



GOLETA CHAMBER NEWS & EVENTS

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A PUBLICATION OF THE GOLETA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

City makes progress on Chamber-endorsed issues

City of Goleta

The Goleta City Council, exhibiting its new majority direction, has moved quickly on several issues of key importance.



KRISTEN AMYX
President & CEO

The City also announced on Feb. 6th that they will begin a process to revise the General Plan. A first public meeting on the subject is set for Monday, March 5th at 6:00 pm.

Three new Planning Commissioners have been named and plans are for the new Commission to be up and running this spring. Other committees have been formed or are being started, including, Finance, Safety and an Ordinance committee.

Transportation Update

State officials are making their final decisions soon on how to disburse much-needed transportation infrastructure funds, approved by the voters in Nov. '06, to highway projects in the State. Our Assemblyman, Pedro Nava, has responded to our call is now championing the joint application from Ventura and Santa Barbara counties for \$200 million to widen the 101 freeway.

In another important step, business leaders,

traffic experts and County and City representatives met last month to form the Chamber's Goleta Transportation Task Force. Goals were set to share information, analyze opportunities and threats and make a report in a few months

time. The initial meeting included round-table talks about future sales-tax measures, development fees, bond money, cross-freeway overpasses, inter-section widths and alternative transportation options. The next meeting will focus on two things: transportation funding sources and business-sponsored alternative transportation programs.

Chamber Board

Several new Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce board members will be installed at the Chamber's upcoming Annual meeting. These new business volunteers will join veteran business leaders in leveraging our strength from past accomplishments into continued work on our goals. The priorities haven't changed, but the program of work is different. Chariman's award and Ambassador of the Year awards will be presented.

ON THE SIDE

2007

Goleta Magazine

The newest edition of the annual Goleta Magazine will be unveiled Wednesday, February 14th, at the 2007 Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. Once unveiled, this magazine will be available not only at the Chamber office, but also across town in your favorite locations. Be sure to keep an eye out if you were unable to attend the Annual Membership Meeting.

Goleta's Finest Nominations

If you know of someone within our community deserving special recognition for their activities, this is your chance to nominate them for a prestigious Goleta's Finest 2007 award. A nomination form is available online at www.goletavalley.com under the "bulletins" section, and may also be obtained by calling us at (805) 967-2500.

Calif. Coastal Commission Chair Appointed

For the first time in its 34-year history, the state Coastal Commission has chosen a developer to be its chairman. Multimillionaire builder William Patrick Krueer of San Diego was recently selected by his peers to lead the powerful agency, which oversees land use along California's 1,100 mile coastline.

Chamber members and CEO win awards

INDUSTRY GROUP HONORS BUSINESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS

At its 25th Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on Tuesday, January 30th, at the University Club of Santa Barbara, the County of Santa Barbara Industrial Association elected its 2007 Board of Directors and handed out four awards and resolutions to members of the community.

Goleta Chamber of Commerce President/CEO, Kristen Amyx, received the "Spirit of Free Enterprise" award. The Association's Chairman, Tim Mahoney, District Manager of the Southern California Gas Company, presented Ms. Amyx her award. "Kristen has done an outstanding job in Goleta and while she is served very well by a very capable and hardworking staff, Kristen deserves all the recognition we can give her and I was happy to be able to do that", said Tim Mahoney, SBIA Chairman.

In attendance were members of the organization as well as some current and former elected officials including Second District Supervisor Janet Wolf, Santa Barbara Mayor Marty Blum and former Santa Maria City Councilman, Marty Mariscal.

L3 Maripro, a Santa Barbara company doing business

here on the south coast for over 45 years, was recognized as the "Industrial Sector Company of the Year". Tom Banigan, the Association's Vice-Chairman and Vice President of Nusil Technology, which was also last year's industrial sector company of the year recipient, presented the award to Mark Altshuler from L3 Maripro who accepted it on behalf of the company's President, Dr. Ken Tompetrini.

The Association also honored three local community leaders with awards and signed resolutions from First District Supervisor, Salud Carbajal.

COLAB Executive Director, Andy Caldwell, received the "Distinguished Public Servant" award. Former County Supervisor, Mike Stoker, presented Caldwell with his award on behalf of the Association. "This year, SBIA broke with tradition and selected an individual who doesn't serve in an elected office but few would argue his influence and impact on those who do", said SBIA Executive Director Joe Armendariz. "For more

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than 15 years, Andy Caldwell has helped shape the size, cost and role of our county government and his tireless work has meant COLAB has enjoyed a seat at the table with respect to some of the most important issues that affect our quality of life."

The evening's final award was presented to John Davies, Chairman and CEO of Davies Public Affairs. Mr. Davies was recognized as the Association's "Executive of the Year" for 2006. Past Chair, Glenn Avolio, who is the General Manager of BEI Technologies, presented the award to John Davies. "Over the years John has provided incredible leadership serving more than a half dozen local non-profits; time and effort as an active board member of a dozen more; and he has generously volunteered his time and expertise to countless local groups." I was honored to present him the award said Mr. Avolio.

GENERAL PLAN

During the February 5th afternoon's City Council session, the Goleta City Council directed staff to initiate - at the earliest opportunity - a review of the General Plan/Coastal Land Use Plan.

"The Council believes strongly the General Plan needs to be re-looked at," said City Manager, Daniel Singer. "The City Council has asked Planning Staff to prepare a report for the March 5, 2007 City Council meeting setting up a process for considering possible changes to the City's General Plan. This will be an open process in which members of the community and other interested parties will be encouraged to participate," Singer elaborated.

As more information becomes available it will be posted on the City of Goleta website at www.cityofgoleta.org.

PLANNING COMM.

After five years, the wheels have finally turned and Goleta will see its first planning commission successfully initiated. On January 15th, the Goleta City Council met on this hot topic and completed the next step when Mayor Pro Tempore Michael Bennett appointed Doris Kavanagh, and Councilman Eric Onnen appointed Brent Daniels. On February 5th, Councilman Roger Aceves appointed, Julie Kessler Solomon, Goleta marketing consultant, as a commissioner.

101 FUNDING REQUEST

The California Traffic Commission (CTC) will be meeting on February 28, 2007, to consider requests for the Prop 1B funding. SBCAG has been working together with many local chambers, including the Goleta Valley Chamber of Commerce, to weigh in our urgent need for the highway expansion funds. A multitude of letters written to both the CTC and local legislators, along with the presence of RLA at the meeting, will stress the importance of this project to decision makers.

With only \$4.5 billion available in funds, against the \$11.3 billion in requests, it is vital we secure our Prop 1B funding quickly.

If the Santa Barbara and Ventura counties region is to remain viable as an economic competitor in California we need to invest in transportation to better connect housing to jobs and to facilitate timely goods movement. The Proposition 1B Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds are the best opportunity available to quickly advance the 101 widening project.

ONTHE SIDE

SOUTH COAST EDISON ENERGY EFFICIENCY WILL SAVE BUSINESSES THOUSANDS YEARLY

The cities of Carpinteria, Goleta, and Santa Barbara, and the County of Santa Barbara, in partnership with Southern California Edison, have formed an "energy efficiency partnership," called the South Coast Energy Efficiency Partnership (SCEEP) to make our community energy efficient. SCEEP is unveiling an initiative that will start sweeping through our region giving businesses up to \$5,000 worth of energy-efficiency upgrades - at absolutely no cost to the business.

For more information, please visit the South Coast Energy Efficiency Partnership website at <http://www.SouthCoastEnergyWise.org> or call (800) 332-5483.

THE GAS COMPANY OFFERS \$10 MILLION IN ENERGY REBATES

The Southern California Gas Company is encouraging its business customers to apply for more than \$10 million in energy-efficiency rebates and incentives reserved for them in 2007 - the highest level of funding for such programs in its 140-year history.

"These rebates and incentives are only the beginning," said Mark Gaines, The Gas Company's director of customer programs. "Participating businesses save much more money by using less fuel."

The Gas Company's funding for rebates and incentives is at a record high because energy efficiency plays a critical role in meeting the state's energy needs and helping the environment," Gaines added.

The \$10 million is available through six comprehensive rebate programs. Qualifying business customers can take advantage of these programs by calling 1-800-GAS-2000, by visiting www.socalgas.com/energyefficiency, or contacting their account representatives.

CHAMBER CALENDAR & KEY EVENTS

February

19 - Office Closed
In observation of President's Day

21 - Executive Comm. Meeting
Chamber Conference Room
271 N. Fairview Ave, Ste 104
12:00pm - 1:30pm

22 - Issue & Policy Roundtable
Chamber Conference Room
271 N. Fairview Ave, Ste 104
12:00pm - 1:15pm

28 - Business After Hours
Timbers Farm
10 Winchester Canyon Rd
5:00 - 6:45pm

New Schedule

- IPRs are held on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of each month

- Ambassador Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month

- Board Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month

- Business After Hours Mixers are held on the 4th Wednesday of every month

April

18 - Membership Luncheon
12 - Goleta's Finest Awards

May

21-22 - Cal Chamber Legislative Summit in Sacramento

July

TBD - Economic Forecast
11th or 18th

August

15 - Membership Luncheon

October

20-21 - 16th Annual Lemon Festival

November

14 - Membership Luncheon

December

12 - Holiday Table-Top Expo