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People Power members can receive discounts from the following business members:

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| Amsterdam Bicycles | Another Bike Shop |
| Aptos Bike Trail | Family Cycling |
| Integrative Health Care | Terra Nova |
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| No Enemy | |

... and more to come

PEOPLE OHO POWER!

Join **People Power** and make Santa Cruz a better place to ride and walk. Membership includes: subscription to our quarterly newsletter, use of the HUB library, and volunteer opportunities.

- \$200 **Business Member**
(includes t-shirt, tax deductible by arrangement)
- \$100 **Velorutionary**
(includes t-shirt, tax deductible by arrangement)
- \$ 50 **Hub Spoke** (includes t-shirt)
- \$ 35 **Family or Household**
- \$ 25 **Individual**
- \$ 15 **Underemployed** (Work exchange available. Call to arrange.)

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I would like to volunteer. Please contact me.

Make checks payable to **People Power** and mail to:
703 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

People Power! T-shirt



another bicyclist



against oil wars

JOIN WITH PEOPLE POWER IN A PERSONAL RESPONSE TO OIL WARS.

Our t-shirts are printed in red and black and are made from 100% preshrunk organic cotton.

\$16 each

(add \$3 for home delivery by FedEx in the Santa Cruz area)
Available in most adult and some children's sizes.

Call People Power, at 425-0665 to order yours.

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People Power! UPDATE is published by People Power. Our goal is to educate people and politicians about the advantages of a transportation system less dependent on the automobile. A special thanks to all our volunteers.

PEOPLE OHO POWER! UPDATE

SANTA CRUZ CYCLING NEWS

ISSUE 52

FALL/WINTER 2006

★ ★ ★ **SPECIAL ELECTION EDITION** ★ ★ ★

PEOPLE POWER's 2006 Endorsements & Recommendations

People Power Endorses **BRUCE VAN ALLEN & MIKE ROTKIN** for Santa Cruz and **SAM STOREY** for Capitola

Every two years People Power conducts a transportation survey of candidates running for office in Santa Cruz County. It's a fun process, not just because all People Power members are invited to join in the review, but also because it's a reminder of the quality of the candidates we get to choose from. For those interested in more detail, all of the survey responses can be downloaded in PDF format at our website: www.peoplepowersc.org. In addition to candidate endorsements we have also made recommendations on measures and propositions that directly affect transportation.

This year, People Power is endorsing **Bruce Van Allen** and **Mike Rotkin** for Santa Cruz City Council, and **Sam Storey** for Capitola City Council. These three candidates were unanimously selected for our endorsement. As always, keep in mind that there are many issues you may want to consider in selecting a candidate—for our endorsements we only considered issues related to transportation.

ENDORSEMENTS FOR SANTA CRUZ CITY COUNCIL

Bruce Van Allen: Bruce is a car-free bicyclist and strong supporter of sustainable transportation. In his survey he stated, "Increasing bicycle safety and access is one of my motivations to run for City Council."

Offering a nod to guerrilla Rail Trail efforts, he writes, "I strongly support the Rail Trail, and I believe public acquisition of the railway corridor should be actively pursued. In the meantime, I support public as well as informal efforts to establish usable trail sections as soon as possible."

His position as an anti-Highway-1-widening activist is solid: "...Widening the freeway ... will just maintain the land use patterns that reinforce wasteful and expensive automobile use by encouraging residential development far from jobs and commercial areas of the County."

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December 14th: "ONE EAR TO THE TRACKS" A Symposium on Potential Rail and Trail Systems for Santa Cruz County

With the combined worries about global warming, rising oil prices, and growing congestion as a backdrop, People Power and the Sierra Club, in conjunction with Assemblyman John Laird, Tom Honig of the Santa Cruz Sentinel, and a wide range of sponsors, will be hosting a symposium featuring rail and transportation experts from the Western United States. Speakers will present options for train and trail systems at the December 14th event. The symposium is free or by donation and the public is invited.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE:

- **Mike Hart**, owner of the successful Sierra Railroad, will address the freight and recreation potential of the corridor.
- **Michael Jones**, principal author of the authoritative guide to rail with trail facilities in the United States, will discuss the feasibility of placing a trail adjacent to the existing rail line.
- **Bill Burgel**, vice president of rail operations of HDR Consulting in Portland, Oregon, will speak on practical application of electric light rail and trolley systems for the Santa Cruz corridor.



San Diego Rail and Trail.

- **David Phraner**, of the Transportation Resource Board, will speak on the use of light DMU vehicles to provide affordable rail transit service in smaller metropolitan areas.
- **Debbie Hale**, Director of the Monterey Transportation Commission, will speak on their plans to turn Pajaro into a rail Hub with connections to Caltrain and Amtrak.
- **George Dondero**, Director of the Santa Cruz Transportation Commission will speak on efforts to acquire the Union Pacific right of way and begin planning for the rail trail

Attendance at the event will be free or by donation. The event will take place December 14th at 6:30 PM at the Jade Street Park Community Center, in Capitola on 4400 Jade Street. Meet at 6PM for marimba music and socializing. ■

2006 Election

continued from page 1

Van Allen's comments show that he understands the needs of bicyclists, as well as how transportation decisions are tied to other important issues.

Mike Rotkin: Mike has proven himself to be a very effective force for improving bicycle transportation in Santa Cruz.

He supports the Rail Trail and has the vision to state "[we should] make this project a reality within a year or two, not the decades often talked about."

On Highway 1 he writes, "I oppose widening Highway 1 between Santa Cruz and Watsonville. The studies conducted by the supporters of this project demonstrate that the reduction in congestion would be very short term and very minimal."

Although the city does not directly influence UCSC, he offers that "[UCSC] need[s] to make an up-front commitment to funding a major new public transit system, such as bus rapid transit and/or people movers before they grow any more [and] ban auto parking in the central campus core, which, [together] would create huge incentives for people to not drive their cars to the campus."

Finally, he writes, "I do not own a car. I commute primarily by bicycle and motorcycle, with some bus use."

OTHER CANDIDATES IN SANTA CRUZ

We also received questionnaires from Christopher Cobb, Lynn Robinson, and Cynthia Mathews. While none of the three met the high standards for our endorsement. We can share our thoughts on them, in order of preference.

Cynthia Mathews: Cynthia's record on sensible transportation more or less mirrors the City of Santa Cruz as a whole: pretty good, really. Our reason for not endorsing her was because she hasn't provided leadership in our direction and has sometimes been one of the last votes to carry important proposals like the Beach Street Bike Lane. Nevertheless, the City of Santa Cruz is definitely moving in the right direction with regard to bicycle transportation and Cynthia, a powerful and thoughtful part of the status quo, has been a part of that. Cynthia states that she walks and carools as much as she can, and makes a deliberate effort to minimize use of her car.

Chris Cobb: Chris's survey reflects a candidate whose values are similar to ours with regard to sensible transportation but with very little experience to draw on. His answers were brief—we would have appreciated more in-depth responses. While Chris may be a breath of fresh air and though he seems like a

good guy, we didn't have a good indication of how effective he would be, at this time, as a player in city politics.

Lynn Robinson: is not someone that you want to vote for if you are trying to create a geographically self reliant city. She is the only candidate in favor of widening Highway 1, stating, "I think an HOV lane may be unavoidable over time," and "I support the purpose of the auxiliary [sneak] lane" Even her support for the Rail Trail seemed conditional, stating that she didn't know where the funds would come from (the RTC is spending \$55 million to widen the freeway for 1.5 miles, the cost of nearly two rail trails). It bears mentioning that Lynn's answers were thoughtful and detailed.

SANTA CRUZ CITY MEASURES

Vote "Yes" on Santa Cruz Measures H, I & J

Measure H would increase an existing 8¼% sales tax to 8½% to fund city street repair, to support public safety, and to provide additional security and maintenance for city parks, including additional rangers for city open spaces. Our endorsement of Measure H is a way to thank the city for good work it has done to make Santa Cruz more bicycle friendly.

Measures I & J are intended to ensure that UCSC grows in a sustainable way. These measures require UCSC to mitigate all significant impacts of any future growth before being provided with city services (Measure I) and city water (Measure J) for that new growth. We don't necessarily oppose the growth of UCSC, but think that the University should be required to work with the city to mitigate problems associated with that growth, including discouraging the use of single occupancy automobiles.

ENDORSEMENT FOR CAPITOLA CITY COUNCIL

Sam Storey impressed the group with his opposition to highway widening, including a commitment to oppose "any widening project that displaced or encroached upon Capitola homes" as well as his support for creating more pedestrian space in Capitola Village by gradually closing parts of it to cars.

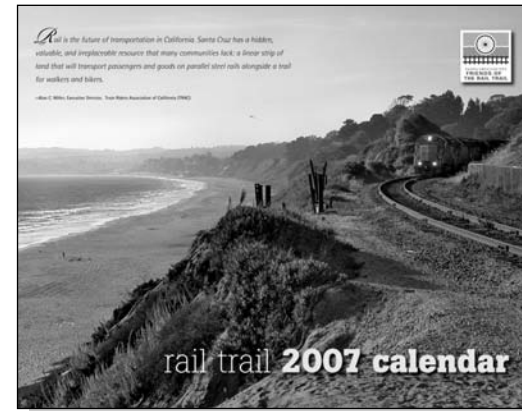
OTHER CANDIDATES IN CAPITOLA

Ed Neuman seems to support the train and trail but categorically refused to take a stand on the Highway widening issue, even when we called him up to try to pin him down.

Ron Graves also took the time to answer our survey. He clearly supports the Rail Trail as well as widening Highway 1. He does not support more space for pedestrians in the village,

continued on page 4

FORT Calendars of the Santa Cruz Rail Line Are Coming Around the Bend



Keep the vision in plain sight every day with this full-color 9" x 12" calendar of the Santa Cruz Rail Line created by Friends of the Rail Trail (FORT). The calendar includes 12 stunning shots showcasing different uses of the corridor: efficient freight mover, recreational coastal wonder, and neighborhood walking trail.

Interspersed are facts on trains and trails, examples of successful rail and trail facilities in other parts of the country, and even the occasional song lyric.

The calendars are scheduled to be printed by November 3rd. Pick up a calendar for yourself, or for the trail/bike/train aficionado in your life, and support our work to make the Coastal Rail Trail a reality.

Calendars can be purchased at the People Power office or ordered online at www.peoplepowersc.org. They will also be available at local bookstores where calendars are sold.

To get a calendar or to help us distribute and sell them, contact the People Power office at **425-0665**. ■

People Power Interns Old and New

People Power is pleased to welcome Dana Landig as our new high school intern for fall, 2006. Dana is a senior at Harbor High and brings a lot of enthusiasm and talent to the office. Welcome Dana!

We're also happy to have Tim Wesolowski back for another quarter as our "senior" intern. Tim is a senior at Harbor High, whose involvement and commitment has been an inspiration to all of us. Welcome back Tim!

Thanks to the generosity of one of our members, we are able to continue our internship program which has been a great success for over two years now. The arrangement has been beneficial to all of us, and now, looking back, it's hard to imagine how we got by without the intern's help. ■

Pledge 2 Hours in the Next 2 Weeks

People Power needs YOUR help to get bike-friendly candidates elected to the Santa Cruz and Capitola City Councils.

Now that we've made our endorsements we're looking for People Power members to pitch in and help them win election. This is a chance to make sure our voice is heard and our needs are represented.

You can contact the candidates for yard signs and to arrange go door-to-door and spread the word. (Studies show that one of the most effective ways to influence how someone votes is through personal contact with them.)

Remember, if we don't elect them we won't be heard. Please contact **Bruce Van Allen** (vanallenforcitycouncil.org), **Mike Rotkin** (423-4209 or www.mikerotkin.com), and/or **Sam Storey** (239-9396 or www.samforcapitola.org) for more information. ■

Reserve your place at the table!

3RD ANNUAL PEOPLE POWER FUNDRAISING DINNER

**Thursday, November 16th
6:00–7:30PM at Gabriella Cafe
(910 Cedar Street, downtown Santa Cruz)**



Come celebrate a year of advocacy while supporting further efforts on your behalf in 2007.

Tickets to the dinner are \$25–50, sliding scale. Over half of all proceeds will go to People Power.

A full course dinner will be served (with option of meat or vegan entrees), along with dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage.

Wine or beer may be purchased separately.

**Gabriella Cafe is an intimate restaurant with limited seating.
Call 425-0665 for reservations.**

BIKE CAFÉ at the HUB

2–8pm, Sunday, November 12th
703 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz

Q: What do you get when you put together Freeskool, an A-Café, and bicycles?

A: The Bike Café!



On Sunday, November 12th, bicyclists of all stripes—from the casual rider to the commuter, from the dirt basher to the week-end racer—are invited to come out to Santa Cruz's first Bike Café. Possibly the first of its kind anywhere, the Bike Café will start at the HUB and be a day-long celebration of bike culture and community through skills sharing, play, and discussion.

While we don't wanna give away any surprises, activities will include games like mini bike "pixie" racing and jousting, workshops on basic maintenance, and knowing your bicycle rights.

After the activities section, there will be a convergence at the HUB featuring music, food, and general revelry.

A \$5 donation will be requested at the door, although no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

To volunteer or to get more information, please contact: p.mue.wi@gmail.com. ■

LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL PROBLEMS to Host Screening of "End of Suburbia"

Free DVD showing of "End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of The American Dream"

Thursday November 9th

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM with discussion to follow

Resource Center for Non-Violence • 515 Broadway, SC

LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL PROBLEMS is a coalition of concerned citizens and advocacy groups who are finding ways to address the dual challenges of world-wide depletion of the fossil fuels (Peak Oil) and global warming/climate change.

"End of Suburbia" is a documentary that deals with diminishing supplies of fossil fuels and what kinds of changes will be necessary as we adapt to this new reality, including reexamining the "ideal" of suburban living.

People Power on the Doorhanger

This year, for the first time, People Power is participating in the Get Out the Vote doorhangers with the Progressive Coalition. The Get Out The Vote doorhanger is the traditional last voter outreach before the election for progressive candidates and ballot measures around the county. The Coalition was very welcoming to us and put all of our important issues on the hangers, including all three of our city council candidates and a "No" recommendation on Propositions 1A and 1B.

NOW IT IS TIME FOR US TO STEP UP. We need volunteers to prepare and distribute the Get Out The Vote doorhangers for the Progressive Coalition. Here is how you can help:

PREPARING THE HANGERS

WHERE: SEIU, 517B Mission Street, Santa Cruz

WHEN: Thursday, November 2nd, 10 AM – 4 PM
(2- or 3-hour shifts)

DISTRIBUTION IN SANTA CRUZ

FROM: Democratic Headquarters,
The Galleria on Front Street, Santa Cruz

WHEN: **Packets out:** Monday, November 6th, 4 PM
Complete by: Monday, November 6th, 8 PM

Call 425-0665 for more information or to sign up. ■

Aptos Bike Trail Helps Sponsor the Iraqi Junior Cycling Team

Steve Jonsson, owner of Aptos Bike Trail on Soquel Avenue in Aptos, has helped arrange bike industry support of the Iraqi Junior Cycling team after becoming aware of the conditions under which the Iraq Junior National Cycling Team train and ride. Max Whittaker's article in *VeloNews* described the team's situation:

"Equipment is mediocre at best. Many of the handlebars lack tape, and some don't even have brake pads. But they're riding their bikes, and that's a feat itself in a country where drivers are regularly killed by Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), gunfire, and horrific traffic accidents."

We are honored to have Aptos Bike Trail as a People Power business member and applaud the good work that Steve is doing.

For more information about Cyclists for Cultural Exchange, go to www.strawberryfields.org/iraq.html. ■



Coach Dhiaa Abbas of
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2006 Election

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citing a concern for drivers “who rely on the automobile due to limited mobility.”

STATE PROPOSITIONS

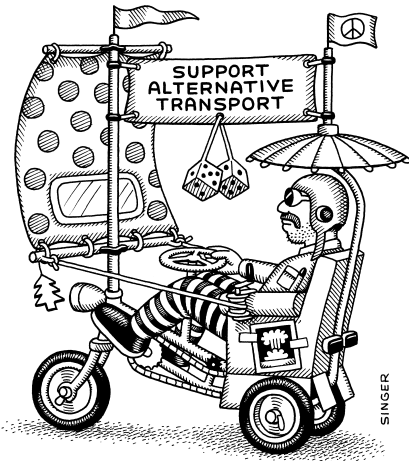
Vote “No” on State Propositions 1A, 1B and 90

Proposition 1A would allow the governor to use gas tax money ONLY for road and transportation projects. Historically, money raised from gasoline tax has also been used to support education funding. Since 1B is not a well-crafted proposal we are advising voters to oppose 1A as well.

Proposition 1B is opposed by the California Bicycle Coalition. If passed, Prop 1B would funnel General Fund money primarily into highways and streets with no set-aside for pedestrian and bicycle alternatives. In our county specifically, Prop 1B money would likely be used to widen Highway 1 in stages (the sneak lane option). **Don’t just vote against this one, get everyone you know to vote against it. The Sierra Club’s Kenneth Ryan notes, “This bond is a classic public subsidy to the highway lobby.”**

* * * * *

If you are inspired by our endorsements, consider volunteering some time between now and November 7th to make sure that bike-friendly, sensible-transportation-supporting candidates are elected. Please see the article on page 5 which includes contact information for the three candidates we have endorsed. ■



People Power Director to Speak at California Rail Conference in Oakland

Our own Micah Posner will speak on why and how bicycle and train advocates should be working together at this conference sponsored by the Train Riders Association of California. More knowledgeable (but less bearded) speakers, include, Will Kempton, the Director of the California Department of Transportation, Gary Patton of the Executive Director of the Planning and Conservation League, and Robert Doty, Director of Caltrain.

California Rail 2020 Conference in Oakland November 3-5, 2006

- **Friday Evening:** Social & Reception
Oakland Downtown Marriott
7:30PM – 10PM
- **Saturday:** Conference & Membership Meeting
Geoffrey’s Inner Circle banquet hall in Downtown Oakland (410 14th Street, near the 12th Street Bart Station)
10AM–4:30PM. (Registration starts 8AM)
- **Sunday Morning/Early Afternoon:** Niles Canyon Railway excursion with special Capitol Corridor Niles Transfer Stop
9:30AM–2PM

Micah plans to bike to San Jose and then take the train to Oakland on Friday, November 3rd. Please call the office at 425-0665 if you would like to join him.

For more information or to register for the conference go to www.calrailnews.com/events.html or call (916) 557-1667. ■

Celebrate the Opening of Soquel Bike Lanes

The Bike Lanes are Coming! The Bike Lanes are Coming! And when they get here we are going to celebrate.

A contract has been awarded for the Soquel Avenue bike lanes, between Seabright and Capitola. Work is scheduled to commence any moment now, and once the bike lanes are finished—supposedly sometime in November—we’re going to have an opening party.

Finally we will be able to celebrate a place for two wheels on one of the most important arterials in the county. If you are on the People Power email action alert list, you will be notified of the time and place of the celebration. Otherwise, give us a call at 425-0665 in November to find out when the party is. Information will also be posted on the People Power website at www.peoplepowersc.org. ■

2006 Election

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STATE PROPOSITIONS

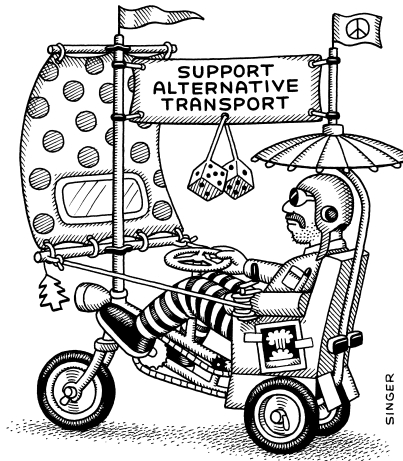
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