

Walk-Bike-Bus-Rail

COAST provides advocacy, education and outreach to improve transportation options in the Santa Barbara and Ventura regions, promoting rail, bus, bike, and pedestrian access.

How to reach us

COAST

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E-mail discussion list

Participate in discussions of local and regional transportation issues; receive notices of meetings and events. Subscribing is free and easy. Just visit:

<http://groups.google.com/group/coastsb>

COAST General Meeting

Our General Meetings discuss transportation issues affecting the Santa Barbara region. Meetings are open to the public. Location: 15 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara. They are held the second Wednesday of each month, 12 noon to 1:15 pm. Please check our website for updates.

Walking Wednesdays

COAST organizes monthly walking tours on the fourth Wednesday of each month during the summer that are free and open to the public.

Support COAST

COAST depends on you to create better transportation options in Santa Barbara and beyond. Support COAST by making a donation. Just use the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

COAST organizes Bus Riders By Caitlin Carlson



On Tuesday, April 30, we brought out a group of 15 bus riders to speak at the MTD board meeting. Here we are in front of the MTD building with **Cathy Murillo** at the upper left. A mixed group of moms, dads, UCSB and SBCC students all came and voiced their ideas. Many urged the MTD board to continue Line 22

service, others spoke about bus overcrowding and infrequency of certain lines which make it difficult for riders to get to and from work and school. We thank MTD for listening to people and taking their ideas seriously. We will continue to work with bus riders and MTD to facilitate a constructive dialog.

Meet our Bus Team

Our two bus organizers, **Zoyla** and **Nancy Cabrera**, a mother-daughter team, are pictured here with **Caitlin Carlson**, Project Director, and **Ana Rico**, Eastside Organizer. Nancy is at the far left and Zoyla on the far right. Between them, Nancy and Zoyla passed out over 250 comment cards to bus riders. The photo was taken at the Franklin Neighborhood Center before our first bus riders meeting. Our group is diverse and bi-lingual, serving as a voice for bus riders and a source of support for MTD, as we jointly seek to provide the best possible bus service in our region. Check our website for the next meeting date.



Traffic in Mandalay By Ralph Fertig

I recently visited Myanmar, formerly Burma. Eager to bike with locals, I checked out a guest bicycle from my hotel in Mandalay. It was my third day in the historic city, part of a two-week trip to the country that, after decades of repressive military rule, was opening up to the world.

The prior two days, I walked around the sprawling city for hours, checking the transportation situation. What I found was 30% bicycles, 30% motorcycles, 30% on foot, and 10% in cars or trucks. Where sidewalks existed, they were filled with parked vehicles and vendors peddling their wares, so people mostly walked in the streets.

The biggest revelation was that very few intersections had stop signs or traffic signals. At one after another, there was this dance of weaving peo-

ple and vehicles. I anticipated crashes as people evaded one another—but saw none. I hoped to likewise survive.

Out on the busy street by my hotel, I joined the flow. It was supposedly a one-way street, but some went against the flow anyway. While some bicycles had single riders, most were carrying a load. My speed was between them and the motorcycles. I soon learned that the trick for entering intersections is to keep a motorcycle on your left as a buffer, keep pace with it, and watch what's incoming from the right. I was surprisingly exhilarated with the challenging game. Once I navigated the intersections, the straight streets were a breeze, so I spent hours zipping around the city. I absolutely recommend a visit to the quickly changing country.



Viva CycleMAYnia! By Eva Inbar

For COAST, May was filled with fun CycleMAYnia events. On May 8, we coordinated Bike to School Day at 36 local schools. With perfect weather this time around, thousands of kids and parents took to the streets on their bikes. On May 12, our Safe Routes to School coordinator **Kim Stanley** led a Mother's Day ride in Isla Vista for 64 people, including babies and toddlers. The City's **Jessica**

Grant and her children were the ca-boose. Everybody had a glorious time. What a wonderful way to celebrate Mother's Day!

On May 18th, COAST, together with SBBC, the city of SB and Traffic Solutions, sponsored **Eastside Rides**, a bicycle skills class for the whole family at the Franklin Community Center. We thank **Kim Stanley** for her outstanding work on these events.

Meet our new Intern



Meet **Jennifer Stroh**, pictured at left with Project Director **Caitlin Carlson** at the French Press on Anacapa, the unofficial COAST office. Jennifer is our new intern working on the Safe Routes for Seniors Project. We were recently awarded a grant from the California Department of Public Health to conduct a pedestrian safety campaign aimed at seniors called "It's Up to All of Us."

Jennifer graduated from UCSB in 2000 with a degree in zoology. For ten years, she oversaw the University's Snowy Plover protection program, coordinating over 100 docents and winning numerous awards. She also serves on several nonprofit boards in Santa Barbara.

We are proud to have you on our team, Jennifer!



Spring Events

Walking Wednesdays 2013 are off to a great start with a walk through the Funk Zone led by **Nathan Vonk** (see photo). This walk was very popular with almost 50 people in attendance. Nathan was an inspiring docent. The group visited the most colorful places in the neighborhood and discussed the most pressing issues in an area that, because of its location, faces rapid change and gentrification. Wine tasting bars are now everywhere, and the area is popular with young people and visitors looking for something that no longer exists on State Street.

Our May walk was a Santa Barbara architectural tour with **Anthony Grumbine** of Harrison Associates. Anthony is one of our most popular docents. Please join us in June for a tour of the presidio with **Jarrell Jackman** of the Trust for Historic Preservation, rescheduled from April because of the rain. For a complete schedule of our walks as well as other information, please visit our website.



Earth Day 2013 was blessed with glorious weather, a beautiful place and happy crowds. The COAST booth was busy the whole time, giving out bike helmets, information on **Open Streets** and all things transportation. The Open Streets display right in front of our booth was fabulous, with a chalk board street for people to draw on and a laptop playing Open Streets videos.

We thank our many volunteers: **Mary Ann Theilmann, Caitlin Carlson, Barry Remis, Chris Olsen, Steve Espinosa, Martha Siegel, Greg Janee, Mickey Flacks, Lee Moldaver, Nicole Archambeau, Debbie Castanha, Deborah Schwartz, Nancy Eckert, Kim Stanley, Bob Zimels, Dennis Story, Eva Inbar** and many helmet fitters.

In the photo is our set-up crew. From left: **Eva Inbar, Caitlin Carlson, Nancy Eckert, May Ann Theilmann, Bob Zimels, Barry Remis.**

Saturday, May 11th was the 6th annual **National Train Day** celebration at the Santa Barbara train station hosted by **CoastalRailNow**, a project of COAST. **RailPAC** generously made this event possible by funding the entire cost. **Dennis Story** and his dedicated team of volunteers made this one the biggest & best yet! Somewhere near 80 adults and children made the train ride to Carpinteria and back, while being entertained by **Mark Collier's** magic tricks. Santa Barbara Councilmember **Grant House** was MC and many notables attended. **Mayor Helene Schneider** and SBCAG Public Information Coordinator **Gregg Hart** spoke to the crowd. Others in attendance were 2nd District Supervisor **Janet Wolf**, former Santa Barbara Councilmember **Roger Horton**, Goleta Councilmembers **Paula Perotte** and **Michael Bennett**. The food from **Omni Catering** was awesome, and the kids had fun decorating train cookies. To top it off, KEYT's **Sherri Paysinger** dropped by with her cameraman. All in all, a great event. It sure accomplished the hoped for buzz for the Ventura to Goleta commuter rail service we so desperately need!



Lisa Veit and daughter Omi at the train station in Carpinteria. Photo credit: meredithsasseen.com



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Santa Barbara's 2013
Solstice Parade



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\$20/PERSON

JUNE 22nd

11:30 TILL PARADE ENDS!

We thank our Individual Supporters

We thank these people who joined COAST or renewed their support during the past six months: **Ruth McGolpin, Steve Ferry, Mickey Flacks, Martin&Elizabeth Stevenson, Bruce Tiffney, Don Luback John Gerig, John Luca, David Leith, Bob&Kathy Rowley, Robert Adams, Dave&Christine Bourgeois, Michael Brown, Marianne Henry, Vijaya Jammalamadaka, George Relles, Betty Little, Tom Evans, David Landecker, Olivia Rodriguez, Deborah Branch, Larry Bickford, Ashley Brilliant, Mary Bucholtz, Robert Bernstein, Brad Fiedel, Paul Relis, John Kelley, Jessica Scheeter, Michael Towbes, Naomi Greene, Kalon Kelley, Brian Fahnestock, rich&Gail Untermann, Beebe Longstreet, Joan&Bill Murdoch, Cynthia Boche, Bob Zimels, Isabelle Greene, Jean Thomson, Kevin Young, Janice Keller.**

We thank our Major Supporters

We thank the **McCune Foundation, the Social Justice Fund of Ventura, the Fund for Santa Barbara, the Southern California Gas Company, the Goleta Valley Cycling Club and Santa Barbara Mountain Trail Volunteers** for supporting our major projects. Further thanks go to our business sponsors, **Deckers Outdoor Corp, Allen Associates, Harrison Associates and Point2Homes.**