

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

- Investing in the Community
- Protecting the Public
- Promoting Health & Wellness
- Spending Wisely
- Awards & Accolades
- Working for Community

Welcome to the County of San Luis Obispo 2015 Annual Report, a great way to understand some of what the County did to serve the community last year. Watch the video below for a quick year-in-review, then browse the rest of the site to find out about all of the challenges we faced and accomplishments we had as a community in 2015. Thank you for your interest in County government.

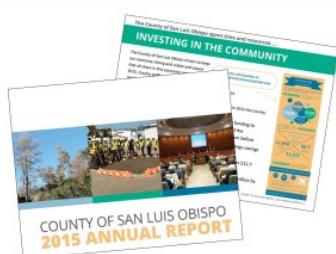
Message from 2015 #SLOCounty Board Chair Watch later Share 1/7

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2015, the County of San Luis Obispo spent time and resources...

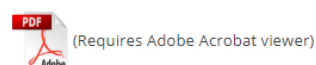


Download the PDF: A Quick View of the 2015 SLO County Annual Report



Want to print out the highlights of the County of San Luis Obispo's 2015 Annual Report? The SLO County annual report provides the public with detailed information on some of the ways we served the community in 2015. Download and share the 10-page PDF, which includes a brief overview of the stories and information featured in the SLO County Annual Report.

DOWNLOAD NOW



The County of San Luis Obispo accomplished a lot in 2015. We invested in the community, protected the public, and promoted health and wellness.

From breaking ground on the new airport terminal to completing and reopening the Cayucos Pier, many projects and programs affected residents in various ways and will continue to have an impact for years to come. With a multimedia approach to informing the public on some of the major accomplishments and challenges in 2015, the report can be viewed online on using any device. Based on feedback from the public and current trends in online communication, the County has continued to publish the annual report online each year. Established in 1850 as one of the original counties of California, the County of San Luis Obispo is one of the largest employers in the area and provides essential services to SLO County citizens. Its more than 2,800 employees provide municipal services, and administer state and federal programs and services, that benefit local citizens.

SLO County citizens, more than 2,000 employees provide municipal services, and administer state and federal programs and services, that benefit local citizens.

Elected representatives, including a five-member Board of Supervisors, work with employees to serve the community to enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life of SLO County citizens.

For more information, visit www.slocounty.ca.gov.



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Your County Government



San Luis Obispo County has a general law form of government, which means that certain aspects of the structure and function of the County are dictated by state law.

As a geographical and political subdivision of the State, the County serves a dual role by (1) providing municipal services including law enforcement, roads, parks and libraries to residents, and (2) administering State and Federal programs and services such as public health care, jails, foster care and elections.

A five-member Board of Supervisors serves as the County's legislative body, setting policies and priorities to best serve the needs of the community. Supervisors are elected by districts of approximately equal population to overlapping four-year terms. The five supervisory districts in the County include the following cities (in italic) and communities:

District 1 Adelaide, Cholame, Lake Nacimiento, Oak Shores, *Paso Robles*, San Miguel, Shandon, Templeton, Whitley Gardens

District 2 Baywood Park, California Men's Colony, Cal Poly State University (portion), Cambria, Cayucos, Cuesta-by-the-Sea, Cuesta College, Harmony, Los Osos, *Morro Bay*, *San Luis Obispo* (portion), San Simeon

District 3 Avila Beach, Country Club, Edna-Los Ranchos, Edna Valley (portion), *Grover Beach*, *Pismo Beach*, Rolling Hills Estate, *San Luis Obispo* (portion), Shell Beach, Squire Canyon, Sunset Palisades

District 4 *Arroyo Grande*, Black Lake Canyon, Callendar-Garrett, Cuyama, Edna Valley (portion), Halcyon, Huasna-Lopez, Los Berros, Nipomo, Nipomo Mesa, Oceano, Palo Mesa

District 5 *Atascadero*, Cal Poly State University (portion), California Valley, Creston, Garden Farms, Pozo, *San Luis Obispo* (portion), Santa Margarita

Other services provided by special districts governed by the Board of Supervisors include fire protection, lighting, sanitation and flood control.

In addition to the Board of Supervisors, residents elect five department heads including the Assessor, Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator, Clerk-Recorder, District Attorney, and Sheriff-Coroner.

The County Administrative Officer is appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is responsible for managing the operations of County departments, preparing the County budget and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of County operations.

County Counsel is also appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is responsible for providing legal counsel to the Board.

About the Region

The County of San Luis Obispo is one of the original 27 counties of California. Established on February 18, 1850, the County of San Luis Obispo is located on the Pacific Coast, conveniently halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and has a population of more than 273,000 people, making it the 23rd largest county in the state.

Known affectionately as "SLO" (pronounced *slow*) by residents and visitors, the county region is made up of seven cities as well as more than 40 unincorporated communities. SLO County covers approximately 3,300 square miles and is bordered by Monterey County to the north, Kern County to the east, Santa Barbara County to the south, and 100 miles of Pacific coastline to the west.

Because of its distance from major metropolitan areas, SLO County has been able to retain its small-town and rural character. Despite this, the area also offers many of the same amenities that are found in urban areas. For example, the County is home to major educational institutions including California Polytechnic State University and Cuesta Community College.



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major educational institutions including California Polytechnic State University and Cuesta Community College —both of which draw students from all over the world and provide a wide array of educational and cultural opportunities.

The varied geography and rich history of the area provide numerous opportunities for recreation. The nationally known Hearst Castle in San Simeon attracts over 1 million visitors each year and the historic Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, founded in 1772, is another popular attraction.

Many locally sponsored events including the Old-Fashioned Fourth of July, Renaissance Faire, Mid-State Fair, Festival Mozaic, Savor the Central Coast Food and Paso Robles Wine Festival, and various holiday parades and events also draw visitors here each year.

Major U.S. highways, regional airports, railroad stations and the Port of San Luis all make the area accessible by land, air and water.



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Message from the CAO

The County of San Luis Obispo accomplished a lot in 2015. In addition to the critical fundamentals such as saving lives and working to ensure the health and safety of the public, we made considerable progress regarding a number of complex issues and projects.

Not surprisingly, water policy and water related issues dominated the Board of Supervisors agenda this past year. San Luis Obispo County and many areas of the state continued to deal with the impacts of the extreme drought and the Board's local proclamation of emergency and the Governor's proclamation of emergency for all of California remain in effect.

Over the course of the past year, the County continued to implement the statewide groundwater legislation that took effect January 2015. The legislation requires more active monitoring and management of groundwater basins throughout California in order to avoid overutilization of the basins.

Here locally, efforts continued to create a water district, which would have responsibility for the oversight and management of the majority of the Paso Robles water basin. The question of whether or not to form such a district will be decided by the voters in March 2016.

On a separate but related note, the Board authorized a considerable amount of local water legislation this past year. One such example is a water export ordinance, which ensures that most, if not all, groundwater that originates in this County will remain for local use.

The Board also passed legislation that requires new development and new agriculture to offset water consumed by reducing the water used elsewhere (i.e., the new water use must be water neutral). Many of these policies are just now underway and the results will be more apparent over the next few years.

Also in response to the drought, much work was done to reduce the extreme fire hazard in Cambria. Approximately half of the Monterey Pines are dead or dying as a result of the drought and extensive efforts were made, and are still underway, to remove the fire hazards.

Additionally, the emergency desalination plant in Cambria was built and is operational. The small scale plant will be used to provide supplemental water to the community when well levels drop to dangerously low levels, which occurred this past year.

Outside of the water arena, much progress was made with respect to County infrastructure. There are literally hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of projects underway.

Some notable projects of 2015 include the following:

- Work continued on the new women's jail, which is expected to open later this year.
- Work also proceeded on the addition to the juvenile hall, which is also expected to open later this year.
- The Los Osos wastewater treatment plant is expected to be operational in March 2016, which will be a significant milestone that has been 30 years in the making!
- Lastly, construction has begun on a new airport terminal and work is underway to design and construct a new animal shelter.

We also made much progress this past year in many other areas. We expanded employee education and training programs in order to help us better serve the public, many County departments received awards for excellent performance, we continued to focus on improving communication within the organization and externally with the community, and the County's financial and budget situation continued to improve.

Next on the Horizon

With that in mind, what's on the horizon for the coming year? A lot.

On the legislative front, water and marijuana will likely dominate local and state agendas. Legislation overhauling the regulation of medicinal marijuana was passed by the State and took effect in January 2016.

As a result of this legislation, counties and cities are required to determine how to regulate the cultivation, testing and labeling, distribution, and sale of medicinal marijuana.

Additionally, it is anticipated that a statewide initiative will be put before the voters this fall regarding legalization for recreational use. I'm certain this potential initiative will garner much attention in the coming months.

Other noteworthy projects that will likely be reviewed by the Board in 2016 include a proposed psychiatric



SLO County Administrative Officer Dan Buckshi

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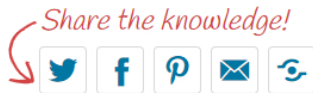
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Other noteworthy projects that will likely be reviewed by the Board in 2016 include a proposed psychiatric hospital in Templeton and a proposed rail spur at the Phillips 66 oil refinery near Nipomo. Both projects have generated considerable public interest and debate and it's anticipated that the Planning Commission and Board meetings will be well attended.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank County employees for all of their hard work this past year. I look forward to an exciting 2016.

Sincerely,
Dan Buckshi
County Administrative Officer



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Mission, Vision, Core Values

Mission

The County's elected representatives and employees are committed to serving the community with pride to enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life in San Luis Obispo County.

Vision

The County strives to create a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well-governed community.



A Safe Community

The County will strive to create a community where all people – adults and children alike – have a sense of security and well being, crime is controlled, fire and rescue response is timely and roads are safe.



A Healthy Community

The County will strive to ensure all people in our community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.



A Livable Community

The County will strive to keep our community a good place to live by carefully managing growth, protecting our natural resources, promoting lifelong learning, and creating an environment that encourages respect for all people.



A Prosperous Community

The County will strive to keep our economy strong and viable and assure that all share in this economic prosperity.



A Well-Governed Community

The County will provide high-quality, results-oriented services that are responsive to community desires.

Core Values

Integrity

We consistently demonstrate and adhere to the moral and ethical principles of impartiality, honesty, and respect. We uphold the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect.

Collaboration

We celebrate teamwork by working cooperatively to ensure the achievement of our common goals. We collaborate within and across departments for the good of the customer and community.

Professionalism

We perform our duties in a manner which bestows credibility upon ourselves and our County.

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Accountability

We assume responsibility for our actions and follow through on our commitments. We practice good stewardship of our resources and we adhere to the accepted principles of fiscal responsibility. We follow through on our commitments. We hold ourselves and others accountable for results. We use the resources entrusted to us wisely. We effectively balance the needs of the community with available resources while advocating for the best value and best service.

Responsiveness

We provide timely, accurate and complete information to each other and those we serve. We solicit feedback from customers on improving programs and services as part of a continuous improvement process.

Share the knowledge!



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2015 County Board of Supervisors



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- District 3:** *Avila Beach, Country Club, Edna-Los Ranchos, Edna Valley (portion), Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Rolling Hills Estate, San Luis Obispo (portion), Shell Beach, Squire Canyon, Sunset Palisades*
- District 4:** *Arroyo Grande, Black Lake Canyon, Callendar-Garrett, Cuyama, Edna Valley (portion), Halcyon, Huasna-Lopez, Los Berros, Nipomo, Nipomo Mesa, Oceano, Palo Mesa*
- District 5:** *Atascadero, Cal Poly State University (portion), California Valley, Creston, Garden Farms, Pozo, San Luis Obispo (portion), Santa Margarita*

2015 County Staff Leadership

Not only were the people of San Luis Obispo County represented by an elected Board of Supervisors in 2015, but they were also served by leaders among County employees. Those leaders include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures
Marty Settevendemie
Kevin Bumen | Farm Advisor
Mary Bianchi |
| Animal Services Division Manager
Eric Anderson | General Services Interim Director
Marvin Rose |
| Assessor
Tom Bordonaro | Health Agency Director
Jeff Hamm |
| Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector/Public Administrator
James P. Erb | Human Resources Director
Tami Douglas-Schatz |
| Behavioral Health Administrator
Anne Robin, LMFT | Information Technology Director
Daniel Milei |
| Chief Executive Officer | Library Director
Chris Barnickel |
| | Parks Director
Mark... |

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Chief Probation Officer

Jim Salio

Child Support Services Director

Julie Paik

Clerk-Recorder

Tommy Gong

County Administrative Officer

Dan Buckshi

County Counsel

Rita L. Neal

County Fire

Robert Lewin

District Attorney

Dan Dow

Learn more at www.slocounty.ca.gov.

NICK FRALCO

Planning and Building Director

James Bergman

Public Health Officer

Penny Borenstein

Public Works Director

Wade Horton

Sheriff-Coroner

Ian Parkinson

Social Services Director

Lee Collins

Interim Veterans Service Director (2015)

Paul Porter

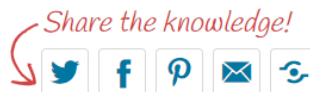
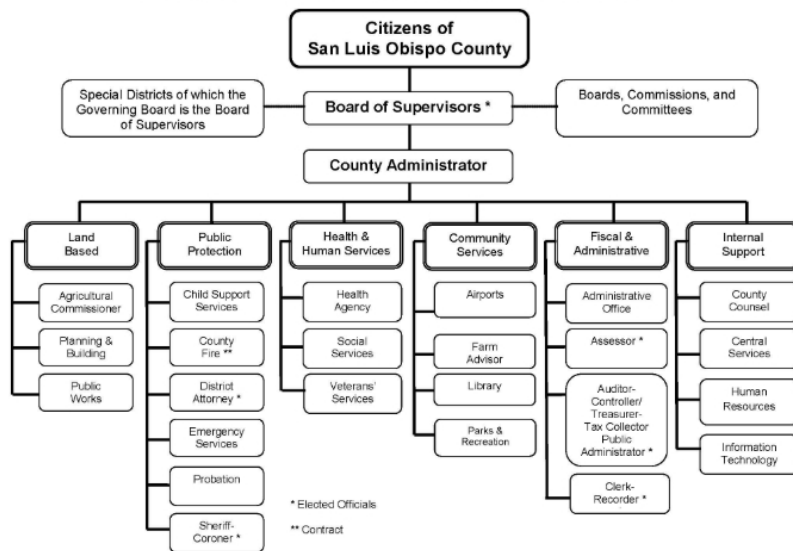


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Awards & Accolades



The County of San Luis Obispo was recognized by various organizations for how it served the public in 2015. Here are a just a few of those recognitions:

- 2015 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
- 2015 Green School/Government Award, Honorable Mention from Central Coast Green Building Council for Design/Build Energy Efficiency Project
- Healthy Communities committee receives Green Award
- 2015 CSAC Challenge Merit Award for innovation in County's Post-Release Offender Meeting (PROM) program.
- Fitch Ratings' highest credit and volatility ratings of "AAA/V1" for the San Luis Obispo Treasury Investment Pool
- 2015 Achievement in Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Purchasing Institute, Inc.
- Distinguished Budget Award
- Child Support Performance Awards from the State of California: Ranked No. 1 in the Top 10 Award for Overall Performance
- California Commendation Medals awarded by the California National Guard to Sheriff Ian Parkinson, Undersheriff Tim Olivas and Chief Sheriff's Deputy Rob-Roy Reid.
- Bridge Project 2015, Main Street Bridge over Santa Rosa Creek, presented by the American Society of Civil Engineers, San Luis Obispo Branch
- 2014-2015 Project of the Year, Transportation \$2-\$5 Million, Main Street Bridge at Santa Rosa Creek, presented by the American Public Works Association, Central Coast Chapter
- The San Luis Obispo Library was awarded the Beautification Award for Community Art by the Downtown Association. This was awarded for the atrium mural "Movimiento Mundial" by Robert "Maja" Martinez.



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Working for Community



The County of San Luis Obispo has roughly 2,800 employees all working to serve the community. County employees and elected officials are guided by organizational values, and work to ensure that their decisions and actions demonstrate these values.

While the County continued to improve financially, it still faced significant challenges in 2015.

The County tackled the drought through various management and monitoring efforts and carefully managed the community's water resources.

The County Clerk-Recorder's Office preserved SLO County history for generations by restoring 35,000 pages of historical records dating back to the 1850s.

Browse the 2015 Annual Report to discover even more ways County staff worked for the community and served SLO County residents with pride in 2015.



Share the knowledge!

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Category: Investing in the Community

The County of San Luis Obispo strives to keep our economy strong and viable and assure that all share in this economic prosperity. In 2015, County staff provided high-quality, results-oriented services and projects that were responsive to community needs.

Click the articles below for details on how we worked to create a prosperous community in 2015.

Investing IN THE COMMUNITY

The County of San Luis Obispo invested millions of taxpayer dollars and staff time in the community, striving to keep our economy strong and viable, and ensuring that all share in this economic prosperity.

The County Board of Supervisors approved a \$562.1 million budget in June 2015, which included designating:

- \$39M for roads
- \$250K to the Performing Arts Center
- \$1.3M For grants to more than 60 community programs and nonprofits.
- \$200K to the SLO HotHouse

The Board approved the County's largest energy-efficiency retrofit project in the government agency's history, which will result in:

ANNUAL ENERGY SAVINGS & REDUCTIONS IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS EQUIVALENT TO

246 tons of waste that would have been sent to landfill

Switching 17,070 [unclear] 62.7 [unclear]

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17,970

incandescent
lamps to CFLs

62.7

homes' energy
use for one year

Planting
31,545
trees



This moves the County closer to reducing its energy use from all County facilities by 20 percent by 2020.

\$30M PROJECT AIRPORT PASSENGER TERMINAL PROJECT WILL MEET

Current
needs

Safety
standards

Future
needs



The new airport terminal will include:

- > **50,000 square feet of space** to accommodate up to four airlines at four gates (four times the size of the current terminal)
 - > **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver specifications**
- And more!

Find out what else the County of San Luis Obispo did to invest in the community in 2015 at www.slocountyannualreport.com.



Public Works: Enhancing the Quality of Life for SLO County

The County Public Works Department works to provide to the safe and efficient movement of traffic on the 1,310 miles of County-maintained roadways; review proposed land development; manage and operate various water and wastewater wholesale and retail facilities and more.

But in 2015, state funding for transportation began to dip and the County needed to do more to keep our roads safe and maintained.

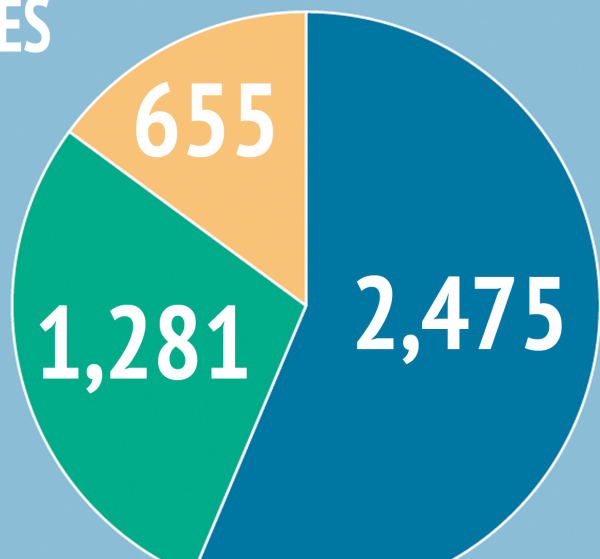
The infographic below shows some of the things that were done in 2015 enhance residents' quality of life by maintaining roadways.

Public Works: Enhancing the Quality of Life for SLO County

COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGES

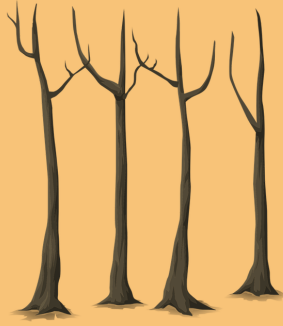
The number of road work requests increased dramatically in FY14/15. One-third of the requests come directly from the public, demonstrating confidence in County government road crews.

- Requests from County staff, CHP, CALFIRE, and Board of Supervisors
- Public service requests



Preventative maintenance

Removed **165**
dead trees from County
right-of-way in Cambria



Delivered **\$11 million**
Pavement Management Projects and
began preparations for the
Pavement Management Program.



Prepared

60+ miles

of roadway ready for
new surface treatment:

- > Trimmed trees and maintained vegetation
- > Patched, crack seal
- > Inspected road shoulders

Pavement Management Program

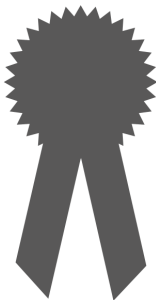
Prepared for over **\$12 million**
in pavement improvements (double the
results from previous years.)



Improved the pavement
condition score from **61** to **64**



Prepared **6** Pavement Management contracts for:
> Overlays in Nipomo, North County and South County
> Chip Seal
> Slurry Seal and Micro Seal



**Won ASCE SLO Chapter Bridge Project
of the Year and APWA Central Coast
Chapter \$2-5 million**

County Network Upgrades Result in Better Service, Communications

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/county-network-upgrades-result-in-better-service-communications/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 22,
2016



In 2014-2015, the Information Technology Department completed a project to replace the core data network that supports all data systems and connectivity countywide.

The County network infrastructure is the foundation for all public-facing information systems, like the County website, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and much more. Updating the County's network infrastructure is critical to maintaining reliable communications and access to business applications that County employees use on a regular basis to better serve the public, and that the public needs for general use and business operations.

The core network is comprised of five major campus networks:

- Downtown Datacenter
- County Government Center
- County Operations Center
- Health Agency Campus
- Social Services Campus

At each campus, a core router provides network traffic aggregation for all users, plus

network connectivity to the Downtown datacenter where most of the county computing assets reside. In one fiscal year, all five core routers were replaced and over 4000 network nodes were migrated to the new core network with minimal downtime. The new core network infrastructure is on a 10-year lifecycle and provides the following enhancements.

- 50 percent increase in network speeds
- 30 percent cost savings over the old system
- A higher level of data security and integrity
- Integrated hardware and software redundancy
- Scalable to meet data network demands for the next 10-plus years

In 2015-2016, there are additional network infrastructure upgrades underway. A new county-wide wireless (WiFi) system is being deployed. This project replaces over 120 wireless access points serving employees and the public in over 100 county facilities. Additionally, 80 out of 240 network access switches are being replaced as part of planned lifecycle refresh efforts.

The County also had new equipment installed in the SLO County Board of Supervisors Chambers, benefiting the public by allowing for fewer interruptions and better sound and video quality. Take look at the installation of this new equipment in the time-lapse video below.



<https://youtu.be/ibyMINeTI8o>



National Procurement Institute

Achievement of Excellence in Procurement[®]

County among nation's best when purchasing goods and services

The County of San Luis Obispo celebrated several achievements in 2015, thanks to the way it purchases services and goods from third-party vendors.

Last year, the County's Purchasing Services team saved taxpayers more than \$1.8 million on goods and services purchased and, for the first time, earned the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Procurement Institute. This award places the County of San Luis Obispo among the Top 1 percent of the nation's public purchasing organizations (among other cities, counties, institutions of higher education, school districts, special districts and state agencies).

"Through some hard work, determination, and good negotiating skills, we've saved the taxpayers money that we would have otherwise spent on the services and products," Van Dorn said. "Any time the County spends a dime in third-party vendor services or contracts, we're there to make sure we maximize the value for taxpayers."

"In our case, the application was a bit more than 300 pages," said County Central Services Department Administrator Cody Van Dorn. "We work to serve the public, and it's an honor to be recognized among the nation's best for what we do every day."

The team also completed 1,884 total purchase order transactions, accounting for \$185 million annually that circulates through the County's financial system.

"Through some hard work, determination, and good negotiating skills, we've saved the taxpayers money that we would have otherwise spent on the services and products," Van Dorn said. "Any time the County spends a dime in third-party vendor services or contracts, we're there to make sure we maximize the value for taxpayers."

By getting involved early on in the purchasing process and leading negotiations for departments, the purchasing team is able to successfully streamline all department purchases and save the County money overall. The team will continue to find additional cost-saving opportunities by continuously analyzing how we procure goods and services.

"We may be able to save even more as we combine spending with other local government agencies, educate suppliers on how to do business with County government, and implement process improvements," Van Dorn said.

The award has only been presented to 47 other counties nationwide. The County of San Luis Obispo regularly demonstrates 27 of the 35 procurement best practices listed as award criteria. Some of those best practices include:

- Strategic procurement, which provides millions of dollars in cost savings to taxpayers.
- Electronic procurement, which results in a more competitive environment, reduced costs, and more awards to first-time vendors. Electronic procurement also allows County vendors and other potential suppliers to easily respond to opportunities, expands the County's potential sources of supply, and provides automatic electronic notifications to suppliers on opportunities. For example, in 2011 the County was not using electronic procurement and had approximately 500 vendors in its database to contact for new opportunities. Today with electronic procurement, the County has more than 15,000 registered suppliers and is also connected with Sacramento, Placer, and Riverside counties' 100,000 registered suppliers.
- Professional development, which ensures that the County's purchasing agent and buyers are credentialed professionals (CPPO, CPPB, CPSM) who understand, apply, and maintain best practices. In addition, professional development increases the County's overall network of purchasing agents who work in other governmental agencies.
- A Regional Purchasing Alliance membership, which allows Cal Poly, City of San Luis Obispo, and local school districts to maximize purchasing power by increasing economies of scale in order to coordinate and receive the lowest possible price. The County is the lead agency in the Central Coast Purchasing Alliance.

Energy-Savings Project Approved

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/energy-savings-project-approved/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 10,
2016

Honor Farm Intelligent Hood Control System



On November 3, the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the largest energy efficiency retrofit in the government agency's history, a move that will reduce environmental impacts and save significant energy and operational costs over time.

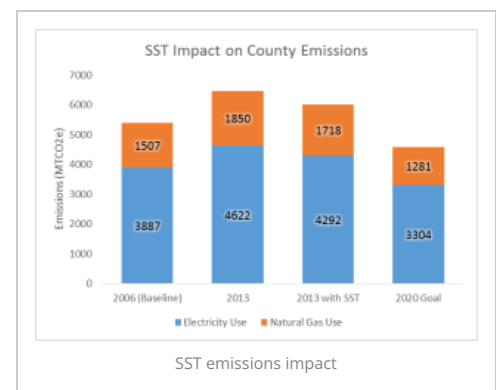
The County is working with PG&E and AECOM and has already begun implementation of Sustainable Solutions Turnkey (SST) – a design-build energy efficiency retrofit project that leverages public-private partnerships to streamline implementation of energy efficiency projects using money saved from energy and operational efficiency.

The project includes eight different energy efficiency projects at multiple County-owned facilities. The eight different projects fall into 3 general categories, involving upgrades to lighting, heating and cooling systems, or energy management and controls systems.

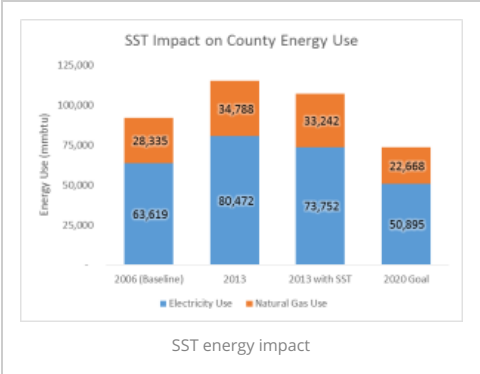
The total project cost of \$4,527,159 will be repaid with energy-cost and operational savings in 13.3 years. To fund the project, the County is leveraging low-interest loans at 1 percent or 0 percent interest from the California Energy Commission and PG&E, as well as existing County funds designated specifically for energy and water projects, and capital improvements.

The result of the effort will be annual energy savings equivalent to avoiding 246 tons of waste sent to landfill; 62.7 homes' energy use for one year; or 17,970 incandescent lamps switched to CFLs. Energy conservation will also result in an annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 686.8 metric tons of CO₂ (MTCO₂e), equivalent to taking 151 cars off the road or planting 31,545 trees annually. SST is the single largest energy efficiency retrofit project in the history of the County, and positions the organization as one of a select few counties in California to initiate an SST project.

Moreover, it moves the County closer toward the General Plan goal of a 20 percent reduction in energy use from County facilities from baseline levels (2006) by 2020, and the EnergyWise Plan goal of a 15 percent reduction in emissions from all government operations from baseline levels by 2020.



On December 4, Planning and Building and Public Works staff attended the US Green Building Council Central Coast 2015 Green Awards and Gala and accepted a Government/Green School award on behalf of the County for the SST energy efficiency project.

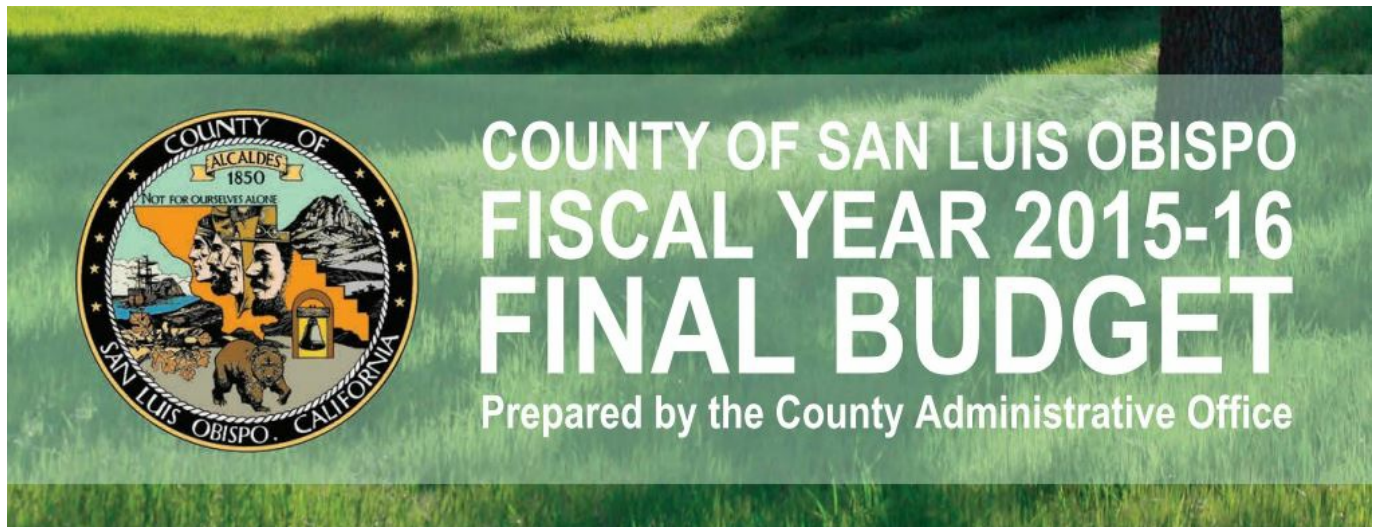


More Funding for Roads, Arts, Community

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/county-investment-in-roads-community-surpasses-40-million/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 10,
2016



The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors approved a [\\$562.1 million budget](#) in June 2015, designating:

- \$39 million for road construction, improvements, and maintenance to keep County residents and visitors safe;
- \$250,000 for the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center of San Luis Obispo to support the arts;
- \$200,000 for the SLO HotHouse to further the county's economic strategy and generate head-of-household jobs;
- And \$1.3 million for grants to more than 60 community programs that serve homeless or at-risk populations, and/or promote health locally.

"The County is committed to our community and we're proud to support programs that help further our mission," said District 5 Supervisor and 2015 Board Chair Debbie Arnold. "With the community's input, we have a clear plan and balanced budget for the next fiscal year that will enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life here."

The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the \$562.1 million spending plan for the next fiscal year, with a General Fund budget of \$464.9 million. The County's overall spending priorities for fiscal year (FY) 2015-16 are health and human services and public protection, which combined make about 60 percent of the total budget. The overall budget represents an increase of approximately 3 percent compared with the current year.

This budget marks our first full year out of the recession and we have been able to fully fund reserves and contingencies for the first time in several years," said County Administrative Officer Dan Buckshi. "During the downturn, the Board directed that all cuts be made strategically. Similarly, we are now able to strategically add programs and services desired by our community."

San Luis Obispo County is consistently recognized at the national level for meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In fact, the County received its fourth consecutive Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the FY 2014-15 budget. San Luis Obispo County was one of just 13 California counties to receive the award for 2014.

The County's budget process is a collaborative effort that involves all County departments, the Board of Supervisors and the public. While County staff is responsible for preparing a proposed budget and the Board of Supervisors ultimately has the authority to adopt proposed funding levels, public input is an integral part of the County's budget process.

[Take a closer look at the County's budget.](#)

Preserving SLO County History

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/preserving-slo-county-history/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 19,
2016



In 2015, the County Clerk-Recorder's Office restored 35,000 pages of historical records and public documents dating as far back as the 1850s. These records were in danger of falling apart and are now preserved to last 300+ years. Watch the video below to find out how it was done and why.



<https://youtu.be/oVk5n7PI7Yc>

Saving Water Ratepayers \$12.7M

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/county-saves-water-ratepayers-12-7-million/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 10,
2016



Nacimiento Water Bonds refunding in August will reduce annual payment by \$550,000

San Luis Obispo, Templeton, and Paso Robles water ratepayers will save more than \$12.7 million after the County of San Luis Obispo successfully refinanced a portion of the Nacimiento Water Bonds in August 2015, taking advantage of lower interest rates.

In 2007, \$196.41 million in revenue bonds were issued in order to finance the project, which was successfully completed in 2011. Tax exempt bonds were issued to benefit the municipal participating agencies and taxable bonds were issued to benefit the private Atascadero Mutual Water Company as required by IRS regulations.

With the refinancing of the 2007 bonds, County ratepayers will save more than \$12.7 million over the life of the bonds. This translates to a net present value savings (in 2015 dollars) of over 4.5 percent, or \$5 million, on refinancing approximately \$107 million in bonds. The refinance will reduce the annual payment by about \$550,000 per year, savings that will benefit ratepayers in San Luis Obispo, Templeton, and Paso Robles (the taxable bonds issued by the Atascadero Mutual Water Company were determined not cost beneficial for refunding and were not included). The refinanced bonds were rated A by Standard and Poor's Ratings and A+ by Fitch Ratings.

"Issues, such as interest rates potentially increasing and the drought, provoked doubt from potential investors, but the detailed knowledge of the pipeline project presented by Will Clemens of the County's Public Works Department was instrumental in obtaining high ratings by Fitch and Standard and Poor's," said County Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator Jim Erb. "I believe we structured the refunding just in time. One more year of drought or rising interest rates could render the refunding economically unfeasible."

The Nacimiento Water Project consists of 45 miles of pipeline with storage tanks, pump stations and facilities to convey up to 15,750 acre-feet of water from Lake Nacimiento to local water agencies within the boundaries of the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The water is delivered to the communities of Paso Robles, Templeton, Atascadero and San Luis Obispo.

"The bonds are not a debt of the County itself, but the benefit to the participating agencies was great enough that it made it worth the effort to facilitate the refunding on their behalf," Erb said. "I suspect that once interest rates begin to rise, they won't come down for a while and maybe never as low as we have seen them in the past couple of years."

Tech Upgrades Help Protect Resources

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/2015-at-a-glance/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 9,
2016



The County and its contractors will use less paper and spend less money on architectural plans thanks to upgrades in technology that were prioritized in 2015.

The County reduced the amount of paper used and money spent on architectural plans submitted by contractors and reviewed by various County departments with the Airport Passenger Terminal Project, which used the County's new Electronic Online Plan Review process. This project was completely paperless in 2015, saving applicants at minimum \$3,000 to \$10,000 in printing costs and saving 2,198 sheets of paper, helping in the County's overall conservation efforts.

With Electronic Online Plan Review, the architect only has to provide a single set of plans when the permit is issued after the project is submitted. This set will be used for the job site copy of plans. The County copy of plans is then electronically stored. No documentation, such as soils reports, engineering, etc. need be provided as it has already been reviewed electronically and is stored in Tidemark. (No scanning of the plans required at final review. This saves time and money at the end of the project).

The airport plans included architectural, civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, landscaping, and fire plans, which would have totaled 314 sheets of paper. Typically in a paper plan submittal for such a project, there would be an initial submittal of four complete sets of plans (totaling 1,256 sheets) to the County's Planning and Building Department, CAL FIRE, and Public Works Department. A minimum of one set of corrected plans for back check (314 sheets), another single roll set for second back check, which is typical for larger projects (314 sheets) and the final sign-off sets of two rolls (628 sheets) of which one set would be the job copy of plans and the other the County file copy.

The County saved 2,198 sheets of paper for revisions to the plans and 2,512 sheets for a second round of revisions for this project.

Additionally, the architects and engineers, all of whom are located outside of the area, did not have to make any car/plane trips to SLO once the process began. The plans, conditions and corrections were transmitted instantly back and forth through this online permit submittal process, saving time, money and gas emissions.

Veterans receive hard-earned benefits

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/veterans-receive-hard-earned-benefits/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 22,
2016



Thirteen percent of U.S. adults who are homeless have served in the military, but veterans represent just 7 percent of the overall U.S. population. In 2015, San Luis Obispo County resident Ronald Simon was in danger of becoming one of the 13 percent. But thanks to the staff at the County Veterans Services Department, Simon is thriving as a small business owner.

While in the Marine Corps, Simon was stationed in Iran and wanted to serve a full career in the military. He also served in the ARMY National Guard, where he was again called upon to deploy and served on Operation Iraqi Freedom, which resulted in multiple injuries, some of which he wasn't even aware. Unfortunately, these injuries diminish his ability to fully function in a traditional work environment.

He tried to get his current conditions recognized as connected to his service, but those early attempts were denied. That's when he turned to the County of San Luis Obispo Veterans Services Department.

Simon was able to acquire a combined disability award rating of 50 percent for various conditions he incurred while serving in the military. While this result was an improvement, Simon still had difficulty pursuing gainful employment because of these conditions.

Before he decided to file with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to be re-evaluated for a higher rating, the rent at his apartment increased. He again came to the County Veterans Services Department and was connected with the Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) program.

Through SSVF, the County Veterans Services Department partners with the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) to connect veterans with housing assistance. Simon was soon classified as a veteran in imminent risk of being homeless due to his housing situation and the SSVF program began providing him with rental assistance in order for him to keep him housed.

The apartment complex management considered Simon a valued tenant and provided all the information needed in order to start payment very quickly.

Through the collaborative role of SSVF within the VSO office and because of his classification as a veteran in imminent risk, Simon's re-evaluation claim was expedited and received a decision within three months. In June 2015, Simon was classified as 100 percent disabled through the VA. After adding both his dependents, he was soon able to afford the increased rent without SSVF assistance.

In addition, Simon worked with the County Veterans Services Department to enroll in VA Vocational Rehabilitation to receive training on concepts necessary to expand the operations of his catering business. This opportunity allowed him to become self-sufficient and now he no longer needs the financial assistance from SSVF and related community programs. He continues to grow his business and can now focus on other goals related to his success without the stress of worrying about where he is going to live.

Simon's success is a testament to how the County Veterans Services Department works as an advocate for the men and women who serve or served in the Armed Forces of America, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining benefits and services from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs, California Department of Veterans Affairs, San Luis Obispo County and other programs for veterans and their families.

The Veterans Services Department continues to be a bridge connecting veterans, veteran service organizations and the community to promote the wellbeing of our local veterans and their families.

CAPSLO administers the SSVF program to provide a range of services that address barriers to stable housing for low-income veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless. The program also assists veterans who are homeless get permanent housing. Supportive services are available to eligible veterans and other members of the veterans' household based on an assessment of their needs and an individualized housing stability plan.

The program offers:

- Case management to work with participants and match unmet needs with various resources to get the veterans back on their feet.
Legal assistance to help resolve housing barriers and assist with other civil legal issues.
- Employment counseling, including specialized employment training, job readiness assistance, individualized employment counseling, and skills assessment.
- A housing-barriers assessment
- Emergency housing stability assistance
- Temporary financial assistance
- Housing counseling
- Rental agreement education
- VA benefits assistance and counseling
- Landlord-tenant mediation
- Future housing sustainability planning

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

- [Investing in the Community](#)
- [Protecting the Public](#)
- [Promoting Health & Wellness](#)
- [Spending Wisely](#)
- [Awards & Accolades](#)
- [Working for Community](#)

Category: Protecting the Public

The County of San Luis Obispo strives to protect all who live and visit here by controlling crime, responding to emergencies in a timely manner and keeping roads safe, while also ensuring that each person has a sense of security and well-being.




Click the articles below for details on how we worked to create a safe community in 2015.

Protecting

THE PUBLIC

The County of San Luis Obispo strives to protect all who live and visit here by controlling crime, responding to emergencies in a timely manner and keeping roads safe, while also ensuring that each person has a sense of security and well-being. Here are just some ways we worked to create a safe community in 2015.

RESPONSE TO DROUGHT

Reduced water use at public facilities and grounds by 35% since 2013, surpassing the 25% state mandate.

Retrofitted 44 buildings with low-flow fixtures, saving an estimated 4,500 gallons per week last year.

Streamlined the permitting requirements to facilitate hazardous tree removal on the high number of affected parcels in Cambria.

Worked with the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) and authorized acceptance of an emergency permit for removal of hazardous trees in Cambria on parcels owned by the CCSD.

Cut down and cleared over 160 hazardous trees on County right-of-way along roads in Cambria.

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[Message from 2015 Board Chair](#)

[Message from the CAO](#)

[Mission, Vision, Core Values](#)

[Organizational Chart](#)

[Spending Wisely](#)

[Working for Community](#)

[Your County Government](#)

Tell Us What You Think

What do you think of the 2015 Annual Report? We want your feedback. Please take a moment to fill out this survey to let us know how we can improve the report next year.

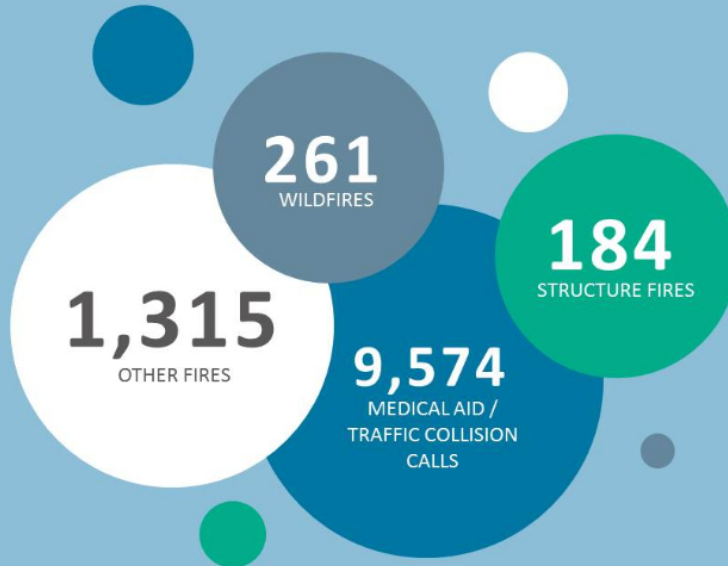
[Go To Survey](#)

Other Annual Reports

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- >> [County Civil Service Commission](#)
- >> [County Sheriff's Office](#)
- >> [County Department of Social Services Semi-Annual Report](#)

RESPONSE TO FIRES AND EMERGENCIES

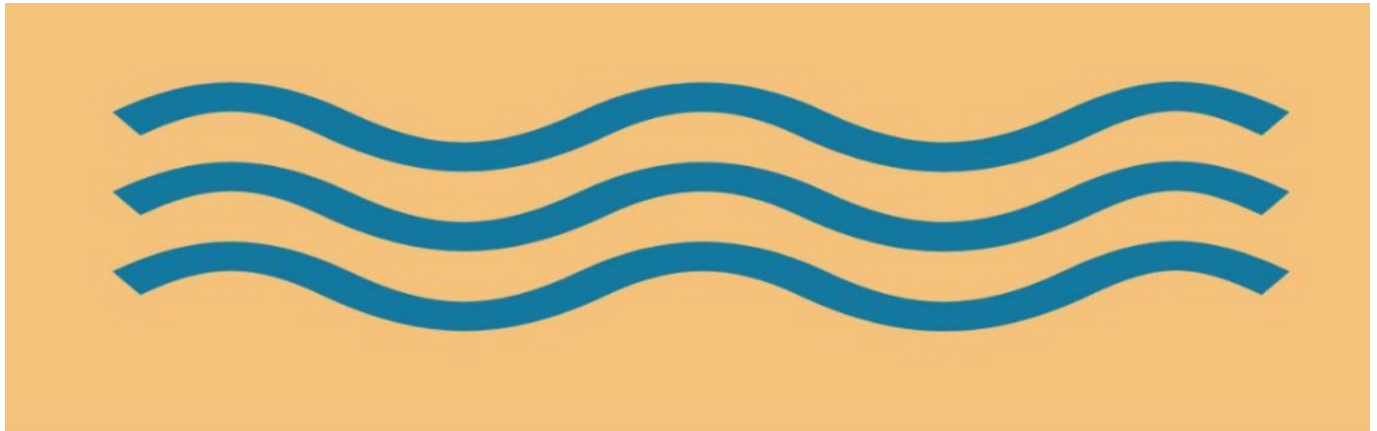
County Fire responded to



The Department of Child Support Services kept local children safe by establishing court orders for child support and distributing nearly \$14.5 million of child support to local families who need it.

Find out what else the County of San Luis Obispo did to protect the public in 2015 at www.slocountyannualreport.com.





The County has a variety of water resources and managed those resources effectively in 2015, focusing specifically on drought projects, groundwater measurements, and the Los Osos Water Recycling Facility.

Review the infographic below to see some of what we did to manage the County's water resources.

Public Works: Managing SLO County Water Resources

300 wells measured for groundwater levels

- > Investigated water quality problems and recommend solutions
- > Performed chemical, physical, and microbiological analyses
- > Produced and submitted reports to regulatory and other agencies



Completed preventative maintenance tasks on the rain, stream, reservoir and CIMIS sites ahead of the rainy season.

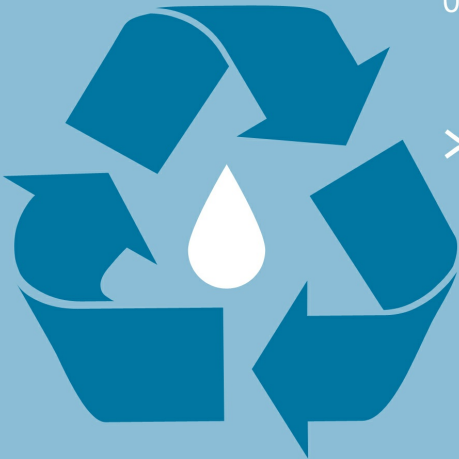


Received
\$3.7 million

in grant funding for projects throughout the County, bringing the total to about \$25 million.

Worked on the Los Osos Water Recycling Facility

One of the largest, if not the largest, SAP programming tasks at the County.



> Organized into three sub-systems:

1. Collection
2. Water Recycling
3. Distribution


...which has

11 Maintenance plans and growing

100+ Pieces of equipment and growing

© County of San Luis Obispo

Permits Now Required to Move Groundwater

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/permits-now-required-to-move-groundwater/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 22,
2016



In 2015, the County of San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors unanimously approved [an ordinance that regulates the exportation of groundwater](#) out of one of the County's groundwater basins or across county lines. The Board approved this ordinance to protect the County's water supplies.

The county is subject to cyclical droughts, declining groundwater levels, degradation of groundwater quality and a limited availability of surface water supplies. At the same time, 57 percent of all domestic water supply needs within the county are met by the use of groundwater, according to the ordinance.

Anyone who wishes to export groundwater will now need to get a permit. But this ordinance doesn't just apply to individuals or companies. The County and the Flood Control District would also need to obtain a permit before exporting groundwater. The Paso Robles Basin Advisory Committee will receive copies of export permit applications.

Any proposed export must not result in well interference with wells owned or relied upon by others or create a cone of depression that extends beyond the applicant's land. However, the ordinance includes an exemption to allow movement of contaminated groundwater without first obtaining a permit if the release complies with discharge permits issued by the local, state, or federal resource agencies. Contaminated groundwater is groundwater that has been altered by waste, seawater intrusion or other material to a degree, which creates a hazard to public health through actual or potential poisoning, or through actual or potential spreading of disease.

A permittee may submit written request for a renewal no later than 90 days before the permit expires. The permittee must demonstrate that there has been no significant change in circumstances from those which caused the approval of the previous export permit application. The County Public Works Director may grant a renewal term not to exceed one year. Renewals can be granted an unlimited number of times provided the necessary findings can be made.

Background

In January 2014, the Board directed to staff to explore the technical and legal aspects of an ordinance regulating the exportation of groundwater.

In September 2014, the Board directed staff to prepare an ordinance regulating the exportation of groundwater. Staff prepared a draft ordinance and solicited public feedback on the draft, including referrals to the Water Resource Advisory Committee, Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board, Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee, Community Advisory Councils, and others.

In November 2015, the Board directed staff to move consideration of the proposed ordinance off calendar while staff revisited concerns raised by a number of stakeholder groups and individuals. On February 3, 2015, the Board directed staff to bring the ordinance forward for Board discussion. On March 17, 2015, the Board discussed the revised public review draft ordinance and directed staff to bring it back for introduction.

In April 2015, the board held a hearing and took action to adopt the ordinance. Watch the hearing in the video below.

Preparing for Winter Storms

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/preparing-for-winter-storms/

County of San Luis Obispo

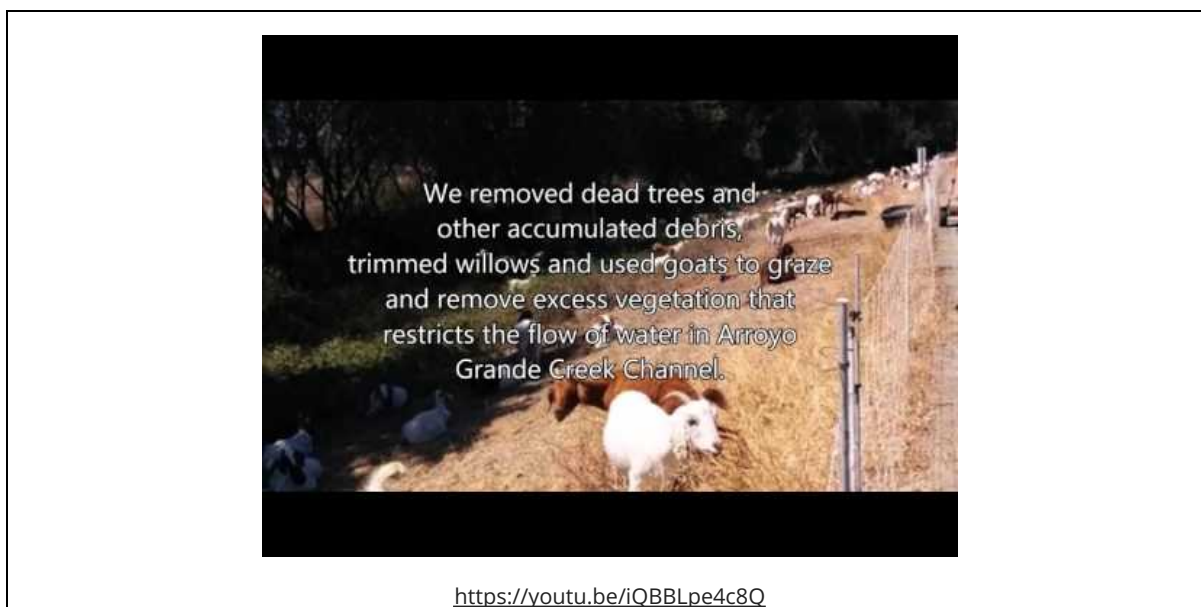
February 19,
2016



The County of San Luis Obispo proactively prepared for expected El Niño storms for winter 2015-2016. The projections for a potentially wet and stormy winter had the entire community attuned to the need to prepare early.

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) worked on developing an Adverse Weather Plan as a reference for emergency managers on what actions to initially take related to serious storms, storm warnings, flooding conditions and other situations, such as evacuation needs. OES is also updating the Dam and Levee Plan and will be working with County Public Works to train first responders on any issues that could arise with the Arroyo Grande Creek Levee. Find out how you can prepare for the wet winter.

Here are just a few other ways the County prepared for the 2015-16 winter storms.



How Probation Keeps SLO County Safe

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/how-probation-kept-slo-county-safe-in-2015/

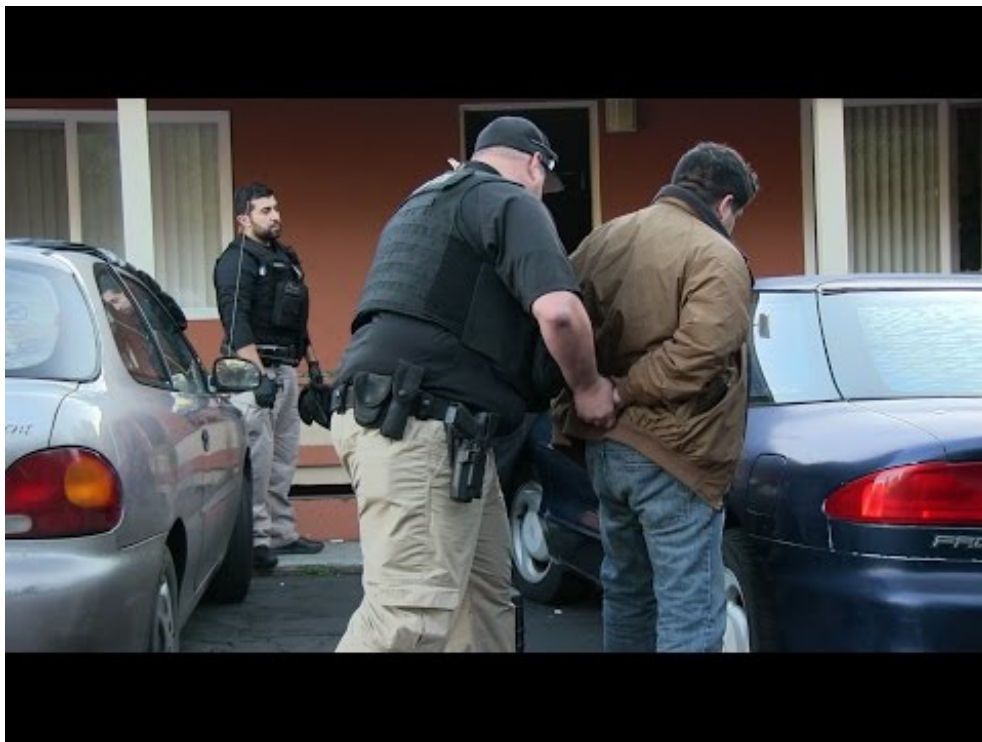
County of San Luis Obispo

February 19,
2016



The County's Probation Department reduces crime by monitoring and changing offender behavior, by working to prevent at-risk youth from entering the criminal justice system, operating a safe and secure juvenile hall, and helping victims of crime collect restitution.

Watch the video below for details on how they helped keep us all safe in 2015.



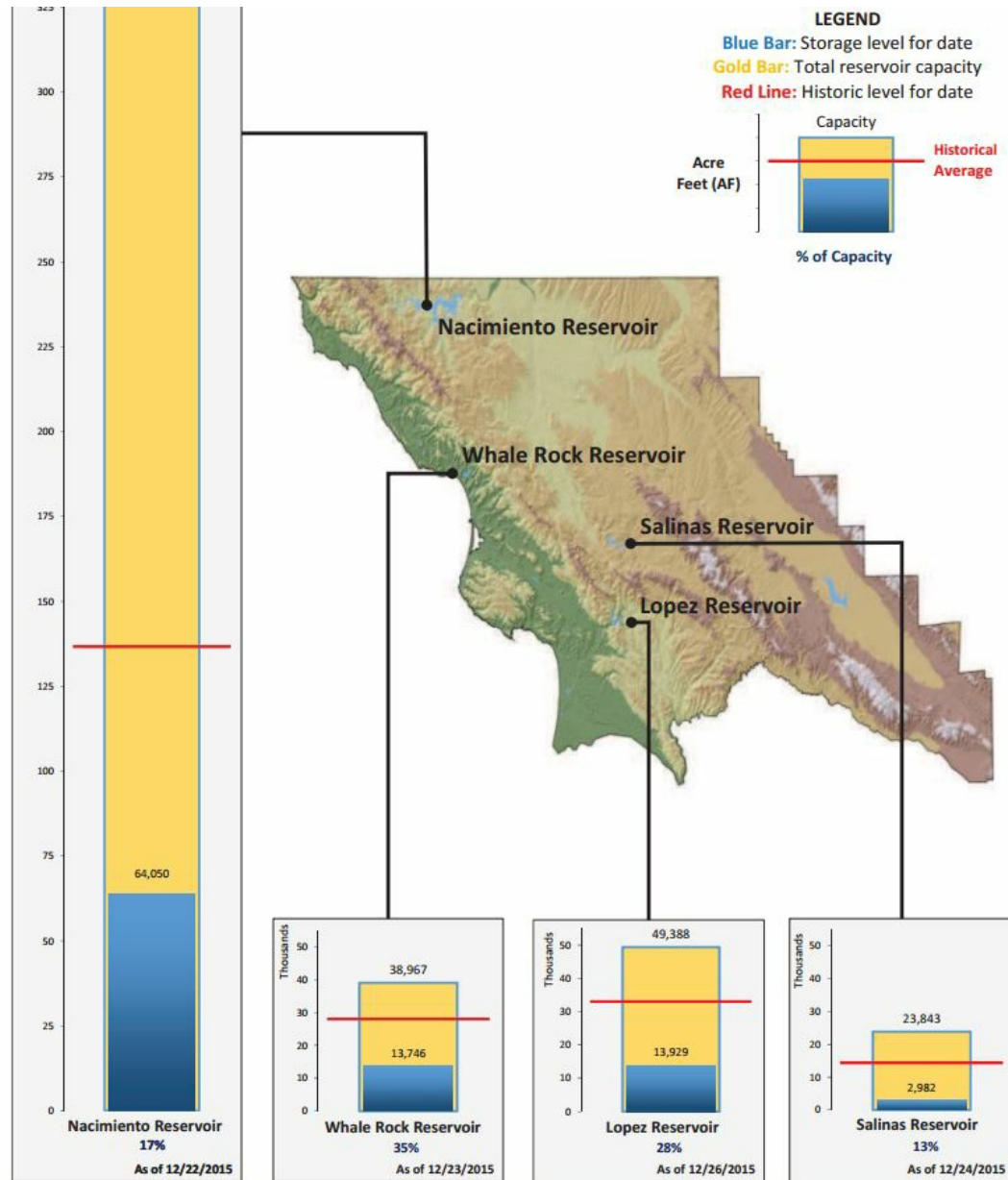
https://youtu.be/yw8M_gKOQmM

Drought Impacts Felt Far and Wide

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/drought-impacts-felt-far-and-wide-in-slo-county/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 16, 2016



In 2015, San Luis Obispo County and the state continued to be plagued by the worst drought on record magnifying existing water issues at the local level. Throughout the year, the County continued to address its water challenges and develop sustainable near-term and long-term solutions.

In 2015, the County Drought Task Force continued to monitor drought conditions, develop appropriated responses and provide monthly updates to the Board of Supervisors and the public.

County Facilities and Parks Water Conservation

The County reduced the use of water on public property. As of November 2015, the County reduced water use at public facilities and grounds by 35 percent since 2013, surpassing the 25 percent state mandate. In addition, the County retrofitted 44 buildings with low-flow fixtures, saving an estimated 4,500 gallons per week last year.

Water reduction efforts implemented by the Department of Parks and Recreation include, but are not limited to:

- Installation of Central Digital Computerized Irrigation Controllers, Master Valves, and Flow Meters
- Reduction in Passive Turf Areas and Review of all Water Meters and Other Sources

- Relandscaping with Drought Resistant Plant Material
- Using Polymers and Soil Wetting Agents for Water Usage Reduction Tree Mortality

Some areas have been reduced more such as passive turf to allow areas such as sports fields to remain safe for users

Passive Areas



Sports Field



Tree Mortality



One of the top issues in 2015 was the ongoing threat to public health and safety due to the epidemic of dead and dying trees locally. The sheer number of dead trees created a serious fire hazard in many areas of the county.

The problem has become so severe that, even if we do receive normal or above rainfall this winter, dead trees will continue to constitute significant threats to public safety into 2016.

All tree species have been adversely affected by the drought. Thousands of coast live oaks of all sizes in all areas and at all elevations have died.

The area most severely impacted is the Cambria Monterey Pine Forest (CMPF). Already one of the most endangered native forests in the world, the CMPF has been further devastated by the drought.

The poor condition of the CMPF resulting from the decades-long problems of senescence, overcrowding, fire exclusion, development, pitch canker, bark beetles, and many other fungal and parasitic pathogens has been severely amplified by the drought. These cumulative impacts have created the current situation where approximately 40 to 50 percent of the overstory trees are dead or dying. In certain areas, mortality exceeds 90 percent.

County staff used local resources and coordinated with the state to secure additional resources to help this growing problem. In 2015, County staff:

- Streamlined the permitting requirements to facilitate hazardous tree removal on the high number of affected parcels in Cambria
- Worked with the Cambria Community Services District (CCSD) and authorized acceptance of an emergency permit for removal of hazardous trees in Cambria on parcels owned by the CCSD
- Cut down and cleared over 160 hazardous trees on County right-of-way along roads in Cambria
- Coordinated with the state to help address the issue of tree mortality and secure the necessary resources to help this growing problem

Looking Ahead - Long-term Actions

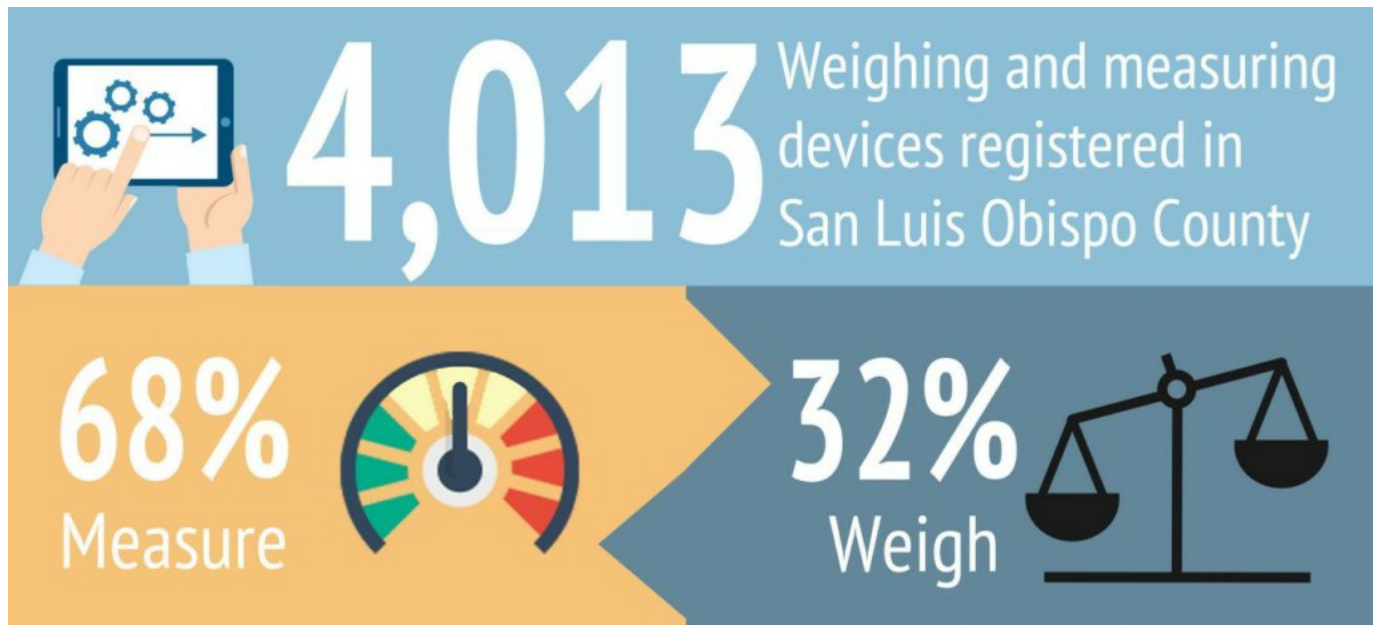
In 2015, staff worked on a number of long-term projects to address limited water supplies due to the drought, which included:

- Creating of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Strategy to provide a foundation for all subsequent actions and activities necessary to comply with SGMA
- Preparing a resolution and accompanying application materials for submittal to Local Agency Formation Commission for the formation of the Paso Robles Basin Water District
- Developing a Countywide Water Conservation Program (CWWCP) that substantially reduces groundwater extraction in groundwater basins that have been certified LOS III, provides a mechanism to allow new development and new or altered irrigated agriculture to proceed in certified LOS III areas, and reduces the wasteful use of water in the county
- Amending Title 19 (Building and Construction Ordinance), which updated the outdoor landscape requirements, by adopting the State's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance as mandated by the State of California Department of Water Resources per Gubernatorial Executive Order B- 29-15
- Preparing a Desalination Opportunities Summary Report, and per Board direction staff is:
 - Engaging the Integrated Regional Water Management Program Regional Water Management Group and any other potential project partners in discussions regarding regional desalination facility concepts, opportunities, and projects
 - Engaging potential stakeholders in the Santa Maria and Los Osos Groundwater Basins regarding drought relief opportunities presented by the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Desalination Facility near-term efforts
 - Moving forward, in concert with PG&E, an emergency project to make desalinated water available to south County communities in the event of continued drought conditions

While the stage is set for a strong El Niño event this winter and potentially into spring, it is unlikely to erase California's four-year drought. Each succeeding year of historic drought conditions has brought new management challenges.

The challenge of managing limited water supplies for multiple uses has never been more difficult. The County continues to focus on long-term actions to address imbalances in water supply and demand.

As drought conditions and water issues persist in our region, County staff and elected officials will continue to forge ahead and develop solutions for the community that will last.



The County of San Luis Obispo Weights and Measures program serves the community by safeguarding measurement accuracy and assuring confidence and integrity in the marketplace.

The Weights and Measures program promotes fair and equitable practices that benefit the consumer and assures fairness for the merchant when products, such as groceries and gasoline, are sold by weight, measure, or count.

Both the buyer and seller are protected when Weights and Measures inspectors test store scales, checkout scanners, packages, taxi meters, gasoline pumps, etc.

See the infographic below to discover how our Weights and Measures team helped protect consumers in 2015.

How do you know you're getting the right price?

Successful economies are based on the consumer's ability to compare the value of different products, but how do you know that you're really getting what you're paying for? The County of San Luis Obispo Weights and Measures team is here to help. We inspect weighing and measuring devices at gas stations, in taxis, at grocery stores, and various retailers to ensure consumers are getting what they pay for. Inspections at retail locations operating point of sale systems, or scanners are inspected for price accuracy at prescribed intervals or in response to a complaint to

price accuracy, at prescribed intervals or in response to a complaint, to ensure customers are charged the lowest advertised price.



4,013

Weighing and measuring devices registered in San Luis Obispo County

68%
Measure



32%
Weigh

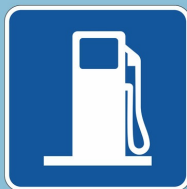


2,732

measuring devices are registered in SLO County

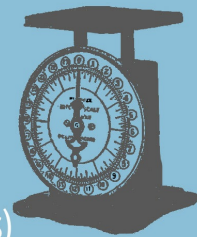
1,281

weighing devices are registered in SLO County



2,446 gas station/retail motor fuel dispensers registered in the county were inspected

1,281 scales registered in the County (including grocery store/deli to large scales used to weigh trucks, vehicles) were inspected



34 registered taxi meters were inspected



93.6%

of all devices passed



Note: The number of tested devices above do not include submeters.

More information can be found at www.slocounty.ca.gov/agcomm.htm.

County Fire Response in 2015

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/county-fire-response-in-2015/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 16,
2016

CALFIRE operates

9 County Fire Stations
14 County Engines
2 County Water Tenders



The County of San Luis Obispo Fire Department responds to emergencies and other requests for assistance, plans for and takes action to prevent emergencies and to reduce their impact, coordinates regional emergency response efforts, and educates the communities we serve.

CAL FIRE a California state agency, functions as the County Fire Department under a contract with the County of San Luis Obispo, and has done so since 1930.

Approximately 180 full-time state employees operate the Department, supplemented by as many as 100 state seasonal firefighters, 300 County paid-call (PCF) and reserve firefighters, and 120 state inmate firefighters. Check out the infographic below to see how County Fire protected the public in 2015.

SLO County Fire Department Response 2015



SLO County's Emergency
Command Center dispatched
13,669 calls in 2015.

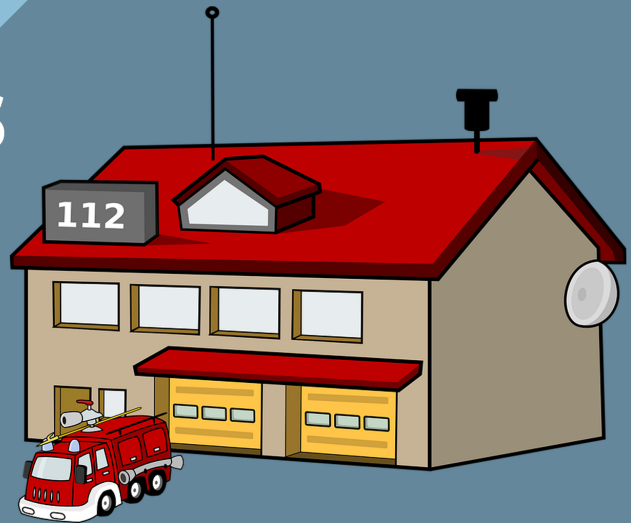
Which Included



261 wildfires
184 structure fires
1,315 other fires
9,574 medical aid/traffic collisions
1,844 other public service calls

CALFIRE operates

9 County Fire Stations
 14 County Engines
 2 County Water Tenders



First fire engine average response time



Urban areas - 7 minutes
 Suburban areas - 8 minutes
 Rural areas - 15 minutes
 Remote areas - 20 minutes
 Undeveloped areas - 30 minutes

Second fire engine average response time



Urban areas - 11 minutes



Suburban areas - 13 minutes



Remote areas - 28 minutes

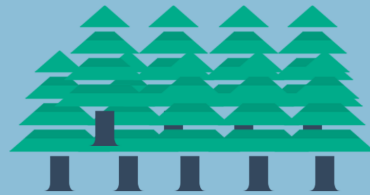
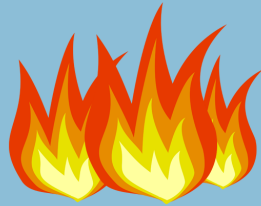


Rural areas - 18 minutes



Undeveloped areas - 45 minutes

4,689 acres burned in 261 wildland fires

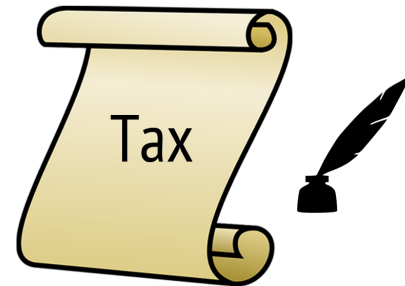


95% of fires were held to 10 acres or less

It cost

\$170.54

per resident for fire services in
fiscal year 2014-15.



© County of San Luis Obispo

First-time Criminals Get Second Chance

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/diverting-criminals-from-a-life-of-crime/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 11,
2016



Many County departments successfully work to reduce recurring crime in San Luis Obispo County, but one innovative program strategically helps first-time misdemeanor offenders avoid the criminal justice system entirely.

In 2015, the District Attorney's Office referred 880 offenders to the program, 72 percent of which enrolled in the program. Of those who enrolled in the program, 70 percent completed the program and offenders paid back more than \$7,400 to the victims of their crime.

The District Attorney's Office started its Misdemeanor Diversion Program in April 2015 to reduce crime in San Luis Obispo County while also allowing public protection agencies to dedicate more time to the investigation and prosecution of more serious crimes.

Through this program, low-level, first-time criminal offenders are given the opportunity to stay out of the criminal court system in exchange for completing an educational program, paying program fees, and paying for any damage or loss suffered by the victim of their crime. In 2015, the District Attorney's Office referred 880 offenders to the program, 80 percent of which enrolled in the program. Of those who enrolled in the program, 70 percent completed the program and offenders paid back more than \$7,400 to the victims of their crime.

"Offenders diverted from the criminal system through this program are less likely to offend in the future," said Chief Deputy District Attorney Sheryl Wolcott. "Having observed some of the classes, I see much more value in an offender learning the skills discussed there, rather than sitting in court for a day, then walking out with a fine and a conviction."

While it's too early to have results on the rate of returning to criminal activity, the District Attorney's Office is confident that this program will make a difference in our community.

Because the offenders pay for the program, it costs the community nothing to run the program. The educational classes are facilitated by Pacific Educational Services (PES), third-party contractor that has provided criminal justice programs for more than 30 years in an effort to improve public safety.

PES has a proven track record of reducing recurring crime with its Misdemeanor Diversion Program classes and motivating the offenders to enroll is a key to the program's success.

In October 2015, PES was able to enroll 80 percent of County-referred offenders into the program, which is the highest enrollment percentage the company has ever seen before, according to an e-mail from PES President Walter Stockman.

"For a pre-file program, this is extraordinary and bears notice. The highest enrollment percentage we have ever seen before for a pre-file program was 76 percent," Stockman said. "Because these programs are so multi-faceted, this high enrollment number could not have happened without law enforcement providing good contact information on the offender, the [District Attorney's team] processing this information, and our team at PES making good and timely contact with the offenders, getting them enrolled."

The County expects the program to divert approximately 10 percent of misdemeanor cases away from the court system annually.

Preventing Crime in SLO County

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/1070-2/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 11,
2016



The Sheriff's Office strives to lead the way in law enforcement, and one of the many ways it was able to lead in 2015 was by modernizing training to Sheriff's deputies, community outreach to the public, and helping inmates at County Jail become more productive citizens.

Focus on Rehabilitation, Not Just Incarceration

With the County Jail population always fluctuating, San Luis Obispo County Sheriff-Coroner Ian Parkinson has invested time and effort into rehabilitation programs with the goal of reducing the recidivism rate of these inmates.

Effective rehabilitative programs address issues related to criminal behavior, such as substance abuse, criminal thinking, and lack of education and employment. In addition to continuing existing programs, the Sheriff's Office added dynamic and meaningful opportunities for inmates in 2015.

In February 2015, the Sheriff's Office partnered with Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 403, America's Job Center of California (AJCC), and Cuesta College to begin a welding apprenticeship program for selected Honor Farm inmates. Interested inmates participated in an intensive screening and selection process that included interviews, criminal background investigations, verification of right to work, and an eight-hour remedial welding class.

Three candidates were selected to participate in the 16-week pre-apprenticeship training class. All three candidates completed the class and are now currently employed; two are employed by Boneso Brothers Welding in Paso Robles and one is employed by Pacific Gas & Electric at Diablo

Canyon.



<https://youtu.be/KPNVBuIYxEo>

Upgraded Firearms Training

One of the most exciting additions to the Sheriff's Office Training Program this year was the recent purchase of the VirTra 300 Firearms Training Simulator.

This new simulator provides state-of-the-art, reality-based training scenarios on high-quality, seamless, 300-degree screens with surround sound. With this simulator, deputies can train for the most difficult real-world situations, such as ambushes, active shooters and maintaining situational awareness during extreme stress.

This training is also offered to all federal, state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies in San Luis Obispo County.

What's more: this new simulator was purchased at no extra cost to the taxpayers. The Sheriff's Office Asset Forfeiture and Homeland Security Grant funding paid for the simulator.

Savvy Use of Social Media

When Sheriff Parkinson first began his term, he identified a need for better engagement between the Sheriff's Office and the community. For several years now, there has been a growing effort to become more actively involved in the everyday lives of local citizens.

In 2015, the Sherriff's Office ramped up its social media outreach efforts, resulting in one of the best years of community engagement through these tools. The Sheriff's Facebook page and Twitter account reached 11,600 likes, an average of 23,000 people saw Sheriff's Office posts regularly, and

the community engaged with the posts by either liking, sharing, commenting on, or clicking on them an average of 2,300 times per week.

Through these social media tools, the Sherriff's Office offered the community safety tips, crime alerts, and positive updates, such as annual family events, and employee highlights.

Citizens have provided tips on unreported crimes and potential suspects via Facebook's private message feature, which has also enabled the Sherriff's Office to assist citizens with other issues. Overall, this has been a very successful year for the Sheriff's social media presence.

All of these efforts are paying dividends in the form of better communication and more transparency with staff, inmates, and members of the public. By modernizing its practices and policies, the Sherriff's Office will be able to lead the way for many years to come.

Breaking the Cycle of Crime

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/breaking-cycle-crime/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 10,
2016



Dixie Howell has turned her life around. Several years ago, Dixie was serving a jail sentence for drug-related offenses. She soon decided to change her attitude and behavior and participate in the programs at San Luis Obispo County Jail. Dixie quickly became a model inmate in the County Honor Farm.

After her early 2015, she hit the ground running and decided to give back to the community by working for Restorative Partners, a nonprofit organization that serves people impacted by crime with a continuum of services and programs designed to meet their diverse needs.

Watch as she tells her story in the video below.



<https://youtu.be/KPNVBuIYxEo>

A Brighter Future for Local Children

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/a-brighter-future-for-slo-county-children/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 9,
2016



The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Child Support Services,(DCSS) works with parents and guardians to enhance the well-being of children and the self-sufficiency of families by ensuring they receive financial and medical support.

The department strives for excellence and, although staffing resources have substantially reduced in 2015, the department continued efforts to focus on increased performance, staff development, and providing excellent customer service.

“We’re here to help families and deliver services with empathy and compassion, with the intention of reducing the stress and anxiety families may be experiencing when they need our services,” said County Child Support Services Director Julie Paik.

The department is comprised of 35 employees who all work together to further the child support mission and provide excellent service to the community. The department works for the best interest of the child and encourages both parents to play an active role in the lives of their children.

Department staff strives each year to improve family's lives within the community and rely on the performance measures in place to keep us accountable. The department is evaluated each year on five federal performance measures by the State of California and in 2015 was once again recognized as the No. 1 ranked child support services department statewide on performance goals for nine of the last 10 years.

As of September 30, 2015, the caseload size was 3,839 and the department established court orders for 96.7 percent of the cases. Through various enforcement efforts, the department collected 78.4 percent of current support owed and 82.1 percent of the caseload paid toward past due support. The department distributed a total of \$14,456,282 of child support to families, which is an increase of \$341,254 compared to 2014.

The department focused primarily on customer service improvements in 2015. It conducted customer satisfaction surveys for a four-month period to gauge the level of service provided to customers, which produced very positive results. Of those surveyed, 76 percent reported excellent service and 16 percent reported above average service.

Community Outreach

The Department of Child Support Services continues to expand outreach efforts and spread awareness of child support services within the community.

In 2015, the department began using social media to expand awareness and public outreach. ([Like the department on Facebook.](#))

The department's community outreach also included visits to Morro Bay High School and Atascadero High School, as well as the San Luis Obispo County Honor Farm, women's jail, Veterans Stand Down event and Mobile Assistance and services Addressing Homelessness MASH awareness event.

Child Support Awareness Month

The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors declared August as Child Support Awareness month. In honor of this proclamation, DCSS sponsored a booth at the San Luis Obispo Farmer's Market and provided child support service information to the public.

In conjunction with Child Support Awareness month, the County partnered with United Way and contributed to the "Stuff the Bus" campaign donating approximately \$556 in school supplies and 80 backpacks for local school children. During one of the annual outreach events at the San Luis Obispo County Honor Farm, the inmates heard about the joint effort with United Way's Stuff the Bus campaign and wanted to contribute as well.

"The inmates provided beautifully handmade backpacks for donation, which showcase their creativity," Paik said. "This was very fulfilling for the inmates as it allows them to contribute and pay it forward to the community."

What customers are saying about SLO County Child Support Services

"All of the employees are very knowledgeable and very patient in explaining things to me. I really appreciate their kindness because the judicial system can be very intimidating."

"I would give a 10 out of 10. Very respectful. helpful & had answers to questions. Thank you very much!!"

"I have dealt with different receptionists and I always receive outstanding service."

"The representative seemed genuinely empathetic and supportive of a workable situation. I felt respected in a situation that can be less than pleasant, and an environment that can be soul-draining."

"Thank you for coming to speak with our two classes (Peer Communication and Peer Helping). The reality of many of our students facing divorce and custody issues in their home was apparent this morning and I appreciate you taking the time to answer questions and explain what it is you do. The classes thoroughly enjoyed your presentation and I was greatly impressed by their questions and engagement throughout your presentation, clearly indicating that the need for your services and presentation is obviously there. I hope you can return again next year and look forward to another wonderful presentation."

PROVIDING MORE THAN 2,000 LUNCHES

and more than 1,000 snacks to SLO County children who rely on free or reduced-price lunch programs during the school year and who were at risk of going hungry during summer break, in partnership with SLO Food Bank in the summer.



HOUSING 44 CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

individuals in order to provide them with services to help keep them off the streets.

The County also trained for disease outbreaks, including Ebola and Measles.



SLO County restaurants, eateries earn high health ratings

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/1312/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 23,
2016



The County conducted a total of 1,960 health inspections on more than 1,500 food facilities in the area in 2015 and 90 percent received a health score of 90 or higher. The lowest score was 73.5, which requires re-inspection.

Since the County uses a scoring system for health inspections, instead of a grading system, it's difficult to assess what constitutes a high or low score, said County Environmental Health Specialist Pamela Moore.

The scoring system has a maximum score of 100 points, for which 98 points and above is considered a high score and anything below 90 is considered a low score. Health violations are worth anything from .5 to 6 points depending on the severity and risk to the public, Moore added.

The [Environmental Health Services Division of the County's Health Agency](#) inspects food facilities throughout San Luis Obispo County to prevent the occurrence of foodborne illnesses; to promote the preparation, production and service of food in hygienic, properly equipped and maintained food facilities; and to protect the health of the food worker by encouraging safe and sanitary on-the-job working conditions. This Environmental Health Services Division also inspects body art facilities, beach water quality, above-ground storage tanks containing hazardous materials, planned land development projects, and many other services.

Many facilities had multiple inspections within 2015. High-risk facilities are inspected twice a year, medium risk facilities are inspected once every nine months, and low-risk facilities are inspected once a year. The types of inspections include routine inspections, re-inspections, and chargeable re-inspections.

"We do not determine if a facility requires a re-inspection based on score, but rather based on the overall assessment of the inspection and if the inspector feels they require a re-inspection, even if only for two or three violations, they may decide to do that, though a low score is usually the reason for an inspector to decide to re-inspect a facility since it can take a lot of violations to result in a low score," Moore said.

Many similar violations can be lumped into one violation category, so losing one point for a violation for unapproved equipment for example, could actually mean that there were several items observed with regards to that violation code but the violation code was actually only entered one time so they only lost one point. That may not look bad on a score, but the inspector may want to re-inspect to verify that all of the unapproved equipment was replaced with approved items.

Environmental Health inspectors will revisit any facility that requires re-inspection within one month, but if a facility doesn't require re-inspection, it will only be revisited at the next regular inspection date either six, nine, or 12 months later, depending on the facility.

Inspection Totals in 2015

Total inspections performed in 2015: 1960

Number of facilities receiving at least one inspection in 2015: 1428

Score breakdowns

Editor's note: The following score breakdowns are based on all inspections performed, including multiple inspections done at the same facility (i.e. percentages were generated from the first tab of the attached report).

Percentage of inspections with a score of 98 or higher: 35% ($685/1960 * 100$).

Percentage of inspections with a score between 90 to 97.5: 55% ($1080/1960 * 100$).

Percentage of inspections with a score of 89 or lower: 10% ($195/1960 * 100$).

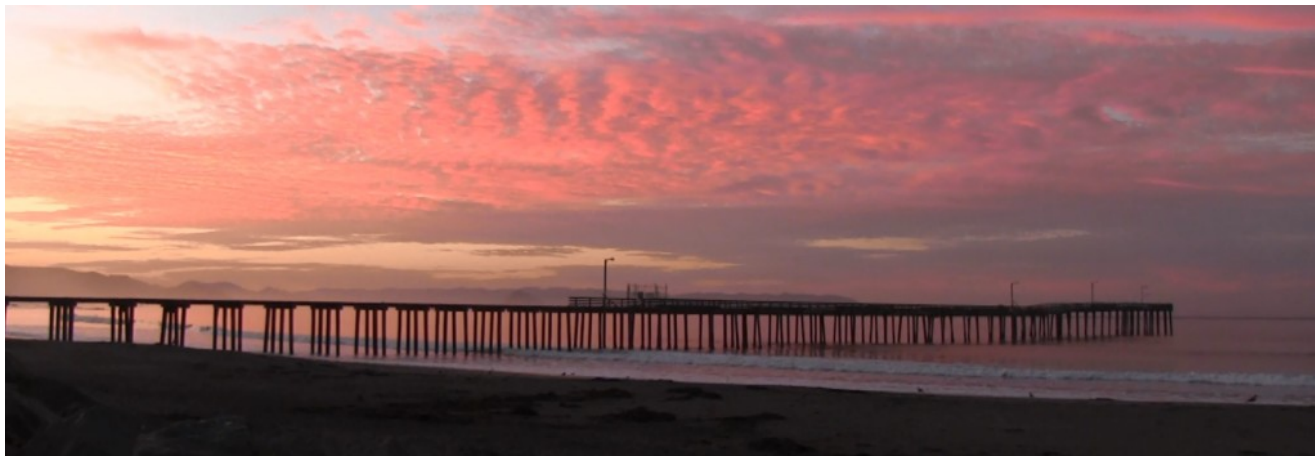
Use the following search to view inspection results for local food facilities, including restaurants and grocery stores. Only fixed facilities are included; mobile facilities, temporary food facilities, cottage food facilities, or farmers markets are not included.

Cayucos Pier Reopens

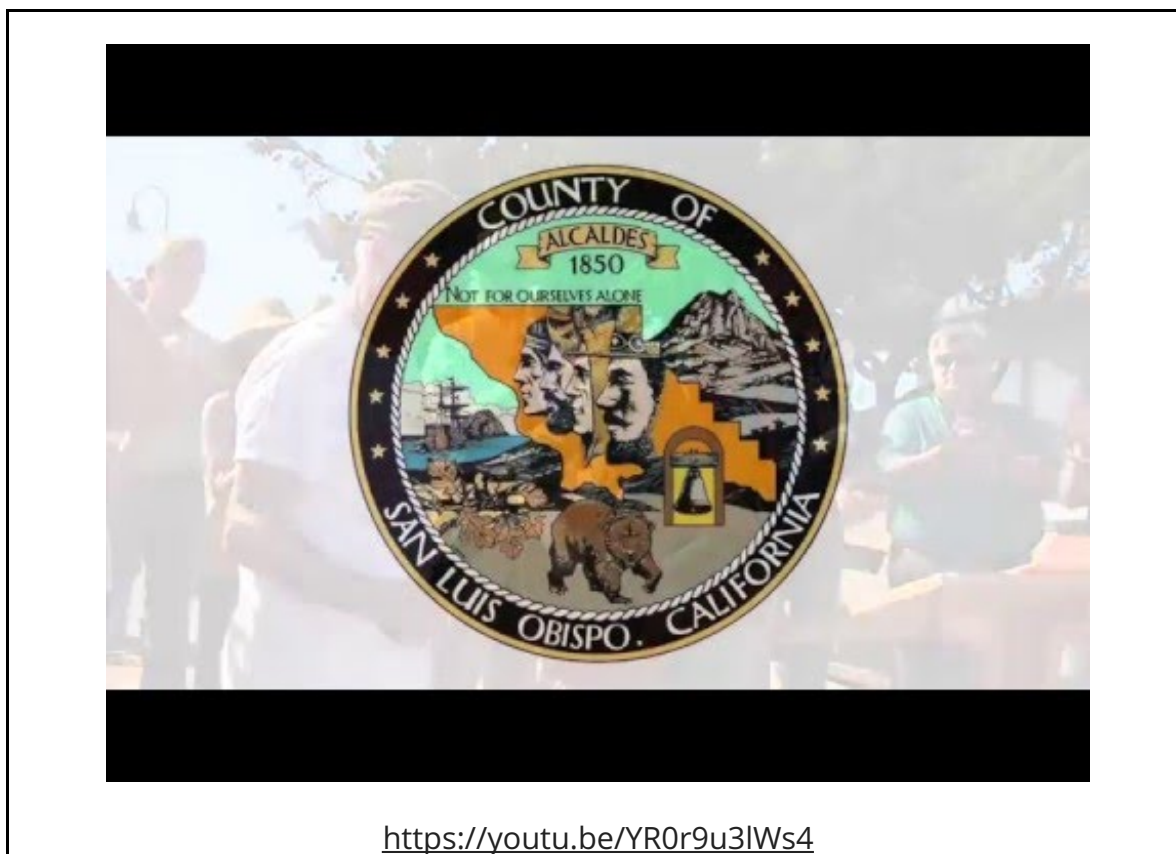
 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/cayucos-pier-reopens/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 19,
2016



On Oct. 31, 2015, the County unveiled the new and improved Cayucos Pier after several months of construction that left the pier closed to the public. Watch the video below for more details.



Healthy Communities Earns Green Award

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/healthy-communities-receives-green-award/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 19,
2016



Healthy Communities, a subcommittee of HEALSLO, the County obesity prevention coalition, was awarded a Green Community Partner Award by the Central Coast Green Building Council in 2015 for its contribution to making sustainable communities available to everyone within this generation.

Healthy Communities consists of County staff and numerous community partners (some of whom are in the attached photo) and has been meeting since 2012. They review and provide health-related comments on new development proposals that come into the County Planning and Building Department. Their comments are sent to the Health Commission and Planning Commission and become part of the written record. To date, they have reviewed 60 different proposals.

When reviewing a project, they ask questions like:

- Is the development built within half a mile of food stores, retail services, schools, daycare and recreation centers?
- Is the development served by local transit or does it provide bicycle access?
- Are there natural gathering places for neighbors? (benches, plazas at street intersections)
- Does the project strengthen the social fabric of the community by fostering relationships and prioritizing community health and safety?
- Does the project employ green building materials and include a sustainable

landscaping design?

The Green Building Council recognized the work of Healthy Communities at an awards ceremony in Santa Barbara in December 2015.

- Participated in weekly conference calls with CDPH
- Issued Health Advisories to local health providers, schools, and child care facilities
- Assessed current risk and immunity status of employees with potential for exposure to or transmission of measles to vulnerable clients
- Handled numerous calls from concerned individuals about measles vaccination

The measles outbreak illustrates that we live in a global community, and as long as the disease is common in other countries, we must continue to protect ourselves in all communities through high immunization rates. Public health departments cannot fight this battle alone; like most public health issues, we need your help. Join the fight against vaccine-preventable diseases, like measles, and get vaccinated—to protect yourself, your family, and your community.

The outbreak was declared over because there had been no new measles cases related to the original Disneyland outbreak for two 21-day incubation periods, or 42 days.

County Plans for Ebola Outbreak

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/county-plans-for-ebola-outbreak/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 19,
2016



Due to largest Ebola epidemic in history in 2014, the County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department continued its preparations for a possible Ebola case in the county in 2015.

The Public Health Department received grant funding to support Ebola and other highly infectious disease planning efforts. The grants funded the following efforts:

- An updated the Communicable Disease Response Plan
- Training for Public Health nursing staff on infectious disease investigation procedures
- A new machine to ensure Public Health staff are properly fitted for Personal Protective Equipment that will be required during an infectious disease response
- Exercises with the Public Health lab and the local hospitals on the proper procedures for specimen collection, preparation, packaging and shipping
- Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) training courses for Public Health and health care provider staff.

Specialized Training

The CDP is operated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and has the only hospital facility in the nation dedicated solely to training healthcare professionals in disaster preparedness and response.

In June 2015, staff from the County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency and Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center completed the Healthcare Leadership course at CDP in Anniston, Alabama. During this training, staff participated in four exercise scenarios, ranging from multiple casualty disasters to Ebola, to test their ability to manage a public health emergency.

Participants had to make decisions in a dynamic environment to effectively allocate resources, distribute public information, and provide public health directives for healthcare providers and first responders.

The training provided staff with increasingly challenging and complex scenarios which greatly enhanced Health Agency staff's knowledge base and ability to respond to real-world disasters, including Ebola, here in San Luis Obispo County.

Coordination and Partnerships

The County Public Health Department also coordinated with public health partners throughout the nation in 2015 to ensure that local responders and public health professionals have the latest information and training on a potential Ebola response. This included the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, California Department of Public Health as well as regional partners in Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara counties.

Regional partners continue to work together to develop a regional transportation plan for patients that are suspected of having a highly infectious disease and require transportation to a regional acute care hospital.

Although the likelihood of having an Ebola patient in San Luis Obispo County is low, and is getting lower as more West African countries are being declared Ebola-free, the Public Health Department is taking the threat seriously by preparing and planning for the possibility.

The planning efforts have also lead to increased readiness and response capabilities for any highly infectious disease that may emerge. The Public Health Department has built on the strong relationships it has with healthcare providers in the community and continues to make the health of San Luis Obispo County a priority.

High Performance CPR Saves Lives

2015.slocountyannualreport.com/high-performance-cpr-saves-lives/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 15,
2016



Editor's Note: Names in the following article have been omitted for privacy reasons.

One night in October 2015, the San Luis Obispo City Fire Department (SLOFD) and San Luis Ambulance (SLA) responded to a 9-1-1 call for a man who had suffered a life-threatening heart attack. The man's wife had recently taken Hands-Only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) at her workplace and initiated CPR prior to the arrival of first responders.

The emergency medical services (EMS) responders from SLOFD and SLA initiated the new High-Performance CPR protocol and successfully resuscitated the patient.

"With 25 years of service, 15 as a medic, I can accurately say that two months ago, this gentleman would have died because we would have paused compressions for breaths, defibrillation, and movement of the patient and our compressions would not have been deep enough or fast enough," said one of the responding paramedics.

The following day, another responding paramedic checked on the patient's condition at the hospital and after meeting the man's wife shared:

"The amazing part of the story begins with her learning Hands-Only CPR just recently at her work [Diablo Power Plant] She was one of only five people in her office [of 45] who took the course. She initiated early CPR and activated EMS by quickly calling 9-1-1. I was not only proud of how all of the responders worked so diligently using High-Performance CPR, but also how this woman was able to save her husband with early CPR."

Training the Public to Fight Heart Attacks

Cardiovascular disease is the single greatest cause of death in the United States. Nearly 400,000 cardiac arrests occur each year with 88 percent occurring outside of the hospital requiring a 9-1-1 response. But early recognition and action by bystanders can save lives.



The San Luis Obispo County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency implemented a High-Performance CPR program in the summer of 2015.

With a core set of EMS instructors representing fire and ambulance agencies, training was provided to more 750 emergency medical responders throughout the county, including fire department and ambulance crews, law enforcement officers and emergency department nurses.

In addition, a group of highly dedicated EMS volunteers trained over 2500 citizens in Hands-Only CPR at local farmers' markets, department stores, and service groups.

The national survival rate for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is less than 8 percent. This rate establishes cardiac arrest as one of the most lethal public health problems in the United States, claiming more lives than colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, influenza, pneumonia, auto accidents, HIV, firearms, and house fires combined.

With early activation of the 9-1-1 system, the initiation of bystander Hands-Only CPR, and EMS intervention utilizing High-Performance CPR, the chances of survival significantly improve.

To date, the program is demonstrating success with an increase in cardiac arrest patients having a return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC). The initial data has shown an increase in patients having ROSC of 50 percent over the same time period last year.

Throughout the United States, communities implementing High-Performance CPR programs have dramatically increased out-of-hospital survival rates by as much as 30 to 50 percent. The successful launching of the County's life-saving program was possible with the commitment of the EMS community and investment from partner organizations, including French Hospital Medical Center, San Luis Ambulance, and the Emergency Medical Services Foundation.

The High-Performance CPR program focuses on community education, 9-1-1 activation, high-quality CPR, and early defibrillation. While the EMS performance of high-quality CPR is a primary component in influencing survival from cardiac arrest, High-Performance CPR programs also focus on public awareness, prehospital intervention, and transporting those patients who have responded to pre-hospital treatment to hospitals that specialize in cardiac care.

To end the story the gentleman survived his cardiac arrest and was discharged from French Hospital the following week.

For more information regarding Hands-Only CPR classes contact: sloemsa@gmail.com

Housing-First Method Benefits Community

 2015.slocountyannualreport.com/housing-first-approach-helps-chronically-homeless/

County of San Luis Obispo

February 11,
2016



The County of San Luis Obispo took an innovative approach to helping homeless individuals get permanent housing in 2015. The County partnered with Transitions Mental Health Association to launch 50Now, a program that uses a housing-first approach to address chronic homelessness.

Housing-first programs provide permanent housing with intensive supportive services to stabilize individuals and families in need.

“I can’t imagine any downside for a homeowner. We were trying to do something good with our property, and it turns out to be easier on us.”

– Sandy Buckmoyer
50Now landlord partner

By the end of September 2015, just over one year into program implementation, a total of 44 chronically homeless individuals had been placed into housing, along with three family members.

Of those placed into housing, 38 people (86 percent) have remained in their housing, three have gone on to other permanent housing, and three have exited back to the streets.

Of the 27 people who were placed into housing for at least six months, 24 persons, or 89 percent, had remained in housing.

In addition to keeping formerly chronically homeless persons housed, one of the proposed outcomes of the 50Now program was to reduce the number of incarcerations among those participants with prior arrest histories. Initial results have been very promising. Of the 35 people that provided releases for the information, there was a 96

percent reduction in the number of arrests (from 48 to two) and a 98 percent reduction in the number of bed days (from 361 to six) in an incarceration setting in the first 12 months of being housed, compared to the previous 12 months.

In August 2014, the Board of Supervisors approved a three-year contract with Transitions Mental Health Association in the amount of \$1.86 million to administer the 50Now program, which places 50 vulnerable, chronically homeless individuals into housing and provide supportive services for those individuals to help keep them off the streets.

For the 50Now program, rent is subsidized by a Federal Housing Choice Voucher (formerly known as the Section 8 program).

The Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo County made 50 Housing Choice Vouchers available to ensure that the housing remains affordable to the participants. Each 50Now participant placed into housing receives a voucher, which may be used to help pay for apartments, rooms in shared housing, or other housing where the rent is at or below 40 percent of the fair-market rent for the county and where the units meet minimum habitation standards.

Program participants enter permanent housing directly from the streets or emergency shelter with few barriers and are offered services (though participation is not required).

There is no time limit in the length of stay in the housing. However, participants in housing-first programs still must agree to meet regularly with their case manager, pay their rent on time, comply with the terms of their lease, and allow their neighbors the peaceful enjoyment of their own premises.

Year One Outcomes

Contract Goal (15 Months)

34 Persons Will Be Placed in Housing

60% of the housed clients will remain housed for at least 6 months

50% of clients housed for 6 months will have improved self-sufficiency

Actual Outcomes (12 Months)

44 Persons Have Been Housed

89% of housed clients remained in housing for at least 6 months

100% of clients housed for 6 months have demonstrated improved self-sufficiency



Program Participant Selection

50Now program participants are selected through the use of a standardized assessment tool, called the Vulnerability Index-Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool, which is nationally recognized as an approved tool for prioritizing participants for available, permanent supportive housing.

In August 2014, almost 300 homeless persons were surveyed using the assessment tool. The survey was conducted across the county at homeless service agencies, meal programs, the jail, selected street locations, French Hospital, and health care programs for homeless or low-income persons.

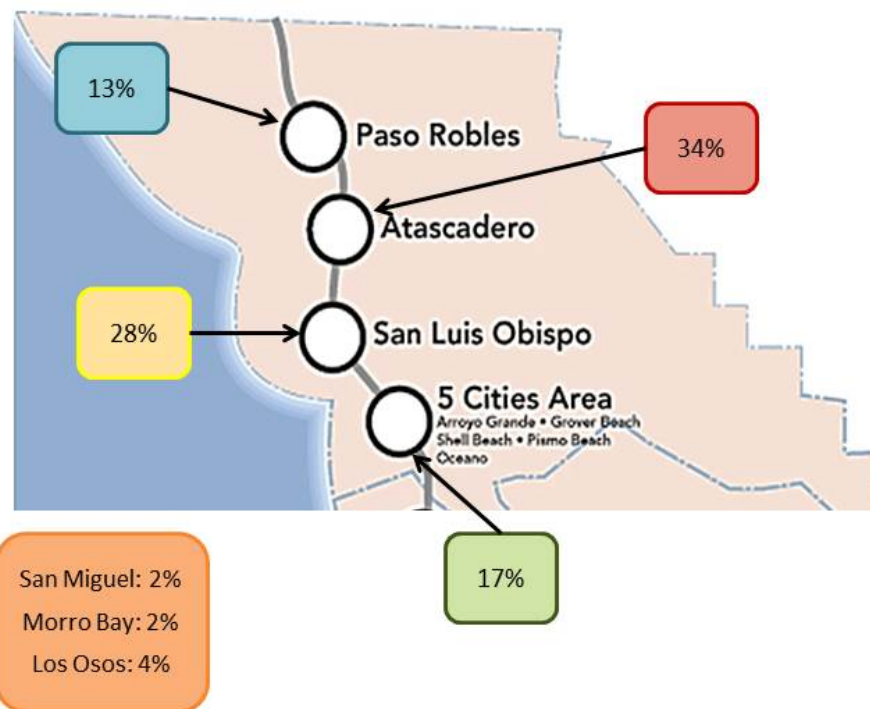
The assessment results were used to determine vulnerability and a list of the 53 people rated most vulnerable was provided to Transitions Mental Health Association. The three additional individuals were provided on the assumption that at least some of the initial 50 would not be available to participate in the program. Transitions Mental Health Association staff then attempted to reach out to all 53 people on the list.

Thirty seven of the most vulnerable people were housed from that initial list, along with three family members, and 16 from the original list were determined not to be available. Reasons people were determined not to be available included death, placement in housing through other programs, inability to qualify for Housing Choice Vouchers, or because the persons could not be found.

In May and June 2015, 231 persons were surveyed at the same or similar locations as the August 2014 survey around the county. New survey sites included Twin Cities Hospital, Arroyo Grande Hospital, and the County Mental Health office in Atascadero. In the May/June 2015 survey, persons were prioritized based on their VI-SPDAT score and a list of 24 additional names was provided to TMHA. TMHA staff has contacted 20 persons on the second list and had housed eight additional persons from that group as of Sept. 30.

Continuing Challenges

Distribution of Housing



The lack of affordable housing continues to be a challenge countywide, particularly units that are at or below 40 percent of the fair-market rent and where the landlords are willing to accept Housing Choice Vouchers. Affordable, accessible units and units that accept pets are particularly difficult to find.

However, the County and THMA continue to work with partner agencies, cities and landlords to identify ways to secure more permanent supportive housing.

"I go by my building at least once a week," said Dirk Dole, a landlord in SLO County who partners with the program. "Things are looking really good. We're happy to be part of this program."

In 2015, the County partnered with the Family Care Network to purchase nine affordable units to house homeless families. It also has applied for bonus funding for 10 additional permanent supportive housing beds in the 2015 Continuum of Care funding competition administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"I can't imagine any downside for a homeowner," said Sandy Buckmoyer, another landlord in SLO County who partners with the program. "We were trying to do something good with our property, and it turns out to be easier on us."

SLO County landlords interested in partnering with the program can contact Mark Lamore at TMHA via phone at (805) 540-6515 or email [MLamore\(at\)t-mha.org](mailto:MLamore(at)t-mha.org).

LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY 2015

More than 16,000 children in San Luis Obispo County struggle with hunger. In 2015, the SLO County Library decided to do something to help alleviate childhood hunger in our community.

The SLO County Library partnered with the Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo for its 2015 Summer Food Service Program, a federally funded meals program offered in the summer. During the summer months, 16,000 children in SLO County no longer have access to a reliable source of nutritious food. These children rely on free or reduced-price lunch programs during the school year, and as soon as summer break begins, they no longer have access to these meals.

So as soon as summer started, the SLO County Library got to work, providing the only summer youth meal sites that were open to the general public. Through these sites, youth age 0-18 had the opportunity to eat healthy meals during their summer break at libraries throughout San Luis County.

During the summer of 2015, the San Luis Obispo County Library provided over 2,000 lunches at the Nipomo and Morro Bay Libraries, and over 1,000 summer snacks at the San Luis Obispo and Cambria Libraries. At each of these libraries a different fresh, healthy meal was provided by the Food Bank Coalition daily and was served by library volunteers.

In Nipomo, where 70 percent of school-age children qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, 1,559 meals were served during the summer of 2015 at the Nipomo Library. Four County Library staff members and eight Trilogy Service Club volunteers helped with this program alone. One Trilogy volunteer even built six picnic tables to help the Nipomo Library serve meals.

In 2016, the library is already working with the Food Bank Coalition to meet the same coverage as 2015 and hopefully expand the program to other communities in need.



LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY 2015

California's public library summer meal programs provide children and teens with continued access to free, healthy food and learning opportunities essential to their development while school is out.



140,000

↑ 62%

increase in number of meals served over 2014 (88,000)

17%

of families who participate in Lunch at the Library programs

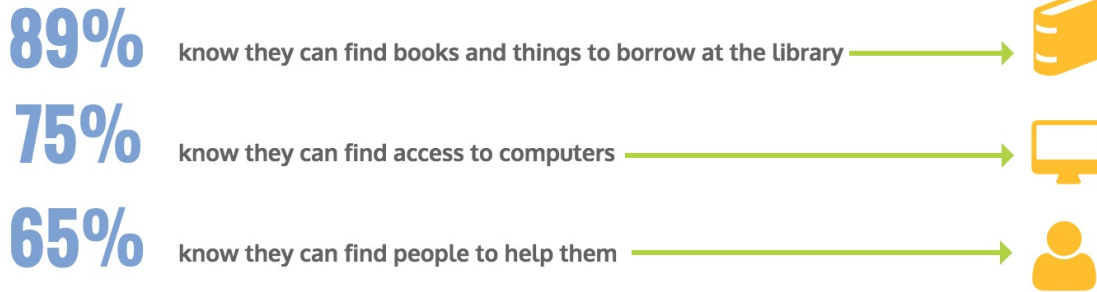
"The lunch program is wonderful and has been a big help to our family. [We're] struggling financially - thank you and god bless..."



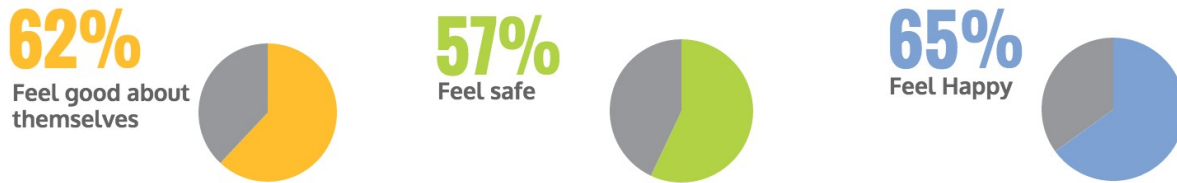
- Lunch at the Library Parent



Families who participate in Lunch at the Library know they can get help and essential resources at the library:



Families who participate in Lunch at the Library programs also feel healthy, happy and safe:



In 2015, 4,358 people in 73 libraries completed surveys.

Library summer meal programs have helped:

- Support the physical, emotional, and developmental health of low income children in the community.
- Engage children and youth in summer reading programs and other library programming.
- Provide community service opportunities for youth.
- Provide a safe and trusted community space for children and their families to go when school is out.
- Provide families with access to technology and other community resources and services.

Lunch at the Library is a project of the California Library Association and California Summer Meal Coalition. The project is funded by a grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and it is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. The Summer Food Service Program is a program of the United States Department of Agriculture, administered in California by the California Department of Education.

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

- Investing in the Community
- Protecting the Public
- Promoting Health & Wellness
- Spending Wisely
- Awards & Accolades
- Working for Community

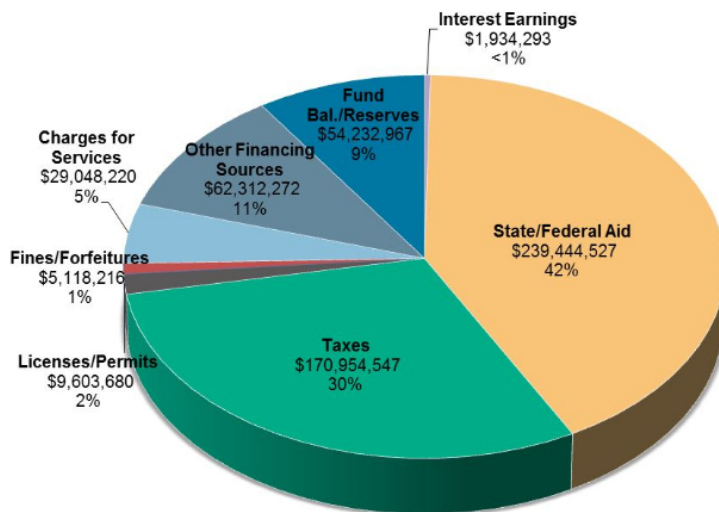
Spending Wisely

San Luis Obispo County develops a **balanced budget every fiscal year**. The budget process is a collaborative effort that involves all County departments, the Board of Supervisors and the public. While County staff is responsible for preparing a proposed budget and the Board of Supervisors ultimately has the authority to adopt funding levels, public input is an integral part of the County's budget process.

Public participation in the budget process is welcome and available through the many public budget-related meetings that are held by the Board of Supervisors throughout the year. All Board meetings are recorded and broadcast via cable television and the County's website.

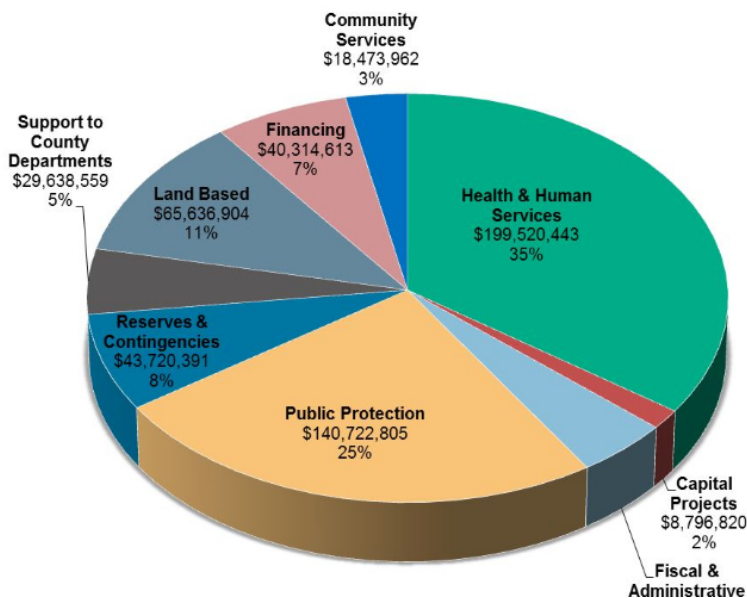
Where do County funds come from?

FY 2015-16 Revenue by Source
Total Budget: \$572.6 million



Where does the County allocate these funds?

FY 2015-16 Expenditures by Priority
Total Budget: \$572.6 million



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Tell Us What You Think

What do you think of the 2015 Annual Report? We want your feedback. Please take a moment to fill out this survey to let us know how we can improve the report next year.

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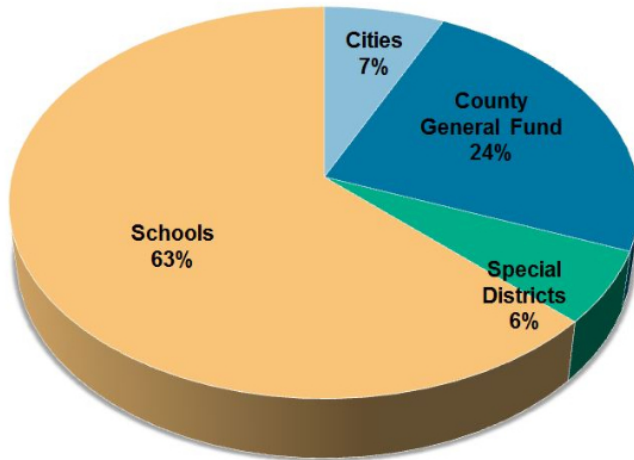
[>> County Civil Service Commission](#)

[>> County Sheriff's Office](#)

[>> County Department of Social Services Semi-Annual Report](#)

Where do property taxes go?

FY 2015-16 Property Tax Distribution



FISCAL YEAR 2015-16 BUDGET SUMMARY

The budget reflects the County's disciplined approach to fiscal management and is consistent with our goal to provide a Safe, Healthy, Livable, Prosperous and Well-Governed Community. **The FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget** represents a significant milestone for the County, as it is the first year since the Great Recession that the County is able to fully fund contingencies and increase reserves, while making significant investments in the many programs and services that are provided to the community.

The adopted budget reflects a balanced approach to addressing spending priorities while remaining sustainable in the long term. The budget authorizes a total spending level of \$572.6 million, with a General Fund budget of \$469.2 million. The overall budget represents an increase of just under 5 percent compared to FY 2014-15.

Notable investments include:

Financial Security

- Full restoration of contingencies to the Board-adopted target of 5 percent.
- \$3.5 million to the Capital Improvement Project Reserve to fund future capital projects.
- \$6.6 million to the Building Replacement Reserve to fund the necessary replacement of County facilities in the future.
- \$1.5 million to the Automation Replacement Reserve to fund future automation projects.
- \$1 million to a designation to assist in paying down a portion of the County's Pension Obligation Bond debt.

Programs and Services

- Augmentations of \$12.3 million (\$4.2 million of General Fund) to various programs and services. This includes an increase to staffing levels by 59 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions, which will enable the County to provide higher levels of service. The most significant increases are to public safety and health and human services.
- Increases roads funding with a one-time General Fund allocation of \$3 million and an ongoing General Fund increase of 10 percent (\$740K) to fund road maintenance. The additional funds bring the total General Fund contributions to \$11.1 million in FY 2015-16.
- Fully funds prioritized capital, maintenance, and automation projects without the use of Reserve funds.
- Allocates \$200,000 to the Cal Poly HotHouse to support economic development activities and a one-time grant of \$250,000 to the Cal Poly Performing Arts Center.

Detailed information about budget changes can be found in the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Adopted Budget available online at www.slocounty.ca.gov.

