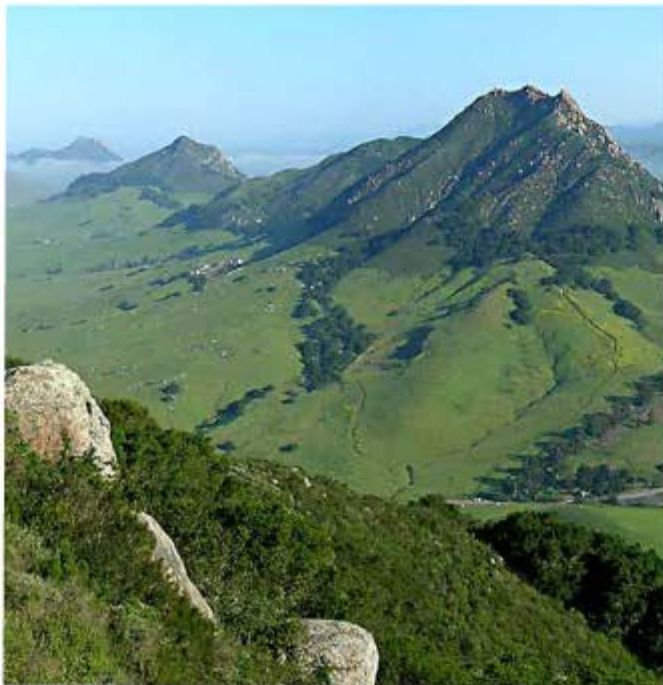


b u i l d i n g



Enter Annual Report

2011 Annual Report



county of san luis obispo



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY AT-A-GLANCE

- Incorporated in 1850 as a General Law County
- FY 2011-12 Budget
 - Total: \$464,428,463
 - General Fund: \$383,347,164
- Full Time Equivalent Positions: 2,382.5
- Population¹
 - Total in County: 269,637
 - Living within 7 cities: 151,519
 - Largest city (San Luis Obispo): 45,119
 - Smallest city (Pismo Beach): 7,655
- Racial and Ethnic Background²

- White (non-Hispanic/Latino):	82.6%
- Asian:	3.2%
- Black or African American:	2.1%
- American Indian/Alaska Native:	.9%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander:	.1%
- Some other race:	7.3%
- Two or more races:	3.8%
- Hispanic or Latino (of any race) :	20.8%

Registered voters: 145,419 as of December, 2011³

¹ 2010 U.S. Census

² 2010 U.S. Census

³ San Luis Obispo County Clerk-Recorder

Table of Contents

About Us

Message from Board Chairman.....	4
Board of Supervisors.....	5-6
Message from County Administrator.....	7
Mission/Organizational Values.....	8
Organizational Chart.....	9
Our County Seal.....	10
About SLO County.....	11-12
Countywide Financials.....	57-58
Run Your Own County.....	59
Awards.....	60-61

Land Based

Ag Commissioner.....	17
Planning & Building.....	18-19
Public Works.....	20-21

Public Protection

County Fire.....	23
Child Support Services.....	24
District Attorney.....	24-25
Emergency Services.....	26
Probation.....	27-28
Sheriff-Coroner.....	29

Health & Human Services

Health Agency	
Animal Services.....	31
Behavioral Health.....	32-33
Public Health.....	34-35
Social Services	
Adult Protective Services.....	36
Child Welfare Services.....	37
Participant Services.....	38
Veterans' Services.....	39

Table of Contents

Community Services

Farm Advisor.....	41
General Services Agency	
Airports.....	42
Golf Courses.....	43
Parks & Recreation.....	44-45
Libraries.....	46-47

Fiscal & Administrative

Administrative Office.....	49
Assessor.....	50
Auditor-Controller.....	50
Clerk-Recorder.....	51
Treasurer-Tax Collector.....	52

Internal Support

County Counsel.....	54
General Services Agency	
Fleet Services.....	55
Information Technology.....	55
Human Resources.....	56



Featured Articles



San Luis Goes
"Solar"
Page 15

Redistricting
Fair and Balanced
Representation
Pages 13-14



ABOUT US



Where do you want to go?

(Click on button to view report)

Message from Board Chairman

Board of Supervisors

Message from County Administrator

Mission & Values

Organizational Chart

Our County Seal

About SLO County

Countywide Financials

Run Your Own County

Awards

ABOUT US

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

WELCOME!

2011 was another challenging economic year, but it was also one in which your Board of Supervisors accomplished quite a lot.

While the dysfunction in Sacramento and in Washington D.C. continues to impact all of us, our county Board of Supervisors showed once again that we know how to govern on behalf of all our citizens.

In this past year we approved two utility scale solar projects on the Carizzo Plains. Each one was approved in single all-day hearings. They have now gone into construction and will provide hundreds of local jobs for three to four years. Once complete, they will provide up to 800 megawatts of clean energy.

Your Board also endorsed the county's first ever public-private economic development strategy. Staff has been incorporating some of its key goals into its processes. With the establishment of business assistance teams, we've already seen real results with a major employer committing to stay and grow here.

Progress on pension and compensation reform continues as our employee unions remain committed to helping us create a sustainable financial future for the county government. We are especially proud of this, as it could not have happened so well without the dedication of our excellent employees.

As we look ahead, we know we have much more to do. Balancing our budget and meeting mandates requires a lot of effort from all our departments. Meeting the Board of Supervisors priorities within our budget constraints is both a challenge and an opportunity to make certain we prioritize well.

Your safety remains our very top priority, but we have added to that job generating efforts, business sensitive practices and fees, and newer and creative approaches to addressing social problems ranging from homelessness to lower income health care.


All and all, your Board of Supervisors is optimistic about our future, both in the near and long terms. As always, your input is crucial to all of our success.

Sincerely,
Adam Hill
Third District Supervisor



Adam Hill
Third District Supervisor

Contact your
Board of Supervisors
Phone: 805.781.5450
Email: boardofsups@co.slo.ca.us

 [Click here to learn more about your Board of Supervisors](#)



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
Incorporated in 1850 as a
General Law County

POPULATION: 269,637*
**2010 US Census*



YOUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Pictured from left to right - back row: Adam Hill, Paul Teixeira, James R. Patterson
front row: Frank R. Mecham, Bruce S. Gibson

The San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors, the legislative arm of the County government, is committed to the implementation of such policies and the provision of such services that will enhance the economic, environmental and social quality of life in San Luis Obispo County.

Service



YOUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



1ST. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
FRANK R. MECHAM

Proudly Serving:

- Adelaida
- Cholame
- Lake Nacimiento
- Oak Shores
- Paso Robles
- San Miguel
- Shandon
- Templeton
- Whitley Gardens

[View Map of District 1](#)



3RD. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
ADAM HILL

Proudly Serving:

- Arroyo Grande (Portion)
- Avila Beach
- Country Club
- Edna - Los Ranchos
- Grover Beach
- Pismo Beach
- Rolling Hills Estate
- SLO - Center and South Portion
- Shell Beach
- Squire Canyon
- Sunset Palisades

[View Map of District 3](#)



5TH. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
JAMES R. PATTERSON

Proudly Serving:

- Atascadero
- Cal Poly (Portion)
- California Valley
- Creston
- Cuyama
- Garden Farms
- Pozo
- SLO Center & Northeast Portion
- Santa Margarita

[View Map of District 5](#)



2ND. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
BRUCE S. GIBSON

Proudly Serving:

- Baywood Park
- California Men's Colony
- Cal Poly (Portion)
- Cambria
- Cayucos
- Cuesta-By-The-Sea
- Cuesta College
- Harmony
- Los Osos
- Morro Bay
- San Simeon
- SLO - Northwest Foothill
- SLO - Laguna Lake

[View Map of District 2](#)



4TH. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
PAUL TEIXEIRA

Proudly Serving:

- Arroyo Grande (Portion)
- Black Lake Canyon
- Callendar - Garrett
- Edna Valley
- Halcyon
- Huasna - Lopez
- Los Berros
- Nipomo
- Nipomo Mesa
- Oceano
- Palo Mesa

[View Map of District 4](#)

Your Elected Officials

The County has a general law form of government. A five-member Board of Supervisors, each member of which is elected by district to a four-year term, serves as the County's legislative body. Elections are held every two years on a staggered basis. Also elected are the County Assessor, Auditor-Controller, Clerk-Recorder, District Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner and Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator. A County Administrative Officer and the County Counsel are appointed and hired by the Board of Supervisors.



Jim Grant

County Administrative Officer

Contact your
County Administrative Officer
Phone: 805.781.5011

[Email](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

It is with great enthusiasm that I present the County of San Luis Obispo's second Annual Report. While many County departments have prepared their own annual reports for a number of years, 2010 was the first year that the County produced a report including information about some of the programs and services throughout the entire organization. The response to the 2010 Annual Report was overwhelmingly positive. The feedback that we have received from County residents and organizations alike is that the report is a useful tool for educating the community about the programs and services that the County provides.

The continuing economic downturn has undoubtedly had a major impact to the County and its residents. Recognizing that economic hardship often increases reliance on government programs, the County has taken a proactive approach in facing its budget difficulties, in an effort to minimize the impact of service reductions to residents. I am proud to work with fellow staff and a Board of Supervisors who understand the importance of making responsible and sometimes difficult deci-

sions in the name of ensuring the County's long-term fiscal health and to achieve our vision of a safe, healthy, livable, prosperous, and well governed community.


Although many have predicted that we are near the bottom of the economic downturn, our challenges are far from over. While our immediate response to the economic crisis has been important, we recognize that it is ultimately our recovery and adjustment to new financial realities that is most vital in ensuring the continued well-being of this County.

As we close one year and move into another, I encourage everyone to take pride in this unique place that we call home. I am heartened by the strong public service ethic displayed by County staff every day, and I am humbled by the willingness with which County residents and business owners actively contribute to making San Luis Obispo County the best that it can be.

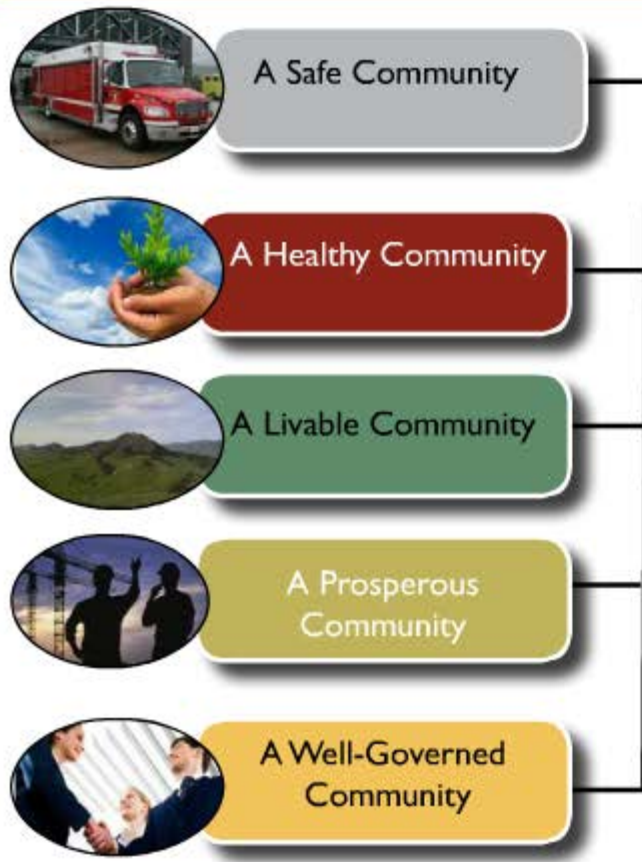
Sincerely,
Jim Grant
County Administrator

"I am proud to work with fellow staff and a Board of Supervisors who understand the importance of making responsible and sometimes difficult decisions in the name of ensuring the County's long-term fiscal health and doing right by the people we serve."

Mission, Organizational Values & Communitywide Results

 Scroll over boxes for expanded definitions

Vision Statement & Communitywide Results




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

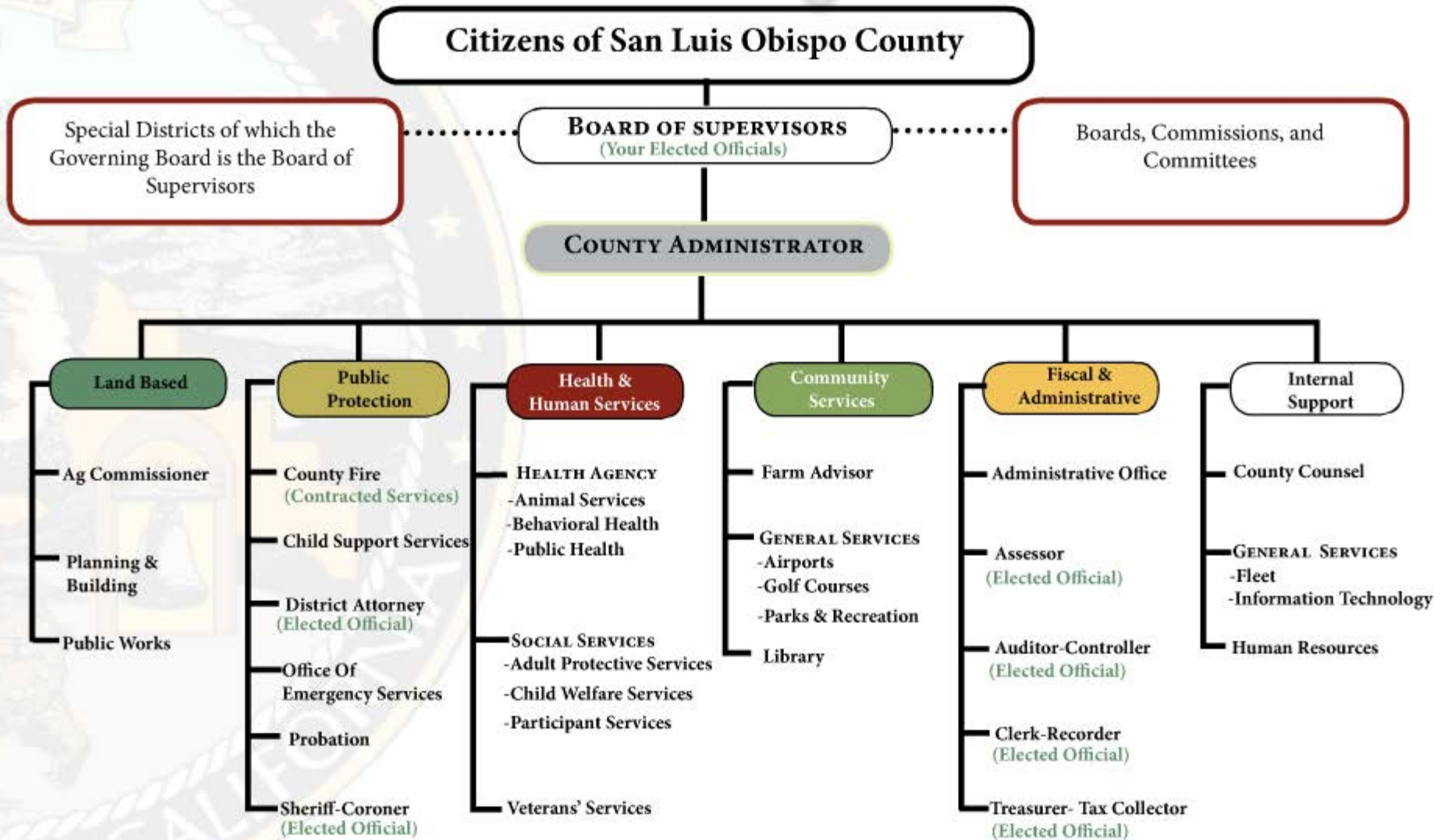
Organizational Values



VALUES

COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

 Click on department to view section



OUR COUNTY SEAL

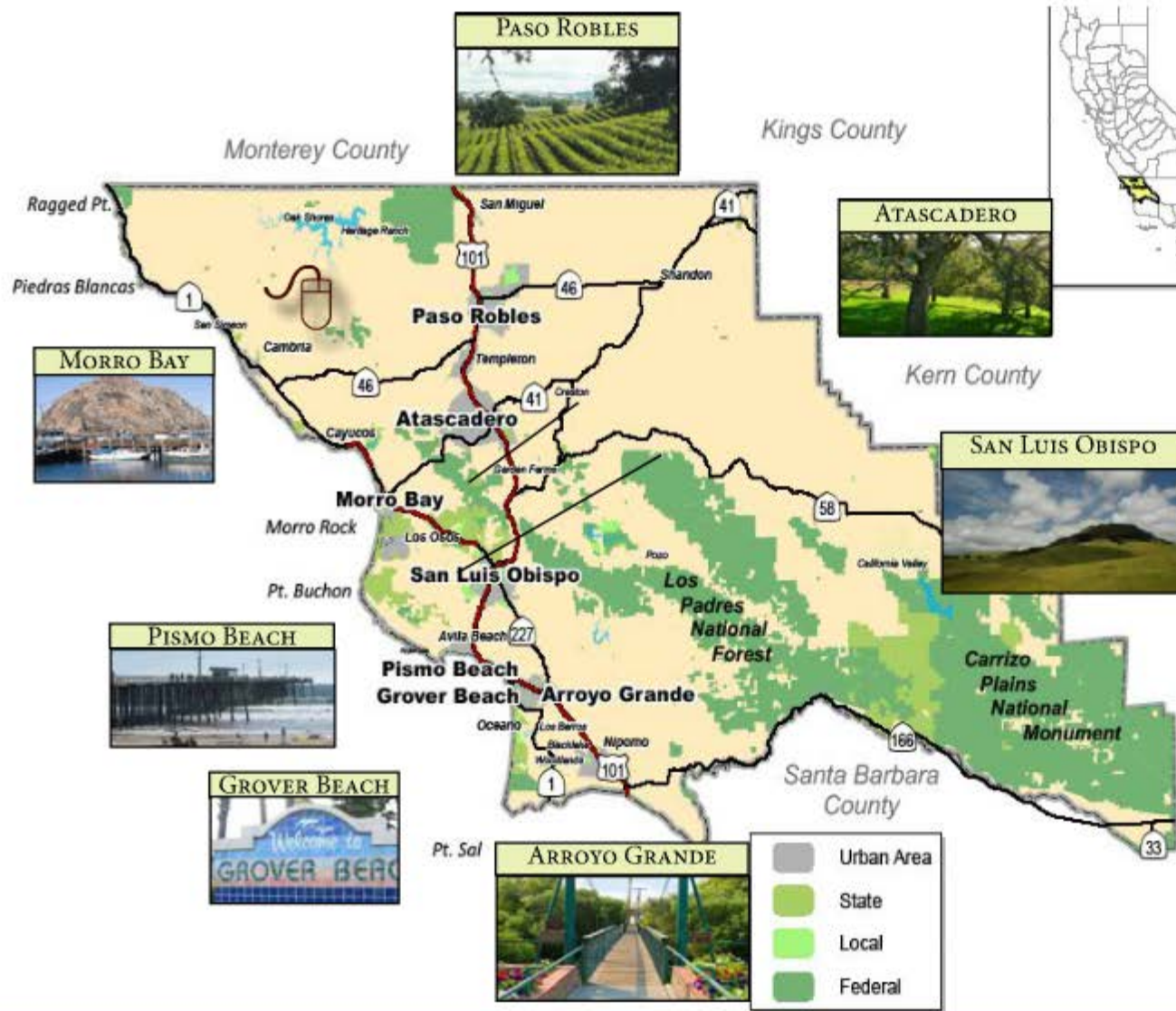
Scroll over each depiction to read the history behind our County Seal



NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE

ABOUT SLO COUNTY

Click on City Photos to Visit City Websites



Community Profile

The County was established by an act of the Legislature on February 18, 1850 as one of the original 27 counties of the State of California, with the City of San Luis Obispo as the County seat. The County covers approximately 3,300 square miles and is located on the California coast midway between the metropolitan areas of San Francisco and Los Angeles. The County is bordered by Monterey County to the north, Kern County on the east, Santa Barbara County to the south and the Pacific Ocean on the west. The Santa Lucia Range dominates the western half of the County; the eastern boundary lies along the Temblor Range. The Los Padres National Forest is located in the south central part of the County. The County contains seven incorporated cities, which represented approximately 56% of the aggregate population in the County as of January 1, 2010.



Continued on next page

Recreation and Tourism

The County offers numerous opportunities for recreation. Some popular activities are swimming, climbing, picnicking, boating, surfing, fishing and water skiing at the beaches, lakes and parks in the County. The nationally known Hearst Castle in San Simeon attracts over one million visitors each year and the historic Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, founded in 1772, is another popular attraction in the County that serves as a museum chronicling early life in the State before 1900 and a parish church. In the Carrizo Plain, the County contains one of the largest natural wildlife preserves in the United States.

The County is also the home of the renowned Mozart Festival, Old-Fashioned Fourth of July, La Fiesta, Mardi Gras, Renaissance Faire, Mid-State Fair, San Luis Obispo Expo, Central Coast Wine Festival, San Luis Obispo County Symphony, Colony Days, Pioneer Days, Strawberry Festival, Central Coast Wine Classic, Clam Festival, Harbor Festival, Paso Robles Wine Festival, Farmers' Market, and various Christmas events.



Transportation

The County is completely accessible by land, air and water. Two regional carriers, United Express and U.S. Airways have regular connecting service to major cities in Northern and Southern California. Both Southern Pacific and Amtrak have daily schedules for the County's rail service. The County has its own public transport- the City of San Luis Obispo Transit and Central Coast Area Transit - and is serviced by Greyhound Bus Lines. US Highway 101 and numerous State Highways such as 1, 41, 46, 53, 68, 166, 227 and 229 provide convenient access to the County and its municipalities.

Education and Community Services

The County of San Luis Obispo has one state university, one community college district and several elementary and secondary ("K-12") school districts. Public school education in the County is available through three elementary school districts, seven unified school districts, the County Office of Education and the State of California Youth Authority. For Fiscal Year 2009-10, these districts provided 40 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, one junior high school, 10 high schools, one middle and senior high school, 10 alternative schools, one special education school, five continuation high schools, a home school program, two charter schools, juvenile court, County community and California Youth Authority schools. School enrollment in Fiscal Year 2009-10 numbered approximately 34,700 in public schools and more than 2,000 in regular graded private schools. California Polytechnic State University is adjacent to the City of San Luis Obispo. It includes one of the largest architectural schools in the United States and is well known for its engineering and agricultural schools. Cuesta Community College is located seven miles west of the City of San Luis Obispo.

The County also has two major library systems -- San Luis Obispo City & County Library and California Polytechnic State University Library. Media services are provided by local newspapers such as The Tribune, New Times, Five Cities Times-Press-Recorder, Atascadero News, and Mustang Daily. There are also several radio stations and two directly received television channels.

Y
 T
 I
 N
 Z
 U
 M
 W
 O
 M
 O
 N
 D
 A
 Y

REDISTRICTING

What are the legal requirements for redistricting?

California Elections Code, Sections 21500 – 21506 requires that the Board of Supervisors adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts every ten years, before November 1st of the year following completion of the decennial census. The ordinance reflecting the Board's selected redistricting plan was adopted on September 20, 2011 in a public hearing, and the new supervisorial districts went into effect on October 20, 2011.

Both Federal and State law require that districts be as nearly equal in population as is practical, taking into account the total population of the county, including citizens and non-citizens, age-eligible voters, and those not yet old enough to vote. The only population that was excluded from the total county population count for the purposes of redistricting was the more than 7,400 inmates housed at the California Men's Colony and individuals housed at Atascadero State Hospital. In California, State prisoners are not allowed to vote while incarcerated or while on parole. Prisoners do however, remain legal residents of the community where they lived prior to their arrest.

In addition to State and Federal Law, there are secondary considerations that the Board of Supervisors may take into account when redrawing the lines, which allow some leeway in meeting the equal population requirement. Such considerations include topography (the use of natural barriers such as mountain ranges and large rivers to establish boundaries), geography, contiguity (districts must be one continuous mass), integrity (keeping cities, communities and neighborhoods together in one district where feasible), compactness of territory, and communities of interest (which means people within one district share common interests and concerns). Communities of interest do not pertain to political party affiliation or relationship with an incumbent or political candidate.

Federal and State law requires that a redistricting plan comply with Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act in order to avoid discrimination against racial or language minorities in terms of either purpose or effect, even if unintended. This requirement is one that has been most often challenged in court.

Redistricting is the adjusting of district lines to ensure that legislative representation is fair and balanced. Redistricting is done every ten years, after completion of the decennial census, to account for population shifts and growth over the last decade. In the case of the county, it is the supervisorial district lines that are redrawn - the number of districts (five), does not change.

The primary purpose of redistricting is to rebalance the population of the five districts to make them as equal in population as possible, thus bringing districts back into compliance with the one-person one-vote mandate of the federal and state constitutions.

Redistricting Maps

Scroll over maps to enlarge



Board Adopted Redistricting map with all five districts.



Board Adopted Redistricting map with Insets of San Luis Obispo City, Arroyo Grande and Templeton

Click [here](#) to view maps by Supervisorial District

Continued on next page

FAIR & BALANCED

REDISTRICTING

What did the Census data tell us?

As the following table illustrates, the most significant growth occurred in District 1 (in the north county) and District 4 (in the south county). The other Districts also grew but at a slower rate.

District	2000 Population	2010 Population Adjusted*	# Change	% Change
1	47,221	57,998	10,777	22.8%
2	47,672	50,272	2,600	5.5%
3	47,305	48,204	899	1.9%
4	47,668	55,386	7,718	16.2%
5	47,902	50,332	2,430	5.1%

*Adjusted population means the total county population minus the State prison inmate population and those housed at Atascadero State Hospital.

Redistricting Process and Major Milestones

- **March:** 2010 Census Data available to the County
 - **April:** County launched Redistricting website to keep the public informed
 - **May:** Draft redistricting plans created by County team for public feedback
 - **Late May and early June:** Three public workshops held to discuss draft redistricting plans
 - **Late June and early July:** Draft redistricting plans refined reflecting public comment
 - **July 19:** Board of Supervisors reviews public comment and draft redistricting plans giving staff further direction
- The Board held three public hearings to consider redistricting plans and give the public the opportunity to provide comments. These meetings were held on:
- August 16th
 - September 6th and
 - September 20th
- The final maps displayed [here](#) were adopted by the Board on September 20th and the new boundaries went into effect October 20, 2011.

GIS Online Mapping Software “Zeroing In” On San Luis Obispo County

In 2011, the Planning and Building department launched a new interactive geographic information system (GIS) mapping system on its website. GIS has long been used by the County to store and analyze geographical information for a variety of purposes including land use planning, public works projects, elections, law enforcement and emergency planning, property assessments, and much more. In 2011, interactive GIS was used extensively in the County’s redistricting effort, as a tool to identify possible district boundary lines and explain redistricting proposals to the Board of Supervisors and the public.

The new interactive GIS mapping system gives the public the opportunity to access a range of geographical information about the county 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Using interactive GIS, the public can:

- Locate all businesses of a certain type within a specific area and get information about the businesses including names and how many people they employ.
- Get information about individual parcels of land including what city, planning area, and supervisorial district they fall in, and what amenities are nearby.
- Generate demographic reports on defined areas.
- Get information about how close a parcel is to a flood plain.
- Access information about consumer expenditures on a variety of different goods and services in a particular area.
- Find emergency preparedness information such as the location of tsunami inundation zones, levels of fire severity in particular areas and nuclear power plant protective action zone area boundaries.
- Generate a list of property addresses within an area as small as 1,000 feet away from a selected property.
- Identify businesses within a specified distance or drive time of a selected property.

For more information about what can be done with interactive GIS, visit <http://www.sloplanning-maps.org/>

SOLAR DEVELOPMENTS

Summary

Two large solar developments received conditional use permits in 2011: The Topaz Solar Farm (proposed by First Solar, Inc. partnering with MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, the utility arm of Berkshire Hathaway), and the California Valley Solar Ranch (proposed by SunPower Corporation partnering with NRG Energy, Inc.). These two plants will be built out in the Carrizo Plain, in the eastern part of San Luis Obispo County. Combined, these plants are estimated to cost more than \$3 billion to construct, with as much as \$300 million of this spent within our county. Sales tax revenue to San Luis Obispo County alone will be at least \$22 million. This amount has been guaranteed through contracts the county has approved with each project owner. Local schools will also benefit from this boost in sales tax revenue.

During construction, as many as 750 jobs will be created, with most of these expected to be filled with the local labor force. Once both plants are operational, approximately 25 new, long-term jobs will be created. Both companies have a 25-year Power Purchase Agreement with Pacific Gas and Electric to deliver a total of 800 megawatts of power.

For more information on Solar Development Projects in our County.

[Please visit our website](#)

[View Map of solar projects](#)

Topaz Solar Farm

First Solar's Topaz Solar Farm is a 550 megawatt plant that will be constructed over a three to four year period, beginning in November, 2011. This plant will cost more than \$1.7 billion to construct. Sales taxes paid by First Solar for construction and operations supplies and materials will generate at least \$14 million in sales tax revenue direct to the County. A total of 415 workers are expected to be hired, 400 for the construction of the plant. Most of these workers (63%) are expected to be hired within the county.

A total of more than \$38 million in wages will be paid during the construction of the plant, with almost \$23 million of these wages paid to workers within our county. This is money that will help stimulate our local economy. Once the plant is operational, 15 employees will work at the plant earning annual wages of approximately \$1.35 million.

The Board of Supervisors approved both projects with provisions that include workforce local hiring, funding for renewable energy education, improvements to the local Carissa Plains Heritage Community Center, and protection of lands for wildlife and endangered species.

California Valley Solar Ranch

SunPower's California Valley Solar Ranch is a 250 megawatt plant that will be constructed over a two to three year period. The plant will power over 100,000 homes with clean, renewable energy. Construction on this plant began in September 2011. The cost to construct the California Valley Solar Ranch is estimated to be more than \$1.4 billion.

The project will generate a number of benefits to San Luis Obispo County including revenue and job opportunities. Sales taxes paid by SunPower for construction and operations supplies and materials will generate at least \$8.5 million in sales tax revenue direct to the County. The project will generate up to 350 jobs during plant construction and 10 jobs once the plant is operational; earning wages of approximately \$935,000. Workforce expenses are expected to total \$72 million during the two to three year construction period with \$46 million of that being paid to workers as direct wages.

Since September 2011, the project has also contracted for over \$20 million in materials and services from businesses within the County.

Note: The data cited above was taken from the "Socioeconomic and Fiscal Impacts Study" included in the Final Environmental Impact Reports for each project with updates as available. As project construction progresses, actual construction costs, the number of workers and the salaries paid may change.

Solar Developments will:

Bring **750 jobs** to our County

Generate **\$22 million** in sales tax revenue direct to the County

DEVELOPMENTS

LAND BASED



Where do you want to go?

(Click on button to view report)

Agricultural Commissioner

Planning & Building

Public Works



www.slocounty.ca.gov

LAND BASED

WHAT WE DO:

The Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights and Measures is the local entity responsible for compliance with laws and regulations pertaining to plant quarantine, pesticide use, weights and measures and agricultural statistics. The Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer operates under the authority of the State of California and is mandated to ensure enforcement of provisions in the California Food and Agricultural Code, California Business and Professions Code and the California Code of Regulations.

Contact Us:

Agricultural Commissioner
 2156 Sierra Way
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-5910 Fax (805) 781-1035
[Visit our Website](#)

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER

Insect Trapping: Early Detection of Unwanted Pests



Glassy-winged Sharpshooter

Over the past year, the Ag Commissioner has expanded the Pest Detection program which allows for early detection of pests harmful to agriculture, landscapes and the environment, increasing the number of insect traps placed throughout the county from 2,800 in 2010 to 4,600 in 2011. The expansion of the Pest Detection program is due to recent discoveries of the European Grape Vine Moth in California and the continued threat of the introduction of other new and exotic harmful insects to the county.

As a result of ongoing trap monitoring, a small population of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter was detected in traps placed in an urban area in the city of San Luis Obispo. The Glassy-winged

Sharpshooter is a transmitter of various plant diseases including Pierce's Disease which is a serious plant disease fatal to grape vines. The Sharpshooter creates onerous regulatory requirements for nursery operations and is a nuisance for homeowners, leaving sticky, ugly residue on ornamental plants, sidewalks, patio furniture and other outdoor surfaces. Rapid response to this small infestation through intensified trapping and eradication efforts throughout 2011 should result in the elimination of this population in the near future. These efforts will protect the county's grape industry, valued at \$174 million in 2010, eliminate the need for increased regulations for nursery operations, and help homeowners maintain their property.

Farmers' Markets Offer Many Opportunities to Showcase Local Agriculture



Virtually every day there is one or more farmers' markets held somewhere in San Luis Obispo County. Farmers' markets not only give the public access to the freshest fruits and vegetables, but also provide producers a local venue in which to sell the bounty of their labor.

To facilitate the sale of fresh produce, the San Luis Obispo County Agricultural Commissioner certifies growers selling qualifying agricultural products at local certified farmers' markets, declaring a direct link between producers and consumers. "Jim" is a small scale grower who sells a wide variety of produce at local farmers' markets. In addition to appreciating the public's support for the markets, Jim believes that the Agricultural Commissioner's staff plays a vital role in helping to maintain the integrity of the direct marketing approach for local products which is vital to the continued success of the markets and many farmers.

PLANNING & BUILDING

*Promoting the wise use of land
Helping to build great communities*



WHAT WE DO:

The Department of Planning and Building is made up of the following six Divisions:

THE BUILDING DIVISION administers building codes and is responsible for administering safe construction by issuing building permits and inspecting work at construction sites.

THE CURRENT PLANNING DIVISION reviews proposals for rezoning, development or land divisions. This division also prepares amendments to ordinances and reviews Agricultural Preserve Contracts.

THE LONG RANGE PLANNING DIVISION updates and implements the County's General Plan, strategic growth principles, administers grant programs and maintains a comprehensive geographic information/mapping system, and oversees energy retrofit programs.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION implements the California Environmental Quality Act, the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, processes applications for land development projects and provides specific environmental expertise.

THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION provides land use information to the public and applications at the Permit Center, and administers Code Enforcement, and provides support for the department's permit tracking system.

THE OPERATIONS DIVISION is responsible for setting Department policy, administrating all accounting processes, budget and fee preparations and overseeing human resource issues for the Department.

Contact Us:
 Planning & Building Department
 976 Osos Street Room 200
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5600 Fax (805) 781-1242

[Visit our Website](#)



Combating a Bad Economy with Economic Initiatives and Incentives

Since December 2007, declining market conditions have impacted local businesses, government agencies and residents. Within the Department of Planning and Building, these trends have translated into fewer land use applications and building permits being submitted.

In recognition of the new economic realities and to reflect best practices, the Board of Supervisors directed the Department to reexamine its economic goals and priorities and to take tangible steps to support local economic recovery. Below are a few examples of economic incentives and initiatives pursued by the Department to support and facilitate regional economic recovery:

ARRA Federal Grant Funding

The Department has used American Recovery and Re-Investment Act (ARRA) Federal grant funding to complete a number of initiatives that focused primarily on job creation in the energy audit and retrofit fields. This included subsidized training that allowed 13 participants to pass the exams to become certified energy auditors.

Public Facilities and Road Fee Deferral

In July 2011, the Board adopted amendments to the Public Facility Fee Ordinances to allow for deferral of fees from building permit issuance to final building inspection. The program will reduce the initial cost to build and to create incentives for builders to complete construction work.

Continued on next page →

PLANNING & BUILDING

Business Performance Institute (BPI) Program at Cuesta College

Troy Spindler has been in the construction business for 30 years, rebuilding and remodeling homes in Monterey, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. Troy has seen a lot in 30 years, but says that the current economy is, "without a doubt, the worst slow down." After leaving his prior employment, Troy started to attend energy efficiency and upgrade trainings offered by PG&E which reaffirmed his belief that the construction business could benefit from greener practices. Although he'd always received a lot of positive feedback on his suggestions that contractors "green up their procedures and work", no change ever happened. After a period of unemployment, Troy started Green House, a business specializing in home energy efficiency.

Keeping his business going in the current economy is possible due largely to a County sponsored, ARRA funded Building Professionals Institute (BPI) training program he completed at Cuesta College last year. The BPI training program is designed to give local

contractors the knowledge and certification they need to retrofit homes on the Central Coast. Troy says that the training "has allowed him to participate in the Energy Upgrade California rebate program. I now have three jobs waiting." Troy is currently the only BPI certified energy upgrade contractor in the County but he looks forward to having more people involved because he believes there is a lot of work to be done.

Troy hears from many people who are concerned about high utility bills. After an initial audit, his business helps the homeowner prioritize improvements and informs them of applicable rebates and incentives.

Troy recommends the BPI training for any contractor, whether or not they wish to be certified because "it's the correct and best way to build homes. There's a crying need for this type of work, and so far, it's not being met."



LAND BASED

Combating a Bad Economy with Economic Initiatives and Incentives - Continued

Process Improvement Committees

In June 2011, the Board endorsed the recommendations of two Process Improvement Committees. The committees were established to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Department's systems and identify opportunities for improvement. Many of the recommendations have already been implemented, with completion of all of the recommendations expected by the end of 2011.

Utility-Scale Solar Projects

In 2011, two Conditional Use Permits were processed to approve large scale solar projects located in the Carrizo Plain in the eastern portion of the County. Conditions of approval that were applied to these projects included: encouraging local hiring practices in order to create new local jobs, a requirement that job fairs be held locally to notify local residents of job opportunities, and a financial guarantee that sales tax revenues received by the County will meet a combined amount of at least \$22 million once the two plants are constructed.



PUBLIC WORKS

WHAT WE DO:

The Public Works Department provides a wide range of public infrastructure services. To best serve County residents, the Department is divided into the following operational divisions:

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES provides review/approval and inspection for engineering and survey work on land development projects.

TRANSPORTATION/ROADS is responsible for the safe and efficient movement of traffic on the County-maintained network of roads. This division oversees infrastructure maintenance and operations, including road signs, pavement management, traffic signals, drainage facilities, bridges and guardrails.

UTILITIES maintains and performs long-range planning functions for public utility systems for water, wastewater and storm water, and maintains and constructs water storage facilities. This division monitors and reports on drinking water quality and County-wide hydrologic data. Utilities also prepares Countywide Master Plan documents and coordinates with the Planning Department on Resource Capacity Studies.

DESIGN is responsible for the design and contracting of County roads, bridges, drainage and utility infrastructure improvements as well as the administration of right-of-way services.

CONSTRUCTION oversees the construction of County infrastructure projects through contract management and inspection services.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS manages compliance with Federal, State and Local environmental regulations, including permitting, mitigation, monitoring, reporting and site maintenance. This division performs California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act reviews of County infrastructure projects.

Continued on next page →

Did you know?

San Luis Obispo County maintains:

- 218 bridges
- 1,325 total miles of roads
- 1,091 miles of paved road
- 234 miles of unpaved road
- 4,800 road culverts
- 262 cattleguards
- 56 flood control basins

Contact Us:
 Public Works Department
 1050 Monterey St. Room 207
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5252
 Fax (805) 781-1229
[Visit our Website](#)



PUBLIC WORKS

Nacimientto Water Project - In Brief:

COST: \$176.1 million

COMPLETION DATE: January 2011

OWNER: San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

ENGINEER: Black & Veatch Corporation

PROJECT: 45 mile raw water distribution system to deliver 15,750 acre feet of water per year from Lake Nacimientto to various participating agencies.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES: City of Paso Robles, Templeton Community Services District, Atascadero Mutual Water Company, City of San Luis Obispo, and County Service Area 10, Benefit Zone A.



Rocky Canyon Pump Station and Tank

Providing Water for Future Generations

The Nacimientto Water Project (Project) is a new 15,750 acre feet per year (AFY) raw water conveyance consisting of a lake intake at Lake Nacimientto, three pump stations with supporting structural and architectural elements, three welded steel storage tanks, four turnouts for delivering water to the participating agencies, 45 miles of transmission piping, associated electrical mechanical works, and instrumentation and controls features. The pipeline traverses different terrains including hills, rivers, a military base, state highways, railroads, and many public and private properties. It is the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (District) largest project ever constructed by a factor of six, and serves as an icon of collaboration between communities within San Luis Obispo County.

The Project was launched with the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) adoption on January 6, 2004, by the Board of Supervisors (Board) for the District. The District owns the Project which was successfully completed on January 7, 2011 – almost seven years to the day after the District's Board directed staff to manage, design, fund, and construct the Project. The District and consultants employed many creative tactics to complete this immense project under budget and on schedule.

A public works Project of this magnitude stands out as a landmark achievement for the local communities—not only does it supplement local water resources, it also demonstrates this region's ability to realize regional needs to sustain future generations and to seek a collaborative solution that benefits the residents and sustains local resources. This 45 mile water conveyance system is not just a "pipe in the ground"!

Nacimientto Water Project

Click on picture below to view video



LAND

PUBLIC PROTECTION



Where do you want to go?

(Click on button to view report)

County Fire

Child Support Services

District Attorney

Office of Emergency Services

Probation

Sheriff - Coroner



PUBLIC PROTECTION

www.slocounty.ca.gov

WHAT WE DO:

County Fire 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. Acting as a single, unified emergency response agency, County Fire and CAL FIRE also provide contract fire services to Los Osos, Avila Beach, Pismo Beach and Cayucos.

Department activities are split between four Service Programs:

- Response to Emergencies
- Preparation for Emergencies
- Prevention of Emergencies
- Management of the Department

Contact Us:

County Fire Headquarters
 635 N. Santa Rosa St.
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
 (805) 543-4244
[Visit our Website](#)



COUNTY FIRE



New Fire/Rescue Boat on Lake Nacimiento

In November 2011, County Fire took delivery of a new fire/rescue boat for use on Lake Nacimiento. For many years, both Heritage Ranch Fire Station 33 and Oak Shores Fire Station 34 have used boats to respond to fires and medical aid calls. One of those boats has reached the end of its useful life and, unfortunately, needed repairs which would have cost more than the boat was worth.

County Fire therefore began the search for a replacement boat. The Department took into consideration the unique demands of emergency responses at Lake Nacimiento, consulted with fire and rescue boat manufacturers, and finalized the design. In the end, the department was able to save money by purchasing the boat through a competitive bidding process.

The new boat is capable of hauling firefighters and equipment to areas around Nacimiento that have no road access, disembarking them in locations without docks, extinguish boat fires and grass fires near the shore using on-board pumps, and delivering injured patients to a waiting ambulance. The new boat will also play a critical role during major fires, pumping lake water to refill fire engines and water tenders on the shore.

New Rescue Certifications in 2011

In August, County Fire's Rescue 21, assigned to Airport Fire Station 21, was officially designated as both an Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Type II and as a Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Type II by the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA).

The Type II certification recognizes that County Fire's rescue capabilities are now on a level similar to those of major metropolitan fire departments. It is also a positive indicator of County Fire's continuous improvement process, intended to meet the changing needs of the community.

Rescue 21 is equipped with tools and equipment needed in complex and sophisticated rescue situations, such as building collapses, floods, landslides, and those which occur in the ocean. Rescue 21 is staffed by an Interagency Rescue Team, including firefighters from County Fire and several local fire departments, who receive extensive additional training in order to accomplish such rescues.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

WHAT WE DO:

The Department of Child Support Services works to enhance the well-being of children and the self-sufficiency of families by ensuring that they receive the support to which they are entitled by law. The Department deals with both civil and criminal matters involving family support, including prosecution of individuals who willfully refuse to support their children.

CHILD SUPPORT OPERATIONS

The Department of Child Support Services establishes paternity through genetic testing and locates non-custodial parents and custodial parties to establish, enforce, and distribute child and medical support. The Department encourages both parents to be involved in the lives of their children.



[Click here to view the Child Support process](#)

Contact Us:
 Child Support Services
 1200 Monterey St.
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3104
 (866) 901-3212
 Fax (805) 781-5156
[Visit our Website](#)



Did you know?

The San Luis Obispo County Department of Child Support Services has been recognized as a top performing Child Support Department in the State since 2002.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

WHAT WE DO:

The San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's (DA) Office represents the People of the State of California in all criminal cases occurring within San Luis Obispo County.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS

There are a number of different units within the DA's office responsible for criminal prosecutions. The combined General Felony and Misdemeanor Unit handles the majority of the more than 17,000 criminal cases filed in court last year by the District Attorney's Office. The Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Unit handles cases related to sexual assault, child abuse and domestic violence.

The Narcotics Prosecution Team prosecutes a variety of drug offenses, from the manufacturing, possession for sale and transportation of high-level narcotics, to the lesser street-level possession cases. The Juvenile Unit prosecutes criminal misdemeanor and serious felony cases involving minors under the age of 18.

OTHER SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS

Other specialized prosecution units exist for cases involving Elder Abuse, Consumer Fraud, and Environmental Protection. Additionally, an Economic Crime Division assists with a variety of white collar crime-related issues, including false and misleading advertising and non-sufficient fund check restitution.

VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE

This program's unique purpose is to make the criminal justice system more accessible, easier to understand, and more responsive to the rights and needs of victims of crime. Victim advocate personnel are skilled in crisis intervention, emergency assistance, and thorough responses to the individual needs of victims.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

The District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations provides investigative support in both criminal and a limited number of civil matters. The Bureau's investigators are sworn peace officers who are also available to respond to law enforcement investigative requests and emergencies.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

In the Nick of Time

With barely time to put her purse down and begin her day's work, Victim/Witness Division Elder Abuse Advocate Angela Viles answered her ringing phone. On the line was a concerned citizen who said her 88 year-old aunt was just hours away from falling victim to a Jamaican lottery scam.

The caller said her aunt had received notification that she had won millions, but first must pay \$100,000 in fees to collect her winnings. The urgency of Angela's assistance was paramount—the elderly aunt was going to the bank that very morning to withdraw and wire the money.

Angela has dedicated the last four years of her career to advocacy for the elderly, and was very familiar with financial schemes targeting seniors. Jamaica is home to a thriving telemarketing fraud industry that brings in hundreds of millions of illicit U.S. dollars each year.



Angela quickly contacted Kim Kusco in the County Adult Protective Services Unit. Together they began driving toward the elderly aunt's North County home while also attempting to contact her by phone.

After repeated tries, the aunt finally answered. She was at the bank—with five \$20,000 cashier's checks in her hand. After speaking with Angela and Kim, the woman returned to the bank the following day and redeposited her money. Thanks to Angela's quick action, a tragedy had been averted, just in the nick of time.

Contact Us:
District Attorney
1035 Palm St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5800
[Visit our Website](#)

In Pursuit of Justice

Drug-related home invasion robbery results in gunfire and the murder of a 20-year-old. Father murders infant son by shaking him; causing a fatal brain injury. These two cases are among the 12 murder cases, involving 21 defendants that have been prosecuted by the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's Office over the past year—probably the highest number of murder cases the office has ever handled simultaneously.

The prosecution of murder cases is the most complex and labor intensive of the 17,000 felony and misdemeanor cases prosecuted by the District Attorney each year. From the initial charging of a murder case to the plea, verdict or sentencing of the defendant(s), a murder case requires a dedicated team of District Attorney personnel.

This team, comprised of a prosecutor, investigator, legal clerk, paralegal and victim/witness personnel, work over many months, often more than a year, to prepare a murder case for trial. Preparation includes reviewing volumes of case reports and documents, preparing numerous legal documents and court exhibits, conducting follow-up investigation and witness interviews, and pre-

paring for and appearing at multiple pre-trial court hearings.

Throughout the process, any number of issues can delay the progress of the case, including court scheduling conflicts, waiting for key evidence, and defense motions, such as issues with a defendant's competency to stand trial.

As a murder case proceeds through the criminal justice system, victim advocates maintain regular contact with the victim's family, assisting them in exercising their legal rights as crime victims, and providing a variety of crisis and support services. The coordination of witnesses for court involves personal contacts to confirm receipt of their subpoenas, extensive scheduling, transportation and hotel arrangements for out of county witnesses, as well as court orientation and escort.

Although the prosecution of murder cases demands an enormous amount of time and personnel resources, those efforts match the magnitude of the offenses and reflect the District Attorney's Office's commitment to the pursuit of justice for a victim's family and the community at large.



WHAT WE DO:

The County Office of Emergency Services (OES) works in cooperation with the County's first responders to prepare for and coordinate responses to disasters and other emergencies large enough to affect multiple jurisdictions or impact multiple emergency service disciplines within the county.

Contact Us:

Office of Emergency Services
1055 Monterey St. Suite D430
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5011 Fax(805) 781-5005

[Visit our Website](#)

 Like us on Facebook

REVERSE 911



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Tsunami Preparedness and Response

One of the roles of the Office of Emergency Services is to coordinate the development of emergency procedures that involve many agencies. One such effort was the development of a tsunami emergency response plan, which involved working with the many coastal jurisdictions within the county to ensure there are consistent, pre-determined procedures for responding to a tsunami warning. This plan was tested in a real event earlier this year.

On March 11, 2011 San Luis Obispo received a tsunami warning following the 9.0 earthquake off the coast of Japan. The County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was immediately activated and the County began working jointly with local jurisdictions along the San Luis Obispo County coastline to determine which areas should be evacuated. EOC staff crafted news releases on the incoming tsunami and distributed them to local media. The local Emergency Alert System and the Reverse 9-1-1 calling sys-

tem were both used to provide information to the public in the evacuation areas as quickly as possible.

At the same time, the County activated the Phone Assistance Center to provide a place for the public and media to call for information regarding evacuations, general situation status, or special needs. The American Red Cross activated their local response system and began opening six evacuation centers. The County Office of Education representative in the County EOC worked with local school districts to decide which schools would not open that day, including Morro Bay High School and Bellevue-Santa Fe Charter School. The EOC continued to coordinate with cities, special districts, California Emergency Management Agency, and other agencies as needed to get the latest information as the tsunami crossed the Pacific. Fortunately the county coastline had minimal damage and no injuries.

Emergency Readiness Drills and Training

Every other year County OES coordinates a large-scale, Federally evaluated exercise simulating a nuclear power plant accident, which involves over 500 people from various agencies. In addition, OES also coordinates and participates in various smaller drills, exercises, and training events each year, ranging from training emergency workers on using protective equipment, to instruction on specific roles in disaster response.

This year, OES worked with PG&E's Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant on a Federally evaluated drill which demonstrated response to a scenario in which a nuclear power plant worker who had been contaminated with radiation. This type of drill ensures all involved agencies that would need to work together have the necessary plans and procedures in place. County OES assisted with overall drill coordination, observing and monitoring activities during the drill, and also provided a staff member as a victim.

PROTECT

WHAT WE DO:

ADULT SERVICES - The Adult Division is responsible for the supervision of over 2,500 probationers. The Division includes general supervision, court investigations, and specialized supervision caseloads that include sex offenders, drug users, gang members, and mentally ill probationers.

JUVENILE SERVICES - The Juvenile Division is responsible for the supervision of over 400 youth on probation. Probation Officers are also assigned to Community Schools and other sites to work with at-risk youth to prevent them from ending up on probation.

JUVENILE HALL - Probation operates a 45-bed County Juvenile Hall. The Juvenile Hall is a 24-hour, co-ed detention facility that has an average daily population of 43 juveniles.

REVENUE RECOVERY - The Revenue Recovery Unit is responsible for the collection of restitution for victims, and fines and fees from defendants. Revenue Recovery collections average \$284,404 per month, which is disbursed to victims of crime and to the County General Fund to pay for services.

Contact Us:

Probation Department
 1730 Bishop Street
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-5300 Fax (805) 781-1231
[Visit our Website](#)

PROBATION

Public Safety Realignment (AB 109)

AB 109 or “Realignment” was signed into law by Governor Brown on April 5, 2011. This new legislation shifted responsibility for the incarceration and supervision of thousands of state inmates to California counties.

Beginning October 1st, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) began discharging certain inmates eligible for parole over to the supervision of the County Probation Departments in the counties where they were sentenced. This program is known as Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS).

Additionally, AB 109 changed the California Penal Code and sentencing laws to keep inmates deemed as non-serious, non-violent, and non-sex offender—called “N3s”—from going to state prison. These offenders will now serve any custody time in the local county jails.

The San Luis Obispo County Probation Department has been designated as the county agency responsible for administering supervision and programs to the Post Release Community Supervision and N3s offender populations.

Probation has worked in partnership with the Sheriff’s Office, District Attorney’s Office, Public Defender, Drug and Alcohol Services, Mental Health, Social Services, other local law enforcement agencies, and

community-based service providers to develop a comprehensive plan to address the custody housing, supervision and treatment needs of these new offenders.

Probation will emphasize the use of evidence based practices (EBP) including the use of assessment tools, supervision, intervention and treatment practices that when applied to a variety of offender types, produce significant reductions in recidivism. More importantly, EBP provides community corrections professionals proven practices and strategies, supported by research, that will reduce offender misconduct and enhance public safety when implemented as designed.



Continued on next page →

2011 County of San Luis Obispo Annual Report

PROBATION

Guitars NOT Guns



The Juvenile Hall has developed a Guitar Program for its detained minors. The program utilizes the musical talents of facility Mental Health Therapist Jim Pearce and Juvenile

Services Officer Darby Lamprecht, who provide musical instruction for minors interested in learning and playing the guitar. The program was developed with financial support and donations from the ARTSObispo and Guitars Not Guns organizations.

The Guitar Program provides minors with an incentive to do well while at the facility, and exposes them to what the department hopes will become a pro-social activity that they can continue after they are released. The highlight of the program takes place on Sunday morning during church service, when the minors are given an opportunity to perform for the staff, volunteers and other minors.

Since the program's inception, approximately 60 minors have participated in the Saturday lessons and Sunday performances.

Photo above is of Mental Health Therapist Jim Pearce and Juvenile Services Officer Darby Lamprecht, providing musical instruction for minors interested in learning and playing the guitar as part of the Guitars Not Guns music program offered at the Juvenile Hall.

Teens Together



Teens Together is a cognitive based program that uses psychodrama as an intervention model with female juvenile probationers. Psychodramatic interventions are implemented through the use of role playing in a group setting.

This model allows each participant to confront their actions on a cognitive level. Program participants focus on their anti-social behavior, which led them to become involved in the Juvenile Justice system. Participants learn the difference between feelings and behaviors and how they interact.

Participants also learn the significance of their anger and how to manage it. They learn self-control, coping skills, tolerance and how control their impulses. All of these skills reduce anti-social behavior and thus help reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

Teens Together has been a successful program. Since its inception in 2008, only two participants have committed a new law violation. Prior to the introduction to the Teens Together program the Juvenile Hall's female population had soared to record levels. Since the introduction of the program the Juvenile Hall's female population has been drastically reduced. There have been periods of time that not a single female juvenile offender has been in custody at the Juvenile Hall.



WHAT WE DO:

Formed in 1850, the Sheriff's Department is the oldest and largest law enforcement agency in the county, covering over 3,200 square miles.

The functions of the Department include patrol, County jail, coroner services, civil division, records and warrants, Sheriff and medical dispatch, search and rescue, a posse unit, aero squadron and dive team, as well as special investigation units like the Gang Task Force, Special Problems Unit, and Narcotics Unit.

Contact Us:

Sheriff - Coroner

1585 Kansas Ave P.O. Box 32

San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

(805) 781-4550

[Visit our Website](#)

REVERSE 911



Like us on Facebook

SHERIFF - CORONER

Volunteers Make Graffiti Program Work

The Sheriff's Graffiti program came into full operation this year through the support of several Sheriff's Office volunteers. The truck used for the program was paid for by assets forfeited by criminals and is run entirely by volunteers at no expense to the taxpayer.



The volunteers use a sophisticated computer system to mix paint that matches the area surrounding the graffiti, and power-wash, paint by hand, or spray paint the graffiti away. Eddie El-Helou, the volunteer heading up the program, estimates that 90 percent of the areas he's cleaned have remained graffiti free.



Patrol Boat Named in Memory of Volunteer

As a way of remembering and honoring Search and Rescue member Chris Meadows, the Sheriff's Patrol Boat was christened the "Christopher C. Meadows" on August 16, 2011. Chris made the ultimate sacrifice on Memorial Day weekend 2009, when he suffered a fatal injury as he was responding to a vehicle accident at Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area.

Sheriff's Search and Rescue volunteers provide medical aid on busy weekends to the recreating public in support of California Parks and Recreation staff.

Tourist Resuscitated by Deputies

This past summer, two Sheriff's Deputies were on patrol in Cayucos when over their radio they heard a medical aid call reporting that someone had collapsed and CPR was in progress. They immediately responded and took over CPR, and deployed an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

The Deputies successfully restored the man's pulse before ambulance and fire personnel arrived at the scene. As the patient was transported to the hospital by ambulance, the Deputies transported the family so they could be with him.

Medical personnel credited the Deputies' quick response and AED deployment with saving the man's life. AEDs are standard equipment in all Sheriff's patrol vehicles and all San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Deputies are trained in their use.




HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Where do you want to go?
 (Click on button to view report)

Health Agency - Divisions

-  Animal Services
-  Behavioral Health
-  Public Health

Social Services - Divisions

-  Adult Protective Services
-  Child Welfare Services
-  Participant Services

-  Veterans' Services



WHAT WE DO:

The Animal Services Division of the Health Agency provides animal care and control services in all areas of the County, including the seven incorporated cities (Paso Robles, Atascadero, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Pismo Beach, Grover Beach and Arroyo Grande). The Division is comprised of three functional units:

FIELD SERVICES

Animal Control Officers capture and secure aggressive or dangerous animals, investigate cases of animal abuse or neglect, respond to animal nuisances, and assist injured or ill animals.

KENNEL OPERATIONS

Animal Services operates the only open intake animal shelter in the County, taking in companion animals of all types regardless of physical condition or temperament. Most admissions to the shelter are strays and animals relinquished by their owners. Kennel operations also include animal quarantine, medical care for stray animals, microchip identification, and rabies vaccinations.

HUMANE EDUCATION

Animal Services provides public outreach and education programs regarding responsible pet ownership practices with a particular emphasis on reaching elementary age students.

Contact Us:

County Operations Center, Hwy 1

885 Oklahoma Avenue

San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

(805) 781-4400 Shelter Update (805) 781-4407

Volunteers (805) 781-4413

[Visit our Website](#)

ANIMAL SERVICES

A Full House

The County Animal Shelter has continuously operated at full capacity through 2011, the result of an increase in stray and owner surrendered animals and declining rates of adoption and animal redemptions. These trends appear to be the result of the economic downturn, as animal owners decide they can no longer care for their pets and fewer families feel they can afford to take on the financial responsibility of adopting a new animal.

In spite of these challenges, Animal Services has maintained a live animal outcome rate of 80%. This places San Luis Obispo County among the most successful communities in the State in caring for homeless animals.

This has been achieved largely through the cooperative efforts of staff, volunteers, and partners in the animal welfare and social services fields, to help owners find ways to keep their pets at home, identify alternative means of housing the increasing number of animals at the shelter, and promote animal adoption.



“Animal Services has maintained a live animal outcome rate of **80%**.

This places San Luis Obispo County among the **most successful communities**

in the State in caring for homeless animals.”

Bella Stays In Touch With Her Family



“Bella”

Bella was initially brought to the animal shelter to be surrendered by her owner, a single mother with two young children who had recently been diagnosed with cancer. Bella had been a part of the family for several years and her owner was heartbroken at having to give her up, even though she felt that she was no longer able to care for her.

As part of Animal Services effort to help owners keep pets they might otherwise be forced to surrender, the Division had

previously established contacts with Hospice of San Luis Obispo. When notified of Bella's situation, Animal Services was able to find a temporary foster home for her while her owner continued her cancer treatment.

Bella now visits regularly with both her owner and her two young children. These visits have become an essential part of her owner's therapy, and have helped the family to maintain a positive outlook during a very difficult time in life.



Like us on Facebook

WHAT WE DO:

The Behavioral Health Department is made up of Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Services.

MENTAL HEALTH OUTPATIENT SERVICES:

Provides assessments, individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, case management, medication management, rehabilitation and vocational services for county residents who are severely mentally ill and meet established Medi-Cal criteria. Over 4,000 consumers receive Mental Health outpatient services annually, including 1,500 youth who receive services in clinics, community centers, and schools.

MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT SERVICES:

The County's Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) is a 16-bed facility licensed by the State. Services include psychiatric assessments, medication, rehabilitation interventions, and individualized discharge plans. Over 2,000 individuals received care at the facility in the past two years, with an average length of stay of approximately three days.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES:

Serves 3,000 residents each year, providing treatment for issues of addiction and recovery from substance use. Services include perinatal outpatient treatment for parenting women, co-occurring disorders treatment, youth and family treatment, driving under the influence programs, and court-mandated treatment programs.

PREVENTION AND OUTREACH SERVICES:

Working with schools, community partners, and individuals in all parts of the county, the Department's prevention teams serve tens of thousands of residents annually. Services include community-based counseling, school-based education, workforce education, and programs such as Latino Outreach and Friday Night Live.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Innovative Mental Health Projects

The Behavioral Health Department has been successful in accessing additional funding from the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) for eight new projects. This funding is drawn from an additional 1% tax added by the State to incomes over \$1 million, and allows the County to look beyond business as usual to focus on building effective and accessible mental health services.

This year, the County was awarded \$918,000 to develop brand new learning models as part of MHSA's Innovation component. The Department worked with a wide array of community stakeholders, including consumers and family members to develop a three-year plan for this program, which includes eight distinct local projects.

These innovation projects will test new care models, adapt practices from systems outside of mental health, and provide the County with an abundance of information to design effective and efficient programs in the future. The projects launched in Fall, 2011 and Behavioral Health looks forward to seeing the impacts of these innovative projects in action.

Contact Us:
 Behavioral Health Services
 2178 Johnson Avenue
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-4535
 (805) 781-4700
[Visit our Website](#)

Need Help?
 To access services, or for immediate help,
 please call 1-800-838-1381.
*This emergency number is available
 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

“Mitch”

An anonymous Prop 36 Client

“My addiction took me to a place where I was homeless. I was forced to deal with my drug problems by the legal system. It got bad, really bad. Then, I started going to meetings, I got special one-to-one time with as many counselors as I wanted and needed. I got to speak to a nurse about medications for depression and anxiety. I had never really talked about my feelings before, I just kept everything bottled up. I didn’t know how to communicate. I got to communicate with others in group. It was private with my counselors. They taught me to process my feelings. The hardest part was to adjust my attitude. I could be honest with my counselor and take responsibility. This program saved my life, absolutely saved my life. I am grateful to be clean from drugs today and I am grateful to be alive. Thank you Proposition 36 Program.”

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Proposition 36 Program:

The Prop 36 Program offers qualifying defendants probation instead of jail time if they complete a drug treatment program. The close collaboration of the Superior Court, County Drug and Alcohol Services, and the Probation Department, combined with the hard work of the clients, makes the program work.



Judge Harman - San Luis Obispo County Superior Court

“A lot of people viewed Proposition 36 Program as a ‘get out of jail free card.’ Now it’s a program that helps members become productive in society. There are consequences to drug offenses in San Luis Obispo County and sometimes those consequences can include treatment services. People come into the program with attitude, they are manipulative. It’s the drug—it’s what it does to them. As time goes on, you see people changing. The people who are successful are the ones willing to get away from friends, willing to accept advice from people, the ones willing to change their lives. It’s not easy.”



e-Learning Portal Launched

The Behavioral Health Department launched its “e-Learning” training portal in January of 2011. This service allows 350 County staff members to engage in quality, accredited online learning. With the help of MESA Workforce Education and Training funds, the County has also developed an e-Learning service for 150 public mental health system providers and consumers.

E-Learning will reduce costs from staff travel and training while building core competencies and specialty education for the ever-changing field of behavioral healthcare. Benefits of the system include the opportunity for staff to earn

their required Continuing Education Units for licensure, consistency and coordination of new employee training and staff engagement in new concepts to share learning experiences across the Department.

Over the summer of 2011, the department began to assign staff core competency courses through e-Learning, including Motivational Interviewing and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. The Department’s Cultural Competence Committee has also selected a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder online course which will be assigned to all staff to increase capacity for serving veterans.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WHAT WE DO:

The Public Health Department provides a broad range of services, including:

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:

The EHS Division performs over 5,000 inspections annually to prevent exposure to toxic substances, disease-causing agents, and unsanitary conditions. Specific programs include Food Sanitation, Land Development, Water Quality, Hazardous Materials, Waste Management, and Stormwater Management.

FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES:

Services provided by the FHS Division are vast and include communicable disease control, reproductive health, cancer screening, case management for high-risk pregnant women, as well as oversight of care for low-income, foster and medically-fragile children, the Suspected Abuse Response Team (SART), birth and death certificates, and the medical marijuana identification card program.



Cal Firefighters assist with immunizations

HEALTH PROMOTION:

Programs in this Division include Tobacco Control, Childhood Obesity Prevention, HIV/AIDS community-based services, Child Car Seat installation, Oral Health and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY:

The Public Health Laboratory (PHL) provides testing services for communicable disease diagnosis, water quality and animal diseases including rabies. The county PHL is also certified as a member of the national Laboratory Response Network allowing it to receive and process agents of bioterrorism.

Did you know?

Family Health Services had over **34,000** encounters with community members last year for services such as family planning, medical therapy for disabled children, immunizations, tuberculosis screening and treatment, sexually-transmitted diseases and in-home visits.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES:

Oversees County-funded health care delivery systems including the County Medical Services Program (CMSP) (short-term health coverage for medically indigent adults), medical care at the Jail and Juvenile Services Center, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency, and contracted primary and specialty care services through Community Health Centers.



Did you know?

Last year, the PHL conducted over **41,000** tests, including over **1,000** for Pertussis (Whooping Cough) when San Luis Obispo County reported the highest rate of whooping cough cases in the State during the largest outbreak since 1947.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP):

The PHEP program develops standard operating plans and procedures, conducts drills and other trainings to prepare agency staff for disasters, and is accountable for response implementation in an actual event.

Did you know?

Last fiscal year over **3,000** CMSP patients accessed health care, more than **20,000** medical care visits occurred for jail inmates and **13,000** for juvenile wards; and over **17,000** persons were transported to hospitals by the EMS system.

PUBLIC HEALTH



Tobacco Control Program: Saving Two by Reaching One

“Patti” was referred to the Tobacco Control Program in December 2010. During her first program meeting she was very non-committal about quitting. She had smoked throughout her first pregnancy and said that baby “was fine.” She said she thought “it wouldn’t be bad if the baby weighed less.” Through intensive phone counseling, a cessation counselor worked with Patti to debunk some of her erroneous beliefs. Patti ultimately decided to quit smoking and by the time the baby was born in April, she was completely smoke-free. At a program follow-up three months later, Patti remained smoke-free.



Safeguarding Children’s Oral Health

In 2011, Public Health created a new Oral Health Program. The program works with many agencies and local dentists to assure a continuum of care and a robust network of dental providers willing to see children with DentiCal or no dental insurance.

Major activities included outreach to children and parents in the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, preschools and Head Start to provide them with dental screenings, oral health instruction and referrals to dental care.

Contact Us:
 Public Health Department
 2191 Johnson Ave.
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-5500
[Visit our website](#)

Using the Internet to Improve Service and Communication:

In 2011 the Public Health Department began using the Internet in significant ways to provide information and communicate more effectively with the public: *(Click on icons and hyperlinks below to view web and social media pages.)*

- Introduced Facebook page and began using other social media, such as an RSS Feed to email Public Health advisories, Flickr to display photos of public health in our community, and a FREE Disaster Preparedness app available through iTunes.
- Redesigned the [Environmental Health web-page](#) for easier navigation to information about food facility inspections, ocean water monitoring results, and online complaint forms. Also, businesses can now submit required hazardous material forms [online](#).

- Launched a Public Health Lab secure [Web Portal](#) to allow health care providers to obtain test results online.
- Joined [CalRedie](#), a statewide electronic disease reporting system to improve surveillance activities and early detection of outbreaks.
- Posted information about Emergency Medical Services (EMS) programs, policies, personnel, and training opportunities on [www.sloemsa.org](#).



WHAT WE DO:

The Department of Social Services provides assistance to elderly and dependent adults through its Adult Protective Services and In Home Supportive Services programs (IHSS). Staff members serve in leadership roles on the Adult Services Policy Council and provide support for the Commission on Aging.

The Department also houses the In Home Supportive Services Program's Public Authority, the quasi-independent organization that serves as the "employer of record" for care providers.

Contact Us:
 Department of Social Services
 San Luis Obispo Office
 3433 S. Higuera
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-1600
[Visit our Website](#)

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES



Responding to Reports of Abuse

Adult Protective Services responds to allegations that an elder or dependent adult is being abused, neglected or exploited. Social Services staff works closely with law enforcement agencies and other service providers to investigate allegations. Staff works to resolve concerns, recognizing that mentally competent adults may refuse services even if they are victims.

Adult Protective Services programs are significantly underfunded Statewide. After years of frozen State funding, major cuts to program resources were enacted over the last three years. Despite these reductions, the Department's workload has increased dramatically. The Department responds to an average of 74 reports per month, up 14% from two years ago.

More on Participant Services *(Continued from page 38)*

We are in the

**Top
10**

Producing Results

County Participant Services staff continues to produce great results. The County's Work Participation Rate (the welfare-to-work requirement) in the CalWORKS program is the highest among other counties of similar size.

The County also ranks in the top ten of all California counties.



CalFresh Program Continues to Grow

The CalFresh program (formerly Food Stamps) continues to grow rapidly, with the number of cases increasing by 80% in only two years. In 2011, San Luis Obispo County was awarded a \$250,000 grant (over 2 years) to assist CalFresh participants in making healthy nutritional and lifestyle choices, with the goal of improving the community's overall health.

WHAT WE DO:

Child Welfare Services include a host of services intended to protect children and strengthen families. Emergency Response staff responds to reports of child abuse, neglect or exploitation. Family Maintenance services help families remain together, either voluntarily or under Court supervision. When children cannot remain safely with their parents, Family Reunification staff ensures that services are provided with the goal of returning children to the custody of their parents. When that is no longer an option, Permanent Placement staff finds solutions for children that may include adoption, guardianship or long term foster care. The Department of Social Services licenses foster family homes and provides adoption services.

Contact Us:

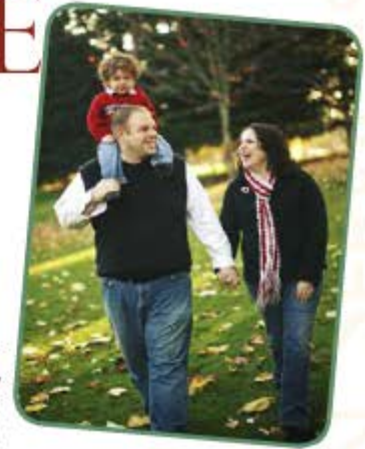
Department of Social Services
 San Luis Obispo Office
 3433 S. Higuera
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-1600
[Visit our Website](#)



CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Family Preservation

The County continues its focus on family preservation. Studies have consistently show that children fare better with relatives than with strangers, and San Luis Obispo County is committed to maintaining familial bonds for children. Despite having a higher rate of child abuse referrals than other counties, San Luis Obispo has fewer children in care and the highest rate of placement with relatives in the State.



Did you know?

The Department responds in person to over **200** reports per month in which abuse or neglect of a child has been alleged. In only about **10%** of these investigations, however, is the allegation substantiated.

Mental Health Supports for Children

Social Services is dedicated to ensuring the provision of mental health services to children. The Department supports the services of Kinship Center, a specialty clinic focusing on children without permanent homes, and funds mental health services for foster care children through the County's Behavioral Health Department.

The County has also successfully operated a Wrap-around program for 10 years now. The program, which works to surround children and families

with services customized to their needs, provides an effective alternative to Group Home care, with better outcomes at a lower cost.

In 2011, the County was selected as one of 5 pilot counties in California to implement a new combined home study for both foster homes and adoptive homes. The goal of the study is to streamline a process that historically has been redundant and confusing for all concerned.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

WHAT WE DO:

Participant Services includes programs intended to assist low-income residents of our community as they face the challenges of a depressed economy. More staff members work in Participant Services than in any other area of the Department of Social Services.

Participant Services provides case management services in programs that include CalWORKS, CalFresh (formerly Food Stamps), MediCal, General Assistance, Foster Care and numerous other programs that serve the community. The Department also provides employment services through its Self-Sufficiency programs and through its administration of the Workforce Investment Act.

Contact Us:

Department of Social Services
San Luis Obispo Office
3433 S. Higuera
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-1600
[Visit our Website](#)

[Click here for more facts
on Participant Services](#)

PARTICIPANT SERVICES

Working to Assist Families in Difficult Times

As the economy continues to stagnate, the Department of Social Services (DSS) has sought innovative ways of assisting families who rely on public assistance while they seek employment.

With temporary funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Department has worked with local employers to create subsidized employment opportunities for unemployed parents receiving assistance from the CalWORKS program.

Of the 54 families who participated in CalWORKS, 35 or 65% found full-time, paid employment that enabled them to leave public assistance. Because of the remarkable success of that temporary program, the Department developed an ongoing program that commenced on September 1, 2011.

The County has also implemented the "Benefits CalWIN" program, which enables County residents to apply on-line for benefits. Over 200 applications were received within the first two months of implementation.



In February 2011, the County hosted California's first "Opportunity Conference." DSS and its collaborative partners provided 80 participants and their children with a day-long program that encouraged them to seek self-sufficiency through the assistance of volunteer "navigators."

The program was based on a successful model developed by nationally-known anti-poverty advocate Donna Beegle. Ms. Beegle helped guide the planning process and attended the conference.

In August of 2011, the Department received Board approval to implement the Benefits-ARCH program. The program is part of a community collaborative that seeks to streamline the application process for homeless and other disabled persons who may qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Two full-time staff are dedicated to implementing this innovative program.

WHAT WE DO:

The County Veterans' Services Office provides assistance to men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, their dependents, survivors, and the general public. The Veterans Services Office helps them obtain health, education, pension, compensation and other benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Department of Defense (DOD), California Department of Veterans Affairs and other programs for veterans and their families.

Contact Us:
 Veteran's Services
 801 Grand Ave.
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
 (805) 781-5766
[Visit our Website](#)

How may we serve you?

The San Luis Obispo Veterans Service Office provides assistance to Veterans and Veterans' dependants in the following areas:

- Filing for service-connected disability
- Filing for pension benefits
- Filing for burial benefits
- Providing referrals for educational and employment benefits
- Filing for survivor benefits
- Applying for VA medical care
- Obtaining military records and medals
- Obtaining college fee waivers and educational benefits

VETERANS' SERVICES

Serving Those Who Served

The Office of Veterans' Services continues to make a positive impact on our county veterans, and their families. Veterans Services is actively helping our service men and women returning from combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Office also assists veterans from past conflicts in their efforts to access their benefits from the Federal Veterans Administration and other sources available to them.



During the summer of 2011, the new Vets Center a division of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs office, opened on Southwood Drive in San Luis Obispo, near the YMCA. For more than a year, while construction was underway on the new facility, the County Veterans Services Office was pleased to provide interim office space for their State colleagues.



Did you know?

In 2011 Veterans Services helped nearly **2,000** veterans and their families access benefits and services available to them through government programs. In total, Veterans services assisted in bringing **\$4,020,896** of new veterans benefits flowing into the county.

Veterans' Services is now on Facebook.

"Like" us and stay informed



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Where do you want to go?
(Click on button to view report)

Farm Advisor

General Services Agency

Airports

Golf Courses

Parks & Recreation

Libraries



www.slocounty.ca.gov

COMMUNITY SERVICES



WHAT WE DO:

The Farm Advisor/University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) takes information developed on its University of California campuses and research centers, and makes it available to local communities. UCCE experts also conduct practical research of their own to address local issues and problems in the areas of sustainable agriculture, natural resource preservation, and youth and family development.

The Farm Advisor/UCCE provides an array of research and educational programs in 4-H Youth Development, Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences and Nutrition Education, Oak Rangeland and Natural Resources Management, and Plant Sciences/Horticulture/Gardening. For more information about these programs, please visit: <http://cesanluisobispo.ucdavis.edu/>

FARM ADVISOR

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION (UCCE)



Viticulture: Sustainable Irrigation Use of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin

Recent studies have identified declining levels in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. The irrigation of winegrapes represents one of the largest uses of water from the basin, but there is very limited information regarding how much water the vineyards use per acre on average. This lack of accurate information makes land use planning and groundwater basin management efforts more difficult and less precise.

To improve the information on water use by vineyards in the area, Farm Advisor Mark Battany has been conducting a three-year project to measure vineyard water use within the area of the Basin experiencing the most severe groundwater declines. This project entails monitoring irrigation water applications using automated

equipment at 84 randomly selected vineyard blocks within the study area. These sites were selected from volunteer cooperator vineyards, which represent about 3/4 of the total vineyard acreage in the project area.

The summary data from this project will be public, but individual data will remain anonymous. This has encouraged a very broad level of participation, which was necessary to generate accurate information. It also indicates the importance that the grower community places on this project. The results of this project will inform future community decisions regarding water resources allocations in the the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

Educating Youth about Healthy Eating Choices

In 2011, the University of California CalFresh Nutrition Education Program (UC-CalFresh) collaborated with Oceano Elementary School to provide a family-centered effort in youth and adult nutrition education, teaching youth participants about food safety and healthy food choices in the classroom.

Armed with this information, the youth participants then partnered with administration, faculty, and food service staff to prepare homemade whole grain bread and vegetables for use in a workshop, complete with food tastings, that educated the adult community.

The adults participated in the Whole Grain workshop and reported that they would add whole grains to their diet in the following week. UC-CalFresh staff also conducted workshops to educate the adult community in the importance of healthy food choices and physical activity.



Contact Us:

Farm Advisor

UC Cooperative Extension

2156 Sierra Way Suite C

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Phone: (805) 781-5940

[Visit our Website](#)



AIRPORTS

[Click here for more info on the YMCA's Aviation Camps](#)



Young Aviators In Training

Airports recently began collaborating with the SLO County YMCA and local general aviation pilot groups to launch the first SLO County YMCA Summer Aviation Camps. Held this past June 20th through 24th, at the Oceano County Airport, five campers, aged 9-15 got a compelling introduction to the science, mathematics, engineering and technology of aviation at a working airport.

These young "aviators in training" learned how airplanes fly, were introduced to pioneer aviators such as the Wright Brothers, learned about the components of lift and drag, basic navigation, regulations of flying, aviation safety and got a chance to experience hands-on airplane inspections. The week long day camp concluded with a field trip to San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport, where the campers were able to tour the premises in an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting vehicle, visit the Air Traffic Control tower, experience a PCF Aviation flight simulator, and observe state of the art tracking equipment at the San Luis Jet Center.

WHAT WE DO:

The San Luis Obispo County Airport makes air travel accessible to those who live in and visit San Luis Obispo County. The airport accommodates two commercial airlines which provide daily flights to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Phoenix, and is also a home base for many privately owned aircraft.

Did You Know?

The Airport recently completed a **\$5.8 million** aircraft parking ramp project that was **95%** funded with federal money.



Promoting the Airport

The Airport recently began collaborating with the ad hoc community air service marketing group to continue to promote the Airport's existing airlines through print media, display advertising and social media contest giveaways. Between leisure and business markets, target audiences range from several thousand to a few million pairs of eyes.

Since Fall 2008, 14 campaigns have been created, with more in the works. Since last Fall, the Airport has created an additional advertising co-op program with its tenants to promote other airport products and services, in addition to scheduled air service offerings. With support from a variety of community organizations, the Airport has also introduced its 'Friends of the Airport' program and has created the "iFlySLO" bag tag which is now available to supporters. Airport passenger **traffic is up 11.5%** over the prior year due in part, to these marketing efforts.

Contact Us:

San Luis Obispo County Airport
903 Airport Drive
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 781-5205
[Visit our Website](#)



Like us on Facebook

COMMUNITY SERVICES



GOLF COURSES

Going GREEN on the GREEN

In addition to providing a world class golf experience, County Golf has a goal of operating in as sustainable a manner as possible. Golf has recently made strides in sustainable business practices by initiating a 'zero waste' program, using their waste stream as a replacement for inorganic fertilizers, reducing pesticide usage and energy costs, and decreasing water usage. This 'green' operation enables golf courses to reduce the amount of trash and food waste going to landfills by composting and brewing waste into a solution that can be applied to the golf course as a nutrient and microbial compost tea.

Recognizing that the execution of this 'zero waste' plan was not one that the County would be able to accomplish on its own, County Golf partnered with several community organizations. The Morro Bay National Estuary Program provided a grant for the implementation of a zero waste facility needed

to accomplish this new green enterprise. The San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden pledged to provide additional green waste to advance this project. Hayward Lumber supplied materials, Eco-Rotary constructed the facilities and Environmental Protection Associates provided all of the hand labor. Under the watchful eye of County Golf, the new Zero Waste Facility is now working to turn green waste from the clubhouse kitchen, golf course, and gardens into useful plant materials for flower beds and golf turfgrasses.

Since this 'zero waste' program has been so successful, County Golf's next goal is to reach out to the community through demonstrations of zero waste facility operations to show how easily these processes can be performed in homes, schools, residential communities and businesses to increase the use of sustainable management practices, improve wildlife habitat and conserve scarce resources.

WHAT WE DO:

The County operates three public golf courses open to residents and visitors alike. Morro Bay, Dairy Creek and Chalk Mountain golf courses are all managed in an eco-friendly manner and offer excellent opportunities to play links-style golf on the Central Coast.

Contact Us:
 County Parks
 1087 Santa Rosa Street
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5930
[View our Website](#)



New Golf Course Blog

Curious what has or will be happening at the golf courses? Check out <http://slocountygolfcourses.blogspot.com> and get the scoop about maintenance practices, local events, wildlife sightings, and much more.

"Like" our Facebook pages and stay informed!

-  Morro Bay Golf Course
-  Dairy Creek Golf Course

WHAT WE DO:

County Parks and Recreation acquires, plans, manages and maintains approximately 14,000 acres of open space, parks, beaches, trails, lakes, golf courses and natural areas. In addition to providing an array of recreation opportunities for county residents, the County's lakes, beaches, trails and parks draw thousands of visitors each year and contribute significantly to tourism in San Luis Obispo County.

Contact Us:
 Parks & Recreation
 1087 Santa Rosa Street
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 805-781-5930
 FAX: 805-781-1102
[Visit our Website](#)



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Bob Jones Trail Extension

PARKS & RECREATION

Focus on Sustainability

Every project undertaken by Parks has a strong focus on sustainability, employing used, recycled or repurposed materials. The recent refurbishment of the Los Osos Community Park Playground is a good example. Improvements to the Park include a new concrete ramp from the parking lot to the playground and recycled rubber safety surfacing in the playground area. These improvements make the park a safer place to play, helped Parks to meet current American with Disabilities Act access requirements, and diverted a lot of rubber materials that would have ended up in a landfill.

The design and building of the play structure was also completed with an eye towards sustainability, with a 30% smaller carbon footprint than traditional play structures. All of this was accomplished with no cost to the County General Fund. County Parks secured grant funding for the recycled rubber products from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, and a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for the concrete ramp, replacement of the playground equipment and installation of the surface materials.



Los Osos Community Playground

Did You Know?

The recent extension of the Bob Jones Trail, including the creation of a new and safer crossing at Avila Bay Drive, was completed in collaboration with many community partners including the Avila Beach Golf Resort, Rossi Enterprises, State Department of Fish and Game, County Public Works Department and the Avila Business Support Association.

Continued on next page →

COMMUNITY SERVICES

PARKS & RECREATION

ZERO Waste Facility

County Golf's Zero Waste Facility is working to turn green waste from the clubhouse kitchen, golf course and gardens into useful plant materials for flower beds and turfgrasses. The intent is to reach out to the community through demonstrations of our zero waste facility to show how easily this process can be performed in homes, schools, residential communities and businesses.



Above: Composters Below: Zero Waste Facility

To do this, County Golf courses have set a goal of building a sustainable business model using waste as a replacement for inorganic fertilizers, while reducing pesticide usage, energy costs, and water usage. This green plan enables the golf course to eliminate trash and food wastes from our landfills. These waste streams, along with the green waste generated by the golf course itself, are composted and brewed into a solution that can be applied to the golf course as a nutrient and microbial compost tea.

Partnerships were important to accomplish this innovative plan. The

Morro Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) and the County Integrated Waste Management Authority (IWMA) provided grants for implementation and in-vessel composters for the zero waste facility that will accomplish this new Green Enterprise. The San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden has also pledged to provide additional green waste to advance this project. Cal Poly is performing experimental analysis, Hayward Lumber supplied materials, Eco-Rotary constructed the facilities and Zero Waste Concepts provided much of the labor and is an integral partner to the project.



Youth Discover Outdoor Opportunities

Various economic and social conditions prevent some youth in the County from taking part in the recreational opportunities available in the County. In response to this, Parks created a program to engage at-risk youth in a nature program. The program, Discovering the Environment through Education and Recreation (DEER), which exposes youth to outdoor opportunities they may not otherwise have.

Sponsored by the County Probation department, young adults have begun to work with Park Rangers in the DEER program to learn about the natural resources surrounding them in San Luis Obispo County. A group of at-risk youth was recently taken on a camping trip at Lopez Lake, where they learned camping skills and how to fish. These youth also joined the Rangers for nature hikes, and learned about the various flora and fauna in the area.

Many additional events are scheduled with local partners including San Luis Obispo Parks, Open Space And Trails (SLOPOST), Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Club, Youth in Action and the Hind Foundation. All of these groups share County Parks' desire to guide kids to positive recreational experiences in the County's lands, lakes and beaches while teaching them to be good stewards of nature and their community.

Below: Youth on Hike

Right: Youth learning about Flora and Fauna



COMMUNITY SERVICES



WHAT WE DO:

The County operates 15 libraries throughout the County providing a wide array of services and programs for children, teens and adults. In addition to books, the libraries offer magazines and newspapers, local history documents, reference works, foreign language materials, DVDs, music CDs, books-on-CD, and downloadable audio and e-books.

The libraries also provide many programs such as a summer reading program for all ages, a film series, computer instruction, job workshops, book discussions, writing workshops, animal programs and other programs to encourage lifelong learning and development.

Contact Us:

City-County Libraries

995 Palm St.

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Circulation (805) 781-5991

Reference (805) 781-5989

Audio-Visual (805) 781-5782

[Visit our Website](#)

LIBRARIES

Local Teen Promotes SLO County Libraries

Teens in Cambria may not have expected to be part of a nationwide library public service video when their friend Kyle Plummer asked them to participate in his project-- but, that's what happened when he won the 2011 California Teen Challenge. Kyle produced a 90 second video and submitted it to the 2011 Teen Video Challenge, a program of the Collaborative Summer Library Program, administered in California by the California Library Association.

Beginning March 4, teens all over California voted for their favorite video. Kyle's video got enough votes to be one of three videos that were evaluated by a final judging panel of librarians and video professionals. Kyle's video was named the winner by the judging panel, based on creativity, message clarity and relevance, motivation and inspiration, and overall impact. After winning in California, Kyle's video was submitted for consideration at the national level and won again.

The primary messages in Kyle's video are that kids can inspire other kids to read and that books can go with you anywhere. Showcasing the beautiful scenery of Cambria was also a goal. In the video, Kyle's brother Carlos and five young friends appear in some of their favorite local places--Moonstone Beach Boardwalk, local eateries and businesses, the skate park, and the library. Each friend finds something special to checkout from the library and then goes on to inspire others to visit the library, and check out something, too.



Kyle Plummer and his brother at the Cambria Library

Kyle's Award Winning Video

Click on picture below to view video



[Directory of Library Locations & Hours](#)

COMMUNITY SERVICES



LIBRARIES

WE LOVE OUR LIBRARIES!

Did You Know?

In 2011, the San Luis Obispo County Library was awarded a Federal Library Services and Technology "Sparks into Flame" grant.

The library used the grant to survey county youth and community organizations who serve them.

The library will utilize this research to increase the value of the library to the youth population of the county.



Our Libraries are

GROWING!

ATASCADERO

New Atascadero Library Building
6555 Capistrano Ave.



Many Thanks to our Library Friends!

Building projects are moving forward as large gifts from the community are received by the Friends groups. Recent large donations of **\$200,000** and **\$100,000** were received in Atascadero and a gift of **\$100,000** was received from a donor in Cambria.

[Directory of our "Friends of the Library"](#)



CAMBRIA

New Cambria Library Building
1043 N. Main in Cambria.

Like us on Facebook

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

 Where do you want to go?
(Click on button to view report)

-  Administrative Office
-  Assessor
-  Auditor-Controller
-  Clerk-Recorder
-  Treasurer-Tax Collector



www.slocounty.ca.gov

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

WHAT WE DO:

The responsibilities of the Administrative Office are broad, but represent the following:

CITIZEN OUTREACH AND SUPPORT: The Administrative Office aims to connect the public with County government through soliciting feedback to improve County services, developing materials to improve communication with the public and encourage citizen participation, and promoting the use of technology to make County government more accessible.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT: The Administrative Office provides staff support to both the Board of Supervisors and County departments. Administrative staff works to maximize the effectiveness of the Board of Supervisors by implementing Board policy, preparing and managing a healthy County budget, managing labor relations, preparing the weekly Board agenda, responding to requests for information and resolving citizen complaints. To support County departments, Administrative staff provides policy analysis and guidance, troubleshoots issues as they arise and keeps departments up to date on important issues.

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS: The Administrative Office is focused on creating a high performance and results oriented County organization by promoting strategic planning, goal setting and performance measurement.

Contact Us:
 Administrative Office
 Government Center, Room D-430
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5011 Fax (805) 781-5023
[Visit our Website](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

KAIZEN: Pursuing Continuous Improvement

Recognizing the value of pursuing continuous improvement in County service delivery and internal processes, the County has recently begun to partner with Cal Poly to hold a series of Kaizen events to identify opportunities to bring efficiency to the work that the County does. Japanese for "improvement" or "change for the better," Kaizen is focused on improving routine processes.

The County's first Kaizen event was held in October, 2011 and focused on improvements to the reservations process for County campgrounds. County staff involved in the reservations process, outside observers, and customers came together in a series of four Kaizen events to identify possible improvements to the current reservations process.

Participants in the County's first Kaizen event have had very positive things to say about their experience. After the final event was held, the Administrative Office and Parks collaborated to address possible improvements. Today, staff is developing specific recommendations to improve the campground reservations process for campers and staff alike.



Pictured left: Kaizen participants collaborate to improve the Campground Reservation process

Agenda Management
 goes **GREEN**
 improving
Efficiency
 & **Accuracy**

Did you know?

The Administrative Office is in the process of implementing a "paperless agenda" which will be better for the environment and the County's budget,

SAVING approximately
\$16,000

a year in paper costs for the Administrative Office, reducing overall printing costs, and cutting down on paper use.

ASSESSOR



Saving Homeowners Dollars

Under Proposition 8, property owners receive the lower of their current market value or their indexed Prop 13 value as their assessment. In Fiscal Year 2010-2011, the County Assessor reviewed over **56,000** such requests for a decline in value and reduced the assessed value on **47,000** of those properties.

For more detailed information on the accomplishments of the County Assessor's Office, please see the Assessor Annual Reports located on their website at: http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Assessor/Assessor_Annual_Reports.htm

Contact Us:
 Assessor's Office
 1055 Monterey Suite D360
 San Luis Obispo CA 93408
 (805) 781-5643
[Visit our Website](#)

WHAT WE DO:

California Government Code designates the County Auditor-Controller as the Chief Accounting Officer for all Funds, Departments, and Special Districts under the governance of the Board of Supervisors. The Office enhances the public's trust by acting as a guardian of funds administered for the County, cities, schools, and special districts and by providing an independent source of financial information and analysis.

Contact Us:
 Auditor-Controller's Office
 1055 Monterey Suite D220
 San Luis Obispo CA 93408
 (805) 781-5040
[Visit our Website](#)

WHAT WE DO:

The Assessor locates, identifies the ownership and determines the value of real and business personal property within the County. The responsibilities of the department include:

- Completing an annual assessment roll for all properties by June 30th of each year. The assessment roll is prepared after assessing all properties within the County and taking any necessary reassessments into consideration.
- Assessing personal property accounts including boats, aircraft, and all business machinery and equipment annually.
- Applying all legal exemptions and exclusions such as Homeowners', Veterans', Welfare, and Low Value exemptions to reduce the tax liability on properties.
- Maintaining maps, developing and maintaining Geographic Information Systems data and tracking Tax Rate Area geographic boundaries for the allocation of funding for special districts.

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

Providing Relief for Rate Payers

Taking advantage of lower interest rates, the Auditor's Office worked closely with the Department of Public Works to redistribute nearly \$23 million in bonds originally issued for the Lopez Dam retrofit.

As a result, the taxpayers and ratepayers of Flood Control Zone 3 which includes Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Oceano and Avila Beach will save a total of approximately \$2.2 million over the next twenty years.

Did you know ?

The Auditor's Office is responsible for preparing the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) each year, which is then reviewed by an outside auditing firm.

The County's CAFR has received the Excellence in Financial Reporting award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the past 25 consecutive fiscal years!

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

WHAT WE DO:

RECORDER: The Recorder records and maintains vital records and legal documents relating to real property.

COUNTY CLERK: The County Clerk assists the public in a variety of ways including issuing marriage licenses, and filing fictitious business name statements.

CLERK OF THE BOARD: The Clerk of the Board supports the Board of Supervisors and other boards by maintaining and preserving the records of their actions.

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS: The Registrar of Voters ensures that all eligible voters can be registered to vote and conducts elections for federal, state and county offices as well as all cities, schools and special districts in the county.

COMMISSIONER OF CIVIL MARRIAGES: The Commissioner of Civil Marriages provides volunteers to perform civil marriage ceremonies.

Contact Us:
 Clerk-Recorder's Office
 1055 Monterey Suite D120
 San Luis Obispo CA 93408
 (805) 781-5088
[Visit our Website](#)

Like us on Facebook



CLERK-RECORDER

Develop Your Personal Voting Plan



The Clerk-Recorder recently partnered with Access for All, a local community advocacy group, to develop a grant funded voting and accessibility-related outreach and educational program aimed at increasing the availability of voter accessibility information for all voters.

A polling place look-up feature was created on the department's website, allowing all voters to locate their polling place and enabling voters with disabilities to identify the accessibility features of each polling location. This feature is unique in the State of California, as San Luis Obispo is currently the only county that has provided such detailed information on its website.

The department has also sought to empower voters to 'develop personal voting plans' that best meet their particular needs. To do this, promotional cards and a handy tri-fold pocket brochure detailing general information about registering to vote, the options of voting at the polls or voting by mail, and detailing the election information available on the department's website were produced to be distributed at outreach events. Public service announcements were also produced to be aired during future election cycles.

Deputy for a Day Program

For many years, the department has recruited volunteers to perform ceremonies in the Clerk-Recorder's office. To personalize wedding ceremonies, the 'Deputy for a Day' program was developed to allow anyone to be appointed as a deputy commissioner of civil marriages in order to perform a marriage ceremony for a friend or relative. The program has been met with enthusiastic support from couples getting married, and in the last year, 326 couples (nearly 20% of those purchasing marriage licenses) took advantage of this program to bring special meaning to their wedding ceremony. As one bride said "Having a close friend, instead of someone we had just met, perform our marriage ceremony gave our wedding the personal touch we were looking for".



WHAT WE DO:

The combined Office of the Treasurer, Tax Collector, and Public Administrator performs an array of functions including:

REAL PROPERTY TAXES:

The department manages the billing, collection, and accounting of property taxes and manages the public auctions of properties where property tax delinquencies have continued for over five years.

OTHER PROPERTY TAXES:

The department manages the billing, collection, and accounting of taxes on unsecured property such as business fixtures and equipment, racehorses, airplanes, and boats and administers a collection program for delinquent taxes.

OTHER COLLECTIONS:

The department administers the issuance of business licenses, tobacco licenses, Transient Occupancy Tax collections, and the San Luis Obispo County Tourism Business Improvement District assessment for all unincorporated areas of the County.

TREASURY:

The department provides banking services including the investment of public funds and also provides support in the process of debt issuance.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR:

The department manages the estates of deceased County residents when there is no one willing or qualified to act as an estate administrator. Services include coordinating property sales, processing court documents, and making payments to creditors.

TREASURER - TAX COLLECTOR

Enabling Taxpayers to Effectively Manage Their Property Taxes

One of the Treasurer-Tax Collector's major initiatives is to ensure that property tax information and related transactions are available to customers **24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

In line with this effort, the Tax Division recently completed full implementation of the Tax Status Letter, which provides taxpayers with a full tax status when there are multiple billings to a property. This letter is used to notify taxpayers of annual taxes that remain unpaid after the second installment delinquent date, and is also used to provide outstanding tax amounts for assessments with prior year and supplemental taxes.

The Tax Status Letter has increased customer awareness and understanding of what is owed on a particular property and when it is due.



Did You Know?

Taxpayers are now able to pay their tax bills online by electronic check or savings transfer free of charge.

If taxpayers opt to pay their tax bills by credit card, the convenience fee has been reduced to 2.39% for most tax transactions.

If you would like to learn more about the online services provided by the Tax Collector's Office, please visit us [online.](#)

Contact Us:
Treasurer-Tax Collector
1055 Monterey Suite D290
San Luis Obispo CA 93408
(805) 781-5831
[Visit our Website](#)

FISCAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

INTERNAL SUPPORT

 Where do you want to go?
(Click on button to view report)

County Counsel

General Services Agency

Fleet Services

Information Technology

Human Resources



INTERNAL SUPPORT

WHAT WE DO:

The County Counsel's Office provides day to day legal advice to the County to protect from liability and enable the Board of Supervisors to carry out its programs and policies within the limits of the law. County Counsel also provides litigation services to the County in complex legal matters.

LEGAL ADVICE:

County Counsel provides representation and legal advice to the Board of Supervisors, approximately seventy County boards, commissions, departments, agencies, or divisions (including three joint powers agencies to which the County belongs), and to the managers of approximately twenty Board governed special districts, as well as certain legal services to approximately fifteen non-Board governed special districts. Staff attorneys conduct legal research; draft, review, and approve agreements, contracts, and projects; and advise County officers regarding their legal responsibilities under federal and state law.

LITIGATION:

County Counsel defends the County and special districts and provides litigation services in complex lawsuits including tax, personnel, contract, and land use matters to minimize liability and maximize County recovery. County Counsel also represents the County and protects its interests in cases that address the special needs of fragile populations in the community such as children referred to Child Welfare Services, residents receiving mental health care and individuals requiring conservatorship, as well as estates without representation.

COUNTY COUNSEL

Nacimiento Water Project:

Throughout the last few years, the County Counsel's Office has provided legal advice in support of the \$176 million Nacimiento Water Project, the largest public works project ever undertaken by the County (through the County Flood Protection and Water Conservation District).

The County Counsel's Office has been involved in all phases of the project, including financing, preparation of plans and specifications, bidding, construction, and resolution of disputes with construction contractors. The project was completed on-time and within budget and became operational in January 2011.

Since January 2011, the County Counsel's Office has been assisting the Public Works Department in the closeout of the five construction contracts, which has involved resolution of some significant contractor claims for additional compensation. There are adequate unexpended funds to resolve all remaining construction contractor claims.

[Visit the County's Public Works page for more on the Nacimiento Water Project](#)

Solar Agreements:

The large scale solar projects proposed by SunPower and First Solar on the remote Carrizo Plain have been conditioned to mitigate their impacts, but implementing those conditions over the life of the projects has required a thoughtful approach.

Over the last year, the County Counsel's Office has taken the lead in developing unique financial agreements that guarantee the economic benefits of the projects. By working closely with the affected departments, including the County Administrator and the Auditor, the County Counsel's Office has negotiated a set of agreements that guarantee lifetime tax revenue and end of life decommissioning funds.



See our Feature Article on Solar Developments in SLO County.

Contact Us:

Office of the County Counsel
 1055 Monterey Street, Suite D320
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5400
[Visit our Website](#)

INTERNAL SUPPORT

WHAT WE DO:

The General Services Agency provides a wide variety of services directly to the public and in support of County Departments including:

- Building Facility Maintenance to sustain a proactive maintenance program for County facilities and respond to facility emergencies.
- Custodial Services to provide cleaning services for over 200 County buildings.
- Architectural Services to manage the design and construction for new and renovated County buildings and parks.
- Real Property Services to oversee leased properties and manage legal information about County properties.
- Countywide Purchasing to centralize the purchase of equipment and materials for all County departments.
- Reprographics and Internal County Mail Delivery.

In addition to the above services, the General Services Agency also includes Airports and Parks and Recreation and Golf which are included in the 'Community Services' section of this report. Information Technology and Fleet Services are also functions of the General Services Agency and are discussed on this page.

Contact Us:

General Services Agency
 1087 Santa Rosa St.
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5200
 Fax (805) 781-1074
[Visit our Website.](#)

GENERAL SERVICES

Information Technology

IT Keeps the County Connected



One of the key components of the County's IT infrastructure is its' extensive optical fiber system used for high-speed data communications. The County's optical fiber network extends from Oceano to Templeton, supporting numerous County sites, including all the Sheriff sub-stations. IT staff is responsible for ensuring a reliable, high-speed network for all computing systems that County employees use to support and provide information and resources to the citizens of San Luis Obispo County.

Fleet Services



Fleet Services completes just over **3,795** work orders on County Fleet each Year.

Did you know?

A sheriff's Patrol car is typically driven

35,000 miles per year.

County vehicles drove a total of

7,279,108 miles last year.

The Sheriff's Office patrolled some **2,263,631** miles and the Public Works Department had the second most miles logged with **1,508,131**.

INTERNAL SUPPORT

WHAT WE DO:

PERSONNEL SERVICES:

The Human Resources department provides personnel services for all County departments. This includes employee recruitment, classification studies, departmental consults on personnel related matters, training, and staff support to the Civil Service Commission.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

The County's Risk Management program provides services including insurance and liability management, workers' compensation, safety, and employee benefits.

LABOR RELATIONS:

As the lead labor negotiator for the County, Human Resources staff manages communication between represented employees and County management, and negotiates terms for the labor agreements with fifteen collective bargaining units.

EMPLOYEE UNIVERSITY:

The Employee University offers a variety of classes and training opportunities to educate County employees to achieve continuous improvement and to enhance service delivery to County residents.

Contact Us:
 Human Resources
 1055 Monterey Street, Suite D250
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
 (805) 781-5959
[Visit our Website](#)

HUMAN RESOURCES

County Employees and Management Collaborate to Address Pension Sustainability



The national conversation on the cost and sustainability of public pensions has been translated into action in San Luis Obispo County. One of the Board's key strategies for implementing long-term solutions to controlling costs is to establish a lower cost pension benefit, referred to as a "second tier" of retirement benefit.

The second pension tier is designed for new employees who can make their retirement plans accordingly. The savings attributable to this long term approach will not be realized for 20 to 30 years after all employees in the current plan retire and all employees are in the Tier 2. However, depending on the number of retirements and hiring trends, some savings could begin to be realized in 8-10 years.

After identifying the relief a second tier pension plan would provide the budget in the long-term, county negotiators began meeting with represented employees to propose the second tier sustainability plan. County employees have overwhelmingly stepped up and agreed to join in the efforts to ensure a sustainable pension. To date, over 90% of all positions are covered by a second tier pension plan. As those positions became vacant, the new employees will be hired into the second tier of the pension plan. The positions not yet covered by a second tier belong to bargaining units which are in active discussions with the county to implement such a plan.

The longer term **cost savings** of a second tier pension plan is 7% to 10% of payroll.

In current year dollars, this equates to an approximate annual savings of **\$15 million to \$20 million** over 20 to 30 years.

Do you want to work for the County of SLO?

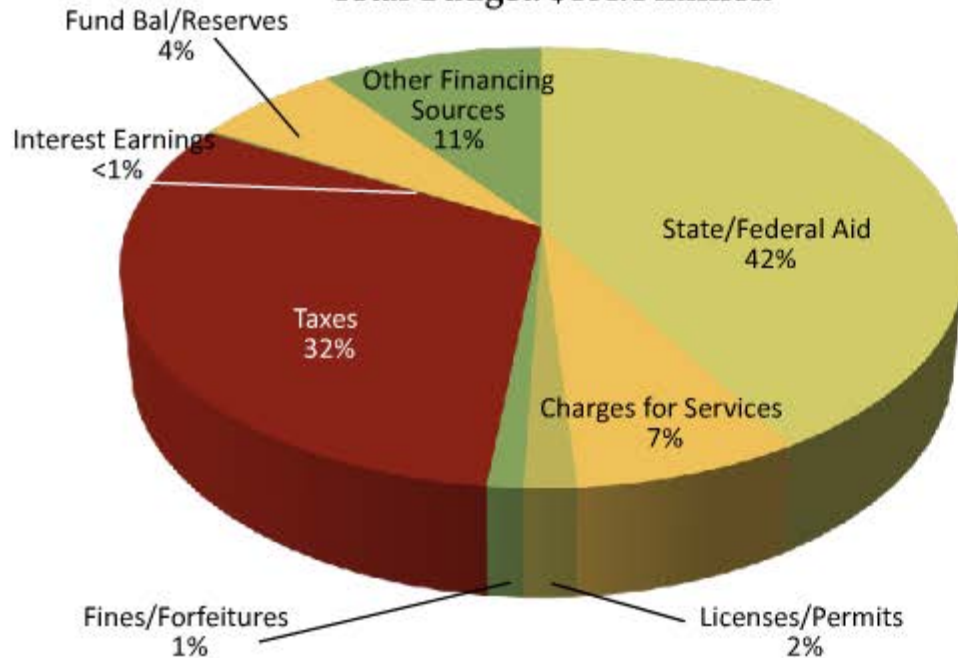
[View our Job Openings Here](#)

COUNTYWIDE FINANCIALS

Sources of Revenue

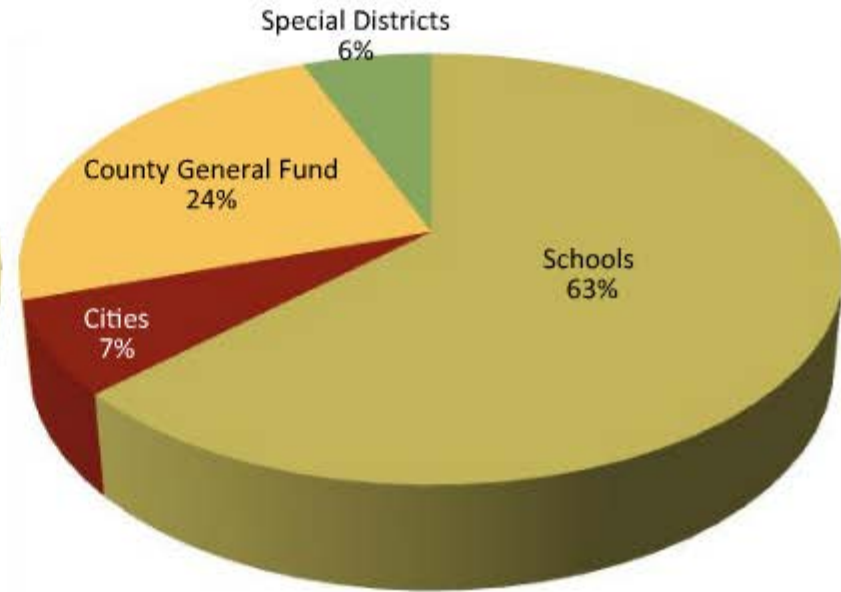
FY 2011-12 Final Budget

Total Budget: \$464.4 million



Property Tax Dollars

Distribution by Government Agency



Continued on next page →

San Luis Obispo County Credit Rating

Every year, the County's Combined Treasury Pool Investment is rated by credit rating agencies based on its creditworthiness. Fitch Ratings, a nationally recognized statistical rating organization, has consistently rated the County at its highest level since Fiscal Year 1994-1995. The County's credit rating is "AAA/VI". The "AAA" rating reflects the credit quality and diversification of the underlying assets in the County's portfolio and appropriate management and operational capabilities. The "VI" rating reflects low market risk and a strong capacity to return stable principal value to participants in an adverse interest rate environment.

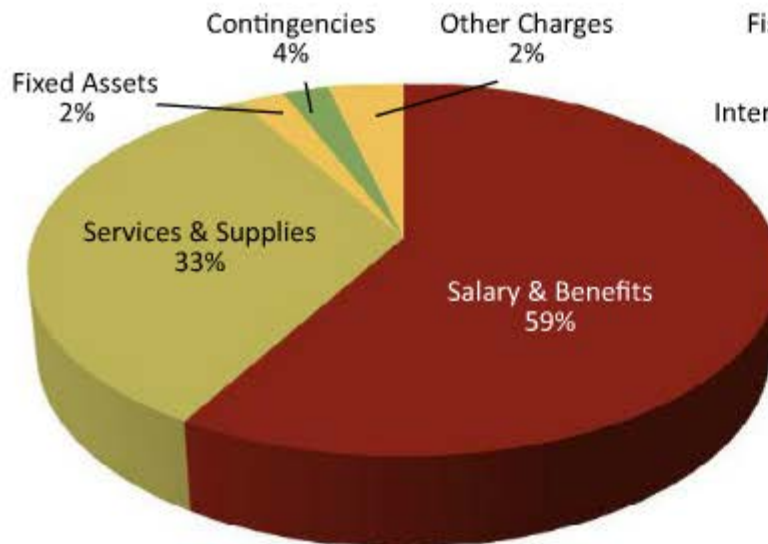
STEWARTSHIP

COUNTYWIDE FINANCIALS

Expenditures by Major Category

FY 2011-12 Final Budget

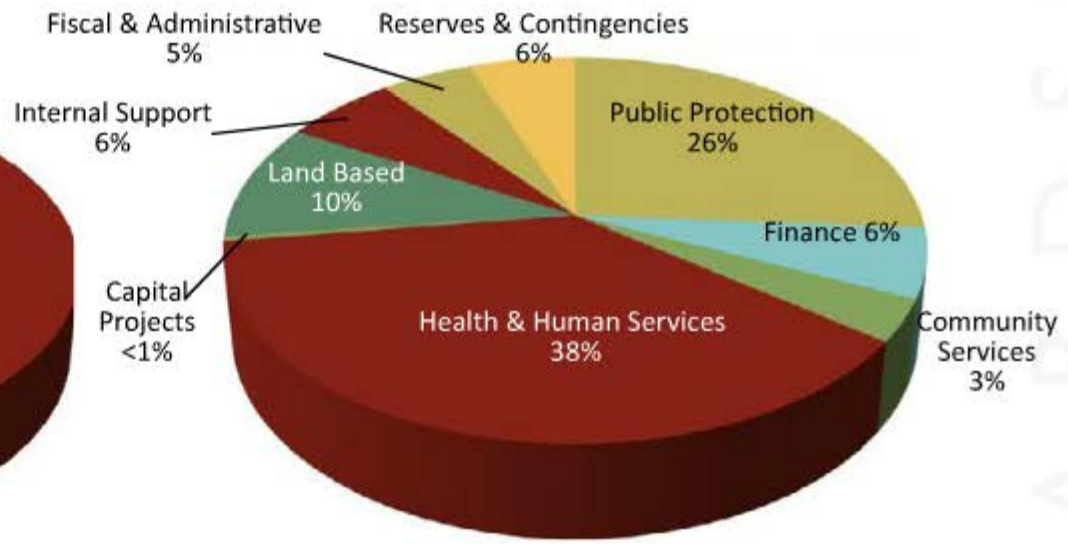
Total Budget: \$464.4 million



Expenditures by Function

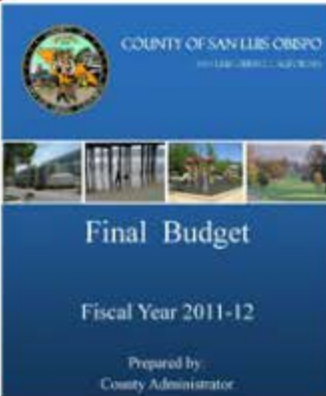
FY 2011-12 Final Budget

Total Budget: \$464.4 million



FTE Positions by Functional Group

	10-11 Adopted	11-12 Adopted
Land Based	326.5	325
Public Protection	676.75	672.75
Health & Human Services	829.75	824.5
Community Services	148.5	143.5
Fiscal & Admin	195.5	193.25
Internal Support	226.5	223.5
Total	2403.5	2382.5



Did you know?

You can view the
**FY 2011-12
 Final Budget**
 online? [click here](#)

Prepared by:
County Administrator

STEWARTSHIP

RUN YOUR OWN COUNTY

Click on the picture below to view the Counties Work game by iCIVICS.



How do you ever wondered what it would be like to make decisions about the programs and services that counties provide, or do you want to learn more about the role of county government?

The National Association of Counties recently partnered with iCivics to create "Counties Work", the first online interactive game related to county government.

In "Counties Work", you're in charge! Listen to the ideas and concerns brought to you by the public and try to make decisions that will keep the public happy and get yourself re-elected. Be mindful of your budget though - you'll need enough money to keep funding all of the programs and services your county provides. For information about some of the programs and services SLO County funds, check out the list on the right.

Where the Money Goes (a partial list)

In Fiscal Year 2011-12, the County will use your taxes, service charges, fines, and fees to:

- Maintain over 1,310 miles of County roadway.
- Provide Sheriff patrol for over 3,300 square miles.
- Respond to approximately 11,913 calls for fire and medical service.
- Prosecute approximately 2,000 felonies, 15,000 misdemeanors, 750 juvenile criminal cases, and 450 mental health cases.
- Operate the County Jail.
- Facilitate the treatment of over 690 adult probationers and 200 juvenile probationers.
- Operate 15 libraries throughout the County.
- Manage and maintain approximately 14,000 acres of parks and open space including 7 regional parks, 11 community parks and approximately 70 miles of hiking trails.
- Operate and maintain 6 swimming pools, 3 18-hole golf courses and 1 skate park.
- Serve 1,400 children with special health care needs.
- Provide 8,000 vaccinations to County residents to prevent the spread of illness.
- Provide 58,500 food vouchers to women and children which will bring \$3.8 million into the economy.
- Conduct inspections of all retail food facilities in the County.
- Facilitate the adoption of approximately 2,440 homeless animals.
- Provide temporary cash assistance to needy families and welfare-to-work employment training programs.
- Provide claims assistance to more than 25,000 veterans and their families.
- Operate the Nacimiento Pipeline to bring 17,500 acre-feet of water to communities throughout the County.
- Provide agricultural pest prevention and management programs to protect approximately \$700 million worth of crops.
- Process approximately 225 land use applications, issue approximately 2,000 building permits and assist approximately 15,000 walk in customers to the Planning and Building Department.
- Conduct elections for local, State and Federal offices, propositions and initiatives.

AWARDS

In 2011, the County of San Luis Obispo (SLO) received many national, state, and local awards for outstanding programs and services. Below is a description of the awards by department:

Airports

- The Airport General Manager was recognized by the YMCA for supporting the initiation of the YMCA Aviation Program at Oceano County Airport.

Auditor-Controller

- Government Finance Officers Association: Excellence in Financial Reporting for the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Clerk-Recorder

- California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program: Honorable Mention for "Develop Your Personal Voting Plan", a grant funded voter and accessibility-related outreach and educational program, developed in partnership with Access for All.

District Attorney's Office

- California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board: Award for Excellence presented to Victim/Witness Division Victim Claim Specialist Kelly Wilson for her outstanding quantitative performance with the California Victim Compensation Program – 2011 Bill Push. This program was implemented to clear the backlog of existing bills to providers and victims in order to meet the State's budgetary goal.

Health Agency - Behavioral Health

- Allstate Foundation: Award for "X-The-Text" Campaign to Drug and Alcohol Services Prevention Division, Friday Night Live, June 29, 2011: The County's Friday Night Live program was recognized and awarded for its innovative distracted driving prevention campaigns. The "X-the-Text" campaign informed thousands of local teens and other drivers about the dangers and consequences of distracted driving.

Health Agency- Mental Health Services

- California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program: Honorable Mention for the "Student Wellness Project" which adapts the evidence-based Student Assistance Program model to reduce behavioral health risk and promote resiliency amongst middle school populations.

Farm Advisor

California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program:

- Honorable Mention for the 4-H SLO Scientists science education program developed through 4-H to provide opportunities for strengthening science literacy.
- Honorable Mention for the "Let's Eat Smart and Play Hard Together!" program designed for child/adult pairs to learn about nutrition and fitness in a quick and fun way.

Probation/Sheriff/District Attorney

- California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program: Honorable Mention for the formation of an Anti-Gang Coordinating Commission to address increasing gang problems and design strategies to eradicate them.

Please click here to view
Executive Summaries for all CSAC
Challenge Awards

Continued on next page →

EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION

AWARDS

Continued...

Planning & Building Department

- California Association of Environmental Professionals: Outstanding Planning Department for the Conservation and Open Space Element. This award is given to the agency or firm publishing a plan that best accommodates projects population growth in a compact form to project California's environmental resources, minimize greenhouse gasses and provide natural open space.
- Outstanding Environmental Analysis for the Geographic Information System Analysis Model. This award is given to the agency or firm publishing an outstanding environmental analysis or assessment document.
- American Planning Association, Central Coast Chapter: Outstanding Planning Award for the Comprehensive Plan Conservation and Open Space Element. This award is given to honor the best planning efforts that create communities of lasting value.
- National Association of Counties: Achievement Award for the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance. This award is given to innovative government programs.
- California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program: Honorable Mention for the Resource Management System which tracks capacities of essential resources and infrastructure to serve as an early warning system to correct deficiencies and enable orderly development.
- Honorable Mention for the Interactive PermitView Application which provides online access to property and permit information, displayed in a mapping format at no cost to the user.
- US Green Building Council, California Central Coast Chapter: Green Government Award Honorable Mention (other departments acknowledged include the Board of Supervisors, Administrative Office, General Services Agency and Public Works.)

Public Works: Nacimiento Water Project Awards and Recognition

- American Society of Civil Engineers, San Luis Obispo Branch: Outstanding Private Sector Civil Engineering Project for the Nacimiento Water Project.
- Outstanding Civil Engineering Project for the Nacimiento Water Project.
- Outstanding Civil Engineer in Government, John R. Hollenbeck, P.E., Nacimiento Project Manager
- American Society of Civil Engineers, Los Angeles Section: Award Outstanding Private Sector Civil Engineering Project for the Nacimiento Water Project.
- American Society of Civil Engineers, National recognition as one of five finalists for the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement award. The winner will be announced on March 22, 2012.

Office of the Treasurer-Tax Collector

- California State Association of Counties Challenge Awards Program: Merit Award for the Taxes on the Web program which was created to provide property tax information, payment capabilities, electronic billing and email reminders to customers on a 24/7 basis.



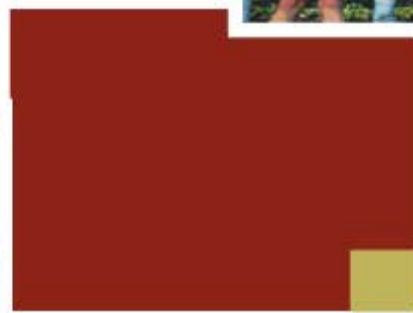
The Auditor's Office has received the Government Finance Officers Association: Excellence in Financial Reporting for the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the last 25 years.

Pictured at left: Jim Hamilton, Division Manager of Special Accounting and Lydia Corr, Division Manager of Financial Operations.

ilding



2011



Acknowledgements:

Editors:
Emily Jackson & Geoff O'Quest

Graphic Design: Penny Burciaga



Produced and published by the County Administrative Office

2011 Annual Report

County of San Luis Obispo

