



council notes

DATE: December 12, 2008

TO: City Council

FROM: Ken Hampian

Online Bus Trip Planner Launched For City Of San Luis Obispo - Google Transit:

San Luis Obispo Regional Rideshare, Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and SLO Transit launched an online bus trip planner over Thanksgiving weekend via Google Transit. As a function of Google Maps, Google Transit allows users to enter their starting and ending location online and receive walking, transit and driving directions. Individuals can now plan their bus trips in the City of San Luis Obispo by going to www.google.com/transit or visiting www.rideshare.org and clicking on the Trip Planning link. The link will also soon be on the City's web page. Once starting and ending points are entered, users are shown an interactive map that indicates the nearest stop, route information and timeline.

Rideshare began working with Bob Heitzman from APCD earlier this year to convert SLO Transit data into a specific Google feed format. "APCD played an integral role in launching this tool with SLO Transit data. SLO Transit was the first transit operator in the county to volunteer time and data for the online trip planner and we have plans to integrate Google Transit into our current operations by integrating the Google technology with IT projects down the road such as onboard bus announcers and allowing riders to view all of the bus stops via Google Maps. This type of tool sets the foundation of how future systems will work using live bus technology."

Rideshare is in the process of working with other transit operators to get their information in Google format and create a comprehensive online transit tool for the entire county. The goal of the tool is to allow an individual to plan a trip throughout the county online without looking at several transit schedules and maps. For additional information or questions concerning SLO Transit please contact John Webster at 781-7121 or jwebster@slocity.org.

CDD Celebrates National Community Planning

Month: On October 7th, Mayor Romero on behalf of the Council presented the Community Development Department with a Proclamation declaring October 2008 as Community Planning Month in connection with the celebration of National Community Planning Month. The declaration recognizes the participation and dedication of the advisory bodies, citizens, and staff to the improvement of City of San Luis Obispo. As part of the event's activities, Community Development Department staff hosted an information booth at the Downtown Farmers' Market on Thursday, October 23rd.





Staff brought a computer and projector along with many displays and handouts. Farmers' Market attendees stopped by the booth to get answers to planning, zoning and building questions, in addition to asking about the status of several major projects in the Downtown area. While those working the booth were ready to print out property profiles for the people who visited the booth, most folks who stopped by wanted to talk more about general topics and community issues than their own property!

Thanks to all who helped out: Jeff LeQuesne (set up and take down), Jason and Paul Takagi (technical support), Ryan Betz, Ryan Brough, Michael Codron, Phil Dunsmore, Jeff Hook, Kim Murry, and LeeAnne Singleton.



next slo city council meeting

Tuesday, December 16th

Special Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Council Chamber

Other Important Dates to Note

Thursday, November 18th

Celebration of New Enhanced Airline Service to Phoenix
SLO County Regional Airport
4:00 to 5:00 p.m.