

CHAPTER

8

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

Public facilities and services cover a wide range of public and quasi-public institutions and activities. The County recognizes that it is responsible for providing and maintaining certain facilities and services necessary to maintain a safe, satisfying living environment for its rural residents. These include police and fire protection, libraries, and public facilities such as road and drainage improvements. County government is not structured to provide the level of services and facilities needed to serve more intensive urban development typical in cities. Many services provided in the unincorporated county are provided by independent special districts, such as fire protection and water service in some areas, or by private companies such as garbage service.

As with all of the chapters of the *Solano County General Plan*, this Public Facilities and Services chapter establishes goals and policies for envisioning the future of Solano County. These are based on the Community Vision, which states in part:

We will focus on creative and innovative solutions to meet both human needs and the needs of the natural environment.

We will support practices that use renewable and recycled resources and reduce energy consumption and pollution as much as possible.

...we will support access to opportunities so that individuals may thrive.

We will provide our citizens with an opportunity to succeed through quality education, skills training, and lifelong learning.

We will promote access to civic culture and the arts as part of a healthy community. We will also seek fiscal responsibility in our

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government while supporting a wide range of public services that make Solano County a desirable place to live.

Based on the themes of environment, economy, and equity found in the vision statement, the following major themes are addressed in this chapter:

- protecting the environment through the manner by which sewer, wastewater, and solid waste facilities and services are provided;
- supporting the economy with infrastructure for commercial and industrial uses; and
- promoting equity through access to community facilities and services, and through the provision of responsive law enforcement and emergency services.

This Public Facilities and Services chapter provides information and policy guidance to Solano County to ensure that adequate public facilities and services are available now and in the future. The goal of this chapter is to set a framework for the County to serve existing residents in the unincorporated county and future development.

Purpose

State law requires that some of the topics addressed in this chapter be discussed in the General Plan. Specifically, state guidelines for preparing general plans suggest that the Circulation Element is intended to address circulation of people, goods, energy, water, sewage, and communications. Solano County has chosen to separate the discussion of public facilities and services in this chapter from the discussion of circulation of people and goods included in the Transportation and Circulation chapter.

Solano County includes this chapter because public facilities and services such as utilities, water services, sewer and wastewater, and law enforcement support existing and future development, as described in the Land Use chapter. These services are essential for the County to achieve its vision, while maintaining its foundation in the environment, the economy, and equity.

Scope and Content

This chapter is organized into several topics:

- General,
- Water Facilities and Service,
- Sewer and Wastewater,
- Solid Waste,
- Drainage,
- Fire Protection and Emergency Services,
- Law Enforcement,
- Public Education,

- Community Facilities, and
- Utilities.

Each section in this chapter is organized into three parts: the planning context, policy statements, and implementation programs to act on the policies.

Relationship to Other General Plan Chapters

The issues and topics discussed in this Public Facilities and Services chapter are closely related to those discussed within other chapters of the General Plan. The Drainage section of this chapter is directly related to the Flood Control section of the Public Health and Safety chapter, which focuses on reducing hazards related to flooding. The Fire Protection and Emergency services section is directly related to the Public Health and Safety chapter. The issues that pertain to the Land Use chapter of the General Plan include the lands to be set aside for community facilities, parks, and other recreational opportunities. The relationships between this chapter and other chapters provide a solid structure for integrating planning efforts into the future.

GOALS

As stated previously, this chapter provides Solano County with a framework for serving its residents with adequate public facilities and services. The following goals reinforce the County's commitment to providing adequate services to the community now and in the future. The facilities and services provided by the County contribute to the quality of life for all Solano County residents. They address the previously stated themes of:

- protecting the environment through the manner by which sewer, wastewater, and solid waste facilities and services are provided;
- supporting the economy with infrastructure for commercial and industrial uses; and
- promoting equity through access to community facilities and services, and through the provision of responsive law enforcement and emergency services.

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- PF.G-1: Provide adequate public services and facilities to accommodate the level of development planned by the County.**
- PF.G-2: Ensure that residents throughout Solano County have access to essential public facilities and services.**
- PF.G-3: Provide effective and responsive fire and police protection, and emergency response service.**

GENERAL

This section addresses the policies that apply to all types of services and facilities. Solano County strives to provide a number of valuable public facilities and services. In doing so, the County must be responsive to local needs and to the principles found within the vision statement—the environment, the economy, and equity. To address local needs, the County will provide facilities and services that promote health, safety, and welfare. The County will enhance environmental stewardship by ensuring that new facilities are located near or within established communities, to foster cluster development, and to take advantage of existing infrastructure. The County will address economic concerns by requiring that new development and redevelopment pay their fair share of infrastructure and public service costs. Lastly, the County will promote equity by strategically locating new facilities to maximize use and to provide equal access and opportunity for all residents in the unincorporated county.

Policies

- PF.P-1: Provide public facilities and services essential for health, safety, and welfare in locations to serve local needs.
- PF.P-2: Require new development and redevelopment to pay its fair share of infrastructure and public service costs.
- PF.P-3: Increase efficiency of water, wastewater, stormwater, and energy use through integrated and cost-effective design and technology standards for new development and redevelopment.
- PF.P-4: Ensure that adequate land is set aside within the unincorporated county for public facilities to support future needs.
- PF.P-5: Design and locate new development to maximize the use of existing facilities and services and to coordinate with the cities the need for additional County services.
- PF.P-6: Guide development requiring urban services to locations within and adjacent to cities.
- PF.P-7: Coordinate with the cities to strongly encourage compact urban development within city urban growth areas to avoid unnecessary extension or reconstruction of roads, water mains, and services and to reduce the need for increased school, police, fire, and other public facilities and services.
- PF.P-8: Notify the appropriate agencies (e.g., school districts, public safety, water) of new development applications

within their service area early in the review process to allow sufficient time to assess impacts on facilities.

Implementation Programs

Funding, Physical Improvements, and Capital Projects

PF.I-1: Use the County's Capital Improvement Program to identify, plan, and provide for future public facilities and improvements. Capital Improvement Program projects shall be reviewed annually for consistency with General Plan policies and coordinated with current and future development.

Related Policies: PF.P-4, PF.P-1, PF.P-17

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management and Department of General Services

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-2: Investigate the feasibility of additional funding mechanisms (such as a CFD) to provide fire, EMS, and other services to unincorporated areas, including rural north Vacaville area, unincorporated areas around the City of Fairfield, and City of Dixon.

Related Policies: PF.P-1, PF.P-2, PF.P-5

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-3: Review the County's current development fee schedule and revise it as necessary to ensure that the development fees reflect the facility improvements necessary to implement the General Plan and provide adequate levels of service. Storm drainage, roadways and transportation, parks, fire protection, law enforcement, libraries, and other fees should be considered.

Related Policies: PF.P-2, PF.P-8, TC.P-5

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

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Time Frame: Ongoing

Development Review

PF.I-4: Evaluate the level of services and funding needs of the various agencies and districts that will provide public facilities and services during project review to ensure that adequate levels of service are provided and facilities are maintained.

Related Policies: PF.P-7, PF.P-8

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management and local service agencies

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-5: Work with the owners and operators of methane-producing facilities (e.g., landfills, dairies, wastewater treatment plants) to establish methane recovery and electricity generation systems.

Related Policy: PF.P-3

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-6: Coordinate with the cities and the Solano County Local Area Formation Commission to ensure that urban development in areas included within the cities' municipal service area are served by a full range of urban services (e.g., public water and sewer, public transit, safety and emergency response services, parks, trails, open spaces) through city annexation.

Related Policies: PF.P-5, PF.P-1, PF.P-6, PF.P-17

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

WATER FACILITIES AND SERVICE

Planning Context

Water service, a basic necessity, is provided to residences, businesses, farms, and municipal institutions by various agencies within Solano County. The availability of water service depends on the federal, state, and County agencies that own, operate, and maintain a complex system of infrastructure. Water infrastructure traditionally includes facilities such as aqueducts, dams, treatment plants, miles of water pipeline, and wells.

Solano County has a number of water providers, districts, and sources. Solano County Water Agency delivers untreated water from the Solano Project (a project that includes Monticello Dam and Lake Berryessa) and the North Bay Aqueduct (a State Water Project facility). The Solano County Water Agency provides water for municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses in Fairfield, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo, Benicia, the Solano Irrigation District and Maine Prairie Water District service areas, UC Davis, and the California State Prison in Solano County. Agricultural users in the Solano Irrigation District service area use surface water and groundwater; those in the Maine Prairie Water District service area and Reclamation District 2068 use surface water only. Other water sources in the unincorporated county are the Rural North Vacaville Water District, the City of Vallejo, Suisun-Solano Water Authority, and private and community wells. Additionally, some wastewater from the Fairfield/Suisun area is recycled and used for agricultural purposes.

The Suisun-Solano Water Authority is a joint powers authority with Suisun City and the Solano Irrigation District. It provides domestic water to users in Suisun City and the Tolenas unincorporated community. The City handles billing and service requests and the district delivers the water.

Drinking water treatment services in Solano County are provided by seven water treatment facilities: Vacaville's Diatomaceous Earth Plant (DE Plant), Vacaville and Fairfield's North Bay Regional Water Treatment Plant (NBR Plant), Fairfield's Waterman Treatment Plant, the Suisun-Solano Water Authority's Cement-Hill Water Treatment Plant, Vallejo's Green Valley and Fleming Hill Treatment Plants, and Benicia's water treatment plant. Rio Vista and Dixon are served by groundwater well systems. Vacaville is served via a combination of groundwater wells and water treatment facilities (DE Plant and NBR Plant). Travis Air Force Base receives treated water from the City of Vallejo.

SCWA has expressed concerns about water shortages during drought years because the State Water Project supply is not reliable during such years. Long drought can cause draw down of Lake Berryessa storage levels and lowering of groundwater levels.

Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

Solano County Water Agency

Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) was established in 1951 to provide untreated water to water service agencies in Solano County from the federal Solano Project and the North Bay Aqueduct of the State Water Project. SCWA operates the Solano Project, which delivers water from Lake Berryessa to four of Solano's cities and the Maine Prairie Water District.

Solano Project

The Solano Project is a federal project designed to provide water for drinking and agricultural purposes. Putah Creek is the project's source, and it is stored behind the Monticello Dam, forming Lake Berryessa.

State Water Project

The State Water Project provides water from the Feather River watershed and from the delta to water agencies around the state. It is one of the primary sources of water to SCWA.

Division of Environmental Health

The Department of Resource Management Division of Environmental Health administers and enforces federal, state, and local laws and policies relating to consumer oriented facilities, water systems and waste disposal, and activities involving hazardous materials. As part of their Technical Services Program, the division regulates small public water systems.

Policies

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- PF.P-9: Actively support efforts of the Solano County Water Agency, water districts, and regional water suppliers and distributors, to ensure that adequate high-quality water supplies are available to support current and future development projects in Solano County.
- PF.P-10: Maintain an adequate water supply by promoting water conservation and development of additional cost-effective water sources that do not result in environmental damage.
- PF.P-11: Promote and model practices to improve the efficiency of water use, including the use of water-efficient landscaping, beneficial reuse of treated wastewater, rainwater harvesting, and water-conserving appliances and plumbing fixtures.

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- PF.P-12: Protect the county's public water supply and delivery infrastructure from natural disasters or acts of terrorism.
- PF.P-13: Support efforts by irrigation districts and others to expand Solano County's irrigated agricultural areas.
- PF.P-14: In areas identified with marginal water supplies, require appropriate evidence of adequate water supply and recharge to support proposed development and water recharge.
- PF.P-15: Domestic water for rural development shall be provided through the use of on-site individual wells or through public water service.
- PF.P-16: Provide and manage public water service through public water agencies.
- PF.P-17: Limit public water infrastructure to developed areas or those designated for future development to prevent growth-inducing impacts on adjoining agricultural or open space lands.
- PF.P-18: The minimum lot size for properties to be served by individual on site wells and individual on site sewage disposal systems shall be five acres. Where cluster development is proposed with on site wells and sewage disposal systems, parcels may vary in size provided the overall density of the project is not greater than five acres per parcel and that no individual parcel is less than one acre in size.
- PF.P-19: The minimum lot size for properties to be served by public water service with individual on site sewage disposal systems shall be 2.5 acres. Where cluster development is proposed with public water service and on site sewage disposal systems, parcels may vary in size provided the overall density of the project is not greater 2.5 acres per parcel and that no individual parcel is less than one acre in size.
- PF.P-20: Minimize the consumption of water in all new development.

Implementation Programs

Regulations

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- PF.I-7: Maintain the Zoning Ordinance to specify minimum lot sizes for properties with on-site sewage and on-site wells.

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Related Policies: PF.P-18, PF.P-19

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-8: Implement the recommendations from the *English Hills Specific Plan Groundwater Investigation* establishing minimum parcel sizes to ensure adequate groundwater supply and recharge for the English Hills area.

Related Policy: PF.P-9

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-9: Adopt ordinances that require the use of water-efficient landscaping, water-conserving appliances and plumbing fixtures.

Related Policy: PF.P-20

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Water Agency

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding, Physical Improvements, and Capital Projects

PF.I-10: Seek federal funds or grants to ensure protection of the County's public water supply and delivery infrastructure from natural disasters or acts of terrorism. Use these funds to develop a program to reduce such risks.

Related Policy: PF.P-12

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Water Agency

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Development Review

PF.I-11: Continue to require preparation of a water supply assessment pursuant to the California Water Code to analyze the ability of water supplies to meet the needs of regulated projects, in the context of existing and planned future water demands. Review the availability of water to serve new developments in the unincorporated area before permitting such developments and ensure that the approval of new developments will not have a substantial adverse impact on water supplies for existing water users.

Related Policies: PF.P-9, PF.P-14

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-12: Continue to work with water suppliers to ensure adequate future water supply and delivery. Review development proposals and require necessary studies, as appropriate, and water conservation and mitigation measures to ensure adequate water service.

Related Policies: PF.P-9, PF.P-17

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-13: Require new development proposing on-site water supplies in areas identified with marginal water supplies to perform a hydrologic assessment to determine whether project plans meet the County's hydrologic standards.

Related Policies: PF.P-9, PF.P-11, PF.P-14.

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

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PF.I-14: Review plans for new development projects to ensure that they have provided for water on-site or through a public agency.

Related Policies: PF.P-15, PF.P-16

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-15: Investigate the potential for innovative recycled water systems in Solano County, such as the use of greywater for domestic and agricultural purposes, and identify sources of funding for implementation of these systems.

Related Policies: PF.P-3, PF.P-9, PF.P-11, PF.P-12

Agency/Department: Solano County Water Agency; Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-16: Encourage water agencies to require water efficiency training and certification for landscape irrigation designers and installers, and property managers. Work with local partners and water suppliers to educate the public about water conservation options, including landscaping, irrigation, low-water appliances, and other measures the public can take to reduce water use. Encourage water suppliers to provide incentives for customers that use water more efficiently.

Related Policy: PF.P-11

Agency/Department: Solano County Water Agency; Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-17: Assess water use in County-operated facilities and implement programs for efficient water use and wastewater reuse. Implement water conservation

programs as defined by state law and develop new measures in response to community input and changing technology.

Related Policy: PF.P-11

Agency/Department: Department of General Services

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-18: Encourage and assist water suppliers in providing incentives to encourage water conservation or reuse.

Related Policies: PF.P-3, PF.P-9, PF.P-11, PF.P-12

Agency/Department: Solano County Water Agency; Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-19: Cooperate with water suppliers to accomplish the following:

- plan for and coordinate response to future water supply emergencies and droughts;
- develop and implement measures to protect water quality at the source; and
- maintain and expand water supply through acquisition of new sources.

Related Policy: PF.P-9

Agency/Department: Solano County Water Agency; Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-20: Develop an information sharing program in cooperation with public water suppliers as necessary to make appropriate data available to

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the public pertaining to water supply and water use in each supplier's jurisdiction.

Related Policy: PF.P-9

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Water Agency

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-21: Cooperate with the Solano County Water Agency in the implementation of its Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and support the efforts of the Solano County Water Agency to maintain adequate water supply and high water quality. Help the Solano County Water Agency to improve water demand projections and planning. This could include updating the Urban Water Management Plan with population projections as found in the updated general plans of cities and the County.

Related Policies: PF.P-9, PF.P-10

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Water Agency

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

SEWER AND WASTEWATER

Planning Context

Sewer and wastewater services include underground sewer pipes to transfer wastewater from kitchen and bathroom sinks, showers, and toilets to a sewage facility for treatment. Wastewater treatment plants are designed to implement a specific level of water treatment, dependent on the desired end use of the water. For large, rural counties such as Solano County, sewer and wastewater services in the unincorporated areas serving rural development are expensive to provide.

Each of the cities in Solano County—Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo—is currently served by municipal sewer and wastewater systems. Some parcels in the unincorporated county near cities are served by sewer and wastewater services from adjacent cities and sewer districts. The City of Vacaville serves the unincorporated community of Elmira, which is adjacent to the service area for the Vacaville sewer system. The Suisun-Fairfield Sewer District provides sewer

service to the unincorporated community of Cordelia and parts of Suisun Valley from Rockville Road south to the Fairfield city limits. The Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District provides sewer service to the Vallejo unincorporated islands. The City of Dixon provides service to a few parcels directly outside of Dixon.

A few of the larger developments in the unincorporated county have small treatment systems. The Twin Creeks Condominium Project in Green Valley and the recreational vehicle parks within the county have small treatment systems that serve multiple ownerships and users.

The majority of developments in the unincorporated county, those not served by municipal sewer or small-scale treatment systems, operate stand-alone septic tanks. Water treatment using a septic system depends on gravity to move sewage effluent through the soil, where the effluent is treated by the biological activity in the soil. Some properties also employ either an aerobic treatment unit or a sand filter, or both, to assist in treatment. A permit is required in Solano County to install, repair, or modify a septic system. Under this permitting system, records are kept for all septic tanks within the county. Problems with septic systems have been reported when heavy rains saturate the soil and the systems' leaching mechanisms do not operate at full capacity, potentially releasing raw sewage. Untreated sewage on the ground can lead to increased human exposure, adverse health affects, and groundwater pollution.

Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

Regional Water Quality Control Boards

The Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) are local divisions of the State Water Resources Control Board. Solano County in the jurisdiction of two RWQCBs: the San Francisco Bay RWQCB in the western county and the Central Valley RWQCB in the east (see Figure PF-1). The State Water Resources Control Board was created in 1967 to allocate water resources and to protect water quality. The mission of the Regional Boards is to develop and enforce water quality objectives and implementation plans to best protect the state's waters, recognizing local differences in climate, topography, geology, and hydrology.

Policies

PF.P-21: Sewer services for development within the unincorporated area may be provided through private individual on-site sewage disposal systems, or centralized community treatment systems managed by a public agency utilizing the best systems available that meet tertiary treatment or higher standards. Use of such centralized sewage treatment systems shall be limited to: (1) existing developed areas, (2) areas designated for commercial or industrial uses, or (3) areas designated for rural residential

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development when part of a specific plan or policy plan overlay.

PF.P-22: Ensure that new and existing septic systems and sewage treatment systems do not negatively affect groundwater quality.

Implementation Programs

Regulations

PF.I-22: Review and revise the County Code to ensure it incorporates current best practices to minimize the impacts of on-site septic systems and sewage treatment systems. This revision should address standards within chapters 6.4, 12.2, 13.10, 26, 28, and 31 of the County code.

Related Policies: PF.P-21, PF.P-22

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: By 2011

Development Review

PF.I-23: When reviewing development proposals,

- Require septic systems to be located outside of primary groundwater recharge areas, or where that is not possible, require shallow leaching systems for disposal of septic effluent.
- Require new septic systems or leach fields to be installed at least 100 feet away from natural waterways, including perennial or intermittent streams, seasonal water channels, and natural bodies of standing water. Make an exception for the repair of existing systems if the 100 foot setback area cannot be maintained and if adequate provisions are made for protecting water quality.
- Require the use of alternative wastewater treatment techniques to respond to site characteristics, as determined by the California Department of Health Services and regional water quality control boards.



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Figure PF-1

Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Legend

Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs)

Central Valley RWQCB

San Francisco Bay RWQCB

RWQCB Basin Division Boundary

Basemap Layers

Roadways

Highways

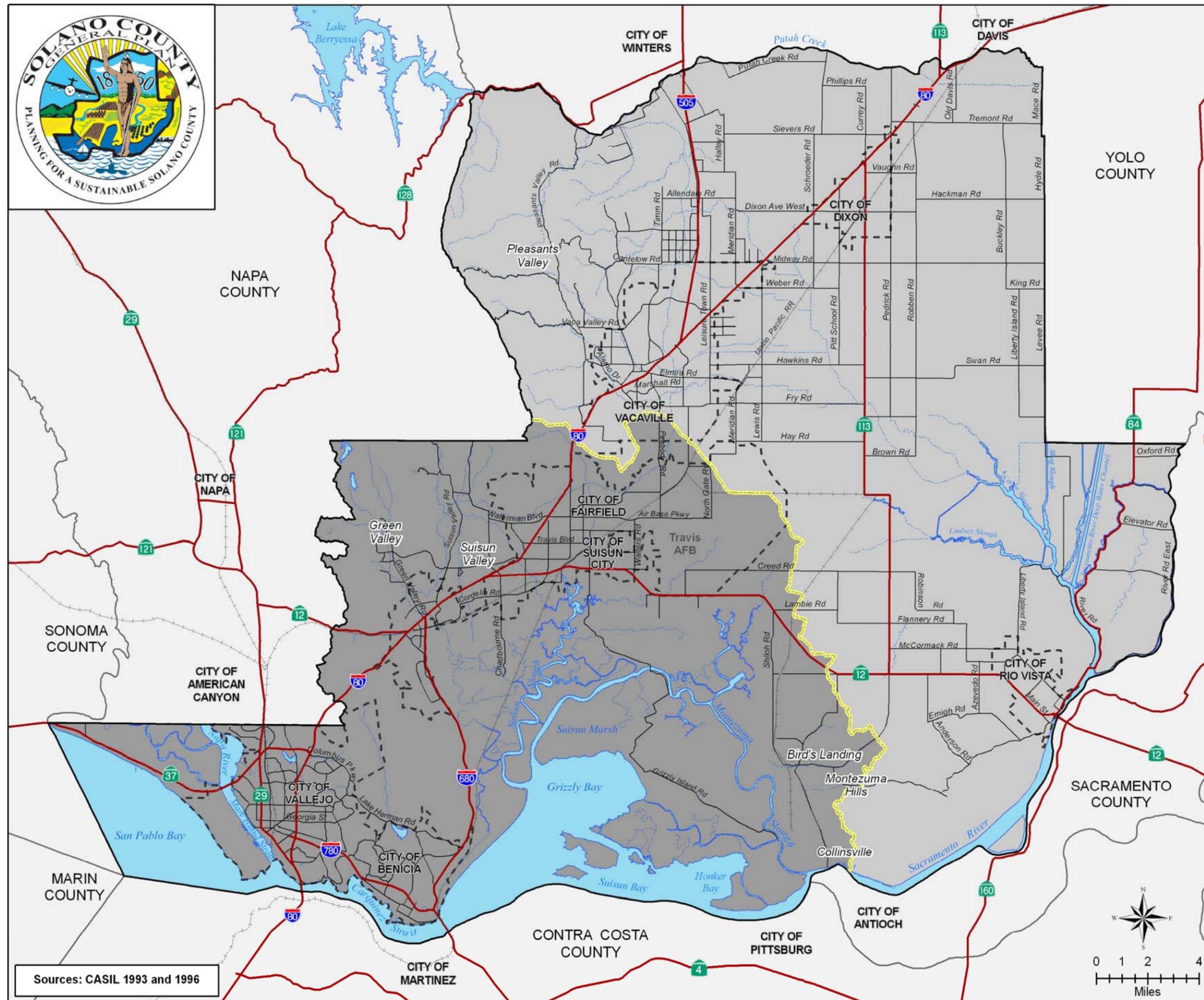
Railroads

Streams and Creeks

Major Water Features

Municipal Service Areas

Adjacent Counties



Sources: CASIL 1993 and 1996



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- Require new development with septic systems to be designed so as to prevent nitrates and other pollutants of concern from septic disposal systems from impairing groundwater quality.

Related Policies: PF.P-21, PF.P-22

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-24: On-site sewage disposal systems for individual lots and subdivisions may be operated by private property owners. A public agency shall manage a centralized community sewage disposal system. If lands proposed to be served by a community sewage disposal system are not within the boundaries or service area of an existing public sewage treatment agency, the Board of Supervisors shall, as a condition of development, designate a public agency to provide and manage the public sewer service. Sewer treatment facilities shall be designed to provide sewer service to existing developed areas, areas designated for commercial or industrial uses, or areas designated for rural residential development when part of a specific plan or policy plan overlay. An analysis of the financial viability of constructing, operating, and maintaining a proposed community sewage disposal system shall be required.

Related Policy: PF.P-21

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-25: Continue to enforce the abatement of ailing septic systems that have been demonstrated as causing a health and safety hazard.

Related Policy: PF.P-22

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

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Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-26: Continue inspection of individual sewage facilities to ensure they are not adversely affecting water quality.

Related Policy: PF.P-22

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

SOLID WASTE

Planning Context

According to the state (California Public Resources Code, Section 40191[a]) "solid waste" is any discarded solid, semisolid, or liquid material that is not hazardous waste, manure, or vegetable or animal solid or semisolid. Garbage, paper, aluminum cans, and glass jars are common examples of nonhazardous solid waste that are typically disposed of in a landfill or recycled into new materials. Hazardous solid wastes are corrosive, toxic, reactive, or flammable materials, such as oil-based paints, solvents batteries, and automotive fuels that should be disposed of, or recycled, at a facility that specializes in hazardous waste management.

The County contracts with many different companies to collect solid waste. The collection companies pick up nonhazardous solid wastes and transport these wastes to a landfill. Nonrecyclable solid wastes generated in the unincorporated county are disposed of in one of two privately owned landfills: (1) the Potrero Hills Landfill, located near State Route (SR) 12 and Suisun City, and (2) the Hay Road Landfill, located on SR 113 east of Vacaville (see Figure PF-2). The Potrero Hills Landfill is located in the Secondary Management Area of the Suisun Marsh. The Public/Quasi-public land use designation applied to the Potrero Hills Landfill shall be temporary and limited to only a solid waste facility established consistent with Solano County Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program Utilities, Facilities and Transportation Policy 4. (Appendix C). All other Public/Quasi-public facilities and uses shall not be permitted at this site. When the Potrero Hills Landfill is closed, the land use designation for this area shall revert to Agriculture. The Potrero Hills Landfill will reach its near-term capacity in 2013, but may be expanded to reach its long-term capacity in 2049. The Hay Road Landfill has until 2070 before it reaches capacity. Each site shall be restored to its original natural condition consistent with each site's approved closure plan and reclamation plan. Restoration may be phased over the life of the landfill. Other than these two landfills, no other facilities accept solid waste in Solano County.

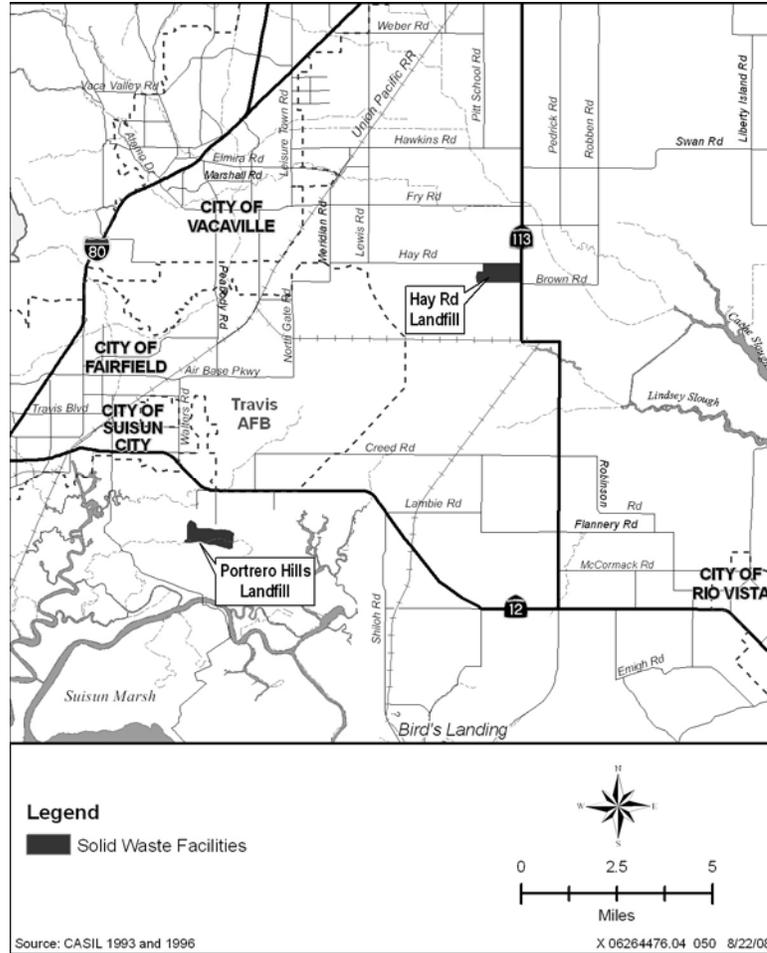


Figure PF-2
Solid Waste Facilities

As required by state law (Assembly Bill 939), Solano County diverts at least 50 percent of its solid waste from landfills to recycling facilities. Since 2000, the County has continued its recycling efforts, as recommended by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). The CIWMB is currently working to identify the most effective and efficient means to create a "zero waste California."

Solano County reaches its 50 percent garbage diversion rate by recycling bottles, cans, paper, and other recyclables. The unincorporated county does not have its own recycling facility. However, recycling facilities located in the cities accept recyclable material from unincorporated areas.

Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

California Integrated Waste Management Board

CIWMB is a state agency under the umbrella of the California Environmental Protection Agency. In 1989, the legislature passed the Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (Assembly Bill 939). The act mandated that California's 450 jurisdictions divert 25 percent of their solid waste by 1995 and a 50 percent by 2000.

The CIWMB oversees, manages, and tracks California's solid waste. The CIWMB provides grants and loans to help cities, counties, businesses, and organizations meet their waste reduction, reuse, and recycling goals. It also provides funds to clean up solid waste disposal sites.

Solano County Integrated Waste Management Plan

The Solano County Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP) was developed in response to Assembly Bill 75, which required each state agency and large state facility to develop such a plan. This legislation requires the County to report annually on the implementation of its Integrated Waste Management Plan.

Policies

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- PF.P-23: Ensure that land uses adjacent to solid waste disposal sites will not conflict with the current or possible future use of solid waste disposal sites. Keep land adjacent to disposal sites that handle toxic and hazardous wastes in compatible land uses.
- PF.P-24: Ensure that disposal operations for solid waste are performed in a manner compatible with surrounding land uses. Ensure that at the end of such operations the site is restored to a use compatible with surrounding land uses.
- PF.P-25: Collaborate with the state, regional, and city agencies and landfill operators to ensure that the capacity of available landfills is sufficient. Prioritize capacity for waste generated within the county. Ensure that programs are designed to meet or exceed state requirements for landfill capacities.
- PF.P-26: Implement and participate in local and regional programs that encourage source reduction and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes in Solano County.
- PF.P-27: Require responsible waste management practices, including recycling and composting. Coordinate with service providers to compost green waste and encourage local farmers to use this.

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- PF.P-28: Promote technologies that allow the use and reuse of solid waste, including biomass or biofuel as an alternative energy source.
- PF.P-29: Design all new landfill sites to reduce or eliminate off-site odor, leachate, transportation, vector, and other potential effects on nearby properties.
- PF.P-30: Collaborate with other counties to create a joint recycling program that accepts recyclable materials that are not currently recycled in Solano County.
- PF.P-31: The Public/Quasi-public land use designation applied to the Potrero Hills Landfill is a temporary designation and shall be limited to only a solid waste facility that is established consistent with Solano County *Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program* and *Suisun Marsh Protection Plan*. The temporary designation is for the life of a facility, as permitted. Once any portion of the facility is closed, the agricultural land use designation will be restored and in affect.

Implementation Programs

Regulations

PF.I-27: Amend the General Plan following completion of the update of Integrated Waste Management Plan to identify the location of solid waste disposal facilities planned for the future. The Public/Quasi-Public land use designation applied to the Potrero Hills Landfill shall be limited to only a solid waste facility that is established consistent with Solano County's *Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program* and *Suisun Marsh Protection Plan*.

Related Policies: PF.P-23, PF.P-24, PF.P-25, PF.P-26, PF.P-27, PF.P-28, PF.P-29, PF.P-30, PF.P-31

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Development Review

PF.I-28: Require that demolition projects submit a plan to maximize reuse of building materials at the time of permit application.

Related Policies: PF.P-26, PF.P-27

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Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-29: Expand waste minimization efforts, including household recycling, food waste and green waste recycling, business paper recycling, and construction and demolition recycling. Require commercial and industrial recycling. Require building projects to recycle or reuse a minimum of 50 percent of unused or leftover building materials.

Related Policies: PF.P-26, PF.P-27

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-30: Update and implement the *Solano County Integrated Waste Management Plan* and *Solano County Hazardous Waste Management Plan* to implement specific policies within this section regarding planning and implementation of solid waste and hazardous waste programs.

Related Policies: PF.P-23, PF.P-24, PF.P-25, PF.P-26, PF.P-27, PF.P-28, PF.P-29, PF.P-30

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

DRAINAGE

For additional information and policies related to flooding, refer to the Public Health and Safety chapter of this General Plan.

Planning Context

Drainage systems prevent waters, usually rainwater but also run-off from human activity, from pooling or otherwise inundating areas that are not

intended to receive such waters. A drainage system includes various types of constructed facilities and natural features that allow surface waters to enter an underground pipe system or open conveyance (ditch, canal, or swale) that transfers water to streams, rivers, or larger bodies of water.

Solano County cities are individually responsible for drainage within their borders and have constructed facilities to handle surface runoff. The unincorporated county relies heavily on gravity to drain excess surface waters to natural water courses. Relying on natural waterways means the County must evaluate the use of the watershed to preserve the natural integrity of the waterways and to prevent damage to the watershed or individual water courses. Landowners within the unincorporated county's watersheds must capture runoff on-site because there is no other system available to accommodate that runoff. These landowners will need to find ways to allow water to filter into the soil on their properties and/or use other natural systems to detain and filter runoff. This also has environmental benefits, as pollutants can be captured locally, rather than making their way into natural waterways, and water can be re-used on-site, where appropriate.

Policies

-
- PF.P-32: Cooperate with the cities, Solano County Water Agency, and other special districts to serve all areas in need of drainage improvements.
- PF.P-33: Require development projects to minimize pollution of stormwater, water bodies receiving runoff, and groundwater, and to maximize groundwater recharge potential by:
- implementing planning and engineering design standards that use low-impact development techniques and approaches to maintain and mimic the natural hydrologic regime;
 - using "infiltration" style low-impact development technologies; and
 - following stormwater best management practices during and after construction, in accordance with relevant state-required stormwater permits.
- PF.P-34: Control the rate and dispersal of runoff from developments through use of detention and retention basins, appropriate landscaping, minimal use of impervious surfaces, and other stormwater facilities.
- PF.P-35: Provide for the costs of operating and maintaining storm drainage facilities by establishing the appropriate funding

entity and fees to ensure that the costs are borne by those receiving benefit.

PF.P-36: Support Solano County Water Agency efforts to improve flood control and storm drain facilities.

PF.P-37: Encourage and pursue the consolidation of flood control management responsibilities within a single countywide entity.

Implementation Programs

Funding, Physical Improvements, and Capital Projects

PF.I-31: Design, construct, and maintain County buildings, roads, bridges, drainage, and other facilities to minimize sediment and other pollutants in stormwater flows. Develop and implement best management practices for ongoing maintenance and operation.

Prepare and implement a BMP manual for minimizing stormwater pollutants associated with construction and maintenance of County buildings, roads, and other facilities.

Related Policies: PF.P-11, PF.P-33, RS.P-71

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: As identified in Capital Improvement Program

Time Frame: Ongoing

Development Review

PF.I-32: As a condition of project approval, require new development to provide adequate on-site and off-site stormwater and drainage facilities to control both direct and indirect erosion and discharges of pollutants and/or sediments so that "no net increase in runoff" occurs as a result of the proposed project. To determine the needs for facilities and best management practices, the County will require, when necessary, that a licensed and County-approved civil engineer perform a hydrological/drainage analysis. The project applicant would be responsible for the cost of this analysis.

In cases where a local or regional drainage facility may be the best solution to serve multiple

properties or an entire drainage basin, the County will work with property owners and public agencies with jurisdiction in the affected area to devise an appropriate funding mechanism (e.g., impact fees, assessment district) for such facilities.

Related Policies: PF.P-33, PF.P-35

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-33: Require that future development in the Limited Industrial area northeast of Dixon be consistent with applicable drainage studies and regional drainage plans applicable to the area, in coordination with the City of Dixon, Resource Conservation Districts and other agencies. Prior to development of this area, the applicant shall enter into a development agreement with the County specifying how drainage and traffic impacts would be mitigated. The County shall work in cooperation with the City of Dixon, Resource Conservation Districts and other agencies in determining impacts and mitigation strategies.

Related Policies: LU.P-28, PF.P-34, PF.P-35

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-34: Provide incentives (such as water quality credits, larger paved areas, or other site plan considerations) for replacing areas that use extensive impermeable materials with permeable materials for surfaces such as driveways, parking lots, and sidewalks in the unincorporated county.

Related Policies: PF.P-32, PF.P-33, PF.P-34

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Planning Context

Fire protection services, including on-call responders for wildland, residential, commercial, and vehicle fires are provided in Solano County through fire protection districts and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). The districts and CAL FIRE also provide fire prevention programs, such as plan checking, public education, and support services. Emergency services are provided by paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) who perform pre-hospital medical procedures to aid injured victims of automobile accidents, heart attacks, drownings, gunshot wounds, and other unexpected incidents that require immediate medical attention. Emergency services providers give care while they transport the sick or injured to a medical facility.

In the unincorporated county, six fire districts and CAL FIRE cooperate to provide fire protection and emergency services. The six fire districts are the Cordelia Fire Protection District (FPD), the Dixon FPD, the East Vallejo FPD, the Montezuma FPD, the Suisun FPD, and the Vacaville FPD. In addition, CAL FIRE operates the Gordon Valley Fire Station located in Napa County. This station assists with fire protection services for several unincorporated communities in Solano County.

Many of the fire districts are under contract with the cities to use their stations and equipment. The Dixon FPD is currently under contract with the City of Dixon Fire Department and uses the city's station. Also, East Vallejo FPD is under contract with the City of Vallejo Fire District to provide services to unincorporated southeast Vallejo.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) rates areas on how quickly emergency service providers arrive on scene at an incident. ISO ratings range from 10 which indicate the slowest service to 1 for the quickest service. Fire districts may have different rating for different service areas within their jurisdiction. Some areas of the county have slow service ratings because of matters beyond the fire districts' control, such as distance responders must travel from a station, lack of funding, or poor road conditions. Thorough investigations are necessary to determine strategies to improve service. The County may be able to resolve these issues through improved and additional infrastructure, additional funds to complete needed improvements and other methods.

In Solano County the local emergency medical service agency is the Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative. (SEMSC). SEMSC is a joint parties agreement between the county and the cities, with the exception of Vacaville, that provides for a single ambulance provided that employs both paramedics and EMTs to provide prehospital emergency care to any persons with the jurisdiction of the agency. Fire departments and districts also respond with EMS personnel to reduce response times.

Some parts of the unincorporated county may be considered “underserved” regarding emergency medical services because of number of available trained paramedics and EMTs and slower response times for service.

Policies

PF.P-38: Ensure accessible and cost-effective fire and emergency medical service throughout the county. Facilitate coordination among city and county fire agencies and districts to improve response times, increase services levels, provide additional training, and obtain essential equipment.

PF.P-39: Identify and require incorporation of fire protection and emergency response measures in the review and approval of new projects.

Implementation Programs

Development Review

PF.I-35: Coordinate with the fire districts and CAL FIRE during project review to ensure that all new development incorporates appropriate fire-safety techniques, including fire-safe building materials, early-warning systems, adequate clear spaces and fuel reduction, adequate escape routes and facilities, fire breaks, and sufficient water supply systems for fire suppression.

Related Policy: PF.P-39

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Funding, Physical Improvements, and Capital Projects

PF.I-36: Collaborate with fire districts to evaluate additional funding options to improve infrastructure needed for fire protection.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

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PF.I-37: Support incentives, such as streamlined permitting and fee reductions that encourage compliance with fire safety requirements.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-38: Support public education programs that encourage compliance with fire safety requirements.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Fire Districts; CAL FIRE

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-39: In cooperation with fire districts, investigate options to improve service, such as merging districts, increasing training opportunities, and sharing and obtaining essential equipment.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Local Agency Formation Commission

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-40: Maintain, and expand as necessary to meet demand, the emergency services dispatch system that coordinates fire, emergency medical, and law enforcement response.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Fire districts; Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative

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Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-41: Continue to work collaboratively with countywide emergency service agencies to develop mutual aid and response agreements. Facilitate the development of mutual aid agreements among the fire districts to ensure acceptable response times for all areas of the county.

Related Policy: PF.P-38

Agency/Department: Office of Emergency Services; Fire districts; Solano Emergency Medical Services Cooperative

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Planning Context

Solano County provides law enforcement services to prevent, respond to, and apprehend criminal activity. The majority of the law enforcement services are administered by the Solano County Office of the Sheriff, a state constitutional office headed by an elected sheriff.

The sheriff is responsible for a variety of law enforcement services, such as safety patrol services, dispatch of safety personnel, holding custody of adult law offenders, operation of the jail and security at court facilities. The sheriff operates two jails in Solano County: the Fairfield Main Facility and the Claybank Facility. The sheriff also conducts investigations, provides coroner services, maintains criminal records, and administers specialty services including SWAT, Marine Patrol, Canine Narcotics Enforcement, Bicycle Enforcement, and Crowd Control Team. These duties are performed by deputy sheriffs, correctional officers, sheriff service technicians, public safety dispatchers, evidence technicians, legal procedures clerks, and administrative staff. The sheriff also relies on partnerships with other agencies in the community, intergovernmental organizations and other employee organizations, to implement effective law enforcement, safe, humane, and secure jails, and security for the superior courts.

Compared with more densely populated areas in California, unincorporated Solano County has low crime rates. The location of reported criminal activities are not concentrated in specific regions of the unincorporated County, but are distributed evenly throughout. While crime rates and types of crime in Solano County reflect that of a rural community, this may change as the County grows to reflect more "urban" types of crime. The following policies and implementation programs focus

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on maintaining response times, identifying needs for increased staffing, equipment, training needs, crime prevention, and disaster preparedness.

Policies

-
- PF.P-40: Provide an effective and responsive level of police protection (including facilities, personnel, and equipment) through the Solano County Office of the Sheriff and in coordination with city police departments.

 - PF.P-41: In the review and approval of County and City projects, identify and consider the law enforcement needs generated by the project.

Implementation Programs

Development Review

-
- PF.I-42: Coordinate with the sheriff to identify and consider the impact on law enforcement services during project review.

 - Related Policy: PF.P-41

 - Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

 - Funding Source: General Fund

 - Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

-
- PF.I-43: Work with criminal justice agencies and community groups to support programs that offer information about crime prevention techniques.

 - Related Policy: PF.P-40

 - Agency/Department: Solano County Office of the Sheriff

 - Funding Source: General Fund

 - Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

-
- PF.I-44: Maintain adequate staffing levels, equipment and resources, and undertake disaster preparedness training as necessary to provide essential law enforcement and emergency services.

Related Policy: PF.P-40

Agency/Department: Solano County Office of the Sheriff

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-45: Work with schools and community groups to identify individuals who show early signs of potential for criminal activity. Develop a support program, based in psychology, to counsel these individuals.

Related Policy: PF.P-40

Agency/Department: Solano County Office of the Sheriff

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Planning Context

A public education system provides children and adults with access to learning free of charge. The system is based on a hierarchy of schools, from preschool through high school and continuation school, and on to college. Traditional goals of a public education system are to provide convenient access to local schools, provide low student-teacher ratios, and achieve high scores on the statewide testing program (STAR) and other academic performance tests.

The public school hierarchy begins with preschool. However, unlike elementary school, preschool attendance is not mandatory. In Solano County, preschool education is coordinated and overseen by two groups, the First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission and the Solano County Office of Education. These two groups are responsible for organizing other groups to provide preschool services. The preschool providers in Solano County are Head Start, State Preschool, and other public and private for-profit and nonprofit groups. As of 2006, 52 percent of Solano County 4-year-olds attended preschool. The Solano County Preschool for All program focuses on increasing attendance for preschool age students.

Solano County's elementary, middle, high, and alternative and continuation schools are organized into a system of school districts, based on location. There are seven school districts based in Solano County and two school districts that lie partially within the Solano County limits. The Davis Unified School District and the Winters Unified School District lie partially within Solano County but are based in Yolo County. The majority of students in Solano County are enrolled in one of the seven school districts based in

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Solano County, but a small group of students attend Davis Unified School District or Winters Unified School District. Each school district offers at least one elementary, one middle, and one high school. Additionally, some offer alternative, continuation, and/or community day schools.

The majority of unincorporated county students attend the school nearest to their residence, which is generally the school located in the nearest city. In addition, a number of private schools are located in Solano County, most within the incorporated area.

The schools in Solano County have adequate current capacity and facilities for the student population. The school system is looking to the future and planning new facilities and services to provide for Solano County's growing population. The following policies and implementation programs address a variety of needs, including future school facilities and where to locate them, vocational training, recreational opportunities, increased cooperation between the school districts and the County, and financing.

Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

Solano County Office of Education

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) works as an intermediate agency between local schools and the California Department of Education. The SCOE provides support services to the unified school districts and the community college in Solano County, serving approximately 85,000 students. The SCOE also has fiscal oversight over the school districts. SCOE directly educates students in special education, regional occupational programs, and court and community schools.

Solano County Community College District

The Solano County Community College District consists of the Solano Community College in unincorporated county area just outside of the city of Fairfield. The community college offers post-high school education, lower division college courses, and adult learning opportunities. They also partner with Chapman University and John F. Kennedy University to provide upper division college courses.

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission

First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission (First 5 Solano) creates programs and partnerships with community entities to promote, support and improve the lives of young children, families and communities in Solano County. First 5 Solano and the Solano County Office of Education worked together to create a plan to guarantee access to preschool for all children in Solano County, the *Solano Preschool for All Plan*. Initially, the goal of this plan is to provide one year of preschool, the year before a child enters kindergarten. Implementation of this plan includes local fundraising and working with local school districts to identify their readiness and needs for expanding preschool programs

Policies

- PF.P-42: Coordinate with local school districts and the community college district to plan for and set aside adequate sites for future facilities.
- PF.P-43: Locate educational facilities appropriately to make efficient use of existing and planned facilities, including park and recreational facilities.
- PF.P-44: Coordinate with the local school districts in developing and implementing school facility mitigation plans to ensure the necessary financing for the provision of new school facilities.
- PF.P-45: Coordinate with the local school districts and other public and private education providers to ensure that quality education is available for Solano residents of all ages.

Implementation Programs

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-46: Integrate parks and recreation open space corridors and trails where appropriate into existing and future school and community college sites to maximize the benefits of recreational experience as part of the education process. Where possible, pursue joint use sites to allow for shared recreation and education facilities to maximize their use.

Related Policies: PF.P-43, PF.P-45

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Office of Education

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-47: Continue to work with the school and community college districts to ensure adequate sites are available in the community and that impact fees are assessed correctly.

Related Policies: PF.P-42, PF.P-43, PF.P-44, PF.P-45

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Office of Education

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Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-48: Work with First 5 Solano Children and Families Commission and the Solano County Office of Education to implement the *Solano County Preschool for All Plan*.

Related Policy: PF.P-45

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Department of Health and Social Services; Solano County Office of Education

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-49: Encourage education providers to locate future schools within urban areas to achieve the most efficient use of facilities, in particular allowing for the provision of child care and preschool programs.

Related Policies: PF.P-42, PF.P-43

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Solano County Office of Education

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-50: Coordinate with the Solano County Office of Education to provide a career center, providing vocational skills training and college extension classes from the University of California, Davis, and other colleges and universities.

Related Policy: PF.P-45

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; University of California Cooperative Extension; Solano Community College

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

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COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Planning Context

Community facilities are public spaces that are openly accessible to the entire community. These facilities often provide free services. Community facilities generally provided by local governments are libraries, community centers, civic centers, cemeteries, and other facilities for the delivery of various community services. Currently there are no community or senior centers in the unincorporated area of the County, although all of the cities have both community and senior centers.

The Solano County Library System operates eight public libraries located throughout the county. Two are in the City of Fairfield, two are in the City of Vallejo, two are in the City of Vacaville, one is in the City of Suisun, and one in the City of Rio Vista. Solano County also operates the County Law Library in Fairfield. In addition to book services, the libraries also have public meeting rooms, group study rooms, and public computers.

The additional functions provided by libraries throughout the county present opportunities to serve the elderly and other underserved populations in need of community centers, health facilities, and social services. The libraries already provide some of these services informally through their meeting facilities and could be used to expand County services for such groups, including health care and social services, through joint use of facilities.

Although the library system provides a number of important services, the population of Solano County is outgrowing the library facilities when compared to the service standards outlined in the Solano County Library Facilities Master Plan completed in 2001. For rural areas, which comprise the majority of the unincorporated county, Solano County has adopted service standards of 3.2 volumes per capita, five seats per 1,000 population, and 0.4 computers per 1,000 population. Currently, the County provides 1.6 volumes per capita, 1.9 seats per 1,000 population, and 0.4 computers per 1,000 population.

Achieving goals set out in the facilities master plan are important for Solano County because libraries are essential portals to public information and lifelong learning. Among other functions, they are places for one-stop information "shopping," where County departments can disseminate information and where the public goes to access information from multiple sources. Libraries also help to support important civic objectives, including child and adult literacy and life-long learning. Libraries are a key factor in creating informed citizens.

A recent (2008) addition to community facilities within Solano County is the Sacramento Valley VA National Cemetery. As of 2008, it was planned to accommodate an initial phase of 14 acres, and 8,466 gravesites. It will be expanded to serve local veterans with an expectation that its total 560 acres will be sufficient for the next 50 years.

Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

Capital Improvement Program

The Capital Improvement Program consists of all building projects valued at greater than \$25,000 that are built to house County functions. New or improved community facilities to be developed by the County first need to be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program so they can be included in County-wide planning for facilities.

Solano County Library Facilities Master Plan

The Library Facilities Master Plan is a comprehensive plan that makes recommendations for meeting the need for library services and facilities through the year 2020. It was last updated in 2001 and includes all of the communities served by the Solano County Library system.

Solano County Library Strategic Plan

The Library Strategic Plan was developed through a series of meetings of a community-based planning committee. It defines the roles of the library system as providing basic literacy, materials on current topics of interest, general information, and information literacy.

Policies

-
- PF.P-46: Coordinate with the cities to provide community facilities that are accessible to residents.
 - PF.P-47: Ensure access to libraries and other community facilities and services for all residents, including the elderly and underserved populations.
 - PF.P-48: Continue to support joint use of community facilities by various community groups and foster joint use agreements for community facilities with other agencies.

Implementation Programs

Funding, Physical Improvements, and Capital Projects

-
- PF.I-51: Community facilities should be identified and developed through the Capital Improvement Program.
 - Related Policies: PF.P-46, PF.P-47
 - Agency/Department: Department of General Services
 - Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Ongoing Planning Efforts, Public Outreach, and Education

PF.I-52: Identify and consider opportunities for libraries and other community facilities to share facilities and services.

Related Policy: PF.P-45

Agency/Department: Department of General Services; Solano County Library

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

PF.I-53: Actively support implementation of facility and service strategic plans, including *the Solano County Library Facilities Master Plan (2001)* and *Solano County Library Strategic Plan (2006)*.

Related Policies: PF.P-46, PF.P-47, PF.P-48

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management; Department of General Services; Solano County Library

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

UTILITIES

Planning Context

Utilities are the infrastructure that provide energy (natural gas and electricity) communications (land lines and cellular), information, and entertainment services to Solano County. Solano County relies on multiple private companies for these services to provide redundancy and reliability.

The following policies and implementation programs are directed at locating future utility alignments and avoiding disruption to natural areas.

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Related Plans, Programs, and Agencies

California Public Utilities Commission

The California Public Utilities Commission regulates privately owned telecommunications, electric, natural gas, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies, in addition to authorizing video franchises. The California Public Utilities Commission works to make California a national and international leader on a number of initiatives related to clean energy and policies designed to benefit consumers, the environment, and the economy.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is an independent agency that regulates the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission also reviews proposals to build liquefied natural gas terminals and interstate natural gas pipelines as well as licensing hydropower projects.

Policies

-
- PF.P-49: Use parallel or existing rights-of-way for gas, electric, and telephone utility alignments in a manner that avoids heavily developed areas.
 - PF.P-50: Locate, design, and construct transmission lines in a manner that minimizes disruption of natural vegetation, agricultural activities, scenic areas, and avoids unnecessary scarring of hill areas.
 - PF.P-51: Encourage undergrounding of local utility distribution lines where feasible.
 - PF.P-52: Increase high-speed wireless access for all residents.

Implementation Programs

Coordination with Other Agencies and Organizations

-
- PF.I-54: Direct utility companies to locate transmission lines within existing rights-of-way or other locations that minimize impacts on human populations and natural areas.
 - Related Policies: PF.P-49, PF.P-50
 - Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management
 - Funding Source: General Fund

Public Facilities and Services Chapter

Time Frame: Ongoing

PF.I-55: Encourage local utility companies to provide high-speed wireless internet access for all residents; prioritize developing transmission lines for solar, wind, and other alternative energy sources; and ensure resiliency and redundant access to the utility grid.

Related Policies: PF.P-49, PF.P-50, PF.P-51, PF.P-52

Agency/Department: Department of Resource Management

Funding Source: General Fund

Time Frame: Ongoing

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