

COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8-14, 2013

COLAB

San Luis Obispo County

YOU'RE INVITED!

Thursday, September 19, 2013

5:30 to 7:30 pm

Guest Speaker – Michael Manchak, President & CEO of EVC
REINFORCING THE RECOVERY – NEXT STEPS

Updates by Mike Brown and Andy Caldwell
THE SUMMER OFFENSIVE OF 2013
(The Empire Slinks Back)

COLAB SLO COUNTY IS NOW IN ITS 5TH YEAR
REINFORCING OUR SUCCESS
(Analysis and Action)

Location: Holland Ranch Barn

2275 Carpenter Canyon Road, San Luis Obispo, CA

From SLO: Just past the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the right.
From AG: Just before the Cold Canyon Landfill entrance, on the left.

RSVP appreciated by Monday, September 16, 2013

Call (805) 548-0340 or email colabslo@gmail.com

Barbequed appetizers, beer and wine will be served.

APCD SPECIAL MEETING: MESA RESIDENTS CALL FOR OHV RIDING MORATORIUM

\$361,000 CAPSLO CONTRACT TO TEACH DAYCARE WORKERS & PARENTS HOW TO PLAY WITH KIDS

WILL BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPPORT NEW RESORT IN AVILA BEACH?

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 3, 2013 (Cancelled)

The meeting, which had originally been scheduled as a strategic planning session, was cancelled. Perhaps the proximity to the long Labor Day weekend was a consideration.

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, September 10, 2013 (Scheduled)

Item 10 - \$361,000 Contract With the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County (CAPSLO). The Board letter summarizes the services to be provided:

1) Children's Full Service Partnership (FSP) – CAPSLO will provide 1.48 FTE Family Advocates to provide day-to-day client skill-building and resource support to one youth FSP team serving 25 South County youth between the ages of 0-17. These youth experience serious emotional disturbances and if underserved are at risk of institutional care.

2) Positive Development Program – The “Child Care Resource Connection” program in connection with CAPSLO will provide a 1.0 FTE Child Development Specialist and 0.24 FTE Children's Services Supervisor to provide side-by-side facilitation of the “I Can Problem Solve” and “I Can Problem Solve Kindergarten” curriculum with private childcare programs primarily serving pre-school aged children. This countywide project aims to build problem-solving skills, self-esteem, social, emotional and behavioral control competencies of children in childcare. This project is designed to target private pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten schools and daycares which do not traditionally receive training on mental health or other resiliency and prevention principles.

3) Multi-Modal Play Therapy Outreach Trial – CAPSLO will provide a 1.18 FTE Therapist and a .25 FTE Project Coordinator. The Innovation component of MHSA is unique in the sense that it is similar to pilot or demonstration projects and is limited in duration. This project is currently set to end mid FY 2013-14. The Multi-Modal Play Therapy Outreach Trial will test a unique model of “Multi-Modal Attached Focused Play Therapy” to address behavioral issues in children ages 0-6 years old diagnosed with attachment problems. The intended outcomes of the Trial include reducing parental resistance and improving play therapy treatments to better engage parents and caregivers, while increasing access and maintenance. The trial's parent-driven, multi-modal approach combines three evidence-based practices: Theraplay®, Filial Play

Therapy, and Non-Directive Play Therapy directed at promoting secure bonding in families where child and caregiver currently display detachment issues. In this trial, trained and qualified therapists will work with parents to select the most appropriate elements of the three modalities which reflect the needs and capacities of the families.

4) Case Management Services for the Collaborative Re-entry Program (AB 109) – CAPSLO will provide a 1.0 FTE Case

Manager to work with the Jail's Re-entry Team to determine post-release needs of the offenders as they enter back into the community. Post-release needs may include housing applications, application for social security income, and appointments for services.

5) Supportive Housing for Collaborative Re-entry program (AB 109) – CAPSLO will provide supportive housing assistance to clients who have achieved their goals and are ready to enter into permanent housing. The supportive housing requirements are similar to the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo and other housing programs in place. However, many of the AB109 offenders have felony offenses which disqualify them for other housing programs. If the offenders are eligible for other housing programs, those will be utilized first.

Some questions:

1. Should public tax dollars be used for such theoretical and abstract projects?
2. Is the County really responsible for teaching private citizens how to play and bond with children?
3. Shouldn't the Board get a finer breakdown on how many unduplicated children will be served in each program and the cost per child?
4. Who is responsible for monitoring the contract with CAPSLO? What quantitative data will they receive and with what frequency?
5. How come for 350 years this country did fine without this stuff (including in very rough frontier environments and very rough urban slum environments)?
6. As a non-parent, non-professional "child caregiver," should Tom Sawyer's Aunt Polly have been required to study Theraplay, Filial Play Therapy, and Non-Directive Play Therapy? Tom was certainly "detached."

Item11 - \$491,000 Contract For Mental Health Crisis Intervention. The Mental Health Department is requesting the Board to approve renewal and expansion of a contract with a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) for 24-hour per day emergency counseling. The therapist employs assistants to staff the service. It is not clear from the write-up what level of professional clinical education is possessed by the assistants who actually take the calls. The goal is to deal with people in crisis and divert them from the need for police response, paramedic response, and/or institutionalization. Most of the service is provided by telephone.

It appears from the chart below that the service costs \$120 per hour or \$317 per client per year. Questions include:

- a. Is the cost reasonable and appropriate given the unknown professional clinical training level of the people taking the calls? It is certainly less than sending an ambulance.
- b. Are the on duty call takers at home or are they based in a supervised call center?
- c. Are the on duty call takers allowed to sleep at night?
- d. How much of the contract is overhead (profit) for the contractor?
- e. It appears that the contract has been extended a number of times. Is this prudent and should not a large service contract such as this be rebid every 3 years or so to insure that the County is getting the best service and price and to guard against cronyism?

Crisis Intervention Services		
Year	2012-13 Actual	2013-14 Budgeted
Cost	452,846	491,886
Service minutes	231,098	244,906
Number of Contacts	1,653	1,550
Crisis Services Presentations	4	6
Percent of individuals diverted from psychiatric hospitalization	57%	60%
Percent of participants who increased their knowledge of responding to mental health emergencies	86%	85%

Item 27 - New Avila Beach Resort/Conference Center. Chevron Oil is requesting that the Board of Supervisors indicate whether there is any chance for it to consider a plan for a new luxury development on the top of the hill above the village (95 acres). The site contained a tank farm for decades. There is a long and convoluted pollution history. It is now vacant and presents a spectacular opportunity. The county would ultimately have to amend the Avila Beach Specific Plan (change from industrial to Private "Recreation." The application process will be long, arduous, and costly. Ultimately a proposed project would have to be approved by the Coastal Commission, which is a dicey prospect at best. The Planning staff (in their report) seems to be receptive and presents several ways to process a proposed project.

It is likely that the enviros will come out against the project with guns blazing. They will demand that it become a coastal preserve with trails and limited public access to preserve some thorn and of course "visual resources." This will be a good test over time

for the staff, the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors. It is unlikely that anyone on the Board currently will still actually be alive by the time a project receives a building permit. The Bacara Resort in Santa Barbara County took 12 years, 3 owners, and several lawsuits to reach the construction stage. The revised and improved Miramar has been empty and stuck for 10 years (even with overwhelming support from the Montecito heavies). The Coastal Commission extorted \$1.5 million from the most recent developer for “coastal access mitigation.” Hopefully the San Luis Obispo Board can do better.

San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Meeting of Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 8:30 AM (Completed)
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A voluminous Public Participation Plan was presented which details how SLOCOG will optimize opportunities for public participation in its planning and policy development. Although general in its application to all SLOCOG activities, it contains a heavy focus on the development and adoption of the so-called Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which is required by SB 375. Readers will recall that SB 375 is a key component of the suite of State mandates, including AB 32, which require that local jurisdictions reduce greenhouse gases to combat global warming.

It would appear from the text of the Plan that much of the effort will focus on selling the public on obtaining their agreement (perhaps submission) to the implicit doctrine of reordering how communities and transportation systems are physically and spatially organized to force new living patterns consistent with “smart growth” and environmental declinist ideology.

The Plan Text introduces the subject by stating:

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) reflects SLOCOG’s commitment to public participation and involvement to include all residents and stakeholders in the regional planning process. The PPP was developed and is updated in accordance with guidelines established by federal and state regulations including those listed below.

It then proceeds to list a number of focus areas. Two key representative examples include:

Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg 2008)

Senate Bill 375 (Gov’t. Code § 65080 et seq.) prompts regional planning to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from cars and light trucks through coordinated planning for long range transportation plans and regional land use plans. The bill provides emission-reduction goals for 3 which regions can target, and provides incentives for local governments and developers to follow new strategically-planned growth patterns. SB 375 also encourages communities to develop different housing and transportation options. SB 375 focuses on reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and urban sprawl in order to meet some of the goals of Assembly Bill 32: The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, which sets goals for GHG emissions reduction for all sectors, including cars and light trucks. Reductions in VMT can be accomplished

through planning for more compact development, jobs-housing balance, and multiple transportation options.

Note references to reducing emissions from cars and light trucks (perhaps ultimately eliminating many cars and light trucks). Also note the reference to pure smart growth doctrine in the last sentence.

And:

Environmental Justice

SLOCOG makes environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and/or low-income populations. Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations requires that disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations be identified and addressed in order to achieve environmental justice. Environmental justice at SLOCOG includes incorporating environmental justice and non-discrimination principles into transportation planning and decision making processes as well as project-specific environmental reviews. Environmental justice requires making investments that provide all residents regardless of age, race, color, national origin, income, or physical ability with opportunities to work, shop, study, be healthy, and play. SLOCOG believes it is important to understand the impacts of transportation investments on our most vulnerable communities in order to better plan for the future. Promoting social equity and environmental justice in regional planning efforts requires involvement from a wide variety of communities and stakeholders.

Note the references to social equity, human health, and environmental justice. Remember, some Board members insist that these efforts are purely local and spring from their own policy analysis and have nothing to do with international and national doctrines, conferences, and organizations, such as The International Council For Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). OK and we can get you a good price on the new (way over budget) Oakland/San Francisco Trans-Bay Bridge.

Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, September 12, 2013 (Cancelled)

The previously scheduled meeting was cancelled. There was no explanation. It was possible that Planning staff has been so busy ginning up information and justification for the urgency water and development moratorium in the Paso Robles Water basin that there was no time to prepare other matters for Commission consideration.

Special Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Meeting of Thursday, September 5, 2013 at 9AM (Completed)

Item B-1: Air Pollution Control Officer's (APCO) Report. A large delegation of Nipomo Mesa residents appeared in order to complain to the APCD Board that it was not doing enough to control and prevent the blowing dust, which they believe is generated from OHV riding on the dunes. This group exhorted the Board to bring in the Federal Environmental Protection Agency EPA to help generate and enforce restrictions (See note 1 in the background section below). There was considerable posturing and implied threatening based on the notion that the EPA could declare the entire County a non-attainment area for dust and thus shut down all sorts of activities countywide, including agricultural grading, plowing, driving on roads in the fields, and so forth.

Inspired by recent Board of Supervisors actions, some of the mesa residents suggested that some jurisdiction (perhaps the Board of Supervisors), in the name of a health emergency, impose an urgency ordinance moratorium on the riding of OHVs in the dunes until all the studies are completed and mitigation measures developed and implemented. In a somewhat tongue and cheek turnabout, and since Gibson and Hill led the effort on the water/development moratorium in the north County, Arnold and Mecham could return the favor and lead an effort to shut down the major south County dunes attraction. Now, if only there were a way to place a moratorium on new students at Cal Poly, the enviro-declinst nihilists could declare victory and celebrate. In other words, in the larger enviro vision, the County could be put on the "Permaculture" road to earth care.¹ Eventually the whole county could be returned to a pre-human Pleistocene "arcadia." Break out the fossilized Sabre Tooth Cat and Wooly Mammoth DNA.



Test Cat On A Morro

Background: This portion of the agenda provided for the APCO Larry Allen to make verbal reports on various matters. One item which was discussed at length was a letter from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to a committee of citizens concerned with dunes dust. They had asked that the EPA declare the area where blowing

¹ The design principles which are the conceptual foundation of permaculture were derived from the science of [systems ecology](#) and study of pre-industrial examples of [sustainable](#) land use. Permaculture draws from several disciplines including [organic farming](#), [agroforestry](#), [integrated farming](#), [sustainable development](#), and [applied ecology](#).^[8] Permaculture has been applied most commonly to the design of housing and landscaping, integrating techniques such as [agroforestry](#), [natural building](#), and [rainwater harvesting](#) within the context of permaculture design principles and theory : Wikipedia, September, 2013.

dust occurs (PM₁₀) as a non-attainment area. The EPA declined to do so and said that the APCD was handling the matter very “proactively.”

Note 1: One interesting note in the EPA letter is that the EPA states that PM₁₀ exceeded National Ambient Air Standards only four times during the three year period 2010 - 2012. So what is the big deal?

The EPA letter suggests that EPA be brought in to help enforce whatever rules (the potential off highway vehicle [OHV] riding ban) that are eventually adopted by the APCD. A portion is quoted below:

As you are aware, the San Luis Obispo County APCD has been very proactive in identifying potential sources of windblown dust and, as noted in your letter, the APCD has adopted local rules to control windblown dust from those sources, including the Oceano Dunes. These local rules, if effectively implemented, could reduce air pollution below the NAAQS. One option for the APCD to consider is to submit their local rules to EPA for formal public review and incorporation into California's Air Quality SP. Upon incorporation into the SIP by EPA, these rules would become federally enforceable by both EPA and citizens. Meanwhile, we will continue to work with the APCD on timely implementation of the local dust control rules. We will also ensure air quality monitoring continues so we can evaluate how effective the local rules are in reducing PM₁₀ levels below the NAAQS and determine whether EPA needs to take additional action.

Item B-2: Fees. This was an item that was continued from the aborted July meeting to September 25, 2013. As our readers and the community will well remember, Mayor Peterson’s questions on this subject were one of the key motivations behind Supervisor Hill’s attempt to maneuver the removal of Mayor Peterson from the APCD. This time the fees to be imposed on the State Parks for APCD work and monitoring of dust mitigation measures were passed on a split vote. Only Supervisor Arnold, Councilmember Waage, Council Member Fonzi and Mayor Peterson voted against the new fees.

Item B-3: Operating Budget. The APCD Board adopted the FY 2013-14 Budget over two months late. (The fiscal year started July 1st.) Board Member Waage asked the Air Pollution Control Officer, Larry Allen, if the budget contained a “structural deficit.” Allen answered “no.” Note in the table below that the APCD used \$751, 393 of prior year fund balance in FY 2012-13 to balance its budget. In FY 2013-14 it will use a projected \$755, 885 of prior year balance for operations (17% of its budget). The use of one time revenue (funds left over from the prior year) indicates that current year revenues are insufficient to fund the current level of service. In fact, the District had to substantially curtail its expenditures for consultants, maintenance, and salaries in order to generate the “surplus” in FY 2012-13 necessary to balance FY 2013-14. It is likely that there will be substantial pressure in the future for across-the-board fee increases, new fees, or even tax proposals. Jurisdictions that use past year fund balances to finance current year operations are on a negative path. Since prior year fund balances cannot be counted on to recur, they should be used to build reserves and/or fund one-time capital and equipment expenditures. Using such reserves is like a farmer eating or selling his or her seed corn.

**AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
SUMMARY BUDGET REQUEST - FY 2013-2014**

09/05/13

	BUDGET 2012-13	ACTUALS 2012-13	REQUESTED 2013-14
REVENUES			
Property Taxes	\$ 278,020	\$ 297,699	\$ 301,122
Operating & Authority to Construct Permits	2,028,000	2,059,100	2,089,000
Other District Fees (Asbestos, Environ Assess, Burn Fees)	251,000	259,869	164,850
Mutual Settlements	25,461	14,320	15,000
Interest	9,000	6,970	9,000
DMV Air Fees	991,012	997,807	984,679
State & Federal Aid	197,051	299,025	220,494
Other Govt Aid	0	0	0
Other Sales & Miscellaneous Revenues	129,468	131,554	3,000
Cancelled Reserves & Designations	30,000	30,000	0
Fund Balance From Prior Year	751,393	751,393	755,885
Encumbrance Reserve From Prior Year	109,302	109,302	(140,954)
TOTAL FINANCING	\$ 4,799,707	\$ 4,957,039	\$ 4,402,076

EXPENDITURES			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 3,138,117	\$ 3,022,748	\$ 3,127,819
Communications - Phones, Radios, Mail	33,320	27,747	42,277
Computers, Software & Computer Support	98,530	96,034	101,291
County Services (excluding Computer Support)	101,741	90,163	96,793
Insurance	33,686	33,622	34,360
Leases & Rents	1,000	1,100	1,300
Maintenance - Equipment & Facilities	100,058	88,845	67,897
Office Supplies & Copies	24,513	14,918	18,686
Other Department Expenses	20,475	20,557	26,837
Professional & Special Services	661,935	425,345	385,380
Public Outreach & Education	59,000	54,089	59,000
Training & Travel	43,251	24,523	40,716
Utilities	14,182	10,806	14,182
Vehicles - Maintenance & Fuel	24,561	19,472	24,561
Subtotal - Services & Supplies	1,216,252	907,221	913,280
Other Charges / Contributions to Other Agencies	5,000	5,000	7,500
Fixed Assets	174,500	128,152	132,300
Contingencies	127,805	0	125,427
Increased Reserves & Designations	138,033	138,033	95,750
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,799,707	4,201,154	4,402,076
Net District Cost	\$ -	\$ (755,885)	\$ -

Item B-4: Appointment to the Sustainable Communities Committee. Mayor Debbie Peterson of Grover Beach was appointed to be the APCD rep on this new committee designed to work on the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). See the discussion

above on SLOCOG for information on the import of the SCS issue. We were surprised that Supervisors Hill and Gibson went along with this appointment without comment.

Background: *The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) has initiated efforts to develop the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan. This Plan will include elements to comply with SB 375, the state law requiring development of a Sustainable Communities Strategy to better link transportation and land use planning. At its August 7, 2013 meeting, SLOCOG Board approved the formation of an Ad-Hoc SCS Policy Committee comprised of seven representatives total: five from SLOCOG's Board, and one member each from the LAFCO Commission and APCD Board. To avoid a quorum of the County Board of Supervisors, a city representative from the APCD Board is needed to participate on this committee.*

AND:

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the primary mechanism used in California to conduct long-range regional transportation planning. The purpose of the RTP is to encourage and promote safe and efficient transportation networks and intermodal transportation systems that serve the mobility needs of people and goods in the region. In 2008, SB 375 was signed into law to build on the existing RTP planning process and connect reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from passenger cars and light-duty trucks to land use and transportation policies. The Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) is a tool that demonstrates how the region will meet its greenhouse gas reduction target through integrated land use, housing and transportation planning. In 2010, SLOCOG developed and approved an RTP that included a Preliminary SCS component. The current RTP update effort will build off the Values, Goals, Objectives, Policies and Strategies contained in the 2010 RTP-Preliminary SCS. B

Once again we see the interweaving of the stack and pack “smart growth” doctrine in yet another Plan. In this case conformance with the plan will be required for the County and the seven cities to compete for Federal and State transportation funding. Tens of millions of dollars will be at stake.