



**WEEKLY UPDATE
OCTOBER 17 - 23, 2021**

THIS WEEK

BOS

**ENVIRO MAFIA COMES FOR THE COUNTY
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TEAMS UP WITH ECOSLO
TO PREVENT DRILLING OF 31 PREVIOUSLY APPROVED OIL
WELLS IN EXISTING PRICE CANYON OIL FIELD
REAL PURPOSE IS TO SUE COUNTY TO GENERATE REVENUE**

**COUNTY TO PROMOTE BROADBAND SERVICES
WHY, WHEN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS DOING FINE?**

**BOS TO RECEIVE REPORT ON CAL LEGISLATURE
THE DAMAGE DONE IN 2021 IS STUNNING
YOUR ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER IS THE LEAST OF IT
SEE THE LIST AT ADDENDUM I**

LAFCO

**MAJOR ANNEXATION TO SLO
WILL COUNTY FINANCES RECEIVE ANY OF THE FUTURE GROWTH?
DOES THE CITY GET THE COUNTYWIDE SERVICES FOR FREE?**

PLANNING COMMISSION

**NIPOMO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND CAMBRIA CHRISTMAS
MARKET ARE BACK FROM PRIOR MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22**

LAST WEEK

SPECIAL BOS MEETING, OCTOBER 12 - 9AM

BOARD PICKS ADMINISTRATION'S CANDIDATE FOR CLERK RECORDER

SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY, OCTOBER 13 - 1:30 PM

BOARD REVISES DOCUMENTS TO RECOGNIZE COUNTY DEPARTMENTURE

&

DA'S INVESTIGATION OF CORRUPTION RECEIVED WITHOUT COMMENT

APCD HEARING BOARD, OCTOBER 13 - 9 AM

MAY YANK DUNES PLANS IN MARCH

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS

DUNES LAWSUITS IN CLOSED SESSION

&

APPROVES FIRE PREVENTION VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLANS

&

SCREWS CAYUCOS SMALL DEVELOPER AGAIN

EMERGENT ISSUES

COVID STATUS

CALIFORNIA CHAIN SAW MASSACRE

STATE BANS SMALL GAS POWERED EQUIPMENT

COLAB IN DEPTH

SEE PAGE 22

THE END OF GREEN DREAMS?

BY STEVEN HAYWARD

**THE WEST'S SUICIDAL ENERGY POLICIES
GLOBAL WARMISTS' PIPE-DREAMS AND BAD SCIENCE.
BY BRUCE THORNTON**

**BIDEN'S CLIMATE AMBITIONS ARE TOO
COSTLY FOR VOTERS
BY BJORN LOMBORG**

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

Board of Supervisor's Meeting of Tuesday, October 19, 2021 (Scheduled)

Item 16 - Submittal of a resolution approving A) the July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023, Memorandum of Understanding between the County of San Luis Obispo and the San Luis Obispo Prosecutors' Association, Bargaining Unit 04; and B) amendments to the San Luis Obispo County Employees Retirement Plan Appendices. This is a 2-year labor contract with the District Attorneys. The costs are pretty much within the County's salary cost and benefit cost parameters to not exceed 2% per year.

The 2.0% wage increase, effective the pay period including July 1, 2021, the new Step 6 effective the pay period following Board approval, and the 1.5% wage increase effective the pay period including July 1, 2022, are estimated to increase County Fiscal Year 2021-22 costs by \$252,078, and annual ongoing costs by \$418,722. The HSA match of up to \$750 per year for employees enrolled in the High Deductible Health Plan is estimated increase County Fiscal Year 2021-22 costs by \$750, and annual ongoing costs by \$1,500. The increase to the annual deferred compensation match of \$500 is estimated to increase County Fiscal Year 2021-22 and annual ongoing costs by \$19,450. The 1.95% pension rate increase for Tier 3 members, and corresponding decrease to the County pension rate, effective the pay period including July 1, 2021, is estimated to decrease County Fiscal Year 2021-22 costs by \$42,788 and decrease annual ongoing costs by \$43,430.

Related to the current framework of mandated government labor union recognition, one might reflect on the ability of public prosecutors to be in a union in the first place.

8.1 Salaries for 2021/22 and 2022/23

8.1.1 Effective the beginning of the pay period that includes July 1, 2021, the County shall increase the salaries of bargaining unit personnel by 2.0%, resulting in the following salary ranges:

Class	Title	Range ¹	Monthly Range
308	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY I	3776	\$6,545.07- \$7,956.00
309	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY II	4373	\$7,579.87 - \$9,214.40
311	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY III	5058	\$8,767.20 - \$10,658.27
314	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY IV	6331	\$10,973.73 - \$13,338.00








8.1.3 Effective the beginning of the pay period that includes July 1, 2022, the County shall increase the salaries of bargaining unit personnel by 1.5%, resulting in the following salary ranges:

Class	Title	Range	Monthly Range
308	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY I	3833	\$6,643.87 - \$8,479.47
309	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY II	4438	\$7,692.53 - \$9,819.33
311	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY III	5134	\$8,898.93 - \$11,358.53
314	DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY IV	6426	\$11,138.40 - \$14,215.07

Average salaries for attorneys in practice the San Luis Obispo area by years.

Years of experience	Per year
Less than 1 year	\$76,077
1 to 2 years	\$87,885
3 to 5 years	-
6 to 9 years	\$108,804
More than 10 years	\$125,786

Top companies for Attorneys in San Luis Obispo, CA

 The Law Firm of Higbee & Associates 4.0 ★★★★★ 23 reviews 7 salaries reported	\$165,683 > <small>per year</small>
 Mcdermott Will & Emery 3.7 ★★★★★ 109 reviews 7 salaries reported	\$154,252 > <small>per year</small>
 MORRISON & FOERSTER 3.7 ★★★★★ 97 reviews 9 salaries reported	\$150,228 > <small>per year</small>
 King & Spalding 4.1 ★★★★★ 57 reviews 8 salaries reported	\$141,508 > <small>per year</small>
 California Department of Justice 4.3 ★★★★★ 25 reviews 11 salaries reported	\$138,494 > <small>per year</small>
 U.S. Government 4.3 ★★★★★ 686 reviews 9 salaries reported	\$138,039 > <small>per year</small>
 Zinda Law Group 3.9 ★★★★★ 13 reviews 22 salaries reported	\$138,006 > <small>per year</small>

Item 17 - It is recommended that the Board adopt a resolution to approve and authorize execution of the Golden State Connect Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to expand broadband access and quality in rural communities for the County of San Luis Obispo. The item, if approved, authorizes the County to join a new Statewide joint powers authority (JPA), the Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA), that is designed to promote better Broadband service in rural counties.

It is not clear exactly what problem or problems exist in San Luis Obispo County. The write-up states in part:

The primary goals for the project structure are:

- *to ensure that elected County Supervisors retain control of the program, with day-to-day administration provided by RCRC staff,*
- *to allow for partnership agreements between like-governmental entities for the operation and advancement of the program of work, and,*
- *to attract public and private investment in the program, as necessary and appropriate.*

Initial areas of focus for broadband work on behalf of Member Counties will include:

- *Foundational Readiness: Ensure all member counties have broadband strategic plans*
- *Capacity Building: Equip rural counties with information and resources about innovative models and approaches to broadband deployment*
- *Demonstration Projects: Implement open-access municipal broadband projects*

All this sounds like more meetings, more plans, more travel, and more coffee and donuts. Should the government really get into this? Why not let market forces deal with it competitively, After all, even if your large provider is too slow in your area now, there are local entrepreneurs setting up fast systems with excellent service which are much better than Sprint, Verizon, etc., in rural areas. The service is much better too.

The County should work on the housing, desalination, homeless, economic development, and traffic issues first.



**“Here are the minutes from our last meeting:
Marty wasted 12 minutes, Janice wasted 7 minutes,
Carl wasted 27 minutes, Eileen wasted 9 minutes...”**

Item 29 - It is recommended that the Board receive and file the update on 2021 State Legislative activities. The County's State Legislative lobbyists will present a summary of State Budgetary actions and new laws which were adopted during the 2021 Session. This list contains billions of dollars of new programs and expansion of government. Please see Addendum I on page 31 below.

Item 30 - Hearing to consider an appeal (APPL2020-00001) by Center for Biological Diversity of the Planning Commission's approval of a request by Sentinel Peak Resources California (Sentinel) LLC (formerly Freeport-McMoRan Oil and Gas) for a Conditional Use Permit (DRC2015-00002) to amend a previously approved Conditional Use Permit (D010386D) granting additional time to install the final 31 oil wells of 95 approved wells at the Arroyo Grande Oilfield. The property is located at 1821 Price Canyon Road on both the east and west sides of Price Canyon Road, approximately 2.7 miles north of the City of Pismo Beach. Sentinel seeks a permit to extend the time deadline to drill 31 oil wells which had been previously approved by the County. The Planning Commission approved the permit in 2015. The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) promptly filed a very detailed and long (244 page) appeal. The CBD opposed the project before the Planning Commission in 2015.

The Board should deny the appeal and be prepared to defend its decision in Court. The appeal is nothing more than a shakedown by enviro thugs seeking to capture protection money.

Background: The appeal process was tolled (suspended) while various State agencies studied the impact of reinjected water to the aquifer and creek. The water is used to generate steam, which in turn is injected back into the aquifer to loosen up the viscous oil.

The State agency studies were separate from this application and would have occurred as a matter of course, even without the presentation of this application. In the end, the State concluded that the boundaries of the aquifer are such that any water that is reinjected will not impact any potable sources. Similarly, it was determined that treated water which is made to flow to the creek is not a pollution source. In fact, a number of agricultural firms support the project because the water discharged to the creek becomes recharge water to the Edna Valley aquifer, making it easier to achieve SGMA requirements.

The State determination occurred this spring, and thus the appeal became live and is now before the Board of Supervisors.

The Actual Issue: The appellant Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) is a left-of-center environmental activist and legal advocacy organization based in Tucson, Arizona, and claims to have 1.4 million members. It has 16 additional offices in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, the District of Columbia, and the Mexican state of Baja California. Total revenue for 2017 exceeded \$20.1 million, and as of March 2019, it had at least 160 employees, including more than 40 attorneys.

CBD policy goals have included population control (including promotion of both abortion access and voluntary male sterilization), opposition to the elevation of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court, and blocking construction of President Donald Trump's proposed wall on

the southern border of the United States. In January 2019 CBD was a co-signatory on a letter that denounced nuclear power as “dirty energy” (nuclear power plants produce no carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gas emissions).

One university study of the CBD found that its modus operandi is described as:

Here lawsuits are ingeniously filed under the Endangered Species Act to add allegedly endangered species or protect existing ones. In 2001 the Fish and Wildlife Service was contesting some eighty suits on this matter, and an additional ninety were in the works. In short, a Herculean aim – eliminating all economic use of undeveloped land – was being accomplished via shrewd litigation on behalf of plants and animals!¹

CBD uses its litigation and advocacy to advance left-of-center political objectives related to both the environment and other matters. As of March 2019, the masthead of the main page of the website stated: “We’ve sued Trump 117 times—and we’re nowhere near finished.

Large Donors include:

The [Sandler Foundation](#) has also been a very large institutional donor to CBD, giving \$7.7 million from 2003 through 2017.

Other left-leaning foundations that have donated large total sums to CBD include the following:

- [Wilburforce Foundation](#) – \$1 million.
- Environment Now – \$849,000. Environment Now is a foundation based in Southern California that stylizes itself as a “SWAT team” for the environment. It has also donated to the [Natural Resources Defense Council](#) and the [Sierra Club](#). As of 2016 it reported net assets of \$30 million.
- Frankel Family Foundation – \$815,000. This foundation has also donated to [org](#), [Everytown for Gun Safety](#), the [Union of Concerned Scientists](#) and the Arizona affiliate of [Planned Parenthood](#). It is based in Chicago and as of 2017 reported annual contributions of more than \$1 million and net assets of \$7 million.
- [Marisla Foundation](#) – \$615,000.
- Argosy Foundation – \$415,000. This foundation is affiliated with the [Consultative Group on Biological Diversity](#), the [Environmental Grantmakers Association](#), and the [Fundors for Reproductive Equity](#).^[67]
- [Educational Foundation of America](#) – \$400,000. **Who Benefits From this Shake Down Racket?**

The CBD raises much of its revenue by filing radical law suits and then settling for a little less in exchange for large payments. This is a protection racket which would make the Mafia blush.

¹ *The Limits of Civic Activism, 2005; University of Illinois-Urbana political science professor Robert Weissberg analyzed the impact of CBD and other organizations like it and found a much broader agenda.*

The following are the highest compensated staffers reported working for CBD and their job descriptions. The information is from the 2016 and 2017 forms submitted by CBD to the IRS, and the online biographies provided by CBD, as of March 2019.

Kieran Suckling is executive director and co-founder of the Center. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$295,823.

Todd Schulke is senior staff, co-founder, and a Center board member. He oversees forest protection and restoration. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$82,449. However, total reported compensation for 2016 was \$153,881.

Robin Silver is senior staff, co-founder, and a Center board member. He is a retired emergency room physician and a professional wildlife photographer. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$296,054.

Peter Galvin is director of programs, co-founder, and a Center board member. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$272,485.

Paula Simmonds is the Center's chief development officer. Her total reported compensation for 2017 was \$184,143.

Brendan Cummings is the Center's conservation director and attorney. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$141,025.

Michael Hudson is chief operating officer for the Center. His total reported compensation for 2017 was \$165,526.

Kassie Siegel is senior counsel and director of CBD's Climate Law Institute. Her total reported compensation for 2017 was \$125,830.



Why is ECOSLO fronting for out of town shakedown thugs?

This long term local environmental advocacy group has fallen into the clutches of the Center for Biological Diversity. Worse yet ECOSLO is supported by and/or partners with government entities, not-for-profit foundations, private donors, and for-profit businesses. Do these entities support banning the 31 oil wells? The County itself is listed as an ECOSLO partner, if not a donor. The incestuousness of the enviro movement in SLO County is on full display here.

OCT 19 Tell SLO Board of Supervisors to Reject New Oil Drilling in Arroyo Grande!
Public · Hosted by **ECOSLO** and **Center for Biological Diversity**

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 9:00 AM PDT
Next Week · 8-20°C Partly Cloudy

1055 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, United States [Show Map](#)

Details

On October 19, the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors will be deciding whether to approve or reject Sentinel Peak Resources' application to resurrect an expired permit to drill an additional 31 oil wells in the Arroyo Grande Oil Field. Those permits were issued in 2005 and expired in 2015. Yet, since then, the County has allowed Sentinel to drill new wells in the oil field without renewing its permits--by allowing Sentinel to deem them "replacement" wells.

Partners

As we expand our reach in the community and develop new programs within our organization, it has been encouraging to have so much support from local experts, City and County departments, and other entities. Through these partnerships we are able to create a powerful change and connection.



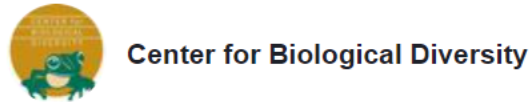
ECOSLO is able to offer programs that make a difference in your community because of the support of local businesses, partners, sponsors, and grantors. See all who have impacted us greatly and who we appreciate below.

Businesses & Donors

Each year we put on programs that get volunteers outdoors and taking care of our community's natural spaces. Many businesses support these efforts through in-kind donations. We are so grateful to those who make our programs possible through the giving of supplies, time, and financial support!



Hosted by



Event & Program Sponsors

ECOSLO holds several events including, but not limited to, Coastal Cleanup, County Parks projects, Green Business events, Eco-Fairs, 5K O'Connell Avenue 10K Races, Urban tree planting days, Landmarks, Volunteer Appreciation Week and more! These events would not be as successful as they are without the passionate sponsors and folks that donate their resources to us. We thank each and every one of you!



See the COLAB IN DEPTH SECTION ON PAGE 22 FOR ARTICLES ON THE ABSOLUTE ACCELERATING FAILURE OF CARBON BANS.

Grantors

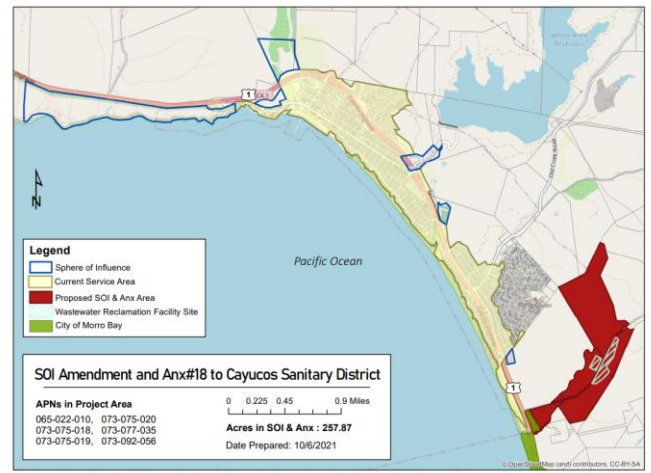
Many of our programs rely on grant funding to be able to carry out projects and make efforts happen. We would like to thank the grantors who included us in their funding and put their confidence in our organization.



Interested in becoming a partner or sponsor of ECOSLO? Connect with us!

San Luis Obispo County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Meeting of Thursday, October 21, 2021(Scheduled)

Item A-3: Annexation No. 18 and Sphere of Influence Amendment to the Cayucos Sanitary District (Water Reclamation Facility) LAFCO 2-R-21 (Recommend Review and Approval). Approval will allow the District to include a reclamation site within its boundaries. The write-up states in part:



Summary: The purpose of this proposal is to amend the SOI and annex the project area into the CSD for the district's new WRF and Solar Farm that have been constructed on the property. The CSD provides sewage, solid waste, and recycling services.

Item A-4: Annexation No. 82 to the City of San Luis Obispo (Froom Ranch Area) LAFCO File No. 1-R-21 (Recommend Review and Approval). This is a fairly major annexation to the City. The write-up states in part:

Development Potential within Annexation Area: The subject site is located within the City's Sphere of Influence, as per the Municipal Service Review approved by LAFCO on October 20, 2016. Should the subject site be annexed into the City, the City-approved Froom Ranch Specific Plan would allow for the construction of up to 578 residential units, including 174 multi-family housing units and 404 senior housing units within a Life Plan Community known as Villaggio that includes assisted living and health care facilities. The plan would also allow for up to 100,000 square feet (sf) of commercial retail space, including approximately 70,000 sf of hotel use with up to 120 rooms and 30,000 sf of proposed retail and restaurant uses. Approximately 54 percent of the annexation area would be retained as open space and include a 2.9-acre public park that would connect to the existing trail network within the adjacent Irish Hills Natural Reserve

Approval will require LAFCO to impose mitigation of a number of CEQA Class I impacts, including views (conversion from rural to urban); displacement of animals and plants; disturbance of native American anthropological resources; greenhouse gas generation; etc. In fact, the migration report and list is 143 pages long.

Of course just down the road in the unincorporated County, a pioneer family was denied 12 antique lot clearance certificates for lots that ranged from 3 to 12 acres and preserved the rural character. Of course this proposal is next to an existing TJ Max and Home Depot. We've stayed at the adjacent Hampton Inn and can certify that the place is full of frogs and ducks.

We couldn't see readily in all the documents how much property tax the County was keeping, nor could we see a forecast of the property tax, sales tax, and TOT, which should be quite large at build out. Is the County going to receive any share of that growth to cover the Countywide services which it will still be providing as the added population uses the DA, Courts, Elections, Health, Jail, Child Support Services, regional road network, Public Defender, Behavioral Health, In Home Support Services, Homeless Services, etc.

How will the new retail impact the stability of downtown San Luis Obispo?

FROOM RANCH SPECIFIC PLAN



Make the large drainage basin a real water feature. Why not put a grand and beautiful illuminated fountain in the large drainage basin as an entrance feature to the City? Everyone on 101 would see it.

Special Meeting of the Planning Commission of Friday October 22, 2021 (Recently Scheduled)

In General: The sound recording did not seem to be working for the October 7th meeting when the 2 items below were scheduled. This may be a do over.

Item 6 - Application for 12 Small Houses and 24 Apartments behind Mechanics Bank Off Teft Street in Nipomo. The project was continued from the October 7, 2021 meeting.

The write-up states in part that the project will include:

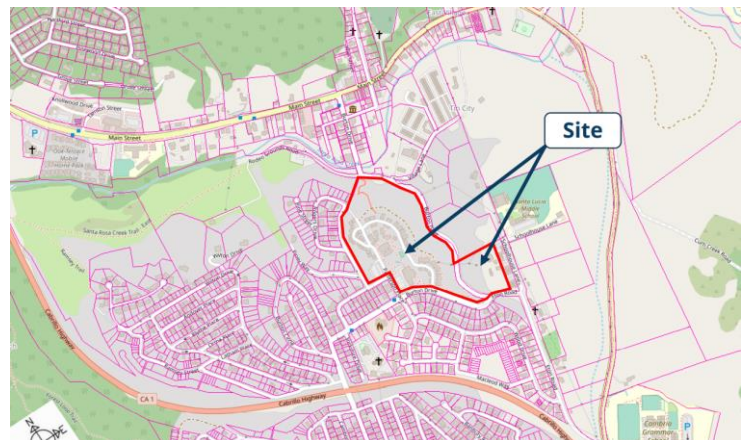
The project site consists of two existing legal parcels. The Conditional Use Permit (covered under SUB2019-00092) will authorize smaller lot sizes as a planned development and allow for the construction of twelve detached single-family residences of 1,654 square feet each on the south side of Flint Place (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 item was continued from the October 7, 2021 meeting. 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.



LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Special Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, October 12, 2021 (Completed)

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. In the end the Board appointed one of the 2 candidates pushed by the County administration, local government clerks, the League of Women Voters, the progressive left, and the SLO Tribune. The vote was 4/1 with Supervisor Arnold dissenting. In the end Supervisor Bruce Gibson seems to have gotten exactly what he wanted from the beginning.

This outcome should not be held against the appointee, Elaina M. Cano, or runner-up, Helen V. Nolan, as both appear to be quite competent and capable of running the County Clerk Recorder Office. As noted below in **The Administrative Class vs. the People** section, the issue had moved way beyond the relative suitability of the candidates. Both have extensive experience in county clerks' offices. Cano is the current Deputy County Clerk of Santa Barbara County and previously served in various positions in SLO County. Nolan is the current Deputy Clerk of SLO County and is serving as acting Clerk due to the resignation of former Clerk Tommy Gong.

Nolan will presumably revert to her position as Deputy Clerk. It should be noted that during the interview it became apparent that Nolan possesses generalist executive skills, the ability to quickly master new subjects, and is a facile communicator. The County therefore should not limit her career path, but should regard her as a management resource and perhaps move her around. For example, assign her to manage the geometrically expanding homeless program (fed by State and Federal largess) and see what happens.

One of the related problems in accomplishing this is that local government personnel systems are so ridged that it is difficult to move up-and-comers around as each position class in the system has specific detailed requirements. Contrast this with private industry, where a company will hire a group of future executives based on how smart and accomplished they are. Even the military moves officers around from line to staff assignments, various schools, and exposure to the policy environment over their careers.

We had a Budget Analyst once who moved up in the city, was stolen by a large insurance corporation to do organizational development, and ended up as Executive VP for European operations in Amsterdam. Her territory covered an area from the arctic circle to the Sahara and the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains. She was in charge tens of thousands of employees and hundreds of profit centers.

Background - The Administrative Class vs. The People: The fundamental issue was 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 was and still is whether the peoples' elected Board of Supervisors should be able to use their legal appointment power to shape the County priorities and administration. As it turned out, the administration itself blunted that power and undermined the fundamental democratic institution.

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

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.

For the full detailed report from last week and the week and week prior click on the go to **Item 1:**

[Weekly Update Oct-10 Oct-16 2021.pdf \(colabslo.org\)](#)

**Integrated Waste Management Authority Meeting of Wednesday, October 13, 2021
(Completed)**

Item 10 - Update on District Attorney Investigation of IWMA Corruption. The Board received the report on the consent calendar without discussion. 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 \(windows.net\)](https://www.windows.net/9e6d68d3-b59f-4d8d-a261-cd1098e31e76.pdf)

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.

Item 13 - Amendment of the Joint Powers Agreement between the Cities and County to Recognize the withdrawal of the County. The Board amended the agreement between each of the cities and the County to recognize the withdrawal of the County from the IWMA. The write-up stated 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 (Completed)

Item 5 - 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. The Hearing Board heard a long and detailed report on the progress of reducing dust

at the Dunes Park. They acknowledged that progress is being made but the rate will not accomplish the required 50% reduction by the December 2023 deadline.

This circumstance resulted in the Hearing Board setting a meeting to modify the stipulated order governing the process. Long term SLO community environmental doyenne Kara Woodruff is now on the Hearing Board and seems to be pushing things along. In the end they decided to set a meeting for March 23, 2022. The hearing Board could order changes in the plan to reduce the dust up to and including shutting the dunes down. To accelerate the dust reaction process would require closing more of the area to riding than is already closed. It would require more plantings in various areas.

It should be noted that the Coastal Commission closure order may overtake the APCD process as it requires shut down of riding and free style camping by 2024. In effect, both processes work to severely restrict or end the dunes riding.

Background: *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.

California Coastal Commission Meeting of Wednesday, October 13, 2021 (Completed)

Closed Session: The Commission heard a report on 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. They did not report any action.

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)

California Coastal Commission Meeting of Friday, October 15, 2021 (Completed)

Item 20.e - Public hearing and action on request by San Luis Obispo County to amend the LCP to redesignate a 0.4-acre parcel at the northeast corner of Ocean Boulevard and Old Creek Road from Commercial Retail to Residential Single Family, in the unincorporated community of Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County and, if the Commission does not take a final action, possible action to extend the deadline for final Commission action on the amendment. This is the Cayucos boutique hotel project which the Commission objected to earlier this year. The applicant and the County apparently got tethered and decided that the County would seek to convert the zoning from commercial to residential.

The Commission went through a long rambling discussion about affordable housing (over which it has no authority) and on a vote of 6/2 denied the project because SLO County could guarantee higher density housing, which might be more affordable.

The poor applicant has been yanked around and screwed for years. This is the epitome of a callous and evil system perpetrated against the public. The Commission consists of a bunch of Marie Antoinette's and political hack thugs.



Eventually all debts must be paid.

Item 20.f - Public hearing and action on request by San Luis Obispo County to amend LCP provisions for vacation rentals in the unincorporated community of Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County and, if the Commission does not take a final action, possible action to extend the deadline for final Commission action on the amendment. The County is sneakily attempting to use the Coastal Commission to limit the number of vacation rentals in Los Osos. The matter was continued.

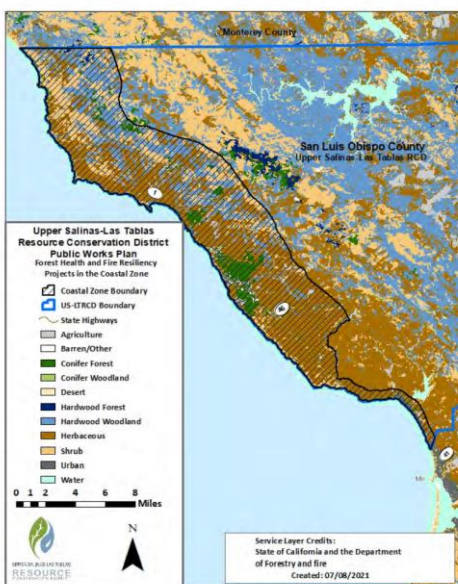
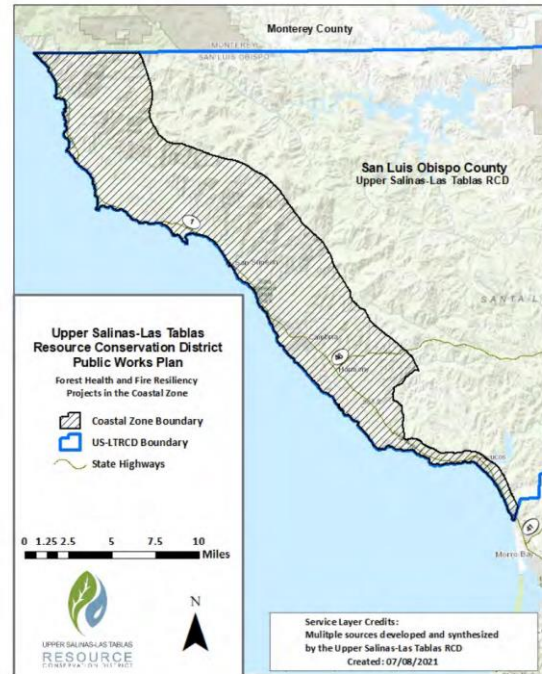
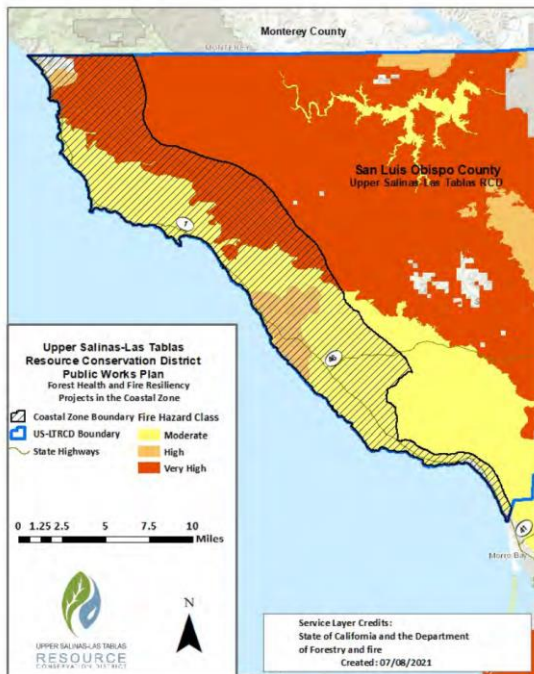
Item 21 - Upper Salinas Conservation District 10 Year Vegetation Management Wildfire Plan. The Commission unanimously approved the plan developed by the District, ranchers, farmers, and others to manage vegetation to limit wildfires. The Commission's staff recommended approval. The Plan is extensive.

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.

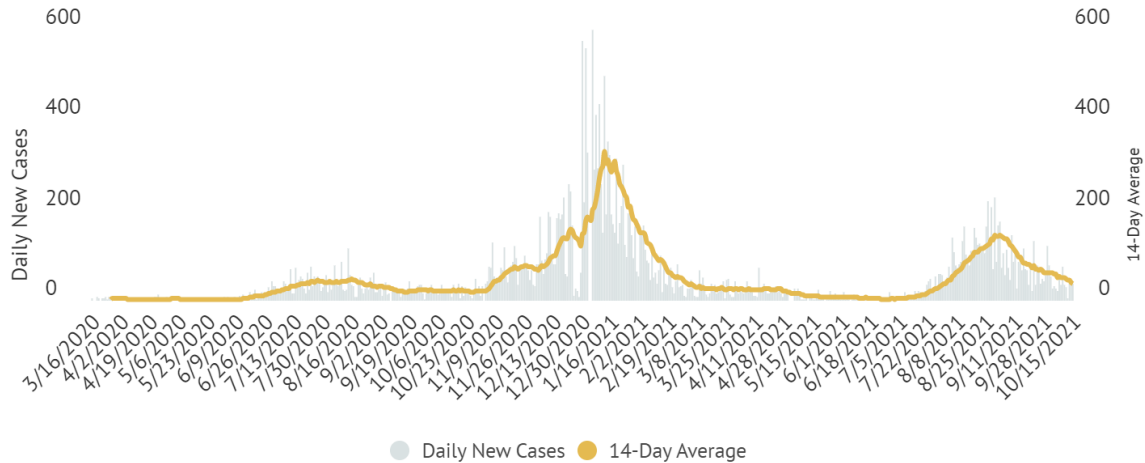
The maps below illustrate the area covered by the plan and also how far inland the Coastal Commission deems it authority to reach on such issues. It appears that overgrown pine forests and other native plant communities in the coastal zone are an early focus area.



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 continued for weeks 8 -11. Last week (12) the rate dropped significantly.

Daily New Cases (and 14-Day Average)



[Download data](#)

13 Hospitalized (4 in ICU)

Item 2 - State Bans small gas engine equipment. See the October 14, 2021 Wall Street Journal editorial below.

California Chainsaw Massacre

When Democrats say they want to re-make the U.S. economy by government fiat, they aren't kidding. Having banned the sale of gas-powered cars by 2035, California is now coming for chainsaws, weed whackers, lawn mowers, leafblowers and other supposedly dirty off-road equipment.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Saturday signed legislation directing the state's Air Resources Board to issue regulations that "prohibit engine exhaust and evaporative emissions from new small off-road engines" by 2024 or "as soon as the state board determines is feasible, whichever is later." But when there's a progressive will, the state's regulators never care if there's a "feasible" way to comply.

As an Assembly bill analysis notes, "for commercial uses, there is very little market for zero-emission equipment as today's technology is relatively expensive and requires multiple batteries and/or frequent recharging and replacement" and "may be inadequate even if money is no object, particularly when used in rural areas without convenient access to recharging."

No market? No matter. Sacramento will dictate a new one by banning the old one.

Banning sales of new small-combustion engines in tools "could have a few unintended consequences," the analysis added. For instance,

it could "lead to prolonged use of older, dirtier engines," and the "purchase of non-compliant engines out of state for use in California." Home Depot stores in Tijuana and Reno no doubt will appreciate the sales boost.

Democrats promise to provide \$30 million in subsidies to reduce the cost of battery-powered tools. But these

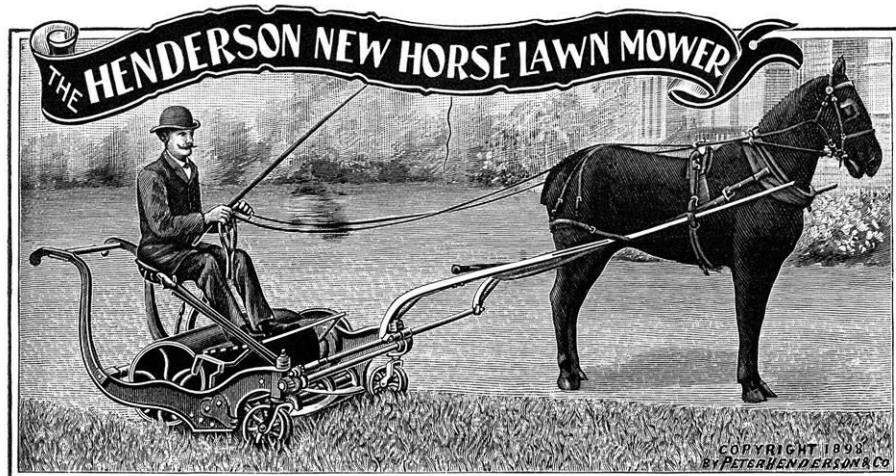
won't cover the full cost difference between gas-powered and plug-in tools. A zero-emissions lawn mower costs twice as much as a gas-powered one.

The bill will especially punish the state's 50,000 small landscaping businesses, many of which are Hispanic and family-owned. Notably, about one in five Democrats in the Assembly and a third in the Senate from mostly lower- and middle-income districts abstained or voted against the bill.

You won't read this in other newspapers, but many Democrats who represent working-class communities are starting to worry that the state's environmental policies are driving up the cost of living for minority communities. Last fall Democratic Assemblyman Jim Cooper lambasted green groups for pushing legislation that increases energy costs for and "systematically drive racial economic inequities and fuel environmental racism."

The gentry liberals who control the Legislature don't care.

Sacramento escalates its campaign to raise costs for everything.



Why not skip the electric version, and go straight to horsepower. Much of our electric energy is generated by natural gas which undermines the whole climatist policy.

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

THE END OF GREEN DREAMS?

BY STEVEN HAYWARD

Every day brings fresh news of the how the edifice of “green energy” has hit the wall. It turns out that when nations recognize they need more energy, they are all turning to . . . energy that actually works at scale.

And yet the Al Gores of the world persist:

[Al Gore’s \\$36 Billion Fund Sees New Urgency to Cut Off Oil Money](#)

Five years. That’s roughly how much time the investment universe has left to stop feeding capital to greenhouse-gas emitters before it’s too late, according to the co-founder of Generation Investment Management LLP.

David Blood, a long-time top executive at Goldman Sachs Group Inc.’s asset-management unit before starting an investment fund with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore more than 15 years ago, says that efforts over the past two decades to fight climate change are “not going to be enough.”

Five years. Good to know. Except I’m so old that I can remember when Al Gore said the Arctic Ocean would be [ice free by 2013](#). That was back in 2009.*

Meanwhile, back in the real world, governments everywhere are facing shortages and soaring costs for electricity and are turning rapidly to . . . **fossil fuels!** California and other jurisdictions here and abroad are waiving conventional air pollution regulations so that power companies can use diesel generators to fill the gap. Somehow all those solar panels and windmills just aren’t cutting it.

Slowly you can see the entire climate edifice melting away:

[Gripped by Energy Crisis, Europe Considers Breaking Climate Promises and Turning to Coal](#)

Europe is in the grip of an energy crisis amid rising prices for natural gas, increased demand for fossil fuels and the approach of the winter that will make access to fuel even more urgent.

The price of natural gas on the continent has risen sharply over the past year with the European benchmark up nearly 600 percent as of Thursday and the European Union(EU) seeking [more gas supply from Russian energy firm Gazprom](#), which is already Europe’s largest supplier, providing 35 percent of the continent’s needs. . .

Rising costs have been driven by increased demand in Asia and other parts of the world as economies reopen after shutdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ongoing difficulties with gas supply and costs have reopened questions about the use of coal.

Here at home, where the Biden Administration is doing its best to suppress oil and natural gas production while asking OPEC to pump more oil, we're starting to see headlines like this:

[Sharp surge in energy prices threatens economic recovery and is already slowing growth](#)
Energy prices are surging, and the economy is already feeling the pinch of higher fuel costs though it is far from stalling out.

There is an unusual coincidence of much higher oil, natural gas and coal prices, combined with other rising commodities and supply chain disruptions. That perfect storm of shortages and higher prices begs the question of whether the economy could go into a serious tailspin or even a recession.

(This is as good a time as any to remind readers of the work of James Hamilton, who persuasively argues that [energy price shocks](#) often trigger recessions in the U.S.)
The whole scene is so absurd we get headlines like these:

[North Korean Companies Smuggle Coal To China Amid Growing Electricity Crisis](#)
Amid [China's chronic power crisis](#), North Korean companies are breaking UN nuclear sanctions by allegedly smuggling coal to Beijing. According to Radio Free Asia, China's coal shortfall is the result of lower imports and lower local output as Beijing strives to balance rising energy demand with a goal to minimize pollution and carbon emissions. The smuggling companies are controlled by powerful government organisations, reported Radio Free Asia cited a trade official from North Pyongan province in North Korea.
The news smuggling comes as the United Nations banned coal exports in 2017. Meanwhile, according to media reports, China is experiencing an electricity crisis, which is pushing factories to curtail operations and power use, as well as resulting in outright blackouts in several areas.

You things are crazy when North Korea is **exporting** something (aside from terrorism and counterfeit dollars). And speaking of China:

[China's plan to build more coal-fired plants deals blow to UK's Cop26 ambitions](#)
China plans to build more coal-fired power plants and has hinted that it will rethink its timetable to slash emissions, in a significant blow to the UK's ambitions for securing a global agreement on phasing out coal at the [Cop26 climate summit](#) in Glasgow.
In a statement after a meeting of Beijing's National Energy Commission, the Chinese premier, Li Keqiang, stressed the importance of regular energy supply, after swathes of the country were plunged into darkness by [rolling blackouts that hit factories and homes](#).
While [China](#) has published plans to reach peak carbon emissions by 2030, the statement hinted that the energy crisis had led the Communist party to rethink the timing of this ambition, with a new "phased timetable and roadmap for peaking carbon emissions".
And it's not just China!

US coal use is rebounding under Biden like it never did with Trump

Donald Trump vowed to revive the coal industry, but it's President Joe Biden who's seeing a big comeback of the dirtiest fossil fuel.

U.S. power plants are on track to burn 23% more coal this year, the first increase since 2013, despite Biden's ambitious plan to eliminate carbon emissions from the power grid. The rebound comes after consumption by utilities plunged 36% under Trump, who slashed environmental regulations in an unsuccessful effort to boost the fuel.

That's going to increase emissions at a time when Biden and other world leaders prepare to gather in Scotland in a few weeks, hoping to reach a deal on curbing fossil fuels in a last-ditch effort to save the world from climate change. The boom is being driven by surging natural gas prices and a global energy crisis that's forcing countries to burn dirtier fuels to keep up with demand. It's also a stark reminder that government policy can steer energy markets, but it can't control them.

Way to go, Brandon!

Over in Norway (which has just elected a left-leaning government that says it aims to end Norway's North Sea oil and gas production that pays for most of Norway's welfare state—yeah, let's see how this goes):

Norway Reindeer Herders May Force Dismantling of 151 Wind Plants

Statkraft AS may have to tear down as many as 151 turbines at one of Europe's biggest wind farms following a supreme court ruling in favor of Sami reindeer owners.

The ruling covers two wind farms built on traditional reindeer pastures in central Norway that the Sami people claim violates their indigenous rights. They have now won a key decision in the supreme court that leaves the operator Statkraft AS in limbo about the future of one of its biggest onshore wind power facilities.

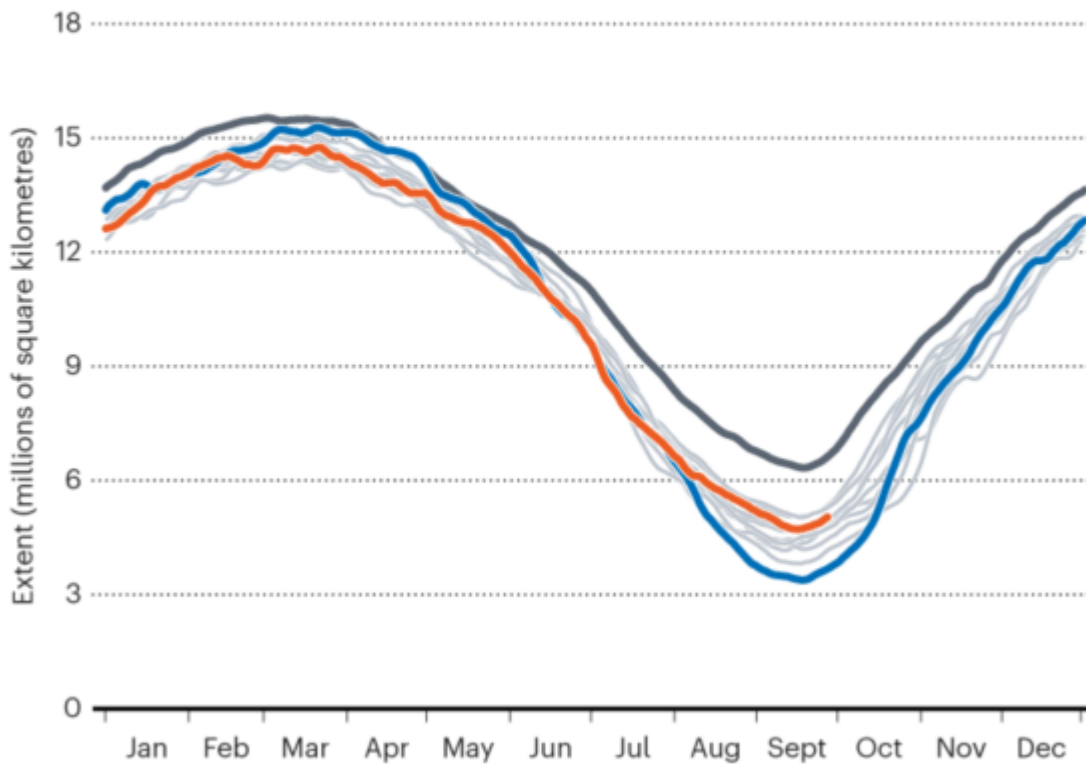
Count me on Team Reindeer.

* Just how is Arctic ice looking these days? Turns out the latest data show this year's ice cover coming in somewhere around the middle of the data runs from the last 40 years, but in the upper bound of the last 10 years—almost as if a declining trend has reversed. I'm sure this is a huge disappointment to the climatistas, who need unrelenting bad news to be happy.

ICE COVER

Minimum Arctic sea-ice extent is shrinking by around 13% per decade.

— 2021 — 2012 — Past 10 years — 1981–2010 median



©nature

Steven F. Hayward is an American conservative author, political commentator, and policy scholar. He is a senior resident scholar at the Institute of Governmental Studies at UC Berkeley, and a visiting lecturer at Berkeley's Boalt Hall Law School. This article first appeared in the October 13, 2021 issue of Climate. It has been widely syndicated nationally. Steve is a resident of San Luis Obispo County.

THE WEST'S SUICIDAL ENERGY POLICIES

Global warmists' pipe-dreams and bad science.

BY BRUCE THORNTON

History and common sense tell us that for a nation to survive, it must secure and control critical natural resources. In recent decades, Western nations have increasingly ignored this imperative in order to pursue dubious environmental goals dressed up as science, but more often the consequence of cultural ideals, political agendas, or profitable industries supported by government subsidies.

The current rise in the costs of energy in the U.S. and Europe is a flashing red light warning us that irresponsible energy policies are threatening the global economy, with dangerous consequences for our freedom, security, and way of life.



History provides us with examples of what happens to a state when it loses control of a critical resource. Ancient Athens depended on imported grain to feed its people. Recognizing the importance of foreign grain, the Athenians controlled the ports and sea-lanes that facilitated grain transport from the Black Sea region. Its dependence on those imports in fact led to its defeat by Sparta in the 27-year-long Peloponnesian War. Sparta's naval victory at Aegospotamai at the mouth of the modern Dardanelles cut off Athenian imports from the Black Sea. Faced with starvation, the Athenians capitulated.

Twenty-two centuries later, the West faced a similar, though not as disastrous, challenge—the 1973-74 Arab Oil Embargo. OPEC cut off imports of oil to the U.S. and other nations for supporting Israel during the 1973 Arab-Israeli, or Yom Kippur War. Dependent on imported oil, the U.S. faced the “oil shock”: gasoline prices rising 43%, gas rationing, long lines at gas-stations, a tripling of oil costs per barrel, stagflation, a stock market crash, and further damage to the global economy. The silver lining of this crisis was the development of policies and measures intended to wean the U.S. from its dependence on imported oil.

The current energy crisis, with oil prices recently rising to \$80 a barrel, is much different from the Athenian grain crisis or Arab oil embargo, both of which were the consequence of war. But it is a serious one, affecting the world's richest economies. As Ellie Gardey [writes in American Spectator Online](#), “Economists are predicting that Europe and Asia will face a cataclysmic energy crisis when winter weather collides with drastically higher energy prices and shortages of oil, natural gas, and coal. There are warnings about widespread blackouts in Europe, factory shutdowns in China, and economic chaos in poorer countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan.”

The pandemic's effect on supply chains is part of the problem, but the more significant factor is the decades-long assault on carbon-based energy on the pretext of catastrophic global warming. Germany, the EU's largest economy and the world's fourth largest, is the bellwether for Europe's economies. After the Fukushima nuclear disaster in 2011, Germany recklessly decommissioned all its nuclear power plants, which provided nearly 30% of the country's energy, and mandated they be replaced by “green” energy like wind and solar. But as Texas learned this past winter when power outages killed at least 80 people, those sources of energy are highly unreliable fixes when fuels like natural gas that power generators become unavailable. Yet Europe's powerful environmental lobby continue to block and delay new coal-fired plants or allow hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for extracting shale oil. As a result, they are dependent on Russian natural gas, and hence subject to Vladimir Putin's geopolitical ambitions.

For now the U.S. is in better shape to weather the fuel crisis thanks to the fracking revolution, and Donald Trump's relaxation of bans on oil development on public lands and waters, and his support for innovations like fracking that have made the U.S. potentially energy self-sufficient and the top oil producer in the world. Trump also left the Paris Climate Accords, the latest act of

globalist virtue-signaling that will do nothing to mitigate the alleged apocalypse humanity will face if temperatures rise more than a couple of degrees in the next few decades.

The Biden administration, of course, has reversed most of these policies and renewed the progressives' war on coal. Now the goal is for electricity generation to be carbon-free by 2035, at the cost of who knows how many trillions of dollars. He has tried to put a moratorium on oil-leases on public lands, cancelled the Keystone XL pipeline, and rejoined the useless Paris Climate accords. More humiliating, he has lobbied OPEC to produce more oil in order to stabilize prices—so much for our goal to achieve energy independence, first set as a response to the 1973 Arab Oil Embargo. The consequences of this squandering of Trump's support for domestic oil production can be seen in current rising energy costs, with regular gas as much as twice as high in some states as it was in 2020.

Why have the richest, best educated, most technologically sophisticated nations in history violated the obvious lesson delivered by history and common sense—that a nation's security depends on controlling and enhancing the supplies of its most important resources?

Today's crisis reflects naïve or self-interested claims about the relationship of human behavior to the environment. For most of humanity before the modern period, nature was an arena of destructive, inhuman forces that had to be propitiated, but also controlled and exploited in order for people to survive. The idealization of nature as a beneficent mother from whom our technology, industry, and cities have estranged us arose in the West with the 18th-century Romantic movement. The impact of early industrialization's "Satanic mills," as William Blake put it, on the landscape and human life and labor; the growth of cities shrouded in coal smoke and crowded with the destitute; and finally, the shrinking of rural populations and the number of people required to produce food for the rest— all popularized Romantic idealizations of nature as a soothing balm for the psyches of those, mainly comfortable poets and the growing middle class, who felt traumatized by modernity.

This powerful myth, now in its fourth century, has saturated our culture and, through environmental lobby, influenced our government policy. The notion that human beings, in their efforts to survive and improve their material existence, threaten the survival of the natural world—the rationale for policies mitigating catastrophic global warming—goes back even farther, to the ancient myth of the Golden Age. This was the time before technology, laws, private property, and war, when the earth unasked bestowed on us all we needed to survive and flourish. Or as the Roman poet Ovid put it, when the earth "untouched by the hoe and unwounded by the plow herself gave all things."

Unfortunately, that age passed and deteriorated into the Iron Age, when people rend and tear "mother earth" with their iron tools to grow food and mine gold. Then come cities, private property, technology, seafaring, tyranny, crime, and war, all generated by what Ovid called the "wicked lust for having." These ancient longings and ideals are obvious in popular culture, especially in movies like [Avatar](#), [Pocahontas](#), or [Dances with Wolves](#), the latter two box-office hits in the 90s, the decade when the "global warming" industry was just beginning its growth into today's most important and lucrative global ideology.

Despite the dubious science behind anthropogenic, catastrophic global warming, in a few weeks the next global-warming gab-fest comes to Glasgow, just as winter weather will start

exposing the fecklessness of subjecting energy policy to utopian schemes such as achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Of course, the Biden administration will be there, and no doubt sign on to expensive, economy-wounding schemes for reducing carbon that China—whose emissions of CO₂ are greater than those of the U.S. and the other developed nations combined—will game, subvert, or out-right ignore.

Holding our energy policy hostage to a dubious hypothesis about a global climate we as yet do not understand sufficiently—not to mention indulging mythic longings and dreams that are the luxuries of the prosperous well-fed—is dangerous. The first obligation of a government, and the people who select the officers of that government, is to protect the nation’s security and interests, particularly its economy— and the cheap energy that powers it— that funds their way of life.

The global warmists’ pipe-dreams have already cost us billions of dollars in sketchy research and subsidies for “alternative energy” that is decades from achieving, if ever, its promise to make fossil fuels obsolete. The Biden administration has already jeopardized our security abroad with its feckless appeasement in Afghanistan, compromised our safety and citizenship with its virtual open borders policy, and threatened our economy not just with proposed trillions in new spending, but with its war on fossil fuels and fantasies of “net zero” carbon that will cost trillions more and severely damage our economy.

That’s what happens when a people are guided by bad science rather than their own common sense, prudence, and skepticism.

Bruce Thornton is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the Freedom Center, a Research Fellow at Stanford’s Hoover Institution, and a Professor of Classics and Humanities at the California State University. He is the author of nine books and numerous essays on classical culture and its influence on Western Civilization. His most recent book, [Democracy’s Dangers and Discontents](#) (Hoover Institution Press), is now available for purchase. This article first appeared in the Front Page Magazine of October 14, 2021.

BIDEN’S CLIMATE AMBITIONS ARE TOO COSTLY FOR VOTERS

BY BJORN LOMBORG

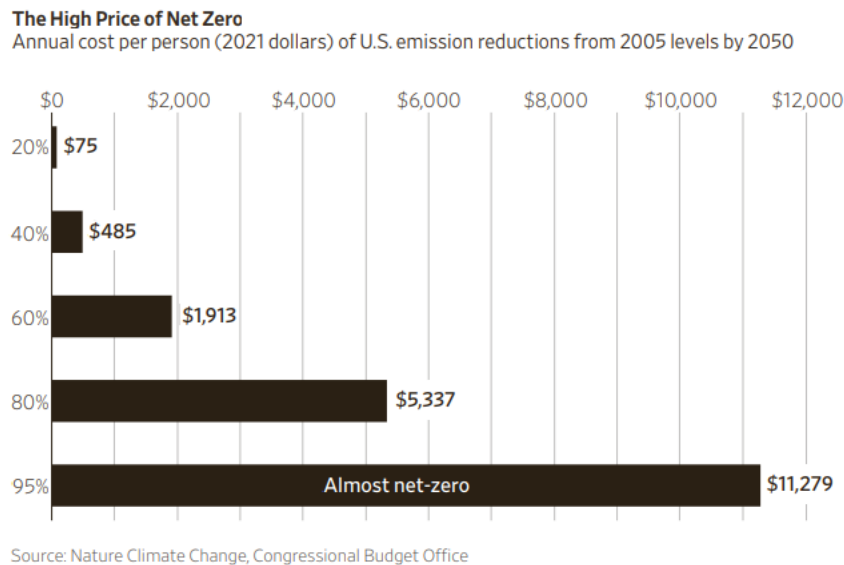
Wall Street Journal Editor’s note: *As November’s global climate conference in Glasgow draws near, important facts about climate change don’t always make it into the dominant media coverage. We’re here to help. Each Thursday contributor Bjorn Lomborg will provide some important background so readers can have a better understanding of the true effects of climate change and the real costs of climate policy.*

Politicians across the world routinely promise unprecedented reductions of carbon emissions but make little mention of the cost, often covering with vivid projections of green jobs. Yet the economic damage these policies would do is much greater than what most voters would tolerate, while the climate benefits are smaller than many would imagine.

The annual cost of the promises to which President Obama signed on under the Paris climate agreement would have hit roughly \$50 billion in 2030, or about \$140 per person. Many studies

show Americans are willing to pay a couple of hundred dollars a year to remedy climate change, but this data is highly skewed by a small minority willing to spend thousands of dollars. A recent Washington Post survey found that a majority of Americans would vote against a \$24 annual climate tax on their electricity bills.

Even if they'd hand over \$140, it'd buy them little. If Mr. Obama's agreement were sustained through 2100, it would reduce global temperatures by a minuscule 0.06 degree Fahrenheit. President Biden is pushing much stronger climate policies with much higher price tags. Before his election, he promised to spend \$2 trillion over four years on climate policies—equivalent to \$1,500 per person per year. And Mr. Biden's current promise—100% carbon emission reduction by 2050—will be even more phenomenally expensive.



A new study in Nature finds that a 95% reduction in American carbon emissions by 2050 will annually cost 11.9% of U.S. gross domestic product. To put that in perspective: Total expenditure on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid came to 11.6% of GDP in 2019. The annual cost of trying to hit Mr. Biden's target will rise to \$4.4 trillion by 2050. That's more than everything the federal government is projected to take in this year in tax revenue. It breaks down to \$11,300 per person per year, or almost 500 times more than what a majority of Americans is willing to pay.

Although the U.S. is the world's second-largest emitter of greenhouse gasses right now, America's reaching net zero would matter little for the global temperature. If the whole country went carbon-neutral tomorrow, the standard United Nations climate model shows the difference by the end of the century would be a barely noticeable reduction in temperature of 0.3 degree Fahrenheit. This is because the U.S. will make up an ever-smaller share of emissions as the populations of China, India and Africa grow and get richer.

As Indian Power Minister Raj Kumar Singh blurted out during a recent climate confab, net zero is a "pie in the sky," and "you can't stop" developing countries from using more and more fossil fuels. A realistic climate solution would instead focus on innovation to bring down the price of cleaner energy to one both American and Indian voters are willing to pay.

Mr. Lomborg is president of the Copenhagen Consensus and a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. His latest book is “False Alarm: How Climate Change Panic Costs Us Trillions, Hurts the Poor, and Fails to Fix the Planet.” This article first appeared in the Wall Street Journal of October 14, 2021.

70 New Laws Coming To California

October 13, 2021 By Emily Hoeven



You’d be forgiven for not knowing Gov. Gavin Newsom vetoed the largest expansion of California’s college financial aid system in a generation — he did so during the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Francisco Giants’ first playoff game Friday night.

Hours later, it was all over: Newsom [signed his final bills](#) on Saturday, a day ahead of the Oct. 10 deadline to act on the 836 proposals state lawmakers sent to his desk. Of those, he signed 770 (92%) and vetoed 66 (7.9%), according to Sacramento lobbyist Chris Micheli.

Here’s a look at the significant new laws coming to the Golden State — as well as ideas Newsom prevented from becoming law.

Signed into law:

- Making ethnic studies a high school graduation requirement, [as CalMatters’ Joe Hong reports](#). Under a bill [Newsom signed last year](#), California State University students must also take an ethnic studies course to graduate.
- Mandating mental health instruction in middle and high schools [that have an existing health education course](#).
- Requiring public colleges, universities and secondary schools to [provide free menstrual products on campus](#).
- Requiring large department stores to maintain a gender-neutral section of [toys and child care items](#).
- Restricting sentence enhancements for many crimes, as recommended by [an obscure committee examining California’s penal code](#).
- Ensuring police can’t block journalists from [covering protests and demonstrations](#).
- Cracking down on sideshows and illegal street racing by allowing courts to suspend convicted motorists’ licenses [for up to six months](#).
- Giving cities more authority to [reduce their speed limits](#).
- Making it illegal to harass people entering vaccination clinics. First Amendment experts say several aspects of the law — including an exemption for “lawful picketing arising out of a labor dispute” — [may be unconstitutional](#).
- Ending [“surprise billing” for COVID-19 tests and vaccinations](#).
- Extending a phone tax to fund [high-speed internet in underserved areas](#).
- Allowing [restaurants to continue](#) selling to-go cocktails, using parking lots for expanded seating, and serving alcohol in parklets.

- Offering year-round [fishing licenses](#).
- Banning the sale of new gas-powered leaf blowers, lawn mowers and other small off-road engines [by as soon as 2024](#).
- Phasing out controversial donor dog facilities to create a [new canine blood bank system](#).

Vetoed:

- Massively expanding Cal Grant, [the state's chief financial aid program](#). Ironically, the move came a few days after Newsom approved a stack of bills he said would [increase college affordability and accessibility](#).
- Creating non-hospital facilities for young people insured by Medi-Cal [who are experiencing mental health crises](#).
- Paying people struggling with drug addiction [to stay sober](#).
- Permitting cannabis products to be advertised [on most freeway billboards](#).
- Decriminalizing jaywalking, which would have allowed people to cross the street outside of crosswalks [without getting a ticket](#).
- Allowing bicyclists to [roll through stop signs](#).

This article was originally published by CalMatters.org

ADDENDUM I



1415 L Street
Suite 1000
Sacramento
CA, 95814
916-446-4656

Attachment 1

To: San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors
From: Paul Yoder & Karen Lange
Date: October 12, 2021
Re: 2021 End of Session Report

STATE BUDGET

2021 was unprecedented in many respects due to COVID and federal aid that was appropriated to California. 2021 also obviously saw more wildfires, a worsening drought, and many other challenges.

From a state budget perspective, some examples of significant spending increases include, but are not limited to, the following:

Housing and Homelessness:

The Legislature passed the housing trailer bill AB 140 prior to adjourning for summer recess in July. In total, the State plans to spend approximately \$12 billion to alleviate homelessness and increase housing. The bill specifically provides:

- \$2 billion in flexible homelessness funding for local governments over the next two years.
- \$224 million to counties (40 percent cap for any single county).
- \$240 million to CoCs (40 percent cap for any CoC).
- \$336 million to large cities with populations over 300,000 (45 percent cap for any single city).
- \$180 million for bonus funds available to cities, counties, and CoCs.
- \$1.45 billion for additional Project Homekey.

Energy Utility Assistance:

The 2021-22 budget includes new one-time funding of \$2 billion under the Department of Community Services and Development to implement the California Arrearage Payment Program to address energy utility debts accrued throughout the pandemic.

Health and Human Services:

In June, the legislature passed the main budget bill, AB 128, but it provided few details. They later passed a single Health budget trailer bill, AB 133, and also SB 129, which dedicated \$255 million for IST. The following was included in these bills:



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- \$443,499,000 for the Governor's Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program until June 30, 2026 (SB 129).
- \$27.5 million for county-school behavioral health partnerships (SB 129).
- \$5.5 million for qualifying Medi-Cal managed care plans to implement school interventions (SB 129).
- \$3 million for a local public health needs study (AB 128).
- \$300 million for public hospitals (In SB 129).

Resources:

The Legislature passed SB 155, the Resources Trailer bill. This bill allows for the following appropriations in the Annual Budget Act:

- \$200 million in continuous appropriations for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, to fund annually until 2028-29 for healthy forest and fire prevention programs and projects.
- Makes available \$593 million in 2022-23 and \$175 million in 2023-24 for multi-benefit and nature-based solutions.
- \$60 million annually in 2022-23 and 2023-24 to support state conservancies.
- \$350 million in 2022-23 and \$150 million in 2023-24 to the State Conservancy for grants or expenditures for the protection and restoration of coastal and ocean resources from the impacts of climate and sea-level rise.
- \$150 million annually in 2022-23 and 2023-24 to support programs and activities that mitigate extreme heat impacts.
- \$25 million in 2022-23 and \$75 million in 2023-24 to the Office of Planning and Research (OPR), through the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program for the establishment of a grant program for projects to mitigate the impacts of extreme heat or the urban heat island effect.
- \$25 million in 2022-23 and \$75 million in 2023-24 to the Strategic Growth Council, in coordination with OPR, for the establishment of a community resiliency centers grant program.
- \$50 million 2022-23 to the Department of Conservation, in coordination with the Air Resources Board and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, for pilot projects in the Sierra Nevada to create carbon-negative fuels from materials resulting from forest vegetation management.
- Until January 1, 2023, exempts dealers (e.g., small grocery stores), which have gross annual sales of less than \$1.5 million and are less than 5,000 square feet, from requirements to either take back empty beverage containers for redemption or pay \$100 per day to CalRecycle if the dealer is within an unserved convenience zone.
- \$29.8 million General Fund to the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund to be used for the acquisition and development of properties to expand off-highway vehicle recreation.

Water Resilience Package:

The Water Resilience Package appropriates \$855 million (\$730 million General Fund and \$125 million special fund) in 2021-22, including:

SB 170, Budget Bill Jr. also includes \$75 million (\$65 million General Fund and \$10 million special fund) in 2022 to Cal Recycle for the Circular Economy. The Circular Economy Package provides an additional \$65 million in 2022-23, totaling \$140 million over two fiscal years.

Cap and Trade:

This year's budget included \$850 million in GGRF funding. The Cap and Trade Discretionary Spending Plan includes \$684 million already appropriated in the Budget Act. Total funding in the plan for 2021-22 is \$1 billion.

Parks:

This year's budget included approximately \$170 million for parks related programs.

Broadband:

Legislature passed SB 156, which provides a \$6 billion investment in broadband infrastructure. \$2 billion for last-mile network construction in both rural and urban centers of California (\$1 billion each bill includes:

- \$3.25 billion earmarked to construct a statewide open-access middle mile network. Counties will develop the middle mile directly if so inclined, or work through a JPA or with tribes.
- \$750 million to act as a loan loss reserve specifically designed to leverage even greater broadband infrastructure investments by local governments, tribal governments, and non-profits.

Transportation:

The budget provides a total of \$4.5 billion in new, discretionary General Fund monies in 2021-22, which are entirely one-time or temporary, for transportation infrastructure.

- This includes \$1 billion for transit and rail projects throughout the State,
- \$1 billion to complete transit projects in advance of the 2028 Olympics,
- \$500 million for active transportation projects,
- \$500 million for grade separation and other safety improvements,
- \$400 million for projects to address the impacts of climate change on state and local transportation.

Please see the link below for the full report including the list of some very scary bills which passed.

[137254 \(ca.gov\)](https://www.ca.gov/137254)



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)