Appendix F

General Plan Policies and Actions

INTRODUCTION

Concepts of smart growth, and climate change conscious policies and actions, are prominent in the newly adopted Yolo County General Plan. The County's policy commitment to the goals of protecting agricultural land and directing the majority of future growth to existing cities discourages sprawl and encourages density, infill, compact community design, and development along transportation corridors. It also allows for local food production and recreational opportunities. Climate change policies and actions (more than 350 of them in total) appear in every element of the plan. In addition, the Conservation and Open Space Element contains individual sections addressing climate change and energy conservation.

The tables on the following pages identify General Plan policies and actions that each CAP measure is designed to implement.

CAP Measure Number	CAP Measure Title	General Plan Policies and Actions	General Plan Element	General Plan Policy Text
		Policy AG-2.6	Agriculture and Economic Development	Work with appropriate local, State and federal agencies to conserve, study, and improve soils. Promote participation in programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity.
		Policy AG-5.8	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote an ecologically sustainable food system.
A-1	Reduce nitrogen fertilizer application rates	Policy CO-2.19	Conservation and Open Space	Support the use of sustainable farming methods that minimize the use of products such as pesticides, fuels and petroleum-based fertilizers.
		Policy CO-8.5	Conservation and Open Space	Promote GHG emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g. methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); installation of renewable energy technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and development of energy-efficient structures.
		Policy AG-2.14	Agriculture and Economic Development	Recognize the valuable role that agriculture plays in mitigating the effects of climate change, including permanent crops that sequester carbon for long periods of time and the use of farming methods that reduce the use of fossil fuels and pesticides.
A-2	Reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment	Policy AG-5.8	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote an ecologically sustainable food system.
		Policy CO-2.19	Conservation and Open Space	Support the use of sustainable farming methods that minimize the use of products such as pesticides, fuels and petroleum-based fertilizers.
		Policy CO-8.5	Conservation and Open Space	Promote GHG emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g. methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); installation of renewable energy technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands,

				riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and development of energy-efficient structures.
	Reduce energy use in agricultural irrigation	Policy AG-2.12	Agriculture and Economic Development	Encourage farmers to employ agricultural practices that supplement rather than deplete topsoil and conserve or minimize water use.
A-3	pumping	Policy CO-7.2	Conservation and Open Space	Support efforts to improve energy efficiency in existing irrigation systems.
	Reduce confined livestock manure methane emissions	Action AG-A9	Agriculture and Economic Development	Work with the UC Cooperative Extension to develop technical assistance programs that may include: monitoring of changes in natural cycles; discouraging methane producing practices where feasible alternatives exist; encouraging methane recovery; and promoting farming practices that capture and store more carbon in the soil.
A-4		Policy CO-8.5	Conservation and Open Space	Promote GHG emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g. methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); installation of renewable energy technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and development of energy-efficient structures.
		Policy AG-2.14	Agriculture and Economic Development	Recognize the valuable role that agriculture plays in mitigating the effects of climate change, including permanent crops that sequester carbon for long periods of time and the use of farming methods that reduce the use of fossil fuels and pesticides.
		Policy AG-5.8	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote an ecologically sustainable food system.
A-5	Reduce methyl bromide application	Policy CO-2.19	Conservation and Open Space	Support the use of sustainable farming methods that minimize the use of products such as pesticides, fuels and petroleum-based fertilizers.
		Policy CO-8.5	Conservation and Open Space	Promote GHG emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g. methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); installation of renewable energy technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and

				development of energy-efficient structures.
		Policy AG-2.13	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote wildlife-friendly farm practices, such as tailwater ponds, native species/grasslands restoration in field margins, hedgerows, ditch management for riparian habitat, restoration of riparian areas in manner consistent with ongoing water delivery systems, reduction of pesticides, incorporating winter stubble and summer fallow, etc.
		Policy AG-2.14	Agriculture and Economic Development	Recognize the valuable role that agriculture plays in mitigating the effects of climate change, including permanent crops that sequester carbon for long periods of time and the use of farming methods that reduce the use of fossil fuels and pesticides.
	Sequester carbon in agricultural landscapes	Policy AG-5.8	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote an ecologically sustainable food system.
		Action AG-A4	Agriculture and Economic Development	Consider development of a local and/or regional conservation bank to provide credits associated with crops and/or land uses that sequester carbon or greenhouse gas pollutants.
A-6		Action AG-A9	Agriculture and Economic Development	Work with the UC Cooperative Extension to develop technical assistance programs that may include: monitoring of changes in natural cycles; discouraging methane producing practices where feasible alternatives exist; encouraging methane recovery; and promoting farming practices that capture and store more carbon in the soil.
		Policy CO-2.13	Conservation and Open Space	Promote the use of oak woodlands conservation banks to mitigate for losses due to development impacts and to provide carbon sequestration for greenhouse gas emissions under applicable State programs.
		Policy CO-2.19	Conservation and Open Space	Support the use of sustainable farming methods that minimize the use of products such as pesticides, fuels and petroleum-based fertilizers.
		Policy CO-2.23	Conservation and Open Space	Support efforts to coordinate the removal of non-native, invasive vegetation within watersheds and replacement with native plants.

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		Action CO-A29	Conservation and Open Space	Adopt a heritage tree preservation ordinance.
		Action CO-A30	Conservation and Open Space	Develop a program to encourage landowners to restore degraded creek resources by: Removing exotic species and establishing native riparian vegetation.
		Policy CO-8.5	Conservation and Open Space	Promote GHG emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g. methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); installation of renewable energy technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and development of energy-efficient structures.
		Action CO-A120	Conservation and Open Space	Adopt urban forestry practices that encourage forestation as a means of storing carbon dioxide, with the goal of doubling the tree canopy in unincorporated communities by 2030. Use appropriate protocols to assess owner eligibility to sell carbon credits.
	Increase consumption of local agricultural products	Policy AG-5.1	Agriculture and Economic Development	Promote markets for locally and regionally grown and/or prepared food and other products and services.
Supporting		Policy AG-5.4	Agriculture and Economic Development	Encourage neighborhood grocery stores, farmers markets, community gardens and food assistance programs to increase their use of locally grown/prepared goods.
Measure- Agriculture		Policy AG-5.6	Agriculture and Economic Development	Encourage institutions, such as schools, hospitals, colleges, government agencies, businesses and private food outlets such as grocery stores and restaurants, to provide foods produced locally and in the region.
		Policy AG-5.7	Agriculture and Economic Development	Provide opportunities within each unincorporated town for community gardens and farmers markets.
E-1	Pursue a community choice aggregation	Policy PF-10.1	Public Facilities and Services	Pursuant to AB 117 (Statutes of 2002) explore "community choice aggregation" as a means of facilitating the purchase of electrical energy at the local level for community needs.
	choice aggregation program	Action PF-A63	Public Facilities and Services	Conduct a feasibility study regarding the applicability of "community choice aggregation" in Yolo County.

		Policy CO-7.1	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage conservation of natural gas, oil and electricity, and management of peak loads in existing land uses.
		Policy CO-7.4	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, where feasible.
	Reduce energy	Policy CO-7.8	Conservation and Open Space	Increase energy efficiency and alternative energy utilization in existing buildings where feasible.
E-2	consumption in existing residential and non-residential	Policy CO-7.10	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage residents to retrofit existing residences to maximize energy efficiency.
	buildings	Action CO-A111	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, in all new subdivisions.
		Policy CC-4.12.I	Community Character	Use of passive and active solar strategies and efficient heating and cooling technologies.
		Action PF-A66	Public Facilities and Services	Subsidize residential improvements for older homes that result in energy conservation.
		Policy CO-7.4	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, where feasible.
E-3	Reduce energy consumption in new residential and non- residential buildings	Action CO-A111	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, in all new subdivisions.
		Policy CC-4.12.I	Community Character	Use of passive and active solar strategies and efficient heating and cooling technologies.
E-4	Increase on-site renewable energy	Policy CC-4.12.I	Community Character	Use of passive and active solar strategies and efficient heating and cooling technologies.

	generation to reduce demand for grid energy	Policy CC-4.4	Community Character	Encourage all new construction to be zero-net energy by combining building energy efficiency design features with on-site clean distributed generation so as to result in no net purchases from the electricity or gas grid.
		Policy CC-4.5	Community Character	Encourage individual and community-based wind and solar energy systems (micro-grids).
		Action HO-A76	Housing	Promote the use of sustainable energy technologies (e.g. solar and wind) in new and rehabilitated housing when possible.
		Action PF-A68	Public Facilities and Services	Promote, and require where feasible, use of sustainable renewable energy sources to power homes, businesses, agriculture, and infrastructure.
		Policy PF-10.3	Public Facilities and Services	Provide financial and regulatory incentives for the installation of alternative energy and alternative energy conservation measures in all development approvals.
		Policy CC-4.1.B	Community Character	Encouraging projects to use regenerative energy heating and cooling source alternatives to fossil fuels.
		Policy CC-4.5	Community Character	Encourage individual and community-based wind and solar energy systems (micro-grids).
E-5	Promote on-farm renewable energy facilities (walnut hulls- to-energy)	Action PF-A68	Public Facilities and Services	Promote, and require where feasible, use of sustainable renewable energy sources to power homes, businesses, agriculture, and infrastructure.
	3,7	Policy ED-5.1	Economic Development	Assist businesses in reducing their dependence upon non-renewable resources, such as fossil fuels.
		Policy PF-10.3	Public Facilities and Services	Provide financial and regulatory incentives for the installation of alternative energy and alternative energy conservation measures in all development approvals.
E-6	Reduce water consumption in existing buildings and landscapes through	Action CO-A84.1	Conservation and Open Space	Consider adoption of an ordinance requiring existing homes to be retrofitted with water efficient appliances and fixtures prior to sale.

	increasing the efficiency of plumbing fixtures			
E-7	Promote weather- based irrigation systems and water efficient turf management	Action CO-A83	Conservation and Open Space	Adopt a Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance to require greater use of regionally native drought-tolerant vegetation, limitations on the amount of turf in residential development, computer controlled irrigation systems, and other measures as appropriate.
		Policy CO-7.3	Conservation and Open Space	Require all projects to incorporate energy-conserving design, construction, and operation techniques and features into all aspects of the project including buildings, roofs, pavement, and landscaping.
	Promote energy efficient appliances, lighting, and equipment for existing buildings	Policy CO-7.4	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, where feasible.
		Policy CO-7.5	Conservation and Open Space	Require all new parking lots to significantly increase shading to relieve the potential for "heat islands."
Supporting Measure-		Policy CO-7.6	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage the use of building materials and methods that increase energy efficiency a minimum of 15%beyond State Title-24 standards for residential buildings and 20% beyond State Title 24 standards for commercial buildings.
Energy		Policy CO-7.9	Conservation and Open Space	Require that new site and structure designs maximize energy efficiency.
		Policy CO-7.11	Conservation and Open Space	Strongly encourage LEED certification or equivalent for all public, private, and existing buildings and strongly encourage LEED-Neighborhood Design (ND) certification or equivalent for other applicable projects, particularly within the Specific Plan areas.
		Action CO-A111	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, in all new subdivisions.
		Action CO-A113	Conservation and Open Space	Amend the Zoning Code to include regulations for all new parking lots to include tree plantings that will result in 50% shading of parking lot surface areas within 10 years.

	Action CO-A114	Conservation and Open Space	Use Development Agreements and/or adopt an ordinance to require the use of building materials and methods that increase energy efficiency a minimum of 15% beyond State Title-24 standards for residential construction and 20% beyond Title 24 for commercial construction, where feasible.
	Action CO-A119	Conservation and Open Space	Require the implementation of cost-effective and innovative emission reduction technologies in building components and design.
	Policy CC-4.1A	Community Character	Requiring projects to take advantage of shade, prevailing winds, landscaping and sun screens to reduce energy use.
	Policy CC-4.4	Community Character	Encourage all new construction to be zero-net energy by combining building energy efficiency design features with on-site clean distributed generation so as to result in no net purchases from the electricity or gas grid.
	Policy CC-4.6	Community Character	Encourage all new residences to exceed Title 24 energy standards by at least 15%, and encourage all new commercial buildings to exceed Title 24 by at least 20%.
	Policy CC-4.7	Community Character	Require energy efficient design for all buildings.
	Policy CC-4.8	Community Character	Require measures to minimize "heat islands" by requiring light-colored and reflective roofing materials and paint; light colored roads and parking lots; extensive numbers of shade trees in parking lots; and shade trees and/or overhangs on the south and west sides of new or renovated buildings.
	Policy CC-4.12.I	Community Character	Use of passive and active solar strategies and efficient heating and cooling technologies.
	Policy CI-5.10	Circulation	Institute requirements for the establishment and maintenance of extensive tree canopy over community roadways to create shade.
	Action HO-A78	Housing	Develop site design guidelines for energy conserving development.
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				Require all projects to incorporate energy-conserving design and
		Policy CO-7.3	Conservation and Open Space	construction techniques and features.
		Policy CO-7.4	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, where feasible.
		Policy CO-7.5	Conservation and Open Space	Require all new parking lots to significantly increase shading to relieve the potential for "heat islands."
		Policy CO-7.6	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage the use of building materials and methods that increase energy efficiency a minimum of 15% beyond State Title-24 standards for residential buildings and 20% beyond State Title 24 standards for commercial buildings.
	Include passive design	Policy CO-7.9	Conservation and Open Space	Require that new site and structure designs maximize energy efficiency.
Supporting Measure- Energy	requirements in development standards	Policy CO-7.11	Conservation and Open Space	Strongly encourage LEED certification or equivalent for all public, private, and existing buildings and strongly encourage LEED-Neighborhood Design (ND) certification or equivalent for other applicable projects, particularly within the Specific Plan areas.
		Action CO-A111	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, in all new subdivisions.
		Action CO-A113	Conservation and Open Space	Amend the Zoning Code to include regulations for all new parking lots to include tree plantings that will result in 50% shading of parking lot surface areas within 10 years.
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		Policy CC-4.1.A	Community Character	Requiring projects to take advantage of shade, prevailing winds, landscaping and sun screens to reduce energy use.
		Policy CC-4.4	Community Character	Encourage all new construction to be zero-net energy by combining building energy efficiency design features with on-site clean distributed generation so as to result in no net purchases from the electricity or gas grid.
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		Policy CI-5.10	Circulation	Institute requirements for the establishment and maintenance of extensive tree canopy over community roadways to create shade.
		Action HO-A78	Housing	Develop site design guidelines for energy conserving development.
Supporting Measure- Energy	Require energy efficient appliances, equipment, and lighting in new construction	Policy CO-7.4	Conservation and Open Space	Require the use of Energy Star certified appliances, such as water heaters, swimming pool heaters, cooking equipment, refrigerators, furnaces and boiler units, where feasible.
Supporting Measure-	Promote non-potable water systems such as	Action CO-A89	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage roof catchment and the use of rainwater for non-potable uses to reduce the need for groundwater.

Energy	greywater and rainwater collection systems	Policy ED-5.10	Economic Development	Require the re-use of processed water for landscaping and other appropriate activities, where feasible.
		Policy CO-5.15	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage new development and redevelopment to use reclaimed wastewater, where feasible, to augment water supplies and to conserve potable water for domestic purposes.
Supporting Measure- Energy	Establish a standard of no net increase in water demand for new buildings	Policy CO-5.19	Conservation and Open Space	Strive for "water-neutral" development with new water demand offset by efficiency improvements elsewhere in the system. Require all new developments to offset new water demands to the greatest extent feasible.
WR-1		Policy PF-9.5	Public Facilities and Services	Promote technologies, including biomass or biofuels, which allow the use of solid waste as an alternative energy source.
	Reduce landfill methane emissions through capture systems	Policy PF-9.11	Public Facilities and Services	Expand opportunities for energy and/or fuel production resulting from the solid waste disposal process.
		Action PF-A57	Public Facilities and Services	Reduce methane emissions from the landfill by closing the filled units, expanding bioreactor operations and the landfill gas collection system to future landfill units; and continuing the use of the landfill gas for energy or fuel.
		Policy PF-9.8	Public Facilities and Services	Require salvage, reuse or recycling of construction and demolition materials and debris at all construction sites.
Supporting Measure- Waste	Reduce waste emissions from organic materials	Policy ED-5.2	Economic Development	Work with businesses to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of their waste stream and to ensure that waste is disposed of properly.
		Policy ED-5.9	Economic Development	Support reductions in the use of hazardous materials and require businesses to employ proper disposal and recycling mechanisms.
Supporting Measure- Waste	Reduce disposal of non-organic materials through increased recycling	Action PF-A49	Public Facilities and Services	Develop new and/or expand current diversion and recycling programs for residential, commercial, office, educational, agricultural, and recreational uses.

Supporting Measure- Waste	Increase construction and demolition waste diversion standards	Policy CC-4.12.G	Community Character	Require "green" design, construction and operation including: G. Recycling of construction and demolition waste.
	Develop governance	Policy CO-8.3	Conservation and Open Space	Prepare appropriate strategies to adapt to climate change based on sound scientific understanding of the potential impacts.
AD-1	strategies to ensure that Yolo County remains resilient to climate change	Action CO-124	Conservation and Open Space	In conjunction with, or immediately following, preparation of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction/Climate Action Plan(s) for the County, require countywide departmental analysis of how predicted effects of climate change will affect responsibilities and resources of each department. Develop strategies and actions to addresses outcomes.
AD-2	Anticipate climate adaptation within Yolo County agriculture	Policy AG-2.7	Agriculture and Economic Development	Encourage farmers and agricultural businesses to prepare for opportunities and adversities that may result from climate change.
	Anticipate climate change effects on water resources	Policy CO-5.10	Conservation and Open Space	Encourage water purveyors to develop plans for responding to droughts and the effects of global climate change, including contingency plans, the sharing of water resources to improve overall water supply reliability, and the allocation of water supply to priority users.
AD-3		Action CO-A74	Conservation and Open Space	Work with water purveyors in the County to plan for possible changes to water supply and quality resulting from global warming.
		Action HS-A59	Health and Safety	Study the implications of climate change for future emergencies, including the increased risk and severity of fires; increased frequency and intensity of drought; expanded and deeper areas of flooding; and associated changes in disease vectors.
AD-4	Respond to the potential threat of sea level rise	Action HS-A5	Health and Safety	Require a minimum of 100-year flood protection for new construction, and strive to achieve 200-year flood protection for unincorporated communities. Where such levels of protection are not provided, require new development to adhere to the requirements of State law and the County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.
		Action HS-A18	Health and Safety	Coordinate with local, State and Federal agencies to define existing and potential flood problem areas, including the possible impacts associated with global climate change, and to maintain and improve levees and other flood control features.

		Action HS-A26	Health and Safety	Review on an annual basis those portions of the unincorporated area that are subject to flooding, based on mapping prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and/or the Department of Water Resources, and amend the General Plan as appropriate to reflect any changes.
		Action HS-A27	Health and Safety	Revise the Health and Safety Element, concurrently with the regular update to the Housing Element, to include new information regarding floodplain mapping and/or regulation.
		Action HS-A29	Health and Safety	Pursuant to Section 8201 of the State Water Code, develop local plans for flood protection, including analysis of financing options to construct and maintain any needed improvements, to address how 100-year floodplain protection for each community may be provided. Those communities that are economically disadvantaged and at greatest risk shall have priority in developing flood protection plans. The cities shall be consulted in development of the plans, which shall be consistent with the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan.
		Action HS-A59	Health and Safety	Study the implications of climate change for future emergencies, including the increased risk and severity of fires; increased frequency and intensity of drought; expanded and deeper areas of flooding; and associated changes in disease vectors.
AD-5	Protect the public from increased health risks	Policy PF-5.8	Public Facilities and Services	Anticipate and adapt to potential changes in frequency and severity of wildfires resulting from predicted effects of global warming.
		Action PF-A28	Public Facilities and Services	Amend the County Code to incorporate measures such as fire-safe building materials, clear spaces and fuel reduction, fire breaks, and fire suppression systems for all new development located in high fire hazard areas.
		Action HS-A5	Health and Safety	Require a minimum of 100-year flood protection for new construction, and strive to achieve 200-year flood protection for unincorporated communities. Where such levels of protection are not provided, require new development to adhere to the requirements of State law and the County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.
		Action HS-A18	Health and Safety	Coordinate with local, State and Federal agencies to define existing and potential flood problem areas, including the possible impacts associated with global climate change, and to maintain and improve levees and other flood control features.

Action HS-A26	Health and Safety	Review on an annual basis those portions of the unincorporated area that are subject to flooding, based on mapping prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and/or the Department of Water Resources, and amend the General Plan as appropriate to reflect any changes.
Action HS-A27	Health and Safety	Revise the Health and Safety Element, concurrently with the regular update to the Housing Element, to include new information regarding floodplain mapping and/or regulation.
Action HS-A38	Health and Safety	Require new and/or existing development to establish "defensible space" by providing for clearance around structures, using fireresistant ground cover, building with fire-resistant roofing materials, fuel load reduction, and taking other appropriate measures.
Action HS-A40	Health and Safety	Require land divisions within the very high and high risk Fire Hazard Severity Zones to demonstrate the following: guaranteed availability of adequate water; provision of more than one access point for firefighting equipment; permanent maintenance of defensible space around all buildings; and use of fire-resistant materials in construction.
Action HS-A41	Health and Safety	Cluster residential units located in areas of high fire risk with adequate access to maintained emergency evacuation routes to ensure adequate access for firefighting equipment and escape routes for residents in rural areas.
Action HS-A59	Health and Safety	Study the implications of climate change for future emergencies, including the increased risk and severity of fires; increased frequency and intensity of drought; expanded and deeper areas of flooding; and associated changes in disease vectors.

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