



Coalition triumphs

Bike the Vote!

Bicycling issues have once again been brought to the forefront of the election process by the Bicycle Coalition! Nationally, 46% of Americans ride bicycles recreationally and many use their bicycles as a primary mode of transportation. To raise awareness on the issues affecting SLO County cyclists, the Bicycle Coalition extended invitations to over 50 County candidates to participate in the process and has received over 30 from local city county and mayoral races, the District 3 Supervisor race, and even the State Assembly and State Senate. Candidates were asked four questions, including if they ride a bicycle, their perceived important bicycling related issues in the County, what County cyclists can expect should they be elected, and if they had any additional information to contribute. The Bicycle Coalition does not endorse any candidates, however by providing such a forum it is hoped that voters can be more informed on issues that really matter to cyclists when going to the polls November 2nd. Unedited responses can be viewed on the Bicycle Coalition's website at

<http://www.slobikelane.org>

The Spoken Wheel

San Luis Obispo County • Number 9 • Fall 2004

A New Bicycle Map for San Luis Obispo!

MAP HOPES TO ENCOURAGE NEW CYCLISTS

Fact: San Luis Obispo is pretty good for bicycles. Yes, much more can and will be done for us and our two-wheeled brethren, but as of today, the city is very rideable. The 2000 Census listed bicycling as a journey to work choice for the first time in its own category. San Luis Obispo residents outpaced the rest of the state and the country with a 3.6% of residents riding their bicycle to work. This number does not include other utility-based bicycle trips or recreational trips. San Luis Obispo County ranked 66th in the nation out of 3,220 counties with 1.3% of trips to work by bicycle, and as a state, California averages 0.8%. High as this number may seem, we still have nearly 80% of city commuting being done by automobile! This in a city that is only 4.5 miles from top to bottom!

Up until now, the only resource available to an aspiring cyclist was the County bicycle map distributed by SLO Regional rideshare. In this map, the detail showing San Luis Obispo is small and hard to read. The Bicycle Coalition thought more could be done to provide a significant informational resource to cyclists in San Luis Obispo, and hopefully elsewhere in the County in the coming years. Both the Sonoma and the Marin County Bicycle Coalitions (North of San Francisco) have invested their energy in creating a County bicycling map that provides real information to cyclists. These projects were also intended to provide a source of revenue to these coalitions as well as their maps are being sold at bicycle shops. One of the areas we thought could have the greatest impact was getting the word out to Cal Poly Students. For a major university, only about 13% of Cal Poly's 18,000 students ride their bicycles to school, even though nearly all of them live within an easy bicycling distance of campus. Getting more students on bikes can reduce roadway congestion, cut pollution, and make San Luis Obispo a much more livable community.

The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Advisory Committee also saw a bicycle map as a potential answer to providing more information about cycling. The BAC agreed to help the Bicycle Coalition develop the

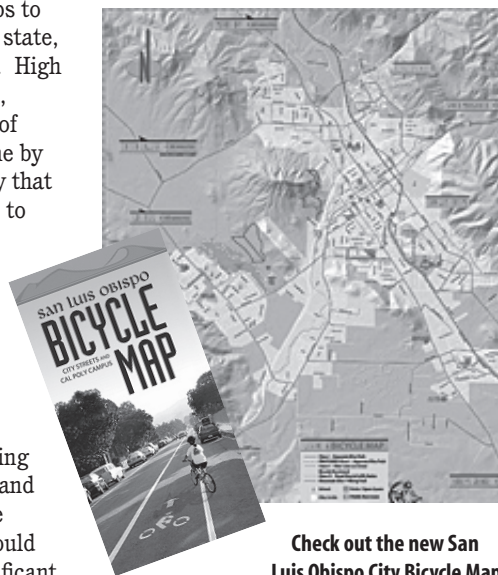
map and the project was started in early 2004. The Bicycle Coalition oversaw project management of the map, and provided the information and layout for the back of the map. It didn't hurt that one of our Board members, Mary Andrews (see page 6 for profile) a City GIS specialist was on our side. The City Mapping department provided the actual map, the Bicycle Coalition provided the content, and local graphic design firm, GAIA Graphics gave us a great deal on their services to meld everything into a seamless functional final product. Financial backing for the project came from partnerships with

Cal Poly's Commuter Access Services, the San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club and the City Promotional Coordinating Committee. All this collaboration and nearly 9 months of work has resulted in 42,000 maps being printed, with future updates and additional printings virtually guaranteed. The maps are being distributed to incoming students at Cal Poly and will be available at local bike shops, Rideshare, and other locations.

The map contains Cal Poly specific information including a detail of the campus, safety tips for bicyclists, commuting tips and information, transit information for people who might want to take their

bicycles on a bus or train, and locations of city bicycle shops. Graphically, the map shows the location of bike lanes and paths, parks, mountain bike trails, schools and public restrooms. There are also descriptions of local cycling related groups including the Bicycle Coalition, the Bike Club, and Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers.

The story isn't over though. In addition to the map, a bicycle brochure was also created with a smaller map detailing the core of San Luis Obispo and information a visitor to the city would find useful. 5,000 of these brochures were printed, thanks to a grant from the City's Promotional Coordinating Committee and have been distributed to City Hotels and the Chamber of Commerce. The goal is to promote the city as an attractive place to ride a bicycle, so if you're a visitor to the city and you see our brochure, we hope that you'll bring a bicycle next time you come!



Check out the new San Luis Obispo City Bicycle Map at your local bike shop today!

Welcome Adam Fukushima!

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Bike Coalition Board of Directors is pleased to announce the hiring of Adam Fukushima as our new Executive Director. On Monday, October 25th, Joe Gilpin, Executive Director since May 2003, handed over the reigns as he prepared to begin his new full time planning position with San Luis Obispo based RRM Design Group.

We are very thankful for the energy and effort generated by Joe that has lead to the growth of the Coalition in so many ways. In the past year alone we have nearly doubled membership, increased funding, and introduced groundbreaking programs like Bike First to the county. Most importantly, cyclists and pedestrians have had a true voice in the county as Joe has worked to build critical relationships and represent our interests on the air, in critical planning meetings, and in front of community decision-makers. Fortunately for the Coalition, Joe will continue to be very involved as a member of the Board of Directors.

Adam will use his extensive international bicycle commuting experiences and communication skills to further the Coalition's cause, focusing on specific community bike programs, continued relationship building, and advocacy activities. It is the board's goal to help Adam take the Coalition to the next level of advocacy effectiveness. In order to do so, we will need our membership's help in determining the course of emphasis.

We still face the funding and membership growth challenges of any young organization. And any member energy that can assist Adam and the board in this area is welcome. But what we really need is for our members to throw their voices behind Adam's, whether at city council meetings, or with a phone call or email to let him know about specific concerns or opportunities. Take advantage of this opportune time to contact Adam and let him know what you expect of your County Bicycle Coalition, and how you can help us meet this expectation.

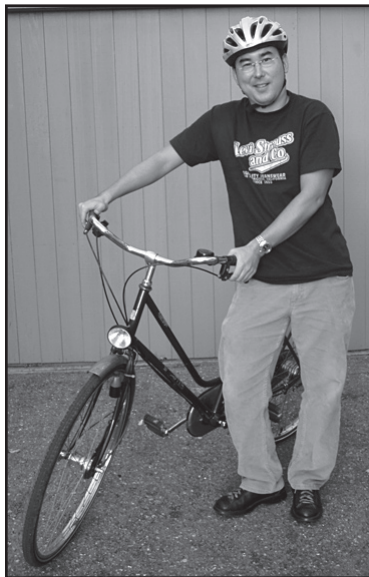
-Damon Noller

Out of the Saddle

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings! Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Adam Fukushima and I am delighted to be your new Executive Director. The future is bright for bicycle transportation in the county and I'm excited to be a part of it. My first encounter with the bicycle was as a child growing up in car crazy Orange County. I remember vividly the fun of a leisurely ride down the Santa Ana River trail. I also remember spending my summers with relatives in Japan, where I enjoyed using a folding bike to get around. I was so awed by how bikes were harmonized with other modes of non-car transportation that I often imagined how life would be if we could do the same in our own country.

Just a year ago I returned from a two-year stint as a Fulbright student in Germany and the Netherlands. While there, I was impressed to see how much cycling had become a part of everyday life. To most of these people, cycling isn't really a sport, but a viable means of transportation. Ask them who won the last European bike race and most of them wouldn't have a clue, but ask when they last used their bike and they'll tell you how many hours ago. In fact, the bicycle has even become an item of conspicuous consumption over there. Top executives show off their fully loaded bikes at the company parking lot just like they do here with their cars. Impressed upon my memory forever are the images of the elderly nun riding her bike every day to the local parish, the corporate businessman riding to work in his three-piece suit, and the family riding to market in the "mini-van"—a bike equipped



with a baby seat on the handle bars and two child seats behind the rider.

Europe and Japan have made great strides in cycling transportation. But why should they get to have all the fun? Shouldn't we Californians be the ones leading the way? We're unique among Americans and we're not afraid of new ideas. Join us in transforming the bicycle into a transportation vehicle and not just another sporting accessory to put on top of your car. I look forward to working on your behalf. During my tenure here I wish to increase our

influence in the county and city governments, bring in more members, and help get more people out of their cars and on the bike seat. I'm particularly interested in helping those who are eager to get out of their cars but are timid about getting on the bike. It is a wonderful time to be an advocate for cycling. With fuel prices increasing, traffic getting more congested, and obesity rates on the rise, bicycling is a great way to alleviate many of our community's problems.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Joe Gilpin for his admirable service to the Bicycle Coalition. We wish him well and are glad that he will still be involved with us.

—Adam Fukushima

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http://www.slobikelane.org

E-mail Newsletter:

To join, send a blank email message to: SLOCBCnews-subscribe@slobikelane.org
Be sure to tell anyone you think would be interested in bicycling related issues!

SLOCBC ADMINISTRATION

Adam Fukushima,

Executive Director

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Joe Gilpin

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Joe Gilpin

WEBMASTER

Joe Gilpin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Second Thursday of the month 12 noon–1:30 P.M.
Rideshare Conference Room
1150 Osos Street, Suite 206
San Luis Obispo, CA

Agenda will be posted on our website one week prior to each meeting.

All board meetings are open to members.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

4 November 2004

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

January 12th! (see pg 5)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To be announced

Printing of *The Spoken Wheel* is provided, in part, by a Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction (MOVER) grant through the Air Pollution Control District



23 SLO County Residents Choose to 'Bike First'!

BIKES PRESENTED ON OCTOBER 16TH!

Bike First Recognized Within California and Nationally

At a ceremony this past Saturday, October 16th, twenty-three San Luis Obispo County residents took possession of brand new vehicles that will carry them to work, carry their shopping, help them connect with their neighborhoods on a personal level, reduce pollution and help them stay fit in the process. Sound like an unusual vehicle? Not if that vehicle is a bicycle.

At Cambria Bicycle Outfitters, participants picked up their Breezer Villager bicycles at the kickoff of the "Bike First" program. Each bike was fully equipped with everything the owners will need to get

new bicycles to everyone!"

The presentation ceremony began with short speeches by the project sponsors, including the designer of the bikes, Joe Breeze of Breezer Transportation Bicycles. San Luis Obispo Mayor Dave Romero spoke glowingly of the program's benefits to the community, and so did Chris Marxen, Assistant Secretary of CalEPA in Sacramento.

"Maria Shriver heard of the program," said Marxen, himself a bicycle commuter, to the 60 people in attendance. "When she told the Governor about it he was so impressed that we had to send someone down and attend this ceremony!"

After refreshments, the Bike First recipients attended a short bicycle commuting class facilitated by local certified cycling instructor Rod Hoadley. The class focused on being safe in traffic and being comfortable while riding the bicycle. Each Bike First participant contributed \$200 to the program and was issued a Breezer Villager bicycle with easy-shifting, low-maintenance internal gearing, rear cargo carrier, grocery-bag pannier, fenders, generator lights, lock, pump, helmet and bell. The total package, including education and maintenance, was worth over \$1,000.

"Biking is just one component of the overall



Participants didn't just get the tools, they got the training from local Licensed Cycling Instructor and Coalition member Rod Hoadley.

Rideshare program," said John Donovan, program manager of SLO Regional Rideshare, "but a worthwhile program like Bike First can really shine the light on how using a bike can have a big impact on air pollution and traffic congestion in our communities."

Statistics show that 40% of all car trips are 2 miles in length or less. The aim of Bike First is to have the recipients replace those car trips with Bike First trips. Recipients will be surveyed on a periodic basis to determine the effectiveness of the program and whether or not Bike First participants are following through on their pledge to Bike First.

As part of the grant requirements, participants will be monitored over the next year to gauge the effectiveness of the program for replacing vehicle trips. Other cities such as Portland OR, and Washington DC, have inquired about the program so that they might replicate it in their communities.

Join The Board!

One of the greatest strengths of the Coalition is our board of directors. We have nine board seats elected each November for two-year terms. Board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings, which are the second Thursday of the month at noon in the SLO Regional Rideshare Office. Board members are also encouraged to invest a small amount of time each month to growing the organization. For an interest sheet, please go to our website at www.slobikelane.org, or email Adam Fukushima at: adamf@slobikelane.org.



Bike First participants are ready to hit the roads!

health while getting where they need to go.

The program's primary funding came from the SLO County Air Pollution Control District through its Motor Vehicle Emissions Reduction program. The program was planned by the San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition and co-sponsored by SLO Regional Rideshare, Breezer Bicycles of Marin County, and Cambria Bicycle Outfitters.

Bike First was announced in August and was quickly overwhelmed with nearly 90 applications from San Luis Obispo County residents. "I was impressed with the wide demographic of the applicants," said Joe Gilpin, executive director of the San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition and bike safety coordinator at SLO Rideshare. "We had high school and college students, professionals, married couples, parents with small children, even grandmothers and grandfathers. It took us some time to sort out the huge number of very worthy applicants. I wish we could have awarded



Married couple Anthony and Amy Mendes are both making a lifestyle change by choosing to Bike First!

Montalban Street Bridge Cancelled by SLO City Council

BRIDGE WOULD HAVE CONNECTED LINCOLN NEIGHBORHOOD TO SANTA ROSA STREET

Outgoing and incoming executive directors Joe Gilpin and Adam Fukushima attended the SLO City Council meeting on October 9th to provide testimonial in support of the proposed bicycle/pedestrian bridge over the creek connecting the Lincoln/Chorro St. neighborhoods to Santa Rosa St. The concept for the bridge has been in the works for about 12 years and was originally envisioned as a way for pedestrians to access businesses and transit along Santa Rosa St.

In 2001 after enduring heavy rains a sinkhole developed beneath Foothill Boulevard between Santa Rosa and California Blvd. Temporary vehicle and bicycle/pedestrian bridges were purchased out of the general fund to keep the arterial open. The bicycle bridge was ordered for \$50,000 to the exact specifications to cross the creek at Montalban St. A grant was also awarded by the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments dating back to 1997 that would reimburse the City for the bridge and provide funding to do the engineering and construction needed to place the bridge over the creek.

In late 2003 the bicycle coalition was approached by San Luis Obispo Public Works to provide support for the project after neighbors had begun to show opposition. A lengthy debate also began within the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) after neighbors began showing up to discuss the matter. Concerns about the project ranged from the transient population already existing in the creekbed, inviting crime from Santa Rosa St. and safety concerns about

the lack of signalization on Santa Rosa St at Montalban. The BAC eventually downgraded the priority of the bridge and did not support its completion. At the Council Meeting on October 9th, about 10 members of the Lincoln St. neighborhood attended to testify against the bridge. Some argued it would encourage children to cross Santa Rosa St, others predicted the bridge would ruin the neighborhood causing it to become a freeway of vandalism, homeless people, and drunken college students.

Coalition executive director Joe Gilpin attempted to reassure the Council that although the project was not perfect in all respects most of the residents fears were unfounded and the project should be allowed to proceed. Despite representing nearly 300 cyclists the bike coalition was easily outgunned by the neighborhood residents and the project was killed, despite over \$65,000 being spent already. This is an important lesson for the cycling community and the bike coalition. Even though we represent each of our members, it may be necessary from time to time to show up in force with other cyclists at these meetings to reach our desired outcomes. We hope that when that time comes in the future, we can count on you to join us and fully represent our collective

needs. If you are not on our email list, please take a moment to join. You can do so by following the directions on page 2 of this newsletter or by visiting our website at www.slobikelane.org. Unfortunately we didn't know that this issue would be brought before Council until the day before the meeting and could not get the word out in time.

The bridge will now undergo a search for a new location, a search the bicycle coalition has offered to help with. There is also the possibility that the funding for it's installation may be transferable, this will be up to the discretion of the Council of Governments when a new location is identified. We hope the bridge and the funding will be salvaged and find a useful role in San Luis Obispo.



Cyclists bound for Cal Poly use this 100 foot bridge that needs a new home.

Adam Fukushima

The State of Our State

THE CALBIKE REPORT

Bike Culture and Politics in the Golden State

A Publication of the California Bicycle Coalition

SB 1381, co-sponsored by the California Bicycle Coalition and the Rails to Trails Conservancy, passed out of the legislature but was vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. This bill had three components that combine to enhance walking and bicycling for all Californians:

- 1) Implement the Bicycling & Walking Blueprint
- 2) Improve Rail-Trail Planning

3) Adopt Caltrans Policy DD64 on Routine Accommodation as state statute.

The governor wrote this in his rejection, "While I support efforts to promote increased walking and bicycling, both of which are important for improving physical fitness, I believe that this measure would impose unnecessary legislative requirements."

SB 1087, authored by Nell Soto of Pomona, passed out of the legislature and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the bill on September 9th. SB 1087 will extend the sunset for the popular Safe Routes to School program to January 2008. SB 1087 will ensure needed funding to improve

safety for thousands of California children who walk and bike to school.

The bills raise no new taxes and places no new mandates on local governments, rather it will direct as much as \$20-\$25 million a year in federal transportation safety funds into neighborhoods that need them the most. Many, many thanks are due to Surface Transportation Policy Project, California Alliance for Transportation Choices, Odyssey, and many local bike coalitions and activists across the state.

P.S. Check out the CBC's new "Bike Voter" t-shirt on our website, surely "the must-have" fashion item this election year! See: <http://www.calbike.org>

Join Us in January...

SLO CITY BUDGET MEETING JANUARY 12TH

We know that bicycle facilities are important to you... our membership forms tell us so! From the responses we got it's obvious that you would like to see more bike lanes and more Class I bike paths. Such projects are however, the big kahunas of the bike world, they take money, time, pressure and most of the time luck to finally reach fruition. We know that 70% of our members live in San Luis Obispo, can we use our membership to our collective advantage when trying to advance some of the bigger profile projects? You bet!

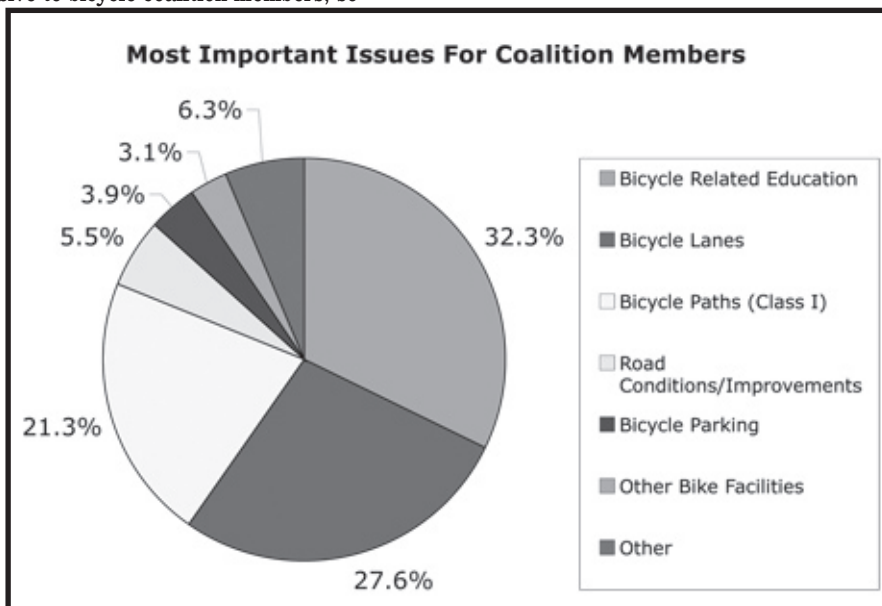
On January 12th, the City of San Luis Obispo will hold its bi-annual Capital Improvement Project (CIP) budgetary meeting. This meeting will run from 6:30-9:30 in San Luis Obispo. The exact location is still to be determined, so be sure you're on our email list so that we can give you the information when we get it (see instructions on page 2).

The Coalition feels that this is a terrific time to show up in numbers to emphasize the need we have in this community for the completion of projects like the Railroad Safety Trail and the Bob Jones City to the Sea Trail. At the last meeting in 2002, a large number of people attended who wanted new sports fields - today the Damon-Garcia sports fields have been constructed and will open next year!

Such a meeting is also a terrific opportunity for us all to get together and discuss some of the ideas we have for improving bicycling in San Luis Obispo County, and have some fun in the process. Therefore, the Bicycle Coalition invites you to attend a free pasta feed dinner before the budget meeting at 5:30 at the senior citizens center on Santa Rosa Street in Mitchell Park. This event isn't exclusive to bicycle coalition members, so

please feel free to invite anyone you know who would like to see advancements made in San Luis Obispo's bicycle infrastructure.

This is an important meeting to attend, after all, it sets the City's budget priorities until 2007! We'll update you via email when we have more of the specifics worked out, and we hope to see you on January 12th!



What: 2005-2007 City Budget Meeting

When: Wednesday January 12, 2005

Where: Join us at the Senior Center on Santa Rosa St. in Mitchell Park

Who: Anyone concerned about the future of bicycle trails and other facilities in San Luis Obispo

Why: We can't afford to miss out in this meeting with tight state and federal budgets, numbers could mean dollars for our most important projects! Lets show the City we want new bike facilities!

Tis the Season...

Can you believe it? The wacky SLO Bike Happening is now into its fifth year of all out fun. The Happening started in 2000, and now can be seen and enjoyed the first Thursday of the month at 9:30 in the mission plaza. The Bike Happening is not a Coalition event, however it has provided a terrific form of 'bike culture' to be found here on the Central Coast and it promotes bicycling, community and fun.

An extension of the monthly Happening is participation in local parades including the Cayucos 4th of July parade, the Mardi Gras parade in SLO and this year's SLO Downtown parade on Friday, December 3rd. The Happening will be entry number 60 in this year's parade. Meet with your bike at the corner of Monterey and Broad (at

the back of the mission plaza) around 7:00 - that's when the parade starts but we are pretty far back.

If you would like to join the festivities, this year's theme is a trip down "Candy Cane Lane," contact Dan Kallal for more information. All are welcome. Bike decorations and/or costumes are a must.

—Dan Kallal

DanKallal@Charter.net



San Luis Obispo's First Bicycle Boulevard Dedicated

DEDICATION CEREMONY IN MEMORY OF FORMER SLO CITY COUNCILMAN BILL ROALMAN

On Thursday October 7th, San Luis Obispo officially dedicated its first bicycle boulevard on Morro Street in memory of former City Councilman Bill Roalman. The late Councilman was a loved bicycle advocate who not only talked the talk but also rode the bike. About 60 people attended the ceremony.

The idea for the bicycle boulevard has been around for a long time, however the project gained momentum in 1999 when the City Council supported changes to Osos Street and Santa Barbara Street.

Morro Street is the first of several potential bicycle boulevards in the city and will be watched closely to gauge its popularity. The bicycle boulevard makes an important link for cyclists traveling from the Railroad Safety Trail to downtown SLO. Cyclists can now cross the Jennifer Street Bridge, ride to the end of Morro Street and cross to the bicycle boulevard with a newly installed traffic signal. Morro Street itself has been blocked off to through traffic with a new pocket park and bicycle path. When fully complete the bicycle boulevard will be complemented with flipped stop signs, new signage, and pavement stencils.

Bicycle boulevards aren't a new idea, however, the bicycle boulevard is a refinement of the

shared roadway concept (the operation of a local street is modified to function as a through-street exclusively for bicycles) while maintaining local access for automobiles. Traffic-calming devices reduce traffic speeds and through trips. Traffic controls limit conflicts between motorists and bicyclists, and give priority to through-bicycle movement.

Advantages of Bicycle Boulevards

- Opportunity - Traditional street grids offer many miles of local streets that can be converted to bicycle boulevards.
- Low cost - Major costs are for traffic control and traffic-calming devices.
- Traffic-calming techniques are increasingly favored by residents who want slower traffic on neighborhood streets.
- Bicycle travel on local streets is usually compatible with local land uses.
- Bicycle boulevards may attract new or inexperienced cyclists who do not



Joe Gilpin

SLO Public Works Director Mike McCluskey with the City Council

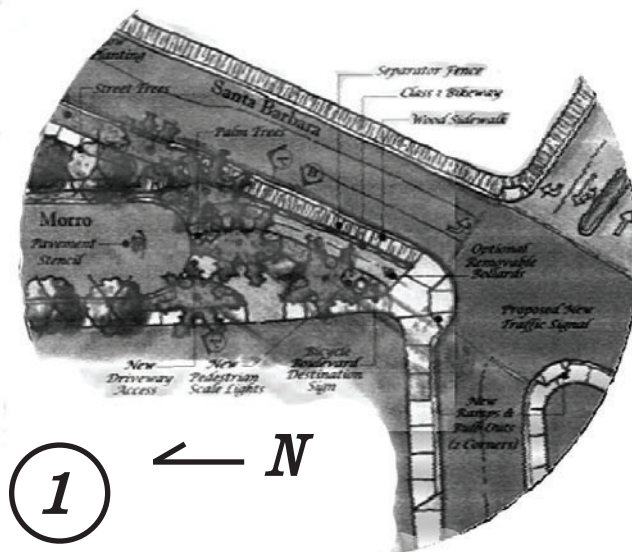
feel comfortable on arterials and prefer to ride on lower traffic volume streets.

- Bicycle boulevards can improve conditions for pedestrians, with reduced traffic and improved crossings.

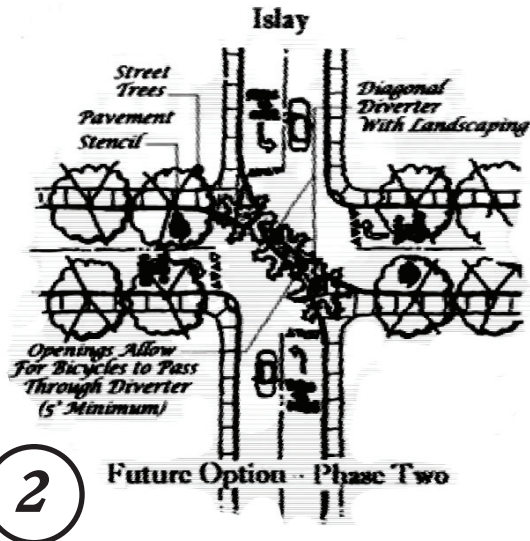
source: Federal Highway Administration

Here at the bicycle coalition, we can't wait for the Morro Street Bicycle Boulevard to be fully completed and set the bar for not only San Luis Obispo, but for the entire County!

The Makings of a Bicycle Boulevard...



Phase 1, recently completed, features a pocket park at the terminus of Morro Street, a short Class I bicycle path and a new traffic signal to get cyclists up to the Jennifer Street bridge and the Railroad Safety Trail.



Phase 2, to be completed soon, will include flipped stop signs to allow bicyclists a barrier free ride downtown, new signs to designate the route and pavement stencils to identify the route. Future plans also could include a barrier at Islay Street that will be permeable to bicycles but not cars.

Membership Matters...

MEMBERSHIP

SLOCBC welcomes its newest members to our family since the spring issue of The Spoken Wheel! These new additions bring our total paid membership closer to 300! We also have a growing core of dedicated business members. Cambria Bicycle Outfitters and Truvativ have each stepped up to the pedals and become our first gold members! The greater our membership, the more people we have behind us, and the larger our voice in county transportation matters. So, next time you're on a ride with friends, or talking to a co-worker, ask them if they have heard of the coalition and invite them to include their voice in local cycling and pedestrian related issues.

BECOME A MEMBER!

To become a SLO County Bicycle Coalition member, fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter, or visit our web site at <http://www.slobikelane.org>.

MEETINGS OPEN TO ALL

The SLOCBC board of directors meets regularly on the second Thursday of every month at noon. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage members not only to attend, but to participate.

NEW MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members since our Summer 2004 issue. If you have submitted membership and don't see your name, we are still processing your application, please check if

your name is in our next issue.

Individual

Betty King ● John Hansen
Justin Zigler ● Kim Lisagor
Rob Bronte ● Frank Thaxter
Christina Muller

Families

John & Karen Little
Mark & Anne Turner
Adam & Amy Fukushima
Troy, Helene Kyle & Brian Finger
Renee & Martin Punzi-Sanders
Kathleen & Earnest Cole
Dan & Marilyn Chapman
Bowden Family

Grass Roots

Nick Guillen ● Robin Castro
John Kommer ● Shaba Mohseni

RENEWING MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members that have renewed their 2003 memberships to date. All expiring members have been sent renewal notices. If you have received one, please renew and continue your support!

Renewing Members

Michael Collins, Robin Dery,
Ernie Lawrence, John Ewan (Pacific Energy Co.), Beaton Family, Dan Van Beveren,
Kelly Heffernon, Pete Rogers, Rich Murphy,
Ronald & Jennifer Skinner, Trina Blanchette,
April Harris, Cynthia Andrews, Mark Hunter,
Jay C. Johnson

BUSINESS MEMBERS

The San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition salutes our current business members! We are now ready to offer a new business dues structure (see page 8) that will help recognize those of you who help us the most. We now offer advertising services to our business members. Please call Adam Fukushima at 541-3875 for more details.

CURRENT BUSINESS MEMBERS

Gold
Truvativ
Cambria Bicycle Outfitters

Standard
John Little Construction
Sunstorm Cyclery
Switchbax Bikes
New Frontiers
Liz Johnston LCSW
Truvativ
BOB Trailers Inc.
Foothill Cyclery
Art's SLO Cyclery
Pacific Energy Co.
SOJOE

Success Stories & Letters

THINK YOU CAN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE? THINK AGAIN!

Dear Bicycle Coalition,

I want to let you know about the wonderful response I got from Cal Trans about a particular concern that I raised with them this year. I have been bicycle commuting from Los Osos to my workplace on Kansas Avenue, located on Highway 1, since 1993. To go home I must cross all four lanes of Highway 1 to get to the north bound shoulder. This past spring Cal Trans installed a stoplight at that intersection. Unfortunately the signal length was too short for me to cross the highway safely, and for the first time in over ten years of riding I was seriously concerned about getting hit by a car. I called the local Cal Trans office, and was put in touch with Julie Gonzales. Julie immediately had the signal duration lengthened. For some reason, soon thereafter the light reverted to its initial, shorter time, so I called Julie again. This time she had another staff member, Abe Degado, meet me at the control panel. Abe lengthened the signal again, and that time it stayed, so I can now cross Highway 1 safely.

I am really grateful for the immediate response from Cal

Trans. Julie and Abe were very nice, and I was impressed that they would respond to the concerns of a single bicyclist. I am happy that I can continue to ride my bike to work safely.

Yours truly, Lisa Wallender

Coalition member and SLOCOG Planner Peter Brown also noticed a few things that needed attention recently. A triangular lid that is supposed to cover a service access holes on Halcon Road between Viejo Camino and Rocky Canyon was missing and while on a ride Peter witnessed a cyclist thrown from their bicycle. Peter notified Steve Kahn of the City of Atascadero and the problem was fixed within the week! Peter also noticed a small rockslide had blocked the bike lane on highway 101 and notified Steve Price of Caltrans who promptly sent a crew out to clean it up. The Bicycle Coalition would like to thank the City of Atascadero and Caltrans for being so responsive to the pleas of cyclists, and thank you Peter, for looking out for us!

Meet the board

CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

MARY ANDREWS

Residence:

My husband, Greg Notley and I live with our two children, Ben (three) and Claire (one) in San Luis Obispo. I moved here in 1988 from the Bay Area to attend Cal Poly.

Occupation:

I am a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Specialist for the City of SLO half time, teach a class at Allen Hancock and am a full time mom.

Background:

My husband and I are founding members of the Coalition. We love to bike and rode a tandem occasionally before we started procreating. I have a BS in Horticulture from Cal Poly and a MA in Geography from Davis. I'm your classic tree hugger, environmentalist, granola-eating, occasional vegetarian, and pro alternative-energy type. I am sort of an oddity on the board because I am not a 'serious' cyclist. I'm just someone who would like to see more people get out of their cars and onto their bikes or feet walking.

Cycling History:



Mary Andrews and daughter Claire

Joe Gilpin

There was an amazing network of Class I bike paths in Marin where I grew up. When I moved to San Luis it struck me as odd that there was no developed trail system. Living part time in Davis when going to grad school is when it really hit me how much I had missed Class I bike paths.

My first experience on a bike was riding on

a pillow on my dad's cross bar. I eventually graduated to my own bike with a big yellow banana seat and a blue plastic basket.

What do I ride?

I commute on my brother's hand-me-down mountain bike that my husband fixed up for me a few years ago. We have a few other bikes floating around. I have been known to grab my husband's when I have a flat and am in too much of a hurry to pump it up.

My Vision:

I would like to see the Coalition be the catalyst for transforming the county into a more bike friendly place. On the top of my wish list is increasing the extent of Class I bike paths so my kids can just take them for granted like I did growing up.

Coalition Support:

I just want to encourage people who don't think of themselves as 'serious' cyclist to step up and get more active in the coalition. Invite your fiends to join. Remember the more members we have the greater our political power and the more likely we can get things done, like building more Class I bike paths!

—Mary Andrews

Coalition Briefs

JOIN THE COALITION!

We've been making the transition to a annual calendar year dues structure to simplify the renewal process. That means if you join between now and the end of the year we'll give you membership benefits until the end of 2005!

JOIN OUR COMMITTEES

Since we launched our new committees in January (see www.slobikelane.org and click on 'get involved') we've seen the Coalition gain a tremendous amount of direction. The Advocacy Committee has been particularly helpful in determining the short term direction of the Coalition. These committees are the best way to involve yourself in the Coalition and require little commitment. Please join us!

JOIN THE E-NEWSLETTER

SLOCBC now has an E-newsletter! The newsletter is sent out about three times a month and will keep you updated on all events, news and issues that affect us locally in San Luis Obispo County. To subscribe, simply send a blank email to the following address:

SLOCBCnews-subscribe@slobikelane.org

Feel free to invite anyone you want to sign up who might be interested in hearing about any activities and news that the Coalition is involved in.

TAKE YOUR BIKE ON THE BUS!

San Luis Obispo County has recently been in the national spotlight as we have one of the first fleets of busses with two sets of 3 position bike mounts. This means many of our RTA busses can now carry 6 bicycles at a time! This innovation by Sportworks bicycle racks is allowing cyclists countywide to have more confidence that there will be a place for their bike on the bus and is helping to promote bicycle-bus commuting. For more information about bus schedules countywide, please visit www.rideshare.org.

BIKE HAPPENING!

The first Thursday of every month at 9:30pm hundreds of cyclists converge on the Mission Plaza in SLO for Bike Happening! The Bike Happening is a "Courteous Mass" ride where riders obey all traffic laws and stop at all traffic control devices. Don't forget to bring

your bicycle lights as local law enforcement have been ticketing riders without them. Some months have over 500 riders, many wear costumes and ride exotic bicycles.

BOARD AGENDAS AND MINUTES ON WEB

Our past board meeting agendas and meeting minutes are now available on our website for review. Go to our website at www.slobikelane.org and click the "small print" section. Current board agendas will be posted approximately one week before the announced date.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ON OUR BOARD?

The Bicycle Coalition holds elections for seats on our Board of Directors annually in November. Board members are required to meet once monthly for an hour and a half. In addition, the Coalition encourages board members to serve on one of our committees and spread the virtues of the organization as widely as possible. Our Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at noon in the Rideshare conference room (1150 Osos St. Ste. 206). If you're interested, please come to a meeting and see if it is something that you

NEXT PAGE...

Ongoing Coalition projects

Area/s	Route/s	Jurisdiction/s
Regional significance	Hwy 1 corridor (Hwy 101 to Monterey County line)	SLO City/City of Morro Bay/SLO County/Caltrans/SLOCOG
Regional significance	Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail	SLO City/SLO County Parks/SLO Land Conservancy/SLOCOG
Regional significance	SLO County Sheriff's Christmas Bike Give-away Project	SLO County
North Coast	Morro Bay to Cayucos connector	City of Morro Bay/State Parks/SLOCOG
North Coast	Cambria Cross-Town Trail	SLO County Parks/SLOCOG
North County	Atascadero to Templeton connector	SLO County/Caltrans/City of Atascadero/SLOCOG
North County	Cuesta Grade North connection	SLO County/Caltrans
San Luis Obispo	Hwy 227 corridor (South St. to Los Ranchos Dr.)	SLO City/SLO County/Caltrans
San Luis Obispo	Railroad Safety Trail Extensions	SLO City/Union Pacific Railroad/Cal Poly
South County	Bikes on Grand (Grand Ave. from Hwy 101 to Hwy 1)	City of Arroyo Grande/City of Grover Beach/SLOCOG
South County	Price Canyon widening (Hwy 227 to Ormonde Road)	SLO County/SLOCOG
Ongoing programs	SLO County Bikeways Project, Mapping	All jurisdictions/SLO Bicycle Club/ECOSLO
Ongoing programs	Sinsheimer Elementary Bike Club pilot program	John Altman (club coordinator)/IMBA Sprockids Program
Ongoing programs	Coexist, Share the Roads Campaign	SLO County
Ongoing programs	Bike Fest / Bike Month 2005	SLO City, SLO Regional Rideshare

Coalition Briefs (continued...)

want to pursue. Email Joe Gilpin, for a board member interest sheet if you would like to be considered in the fall. Thanks!

COALITION REPS NEEDED

Ideally, the Coalition would love to have a local representative in every part of the county that can act as a conduit for local issues and assist with their resolution. The Coalition needs to have eyes and ears on the scene in every part of the county. Ted Aclan in Grover Beach and Merrill Lynn in Nipomo have stepped up to do just that! Could you?

fresh organic produce
natural grocery
hormone-free meat
gourmet deli & salad bar
homemade bakery
supplements & bodycare
dairy case

New Frontiers[®]
natural marketplace

896 Foothill Blvd., San Luis Obispo
 Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8-9 Sunday 10-7
 785-0194

Cycling contacts

Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (3CMB)

Contact: Greg Bettencourt, 995-1675.

San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club

Contact: Robert Davis, 772-0874.

SLO City Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meets 3rd Thursday January, March, May, July, September & November. at City Hall, 7:00 P.M. Contact: Peggy Mandeville, 781-7590.

SLO County Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meets quarterly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Flynn, 781-4463.

Morro Bay Citizens Bike Committee

Meets monthly 1st Wednesday, Morro Bay Community Center, 5 P.M.-6 P.M.

For information, phone 772-0874.

Grover Beach Coalition representative

Ted Aclan, 710-1294.

Nipomo Coalition representative

Merril Lynn, 931-0360.

Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee

Recommends local transportation projects and funding to SLOCOG. Open to the public. Pizza served. Phone: SLOCOG staff, 781-4219.

California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO)

CABO meets quarterly, alternating between No. and So. California. See: <http://www.cabobike.org>.

SAFETY CONCERNS

County roads: 781-5252

City of SLO streets/roads: 781-7190

Law enforcement on county roads:

California Highway Patrol (CHP)
 So. County & Coastal areas, 593-3300;
 No. County, 434-1822

State highways safety concerns

Urban Affairs, 549-3318

State highways maintenance concerns

State Highways maintenance supervisor, 549-3349

Caltrans District 5

David Murray, bike coordinator: 549-3168

Let your voice be heard. Join the SLO County Bicycle Coalition!

Name (please print) _____

Business (if applicable) _____

Street or P.O. Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

Please write your checks payable to: SLOCBC and send to P.O. Box 14860,
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-4860. All donations are (501(c)(3) tax-deductible.

What for you is the single most important bicycling issue in SLO County?

Membership dues

Grass roots \$12 _____
Individual \$25 _____
Family \$40 _____
Benefactor \$500 and over _____

Business **Standard** \$100 _____
Business **Silver** \$500 _____
Business **Gold** \$1,000 _____
Business **Platinum** \$5,000+ _____

Additional donation \$ _____
Total enclosed \$ _____

☐ New member ☐ Address change

☐ Renewing member

Yes, I'd like to volunteer ...

☐ 3 or 4 hours/mo. (circle number of hours)

☐ Help staff ☐ Help with newsletter

☐ District rep ☐ Help with events

☐ Education ☐ Other skills: _____

Our mission, vision & values



Oxo Slayer

MISSION...

to transform San Luis Obispo County into a safer and more livable community by promoting cycling and walking for everyday transportation and recreation

VISION...

See <http://www.slobikelane.com/aboutus.html>

VALUES...

- public access to open spaces
- sustainable land use planning and urban development
- a healthy population and environment
- economic vitality
- an efficient transportation system that provides equal mobility for all

Photo : Riders on Morro Street en route to Bike Fest at Mission Plaza.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition
PO Box 14860
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-4860
www.slobikelane.com