

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

Office of the County Administrator

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## **Yolo County Housing Element Certified**

(Woodland, CA) – The California Department of Housing and Community Development announced this week that the Yolo County Housing Element has been certified as being in compliance with state housing law. A state-approved Housing Element is a requirement for each of the 535 city and county General Plans in California. With this certification, Yolo County joins the 27 percent of local jurisdictions that are currently in compliance. As a result, Yolo County is now qualified to compete for several state and federal grant programs, for funds that can be used for a wide range of projects including parks, infrastructure, home ownership, home repair and economic development.

"Yolo County is commended for its commitment to consider innovative sewer and water technology that will make it easier to build affordable housing," said Cathy Creswell, Housing and Community Development Deputy Director. In addition, the state complemented the county's policies that support compact mixed-use development, which are important in providing worker housing, while preserving important farmland and habitat.

"During our previous Housing Element, in place from 2000 to 2006, nearly 1,100 new homes were built in the unincorporated area of the county," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Helen Thomson. "This included 233 homes that were affordable to low- and very-low income families."

Certification of the Housing Element is the last action needed to complete the new General Plan, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in November of 2009. This culminates a six-year effort, involving the participation of hundreds of members of the public, to establish a 20-year vision for Yolo County.

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