

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE:	October 3, 2007
SUBJECT:	Correspondence and News Articles

SUMMARY: Correspondence and News Articles:

August 3, 2007: Copy of correspondence from John Shoals, SLOCOG Vice President, to Art Brown, Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN) Chairman, and the LOSSAN Board Members. Mr. Shoals expressed concern about the reprioritization of two projects in Ventura County that were not identified as “immediate” projects in the rail capacity model, but are recommended as such in the final plan. These projects deserve a high priority for funding as they are critical passenger safety improvements and should remain “Near Term” projects, but be footnoted as a high priority for funding (E-3-2).

September 4, 2007: Transmittal notice from Cathy Creswell, Dept. of Housing and Community Development Deputy Director for Division of Housing Policy Development, to Ronald De Carli, SLOCOG Executive Director, of the final determination of minimum housing need for SLOCOG to be allocated among cities and counties in the Regional Housing Needs Determination (RHNP) for the planning period 2007-2014. An objection and proposed alternative to the Department’s determination based only on demographic issues set forth in the statute must be submitted within 30 days from the date of this letter. The RHNP is to be submitted to the Department within 60 days of adoption by SLOCOG. The Department will determine if it is consistent with the regional housing need determination conveyed by this letter and revise it to obtain consistency (E-3-3).

September 4 2007: Letter of appreciation from Randal Hernandez, California Center for Regional Leadership (CCRL) to Ronald De Carli, SLOCOG Executive Director, for participation and support in preparing the inaugural California Regional Progress Report. This report is the result of the long-standing and valuable partnership between CCRL and California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) to define and better understand what broad-based progress looks like for our regions and the State, and to measure our success as we plan for our future (E-3-7).

September 5, 2007: Announcement from Michael Giuliano, Caltrans District 5 Local Assistance Engineer, to Ronald De Carli, SLOCOG Executive Director, that applications for the Seventh Cycle of the State-legislated Safe Route to School Program (SR2S) are due to Caltrans office by November 16, 2007. The goals of the Program are to reduce injuries and fatalities to school children, and to encourage increased walking and bicycling among students. This is a different program from the federal program. More on the similarities and differences between the two programs, applications, and exhibits have been posted on the Caltrans website at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm (E-3-8).

September 6, 2007: Copy of correspondence to Janice Peters, City of Morro Bay Mayor, from Richard Krumholz, Caltrans District 5 Director, in response to her letter regarding four concerns about traffic issues within the City of Morro Bay. Site 3: Casa de Flores and Teresa Drive as a potential Park and Ride Lot was forward to SLOCOG and is being researched by staff as a possibility (E-3-9).

September 6, 2007: Announcement from Tamie McGowen, Caltrans Public Affairs Assistant Deputy Director, of the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved funding for 35 transportation funding. The Central Coast will receive \$14m to widen State Rt. 46 from Airport Rd. to Geneseo Rd. This project will relieve traffic congestion for the traveling public on this goods movement and regional corridor (E-3-11).



Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Census Data Affiliate
Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways

Attoyo Grande
Atascadero
Grover Beach
Morro Bay
Paso Robles
Pismo Beach
San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo County

August 3, 2007

Chairman Art Brown and LOSSAN Board members
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Comments on the LOSSAN North Plan

Dear Chairman Art Brown and LOSSAN Board members:

Please accept my apology for not attending the meeting today as it conflicts with a San Luis Obispo Council of Governments meeting at the same time. On July 18th SLOCOG President Jim Patterson appointed Mr. Fred Munroe to serve as SLOCOG's alternate for this meeting and any future meetings when conflicts occur.

I would also like to express our concerns about the reprioritization of two projects in Ventura county that were not identified as "immediate" projects in the rail capacity model; Yet they are recommended as such in the final plan (See #1 on page 17). We believe this undermines the integrity of the plan and could potentially affect other important projects in the plan.

Clearly, both of these projects deserve a high priority for funding as they are critical passenger safety improvements. However, reprioritizing these projects based on criteria not in the capacity model weakens the technical validity of the report, and may set an unwanted precedence. We suggest they remain "Near Term" projects, but be footnoted as a high priority for funding.

Overall, SLOCOG supports the LOSSAN North Plan and encourages its approval. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Peter Rodgers (805-781-5712) of SLOCOG staff if you should have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



John Shogals
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments

E-3-2

August 31, 2007

Mr. Ronald L. De Carli, Executive Director
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
1150 Osos Street, Suite 202
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



Dear Mr. De Carli:

RE: Regional Housing Needs Determination

This letter transmits the Regional Housing Needs Determination for San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) region pursuant to Government Code Section 65584.01 of State housing element law. As you are aware, local governments play a critical role in advancing the State's housing goals through the update of their general plan housing elements. The determination of regional housing need is to be used for development of a regional housing need allocation plan (RHNP) to update housing elements.

On May 24, 2007, the Department of Housing and Community Development (Department) notified you that it extended the due date for jurisdictions to update their housing elements from June 30, 2009 to August 31, 2009. This extension was necessary to accommodate the Department of Finance's July 2007 update of the State's population projections.

The Department completed its consultation process after meeting with you on July 30, 2007. At this meeting, the Department provided a copy of its draft determination of the regional housing need. In addition, a briefing was given on applicable statutory requirements and changes relating to development of the distribution of the allocation and factors to be considered in the methodology of the RHNP. The Department informed representatives of the opportunity to provide comments and information for the Department to consider in finalizing its determination.

The Attachments present the final determination of minimum housing need for SLOCOG to be allocated among cities and counties in the RHNP for the planning period 2007 – 2014. The RHNP is required to be consistent with the following objectives, as set forth in more detail in statute (Section 65584(d)):

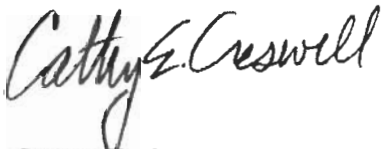
- (1) Increasing the housing supply and the mix of housing types, tenure, and affordability;
- (2) Promoting infill development and socioeconomic equity, protection of environmental and agricultural resources, and encouragement of efficient development patterns;
- (3) Promoting an improved intraregional relationship between jobs and housing; and
- (4) Balancing the distribution of households by income category.

Each jurisdiction must be allocated a share of housing need, by income category, to plan to accommodate in updating their housing elements by August 31, 2009. Regarding local government's regional housing need allocation, jurisdictions may take credit for housing units permitted since the January 2007 baseline of the housing element planning period that ends August 31, 2014.

Government Code Section 65584.01(d)(1) allows 30 days from the date of this letter to file an objection and proposed alternative to the Department's determination based only on demographic issues set forth in the statute. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65584.05 (h), the RHNP is to be submitted to the Department for review within 60 days of adoption by the council of governments. The Department is required to determine whether the RHNP is consistent with the regional housing need determination made by the Department (conveyed by this letter) and is authorized to revise the RHNP to obtain this consistency.

The Department appreciates the important role your organization plays in the regional housing needs process and the cooperation provided by representatives. Staff is available to further assist development and implementation of the RHNP and updates of the housing elements. For assistance, please contact Glen Campora, of our office, at (916) 327-2640.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathy E. Creswell".

Cathy E. Creswell
Deputy Director

Enclosures

San Luis Obispo County

Regional Housing Need Determination

For the Period January 2007 through June 30, 2014

<u>Income Category</u>	<u>Housing Unit Need</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Very Low	1,136	23
Low	796	16
Moderate	907	19
Above Moderate	<u>2,046</u>	<u>42</u>
Total	4,885	100%

**San Luis Obispo County: Explanation of Regional Housing Need Determination
For the Period January 1, 2007 through June 30, 2014**

Methodology, Assumptions, and Data Sources Used to Project Housing Unit Need:

1. Household (HH) growth (4,692) was derived by subtracting 1/1/2007 "Occupied Housing Units" (104,051) from 6/30/2014 "Projected Households" (108,743). The Demographic Research Unit of the California Department of Finance (DOF) prepares these official estimates and projections last updated July 2007 (Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity, Gender and Age for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, July 2007). For planning period purposes, DOF provides the Department projections of HH population and projected number of households. The HH population projection reflects the population housed (occupied housing units) and excludes the group quarters population. Occupied housing units are estimated by DOF in its E-5 report (Population and Housing Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 Benchmark, May 2007). The projected change in HH population reflects the change between January 1, 2007 (249,168) and June 30, 2014 (263,288). In projecting households, DOF uses the cohort-component method by applying age- and ethnicity-specific HH formation ratios from Census 2000 to the projected population as described on its webpage (<http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/Projections/P3>).
2. Homeowner and Renter households (HHs): allocation based on Census 2000 proportion of owner-occupied HHs (61.5%) held constant through projection period. Renter HHs reflect the difference in subtracting homeowner HHs from projected HH growth.
3. Vacancy allowance: rates of 1.8% (owner) and 5.0% (renter) reflect adjustments from standard targets of 2.0% and 6.0%, respectively, for current conditions. Standard targets identified by Office of Planning and Research, Economic Practices Manual (1984:37).
4. Replacement allowance: empirical demolition rate per housing unit averages .07% per year for 2001 through 2007 based on DOF demolition permit data (average 76 demolition permits among jurisdictions within the county, 2001-2007). The average rate is adjusted by a multiple of 2 to account for other losses, such as demolitions without a permit, conversions from residential use to other uses not involving demolition, and/or dwelling units destroyed because of a disaster. The adjusted rate is multiplied by 7.5 (years in the planning period) yielding a 1.04% replacement allowance rate. The minimum replacement percentage applied is 1% whereas the maximum replacement percentage applied is 2%.
5. Income category allocation: each income category was calculated by multiplying total housing need by the proportion of HHs in each income category based on County median HH income (Census 2000) and income definitions (H&S Code Sections 50079.5 and 50105, et.seq.).

Housing Unit Need Projection:

Household growth, Census 2000 headship rates (1)		4,692
Homeowner HHs (2)	60.7%	2,883
Homeowner HH vacancy allowance (3)	1.8%	53
Renter HHs	39.3%	1,809
Renter HHs vacancy allowance (3)	5.0%	90
	Subtotal	4,835
Replacement allowance (4)	1.39%	50
	Total	4,885

E-3-5



August 30, 2007

Mr. Ronald DeCarli
Executive Director
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
1150 Osos Street, Suite 202
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. DeCarli,

On behalf of the CCRL Board of Directors and staff, we wish to express our appreciation for your participation and support in preparing the inaugural California Regional Progress Report. This report is the result of the long-standing and valuable partnership between CCRL and CALCOG and member agencies to define and better understand what broad-based progress looks like for our regions and the State, and to measure our success as we plan for our future.

The report has been distributed to the Cabinet and State agencies and transportation stakeholders by Caltrans, and CCRL and CALCOG are distributing the report to the Legislature and other key and interested parties. We hope the report engenders discussion and dialogue about our mutual challenges and opportunities, the policies that can be developed, and the actions that can be taken by policy leaders at the local, regional and state levels to improve regional outcomes and overall quality of life and economic prosperity.

As you know, this report is the baseline for measuring progress as we go forward. CCRL is working with the Project Advisory Team to identify and recommend specific next steps, including continuation of the Progress Report process. We look forward to continuing this important work with SLOCOG. Please let us know if you have any ideas or feedback.

With regards and thanks,

Randal Hernandez
Chair

Cc: Steve Devencenzi

E-3-7

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
TELEPHONE (805) 549-3111
TDD (805) 549-3259
Http://www.dot.gov/dist05

Copies to: Corres ✓ File ✓ Staff *Mike Lisa*



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*



September 4, 2007

Ron DeCarli
Executive Director
SLO COG
1150 Osos St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. DeCarli:

We are now accepting applications for the Seventh Cycle of the State-legislated Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S) Program with applications due to our office by November 16, 2007.

The goals of the Program are to reduce injuries and fatalities to school children, and to encourage increased walking and bicycling among students.

The maximum reimbursement percentage for any SR2S project is 90 percent, with the maximum amount of funds to any single project of \$900,000. The funding level for this call for projects is expected to be approximately \$52 million.

The guidelines, application, and exhibits have been posted on our website, at www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/saferoutes/saferoutes.htm.

Later this month we are expecting to issue a call for Cycle 2 Federally-legislated SR2S projects in the amount of another \$46 million. While there are some differences in the eligibility requirements between the State-legislated and the Federally-legislated programs, many project applications would meet the criteria for either program. As such, agencies that wish to apply for both programs with a given project will need to submit a separate application for each program.

If you have any questions, please contact Mikie Wickersham, Program Coordinator, at (805) 549-3074.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL A. GIULIANO
District Local Assistance Engineer

E-3-8

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
PHONE (805) 549-3431
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<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05>



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

September 4, 2007

The Honorable Janice Peters
Mayor of the City of Morro Bay
595 Harbor Street
Morro Bay, CA 93442

Dear Mayor Peters:

TRAFFIC ISSUES WITHIN THE CITY OF MORRO BAY

This is in response to your recent correspondence to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) regarding various concerns about traffic issues within the City of Morro Bay (the City). On July 26, 2007, a meeting was held to discuss the concerns outlined in your correspondence. In attendance were Bill Boucher, City Public Works Director, and Caltrans staff members: Steve Price, Deputy Director Maintenance and Operations, David Fapp, Design Manager, Paul McClintic, Traffic Engineer, and Steve Senet, Permit Engineer. Caltrans' feedback and guidance provided to Mr. Boucher have been outlined below.

Site 1: The intersection of Ratcliffe and Main St., just north of the Highway 1 underpass.

Caltrans will work with the City Engineer toward an acceptable alternative to relocate Radcliffe. As previously stated in the letter dated April 24, 2007, Caltrans would not object to the City realigning the Radcliffe and Main Street intersection by obtaining an encroachment permit. This realignment/relocation will require an approval for the Design Exception to Caltrans' mandatory design standards for placing a local load connection opposite a ramp intersection. Caltrans will need compelling operational justification for approval of this non-standard feature.

Site 2: Main Street and the southbound entrance to Highway 1.

Our Maintenance forces were able to complete the fence repair on July 20, 2007.

Site 3: Casa de Flores and Teresa Drive as a potential park and ride lot.

This suggestion has been forwarded to the San Luis Obispo Council of Government (SLOCOG) to determine if the location meets the program criteria for a new Park and Ride lot. SLOCOG typically evaluates the available funding for new lot proposals.

E-3-9

Site 4: The Roundabout at Morro Bay Boulevard and Quintana Road.

Your request for changes to the intersection to prohibit left turns does not appear to be justified. The existing turning movement count (30 southbound through movement and 84 Quintana Road left turns) is considered low for a ramp intersection. We do not anticipate these low volumes will result in operational deficiencies.

Caltrans will work with the City Engineer to monitor the operation of the southbound off ramp intersection after completion of construction of the City project. Observations can be made to determine if an operational issue is present that may require additional modifications after drivers become familiar with the new configuration.

Thank you for bringing these issues to our attention. Please continue to work toward the submittal of an encroachment permit for any work you would need to perform in the State Right of Way. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact Paul McClintic, at (805) 549-3473.

Sincerely,



RICHARD KRUMHOLZ
District Director

c. San Luis Obispo Council of Governments

E-3-1D

Sacramento - The California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved funding today for an important Southern California transportation project that was delayed last month because of the state budget stalemate.

The CTC approved funding for 35 transportation projects, including \$315 million for the Exposition Light Rail project, which is slated to reach Santa Monica once completed.

Construction has already begun on the first phase of the light rail project - which will travel from Downtown Los Angeles to Culver City - and is estimated to cost \$640 million, of which more than \$550 million will come from state funding. The state government has already allocated about \$250 million, bringing the total amount in the coffers to about \$300 million - enough to take construction halfway of the 8.6 miles of track in phase one.

Phase One is scheduled to open in 2010 and Phase Two, which is currently undergoing an environmental impact assessment, in 2015.

The total value of the 35 transportation projects approved by the CTC today is \$674 million, of which \$225 million is funded from Proposition 1B, \$60 million from Proposition 42, and \$389 million from the Public Transportation Account. The CTC had deferred action at its July 25-26 CTC meeting on these projects pending approval of the 2007-08 state budget.

Highlights of the CTC's funding allocations include:

Northern California - \$10 million to widen State Route 4 in Contra Costa County from Somersville Road to State Route 160. The project will improve safety and reduce congestion on this major regional corridor.

Central Coast - \$14 million to widen State Route 46 in San Luis Obispo County from Airport Road to Geneseo Road. The project will relieve traffic congestion for the traveling public on this goods movement and regional corridor.

Central Valley - \$56 million to widen State Route 180 in Fresno County from Clovis Avenue to Fowler Avenue. The project will relieve traffic congestion on this regional corridor.

Southern California - \$13 million to widen Interstate 215 in Riverside County from the Interstate 15/215 interchange to the Nuevo Road Interchange. Interstate 215 is a major interregional, regional and goods movement corridor, and this project will relieve traffic congestion for the traveling public.

For a complete list of allocated projects go to:
www.dot.ca.gov/hq/transprog/ctcliainson.htm and click on "Addendum to September 5, 2007 FE Workshop Agenda w/Vote List."

Tamie McGowen
Assistant Deputy Director
Public Affairs
1120 N St., MS#49
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-5456

E-3-11