



*Standing for Affordable Housing,
Critical Infrastructure and
Environmental Preservation*

September 2023 Newsletter

July and August 2023 were the hottest months EVER recorded worldwide!

At a time when the [World Economic Forum](#) is recommending the restoration of trees across the globe to curb climate change, **San Luis Obispo county is considering an urban development in rural Nipomo that will destroy over 3000 mature oak trees**, the habitat that depends on them and the cooling they provide.

The first step in using trees to slow climate change is to [Protect the trees we have](#). By holding onto the big, old trees, more carbon and other pollutants is removed from the air (trees eat carbon). The proposed project will take out 98% of Nipomo's unique habitat. This is an unacceptable cost.

Yes! We are faced with unprecedented challenges: climate change, social inequity, and an acute housing affordability crisis. We need to re-imagine the way homes and neighborhoods are built, which will address these interconnected challenges while also advancing equity, community health and ecological well-being.

Let's be leaders in doing the right thing given these challenges-**not** continue to do "business as usual" which is what has gotten us into the dangerous predicament we're in now! We can design developments that revitalize communities, restore ecosystems, and give us the ability to better adapt to whatever changes the future holds.

*"Let's not subscribe to the **false narrative** pitting precious natural habit against critical affordable housing."* Herb Kandel [Guest editorial in The Tribune](#)

Yes! WE HAVE A HOUSING CRISIS!

That's what the pro-Dana Reserve camp keeps using as their argument for the densest urban housing development in the county's history.

Yes, San Luis Obispo County is currently one of the least affordable places to buy a home in the United States. According to a report by the National Association of Home Builders, only 19 percent of families can afford to purchase the median priced home in the county.

BUT GUESS WHAT FOLKS!

We do not have a housing crisis for above-moderate income people. IN FACT, THE COUNTY HAS SURPASSED ITS GOAL FOR THAT KIND OF HOUSING BY OVER 1500 UNITS! Please look it up [here](#)

Trilogy has contributed to the need for above moderate-income homes by bringing 1300+ homes with the median price of \$1.2 million.

BlackLake has contributed to that stock with a median home price of \$685,500.

WE NEED HOUSING FOR OUR ESSENTIAL

WORKERS- The folks who harvest and pack up our food, provide medical assistance, and others deemed essential (yet so often are paid the least) **and** would not destroy the very thing that makes Nipomo a treasured place to live.

To find solutions that truly benefit those on the margins, we need a preservation ecosystem that brings together industry expertise, local officials, tenants, and the community.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS: **September 28th, 2023 9a.m** SLO Planning Commission Special EIR Study Session- IN PERSON 3 Minute Public Comment

Write your letters to all Planning Commission members NOW. Your letters will be included in the final report to the Commissioners and Board of Supervisors!

SLO Planning Commission October 23+24th, 2023 9a.m IN PERSON 3 Minute Public Comment—**WE NEED YOU THERE!**