

Advocate's Report

By Dale Sutliff

Have you submitted your "unmet bike needs" requests to SLOCOG yet?

If you know of a pressing bike need within SLO County, such as critical street repairs, bike-lane or bikeway improvements, intersection needs, etc., please get them in by February 13! I am asking that you send them to me so that I may consolidate our SLOBC input to SLOCOG. (I will need all comments by Feb. 11!). Otherwise, if you send directly to SLOCOG, please copy your suggestions to me.

E-mail me at: dsutliff@calpoly.edu
Or mail me at: 1227 Sydney Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

If you send suggestions directly, the address is:

SLOCOG

Att: Tim Gillham
1150 Osos Street, Ste. 202
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Or e-mail to: tgillham@slocog.org
Or e-mail to: unmet_nees@slocog.org
Or phone/fax to: (805) 781-1520 / (805) 781-5703

FYI – The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) in their final report on 2007 Transit Needs Assessment Update identified one major deficiency related to bicycling under item 4. *Capacity issues for Bicyclists* Bike riders, who commute to/from a bus on one leg of their trip, face barriers to this multi-modal form of travel.

- Lack of capacity (all racks on bus already in use).
- Lack of bike lockers at appropriate bus stops.
- Lack of bike racks on Dial-A-Ride vans where not served by fixed route transit.

Regional Rideshare will survey "bike-to-bus" customers to address those related issues on bike-commuter incentives (such as additional bike storage options).



Legislative Highlights of 2007 (source: California Bicycle Coalition)

Signed by Governor into law:
AB1581 (Fuller) *Traffic-actuated Signals*

Requires cities and counties, when upgrading or replacing traffic-actuated signals, to do so with equipment that can detect on-coming bicycles and motorcycles.

AB478 (Wolk) *Night Illumination*

Mandates that anyone riding a bicycle on a highway or shared pathway during the hours of darkness...must be equipped with a white light visible from a distance of 300 feet.

AB57 (Soto) *Safe Routes to School*

Extends, indefinitely, the federal safety funds distribution to continue providing for construction of bicycle and pedestrian safety and traffic calming projects such as sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, and intersection improvements in California.

Word of the Month: *sharrow* *n.* an arrow-like design painted on a roadway used to mark a bicycling route.

The use of *sharrows* is growing in popularity in many major cities. The symbol is an indicator to both cyclists and motorists to share the lane. These are proving useful, along with public education of same, where road width in cities is inadequate for a designated bike lane.



Advocate for Bicycling: **Bike On!**

"I see an America where bicycle paths, running through the hearts of our great cities, provide wholesome, healthy recreation for an entire family."
Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President of the United States, 1963-1969