

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

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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!

Santa Barbara celebrates Open Streets



COAST was incredibly proud to be the presenting organization for Santa Barbara's first **Open Streets** event. What began as just an idea a year ago became a reality on November 2, when thousands of happy people enjoyed a car free day on Cabrillo Boulevard.



Community support for our event was overwhelming. We had... activity providers, 162 volunteers and 31 sponsors. Special thanks go to our partner, **Traffic Solutions**, our wonderful coordinator **Robin Elander** and our presenting business sponsor, **Yardi**.

COAST to Caltrans:

Keep HOV Lanes and widen UP Bridge!

By Alex Pujo

The current politics surrounding the Highway 101 widening through Montecito are obfuscating the rationale for the project. We discussed the proposed 101 widening alternatives at several General Meetings and stated our position to SBCAG and Caltrans in two recent letters. These are the key points:

1. Keep the HOV Lane intact!

COAST requests that the HOV lane be implemented for the entire length of the 101 widening project between Carpinteria and Montecito.

COAST board members Dennis Story and Bradley were members of the stakeholders' committee during the "101 in Motion" project when the current widening project was first planned. At the time, SBCAG's consultants concluded that a new general purpose lane would not be adequate to solve the congestion problems in the 101 corridor. To prevent traffic congestion from soon returning to present levels after the project is completed, it would be necessary to add an HOV lane during peak periods to encourage people to carpool and use the Coastal Express service. It was also explained to us that the HOV lane would need to run all the way to Santa Barbara and through the most congestion prone areas to provide a real incentive.

On the basis of the "101 in Motion" study, the SBCAG board unanimously approved the "lane and a train" solution of adding a new HOV lane as well as commuter rail service. Now that issues with Union Pacific have raised doubts regarding the timely introduction of commuter rail service, the need to add a fully functional HOV lane rather than a general purpose lane is more critical than ever. Otherwise, there is a risk that the long term congestion problem will not be solved, even after spending hundreds of millions of dollars and years under construction.

As part of the Measure A sales tax campaign, voters were told that their money would be used to solve the traffic delays on 101 in an environmentally responsible manner. We request that you honor that promise to the voters.

2. Widen the UP Railroad bridge!

We have long held the position that freeways must be considered in a holistic way - as transportation routes, not just devices to facilitate auto traffic. Freeways can be formidable barriers to non-motorized traffic; any widening project such as the one we are currently undertaking on Highway 101 must therefore include consideration of bicycle and pedestrian routes in its immediate vicinity.

Our prime concern is the narrow rail bridge at Cabrillo Boulevard adjacent to the new interchange. The narrow span under this old bridge and threatens safe access from East Beach to Coast Village Road. Vehicle congestion and safety for pedestrians and cyclists will only get worse if Caltrans adds a southbound on-ramp in this vicinity. Any interchange improvement must address this deficiency as part of the project and leave absolutely no ambiguity as to its resolution.

Meet Robin Elander



Robin Elander served as coordinator for **Santa Barbara Open Streets**. Her hard work, organizational talent, and her warm, welcoming nature contributed mightily to the event's success.

A native of Jamestown, NY, (near Buffalo) Robin holds a BA in Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management from North Carolina State University and an MA in Public Policy from California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks. For eight years, she served as Cultural Affairs Coordinator with the City of Ventura. She organized the **Ventura Art Walk**, featuring 200 artists, 80 merchants and over 20 performing groups. This event attracts 20,000 people.

After leaving there in 2010, she led travel groups to central America and Africa and then settled in Santa Barbara, holding positions with Antioch University and the Maritime Museum. In January, 2013, she founded [Global Good Impact](#), an independent consulting firm. Its mission is to "educate and create a strong community of connected, engaged global citizens who have the support, skills, confidence and network to fulfill their highest aspirations." Global Good Impact organizes a dinner/film series and other events. Check it out!

Robin also worked for SBBIKE to engage merchants in creating a safe and thriving Goleta Old Town.

Isla Vista students will have a safe path By Eva Inbar

Kim Stanley, COAST's Safe Routes to School coordinator, was outraged. A safe path that kids were using to travel to Isla Vista School was to be bulldozed to make room for a parking lot. It sounds hard to believe but it's a fact: The path that ran along the west side of Storke Road (pictured) was to be made room for parking for the new San Joaquin (formerly Francisco Torres) student housing. In its place, there would be a regular sidewalk and a bike lane on Storke Road; the road itself was to be widened to four lanes with a speed limit of 45 mph. Kim knew no parent in their right mind would let their kid ride on such a street. She was told it was too late, the project was about to break ground, and she couldn't fight mighty UCSB anyway. But Kim did not give up. She prevailed upon the City of Goleta to call a site meeting to discuss what could be done. The meeting took place on July 15.

And miracles do happen: The University listened to Kim. Instead of a regular sidewalk, they agreed to install a multi-purpose path on Storke Road, separated from the street by a three feet wide parkway.

Here is the communiqué the University and COAST issued jointly:

**From: COAST
UCSB Administrative Services, Design & Construction, & Governmental Relations**

DT: July 22nd, 2013

RE: Storke Road Multi-Use Path

As you know, concerns have been raised about the fate of the "golf cart" path that runs along the west side of Storke Road south of Whittier Road and adjoins the proposed UC Santa Barbara Sierra Madre housing project. This path is currently used by Isla Vista Elementary School families, other pedestrians and cyclists from the community. The concern about this path was first expressed by COAST, as it affected their Safe Routes to School Program for the Isla Vista Elementary School.



The Storke Road path the way it was, looking south. It is now gone, but will be replaced by a new one.

On Monday, July 15, the City of Goleta convened an on-site meeting bringing together representatives from COAST, Isla Vista Elementary School, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition, Santa Barbara County Public Works, Penfield&Smith, and UCSB. Plans for the path were clarified and agreed to by all parties in attendance.

The multi-use pathway will be eight-foot wide and separated from the west side of Storke Road by approximately three feet of landscaping. The path will begin south of Whittier Road and eventually end at the intersection of El Colegio Road and Storke Road. There will be a "pinch point" that brings the path close to an MTD bus stop. There will be no landscaping buffer at this location. The Class II bike path will remain on the east and west sides of Storke Road.

Coast and the University would like to thank the City of Goleta and community stakeholders for their collaboration and efforts on this project. A continuous multi-use pathway, separate from the roadway, will benefit everyone in the surrounding neighborhoods.

If there are further questions about this issue, please contact **Kirsten Deshler**, UCSB Governmental Relations.

Congratulations, Kim!

More Safe Routes to School News...

- ◆ The County of Santa Barbara is in the process of improving the crosswalk to Foothill School on Cathedral Oaks Road. The crossing distance will be narrowed and a center refuge will be installed. We encouraged them in this and suggested that they place a "School Crossing" sign on it. What a difference this will make. Check it out!
- ◆ Check out the new calendar on our Safe Routes to School web page. If you'd like to volunteer for a bike rodeo or helmet fitting, just select a date and give us a call. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.



P.O. Box 2495
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Please join us for a festive
Holiday Happy Hour

Monday, December 16 , 5:30-7 P.M.

at El Paseo Restaurant, downtown Santa Barbara.



Ed France, Executive Director of SBBIKE, won the Barry Siegel Award 2013 for his extraordinary leadership in creating Bici Centro.

Here he is, receiving his award from COAST president **Mark Bradley** at our 2013 Fall Gathering at the Spanish Garden Inn.

Congratulations, Ed!

We thank our Individual Supporters

We thank these people who joined COAST or renewed their support during the past three months: **Art Ludwig, Allyn Fleming&Phil Schilling, Martin&Elizabeth Stevenson, Ken Radtkey&Susan van Atta, Edith Ogella, Leland Walmsley, Rick Frickmann, L. Dennis Thompson, Barry Remis, Jules Zimmer, William Denee, Sarah Hearon, Jeff King, Steve Morris, John Steed, Paul&Cheryl Weakliem, Ed France, Hillary Blackerby.**

We thank our Major Supporters

We thank the **McCune Foundation, 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, **Allen Associates, Harrison Associates and Point2Homes. SB Open Streets** was funded in part by the **Community Events and Festivals grant program**, using funds provided by the **City of Santa Barbara** in partnership with the **Santa Barbara County Arts Commission.**

Raise Money for COAST when you shop online!

It's free! Just click on the "Shop to support COAST" button on the COAST website and you will find almost 700 stores. When you go through the i-give portal, these stores will donate a percentage of your purchase to COAST.