



ISSUE & POLICY ROUNDTABLE

Thursday,
August 28,
12:00pm

Chair
Mark Dispenza

THE CHAMBER'S FORUM FOR GOVERNMENTAL AND BUSINESS CONCERNS

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

9 - Issue & Policy
Roundtable -
Emerging Workforce
Trends
Jean Blois
Community Room
271 N. Fairview
Suite 104
12:00pm - 1:15pm.

12 - Goleta Economic
Forecast
Fairview Theater
225 N. Fairview Ave.
8:00am - 10:30am

24 - Business After
Hours - Lemon
Launch
S.B. Bank & Trust
299 N. Fairview Ave.
5:15pm - 7:30pm

25 - Issue & Policy
Roundtable -
Kevin Walsh,
Goleta Water District
Jean Blois
Community Room
271 N. Fairview
Suite 104
12:00pm - 1:15pm

SAVE
THE
DATE

Sept. 12 - Goleta
Economic Forecast
8:00 am-10:30 am
Fairview Theater

Oct. 18 & 19 -
California Lemon
Festival in Goleta at
Girsh Park

Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County

The Green Business Program Santa Barbara County (GBPSBC) offers incentives and assistance to encourage businesses to implement actions that protect, preserve, and improve the environment above and beyond compliance with applicable regulations. Businesses meeting these criteria can be certified as "green" businesses. The GBPSBC provides checklists to businesses interested in becoming green, certifies businesses through on-site evaluation, and highlights these businesses in the community through marketing and outreach.

Goals and objectives of the program include the promotion of environmental ethics in Santa Barbara County; establishing a positive relationship among governmental agencies, the business community, and the public; helping businesses integrate environmental responsibility into their operations in a manner that is sustainable as well as profitable; and providing public recognition to exemplary businesses.

Frances Gilliland
*Program Director,
Green Business Program,
Santa Barbara County*

CONTACT INFORMATION:
(805) 705-1686

INTEREST ITEMS

Item 1 - Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) Rule 321 Revisions

On August 5th, the Santa Barbara APCD held a public scoping meeting to discuss proposed revisions to Rule 321 regulating solvent cleaning and solvent cleaning machines. The revised Rule 321 would require some solvent cleaning machines to use a solvent with a reactive organic compound content of less than 50 grams per liter. Other solvent cleaning machines may require modifications or replacement to comply with the revised rule. New requirements will apply to solvent cleaning performed outside of solvent cleaning machines (e.g. wipe cleaning).

Affected sources include those using solvent cleaning machines and/or performing solvent cleaning (e.g. wipe cleaning), which is not regulated by other APCD-specific rules, including, but not limited to repair shops, electronic device manufacturers, and medical device manufacturers.

APCD would like feedback from the public regarding these changes prior to the new rules being drafted this fall.

Item 2 - Supervisors clarify position on oil exploration in County

In a 3-2 vote on Tuesday, August 26th, supervisors voted to amend County policy and express support for the expansion and development of offshore drilling. The county will send a letter explaining its policy shift to the governor who recently reiterated his opposition to further offshore drilling.

Noozhawk reported: "citing economic concerns," an increase in unemployment, and fears that the nation's petroleum shortage may at some point cause the federal government to preempt local policies, the newly revised letter pushes for a 'gradual and intelligent expansion oil exploration,' and urges 'a broader energy policy that incorporates review of other viable energy resources, systems and technologies.'

Read more from noozhawk at:

http://www.noozhawk.com/local_news/article/supervisors_vote_3_2_to_request_more_oil_exploration_drilling



ISSUE & POLICY ROUNDTABLE

INTEREST ITEMS

Item 3 - Goleta Building Intensity Standards Workshops

On Monday, August 18th, the City of Goleta hosted a joint session of the Planning Commission and the Design Review Board as a workshop to discuss the city's building intensity standards. The Council directed the Commission to review the Floor to Area Ratio (FAR) figures as they exist in the General Plan to determine whether they are reasonable, feasible, and appropriate. Earlier this summer, as part of the Track 2 amendments to the General Plan, the Council approved the inclusion of the "recommended" building intensity standards, but requested a thorough study of those standards by planning staff. A second follow-up workshop is scheduled for Monday, September 15th.

Item 4 - November 2008 Ballot Propositions

The Chamber has already taken a position on the following ballot measures:

Proposition 7 - The Solar and Clean Energy Act of 2008: Oppose

Proposition 11 - The Voters First Initiative: Support

Proposition 10 - Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Renewable Energy: Authorizes \$5 billion in bonds paid from state's General Fund, allocated as follows: to purchasers of certain high fuel economy and alternative fuel vehicles; incentives for research, development and production of renewable energy technology; incentives for research and development of alternative fuel vehicle technology; incentives for purchase of renewable energy technology; grants to eight cities for education about these technologies; and grants to colleges to train students in these technologies.

Recommendation: While the promotion and encouragement of a sustainable energy policy is admirable, alternative fuels vehicles already sell very well, so it does not make sense for the State to go into debt in order to further incentivize the purchase of such technology, especially considering the State's current fiscal crisis.

SAVE THE DATE

Goleta Economic Forecast Project

September 12, 2008, 8:30 a.m. Fairview Theater

Dr. Bill Watkins, an analysis of the Revenue Neutrality Agreement and a panel on Commercial Development in Goleta are the topics that will be featured at the Economic Forecast. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. along with breakfast. Program runs from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

LOCAL POLITICAL CALENDAR

September

2 - City Council
1:30pm & 6:00pm
Goleta City Hall
130 Cremona Drive, Ste. B

8 - Planning Commission
6:00pm
Goleta City Hall
130 Cremona Drive, Ste. B

IPR is the Chamber's forum for governmental and business concerns. The IPR committee will endeavor to study and take positions, when appropriate, on local regional and state issues that affect business and commerce in the Greater Goleta Valley.

The Chamber is the largest and most broadly based business representative in the Goleta Valley. It is the Chamber's role to promote a platform of economic health and vitality for the Goleta Valley on behalf of our members. IPR meetings and discussions are open to all Chamber members. When voting on an action item, all members present will be asked to vote. To be valid, votes must include a majority of the committee members listed below:

Kristen Amyx
Jean Blois
Mark Dispenza
Mark Ingalls
Jim Knight
Bill Macfadyen
Tim Mahoney
Earl McCutcheon
Bill Redding

THE GOLETA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS A MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:



THE REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE ALLIANCE OF VENTURA AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES
legislativealliance.com
5046 Santa Susana Avenue,
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
p: 805.637.6816



CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
calchamber.com
P.O. Box 1736,
Sacramento, CA 95812-1736
p: 916.444.6670

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
uschamber.com
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20062-2000
p: 202.659.6000