



# The SLO Green Scene

SLO GREEN BUILD'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Winter 2008

## Green Build Events:

**January 23, 2008, 6:30PM**  
**LEARN-BUILD-SAVE:**  
GREEN RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION  
& REMODELS

SLO City Council Library  
995 Palm Street- SLO

**January 31, 2008**

**FOCUS THE NATION:**  
GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS FOR AMERICA  
GREEN JOB FAIR AND TRADE SHOW

Cal Poly- SLO  
www.focusthenation.org

**February 1, 2008, 8:30-5PM**

**LEED:**  
FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION TECHNICAL REVIEW  
WORKSHOP

University of California Santa Barbara  
PF Learning Center, Bldg. 594  
Facilities Management  
register: [www.usgbc.org/workshops/register](http://www.usgbc.org/workshops/register)

**February 6&7, 2008, 6-9PM**

**JONATHAN TODD:**  
PUBLIC PRESENTATION & SUSTAINABILITY  
SOCIAL

SLO & Los Osos, see page 2 for details

**February 27, 2008, 6PM**

**LEARN-BUILD-SAVE**  
**NORTH COUNTY:**

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR FINISHES  
Paso Robles City Hall Council Chambers  
1000 Spring St- Paso Robles

**February 28 & March 20, 2008, 5PM**

**GREEN PEER REVIEW**

Ludwick Community Center  
864 Santa Rosa Street- SLO  
[peer-review@SLOGREENBUILD.ORG](mailto:peer-review@SLOGREENBUILD.ORG)

Send your events to: [Events@SLOGreenBuild.org](mailto:Events@SLOGreenBuild.org)

## Central Coast Leads the 2030 Challenge

By Andy Pease, Adapted from [architecture2030.org](http://architecture2030.org)

### Santa Barbara Leads the Nation

The City of Santa Barbara, CA, took an historic step [in October 2007] by becoming the first city in the nation to adopt The 2030 Challenge for all buildings within the city limits. According to 2030 Founder Ed Mazria, this is "a watershed moment not only for [Santa Barbara], but also for the many cities that will follow [their] lead."

The 2030 Challenge was developed by architect Ed Mazria in 2002 in response to the dramatic impact buildings have on climate change (see Green Scene, Fall 2007). Data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration illustrates that buildings are responsible for almost half (48%) of all greenhouse gas emissions annually. Seventy-six percent of all electricity generated by US power

plants goes to supply the Building Sector.

The 2030 Challenge calls for a gradual reduction in the fossil fuel use of buildings, achieving carbon neutrality by the year 2030. California already has a more stringent energy code (Title 24) than the rest of the nation, so surpassing Title 24 by set percentages will meet the 2030 Challenge.

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## NEW ROUND OF MOUs ASKS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO GO EVEN GREENER

By Nick Alter, SLO Green Build

On the heels of the August 23-24 "Regional Energy Planning Conference," at which local mayors and county supervisors pledged further advancement of sustainable energy policies and practices in SLO County, SLO Green Build is going to the cities and County with a proposed set of follow-up actions. These actions are being framed in amendments to Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) that all seven of the County's municipalities have signed with SLO Green Build over the past two and a half years.

SLO Green Build's original MOUs with local governments put in place a foundation of mutual support that has engendered a robust green-building program throughout the County. Green-building information and materials are now disseminated in kiosks in every municipal planning and building department; a peer-review program is up and running for proposed green-building projects; quarterly liaison meetings are being held with representatives from every building and planning department

to exchange information on current green-building plans, activities and developments; a bi-monthly series of Learn-Build-Save public workshops is being conducted on the elements of green building; some General Plans are being updated with explicit provisions for green building and sustainable development; and a SLO Green Build website hosts information on green-building principles, practices, events and local resources.

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## Sustainability Seduces!

On December first this year, about 350 people gathered together at Swallow Creek Ranch in Cayucos, to celebrate the success of the green building movement in San Luis Obispo County. The event, Sustainability Seduces, was held to raise money for the Appropriate Technology Committee. Not only was the fair educational, with booths from many local nonprofits and businesses, but there were also large displays from local artists, organic food and beverage vendors, and of course the headline band, Blue Turtle Seduction.

The Appropriate Technology Committee, a partnership between SLO Green Build and the local chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, is a group of experts dedicated to educating building officials, contractors and homeowners about the technologies available to solve the challenges facing the built environment today. Their 2008 program will focus on water consumption and waste management. If you are interested in getting involved with the group please contact Roger at SLOGreenBuild@Yahoo.com.

Thanks to all of you that came or helped spread the word to make this an incredibly fun and successful event.



Jonathan Todd, Todd Ecological Design, Inc.

## Award Winning Ecological Design Firm visits SLO February 6&7th

Jonathan Todd, of Todd Ecological Design Inc. ([www.toddecological.com](http://www.toddecological.com)) an award-winning water and natural resources planning firm, will be visiting San Luis Obispo County on February 6th and 7th. Todd Ecological's services include comprehensive construction design, consulting, and facility operations services to public and private clients throughout the world. The focus is to provide clients with cost-effective aesthetic solutions to wastewater, storm water, aquatic environment management, and bio-solids conversion.

Jonathan Todd is the President of John Todd Research and Design, Inc. a leading firm in the development of ecological technologies for food production, waste purification and conversion, environmental restoration and systems integration for architecture and eco-industrial parks.

The visit is hosted by:

**SLO Green Build** ([www.slogreenbuild.org](http://www.slogreenbuild.org))

**San Luis Bay Chapter of Surfrider Foundation** ([www.slosurfrider.org](http://www.slosurfrider.org))

**Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club** ([www.santalucia.sierraclub.org](http://www.santalucia.sierraclub.org))

**Hopedance Magazine** ([www.hopedance.org](http://www.hopedance.org)).

### February 6, Wednesday

**Morning:** Site tour of Los Osos to develop a Todd Ecological Project Proposal for submittal to SLO County's Los Osos "Waste Water Treatment Project". Tour by Chuck Cesena, director of LOCSO

**1 pm:** Meeting w/ SLO County Los Osos Project Team @ SLO Gov't Center

**Afternoon:** Slots available for interviews with local media

**6-9 pm: PUBLIC PRESENTATION & Sustainability Social**  
@ SLO Botanical Garden, New education & convention facility. ([www.slobg.org](http://www.slobg.org))

(El Chorro Regional Park, across Hwy 1 from Cuesta College, between Morro Bay & SLO)

Event includes:

Food by American Flatbread Pizzas, Beer tasting by Cayucos Brewing Company, wine tasting, and music by The Cuesta Jazz Ensemble

### February 7, Thursday

**Morning-** Daytime Meetings with Governmental Regulators,

**Afternoon:** Municipal and Private Sector Officials

Daytime slots available for interviews with local media

**6-9 pm: PUBLIC PRESENTATION & Sustainability Social**

in Los Osos South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, behind Skate Park

Event includes:

Food by American Flatbread Pizzas, Beer tasting by Cayucos Brewing Company, wine tasting, and music by The Cuesta Jazz Ensemble

Contact Noah @ (805) 772-7668 to schedule an interview or for more information

## SLO Green Build Community Programs:

- **GREEN HOME CONSTRUCTION AND REMODEL SELF-CERTIFICATION PROGRAM:**  
Use the guidelines to rate your home.
- **GREEN BUILD KIOSKS:**  
Explore it in the lobby of your local building department.
- **NORTH & SOUTH COUNTY LEARN-BUILD-SAVE EDUCATIONAL SERIES:**  
Attend presentations on the 4th Wednesday of every month- 6:30-8:30 in SLO or Paso.
- **ROAD SHOW:**  
Invite a green specialist to speak at your next meeting.
- **THE SLO GREEN SCENE:**  
Information Newsletter
- **SLO COUNTY GOVERNMENT NETWORKING PROGRAM:**  
Green Build Liasons from each municipality meet quarterly.
- **TECHNICAL PEER REVIEW:**  
Bring in your project for free professional advice.
- **WEBSITE:**  
[www.SLOGreenBuild.org](http://www.SLOGreenBuild.org)
- **GREEN BUILDING INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY:**  
Connect with the resources you need.
- **MONTHLY CALENDAR:**  
Attend presentations, meetings, and workshops.
- **LIBRARY:**  
Download innovative green building information.
- **PARTNERSHIPS:**  
Join the local, state, and national organizations in our network.

Join the team that keeps this powerful engine running

**VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

## 2030 CHALLENGE

from page 1

According to the Santa Barbara Daily Sound:

“It was more than a year ago that renowned Santa Fe architect Ed Mazria came to the Marjorie Luke Theater in Santa Barbara and lectured on environmental building standards, lighting a fire under local architects, contractors, government leaders and community members. Now, with approval from a state commission a pending formality, Santa Barbara stands to mark a new chapter in green building.”

## NEW MOUs

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The newly proposed MOU amendments ask local governments to affirm a number of “next steps” that local mayors and county supervisors voiced their support of at the August energy conference, among them: to incorporate green-building policies a standards in General Plans; to set an example in the community by implementing green-building principles and retrofits to public facilities, especially our public schools (e.g., energy audits, use of compact fluorescent lighting, solar rooftops); and to offer greater green-building incentives for residential and commercial construction (e.g., expedited plan check, density bonuses, reduced parking, facilitation of grants and rebates, public recognition). More fundamentally, the proposed MOU amendments ask local governments to consider measures toward the achievement of zero-

“A glowing Santa Barbara City Council unanimously approved the Architecture 2030 Energy Ordinance [Oct. 23, 2007], legislation that, if approved by the California Energy Commission, will give Santa Barbara some of the most stringent environmental building standards in the state. “I think we are plowing brand new ground and we’re doing it well,” Councilmember Brian Barnwell said, calling Santa Barbara second to none on environmental issues. “This is a proud moment.”

“The ordinance will enact building regulations exceeding state standards for energy use by 20 percent for low-rise residential buildings, 15 percent for high-rise residential buildings and 10 percent for nonresidential buildings, among other measures. Calling it one of the most important acts the Council has taken in recent years, Councilmember Das Williams said it is about time “we grow up as a society” and stop being a “race of spoiled children, squandering away our natural resources.”

Excellent work, Santa Barbara!

energy, carbon-neutral new construction and remodeling of private and public structures by the year 2030, as advocated by the American Institute of Architecture – commonly referred to as the 2030 Challenge. Such measures might include:

- An ordinance enacting building regulations that exceed Title 24 state energy efficiency standards to meet the 2030 Challenge targets. Current targets exceed Title 24 by 20 percent for low-rise residential buildings, 15 percent for high-rise residential building and 10 percent for nonresidential buildings, as recently enacted in Santa Barbara.

- A plan for municipalities to finance the upfront cost of solar panels for property owners who agree to pay it back with a 20-year assessment on their property, as being considered by Berke-

ley’s city council within a plan for a “Sustainable Energy Financing District.”

- An ordinance requiring time-of-sale energy audits.
- Participation in the CPUC-funded “Energy Watch” local-government partnership with PG&E to institute energy-efficiency programs for commercial, small business, residential and municipal facilities.

Meeting the 2030 Challenge is an achievable goal that will ultimately depends on public willingness and political will. While we have seen a heartening upswing in both in recent years, we are now asking our elected leaders to give the “green light” to the bold next steps necessary to meet the 2030 Challenge.



**LEARN•BUILD•SAVE**

**For more information contact:**

**P.O. Box 12043  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406  
tel: 805.461.5986  
fax: 805.466.6739  
admin@slogreenbuild.com**

**www.slogreenbuild.org**

**Your local non profit organization** dedicated to minimize construction-related waste, create healthier, more durable buildings, reduce operating costs, and support local businesses.

**Annual memberships to SLO Green Build are available at the following levels (please check one):**

- Cypress \$50**     **Student/Senior \$25**  
Bumper sticker, newsletter, and one complimentary copy of the Green Building Guidelines book
- Manzanita \$100**  
Above + member website listing
- Bay Laurel \$250**  
Above + one featured insert in the Green by Example binders\*
- Madrone \$500**  
Above + member resource listing and website link + member brochures displayed at SLOGB-tabled events\*
- Coastal Live Oak \$1000**  
Above + four additional featured inserts in the Green by Example binders + member logo displayed on binder's "sponsors" page\*

\*Green by Example binders are on display at SLOGB kiosks located throughout the county, and at SLOGB events. Please contact "admin@slogreenbuild.org" for insert, resource listing, and brochure specifications.

**Green Building Guidelines**

Do you have your copy of the Green Building Guidelines?

The Guidelines are based on the Alameda County New Home Construction Green Building Guidelines, which were first developed in 2000 through a collaborative process and public-private partnership among builders, green building experts, and the staff of Green Building in Alameda County. The Guidelines were updated in 2005 to expand its applicability throughout California, address changes in Title 24, and incorporate measures from other residential green building initiatives.

The Home Remodeling and Multifamily Green Building Guidelines were developed through a partnership among local developers, architects, contractors, green building experts, and the staff of Green Building in Alameda County.

Complementing the Green Building Guidelines is Green Points, a rating system for assessing how environmentally friendly or "green" a home is. Green Points assigns point values to recommend practices in the Guidelines based on their benefits to the homeowner and the environment.

Find copies of these guidelines on SLO Green Build website, in government kiosks and for sale at SLO Green Build sponsored events.

**YES! I support SLO Green Build. Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.** SLO Green Build is a nonprofit organization.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Profession** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to: SLOGB**

Detach and mail to: SLO Green Build  
P.O. Box 12043  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Business members will be asked to sign a SLO Green Build "Commitment to Green Business Practices" agreement prior to being on the Web site resource listing.

For questions or more information, contact SLO Green Build by e-mail at "admin@slogreenbuild.org" or by phone at (805) 461-5986.