

October 2020



EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT

Yolo County Sustainability Plan

PREPARED FOR:



Yolo County
Department of
Community Services

Existing Conditions Report

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Assembly Bill
CAA	federal Clean Air Act
CALGreen	California Green Building Standards Code
CalRecycle	California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCOF	California Certified Organic Farmers
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEC	California Energy Commission
CNRA	California Natural Resources Agency
Conservancy	Yolo Habitat Conservancy
County	Yolo County
CWA	Clean Water Act
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EDD	California Employment Development Department
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GHG	greenhouse gas
HCP/NCCP	Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan
IRWQMP	Integrated Regional Water Quality Management Plan
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LID	Low-Impact Development
LWDA	California Labor and Workforce Development Agency
MPO	metropolitan planning organization
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEOP	Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program
OPR	Governor's Office of Planning and Research
RTP	regional transportation plan
RWQCB	regional water quality control board
SACOG	Sacramento Area Council of Governments
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VCE	Valley Clean Energy
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
YCCL	Yolo County Central Landfill
YCFCWCD	Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

1 INTRODUCTION

In line with the County's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, Yolo County (County) is developing a Sustainability Plan to protect environmental resources and enhance quality of life for the community now and into the future. The Sustainability Plan will include eight key elements: ecological health, water, air quality, buildings, waste, local food, agriculture, and education. The Sustainability Plan will define objectives and establish policies and actions to chart the path towards achieving sustainability for each key element.

As a first step in the sustainability planning process, the County is conducting a review of existing environmental programs, sustainability goals, and plans and policies that are currently in place. The intention of this is to establish a baseline from which future progress can be measured and to integrate established environmental targets and sustainability goals. Additionally, the County seeks to understand federal and state policies and programs as they relate to the eight elements, with a focus on leveraging potential funding sources and external resources. This information is summarized in Chapter 2, "Existing Conditions Assessment." Section 3, "Progress and Next Steps," concludes with a discussion of current progress on sustainability goals, potential resources that could be leveraged to achieve sustainability goals, and next steps. By understanding the existing local, state, and federal sustainability landscape, the County will be able determine where to focus its sustainability efforts and develop targeted policies and initiatives.

Accompanying this report is a Plans and Programs Evaluation Matrix, contained in Appendix A. This Matrix was developed and populated during the background research for this report to identify relevant portions of existing plans and programs. For easy accessibility, this matrix contains links to the sources where plans and programs referenced in this document can be found.

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2 EXISTING CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT

The County has produced a wide range of sustainability-related plans and programs, from those that support green building and energy efficiency to those that preserve agricultural land and promote local food. Additionally, there are state and federal agencies and programs that support sustainability efforts. These plans, programs, regulations, and resources were reviewed and organized according to which of the eight Sustainability Elements they pertain to, as shown in Table 1, below.

Table 1 Existing Conditions Assessment Matrix

Sustainability Element	Existing County and Regional Plans, Policies, and Programs	State and Federal Agencies and Programs
Ecological Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, Organic Agriculture Program, Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan, Cache Creek Resources Management Plan ▶ YCFCWCD ▶ Water Resources Association of Yolo County, IRWQMP ▶ Yolo Habitat Conservancy, HCP/NCCP ▶ Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ EPA: Pesticide programs ▶ U.S Fish and Wildlife Service: Endangered Species Act ▶ California Natural Resources Agency: Biodiversity programs, California EcoRestore, Community Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation, Forest Stewardship Program ▶ California Department of Fish and Wildlife: California Endangered Species Act
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, Design Guidelines, Organic Agriculture Program, Cache Creek Resources Management Plan, Stormwater Management Program ▶ YCFCWCD ▶ Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency ▶ Water Resources Association of Yolo County, IRWQMP ▶ Yolo Habitat Conservancy, HCP/NCCP ▶ Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ EPA: Clean Water Act ▶ State Water Resources Control Board: Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act ▶ California Department of Water Resources: Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: General Plan, CAP, GHG Inventory, Bicycle Transportation Plan, Organic Agriculture Program, Rural Community Investment Program, Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan ▶ Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District ▶ SACOG MTC/SCS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ EPA: Clean Air Act ▶ U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration: Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program ▶ California Air Resources Board: Community Air Protection Program, Ambient Air Quality Standards
Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: General Plan, CAP, GHG Inventory, Yolo Energy Watch, LEED Building Construction, Energy Savings Project; Electrify Yolo ▶ Valley Clean Energy Integrated Resource Plan and Implementation Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ California Energy Commission: Title 24, California Building Standards Code ▶ Governor's Office of Planning and Research: General Plan Guidelines
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, GHG Inventory, Integrated Waste Management Plan, Waste Diversion Ordinance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ CalRecycle: Integrated Waste Management Act ▶ Department of Toxic Substances Control: Cortese List ▶ California Department of Pesticide Regulation: Pest management programs
Local Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: General Plan, CAP, NEOP, Agriculture Economic Development Fund, Agricultural Marketing Initiative 	See "Agriculture"

Sustainability Element	Existing County and Regional Plans, Policies, and Programs	State and Federal Agencies and Programs
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, NEOP, Agriculture Economic Development Fund, Agricultural Marketing Initiative, Rural Community Investment Program ▶ Water Resources Association of Yolo County, IRWQMP ▶ Yolo Habitat Conservancy, HCP/NCCP ▶ Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan ▶ SACOG MTP/SCS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ U.S. Department of Agriculture: USDA Organic, Farm Production and Conservation; Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services; Agricultural Marketing Service; Rural Development ▶ California Department of Food and Agriculture: Healthy Soils Program, Alternative Manure Management Program ▶ California Department of Conservation: Williamson Act, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program ▶ California Certified Organic Farmers ▶ California Strategic Growth Council: Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Yolo County: General Plan, NEOP, Agriculture Economic Development Fund, Agricultural Marketing Initiative, Yolo Energy Watch, Integrated Waste Management Plan, Rural Community Investment Program, Stormwater Management Program ▶ Yolo County Office of Education Project SOLAR ▶ Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Employment Development Department: Workforce Services Branch ▶ Labor and Workforce Development Agency: Agricultural Labor Relations Board, Employment Development Department

Notes: CalRecycle = Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery; CAP = Climate Action Plan; EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; GHG = greenhouse gas; HCP/NCCP = Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan; IRWQMP = Integrated Regional Water Quality Management Plan; LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design; NEOP = Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention; SACOG MTC/SCS = Sacramento Area Council of Governments Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy; SOLAR = Sustaining Our Local Alternative Energy Resources; YCFWCWD = Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Source: Data compiled by Ascent Environmental in 2020

The following subsections are organized by Sustainability Element, and provide the following:

- ▶ A description of the overarching goals of the Sustainability Element, based on literature review and an assessment of existing County efforts. It is understood that potential objectives and indicators for each Sustainability Element will be collaboratively refined with the County, other stakeholder groups, and the broader community during the stakeholder and community outreach activities.
- ▶ A summary of existing County and regional plans, programs, and policies that are related to the objectives of the Sustainability Element.
- ▶ An evaluation of related state and federal programs and assessment of their feasibility in being leveraged by the County in the future.

2.1 ECOLOGICAL HEALTH

Humans derive many benefits from the ecosystem. These benefits and functions of the ecosystem are called “ecosystem services” and are roughly grouped into four broad categories: provisioning services, which includes food, water, timber, and any other materials that can be extracted from nature; regulating services such as pollination, decomposition, water purification, and climate regulation; supporting services, such as nutrient cycling and photosynthesis; and cultural services, such as spiritual and recreational benefits. The Ecological Health Sustainability Element could focus on preservation of ecosystem services and fostering of ecological health. It may include goals for the sustainable management of ecosystems; promotion of biodiversity; and protection of sensitive species, native species, and their habitats. These goals are also closely related to the Water, Air Quality, and Agriculture Sustainability Elements.

2.1.1 Local Plans and Programs

One of the five primary goals of the 2020-2024 Yolo County Strategic Plan is “Sustainable Environment - Efficiently utilize natural resources to provide recreational opportunities and ensure availability for generations to come, protect and improve water quality and quantity, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and maximize the use of renewable energy.” This goal is carried out through implementation of policies in several of the County’s plans and programs, and through strategic partnerships with other local agencies.

Yolo County General Plan Goal CO-1, “Natural Open Space,” and Goal CO-2, “Biological Resources,” aim to protect connected and accessible open space and biological resources through conservation and restoration of key habitat areas. Specific general plan policies that protect ecological health include the following:

- ▶ **Policy PF-2.3.** Design new stormwater facilities to enhance recreational, habitat, and/or aesthetic benefits, as well as to integrate with existing parks and open space features.
- ▶ **Policy PF-5.10.** Reduce vegetation and other wildland fuels on County-owned land within the State Responsibility Area to reduce the intensity of fires, consistent with biological, scenic, and recreational considerations.

The County’s Climate Action Plan (CAP) contains two measures that direct the County to reduce nitrogen fertilizer and methyl bromide application rates (Measure A-1 and A-5), which reduce chemical runoff and unintentional impacts to ecological systems. Similarly, the County’s Organic Agriculture Program promotes methods of agricultural production that minimize air, soil, and water pollution. The principal guidelines for organic production are to use materials and practices that enhance the ecological balance of natural systems and that integrate the parts of the farming system into an ecological whole.

The Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan encourages the protection and growth of oak woodlands by providing financial incentives to landowners and establishing public outreach and educational programs and working with the University of California to encourage oak woodland-related research in the county.

The Cache Creek Resources Management Plan, Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (YCFWCWD), and Water Resources Association of Yolo County’s Integrated Regional Water Quality Management Plan (IRWQMP) all contain policies and actions to enhance aquatic and riparian ecosystems, remove invasive species, and promote aquatic biodiversity.

The Yolo Habitat Conservancy’s (Conservancy) Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP) protects 12 sensitive species and the natural communities and agricultural land on which they depend and provides a streamlined permitting process to address the effects of a range of future anticipated activities on these 12 species. Relevant conservation measures include:

- ▶ **Conservation Measure 1: Establish Reserve System.** The heart of the conservation strategy is the creation of a reserve system that will include at least 33,406 acres (and up to 956 acres of additional restored natural community if loss of all allowable acres occurs) for the benefit of covered species, natural communities, biological diversity, and ecosystem function.
- ▶ **Conservation Measure 2: Restore Natural Communities.** In addition to the protection of natural communities, the Conservancy will restore riparian, wetland, and aquatic land cover types at a ratio of one acre restored for each acre lost.
- ▶ **Conservation Measure 3: Manage and Enhance the Reserve System.** The Conservancy will manage and enhance all terrestrial and aquatic land cover types in the reserve system to benefit natural communities and covered species. The reserve system will be managed to maintain ecological values and prevent their degradation.

Lastly, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (CDFW) Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan includes management objectives to create, maintain, and enhance wetlands, agricultural lands, riparian area, grasslands, uplands, and aquatic ecosystems to sustain habitats for native plants and animals and to provide other desired ecosystem services.

2.1.2 Federal and State Programs

At the federal level, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops regulations and programs to ensure access to clean air, land, and water; and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regulate the taking of species listed in the Endangered Species Act as threatened or endangered.

At the state level, the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) is charged with protecting and managing California's natural resources, including forests and natural lands, rivers and waterways, coast and ocean, fish and wildlife, and energy development. Departments under CNRA are responsible for wildfire prevention, forestry, conservation, water, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, and parks and recreation. CNRA offers grant programs that may assist the County in achieving ecosystem health objectives such as the environmental enhancement and mitigation grant program and the recreational trails and greenways grant program.

CDFW protects plant or animal species that are listed by the state as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act. CDFW offers grant programs to fund projects that sustain, restore, and enhance California's fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. Grants are categorized under drought response, fish and wildlife management, habitat management, and oil spill prevention and response.

2.2 WATER

The Water Sustainability Element is focused on protecting water supply – both in quantity and quality – for the residents of Yolo County in a manner that is efficient, economical, and environmentally sound. Potential goals in this area could include water conservation, improving groundwater recharge, reducing runoff and potential for contamination, and ensuring availability and sustainable management of clean water and sanitation for all.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The Yolo County Strategic Plan identifies the quality and quantity of water as an important topic, with the outcome being a balanced water portfolio. Strategies to achieve this outcome include working with water purveyors to expand existing surface water delivery systems, developing an actionable conjunctive use plan, collaborating with local agencies to reduce groundwater use, and insuring that any future water conveyance plans through the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta will not cause adverse effects on Yolo County.

Yolo County General Plan Goal CO-5, "Water Resources," aims to ensure an abundant, safe, and sustainable water supply to support the needs of existing and future generations. Specific general plan policies related to sustainable water supply and quality include the following:

- ▶ **Policy PF-1.3.** Ensure that nitrates and other pollutants of concern entering the groundwater from septic disposal systems will not significantly impair groundwater quality.
- ▶ **Policy PF-2.1.** Improve stormwater runoff quality and reduce impacts to groundwater and surface water resources.
- ▶ **Policy PF-2.4.** Encourage sustainable practices for stormwater management that provide for groundwater recharge and/or improve the quality of runoff through biological filtering and environmental restoration.
- ▶ **Policy PF-2.5.** Incorporate new ways to pave streets, parking lots, sidewalks, and trails with pervious surfaces that allow for water to penetrate the surface.

The CAP contains several measures and supporting measures related to water. Measure E-6 focuses on reducing water consumption through increased plumbing fixture efficiency. These efforts are also supported by the County's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program for County-owned facilities, which contains a water conservation component. Measure E-7 reduces water consumption by implementing water efficient turf management. Measure AD-2 directs the County to plan for the impacts on climate change on availability and quality of water resources. Supporting measures focus on reducing agricultural water use through alternative irrigation techniques and promoting greywater and rainwater collection systems.

As discussed in Section 2.1, “Ecological Health,” the County’s Organic Agriculture Program promotes methods of agricultural production that minimize air, soil, and water pollution.

The County’s Stormwater Management Program and Design Guidelines reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality and recharge. General Plan Action CO-A94 encourages adoption of Low-Impact Development (LID) design standards such as vegetated swales, landscaped detention basins, permeable paving, and green roofs, with a goal implementation timeframe of 2012/2013.

Several external agencies have also developed plans and programs related to water. The Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency is responsible for implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Indicators that will be monitored as part of SGMA are chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, degraded water quality, land subsidence, depletion of interconnected surface waters, seawater intrusion. YFCWCDC protects and manages water supply for future needs, improves agricultural water system efficiency, monitors groundwater levels, and examines climate change impacts on water reliability. The Water Resources Association of Yolo County’s IRWQMP is intended to ensure an adequate water supply – both in quantity and quality – for the residents of Yolo County, present and future, in a manner that is efficient, economical, and environmentally beneficial.

Lastly, the County’s Cache Creek Resources Management Plan, Yolo Habitat Conservancy’s HCP/NCCP, and CDFW’s Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan protect sensitive riparian areas and restore creeks, which could lead to water quality improvements.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

The EPA is the federal agency responsible for water quality management. The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the primary federal law that governs and authorizes water quality control activities by EPA as well as the states. Various elements of the CWA address water quality and pertain to water quality criteria and standards and discharge of pollutants from municipal and industrial sources to surface waters. Section 303 of the CWA requires states to adopt water quality standards for all surface waters of the United States. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and its nine regional water quality control boards (RWQCBs) have designated authority in California to adopt applicable water quality objectives and protect water quality. Some of these water quality objectives are carried forth in local plans discussed above, such as the IRWQMP and the Yolo County General Plan.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) also manages the state’s water resources and oversees water systems and infrastructure. DWR oversees implementation of the SGMA to better manage groundwater supplies over the long-term. SGMA directs local agencies to work together to create a plan to balance the amount of water pumped out and put back into a basin. Potential resources for the County to consider in implementation of the Water Sustainability Element include DWR’s grant and loan programs that support integrated water management activities and technical assistance provided through their regional offices.

2.3 AIR QUALITY

The Air Quality Sustainability Element is intended to improve air quality in the County, with a focus on low-income communities that tend to bear a disproportionate pollution burden. Potential goals in this area may include reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), encouraging alternative transit options, increasing adoption of electric vehicles, and reducing emissions of air pollutants from major stationary sources.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The Yolo County General Plan contains many goals and policies that aim to protect and improve air quality. Goals CI-4, “Environmental Impacts,” CI-5, “System Integration,” and CI-6, “Accessible Transit,” all focus on reducing transportation-related air quality impacts through provisioning of safe and convenient alternative transit infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, bikeways, and trails) and encouraging an integrated transit system. Goal PF-10, “Sources of Energy,” promotes opportunities for the development of energy alternatives, which tend to be cleaner sources of

energy. Goal CO-6, "Air Quality," aims to improve air quality to reduce the health impacts caused by harmful emissions. Specific general plan policies related to air quality include the following:

- ▶ **Policy CI-1.2.** Preserve and continue to develop a fully-connected grid-based circulation system that distributes traffic evenly and avoids excessive concentrations of traffic in any given area.
- ▶ **Policy CI-1.3.** Reduce the total VMT per household by making efficient use of existing transportation facilities and by providing for more direct routes for pedestrians and bicyclists through the implementation of "smart growth" and sustainable planning principles.
- ▶ **Policy CI-2.2.** Encourage employers (including the County) to provide transit subsidies, bicycle facilities, alternative work schedules, ridesharing, telecommuting and work-at-home programs, employee education and preferential parking for carpools/vanpools.
- ▶ **Policy CI-2.3.** Ensure that, wherever feasible, public transit and alternative mode choices are a viable and attractive alternative to the use of single occupant motor vehicles.
- ▶ **Policy CI-2.4.** The comfort, convenience, and safety of bicyclists and pedestrians are as important as, and should be balanced to the greatest feasible extent with, those same values for drivers.
- ▶ **Policy CI-3.23.** Ensure that walk times to necessary destinations are minimized and that the walking experience is comfortable.
- ▶ **Policy ED-5.4.** Encourage businesses to exceed clean air standards, whenever possible.

As shown in the County's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory, the transportation sector is the largest contributor to the County's GHG emissions. The CAP includes measures to reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment (Measure A-2) and reduce VMT in new development (Measure T-1). Although these measures are intended to reduce GHG emissions, a co-benefit is a reduction in air pollutant emissions as well.

Other county programs that target air pollutant emissions in the transportation sector include the Bicycle Transportation Plan, and the Rural Community Investment Program. The Bicycle Transportation Plan contains policies and actions to improve bicycle infrastructure, increase use alternative transit, and decrease VMT, which also results in lowered air pollutant emissions. The Rural Community Investment Program identifies transportation infrastructure projects such as speed bumps, which could help manage roadway conditions and improve air quality.

As discussed in Section 2.1, "Ecological Health," the County's Organic Agriculture Program promotes methods of agricultural production that minimize air, soil, and water pollution.

The Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan protects oak woodland, which has an added co-benefit of improving air quality.

Lastly, two major regional agencies are responsible for meeting state and federal air quality standards. The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District enforces federal and state air quality standards for various activities including emissions from stationary sources, construction, and transportation. Sacramento Area Council of Governments' (SACOG) MTP/SCS links land use, air quality, and transportation needs. A major aspect of the plan is to detail how the region, which includes Yolo County, will meet air quality standards.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

The EPA has been charged with implementing national air quality programs. EPA's air quality mandates are drawn primarily from the federal Clean Air Act (CAA). The CAA required EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and welfare. The EPA has also developed two guides for air quality conservation practices and agriculture:

- ▶ **Agricultural Air Quality Conservation Measures Reference Guide for Cropping Systems and General Land Management.** This guide provides a compilation of conservation measures for air pollutant emission reductions and/or reduction of air quality impacts from agricultural land management and cropping operations.

- ▶ **Agricultural Air Quality Conservation Measures Reference Guide for Poultry and Livestock Production Systems:**
This guide describes different conservation measures for poultry and livestock operations that have been successfully demonstrated to reduce emissions of various air pollutants on farms.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is the federal agency that concerned with transportation. Under the FAST (Fixing America’s Surface Transportation [Public Law 114-94]) Act and MAP-21 (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act [Public Law 112-141]), the DOT requires metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and councils of governments to prepare long-range regional transportation plans (RTPs) and update them every four years if they are in areas designated as nonattainment or maintenance for the NAAQS. RTPs consider mobility in areas of existing and future urbanization over a period of twenty or more years. MPOs are established in accordance with Federal law which requires any urbanized area with a population of at least 50,000 to create a planning entity to plan transportation projects. SACOG is one of 18 MPOs operating in California.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is the agency responsible for coordination and oversight of state and local air pollution control programs in California and for implementing the California Clean Air Act (CCAA). The CCAA required CARB to establish the California Ambient Air Quality Standards which are generally more stringent than the NAAQS. In response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617 CARB established the Community Air Protection Program to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution. CARB also offers other incentives and grants, such as the Carl Moyer Program, for reducing air pollution from vehicles and equipment.

2.4 BUILDINGS

Buildings and structures are a key area for consideration in sustainability planning. Residential, commercial, and industrial buildings consume electricity, natural gas and propane and which are known to emit pollutants. Construction of buildings can cause environmental impacts and require the use of raw materials. Furthermore, buildings may deteriorate in the long-term and require demolition or repair. Thus, it is important to consider a building’s lifecycle. Lastly, buildings are also subject to natural hazards, including hazards that are exacerbated by climate such as wildfire. The Buildings Sustainability Element could focus on promoting green building, efficient technologies to improve energy and water conservation, and design of resilient buildings and infrastructure.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

Yolo County General Plan Goals CC-4, “Project Design,” CO-7, “Energy Conservation,” and HO-6, “Sustainable Housing,” promote environmentally sustainable building design that promotes energy efficiency and conservation and incorporates “smart growth” planning principles and green building standards. The County also has a LEED certification program, which is one of the most widely used green building frameworks and rating systems. Specific general plan policies related to green building include the following:

- ▶ **Policy HO-6.1.** Encourage site and building design that conserves natural resources.
- ▶ **Policy HO-6.4.** Adopt development and construction standards that contribute to resource conservation through the use of sustainable materials and incorporation of cost-effective energy conservation features (e.g. water, electricity, gas, etc.).

The CAP includes the following measures related to green building:

- ▶ **Measure E-2.** Reduce energy consumption in existing residential and non-residential units.
- ▶ **Measure E-3.** Reduce energy consumption in new residential and non-residential units.
- ▶ **Measure E-4.** Increase on-site renewable energy generation to reduce demand for grid energy.
- ▶ **Measure E-5.** Promote on-farm renewable energy facilities.
- ▶ **Measure E-6.** Reduce water consumption in existing buildings through increased plumbing fixture efficiency.

Supporting measures in the CAP focus on encouraging the purchase of energy efficient appliances and LID to increase stormwater retention and recharge.

The County also sponsors programs to reduce energy consumption and increase adoption of electric vehicles (EV): Energy Savings Project, Yolo Energy Watch, and the Electrify Yolo project. The Energy Savings Project supports retrofitting of commercial buildings as recommended by energy audits. The Yolo Energy Watch is a partnership between the County and the Pacific Gas & Electric Company to promote energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions in government facilities, nonprofits, small businesses, factories, and residences. Electrify Yolo is a project funded under SACOG's Green Region Program to increase electric vehicle charging stations and multi-modal transportation hubs throughout the County. Yolo County, the City of Davis, and the City of Woodland joined forces with Valley Clean Energy (VCE) to submit a joint application for grant funds.

The County is signed on as a member agency with VCE, a community choice aggregation. VCE provides low carbon electricity to the Cities of Davis, Winters, Woodland, and unincorporated Yolo County.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

The California Building Standards Code is the building code for California, and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. The energy consumption of new residential and nonresidential buildings in California is regulated by the state's Title 24, Part 6, Building Energy Efficiency Standards (California Energy Code). The California Energy Code was established by California Energy Commission (CEC) in 1978 in response to a legislative mandate to create uniform building codes to reduce California's energy consumption and provide energy efficiency standards for residential and non-residential buildings. CEC updates the California Energy Code every 3 years with more stringent design requirements for reduced energy consumption, which results in the generation of fewer GHG emissions. The California Energy Code is enforced through the local plan check and building permit process. Local government agencies may adopt and enforce additional energy standards for new buildings as reasonably necessary because of local climatologic, geologic, or topographic conditions, provided that these standards exceed those provided in the California Energy Code.

The California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) was developed in 2007 to meet the mandates of AB 32. CALGreen applies to nonresidential structures that include, but are not limited to, new buildings or portions of new buildings, additions and alterations, and all occupancies where no other state agency has the authority to adopt green building standards applicable to those occupancies. It contains energy efficiency, water efficiency and conservation, and material conservation and resource efficiency standards and is divided into mandatory and voluntary sections.

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) issues general plan guidance for Land Use and Safety elements. These elements contain policies that determine where and what types of structures and land uses are permitted, and how they intersect with natural hazards. Per SB 379, Safety Elements may also be required to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies. OPR provides resources and technical assistance that can assist the County in achieving goals related to resilient buildings and infrastructure.

2.5 WASTE

The Waste Sustainability Element could aim to reduce waste generation, increase waste diversion rates, and increase the capacity of composting services. It may also examine the role of consumer culture in waste production and seeks to educate County residents and provide avenues for reusing, repairing, and upcycling objects to remove them from the waste stream.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The Strategic Plan identifies increase organic waste disposal services as an important strategy under the “Sustainable Environment” goal. The strategy also directs to County to work with the Yolo County Central Landfill (YCCL) to explore the potential for implementation of conversion technology by June 30, 2024.

The Yolo County General Plan contains the following policies related to waste:

- ▶ **Policy PF-9.1.** Meet or exceed State waste diversion requirements.
- ▶ **Policy PF-9.5.** Promote technologies, including biomass or biofuels, which allow the use of solid waste as an alternative energy source.
- ▶ **Policy PF-9.8.** Require salvage, reuse or recycling of construction and demolition materials and debris at all construction sites.
- ▶ **Policy PF-9.9.** Encourage use of salvaged and recycled materials in construction.
- ▶ **Policy PF-9.11.** Expand opportunities for energy and/or fuel production resulting from the solid waste disposal process.

The County’s GHG Inventory identifies the quantity of GHG emissions from the waste sector. The CAP includes supporting measures focused on reducing methane emissions from organic waste, increasing waste diversion rates, and increasing construction and demolition waste diversion standards.

The County’s Integrated Waste Management Plan identifies solid waste disposal goals and objectives as well as strategies for the county to maintain long-term disposal capacity through optimizing the use of economically feasible source reduction, recycling, and composting to conserve existing landfill capacity at the YCCL.

Lastly, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors adopted a Construction and Demolition (C&D) Ordinance in June 2008 that requires construction, demolition, and renovation projects to dispose of their job site waste in an environmental manner. This ordinance has since been superseded by CALGreen, California’s mandatory green building standards code. As of January 1, 2017, the CALGreen building code waste diversion requirement states that at least 65 percent of construction materials generated during new construction or demolition projects shall be diverted from the landfill.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) administers and provides oversight for all of California’s state-managed non-hazardous waste handling and recycling programs. Through landmark initiatives like the Integrated Waste Management Act and Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, CalRecycle works towards (1) source reduction, (2) increasing rates of recycling and composting, and (3) environmentally safe transformation and land disposal. The California Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) requires state, county, and local governments to substantially decrease the volume of waste disposed at landfills by the year 2000 and beyond. The Act allows the CalRecycle to use per capita disposal as an indicator in evaluating compliance with the requirements of AB 939. Jurisdictions track and report their per capita disposal rates to CalRecycle. CalRecycle offers several grants and loans that can be applied for through its Grants Management Systems, including a Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program, Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program, Organics Grant Program, and Recycling Market Development Zone Loan Program.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has primary regulatory responsibility over hazardous materials and waste in California. DTSC can delegate enforcement responsibilities to local jurisdictions. DTSC maintains a Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List for the state, commonly called the Cortese List. The California Department of Pesticide Regulation regulates the sale, use, and disposal of pesticides in California.

2.6 LOCAL FOOD

The Local Food Sustainability Element could focus on ways to promote locally grown products and connect farmers to County residents through school programs, tourism, and farm-to-table restaurants. Potential goals could include promoting the visibility of locally grown products, highlighting benefits of eating local, and providing education and awareness related to nutrition and health.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

Yolo County General Plan Goals AG-3, "Healthy Farm Economy," AG-5, "Local Preference," and ED-4, "Expansion of Tourism," aim to expand the County's agricultural base through promoting a healthy and competitive farm economy, supporting local foods and products, and providing a variety of tourism and recreational opportunities.

In line with these general plan goals, the County administers the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program (NEOP), Agricultural Economic Development Fund, and Agricultural Marketing Initiative. NEOP partners with Farm Fresh to You and Capay Organic to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to Yolo County's elementary and Head Start school lunch programs. The Agriculture Economic Development Fund assists farmers in bringing their products to the public through infrastructure and business innovations. Strategies and services include financing and permitting assistance, developing a market for Yolo County agricultural products, and establishing Yolo County as an authentic food and wine destination. The Agricultural Marketing Initiative builds brand recognition for local agricultural products.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

There are no federal or state agencies that directly support local food goals. However, federal and state agencies and policies that pertain to agriculture also serve to bolster the local food economy. See Section 2.7, "Agriculture," for a discussion of these agencies and policies.

2.7 AGRICULTURE

The preservation of Yolo County's rich agricultural history and sector are front and center in the County's plans, policies, and programs. The Agriculture Sustainability Element could focus on preserving agricultural lands, promoting sustainable and organic agriculture, and reducing the use of pesticides. Potential goals in this element could also pertain to maintaining the viability of the County's agricultural economy.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

One of the five primary goals of the Strategic Plan is "Flourishing Agriculture - Facilitate a vibrant and resilient agricultural industry that concurrently preserves sufficient farmland to maintain local, state, and national food security in perpetuity." Key outcomes are the increased preservation of agricultural land, and increased stability and support for agricultural workers and employers. Strategies to achieve the outcomes include creating an agricultural mitigation bank, conducting outreach to landowners, developing agricultural sector pathways, and hosting workforce job fairs.

Yolo County General Plan Goals LU-2, "Agricultural Preservation," AG-1, "Preservation of Agriculture," and AG-2, "Natural Resources for Agriculture," focus on preservation of farmland, ensuring a strong local agricultural economy, and protection of natural resources needed to ensure that agriculture remains an essential part of Yolo County's future. Specific general plan policies related to agriculture include the following:

- ▶ **Policy CI-7.3.** Facilitate agricultural "farm-to-market" transport. Improve and maintain the roadways listed in Table CI-1 to provide a network of agricultural truck transportation corridors and to facilitate farm-to-market connectivity. By attracting truck trips to targeted corridors, other roadways throughout the County are more available for movement of agricultural vehicles (including over-sized and slower-moving equipment critical to harvest) and farm workers thus supporting more efficient and safe agricultural operations countywide.

- ▶ **Policy PF-1.4.** Encourage the use of small package wastewater systems to facilitate clustering of homes and preservation of agricultural land.

The CAP includes Measure AD-1, which directs the County to prepare for the effects of climate change on agriculture.

As discussed in Section 2.6, "Local Food," NEOP, the Agricultural Economic Development Fund, and the Agricultural Marketing Initiative support local agriculture and assist farmers in bringing their products to the public. These types of programs support the County's agricultural sector in remaining viable and profitable. The County's Rural Community Investment Program focuses on improving the agricultural workforce by providing labor training.

A major focus of the Water Resources Association of Yolo County's IRWQMP is to ensure high quality surface water and groundwater resources throughout the County on a sustainable basis to serve the needs of all beneficial uses, including agricultural uses.

The HCP/NCCP and Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan are mainly focused on ecological health but do include policies and actions that target agricultural lands. For example, the HCP/NCCP applies to some agricultural lands and covers an array of public and private activities, including activities that are essential to the ongoing viability of Yolo County's agricultural economies

Lastly, SACOG's MTP/SCS acknowledges the importance of development strategies and the transportation network in supporting a thriving farm economy. The agricultural transportation network not only helps to feed the region's residents and communities throughout California but also connects the region's vast farming lands to ports in West Sacramento and Stockton where high value products are shipped globally.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues based on public policy, the best available science, and effective management. USDA is one of the many agencies that provides certification for organic products. Another major organic certification agency in California is the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF). CCOF advocates on behalf of our members for organic policies, support the growth of organic through education and grants, and provide organic certification that is personal and accessible.

At the state level, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and California Department of Conservation (DOC) implement a variety of regulations and programs to support agriculture. CDFA's mission is to protect and promote agriculture through a wide array of programs including food safety, protection against invasive species and pests, and promotion of California agricultural products. CDFA's grant program includes grants for alternative manure management, California State Trade Expansion Program, healthy soils program, dairy digester research and development, Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, and more. The DOC's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program classifies and maps Important Farmland in California. The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, or the Williamson Act, preserves agricultural and open space lands through property tax incentives and voluntary restrictive use contracts. Private landowners voluntarily restrict their land to agricultural and compatible open space uses under minimum 10-year rolling term contracts. In return, restricted parcels are assessed for property tax purposes at a rate consistent with their actual use rather than potential market value.

Additionally, the California Strategic Growth Council's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program utilized Cap-and-Trade proceeds to protect at-risk agricultural lands from sprawl development in order to promote growth within existing jurisdictions, ensure open space remains available, and support a healthy agricultural economy. Counties are eligible to apply for planning or agricultural conservation easement grants.

- ▶ **Planning grants** support the development of local and regional land use policies and economic development strategies to protect critical agricultural land. The program funds strategies related to establishing and implementing goals, policies, and objectives to support the economic viability of the local agricultural sector. It also supports planning processes to identify and designate priority lands for conservation and development.

- ▶ **Agricultural Conservation Easement grants** are used to permanently protect croplands and rangelands that are at-risk of conversion to sprawl development. Agricultural conservation easements are deed restrictions that landowners voluntarily place on their property to preserve the land's agricultural uses.

2.8 EDUCATION

Achieving sustainable outcomes requires supportive policies and systems, adequate infrastructure, and community buy-in. The Education Sustainability Element intersects with each of the other seven elements in that success in those areas in part rely on behavior change and adoption by County residents. For example, the County may improve bicycle infrastructure and connectivity and transit lines, but if residents do not choose to switch to alternate methods of transportation, little progress is made. Thus, this element could focus on outreach, awareness, and education in sustainability topics. Potential goals may include increasing the availability of lifelong learning and training opportunities for residents, supporting public libraries, supporting workforce development and green jobs, educating the public on sustainability issues and matters, and engaging County employees.

LOCAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS

Yolo County General Plan Goal PF-7, "Library Services," focuses on providing library services to meet the changing informational and social needs of each community, and Goal AG-4, "Education an Awareness," supports education to ensure continued public recognition of the important role that agriculture plays in Yolo County. Several County programs align with Goal AG-4 that connect the County's agricultural resources and local food to residents. NEOP provides school lunch and nutrition education. The Agriculture Economic Development Fund educates the public about the role of agriculture in sustaining a healthy environment. The Agricultural Marketing Initiative facilitated a Yolo Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program within the University of California Cooperative Extension. It also created a network of food, agricultural, and educational partnerships. Lastly, the County's Rural Community Investment Program provides agricultural labor training.

County programs also raise awareness about stormwater quality, energy efficiency, and waste. The Stormwater Management Program provides educational material to the public and businesses about stormwater quality. The Yolo Energy Watch provides energy efficiency resources and education to the public. The IWMP supports countywide programs that educate residents on source reduction, recycling, and composting.

Project SOLAR is a partnership between the County, the Yolo County Office of Education, and solar system supplier SunPower. In addition to installing a 6.8-megawatt photovoltaic system, the project funds integration of energy and sustainability topics into school curriculum, project-based learning, alternative energy courses, and summer Energy Academies that prepare students for college and careers in alternative energy.

Lastly, the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan supports wildlife observation, nature study, interpretation, and environmental education in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. This provides County residents and visitors opportunities to learn and recreate.

FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS

Most education and awareness programs are funded and driven by local organizations. The two agencies that may be able to provide state-level support are the California Employment Development Department (EDD) and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA). In addition to administering benefit programs, the EDD also provides critical employment service programs to Californians and collects labor market information and employment data. Among other initiatives, the LWDA supports workers and businesses by improving access to employment and training programs.

3 PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS

The County has implemented a significant breadth of plans, policies, and programs that also make progress towards accomplishing objectives in each Sustainability Element. As a next step, Sustainability Element objectives and indicators will be collaboratively refined with the County, other stakeholder groups, and the broader community during the stakeholder and community outreach activities. Once a cohesive set of objectives are defined, the County can more accurately assess progress made through existing initiatives. Some sustainability objectives may be wholly fulfilled by existing programs in place. Others may require the creation of new policies or strategies.

The review of potential state and federal resources shows that several types of resources that could support implementation of new sustainability policies and strategies are available. Technical assistance and guidance are widely available on many sustainability-related topics. Many agencies are also offering grants. Additionally, there are two sustainability workforce development fellowships that could provide the County with additional staff partially funded through AmeriCorps: the CivicSpark program and the Climate Corps Fellowship. These resources will be carefully evaluated once new sustainability policies or strategies are determined.

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Appendix A

Plans and Programs Evaluation Matrix

Sustainability Element	Alignment with Existing Plans and Policies	Yolo County General Plan, Goals and Policies	CAP	Local, State, and Federal Resources
<p>Ecological Health Sustainably manage ecosystems, promote biodiversity, protect sensitive species and habitats, protect native species</p>	<p>YCOA: principal guidelines for organic production are to use materials and practices that enhance the ecological balance of natural systems and that integrate the parts of the farming system into an ecological whole. The methods used in organic farming minimize pollution of the air, soil and water. Strategic Plan: One of the 5 primary goals is "Sustainable Environment" YCFWCDC: 2008 Annual Report describes goals to improve habitat through riparian restoration projects and remove invasive species to support native vegetation. IRWQMP: Enhance, improve, and maintain aquatic and riparian ecosystems and aquatic biodiversity throughout the county. HCP/NCCP: conservation of 12 sensitive species and the natural communities and agricultural land on which they depend, as well as a streamlined permitting process to address the effects of a range of future anticipated activities on these 12 species. Relevant conservation measures include Establish Reserve System, Restore Natural Communities, Manage and Enhance the Reserve System Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan encourages the protection and growth of oak woodlands by providing financial incentives to landowners, establishing public outreach and educational programs, and working with the UC System to encourage oak woodland-related research. Cache Creek Resources Management Plan: creek restoration plan that eliminated in-channel commercial mining and established a policy and regulatory framework for seven important elements: agriculture, aggregate resources, riparian and wildlife resources, water resources, floodway and channel stability, open space and recreation, and the cultural landscape Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan: Management objectives are to create, maintain, and enhance wetlands, agricultural lands, riparian area, grasslands, uplands, and aquatic ecosystems to sustain habitats for native plants and animals and to provide other desired ecosystem services.</p>	<p>Policy PF-2.3 Design new stormwater facilities to enhance recreational, habitat, and/or aesthetic benefits, as well as to integrate with existing parks and open space features. Policy PF-5.10 Reduce vegetation and other wildland fuels on County-owned land within the State Responsibility Area to reduce the intensity of fires, consistent with biological, scenic, and recreational considerations. GOAL CO-1 Natural Open Space. Provide a diverse, connected and accessible network of open space, to enhance natural resources and their appropriate use. GOAL CO-2 Biological Resources. Protect and enhance biological resources through the conservation, maintenance, and restoration of key habitat areas and corresponding connections that represent the diverse geography, topography, biological communities, and ecological integrity of the landscape.</p>	<p>MEASURE A-1: Reduce nitrogen fertilizer application rates MEASURE A-5: Reduce methyl bromide application</p>	<p>EPA, CNRA, CDFW</p>
<p>Water Ensure availability and sustainable management of clean water and sanitation for all, conserve water, protect water quality</p>	<p>YCOA: see ecological health Strategic Plan: "Quality and Quantity of Water Outcome: Ensure a balanced water portfolio" LEED and LEED ND encouraged for all public, private and existing buildings and applicable projects YCFWCDC: protects and manages water supply for future needs, improves ag water system efficiency, monitor groundwater levels, and examines climate change impacts on water reliability. Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency: Manages SGMA implementation, plan anticipated by 2022. Memo detailing sustainable management criteria lists the following indicators: chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater storage, degraded water quality, land subsidence, depletion of interconnected surface waters, seawater intrusion. IRWQMP: Ensure an adequate water supply – both in quantity and quality – for the residents of Yolo County, present and future, in a manner that is efficient, economical, and environmentally beneficial Design Guidelines: GP Action CO-A94 specifies adoption of LID standards such as vegetated swales, landscaped detention basins, permeable paving, and green roofs. Section 11 of the Yolo County Improvement Standards provides guidelines for stormwater quality, erosion, and sediment control (no reference to LID). HCP/NCCP: protects sensitive habitat including riparian habitat. Could lead to water quality improvements. Cache Creek Resources Management Plan: creek restoration plan Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan: protecting riparian areas and water quality Stormwater Management Program: protecting water quality and reducing the discharge of pollutants.</p>	<p>Policy PF-1.3 Ensure that nitrates and other pollutants of concern entering the groundwater from septic disposal systems will not significantly impair groundwater quality. Policy PF-2.1 Improve stormwater runoff quality and reduce impacts to groundwater and surface water resources. Policy PF-2.4 Encourage sustainable practices for stormwater management that provide for groundwater recharge and/or improve the quality of runoff through biological filtering and environmental restoration. Policy PF-2.5 Incorporate new ways to pave streets, parking lots, sidewalks, and trails with pervious surfaces that allow for water to penetrate the surface. GOAL CO-5 Water Resources. Ensure an abundant, safe, and sustainable water supply to support the needs of existing and future generations.</p>	<p>Supporting Measure: Reduce Agricultural Water Use Through Alternative Irrigation Techniques MEASURE E-6: Reduce water consumption in existing buildings through increased plumbing fixture efficiency MEASURE E-7: Promote weather-based irrigation systems and water efficient turf management Supporting Measure: Promote Greywater and Rainwater Collection and Non-Potable Water Systems MEASURE AD-2: Prepare for climate change effects on water resources</p>	<p>SWRCB, DWR (flood risk and water supply), SGMA, stakeholder notification for flood risk</p>

Sustainability Element	Alignment with Existing Plans and Policies	Yolo County General Plan, Goals and Policies	CAP	Local, State, and Federal Resources
<p>Air Quality</p> <p>Improve air quality, protect low income communities from bearing disproportionate pollution burden, promote alternative transit and reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips</p>	<p>Bicycle Transportation Plan improves bicycle infrastructure to increase use alternative transit and decrease VMT, leading to improved AQ.</p> <p>GHG Inventory focuses on reducing GHG emissions which also results in AQ co-benefits</p> <p>YCOA: see ecological health</p> <p>Rural Community Investment Program identifies transportation infrastructure projects such as speed bumps, which could help manage roadway conditions and improve air quality</p> <p>YSAQMD: Local enforcement of federal and state air quality standards for various activities including emissions from stationary sources, construction, and transportation</p> <p>Yolo County Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan: AQ co-benefit</p> <p>SACOG MTP/SCS: major aspect of the plan is to meet air quality standards.</p>	<p>Policy CI-1.2 Preserve and continue to develop a fully-connected grid-based circulation system that distributes traffic evenly and avoids excessive concentrations of traffic in any given area.</p> <p>Policy CI-1.3 Reduce the total vehicle miles of travel (VMT) per household by making efficient use of existing transportation facilities and by providing for more direct routes for pedestrians and bicyclists through the implementation of "smart growth" and sustainable planning principles.</p> <p>Policy CI-2.2 Encourage employers (including the County) to provide transit subsidies, bicycle facilities, alternative work schedules, ridesharing, telecommuting and work-at-home programs, employee education and preferential parking for carpools/vanpools.</p> <p>Policy CI-2.3 Ensure that, wherever feasible, public transit and alternative mode choices are a viable and attractive alternative to the use of single occupant motor vehicles.</p> <p>Policy CI-2.4 The comfort, convenience, and safety of bicyclists and pedestrians are as important as, and should be balanced to the greatest feasible extent with, those same values for drivers.</p> <p>Policy CI-3.23 Ensure that walk times to necessary destinations are minimized and that the walking experience is comfortable.</p> <p>GOAL CI-4 Environmental Impacts. Minimize environmental impacts caused by transportation (includes mitigating construction impacts, supporting regional AQ and GHG objectives, reducing dependence on fossil fuels, EVs, and reducing VMT)</p> <p>GOAL CI-5 System Integration. Promote and ensure the provision of safe, convenient and attractive sidewalks, bikeways and trails where appropriate for local, regional and recreational travel.</p> <p>GOAL CI-6 Accessible Transit. Encourage an integrated transit system that connects population centers to destinations and other transit facilities within and external to Yolo County.</p> <p>GOAL PF-10 Sources of Energy. Provide opportunities for the development of energy alternatives.</p> <p>Policy ED-5.4 Encourage businesses to exceed clean air standards, whenever possible.</p> <p>GOAL CO-6 Air Quality. Improve air quality to reduce the health impacts caused by harmful emissions.</p>	<p>MEASURE A-2: Reduce fossil fuel consumption in field equipment</p> <p>MEASURE T-1: Reduce VMT in new development</p>	<p>EPA, CARB, YSAQMD, Department of Transportation</p>
<p>Buildings</p> <p>Promote green building, energy efficiency, and water conservation; design resilient buildings and infrastructure</p>	<p>GHG Inventory highlights GHG emissions from building energy sector</p> <p>Yolo Energy Watch: PG&E partnership to promote energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions. Primary targets include government facilities, non profits, small businesses, factories, and residences.</p> <p>LEED certification and LEED ND encouraged for all public, private and existing buildings and applicable projects</p> <p>VCE: low carbon electricity</p> <p>Energy Savings Project: Supports retrofitting of commercial buildings as recommended by energy audits</p> <p>Electrify Yolo: Electrify Yolo is a project funded under SACOG's Green Region Program to increase electric vehicle charging stations and multi-modal transportation hubs throughout the County. Yolo County, the City of Davis, and the City of Woodland joined forces with Valley Clean Energy (VCE) to submit a joint application for grant funds. The project includes professional services to site, design, permit, construct, and install between 15 to 40 Level 2 Chargers and 2 to 5 DC Fast Chargers in downtown areas within ½ to 5 miles of major freeway corridors in Yolo County, Davis, and Woodland locations. The Electrify Yolo Project will also fund purchase of 2 to 10 Mobile Chargers of the type similar to "EV ARC" solar standalone charging stations.</p>	<p>GOAL CC-4 Project Design. Require project design that incorporates "smart growth" planning principles and "green" building standards that reflect the County's commitment to sustainable development.</p> <p>GOAL CO-7 Energy Conservation. Promote energy efficiency and conservation.</p> <p>GOAL HO-6 Sustainable Housing. Promote environmentally sustainable housing to reduce the potential impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Policy HO-6.1 Encourage site and building design that conserves natural resources</p> <p>Policy HO-6.4 Adopt development and construction standards that contribute to resource conservation through the use of sustainable materials and incorporation of cost-effective energy conservation features (e.g. water, electricity, gas, etc.)</p>	<p>MEASURE E-2: Reduce energy consumption in existing residential and non-residential units</p> <p>MEASURE E-3: Reduce energy consumption in new residential and non-residential units</p> <p>MEASURE E-4: Increase on-site renewable energy generation to reduce demand for grid energy</p> <p>MEASURE E-5: Promote on-farm renewable energy facilities</p> <p>MEASURE E-6: Reduce water consumption in existing buildings through increased plumbing fixture efficiency</p> <p>Supporting Measure: Energy Efficient Appliances</p> <p>Supporting Measure: Increase Natural Stormwater Retention through Low Impact Development</p>	<p>State Title 24 Building Standards</p> <p>CalGREEN Standards developed by state agencies are also include indoor AQ, water conservation, landscaping...etc.</p>
<p>Waste</p> <p>Reduce waste generation, increase waste diversion rates, increase the capacity of composting services</p>	<p>GHG Inventory highlights GHG emissions from waste sector</p> <p>IWMP: identifies solid waste disposal goals and objectives as well as strategies for the county to maintain long-term disposal capacity through optimizing the use of economically feasible source reduction, recycling, and composting to conserve existing landfill capacity at the YCCL.</p> <p>Waste Diversion Ordinance: CALGreen building code waste diversion requirement states that at least 65% of construction materials generated during new construction or demolition projects shall be diverted from the landfill.</p> <p>Strategic Plan specifies that the sustainability plan should "5. Increase organic waste disposal services and explore conversion technology partnership at the Yolo County Central Landfill by June 30, 2024."</p>	<p>Policy PF-9.1 Meet or exceed State waste diversion requirements.</p> <p>Policy PF-9.5 Promote technologies, including biomass or biofuels, which allow the use of solid waste as an alternative energy source.</p> <p>Policy PF-9.8 Require salvage, reuse or recycling of construction and demolition materials and debris at all construction sites.</p> <p>Policy PF-9.9 Encourage use of salvaged and recycled materials in construction.</p> <p>Policy PF-9.11 Expand opportunities for energy and/or fuel production resulting from the solid waste disposal process.</p>	<p>Supporting Measure: Reduce Waste Emissions from Organic Materials</p> <p>Supporting Measure: Reduce Disposal of Non-Organic Materials Through Increased Recycling</p> <p>Supporting Measure: Increase Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion Standards</p>	<p>CalRecycle, DTSC, CDPD</p>

Sustainability Element	Alignment with Existing Plans and Policies	Yolo County General Plan, Goals and Policies	CAP	Local, State, and Federal Resources
<p>Local Food Promote locally grown products and farm to table, foster sustainable and just food systems</p>	<p>NEOP partners with Farm Fresh To You and Capay Organic to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to Yolo County's elementary and Head Start school lunch programs. Agriculture Economic Development Fund: assist farmers in bringing their products to the public through infrastructure and business innovations, including financing and permitting assistance, promote the use of and market for Yolo County agricultural products, and increase the awareness of Yolo County as an authentic food and wine destination. Educate the public about the role of agriculture in sustaining a healthy environment. Agricultural Marketing Initiative: builds brand recognition for local agricultural products</p>	<p>GOAL AG-3 Healthy Farm Economy. Promote a healthy and competitive farm economy to expand the County's agricultural base. GOAL AG-5 Local Preference. Promote the use of foods and products from Yolo County to strengthen the local economy, improve health and connect residents with the agricultural community. GOAL ED-4 Expansion of Tourism. Provide a variety of tourism and recreational opportunities to expand the local economy in a manner consistent with Yolo County's agricultural and open space emphasis.</p>	<p>Supporting Measure: Increase Consumption and Production of Local Agricultural Products</p>	<p>Land conservation regs, Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation, national non-profits</p>
<p>Agriculture Promote sustainable and organic agriculture, ensure food security and proper nutrition, reduce pesticide use, preserve agricultural lands</p>	<p>NEOP partners with local agricultural orgs. Agriculture Economic Development Fund: see local food Agricultural Marketing Initiative: supports local and organic agriculture through Yolo Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program within University of California Cooperative Extension. Strategic Plan: One of the 5 primary goals Flourishing Agriculture. Agricultural Preservation Outcome: Increase the preservation of agricultural land. Agricultural Workforce Outcome: Increase stability and supports for agricultural workers and agricultural employers. Rural Community Investment Program includes agricultural labor training. IRWQMP: Ensure high quality surface water and groundwater resources throughout Yolo County on a sustainable basis to serve the needs of all beneficial uses, including urban, agricultural, environmental, and recreational uses. HCP/NCCP: Applies to some agricultural lands and covers public and private activities, including ones that are essential to the ongoing viability of Yolo County's agricultural and urban economies Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan: touches on protecting agricultural lands SACOG MTP/SCS: mainly focused on transportation but there is some overlap with Ag goals: "Successful Development Strategies that Support a Thriving Farming Economy"</p>	<p>GOAL LU-2 Agricultural Preservation. Preserve farm land and expand opportunities for related business and infrastructure to ensure a strong local agricultural economy. Policy CI-7.3 Facilitate agricultural "farm-to-market" transport. Improve and maintain the roadways listed in Table CI-1 to provide a network of agricultural truck transportation corridors and to facilitate farm-to-market connectivity. By attracting truck trips to targeted corridors, other roadways throughout the County are more available for movement of agricultural vehicles (including oversized and slower-moving equipment critical to harvest) and farm workers thus supporting more efficient and safe agricultural operations countywide. Policy PF-1.4 Encourage the use of small package wastewater systems to facilitate clustering of homes and preservation of agricultural land. GOAL AG-1 Preservation of Agriculture. Preserve and defend agriculture as fundamental to the identity of Yolo County. GOAL AG-2 Natural Resources for Agriculture. Protect the natural resources needed to ensure that agriculture remains an essential part of Yolo County's future.</p>	<p>MEASURE AD-1: Prepare for the effects of climate change on agriculture</p>	<p>Williamson Act, FMMP, organic-certification orgs (USDA, CDFA, CCOF California Certified Organic Farmers, State Board of Food and Ag), CA Healthy Soils Program, Office of Pesticide Consultation</p>
<p>Education Support K-12, college, and continuing education on sustainability topics. Raise public awareness and involve in sustainability topics.</p>	<p>NEOP provides school lunch and healthy eating education. Agriculture Economic Development Fund: educate the public about the role of agriculture in sustaining a healthy environment. Yolo Energy Watch: PG&E partnership provides resources and education regarding energy efficiency Agricultural Marketing Initiative: Yolo Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program within University of California Cooperative Extension. Also created a network of food, agricultural, and educational partnerships including a wine and wine grape grower association and an olive oil producer collaborative. IWMP: Cities and County share resources for countywide programs that educate residents on source reduction, recycling, and composting. Rural Community Investment Program includes agricultural labor training. Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan: the plan provides for wildlife observation, nature study, interpretation, and environmental education. Stormwater Management Program: provides educational material to the public and businesses about stormwater quality and also requires BMPS for new development or redevelopment. Project SOLAR: partnership between the County, Yolo County Office of Education, and SunPower. Project includes installation of a 6.8-megawatt photovoltaic system, integration of energy and sustainability topics into existing curriculum, project-based learning and courses that focus on alternative energy, and summer Energy Academies that prepare students for college and careers in alternative energy.</p>	<p>GOAL PF-7 Library Services. Provide library services to meet the changing informational and social needs of each community. GOAL AG-4 Education and Awareness. Support education to ensure continued public recognition of the important role that agriculture plays in Yolo County.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Employment Development Department, Labor and Workforce Development</p>