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Date: September 3, 2026
To: LOCSD Board of Directors
Greg Kwolek, General Manager
From: Christine Womack, Director
Subject: **Agenda Item 9d – 09/03/2026 Board Meeting**
LOCAC Report of the August 27, 2026 Meeting

Key Outcomes

The meeting covered four primary topics: a county desalination feasibility study, conservation planning for Diablo Canyon lands, e-bike safety initiatives, and a new LOCAC website launch. No binding decisions were made; most items were informational updates with follow-up actions assigned.

Desalination Feasibility Study

- The County completed a ~244-page feasibility study funded by a ~\$1M U.S. Bureau of Reclamation grant, examining 5 coastal sites for a potential regional desalination plant.
- Estimated cost: \$9,000–\$25,000 per acre foot vs. current water costs of \$1,000–\$2,000 per acre foot; total project costs range into the hundreds of millions.
- Sites evaluated include Cambria/San Simeon, the old Chevron Estero marine terminal, and Morro Bay.
- Upper aquifer denitrification in Los Osos estimated at \$1,000–\$2,000/acre foot — cost-competitive with existing supply.
- Study is limited to traditional reverse osmosis; emerging/small-scale technologies (buoy/seafloor systems) were largely unaddressed — multiple attendees flagged this gap.
- Decision on whether any project proceeds is years to decades away; no commitments made.

Diablo Canyonlands Conservation Planning

- State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) is leading a multi-year (potentially through 2029) conservation planning effort for ~12,000 acres surrounding Diablo Canyon Power Plant.
 - Three planning areas: North Ranch (adjacent to Montaña de Oro), South Ranch (power plant to lighthouse), and Wild Cherry Canyon (inland from Port San Luis/Avila Beach).
 - Wild Cherry Canyon on the shortest transfer timeline; South Ranch on the longest.
 - Lands currently owned by PG&E and its subsidiary Eureka Energy; future ownership (state parks, tribes, other agencies) is undetermined.
 - SCC has \$60M directed toward conservation of these lands (via Senator Laird).
 - The process includes tribal engagement, an 18-member community work group, and public workshops — not a decision-making body; final authority rests with the SCC board.
 - First community workshop: September 23rd, 4–7 PM, SLO Library — open house format, RSVP required.
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County & Local Government Updates

- Supervisor Gibson noted upcoming Board agenda items: CSA 9i annual CPI increase, appeal of a mixed-use project at Santa Maria & 2nd St. (parking/compatibility concerns filed by Linda and Richard Riddell).
 - Anastasi project: Appeals court struck down the subdivision map; if any new project moves forward, it starts from scratch with a new map; California Supreme Court appeal possible.
 - Title 19 in-lieu fee nexus study underway (wraps up within ~60 days); will evaluate alternatives to fixture-by-fixture retrofits, including CSD intertie (~300 acre feet), upper aquifer denitrification (~300 acre feet), and recycled water for Sunnyside Park (~10–12 acre feet/year).
 - Marine Protected Areas: Fish & Game Commission final decision in October; public comment encouraged before then.
 - County Parks Master Plan open for public comment September 1–30; virtual workshops on September 1 (6–7 PM) and September 9 (12–1 PM), advance registration required.
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E-Bike Safety Initiative

- Transportation Committee pursuing a coordinated e-bike safety effort targeting schools, parents, and youth.
 - Resources identified: San Mateo County e-bike handbook, Sonoma County youth safety videos, and Petal Ace online certification course.
 - Next step: convene stakeholders (sheriff, public health, SLOCOG, school district) to distribute resources.
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LOCAC Website Relaunch

- New website (AI-assisted design) to go live by end of the week; labeled "work in progress" on launch.
 - Key unresolved question: how council members update their committee pages and remove stale content — automation (e.g., auto-expiry after 45 days) proposed.
 - David and Deborah to collaborate with Alex (web lead) on finalizing structure and content flow.
 - Discussion on adding representative bios, district maps, and committee-based contact info to improve public accessibility.
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Action Items

- Molly → Forward a sample county land use referral email to Alex to establish website update workflow.
- Mason → Follow up with county staff on Anastasi project status and appeal options; email results to Chair Howe.
- Carolyn Berg → Explore tabling at LOCAC's Oktoberfest event (October 25th) in Baywood for Diablo Canyonlands outreach.
- David + Deborah + Alex → Finalize and launch new LOCAC website; notify council members when live.
- Casey (Farmers Market) → Contact Chair Howe to get on a future agenda regarding Baywood parking solutions.
- CSD → Seeking applicants for open District 2 board seat; interested parties encouraged to apply.