



Octagon Barn Center Parcels



BACKGROUND

The Historic Octagon Barn is an iconic San Luis Obispo landmark. Built in 1906, the barn stands as a symbol of the central coast's rich agricultural, dairy and immigrant history. The Land Conservancy recognized the significance and importance of this site when they stepped in to rescue and restore the structure in 1996. The Octagon Barn is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Currently, The Land Conservancy owns the four buildings and major utility infrastructures on the site, but does not own the land underneath or surrounding the barn. A new opportunity could make this possible.

LOCATION

The Octagon Barn Center is located at 4400 Octagon Way, near the intersection of South Higuera and Buckley Road, just southwest of the San Luis Obispo city limits.

KEY FACTS

- Three parcels, 3.5 acres
- Secure control over Octagon Barn Center and future Bob Jones Bike Path Trailhead.
- \$865k raised, less than \$800k in funding needed.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

While The Land Conservancy is in a long-term lease on the land beneath the barn, ownership will allow much more control and security over the site. The land trust has also been working with the County of SLO and other public agencies to secure land and easement access along the proposed pathway for the Bob Jones Bike Path extension, which will have an established trailhead at the Octagon Barn Center. Purchase of the three parcels under and adjacent to the Barn will advance these efforts.

Additionally, expanded control of the site can potentially increase capacity for larger community gatherings in the future.

The total project cost is estimated to be \$1.6 million, with \$865,750 already secured. The Land Conservancy aims to fundraise the remainder by July 31st of this year from private donors, local businesses and project partners.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- A rare opportunity to secure the Octagon Barn Center parcel forever.
- Enhance the center by acquiring two neighboring parcels that would otherwise be sold and developed.
- Facilitate additional access to the Center as the future trailhead for the extended Bob Jones Trail.
- \$865,750 raised and less than \$800,000 remaining to secure all three parcels to form a larger Octagon Barn Center site.

Community Benefits

The Octagon Barn Center parcel purchase offers the opportunity to permanently protect the integrity of the site, which includes an iconic building on the National Registry of Historic Places, and access to the Bob Jones Trail extension, expanding alternative transportation between San Luis Obispo and Avila Beach.

The Land Conservancy launched a docent guided tour program in spring of 2023. Two Sundays a month the public are welcome to join our volunteer guides for a free tour focused on the history, people and ecology of the Barn and its surrounding landscape. The venue is also available for school trips and other educational events. As an event venue, the Barn Center offers an authentic backdrop representative of our county's rich agricultural history and present way of life.

Below: Visitors view historical artifacts displayed at the Center's grand opening in 2019.

Right: The Olympic torch passes by the Octagon Barn on its way to Los Angeles in 1984.



GET IN TOUCH

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The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County is a 501(c)(3) non-profit land trust. We conserve and care for the diverse wildlands, farms, and ranches of the Central Coast. We connect people to the land and to each other.

The Land Conservancy is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission.