

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008 Regional Profile: Population & Housing Chapters

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to provide the status of the Regional Profile update and summarize the work that has been completed so far on the Population and Housing chapters. This level of data allows the report to be very comprehensive, providing a detailed overview of population and housing related factors, including: population, school enrollment, social services, and median home values. The attached draft chapters of the 2008 Regional Profile show how the regions population and housing characteristics changed between 2002 and 2006. The data in the Profile is meant to be very comprehensive in order to address the primary planning and programming responsibilities of SLOCOG. It does not, however, address the wider range of data types that are more directly related to the responsibilities of other public agencies, including health, welfare, and social services. A number of major conclusions can be drawn from this data, including the following:

- From 2000 to 2006 the region grew by a fairly small percentage of about 4.2%, about half the statewide growth rate of about 7.6%.
- The population of the region is more uniform than the State, it is becoming older and more affluent, and the number of lower and middle income families with children in the region is decreasing.

The attached Population and Housing chapters provide a detailed perspective on a wide range of the demographic, economic, social, educational and housing characteristics of the region and the changes that have taken place in the past six years. The full report is scheduled to be completed in June. It will include the full range of available and applicable data describing the population, economic, housing and land use characteristics of the San Luis Obispo region.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff: Review and Comment

TTAC:

CTAC:

Information will be used for development of the 2009 RTP

DISCUSSION

The last profile, completed in 2004, was primarily based on 2000 Census data, and data from various State, regional and local sources. Due to changes in how the US Census Bureau has collected data since the 2000 Census much of the data in this update is countywide in scope because most community level data will not be available until early 2010 following completion of the decennial census. This is because following the 2000 Census, the US Census Bureau decided to replace the long form which has been the basis for the decennial census with an annual system of collecting data at the State, regional and local level based on sampling. This was done to streamline the process and reduce the historically long lag time from the completion of the Census and reporting of the results. The new system, called the American Community Survey, is providing data on a regional basis for San Luis Obispo County until 2010 when comprehensive data becomes available. The other major State sources of data used in this update of the profile include the Department of Finance (DOF), the Housing & Community Development Department (HCD) and the Employment Development Department (EDD).