



WEEKLY UPDATE AUGUST 7 - 13, 2022

ACTION ALERT!!! A Major Opportunity to End Never-Ending Forest Fires!

Dear COLAB Members,

I have some great news! The forest service has apparently realized that a hands-off approach to forest management is serving no one's interests, be it trees, brush, the watershed, wildlife, or the urban-rural interface (read that people!). Allow me to elaborate.

By eliminating thinning, logging, control burns and the like, we allowed our wildlands to create a density of trees that are up to 10 times more than what is optimal for a healthy forest ecosystem. That is, when there are too many trees and too much underbrush in a forest, the trees find it very difficult to compete for sunshine, nutrients, and water. The trees then become weakened and susceptible to pests and diseases. They end up dying and becoming fuel for ravaging forest fires. The same holds true for overgrown underbrush. Moreover, the overgrown underbrush eliminates foraging habitat for various species that feed on the natural grasslands that should thrive throughout the range.

This hands-off policy has been nothing less than a disaster. Millions of acres have burned in California, resulting in scores of deaths, not to mention entire communities have been lost in the process. Moreover, the deadly Montecito debris flow which claimed over 20 lives and destroyed so many properties is part of a deadly cycle of fires and floods, as denuded landscapes create the perfect conditions for floods and debris flows.

Another concern from these out-of-control wildfires has to do with air quality impacts, which exacerbate breathing difficulties in vulnerable populations. And, in an age where so many people are concerned about greenhouse gas emissions, these wildfires have completely eclipsed any ghg ←? reductions. That is, the releases from these fires obliterated any reductions made by way of regulatory fiat and command-and-control measures.

Below, you will find the notice from the forest service about an environmental review process for the proposed actions. It would be very helpful if you would send in a **constructive and supportive comment** to the Service, because I can guarantee you that certain environmental knuckle draggers in our community, namely the Los Padres Forest Watch among others, will oppose this common-sense measure. That is, these extremists would rather continue to risk the loss of lives and properties via out-of-control wildfires than the use of prescribed-burn measures.

Here is the Notice:

"The Los Padres National Forest (LPNF) is conducting an environmental analysis of the Ecological Restoration Project, which is being proposed on four of the five Ranger Districts of the LPNF. The

purpose of this project is to restore fire-adapted ecosystems, reduce fuels, and reintroduce fire on the landscape by prescribed burning on approximately 235,495 acres of land administered by the LPNF, within Kern, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties. The project, as proposed, would enhance protection for wildland urban interface (WUI) communities and infrastructure, and improve fire and drought resilience of forested landscapes. This letter is being sent to potentially interested and affected members of the public to solicit comments regarding potential environmental issues to inform the content of the Environmental Assessment (EA) being prepared to evaluate this proposal. Comments received will be used to further refine the proposed action and to identify potential issues to be addressed through the environmental analysis process.”

“This solicitation for public comment helps serve the purpose of “scoping” under the Council of Environmental Quality’s National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. It is our intention to analyze the proposed action with an EA. Pursuant to 36 CFR 218.7(a)(2), this proposed project implements the Los Padres National Forest Land Management Plan and is subject to the predecisional objection process in §218 subparts A and B.”

How to Comment:

“We welcome your comments and questions on the proposed LPNF Ecological Restoration Project. To result in the best outcome, please send your specific written comments electronically by **August 28, 2022** to: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public//CommentInput?Project=62369>.”

Written comments may also be directed to Los Padres National Forest Supervisor’s Office, Attention: Kyle Kinports, Forest Planner and Vegetation/Fuels Program Manager, 1980 Old Mission Drive, Solvang, CA 93463. Please state the project name, "LPNF Ecological Restoration Project" on the envelope and your letter when providing comments by mail, or in the subject line if sending by email.

Thank you,

Andy Caldwell

Contact Information
COLAB

PO Box 7523

Santa Maria, CA 93456

For more information,
Andy Caldwell, 805-929-3148
andy@colabsbc.org

Mike Brown
805 944-9474
Mike@colabslo.org

OR

THIS WEEK

SLO BOS

HIGHER SALARY RANGE FOR BOS EXEC ASSISTANT POSITION

**DISPUTE BETWEEN COUNTY AND COASTAL COMMISSION
WILL DELAY ADUs IN COASTAL ZONE FOR A YEAR**

**FIVE YEAR PLAN TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS HAS PROMISE
BOS SHOULD GIVE IT A SHOT**

CENTRAL COAST ENERGY RATE SPREAD NARROWS

**IWMA
ANOTHER LITE MEETING**

**COASTAL COMMISSION TO REVIEW SEA LEVEL RISE
SUPERVISOR GIBSON REPRESENTS COUNTIES ON WORKING PANEL
MANAGED RETREAT DESIGNED TO TAKE OVER COASTAL PROPERTY**

LAST WEEK

NO BOS MEETING

**SLOCOG
TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX PLEA EUPHEMIZED AS “LOCAL EFFORT”
NO ONE ON THE BOARD BIT – SO FAR**

EMERGENT ISSUES

**COVID LOW IN COUNTY
MONKEY POX NOT IN SLO COUNTY SO FAR – AS OF JULY 29TH**

**IWMA
ANOTHER LITE MEETING**

COLAB IN DEPTH SEE PAGE 15

ON THE RAZOR’S EDGE

*The world is at immediate risk, but not from global warming. Unless we
change course it will end poorly for every living thing on the planet*

BY JOHN CONLIN

THE BIG LIES WE CANNOT QUESTION

The biggest lie is to suggest that Republicans are spreading lies and misinformation, and the Democrats are not

BY EDWARD RING

WHY WE LOST TRUST IN THE EXPERT CLASS

Elite experts and degreed professionals massaged and warped their knowledge to serve ideological masters rather than the truth

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

THIS WEKS HIGHLIGHTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, August 9, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item 25 - Submittal of a resolution to establish the salary range and bargaining unit for the new classification of Executive Assistant to the Board of Supervisors. The Board is being requested to beef up the salary for the person assigned to coordinate matters for their office. The position would be reclassified from Secretary to Executive Assistant.

The Secretary – Confidential classification currently assigned to the position that performs secretarial and clerical duties for the office and staff of the BOS does not adequately encompass the complexity, breadth of scope, and impact of a support role for this office. The existing Secretary-Confidential classification supports a single department head or agency director and does not account for the inherent complexity and responsibility of supporting five elected officials. This has necessitated creating this new classification.

The primary responsibilities of the Executive Assistant to the BOS position will include providing high-level administrative support to the Board and their Legislative Assistants, such as managing multiple BOS calendars, email management and correspondence, reception duties for the public facing Board office, payroll coordination functions for the Board and their Legislative Assistants, and occasionally providing a response to the public on behalf of the BOS. Other duties will include administration of programs that fall under the Board's umbrella, including Maddybook appointments and the District Community Grant Program.



Classification Title	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Monthly Min	Monthly Max	Bargaining Unit
Executive Assistant to the Board of Supervisors	\$24.21	\$25.42	\$26.69	\$28.02	\$29.42	\$30.89	\$4,196.40	\$5,354.27	11

Item 26 - Request to continue the hearing to acknowledge receipt of the California Coastal Commission's resolution of certification and consider acceptance of the California Coastal Commission's suggested modifications (LCP Amendment No. LCP-3-SLO-20-0059-2) for the County of San Luis Obispo's proposed Local Coastal Program Amendment to amend the Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance (Title 23 of the San Luis Obispo County Code) as it relates to accessory dwelling units.

Commission and County in Dispute over Permitting of Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs): The County submitted the coastal version of its new zoning (in accordance with State mandates) for permitting ADUs to the Commission for a Coastal Plan Consistency determination. The Commission staff disagreed with some of the County’s provisions and wanted to impose its changes on the County. In turn, the County declined. Back in July the Commission accepted a County request for an extension of one year for the bureaucrats to attempt to resolve the issues. Note that these are not detailed in the write-up.

No applications for ADUs in the County’s unincorporated coastal areas can be processed for or at least a year while the bureaucrats slug it out over this one. Thus in Los Osos, Cambria, Avila Beach, Cayucos, and Oceano, your aging mother is likely to die of old age before she can move into a new ADU.

So much for the County and State “housing priority.”

Matters After 1:30 PM

Item 39 - Five Year Plan to Prevent and Reduce Homelessness - Implementation. This item details the structure, staffing, funding, and other resources necessary to execute the Plan, which the Board has already reviewed and approved. It is specific and is linked to performance outcomes to be achieved over the 5-year schedule. It provides a reporting and analysis component to be able to measure the outcomes against plan. It consolidates existing staff from several departments into a new unit (Division) designed to provide the administrative authority to execute the plan.

It is well thought out and well documented. The Board should approve the item and congratulate the CAO, his staff, and others who developed the strategy and structure.

Our only recommendations include:

1. Rent office space and supply phone, computer, and other services to house the new consolidated unit in one space. This will allow the members to form as a team and operate absent distractions that will occur if they are housed in their old offices and scattered in different buildings. A dedicated meeting room or two and a break room will be important to develop comraderie and Esprit de corps for the new unit. One of the meeting rooms should be sufficient to accommodate interagency meetings, presentations, and trainings. Don’t be pound foolish and penny wise in establishing the program.

There appears to be an abundance of vacant office and former retail space in downtown San Luis Obispo. Many spaces have been vacant for several years. The identifiable presence of the new Homeless unit, visible within the downtown where there is so much homeless activity, would be a good gesture.

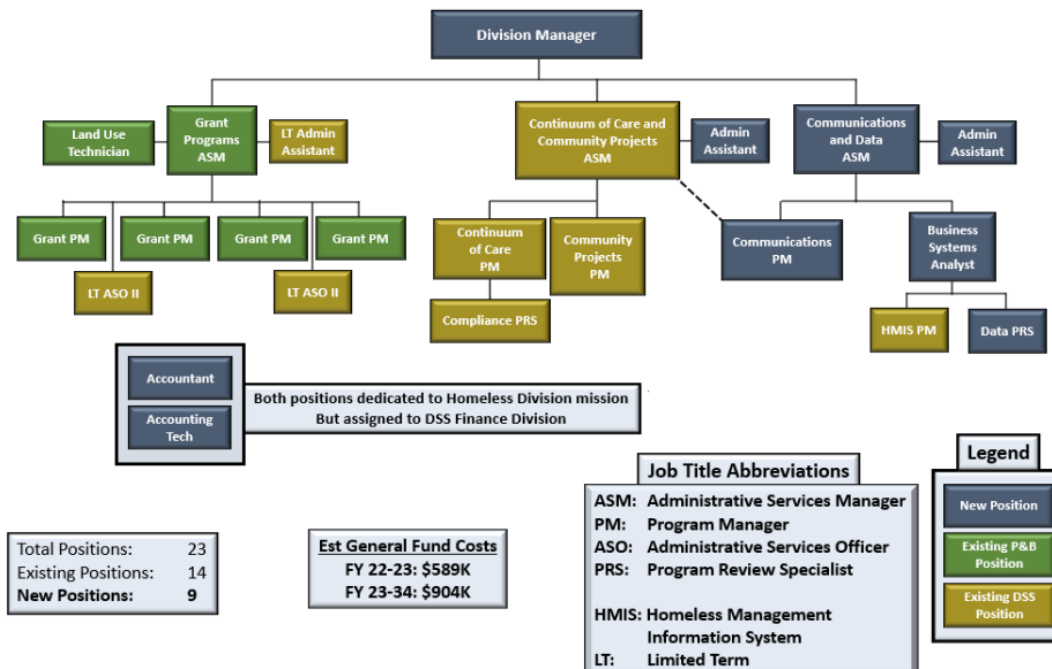
2. The proposed plan calls for administratively assigning the new division within the Social Services Department. Given the high profile of the homeless problem, it would be more effective to have the new division head report to the CAO or Assistant CAO during the early years of operation. Assigning the unit to the large Social Services Department, which has many line production functions already, will devalue its purpose and undermine its prominence. Relatedly, and rather than casting the unit head as a Division Manager, make it an Assistant to the CAO or even a Department head to provide the stature and authority necessary to execute the complex interdepartmental and interagency programs.

3. A major problem in solving the homelessness issue is the tension between civil rights and accountability. Many of the mentally disturbed and/or chronic substance abusers within the population simply rotate through programs and are permanent cycle recidivists. There needs to be some form of actual control mechanism for those who resist or fail to complete program or who relapse. The current justice system trendology of restorative justice, therapeutic justice, and diversion are actually enhancers of the problem. Justice is not just for the perpetrators. It should also be for the victims and society too.

Outside of the nations derived from the Anglo-American justice system, corporal punishment and work gangs typify the situation. No one wants to make homelessness a career in Singapore, Russia, or China, let alone Arabia.

Attachment 3

Proposed Organizational Structure for the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services Homeless Services Division



Item 10 - Support the Framework of and Key Changes Proposed in the CCCE FY 2022-23 Operating Budget. The Board will consider rolling back a proposed rate decrease because volatility of electric supply rates is increasing due to elimination of gas generating plants and exponential increases in the price of natural gas. Even though 3CE claims not to buy electricity generated by natural gas, it does admit that the overall situation will drive up the price of all sources.

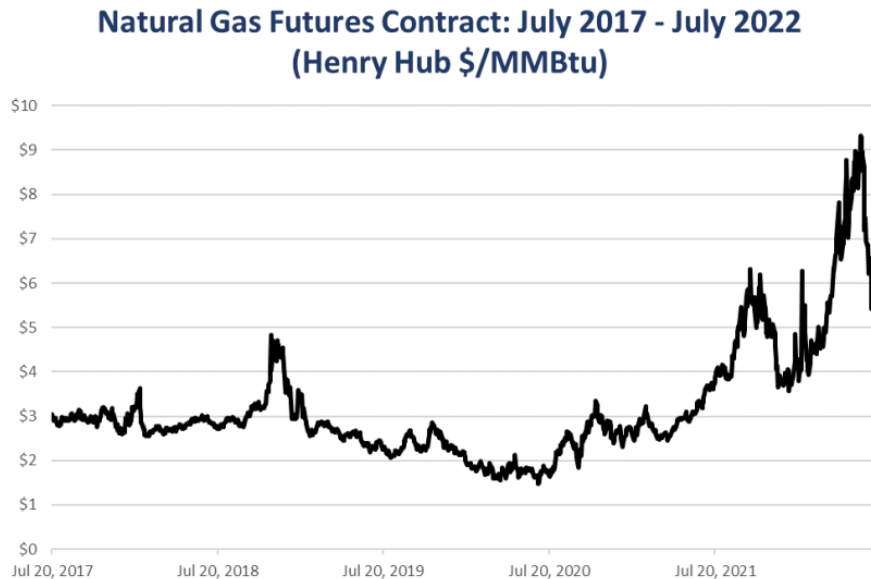


Figure 1: Henry Hub Front Month Futures Contract. Source: US Energy Information Administration

The market price for power products has increased, with long-term prices and market liquidity reflecting uncertainty around the long-term California power supply-demand balance, market rules, natural gas volatility, and long-term price equilibrium.

CCCE does not intend to renegotiate signed PPAs in response to developers' project delays and requests for price renegotiation.

CCCE will, to the extent feasible, assist developers to deliver contracted-for projects by negotiating liquidated damages or delaying commercial operation deadlines. As a result, CCCE may face the possibility of procuring replacement power and open market power at much higher prices than contemplated during the past five years. Should developers fail to deliver the contracted-for projects, 3CE will continue to procure additional clean and renewable resources to reach the goal of 100% renewable energy by 2030. That new project procurement, however, may be at a higher price than those negotiated in historic market lows. Additionally, CCCE could face potential penalties imposed by the CPUC.

Considering the sizable increase in power supply cost, staff currently propose to reduce rates for customers in the PG&E service area by 1 c/kWh for Calendar Year 2023 and 2024 instead of the 2

c/kWh reduction that was anticipated in December 2021.

It is not clear from the presentation to what this will mean to the overall bill; however, the table below shows that the spread between PG&E and 3CE will narrow if the projected reduction is not implemented. For example, the typical residential 3CE customer was expecting to save 16 cents versus the PG&E rate. This will now narrow to 3%. The typical agriculture user was supposed to save 13%. It appears that this will change to a 1% increase over what PG&E charges.

Caution: All this is speculative and subject to world and national forces, inane government policies, and decisions to allow gas plants to stay on-line, keep Diablo open, and so forth.

CUSTOMER CLASS	RATE COMPARISON (c/kWh)					
	CCCE PROJECTED 2023 BASE RATE	PROJECTED 2023 PCIA	CCCE PROJECTED 2023 ALL-IN RATE (BASE + PCIA)	PG&E PROJECTED 2023 ALL-IN RATE	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROJECTED 2023 CCCE AND PG&E RATES	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CURRENT CCCE RATES AND PROJECTED PG&E 2023 RATES
RES	9.0	1.5	10.5	12.5	-16%	-3%
SM COM	9.7	1.5	11.1	13.5	-17%	-5%
MED COM	8.2	1.6	9.7	12.3	-21%	-7%
LG COM	7.5	1.4	8.9	10.2	-13%	4%
AGR	8.3	1.4	9.6	11.0	-13%	1%
SL	7.8	1.3	9.1	10.8	-16%	-1%

Estimated rate projections. Average rates calculated based on sampled customer consumption patterns.

Some Current Rates:

PG&E lists the current rate differences per the sample tables below. It appears that the typical 3CE customer is saving \$10.40 cents per month. Last year the rates were much closer; however, PG&E raised its rates last spring. Now it appears that the difference will narrow again.

Residential *

Tiered Rate Plan E-1*

Residential: E 1	PG&E	3Cchoice
Generation Rate (\$/kWh)	\$0.12433	\$0.10400
PG&E Delivery Rate (\$/kWh)	\$0.19464	\$0.19464
PG&E PCIA/FF (\$/kWh)	\$0.02653	\$0.02044
Total Electricity Cost (\$/kWh)	\$0.34550	\$0.31908
Average Monthly Bill (\$)	\$136.19	\$125.77

Monthly usage: 394 kWh

E-6*

Residential: E 6	PG&E	3Cchoice
Generation Rate (\$/kWh)	\$0.11715	\$0.10330
PG&E Delivery Rate (\$/kWh)	\$0.19534	\$0.19534
PG&E PCIA/FF (\$/kWh)	\$0.02653	\$0.02044
Total Electricity Cost (\$/kWh)	\$0.33902	\$0.31908
Average Monthly Bill (\$)	\$182.98	\$172.22

Monthly usage: 540 kWh

SLO County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) Board meeting of Wednesday, August 10, 2022 (1:30 PM) Scheduled

Light Agenda: The agenda appears to be quite short, containing a review of the prior month's expenditures and the approval of a contract for the disposal of electronic waste, such as cell phones, TVs, computers, and defunct solar panels. The recycler pays the IWMA for some items and the IWMA must pay the recycler to take some items. Stand by as more and more solar panels enter the waste stream. It's going to get more and more expensive.

California Coastal Commission Board meeting of Friday, August 12, 2022, (Scheduled)

Item 4 - Public hearing on joint workshop with the League of Cities, California State Association of Counties, local government officials and the California Coastal Commission (CSAC) to discuss sea level rise adaptation and Local Coastal Program (LCP) Updates. Supervisor Bruce Gibson is the panelist representing the counties. There is no written material accompanying the item. The agenda states the purpose is as follows:

Meeting Goals:

- Review progress of Local Government Sea Level Rise (SLR) Working Group
- Share experiences and lessons from Local Coastal Program (LCP) update processes
- Highlight LCP grants program and make available Working Group products for adaptation planning and LCP updates
- Highlight specific issues raised in the June LCP Webinar session for local planners ▪ Collect public input on goals for the Working Group efforts in 2022

Supervisor Gibson is one of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) representatives on the panel. Who knows what agenda he is pushing in the absence of any SLO Board of Supervisors action on the matter? The overall policy of the State, the State Oceans Council, and the California Coastal Commission is to compel the cities and counties to adopt plans and ordinances that force managed retreat. This means abandonment of property near the ocean, which might flood. This is achieved by means of projecting sea level rise and then forbidding permit approval for new structures or rehabilitation of structures in the zones identified. Even property on bluffs is impacted because the ocean undercuts bluffs.

Managed Retreat D.1 Removal Conditions/Development Duration New development on private property located in hazardous areas shall be conditioned to require that it be removed and the affected area restored at the applicant's expense if: (1) any government agency with relevant authority and jurisdiction has ordered that the structures are not to be occupied due to hazards, or be removed; (2) essential services to the site can no longer feasibly be maintained (e.g., utilities, roads); (3) removal is required pursuant to LCP policies for sea level rise adaptation planning; or (4) the development requires new and/or augmented shoreline protective devices that conflict with LCP or relevant Coastal Act policies. In addition, permits shall include a condition stating that the development approval does not permit encroachment onto public trust lands and that any future encroachment must be removed unless the Coastal Commission determines that the encroachment is legally permissible pursuant to the Coastal Act and authorizes it to remain, and any future encroachment would also be subject to the

State Lands Commission's (or other trustee agency's) leasing approval. Such condition shall be recorded on a deed restriction against the subject property.



Figure 18. Photo depicting a development setback in Pismo Beach. (Source: [California Coastal Records Project](#))

The ultimate goal is to socialize all waterfront property by driving the private property owners out. The Board ought to check what the Supervisor is peddling when he is at this policy development meetings.

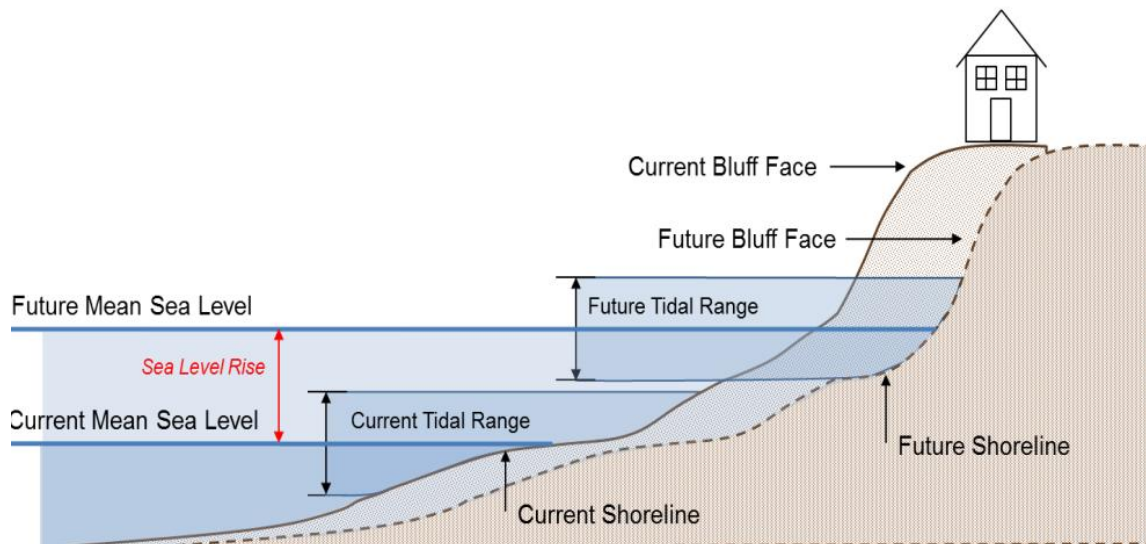


Figure B-5. Bluff erosion with changes in sea level. (Source: L. Ewing, 2013).

Table G-7. Sea Level Rise Projections for the Port San Luis Tide Gauge¹¹² (OPC 2018)

Projected Sea Level Rise (in feet): <i>Port San Luis</i>			
	Probabilistic Projections (in feet) (based on Kopp et al. 2014)		H++ Scenario (Sweet et al. 2017)
	Low Risk Aversion	Medium-High Risk Aversion	Extreme Risk Aversion
	<i>Upper limit of "likely range" (~17% probability SLR exceeds...)</i>	<i>1-in-200 chance (0.5% probability SLR exceeds...)</i>	<i>Single scenario (no associated probability)</i>
2030	0.5	0.7	1.0
2040	0.7	1.2	1.6
2050	1.0	1.8	2.6
2060	1.3	2.5	3.7
2070	1.7	3.3	5.0
2080	2.1	4.3	6.4
2090	2.6	5.3	8.0
2100	3.1	6.7	9.9
2110*	3.2	7.0	11.6
2120	3.7	8.2	13.8
2130	4.3	9.6	16.2
2140	4.8	11.1	18.7
2150	5.4	12.6	21.5

LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, August 3, 2022 (Not Scheduled)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

San Luis Obispo County Council of Government (SLOCOG) meeting of Wednesday, August 3, 2022 (Completed)

Item F-4: 2023 Regional Transportation Plan; Draft Chapters and Status Update 2023 Regional Transportation Plan; Draft Chapters and Status Update (Specter of new Sales Tax Raised). The

meeting was very cheery, with the Executive Director cracking a few jokes as the Board members seemed quite jocular. New staffers and fall interns were introduced, to applause. Staff kept the report presentations short (a legacy from John Peschong's term as Chairman), and the Board members expressed considerable praise for [the complexities of the State/Federal funding process.

When it came to item F-4, the Board listened to the report about the \$2.2 billion shortfall in funding versus needs. The Executive Director subtly presented the case for adopting a new sales tax for transportation, without mentioning the words "Sales Tax." No one on the Board bit. There were no questions and no one said, "What should we do about this?"

Background: Federal and State funding for transportation is increasing, which adds to the festive atmosphere. Meanwhile, Highway 101 is subject to daily back ups and spates of rear end collisions. The streets east of Spring in Paso Robles are reverting to cracked aging asphalt and dirt. San Luis Obispo is a tinker toy town, with weird lane patterns and plenty of bumper car actions. The homeless push shopping carts along the bike lanes as cars speed down arterials absent any serious traffic enforcement. Empty symbolic transit buses roar annoyingly past. The Amtrak and Cal Trans Train engineers are dressed in sloppy T-shirts hanging over their bellies. Homeless people camp in the Cal Trans bushes, by bike paths and trails, and the State has banned the sale of fossil fuel vehicles after 2035.

The staff presented a report on the status of the development of the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and related issues. It is the key policy document, which must be approved by the State in order for the State, County, and City transportation projects within the county to be approved. State and Federal funding cannot flow without an approved RTP. The time horizon and projections are from 2023 to 2045.

In recent years the scope of RTP has been expanded to include housing goals and CO₂ reduction goals.

SUMMARY: The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a mandated 20-plus year transportation plan that must be updated every four years in compliance with state and federal law. The RTP is a long-term blueprint for achieving a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system. The plan must be action-oriented, fiscally constrained, and pragmatic—considering short-, mid-, and long-term periods. Each element must also be balanced with the other elements in mind, so that the entire plan works harmoniously. Adoption of the 2023 RTP is expected in Spring 2023

The RTP contains lists of major road and highway improvement projects and their estimated costs over a 20-year period. The table below demonstrates a \$2.1 billion funds gap when all desired projects and services are considered.

2023 RTP Investments by Mode

The draft 2023 RTP invests transportation funding through 2045 and identifies a funding level of \$3B (escalated and constrained) leaving a \$2.1B funding gap for needed, desirable, and requested projects and improvements. This includes:

- Highway Improvements. (56% fundable): With nearly \$1.5b in needs identified; \$820M identified as available funding (i.e., 46E improvements, US 101 Expressway conversions, operations and interchange improvements). Supplemental funding is necessary to close the gap.
- Major Roadways (43% fundable) Requested projects exceeds \$600M; \$268M expected to be available (i.e., complete streets, frontage road connections, intersection improvements).
- Local Road maintenance (64% fundable): Over \$800M expected to be available to maintain existing pavement; to improve pavement conditions to targets an additional \$460M is needed.
- Public Transportation (79% fundable): \$819m is necessary to just maintain today's normal level of services through 2045; \$874M is available. Just under \$1B would provide a 20% increase to public transportation services by 2045, and just under \$1.1B would be necessary to increase services by nearly 40%.
- Maximizing System Efficiency (69% fundable). \$83M is available (i.e., vanpools, carpools, EV charging stations)
- Active Transportation (33% fundable): Requested projects totaled over \$500M; \$184M is expected to be available (i.e., bike, ped, and safe routes for all)

A little more detail is provided in the graphics below:

2023 RTP Expected, Constrained, Illustrative, and Needed Funding Levels (millions)

	Expected (4/2021) [1]	Desired Levels (10/2021 to 4/2022) [2]		Constrained (6/2022) [3]	Illustrative (6/2022) [4]	Total Need (6/2022) [5]
Highways	\$880	B	\$1,235	\$820	\$1,350	\$1,460
Major Roadways	\$460	B	\$618	\$268	\$468	\$630
Local Road Maintenance	\$640	n/a	n/a	\$823	\$1,105	\$1,280
Public Transportation	\$650	B/C	\$760	\$874	\$1,018	\$1,100
Maximize System Efficiency	\$40	A/B	\$82	\$83	\$92	\$120
Active Transportation	\$120	B	\$215	\$184	\$328	\$550
Totals	\$2,790			\$3,052	\$4,377	\$5,140

Financial Constraint – the 2023 RTP will be based upon the Constrained column (final, minor adjustments may still occur). FHWA has identified that it would not approve SLOCOG's 2023 RTP if it includes revenues from a future Self-Help county sales tax measure. Staff had multiple discussions with FHWA identifying discrepancies of when FHWA did approve similar RTPs with similar, future measures, but FHWA concluded that this new source of funding would not be a reasonable assumption in our region. FHWA suggested the inclusion of Illustrative project lists that depict a future with a new sales tax.

SLOCOG Sales Tax Discussion

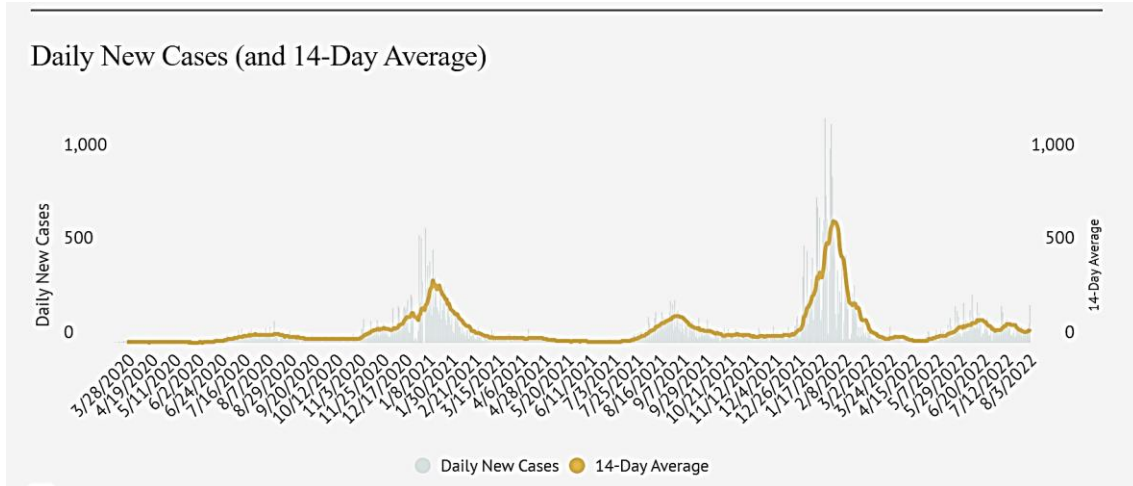
Note the discussion in the gray oval to the right of the table above. It refers to the potential of the County citizens (both city and unincorporated) approving a future sales tax measure that could generate about \$1 billion over 20 years starting in 2025. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) doubts whether the voters will approve such a measure (perhaps ½ cent addition). In turn they allow the SLOCOG to present only a “constrained” set of projections, which in turn means that the RTP cannot include all of the county’s projected needs.

The presentation was staff’s way of lobbying the SLOCOG Board to consider a ballot measure to add a ½ cent sales tax. They claim that it is necessary to be competitive and take advantage of future intergovernmental funding plans that give preference to “self-help” jurisdictions.

In the end the SLOCOG Board did not bite. So far, it has not directed staff to return with a future agenda item to discuss a potential sales tax measure.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Item 1- COVID. The virus’s daily new cases remain low, but people continue to die.



Hospitalized 9 (0 in ICU)

Item 2 - District 4 Hand Count. The hand count in District 4 is going forward slowly. Reportedly, the paper ballots are randomly boxed, and the clerks must paw through them to find the District 4 ballots. The process has been going on for days, with only 6 of 24 precincts counted after several weeks of the process. The Clerk recorder appears to be making it as contentious and expensive as possible.

DAILY RESULTS FOR 4th DISTRICT SUPERVISOR RECOUNT

DATE: 7-28-2022

PRECINCT #: 423

Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
1042	523
1042	523

DATE: 7-29-2022

PRECINCT #: 418

Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
588	547
588	547

PRECINCT #: 404

Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
452	312
452	312

DATE: 8-1-2022

PRECINCT #: 407

Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
469	373
469	373

PRECINCT #: 406

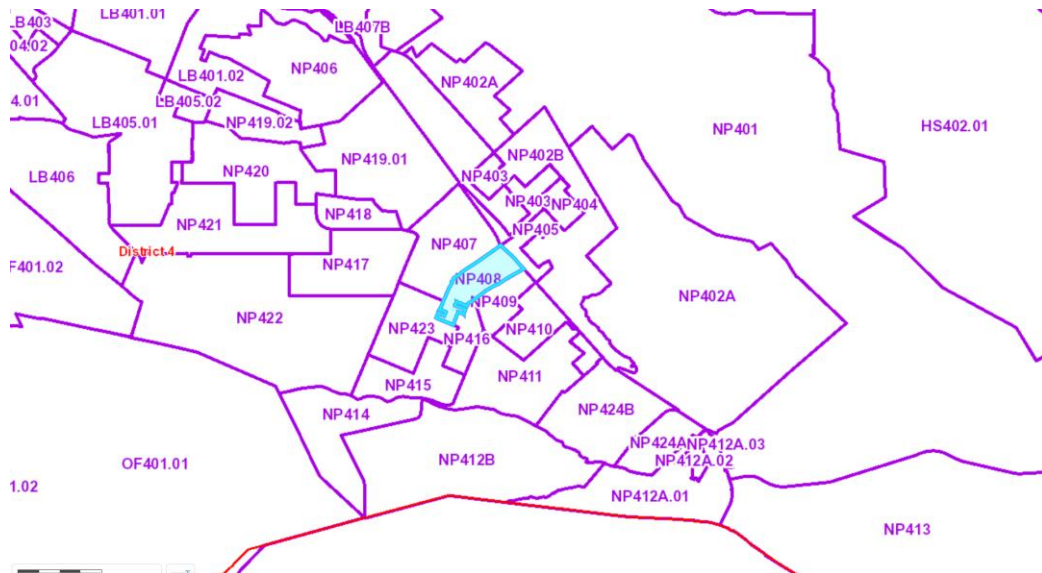
Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
613	441
613	441

CUMMULATIVE RESULTS TO DATE:

Recount Tally
Certified Results

Paulding	Compton
3164	2196
3164	2196



There seem to be 24 precincts in the 4th District.

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

ON THE RAZOR'S EDGE

The world is at immediate risk, but not from global warming. Unless we change course it will end poorly for every living thing on the planet.

BY JOHN CONLIN

The planet faces an existential threat. If we don't act soon, and with great effort, all may be lost. The point of no return is racing toward us at breakneck speed.

Action is required today, not just talk.

But this apocalypse is *not* the one we've been warned about—the rise in global temperatures by a measly half degree—but rather the complete and total abandonment of logic, reason, and reality in huge swaths of our collective lives.

Like children born into great affluence, many seem to believe the incredible wealth, freedom, tolerance and peace we live with—unique in the annals of all human history—is just the way things are. It just “happened” because of the inevitable march of progress and isn't rooted in any special system design or way of thinking. They think we can't go back.

What's more, it is our *right* to live this way—ours by our very existence. Somehow, we—at least some of us with the correct thoughts—have turned a corner in human history. We are better than those who came before us and at a very fundamental level—morally, intellectually, spiritually just better than those unwashed, bigoted rubes that came before us.

Some have called this a period of untruth; a willful casting aside of that pesky thing called reality. Becoming unmoored from reality allows insane ideas to spread and propagate, putting all life on the planet in jeopardy.

The genius design of our Constitution is now seen by many not as the driver of the freest, most prosperous nation the world has ever seen but rather as a hindrance to their hopes of remaking the country into a socialist utopia.

Many now act as though the powerful nonprofit organizations we call government are actual, physical things with almost god-like powers. Since the abandonment of the constitutional limits on government activity over a hundred years ago, we have seen an explosion in its size, scope, and cost—with no slow down, let alone end in sight.

Yet almost every problem in the country can be traced back to these entities.

Many have embraced disproven economic systems, systems which have never worked in all history. Never has a country taxed and spent its way to prosperity. Some things work better than others—we accept this in many areas of our lives but seem to believe wishes and dreams reign supreme when it comes to politics and economics.

Many are re-embracing the ancient evil of tribalism. Multi-generational guilt is now accepted by many—effectively branding individuals permanent oppressors and oppressed based on the supposed

actions of ancestors long past. And the core of this thinking is a widespread acceptance of the supposed inherent inferiority of minorities—specifically blacks.

By definition tribal thinking requires an “us versus them” mindset. It has never driven peace in any place it has existed.

Today, government is taking active steps to drive the country into a recession—all to “fight” the inflation which was also caused by the government.

Culture wars? Pick your issue and follow its progress and you will find government fingerprints all over the carnage. Free people freely interacting with other free people can—and do—work these things out themselves. Government just creates division—some say as a planned strategy to maximize the power of those running the government.

Driven solely by government, our country is almost \$31 trillion in debt, growing at more than \$45,000 *per second* with no end in sight.

Few people on the planet have any real grasp of how big a number a trillion is. The entire universe and everything in it went from an explosion of nothingness to today in only 13.8 *billion* years. Our debt is well over 100 times larger than that.

Unless one believes in magic, there is no way to see how this ends well for the average citizen.

And it seems this unmoored insanity knows no bounds. Now we are told men can get pregnant, women can “become” men simply by taking hormones, and supposedly intelligent people can’t tell you what a female is. Physically and chemically mutilating young children is promoted by many—may God have mercy on their souls.

Global warming might be an issue but notice how all the “acceptable” solutions substantially grow an already bloated U.S. and world government and involve taking huge amounts of money and power from individual citizens.

Yes, we are on a razor’s edge. The world is at immediate risk, but not from global warming, and unless we change course it will end poorly for every living thing on the planet.

John Conlin is an expert in organizational design and change. He holds a BS in Earth Sciences and an MBA, and is the founder and President of E.I.C. Enterprises, a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to spreading the truth here and around the world, primarily through K-12 education. He has been published in American Greatness, The Federalist, The Daily Caller, American Thinker, Houston Chronicle, Denver Post, and Public Square Magazine among others. This article first appeared in the August 3, 2022 issue of American Greatness.

THE BIG LIES WE CANNOT QUESTION

The biggest lie is to suggest that Republicans are spreading lies and misinformation, and the Democrats are not.

BY EDWARD RING

The following was posted on social media recently by a widely respected California-based journalist:

I don't like being an alarmist but the epidemic of misinformation is becoming critical and increasingly dangerous. It was bad enough when we had a lying POTUS but it is now clear that it's become a political tactic of a large part of one of our main political parties. And, if one major party can get away with mass lying, so can the other one, so I fear this will spread across ideological boundaries.

It's fair to say this reflects a majority opinion among journalists throughout the American media, and it invites a response. This journalist accuses "one of our main political parties" of engaging in "mass lying," obviously referring to the Republicans and obviously blind to the lies promulgated by the Democrats.

The biggest lie allegedly spread by Republicans, now called "The Big Lie," is to claim the 2020 election was illegitimate. But even if the 2020 election was *not* compromised due to a relentlessly hostile and partisan media, endless political persecution designed to damage Donald Trump's reelection campaign, voting rules that were violated and manipulated in swing states, Zuckerbucks, and possibly much more, this assertion still isn't a Republican "lie." For better or for worse, there are diverse opinions within the ranks of Republicans. Some think it was a stolen election; others don't.

But no such dissent exists among Democrats over some of the biggest lies ever told.

The lies Democrats unanimously affirm, with the active complicity of almost every major American institution, are treated as background facts. To deny any of them is to spread "misinformation." They have become the premises upon which reports are prepared, decisions are made, debates are framed, and policies are imposed. They're so ubiquitous that if you're not a skeptic, you don't even notice.

Collectively, these lies are destroying our civilization.

Perhaps the biggest lie in terms of how it is going to damage the prosperity and freedom of Americans is the so-called "climate emergency." Almost every major news network now devotes a significant portion of its headline content to what used to be relegated to local television weather reports. Once in a great while, a massively destructive hurricane used to dominate national news. Nowadays, every major heatwave and every big storm is heralded as evidence of devastating "climate change." These events are often tragic and should never be trivialized, but the implication is that any measure, no matter how draconian, is justified to supposedly stop them.

The reality of climate change is not in dispute. The Big Lie is that we face a "climate emergency." That lie, in turn, is built on many lies: Anthropogenic CO₂ is the sole cause of climate change. The most likely climate scenarios are catastrophic if we don't act now. Weather has never before been this extreme. Renewable energy is more sustainable and climate-friendly than conventional energy. We can

accomplish dramatic reductions in CO2 emissions without destroying the American middle class. It is feasible to replace fossil fuels. Humans have to be concentrated in cities because that is more “climate-friendly.” Other nations will follow our example, regardless of the consequences. People who question the climate emergency are “deniers” and should be marginalized if not prosecuted. Global warming is certain to cause more harm than good.

An honest fact checker would rate every one of these assertions as “mostly false.”

These lies are necessary for politicians, backed up by opportunistic industries, aggrandizing public bureaucracies, and fanatical zealots to further their interests at the expense of the American people. These lies are not subjected to even the mildest objective scrutiny by America’s media or academia, much less the withering, hopelessly biased analyses those same journalists and academics use to debunk any challenges to the integrity of the 2020 presidential election.

Another assortment of big lies arises in the Democrat adherence to woke race and gender ideology. Some of the many lies attendant to this ideology include: 21st-century America is systemically racist against people of color. America can have open borders without reforming its system of welfare entitlements. A colorblind meritocracy is racist. SAT scores are not predictive of success in higher education. Mathematics and engineering pedagogy is racist. White supremacists commit the majority of hate crimes. Incarceration of criminals does not deter crime and reduce crime rates. Men can menstruate and have children. Women can have penises. Teaching 5-year-old kids that they can choose their “gender” does not confuse them. “Gender-affirming” puberty blockers are a legitimate medical treatment for children. The list goes on.

If the big lie of the climate emergency will leave Americans destitute and without their freedom, the big lie of woke ideology is going to destroy American culture. Maybe that is the intent. Underlying most of the woke lies is the notion that cultural norms and expectations don’t matter or do more harm than good, and that instead the most important goals for a society should be to achieve equality of outcome across every institution and at every level, and to avoid offending anyone. This is impossible.

A vivid example of woke ideology personified is Sam Brinton. This man has decided that he can publicly flaunt his revolutionary sexuality while simultaneously performing his role as the deputy assistant secretary of spent fuel and waste disposition in the U.S. Office of Nuclear Energy. It isn’t necessarily Brinton’s choice to live as a “nonbinary” that is the problem—it’s that he chooses to dress in a manner that he knows will distract nearly anyone with whom he has official interactions from issues that involve the security of nuclear waste, to instead notice the bright red lipstick he’s applied immediately beneath his thick mustache.

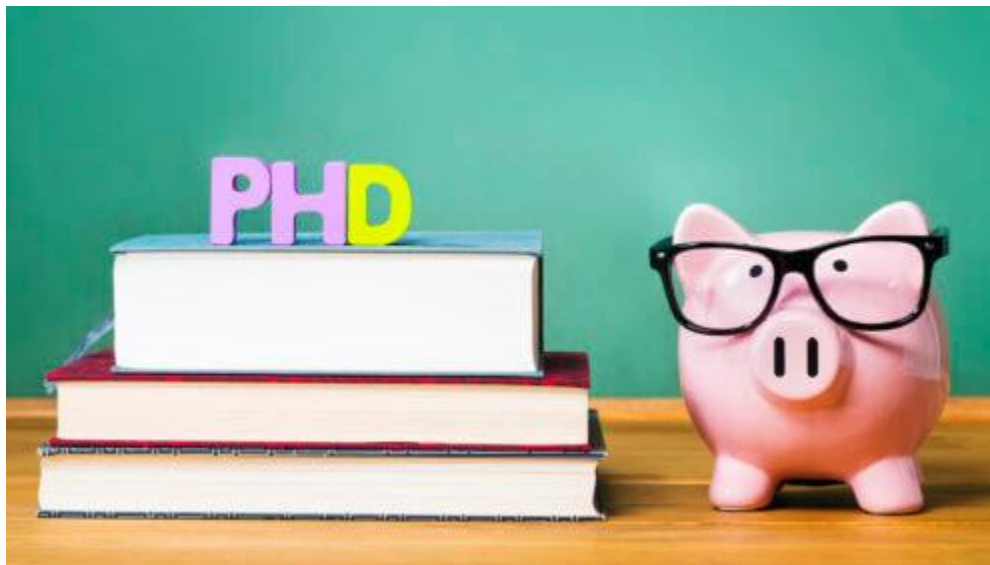
If Brinton wants to be an LGBTQ activist, he should do that. It’s still a free country. But it is selfish and unprofessional for him to make sure the first thing people notice about him are his eccentricities when he has a serious government job that is completely unrelated to his sexuality.

A lot of conservatives, myself included, have not focused on gender issues. When gays got the right to marry, many of us said live and let live. But the sexually correct expectations of woke society have progressed well beyond accepting gay marriage, to the point where we cannot look at someone as obviously performative as Sam Brinton representing our nation, and say “that’s weird and inappropriate.” If we say this, Democrats call us bigots. And that, too, is a lie. Norms exist for a reason. They are a survival trait. Reluctance to precipitously discard them is not bigotry, it’s sanity.

The biggest lie, then, is to suggest that Republicans are spreading lies and misinformation, and Democrats are not. In any healthy democracy you are going to have hyperbole emanate from every side. And our media, backed up by our once trusted institutions, are doing everything they can to marginalize as hyperbolic and untruthful the political party that is still dedicated to preserving our prosperity, freedom, and culture. At the same time, they are promoting countless harmful lies that constitute the base currency of their partisan favorites, the Democrats.

Partisan journalists claim to be concerned about “mass lying.” But their ideological bias prevents them from questioning the lies they believe, or considering the truth in things they don’t believe. As a result, the epidemic of misinformation they help spread is becoming critical and increasingly dangerous.

Edward Ring is a senior fellow of the Center for American Greatness. He is also a contributing editor and senior fellow with the California Policy Center, which he co-founded in 2013 and served as its first president. Ring is the author of Fixing California: Abundance, Pragmatism, Optimism (2021) and The Abundance Choice: Our Fight for More Water in California (2022).



WHY WE LOST TRUST IN THE EXPERT CLASS

Elite experts and degreed professionals massaged and warped their knowledge to serve ideological masters rather than the truth.

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

For years, European policy makers had assured the world that the relatively rapid “transition” to “green” energy was the world’s preordained future—regardless of the costs.

Accordingly, many European Union governments followed the advice of green experts. They eagerly shut down coal, natural gas, and nuclear power plants to transition immediately to “renewable energy.”

Most citizens were afraid to object that in cloudy, cold Germany solar panels were not viable methods of electrical generation—especially in comparison to the country’s vast coal deposits and its large, model nuclear power industry.

As a result, German government officials warn that this winter, in 19th-century fashion, families will have to burn wood—the dirtiest of modern fuels—to endure the cold. And there is further talk of “warm rooms,” where like pre-civilizational tribal people, the elderly will bunch together within a designated heated room to keep alive.

Sri Lanka may be the first modern nation to adopt deliberate policies that have led to mass hunger and bankruptcy. The government for a variety of reasons listened to foreign advocates of back-to-nature organic farming, specifically outright abandonment of highly effective synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

The result was endemic crop failure. Cash crops for export failed. Widespread hunger followed. Without foreign exchange, it became impossible to import key staples like food and fuel.

Sri Lanka once had a per capita income twice that of nearby India. Now it cannot feed or fuel itself.

Unfortunately, its incompetent government trusted radical environmental advisors, many of them foreign experts. Sri Lanka believed it could become the woke darling of the “Environmental, Social, Governance” movement, and that way draw in unlimited Western woke investment.

Instead, it has embraced a policy of national suicide.

Recently, a group of 55 distinguished pro-administration economists assured us that Joe Biden’s massive borrowing and new entitlements agenda were not inflationary. In September 2021, these economists with 14 Nobel prize winners among them declared that Biden’s inflationary policies would actually “ease” inflation.

Last month, inflation spiked to an annualized rate of 9.1 percent. None of these “blue-chip” economists have offered any apologies for lending their prestige to convince Americans of the absurd: that inflating the money supply, spiking new government spending, incentivizing labor non-participation, and keeping interest rates artificially low would not cause inflation.

In late July 2021, General Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, claimed that the Taliban takeover “was not a foregone conclusion.” He bragged that 34 provincial capitals were still in Afghan government hands.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin nodded in approval. Less than a month later, the entire Afghan government collapsed. The American military fled in its most ignominious retreat in over 50 years. Milley had been parroting Biden’s earlier prompt that a Taliban victory after the American evacuation was “highly unlikely.”

On the eve of the 2020 election, news accounts revealed some of the lurid contents on Hunter Biden's lost laptop. Emails and photos began to incriminate the entire Biden family for leveraging millions of dollars from foreign grantees for access to a bought Joe Biden.

Fifty retired intelligence officers, however, without evidence, swore that the laptop's appearance could be due to "Russian disinformation." Yet after authentication—Hunter himself never denied the lost laptop was his—few if any of those marquee "experts" apologized for their election-driven dissimulation.

At the height of the massive 2020 enforced quarantine and lockdowns, some 1,200 medical and health "professionals" signed a petition claiming that thousands of left-wing protestors should be exempt from the very quarantine they had insisted on for others. The experts absurdly claimed that denying tens of thousands the right to break quarantines to protest in the street was a greater health threat than COVID-19.

FBI Director James Comey doggedly pursued the "Russian collusion" hoax. At one point he hired the discredited Christopher Steele to supply the FBI with information from his fantasy dossier. Once called to account, on some 245 occasions before Congress, Comey swore that he could either not remember or had no knowledge about the questions asked of him.

His successor FBI interim Director Andrew McCabe admittedly lied on four occasions to federal officials. Special counsel and former FBI director Robert Mueller himself swore under oath that he knew nothing either about the Steele dossier or Fusion GPS—the twin catalysts for his entire investigation.

FBI lawyer Kevin Clinesmith admitted to altering a federal court document in efforts to convict an innocent suspect.

All these depressing examples have one common denominator. Elite experts and degreed professionals massaged and warped their knowledge to serve ideological masters rather than the truth.

In the process, they caused untold damage to their country and fellow citizens. They disgraced their profession. They tarnished the scientific community. And sold their souls to ideologues.

Is it any wonder why the Western public has lost confidence in their degreed and credentialed elites?

*Victor Davis Hanson is a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness and the Martin and Illie Anderson Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He is an American military historian, columnist, a former classics professor, and scholar of ancient warfare. He has been a visiting professor at Hillsdale College since 2004. Hanson was awarded the National Humanities Medal in 2007 by President George W. Bush. Hanson is also a farmer (growing raisin grapes on a family farm in Selma, California) and a critic of social trends related to farming and agrarianism. He is the author most recently of *The Second World Wars: How the First Global Conflict Was Fought and Won*, *The Case for Trump* and the newly released *The Dying Citizen*. This article first appeared in the Hoover Daily Update of August 4, 2022 and numerous other publications*



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 1290/96.9 Santa Barbara and AM 1240/99.5 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!

*A Voice for Reason
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday
- Ventura to San Luis Obispo -*

Listen to The Andy Caldwell Show "LIVE"



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



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

JOIN OR CONTRIBUTE TO COLAB ON THE NEXT PAGE
Join COLAB or contribute by control clicking at: [COLAB San Luis Obispo County \(colabslo.org\)](https://colabslo.org) or use the form below:

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: _____