

# Building Constituencies: A Regional Perspective



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SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS

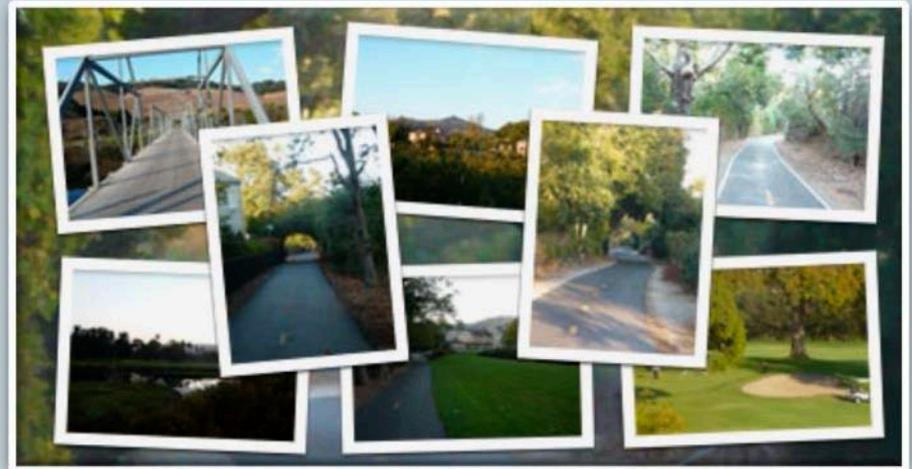
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2013 – Lake Tahoe  
California Greenways and Trail Conference

# Presentation Overview



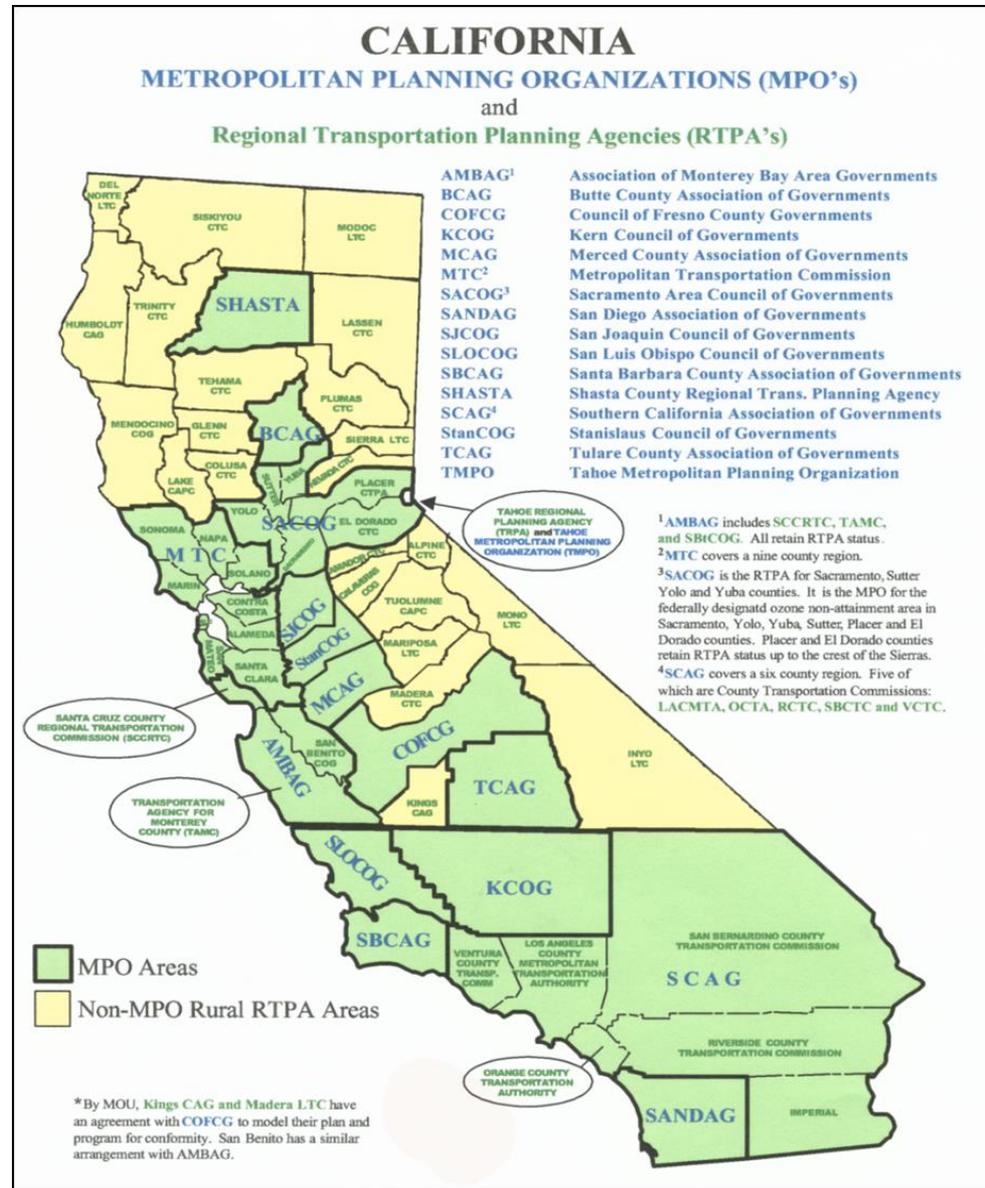
- Regional Perspective & Opportunities
- Maximize Participation
- Keys to Success
- Types and Examples of Trails
  - Hiking, walking, biking, transit, driving
  - Rural and Urban





# San Luis Obispo Council of Governments

- association of local governments in the San Luis Obispo County Region
- members include unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County and all 7 cities
  - Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach, and San Luis Obispo
- central purpose is to examine common regional problems and recommend solutions
- provides transportation planning and funding for the region, and serves as a forum for the study and resolution of regional issues
- Prepare the **region's long-range** transportation plan (25 yr)
- plans regional public transit and other alternative methods of transportation



# Create a Vision



## **Adopted SLOCOG Vision**

- **Maximize Modal Options**
  - Hiking, walking, biking, transit, driving
- **Create an interconnected, multi-use, regional bike and pedestrian network**
  - Trails & Bikeways w/in Jurisdictions
  - Trails & Bikeways connecting Jurisdictions
- **Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas.**

# Foster the Vision: Champions

## “Secure, Support & Create Champions”

### Foster Ownership in “Champions”

#### ○ Elected Officials

- SLOCOG Board (7 Cities, 5 County Reps)

#### ○ Advisory Committees

- Bicycle advisory committees (city/county)
- Park Commission
- Transportation Advisory Committees
- Scenic Byway Advisory Committee

#### ○ Working Groups

- Agency Staff
- Other Experts



# Foster the Vision: Community Champions

## “Secure & Support Create Champions”

### ○ Stakeholder Agencies

- CA Coastal Conservancy
- CA Coastal Commission
- CA State Parks
- CA State DOT (Caltrans)
- County/City Parks and Rec Dept.

### ○ General Public & Stakeholder Groups

- San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition
- Central Coast Concerned Mountain bikers
- Coast Walk
- Friends of the Elephant Seals
- Surfrider Foundation



# Facilitate the Vision: Develop a Plan



## Regional Trail Corridors

- California Coastal Trail
- Juan Bautista de Anza Trail
- Other Regional Trails:
  - Bob Jones: City to the Sea
  - Salinas River Trail Corridor
  - Railroad Safety Trail
  - Estero Bay Trail



# From Plan to Project: Authority

... and their planning documents

## Local

### Cities and Counties General Plan:

- Circulation Element
- Open Space & Parks / Recreation Element
- Bikeway Master Plan
- Climate Action Plan
- Healthy Communities

## Region

Regional Transportation Plan & Sustainable Communities

Corridor Plans

Clean Air Plans

Trail Plans

## State

Caltrans Transportation Concept Report

Corridor plans  
(Coastal, Anza)

General Plans:  
(State Parks)

## Federal

Surface Transportation Act:  
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act – MAP 21

# From Plan to Project: Mission



## Keys to Success:

- **Understanding that a Partner's Mission or Mandate is as important as yours.**
- **Aligning your project to address a partner's mission, mandate, motivation or concerns:**
  - Recreation & Access
  - Through circulation
  - Environmental Protection
  - Business Opportunities
  - Liability
  - Maintenance & Operations



# From Plan to Project: Assure Good Public Involvement

## Northern SLO Coastal Trail Plan Example

- Stakeholder interviews
- Public Workshops
- Agency Presentations
- Intercept Surveys
- Plan Website
  - Comment capability
  - Document availability



**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COASTAL TRAIL**

Home  
Get involved  
Documents  
Be heard

**Welcome**

The Northern San Luis Obispo County Coastal Trail planning process is underway! This website will be your one stop location for all information related to the project. Please follow the links to learn more about the project, find out how to get involved and provide your comment. New information will be posted regularly so please check back often.

Photography courtesy [SandPrints](#) - Morro Bay, CA

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS  
Coastal Conservancy  
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments  
SLO COAST BYWAY

[www.slocoastaltrail.com](http://www.slocoastaltrail.com)

# From Plan to Project: Agencies



## Local

**Cities and  
Counties**

**Community  
Services  
Districts**

**Open Space  
Districts**

## Regional

**COG/MPO/  
RTPA**

**Air District**

**Transit  
Authority**

## State

**Parks**

**Coastal  
Commission**

**Coastal  
Conservancy**

**Caltrans**

**Fish and Game**

## Federal

**National Parks**

**Federal  
Highway  
Administration**

**Environmental  
Protection  
Agency**

**Fish and  
Wildlife  
Services**

**National Scenic  
Byway Program**

# From Plan to Project: Funding

## Planning Strategies

- Livable/walkable communities
- Multimodal Transportation
- Complete Streets (AB 1358)
- Clean Air Act Mitigation
- Climate Change Mitigation (AB 32, SB 375)
- Healthy Communities

## Funding Strategies

- Assure program set asides
- Assure programming criteria allows for fair ranking of alternatives
- Assure set asides or targets for each phase of a project;
  - Plans, constraints analyses, environmental, engineering
- Build up support (**remember those “players”**)

# From Plan to Project: Funding

## Open Space and Parks Districts

Parks fees  
donations,  
taxes

## Cities and Counties

General fund, parks fees,  
transportation and local option sales tax

## COGs

Receive local, state, and federal funds for projects

## Transportation Authorities

County-wide local option sales tax to fund specific trans. projects

# From Plan to Project: Implementation



- **Project specific:**

- In a plan?
- Funded in that plan?
- Close a gap?
- Pending development & “mitigation” opportunities

- **Policy:**

- Policies support project?

- **Mitigation:**

- Can my trail project be mitigation for another project in the plan?



# Project Implementation: Pursue Property Acquisitions



## Piedras Blancas Acquisition



The 20-acre Piedras Blancas property is the only privately held parcel west of Highway 1 and the missing link in the California Coastal Trail within the 18-mile stretch of the Hearst Ranch holdings in coastal San Luis Obispo County.



During TPL's interim ownership, TPL will remove the visual blight of the existing gas station from the property, restore native vegetation to the site, and open the property for public day use.

## Hearst Ranch Acquisition: 18 miles



- San Geronimo Acquisition



- Cayucos Bluffs Acquisition: 4 miles

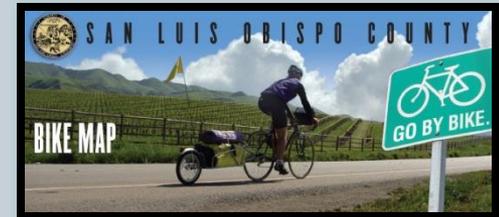
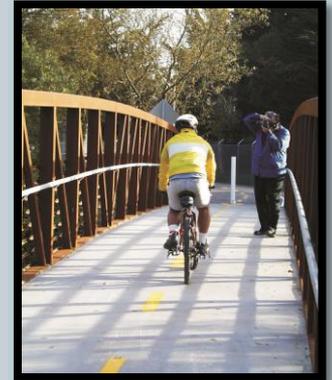
# Project Implementation: Diversify



- Urban and Rural
- Coastal and Inland
- Local, Regional, State
- All Interconnected and Linked to Public Transit



- Types include:
  - Pathways
  - Boardwalks
  - Multi-use trails
  - Bike Lanes
    - ✦ Class I
    - ✦ Class II



# Diversify Trails: Urban & Rural

## Urban:

SLO City  
Railroad  
Safety Trail



## Rural:

Cambria  
Cross  
Town Trail



# Diversify Trails: Coastal



Moonstone Beach Trail



Elfin Forrest: Los Osos



Morro Bay Harbor Walk



Pismo Promenade

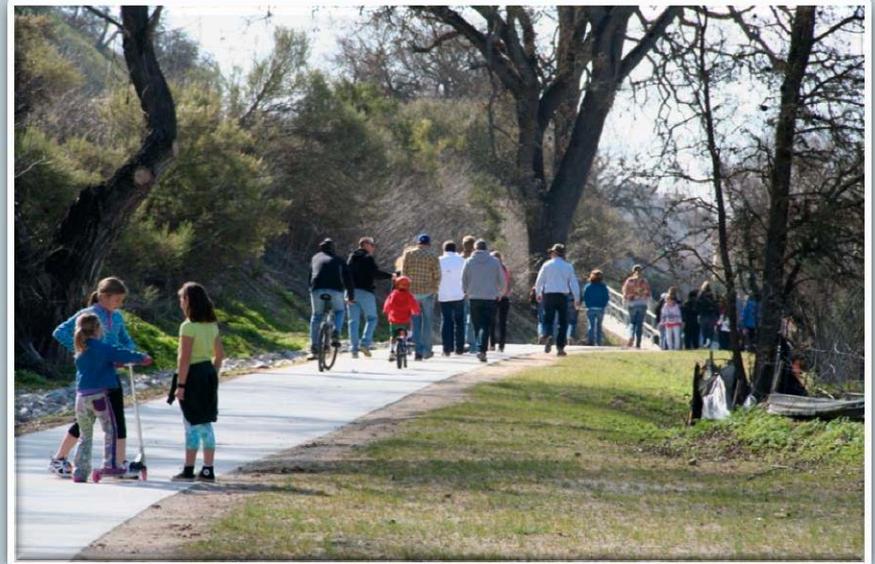


# Diversify Trails: Inland

**Anza Trail: Atascadero**



**Salinas River Trail: Paso Robles**

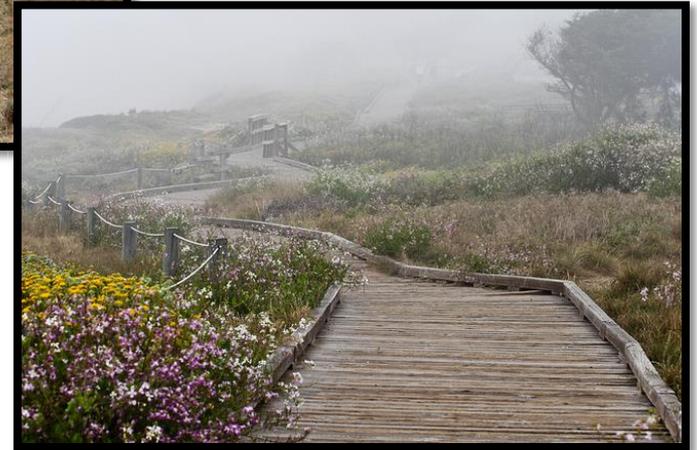


# Moonstone Beach Boardwalk/Trail



## Collaborative Funding:

- Regional Surface Transportation Program
- Recreational Trails Program
- State Parks
- Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM)
- and more



# Bob Jones City to Sea Trail

## Collaboration:

- Congressional earmarks
- City General Funds
- County Parks Fees
- Fish & Game funds
- Transportation Enhancements
- Regional Surface Transportation Program



# Inter-jurisdictional Multi-use Paths

Pismo Beach to Grover Beach  
Multi-use path, \$5.5m, 4 phases



- **Funding Partners**
  - Grover Beach
  - Pismo Beach
  - SLOCOG
  - State (Coastal Conservancy)
  - Federal: ARRA (stimulus)
- **Other Proposed Projects:**
  - Morro Bay to Cayucos
  - Atascadero to Templeton

# Pismo Beach – Grover Beach Boardwalk and Promenade

## Collaborative Funding:

- Congressional Earmarks
- Coastal Conservancy
- Transportation Enhancements
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- Regional Surface Transportation



# Celebrate Victories!

**Coastal Trail Segment  
Ribbon cutting!**



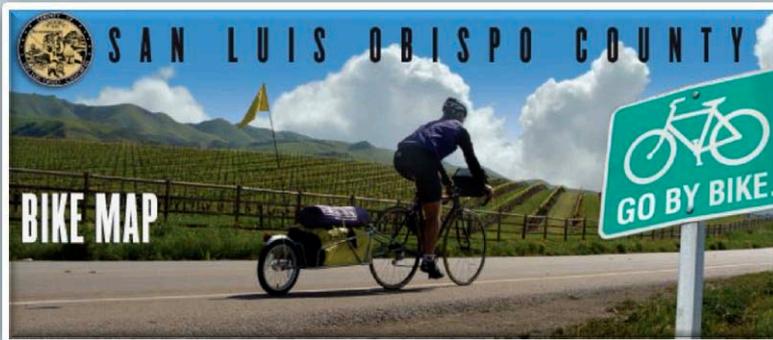
**Morro Bay Harborwalk  
Extension – Funded!**



# Enjoy the View: Monitor the results



- **18** miles of multiuse pathways
  - (78 miles planned)
- **160** miles of Class II bike lanes
  - (280 miles planned)
- Boardwalks & Urban Trails:
  - All 7 cities and 2 communities.
- **\$400 M** in requests for 185 pedestrian & bike projects
  - 2010 Regional Plan with \$100 M projected revenue



# From Vision to Trail in Review



- Develop the Vision
- Establish the Champions
- Create a Plan
- Reinforce the Relationships
- Identify the Project
- Collaborate for Funding
- Build the TRAIL!
- Celebrate
- And, repeat!

