

# WEEKLY UPDATE JUNE 5 - 11, 2022

## THIS WEEK

### **VOTE OR SURRENDER !!!!!!!**

DON'T LEAVE THOSE BALLOTS ON THE KITCHEN COUNTER 3 SLOTS ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HINGE ON YOUR VOTE NO RUNOFF FOR 2 – THIS IS IT

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

SUPPORT REPEAL OF THE HOUSING TAX - HEARING TUESDAY AFTERNOON PHONY RESTRICTIONS ON HOME PERMITS – IN ANY CASE FEW BUILT SET HEARING FOR PASO BASIN WATER MORATORIUM – JULY 12TH YET ANOTHER HOUISNG STUDY – PROBABLY DOOMED BUDGET ADOPTION SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 13TH & REVISED NUMBERS COUNTY PLOWING AHEAD WITH DIABLO DECOMMISSIONING ANOTHER BIG \$1.6 MILLION WATER STUDY – WHY GIVEN SGMA?

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
PACKET NOT POSTED AS OF SUNDAY AM – MAY VIOLATE 72 HOUR RULE

## **COASTAL COMMISSION**

HUGE OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT GETS FAVORABLE STAFF REVIEW

## PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR CITIZEN MUST GET SIDE YARD VARIANCE UNLIKE GIBSON AVILA RESORT – 6 NEW HOTEL ROOMS – MUCH OPPOSITION

### LAST WEEK

#### NO BOS MEETING

#### **SLOCOG**

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WILL HELP A BIT BUT WON'T FIX 101 WILL UNDERTAKE HOUISNG STUDY WHICH COUNTY SHOULD HAVE DONE WILL PUSH HIGHWAY 227 ROUNDABOUTS

### **EMERGENT ISSUES**

# COVID COMING BACK PROGRESSIVE LEFT IS EVER HOPEFUL FOR THE NEXT CRISIS

#### SAGA OF SOUND PODS CONTINUES

NOW IT'S CALLED A "HEALING" POD COUNTY SAYS IT WILL HELP CROOKS AND THUGS REFORM CLEANING DITCHES IN AUGUST IN EAST COUNTY WOULD WORK BETTER What ever happened to accountability and punishment?



# COLAB IN DEPTH SEE PAGE 24

# ARE WE IN FOR A BUMPY RIDE IN THE 2020S?

BY THE TIME THIS DECADE IS OVER, ANALYSTS MAY FIND THAT COMPARISONS TO THE 1970S HAVE GROWN STALE; THE CHALLENGES WE FACE ARE ON A SCALE NOT SEEN SINCE THE 1930S.

BY NICHOLAS L. WADDY

# HOW AN ENVIRONMENTALIST JUGGERNAUT UNDERMINES THE ABUNDANCE CHOICE

We offered a pathway out of the gloom and doom narrative that is the currency of environmentalists in the world today. And that was unforgivable.

BY EDWARD RING

# GREEN ENERGY CHICKENS COMING HOME TO ROOST

Never in history has a civilization willfully embarked on destroying its own material foundations.

BY BRUCE THORNTON

#### THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 9:00 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, June 7, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item 2 - Request by the County of San Luis Obispo: 1) to submit an annual review of the County growth rate for new dwelling units for FY 2021-22; 2) to submit a resolution establishing the County maximum growth rate and allocation for new dwelling units for FY 2022-23, in accordance with the Growth Management Ordinance, Title 26 of the County Code; and 3) to amend the Growth Management Ordinance, Title 26 of the County Code, (LRP2022-00006) to extend the 1.8% growth rate for the Nipomo Mesa area for FY 2022-23. The item contains the annual ritualistic Board re-adoption of a limitation on the number of homes that can be approved in the county unincorporated area each year. The table below illustrates the proposal for FY 2022-23.

Table 4: Maximum allocation of new dwelling units, FY 2022-23

Type of Dwelling Unit	Maximum number of new dwelling units allowed for FY 2022-23
Countywide, Single-Family	731
Countywide, Multi-Family	394
Nipomo Mesa, Single-Family	86
Nipomo Mesa, Multi-Family	46
Cambria, Grandfathered in New Units	8

The futility of the symbolic exercise is illustrated in the table below, which indicates that only 125 dwelling units have been applied for in the entire unincorporated county as of April 2022. Of these, only 33 have been approved and 12 constructed. Were it not for the continuing build out of Monarch Dunes, a phased development approved years ago, there would be zero.

Table 2: Status of Construction Permits with FY 2021-22 Allocations, as of April 8, 2022

Construction Permit	Number of new dwelling units subject to the GMO associated with construction permit applications submitted FY 2021-22, as of April 8, 2022						
Status	Countywide	Nipomo Mesa (excluding Monarch Dunes)	Monarch Dunes				
Finaled 12		0	12				
Issued	33	0	28				
In Review	71	5	4				
Intake	8	1	0				
On Hold	1	1	0				
Total	125 7 44						

Historically, the County has experienced very low rates of housing production over the decades.

New Dwelling Units Subject to the GMO by Planning Area/Sub Area, 1992-2022<sup>1</sup>

	1992 through	July 1, 2021 -	1992 through
Planning Area/ Sub Area	June 30, 2021	April 8, 2022 Ap	April 8, 2022
Adelaida	427	4	431
El Pomar-Estrella	1,969	20	1,989
Estero	985	3	988
Las Pilitas	15	0	15
Los Padres (North)	139	0	139
Nacimiento	1,093	11	1,104
North Coast	1,351	0	1,351
Salinas River	2,404	10	2,414
San Luis Bay	3,353	0	3,353
San Luis Obispo	449	11	460
Shandon-Carrizo (North) <sup>2</sup>	1,443	2	1,445
South County <sup>3</sup>	798	64	862
Total	14,426	125	14,551

<sup>1.</sup> As of April 8, 2022.

Given the lack of activity, why does the County need such a large permit processing division within its overall Planning Department Budget?

**Development and Permit Review** The department provides development and permit review services to enable the public to participate in implementing and monitoring the County's vision by: • Guiding applicants and the public through the permit review process by explaining relevant policies, ordinances and regulations and applying these in a consistent and fair manner. • Reviewing development, land division and building applications to ensure they meet all Federal, State and local requirements. • Inspecting construction projects for compliance with codes, regulations and permit approvals. Total Expenditures: \$13,912,555 Total Staffing (FTE):\*84.50

<sup>2.</sup> Includes Carrizo Planning Area.

<sup>3.</sup> Includes South County and South County Coastal Planning Areas.

New Dwelling Units Subject to the GMO by Planning Area/Sub Area, 2005-2022 1

Diameter																	
Planning Area/Sub Area	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22 <sup>1</sup>
Adelaida	24	12	21	11	3	5	3	2	5	5	4	8	5	8	6	2	4
El Pomar- Estrella	90	53	33	14	9	11	10	20	38	16	28	19	22	26	15	19	20
Estero	19	15	13	6	10	8	3	6	13	8	7	18	6	10	7	11	3
Las Pilitas	0	6	5	2	5	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
Los Padres (North)	2	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nacimiento	43	32	18	11	7	9	10	33	50	21	20	25	27	18	14	11	11
North Coast	14	7	9	1	5	0	3	7	2	3	2	0	0	2	1	0	0
Salinas River	99	41	33	36	25	16	15	21	45	60	65	207	74	86	65	32	10
San Luis Bay Coastal	52	22	70	7	15	13	17	34	41	25	30	39	41	9	11	4	0
San Luis Obispo	11	9	11	2	4	4	5	6	9	2	4	10	5	8	12	8	11
Shandon- Carrizo (North) <sup>2</sup>	28	28	11	5	2	4	6	2	4	0	4	4	3	6	5	3	2
South County <sup>3</sup>	79	36	83	25	29	50	38	117	168	125	115	169	135	124	102	106	64
Total	461	261	307	120	115	123	114	249	377	266	279	500	319	298	238	197	125

1. As of April 8, 2022.

The proposed FY 2022-23 Budget at page 117 reveals that there is a large staff to manage what appears to be a small workload. The Budget states in part:

**Development and Permit Review** The department provides development and permit review services to enable the public to participate in implementing and monitoring the County's vision by:

- Guiding applicants and the public through the permit review process by explaining relevant policies, ordinances and regulations and applying these in a consistent and fair manner.
- Reviewing development, land division and building applications to ensure they meet all Federal, State and local requirements.
- Inspecting construction projects for compliance with codes, regulations and permit approvals. Total Expenditures: \$13,912,555 Total Staffing (FTE):\*84.50

The related performance measure on page 124 does not seem to comport with the workload. If they only have 71 permit applications in process, why would it take 45 days to examine 75% of them and get them approved or rejected? After all they have 85 people in the unit.

3. Performance Measure: Percentage of single-family dwelling permits processed within 45 days to complete plan check.									
This measure provides information in order to gauge the department's performance in implementing the California Building Standards Code.									
	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23				
Target	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	80.00%	75.00%				
Actual	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%					

Notes: This performance measure goal is being modified to 45 days for FY 22-23 to reflect changes in the department's business model and how processing times are measured. This was a new measure for FY 21-22 which the department has since re-evaluated. The performance measure was 30 days. With the current and projected workload demands, the staff allocated to provide review need 45 days for initial review for residential projects and 60 days for initial review of commercial projects. The following changes contribute to the need for increased processing timeframes. Staff training to accommodate updated permit processing system and processes. Updated intake is required to be completed prior to plan check commencement (versus occurring simultaneously) Updated Permit applications are now appointment based and individualized. Updated plan review requires mark up and corrections to be communicated and resolved electronically with applicants and agents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Separately from the substantive issues here, the statement is ludicrous. This is about compulsory regulation, not participation.

Item 4 - Request to: 1) introduce the attached ordinance amending the Agricultural Offset Requirements for the Paso Basin (County Land Use Ordinance, Title 22, Section 22.30.204) to extend the requirements termination date from August 31, 2022 to the effective date of the Paso Robles Land Use Management Area Planting Ordinance, or January 31, 2023, whichever occurs sooner; and 2) authorize the use of Alternative Publication Procedures for amendments to the Agricultural Offset Requirements. An addendum to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report prepared for the Countywide Water Conservation Program in 2015 (SCH Number 2014081056) has been prepared for this request (ED22-042-PL). Hearing date set for July 12, 2022. Districts 1 and 5.

**Early Warning:** This item introduces the proposed extension of the Paso Water Basin moratorium for a public hearing on July 12, 2022.

On November 17, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance amendment and approved a SEIR Addendum to extend the termination date to January 1, 2022 to avoid a gap between GSP adoption and implementation.

On January 26, 2021 and April 6, 2021, the County Board of Supervisors authorized developing a new land use ordinance framework to regulate new and expanded irrigated crop production within the Paso Basin land use management area ("Planting Ordinance").

On August 24, 2021, the County Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance amendment and approved a SEIR Addendum to extend the termination date for the Agricultural Offset Requirements to August 31, 2022 to allow time for the development and adoption of the Planting Ordinance, to be effective until 2045, including preparation of a new Environmental Impact Report.

As of April 2022, the GSP management actions are still in progress and the project schedule for the Planting Ordinance anticipates releasing the Draft Environmental Impact Report for public review in June 2022, presenting to the Planning Commission in November 2022, and presenting to the Board of Supervisors for final action in December 2022. The Planting Ordinance will take effect in January 2023 (30 days after adoption). The proposed ordinance amendment would extend the termination date for the Agricultural Offset Requirements from August 31, 2022 to the effective date of the Planting Ordinance, or January 31, 2023, whichever occurs sooner.

Item 6 - Request to: 1) authorize the County Administrative Officer or his designee to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) to contract with SLOCOG for up to \$310,000 to deliver a Regional Housing and Infrastructure Plan using funds awarded to the County from the State of California's SB 2 Planning Grants Program; and 2) Approve the corresponding budget adjustment in the amount of \$310,000 for Fund Center – 104. We reported on this last week when the item was before SLOCOG for its approval. This week the Board of Supervisors is being requested to approve a \$310,000 study on methods to develop more housing. Over 2 years ago the Board of Supervisors gave this assignment to the County CAO. It fell by the wayside as COVID operations took priority. In the meantime, the County received a \$310,000 grant to perform the work. It has chosen to contract with SLOCOG to conduct yet another study of how to remove the key barriers to housing development. These include water availability, traffic congestion, and lack of high-speed internet. We are not sure why lack of high-speed internet is a barrier to housing development.

SUMMARY The Regional Housing & Infrastructure Plan (HIP) will build collaboration between the seven cities and County by identifying and prioritizing critical regional infrastructure needs (water, wastewater, transportation, high-speed internet). The HIP creates a focused strategy to address the housing and infrastructure shortage county wide and guides regional dollars to support housing and economic development opportunities.

- •Accelerate housing production
- •Streamline the approval of housing development affordable to owner and renter households at all income levels
- •Facilitate housing affordability, particularly for lower-and moderate-income households
- •Promote development consistent with the State Planning Priorities (Government Code Section 65041.1)
- •Ensure geographic equity in the distribution and expenditure of the funding.

As we reported last week in connection with the SLOCOG approval, the study seems doomed from the outset in that it fails to address the fundamental supply problem. That is, there is insufficient land zoned for housing in the unincorporated County. Only about 4% of the land in the entire county, including the incorporated areas, is zoned for any urban use. Much of the 3,500 square mile county is composed of public lands and agriculturally zoned lands.

The real question that should be examined is how to expand the percentage to something like 8% which would open up 140 square miles that could be rezoned for planned village communities offering a variety of housing and lifestyles. These could be built out over decades.

The merchants of despair and stack-and-pack housing oppose suburban housing on the grounds that it is sprawl. Sprawl is one of the most successful forms of human existence in history and is part of the American dream.

It is curious that the study includes "streamlining the regulatory process," when everyone has already known for decades that it is a major barrier to creation of new housing. In fact, back in 1972 after the establishment of CEQA, the Urban Institute did a study which forecast that the law would result in California homes becoming prohibitively expensive, which is exactly what happened.

The actual problem is that elected city councils and boards of supervisors need to make it clear to their staffs that they want all the stops pulled out and everyone working to approve housing, remove legal barriers, and end the housing lockdown. This means that the incentives and disincentives need to be changed. City and County staffs need to be told that there will be approval quotas, and if they are not met, they will be replaced until someone gets it right.

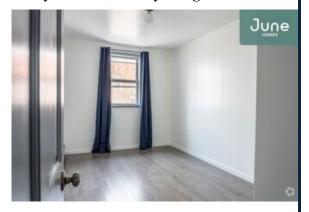




1920's and '30's sprawl in Santa Monica is just fine – walkable, leafy, and close to stores and elementary schools. Kids ride their bikes and skateboards everywhere. The City's Big Blue Buses

roar down the avenues with their natural gas turbine engines whining like jet planes. Multi-family structures are on the ends of the blocks or on collectors and arterials. The problem is that we are not allowing any more of it.

Current successful "sprawl." The community in the photo (upper right above) will be covered with trees in a few years. The progressive left wants to condemn you to a hot suffocating shabby apartment with a brick wall for a view in the name of "smart growth" and global warming.



Item 7 - Submittal of the FY 2022-23 Supplemental Budget to publish the budget hearing schedule and recommend adjustments to the FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget. The item contains last minute updates to the Proposed Budget document, including a number of requests for additional staff and more funding by the departments.

Notably, it eliminates the funds that the County had planned to use on development of the design of the roundabouts on highway 227.

It also contains the hearing schedule. See Addendum I on page 33.

#### Matters After 1:30 PM

Item 51 - Submittal of the quarterly update on the PG&E Diablo Canyon Power Plant Decommissioning Project permitting and Environmental Impact Report preparation. The report is pretty general and indicates that some sections of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) will take more time than expected. The draft report will be completed "this winter." No schedule graphic was presented in the materials showing progress against schedule.

There was no discussion of what takes place if it is determined to keep the plant open.

Item 52 - Request to approve a professional consultant services contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,576,367, to develop a water data and information management system and update the Countywide Master Water Report; authorize the Director of Public Works, or designee, to pursue grants to offset project costs and return to the Board for grant award approval; and approve a corresponding budget adjustment in the amount of \$626,603 in Flood Control District Zone General through the cancellation of reserves, by 4/5 vote. The staff is recommending that the Board approve funding for the \$1.6 million study to be conducted by Carollo Engineers. "Cancellation of reserves" is soft way of saying "burning down the savings account."

The write-up is not too clear about why a Countywide Master Water Report is required at this point. The text states that it hasn't been updated since 2011, which really doesn't explain why it is important or how it is used. There have been so many multi-million dollar studies of various aspects of the water

situation in San Luis Obispo County that it seems that staff would already be overwhelmed with data. Just what would this project add?

It appears from the PowerPoint that the project has something to do with digitizing data. It is not clear how this would improve the current management effort.



The scope of work is Attachment A to the Contract, and summarized in the following table:

Task (Scope of Work)	Cost
Project Management	\$81,808
Stakeholder Engagement	\$222,083
Water-Related Data and Information Audit	\$143,900
Data and Information Management System Alternatives Analysis and Selection	\$67,358
Data and Information Management System Development	\$364,236
Reporting Tools Development	205,714
Master Water Report Update	\$386,089
Operations Model	\$153,180
Total Contract Amount	\$1,576,368
Department Overhead (4.4%)	\$69,36
Total Cost	\$1,645,729

The actual work plan tasks appear to be a boilerplate full color promotional presentation. The pages seem to be encrypted and our various copy tools cannot capture them. Wonder why?

#### **Some Questions:**

- 1. What problem(s) are we attempting to solve with this project?
- a. How serious are those problems?
- b. When do they occur?
- c. Where do they occur?

Is this software development or is it some standard data base system to be used or what? What is the actual work to be done?

2. If this project is so important, why is it a mid-year add-on instead of part of an annual plan of work?

- 3. Was this contract bid out through an RFP?
- 4. If so, how many firms bid?
- 5. If not, why not?
- 6. If so, what were their bid amounts?
- 7. Did County Information technology have a role in developing an RFP and then reviewing the responses, project design, and deliverables, which don't seem to be specifically listed?
- 8. Since this is a data system, why is there no clause in the contract requiring that it be run successfully in its final configuration for at least 2 cycles before the County makes final payments?
- 9. What is the annual operating cost of the system once installed? Will Carollo and/or the subcontractors have to come back to do maintenance or updates?
- 10. Will the County need more staff to enter the data from all the water managing entities in the County to keep the system up to date?

Item 53 - Hearing to consider adoption of the attached ordinances: 1) repealing the County's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (Sections 22.12.040 and 23.04.096 of the County Code); and 2) amending the County's Affordable Housing Fund (Title 29 of the County Code) to eliminate the collection of Inclusionary Housing In Lieu and Housing Impact fees. The Board majority has scheduled this item to terminate the so-called Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, which imposes a tax misrepresented as a fee on the construction of new market rate homes and all commercial and industrial development. Repeal of the tax would be a positive step in reducing irrational regulation and development costs.

Supervisor Gibson and the left progressives will swamp the Board room with opposition.

The so-called fee is in actuality a tax that has been deceptively packaged as a "fee."

The Financial Replacement Options: The discussion is likely to focus on how to fund the local matches on affordable housing projects when the tax is repealed. The Planning Department and local not-for-profit housing developers have estimated that \$2 to \$4 million per year is needed to provide the necessary local matches. The tax has never produced anything like these amounts. Even this year, with a big payment from Monarch Dunes, the program has never been very robust because housing production in the County is very low.

As noted in Item 2 above, permits for only 125 homes of any kind have been sought so far this year. Taxing the market price homes is not going to generate a lot of revenue. Some options include:

1. One proposal has been for the County to go into debt and issue \$25 million in housing bonds or certificates of participation to be doled out over the years.

- 2. Another proposal has been to submit a special sales tax or property tax to the voters. This would at least provide for everyone to have some skin in the game instead of just the homebuilders. It is unlikely that it would be approved at an election.
- 3. We see that the County has plenty of funding currently to cover such an annual commitment. For example, the table below (from page 458 in the new Budget) indicates that general taxes over which the Board has complete discretionary authority are increasing by \$15.8 million dollars next year. Instead of plowing it all into new County jobs, why not use \$1 million for the housing fund? Since the County has an 11% employee vacancy rate, this should be a no brainer.

#### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

	FY 2021-22 Adopted	FY 2021-22 Estimated	FY 2022-23 Requested	FY 2022-23 Recommended	Change from FY 2021-22
Taxes	\$219,885,382	\$0	\$235,742,578	\$235,742,578	\$15,857,196
Licenses, Permits, and Franchises	\$3,662,093	\$0	\$3,845,198	\$3,845,198	\$183,105
Revenue from Use of Money & Property	\$1,611,544	\$0	\$2,271,178	\$2,271,178	\$659,634
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$2,182,052	\$0	\$10,350,380	\$12,350,380	\$10,168,328
Charges for Current Services	\$2,508,063	\$0	\$2,617,317	\$2,617,317	\$109,254
Other Revenues	\$2,379,601	\$0	\$1,205	\$1,205	\$(2,378,396)
Interfund	\$285,000	\$0	\$293,550	\$293,550	\$8,550
Total Revenue	\$232,513,735	\$0	\$255,121,406	\$257,121,406	\$24,607,671
Services and Supplies	\$5	\$0	\$5	\$5	\$0
Gross Expenditures	\$5	\$0	\$5	\$5	\$0
General Fund Support	\$(232,513,730)	\$0	\$(255,121,401)	\$(257,121,401)	\$(24,607,671)
Source of Fu	unds		U	se of Funds	

- 4. Similarly, the Budget proposes to up the general fund contribution to various departments by \$13 million, from \$245 million to \$258 million. Why are they providing Public Health, Behavioral Health,
- and Social Services with increases of general fund allotments when those departments are largely Federally and State funded? Accounting wise, those departments should not even be in the General Fund, but should be in separate categorical revenue Funds. See Addendum II on page 35 for the details. In any case the Board should be able to pull \$1 million with ease out of this section.
- 5. Finally, if any general fund balance is in excess of the current FY 2022 projection of \$37.5 million at June 30th, it could be placed in the Housing fund.

State Controller Schedules	Sa	Schedule 3						
County Budget Act	Fund Ba	alance - Governmenta	al Funds					
November 2014		Fiscal Year 2022-23						
		Less: Obligated Fund Balances						
Fund Name	Total Fund Balance as of June 30, 2022	Encumbrances	Nonspendable, Restricted and Committed	Assigned	Fund Balance Available as of June 30, 2022			
1	2	3	4	5	6			
General Fund								
General Fund	\$107,174,889	\$0	\$69,674,889	\$0	\$37,500,000			
Total General Fund	\$107,174,889	\$0	\$69,674,889	\$0	\$37,500,000			

The County will not need to issue more debt, and the fund will be established. Budget policy could require incremental increases over the years once the housing fund has become part of the base budget.

**Brief History:** Decades ago, the State adopted enabling legislation that allows cities and counties to require that developers include a percentage of affordable housing within their new projects. Only148 jurisdictions (out of 58 counties and 450 cities in the state) have adopted the provision. San Luis Obispo County is one of those entities and adopted its ordinance in 2008. San Luis Obispo County typically requires that a new subdivision of 100 homes provide "20" affordable homes. Obviously, projects that are already 100% affordable (usually government funded not-for-profit projects) are exempted. Thus, it is the market-priced homes that are taxed. Commercial projects are also subject to the tax posing as a fee on a per square foot basis

It is ironic and patently stupid that government has determined to tax the very thing that is in short supply, in order to provide more of it.

Over the years, various jurisdictions learned that this compulsory mixing of housing types did not work well from a marketing or social interaction standpoint. For example, there are huge fights in homeowner associations (HOAs) about common uses. For example, do the people in the affordable units get to use the pool? From the developers' standpoint it is difficult to market the non-affordable units in a subdivision or complex that contains less stylish and less fancy affordable units. Market buyers are leery of buying into a social engineering scheme.

Eventually, the State amended the enabling statute to allow developers to pay a "fee," in reality a tax, instead of building the actual units. This is the so-called "housing in lieu" fee. SLO uses it to assist "affordable" projects in the cities and Templeton.

The Bottom Line: The bottom line is that over the decades the process of developing residential and commercial property has become so over regulated and expensive that developers cannot afford to produce affordable housing and prefer to develop larger, more expensive units. In turn, the State Legislature has made things worse by enabling cities and counties to require that developers include a stipulated number of affordable units in their projects or pay an "in lieu fee," which is really a tax on development. The dollars generated from the "in lieu fee" are accumulated and then given to non-profit housing developers to help finance their affordable projects. This is really a government blackmail program to force homebuilders to charge more for their market units in order to bail out the politicians' failed public policy.

In 2019 the Board updated the ordinance to exclude homes with less than 2200 square feet and substantially raise the so-called fees for market and custom homes. In exchange, Supervisor Gibson agreed to let the Board majority direct staff to conduct an extensive analysis of alternative methods to help affordable housing. During the first phase of the project, staff generated a list of potential programs from which the Board selected some strategies for further feasibility study. A Project Manager, who has since left the County, was assigned to lead the project. The project was abandoned when COVID 19 arrived, and staff members were shifted to other duties.

**Screwed Again:** As a result, Gibson got higher fees established, but the promised project to find other better solutions never took place. The Board revised the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance on March 12, 2019. The most significant changes to the fee structure included applying the fee to all new dwellings over 2,200 square feet in size (previously the fee had only applied to subdivisions) and replacing the flat rate fee (\$1.50 per square-foot) with a tiered rate structure based on square footage (with a

maximum overall rate of \$7 per square-foot). As an example, a new 3,000 square-foot house would pay \$8,400 in in lieu taxes under the tiered rate structure. The Board also included Section 29.05.050, as described above, which requires the County to hold a hearing in three years and repeal the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance if broad based funding options would have been successfully established.

As indicated, the Board conservatives made a deal with Gibson to exempt homes under 2200 square feet but substantially raise the rates for those above 2200 square feet. In turn, Gibson agreed to allow a study of various ways to promote housing, including rezoning more land for housing. This work fell by the wayside due to staff reassignments to COVID related activities. Now, and as noted above in **Item 6 above**, the entire process is being turned over to SLOCOG. The proposed SLOCOG study fails to mention zoning more land for homes as a subject.

Table: In-lieu Fee Revenues (FY 17-18 through FY 20-21)

Fiscal Year	In-lieu Fee Revenues – Residential	Impact Fee Revenues – Commercial	In-lieu Fee Revenues - Total
FY 17-18	\$36,419	\$94,542	\$130,961
FY 18-19	\$77,778	\$143,159	\$220,937
FY 19-20	\$313,060	\$19,496	\$332,556
FY 20-21	\$723,197	\$93,038	\$816,235

Since 2019, the County allocated \$1,167,000 in in-lieu and impact fee funds to non-profit builders to construct 222 new affordable housing units in 8 new developments, with a total development cost of \$118-M. See Table 2, below.

These funds were than distributed per the very misleading and incomplete table below:

Table: Projects Funded with In-lieu and Impact Fee Revenues (2019 - 2021)

Year	Project	In-lieu and Impact Fee Award	Units
2019 and 2020	Templeton Place II	\$151,261	36
2019	Brisco Rd. Affordable Housing	\$184,294	8
2019	Longbranch Transitional Housing	\$119,000	6
2020	Nipomo Senior 40	\$59,032	40
2020 and 2021	Pismo Terrace	\$229,969	50
2021	Toscano Family Apartments	\$142,396	38
2021	Morro Bay Family Apartments	\$7,216	35
2021	Vine Street Affordable Housing	\$185,221	9

The table hides the truth, in that the total cost of the listed projects is not displayed. Thus, laypeople and even officials might think that the projects were constructed for the costs listed. These were actually funded by Federal and State programs and cost tens of millions of dollars. The County contribution to the funding packages is miniscule in caparison the real costs. By offering this presentation, the staff significantly disguises the truth.

**Further Housing-In-Lieu Fee Notes:** Prior to 2019, the Board left the fees at step 1 of the 5-step phase in because of the recession and very little housing activity. In 2018 the staff proposed to go to step 2 but the Board except for Gibson demurred. In 2019 staff proposed to leave the "fee" at step one but raise the rate a little.

**Overall Impact:** The County's inclusionary housing ordinance compels developers to meet their affordable housing exactions (county mandated wealth transfer) by providing affordable dwellings, paying fees, or donating land. Residential projects pay in-lieu fees, and commercial projects pay housing impact fees pursuant to the Title 29 fee schedules. Title 29 also requires the County to consider annual fee adjustments. The annual adjustments may reflect changing construction costs and a periodic review of the fee formulas.

The bottom line is that over the decades the process of developing residential and commercial property has become so overregulated and expensive that developers cannot afford to produce affordable housing and prefer to develop larger, more expensive units. In turn, the State Legislature made things worse by enabling cities and counties to require that developers include a stipulated number of affordable units in their projects or pay an "in lieu fee," which is really a tax on development. The dollars generated from the "in lieu fee" are accumulated and then given to non-profit housing developers to help finance their affordable projects. This is really a government blackmail program to force homebuilders to charge more for their market units to bail out the politicians' failed public policy.

Homebuilders are required to provide one affordable unit for each five market units or pay a "fee" (tax) into the affordable housing fund in lieu of actually building the unit

The amount of the fee is based on a complex black box study called a nexus study, which analyzes economic and market factors to come up with the base per sq. ft. costs. This data is then manipulated into a standard "fee" (tax) based on the size of the market houses (unsubsidized houses). It is then applied to each market house (per unit fee). Some Sample Taxes – For every five market houses, the builder would have to pay the amounts listed below to help create one affordable house.

#### California Coastal Commission Meeting of Wednesday, June 8, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item W7a – Application of the US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to conduct a lease sale for up to 240,898 acres of federal waters for the future development of offshore wind energy facilities. Permit lessees to conduct site characterization and assessment activities and submit a construction and operations plan for development of offshore wind energy on their leases. The project is located in a 241,000-acre section of federal waters offshore of San Luis Obispo County, approximately 20 miles off Cambria. The Coastal Commission staff recommends conditional approval. The staff report is comprised of 149 pages of impacts of the proposed project.

The approval is preliminary and allows BOEM to test 3 windmills and connections to shore and to receive specific bid proposals for the actual projects. The specific selected projects will each have to go through their own Coastal Commission review.

The exhibits list for the process is descriptive of the issues, which the Commission staff reviewed prior to submitting its recommendation to the Commission.

**Double Standard:** Not surprisingly and notwithstanding all the issues, the staff recommends approval of this project but would close the Oceano Dunes riding area over the presence of the Plover birds and blowing dust. The favoritism and ideological power of "green energy" is on full display here. *EXHIBITS* 

Scope of Federal Consistency Review Exhibits

- 1-1. Morro Bay WEA Vicinity Map
- 1-2. Current Offshore Wind Platform, Mooring and Anchor Types
- 1-3. Schematic of a Full-scale Floating Wind Energy Development
- 1-4. Subsea Cables and Cable Landings in the Vicinity of Morro Bay Marine Resources and Water Quality Exhibits

- 2-1a. Seafloor Features
- 2-1b. Habitat Areas of Particular Concern: Groundfish
- 2-1c. Deep Sea Corals and Sponges
- 2-2a. Southern Sea Otter Density
- 2-2b. Northern Elephant Seal Distribution
- 2-3. Summer/Fall Whale Density/Presence Maps off West Coast
- 2-3a. Blue Whale Density 2-3b. Fin Whale Density
- 2-3c. Humpback Whale Density 2-3d. Minke Whale Density
- 2-3e. Blue Whale Core Use Areas 2-3f. Proposed Humpback Whale Critical Habitat
- 2-3g. Biologically Important Areas Baleen Whales 2-3h. Baird's Beaked Whale Density
- 2-3i. Long Beaked Common Dolphin Density
- 2-3j. Northern Right Dolphin Density
- 2-3k. Pacific White-Sided Dolphin Density
- 2-31. Risso's Dolphin Density
- 2-3m. Bottlenose Dolphin Density
- 2-3n. Dall's Porpoise Density 2-3o.
- Short Beaked Common Dolphin Density 2-3p. Sperm Whale Density
- 2-3q. Striped Dolphin Density 2-3r. Gray Whale Migration and Potential Presence
- Maps 2-4. Leatherback Turtle Sightings, Critical Habitats, and Distribution
- 2-5. Seabird and Marine Mammal Considerations for Morro Bay and Humboldt WEAs
- 2-5a. Seabird Considerations
- 2-5b. Marine Mammal Considerations
- 2-6. Bird Density Maps 2-6a. Marbled Murrelet Spring/Summer Density
- 2-6b. Scripps's Murrelet Spring Density 2-6c. Brown Pelican Seasonal Density
- 2-6d. Pink Footed Shearwater Density
- 2-6e. Ashy Storm Petrel Spring/Fall Density 9 CD-0004-22 (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
- 2-6f. Cassin's Auklet Winter Density
- 2-6g. Rhinoceros Auklet Winter Density
- 2 -6h. Black-legged Kittiwake Winter Density
- 2-6i. Bonaparte's Gull Spring Density
- 2-6j. California Gull Winter Density
- 2-6k. Common Arctic Tern Fall Density
- 2-6l. Herring Iceland Gull Spring Density
- 2-6m. Sabine's Gull Fall Density
- 2-6n. Western and Glaucous-winged Gull Spring Density
- 2-60. Jaeger Spring Density
- 2-6p. Pomarine Jaeger Fall Density
- 2-6q. Loon Spring Density
- 2-6r. Phalarope Fall Density
- 2-6s. Black Footed Albatross Spring Density
- 2-6t. Laysan Albatross Spring Density
- 2-6u. Black Storm Petrel Summer Density
- 2-6v. Northern Fulmar Winter Density
- 2-6w. Shearwater Summer Density
- 2-6x. Important Bird Areas 2-6y. Bird Abundance Maps by Season
- 2-7. Comparison of Marine Frequency Hearing Ranges Commercial and Recreational Fishing Exhibits
- 3-1. Greater WEA, Central Coast Fishing Blocks. used, in part, to calculate values in Appendix C
- 3-2. Representation of WEA Impact Area

- 3-3. Groundfish Fishing Intensity
- 3-4. Observed Fishing effort in the U.S. Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries: Catch Shares
- Pot 3-5. Observed fishing effort in the U.S. Pacific Coast Groundfish Fisheries: Catch Shares Hookand-Line
- 3-6. Salmon Fishing Intensity 2010-2017
- 3-7. Average, quarterly species distribution predictions for anchovy (Engraulis mordax) in the California Current System
- 3-8. Market Squid Fishing Density 1999-2020
- 3-9. Drift Gillnet Fishing Intensity (2011-2016)
- 3-10. Point Density of North Pacific Albacore Trolling Fleet
- 3-11. VMS Dungeness Crab Fishing Intensity 2010-2017
- 3-12. CA Halibut Trawl Density (1997-2017)
- 3-13. CPFV Recreational Fishing Effort 1980-2020 by Block
- 3-14. Essential Fish Habitat Map, Central Coast, Groundfish FMP
- 3-15. VMS Pink Shrimp Fishing Intensity 2010-2017 10 CD-0004-22 (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
- 3-16. Morro Bay Hours to port, inspired by North Coast Fishermen's Mapping Project Coastal Hazards Exhibits
- 4-1. AIS Shipping Vessel Traffic 2017
- 4-2. Significant Wave Height 4-3. Geologic Faults Within WEA Scenic and Visual Resources Exhibits
- 5-1. Map of State Parks near the WEA
- 5-2. Visual Simulations Tribal and Cultural Resources Exhibits
- 6-1. Map of Predicted locations for possible submerged cultural resources Environmental Justice Exhibits
- 7-1. CES 4.0 Population Characteristics near WEA
- 7-2. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 near WEA 7-3. AB 1550 Low-income Communities near WEA

The County's economic development contractor REACH is hopeful that the shore support facilities for the project, if fully Davidion Seamount

Carpinal

Carpina

approved, could be located within the County. The Coastal Commission write-up sees such facilities as a major issue:

As part of offshore wind development, onshore facilities would be needed for the cable landing, and the location and cable landing infrastructure would need to be resilient to sea level rise. With this industry beginning on the West Coast, onshore facilities would also be needed for offshore wind turbine manufacturing and maintenance in West Coast ports and harbors. The port locations that would serve the offshore wind industry on the Central Coast are currently unknown, as are the locations for cable landings. These coastal facilities are expected to have coastal impacts and will be analyzed under their own coastal development permit

Exhibit 1-2. Current Offshore Wind Platform, Mooring and Anchor Types

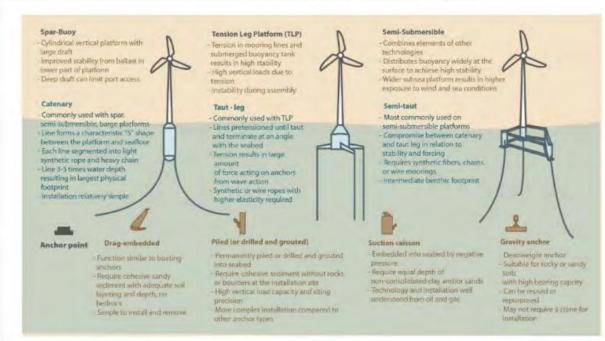


Diagram of current mooring, anchoring, and floating foundations from Maxwell et al., 2022.

Exhibit 1-3. Schematic of a Full-scale Floating Wind Energy Development

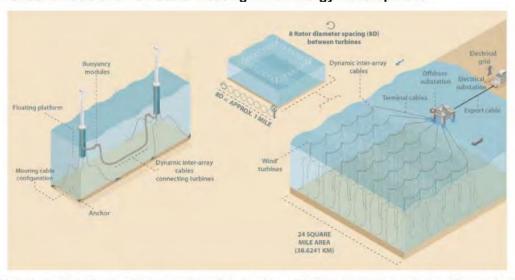


Fig. 2. Schematic of a full-scale floating wind energy development. Floating offshore wind turbines (FOWT) differ from fixed-foundation turbines primarily in the types of platform and anchoring system used to support the turbine. FOWT employs buoyant 'floating substructures' which are submerged or semi-submerged platforms anchored to the seabed by mooring lines and a variety of anchor types, and connected to one another by dynamic inter-array cables.

San Luis Obispo County Waste Management Authority (IWMA) meeting of Wednesday, June 8, 2022 - 1:30 PM (scheduled)

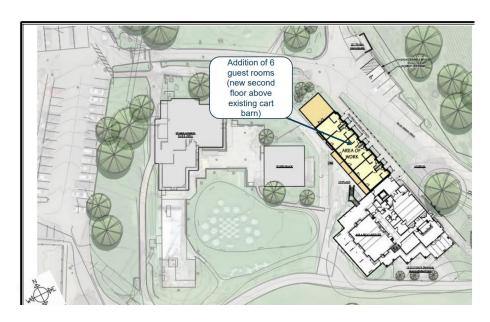
No agenda package was posted online as of Saturday June 4, 2022. The notice states:

6/8/2022 June 8, 2022, IWMA Board Meeting
If required, the agenda packet information will be here once published.

The fact that the agency cannot publish packet materials by the end of the week prior to the meeting may suggest some internal operational problems or difficulty in agreeing on an agenda. They will be in violation of the 72-hour requirement if they have not published by 1:30, Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and still conduct the meeting at 1:30 Wednesday. The agenda was posted some time on Saturday night. The materials packet was not posted as of Sunday morning.

#### Planning Commission Meeting of Thursday, June 9, 2022 (Scheduled)

Item 8 - (Continued from May 26, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting) A continued hearing to consider a request by ABR Property, L.P. for an Amendment (AMEND2022-00002) to the San Luis Bay Estates Master Development Plan to allow six overnight accommodations at the golf resort. The project also includes a phased Development Plan / Coastal Development Permit (DRC2021-00126) to allow for the establishment of six overnight accommodations totaling 2,400 square feet to the Avila Beach Golf Resort. The six guest rooms will be located in a new second floor addition above the existing cart barn. Dedicated on-site parking will be provided for the overnight accommodations at the Avila Beach Golf Resort. The project would occur within previously developed areas with minimal site disturbance on a 170-acre property. The proposed project is within the Recreation land use category and is located at 6450 Anna Bay Road / 3000 Avila Beach Drive, in the community of Avila Beach. The project site is in the San Luis Bay Coastal Planning Area and the Coastal Zone. The application is opposed by various Avila Beach civic groups. The staff recommends approval. Given the time and money invested in this application for 6 lousy rooms, the owners are going to have to charge \$1000 per night for decades to recoup their costs if it is ever actually approved. The rooms are upstairs over the golf cart barn.



Item 10 - (Continued from May 26, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting) Hearing to consider a request by Tim Schmidt for a Variance (N-DRC2021-00020) to setback standards to allow for an existing 3,840-square-foot as-built greenhouse structure on an approximately 5-acre parcel. The project site is within the Residential Rural land use category of the South County Sub-Area of the South County Planning Area and is located at 1157 Arboles Way, Arroyo Grande. Also, to be

considered is the determination that this project is categorically exempt from environmental review under CEQA.

COLAB NOTE: Why didn't Supervisor Gibson have to apply for a variance and have a public hearing on his setback problem? This place is out in the country, and the people have to go through a full staff analysis and public hearing. The existing green house is too close to the side property line. No one even lives in the facilities.

#### Ordinance Compliance:

<u>Standard</u>	Allowed/Required	Existing	In Compliance
Minimum Site Area	5 acres	5 acres	Yes
Setbacks Front Side Rear	80 50-100 <sup>1</sup> 50-100 <sup>1</sup>	277 ft 3 ft and 25 ft 950 ft	Yes No, variance requested Yes

Setbacks can be reduced to a minimum of 50 feet when existing or proposed landscaping acts as a natural visual and auditory buffer. Further reduction possible only through use permit approval.

The write-up states in part:

The applicant is requesting a variance to setback standards to allow for a 3-foot setback from the westerly property line and a 25-foot side setback from the easterly property line where a minimum of 50-foot side setback is required for an existing 3840-square-foot as-built greenhouse structure. Existing access and parking areas are not proposed to be improved and do not require grading or expansion to allow for the permitting of the existing structure. While the structure technically meets the setback standards defined in Section 22.10.140 identifying that a side yard may be used for an accessory building or structure no greater than 12 feet in height and no closer than three feet to any property line, the size and type of structure being reviewed in this permit require the application of the standards identified in Section 22.30.310 - Nursery Specialties

#### LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 (Not Scheduled)

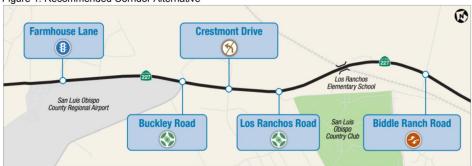
The next scheduled meeting is set for Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

San Luis Obispo County Council of Governments Meeting of Wednesday, June 1, 2022 (Completed)

**Item C.7** - **State Route 227 Corridor Project Status Update** (**Roundabouts**). The County had been designated as the lead agency on the project. However, during its April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board of Supervisors declined to approve the project. This will require that the SLOCOG become the lead agency to continue the project. It is not known if the 3 Supervisors who voted against the project can marshal enough votes on the SLOCOG Board to stop it. The neighbors who live in the area of the

project and many businesses are opposed to the roundabouts. County staff, SLOCOG staff, Cal Trans, and enviros all favor the project.

Figure 1: Recommended Corridor Alternative



Farmhouse Ln: Signal, Buckley Rd: Roundabout, Crestmont Dr: left-turn restriction, Los Ranchos Rd: Roundabout, Biddle Ranch Rd.: two way left-turn lane. Source: 2021 Intersection Control Evaluation.

**Item D.1** - **Regional Housing & Infrastructure Plan (HIP)-Memorandum of Understanding.** The Board approved a \$310,000 study on methods to develop more housing. Over 2 years ago the Board of Supervisors gave this assignment to the County CAO. It fell by the wayside as COVID operations took priority. In the meantime, the County received a \$310,000 grant to perform the work. It has chosen to contract with SLOCOG to conduct yet another study of how to remove the key barriers to housing development. These include water availability, traffic congestion, and lack of high-speed internet. We are not sure why lack of high-speed internet is a barrier to housing development.

SUMMARY The Regional Housing & Infrastructure Plan (HIP) will build collaboration between the seven cities and County by identifying and prioritizing critical regional infrastructure needs (water, wastewater, transportation, high-speed internet). The HIP creates a focused strategy to address the housing and infrastructure shortage county wide and guides regional dollars to support housing and economic development opportunities.

- •Accelerate housing production
- •Streamline the approval of housing development affordable to owner and renter households at all income levels
- •Facilitate housing affordability, particularly for lower-and moderate-income households
- •Promote development consistent with the State Planning Priorities (Government Code Section 65041.1)
- •Ensure geographic equity in the distribution and expenditure of the funding.

**Item F.1 - Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).** By way of background, please see a draft of the FTIP below, which the SLOCOG will be considering in the future. The revenue table below shows the deployment of the funding by source and also displays the required State and Federal matches for the next 5 years.

#### REVENUE

San Luis Obispo Council of Government 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (\$'s in 1,000)

		N O		4 YEAR (F	TIP Period)		
	Funding Source/Program	T E S	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	TOTAL
	Other Local Funds		\$5,897	\$9,566	\$27,680	\$8,850	\$51,993
	County General Funds		\$400			\$4,910	\$5,310
	City General Funds		\$1,550	\$5,621	\$23,737		\$30,908
, AL	RSTP Exchange funds		\$3,947	\$3,945	\$3,943	\$3,940	\$15,775
LOCAL	Transit						
	Transit Fares Other (See Appendix 1)	11111	\$10.423	\$7,443	\$25.662	\$58.549	\$102.078
	Local Total	191919	\$16,320		\$53,342	\$67,399	\$154,071
	State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) 1		\$81,174	\$47,762	<b>\$00,012</b>	\$0.,000	\$128,936
	SHOPP		\$81,174	\$47.762			\$128.936
	State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) 1		\$131,177	\$1,378	\$94.029	\$7,341	\$233.925
	STIP	П	\$131,177	\$1,378	\$94,029	\$7,341	\$233,925
STATE	Active Transportation Program (ATP) 1		\$19,121				\$19.121
ST	Highway Maintenance (HM) Program <sup>1</sup>						
	Highway Bridge Program (HBP) 1		\$4,728	\$2,891	\$7,426	\$6,168	\$21,213
	Other (See Appendix 3)		\$7,300				\$7,300
	State Total		\$243,500	\$52,031	\$101,455	\$13,509	\$410,495
H	5307 - Urbanized Area Formula Grants		\$7,468	\$7,756			\$15,223
A	5310 - Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities		\$183	\$188	\$47		\$417
E.	5311 - Formula Grants for Rural Areas		\$1,323	\$635			\$1,958
₹	5339 - Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Grants		\$300	\$1,050			\$1,350
FEDERAL TRANSIT	Other (See Appendix 4)		\$50	\$637			\$687
#	Federal Transit Total		\$9,323	\$10,266	\$47		\$19,636
	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program	_	\$5,417	\$5,683	\$2,526	\$3,760	\$17,386
FEDERAL	Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP)		\$250				\$250
E SE	Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)				\$42		\$42
田里	Other (see Appendix 5)	11111	\$180				\$180
	Federal Highway Total	1888	\$5,847	\$5,683	\$2,568	\$3,760	\$17,858
FEDERAL RAIL	Other Federal Railroad Administration (see Appendix 6)						
FEDER	Federal Railroad Administration Total						
	Federal Total		\$15,170	\$15,949	\$2,615	\$3,760	\$37,494
E E	TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act)						
INNOVATIVE	Other (See Appendix 7)						
N E	Innovative Financing Total						
REVENUE 1	TOTAL		\$274.990	\$84.989	\$157,413	\$84.669	\$602.060

The programmed table below shows how the funding is planned to be expended by general category.

#### **PROGRAMMED**

#### San Luis Obispo Council of Government

# 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (\$'s in 1,000)

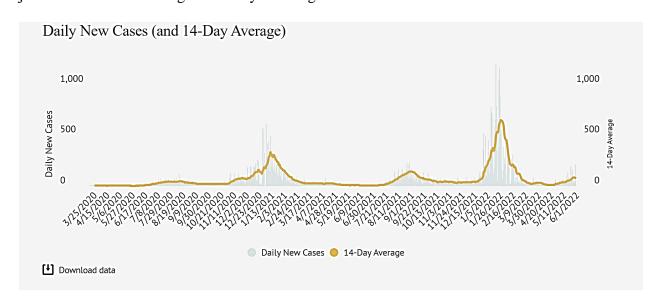
		N O					
	Funding Source/Program	E	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	TOTAL
LOCAL	Local Total		\$16,320	\$17,009	\$53,342	\$67,399	\$154,07
	State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) <sup>1</sup>		\$81,174	\$47,762			\$128,93
	SHOPP		\$81,174	\$47,762			\$128,93
	State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) 1		\$131,177	\$1,378	\$94,029	\$7,341	\$233,92
ш	STIP		\$131,177	\$1,378	\$94,029	\$7,341	\$233,92
STATE	Active Transportation Program (ATP) 1		\$19,121				\$19,12
S	Highway Maintenance (HM) Program 1		A4 700	***************************************	47.400	20 400	***
	Highway Bridge Program (HBP) 1 Other (See Appendix B)		\$4,728 \$7,300	\$2,891	\$7,426	\$6,168	\$21,21: \$7.30
	Other (See Appendix B)		\$243,500	\$52,031	\$404.4EE	\$42 E00	\$410,49
				**	\$101,455	\$13,509	*
	5307 - Urbanized Area Formula Grants 5311 - Formula Grants for Rural Areas	-	\$7,468 \$1,323	\$7,756 \$635			\$15,22 \$1.95
FEDERAL TRANSIT	5311 - Portificia Grants for Rural Areas 5339 - Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Grants		\$1,323	\$1.050			\$1,95
	Other (See Appendix C)		\$50	\$637			\$1,33
u -	Federal Transit Total		\$9.140	\$10.078			\$19.21
FEDERAL	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program	$\overline{}$	\$5,417	\$5,683		\$3,760	\$14.86
	Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)		40,1	40,000	\$42	40,100	\$4
	Other (see Appendix D)		\$180				\$18
ΞΞ	Federal Highway Total		\$5,597	\$5,683	\$42	\$3,760	\$15,08
Other Federal Railroad Administration (see Appen	Other Federal Railroad Administration (see Appendix E)						
FEDER	Federal Railroad Administration Total						
	Federal Total		\$14,737	\$15,761	\$42	\$3,760	\$34,30
NNOVATIVE FNANCE	TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act)						
	Other (See Appendix F)						
	Innovative Financing Total						
OGRAM	MED TOTAL		\$274,557	\$84.802	\$154.840	\$84,669	\$598.86

In terms of perspective, it is daunting to realize that widening State Highway 101 to six lanes from the south County line (Santa Maria River) to the beginning of the 6-lane configuration north of the City of San Luis Obispo (Cuesta Grade) would require an estimated \$1.5 billion (the number is several years old). While the State is diverting billions on failed homeless programs, remediation of self-inflicted behavioral problems, elementary school sex choice "education", subsidized mass transit, phony environmental programs, soft justice courts, allowing its employees to "work" from home, and all the rest, it is woefully underfunding bridges and highways – even with the new gas tax from SB-1 (which, by the way, is indexed). They should be rolling in cash.



#### **EMERGENT ISSUES**

**Item 1 - COVID and now Monkey Pox .** COVID is picking up. Cal Poly, LA County, and other jurisdictions are resuming mandatory masking.

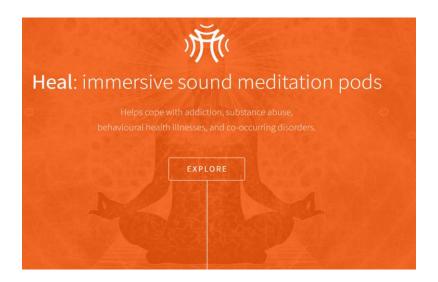


**14** Hospitalized (0 in ICU)

**Item 2 - The sound pod, now termed a Heal Pod, is here.** The County is crowing about the program and recruiting patients.

Heal Pod is here





# New Wellness Program Encourages Meditation for Justice Services Clients

The new Heal Pod, funded by the Mental Health Services Act, aims to test the effectiveness of mindfulness and mediation practices on mental health clients.

The Behavioral Health Department is excited to offer a new wellness program to clients within its Justices Services Division: Heal Pod.

The Heal Pod Innovation program aims to test the effectiveness of mindfulness and mediation practices on mental health clients who currently are enrolled in outpatient behavioral health programs. The Heal Pod is being funded by the Mental Health Services Act's (MHSA) Innovation component which allows counties the opportunity to test new models and practices that address service gaps and other problems within the local mental health system.

"Innovation programs are unique in that we have the opportunity to work with behavioral health stakeholders to build and test out new tools and programs that will better the mental health of the community," says Frank Warren, San Luis Obispo Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator. "We are excited for this project in particular as it allows new access and opportunity for clients enrolled in Justice Services programs to learn the same wellness techniques many of us SLO County residents already use to maintain stress."

In recent years the County has seen an increase in the number of individuals who are enrolled in forensic mental health court and diversion programs. Clients partaking in forensic programs often struggle to manage stress that stems from incarceration and release, probation, court mandates, homelessness, family pressures, unemployment, substance use, and mental health disorders. This prolonged stress makes it harder to learn routine calming and wellness methods. Clients participating in the Heal Pod, will experience a guided meditation surrounded by calming sounds and guided

breathing techniques. Project leaders hope the Heal Pod can jump start lifelong mindfulness habits for Behavioral Health clients and serve as model for mental health success in the future.

The Heal Pod Innovation project will complete in Fiscal Year 2023-24.

For more information about Mental Health Services Act programs in San Luis Obispo County, please visit <u>www.slobehavioralhealth.com</u>. More information on the Heal Pod can be found online and <u>https://heal.mx/</u>.

We thought incarceration is punishment and should cause stress and remorse.

# **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

## ARE WE IN FOR A BUMPY RIDE IN THE 2020S?

BY THE TIME THIS DECADE IS OVER, ANALYSTS MAY FIND THAT COMPARISONS TO THE 1970S HAVE GROWN STALE; THE CHALLENGES WE FACE ARE ON A SCALE NOT SEEN SINCE THE 1930S.

BY NICHOLAS L. WADDY

Many talking heads have compared the inflation and decelerating economic growth we face now with the "stagflation" of the 1970s. But few have contemplated the full range of consequences these economic headwinds may bear, apart from the obvious: The party out of power, i.e. the GOP, is likely to benefit in the short term by a simple process of electoral elimination.

The 2020s are starting to look like the 1970s in several other important respects, however, and these may determine not just partisan success or failure, but also more fundamental issues like global security, prosperity (or the lack thereof), and the degree to which democratic norms and institutions are respected and upheld.

In purely economic terms, broad-based inflation and slow economic growth were only part of what made the 1970s so challenging. The decade also saw instability in commodity prices (and not just oil), which was highly injurious to the economic performance of many Third World countries, and contributed to a debt crisis that hamstrung these developing countries well into the 21st century. In some cases, the aftershocks are still being felt today.

Likewise, commodity prices have seesawed in recent years, partly because of the global COVID-19 pandemic, which produced wild fluctuations in demand. This, in turn, coupled with higher inflation and higher interest rates, threatens to make government finances untenable once again, but not just in the developing world. OECD countries are also treading on thin financial ice.

Imagine, for instance, a fiscal environment in the 2020s in which interest rates rise to 10 percent—a not entirely absurd hypothetical, given that current inflation levels in the United States are touching double

figures. In that case, for the U.S. federal government to service our national debt (which approaches \$30 trillion), it would have to commit \$3 trillion per year just to making interest payments.

To put this in context, the entire annual budget of the federal government for 2023 is expected to amount to \$5.7 trillion. In other words, it is conceivable, if not yet likely, that the U.S. government, and other Western governments, could soon be called upon to spend *most* of their public funds servicing their considerable debts. Needless to say, this would make sustaining normal public spending on social services, defense, and other important priorities impossible—unless, of course, such governments were to print money (or "add liquidity") even more wildly than they did during the recent pandemic, which in turn would make inflation and interest rates even worse.

In short, as in the 1970s, many world governments could face fiscal and debt crises in this decade. Unlike in the '70s, though, developed Western countries are carrying much higher debt loads, and public spending is generally higher as well—meaning there is less fiscal cushion and more exposure to the risk of a serious financial emergency, up to and including default.

We can only assume that default would produce, in turn, a depression equal or greater in terms of severity to the one seen in Greece in the wake of that country's sovereign debt crisis, which began in 2009. Greece saw its GDP plummet by at least 25 percent, a worse performance than in the United States during the Great Depression.

It is also worth recalling, though, that the economic turmoil of the 1970s contributed to alarming levels of political instability. The incidence of coups, civil wars, and mass unrest surged in the '70s, leading to such political sea changes as the Soweto Uprising in South Africa, the reign of terror of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, and the Iranian Revolution.

One has to wonder, therefore, whether the "stagflation" of 2022, which may or may not persist, coupled with higher energy prices and food insecurity—both of which have been exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine war—could trigger similar episodes of violence, instability, or even regime changes in certain countries. If so, Western governments, battered by their own internal problems and by severe fiscal restraints, could struggle to respond effectively to the upsurging forces of chaos. That they might be distracted in such attempts by the exigencies of a new "Cold War" between NATO and Russia might make the successful management of these challenges even harder.

In short, the 1970s were a time of grave uncertainty, and an era in which the West skirted not just a profound sense of "malaise," but also a host of real and very serious economic, political, and strategic challenges—challenges formidable enough that they could have upended the global order. Instead, we powered through the vexations of the '70s, conquered high inflation and high interest rates, won the Cold War, and ushered in a prolonged era of price stability, economic growth, low levels of military conflict, and widespread democratization.

All of these achievements are now hanging by a thread—even the West's victory in the Cold War, which seemed settled and permanent. The decade of the 2020s, moreover, could be every bit as challenging as the 1970s, but with one crucial difference: This time, the United States and the West may not have the fiscal resources, or the political unity, to navigate these troubled waters as successfully as before.

The danger, therefore, is that, by the time the 2020s are over, analysts will find that comparisons to the 1970s have grown stale, and that the tests we face are actually on a scale not seen since the 1930s. And, needless to say, when the experts start wheeling out the decade that gave us Hitlerism and Stalinism, we'll know we're in trouble!

Nicholas L. Waddy, an associate professor of history at SUNY Alfred, blogs at <a href="https://www.waddyisright.com">www.waddyisright.com</a>. This article first appeared in American Greatness on May 25, 2022.

# HOW AN ENVIRONMENTALIST JUGGERNAUT UNDERMINES THE ABUNDANCE CHOICE

We offered a pathway out of the gloom and doom narrative that is the currency of environmentalists in the world today. And that was unforgivable.

By Edward Ring

Environmentalists in California, who constitute much of the vanguard of environmentalism in the world, have normalized extremism. The solutions they've proposed in the name of saving the planet, and the premises they've convinced millions of people to accept as beyond debate, constitute some of the greatest threats—if not *the greatest* threat—to modern civilization today. It is these environmentalists who are themselves the extremists, not the commonsense skeptics who question their edicts, or the beleaguered citizens trying to survive their mandates.

The power of the environmentalist juggernaut, or, to be more precise, what has become an environmentalist-industrial complex, almost defies description. Their grip on the media, as we have seen in the previous installment, is near absolute. They exercise similar control over how American children are educated in K-12 public schools, as well as what messages are reinforced in almost every institution of higher learning. They have co-opted nearly every major corporation, investment bank, hedge fund, sovereign wealth fund, and international institution including the World Bank, the United Nations, and countless others. From every source, the message is always the same: We face imminent doom if we don't take dramatic collective action immediately to cope with the "climate emergency."

The good news is, if you want to build more water infrastructure in California, you don't have to argue the intricacies of climate science. If the Sierra snowpack is to be permanently reduced if not nonexistent, and if all we can expect in a drier future are occasional and erratic but soaking downpours, then we *must* build a new water infrastructure that is adapted to this new reality.

But despite this logic, environmentalists seem to oppose all new water infrastructure, everywhere. Their endless opposition to the Sites Reservoir, which is designed to capture storm runoff and store it offstream, ought to be inexplicable. It can only be understood in the context of their broader agenda, which in practice amounts to micromanaging residential indoor water consumption, mandating desert landscaping around homes, and taking half of California's farmland out of production.

A <u>front-page story</u> in the <u>Los Angeles Times</u> on April 13 by Ian James is a recent and very typical example of what environmentalists are planning for California. In the story, headlined "California

could shrink water use in cities by 30% or more, study finds," environmentalist spokespersons are quoted with no tough questions asked or balancing perspective solicited.

The crux of the study's findings amounted to this:

The state's total urban water use is estimated at 6.6 million acre-feet per year [author's note: this does not square with the estimates from the California Department of Water Resources, which report average urban use at 7.8 million acre-feet per year]. The study found that a host of existing technologies and standard practices could improve efficiency to reduce total urban use between 30% and 48%. These efficiency measures include fixing leaks in water pipes, replacing inefficient washing machines and toilets, and replacing lawns with plants suited to California's dry climate, among other things.

Imagine that. Cutting water use by 48 percent. Why would anyone want to do this, when there are alternatives?

James' article is worth examining in some depth, because it reveals additional claims from the Pacific Institute study, "

The Untapped Potential of California's Urban Water Supply: Water Efficiency, Water

Reuse, and Stormwater Capture

"that belie the need to curtail urban water use so drastically. In particular, it makes the following claims:

The researchers estimated that California has the potential to substantially boost local water supplies by capturing stormwater and storing it in aquifers, instead of allowing it to run off the landscape. Depending on whether it's a dry year or a wet year, they said, the state could capture between 580,000 and 3 million acre-feet of stormwater in urban areas.

#### And:

California now recycles about 23% of its municipal wastewater, an estimated 728,000 acre-feet, the report said, and has the potential to more than triple the amount that is recycled and reused.

What this study therefore claims is that just by capturing regional stormwater and recycling wastewater, California's urban areas can recover and use between 2 million and 4.5 million acre-feet of additional water per year, meaning their net water consumption, i.e., the amount of water they are going to need from existing sources can drop from—using their numbers—6.6 million acre-feet per year down to between 2.1 and 4.6 million acre-feet per year.

First, that should be plenty, although it would be interesting to learn if the Pacific Institute researchers actually had a serious discussion with any of the engineers at the urban water agencies and flood control districts that would need to figure out how, for example, to grab five inches of torrential rains hitting the Los Angeles Basin in 12 hours and get all of that runoff into an aquifer or reservoir before it made the 30-mile trip (at most) from the base of the San Gabriel Mountains to the Santa Monica Bay. We'd be all for that if it were feasible.

But maybe the feasibility wasn't the point; maybe the Pacific Institute wanted to publicize these figures to help opponents of the proposed Sites Reservoir and Huntington Beach desalination plant. After all, who needs off-stream reservoirs or desalination, if we can just capture urban storm runoff?

Funding runoff capture and funding wastewater recycling were among the centerpieces of our proposed water initiative! And we left it up to the water commission to decide which project applications to fund, only stipulating that funding would not dry up until 5 million acre-feet of new water could be supplied each year. The Pacific Institute, an organization as environmentalist as they come, has just provided a roadmap to finding up to 4.6 million acre-feet of that annual goal, if their findings are to be believed.

Nonetheless, the title and the focus of the article in the *Los Angeles Times*, indeed, the focus of every policy most fervently supported by environmentalists in California today, is to demand we use less. Conserve. Cut back. Ration. Take short showers. Kill your water-wasting plants and replace them with desert scrub. Sacrifice. And none of it is necessary, either to save the planet or to save money. But that's the message. That's their agenda.

The way environmentalists attacked our attempt to qualify a water infrastructure spending initiative gave no quarter. Early in our campaign phase, barely after we'd submitted our final amended version of the initiative, the board of directors at the Orange County Water District were voting on a possible endorsement (they ultimately did vote to endorse). But already the Sierra Club was on hand to object, making claims that indicated they may not have even read the text of the initiative.

In their public comment, made on October 6, 2021, they wrote "OCWD would be best placed to funnel its resources towards increasing conservation, stormwater capture, implementing a green streets project similar to LA County's, repairing leaks and replacing old pipes, earthquake proofing its water systems and remediation of its North plume including other PFAS contaminated wells."

The problem with these arguments against our effort, to reiterate, is that our measure would fund all of those suggestions. They all would have qualified as eligible projects to be evaluated by the California Water Commission. All the environmentalist critics of our initiative needed to do was read Section 3, starting on the second page of the full text, items one-seven. It's all there. Our 5 million acre-feet per year goal—which one may argue that even the Pacific Institute implicitly supports—was only the trigger to end funding. It did not limit eligible project categories only to those that would help achieve the 5 million acre-feet per year goal. Everything the Sierra Club was suggesting ought to be in the initiative was in the initiative.

None of these facts mattered. For them, the fact that we'd included the forbidden solutions of reservoirs and desalination were unforgivable sins. Within a few months, the environmentalist opposition had coalesced into a coalition that included the following groups: Sierra Club California, California Indian Environmental Alliance, Society of Native Nations, Idle No More, Restore the Delta, Azul, Golden State Salmon Association, Sunrise Movement OC, California Coastal Protection Network, Health the Bay, Surfrider Foundation, Los Angeles Waterkeeper, Orange County Coastkeeper, The River Project, Heal the Bay, and Social Eco Education.

On a website called StopTheWaterScam.com, funded by the Stop the Water Scam Committee (ID# 1442883), some amazingly misleading representations were made. On their home page, our initiative was depicted as "a new threat to literally every priority California faces, from public health to education to affordable housing to climate action." On the website's "FAQ" page, they made the following claim about our alleged backing, writing "They're financed by powerful multinational corporations and polluters who want a bottomless slush fund to profit at taxpayer expense."

All of these are preposterous allegations. How is abundant water a threat to public health? If having a reliable water supply is a prerequisite for building new homes, how does our initiative threaten affordable housing? If climate change is causing less snow and more severe but erratic rainstorms, don't we need new infrastructure to capture and store the runoff? And if we build infrastructure that makes more water available for farms and cities, then wouldn't we also have more water available to manage ecosystems? As for "powerful multinational corporations" supposedly behind our effort; which ones? When? Where? Who?

The reasons environmentalists might have had more arguable objections to our initiative centered on the revisions it proposed to the California Environmental Quality Act and to the Coastal Act. But the revisions we made were thoughtful and measured. Virtually everyone with whom we spoke believed that without the proposed changes to these laws, the initiative would suffer the same fate as Proposition 1 from 2014—a voter mandate that is stopped in its tracks by a hostile bureaucracy and environmentalist litigants.

Nothing in our initiative affected the many strong federal regulations designed to ensure that infrastructure projects don't harm the environment. Nor did we curb the ability of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to scrutinize and, as they all too often do, derail any project.

Finally, we left final decisions as to which projects would receive funding under our initiative up to the California Water Commission. To say that body has been adequately attentive to the concerns of the environmental community in California would be a gross understatement.

None of this mattered. We offered a solution that replaced scarcity with abundance, insecurity with security, punitive rationing, and intrusive demand management with practical water supply infrastructure. In short, we offered a pathway out of the gloom and doom narrative that is the currency of environmentalists in the world today. And that was unforgivable.

Editor's note: A longer version of this article originally appeared on the website of the California Globe.

#### GREEN ENERGY CHICKENS COMING HOME TO ROOST

Never in history has a civilization willfully embarked on destroying its own material foundations.

#### BY BRUCE THORNTON



This year will graphically demonstrate the malign consequences of the misguided efforts to replace cheap, reliable fossil fuel energy with unreliable, inefficient "renewable" energy like wind and solar. Never in history has a civilization willfully embarked on destroying its material foundations, based solely on a hypothesis rather than scientifically established fact.

The first red flag alerting us to this feckless policy appeared during Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Much of Europe—the most aggressive nations in replacing fossil fuels with wind turbines and solar panels—has grown dependent on Russian exports to make up for the energy lost from shutting down nuclear and coal-fired power plants. Since directly helping Ukraine by fighting is politically impossible, sanctions were imposed on Russia's oil and gas industries.

But sanctions severe enough to concentrate Putin's mind carried a political cost as well as an economic one. So Europe is still buying Russian energy, postponing tougher sanctions until the end of the year. The result has been the embarrassing and dishonorable spectacle of European countries helping to finance Russia's brutal war crimes. Indeed some have accepted Putin's condition that purchases be made in rubles, thus mitigating the damage to Russia's economy.

Here at home, warnings of electricity blackouts across the country this summer have not slowed down many states' increased efforts to shutter electrical plants powered by coal, natural gas, and nuclear fission. In New York, Governor Kathy Holchul has announced the state's commitment to enforcing a requirement that new power plants must achieve "zero on-site greenhouse gas emissions for new construction no later than 2027." This policy of wishful thinking follows New York's Climate Act of 2019, which requires that all power generation comes from "green" sources by 2040, including 70% from renewable energy by 2030.

In California, the <u>California Political Review</u> reports, demolition of four dams will soon begin, "with no replacement for the water and energy they provide." Compounding this blunder, in two years the state's last nuclear power plant, which provides 10% of the state's energy, will be shut down without any plans to replace that loss. And even worse, the Democrats who run the state are sticking with plans to banish gas-powered vehicles from the state by 2035, replacing them with 8 million electric vehicles in a state already incapable of keeping the lights on in hot weather or during wildfires that damage transmission lines. According to one <u>study</u>, achieving this goal of 30 million EVs would require electric power companies with 2-3 million customers to invest between \$1700 and \$5800 in grid upgrades <u>per vehicle</u>, costs that will no doubt be passed along to customers.

Adding insult to injury, rather than spending the state's surplus revenue and remaining covid swag from the feds on preparing for this summer's looming blackouts and water shortages, Gov. Newsome has proposed an \$18.1 billion "Inflation Relief Package," a grab-bag of giveaways including up to \$800 in cash to registered vehicle owners, free public transit, and subsidies for child care. Needless to say, this new infusion of cash into the economy will do nothing to lower inflation, and in fact will make it worse.

New York and California, however, are just following the lead of the federal government. The Biden administration has been just as feckless in its drive to eliminate fossil fuels and automobiles. It has shut down pipelines, cancelled leases for drilling in federal lands and waters, and strangled the petroleum industry with more regulations, even as the national average cost of a gallon of gas approaches \$5.

Yet our country possesses abundant energy resources and the technologies for extraction such as fracking to produce all the cheap energy we need—if that production was not thwarted by

environmental lobbies, virtue-signaling corporate boards, green subsidies grifters, and naïve nature-lovers who promote government regulations that guarantee we will not have enough energy, and that what we do have will be punitively expensive.

What makes these common "green energy" policies so astonishing is the lack of "settled science" to justify them. Anthropogenic, Catastrophic Global Warming adherents claim that additional atmospheric CO2 caused by humans will, in a few decades, have effects devastating enough to destroy civilization. This conclusion is buttressed by little more than computer models that disagree with each other, and depend on data inputs that are either fabricated or rife with confirmation bias.

But the problem is even worse than that. Even if what "greens" predict is true, outside the West few countries trying to develop their economies are going to give up cheap, abundant coal to generate electricity. China, India, and Russia, the first, third, and fourth largest emitters of CO2, continue to burn coal to generate energy, paying only lip-service to the West's climate virtue-signaling and efforts to reduce emissions by switching to "renewable" energy. This mean that even if the West eliminates all its emissions, it will not be enough to stave off the predicted warming apocalypse. But it will be sufficient for weakening, if not destroying, Western economies.

Take the obsession with electric vehicles. Their batteries require rare-earth elements like cobalt and lithium that have to be mined, processed, and transported using diesel-powered machinery, bulldozers, and trucks, which of course spew more CO2 into the atmosphere. The great majority of these rare-earth elements are mined and processed outside the West, especially in China and Congo. This creates a dangerous dependency on geopolitical rivals and enemies.

Next, for electric cars to advance beyond a taxpayer subsidized novelty and replace gas- or diesel-powered vehicles, electric grids will have to be enlarged substantially, and charging stations will have to multiply. Available, reliable electricity supplies will have to grow by orders of magnitude presently unattainable. And batteries with much more storage capability will need to be developed. Worse, our current most reliable energy sources—nuclear and natural gas—which could help us reach those goals are being proscribed and replaced with unreliable wind and solar energy, which produce energy less than 20% of the time.

The issue is not just about more electricity for our cars and homes. As Vaclav Smil, who believes in anthropogenic global warming, <u>writes</u> in <u>How the World Really Works</u>, fossil fuels have been the key to the creation of the modern world. Our amazing physical infrastructure and technologies are the fruit of plastics, concrete, and steel, all of which use fossil fuels in their production and assembly into modern skyscrapers, highways, and transportation resources.

More critical are the improvements in growing and producing food-stuffs that have lifted billions of people out of malnutrition and famine. This achievement has been made possible by nitrogen, one of the basic plant-foods, extracted from ammonia using natural gas. Nitrogen fertilizers have increased crop yields and productivity per unit of land. And of course, every phase of food production— from tractors to container ships to diesel trucks delivering food to grocery stores, and the factories that make all those vehicles— are powered by electricity generated by fossil fuels or natural gas.

Smil illustrates how important nitrogen has been, and how critical fossil fuels are in producing abundant food, by examining just three important foods: bread, which give us carbohydrates; chicken (protein), and tomatoes (Vitamin C). One medium-sized tomato, for example, requires four tablespoons of diesel. "None of them," Smil writes, "could be produced so abundantly, so reliably, and so

affordably without considerable fossil fuel subsidies . . . . [F]or now, and for the foreseeable future, we cannot feed the world without relying on fossil fuels." Indeed, 20% today's energy supply goes to producing food.

The same holds true for plastics, concrete, and steel, all of which rely on fossil fuels for their production. As for replacing, in two or three decades, fossil fuels with wind or solar—as of 2020 only 12% of our total energy resources—that's a pipe dream. "Both the high relative share and the scale of our dependence on fossil carbon," Smil writes, "make any rapid substitutions impossible." The technologies for effecting this replacement are at best in their infancy, and will require multiple decades of further research and development before they can replace fossil fuels. So much for net-zero carbon by 2050.

Moreover, pressuring the developing nations to substitute less reliable "green energy" for coal, and thus cripple their economic development, bespeaks the callous arrogance of the selfish rich. The affluent West can reduce its use of fossil fuels, though not to the extent that we can do without them altogether. "But," Smil writes, "that is not the case with the more than 5 billion people whose energy consumption is a fraction" of that in the affluent West, and "who need much more ammonia to raise their crop yields to feed their increasing populations, and much more steel and cement and plastics to build their essential infrastructures."

Net-zero carbon is a dangerous fantasy that in the West puts at risk our economy and national security, and in the developing nations hinders their ability to improve their economies and quality of life. If the war on carbon conducted by states like California and New York, and by the current federal administration continues, as soon as this summer we will see more damage done to our economy and well-being, the wages of feckless and irrational anti-carbon "green energy" delusions.

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, <u>Democracy's Dangers and Discontents</u> (Hoover Institution Press), is now available for purchase. This article first appeared in the June 2, 2022 Frontpage Magazine.

## **ADDENDUM I**



#### Budget Hearing Schedule FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget

#### Monday, June 13, 2022

9:00 a.m. County Administrator's Overview of the FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget
Public Comment on Overall Budget

#### **Land Based Budgets**

Department	Budget Book Page Number	Supplemental Budget Page Number		
Agricultural Commissioner	109			
Planning and Building	116	23-24		
Planning and Building - Community Development	125			
Groundwater Sustainability	160			
Public Works	129	44-46		
Public Works - Los Osos Wastewater System	138			
Public Works - Road Impact Fees	142	43-44		
Public Works - Roads	145	41-42		
Public Works - Public Works Special Services	154			
Special Districts	Special Districts Budget			
Public Protection Budget	ts			
Administrative Office - Emergency Services	167			
County Fire	174			
Court Operations	181			
District Attorney	184			
Grand Jury	193			
Health Agency - Animal Services	196			
Probation	201	22		
Public Defender	209			
Public Works - Waste Management	213			
Sheriff-Coroner	219	21		
Public works – Solid Waste Management	229			
	Agricultural Commissioner  Planning and Building  Planning and Building - Community Development  Groundwater Sustainability  Public Works  Public Works - Los Osos Wastewater System  Public Works - Road Impact Fees  Public Works - Roads  Public Works - Public Works Special Services  Special Districts  Public Protection Budget  Administrative Office - Emergency Services  County Fire  Court Operations  District Attorney  Grand Jury  Health Agency - Animal Services  Probation  Public Defender  Public Works - Waste Management  Sheriff-Coroner	Agricultural Commissioner 109 Planning and Building 116 Planning and Building - Community Development 125 Groundwater Sustainability 160 Public Works 129 Public Works - Los Osos Wastewater System 138 Public Works - Road Impact Fees 142 Public Works - Roads 145 Public Works - Public Works Special Services 154 Special Districts Special Districts Budget  Public Protection Budgets  Administrative Office - Emergency Services 167 County Fire 174 Court Operations 181 District Attorney 184 Grand Jury 193 Health Agency - Animal Services 196 Probation 201 Public Defender 209 Public Works - Waste Management 213 Sheriff-Coroner 219		



#### Budget Hearing Schedule FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget

Health and Human Services Budgets				
Fund Center	Department	Budget Book Page Number	Supplemental Budget Page Number	
106	Contributions to Other Agencies	234		
134	Child Support Services	238		
166	Health Agency - Behavioral Health	243	30-36	
375	Health Agency - Driving Under the Influence	351		
351	Health Agency - Emergency Medical Services	256		
160	Health Agency - Public Health	ealth Agency - Public Health 259 2		
184	Sheriff-Coroner - Law Enforcement Health Care	272		
180	Social Services - Administration	278	37-40	
182	Social Services - CalWORKs	288	288	
181	Social Services - Foster Care and Adoptions	291		
185	Social Services - General Assistance	294		
186	Veterans Services	297		
	Community Services Bu	dgets		
425	Airports	304	47	
331	Fish and Game	311	311	
377	Library	314	314	
222	Parks and Recreation - Community Parks	320		
427	Parks and Recreation - Golf Courses	327	48	
305	Parks and Recreation - Regional Parks	333		
215	UC Cooperative Extension	339		
330	Wildlife and Grazing	344		



#### Budget Hearing Schedule FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget

Fiscal and Administrative Budgets				
Fund Center	Department	Budget Book Page Number	Supplemental Budget Page Number	
104	Administrative Office	348	17-18	
119	Administrative Office - Communications and Outreach	355		
109	Assessor	361		
117	Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Admin	367		
100	Board of Supervisors	377		
110	Clerk-Recorder	381	19	
	Support to County Departmen	nts		
116	Central Services	389		
407	Central Services - Fleet	394		
111	County Counsel	398		
112	Human Resources	404		
412	Human Resources - Dental Self-Insurance	416		
409	Human Resources - Liability Self-Insurance	418		
411	Human Resources - Medical Malpractice Self-Insurance	420		
410	Human Resources - Unemployment Self-Insurance	422		
408	Human Resources - Workers Compensation Self-Insurance	424		
114	Information Technology	426	20	
113	Public Works - Facilities Management	433		
118	Human Resources - Talent Development	439		



#### Budget Hearing Schedule FY 2022-23 Recommended Budget

Fund Center	Department	Budget Book Page Number	Supplemental Budget Page Number
266	Countywide Automation Replacement	445	
277	Debt Service	448	
267	General Government Building Replacement	450	
103	Non-Departmental Other Expenditures	452	
102	Non-Departmental - Other Financing Uses	455	
101	Non-Departmental Revenue	458	
413	Other Post-Employment Benefits	460	
392	Pension Obligation Bonds	462	
247	Public Facility Fees	464	
268	Tax Reduction Reserve	466	
	Capital and Maintenance F	Projects	<u>'</u>
230	Capital Projects	470	
200	Maintenance Projects	485	
	Items not heard on Monday's calendar v Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at		
	ltems not heard on Tuesday's calendar ( Wednesday, June 15, 2022, a		

# ADDENDUM II

#### Summary of General Fund Support Provided to General Fund Departments

Department Name	FY 2021-22 Adopted	FY 2022-23 Recommended	% Inc/Dec
Administrative Office	3,588,116	3,053,294	-14.91%
Administrative Office - Emergency Services	445,948	471,886	5.82%
Administrative Office - Communications and Outreach	144,924	189,415	30.70%
Agricultural Commissioner	3,176,177	3,560,918	12.11%
Assessor	11,043,285	11,726,705	6.19%
Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator	6,457,380	7,175,379	11.12%
Board of Supervisors	1,734,390	1,961,756	13.11%
Central Services	4,086,080	4,536,333	11.02%
Child Support Services	326,846	326,846	0.00%
Clerk-Recorder	1,368,114	942,072	-31.14%
Contributions to Other Agencies	1,519,117	1,468,735	-3.32%
County Counsel	5,096,718	5,895,104	15.66%
County Fire	21,090,506	19,017,117	-9.83%
Court Operations	-144,174	-143,553	-0.43%
District Attorney	13,712,057	14,086,073	2.73%
Grand Jury	124,861	127,561	2.16%
Health Agency - Animal Services	1,501,987	1,507,998	0.40%
Health Agency - Behavioral Health	17,540,498	18,492,551	5.43%
Health Agency - Public Health	10,149,565	12,856,950	26.67%
Human Resources	4,810,764	5,378,888	11.81%
Human Resources - Talent Development	641,636	701,920	9.40%
Information Technology	10,279,643	15,930,621	54.97%
Maintenance Projects	3,672,232	2,055,849	-44.02%
Non-Departmental Other Expenditures	484,694	492,770	1.67%
Parks and Recreation - Community Parks	4,372,405	4,845,976	10.83%
Planning and Building	9,006,667	8,290,071	-7.96%
Probation	13,008,341	13,316,985	2.37%
Public Defender	7,217,042	7,455,239	3.30%
Public Works - Facilities Management	5,292,329	5,908,485	11.64%
Public Works - Special Services	3,785,172	2,161,515	-42.90%
Public Works - Waste Management	2,439,717	1,599,944	-34.42%
Sheriff-Coroner	56,285,939	59,807,802	6.26%
Sheriff-Coroner - Law Enforcement Health Care	6,060,780	6,704,014	10.61%
Social Services - Administration	10,847,010	12,297,202	13.37%
Social Services- CalWORKs	225,379	255,837	13.51%
Social Services - Foster Care/Adoptions	1,355,622	1,246,286	-8.07%
Social Services - General Assistance	1,271,426	1,298,924	2.16%
UC Cooperative Extension	629,552	668,503	6.19%
Veterans Services	711,189	666,540	-6.28%
Total	245,359,934	258,336,511	5.3%



# ANNOUNCEMENTS ANDY CALDWELL SHOW NOW LOCAL IN SLO COUNTY

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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 <u>Tune In Radio App</u> and previously aired shows at: 3:00 – 5:00 PM WEEKDAYS You can also listen to The Andy Caldwell Show LIVE on the <u>Tune In Radio App</u> and

Previously aired shows at:

#### **COUNTY UPDATES OCCUR MONDAYS AT 4:30 PM**

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AUTHOR & NATIONALLY SYNDICATED COMMENTATOR BEN SHAPIRO APPEARED AT A COLAB ANNUAL DINNER



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# 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

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Sustaining Member: \$5,000 + \(\sigma\) \$  (Sustaining Membership includes a table of 10 at the Annual Fundraiser Dinner)				
General members will receive all COLAB updates a and Sustainable Members with one vote per member	and newsletters. <u>Voting</u> privileges are limited to Voting Members rship.			
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Phone: Fax:	Email:			
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