Q: What is “SLO Forward?”
A: SLO Forward is a conversation with the community about the future needs, challenges, and vision of San Luis Obispo. After a review of the City’s services, maintenance and infrastructure needs, there is an annual financial gap of $15 million dollars. The City is engaging the community about the services, maintenance and infrastructure they value most to ensure our community maintains and improves its character and quality of life.

Q: What priorities have San Luis Obispo residents identified?
A: Some of the many quality of life priorities recently identified by residents include:

- All funds used locally to benefit the community
- Protect creeks from pollution
- Address homelessness
- Maintain public safety – police, fire, emergency response
- Keeping public areas safe and clean
- Helping ensure children have safe places to play
- Preserving open space and natural areas
- Protecting long-term fiscal stability
- Preparing for wildfires and other natural disasters
- Provide traffic relief, repairing streets, sidewalks and potholes

Q: What are some of the needs the City has identified?
A: Residents have spent countless hours providing their input on their services and infrastructure needs through the City’s General Plan, Parks & Recreation Master Plan, Facilities Master Plan, Bicycle Transportation Plan and the Downtown and Mission Plazas Plans. However, the ability to put these plans into action compared to anticipated revenues have revealed a serious gap in funding. Healthy cities don’t happen by accident. They happen through community partnerships, good planning, management and aligning the resources to make your vision a reality.

Q: What is San Luis Obispo’s fiscal situation?
A: The City of San Luis Obispo has a strong tradition of managing funds in a fiscally prudent and responsible manner with balanced budgets and adequate emergency reserves. But with aging infrastructure that is 165 years old, deteriorating streets, sidewalks and storm drains must be repaired and upgraded. It will cost our taxpayers less to address these needs now than waiting until they cost more in the long-term.

Q: How Can I Join the Conversation?
A: Please participate by providing your feedback and comments on the priorities residents have recently identified. Please fill out a Community Engagement Survey at sloforward.org.

Q: How will my input be used?
A: We will take the results of your input to the City Council in June to inform their decision-making on how to continue providing the services, maintenance and infrastructure the community values most.