

Glossary

Action: Proactive programs to be undertaken by County staff during buildout of the General Plan.

Agriculture-related: Uses include agricultural product sales, roadside stands, produce stands, self-pick operations, agricultural processing, and agricultural home stays.

Agri-tourism: Recreational travel to agricultural areas, agriculture-related entertainment, or recreational participation in agricultural activities or education.

Best Management Practices (BMP): A program that prevents, reduces, or controls environmental impacts using the most effective technique available, often used to describe methods of minimizing pollution from stormwater runoff.

Block length: The distance between four-way intersection centerlines. Block length can also be measured along the one leg of a three-way intersection that terminates into a cross street.

Buildout: Refers to wide array of activities that could occur during the lifetime of the 2030 General Plan. "Buildout" is also a term used to describe the future condition of the County after buildout occurs. In general, this future state would be characterized by full development of areas identified for developed uses within Rural Communities and the Valley Growth Boundary, although General Plan buildout does not necessarily include development of Planning Reserve Areas.

Carbon or Greenhouse Gas Offset: Carbon offset programs are designed to achieve a net emissions objective by allowing additional emissions but also requiring purchase of offsetting credits. A factory or development may not be able to feasibly reduce its own carbon footprint, but would instead achieve some "net" carbon emissions objective through funding emissions reducing activities elsewhere. Funds from these credits are used for a variety of projects, such as planting trees (which absorb carbon dioxide), converting vehicle fleets to more efficient/less polluting technologies, funding for energy efficiency retrofits of existing buildings, renewable energy projects, and other activities.

Carbon sequestration: The removal and storage of carbon from the atmosphere in oceans, forests, soils, or physical/biological processes.

Cluster Development: A design technique that concentrates buildings, roads, and other improvements in specific areas on a site to allow remaining land to be used for open space, recreation, agriculture, or the preservation of historically or environmentally sensitive features.

Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL): An average of 24-hour Leq with a 10 dBA 'penalty' for noise events that occur during noise-sensitive hours of the day (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.). An additional 5 dBA 'penalty' is added to noise events that occur between 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Complete streets: Streets designed to accommodate multiple travel modes. This means that streets would have not only travel lanes for vehicles, but also room for bicycles, sidewalks, street trees, and bus stops and pull-out lanes (along bus routes).

Conservation easement: A voluntary method of restricting development on private property to maintain the long-term conservation or natural resource value of the property in exchange for compensation to the property owner.



Defensible space: Area surrounding a building or buildings in which basic fire protection and prevention measures are implemented, including control of vegetation, fuel modification, and the provision of adequate emergency access.

Density: The amount of residential development permitted in a given area, typically expressed as the number of dwelling units per acre of land (du/ac).

Design Speed: The speed at which most drivers will travel given the built environment and speed controls created by the street width and design.

Development/s: The physical extension and/or construction of land uses. Development activities can include the subdivision of land; construction or alteration of structures, roads, utilities, and other facilities; installation of water and sewer systems; grading; deposit of refuse, debris, or fill; and clearing of vegetative cover (with the exception of agricultural activities). Routine repair and maintenance activities are not considered "developments" in the context of the 2030 General Plan.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone: Areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors. Moderate, high, and very fire hazard severity zones are mapped by the California Department of Forestry and Fire.

Fire resilient: Being resistant to ignition, "fire resilient" has to do with the ability of a community to respond positively to, and recover quickly from the effects of a wildfire.

Floor-Area Ratio (FAR): The permitted gross interior building floor area (on all floors/levels of a building) divided by the total area of the site.

Goal: A statement of the desired future state and/or the overarching intent of a set of policies.

Groundwater Recharge Zones: Areas where stormwater infiltrates through permeable soils or exposed rock fractures to recharge aquifers.

Impact Fee: A fee charged by a public agency as compensation for additional services or costs that will be incurred as a result of a particular development project. California law specifies that impact fees must not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee is charged.

Important Farmland: Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance as determined by the California Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP). Note: FMMP applies these designations based on technical soil ratings and current land use.

Infill development: Projects that can be served by connecting to existing municipal water and sewer trunk lines that are present in the vicinity of the subject project.

Equivalent Noise Level (Leq): The energy mean (average) noise level. The instantaneous noise levels during a specific period of time in dBA are converted to relative energy values. In noise environments determined by major noise events, such as aircraft overflights, the Leq value is heavily influenced by the magnitude and number of single events that produce the high noise levels.

Labor force: Residents of a community who are either working or actively looking for work, regardless of the work location.

Level of Service (LOS): A way of describing perceived traffic flow, measured primarily at the intersection of two or more streets where there are traffic controls (stop signs, signal lights, etc.). The most common way to express LOS is by assigning a letter from "A" to "F." LOS "A" represents free flow conditions,



while LOS "F" represents the most congested traffic conditions (long lines at intersections to total gridlock).

Low Impact Development: Development techniques intended to address stormwater management through surface detention and infiltration that mimic natural systems rather than constructed piped systems. Strategies also include the preservation/protection of environmentally sensitive site features, such as riparian buffers, wetlands, steep slopes, and woodlands.

Minerals: Any naturally occurring chemical element or compound, or groups of elements and compounds, formed from inorganic processes and organic substances, including, but not limited to, coal, peat, and bituminous rock, but excluding geothermal resources, natural gas, and petroleum (Public Resources Code Section 2005). Gold, sand, gravel, clay, crushed stone, limestone, diatomite, salt, borate, potash, etc., are examples of minerals.

Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ): A land classification created by the California Geological Survey used to designate sites with known deposits of commercially viable mineral or aggregate material.

Mixed-Use: Sites combining more than one use as an integrated project and sometimes in the same building, such as office, residential, commercial, or services.

Multi-Modal (Transportation): A system or facility that accommodates more than one method for people to travel for example, not only individual cars, but also pedestrians, bicycles, and public transportation).

Non-Renewable Natural Resources: Inanimate resources that do not increase significantly with time and whose use diminishes the total stock (e.g., minerals, fossil fuels and fossil water).

100-year Floodplain: Area that has a one percent chance of being flooded in any given year. Over the long term, the area will be covered with flood waters on an average of once every 100 years.

Open space: Land or water that is unimproved and devoted to: managed production of resources; the preservation of natural resources; outdoor recreation; and/or public safety.

Policy: Decision-making guide for the County in managing land use change and other decisions related to projects, plans, codes and standards, and investments.

Sphere of Influence (SOI): Represents the future probable physical boundary and service areas. Marysville and Wheatland, along with special districts in the County, have SOIs that are maintained by the Yuba Local Area Formation Commission.

Renewable Natural Resources: Resources that can be replaced by natural ecological cycles or sound management practices (e.g., forests and plants).

Riparian Habitat: The land and plants bordering a watercourse or lake.

Sensitive receptors: Those people or things which are most susceptible to adverse effects. For instance, sensitive receptors to noise and air pollutants might include schools, day care centers, and health care facilities.

Septic Tank Effluent Pumping Systems: An intermediate sewage collection and treatment system which utilizes onsite septic systems in conjunction with small diameter effluent collection lines which transmit septic effluent to a central place for treatment.

Shall: That which is obligatory.



Should: A less rigid directive than "shall;" a directive to be honored and followed if possible, in the absence of compelling reasons for departure from a policy.

Special Status Species: Plants and animals that are legally protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), or other regulations, and species that are considered sufficiently rare by the scientific community to qualify for such listing.

State Responsibility Areas: Areas of the State where the responsibility for prevention and suppression of nonstructural fires is a State responsibility and under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Forestry.

Timber: "...[T]rees of any species maintained for eventual harvest for forest products purposes, whether planted or of natural growth, standing or down, on privately or publicly owned land, including Christmas trees, but...not...nursery stock" (Government Code Section 51104(e)).

Timberland Production Zone (TPZ): An area which has been zoned pursuant to Government Code Section 51112 or 51113 and is devoted to and used for growing and harvesting timber, or for growing and harvesting timber and compatible uses.

VMT (vehicle miles traveled): A measure of the number of travel miles that are generated by a particular activity or land use. VMT provides a measure of transportation-related impacts (such as air pollutant emissions) generated by a particular project.

Watershed: The total area above a given point on a watercourse that contributes water to the flow of the watercourse; the entire region drained by a watercourse.

Wetlands: Areas that are permanently wet or periodically covered with shallow water, such as saltwater and freshwater marshes, open or closed brackish marshes, swamps, mud flats, and vernal pools.