately \$1.1 million in expenditures and budgeted revenues are estimated to increase slightly more than \$1.0 million.

1. The use of reserves to fund recurring operating expenses is a terrible practice.
2. Worse yet, a separate reserve was previously committed to cover closure costs of some of the household hazardous waste recycling sites. As the narrative continues:

IWMA operating reserves are budgeted to decrease from approximately \$1,745,474 to \$601,734. In addition to operating reserves, separate IWMA reserves include \$1,500,000 held for closure of Household Hazardous Waste facilities (\$1,000,000), as required by DTSC, and for emergencies (\$500,000).

It is very dangerous for a utility such as a recycling program to have almost no reserves.

3. The plan to generate new revenues to cover a portion of the new cost beyond the use of reserves is to raise \$1 million in new hauler fees (these are passed through to the homes and businesses) and \$250,000 in land fill fees, which also will be passed through to residents and businesses.
4. But another problem occurs, as each member jurisdiction must submit the proposed increases to a Constitutional Proposition 218 challenge and referenda process. If 50% + 1 or more of the

rate payers in any jurisdiction protest the increase, it then must be placed on the ballot and be subject to a vote in that jurisdiction. Given the recent uproar, there may be a very large protest.

The write-up, while attempting to explicate the matter, is not very clear:

The timing of the increase in revenues from haulers is unpredictable because the implementation of the IWMA rate increases also requires Member Agencies to approve rate increases pursuant to franchise agreements between the Member Agencies and local haulers. Staff has already received feedback from Member Agencies that the timing of their Proposition 218 processes will not be able to meet the timing assumed in the IWMA 2021-21budget.

IWMA Resolution No. 21-06-02 provides the Executive Director with the authority to “extend the effective date if reasonable and necessary to accommodate a member agency making good faith efforts towards SB 1383 compliance deadlines.” In responding to Member Agency concerns, feedback has been provided that an extension of time will be granted. Specific timing and formal granting of the extension will follow additional outreach and coordination with all Member Agencies, special districts, and haulers so that a more realistic understanding of implementation details and timing is known

The budgeted increase in landfill fees may be less predictable. Although a recent amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) relating to Landfill Fees was recently adopted by IWMA to increase those fees, the MOA amendment requires approval by Member Agencies, which at this time is not certain.

Meanwhile, the IWMA and its members are subject to State-imposed penalties if they do not implement the provision of SB 1383 expediently. The write-up does not explain how the deadlines relate to the issues raise in this train wreck.

Item 9 - Developing A Process To Address Possible Changes To The IWMA Joint Powers Agreement And / Or Other Actions To Align IWMA Efforts With Member Agencies And Stakeholders Under Scenarios Based On 1) Current IWMA Membership And 2) Changes In IWMA Membership. The new executive director solicited the Board’s concurrence in writing as part of this Board item. This idea had actually been rendered moot on the prior Tuesday, when the Board of Supervisors voted 3/2 to withdraw from the IWMA.

Board direction on whether the Board should consider amendments to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) to prevent the agency from adopting regulation ordinances beyond state mandates was to have been part of this discussion. It also contained recommendations for other changes, particularly the problem that rate increases must be approved in a separate Proposition 218 process by each agency.

This situation has now brought on a fiscal crisis for the agency, as noted in the item above.

California Coastal Commission Meeting of Thursday, August 12, 2021 (Completed)

Item Th17b - Cayucos Boutique Hotel Application Taken Over by the Coastal Commission appeal by Commissioners Escalante and Hart from San Luis Obispo County decision granting permit with conditions for the construction of three-story, 20,114- sq., 17-unit hotel with day spa/health center, restaurant, bar, outdoor swimming pool, bluff top pathway, and related development on North Ocean Avenue in unincorporated Cayucos area of San Luis Obispo County. The Commission took over the jurisdiction of the application (took it away from the County) on a unanimous vote.

After the SLO County approved the project, two of the Coastal Commissioners appealed the County’s approval of the project. Santa Barbara City Councilwoman Meagan (nee Froemming) Harmon is our new central coast representative on the Commission.¹ Later on Harmon will be ruling on the merits of her colleagues’ appeal.

At this point the applicant will have to process a de novo application at the Coastal Commission. The time and money costs will be substantial.

Supervisor Bruce Gibson wrote in to support the staff recommendation for the Commission take jurisdiction of the application. Wonder if he encouraged the other Commissioners to file the appeal in the first place.

The Commission does not like the idea of the new hotel blocking the view from the road. The staff has ginned up numerous objections related to an adjacent creek, parking, public access, erosion, sea level rise, and anything else they could think of.



Commissioner Harmon

1. Harmon (Nee Froemming) was touted on the Harvard Law School web site. It reads in part: *Meagan Froemming received her JD from New York University School of Law in 2014. She holds a master’s degree from Harvard’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies, and completed her undergraduate work at Wellesley College. Prior to law school, Meagan spent a year managing a large-scale rural development project in the northern and eastern regions of Afghanistan—an experience which continues to inform and inspire her research today. Her current work, “The Promise of Culturally-Specific Development: Using Islamic Finance to Grow Rule of Law in Afghanistan,” explores the intersection of classical Islamic finance forms and Afghan sociocultural mores, and argues that by employing **Shari’ah-compliant** financial processes and products, development efforts in Afghanistan can achieve greater success in encouraging economic growth, stable sovereignty, and a cogent rule of law regime. Apparently it’s not working.*

Perhaps the applicant should propose a one-story retail cannabis dispensary on the site with a breezeway that would preserve the view. On the other hand, if there is substantial support in Cayucos to keep the view, the Community Service District should purchase the property and levy an assessment to the community to pay it off. Two years ago the County took over the cost of Fire protection and ambulance service in the District for a new cost of \$1.5 million per year. The residents should be able to afford it rather than having the Coastal Commission effectively expropriate it by killing it with conditions.



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Bruce Gibson *District Two Supervisor*

August 5, 2021

Mr. Steve Padilla, Chair
California Coastal Commission
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: SUPPORT finding substantial issue
Item Th 17b, August 12, 2010
Appeal No. A-3-SLO-21-0039 (Cobb Hotel, Cayucos)

Dear Chair Padilla and Commissioners:

I write in support of your staff's recommendation to find substantial issue with the above-referenced appeal. The appeal issues identified by Commissioners Escalante and Hart are of considerable concern to myself and many members of the Cayucos community and should be thoroughly discussed in a de novo hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Gibson
Supervisor, District Two
San Luis Obispo County

Item Th20 - Oceano Dunes Coastal Development Permit 4-82-300 Review – Re-adoption of the Dunes Closure Phase Out Order. The Commission adopted new findings retroactively for its March 18, 2021 decision to phase out off-road riding and freestyle camping on the beach. The public commenters were not happy with the Commission's effort to muzzle their testimony. They were repeatedly shut down by the Chairwoman and Commission Counsel, but they persisted.

Background: The Commission staff had determined that the March 18th order must be resubmitted to the Commission because the Commission changed three of the recommendations of the staff in the original order. The perverse logic that the Commission can change substantive findings of fact based on its post-hoc rulings is absurd (and perhaps illegal). The write-up states in part:

When the Commission follows the staff recommendation on a CDP item, the action the Commission takes is typically the only action necessary to effect that action. Here, however, the Commission did not follow the entirety of the staff recommendation, but rather approved changes that were slightly different than what staff was recommending that day. Specifically, the Commission made the following three changes that differed from staff's recommendation:

1. Reduced Phase Out Duration. Whereas staff had recommended that OHV use at Oceano Dunes be phased out completely, and that street-legal vehicular use and camping be confined to the beach area between West Grand and Pier Avenues, by January 1, 2026, the Commission retained the construct of the recommended condition, but shortened the time frame by two years to instead require those same restrictions by January 1, 2024.

2. Extended Time Frame for Pier Avenue Closure. Whereas staff had recommended that the Pier Avenue vehicular entrance to Oceano Dunes be eliminated and the area restored with non-vehicular beach access amenities by July 1, 2021, the Commission retained the construct of the recommended condition, but extended the time frame by one year to instead require same by July 1, 2022.

3. Nighttime Vehicular Use. Whereas staff had recommended that all nighttime vehicular use at Oceano Dunes be prohibited, the Commission retained the construct of the recommended condition, but provided an exception for vehicular use to accommodate ingress, egress, and bathroom going associated with overnight camping.

The entire massive 837-page report is included in the item as one file. Scores of pages of findings which are changed are highlighted in yellow. Suffice it to say that the Commission's Counsel probably figured out that, absent these changes and the rehearing process, the order would be more vulnerable to the various pending lawsuits, on a technicality basis, which have been brought against the Commission, State Parks, and the County (as a party in interest because it owns the LA Grande tract portion of the Park).

The Commission was fearful that hundreds of people would show up to oppose (the write-up says "relitigate the decision"). It takes pains to assert that the public comment must be very narrowly limited to the issue of whether the findings correspond to Commission's changes:

IMPORTANT HEARING PROCEDURAL NOTE

Staff recognizes that it may be confusing to some as to why the Commission is holding another public hearing related to Oceano Dunes and the Commission's March 18, 2021 action. Usually, the Commission doesn't hold additional hearings after taking a CDP action. But here, where the Commission's decision differed from staff's recommendation, albeit slightly, another hearing is needed for the Commission as a body to identify and verify that the Commission has adopted final findings and conditions that accurately reflect the action taken on March 18, 2021. So while it may seem unusual to some, it is actually a quite normal – and required – technical process.

At the same time, staff recognizes that there are many passionate parties on all sides of Oceano Dunes issues, and that many parties continue to have strong feelings about the Commission and

the Commission's March action. **However, the hearing on August 12th is not an opportunity to air opinions about the outcome of the Commission's action on March 18, 2021.** Rather, public participation on August 12th is limited to the question of whether the proposed revised findings and conditions accurately reflect the action that the Commission took, not whether the Commission should have taken that action to begin with.

The hearing is not an opportunity to re-litigate the Commission's March decision, or even parts of it. The Commission's decision in that respect is final and incontrovertible. Staff requests that interested parties narrowly focus their comments and testimony to only the revised findings and conditions question that is before the Commission, and not to others. Testimony is welcome, but testimony that is not narrowly focused to that question, including any attempts to rehash the appropriateness of the March 18, 2021 decision, will be cut off. We appreciate all parties' cooperation in that regard, and all parties' respect for the Commission's process.

“The Commission’s decision in that respect is final and incontrovertible.”

We need a different Governor who will appoint different Commissioners. The absolute arrogance of the Coastal Commission staff has no bounds.

See the full report at the link: [California Coastal Commission](#). When it opens click on Thursday's agenda, scroll down to item Th20.

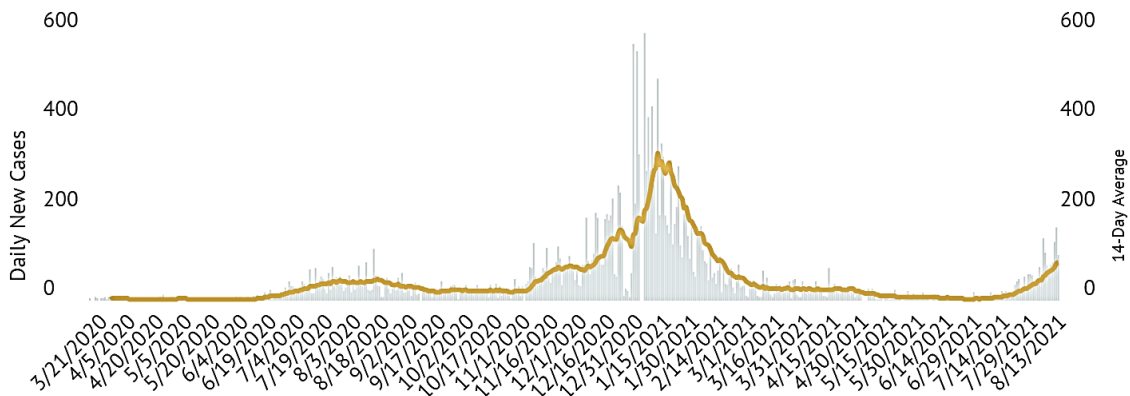
Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, August 12, 2021 (Completed)

The agenda was light in that there were only 2 hearing items: one for a previously approved project extension and one for addition of new Agricultural Preserves.

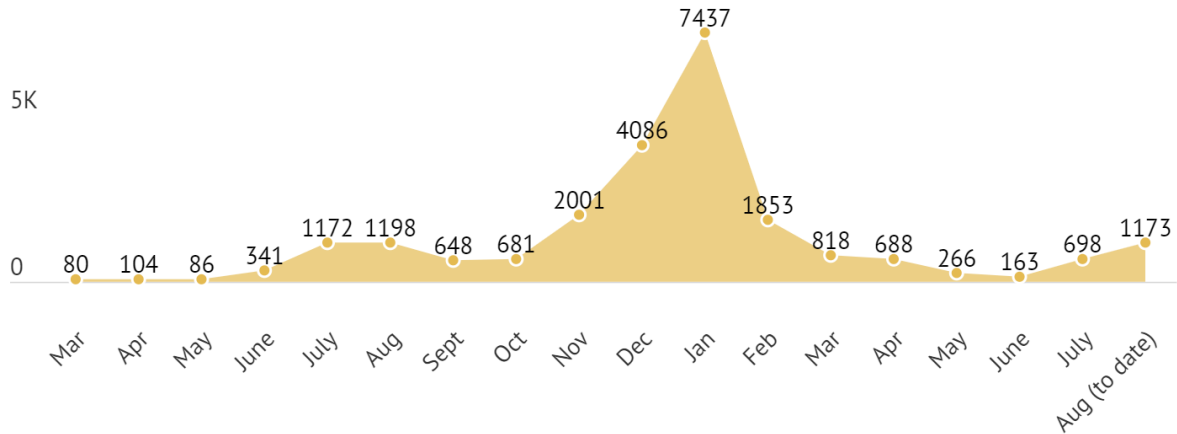
EMERGENT ISSUES HIGHLIGHTS

Item 1 - COVID Status. The infection rate clicked up for the 3rd week in a row.

Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average)



New Cases by Month



28 (8 ICU) **

SLO County Residents with COVID-19 in Hospital

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

FADING RULE OF LAW IN CALIFORNIA BY JON COUPAL

By now, only the truly delusional deny that California has an acute exodus problem. The number of people and businesses leaving the state is not just significant, it's quantifiable.

A recent study by two economics professors from Chapman University reveals that those who now categorize themselves as "former" Californians, not surprisingly, were motivated most by high taxation and heavy regulation.

But other reasons include those that affect quality of life: Housing costs, unemployment, homelessness, gas prices, wildfires, and drought. Worse, citizens believe — correctly — that our elected leadership isn't equipped to deal with these issues.

Rising in the polls as grounds for concern is the rapidly increasing crime rate in California. In 2020, homicides in the state increased 31%, reaching the highest total in 13 years. Especially alarming is the wanton lawlessness on display in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. Who isn't

appalled at criminals brazenly clearing out shelves in retail businesses — especially drug stores like Walgreens that have closed en masse recently — and nonchalantly walking out with stolen goods, knowing there will be no consequences from the criminal justice system?

The frustration among the law-abiding public is reaching critical mass. Recall campaigns have been launched against George Soros-backed district attorneys in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. And those who believe that these recall efforts have nothing to do with the pending recall election of Gov. Gavin Newsom may be mistaken. Remember that after voters made clear their support for California's death penalty, Newsom announced he would never allow any criminal behavior, no matter how heinous, to be the grounds for imposing that penalty.

But lawlessness and abandonment of the rule of law is not just taking place in the realm of criminal law. The same is true for civil law, especially when it comes to taxpayer protections in the California Constitution specifically approved by the voters.

We've been down this road before. After Proposition 13 was enacted in 1978, the California Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice Rose Bird, began picking it apart piece by piece. Strange rulings, contrary to the interests and intent of those who voted for Prop. 13, perverted the meaning of its terms including the definitions of "special tax" and "special district." Virtually every ruling from the California judiciary was against taxpayers.

Things changed for the better, however, when voters removed Rose Bird and two other progressive justices. They were replaced by appointees of Republican governors, which resulted in a temporary return to sanity. Courts began, as they should, to apply the language of the law to the specific facts of the cases before them in a manner consistent with the intent of voters or, in the case of statutory law, the intent of the legislature.

But now after years of judicial appointments from Jerry Brown, and now Gavin Newsom, the pendulum has swung back hard left for both criminal and civil law.

The most recent trend has been especially harsh on the interests of the taxpaying public. Despite voter-approved initiatives intended to close the court-created loopholes in Proposition 13, the negative rulings continue on a seemingly weekly basis.

For example, in 2017, the California Chamber of Commerce lost an important case against the California Air Resources Board based on Proposition 26, an HJTA-supported initiative that sought to prevent the abuse of using "fees" as a means to circumvent limitations on "taxes." The court in that case found that a government imposed exaction against businesses was neither a "tax" or "fee" but simply "something else."

More recently, the California Supreme Court created an exception to Prop. 13's requirement that locally-imposed special taxes must receive a two-thirds vote of the electorate, asserting that the requirement would not apply if the tax were the result of a local initiative. HJTA warned the Court in *CCC v. Upland* that if they carved out special-tax initiatives as an exception to the two-thirds vote requirement, politicians would hijack the people's right of initiative to exploit the exception.

Sure enough, there have been four additional cases which have exploited this loophole over our objections.

And last week, in *HJTA v. Weber*, the Court of Appeal ruled against taxpayers in a challenge to the legislature's abusive practice of using "budget trailer bills" as a means to circumvent the constitutional requirement that bills intended to take effect immediately receive a two-thirds vote of each house.

By characterizing non-budget bills as "budget related," the legislature is brazenly enacting changes to election laws with the obvious intention of maintaining progressives' grip on political power. These anti-taxpayer rulings are disappointing but not fatal to our interests. We have many instruments in the freedom toolbox to advance the cause of fiscal responsibility and limited government. And remember, the pendulum always swings back in politics.

Jon Coupal is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

AMERICAN ARMAGEDDON

***WHAT STARTED OUT AS ELITE WOKE NONSENSE NOW WARPS
EVERYONE'S DAILY LIFE
BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON***

Americans are growing angrier by the day in a way different from prior sagebrush revolts such as the 1960s Silent Majority or Tea Party furor of over a decade ago.

The rage at the current *status quo* this time is not just fueled by conservatives. For the first time in their lives, all Americans of all classes and races are starting to fear a self-created apocalypse that threatens their families' safety and the American way of life.

The border is not just porous as in the pre-Trump past. It is nonexistent. Some 2 million people may cross illegally in the current fiscal year—with complete impunity.

There is zero effort to stop them. Officials daily hector Americans to get vaccinated and tested for COVID. But they are mute about illegal entrants, some of them infected with the virus.

Have we ever had a president who made no pretense about destroying federal immigration law and asking of Americans what he does not of illegal aliens?

Joe Biden has also conceded that his hold on housing evictions deliberately defied a Supreme Court ruling. He added that he probably did not have the legal authority to ignore the court, but did not really care.

As in the case of demolishing immigration law, the president seems either unaware or proud that he is insidiously dismantling the Constitution.

America has also never quite seen such overt and multifaceted efforts to undermine the foundations of free-market capitalism.

At a time of resurging GDP, low unemployment, and record worker shortages, Biden has announced that renters can continue to avoid paying what they owe their landlords—even after a prior year of such free housing.

In a rebounding economy amid record debt, the government is still sending workers unemployment benefits that are more remunerative than the paychecks they would earn if employed.

Such insanity means not only that labor-short employers cannot provide goods and services to American consumers. The new ethos also institutionalizes the pernicious idea that it is smarter to stay home and idle than to get a job and be productive.

Biden is also considering further extending exemptions for the repayment of \$1.7 trillion in student loans. That amnesty will only further mainstream this growing notion that borrowing money entails no legal or moral obligation to pay it back.

No one seems to acknowledge that both students and the universities—which lured them to borrow—knew exactly the risks they were taking. Meanwhile, millions of American youth, the working classes who choose not to attend college, and those who paid their loans off or whose parents saved enough over the years to cover their tuition obligations, will subsidize those who renege of their debts by paying higher taxes.

Inflation is roaring back as the administration is printing trillions of new dollars that do not reflect commensurate gains in productivity or population.

Soaring prices are a direct result of incentivizing the unemployed not to work, while discouraging manufacturers and producers of food, gas, oil, timber, mineral, and metals.

The crime wave likewise is not accidental. It is the logical result of deliberate nihilistic policies of releasing thousands of criminals from jails and prisons, defunding and defaming the police, and empowering woke mayors and prosecutors to contextualize crime as the fault of society, not of the criminal.

In response, millions of Americans now simply avoid the mayhem and chaos of blue-state big cities.

Race relations have regressed 50 years. Under the fad of critical race theory, the color of our skins is now deemed essential to who we are.

Most Americans still integrate, assimilate, and intermarry. But the current woke revolution is an elite, top-down effort to smear a self-critical and always improving nation, as some sort of contemporary racist hellhole.

George Orwell would say of these cultural Marxists that they grab power in the present to reinvent the past in order to control our futures.

All this multifaceted chaos is not just faculty lounge stuff. We are beginning to see the collective craziness filter down to disruptions in our everyday lives.

Airliners cannot take off due to fuel shortages. Automobiles, houses, gas, and lumber are in short supply.

Consumers can't get their roofs fixed or their houses painted or the trees trimmed as employers plead to their idle government-subsidized employees to come back to work.

No one knows whether our laws even still exist—or at least exist haphazardly—depending on who breaks them.

Thieves steal with brazen impunity. The police predicate arresting suspects on criteria that have nothing to do with breaking the law.

Scared Americans have lost faith in the FBI, the CIA, the Pentagon, the CDC, and most of the federal bureaucracies that are as politicized as they are increasingly incompetent.

What started out as elite woke nonsense now warps everyone's daily life. If we don't wake up from wokeness, we will continue on our sure trajectory to self-inflicted, systemic paralysis—followed by civilizational collapse.

Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness and the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is an American military historian, columnist, a former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of [The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won](#) and [The Case for Trump](#). This article first appeared in the August 11, 2021 American Greatness.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANDY CALDWELL SHOW NOW LOCAL IN SLO COUNTY

Now you can listen to THE ANDY CALDWELL SHOW
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,
national and international issues!

3:00 – 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS You can also listen to The Andy Caldwell
Show LIVE on the [Tune In Radio App](#) and previously aired shows at: 3:00
– 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS You can also listen to The Andy Caldwell Show
LIVE on the [Tune In Radio App](#) and previously aired shows at:



Is Moving

Monday July 26, 2021



Our New Home in Santa Maria

*The Only Talk Radio Show to Cover
Santa Barbara, Santa Maria & San Luis Obispo !*



COUNTY UPDATES OCCUR MONDAYS AT 4:30 PM

**MIKE BROWN IS THE REGULAR MONDAY GUEST AT 4:30
SUPPORT COLAB!**

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM
ON THE 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



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)