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6

6. Conservation and Open Space Element

The Conservation and Open Space Element covers two key aspects of County planning:

- Provides guidance and programs for the conservation, management, development, and use of natural and cultural resources; and
- Provides guidance and programs for the long-term preservation and conservation of open space lands. This includes the preservation of natural resources and scenic resources, and the provision of land for outdoor recreation.
- Provides guidance and programs related to energy resources and planning for climate change impacts.

The Conservation and Open Space Element is coordinated with the Land Use and Community Character Element to guide and balance conservation and development within the unincorporated area. Goals, policies, and implementation programs in this element are organized under the following headings:

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Additional topics related to state requirements for the Conservation and Open Space Element can be found in other elements, as follows:

- Water (Chapter 9, Water Element)
- Water, hydraulic force, flooding and fire (Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element)

6.1 Biological Resources

Ventura County lies within one of only five areas on earth characterized by the warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters known as Mediterranean climate. Mediterranean climates occur over only about two percent of the land area of the earth. Areas subject to such climate, however, support over 15 percent of the world's plant species, including many species occurring nowhere else on earth (Rundel and Tiszler 2007). Ventura County contains a diverse range of elevations, biogeographic features and ecosystems. The County's biological resources include plant and animal species, their habitats, plant communities and ecosystems that include habitat linkages and wildlife corridors. Numerous special-status species of plants and animals require special consideration and protection to federal, state and local law.

COS-1

To identify, preserve, protect, and restore sensitive biological resources, including federal and state-designated endangered, threatened, rare, or candidate species and their supporting habitats; wetland and riparian habitats; coastal habitats; habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors; and habitats and species identified as "locally important" by the County. *[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.5.1.1, modified]*

COS-1.1

Protection of Sensitive Biological Resources

The County shall ensure that discretionary development that could potentially impact sensitive biological resources be evaluated by a qualified biologist to assess impacts and, if necessary, develop mitigation measures that fully account for the impacted resource. When feasible, mitigation measures should adhere to the following priority: avoid impacts, minimize impacts, and compensate for impacts. If the impacts cannot be reduced to a less than significant level, findings of overriding considerations must be made by the decision-making body. (MPSP, IGC, RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.1 and 1.5.2.2 modified]*

COS-1.2

Consideration of Sensitive Biological Resources

The County shall identify sensitive biological resources as part of any land use designation change to the General Plan Land Use Diagram or zone designation change to the Zoning Ordinance that would intensify the uses in a given area. The County shall prioritize conservation of areas with sensitive biological resources. (MPSP) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-1.3

Wildlife Corridor Crossing Structures

Based on the review and recommendation of a qualified biologist, the design and maintenance of road and floodplain improvements, including culverts and bridges, shall incorporate all feasible measures to accommodate wildlife passage. (RDR, MPSP) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.6, modified pursuant to Wildlife Corridor Policy 3/19/19]*

COS-1.4

Consideration of Impacts to Wildlife Movement

When considering proposed discretionary development, County decision-makers shall consider the development's potential project-specific and cumulative impacts on the movement of wildlife at a range of spatial scales including local scales (e.g., hundreds of feet) and regional scales (e.g., tens of miles). (RDR) *[Source: Wildlife Corridor Policy 3/19/19]*

COS-1.5

Development Within Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors

Development within the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors overlay zone and Critical Wildlife Passage Areas overlay zone shall be subject to the applicable provisions and standards of these overlay zones as set forth in the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance. (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.8; Wildlife Corridor Policy 3/19/19]*

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- COS-1.6 Discretionary Development on Hillsides and Slopes**
 The County shall require discretionary development on hillsides and slopes, which have an average natural slope of 20 percent or greater, to be sited and designed in a manner that will minimize grading, alteration of natural land forms, and vegetation removal to avoid significant impacts to sensitive biological resources to the extent feasible. (RDR, MPSP)
[Source: New Policy]
- COS-1.7 Balancing Resource Preservation and Flood Protection**
 The County shall require that discretionary development and County-initiated projects balance the preservation of streams wetlands, and riparian habitats with the need to adequately protect public safety and property from flooding hazards by incorporating natural or nature-based flood control infrastructure, (e.g., wetland restoration, soil conservation, vegetated levees), when feasible. (MPSP) *[Source: Existing Ojai Valley Area Plan Goal 1.4.1.2, modified]*
- COS-1.8 Bridge Crossing Design**
 The County shall require discretionary development that includes new or modified road crossings over streams, wetlands and riparian habitats to include bridging design features with bridge columns located outside the riparian habitat areas, when feasible. (RDR)
[Source: New Policy]
- COS-1.9 Agency Consultation Regarding Biological Resources**
 The County shall consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Audubon Society, California Native Plant Society, National Park Service for development in the Santa Monica Mountains or Oak Park Area, and other resource management agencies, as applicable during the review of discretionary development applications to ensure that impacts to biological resources, including rare, threatened, or endangered species, are avoided or minimized. (MPSP, IGC, RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.5, modified]*
- COS-1.10 Discretionary Development Proposed Near Wetlands**
 The County shall require discretionary development that is proposed to be located within 300 feet of a wetland to be evaluated by a County-approved biologist for potential impacts on the wetland and its associated habitats. Discretionary development that would have a significant impact on the wetland habitat shall be prohibited unless mitigation measures are adopted that would reduce the impact to a less than significant level; or for lands designated “Urban” or “Existing Community”, a statement of overriding considerations is adopted by the decision-making body. (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.3 modified]*



The County may consider revising the above policy to allow the decision-making body to adopt a CEQA Statement of Overriding Consideration for significant environmental impacts for all areas of the unincorporated County, thereby providing the opportunity to balance a project’s impacts against its potential economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits, including region-wide or statewide environmental benefits.

- COS-1.11** **Discretionary Development Sites Near Wetlands**
The County shall require discretionary development to be sited a minimum of 100 feet from wetland habitats. Setbacks may be increased or decreased based upon an evaluation and recommendation by a qualified biologist and approval by the decision-making body. Factors to be used in determining adjustment of the 100-foot setback include, but may not be limited to soil type, slope stability, drainage patterns, the potential for discharges that may impair water quality, presence or absence of endangered, threatened or rare plants or animals, direct and indirect effects to wildlife movement, and compatibility of the proposed development with use of the wetland habitat area by wildlife.. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.4, modified]
- COS-1.12** **Discretionary Development and Landscaping**
The County shall require landscaping associated with discretionary development, or subject to the California Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo), to be water-efficient and include native, pollinator-friendly plants consistent with WELo guidelines, as applicable. The planting of invasive and watch list plants as inventoried by the California Invasive Plant Council shall be prohibited, unless planted as a commercial agricultural crop or grown as commercial nursery stock. (RDR) [Source: New Policy]
- COS-1.13** **Partnerships for Protection of Natural and Biological Resources**
CAP The County shall continue to work in partnership with agencies, organizations, and entities responsible for the protection, management, and enhancement of the county's biological resources. (IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.1.1.3, modified]
- COS-1.14** **Ecological Information Programs**
The County shall support programs that encourage awareness and respect for the natural environment. (PI) [Source: New Policy]

6.2 Coastal Resources

There are 42 miles of coastline in Ventura County. Coastal resources discussed in this section overlap with other sections of this Element because coastal resources are significant scenic resources, home to endangered and threatened species and habitats, and contain areas with cultural, paleontological, and archeological resources.

Beaches add significant value to quality of life for both their aesthetic beauty, as well as free and safe, access to leisure and recreational opportunities. Additionally, sections of State Route 1 and US Highway 101 along the coast are state eligible for official designation as “scenic” through the Caltrans California Scenic Highway Program. These scenic eligible highways offer outstanding views of the Pacific Ocean, as well as the foothills and mountainous areas on the inland side of coastal viewsheds.

Beaches also provide coastal habitats containing rich biodiversity. For example, the Mugu Lagoon has the richest biological diversity of all the coastal marsh areas in the county. It provides habitat for more than 30 “special-status species” and shelters the remnants of many plant, bird, fish, and insect populations that once inhabited preexisting lagoons. Ventura County is also home to several coastal wetlands including McGrath Lake, the Ormond Beach area, and the mouths of the Ventura and Santa Clara Rivers.

The coastal and interior zones of Ventura Country contain areas with marine and terrestrial fossils that are among the best in Southern California. Paleontological resources are present in many of the geologic formations in the county.

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Through the Coastal Act, the State mandates that coastal communities manage the conservation and development of coastal resources through creation and adoption of a Local Coastal Program. Ventura County's Coastal Area Plan and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance together constitute the Local Coastal Program for unincorporated areas of the county. The primary goal of the Local Coastal Program is to ensure that the County's land use plans, policies, and actions meet the requirements of and implement the provisions and policies of the Coastal Act within the county.



Policies related to coastal resources are contained in the Coastal Area Plan. The Coastal Area Plan covers the land within the Coastal Zone Boundary along the Pacific Coast. The Coastal Area Plan addresses shoreline access and public trails; development in scenic areas, coastal hazards, and coastal bluffs; environmentally sensitive habitat areas; cultural resources; transportation; and public services.

For policies concerning sea level rise, see Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.

COS-2

To protect and conserve coastal beaches and sand dunes, proactively enhance coastal and marine resources, and respond to projected sea level rise. [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.10.1, modified]

COS-2.1

Beach Erosion

The County shall strive to minimize the risk from the damaging effects of coastal wave hazards and beach erosion and reduce the rate of beach erosion. (MPSP, RDR, IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 2.12.1.1 and 2.12.1.2, combined]

COS-2.2



Beach Nourishment

The County shall support activities that trap or add sand through beach nourishment, dune restoration, and other adaptation strategies to enhance or create beaches in areas susceptible to sea-level rise and coastal flooding. (MPSP) [Source: New Policy]

COS-2.3

Coastal Regional Sediment Action Committee

The County should work with the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON), Ventura Port District, Channel Islands Harbor, cities, and the Navy to identify issues and establish common goals and objectives regarding sediment management, as well as to identify resources to meet defined goals. (IGC) [Source: New Policy, NBVC JLUS Strategy MAR-5A]

COS-2.4

Mining Activities

The County shall require discretionary development for all mining activities in County streams and rivers to incorporate all feasible measures to mitigate beach sand replenishment impacts. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.10.2.4, modified]

COS-2.5

Shoreline Protective Structure Design

The County shall require all shoreline protective structures which alter natural shoreline processes to be designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supplies. (MPSP, IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.10.2.3]

COS-2.6



Public Access

The County shall continue to plan for the preservation, conservation, efficient use of, enjoyment of, and access to resources, as appropriate, within Ventura County for present and future generations. (IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.1.1.2]

COS-2.7

EJ HC

Preserve Public Access

The County shall work with federal, state, and local jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations to assess the vulnerability of public coastal access points and prioritize protection for those that provide the greatest benefits to residents and visitors. (PSR, IGC, JP) *[Source: New Policy, OPR Sea-Level Rise Guidance]*

COS-2.8

Coastal Fisheries

The County shall encourage community programs that are designed to improve the quality of coastal fisheries and marine resources (PSR, IGC) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-2.9

Estuarine Protections

The County shall support efforts by other agencies and organizations to maintain and enhance estuarine systems in order to protect and enhance coastal fisheries and other marine resources. (PSR, IGC) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-2.10

CAP

Saltwater Intrusion

The County shall work with Federal, State, and local jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations to monitor saltwater intrusion and take proactive steps to reduce intrusion, including:

- working to maintain and restore coastal wetlands buffers;
- enhancing groundwater management to prevent excessive pumping in order to restore groundwater levels needed to reduce saltwater intrusion; and
- implementing mitigation measures to prevent saltwater intrusion into estuaries and groundwater basins including, but not limited to, implementation of reactive barriers and use of pumps to divert saltwater.

(PSR, IGC, JP) *[Source: New Policy, OPR Sea-Level Rise Guidance]*

COS-2.11

Dune Vegetation

Discretionary development which would result in the removal of dune vegetation shall be conditioned to replace the vegetation. (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.10.2.2]*

6.3 Scenic Resources

Aesthetic surroundings are an important determinant in quality-of-life considerations. From the coastline to the forested mountains of the north, the county contains aesthetic features that continue to attract visitors and provide pleasure to residents. The County is dedicated to conservation of these resources and ensuring visual access to them. Conservation of aesthetic resources is most critical where they will frequently be viewed, such as in proximity to a highway or a residential area. From panoramic views of the Santa Monica Mountains in the south to northern vistas of the Topatopa mountain range in the Los Padres National Forest and scenic views of coastal beaches and cliffs in the west, Ventura County offers a variety scenic resources.



Policies related to parks and recreational facilities are in Chapter 5, Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.

COS-3

To preserve, protect, and enhance the unique scenic resources in Ventura County, and ensure access to scenic resources within Ventura County for present and future generations. *[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.1.1.2, 1.7.1.1, and 1.7.1.2, modified]*

COS-3.1

Scenic Roadways

The County shall protect the visual character of scenic resources visible from state or County designated scenic roadways. (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.7.1.2, modified]*

COS-3.2

CAP

Tree Canopy

The County shall encourage the protection of urban forests and native woodlands, savannahs, and tree canopy along State or County designated scenic roadways. (MPSP, RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-3.3

CAP

Utility Undergrounding Priority

The County shall give overhead utility undergrounding within Scenic Resource Areas and designated high fire hazard areas first priority when allocating County Utility Undergrounding Funds. (MPSP, FB) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.7.2.3, modified]*

COS-3.4

Visual Impacts from Reservoirs

The County shall ensure that reservoirs are not sited on prominent ridgelines and that new reservoirs are well-screened with native vegetation and berms and, if possible, are undergrounded. (RDR) *[Source: Existing Lake Sherwood/Hidden Valley Area Plan Policy 2.5.2.3, Oak Park Area Plan Policy 1.4.2.3, and Thousand Oaks Area Plan Policy 1.4.2.7, modified]*

COS-3.5

Ridgeline and Hilltop Preservation

The County shall ensure that ridgelines and major hilltops remain undeveloped and that discretionary development is sited and designed to remain below significant ridgelines, except as required for communication or similar facilities. (RDR) *[Source: Ojai Valley Area Plan Goal 1.6.1.3, modified]*

COS-3.6

Open Space Character

The County shall require discretionary development outside of Existing Communities be planned and designed to maintain the scenic open space character of the surrounding area, including view corridors from highways. Discretionary development should integrate design, construction, and maintenance techniques that minimize the visibility of structures from public viewing locations within scenic vistas. (RDR) [Source: *New Policy*]

6.4 Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources

Cultural resources are most frequently identified with prehistoric (archaeological) or historic resources. Cultural resources in Ventura County include prehistoric indigenous Native American sites, historic areas of occupation and activity, and features of the natural environment. Cultural resources also include non-renewable, nonmaterial resources such as cognitive systems (including meanings and values attached to items of material culture, biota, and the physical environment), religion and world views, traditional or customary behavior patterns, kinship and social organization, and folklore.

Historical resources refer to the material and nonmaterial expressions of human adaptations that characterized the post-contact (historic) period. These resources include historic event or activity sites, historic archaeological sites, standing architecture and other significant properties, and documents and other sources of historical information, and objects of material culture. Also, more nonmaterial cultural qualities, such as folklore, social organization, and value systems, can be associated with these properties.

Paleontological resources refer to the fossilized remains of plant and animal life. In Ventura County, paleontological remains include examples from most of geological history, including the Paleozoic (542 to 251 million years ago), the Mesozoic (251 to 65.5 million years ago), and the Cenozoic (65.5 million years ago to the present). Careful scientific study of fossilized life forms preserved in the sedimentary and metamorphic rocks of the Ventura County region can lead to identification of local paleo-environmental conditions and biological evolutionary trends. In addition, certain fossil remains are only found in isolated outcrops in Ventura County and are therefore of unique scientific interest.

Archaeological resources refer to the material remains (e.g., artifacts, structures) produced by human beings, whether intentionally or accidentally. The scientific study of these remains can lead to identification of activities, types of adaptation to the environment, and changes in activities and organization that groups of people in the past experienced. Furthermore, these remains often have special significance to Native Americans, ethnic groups, special interest groups (e.g., avocational archaeologists), as well as the general public.

COS-4

To preserve and protect cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources in Ventura County, including Native American resources, for their scientific, educational, and cultural value. [Source: *Existing GPP Goal 1.8.1.1, modified*]

COS-4.1

Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources Inventory

The County shall maintain an inventory of cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources in Ventura County based on project studies and secondary resources. (MPSP) [Source: *Existing GPP Goal 1.1.1.1, modified*]

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- COS-4.2 Cooperation for Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resource Preservation**
 The County shall cooperate with cities, special districts, other appropriate organizations, and private landowners to identify and preserve the county's cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources (IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.8.1.2, modified]
- COS-4.3 Historical Landmarks Preservation**
 The County shall require all structures and sites that are designated, or being considered for designation, as County Historical Landmarks to be preserved as a condition of discretionary development, in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards, unless a structure is unsafe or deteriorated beyond repair. The property owner shall place an appropriate marker on the site to describe the historical significance of the structure, site or event. (RDR) [Source: Existing Oak Park Area Plan Policy 1.5.2.2, Ojai Valley Area Plan Policy 1.7.2.2, and Thousand Oaks Area Plan Policy 1.5.2.2, modified]
- COS-4.4 Discretionary Development and Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resource Preservation**
 The County shall require discretionary development be assessed for potential cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources by a qualified professional and be designed to avoid impacts to these resources whenever to the maximum extent feasible. Unavoidable impacts, whenever possible shall be reduced to a less than significant level and/or shall be mitigated by extracting maximum recoverable data. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.8.2.1, GPP Policy 1.8.2.2, Ojai Valley Area Plan Goal 1.7.1.2 and Policy 1.7.2.1, Thousand Oaks Area Plan Goal 1.5.1.4 and Policy 1.5.2.1, Oak Park Area Plan Policy 1.5.2.1, and Piru Area Plan Policy 1.4.2.2, modified]
- COS-4.5 Adaptive Reuse of Historic Structures**
 The County shall encourage discretionary development to adaptively reuse architecturally or historically significant buildings if the original use of the structure is no longer feasible and the new use is allowed by the underlying land use designation and zoning district. (RDR) [Source: New Policy]
- COS-4.6 Architectural Design to Reflect Historic and Cultural Traditions**
 The County shall encourage discretionary development to incorporate architectural designs and features that reflect the historical and cultural traditions characteristic to the area or community. (RDR) [Source: Existing Piru Area Plan Policy 1.4.2.3, modified]
- COS-4.7 Cultural Heritage Board Review**
 Prior to environmental review of discretionary development, the County shall determine whether a site has potential archaeological, architectural or historical significance and provide this information to the County Cultural Heritage Board for evaluation and recommendation to the appropriate decision-making body. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.8.2.5]

6.5 Soil and Mineral Resources

Approximately 65 percent of the soil associations in the county have the capacity to produce varying amounts and types of agricultural commodities. Typically, gentler slopes can produce the largest crop variety including strawberries, irrigated vegetables, row crops, and citrus. The steeper the elevation, the more rooted the crops must be, which tends to favor tree nuts, avocados, and citrus crops. The remaining 35 percent of soil associations in the county either cannot support agricultural production due to slope, soil composition, access to water, elevation, or the capacity for production is minimal.

Mineral Resources are defined as naturally occurring inorganic materials in the earth’s crust that are of economic value and can be extracted. Mineral resources in Ventura County consist primarily of aggregate resources, more commonly known as construction grade sand, gravel, and stone. Other mineral resources within the County include clay, shale, gypsum, silica sand, limestone, and phosphate.

COS-5

To preserve and protect soil resources in the county from erosion and for agricultural productivity. *[Source: New Goal]*

COS-5.1

Soil Protection

The County shall strive to protect soil resources from erosion, contamination, and other effects that substantially reduce their value or lead to the creation of hazards. (RDR, SO)
[Source: New Policy]

COS-5.2

Erosion Control

The County shall encourage the planting of vegetation on soils exposed by grading activities, not related to agricultural production, to decrease soil erosion. (RDR, PSR)
[Source: New Policy]

COS-5.3

Soil Productivity

CAP

The County shall encourage landowners to participate in voluntary programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity. To this end, the County shall promote coordination between the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ventura County Resource Conservation District, University of California Cooperative Extension, and other similar agencies and organizations. (RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*



Policies related to landslide potential and erosion are in Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.

COS-6

To manage mineral resources in a manner that identifies economically significant mineral deposits and plans for and protects access to, extraction, and long-term conservation of mineral resources for existing and future generations. *[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.4.1.1 and GPP Goal 1.4.1.2 , modified]*

COS-6.1

Balanced Mineral Resource Production and Conservation

The County shall balance the development and conservation of mineral resources with economic, health, safety, and social and environmental protection values. (MPSP, IGC, RDR)
[Source: New Policy]

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COS-6.2 Significant Mineral Resource Deposits

The County shall maintain maps of mineral resources deposits as identified by the California State Geologist as having regional or statewide significance and any additional deposits as may be identified by the County. The County shall provide notice to landowners and the general public on the location of significant mineral resource deposits. (MPSP, PI) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.4.1.2, modified]

COS-6.3 Mineral Extraction Location Priority

EJ

The County shall promote the extraction of mineral resources locally to minimize economic costs and environmental effects associated with transporting these resources. (IGC, JP) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.4.1.3, modified]

COS-6.4 Mineral Resource Area Protection

Discretionary development within Mineral Resource Zones identified by the California Division of Mines and Geology shall be subject to the Mineral Resource Protection (MRP) Overlay Zone and is prohibited if the use will significantly hamper or preclude access to or the extraction of mineral resources. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.4.2.8, modified]

COS-6.5 Mineral Resource Land Use Compatibility

EJ

The County shall ensure that discretionary development is compatible with mineral resources extraction and processing if the development is to be located in areas identified on the Mineral Resource Zone Maps prepared by the California Geological Survey or in County identified mineral resource areas. The County shall:

1. Require an evaluation to ascertain the significance of the mineral resources deposit located in the area of a discretionary development and to determine if the use would significantly hamper or preclude access to or the extraction of mineral resources.
2. Require discretionary development proposed to be located adjacent to existing mining operations to provide a buffer between the development and mining operations to minimize land use incompatibility and avoid nuisance complaints.
3. Establish a buffer distance based on an evaluation of noise, community character, compatibility, scenic resources, drainage, operating conditions, biological resources, topography, lighting, traffic, operating hours, and air quality.

(RDR) [Source: New Policy]

COS-6.6 In-River Mining

The County shall require discretionary development for in-river mining to incorporate all feasible measures to mitigate water, biological resource, flooding, and erosion impacts. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.4.2.3, modified]

6.6 Oil and Gas Resources

Oil and gas are major energy resources in Ventura County. There are currently (2018) 57 oil companies operating in Ventura County under the authority of 135 conditional use permits granted by the County to authorize oil and gas activities. Oil and gas are produced in Ventura County using both traditional and enhanced recovery techniques. While there is significant oil and gas production in Ventura County, no new offshore oil and gas development is anticipated in the county or nearby Federal waters because of regulation and opposition from the California State Lands Commission.

COS-7

To prevent and mitigate the effects of marine and onshore oil spills on the community and environment. [Source: Existing GPP Goal 2.14.1.2, modified]

COS-7.1

Minimum Site Area

The County shall only approve discretionary development for oil and gas development if the area of ground disturbance constitutes the minimum necessary to accomplish the project objectives. (RDR) [Source: Existing El Rio/Del Norte Area Plan Policy 1.3.2.4 and Ojai Valley Area Plan Policy 1.3.2.8, modified]

COS-7.2

Compliance with Current Policies, Standards, and Conditions

The County shall require new or modified discretionary development permits for oil and gas exploration, production, drilling, and related operations be subject to current State and County policies, standards, and conditions. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.4.2.5, and Ojai Valley Area Plan Policy 1.3.2.9, modified]

COS-7.3

CAP

Electrically-Powered Equipment for Oil and Gas Exploration and Production

The County shall require discretionary development for oil and gas exploration and production use electrically-powered equipment and cogeneration, where practical, to alleviate pollution from internal combustion engines. (RDR) [Source: Existing Ojai Valley Area Plan Policy 1.3.2.3 and Piru Area Plan Policy 1.2.2.3, modified]

COS-7.4

Restoration and Revegetation of Sites Used for Oil and Gas Exploration, Extraction, and Production

The County shall require that discretionary development for oil and gas exploration activities be conditioned to require the restoration and revegetation of the site if the exploration does not result in oil and gas production facilities. (RDR) [Source: Ojai Valley Area Plan Policy 1.3.2.5, modified]

COS-7.5

Abandoned Oil and Gas Well Identification

The County shall evaluate discretionary development to identify any abandoned oil and gas wells on the project site. (RDR) [Source: Existing GPP Program 1.4.3.2, modified]

6.7 Energy Resource Conservation

Energy resources are important natural resources that support the expansion of the region’s economic base, its agricultural sector, and infrastructure capacity. As traditional sources of energy are depleted, there is a need to reduce energy consumption and develop alternate methods of power generation. California has made it a priority over the past decade to reduce energy demand through energy conservation and efficiency. As such, there has been an increasing investment in a range of energy efficiency and conservation programs. In line with statewide requirements and best practices, this section focuses on promoting energy conservation and supporting a diversity of energy resource development in the county.



Additional policies related to climate change monitoring and adaptation are in Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.

COS-8

To minimize energy consumption and increase the use of *renewable energy*.
[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.9.1.1 and GPP Goal 1.9.1.2, modified]

COS-8.1 Reduce Reliance on Fossil Fuels

CAP

The County shall promote the development and use of *renewable energy* resources (e.g., solar, thermal, wind, tidal, bioenergy) to reduce dependency on petroleum-based energy sources. (IGC, RDR) [Source: New Policy]

COS-8.2 Incentives for Energy Efficiency

CAP

The County shall encourage the State and energy utility companies to provide programs, rebates, and incentives for energy efficiency installation and retrofit projects. (IGC) [Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.9.1.3, modified]

COS-8.3 Clean Power Alliance

CAP

The County, as a signatory to a legal entity created under a Joint Powers Authority with neighboring communities, shall continue to serve as an active member of the Clean Power Alliance or similar organization providing local customer access to electricity generated from low carbon renewable energy sources in excess of State requirements. (SO, IGC) [Source: New Policy]

COS-8.4 Decarbonize Communitywide Electricity Supplies

CAP

The County shall work with utility providers to offer residents options to purchase and use renewable energy resources. (SO, IGC, JP) [Source: New Policy]

COS-8.5 Zero Net Energy Buildings

CAP

The County shall support State policy goals for transitioning to zero net energy buildings. (RDR) [Source: New Policy]

COS-8.6 Sustainable Building Practices

EJ HC CAP

The County shall promote sustainable building practices that incorporate a “whole systems” approach for design and construction that consumes less energy, water, and other non-renewable resources, such as by facilitating passive ventilation and effective use of daylight. (RDR) [Source: New Policy]

- COS-8.7** **Renewable Energy Features in Discretionary Development**
EJ **CAP** The County shall encourage the integration of features that support the generation, transmission, efficient use, and storage of renewable energy sources in discretionary development (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Goal 1.9.1.2, modified]*
- COS-8.8** **Urban Tree Canopy Improvements for Energy Conservation**
CAP The County shall encourage discretionary development to include the planting of shade trees on each property and within parking areas to reduce radiation heat production. (RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*
- COS-8.9** **Battery Energy Storage Systems**
CAP The County shall encourage battery energy storage systems as an option for optimizing the management of electricity generated by renewable resources. (RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*
- COS-8.10** **Improve Energy Conservation Awareness**
EJ **CAP** The County shall encourage community members to conserve energy and increase awareness about energy efficiency and conservation. (SO, PI) *[Source: New Policy]*
- COS-8.11** **Energy Conservation in Area Plan Land Use Policies**
Land use policies in area plans should be developed to promote energy conservation and should include the following:
1. The pattern of residential, commercial and industrial land use should be compact, relate to transit routes and centers and minimize vehicular travel.
 2. The infill of vacant lots should be encouraged over step-out developments
- (RDR) *[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.9.2.2]*

6.8 Open Space

There are approximately 640,000 acres of open space in Ventura County that are managed by federal, state, county, special district, local, and non-profit agencies and organizations. A portion of these open spaces are accessible to the public and offer a variety of recreational opportunities in different settings.

The United States Forest Service (USFS) manages 87 percent, or 561,000 acres, of open space lands in Ventura County, which makes up almost all of north Ventura County. However, access to USFS lands is limited in part due to the wildlife conservation areas for the California condor and the existence of private lands near the southern forest boundary, which often do not have easements for public access. Non-USFS lands in Ventura County (other federal, state, and local lands) totaling approximately 79,000 acres, are mostly clustered near Ventura County's southeastern border.

Although Ventura County residents have a wide array of open space and recreational opportunities, distance to open space, and access, varies substantially throughout the county. Thus, some Ventura County residents do not have access to open space/park resources within walking distance, or a half mile of their residence.

COS-9

To develop and maintain a comprehensive system of parks, recreation, and natural open space lands that meet the active and passive recreation and open space needs of Ventura County residents and visitors. *[Source: New Goal]*

COS-9.1

HC CAP

Open Space Preservation

The County shall preserve natural open space resources through:

- the concentration of development in Urban Areas and Existing Communities;
- use of cluster or compact development techniques in discretionary development adjacent to natural open space resources;
- maintaining large lot sizes in agricultural areas, rural and open space areas;
- discouraging conversion of lands currently used for agricultural production or grazing;
- limiting development in areas constrained by natural hazards; and
- encouraging agricultural and ranching interests to maintain natural habitat in open space areas where the terrain or soil is not conducive to agricultural production or grazing.

(RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-9.2

HC

Public Open Space

The County shall explore possible resources for public acquisition of permanent open space for public use. (IGC, JP) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-9.3

HC CAP

Open Space Preservation

The County shall place a high priority on preserving open space lands for recreation, habitat protection, wildlife movement, flood hazard management, public safety, water resource protection, and overall community benefit. (PSP) *[Source: New Policy]*

6.9 Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

Climate change is a global problem caused by the cumulative warming effects of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Governments at all levels, non-governmental agencies, and private citizens and businesses are now acting to mitigate GHG emissions as quickly as possible to reduce or avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change.



This section contains policy components of the County's approach to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and is a key part of the County's overall Climate Action Plan (CAP). As noted in the General Plan introduction, the County developed an integrated approach to addressing climate change in the General Plan by incorporating policies and programs that address climate change throughout the General Plan elements. These policy components are designated with the CAP icon next to applicable CAP policies. As such, the General Plan will serve as the County's CAP.

Details on the purpose of the CAP, details regarding the General Plan's integrated climate action strategy, and a summary of results of key technical analyses used to develop the CAP strategy are contained in Appendix B. Section B.1 of this Appendix includes the components of the County's GHG emissions reduction strategy, while Section B.2 of this Appendix documents the County's vulnerability to climate change and Climate Adaptation strategy.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Strategy

The current inventory of GHG emissions is organized by the following seven sectors, presented in decreasing order by level of contribution. Information on the detailed activity data, assumptions, and calculations used to develop the County's GHG inventory are included in Attachment 1 to Appendix B.

- Transportation
- Building Energy
- Solid Waste
- Stationary Sources
- Agriculture
- Water and Wastewater
- Off-Road Equipment

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy

In accordance with the requirements of SB 379 (2015), codified in Government Code section 65302(g)(4), climate change adaptation and resilience must be addressed in the safety element of all general plans in California. Appendix B contains a section that summarizes the County's vulnerability assessment and a list of all CAP policies within the General Plan. Chapter 12, "Climate Change," of the General Plan Background Report, released in January of 2018, summarizes the County's vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change over the coming century. The key findings of Chapter 12 of the General Plan Background Report include:

- a rise of three to six degrees Fahrenheit (°F) by 2090 in the County;
- coastal erosion of up to 1.36 meters by 2100 due to sea-level rise;

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- more frequent flooding events and more extensive and longer duration of flooding;
- elevated groundwater levels and salinity intrusion due to sea-level rise;
- the exposure of approximately 23,300 people countywide to inundation from a 100-year flood event combined with a 1.4-meter (4.6-foot) rise in sea level, many of which are low income or especially vulnerable;
- the exposure of approximately 170 miles of roads and railways, hospitals, schools, emergency facilities, wastewater treatment plants, three power plants, and a naval base from a 100-year flood event combined with a 1.4-meter (4.6-foot) rise in sea level;
- habitat fragmentation due to changes in precipitation, increased temperatures, and rising sea levels;
- an increase of up to 79 extreme heat days per year by 2099; and
- a 15 percent increase countywide in the potential amount of area burned by wildfire between 2020 and 2085 as compared to historical trends.

This background information is further summarized in Appendix Section B.2.1, along with the specific goals, policies and implementation programs contained in the General Plan elements that address climate vulnerability and adaptation.

COS-10

To improve the long-term sustainability of the community through local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. *[Source: New Goal]*

COS-10.1

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy

CAP

The County shall maintain and refer to the General Plan and its integrated greenhouse gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy as the County's comprehensive plan for reducing community-wide GHG emissions in the unincorporated County. (RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-10.2

Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target for 2030

CAP

The County shall achieve a community-wide GHG emissions reduction target of 41 percent below 2015 levels by 2030. (RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-10.3

Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals for 2040 and 2050

CAP

The County shall work towards achieving longer-term, post-2030 community-wide GHG emissions reduction goals, as follows:

- 61 percent below 2015 levels by 2040, and
- 80 percent below 2015 levels by 2050.

(RDR) *[Source: New Policy]*

COS-10.4

CAP

Greenhouse Gas Reductions in Existing and New Development

The County shall reduce GHG emissions in both existing and new development through a combination of measures included in the GHG Strategy, which includes new and modified regulations, financing and incentive-based programs, community outreach and education programs, partnerships with local or regional agencies, and other related actions. (RDR)

[Source: New Policy]

6.10 Implementation Programs

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Standards for Compact Development The County shall update the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to include development standards for project design that features compact development adjacent to scenic or sensitive biological resources. [Source: New Program]</p>	COS-1.1 COS-1.2	RMA n/a	■				
<p>B Update Initial Study Assessment Guidelines The County shall update the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines to identify a range of mitigation measures for protected biological resources. This will include updating Section 4, Biological Resources, to include the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) policy language regarding compensatory mitigation: “When there is no other feasible alternative to avoiding an impact to a wetland habitat, the County shall require the discretionary development to provide restoration and/or replacement habitat as compensatory mitigation such that no overall net loss of wetland habitat results from the development. The restoration and/or replacement habitat shall be “in kind” (i.e. same type and acreage) and provide wetland habitat of comparable biological value. On-site restoration and/or replacement shall be preferred wherever possible. A habitat restoration and/or</p>	COS-1.1 COS-1.2 COS-1.6 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA n/a	■				

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>replacement plan to describe and implement such compensatory mitigation shall be developed in consultation with all agencies that have jurisdiction over the resource.”</p> <p><i>[Source: Existing GPP Policy 1.5.2.4, modified]</i></p>							
<p>C Update Tree Protection Ordinance</p> <p>The County shall update existing Tree Protection Regulations in the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to further enhance conservation of our urban forests and the preservation of the County’s oak woodland resources. Updates shall include incorporation of Board-adopted recommendations from the Ventura County Oak Woodlands Management Plan (2007), which include tree replacement offsets for ministerial development projects that remove protected trees, revisiting mitigation ratios for tree removal and oak woodland impacts for discretionary development projects. The update shall also evaluate existing protections for invasive, non-native trees and consider the degree to which they provide habitat for a species during critical life stages (e.g., colonial roost sites, breeding sites, etc.). In addition, the evaluation shall also include anticipated effects of climate change on the urban forest environment <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>CAP</p>	<p>COS-1.1 COS-3.2</p>	<p>RMA GSA (Parks)</p>		■			
<p>D Research Feasibility of Updating Vegetation Maps</p> <p>In partnership with other natural resource agencies and organizations, the County shall explore the feasibility of updating vegetation maps for unincorporated areas to facilitate the accurate analysis of potential impacts of development on vegetation communities and other sensitive biological resources. If necessary, the</p>	<p>COS-1.1 COS-1.10 COS-1.11</p>	<p>RMA PWA Watershed Protection</p>		■			

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>County shall develop or modify regulations and development standards to ensure adequate protections for vegetation communities. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p>							
<p>E Update Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance Standards for Vegetation Communities Based on the results of Implementation Program COS-D, (updated vegetation mapping), the County shall develop or modify regulations and development standards to ensure adequate protections for vegetation mapping, if necessary.</p>	<p>COS-1.1 COS-1.6 COS-1.10 COS-1.11</p>	<p>RMA n/a</p>		■			
<p>F Evaluate Increase to Standard Setback from Wetland The County shall evaluate whether a standards 200-foot setback from wetlands should apply to development in order to improve water quality, reduce the impacts of flooding and provide adequate protection for sensitive biological resources <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p>	<p>COS-1.1 COS-1.2 COS-1.10 COS-1.11</p>	<p>RMA n/a</p>		■			
<p>G Identification of Critical Habitats The County shall continue to partner with state and federal agencies to identify those areas of the County that are considered to be critical habitats of endangered, threatened or rare species as well as for other significant biological resources. <i>[Source: Existing GPP Program 1.5.3.1, modified]</i></p>	<p>COS-1.9 COS-1.10 COS-1.11</p>	<p>RMA</p>					■
<p>H Grants for Climate Change Adaptation Activities The County shall apply for grants through the California Coastal Commission and other organizations for beach nourishment, dune restoration, and other adaptation activities to improve the resilience of county beaches to sea-level rise and coastal flooding. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p>	<p>COS-2.1 COS-2.2</p>	<p>PWA n/a</p>					■

CAP

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
I Scenic Highway Designations The County shall seek official State Scenic Highway designations for County designated Scenic Highways. <i>[Source: Existing GPP Program 1.7.3.2, modified]</i>	COS-3.1	RMA		■			
J Preservation Guidelines for Significant Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources The County shall prepare, and regularly update, specific guidelines for the preservation of significant cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources. <i>[Source: Existing Thousand Oaks Area Plan Goal 1.5.1.2, modified]</i>	COS-4.1 COS-4.2 COS-4.3 COS-4.4	RMA _____ n/a					■
K Sustainable Building, Siting, and Landscaping Practice Guidelines The County shall prepare sustainable building, siting, and landscaping practice guidelines that promote a whole systems approach to building designs and construction techniques that reduce consumption of non-renewable resources such as oil, gas and water and promote renewable energy use. <i>[Source: New Program]</i>	COS-8.6 COS-8.7	RMA _____ GSA	■				

EJ HC CAP

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>L Assessment of Land Near Electrical Transmission and Distribution Lines The County shall conduct a study and prepare a publicly available assessment of suitable undeveloped lands near electrical transmission and distribution lines that serve as priority areas for the development of utility-scale solar energy generation and storage projects. If suitable locations are identified, the County shall establish a new zone, called a Renewable Energy Priority Zone, for these sites in the County’s Coastal and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinances. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>CAP</p>	COS-8.1 COS-8.4	RMA _____ n/a	■				
<p>M Local Building Standards for Energy Efficiency The County shall establish local building standards that require development to exceed the minimum statewide standards for energy efficiency. This will include the evaluation of a range of prescriptive or performance-based energy efficiency options that will result in the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions compared to the 2040 General Plan GHG baseline. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>EJ HC CAP</p>	COS-8.1 COS-8.5 COS-8.6 COS-8.7 COS-8.9	RMA _____ CEO PWA	■				

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>N Study to Demonstrate Energy and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Savings The County shall conduct a study that demonstrates the energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) savings of the options identified in Implementation Program COS-I using modeled building prototypes. To satisfy state regulatory requirements for Energy Reach Code adoption, the study shall also demonstrate long-term cost savings of the options through a life-cycle cost analysis that considers the initial costs of efficiency improvements offset by utility bill cost savings and other relevant factors. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>CAP</p>	COS-8.1 COS-8.5	CEO RMA	■				
<p>O Incentives for Development in the Renewable Energy Priority Zone To incentivize the development of the Renewable Energy Priority Zone sites, the County shall consider waiving permit fees and providing a reduction on the annual property tax assessment for the portion of land used for renewable energy generation or storage. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>CAP</p>	COS-8.4	CEO RMA	■				
<p>P Building Code Update The County shall update the Building Code to include a mandatory Energy Reach Code based on the results of the studies and preferred option identified under Implementation Program COS-J. <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p> <p>CAP</p>	COS-8.5 COS-8.6	RMA n/a	■				

<p>Q Energy Consumption Performance The County shall continue to review its energy consumption performance and implement programs designed to increase energy efficiency in County buildings, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ reduced operating hours for heating, ventilating and lighting systems, ■ installation of weather stripping on all openable doors and windows, ■ development of energy audit and energy management programs, ■ implementation of operation and maintenance programs which contribute to energy conservation, ■ develop energy audits and energy management programs for all County facilities, ■ develop a plan to re-invest utility company rebates and utility savings into a long-range funding program for on-going conservation projects, ■ implement operational and maintenance programs which contribute to energy conservation, ■ investigate and implement new energy technologies such as solar and fuel cells, ■ install energy management systems in all County facilities to control air conditioning and lighting systems where beneficial, ■ install ceiling, wall, and roof insulation whenever feasible, ■ install plumbing flow restrictors in toilets, lavatories and showers, and ■ provide energy conservation training and literature to all County agencies. 	<p>COS-8.6</p>	<p>GSA</p>	<p>■</p>
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[Source: Existing GPP Program 1.9.3.1, modified]

<p>R Solar Canopies in Non-Residential Projects The County shall amend the County's Coastal and Non-Coastal Zoning</p>	<p>COS-8.7</p>	<p>RMA PWA</p>	<p>■</p>
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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>Ordinances to require parking lots for new non-residential construction projects, with floor area of greater than 50,000 square feet, to include solar canopies. [Source: New Program]</p> <p>EJ CAP</p>							
<p>S Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program The County shall develop a behavior change program for energy efficiency and conservation. This program would provide energy literacy training for low-income customers on buying energy-efficient products or using energy more efficiently; develop and offer digital applications offering real-time energy use information to residents and businesses; offer anonymized data on community energy use for residents to compare performance; and provide rewards or rebates for improved energy conservation. [Source: New Program]</p> <p>EJ CAP</p>	COS-8.10	CEO n/a	■				
<p>T GHG Strategy Implementation The County shall implement the General Plan GHG Strategy through specific policies, programs, and implementing actions integrated throughout the General Plan and summarized in Appendix B. [Source: New Program]</p> <p>CAP</p>	See all policies and programs tagged with a CAP symbol in General Plan	RMA Varies (see descriptions for individual components or GHG reduction measures)					■
<p>U Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Monitoring The County shall regularly monitor the status of the GHG Strategy, including measurement of progress in achieving the GHG reduction target and goals. [Source: New Program]</p> <p>CAP</p>	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA n/a					■

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
V Public Reporting on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Progress The County shall prepare public reports on the results of GHG Strategy implementation and monitoring and present these reports to the Board of Supervisors annually. The County shall also present a more detailed progress report to the Board of Supervisors, including results of the latest GHG inventory update, every five years. <i>[Source: New Program]</i> CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA <hr/> CEO				■	
W Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Updates The County shall update the County's GHG emissions inventory at least every five years. <i>[Source: New Program]</i> CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA <hr/> CEO	■	■	■		■
X Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Updates The County may amend the GHG Strategy to ensure that the County is on track to achieve its 2030 target and making substantial progress towards achieving its longer-term, post-2030 goals. <i>[Source: New Program]</i> CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA <hr/> CEO					■
Y Streamlining Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Analysis for Projects Consistent with the General Plan Projects subject to environmental review under CEQA may be eligible for tiering and streamlining the analysis of GHG emissions, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15183.5, provided they incorporate applicable GHG reduction measures included in the GHG Strategy contained in the General Plan and Program EIR. The County will review such projects to determine whether the following criteria are met:	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA <hr/> Varies (see descriptions for individual components or GHG reduction measures)					■

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Proposed project is consistent with the current General Plan land use designation and applicable zoning designations for the project site; ■ Proposed project incorporates all applicable GHG reduction measures (as documented in Appendix B to the General Plan and analyzed in the GHG Section of the Program EIR) into project design and/or as binding and enforceable mitigation measures in the project-specific CEQA document prepared for the project; and, ■ Proposed project clearly demonstrates the method, timing and process for which the project will comply with applicable GHG reduction measures and/or conditions of approval. <p>The County may develop more specific tiering and streamlining tools or procedures, such as a consistency review checklist, or more detailed guidance for determining consistency with the GHG Strategy.</p> <p>Similarly, the County may incorporate appropriate elements of such guidance and procedures into the County’s Initial Study Assessment Guidelines (ISAGs). <i>[Source: New Program]</i></p>							

CAP

Please see the next page.