



The Spoken Wheel

San Luis Obispo County • Number 7 • Spring 2004

A Look at the Last 12 Months...



Coalition triumphs

Election 2004 Coverage!

Leading up to the March 2nd Election the Coalition invited the County Board of Supervisor's candidates for the contested seats in districts 1, 3 and 5 to answer some questions about bicycling and alternative transportation in SLO County. We hoped to accomplish two things, first to better inform the public on the views of the candidates, and to let the candidates themselves know that these issues are important to the County. We received responses from all candidates except Mike Ryan, incumbent 5th district supervisor. As the election fell between issues of 'The Spoken Wheel,' the word was spread through our E-newsletter (if you didn't get it, sign up at our website), via an editorial in the Tribune and press releases to other county print media. The web site experienced a surge in traffic and the Coalition received a large number of emails thanking us for raising these issues with the candidates. The idea was so successful we'll be sure to do this again in November. We'll even try the presidential candidates, but I wouldn't hold your breath on responses from them. If you would like to view the responses you can find them at:

<http://www.slobikelane.org/superquestions.html>

COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE APRIL 2003

Looking back, we are proud of a long list of Bicycle Coalition achievements during 2003. We believe we have raised the visibility of bicycling within our county, and our advocacy efforts paid off with many projects being completed or moving ahead. Have a look for yourself at some of the things we did in the last year!

In May 2003, the Coalition helped preserve the staging area for the Bob Jones Trail for trail users, keeping out future wine tasters at the Avila Valley Winery.

In June 2003, the Coalition raised the necessary support to defeat the efforts of a group that sought to kill the Cambria Cross-Town Trail. Thanks in part to our efforts, the Trail is now being constructed and will soon be in use.

We have been active in voicing concern regarding issues on the Cal Poly Campus. The Coalition has provided input on student housing in 2003 and the revised circulation element published in April of 2004.

We have also been active in supporting development of Class I Trails Countywide! We have even helped the City to apply for \$500,000 in Federal money to complete a section of the Railroad Trail in early 2004.

The Coalition has mapped a countywide network of signed bicycle routes. These routes are now in the County Bike Plan and are making progress.

We have submitted a second round of unmet-county bicycle needs to SLOCOG.

We helped the City of SLO plant trees on two occasions in October and November 2003 on the new Morro Street Bicycle Boulevard.

The Coalition has been instrumental in the development of new on-street bicycle parking in downtown San Luis Obispo. In the near future, racks may replace parallel car parking spaces in favor of 10-14 bicycle spaces.

In October 2003, the Coalition met with SLOCOG about programming future funds for a Safe Routes to School Program.

In December 2003, the Coalition helped secure new Class I bicycle paths in Arroyo Grande (Through the



New Bike Detour Northbound on the Cuesta Grade (opened February 2004).

Soto Sports Complex) and in Morro Bay (Connecting Surf St. to the PG&E Driveway)

In January 2004, the Coalition sent out multiple letters to the National Guard, the County Board of Supervisors, and SLOCOG to press for the re-opening of O'Connor Way, which was closed since the 9/11 attacks. O'Connor Way is now open.

We have launched a "Coexist" campaign aimed at educating motorists and cyclists to share the road civilly. Phase I has hit the streets with educational messages on the sides of the Regional buses. (page 7)

The Coalition has now applied for \$33,100 in grant funding and been awarded \$21,600 (\$5,000 is still pending).

In May the Coalition will bring you Bike Month 2004. (see page 3)

There is much more to boast about, however this column is only so long! Please visit our website for a comprehensive look at what we've been able to accomplish together

O'Connor Way-Open

Hell froze over, or at least we thought it did when we heard the news that O'Connor Way would be reopening at the end of January. O'Connor Way has been one of those campaigns that we felt would be long and hard fought. Before heightened security at Camp San Luis Obispo instituted the day following the 9/11 attacks, students from Cuesta College were able to ride over the Wayne Williams Bikeway (O'Connor Way) to campus, avoiding Highway 1 and its dangerous conditions. This was a necessity that they, and members of the local cycling community were unhappy about losing. In late 2003 Caltrans began a median project on Highway 1 and caused multiple bike lane closures. The situation was extremely unsafe and prompted the Coalition to begin thinking about ways to reopen O'Connor Way. In December, The SLO Bike Club and the Coalition began a letter writing campaign to the County Board of Supervisors, the National Guard, and the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments. Weeks later the road was reopened! You can now ride O'Connor way from 7-6pm seven days a week! Enjoy!

Out of the Saddle

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings Coalition supporters! 2004 is already shaping up to be full of Coalition activities. We are very busy along with SLO Regional Rideshare bringing you all the Bike Month 2004 activities in May, so you'd better not miss out on any of this wholesome two-wheeled fun (see page 3 for details).

I can't believe I've been with all of you for nearly a year now! I had a little time to look over some of the things the Coalition has accomplished these last 11 months and included the major highlights on page 1. I didn't realize that the Coalition had done so much! This is just the beginning however, just wait until some of the stuff we've been working on begins to materialize!

Also, be sure to read page 4 for our second edition of 'The Truth About the Trails' our semi-annual look at the status of all planned bike paths in the County. We also want to extend an invitation to get involved in our committees. They are a great way to get involved in the Coalition without any long-term commitment. Just join the e-newsletter (instructions on the left of this page). In March, our advocacy committee examined what issues matter most to our members. The committee audited the responses of roughly 190 of our members from their application forms, which asked, "What for you is the single most important bicycling issue in SLO County?" Responses varied, however most could be



Joe Gilpin accepts a proclamation that May is Bike Month in SLO County From APCD Board member and County Supervisor, Peg Pinard.

grouped into several main themes. 32% of you want better bicycle related education and safety training for both motorists and cyclists. Roughly 28% of you want improvements to or the addition of more bicycle lanes, 21% of you are interested in class I bike paths being completed, 5% are interested in road improvements outside of bike lanes, and 4% want better provision of bicycle parking. Presented with this information, we've taken a look at what the Coalition is doing to address these issues. I invite you to have a look at the website and see for yourself who our members are, and if you aren't a member yet, what a great time to join! Visit: www.slobikelane.org and see the 'Coalition – a sum of our parts' article.

I'm working on it.

—Joe Gilpin

The State of Our State

California Bicycle Coalition Updates

New Executive Director

Paul Dorn, a longtime bicycle activist in Davis and San Francisco and a marketing and communications professional, was named the new executive director of the CBC in January. Dorn succeeds Chris Morfas, who led the CBC since 1997. Thank you Chris for your years of great work and best wishes for your future success.

See: www.calbike.org/pd.htm

Jeff Morales Resigns

Caltrans Director Jeff Morales announced his resignation on Monday, January 26, ending speculation that he might keep his job under the new administration. Morales said he will pursue a new transportation job in California after he leaves his state post on March 1.

"Jeff Morales was an excellent Director of Caltrans," states Marin County Bike Coalition Executive Director Deb Hubsmith. "Bicycle advocates are very

sorry to see him go. During his tenure, Morales did many things to improve Caltrans' policies toward cycling."

Appointed by former Gov. Gray Davis in June 2000, the former Chicago transit official has made no secret of his desire to stay in Sacramento. But transportation insiders say Morales was too closely associated with the ousted regime and that his pro-transit and pro-bicycle policies angered the powerful highway lobby. Director Morales is credited with approving Deputy Directive 64, which states that "The Department fully considers the needs of non-motorized travelers (including pedestrians, bicyclists and persons with disabilities) in all programming, planning, maintenance, construction, operations and project development activities and products."

No word yet on who will take Morales' place. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's administration appears to be in no hurry, although Caltrans staff has interviewed several candidates, including Will Kempdon, who once worked in the Bay Area.

The Spoken Wheel

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E-mail Newsletter:

To join, send a email message to: SLOCBCnews-request@slobikelane.org Include "subscribe" as the only word in the body of the message.

SLOCBC ADMINISTRATION

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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
(Results from 2003, see p6)

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Biker's Ball, May 8th, 2004 see page 5 for details

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



Bike Month 2004 Preview!



BIKE MONTH 2004!

Weather's warm, hills are green and wildflowers are a rainbow riot all over the county it's time to get your bike out of the garage, dust off the cobwebs and get ready for a fun-filled day of cycling activities on Saturday, May 8th.

The San Luis Obispo County Bike Coalition and SLO Regional Rideshare are joining forces to bring you Bike Fest 2004. May is National Bike Month and Bike Fest is the grand kickoff event in our county. Joe Gilpin, Executive Director of the Coalition, describes Bike Fest as a "festival that celebrates the bicycle and educates, excites and encourages bicycle use." Bike Fest is also supported by the San Luis Obispo Bike Club, RRM Design Group and the Air Pollution Control District.

World touring cyclist Willie Weir will present a comedy/adventure show Friday night, May 7th, at Cal Poly's Phillips Hall (near the back of the Performing Art's Center) detailing his adventures bicycling through the Indian subcontinent. Donations for this event will help support the ongoing efforts of the Bike Coalition.

Fuel up Saturday morning with a pancake breakfast at Johnson Park between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. Donations are requested: \$4 for adults, \$1 for children under 12.

And don't forget your bike because after you are full of pancakes, the Roalman Rollout Community Fun Ride will leave from Johnson Park along the Railroad Bike Path, across Jennifer Street Bike Bridge and down the Morro Street Bike Boulevard to Mission Plaza where an old-fashioned Bike Carnival will be in full swing from 10:00 until 2:00.

Booths, children's entertainment, a educational bicycle rodeo, a bicycle fashion show, a stunt show, raffle and bike demo area will be set up around the plaza and rocking to the live music of Surficide from 10am-2pm and admission to everything is free.

The Bike Rodeo will have nine educational stations teaching children the rules of the road and how to ride responsibly and safely. They will also practice bicycle handling skills. The San Luis Obispo City Bicycle Advisory Committee is funding the rodeo.

At the heart of Bike Fest is the Bike/Environmental Fair. Talk to representatives of local bike shops, the bike industry, and other non-profit organizations that are working with the Coalition to

make the Central Coast a better place to live. Test-ride new bikes and even electric bikes in the Bike Demo area in the Broad Street "L."

At noon, take a 45-minute journey through contemporary bicycle fashion exploring all forms of apparel and accessories from geeky spandex, to functional gear for commuting to work; all available at county bike shops.

Local legend Dave Hanson and two of his friends will perform a bicycle freestyle stunt show at 12:45.

The day will close with a raffle at 1:45 with a fantastic range of prizes up for grabs. Raffle tickets are \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.

But that's not all. Bike-to-Work-Week starts Monday the 10th. Free coffee will be served to bicyclists each day of the week from 6-9am in a different part of the county and the first 10 people who show up at each coffee house on a bike will receive a goodie bag with a Bike Month 2004 T-shirt and assorted bicycle-related treats:

Monday:	Paso Robles
Tuesday:	Five Cities
Wednesday:	North Coast
Thursday:	Atascadero
Friday:	San Luis Obispo

In addition to the goodie bag days above, the City of San Luis Obispo has made it possible to bring your Bike to Work Week Monday through Friday! Jamba Juice is also giving away free smoothies at its San Luis Obispo and Arroyo Grande Locations during morning and evening commute hours. You must have a helmet to collect your smoothie!

Check the Coalition website, <http://www.slobikelane.org>, for a list of participating coffee houses and a full calendar of Bike Month events such as May 5th, Thursday, is Bike-to-School-Day and May 22nd, "Family Day on the Trail" on the Bob Jones Bike Trail sponsored by the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo.

San Luis Obispo County is a great place to ride a bike, May is a great time to get out and see our beautiful countryside and Bike Fest 2004 is a great opportunity to start revisit your love for the bicycle.

—Robert Davis



Willie Weir is coming to SLO to tell the story of cycling through India - Join us on May 7th at Phillips Hall (Behind Cal Poly)

The Truth About The Trails



Cambria Cross-Town Trail. New Section looking north along US 1.

UPDATE FROM FALL 2003 ISSUE

In this issue of the Spoken Wheel, SLOCBC will continue our semi-annual update of many of the county's bicycle projects. By keeping everyone informed about these facilities, we believe that we can do a better job of keeping the pressure level high – shortening the amount of time before we can all ride them.

Since last we updated you, several factors have potentially changed the short-term outlook for many of our projects. Since the change in leadership in Sacramento last November, many stumbling blocks have been erected. The state is still unsure of how its financial situation will work out. As a result, a large amount of funding has been frozen or cancelled – particularly for transportation projects.

The theme for this edition of Truth About The Trails is: 'Where's the money?'

Cambria Cross-Town Trail

This trail is making fantastic progress. Four of the five phases are now under construction, and will soon be complete. The fifth phase of the trail, on Cambria Drive between Hwy. 1 and Main, is scheduled to be built along with the flood control project and the Cambria Dr. and Hwy. 1 improvements. This work is scheduled for Spring 2005.

Railroad Safety Trail (Community Pathway)

Union Pacific Railroad has over 33,000 route miles of track, 47,000 employees, over 7,000 locomotives and over 90,000 freight cars. As you might imagine, it's hard to get their attention, let alone an agreement for a trail that in some sections violates Union Pacific's standards on path distance from the tracks. The City of San Luis Obispo has the section from the 101 freeway north to Foothill Boulevard entirely in their right-of-way. An initial grant request from the state has fallen into a limbo that it is not expected to climb out from. Early this year, the Coalition

helped work with SLO City Public Works and Congresswoman Capps' office to put in a request for the missing \$500,000 in grant money to replace funding that was lost in Sacramento. Time will tell if the money is approved from the Federal level.

Other updates on the Railroad trail include the addition of a new segment heading south from the current terminus at Orcutt

Road. This future segment will parallel the east side of the tracks up to Tank Farm Road and the Marigold Center and serve future housing development specified in the Orcutt area specific plan.

The Railroad trail has become known locally as 'The Big Kahuna.' Bridges over Johnson, Monterey, the 101 freeway and other structures will push the funding needed to complete this trail to well over \$5 million dollars. Anyone have a rich uncle?

Bob Jones City-to-the-Sea Class-I Bike Path

As reported in our last edition of 'Truth About the Trails' the Bob Jones Trail runs in several segments. The County of San Luis Obispo is responsible for the segment that will take the trail from the Octagon barn to the current staging area off Ontario Road. County Parks is currently arranging for the completion of the projects environmental document. This roughly 5 to 6 mile segment will require an environmental impact report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act as well as environmental review under federal guidelines. Currently County Parks Division is working with Caltrans and the County's Environmental Coordinator's Office to determine the scope of the environmental documents. In

April 2004 a request for proposal will likely be issued by the County for an outside consulting firm to complete the project's environmental document(s).

Bob Jones Pathway between San

Miguel and Avila Park The County Parks Division is also working on the Bob Jones Pathway between the intersection of San Miguel and Avila Beach Drive and Avila Park. Currently the path ends at Avila's sewer plant. In January 2004 the County hired an archaeologist, an arborist and a design firm (Firma) to complete the design for the path. A preliminary design should be complete in April

2004. This preliminary plan will be reviewed and approved by the Avila Citizen Advisory Council and then submitted for permits (environmental review and a coastal permit). This project is fully funded by a California Department of Fish and Game grant and contributions from Unocal.



The new Santa Rosa Creek Bridge in Cambria

Atascadero – Templeton Connector

Little headway has been made since the constraints analysis was completed late last year. With Union Pacific not allowing any additional 'at-grade' crossings of its tracks, the two necessary crossings are making the project difficult to pursue in the short term. The projects preferred alignment is currently at \$2.5 million. The best chance for success for this trail is for State Transportation Enhancements (TE) money to flow in large volume from Caltrans. Before the project can go forward, a preliminary design would need to be completed, environmental review and final designs.

(next pg)

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Membership Matters...

MEMBERSHIP

SLOCBC welcomes its newest members to our family since the fall issue of The Spoken Wheel! These new additions bring our total paid membership to 234! With our business members added we have 244 paid 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. We are planning a Biker's Ball member event for

Sunday, May 8th, 2004.

NEW MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members since our Winter 2004 issue published in January. If you have submitted membership and don't see your name, we are still processing your application. Look for your name in our next issue.

Individual

Gail Davis ● Tom Parks
Kevin Christian ● James Guthrie
Andy Mutziger

Families

Michael & Susi LeBrun
Christine, David & Ben Braun

Grass Roots

Lisa Wilkinson ● Jason Joyce
Michael Guenza ● Dave Scott
Corina Bigham ● Bill Denneen

Business

Switchbax Bikes

RENEWING MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members that have renewed their 2002 memberships to date. All expiring

members have been sent renewal notices. If you have received one, please renew and continue your support!

Renewing Members

Lloyd & Rebecca Walzer
Anne Kelly ● Barry Lewis

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 Joe Gilpin at 541-4076 for more details.

Current Business Members

Switchbax Bikes
New Frontiers
Liz Johnston LCSW
Truvativ
BOB Trailers Inc.
A Better Bike Shop
Foothill Cyclery
Art's SLO Cyclery
Pacific Energy Co.
SOJOE

Truth Continued... Biker's Ball a GO!

Cayucos – Morro Bay Connector

The County Parks Division received a grant from the National Scenic Byways Program to complete a constraints analysis for a Class I bicycle path connecting Morro Bay to Cayucos. The funds for the constraints analysis were appropriated by the Board of Supervisors on March 23, 2004. In April 2004, Parks will issued a request for proposals to prepare the project's constraints analysis. Once this is complete, a preliminary design will be prepared and environmental review completed. At this time there are no funds for construction.

Avila – Shell Beach Connector

The County Parks Division has a grant from the California Department of Fish and Game to complete a Class I bicycle path connecting the Cave Landing parking lot to the Bluff's subdivision (in Shell Beach). The grant is contingent upon determining a path in this location is feasible. The concern is a landslide bisects the project site. The Parks Division has hired a geologist and engineer to determine the feasibility of building the path at a reasonable cost. The analysis prepared by the County will then need to be reviewed by the Department of Fish and Game before the project can move forward.

JOIN US ON SUNDAY MAY 9TH!

On the heels of Bike Fest and right before Bike to Work Week, your local Bicycle Dealers and Manufacturers are sponsoring The Bicycling Event of the year, celebrating all things Bicycle! Come and Join us at THE GRADUATE located at 990 Industrial Way, just off the yet to be completed RAILROAD SAFETY TRAIL (3 Blocks south of Orcut on the uncompleted trail), or behind the Marigold Shopping Center off Broad St.

Guests will be treated to the **Concourse De Elegance** of Bicycles, featuring a \$20,000 show Bike, along with the best bikes in the county on display. Categories include Road, Mountain, Single Speed, Cruiser, Tandem, Recumbent, and Science Project. Bring your bike and show it off.

Our sponsors will be providing a raffle for door prizes, and everyone has a chance to win!

Enjoy free movies from VAS Entertainment from 3-5PM featuring Suspect sponsored by Local Manufacturer Truvativ, which highlights local riders in our very own back yard. Along with The Hard Road, a Documentary on the American Road scene,

and the ever popular Traffic? We are Traffic! A must see for all cyclists.

Dance with your sweetie from 5-7 when the Ball begins. Our very own DJ will be serving up some bike friendly tunes to dance to on THE GRADUATES massive dance floor. At 7PM we'll announce the winners of the best-dressed bikers (most elegant). We will also recognize members of the community and government who have helped make SLO County better for cyclists!

Tickets are \$10 at the door with proceeds donated by the Graduate to the SLOCBC, to aid our quest to complete the RAILROAD SAFETY TRAIL. Current Coalition members are free in appreciation for their membership and support. Become a member at the door and you too can get in for free!

For more information Contact:

Jim Aaron at 805-543-4812 Ext 715

Meet the board

CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

TRINA BLANCHETTE

Residence: San Luis Obispo

Occupation: Student at Cal Poly and bicycle salesperson at Art's Cyclery

Background: I am originally from Reading, Pennsylvania and moved to California in 1997. Before moving to San Luis Obispo last summer, I was a bicycle messenger in San Francisco.

Cycling History: Some of the earliest memories in my life are of riding on the back of my mom's powder blue Schwinn Suburban in the 1970s. I think those memories must have somehow influenced me when I decided to sell everything I owned to embark on a solo bicycle tour from Reading, Pennsylvania to Key West, Florida. That trip was only the beginning of my passion for bicycling, not only as a sport, but as a lifestyle. Since that trip, I've done many other tours here and abroad. Bicycling to me has been a



livelihood, a pastime, and my only means of transportation.

What do you ride? For commuting around town, I ride my red Cannondale T400, the bicycle that has withstood thousands of

miles of fully loaded touring and countless miles of abuse during my five year stint as a bicycle courier in San Francisco. For longer rides, I use a custom made Sycip road bike which was built for me when I did Race Across America in 1999.

What is your vision for the coalition? San Luis Obispo is a great place to ride! Why else would a bicycle-centric person such as me want to live here? However, we need to keep our voices heard to create the safest cycling environment possible for all of us. Bicycling has provided me with an alternative to both monetary and social costs of driving a car. Many problems in American society can be held in check by bicycling (think of the effects on people's health, pollution levels, and consumption rates of nonrenewable resources). If riding is made safer and more convenient, these societal trends can be reversed with the added benefit of creating a healthier and cleaner environment for everybody in the community!

—Trina Blanchette

Coalition Briefs

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 given the Coalition a series of specific projects including an internal audit of member's most important cycling related issue. The results of this audit are summarized in the 'out of the saddle' column on page 2 and the full results can be found on the website. The Finance Committee has helped with our budget and has helped identify some potential new grant sources. Our Oversight Committee has been active in creating new policies that are making the Coalition more professional. 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 an email to the following address:

SLOCBCnews-request@slobikelane.org

Be sure to include "SUBSCRIBE" as the first and only line in the body of the email.

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. April's Happening drew 519 riders, many with costumes and exotic bicycles making appearances.

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.

BIKE FEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Bike Fest 2004 is just around the corner! The Coalition and SLO Regional Rideshare are making sure that this year will be the best ever. But to accomplish this we need your help. We need volunteers to help out with the bicycle rodeo and course marshals for the Roalman Rollout Community Fun Ride. Please call Joe Gilpin for more information: 541-4076.

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS NEEDED!

If you have any experience in graphic design, we would love to talk to you! The Coalition is developing an informational brochure that needs the special touch that only someone with design skills can give it. The content is already determined, we just need a few hours of your time!

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/Caltrans
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 2004	SLO City, SLO Regional Rideshare

Coexist Campaign Hits the Streets

The Coalition is proud to have finally launched Phase I of 'Coexist', the program that encourages motorists and bicyclist to not just share the road, but to coexist civilly. Our good friends at the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority (SLORTA) have let us put up six huge signs promoting two safety messages to motorists. These signs should be up until the end of May and then will be used as space allows. The messages on the sides of busses are:

"Please Don't Squeeze" – When passing a cyclist, please allow 3 feet of space.

"Be Kind, Look Behind" – When parking, please check your side mirror before opening your door.

We hope these messages will be widely seen throughout the county and will provide the groundwork for future 'coexist' efforts. We are looking for more ways to spread the word to bicyclists and motorists about proper cycling and driving etiquette. If you have an idea or know of someone who could help us, please contact Joe Gilpin at 541-4076. For a full rundown of the coexist campaign, please



The Bike Coalition's colors are flying high on RTA busses.

visit our website at www.slobikelane.org.

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.

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