



**WEEKLY UPDATE  
OCTOBER 10 - 16, 2021**

**THIS WEEK**

**SPECIAL BOS MEETING, OCTOBER 12 - 9AM**  
LIVE INTERVIEWS OF CLERK RECORDER CANDIDATES  
AWKWARD MOMENTS FOR EVERYONE

**SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, OCTOBER 13 - 1:30 PM**  
THE COUNTY BOARD MAJORITY WILL BE CHASTIZED  
&  
DISCUSSION OF DA'S INVESTIGATION OF CORRUPTION

**APCD HEARING BOARD, OCTOBER 13 - 9 AM**  
REPORT ON STATE PARK'S PROGRESS ON MITIGATING OCEANO DUNES DUST

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS**  
OCTOBER 13 - DUNES LAWSUITS IN CLOSED SESSION  
&  
OCTOBER 15 - FIRE PREVENTION VEGITATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

**LAST WEEK**

**BOS MEETING**

**DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS CHEWED ON BUT NO REAL PLANS**  
**CLERK RECORDER APPOINTMENT CONTROVERSY CONTINUES**

# **SLOCOG**

**PUBLIC PREFERS SINGLE FAMILY HOMES AGAIN**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

**CAMBRIA CHRISTMAS MARKET PERMIT**

**NIPOMO HOUSING OFF TEFF STREET HOUSING**

## **EMERGENT ISSUES**

**COVID STATUS**

**HOUSING AUTHORITY TAX BILL INSERT**

**THEY WANT YOU TO RENT TO BOX CAR WILLIE**

**GLOBAL WARMING POSTPONED**

## **COLAB IN DEPTH**

**SEE PAGE 23**

**AMERICA AND *THE DYING CITIZEN***

*Freedom requires constant reinvestment in and replenishment of a nation's traditions and ideals.*

**BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON**

**ROOT CAUSES AND THE SUBVERSION OF  
DEMOCRACY**

*Or, how to ignore problems by pretending to solve them*

**BY ADAM ELLWANGER**

**THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS**  
**ALL MEETINGS ARE 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

**Special Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, October 12, 2021 (Specially Scheduled)**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956, that the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, has called a special meeting of said Board of Supervisors, to be held beginning at the following date, time and place, to consider the following items of business:**  
**Date and Time of Special Meeting: October 12, 2021, at 9:00 A.M.**  
**Place of Special Meeting: Board of Supervisors Chambers,**  
  
**1055 Monterey Street**  
**San Luis Obispo, CA 93408**  
**Business to be considered: See agenda below.**

**Item 1 - Interviews and selection of a candidate to fill the Office of County Clerk-Recorder to complete the remainder of the unexpired term of office following the vacancy created by the resignation of Clerk-Recorder Tommy Gong.**

**Framing of the Meeting:** Significantly, the actual Board letter framing the meeting and agenda item was prepared and submitted by the Human Resources Director (HR Director), not the County Administrative Officer (CAO) or Board Chair. This in itself confirms the underlying complicity of the administrative organization to control the issue. The HR Director Board letter states in part:

*It is recommended that your Board interview the top three (3) candidates recommended by the Clerk-Recorder Application Review Committee and select a candidate for appointment for Clerk-Recorder to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of office left vacant by the resignation of the elected Clerk-Recorder, Tommy Gong.*

In making this official statement, the HR Director has, perhaps without realizing it, interposed herself substantively into the selection process. She may be thinking that she is carrying out the direction of the Board to provide candidates, but she never qualifies her recommendation in this regard and simply says “interview 3 candidates,” which in effect means exclude others which 3 members of the Board would like to see. Does she recommend the 3 candidates or any one of them? What did she think of the other candidates? What did she think of the original Board direction to bring 7 finalists? It was ignored.

The staff and advisory committee in effect forbade the Board from seeing more candidates at this point.

**Note:** As of Friday, one of the candidates withdrew from the process, leaving only two.

**Compton's Vote Last Week and Her Potential Recusal Later:** One of the surviving candidates is a current Deputy Clerk recorder in the SLO Clerk Recorder office, and the other is a long-term alumna of the office who is currently serving as Deputy Clerk recorder in Santa Barbara County. Three members of the Board are clearly concerned about perpetuation of the current organizational culture of the office and especially its past opacity with respect to the technical capabilities of the Dominion<sup>1</sup> voting system vis-a-vis online communications capabilities. They would like to have seen a broader spectrum of candidates.

As noted on page 15 of last week's completed actions below, Supervisor Compton, although she wanted to see more candidates, voted to not compel staff to bring forward more than three at this time. She asked if none of the 3 received at least 3 votes, could the Board could request more candidates. She was told yes. Thus, the Board voted 3/2 against bringing more candidates at this point (Compton, Gibson and Legg against, and Arnold and Peschong voting to bring more candidates).

She also announced that she would recuse herself if more candidates were then provided in the future and one turned out to be local Attorney and Democratic Party Activist Stew Jenkins.

Jenkins once represented Compton in a dispute with the Clerk Recorder's office, and she did not want to give the appearance of a conflict of interest. County Counsel has been clear that for Compton to participate even with Jenkins on an expanded list would not be an actual conflict of interest, as their relationship was simply as attorney and client. Jenkins is an expert in election matters, and his practice has been involved for many years around the central coast.

Nevertheless, Compton would recuse herself if the list of candidates is expanded and includes Jenkins.

**The Administrative Class vs. The People:** The fundamental issue at this point is not the qualifications candidates for interim Clerk Recorder. The situation moved far past that concern once the County staff and a citizen advisory committee resolved to limit their recommendations and, in effect, politically forbade the Board from seeing additional candidates.

The fundamental question is whether the peoples' elected Board of Supervisors should be able to use their legal appointment power to shape the County priorities and administration. At this point, the administration itself has blunted that power and has undermined the fundamental democratic institution.

It turns out that the afore mentioned Stew Jenkins has provided an excellent distillation of the issue, which is reprinted here below:

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<sup>1</sup> Dominion is an international commercial purveyor of computer software and hardware used by hundreds of jurisdictions to register voters, maintain records, count votes, and otherwise manage the entire process. There has been no proof that Dominion could have manipulated the November 2022 election but the Office was not forthcoming in demonstrating whether the system has or has not live Wi-Fi capacity particularly at the time it is running the vote tabulation programs.

## SHOULD SLO COUNTY LEADERSHIP CUT TIES TO CORRUPTION?

*An open letter to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors:*

*Just days ago the governor signed 10 sweeping bills amending the conduct of elections. Changes now must be lawfully harmonized with local preferences.*

*In July, you took joyful steps toward ending the mistrust that has swept through our county by welcoming all applicants to fill the vacant SLO County Clerk-Recorder's Office. Selecting the right qualified individual from outside the institutional administrative class will bring our citizens together, restore confidence in county elections, and improve services in every part of our county.*

*At a time when the United States Attorney has ongoing investigations into San Luis Obispo County, it is time to bring in new leadership. Leadership with integrity and broad election, recording, contracting and management experience is needed.*



*Leadership with no ties to the culture of corruption that has generated those ongoing investigations by the U.S. Attorney is needed.*

*The institutional administration instead doubled down. There is an incestuous quality to their message. Look at the energy it has applied to keep you from even interviewing anyone outside their institutional administrative family.*

*The administrative class has suppressed your vote, by ignoring your direction to give you seven candidates for interviews. It has generated propaganda claiming that a candidate who is an election law attorney, with experience as a deputy registrar of voters, experience as a county polling place inspector, experience in elective office, experience managing public and private contract bidding, experience setting aside partisanship, and experience managing employees and contractors is somehow not qualified to lead the office.*

*You can take an important step to end the culture of corruption that the Administrative class has allowed to fester.*

*Throw off the reins of those seeking to fence you off from the qualified leaders our citizens need.*

This article first appeared in the October 6, 2021 issue of Cal Coast News.

From our standpoint, government corruption is not just limited to bribes, embezzlement, contract manipulation, and granting or withholding permits based on campaign contributions and cronyism. The very fact that our politics are so divided and bitter today demonstrates that nothing, really, has been settled, despite a century of efforts by progressives, reformers, and well-educated experts to create a modern “administrative state” overseen by nonpartisan and professional bureaucrats. The terrible reality is that these people (now 2 generations) have been indoctrinated by the woke university.

The problem is much deeper than corruption, because the first priority and basic policy is to maintain and enhance the organization and its members, the deep state, the deep county, deep city, or whatever the entity.

It is to protect, preserve, and expand the government agencies, which provide them extensive pay, pensions, and health care, and which dole out ever more protected jobs in a double protected unionized and civil service bureaucracy. We have allowed the public servants – “the servants” – to become the controllers – the guardians in Plato’s model State.

Staff does not want to rock the boat; it eschews investigations and tries to settle dirty laundry in the back room.

Boards of Supervisors, city councils, school boards, community service districts, for the most part, defer to staff.

As a result, the core values are abandoned. These include:

- Adherence to law and especially the Constitution
- Economy and efficiency
- Accountability
- Reasonableness in administration

Instead, all manner of faddish management jabber about “teamwork,” “resilience,” “integrity,” (which means what ? – say at the level of a Coastal Commission staffer?), “agile systems,” “more vibrant organization,” etc.,” are taught as the fundamental operating ethics. The County Board of Supervisors is part of the “team.” Instead, it should be there to monitor any team that may exist. Moreover, it is there to control the administrative staff of the County government on behalf of the citizens. Similarly, the County Administrative Officer, County Counsel, and high-level budget analysts are there assist the Board, not the team. They are there to question the departments and help the Board of Supervisors form independent positions on behalf of the citizens.

These officials are there to question everything independently and thereby support the Board. There should be tension between the generalist officials and the rest of the bureaucracy. The County is not the Texas A&M Football Team or the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets. It is a government, which exercises the monopoly of force and violence in society. The Board and the executive group need to be with the citizens, not the bureaucracy.

From the standpoint of policy, the Federal, State, County, and other local governments are frozen in the obsolete (though trendy) paradigms of sustainability and consumption, equality of results, critical race theory, doctrinal environmentalism, and all the rest. It is unlikely that the staff has any idea about this. Most of the elected officials and appointed bureaucrats are like fish in water. They do not know that there are other realms without water.

First and foremost, our officials conceive of themselves as providers of consumptive societal goods. 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

But far worse and more dangerous is the new left progressive enviro-social claim that government should transform not just governance and services, but society as a whole, and ultimately the civilization.

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. Its very distinctive character is that it recognizes that governments themselves have always been and always will be the greatest threat to those very purposes.

Somehow 3 members of the Board of Supervisors detected some of this in the Clerk Recorder selection process and rebelled.

The noisy response of current bureaucrats, retired bureaucrats, the local government clerks' club, the League of Woman Voters, the progressive Democratic Party, and the SLO Tribune confirm the Board majority's righteousness.

Relatedly, please see Victor Davis Hanson's incisive analysis of this issue nationally on page 23 below in the **COLAB IN DEPTH** section. One excerpt states:

*But citizens also are equally suspicious and rightfully distrustful of the top-down subversion of citizenship by postmodern elites and the privileged. The latter often expect Americans to give up their ancient freedoms to a vast, unelected, and unaudited permanent administrative state, to be run by **credentialed functionaries** and **sanctioned "experts."** That technocratic regimentation may now be the Chinese model, but it was never the vision of our founders.*

**INTERVIEW PROCESS: The Appendix to the Board letter for this item indicates that Tuesday's meeting will be conducted as follows:**

1. The candidate interview process is conducted at a public meeting of the Board of Supervisors on October 12, 2021.

2. The following materials are included as attachments to this agenda item: County ClerkRecorder job posting, advertising materials, application materials, a candidate summary and a background summary for the top 3 candidates.

**Note:** As of Friday, one of the candidates withdrew from the process, leaving only two.

3. Public comment is taken.

4. All candidates will attend the entire meeting. Your Board determines the order of applicant interviews by lot drawing. Interview Format 1. Candidate introduction (5 minutes). Candidates will make a 5-minute introduction on themselves and describe why they are the best candidate.

***Interview Format:***

- 1. Candidate introduction (5 minutes). Candidates will make a 5-minute introduction on themselves and describe why they are the best candidate.*
- 2. Board Questions and Candidate Responses as needed.*
- 3. Applicant closing statement (1 minute). Selection Process.*

***Selection Process:***

- 1. Each Board member selects their top candidate or candidates for purposes of deliberation.*
- 2. The Board deliberates.*
- 3. At the conclusion of deliberations, a member of the Board makes a motion to appoint a specified candidate as the Clerk-Recorder, and the Board would designate an effective start date.*

It will be interesting to observe how this plays out in the Board room with a divided and aggressive audience.

**Posted Job Requirements, Candidate Applications, and Preliminary Background Checks can be accessed by control clicking at the link below. When it opens, click on the item you wish to view:**

<https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/iip/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/13888>

**Integrated Waste Management Authority Meeting of Wednesday, October 13, 2021  
(Scheduled) 1:30 PM.**

**Item 10 - Update on District Attorney Investigation of IWMA Corruption.** The District Attorney found that while there were process and financial documentation problems, these did not rise to the standard for a criminal prosecution. In some cases, the statute of limitations also precluded prosecution. These matters involved the allegations of corruption against the former Executive Director of the IWMA, William Worrell, and one of its contractors, Eco-Solutions. Also, many records were destroyed, and some were stored in a damp shipping container where they rotted. These circumstances limited the DA's investigation in some respects

The 51-page report by the DA explaining this determination can be accessed by control clicking on the link:

[9e6d68d3-b59f-4d8d-a261-cd1098e31e76.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)



It should be noted that the DA stated that his office will not be prosecuting former IWMA Executive Director William Worrell, but will be prosecuting former IWMA Board Secretary Carolyn Goodrich for embezzlement.

The big fish got away. Several summaries from the report are displayed below.

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The District Attorney's Office received three separate written reports from Carl Knudson<sup>1</sup> between February and June 2018 that allege misconduct by employees and mismanagement of the San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) and misconduct of individuals connected with the IWMA. After reviewing those three reports, meeting with Mr. Knudson, and reviewing public documents from the IWMA, the Public Integrity Unit opened an investigation into the allegations contained within the report.

Over three years, District Attorney Investigators devoted considerable time and resources to this investigation. This included serving 23 warrants, obtaining documents through the California Public Records Act, contacting multiple potential witnesses, and conducting 11 formal interviews, two in Kentucky. The District Attorney's Office hired a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Fraud Examiner with prior law enforcement experience to examine credit card purchases over four years on six IWMA credit cards.

Investigators conducted a forensic examination of eleven hard-drives and other IWMA devices containing 4.62 Terabytes of data. Those devices contained eleven million digital artifacts, a number which was narrowed to a manageable level using a key-word search, allowing investigators to review 263,000 emails and messages, 82,000 media-related items, 441 social media items, 282,000 web-related artifacts and 49,000 other documents.

The investigation has culminated with the filing of one felony criminal complaint against IWMA former employee Carolyn Goodrich for nine separate charges of embezzlement of public funds (Penal Code section 504) and one charge of destruction of public records and documents (Government Code section 6200).

The remainder of this report reveals additional important factual findings concerning disturbing practices and lack of proper oversight that should be reviewed by the IWMA Board of Directors and interested members of the public. These findings will assist governing board members in assessing what, if any, additional reforms should be put into place to ensure accountability and increased public trust in this agency.

Release of this report is consistent with the desired transparency and open government contemplated by the Ralph M. Brown Act, enacted in 1953:

*"The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."*  
California Government Code section 54950.

<sup>1</sup> Carl R. Knudson is described as follows: "CFE, PI and former IRS special agent, and former "Big 5 Accounting Firm" Director. We combine knowledge, experience and the most competitive fees in delivering our work product to our clients. Mr. Knudson is a recognized fraud examiner, forensic accountant and successful expert witness in Fraud and Criminal Tax litigation." <http://www.knudsoninvestigations.com/company.html> (accessed September 22, 2021).

#### FINAL OBSERVATIONS

It has been observed that in his role as Manager of the IWMA, William Worrell ran the IWMA as if it was a private business. While some may view this as laudable – he was successful in obtaining grant funding and developed programs that by some accounts made the IWMA a standout in California – the IWMA is not a private business and must be operated with transparency expected of governmental entities.

While a lack of transparency may have created an environment where theft could occur undetected, misconduct was not found on the part of William Worrell. For the reasons expressed above, the allegations against Carolyn Goodrich will not be addressed here.

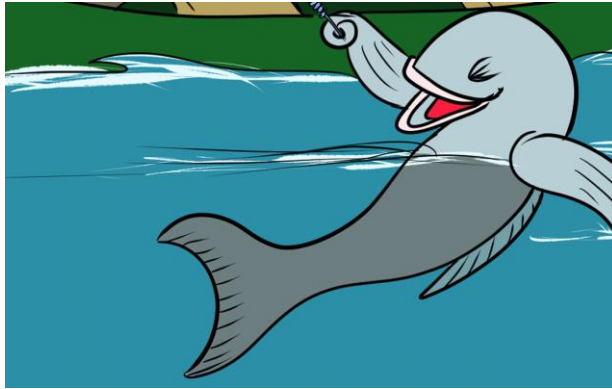
It bears noting that a forensic audit of the IWMA was conducted by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (“CLA”) and its report was shared with the District Attorney’s Office. While the scope and purpose of its investigation were similar to the District Attorney’s Investigation, it was not identical. While the District Attorney’s Office was allowed access to this report, this office has not been authorized to share it. Nonetheless, it is clear CLA encountered some of the same hurdles as experienced by the District Attorney’s Office, including the lack of supporting records for many expenses, making it difficult to evaluate whether many expenses were appropriate or not.

Finally, it is important to emphasize that since the District Attorney’s Office began its investigation, the IWMA has made changes leading to greater transparency and oversight. This includes a 41-page policies and procedures handbook, effective June 18, 2020, covering a wide range of matters including vacation leave, use of the IWMA credit card, travel authorizations, and a variety of other matters. The Auditor-Controller’s Office made concrete recommendations for improving the IWMA’s internal controls, all which have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented.

It is also evident that the Board is now provided with substantially more information about IWMA operations than it had in the past. This includes updating the Board at each meeting with the current state of the budget – how much revenue has come in and how much is being spent.

With respect to spending, the Board is provided with a list detailing every expense placed on the IWMA credit card. The Board is also given a list of all payables during the quarter which names the payee, the amounts paid and a description of what service or items was provided. In sum, the information now being provided allows Board members to track how IWMA funds are being spent.

As stated in the introduction to this report, the primary mission of the District Attorney’s Office is to prosecute criminal matters. The focus of this investigation was to do more than simply identify questionable conduct, but to identify conduct that was criminal and can be proven to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt. The District Attorney’s Office has not identified criminal conduct on the part of Charles Tenborg or William Worrell, but will prosecute Carolyn Goodrich for the charges that have been filed against her and listed above.



### **The Big Fish Got Away**

**Item 13 - Amendment of the Joint Powers Agreement between the Cities and County to Recognize the withdrawal of the County.** The Board will amend the agreement between each of the cities and the County to recognize the withdrawal of the County from the IWMA. The write-up states in part:

*BACKGROUND: On May 10, 1994, an agreement was executed by and between the Cities and the County forming a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for the purposes of facilitating the development of waste diversion programs and providing economies of scale on a regional basis.*

*In 2001, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed by and between the Cities, the County, and Special Districts with solid waste powers within the County amending the JPA Agreement to include the Authorized Districts for representation on the IWMA Board. In May of 2002, Resolution No. 02-04 was approved ratifying the admission of El Paso De Robles as a member of the IWMA. On September 14, 2021, the County Board of Supervisors voted to withdraw from the IWMA with an effective date of November 15, 2021.*

*In order to facilitate the continued operation of the IWMA Board of Directors without the County as a member jurisdiction, this second amendment to the JPA Agreement is necessary to:*

- (1) Revise the representative members of the IWMA Board of Directors to eliminate the participation of the County Board of Supervisors.*
- (2) Eliminate the requirement that a County representative is required to establish a quorum of the IWMA Board.*

### **APCD Hearing Board Meeting of Thursday, October 14, 2021 (Scheduled)**

The APCD Hearing Board will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 9:00am.

**Item 5 - The Hearing Board will receive an informational update on activities in Stipulated Order of Abatement 17-01 issued to California Department of Parks and Recreation Off-**

**highway Motor Vehicle Division.** The item appears to be a show-and-tell with no recommended action.

*A public workshop addressing the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Conditionally Provisionally Approved Annual Report and Work Plan (ARWP) will also be held remotely at this time. The workshop will include a presentation of the draft ARWP by State Parks, and a presentation on the adequacy of the ARWP and effectiveness of mitigation by the Scientific Advisory Group. In addition, APCD will also provide a summary of the process. The hearing and workshop will provide an opportunity for the public to make general comments and on any item considered. The public is invited to provide written public comments in advance of the workshop. Comments must be received on or before Wednesday, October 13, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to boardclerk@slocleanair.org.*

*Progress report on activities called out in Stipulated Order of Abatement (Case No.17- 01): In the Matter of California Department of Parks and Recreation - Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division – Oceano Dunes State Recreation Area. No action required. Includes review and workshop addressing Provisionally Approved Annual Report and Work Plan and Advisory Group Recommendations.*

- a. Introduction by SLO County APCO.*
- b. Presentation by California State Parks.*
- c. Presentation by the Scientific Advisory Group.*
- d. Presentation by SLO County APCD.*
- e. Accept Public Comment.*
- f. Board Member questions or comments*

### **California Coastal Commission Meeting of Wednesday, October 13, 2021 (Scheduled)**

**Closed Session:** The Commission will be dealing with a series of lawsuits involving its Determination to close the Oceano Dunes to off-road riding and freestyle camping. It is not possible to determine from the public agenda the exact nature of the discussion. It is doubtful that they will come out and announce a change of heart.

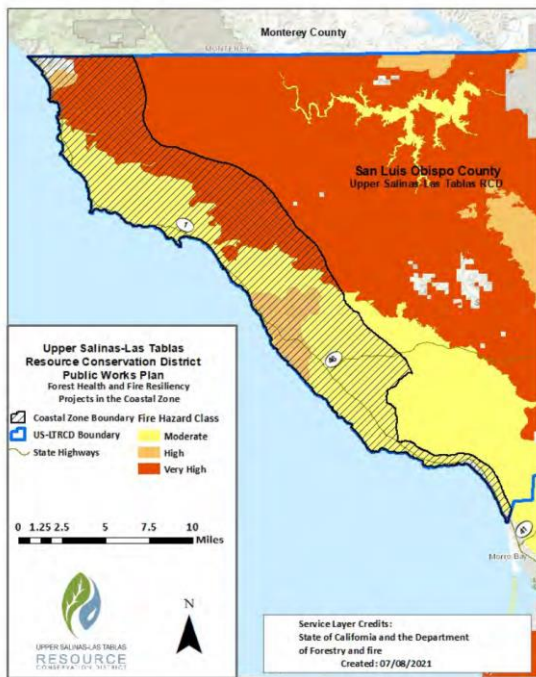
**Friends of Oceano Dunes v. CCC, et al. (Case 16CV-0160), Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**  
**Friends of Oceano Dunes v. CCC, et al. (Case 20CV-0100), Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**  
**Friends of Oceano Dunes v. CCC, et al. (Case 17CV-0267), Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**  
**Friends of Oceano Dunes v. California Department of Parks and Recreation, et al., Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**  
**Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. v. CCC, et al. (County of San Luis Obispo, et al. RPIs), Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**  
**Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. v. CCC, et al. (California Department of Parks and Recreation, et al., RPIs), Govt. Code § 11126(e)(2)(A)**

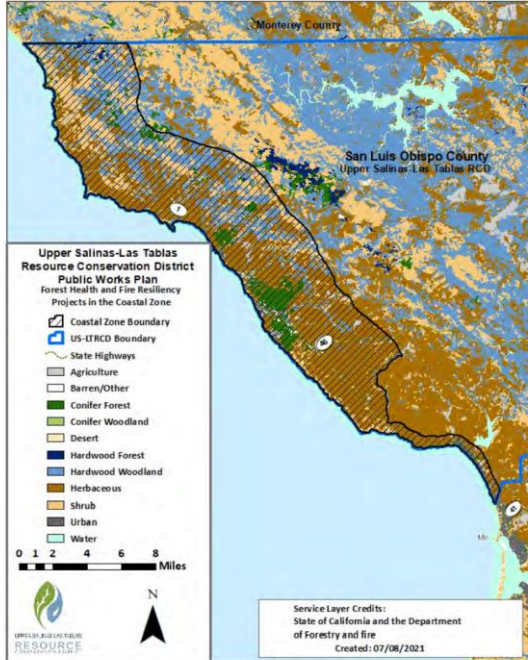
**Item 21 - Upper Salinas Conservation District 10 Year Vegetation Management Wildfire Plan.** The Commission will consider approval of a plan developed by the District, ranchers, farmers, and others to manage vegetation to limit wildfires. The Commission’s staff recommends approval. The Plan is extensive.

*Public Works Plan No. PWP-3-SLO-21-0004-1*

*Public hearing and action on Public Works Plan submitted by the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District comprising a 10-year vegetation treatment program to enhance ecosystems and improve wildfire resilience, undertaken pursuant to the Board of Forestry's certified California Vegetation Treatment Program Programmatic Environmental Impact Report, within the San Luis Obispo County coastal zone region that stretches from the boundary with Monterey County in the north to the northern border of the City of Morro Bay in the south and, if the Commission does not take a final action, possible action to extend the deadline for final Commission action on the Public Works Plan.*

The maps below illustrate the area covered by the plan and also how far inland the Coastal Commission deems its authority to reach on such issues.





## LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

### Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, October 5, 2021 (Completed)

**Item 16 - Drought Update.** The symbolic handwringing resumed, as there have again been several dry years in a row. Worse yet, and except for one wet year, this comes on top of a previous 5-year drought. The usual provisions are being pushed to encourage people to use less water. The Board received a brief report on various county activities related to managing the growing water shortage.

**Background:** The problem for society and its leaders is not so much what to do about major epochal changes, which may or may not be occurring, but what do we do in the short run (decade time frames) to solve our immediate problems of potential protracted water shortages. Once again, we would recommend that Santa Barbara County, SLO County, and perhaps Monterey County get together to conduct a feasibility plan of securing additional sources of water, storing that water, and being able to distribute that water. This would be in the context of persistent drought caused by any circumstances. Several feasibility studies are necessary.

1. Acquisition and transport of northern California river water, which is currently flowing out to sea from the Siskiyou, Klamath, and other rivers in the millions of acre-feet per year. The State

seems incapable of dealing with this opportunity, and thus we must take leadership. There may be many allies.

2. Development of industrial scale desalination on the central coast.
3. Retention of nuclear power to supply the electrical energy necessary to move and process large quantities of water.
4. Major public education on the realities and economics, which go beyond current narrow discussions of rationing society into a lower standard of living.

The Board showed no interest in pursuing any of these ideas.

While local officials are beating their brains out to rearrange the deck chairs on the Titanic, no one is looking at the larger strategic opportunities. Such efforts might in the end fail politically and/or ideologically, as the enviro-socialists consolidate their power over society. On the other hand, the citizens could begin to revolt as things deteriorate and expel the current rationers from power in the government, universities, media, and corporations. Why not take some steps now?

**Item 19 - Clerk Recorder Selection Process.** The Board voted 3/2 to reject Supervisor Arnold's motion to expand the number of interview candidates from 3 to 7. Supervisors Compton, Ortiz –Legg , and Gibson opposed the motion. Supervisor Compton qualified her vote by inquiring of the County Counsel whether they could add candidates if one of the existing candidates did not receive at least 3 votes. The answer was yes. Supervisor Gibson seemed to agree that if they could not agree on one of the 3, they could see more (now there are only 2).

The next step is a Special Board meeting on Tuesday, October 12, during which they will interview the remaining 2 in public. See **Item Number 1** on page 3 above for the details of that session. If you are not familiar with the issue, please read the **background** below.

There was considerable public comment followed by Supervisor debate. Gibson and Legg were adamantly opposed to allowing expansion of the interview list. There were a number of retired bureaucrats in the room supporting the proposition that only those who had extensive education and experience in the operation of Clerk Recorder departments are qualified. They even rejected the notion that a generalist manager might be qualified.

**Background:** After former Clerk Tommy Gong resigned to take a new job in Contra Costa County, the Board of Supervisors determined to appoint a successor to fill out the unexpired term. The position is elected, and therefore the person the Board appoints will have to run in 2022 if he or she wishes to continue. Rather than appointing an existing staffer, and perhaps signaling favoritism, the Board opted to allow for open competition and invited people to apply. The only legal requirement for the job is that the person be a voter in San Luis Obispo County. To further assure an open process, the Board commissioned an advisory committee to review the applications and recommend candidates for Board consideration. Reportedly 44 individuals applied, and the committee recommended three.

This is where the trouble started. The Board clearly requested that the committee send them 7 names. Instead, the committee, with the help (dare we say connivance) of the County staff –

probably the HR Department and CAO, decided that applicants should be pre-qualified for the position by possessing university educations and professional experience in the field of county clerk recorder duties, including elections.

Remember that the law sets no formal requirements for education or experience, as the position is elected and open to any registered voter. In setting the requirements, the Legislature clearly did not reserve the position for a lifelong bureaucrat working his or her way up through the system. In a democracy, it is important that the elected officials not be given career preference through bureaucratic advancement. Note that this position is not like Public Health Director, who has to be a doctor, or a County Engineer who has to be a licensed engineer, or hundreds of other expert positions, which require training and licensing and which are part of the civil service system.

In any case, as the Board and ultimately the voters have wide ranging choice in the selection of a county clerk recorder, the primacy of ultimate voter control is enshrined in the requirements. In the meantime, it is the elected Supervisors who have the responsibility to appoint someone to complete the current term. Remember that the Supervisors themselves have no professional, educational, or experiential qualification requirements. All one needs to be is a registered voter in the relevant district.

For whatever reasons, Supervisor Bruce Gibson and Supervisor Dawn Ortiz Legg are asserting that the Clerk Recorder must be by someone who is qualified by expertise for the office. If this is good for the goose, what about the gander (or both in this case)?

If one were to pick county supervisors, state legislators, mayors, or city council members on the basis of apolitical qualifications for the job, why not require:

- Currently and never has had a political party affiliation
- A minimum of a master's degree in Public Administration, Urban Economics, Industrial Engineering, Business Administration, or Public Policy Analysis
- Attainment of 650 or better on the Graduate Record Exam in History, Political Science, or Economics
- Ten years of experience in progressively responsible positions (including 5 years of management) in large complex organizations
- Psychological health clearance

Of course, if such requirements were imposed, it would not be a democracy. It would be Bizmarkian Germany, the Victorian British Empire, Imperial China, Imperial Rome, or the traditional Catholic Church.

Now suddenly, Gibson, the progressive party, the SLO Tribune, League of Women voters, and the rest of the liberal claue is up in arms that the Board majority wants to see more than 3 bureaucrat-picked candidates. How dare they display such effrontery toward the staff-dominated system?

Gibson seems to be asserting that Arnold must have a candidate in the wings that didn't make the cut. Further, that candidate must have a nefarious agenda to somehow control elections. Would



this be any less true if a candidate who made the cut has been part of the system for years (perhaps socializing with elected politicians and establishing personal repartee, etc.?)

It seems that the County bureaucracy is circling the wagons to obtain the outcome it desires. This in itself points to a larger problem of organizational culture and ethics, which permeates modern government organizations. God forbid that the elected officials actually set policy and tell the minions what to do. Witness the business with Trump and a phone call to the President of the Ukraine, with all the whining State Department desk officers' prissing about on TV. Should Roosevelt have been impeached for plying Stalin with martinis?

If the Board wishes to see 7 candidates, 20, candidates, or appoint the most doctrinaire political right-wing candidate obtainable to the position, it is up to the staff to help them to execute the program forthrightly and without a Greek chorus of self-serving complaint and back-channel media leaking. Note that over the years we have complained about such dissonance on water matters, other departmental appointments, equal information sharing, and completion of assignments.

**San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments Meeting of Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 8:30 AM (Completed)**

**Housing Preferences Confirmed Again:** Much of the agenda dealt with the details of various State and Federal transportation funding and its division among State highway projects, county roads, and city streets. Other items provided allocations for mass transit and special transit services for the disabled, veterans, and homeless.

Larger regional planning issues are embodied in the 4-year Regional Transportation Plan cycle, which is a rolling requirement to analyze population growth, employment, housing needs, and transportation by means of 8- and 20-year forecasts. The current plan was completed earlier this year, and now the plan to plan for the next cycle is beginning to be formulated.

As neither the expert staffers nor the elected officials wish to provoke any adverse public reaction, they set up extensive Delphi group processes to engage the various "stakeholders" over the course of the planning process. This generates an amalgamation of ideas, which are then fit into the State and Federal funding requirements in order to obtain an approvable plan.

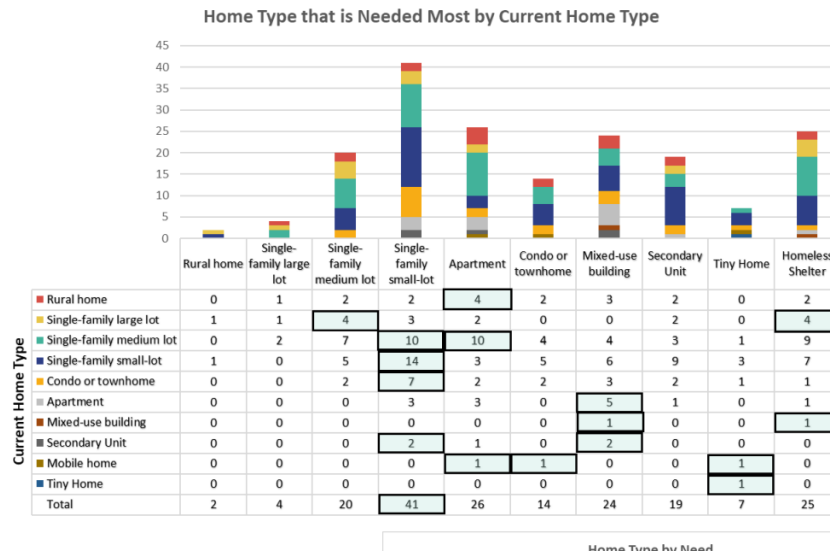
At various junctures, surveys are used to attempt to capture public preferences early in the cycle. Significantly and consistent with previous versions, a recent survey demonstrates that citizens overwhelmingly select single-family detached homes as their preferred lifestyle. These findings are in line with previous surveys conducted by SLOCOG and not-for-profit economic development groups.

Housing & New Growth Question 1: What type of home do you currently live in? (down left side)

Question 13: What is the most (and second, third) needed housing type? (across the top)

Staff examined the results of Question 13 based on the distribution of responses from the Question on home types (Question 1). The key finding was that in almost all cases, when looking across each row (current home type), the highest response to what home type is needed was either the same or leaning toward smaller lots or more compact unit types.

- Overall, the top choice was for Single-Family small lot as most needed.
- On both counts of second and third choices, Condos/townhomes received the most votes.
- Previous results had 25% for the rural, large- and medium-lots, and 75% for more compact. Current results are 14% and 86% respectively (84% after dropping homeless shelters).



Note that rural homes, single-family large lot, single-family medium lot, and single-family small lot selections, if combined, would be the majority preference. Also, and as we have repeatedly pointed out, rental apartments are needed, but current zoning and environmental regulations prevent their development on a large enough scale to be meaningful.

Meanwhile, SLO County and some of the cities have land use plans which prohibit suburban growth (pejoratively termed sprawl) and which both mandate and incentivize development in dense communities.

Voters have not connected the dots between the climate rhetoric ideologues, anti-sprawl propagandist elites, and their own preferences. Why would you not vote for officials who would throw out the existing system and promise to develop areas and resources for single-family free-standing homes on a large scale?

**Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, October 7, 2021 (Completed)**

**NOTE:** The recorded version of the meeting omitted the audio track. Thus we do not know the outcome of the 2 items below at this time.

**Item 6 - Application for 12 Small Houses and 24 Apartments behind Mechanics Bank Off Teff Street in Nipomo.** The write-up states in part that the project will include:

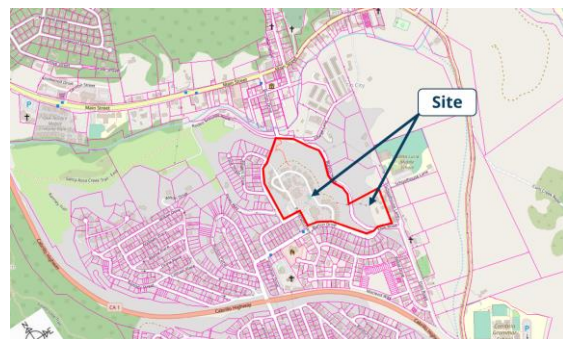
*The project site consists of two existing legal parcels. The Conditional Use Permit (covered under SUB2019-00092) will authorize smaller lot sizes as a planned development and allow for the construction of twelve detached single-family residences of 1,654 square feet each on the south side of Flint Place (APN 092-575-001). The Conditional Use Permit (covered under DRC2021-00140) will authorize 24 one-bedroom apartment units of 651 square feet each on the north side of Flint Place (APN 092-576-005).*



**Item 7 - Cambria Christmas Market.** The event has been permitted under a 5-year permit. The proposal is to extend it for 2021. There are a number of citizen complaints in the file as well as a violation notice from the County citing several violations left over from last year. Neighbors assert that the attendance has been far above the approved 3,000. It will be interesting to see how the Commission deals with this one.

God forbid you drill an oil well in a remote location, attempt to get your antiquated subdivision certified, or build a boutique hotel in Cayucos. But you can bring a ton of tourists into Cambria each night for several weeks during the holiday season. The public loves it, so it seems to get extended each year.

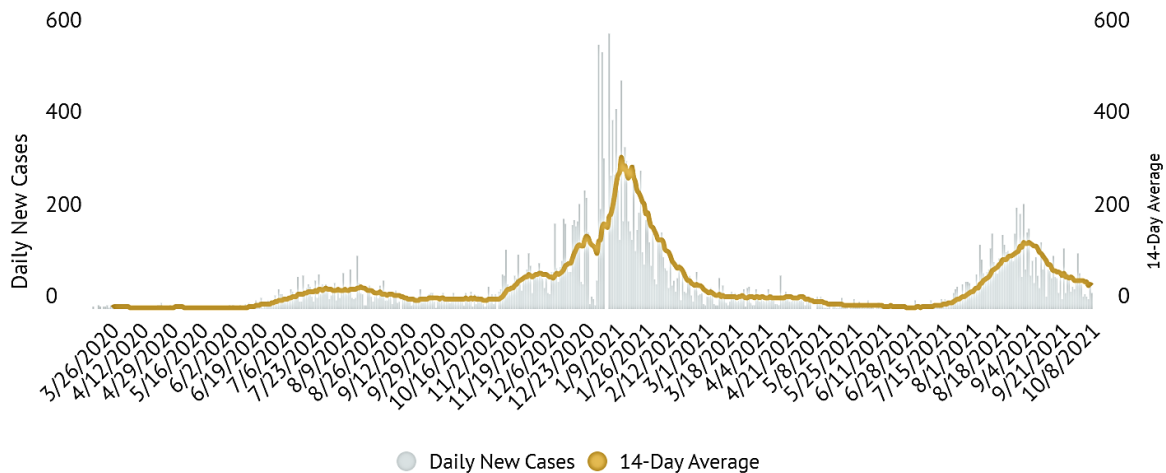
We have no objection, as it's a great place to go and it's a seasonal festival, but we marvel at how some things glide along while others with no real impact at all get murdered.



# EMERGENT ISSUES

**Item 1 - COVID Status.** The infection rate plateaued at week 6 of the run up and turned down at week 7. The downward trend has continued for weeks 8 -11. Note that the average is still higher than at was at this same time last year. The disease remains powerful, breaks though vaccination, and will now require booster shots.

Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average)



## 16 Hospitalized (4 in ICU)

**Item 2 - Housing Authority Flyer:** Reportedly, San Luis Obispo County property owners received inserts with their property tax bills urging them to accept US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 housing rental certificates and vouchers. The certificates entitle the recipient to receive Federal rental assistance. It is not clear if all property taxpayers or just known landlords received the inserts. Clearly the SLO County Housing Authority, which administers the program locally, is having difficulty finding landlords willing to accept the certificates,

At first we thought holy cow, who's in the bathroom Batman? Are they suggesting that you accept a \$4000 bonus to put Boxcar Willy in your vacant 3<sup>rd</sup> bedroom? It turns out you actually have to have a rental unit with kitchen and bathroom facilities. The wording (see the flyer below) exhorts landlords to "Help a Neighbor in Need" and to "House Our Most Vulnerable Population." This seemed to suggest a more intimate and urgent program. All you widows and spinsters out there could teach the guy to run the coffee maker and unload the dishwasher and then discuss the latest SLO Tribune blather. Alas, not yet.

Actually, if each progressive advocate took in one homeless person, it would help salve their general guilt psychosis and help solve the problem. Supervisor Bruce Gibson and the SLO City Council could lead by example. After all, the flyer states that the Housing Authority will reimburse up to \$7,500 for damage in addition to the security deposit. So, if Willie hocks the large screen TV and family silver to stash up down at the Natural Healing Center and Bev Mo,

you will be OK. And you thought vacation rentals were the problem. Could the County and cities modify their zoning ordinances to allow homeowners to rent a driveway space to owners of homeless RV's? Would the Housing Authority provide damage reimbursements for these tenants?

## WELCOME HOME PROGRAM

**\$4,000**  
**IN YOUR POCKET**  
**TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR IN NEED**



HASLO HAS IMPLEMENTED LANDLORD INCENTIVES FOR OUR NEW "WELCOME HOME PROGRAM" — A PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS TO HOUSE OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATION.

### DAMAGE CLAIM REIMBURSEMENT **UP TO \$7,500**

UP TO \$7,500 IS AVAILABLE TO REIMBURSE LANDLORDS FOR DAMAGE TO UNITS IN EXCESS OF THE SECURITY DEPOSIT.

### NEW LANDLORD BONUS **\$4,000**

THIS IS A ONE-TIME BONUS PAID TO A NEW LANDLORD OR A LANDLORD WHO HAS NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS.

### WELCOME BACK BONUS **\$2,500**

THIS ONE-TIME BONUS IS FOR LANDLORDS WHO LEFT THE HCV PROGRAM IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND ARE NOW RETURNING.

### EXISTING LANDLORD BONUS **\$1,000**

THIS ONE-TIME BONUS IS PAID TO EXISTING LANDLORDS RENTING TO ONE OR MORE WELCOME HOME HOUSING APPLICANTS.

### ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES:

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGENT BONUS (75% OF OWNER BONUS); NO-LOSS BONUS/HOLDING DEPOSIT; LANDLORD LIAISON.



Go to [www.haslo.org](http://www.haslo.org) for more information.



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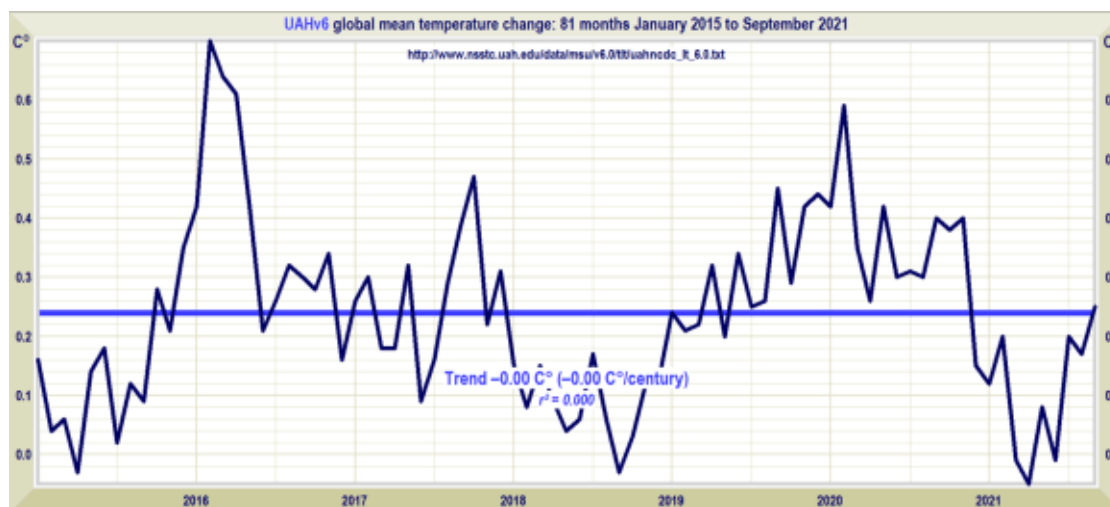
### Item 3 - Global Warming Postponed.

## GLOBAL WARMING? NOT LATELY BY JOHN HINDRAKER

Global warming hysteria marches on. It is all around us, reinforced every time it is hot somewhere, or perhaps even when it is cold (e.g., the recent record cold temperatures in Antarctica), or when it is too wet or, equally, too dry. If you didn't know better, you would think from press accounts that global warming is an accomplished fact.

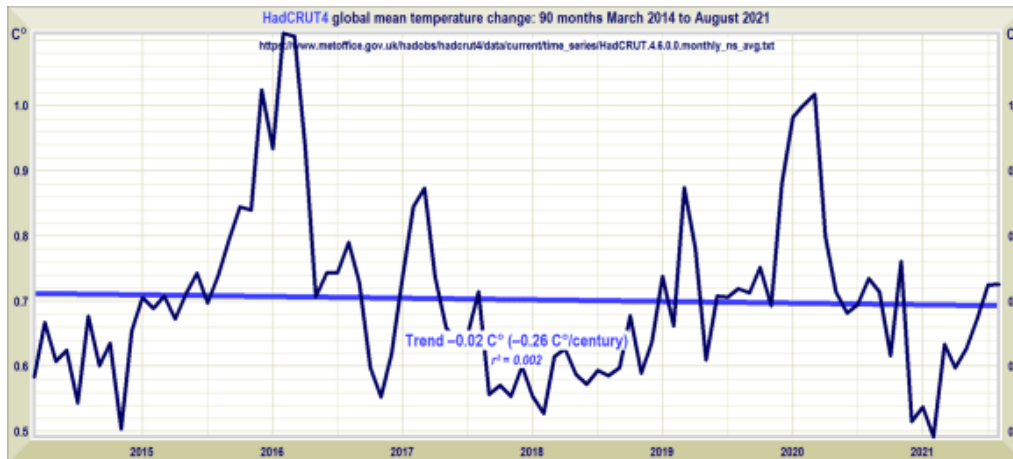
But the reality is quite different. In recent years, whatever warming was formerly going on has stopped. Satellite measurements, the only reliable means of estimating global temperatures, indicate that the Earth has not warmed in nearly seven years. That is remarkable—seven years of warming hysteria with no warming:

*The New Pause has lengthened by a further month, from 6 years 8 months to 6 years 9 months. As usual, it is calculated as the longest period, up to the most recent month for which data are available, during which the trend on the UAH global mean lower-troposphere temperature dataset is zero.*



Surface temperature measurements are less reliable, less transparent, and subject to frequent after-the-fact “adjustments” that reduce temperatures actually recorded in the past with thermometers. Nevertheless, for what it is worth, the main surface dataset shows no warming—in fact, a very slight cooling—for an even longer period:

*HadCRUT4 has at last updated its surface-temperature record to August 2021, showing no global warming for 7 years 6 months. For almost all the period between IPCC's 2013 and 2021 Assessment Reports, there has been no global warming at all.*



History suggests that human beings are not, by nature, empiricists. There are countless instances of humans clinging to theories that by rights should have been discredited by experience. To take an extreme example, consider the current popularity of socialism in what was once a mainstream political party. A less extreme case of irrationality is Europeans’ clinging for centuries to the “four humours” template of human health, even though that theory never allowed anyone to cure any other one of anything. Global warming hysteria is heir to a long, if not honorable, tradition.

*This article was first posted on October 4, 2021 in Powerline. John Hinderaker is “a lawyer in Minneapolis who occasionally writes stuff on the web” for Powerlineblog.com, according to his [Twitter profile biography](#). Hinderaker’s litigation practice spans the United States and for twenty years he has written on public policy issues “including income inequality, income taxes, campaign finance reform, affirmative action, welfare reform, and race in the criminal justice system.” His articles, which were co-written with law partner Scott W. Johnson, have been published in *The American Enterprise*, *National Review*, *The Weekly Standard*, *American Experiment Quarterly*, “and newspapers from Florida to California.”*

## 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**

### AMERICA AND *THE DYING CITIZEN*

*Freedom requires constant reinvestment in and replenishment of a nation’s traditions and ideals.*

**BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON**

Only a little more than half of the current world's 7 billion people are citizens of fully consensual governments.

That lucky 50 percent alone enjoys constitutionally protected freedoms. Most are also Western. Or at least they reside in nations that have become "Westernized."

Migrants, regardless of their race, religion, or gender, almost always head for a Western nation. And most often their destination remains the United States. The more it is now fashionable for Americans to take for granted or even to ridicule the idea of their own country, the more the non-American global poor risk their lives to crash America's borders.

Constitutional systems easily perish because they ask a lot of their citizens—to vote, to be informed about civic and political issues, and to hold elected officials accountable. That responsibility is perhaps why, of the world's true republics and democracies, only about 22 have been in existence for a half-century or more. We are seldom told, then, that America is a rare, precious, and perhaps even fragile idea, both in the past and in the present.

American citizens are clearly also not the custom of the past. Unlike history's more common peasants, citizens are not under the control of the rich who, in turn, seek undue influence in government through controlling them.

Instead, viable citizenship has always hinged on a broad, autonomous middle class. Those Americans in between lack both the dependence of the poor, and the insider influences of the elite. Suffocate the middle and we know that a binary feudalism will soon replace it. We are seeing just that medievalization in contemporary California.

Nor are American citizens mere migratory residents who drift across nonexistent borders in expectation of receiving more rights than meeting responsibilities. Forfeit a sacred national space, a place where common customs, language, and traditions can shelter and thrive, and a unique America disappears into a pre-civilizational migratory void like the fluid vastness of late imperial Rome.

Americans are quite different from tribal peoples, whose first loyalties are determined by mere appearance or innate blood ties. Take this nation back to pre-civilizational tribalism, and our future as the next Yugoslavia, Rwanda, or Iraq is assured.

Americans are not, then, premodern peasants, mere residents, and squabbling tribes—at least not quite yet.

But citizens also are equally suspicious and rightfully distrustful of the top-down subversion of citizenship by postmodern elites and the privileged. The latter often expect Americans to give up their ancient freedoms to a vast, unelected, and unaudited permanent administrative state, to be run by **credentialed functionaries** and **sanctioned "experts."** That technocratic regimentation may now be the Chinese model, but it was never the vision of our founders.



Citizens object to “evolving” a 245-year-old republic into a radical socialist ochlocracy without checks and balances. That rebooting would mean scrapping ancient laws, long-held customs, and hallowed traditions—from the Electoral College and a nine-person Supreme Court to the Senate filibuster and 50-state union. Consensual societies usually implode when desperate factions resort to subverting hallowed rules for short-term partisan gain.

Some elites believe the founders’ Constitution is in dire need of radical deletions and alterations to fit their own utopian visions. So, they imagine an evolving Constitution to synchronize with supposedly a fluid, mutable—and always progressing—human nature. They are ignorant that the core of the Constitution does not change because our own natural, core sense of right and wrong does not either.

Nor do citizens hand over their first allegiances to an abstract worldwide commonwealth—as if half of its membership are not illiberal theocracies, autocracies, and monarchies. Such a tired “citizens of the world” dream dates to Socratic utopianism.

Yet neither the defunct League of Nations nor the United Nations has ever offered any credible blueprint for viable transnational governance. Today’s globalists at Davos may snicker at nationalist democracies like the United States and Israel, but in cowardly fashion they usually appease a totalitarian and brutal Communist China that allows no dissent.

Given our privileges, affluent and leisured Americans must always ask ourselves whether as citizens we have earned what those who died at Gettysburg or on Omaha Beach bequeathed at such costs.

Refusing to stand during the national anthem is not and should not be illegal. But such blanket rejection of American customs is admittedly now a collective narcissistic tic—and hardly sustainable for the nation’s privileged to sit in disgust for a flag that their betters raised under fire on Iwo Jima for others not yet born. Sometimes citizens can do as much harm to their commonwealth by violating customs and traditions as by breaking laws.

Instead, freedom requires constant reinvestment in and replenishment of a nation’s traditions and ideals. Self-criticism of one’s country is salutary to ensure needed changes, but only if Americans accept that an innately self-correcting United States does not have to be perfect to be good—and especially when, in a world of innately flawed humans and failed states, it remains far better than any of the alternatives abroad.

*The present article summarizes arguments in Victor Davis Hanson’s new book [The Dying Citizen](#) that appears this week from Basic Books.*

## **ROOT CAUSES AND THE SUBVERSION OF DEMOCRACY**

***Or, how to ignore problems by pretending to solve them***

**BY ADAM ELLWANGER**

Earlier in 2021, government estimates indicated that the total of illegal crossings over America's southern border this fiscal year may reach 2 million. One wonders whether the officials who calculated that estimate anticipated and included the extra 15,000 who showed up on the American side of the Rio Grande in mid-September (or the 60,000 reported to be now making their way northward through Central America). This figure of 2 million is based largely upon the number of apprehensions that occur at the border, which can be used to extrapolate how many are crossing by the day, week, or month. But this means that the number is almost certainly higher than 2 million.

As Secretary of Defense during the early years of the War on Terror, the recently-deceased Donald Rumsfeld uttered a famous line about "known unknowns" and "unknown unknowns." "Known unknowns" are things that we do not currently know, but that we are aware that we do not know. "Unknown unknowns" are things we don't know which we are unaware that we do not know.

The actual number of illegal border crossings is a "known unknown"—the numbers of apprehensions are useful, but how many people cross who are not detected? While there is anecdotal information (observations of ranchers in the borderlands, etc.), we simply don't know how many are not being apprehended. But we can reliably assume government officials are purposely underestimating this number; the Biden administration and its servants in the media are heavily invested in minimizing the border crisis. They want the public to believe that border security need not be prioritized. This isn't because the problem is intractable and difficult to solve. It's because they don't want to solve it. We know this from the way that officials insist on addressing the "root causes" of the crisis.

What are the causes of the border crisis? Well, reason might tell you that there are three main drivers. The first is that the economic opportunities to be had in America are far greater (even for illegal immigrants) than the minimal opportunities available to most citizens of the nations to our south. The second driver is that we do not have a secure southern border and we maintain a set of policies (catch and release, allowing for illegal migrants to procure official documents like drivers' licenses, etc.) that incentivizes migration. These first two causes are mutually reinforcing: the economic opportunity in America creates the desire to cross the border illegally, and our lax security measures encourage people to act on this desire. It's pretty elementary.

The third driver is the government's very predictable and consistent response to mass migration. When 15,000 people (mostly Haitians) recently gathered under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, we were initially told it was merely a case of bad "optics." Then, the Biden administration promised to get it "under control."

Then we were told most would be deported, but some would stay. A few days later, we learned that over 80 percent of the Del Rio group (slightly upward of 12,000) were dispersed to states around the country until asylum hearings could occur—asylum hearings that approximately 90 percent will not bother to attend. In essence, we’ve added 12,000 new illegal residents: a group about half the size of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. When caravan after caravan arrives, only to be granted access to the inner parts of the nation time and time again, this provides an enormous encouragement for those who are considering an illegal crossing to enact their plans.

So, three obvious causes of our illegal immigration crisis. But our officials and experts would tell us we’re wrong about them all.

In fact, we are assured, the steady stream of illegal immigrants has nothing to do with our border policies or the economic opportunities in the United States. There are other, deeper “root causes” that we are told must be addressed if we are to solve this problem. For example, one of the root causes of illegal immigration is “global climate change.” You see, greenhouse gas emissions have changed the agricultural conditions in central America, making the inhabitants of those nations more vulnerable to storms. Those aren’t illegal immigrants; they’re refugee farmers seeking greener pastures, if you will. The people crossing the Rio Grande are just fleeing a climate catastrophe which is mostly Americans’ fault. Thus, to solve the border crisis we should really be trying to reduce climate change.

There are other root causes for the mess at the border. It’s not that there are economic and policy incentives that the U.S. creates for people to cross illegally. It is just that there simply isn’t enough opportunity in their home countries. The people who are crossing illegally would much prefer to stay in Haiti...if only life in Haiti was more like life in America. But Haiti can’t become America on its own. After all, American dominance of global markets ensures the Haitian economy suffers for our country’s luxury. So (of course), our nation’s responsibility is to provide sufficient financial investments that Haiti can become more like America. If we want to solve the border crisis, we will have to commit ourselves to a kind of nation-building in Central America—one which involves the investment of huge amounts of taxpayer money in foreign nations. Many of the Democratic candidates seeking the 2020 presidential nomination made proposals of this type. They’re the party of ideas, you know.

There are even more “root causes” of the border crisis, and the policies that would be required to address most of them would have nothing to do with border security or, say, a mandatory national identification system that would limit the opportunities of illegal immigrants to find gainful employment in the country. But that’s the point. The ruling class in America doesn’t want to solve the border crisis. Our leaders depend on a donor class with deep investments in the global corporate marketplace. The success of those investments demands the profitability of specific businesses and companies. And those profits depend in large part on the cost of labor. Illegal labor is cheap, and so the donor class makes clear that they expect our political leaders to provide American business with access to illegal labor. This is why policy makers continue to insist that we direct our efforts toward “root causes” which have virtually nothing to do with the problems at hand.

## **“Root Causes” as Misdirection**

Attending to the “root causes” of a problem is simply rhetorical shorthand for justifying inaction. Whenever you hear Jen Psaki or any other government official use the phrase “root causes,” you should know that they have no will to undertake any policy intervention that might meaningfully address the problem.

Only when you understand just how many problems we are told must be solved by attending to “root causes” can you understand just how few of those problems our leaders intend to solve. Think that urban crime must be addressed by more and better policing? Think it is driven by the decline of the American family? Wrong on both counts. You need to consider “root causes.” Things like white supremacy and racism. Once you have grasped these root causes you can see the wisdom of defunding law enforcement and the many ways such a policy would reduce the amount of violent crime.

Or maybe you think that lax laboratory standards in China may have caused the outbreak of Covid-19. This logic might tell you that we should impose some sanctions on China, or demand some compensation from the Chinese Communist Party for the economic damages inflicted by their negligence, or require more oversight to ensure that China observes international best practices for handling dangerous contagions. But you’re wrong. Again.

First of all, as the top-tier medical journal the Lancet would tell you, “evidence supports the view that [Covid-19] is a naturally occurring virus” and that the pandemic is probably the result of an unfortunate instance of “pathogens being transmitted from animals to humans.” Suggestions to the contrary, the authors explain, are motivated by “geopolitical agendas and misinformation.” Moreover, a whole constellation of root causes must be addressed. As the Lancet clarifies: “To protect humanity from these zoonotic diseases, we need to [...] require new precautions on many fronts: ending deforestation, respecting and protecting conservation areas and endangered species, intensifying the monitoring and surveillance for zoonotic events, and ensuring safe practices in the animal trade, meat production, and markets.” So, there you have it. The real problems are “deforestation, land degradation, poverty, food insecurity, and the uncontrolled encroachment of humans into new habitats.” But you would have known that if you had read the Lancet.

So, let’s recap. The border crisis needs to be resolved by addressing climate change, fast-tracking citizenship for migrants, and federal investments in foreign nations. Urban crime can only be resolved by ending the pandemic of racism, defunding police departments, increasing funding for social workers and the like, and providing a universal basic income. And viral events like the COVID-19 pandemic can only be solved by empowering governments to enact redistributive monetary policies and impose stricter regulations on land usage and food production.

Well, what do all these “solutions” have in common? The first thing is obvious: none of them will do anything to ameliorate the problems to which they are said to respond. Secondly, enacting each and every one of these “solutions” would require an expansion of state power. This exposes the real problem that these “solutions” are meant to address: our leaders are simply too accountable to morons like you and me. Only by freeing the state from any limitations imposed by the Constitution or the will of the public can our ruling class save us from ourselves.

This brings us to the final commonality shared by all of these solutions: none of them are measures that the institutional left doesn’t want to undertake. They all neatly align with the policy wish list of the left. This curiosity could be explained in a few ways. First, it may just happen to be the case that the American left is correct about everything. But the past ten years have shown this to be patently false.

A second explanation could be that our ruling class has so completely absorbed leftist ideology that they are no longer able to conceive of any solutions that do not conform to that worldview. That’s possible, but unlikely.

A third explanation is that our ruling class knows that these solutions won’t solve the problems at which they are directed. In this case, all of the solutions above neatly align with the left’s policy agenda because our ruling class not only believes the public has the wrong concerns, they feel no obligation to address those concerns. But rather than explicitly admit as much, they simply push their pet policies by claiming that these interventions will solve problems that they know will not be solved. This third possibility—that the state doesn’t think it is obligated to address the concerns of the public—is really the only explanation for the chronic failure of our regime. The rhetorical flourish of “root causes” is a strategy for concealing these autocratic tendencies.

It works like this. Our ruling class clearly understands there is a crisis at the southern border. This is by design, so they don’t want to solve it. But they can’t say they don’t want to. And the measures that would meaningfully address the problem are patently obvious, but they can’t say that they are obvious – this would compel them to do something they don’t want to do. Thus, they falsely claim that the obvious solutions are mere half-measures, band-aids that would only slow the bleeding rather than close the wound.

Then, in a masterful work of rhetorical misdirection, they call our attention to the “root causes” of problems that they don’t actually see as problems. Often, the “proper” policy responses to these “root causes” are actually solutions to different problems—ones that our rulers do want to address (e.g., climate change, wealth disparities, “racism”). This is convenient because “root causes” provide justification for the absence of progress on the real problems we face. Further, they provide a rationale for policy interventions that are often unpopular with the public (e.g., a carbon tax, defunding the police, reparations for slavery) under the pretense that they are necessary measures to address genuine public concerns. “Root causes,” then, are a godsend for the authoritarian left: they ensure that our rulers never have to address any problem they don’t want to address, all while appearing to act on those problems through policies that neatly advance their ideological objectives.

The “root causes” of any issue are never the factors that a normal person would identify as the actual causes of a problem. But that’s the beauty of this gambit—the term itself explains why the typical explanations of a problem are invalid. In botany, the root of a plant lies deep underground, out of sight. But the health of the root is absolutely critical for the health of the plant. Thus, when diagnosing some social ill, its cause can never be something that immediately presents itself to the casual observer. No—the cause always lies deep underground, beneath a thick bed of mediating factors and complexities. As such, the “root cause” will often seem to have nothing to do with the presenting problem. But that’s only because you’re not looking in the right place.

Only skilled experts—the type that we have running this nation, thank God—have the intelligence to ascertain the real causes of all of our problems. And while their solutions to the crises we face might not seem to make the least bit of sense to unschooled rubes like us, we had better listen to them. If we don’t our problems might persist or worsen. Strangely, though, it seems they almost always do persist and worsen. Maybe that’s because we never address the “root causes” of the pains that ail us. Or maybe, just maybe, the very people talking about “root causes” are themselves at the root of our problems.

*Adam Ellwanger is a professor of English at the University of Houston-Downtown where he directs the M.A. program in rhetoric and composition. He is the author of *Metanoia: Rhetoric, Authenticity, and the Transformation of the Self* (2020). You can follow him on Twitter @DoctorEllwanger. This article first appeared in *American Conservative* on October 7, 2021.*

**ADDENDUM I**  
**PLASE SEE THE LIST OF BUSINESSES THAT HAVE LEFT CALIFORNIA RECENTLY, WHICH BEGINS ON THE NEXT PAGE BELOW:**

Person / Business	Month and Year of Announcement	New Location	Link About Announcement
OrangeGrid	September 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Two fintech companies move into North Texas with plans for rapid growth</a>
Bold Patriot Brewing Company	September 2021	Tennessee	<a href="#">Tennessee makes 'perfect sense' for California exodus, brewery cofounder says</a>
Precision Swiss Products	September 2021	North Carolina	<a href="#">How coastal NC lured an HQ move from California slated to create 125 jobs</a>
Cangsuhan Cutlery	September 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California knife maker carves out future headquarters in Austin suburb</a>
AECOM	August 2021	Texas	<a href="#">AECOM to Relocate Headquarters to Dallas</a>
HomeLight	August 2021	Arizona	<a href="#">HomeLight is hitting the road — in more ways than one</a>
Leigh-Allyn Baker	August 2021	Tennessee	<a href="#">Actress Leigh-Allyn Baker reacts to mask criticism, says Hollywood cancel culture can't get her 'twice'</a>
MD7	August 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California mobile tech firm relocating headquarters to DFW</a>
Ocean Aero	August 2021	Mississippi	<a href="#">Ocean Aero moving operations and headquarters to Gulfport</a>
Kaiser Aluminum	July 2021	Tennessee	<a href="#">Governor Lee, Commissioner Rolfe Announce Kaiser Aluminum to Relocate Corporate Headquarters to Williamson County</a>
AFC Finishing Systems	June 2021	Idaho	<a href="#">AFC Finishing Systems Now Open in Weiser &amp; Hiring!</a>
Andamiro USA	June 2021	Texas	<a href="https://www.vendingtimes.com/news/andamiro-relocates-to-texas/">https://www.vendingtimes.com/news/andamiro-relocates-to-texas/</a>
Becca Tobin, Haylie Duff, and Jamie-Lynn Sigler	June 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Three Hollywood Stars Recast Their Lives Deep in the Heart of Texas</a>
Landing	June 2021	Alabama	<a href="#">San Francisco-based Landing joins Bay Area HQ exodus in moving out of California</a>
Nessei	June 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Anaheim plastics manufacturer moving headquarters to Texas</a>
Snowflake	May 2021	Montana	<a href="#">Snowflake relocates executive office from California to Bozeman, Montana, as company goes distributed</a>
Green Dot	May 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Green Dot, a prepaid debit card pioneer betting on digital banking, moving HQ to Austin from California</a>
AHV Communities	May 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Why a build-to-rent company planted a flag in the Alamo City</a>
DARVIS	May 2021	Tennessee	<a href="#">San Francisco-based health-tech startup DARVIS to relocate HQ to Nashville</a>
SmartAction	May 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California tech company plans HQ move to Fort Worth</a>
Wedgewood	May 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Exclusive: Southern California real estate company plans HQ move to Dallas-Fort Worth</a>
First Foundation	April 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Publicly traded bank relocates headquarters from California to Dallas</a>
Flannery Trim	April 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California manufacturer relocating headquarters to Fort Worth</a>
GlobalFoundries	April 2021	New York	<a href="#">GlobalFoundries has joined the exodus, moving its headquarters from Santa Clara to upstate New York</a>
Markaaz	April 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Austin Chamber's Opportunity Austin...   Austin Chamber of Commerce</a>
Nissei America	April 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Real estate news: Nissei America sells Anaheim HQ, leaving OC for Texas</a>

PayCertify	April 2021	Nevada	<a href="#">2 more tech companies are leaving California</a>
Educational Media Foundation (EMF)	March 2021	Tennessee	<a href="#">Educational Media Foundation Announces Plans To Move Global Headquarters to Nashville Region</a>
Gene Simmons	March 2021	Nevada	<a href="#">Kiss rocker Gene Simmons on moving to Tahoe: 'No more traffic jams'</a>
Huckleberry Insurance	March 2021	New York	<a href="#">S.F.-based insurance provider moving HQ to New York City</a>
Jim Breyer	March 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Why Breyer Capital's CEO — and many others from Silicon Valley — are moving to Austin</a>
Moov Technologies	March 2021	Arizona	<a href="#">Moov shifts HQ from California to Arizona amid global 'battle for chips'</a>
NinjaRMM	March 2021	Texas	<a href="#">NinjaRMM, startup helping IT folks manage their companies' tech, moves HQ to Austin from SF</a>
Wiley X	March 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California company explains why it's relocating headquarters to Frisco</a>
Logan Paul	February 2021	Puerto Rico	<a href="#">YouTube Star Logan Paul Deserts California for Puerto Rico</a>
Stitch Fix	February 2021	Multiple States	<a href="#">Stitch Fix to shutter South S.F. warehouse, permanently cut 162 jobs</a>
Viavi Solutions	February 2021	Arizona	<a href="#">San Jose-based Viavi Solutions relocates HQ to Arizona, plans manufacturing facility</a>
ZP Better Together	January 2021	Texas	<a href="#">California company that provides tech solutions for deaf relocates HQ to NW Austin office park</a>
Align Technology	January 2021	Arizona	<a href="#">San Jose tech company Align Technology moves HQ to Arizona - Silicon Valley Business Journal (bizjournals.com)</a>
Alpha Paw	January 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Father and son move pet-supply company HQ to Austin</a>
Amazing Magnets	January 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Attracted to Austin area: California magnet manufacturer breaks ground on new HQ in Round Rock</a>
Digital Realty Trust	January 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Data center firm Digital Realty joins Oracle, Hewlett in moving HQ from Bay Area to Texas</a>
Lion Real Estate Group	January 2021	Texas	<a href="#">Exclusive: Another real estate firm relocates headquarters from Los Angeles to Dallas</a>
OPSWAT	January 2021	Florida	<a href="#">San Francisco cybersecurity company moves HQ to Tampa</a>
Larry Ellison	December 2020	Hawaii	<a href="#">Tech billionaire Larry Ellison has moved to Hawaii</a>
Oracle Corporation	December 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Oracle is moving its headquarters from Silicon Valley to Austin, Texas</a>
Elon Musk	December 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Elon Musk confirms: 'Yes, I have moved to Texas'</a>
Hewlett Packard Enterprise	December 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Hewlett Packard Enterprise is the latest tech company to leave Silicon Valley, and is moving to Houston</a>
Tanium	December 2020	Washington	<a href="#">Cybersecurity unicorn joins Bay Area exodus, moves HQ to Seattle area</a>
Drew Houston	November 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Dropbox CEO Drew Houston is moving to Austin, the latest in a string of high-profile tech moguls abandoning Silicon Valley amid the pandemic</a>
Keith Rabois	November 2020	Florida	<a href="#">Tech titan flees San Francisco for Florida, says city is poorly managed</a>
Joe Lonsdale / 8VC	November 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Why Palantir co-founder Joe Lonsdale is leaving Silicon Valley</a>
David Blumberg	November 2020	Florida	<a href="#">Prominent venture capitalist David Blumberg joins Bay Area exodus</a>



Jonathan Oringer	October 2020	Florida	<a href="#">Tech flight: Why Silicon Valley is heading to Miami and Austin, Texas</a>
Arctic Wolf	October 2020	Minnesota	<a href="#">California-Based Arctic Wolf To Relocate HQ To Minnesota</a>
Ben Shapiro	October 2020	Florida	<a href="#">#27. Behind the Bima - Special Guest: Ben Shapiro</a>
CBRE Group	October 2020	Texas	<a href="#">CBRE relocating headquarters to Dallas from Los Angeles, sources say</a>
Pabst Brewing Company	October 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Pabst Brewing Co. moving headquarters back to San Antonio</a>
Saleen Performance Parts	October 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Opportunity Austin announces Saleen...   Austin Chamber of Commerce</a>
Titans of CNC	October 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Advanced manufacturer moving from California to DFW to expand, pay less taxes</a>
The Daily Wire	September 2020	Tennessee	<a href="#">The Daily Wire To Move Headquarters From Los Angeles To Nashville</a>
Incora	September 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Aerospace supply company relocating its HQ from southern California to North Texas</a>
O.W. Lee	September 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Outdoor furniture maker moving HQ from California to Texas</a>
Ron Suber	September 2020	Colorado	<a href="#">Prominent San Francisco investor Ron Suber moves out of California</a>
Palantir	August 2020	Colorado	<a href="#">Palantir to relocate headquarters from Silicon Valley to Colorado</a>
Dasan Zhone Solutions	August 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Dasan Zhone Solutions, moving from California to Plano, unveils new CEO</a>
ShiftPixy	August 2020	Florida	<a href="#">ShiftPixy Announces Corporate Relocation to Miami, Florida   ShiftPixy, Inc.</a>
Varo Money	August 2020	Utah	<a href="#">Varo gets long-sought national bank charter, moves headquarters out of San Francisco</a>
The Joe Rogan Experience / Joe Rogan	July 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Podcaster Joe Rogan announces move from LA to Texas: 'There are too many people here'</a>
AgencyKPI	July 2020	Texas	<a href="#">AgencyKPI, Riders Share score fresh capital</a>
ASGN	June 2020	Virginia	<a href="#">ASGN to Create 700 New Jobs Across Virginia, Move Corporate Headquarters to Henrico County</a>
Filetrail	June 2020	Texas	<a href="#">FileTrail Announces Expansion, Relocation of Headquarters to Austin, Texas</a>
KVP International	June 2020	Texas	<a href="#">KVP INTERNATIONAL MOVING HQ FROM CALIFORNIA TO MICKINNEY</a>
Arcturus Aerospace	April 2020	Arkansas	<a href="#">Arcturus Aerospace to move operations from California to Little Rock</a>
Finical, Inc.	February 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Business Growth Prompts Finical, Inc. to Relocate Headquarters</a>
SignEasy	February 2020	Texas	<a href="#">A couple of tech companies in California have quietly moved HQs to the Dallas area</a>
XOJET	January 2020	Florida	<a href="#">California private jet company moving headquarters to Florida</a>
QuestionPro	January 2020	Texas	<a href="#">Survey company QuestionPro moves HQ from California to Austin</a>
Norton Lifelock	January 2020	Arizona	<a href="#">Cyber-security firm, headquarters moved to Arizona, selling 10 California buildings</a>
Bob Ackerman	2020	Wyoming	<a href="#">Go East, Young Man: Are Private Companies Leaving Silicon Valley?</a>
The Raiders (NFL Team)	January 2020	Nevada	<a href="#">Breaking: Las Vegas Raiders now official for 2020 season and beyond</a>

Alpine Electronics of America	October 2018	Michigan	<a href="#">Alpine Electronics of America Moving Headquarters to Auburn Hills From California</a>
Baswood	October 2018	Texas	<a href="#">Southern California company relocates to Dallas area, raises more than \$9M</a>
DealerSocket	October 2018	Texas	<a href="#">California company moving HQ to Las Colinas amid growth, hiring surge</a>
Localwise	October 2018	Colorado	<a href="#">Oakland startup moves HQ to Denver for its quality of life, lower costs</a>
Core-Mark	September 2018	Texas	<a href="#">Core-Mark's California-to-Texas migration means 100 jobs for Westlake</a>
Mithrill Capital Management	September 2018	Texas	<a href="#">Peter Thiel's VC fund to move to Austin from Bay Area</a>
Assertio Therapeutics	August 2018	Illinois	<a href="#">DEPOMED INC. ANNOUNCES CORPORATE NAME CHANGE TO ASSERTIO THERAPEUTICS, INC.</a>
Outdoorsy	August 2018	Texas	<a href="#">RV rental firm Outdoorsy moves corporate HQ from California to Austin</a>
VF Corp. (North Face)	August 2018	Colorado	<a href="#">North Face headquarters leaving Bay Area, hundreds of jobs affected</a>
AEND Industries	July 2018	Texas	<a href="#">California manufacturer to put wheels...   Austin Chamber of Commerce</a>
C2 Wireless	July 2018	Texas	<a href="#">Exclusive: Company relocates California and New York operations to DFW</a>
AJ+	June 2018	District of Columbia	<a href="#">Al Jazeera to shut down San Francisco office, home of AJ+</a>
Bechtel Group	June 2018	Virginia	<a href="#">Bechtel headquarters leaving SF in favor of Virginia</a>
BH North America	May 2018	Missouri	<a href="#">BH North America Relocates U.S. Headquarters to St. Charles, Missouri</a>
Price Pump Company	May 2018	Idaho	<a href="#">Company fed up with California moving to Treasure Valley</a>
MedeAnalytics	April 2018	Texas	<a href="#">MedeAnalytics Announces Relocation of its Corporate Headquarters to Richardson, Texas</a>
RJR Technologies	March 2018	Arizona	<a href="#">RJR Technologies Announces Opening of New Phoenix Manufacturing Facility and Headquarter Relocation</a>
Tim Ferriss	December 2017	Texas	<a href="#">After decades in Silicon Valley as an entrepreneur and investor, Tim Ferriss found it was too 'closed-minded' and moved to Austin, Texas instead</a>
Aerojet-Rocketdyne	April 2017	Alabama	<a href="#">Aerospace company Aerojet-Rocketdyne leaves Sacramento for Alabama</a>
Nestle	February 2017	Virginia	<a href="#">Nestle Moves Headquarters out of California</a>
Xero	February 2017	Colorado	<a href="#">Exclusive: San Francisco loses hot fintech's headquarters to Denver</a>
CKE Restaurants	January 2017	Tennessee	<a href="#">Bye, bye Carl's Jr.: Parent company CKE moving California HQ to Nashville</a>
LoanBeam	January 2017	Texas	<a href="#">After move from California, software company sees surging growth in DFW</a>
United Scientific Group	December 2016	Texas	<a href="#">UNITED SCIENTIFIC GROUP ANNOUNCES RELOCATION OF CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS</a>
Jacobs Engineering Group	October 2016	Texas	<a href="#">Jacobs Engineering to move headquarters from Southern CA to Dallas</a>
Jamba Juice	May 2016	Texas	<a href="#">California's Jamba Juice to relocate headquarters to Hall Office Park in Frisco</a>
Bare Escentuals	May 2016	New York	<a href="#">Exclusive: San Francisco's Bare Escentuals moving HQ to New York</a>
C&S Propeller	May 2016	Texas	<a href="#">California propeller maintenance firm moving to Fort Worth</a>

Calcomp	April 2016	Texas	<a href="#">Fort Worth lands California aviation firm</a>
Kubota Tractor Corporation	May 2015	Texas	<a href="#">Kubota to Relocate US Headquarters From California to Texas</a>
Freebirds World Burrito	March 2015	Texas	<a href="#">Freebirds World Burrito relocates...   Austin Chamber of Commerce</a>
Toyota Motors North America	April 2014	Texas	<a href="#">Toyota moving US base from California to Texas</a>
Buck Knives	April 2005	Idaho	<a href="#">Buck Knives moves in to Post Falls, ID — Grand opening set for May 21</a>

Charles Schwab	November 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Charles Schwab to Officially Move Headquarters to Denton County on Jan. 1</a>
Aviat Networks	November 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Aviat Networks Relocates Corporate Headquarters to Austin, Texas</a>
Astura Medical	November 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Astura Medical Announces New Headquarters in Irving, Texas</a>
NuZee	November 2019	Texas	<a href="#">California coffee company moves its corporate headquarters to North Texas</a>
Chubbies Shorts	October 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Chubbies Shorts making a big bet on Austin</a>
Bedrock Sandals	October 2019	Montana	<a href="#">Bedrock Sandals Moving Headquarters to Missoula, Montana</a>
Aeromax	October 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Canoga Park business saying "goodbye" to California and its crime, homeless and high taxes</a>
Alfresco Software	October 2019	Massachusetts	<a href="#">Why this Bay Area software company is moving its HQ to the Boston area</a>
Caring.com	October 2019	North Carolina	<a href="#">California company seeks talent, office space in HQ move to Charlotte</a>
Kitsbow	September 2019	North Carolina	<a href="#">HQ move an 'open-ended question' as apparel maker brings manufacturing to North Carolina</a>
Chip 1 Exchange	August 2019	Texas	<a href="https://www.fortworthchamber.com/chamberupdate/global-electronics-distributor-chip-1-exchange-moves-u-s-headquarters-to-fort-worth/">https://www.fortworthchamber.com/chamberupdate/global-electronics-distributor-chip-1-exchange-moves-u-s-headquarters-to-fort-worth/</a>
Mitsubishi Motors N.A.	June 2019	Tennessee	<a href="#">Mitsubishi Motors, citing costs, to move U.S. HQ to Tennessee, exiting Cypress</a>
CORE Group	May 2019	Texas	<a href="#">CORE to Relocate Headquarters to Austin Texas</a>
Zoho	April 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Software maker Zoho moving HQ to Austin, adding hundreds of jobs</a>
Zovio	April 2019	Arizona	<a href="#">Bridgepoint Education becomes Zovio, moves headquarters and 600 positions from San Diego to Arizona</a>
Peter Attia	April 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Twitter- Peter Attia</a>
Panoramic Doors	April 2019	Texas	<a href="#">Fast-growing California company relocates headquarters to DFV</a>
The ICEE Company	March 2019	Tennessee	<a href="#">ICEE is The Latest Business To Flee California, Joining Thousands Of People Pointing Wagons East</a>
Dole Food	March 2019	North Carolina	<a href="#">Dole Food Company announced a merger with Ireland-based Total Produce Wednesday. The combined business will be the world's largest fresh produce company, and it'll have its American headquarters in Charlotte.</a>
Universal Electronics	February 2019	Arizona	<a href="#">Universal Electronics Announces Corporate Restructuring to Drive Shareholder Value</a>
BiolQ	January 2019	Georgia	<a href="#">Health IT company BiolQ to relocate HQ to Cobb</a>
AtScale	January 2019	Massachusetts	<a href="#">Shipping Up to Boston: AtScale CEO Chris Lynch Talks VCs, Tech Scene</a>
DJO	December 2018	Texas	<a href="#">California orthopedic device maker DJO to move headquarters, 200 jobs to Lewisville</a>
Djo Global	December 2018	Texas	<a href="#">\$3B company relocating HQ from California to North Texas</a>
McKesson	November 2018	Texas	<a href="#">McKesson, biggest U.S. drug distributor, to move from SF to Texas</a>
Aatonomy	November 2018	Texas	<a href="#">Houston-based Aatonomy is flying with drones, but its ambitions are higher</a>
rfxcel	November 2018	Nevada	<a href="#">rfxcel Moves Its Headquarters to Reno, Nevada</a>



## 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:

**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)