

COLAB

San Luis Obispo County



The Coalition of Labor Agriculture and Business

WEEKLY UPDATE JUNE 13 - 19, 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**
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

PERFUNCTORY BUDGET REVIEW SLATED

\$807 MILLION PROGRAM MAY BE APPROVED IN JUST A FEW HOURS



LAFCO JUNE MEETING CANCELLED

LAST WEEK

PROGRESSIVE SHILLS SLAM ARNOLD AND COMPTON

CALL THEM RACIST - SEE PAGE 18 – ITEM 29

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

**SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ITEMS FOR JUNE 14TH
SPECIAL PAY AND WORK RULES RELATED TO COVID FUNDING
PENSION RATES TO INCREASE - BOARD HAS NO CHOICE
COVID LOW AND STABLE SO FAR
COUNTY'S HOUSING GROWTH LIMITS EXTENDED – WHY?**

**EXEC SESSION WITH COUNTY COUNSEL ON OCEANO DUNES
LAWSUITS – THERE WAS NO REPORT OUT**

**THIS DISCUSSION SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN OPEN SESSION – WILL THE
BOARD FIGHT THE COASTAL COMMISSION?**

SEPTIC SYSTEM PATRONAGE – AND YOUR BIG NEW COSTS APPROVED

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
COASTAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PERMANENT PLAN & EXPANSION
MORRO SHORES MOBIL HOME PARK EXPANSION & AMENITIES APPROVED

IWMA – SAVE YOUR FISH GUTS

MAJOR NEW WET GARBAGE MANDATE READY TO HIT YOU
GOVERNING DOCUMENTS TO BE UPDATED TO ALLOW NEW REGULATIONS
IWMA IS CONTRACTING WITH MOVIE THEATERS TO SHOW TRAINING VIDEOS
(HOW TO KEEP YOUR WET GARBAGE LONGER/OR EAT MORE)
WILTED LETTUCE & COFFEE GROUNDS CAN BE USED MORE THAN ONCE
ARNOLD, COMPTON & PESCHONG OBJECT

**AT THE END OF THE MEETING THE IWMA DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED HIS
RESIGNATION**

COLAB IN DEPTH

SEE PAGE 18

DAMS AND DESALINATION – CALIFORNIA NEEDS BOTH

We cannot let the ideals of ecological perfection be an excuse to impoverish ourselves

BY EDWARD RING

CRITICAL RACE THEORY’S MARXIST ROOTS

And its existential danger to our political freedom and unalienable rights.

BY BRUCE THORNTON



THIS WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meetings of Monday, June 14, 2021; Tuesday, June 15, 2021; and Wednesday, June 16, 2021 (Scheduled). Budget Hearing Week.

Monday, June 14, 2021 – Wednesday, June 16, 2021 - General Order of Business

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (MONDAY ONLY) 9:00 AM

HEARING

RECESS

HEARING

BOARD BUSINESS

BUDGET HEARING ITEMS NOT HEARD ON JUNE 14, 2021 WILL BE CONTINUED TO TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 AT 9AM.

Item 2 - Budget Hearing for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Recommended Budget. The County's Recommended and Supplemental Budget documents can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/budget>.

BUDGET HEARING ITEMS NOT HEARD ON JUNE 14, 2021 WILL BE CONTINUED TO TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 AT 9AM

Budget Process and Usefulness: In fairness, the County CAO and presumably the budget staff as well as financial staff within the departments have been tied up fighting COVID all year and could not spend much time advancing the Budget structure, clarifying the presentation, or drilling into the expenditure detail and positing reductions and reforms. The County staff, within the context of State lockdown laws and orders, focused on limiting the destruction wreaked by the virus. Nevertheless, the current system has existed for years without significant reform or advancement, as detailed further below. Of course the Board gives the Budget a brief lick and a promise, so why would the staff care.

COVID Context: As of Friday, June 11, 2021, the County reported 261 deaths due to COVID since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, 15 months ago. For the years 2016-18, the State reports an average of 2,286 deaths from all causes per year in SLO County. Thus COVID would constitute about an 11% increase per average year.

The media, Federal Government, and State overreacted to the pandemic and compelled the counties and cities to overreact with the massive and economically destructive lockdowns. These in turn have generated the knock-on effect of massive government stimulus packages, which are adding trillions in debt and expanding the scope to the national government, blue states, and localities. Overall, the County is wallowing in money, with more to come. See agenda **Item 3** below for more information on the County's approach to the previous tranches and new tranches of Federal money.

Once inflation takes off and payment on that debt rises, the ability of the Federal government and the blue states will be severely compromised. This in turn will negatively impact the economy, private sector, and consumers, including all of business, agriculture, and labor. The Board should

reduce expenditures and take every dollar which is not trapped in a mandate and lock it and leave it in the Treasury for the coming reckoning.

Some of the deficiencies include:

1. One very important job of the Board is to make sure that the inputs to the budget, staff levels, and dollars are being used effectively to obtain the policy results that they have set and/or are required by law to produce. It is difficult to tell if this is happening, given the current Budget format. Moreover, the Board gives it insufficient public review.

The Supervisors will spend inadequate time and rigor on public Budget review. The \$693 million County operations budget, combined with the \$ 114. 8 million dependent districts budget which are governed by the Board, total \$807.8, over 3 quarters of a billion dollars. The Board should have been scheduling afternoon workshops for weeks since it was presented with the Budget back on May 4, 2021. The Board should devote more time for review & the Board should examine service levels and performance. The Board will review the Budget on Monday, June 14. How will they do a quality review of the \$807.8 million budget in detail in 3 to 5 hours?

The Board should be going through the account lines to see what is being spent on consultants, overtime, travel and training, workers comp, temporary help, take-home vehicles, auto allowance, smart phones, staffing, health insurance, supplies, office expense, administrative overhead within departments and their subdivisions, equipment, and all the rest. It is not known if the administrative office analyzes and questions these expenses rigorously during the Budget preparation process. They only talk about budget expansions above the general policy rules. The Board should take a look under the hood periodically.

Exactly how much did the Administrative Office reduce the Departmental requests? Do they impose decrements at the account level? For example, what if a division within a department has an adopted budget line item of \$50,000 for computers, and ends up only spending \$30,000 in the current year but then asks for \$60,000 next year. Does anyone say, *well you only spent \$30, 000 this year, why can't you get by with that next year?* If they would do this line by line, they could carve out millions, especially in staffing.

The CAO's Budget message states in part:

The following is recommended in order to close the General Fund gap for FY 2021-22: Trimming General Fund support by \$1.7 million compared to departments' Status Quo submittals. These reductions do not represent cuts to any programs or services but are the result of an intensive effort to reduce expenditures that do not qualify as "Status Quo", and realistically increase revenues; Funding \$3.1 million of the total recommended \$11.9 million of capital and maintenance expense with General Government Building Replacement reserves; Increasing FY 2020-21 estimates for Fund Balance Available (FBA) by \$9.1 million, based on revised year-end projections provided by departments as of the end of the second quarter of the current Fiscal Year. The estimated FBA of \$34.5 million which is included in the Recommended Budget is more in line with what FBA has been in prior years and as such, this balancing

strategy is appropriately characterized as being longterm in nature; Use of \$6.1 million from the COVID-19 designation.

AND

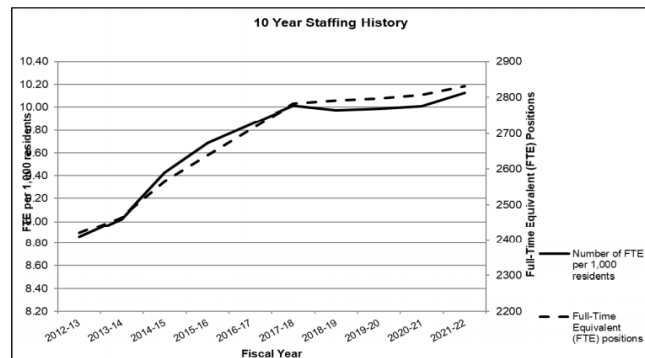
The strategies noted above not only enable the County to fund the status quo budget for FY 2021- 22, but also support a recommended \$2.1 million in General Fund support for Budget Augmentation Requests (BARs) discussed below, as well as increased Capital and Maintenance expense

In other words they have plenty of money and may not have cut anything. It keeps the County family happy.

2. The public will only get 3 minutes per major function to comment. Why is public comment not allowed on each department and other major component? After all, this is an \$807 million budget. You would think that there would be meaningful opportunity to comment.

3. By way of 10-year perspective, the Budget has increased from \$464 million and 2,382.5 full-time employees (FTEs) in FY 2011-12 to \$693.3 million and 2,832 FTEs in FY 2021-22. This represents a \$229.3 million dollar (49%) increase and a 450 FTE increase. During the same decade the County population increased from 273,231 to 277,259, a 4,028 (.01%) increase. The number of people living in the unincorporated area (the area which receives its city type services from the County) increased from 119,218 to 120,823, an increase of 1,605 (.01%).

It should be noted that the County contracts with Cal Fire for fire and all hazard emergency service. Cal Fire staffs the County with 107 full time FTEs, which the County pays for but does not count, as they are not County employees. If they were counted, the staffing would total 2,939.



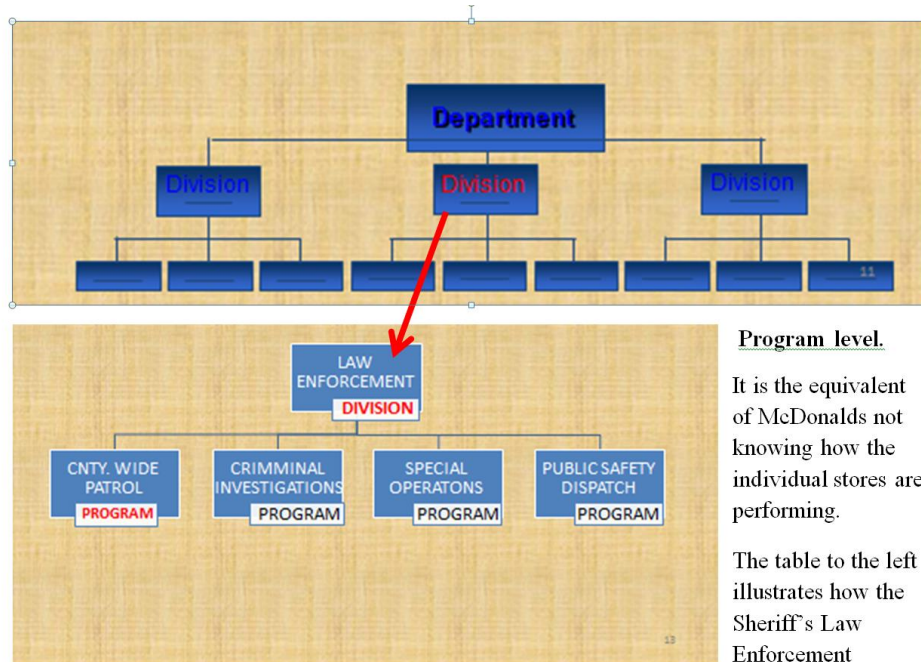
What did we get for all this?

- a. Faster cheaper permitting?
- b. More homes and/or a slow down on home cost escalation?
- c. Fewer people on TANF (welfare), General Relief, Cal Fresh (Food Stamps)? – that is, less poverty?
- d. Less severe wildland urban intermix fires?
- e. More water security?
- f. Any expansions of existing or additions of new private sector industries that provide career benefited head of household jobs?
- g. Less acute and chronically ill mental health patients?
- h. Fewer homeless people on the streets?
- i. Less illegal cannabis or scheduled narcotics?

- j. An improvement in the road pavement condition index (PCI)?
- k. A reduction in the SBCERS unfunded actuarial liability?
- l. A better election system?
- m. Smoother flowing traffic?
- n. Retention of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant, Phillips 66, Wetherby Fire Arms, or Mindbody? Replacement of any of Diablo's career benefited head of household jobs averaging \$147,000 per year full compensation?
- o. Less harassment suits, less large legal settlements, or less workers comp?
- p. Meaningful cannabis tax revenue?
- q. Retention of the Oceano Dunes off road riding area?
- r. Less CO₂ emissions as a result of climate action plans, installation of solar panels, and years of rhetoric?

Is there any outcome measure which actually improved with the addition of hundreds of millions in additional resources over the past 10 years?

4. The Budget is presented at a high level of abstraction utilizing an arbitrary accounting construct labeled "Fund Centers" as the basic organizing and information tool. The fund center structure does not always correspond to the County organizational structure and contains very general financial information. The actual program level information is omitted in most cases. In fact the amount of dollars and staff resources applied to specific operating units is largely invisible.



Division should be displayed as an example. How is the Patrol Program doing? How much does it cost? How many FTE's are assigned? How much time does it take to clear the calls? What is the deployment pattern? How much overtime does it run and what does that cost? What is the vacancy rate? What % of the calls is crime related vs. services related (car collisions, fires, health and accidents, etc.)

The Parks Department provides another example:

The Parks Department is composed of 3 separate fund centers corresponding to Community Parks, Golf, and Regional Parks respectively. The 3 units (are they divisions or what?) report to the same Parks and Recreation Department Director, but there is no overall consolidated presentation of the Parks and Recreation Department.

It appears that the Community Parks Division/Fund Center contains two subordinate units (program cost centers?) 1) Community Parks Facilities, Programs and Project, Total Expenditures: \$4,774,682, Total Staffing (FTE): 21.00 and 2) Public Grounds Maintenance, Total Expenditures: \$570,479, Total Staffing (FTE): 3.00. The financial data is presented as summaries. No prior year data is presented at this level. It is thus impossible to relate the costs to the program inputs and outputs over time.

The accompanying performance measures are presented in such a manner that it is not possible to determine which measures go with which program. Improperly, the measures do not seem to actually represent the amount of work, velocity of work, efficiency of the work, or actual benefit of the work.

| Department Goal: Provide the opportunity for a positive park experience for residents and visitors. | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Performance Measure: Usage of community park facilities by visitors and residents per 100,000 residents and visitors. | | | | | |
| This measure is to assure that the Department of Parks and Recreation provides the services and facilities to contribute to the enrichment of park users' lives by attracting more residents and visitors to our facilities. This will be measured as an overall usage rate determined by the following formula: Rate = [Total Park Usage / (County Visitation + County Residents)] x 100,000. The target and actual results are the sum of all SLO County Community Park facilities use figures from the four park management districts based on the above formula. | | | | | |
| | FY 2017-18 | FY 2018-19 | FY 2019-20 | FY 2020-21 | FY 2021-22 |
| Target | 0.00 | 0.00 | 14,323.00 | 14,350.00 | 14,350.00 |
| Actual | 0.00 | 0.00 | 22,603.00 | 14,350.00 | |
| Notes: Usage during the COVID pandemic was reduced while playgrounds were restricted although use remains at least at target level. | | | | | |

There is no way to know if 22,603 visits are good or bad or whether 14,350 is a good post COVID number. Note also that there are four park management districts. Are these the actual program level? Are the resources deployed functionally or geographically?

It is not clear what this measure is about. How does the parks staff know if 81% of what (users?) felt enriched? Is this reporting the results of a survey? How many people filled it out?

| 3. Performance Measure: Number of volunteer work hours performed yearly per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) in County Community Park Facilities. | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Volunteer work hours for the County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) park lands are tracked and reported annually. This data indicates the level of support the public provides in assistance of staff that maintain and service County Community Park lands. At the same time, it provides a measure of the amount of active, health-building hours volunteers spend in County Parks to contribute to a positive experience for park users. This measure records the total amount of volunteer hours spent in DPR Community Park facilities compared to the number of full time employees (FTE) in the department. Total hours per full time employee allow year to year comparisons as well as benchmarking against other agencies regardless of agency size. According to CAPRA standards similar agencies reported between 506-551 volunteer hours/FTE. | | | | | |
| | FY 2017-18 | FY 2018-19 | FY 2019-20 | FY 2020-21 | FY 2021-22 |
| Target | 0.00 | 0.00 | 780.00 | 785.00 | 785.00 |
| Actual | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1,135.00 | 785.00 | |

This measure makes the calculation of volunteer hours per FTE within the Community Parks Fund Center. Is the CPRA definition limited to maintenance? While this measure may infer that

some people are happy enough with the parks to volunteer, it does not tell us anything about the efficiency of the operation itself.

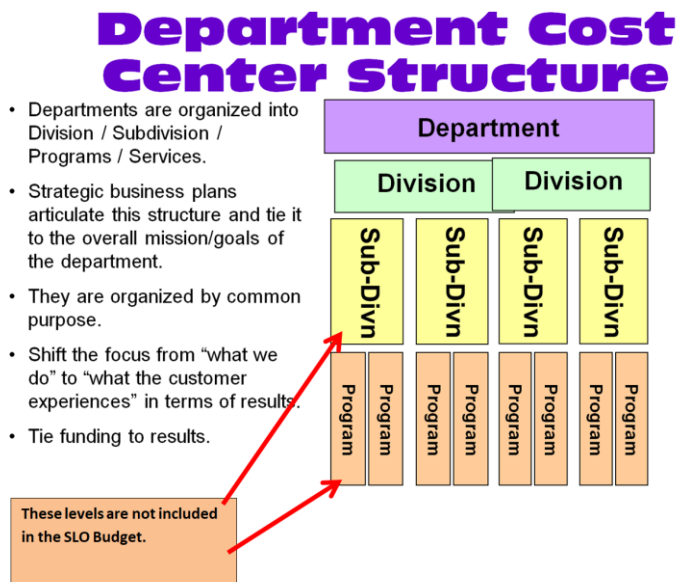
A real measure would be the cost per acre to maintain:

- a. Urban Parks
- b. Regional Parks.
- c. Heavy use areas – playgrounds, sports fields, group reservation areas, etc.

| 4. Performance Measure: Number of Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) standards achieved toward accreditation. | | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| A key component of this measure is to assure that the Department of Parks and Recreation is on track for achieving the standards for accreditation. The department's goal is to complete an additional 50 of the 151 planned standards for FY 2018-19. A higher than planned number of standards completed would equate to staff exceeding the planned target. It is anticipated that a combined total of 151 standards will be completed by the end of FY 2019-20. Once all standards are met and accreditation achieved, this measure will continue to track compliance with standards to prepare for reaccreditation every five years. | | | | | |
| | FY 2017-18 | FY 2018-19 | FY 2019-20 | FY 2020-21 | FY 2021-22 |
| Target | 0.00 | 0.00 | 151.00 | 151.00 | 151.00 |
| Actual | 0.00 | 0.00 | 110.00 | 120.00 | |
| Notes: Additional standards are completed as staff time allows during off season. Unforeseen operational and staffing resource demands, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, have impacted the capacity to complete additional standards. | | | | | |

So the County met all the standards back in FY 2019-20. Did it receive accreditation? How much per acre does it cost to maintain the community parks? Did accreditation create any tangible efficiencies?

We are not picking on Parks here. The problem occurs throughout the Budget presentation. Again, why is the Board not going through these pages in public and asking the questions? They could divide it up. Each Supervisor could lead the analysis of one of the functional sections of the Budget.



5. The departments are requesting tens or hundreds of millions of dollars each, depending on the size of the department, including millions in salaries and benefits. Personnel costs are the major portion of the Budget, over which the Board has policy control.

- a. How much is attributable to labor contract increases?
- b. How much is attributable to COLA increases?
- c. How much is attributable to pension cost increases?
- d. How much is additional staffers?
- e. How much is overtime and other special pays (What are the trends in these regards)?
- f. Wouldn't the Board want to know these facts for at least all the large departments and the County as a whole?

Looking at it another way, how much of the \$22.7 million dollar budget increase from FY 2020 - 21 to FY 21-22 is due to labor contract cost increases? Salary and benefits are up \$21.5 million.

- Is the funding included in the budget? If so, how much?
- Is any to be funded by salary savings (maintaining vacancies) or other planned underspending of the Budget? If so, how much?
- Is the \$5.7 million in new pension costs included in the proposed Budget?

The Board should ask these questions of every Department head during their budget review.

Staffing will reach an all-time high. Ten years ago, the staff level was 2,382. It will now exceed 2,832, a 450 increase in the 9 years since 2012. If one omits the added Social Services eligibility workers, which were mandated as a result of Obama Care, what is the increase? Were there any significant service delivery problems in 2011-12 at the 2,382 level? What were they? Could staff explicate any problems using the performance measures that are provided in the budget?

Again and as we have pointed out, the Board and staff have a misunderstanding of the role of government in America. This in turn impacts the substantive budget priorities in a cycle of incrementalism and spending up to the amount of current revenue available.

For at least the last 11 years, the Budget document has remained structurally (presentation-wise) the same except for some graphic improvements. This conceptual/structural issue presents a major opportunity for the County. The entire budget document and presentation should be restructured to enhance transparency, analytical tools, and comprehensiveness. Saying this is not meant to criticize the staff or any officials involved in the design and production of the budget personally. They just need to come up for air.

A New Public Policy: From the standpoint of policy, the County's overall Vision Statement (see the graphic on the page below) is frozen in the obsolete (though trendy) policy paradigms of "sustainability" and "consumption." It is unlikely that the staff has any idea about this. They are like fish in water. They do not know that there are other realms without water.

First and foremost, the County officially conceives of itself as a provider of consumptive societal goods, which it characterizes as “Community Results.” There is nothing intrinsically wrong with these broad goal statements. They can be found almost word for word on the websites and in policy documents of literally thousands of cities and counties across America.

A problem is that as utilitarian goals, they focus the organization on expanding the services and products as its highest value and reason for existence. This misses the ultimate and most important guiding purpose.



As we have pointed out repeatedly, the unique and animating historic genius of the American Constitutional system was and is that its key purpose is to protect people from their government. The Constitution and its derivative state and local laws recognize that on a practical level government exists to insure freedom, safety of persons and property, legal stability, public order, and the general welfare in society. It’s very distinctive character is that it recognizes that governments themselves have always been and always will be the greatest threat to those very purposes. Accordingly, the County would do well to adopt the statement below as its overarching purpose and organizational value, against which substantive policy and organizational values are measured. This underlying principle animates the Board majority. This will be very difficult for the staff. The values and priorities listed in the chart above and to the right should be replaced by something like:

PROTECT LIBERTY, PERSONAL SECURITY, PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND FREEDOM WHILE PROMOTING INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY, STRONG FAMILIES, AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

From this overall policy, goals, implementing structures and rules, and ultimately resource allocations can be adopted to begin to achieve these.

Further complicating the picture is that the staff and much of the public have been “educated” into the doctrine of sustainability. As has been so clearly stated:

Sustainable Development is a replacement economic system for capitalism and free enterprise. It is a system based on resource allocation and usage rather than on supply and demand and free economic market forces.”¹

¹ Patrick Wood in *Technology Rising: The Trojan horse of Global Transformation*. Coherent Publishing, Mesa Arizona, 2015.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

Board Business:

Item 3 - Request to receive and file a report on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) and provide direction to staff. All Districts. The Board is apparently punting consideration of the \$55 million Federal windfall until after processing the FY 2021-22 Budget. The challenge is to matrix the Federally allowed expenditures with real County needs.

The CEO is soliciting Board direction on programming of \$55 million in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds so he can integrate the plan into FY 2021-22 Budget at some future point. He is attempting to focus the Board on using the funding for one-time projects rather than building in recurring expenditures.

It is very important to ensure that the one-time funding is used only for one-time expenditures, so as not to build a financial cliff in future years. To this end the CEO recommends:

Staff continues to recommend that your Board take a “budget-like” approach to expending ARPA funds. As the funds are one-time, existing budget approaches state that the funds should only be used for one-time purposes. Budget approaches further state that no on-going, or long-term program or project commitments should be made using one-time funds that will have a future impact to the General Fund.

Staff recommends that the Board use “eligible use nexus buckets” as it considers ARPA expenditures. It cannot be overstated that as described in the IFR, specific rules and guidance on eligible spending approaches must be followed. The eligible use nexus buckets are intended to help guide the Board and public through the specific guidelines to ensure that expenditures do not have to be paid back at a future date. Leveraging the broad statements above, eligible use buckets should include:

- Direct COVID-19 emergency response and negative economic impacts (nexus to eligibility statement #1)*
- Government services affected by revenue loss (nexus to eligibility statement #3)*
- Investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure (nexus to eligibility statement #4)*

Staff has not identified any appropriate expenditures for eligibility nexus #2, therefore a bucket is not being recommended at this time. It is important to note that expenditures only need to fall within one eligibility use bucket to meet guideline requirements.

Preliminary Recommendation

| Eligible Use Category | Specific Language per Department of US Treasury Interim Final Rule (summary) | Maximum allowed towards eligible use category | Preliminary Recommendation |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Public Health and Negative Economic Impacts Response | <i>Respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts</i> | \$55M | \$34M |
| Premium Pay to Essential Workers | <i>Providing premium pay to eligible workers</i> | \$55M | \$ - |
| Restoration of Government Services | <i>Provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue</i> | \$25M | \$15M |
| Water, Sewer, or Broadband | <i>To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure</i> | \$55M | \$6M |
| | | | \$55M |

Grab Bag Approach: Apparently the ad hoc committee on the ARPA consisting of staff and Supervisors Peschong and Gibson staff has decided that the program will be a big grab bag, with everybody and their brother lining up for the money. This is a terrible idea as it will be frittered away in a hundred places with no strategic impact. It would seem that under the category *RESTORATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES*, County could claim deferral of many capital projects which could not be designed or executed. What about deferred maintenance on buildings? Certainly the roads were not funded at required levels to make a dent in the Pavement Condition Index (PCI).

The \$34 million *RESPOND TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OR ITS NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS* bucket is the most problematical. First of all, the public health emergency is over, and costs were largely covered by the first round of COVID aid last year. What if they used the \$34 million to boost infrastructure designed to facilitate housing? This would be far better than wasting it away on bottomless pit therapeutic homeless programs.

The write-up outlines the general approach:

Concepts into Action: *Staff anticipates receiving direction from the Board on how to turn the preliminary recommendations contained in this Board item into action. A key starting point is finalizing the use category allocations. Assuming that is completed today, staff would immediately begin to pursue additional actions which would begin getting the funds into the community. Related to business, non-profit, and childcare grant programs, staff would begin working to form a selection subcommittee, finalize selection criteria, and issue a general “call for projects” to the community. The notice would provide guidance to locals who wish to submit a proposal to the County for the use of ARPA funds.*

The expectation is that proposals would be submitted this summer and that ranked and prioritized recommendations would be brought back to the Board for final approval in late summer

Similarly, internal programs, services, and staffing that were cut due to reductions would be reviewed, alongside new proposals for potential ARPA funds during the summer months, and a set of recommendations would be developed. Initial recommendations would be brought back to the Board at the same time as the external grant program, in late summer.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT The Administrative and Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator offices have worked with the Board of Supervisors ad-hoc subcommittee in the development of this report. Both offices will continue to provide support, using existing resources, through the development of the initial plan. Several departments, such as Public Works, Planning and Building, and Social Services, have been consulted to identify potential projects and expenditures eligible under ARPA

Local Agency Formation Commission Meeting of Wednesday, June 9, 2021 (Scheduled)

The June meeting has been cancelled.

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, June 8, 2021 (Completed)

Item 3 - Supplemental Budget Information. The report was received without comment on the consent calendar. This is primarily a housekeeping item that updates estimates which have changed since submission of the Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget last month. The Board will begin its Budget review on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 9:00 AM. We have incorporated the relevant information in this week's Update above. For those who would like to take a look at the schedule and the departments' requests for more funding and staffing than is included in the proposed Budget, please go to the link:
[133444 \(ca.gov\)](https://133444.ca.gov)

Item 8 - Request to recognize the Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano as a community advisory council to the Oceano area. The item was approved 3/2 with Gibson and Ortiz-Legg dissenting. The current Oceano Nipomo Community Advisory Committee has for many years been a tool of NIMBYs, anti-dunes recreation partisans, and some progressive Democrats. Former Supervisor Paul Teixeira attempted to get rid of the thing years ago.

Many residents and business owners feel unrepresented and intimidated by the loud and ideological members. For this reason they petitioned the Board to create a new separate entity. The usual callers and some outside skills called in and opposed the formation of the new group.

In the end, the Community Advisory Committees (CAC's) were created to advise the Board of Supervisors. Obviously the Supervisor from the relevant District should have a say about how to structure the situation. Loyalty flows two ways and the current CAC has been totally disloyal and actually deserves to be dumped. During the meeting representatives and allies ranted about the dunes and praised the Coastal Commission decision to close the off-road riding and camping. They theorized about new recreation opportunities and positive development which will supposedly take place after the riding is shut down.

They are naïve in that the new development will be high end luxury hospitality facilities and high end vacation housing, which will displace the mobile home parks, historic small homes, and small local businesses in the area. The whole idea will turn out to be gentrification. How could they allow working class stiffs from the Valley to come over with their noisy gas powered toys and stink up the place when the ultimate plan is to replace everything with Shutters On the Beach and the Balboa Bay Club type of development? The little coffee shops, taco stands, and neighborhood business will have to go.

Item 9 - Supervisor Ortiz-Legg Proposed Resolution to Endorse the Off Shore Wind Farm Withdrawn. The Supervisor withdrew the proposed policy resolution after hearing objections from a number of fishing industry representative and individuals. While the City of Morro Bay is the zoning authority on the project, the County should become engaged from the standpoint of energy feasibility and economic development. Just exactly what will be the energy produced, how much will it cost, how reliable will it be, and how will it compare with the existing Diablo energy? The County as the regional jurisdiction should have its former Community Choice Energy consultant, Willdan Financial Services, take a look at the matter. Willdan is an expert in all aspects of electrical energy and could advise the Board on the particulars of the off shore wind farm proposal.

Likewise, just what will be the economic benefits to the County in terms of taxes, permanent jobs, and economic multipliers? There are several versions of the project which will have different levels of benefit, cost, and impact. How does this stack up with retention of Diablo? At some point and if the project moves forward, the County is likely to become involved in permitting outside the City of Morro Bay, as a large construction port is proposed and there will be facilities for construction mobilization and ultimately electrical transmission outside the City. The County might as well get some expert help now in deciding if it supports the project. Certainly Gibson and some past Board members did not help PG&E with relicensing and raised all sorts of objections to activities within and under the ocean.

Compensation Items - In General: These items were approved on the consent calendar. **Items 16 and 17** contained a complex Bundle of Employee Work Rule and Compensation Benefit Improvements, which are required by the 2 COVID related Federal Stimulus Laws: the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Both were approved without comment or question on the Consent Calendar.

Item 16 - Submittal of a resolution to establish an employer-paid cafeteria contribution for eligible temporary employees in Bargaining Unit (BU) 00 to comply with the employer mandate of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

Item 17 - Submittal of two resolutions affecting employee hours and benefits related to the current declared emergency for COVID-19: 1) one resolution ratifying the additional leave provisions pursuant to SB95 and the American Rescue Plan Act, by 4/5 vote; and 2) a separate resolution approving A) the continuation of the voluntary schedule reduction program beyond FY 2020-21 and delegating authority to the County Administrative Office and Human Resources Director to continue, end, or reinstate this program, B) approving the reinstatement of the annual 960-hour cap on working hours for most temporary employees and granting the County Administrative Officer the authority to approve temporary employees to work above that cap based on department need, and C) terminating the temporary COVID-19 Catastrophic Leave program effective June 30, 2021, by 4/5 vote.

Take a look at the Board letter for **Item 16** to understand the Gordian knot of the regulatory impact of these Federal assistance programs at the link:
[133170 \(ca.gov\)](https://www.sco.ca.gov)

Item 18 - Submittal of a resolution approving A) increases in employee-paid pension contribution rates and County-paid pension contribution rates based on both the January 1, 2020, Actuarial Valuation report and related recommendations and applicable memoranda of understanding and B) amendments to the San Luis Obispo County Employees Retirement Plan appendices. This important policy matter was slid through on the consent calendar. It should have been a regular Board business item and should have been discussed by the Board members.

They are the ones who agreed to the contract provisions with the employee unions which underlie the ever escalating costs. Over all, the rates will increase, per the table below:

| San Luis Obispo Pension Trust-Rate Increases for Alternate Implementation Dates | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Total Charged Rates at 12/31/2019 | 2020 Val. | | January 1, 2021 | | July 1, 2021 | |
| | | Total ADC | Rate Change | Total ADC | Rate Change | Total ADC | Rate Change |
| ALL CATEGORIES | 44.32% | 47.92% | 3.60% | 48.30% | 3.98% | 48.45% | 4.13% |
| All Miscellaneous | 41.84% | 45.25% | 3.41% | 45.61% | 3.77% | 45.75% | 3.91% |
| All Probation | 45.19% | 49.85% | 4.66% | 50.25% | 5.06% | 50.40% | 5.21% |
| All Safety | 58.56% | 62.96% | 4.40% | 63.46% | 4.90% | 63.66% | 5.10% |

Total Charged Rates at 12/31/2019 (plus 2.68% increase effective 7/1/2020)

The Total ADC is composed of a blended ER appropriation plus a distinct EE rate based on the individual normal cost of each member

As we noted 2 weeks ago, the pension contribution rate paid by both the County and the employees is going up. The staff report is inadequate in that while it does indicate the amount of the increase in contributions (\$5,634,000), it does not indicate the current cost. Thus neither the Board nor the lay reader will have any idea about the relative magnitude or fiscal impact of the legally required increase.

Per the 2020 Actuarial Report, the County (the taxpayers) paid \$48,957,564, and the employees paid \$32,983,211, for a total of \$81,940,775.

The County's share of the cost is going up by the \$5.6 million, as noted above. Thus, its total cost in FY 2021-22 would be about \$54,557,564.

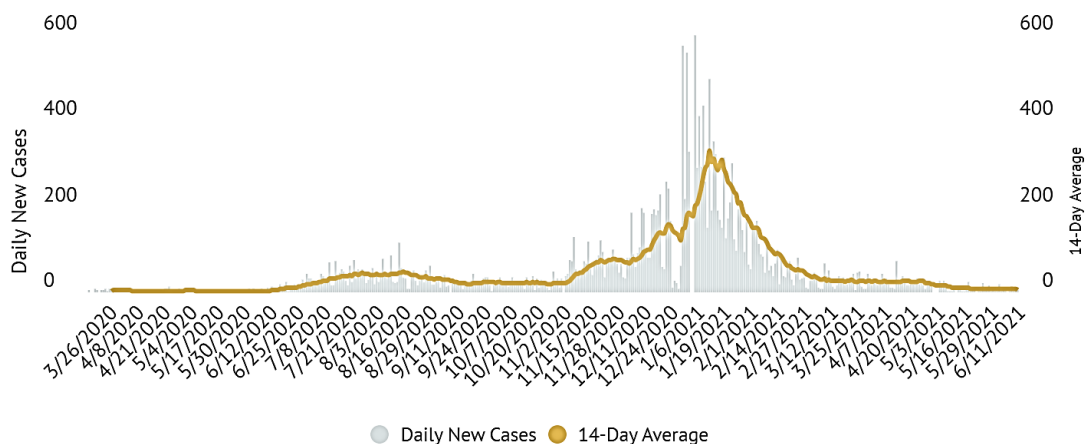
It is not clear if the \$5.6 million is included in the Proposed Budget. Per the table below, salaries and benefits will rise by \$21,521,220 from the current year to the new Budget year. If the \$5.6 million is included, it means that the actual salary costs and some other benefits will rise \$15,922, 220. With about 2,800 employees, that means an average raise of \$5,686 per year.

In any case, the employee costs increase relentlessly. It is only a matter of time until the current model of operating local governments will collapse. Otherwise, more tax increases will be required to sustain the system.

The assets increased by \$400 million. The liability increased by \$1 billion.

Item 28 - COVID Update. The daily new cases and hospitalizations remain low. The staff reported that there have been no deaths for over a month.

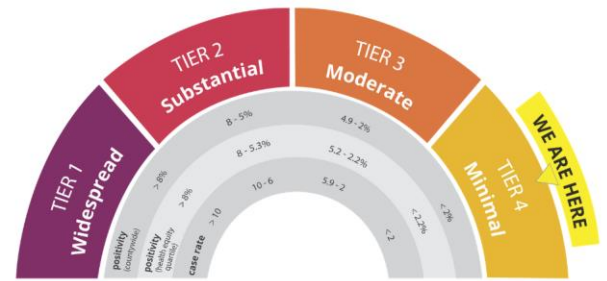
Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average)



4 (1 ICU)**

SLO County Residents with COVID-19 in Hospital

The County moved from the orange tier to the yellow tier two weeks ago. The Governor seems to be waffling on his announcement that everything can open on June 15. At this point the State seems to be using the Occupational Health and Safety Administration as a regulator to continue some aspects of the lockdown.



Item 29 - Public Comment for matters not on the Agenda – Progressive Shills Slammed Arnold and Compton. A large group of leftist callers tied up much of the afternoon session by falsely asserting that comment and questions about the November 5th elections by citizens on May 4, 2021 resulted in the resignation of Clerk Recorder Tommy Gong. During that meeting an ignorant speaker called in and accused Gong of being a member of the Chinese Communist Party because of his ethnicity. The rude and ignorant comment was then amplified by Supervisor Gibson, who asserted it was racist. Gibson’s comment was then picked up and converted into the organizing effort, which culminated in the public lashing of Arnold and Compton at this meeting and in the SLO Tribune.²

In fact, by May 4th Gong must have been a finalist for a new job as Deputy Clerk – Departmental Chief Operating Officer for Contra Costa County. The application deadline for the job was April 2, 2021, per the recruiter’s job announcement displayed below on the next page. When Gong applied for the Contra Costa job, he could not have known of the May 4th comments. There is now evidence that Gong actually applied in January.

Some people were engaging him directly about the alleged ability of the Dominion voting software and hardware to be connected to Wi-Fi or the web and interact in real time with outside controllers. It would seem to have been a simple process to have an expert from County IT to examine the system to determine if this is possible. Reportedly Gong asserted that the County’s contract forbids such an examination. This seems strange, since such a visual observation would not betray any Dominion system trade secrets. Rumor has it that the Dominion staffers were not too happy with Gong. It has not been yet explained exactly why.

Progressives have seized on the issue as an organizing mechanism by hypocritically asserting that Arnold and Compton should apologize for not repudiating the caller. When have the Progressive Democrats ever apologized for Adam Hill who was one of their own and repeatedly threatened innocent citizens, shook down business people, ran up the taxpayers’ legal

² The name of the newspaper itself, SLO Tribune is a cultural and historical misappropriation of the title of certain elected officials in the ancient Roman Republic. The 12 Tribunes were elected by the people (called the Plebes) by district to counterbalance the Senate, which was comprised of the landowning self-perpetuating upper class. The SLO Tribune is diametrically opposed to the local Plebes and promotes the interests of the woke elite upper class. It loathes any commentary or activism by regular non-governmental working people.

costs/settlement costs, and sexually harassed staff and others for years from his official position as County Supervisor. NEVER!!

Among the callers demanding retribution against Arnold and Compton were Rita Casaverde, Chair of the SLO Democratic Party; Karen Bright, Councilwoman of Grover Beach; and Miriam Shaw, former Council Woman of Grover Beach and potential candidate for 3rd District Supervisor.

The larger issue is actually the State mandating of same day registration and voting, banning voter identification, mass mailing of ballots to everyone, lack of control of chain of custody of ballots, and promoting of vote harvesting. Compton and Arnold voted to go to a more secure system of election protocols to the extent possible. The leftist regressives are seeking retribution.

In reality, these party apparatchiks know that some of their members are slackers and need to be given every advantage to vote or to have someone vote for them. The independent dependent class of habitual complainers, climatists, addicts, and socialists are the modern day equivalent of those in the old city Democratic machine days who were loyalized with free turkeys, no show jobs, community organizer jobs, and featherbedding jobs, such as elevator operators and bus conductors. At this point they are simply promising them an all-expense paid life. *Oh Lord, won't you give me a Mercedes Benze, All my friends drive Porches and I must make amends.*

CPS HR  CONSULTING

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES ▾ OUR TEAM CONTACT



Contra Costa County, CA Chief Operating Officer - County Clerk- Recorder's Office

Location: Martinez, California
Salary: \$135,774 - \$164,751
Filing Deadline: First review of applications: April 2, 2021

[APPLY FOR THIS POSITION](#)



Andrew Nelson
Senior Executive Recruiter
CPS HR Consulting
916-471-3329
anelson@cpshr.us

[Contra Costa County, CA](#) is seeking a Chief Operating Officer – County Clerk-Recorder's Office. The County Clerk-Recorder is looking for a jack-of-all-trades for this executive level administrative position. The COO should have extremely strong experience in the following areas:

- Project management
- Familiarity with pertinent California law
- Interpersonal relations and communication
- Budget administration and financial management
- Organizational strategy and redesign
- Public focus and customer service
- Leadership development and training

While in-depth knowledge of a Clerk-Recorder's office is not required, it would be useful in this role. More important than a career in a Clerk-Recorder's office are the management skills necessary to run a large government department. The ideal candidate will possess characteristics and values that will bring long-term benefit to the management of the Department, including integrity, credibility, a positive attitude, teamwork, excellence, and vision. Technical skills, such as budgeting and financial management, are critical for this position. An aptitude for learning is essential, particularly the nuanced details of running a Clerk-Recorder and Elections office.

[DETAILED DESCRIPTION: PDF](#)

Gong had to have filed well before May.

Item 32 - Hearing to: 1) submit an annual review of the County growth rate for new dwelling units for FY 2020-21; 2) consider a resolution establishing the County maximum growth rate and allocation for new dwelling units for FY 2021-22, in accordance with the Growth Management Ordinance, Title 26 of the County Code; and 3) consider amendments to the Growth Management Ordinance, Title 26 of the County Code, (LRP2021-00002) to extend the 1.8% growth rate for the Nipomo Mesa area for FY 2021-22, to extend the 0% growth rate for the community of Cambria for FY 2021-24, and to extend the expiration date for deferred allocations on the Los Osos wait list until June 30, 2030. The Board performed SLO County’s ritual annual adoption of its so-called growth management limits. This fetish virtual signaling paean to rationing housing was adopted years ago and has remains in place, even though the number of homes permitted never even approaches the actual limits. The staff recommendation states in part:

Adopt the attached ordinance amendment to: a. Extend the 1.8% growth rate for the Nipomo Mesa area for FY 2021-22; b. Extend the 0% growth rate for the community of Cambria for FY 2021-24; and c. Extend the expiration date for deferred allocations on the Los Osos waitlist until June 30, 2030;

Table 4: Maximum allocation of new dwelling units, FY 2021-22

| Type of Dwelling Unit | Maximum number of new dwelling units allowed for FY 2021-22 |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Countywide*, Single-Family | 643 |
| Countywide*, Multi-Family | 346 |
| Nipomo Mesa, Single-Family | 86 |
| Nipomo Mesa, Multi-Family | 46 |
| Cambria, Grandfathered in New Units | 8 |
| Total | 1,129 |

*Excluding the Nipomo Mesa and Cambria and including Woodlands.

Why is the Los Osos development ban being extended for 10 years even though the \$150 million sewage treatment plant has been completed and is in operation? Similarly, the new Los Osos Community Plan has been adopted. No doubt they are using lack of water as an excuse to prolong the shutdown.

Instead of promoting rationing, excruciatingly difficult permitting requirements, expensive fees, development exaction taxes, and the Housing-in-Lieu taxes, the Board should adopt a program to enable housing production.

1. What ever happened to the study to uncover new locations in the County which could be zoned for housing?
2. What ever happened to the idea of a bi-county feasibility study of industrial scale desalination?
3. What ever happened to the feasibility study of replacing the housing-in-lieu fee (really a tax) with more fair affordable housing revenue in which everyone has skin in the game?

Item 34 - Executive Session with Legal Counsel. Apparently, the Board did not vote to assist the pro-dunes riding groups with their lawsuits against the Coastal Commission. Five sub-items, as noted below, pertained to various groups who are suing the Coastal Commission, the County, and the State Parks Department over the Coastal Commission's decision to ban off-road riding and camping at the Oceano Dunes State Park. We went onto the SLO County Superior Court's website to see if we could read the actual documents filed for the cases. It turns out that a citizen must either go to the Courthouse in person or send in a mail request. In either case, a fee is charged based on the amount of material. This all seems a bit cumbersome in an age when you can buy a \$98,000 BMW on Amazon or book complex travel arrangements on AMEX in a few minutes.

Perhaps the Board of Supervisors could have the County Counsel post lawsuit complaints as an attachment to the agenda. It would not compromise the County's legal strategies to defend them.

In any case, the County should ally itself with the Friends of the Dunes and other pro-riding groups to overturn the Coastal Commission's arbitrary and illegal decision. The County could file Amicus briefs defending the people's right to ride and camp. A vote in public on this matter is important, in order that we know where each Supervisor stands.

An even better idea would be to conduct the deliberations on these suits in open session. There is nothing that requires that they be considered in closed session. This is a matter of huge public interest. Why exclude the public from the discussion?

(5) Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. v. California Department of Parks and Recreation, et al., San Luis Obispo County Superior Court Case No. 21CV-0275;

(6) Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. v. California Coastal Commission, et al., San Luis Obispo County Superior Court Case No. 21CV-0246;

(7) Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. v. California Department of Parks and Recreation, et al., San Luis Obispo County Superior Court Case No. 21CV-0214;

(8) Ecologic Partners, Inc. v. California Coastal Commission, et al. San Luis Obispo County Superior Court Case No. 21CV-0219; and

(9) Protect Our County v. County of San Luis Obispo, et al; 21CVP-0061.

Item 36 - Hearing to consider 1) the Local Agency Management Program; and 2) the attached ordinance amending Title 19 of the San Luis Obispo County Code which will allow the County to enforce State regulations or standards for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems. The Board voted unanimously to approve the new regulatory program. Compton asked a few questions and stated that she did not like it but went along anyway. The inherent conflict of interest implicit in the program did not interest the Board in the least.

Background: Per State adoption of stricter regulations (Local Agency Management Program – **LAMP**), the County must adopt stricter regulations for septic systems.

Septic systems are now called Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS). Buried in the text is the provision:

Whenever an OWTS is serviced, a Qualified Inspector shall examine the tank to look for signs of deterioration, corrosion, or evidence that the dispersal field has failed or is in the process of failing. In conjunction with the service, the Qualified Inspector shall prepare a written report that includes the property owner's name and address, a description of the system and any deficiencies noted during the inspection. The report must be submitted to County P&B within 30 days of the date of the servicing/inspection.

Here, commercial licensed septic system installers are converted into County Inspectors of private septic systems. This creates a huge conflict of interest in that once they find a violation or other condition which must be corrected, the owner must comply. The septic company can then offer a price to repair the system or install a new system. The incentive to find problems is patently obvious.

It is the equivalent of having traffic enforcement police being paid a percentage of the traffic fines or hiring commercial electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and excavation contractors as Building Inspectors and Code Enforcement Inspectors. Of course, many old systems need new dry wells, tanks, and access covers. They can cost \$10,000 or more depending on the soils, topography, and other circumstances.

Worse yet, what if a system cannot be brought into compliance? Perhaps it was installed years ago, and standards have changed. Does this mean that your home becomes valueless and must be abandoned? What protections against abuse is the County proposing?

Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) Meeting of Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 1:30 PM (Completed)

In General: This was a busy and tendentious meeting in that it contained amendments to the IWMA's governing documents and amendments to the MOA between each of the member jurisdictions and the IWMA. The reason proffered for the need to amend these agreements is to conform the whole new set of regulations on wet garbage embodied in AB 1383. Suffice it to say, these are massive and will be costly to everyone, especially private business and agriculture.

SB 1383; Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCP): *Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reductions In September 2016, Governor Brown signed SB 1383, establishing methane emissions reduction targets in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP) in various sectors of California's economy. Actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants are essential to address the many impacts of climate change on human health, especially in California's most at-risk communities, and on the environment. SB 1383 establishes targets to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75 percent reduction by 2025. The law grants CalRecycle the regulatory authority required to achieve the organic waste disposal reduction targets and*

establishes an additional target that not less than 20 percent of currently disposed edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025.

Details can be seen at the link: [IWMA Board of Directors \(civicclerk.com\)](http://civicclerk.com)

Open the related items:

Item 8 - Amendment to the San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority Joint Powers Agreement

Item 9 - Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement between the Member Jurisdictions of the San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority and the Authorized Districts.

The Board passed **Items 8** and **9** on 9/4 votes, with Arnold, Compton, Hammon, and Peschong dissenting. Since the County does not support the way the agreements are written up, the vote is moot, as all the jurisdictions must agree to allow the IWMA to obey the State wet garbage mandates. It was decided to have several of the members meet to try to craft language on which they could agree. At this point the issue is in limbo.

A key problem is that the documents were written to commit the jurisdictions to delegate the power to operate and enforce any future state mandates related to processing, storage, disposal, recycling, etc. of refuse. Arnold pointed out that this is tantamount to the Board of Supervisors and each city council, and member special district giving up their sovereignty over their refuse and related mandates and regulations.

Gibson pointedly criticized Arnold, stating that all the members had agreed to this principle when the Agency's strategic plan was adopted earlier this year.

There was objection to fee increases which were included.

Item 10 - Adoption of the IWMA proposed FY 2021-22 Budget. The Agency Board thought that they had approved the proposed budget. However, they may have inadvertently muffed the process. They were discussing a separate motion on a line item for a \$150,000 program called Blue Bag, which pays for equipment and supplies to clean up homeless camp trash. Some of the cities argued that the County should pay for the program. In the end they voted not to fund the program, but forget to then vote on the full budget.

Item 10 - Annual Budget Fiscal Year 2021/2022

| Budget break down for Auditor | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| GL Account | Account Name | Budgeted Amount |
| 4150000 | Interest Revenue | (36,000.00) |
| 4200105 | State Aid-St Awarded Grants | (80,000.00) |
| 4350200 | Hazardous Waste & Oil Fees | (20,000.00) |
| 4350820 | AB 939 Waste Tipping Fees | (2,042,201.17) |
| 4350825 | Site Waste Tipping Fees | (1,108,894.34) |
| 4350955 | Hazardous Waste Revenue | (53,000.00) |
| 4450020 | Other Services-Waste | (5,700.00) |
| 4550065 | Other Reimbursements | (1,000.00) |
| Total Revenue | | (3,346,795.51) |

Expenditures:

Personal Services

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 5001210 | Regular Hours | 632,691.07 |
| 5001507 | Payroll Taxes | 48,362.84 |
| 5001700 | Cell Phone Stipened | 4,158.00 |
| 5050035 | Auto Allowance | 5,400.00 |
| 5001561 | Employee Health Coverage | 138,392.84 |
| 5001522 | Retirement | 195,816.70 |
| *500 | <u>SALARIES, WAGES & BENEFITS</u> | 1,024,821.45 |

Continued on the next page:

Non personnel services:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| 5050015 Advertising | 88,802.50 |
| 5050045 Cell Phone Charges | 2,280.00 |
| 5050055 Clothing (Safety equipment) | 40.00 |
| 5050070 Computer Software | 75,900.00 |
| 5050075 Computer Equipment | 4,000.00 |
| 5050085 Copying-Printing | 141,680.00 |
| 5050095 Credit Card Fees | 900.00 |
| 5050145 Hazardous Waste Disposal | 663,700.00 |
| 5050160 Insurance | 30,000.00 |
| 5050169 Janitorial Supplies | 2,400.00 |
| 5050190 Maint Contracts | 7,200.00 |
| 5050210 Maintenance-Equipment | 14,000.00 |
| 5050220 Maintenance Structures | 7,000.00 |
| 5050255 Memberships | 14,708.00 |
| 5050260 Mileage Reimb-Co Employee | 61,300.00 |
| 5050265 Mileage Reimb-Nonemployee | 63,560.00 |
| 5050280 Office Expense | 6,000.00 |
| 5050290 Other Minor Equipment | 140,300.00 |
| 5050310 Other Purch Svc-Co Agency | 7,770.00 |
| 5050320 Outside Legal Counsel Srv | 150,000.00 |
| 5050335 Postage | 96,800.00 |
| 5050340 Prof & Spec Svcs | 586,475.20 |
| 5050360 Publication & Legal Notices | 700.00 |
| 5050362 Public Outreach & Education | 800,448.97 |
| 5050370 Registratr, Semnr, Trn | 10,000.00 |
| 5050380 Rental/Lease Costs | 21,600.00 |
| 5050400 Rents & Leases-Equipment | 3,000.00 |
| 5050405 Rents&Leases-Struc | 13,649.00 |
| 5050410 Safety Equipment | 9,300.00 |
| 5050425 BOARD OF DIRECTORS STIPENED | 13,200.00 |
| 5050430 Special Department Expense | 200,000.00 |
| 5050440 Telephone | 5,000.00 |
| 5050450 Travel Expenses | 5,000.00 |
| 5050475 Utilities-Other | 5,000.00 |
| * 505-510 - SERVICE AND SUPPLIES | 3,251,713.67 |
| 5500092 Cap Out-Ext-S&I | 300,000.00 |
| 5500093 Cap Out-Ext-Equip | 64,000.00 |
| * 550 - CAPITAL OUTLAY (Modified) | 364,000.00 |
| Total Expenses | 4,640,535.12 |
| TOTAL | 1,293,739.61 |

What is the list of services? Who are the contractors?

What is the detail for this \$200,000?

Why is this so much? What is included? It's IWMA's biggest expenditure. Let's see the breakdown. Who gets the patronage contracts?

Item 13 - Movie Theater Advertising Agreement. The IWMA Board voted not to contract with movie Theaters to show advertising spots to “educate” the public about SB 1383 requirements. Great! You sit down with your popcorn, Milk Duds and Coke. Then you are treated to a video on disposing of your garbage in the back yard and eating more wilted lettuce and reusing your coffee grounds. Wait until they get to the part about the cat box.

| Location | Plays Per Movie | Movies Per Day | Showings Per Day | Showings Per Contract | Price Per Showing |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Atascadero (10 Screens) | 4 | 5 | 200 | 39,200 | \$0.19 |
| Paso Robles (8 Screens) | 1 | 5 | 36 | 6,540 | \$0.37 |
| SLO Downtown (7 Screens) | 4 | 5 | 140 | 27,440 | \$0.19 |

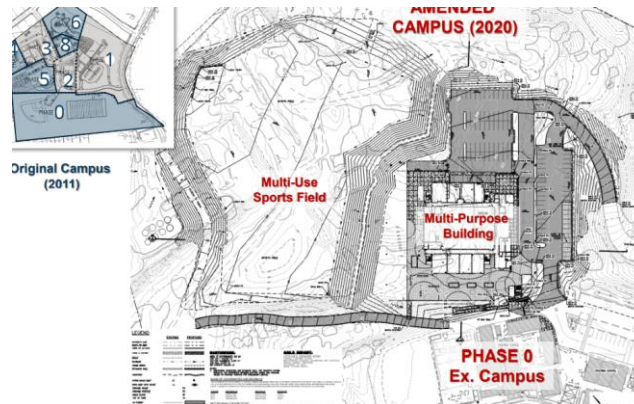
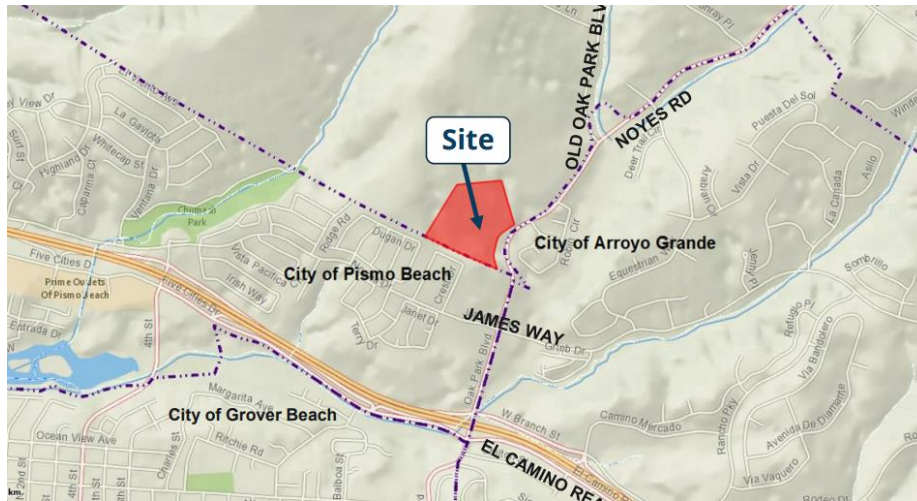
At the end of the meeting the Executive Director announced he was resigning. Of course Gibson tried to conflate this event with the Gong jump to another job and blame the conservatives.

Item 4 - Hearing to consider a request by COASTAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2020-00144) to amend the existing Conditional Use Permit (DRC2008-00021) to allow the following modifications to the previously approved campus masterplan: elimination of all eight development phases, elimination of the 12-year limit to Phase 0 (temporary campus buildings) and allow continued use of the structures, elimination of a secondary access requirement, revision to campus layout with a new (consolidated) 39,103 square foot multi-purpose building, relocation of ancillary outdoor facilities and elimination of sports field night-time lighting and turf installation prohibition. No changes are proposed to previously approved 600 students/50 staff capacity at buildout and granted height exception allowing buildings up to 40 feet (from 35 feet). Requested modifications will result in reduction to previously approved number of building structures, square footage, and site disturbance. The project will result in approximately 9.6 acres of site disturbance over a 23.7-acre parcel. The project is located on the west side of Oak Park Boulevard between James Way and Noyes Road, (at 705 North Oak Park Boulevard). The site is immediately adjacent to the city limits of Pismo Beach and Arroyo Grande. The project application was approved. It drops conditions which made the original development temporary and effectively makes the existing development permanent and allows new development. The staff report indicated that this is feasible under the zoning and discretionary powers of the Commission. The quick project summary is displayed below:

Modification to previously approved Conditional Use Permit DRC2008-00021

- *Elimination of all eight development phases & associated time-limits*
- *Elimination of 12-year limit to Phase 0 (temporary campus building) & allow continued use of the existing structures*
- *Removal of secondary access (no longer required, CalFire 2019)*
- *Revision to campus layout : one Multi-purpose Building (consolidated campus) & relocated ancillary outdoor facilities*

- Request for multi-use sports field nighttime lighting
- Request for turf to be allowed on multi-use sports field (only)



There was no written opposition in the file.

Item 5 - Hearing to consider a request by Morro Shores Mobile home Park, LLC for a Development Plan/Coastal Development Permit (DRC2020-00203) to allow 10 new mobile homes to an existing mobile home park (Morro Shores Mobile home Park). The project also includes the following amenities: new dog park, putting green, shade structure, and seating areas. The existing mobile home park consists of 164 mobile homes and associated improvements. The project will result in a disturbance of approximately 75,000 square feet of a 30-acre parcel. The Commission approved the project unanimously. There was some moderate opposition from existing Park residents who expressed fear that there could be water shortages and/or higher Park assessments and rents for utilities.

Background: The project provides 10 new manufactured homes and the enhancement of some of the park amenities. The staff found it to comply with the regulations, and the community

supports it. To comply with water regulations the park will convert to water saving devices. It is not clear how the proposal squares up with the Los Osos housing ban noted in **Item 32** above. Perhaps it can be approved, as the park already exists and the added water use is diminimus.

One hitch is that the Board-approved Los Osos General Plan is pending before the Coastal Commission. Plus the project itself could be subject to appeal to the Coastal Commission. These would be nice new homes for people who like the Los Osos ambience and proximity to the bay.



Beats the heck out of a lot of places. The grandkids can come and run around.



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

DAMS AND DESALINATION – CALIFORNIA NEEDS BOTH

We cannot let the ideals of ecological perfection be an excuse to impoverish ourselves

BY EDWARD RING

When Californians can take showers, without flow restrictors, for as long as they want, and when Californians can have lawns again instead of rocks and cacti in their front yards, water infrastructure in California will once again be adequate.

When California's farmers can get enough water to grow food, instead of watching their suddenly useless holdings of dead orchards and parched furrows get sold for next to nothing to corporate speculators and subsidized solar farm developers, water infrastructure in California will once again be adequate.

One of the difficulties in forming a coalition powerful enough to stand up to the corporate environmentalist lobby in California is the perception, widely shared among the more activist farming lobby, that desalination is more expensive than dams.

That's not true. It depends on the desalination, and even more so, it depends on the dam.

As a baseline, consider the cost of desalination in California's lone large scale operating plant in Carlsbad north of San Diego. The total project costs for this plant, including the related pipes to convey the desalinated water to storage reservoirs, was just over \$1.0 billion. At a capacity to produce 56,000 acre feet per year, the construction cost per acre foot of annual capacity comes in just over \$17,000.

When it comes to the price of desalinated water, payments on the bond that financed the construction costs form the overwhelming share of the cost per acre foot.

For example, California's second major desalination project, the proposed plant in Huntington Beach, will have a total project cost of \$1.3 billion. Similar to Carlsbad, this plant will produce 50 million gallons of fresh water per day. A 20 year bond paying 7 percent will require annual payments of \$122 million. That payment, applied to the hundred cubic foot increments, or CCF, that typically appear on a consumer's water bill to measure their consumption, comes up to \$5.03. By contrast, the cost per CCF for the desalination plant's operating expenses is only \$0.41, and the price per CCF for a desalination plant's electricity consumption (at \$0.10 per kilowatt-hour) is only \$1.08. Initial construction costs, comprising 77 percent of the price of desalinated water, are the only reason desalination is considered expensive.

Compare this to the price of water from reservoirs, keeping in mind that paying off the construction costs for the dams are also the biggest variable in determining how much consumers have to pay for that water. With dams, unlike desalination plants, two factors come into play: the storage capacity, and the annual yield. With desalination plants the yield is up to the managers. Run the plant, out comes fresh water. With dams, how much water is released from the reservoir to downstream consumers in any given year depends on rainfall.

For this reason, the average annual *yield* of the reservoir is the most accurate way to measure its cost effectiveness. And this amount can vary widely. One of California's biggest proposed new projects is the Sites Reservoir. It would be situated in a valley west of the Sacramento River, north of the Delta. As an off-stream reservoir, it would have water pumped into it when storm runoff is causing flooding. A twin to the already existing San Luis Reservoir, located west of the California Aqueduct south of the Delta, the Sites would have a capacity to store 2.0 million acre feet. But its yield is estimated at 500,000 acre feet per year.

In the case of the Sites Reservoir, this compares favorably to desalination. The Sites project is estimated to cost \$5.0 billion, so the construction cost per acre foot of annual capacity comes in at \$10,000, better than desalination at \$17,000.

On the other hand, the case of the proposed Temperance Flat Reservoir is not so clear. The estimated cost for this dam is \$2.6 billion and the planned storage capacity is 1.3 million acre feet. So far so good. But while estimates vary, the most optimistic projected average annual yield is around 100,000 acre feet per year. This equates to a construction cost of \$26,000 per acre foot of annual capacity, considerably worse than desalination.

Does the fact that desalination yields a better return on construction costs than Temperance Flat mean that the Temperance Flat Reservoir project should be abandoned? Not necessarily. Back in 2017, during record rains, the San Joaquin River flooded, and that water – desperately needed by San Joaquin Valley farmers – could have still been in that reservoir and available for use today. The advantage of big surface storage reservoirs is not their return on capital investment, it's that they can prevent flooding in wet years, and hold massive quantities of water in reserve for dry years.

Similarly, foes of desalination point to the more cost-effective Sites Reservoir proposal as evidence that desalination is too expensive. But the productivity of desalination is impervious to droughts; the water just keeps coming, year after year, no matter what. And the electricity required to run desalination, while significant, is no greater than the electricity currently used by a series of massive pumping stations necessary to transport water from north to south, over the mountains, and into the Los Angeles Basin – over 2.5 million acre feet per year.

Infrastructure development in California has been paralyzed by litigation and legislation. The result is a self-imposed scarcity of water that can be solved by an all-of-the-above strategy to develop new dams *and* desalination plants. Civilization requires a footprint, a plain fact that wasn't lost on previous generations. We've learned how to mitigate the worst impact of new infrastructure, but cannot let the ideals of ecological perfection be an excuse to impoverish ourselves.

General obligation bonds to defray the cost to farmers and residents are something the people of California might accept. Then if the rains don't come for years on end, Californians will still be able to purchase food grown in-state, and enjoy more of the normal amenities of life – a long hot shower. A healthy lawn.

Edward Ring is a contributing editor and senior fellow with the California Policy Center, which he co-founded in 2013 and served as its first president. The California Policy Center is an educational non-profit focused on public policies that aim to improve California's democracy and economy. He is also a senior fellow of the Center for American Greatness.



CRITICAL RACE THEORY'S MARXIST ROOTS

And its existential danger to our political freedom and unalienable rights.

BY BRUCE THORNTON

The expanding influence of Critical Race Theory and its Black Live Matter “praxis,” as Marxists call applied theory, has raised concerns about its incoherent pronouncements and illiberal aims. The origins of this ideology is an important question, for CRT has nothing to do with civil rights, or improving black lives or making them “matter.” It’s about increasing its practitioners’ power in our institutions in order to “fundamentally transform” the United States from a country of ordered liberty and limited government, to a “soft” despotic, intrusively regulated technocracy at best, or an illiberal socialist tyranny at worst.

CRT has its roots in Marxism, as one of the founders of BLM has bragged. And, like the Soviet version of Marxism, BLM’s growing influence over our social, educational, political, and corporate institutions—already compromised by a century of progressive ideology, itself a kissing-cousin of Marxism—is an existential danger to the Constitutional safeguards of our political freedom and unalienable rights.

The first Marxist feature is the dubious habit of thought often called the “hermeneutics of suspicion.” This intellectual grift also defines postmodernism in general, and ideological

movements like poststructuralism, radical feminism, and postcolonialism, all of which are fellow travelers of Marxism.

This method of analysis assumes that the reality of all social, political, artistic, and other cultural phenomena cannot be known from the public words and actions of social and political institutions, but rather must be found in the deeper, subterranean ideologies of the power elite that runs them. This “ruling class” shapes political and institutional “discourses” and “knowledge regimes”—the “epiphenomena,” as Marxists call them—in order to benefit their tyrannical, selfish interests by oppressing others, whom they keep imprisoned in a “false consciousness” that hides from them the true agents and causes of their oppression.

Hence for CRT, all the progress in race relations—the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, *Brown vs. Board of Education*, the growth of the black middle class, the elimination of legal segregation, and the increase in black office-holders including the presidency—are mere “epiphenomena” that have not eliminated the underlying “systemic racism.” According to CRT, this occult “racism” keeps racism alive and accounts for all the “disparate impacts” that deny “equity” (i.e. the equality of result) to blacks and other minorities, but benefit and reward “white privilege” and “white supremacy” at the expense of black well-being.

Correcting that “false consciousness,” especially “white fragility,” the denial of white “privilege” and “racism,” explains the efforts to include CRT in school curricula from pre-school to university, and in training programs for employees of corporations and the federal and state government agencies so that they interpret their functions from the CRT perspective. The goal is to expose and reform these institutions’ true oppressive nature that is obscured by their duplicitous, self-serving public claims and motives. Hence the “1619 Project,” which has revolutionized and deformed the discipline of American history from grade school to university.

This retooled Marxism is clearly preposterous, an abstract, jargon-ridden verbal concoction for which there is no empirical or historical evidence or truth. But “truth,” “objectivity,” “reason” and “evidence” for a Marxist are meaningful and true only in terms sanctioned by Marxist ideology, and the sophisticated “woke” whose “consciousness” has been “raised” above the doltish, bourgeois *hoi polloi* who think, like the chained captives in Plato’s cave, that the shadows dancing on the walls of their politico-social prison are reality.

“Racism” today, then, is not about what it originally meant to the progressive “scientific” racists in the early 20th century—that *every* member of a lower race is *by nature* inferior to *every* member of the superior one. Now “racism” is a function of “white power” and “white privilege,” and its purpose is to shape our culture and political discourse—words like “equality” and “freedom” and “tolerance”—so that they both camouflage and perpetuate that power. So no oppressed person, meaning any “person of color” defined by superficial physical characteristics, can be “racist.” Only “whites,” who because of those historically oppressive institutions enjoy “white privilege” no matter their social class, are “racists.”

The next offshoot of Marxism informing CRT is Critical Theory, a creation of the Frankfurt School and Cultural Marxism that transferred the Marxist struggle from the proletarians on the factory floor, to the broader cultural institutions whose false narratives of truth, beauty, and

freedom had to be destroyed. Hence the “critical” in CRT. It does not mean a method of reasoning and analysis that brings us closer to the truth, but rather an undermining of America political, social, cultural, and economic norms, structures, and “discourses” in order to expose the supposedly ugly truth of economic and legal oppression fomented by conservatives, traditionalists, and patriots. Or as Marx himself put it, “a weapon” to use against an “*enemy*,” which it wants not to refute but to *exterminate*.”

Thus the “long march through the institutions” by devotees of Cultural Marxism, most notably in the universities, for higher education teaches not just the next generation of academics, lawyers, and other professionals who form the country’s cognitive elite; but also those who end up in state colleges where they instruct and certify the future teachers in K-12 schools, thus capturing minds when they are young and impressionable. Again, that’s why revising traditional curricula, even more so than controlling opinion magazines, websites, pop culture, or books, is the most important BLM tool for dismantling the bourgeois, capitalist, Judeo-Christian culture that defines Marxism’s most powerful and hated enemy: the American political order comprising liberal democracy, a free-market economy, and individual rights that transcend political power.

Cultural Marxism, then, attacks “false consciousness” as expressed in our political institutions and discourse, especially the Constitution and its unalienable rights like the freedom of speech. The First Amendment is founded on the idea that a “free marketplace of ideas” expressed by many diverse minds, will respect the citizens’ diversity of viewpoints and opinions, as well as provide a greater public stock of ideas for citizens and lawmakers. But an illiberal, totalitarian mentality despises all true diversity, especially that of speech. Possessing the revealed Leftist truth hidden from the “unwoke,” outfits like BLM have declared open war on the First Amendment.

In doing so they are again refurbishing a Marxist idea. Consider Cultural Marxist Herbert Marcuse’s 1965 essay “Repressive Tolerance,” which argued that the protection of free speech thwarts the cause of “social justice.” Hence his conclusion “that the realization of the objective of tolerance would call for intolerance toward prevailing policies, attitudes, opinions, and the extension of tolerance to policies, attitudes, and opinions which are outlawed or suppressed.”

This means an Orwellian redefining of “tolerance” itself, the sine qua non for free speech, in order to liberate its “true” meaning, which of course comes from Marxism: “In other words, today tolerance appears again as what it was in its origins, at the beginning of the modern period—a partisan goal, a subversive liberating notion and practice. Conversely, what is proclaimed and practiced as tolerance today, is in many of its most effective manifestations serving the cause of oppression.” Any speech that does not advance the Leftist revolution is false and wicked, and should not be tolerated or protected.

From this idea comes the rationalization for the attacks on First Amendment rights that have been going on in universities for decades, but now permeate institutions such as journalism, corporations, publishing, K-12 schools, and even the military. Indeed, some of the top brass in the Pentagon are practicing the “cancel culture” that assaults our unalienable right to speak our minds in the town square, one of those freedoms the military exists to defend.

Critical Race Theory, then, is not some new “higher nonsense” of the sort our universities cook up. It’s the spawn of Marxism and its offshoot Cultural Marxism. It has used ideas like “hermeneutics of suspicion,” “false consciousness,” and “repressive tolerance” to foment racialist division and conflict that they can leverage for more political, social, and cultural power. This has been the modus operandi of Marxism from its beginning, especially in Marxism’s “late phase” when the revolution will not be waged by the industrial proletariat, but by the privileged, affluent tech-oligarchs, corporate boards, media pundits, university faculty and administrators, politicians, think-tank habitues, and federal agencies, all of whom have lost their nerve in the face of a historically, intellectually, and morally incoherent and destructive movement that has littered history with mountains of corpses.

And the old enemy of freedom will win, unless, as Winston Churchill said to Parliament after the Munich debacle, “By a supreme recovery of moral health and martial vigour, we rise again and take our stand for freedom as in the olden time.”

Bruce Thornton is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the Freedom Center, a Research Fellow at Stanford’s Hoover Institution, and a Professor of Classics and Humanities at the California State University. He is the author of nine books and numerous essays on classical culture and its influence on Western Civilization. His most recent book, Democracy’s Dangers and Discontents (Hoover Institution Press), is now available for purchase.



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