IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Amador County

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Final

Implementation Plan including errata as approved by Board of Supervisors on October 4, 2016

October 2016
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*Final*

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This Implementation Plan will guide the County’s elected and appointed officials, staff, and the public when putting the adopted General Plan goals and policies into practice. The purpose of the Implementation Plan is to translate the overall direction set forth in the General Plan from general terms to specific actions. The Implementation Plan includes programs related to the policies of the Land Use, Circulation, Economic Development, Conservation, Open Space, Safety, Noise, and Governance elements. The programs implementing the Housing Element are located within the element itself because of the requirement for certification of the Housing Element, and the more frequent updates of the Housing Element.

Each program is a procedure, action, or technique that requires County action, either alone or in collaboration with other organizations or state and federal agencies. Some of the programs describe processes or procedures the County currently administers on a day-to-day basis (such as review of development proposals), while others identify new programs or projects.

The following principles will guide General Plan implementation:

- Implementation can take time, especially when necessary resources are limited and required for more than one program. Completion of the identified programs will be subject to funding constraints.
- Because implementation can take time, the County Board, and those to whom the Board delegates, may need to prioritize programs. The General Plan contemplates this ongoing process as part of Amador County’s policy-making function.
- While the Implementation Plan identifies specific programs, programs may be adjusted over time based on new information, changing circumstances, and evaluation of program effectiveness, as long as the adjustments remain consistent with the intent of the General Plan.
- The Implementation Plan includes some countywide programs which are not required by planning law. Prior to implementation of any program or measure, the proposed process or action may be subject to fiscal impact and feasibility analyses at the discretion of the Board.
of Supervisors. It is important to note that by adopting these programs, the County does not intend to establish additional General Plan goals or policies. The Implementation Plan is intended only as an aid to implement the General Plan, and is attached to the General Plan only for convenience. Updates to the programs in the Implementation Plan will not be considered amendments to the General Plan. The programs should be reviewed (and updated if necessary) concurrent with the budget process and whenever the County’s General Plan is amended or updated to provide continued consistency and usefulness.

- To the extent that programs may conflict with the General Plan goals, polices, and land use designations, the language of the goals, policies, and land use designations shall govern.

The programs are organized into the following five subsections, corresponding to various types of County actions:

- Plans, Ordinances, and Standards (P)
- Development Proposal Review (D)
- Public Information or Outreach (O)
- Collaboration with Other Agencies (C)
- Funding, Physical Improvements, or Capital Projects (F)

Each program relates directly to one or more General Plan policy, drawn from various elements. For each program, the related General Plan policies are listed, along with the responsible agencies or County departments, the recommended time frame, and any other agencies the County will consult with in implementing the program. The measures are not grouped by element; many measures relate to policies in more than one element.

This Implementation Plan is intended for use as the basis for preparing the Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors on the status of the County’s progress in implementing the General Plan, as described in Section 65400 of the Government Code. Because many of the programs act as mitigation for environmental impacts resulting from development proposed pursuant to the General Plan, the annual report also provides a means of monitoring application of the mitigation measures as required by Public Resources Code Section 21081.6.
Implementation of State and Federal Law Requirements

California law specifically defines many requirements related to implementation of the General Plan. Examples of clear and specific state law requirements which are likely to affect General Plan implementation include, but are not limited to:

- Water supply assessment (required by Section 10910–10915 of the Water Code) and verification (required by Section 66473.7 of the Government Code);
- Oak woodland protection (Section 21083.4 of the Public Resources Code),
- Fire safe regulations (14 CCR 1270),
- Wildland-Urban Interface Building Code (Title 24),
- Special-status species protection (Section 2081 of the Fish and Game Code),
- Streambed alteration (Section 1600 et seq. of the Fish and Game Code),
- Treatment of Native American human remains (Section 7050 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 5097.9 of the Public Resources Code), and

Federal law also affects some General Plan activities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Consultation related to special-status species (Section 7 or 10 of the Endangered Species Act),
- Permits for fill of wetlands or other waters of the U.S. (Section 404 of the Clean Water Act),
- Stormwater permitting requirements (National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System).

Where compliance with State or federal regulations will require actions or enforcement on the part of the County, the Implementation Plan assumes that the County will implement these regulations in accordance with the goals and policies of the General Plan. Because the General Plan is a long-range document and State and federal regulations are likely to change during the lifetime of the plan, the Implementation Plan does not include specific descriptions of the actions that will be taken to comply with the law.
Program P-1: Zoning Code and Development Regulations

a. The County will update the Zoning Code to implement the policies and programs of the General Plan. This update will include creation of zone districts to implement the Town Centers and Regional Service Center as mixed-use centers.

b. The County will update development regulations to require on-site retention and detention of stormwater, with the objective of avoiding potential increases in downstream flood flows. The County will not regulate stormwater retention and detention to a greater degree than state or federal requirements, unless it is determined by the Board of Supervisors that a clear and overarching need exists.

c. The County will adopt development regulations with the objective of reducing the potential for erosion and landslides. These regulations include requirements to avoid locating development on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or would become unstable as a result of the project. The regulations will also include site grading standards to avoid making unstable slopes steeper.

d. The County will revise the Zoning Code to allow for clustering of residential uses, including smaller residential lots where the balance of the required lot area will be protected by a conservation easement or other means. The purpose of this tool is to permit the preservation of permanent open space to protect specific resources while allowing property owners to develop the same number of units. These regulations would include minimum and maximum final lot sizes, development standards, and placement of units to provide maximum use of the remaining portions of land as agricultural or open space.

The Zoning Code revisions will provide that, where cluster development is proposed, parcels may vary in size provided the overall density of the project does not exceed the maximum density allowed within the zoning designation. Revisions will provide that the remaining areas must be kept in agriculture or open space use.

e. The County will review its design and improvement standards (in Chapter 17 of the Amador County Code),
and modify codes and specifications as needed to provide for the use of low impact development techniques. The objective of these changes is to maintain the County’s surface- and groundwater quality.

f. The County will develop individual guidelines for the three Town Centers (Buckhorn, Pine Grove, and River Pines), to be referenced in the Zoning Code.

The Town Centers are desired sites for small, locally-owned businesses. (see also Program C-2, “Economic Coordination”)

g. The County will develop guidelines to govern the future land use mix in the Martell Regional Service Center, to be referenced in the Zoning Code. The guidelines will also include form-based code specifications, alternative transportation, green building, and low-impact development standards for use in evaluating future discretionary development decisions in Martell.


Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning, Building, Transportation and Public Works, and Environmental Health Departments

Time Frame: Within 12 to 24 months from adoption of General Plan.

Program P-2: Economic Development Plan

a. In consultation with the lead economic development entity and other agencies, the County will participate in the preparation of an Economic Development Plan. This plan will be led by the lead economic development entity, and will:

1. Identify and recommend to the Board of Supervisors changes or deletion of codes, rules, and/or regulations which are restrictive to economic development;

2. Identify the needs of existing businesses and acknowledge the important contributions of existing businesses to the community;
3. Identify specific goals or targets for business retention and development over the next 20 years;

4. Include targets for economic development in two-year increments and implementation steps to be undertaken to achieve specific goals; and

5. Include a targeted Business Attraction Program, incorporating a focused market effort, with a goal of attracting businesses to relocate in Amador County.

Related Policies: E-6.1, E-6.2, E-6.3, E-6.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Working With: Lead economic development entity

Time Frame: June 2017 for Economic Development Plan.

Program P-3: Future Water Supply

a. The County will provide input to water providers in their efforts to plan for coordinated response to future water demand, and future water supply emergencies, including needed capacity during wildfires, and droughts. These efforts would include integrated regional water management plans (addressing surface and groundwater resource, wastewater, stormwater treatment and use, development of reclaimed water, and flooding). These plans should include information on areas with water service capacity. The objective of this planning effort is to assure sufficient reliable water supplies are available to serve new projects, as well as existing and planned development. This planning effort will include:

1. Planning for adequate water supply and water treatment capacity to support future development.

2. Development and implementation of reasonable best management practices for water conservation. These may include (but are not limited to) use of graywater, reclaimed, or recycled water for irrigation, water-conserving plumbing fixtures, and low-water landscapes.

3. Development of water-use standards and regulations to limit demands during water supply emergencies and droughts.
4. Communicate to all appropriate state and federal elected officials, state and federal agencies and departments, that the County is not supportive of projects or designations that would be incompatible with the long term water needs of Amador County.

b. The County will consult with water suppliers as they pursue water and wastewater plans to develop adequate water supplies through expansion of surface water storage, conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater, water conservation, and water recycling.

Related Policies: C-1.1, C-1.2, C-1.4, C-2.1, C-2.2, C-2.3, C-2.4, C-2.5, C-2.8, C-3.2, G-3.1, G-3.2

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning, Building, Transportation and Public Works, and Environmental Health Departments

Working With: Water Agencies

Time Frame: Ongoing; Urban Water Management Plans updated at 5-year intervals.

Program P-4: Flood Planning

a. In order to avoid or substantially reduce the risk that flooding poses to people and property, the County will conduct an annual review of the floodplain map shown in Figure S-1 of the Safety Element, comparing Figure S-1 to flood mapping available from state and federal agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Water Resources. The purpose of this review is to ensure changes are noted and corresponding portions of the General Plan, including land use designations if necessary, are revised.

b. The County will update flood protection policies and programs in the General Plan and applicable development standards (including the Zoning Code) to integrate data from the State Plan of Flood Control and the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan on an annual basis, if required, based on the annual review. For flood-related revisions to the Safety Element, the County will consult with relevant agencies serving the County, consistent with State law. Subsequent subdivision approvals, development agreements, permits, and other County entitlements will incorporate these revised policies and regulations.
c. The General Plan’s description of locations which may accommodate floodwater for groundwater recharge and stormwater management will be updated following subsequent annual reviews, as necessary.

Related Policies: S-1.1, S-1.2, S-1.3, S-1.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning, Transportation and Public Works, and Building Departments, Office of Emergency Services

Time Frame: Annually, concurrent with General Plan report, or as specified

Program P-5: Stormwater Management

a. The County will develop and implement a comprehensive stormwater management program. The objective of this program is to reduce adverse hydrology and water quality impacts by limiting the quantity and increasing the water quality of runoff flowing to the county’s streams and rivers.

This program will incorporate stormwater management programs for agricultural land that are developed and maintained within the Amador County Department of Agriculture and follow state agricultural guidelines.

b. Develop a recommended menu of best management practices (BMPs) to limit soil erosion and runoff from residential, commercial, mining, industrial and hazardous materials sites, which may include (but are not limited to) reduced pavement cover, permeable pavement, and drainage features which increase infiltration and groundwater recharge. The County will require use of some or all of these measures as permit conditions to reduce or avoid adverse erosion, water quality, and hydrology effects, including potential effects on the lifespan of existing water storage facilities. The menu may include low-impact development practices (such as naturalized stormwater management techniques and climate appropriate landscaping) which should be reviewed as part of Program P-1(e).

Related Policies: C-2.6, C-4.1, C-4.2, C-4.3, C-4.4

Responsible Agencies / Departments: Transportation and Public Works Department, Building Department, Planning Department, Department of Agriculture
Time Frame: Within 12 months of adoption of General Plan.

Program P-6: Effective County Services

a. In order to evaluate and maintain the effectiveness of County services, the County will develop service standards for library, public safety, fire response, emergency response, human, and social services. Actual performance will be compared to these standards on an annual basis, and results presented to the Board of Supervisors, with recommendations for action if necessary.

b. Develop a standard for public safety staffing, facilities, and equipment. Based on the cost of maintaining this standard, the County will establish a program consistent with the Mitigation Fee Act to levy proportional impact fees on new development proposals.

Related Policies: LU-3.1, LU-8.4, E-5.1, E-5.2, S-3.1, S-3.2, S-7.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: All Departments, County Administrative Officer

Time Frame: During annual budget process or other similar fiscal or review process, as determined appropriate.

Program P-7: Effective Health Care and Community Services

a. The County will facilitate the provision of effective health care to Amador County’s residents. Actions include:

1. In consultation with the lead economic development entity, support the recruitment of health care operations to the county, with a special focus on encouraging provision of health care services in the Regional Service Center and Town Center areas.

2. Support increased education options in the county, including training and higher education for health care workers.

3. In consultation with health care providers and other non-government organizations, seek to expand access to health care and community services in rural communities.
4. Work to identify specific health care needs and availability of services for the Amador County senior population.

Related Policies: LU-7.1, LU-7.2, LU-7.3, E-5.2

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Health and Human Services Department

Working with: The County’s lead economic development entity.

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program P-8: Early Care and Education

a. The County will review the processing and permitting process for child care facilities to identify ways to streamline or simplify development of these uses. These changes will be proposed for update in the Zoning Code (See also Programs H-5.5 and H-5.6 in the Housing Element).

b. In its economic development activities and development review process, the County should support the retention of existing commercial uses primarily oriented to child care and community services, and encourage the development of new facilities, with particular attention to locations where child care and education services will permit the parents of small children to work.

Related Policies: LU-8.2, E-1.6, E-5.1, E-5.2

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Working With: Amador Child Care Council

Time Frame: Within 12 months after adoption of General Plan, then ongoing.

Program P-9: Mineral Resource Management

a. In order to ensure extraction and processing of mineral resources and aggregate deposits may continue, the County will regulate land uses in Mineral Resource Zone 2 areas to ensure compatibility between mineral extraction and surrounding existing and planned uses.
Program P-10: Timber Production

a. In order to reduce impacts related to conversion of forest land, timberland, and Timberland Production Zones (TPZ) to other uses, the County will seek to keep forest land and timberland in compatible land use designations and zone districts. The County will maintain land presently designated Open Forest or other general plan designations and zoned TPZ in those current general plan designations if a change would result in the conversion of existing forested lands.

b. The County will continue to designate lands which are prime timber lands as Timber Production Zone areas. For lands so designated, the County will encourage responsible forestry and timber harvesting.

c. The County will continue to encourage value-added activities (such as sawmills, cogeneration plants, timber-based manufacturing, and other uses) which contribute to the economic viability of timber production at appropriate locations.

Program P-11: Farmland

a. It is the County’s objective to maintain key farmlands for agricultural and agri-tourism uses, and reduce impacts related to conversion of Farmland (Prime Farmland, Farmland of Local or Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland) to other uses. The County will seek to keep Farmland in agricultural designations when land use or zoning changes are proposed in the unincorporated area. For future changes to non-agricultural designations that affect Farmland areas, the County will reduce or avoid loss of Farmland to the extent feasible.
b. The County will also work with cities and LAFCO to promote the protection of Farmland, including identifying alternatives to expansion of spheres of influence into areas of Farmland.

Related Policies: E-9.6

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Working with: Amador LAFCO, cities

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program P-12: Emergency Response

a. In order to maintain effective emergency and disaster response and reduce hazards related to fire, flood, and public safety emergencies, the County will implement and periodically update disaster plans, including the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and Emergency Operations Plan, to meet federal, state, and local emergency requirements. This effort will include planning to coordinate response actions, and the identification and planning for evacuation routes for dam failure, wildfire, and flooding.

b. The County will regularly assess the resources needed to effectively respond to disaster situations, and ensure proper staffing levels at emergency response agencies.

c. The County will regularly assess the operational integrity of essential public facilities during emergencies, including flood emergencies, and identify actions to maintain operations, as necessary.

d. The County will update equipment and training as necessary, including adopting training standards that meet or exceed state and national standards.

e. The County will develop its capability to handle mass shelters in case of major disasters by maintaining a list of appropriate emergency shelter locations. These sites should be well connected to evacuation routes.


Responsible Department: County Office of Emergency Services, Sheriff’s Department, Police Departments

Time Frame: Ongoing
Program P-13: Scenic Highway Corridor Ordinance

a. The County will develop and adopt an ordinance specifying standards to implement state scenic highway requirements. The intent of this ordinance is to provide land use controls and regulatory safeguards to preserve and enhance an area of special and unique natural beauty and aesthetic interest in Amador County which has been identified as being a basic resource in the economy of the County. In order to accomplish this goal, the ordinance will establish design review controls to ensure that future development within this corridor will not substantially detract from the aesthetics and the County will consequently retain the overall scenic value, as well as economic resource value of SR 88. The objective of this ordinance will be to reduce or avoid visual impacts to state-designated scenic highway corridors. This ordinance will be based on standards in the County’s 1985 Scenic Highways Element. Standards will address landscaping, signs, appearance of buildings (including exterior colors, materials, and height), parking, maintenance, grading, and undergrounding of utilities.

Related Policies: CM-4.1, CM-4.2, CM-4.3

Responsible Department: Planning Department, Building Department, Technical Advisory Committee

Time Frame: Within 6 months after adoption of General Plan.

Program P-14: Hazardous Materials Tracking

a. In order to avoid or substantially reduce hazards related to the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials, the County will continue implementing the Certified Unified Program Agency program, identifying businesses using, storing, and/or transporting hazardous materials. The County will continue to monitor these operations, and will require compliance with state and federal laws.

b. The County will review, revise, and continue permitting and inspection practices for businesses using, storing, and/or transporting hazardous materials, and will provide public agencies (the sheriff, fire departments, California Highway Patrol, and city police departments) with a list of such businesses upon request to
encourage hazardous material training before an event occurs.

Related Policies: S-6.1

Responsible Department: Environmental Health Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program P-15: Waste Management

a. Develop programs to maximize recycling of waste products generated by the community to prolong useful life of landfills. In consultation with waste disposal providers, the County will continue to make solid waste transfer stations available and accessible to county residents.

b. Establish performance criteria for commercial and industrial developments to incorporate on-site waste reduction, waste segregation, and/or recycling of pre- and post-consumer wastes.

Related Policies: LU-5.1, LU-5.2, C-9.5, C-10.8

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Waste Management Department

Time Frame: Within 6 months after adoption of General Plan and ongoing.

Program P-16: Lands for Special Uses

a. The County will condition future development proposals as necessary to ensure that lands suitable for special uses—including cemeteries, wastewater treatment plants, and solid waste disposal facilities—are available.

b. Locations for potential wastewater treatment will be identified and rezoned appropriately so as to protect them from incompatible surrounding land uses.

c. When evaluating potential land use changes, consider the continued use and future development of water storage and power generation facilities on the county’s streams and rivers.
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Related Policies: LU-5.2, LU-9.1, C-2.7

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Development Proposal Review (D)

Program D-1: Development Proposal Evaluation

a. The County will review proposed projects for consistency with goals, policies, and implementation programs of this general plan.

Evaluation criteria for discretionary development proposals (Program D-1a(6) shall also apply to ministerial development proposals) include:

1. Compatibility with existing land uses and public facilities.

2. Location within an existing community, infill development, and ability to increase the density, intensity or diverse service offerings of designated Town Center and Regional Service Center areas.

3. Adequate provision of emergency services, including fire services. Applicants must demonstrate that emergency services meeting the County’s standards (see Program P-6 [Effective County Services]) can be provided to the proposed project. The objective of this program is to avoid or substantially reduce impacts to public services.

4. Availability of public water and wastewater, and ability to connect to existing water and wastewater systems. The objective of this program is to avoid impacts related to lack of reliable water supply, including sufficient water for fire hydrant flow criteria, or wastewater service. If feasible, new units will be required to connect to nearby existing water or wastewater systems. Project applicants must demonstrate the availability of water supply, water treatment capacity and wastewater treatment.

If increased water or wastewater capacity is required, applicants must pay their fair share of the necessary improvements. Where septic or connection to an existing wastewater system is not feasible, the County will require new development
to demonstrate a means of wastewater collection, treatment, and reuse or disposal will be created that would be operated by an approved entity with adequate technical, financial, and managerial resources to assure safe and effective operation. Any such proposed method shall be consistent with goals and objectives of the general plan as well as any planning goals of the operating entity.

5. Availability of water and septic capacity. For projects being served by private well and septic systems, the applicant must demonstrate the availability of sufficient water and septic treatment capacity in accordance with the County’s Code.

6. Impact on traffic and transportation infrastructure and provision of alternative transportation. The County will continue to require developments to pay into the traffic mitigation fee program(s) to mitigate impacts to roadways.

The County will require future ministerial and discretionary projects that exceed threshold traffic volumes to conduct traffic studies (following Amador County Traffic Impact Study Guidelines). The purpose of these traffic studies will be to identify and mitigate any cumulative or project impacts (roadways below the County’s standard of LOS C for rural roadways, and LOS D for roadways in urban and developing areas) beyond the limits of the mitigation fee program(s).

Projects will be required to mitigate their identified offsite impacts by constructing improvements and/or pay a “fair share” of those improvements that would be required to mitigate impacts outside the established mitigation fee program(s) (see Program F-4). The objective of this program is to substantially reduce or avoid traffic impacts, including cumulative impacts, of development which would occur to implement the General Plan.

7. The fiscal impact of development proposals, including residential proposals of 50 or more units, on public services. This evaluation will include cost and revenue effects, and whether the proposal can have a positive fiscal impact to the County.
8. The fiscal impact of large retailers. Large retailers (as defined in the Glossary) may be required to submit a fiscal analysis.

9. The presence of Farmland, proximity of development to working farms, and other effects on agricultural resources. Where the potential for conflicts exist that could adversely affect the operations of working farms, the County will work with the applicant to provide setbacks or use other site planning techniques (such as berms, fencing, landscaping, and building orientation), as appropriate, to substantially reduce or avoid impacts to agriculture from encroachment by other conflicting land uses. Include conditions (such as sizing of facilities or service area boundaries) for proposals which would require infrastructure improvements into areas of Farmland to avoid inducing urban growth.

10. Proximity to and compatibility with forestland, timberland, and Timberland Production Zones. The County will work with the applicant to provide setbacks or use other site planning techniques (such as berms, fencing, landscaping and building orientation) in order to substantially reduce or avoid impacts to forest land, timberland, or Timberland Production Zones from encroachment by incompatible land uses.

11. Proximity to and compatibility with flood prone areas. In order to substantially reduce or avoid flood hazards, no development (as defined in 15.16.050 of the Amador County Code) may be proposed in floodways, and floodproofing must be adequate (including elevation above 100-year flood stage) for all developed uses proposed within the floodplain.

12. Impacts to oak woodlands. The County will assess impacts of proposed projects on oak woodlands, and require mitigation per Public Resources Code Section 21083.4.

13. The County will evaluate development proposals for compatibility with nearby mineral extraction activities and mapped resources to reduce or avoid the loss of mineral resource availability.
14. The County will evaluate development proposals for compatibility with existing airports (including heliports and airstrips).

15. Pedestrian and bicycle improvements. The County seeks to improve pedestrian, and bicycle access.

16. Effect on military readiness and national security.

17. Energy conservation and greenhouse gas emissions. The County will consider energy consumption, energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions when evaluating development proposals. This review will include compatibility with an Action Plan compatible with federal, state, and local requirements and building placement and design features to increase energy efficiency.

18. Where available, the County will encourage new development to participate in the extension of reclaimed water facilities (either off-site or on-site) for beneficial use.

19. Encourage the use of reclaimed water for irrigation, mining, and compatible agricultural, public, commercial, and industrial applications wherever practical in order to reduce wastewater storage and disposal needs, and extend available water supplies.

20. The County will use the Recreation Master Plan as a guide when evaluating project applications to ensure that adequate park facilities are provided to serve the current and projected population.

21. When evaluating development proposals that include a residential component, explore possibilities for these projects to include sites for educational facilities for school-aged children. Project applicants will work closely with the Amador County Unified School District to mitigate the impact of these projects to the educational system. To the extent practical, projects shall be conditioned to provide that the required school facilities are operating prior to the occupation of the residences which the schools are intended to serve.

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning, Transportation and Public Works, and Environmental Health Departments

Working With: Amador Fire Protection District and water and wastewater agencies.

Time Frame: Ongoing

**Program D-2: Fire-Safe Development**

a. The County will review new development applications in moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones to confirm they meet the standards of the Title 24 Wildland Urban Interface Building Codes and 14 CCR 1270.

b. The County will require new structures and improvements to be built to support effective firefighting.

c. New development applications in very high fire hazard severity zones shall include specific fire protection plans, actions, and/or comply with Wildland Urban Interface codes for fire engineering features.

d. The County will seek fire district input on development applications to allow proposed projects to incorporate fire-safe planning and building measures. Such measures may include (but are not limited to) buffering properties, creating defensible space around individual units, using fire-resistant building materials, installing sprinkler systems, and providing adequate on-site water supplies for firefighting.

e. Transportation improvements shall incorporate access for firefighting, within and between existing neighborhoods to provide improved connectivity, but also in areas with no structures. Access standards include minimum width, surface, grade, radius, turnaround, turnout, and bridge standards, as well as limitations on one-way roads, dead-end roads, driveways, and gate entrances.
f. Where public water is available, the County will consult with water agencies on needs for additional water, water mains, fire hydrants, and related appurtenances needed to meet required fire flow criteria and for sufficient water capacity to serve peak demands of multiple fire engines to protect improvements from wildland fires.

g. A 100’ setback for defensible space will be required, when possible, for high density multiple-family residential or sensitive uses (e.g., care homes, schools, large day care facilities, etc.) proposed to be located in high or very high fire hazard severity zones.


Responsible Departments: Planning, Building, Transportation and Public Works Departments

Working With: Amador Fire Protection District; local fire districts and Cal FIRE

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-3: Avoid Airport Hazards

a. In order to reduce or avoid impacts related to land use compatibility with Westover Field, the County will require projects to comply with the requirements of the Airport Land Use Plan, subject to the discretion of the Board of Supervisors.


Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Working With: Amador County Airport Land Use Commission

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-4: Biological Resources

a. When considering discretionary development proposals, it is the County’s objective to avoid or substantially reduce impacts to special status species, riparian habitat, lone chaparral, oak woodlands, and wetlands (including vernal pools and nonjurisdictional wetlands) through project design and modification to the extent feasible.
Program D-5: Stormwater Protection

a. Prior to the approval of project construction and grading activities, project applicant(s) shall prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan consistent with the statewide National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System stormwater permit for general construction activity. Project applicant(s) shall also prepare and submit the appropriate Notices of Intent and any other necessary engineering plans and specifications for pollution prevention and control (including a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan) to Amador County and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Where practical, stormwater management requirements related to the County’s comprehensive stormwater management program (described in Program P-5) may be incorporated into the SWPPP. The objective of this program is to reduce or avoid impacts related to stormwater pollution.

b. Where required by law, best management practices identified in the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan shall be in place throughout all site work.

c. All construction contractors shall retain a copy of the approved Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan on the construction site, when required by law.

Related Policies: C-4.3, OS-3.5

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Transportation and Public Works Department, Building Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-6: Historic Preservation, Cultural Resources

a. The objective of Amador County’s Implementation Plan Program D-6 is to substantially reduce or avoid impacts to cultural resources through preservation in place.
Data recovery would only be implemented as a mitigation measure when preservation or other mitigation measures are not feasible. Through the discretionary review process, the County will work with applicants to assure their projects comply with state and federal laws that preserve and protect cultural resources, including historic resources and archaeological sites. These mitigation measures would be developed by an archaeologist that specializes in prehistoric or historic archaeology, and/or an architectural historian (as appropriate) that meet the Secretary of Interior’s Standards. With regard to historical resources of an archaeological nature, including traditional tribal cultural places, preservation of values would be the preferred method of protecting a sacred area from adverse impacts. Preservation in place may include avoiding a resource, incorporating sites within open space, covering sites with fill, or deeding sites into a permanent easement (14 CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(B)). If preservation is not feasible, then data recovery according to CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C) shall be followed. The County will work with applicants to comply with state and federal laws that preserve and protect cultural resources, including historic resources and archaeological sites.

b. When evaluating discretionary projects with historical resources that are historic structures, the County will use its review process to guide the applicant toward the use of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings; or use of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation; and the Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (Weeks and Grimmer 1995). The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties presume each historical resource is unique. Thus, each significant resource presents its own identity and its own distinctive character. Character in this instance refers to those visual aspects and physical features that comprise the appearance of an historical resource. As commonly referred, character-defining features include the overall shape of the resource, its materials, craftsmanship, decorative details, interior spaces and features, as well as the various aspects of its site and environment (Nelson, ND). Following the Secretary’s Standards will result in the retention of as many key character-defining
features as possible in the protection, preservation, restoration, or renovation of cultural resources such as historic buildings, structures, objects, landscapes, or sites, where feasible. When possible, project applicants shall also strive to maintain or restore original proportions, dimensions, and elements of historic buildings or structures and preserve or restore features of historic objects, landscapes, or sites. Applicants may be required to use historic preservation techniques and standards to maintain the historical integrity of historic buildings or structures (including the Historic Building Code [Title 24, Part 8]) where mandated. Where restoration or renovation is undertaken to meet the proposed use of the owner, upgrades to plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and interior arrangements will be allowed. An expansion that meets building code guidelines will be permitted so long as the style of the expansion matches the original structure. Individuals that meet the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for architectural preservation will be used to determine that the impact on historical resource resulting from the expansion is mitigated to a less-than-significant level.

When evaluating discretionary projects with historical resources that are not historic structures, including but not limited to archaeological sites, significant impacts will be avoided or mitigated using the framework established by CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3). Preservation in place will be the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archeological sites. When data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provisions for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information about the resource, will be prepared and adopted prior to excavation. Such studies will be deposited with the California Historical Resources Regional Information Center. If an artifact must be removed during excavation or testing, curation may be an appropriate mitigation.

c. Where restoration or preservation of a cultural resource is not feasible, applicants shall document the resource and retain the information in a secure location. Access to confidential information will be conducted pursuant to federal and state laws, including but not limited to the California Public Records Act, Government Code § 6250 et seq., and the Information Practices Act of 1977, Civil Code § 1798 et seq. Archaeological collections will be curated according to the Guidelines
for the curation of Archeological Collections (State Historical Resources Commission (1993), and will be funded by the project applicant.

Related Policies: C-7.3, C-7.4, C-7.5, C-8.1, C-8.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Building Department, Sheriff/Coroner (when remains are found)

Working With: County Archives

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-7: Air Emissions and Sensitive Receptors

1. In the review of development proposals, the County will require projects to comply with all applicable Amador Air District (AAD) rules and obtain all required AAD Permits.

2. In the review of development proposals, the County will reference the guidelines presented in the California Air Resources Board’s Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective, or the Amador Air District guidelines and recommendations available at the time, when establishing buffers around existing or proposed sources of toxic air contaminants or odorous emissions. During future environmental CEQA review for individual projects, projects that would result in substantial TAC emissions directly or indirectly (e.g., industrial sources), or for land use projects that would expose sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations (e.g., residential land uses located near existing TAC sources), the County will require an HRA to be performed by project applicants to determine whether existing or proposed on-site sensitive receptors will be exposed to significant levels of TAC emissions. An HRA would only be required for those projects that would be anticipated to expose sensitive receptors to substantial TAC concentrations based on the project description or other relevant characteristics as determined by County Planning staff during the environmental review process. If the results of the HRA indicate a significant impact, the individual project applicant shall employ measures (e.g., air filters, project redesign) to reduce exposures to levels below the acceptable limits (e.g., 10 in a million excess cancer risk, 1.0 health hazard index).
Program D-8: Soils and Geotechnical Evaluation

a. The County will require geotechnical evaluation and recommendations in compliance with California Building Code requirements before construction of buildings meant for occupancy.

b. The County will provide any available soil shrink-swell information upon request, and ensure appropriate foundation elements are included on all projects proposed in areas prone to expansive soils.

c. New structures and improvements shall incorporate project features avoiding or minimizing the hazards identified through geotechnical evaluation to the satisfaction of the County.

Related Policies: S-4.1, S-4.2, S-4.3

Responsible Departments: Building, Transportation and Public Works Departments

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-9: Hazardous Materials

a. The County will maintain and update a list of hazardous sites, buildings, and uses in the unincorporated area, or use databases tracking the location of hazardous materials sites, buildings, and similar features, including active and abandoned mines. If possible, the County will make this list available to applicants.

b. The County will consult the hazardous sites list to evaluate and condition future development applications and projects, as necessary, to protect environmental and public health.

c. For applications submitted to the County involving construction activities at Cortese-listed sites, project applicant(s) shall comply with requirements of the California Department of Toxic Substance Control, the
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, and/or other applicable agency regulating the investigation and cleanup of the site.

Related Policies: S-6.1, S-6.2, S-6.3, S-6.4, S-6.5

Responsible Departments: Environmental Health Department.

Working With: Amador Air District, Amador Fire Protection District, local fire districts, Cal FIRE, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Environmental Protection Agency

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-10: Evacuation Planning and Routes

a. When considering development proposals and discretionary actions, the County will ensure that actions will not prevent the implementation of emergency response plans or viability of evacuation routes established by the Office of Emergency Services.

b. Establish adequate fire buffers along heavily traveled roads by promoting grazing, thinning, mowing, plowing, disking, or controlled burning of roadside grass. Favor those methods that have the least impact on air quality, such as grazing.

Related Policy: S-2.4, S-7.2, S-7.4

Responsible Departments: Planning Department, County Office of Emergency Services, Transportation and Public Works Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program D-11: Noise Standards

a. To protect existing areas with acceptable noise environments, minimize conflicts with noise sensitive uses, and protect the continued viability of economically valuable noise sources, including airports, the County will review and condition development proposals to reduce or avoid noise impacts. The County will apply the standards outlined in Tables N-3 and N-4 of the Noise Element. When noise monitoring is required, such monitoring shall be
b. The County will require that development proposals that produce, or are affected by, non-transportation related noise employ feasible noise reduction techniques (such as siting and building design, berms, landscaping, setbacks, and architectural design features) to achieve acceptable levels specified in Table N-4 of the Noise Element. Noise levels associated with proposed stationary sources shall be measured along the property line of the source. Where uses would be located next to an existing stationary source, noise levels shall be determined along the property line of the proposed receptor.

c. Where legally permitted, the County will require that the newest land use is responsible for mitigating noise, whether as a generator or sensitive receptor. If a new use that generates noise is proposed adjacent to lands zoned for uses that may be sensitive to noise (i.e., residential neighborhoods), then the noise-generating use is responsible for mitigating noise consistent with Noise Element Tables N-3 and N-4 standards along the property line of the affected land use. Where sensitive uses are proposed near noise sources or lands with zoning that would permit new noise sources, these new uses are responsible for mitigating their noise exposure consistent with the standards in Tables N-3 and N-4 of the Noise Element. The County seeks to protect the continued viability of economically valuable activities that produce noise (including farm operations, mining activities, commercial and industrial facilities, and airports).

d. During review of new development proposals, the County will apply daytime and nighttime land use/noise environment standards at the property line of the source as shown in Table N-4 of the Noise Element for non-transportation sources.

e. During review of development proposals, the County will apply the standards in Table D-11-1. These standards identify what changes to ambient noise levels at the property line of a sensitive receptor will be considered to be significant noise increases. Land uses within the County that are considered to be noise-sensitive include any residential property or residential unit located within a vertical mixed-use development on a single-parcel, residential divisions of land, residential
land use designations, schools, churches, hospitals, care facilities, libraries, and auditoriums.

Table D-11-1
Allowable Increases in 24-Hour Ambient Noise Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing 24-hour Ambient Noise Level, L_{dn}/CNEL</th>
<th>Allowable Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60 dBA</td>
<td>Up to 5 dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 65 dBA</td>
<td>Up to 3 dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 65 dBA</td>
<td>Up to 1.5 dB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: CNEL = community noise equivalent level; dB = decibels; L_{dn} = day-night average noise level


f. During review of development proposals by the Land Use Agency and CEQA review, the County will apply the noise standards identified in Table N-3, as measured at the property line. These standards limit acceptable period noise increases to the levels shown in Table D-11-2.

g. Impulsive noise levels shall not exceed 125 dBA L_{max} for 100 impulses per day, 135 dBA L_{max} for 10 impulses per day, and 145 dBA L_{max} for 1 impulse per day at the noise-generating land use property line.

h. During review of development proposals by the Land Use Agency and CEQA review, the County will apply noise standards from Tables N-3 and N-4 in the Noise Element. New developments proposing noise-sensitive land uses in areas exposed to existing or projected noise levels from transportation and other noise sources shall incorporate noise control techniques, including but not limited to those identified in Table N-2 to reduce noise exposure in outdoor activity areas and interior spaces to acceptable levels, as specified in Tables N-3 and N-4 of the Draft General Plan.
**Table D-11-2**  
Allowable Increases in Hourly Ambient Noise Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period of Noise Level Increase</th>
<th>Allowable Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative period of 30 minutes per hour</td>
<td>$0 \text{ dB } L_{\text{eq}}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative period of 15 minutes per hour</td>
<td>$5 \text{ dB } L_{\text{eq}}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative period of 5 minutes per hour</td>
<td>$10 \text{ dB } L_{\text{eq}}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative period of 1 minute per hour</td>
<td>$15 \text{ dB } L_{\text{eq}}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not be exceeded at any time</td>
<td>$20 \text{ dB } L_{\text{eq}}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: CNEL = community noise equivalent level; dB = decibels; $L_{\text{dn}}$ = day-night average noise level


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i. The County will require the evaluation of railroad noise impacts for any proposed residential or other sensitive use development located within 750 feet of a railroad corridor. The evaluation shall include potential for waking from instantaneous noise associated within rail movement and horn blowing.

j. The County will require that development proposals in the vicinity of airports/airstrips, including Westover Field and Eagles Nest Airport, demonstrate compatibility with current and projected airport noise levels for each facility (including the Airport Land Use Plan) in accordance with the noise standards presented in Noise Element Table N-3.

k. Construction noise shall be exempt from the noise standards presented in Table N-3 and increases presented in Tables D-11-1 and D-11-2 will be allowed provided that construction activities occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

l. The County will encourage the use of noise control techniques for noise abatement. Sound walls shall only be used when all other feasible methods fail to reduce noise to acceptable levels.

m. All construction equipment shall be properly maintained per manufacturers’ specifications and fitted with the best available noise suppression devices (e.g.,
mufflers, silencers, wraps); all impact tools will be shrouded or shielded; and all intake and exhaust ports on power equipment will be muffled or shielded.

Related Policies: N-1.1, N-1.2, N-1.3, N-1.4, N-1.5, N-2.1, N-2.2, N-2.3, N-2.4, N-2.5, N-3.1, N-3.2, N-4.1, N-4.2, N-4.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Public Information or Outreach (O)

Program O-1: Public Meetings

a. The County will notice public meetings through newspaper advertisements, targeted or mass mailings, and/or on the County’s website, as required by state laws. The County will incorporate public outreach and input into policy development at an early phase to ensure meaningful involvement.

Related Policies: G-1.1, G-1.2, G-1.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: All Departments

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program O-2: Agricultural Viability

a. The County will promote methods to assist landowners who choose to continue farming, such as, but not limited to:

1. Informing farmers of the availability of economic assistance to ensure agricultural viability;

2. Conducting workshops to gather input on potential expansion of uses permitted on agricultural lands and parcels under the Williamson Act. Based on this input, consider amending the zoning ordinance to expand the uses allowed on agricultural properties under Williamson Act contracts, and consider expanding the allowed value-added agricultural activities permitted on land not under Williamson Act contract;

3. Promoting the benefits of Williamson Act contracts; and
4. Providing information on conservation easements to agricultural land owners in cooperation with organizations responsible for funding, maintaining, and promoting easements. The County will make sure any references to conservation easements will clearly indicate that they are entirely voluntary.


Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Department of Agriculture

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program O-3: Waste Diversion and Reduction

a. The County will continue to implement solid waste diversion and reduction programs as well as public education programs as required by Assembly Bill 939 or outlined in the County’s eco-procurement policy. As part of this program, work with the private sector contractor(s) providing solid waste services within the county to ensure that appropriate recycling containers, procedures, and education are readily available throughout the community.

b. The County will support efforts by local wastewater providers to raise public awareness regarding wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal, including the proper handling and disposal of fats, oils, and greases.

Related Policies: LU-5.1, LU-5.3, C-9.5, C-10.8

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Waste Management, Environmental Health Departments

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program O-4: Energy Efficient Businesses

a. Provide information to help existing businesses become more energy-efficient.

b. Consider incentives to energy-efficient or “green” businesses that relocate to Amador County.
Related Policies: C-6.2

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Building Department


Time Frame: Ongoing

Program O-5: Outreach to Property Owners and Developers

a. The County will utilize its inventory of historical resources to help educate property owners and developers, and alert them to potential historical and cultural resource issues associated with new development.

b. Educate real estate professionals, County staff who enforce the ordinance, and prospective homeowners of dwellings or property close to agricultural activities regarding the protection from a nuisance action provided by the right-to-farm ordinance. Ensure that residential development is compatible with surrounding agricultural activities either through agreements with adjacent property owners or through County conditions to protect agricultural properties.

Related Policies: C-8.3, E-9.1

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Coordination with Other Agencies (C)

Program C-1: Federal Notification

a. It is imperative the County be aware of activities on the part of federal agencies with the potential to affect the County and its residents. These agencies have the obligation to provide notification of proposed actions and policies to the County. In order to facilitate this notification:

1. Each County Department will review its activities and area of oversight, and identify federal agencies with which it interacts, or which are involved in similar or overlapping activities.
2. Where federal agencies are involved in similar or overlapping activities, the County Administrative Officer will notify these agencies that the County expects the agencies to adhere to the following:

i. To the fullest extent permissible by law, comply with all federal regulations pertaining to required consultation, coordination and preservation of custom, culture and community stability.

ii. To the fullest extent permissible by law, comply with all state and County laws applicable to private and other public lands in Amador County and thereby avoid redundant, duplicative or conflicting rules, regulations, programs, practices, etc., which cause undue delays, confusion and extra costs to the taxpayers.

iii. Give timely and sufficient notice to the County Administrative Officer prior to the development or amendment of existing plans; or the proposal or enactment of new rules, regulations, programs or practices which differ from customary uses of public lands in Amador County.

iv. Conduct an economic analysis focused on the effects that specific decisions would have on the economic stability of the County and its residents. The County expects federal agencies to make specific written findings in the economic analysis of their proposed action with regards to the individual or cumulative effect of the decision on the short-term and long-term economic stability of the County.

v. Where the County and the agency are in disagreement about proposed actions, the County expects that agencies will not implement programs or actions until all administrative appeal procedures are completed.

3. The County Administrative Officer will continually monitor the results of the agency decisions and report to the Board on changes or results which have an adverse effect on the County’s economic stability.

4. The County Administrative Officer will respond, in writing, to notifications from any federal agencies of proposed projects or intended policy and regulation changes which affect Amador County.
Program C-2: Economic Coordination

a. The County will maintain regular contact and communication with the lead economic development entity and other economic development agencies.

Consultation should focus on strategies to:

1. Bring new businesses and industry into the County, and to help existing local businesses develop and expand.
2. Refer businesses seeking economic development grants, loans, and other funding to the lead economic development entity.
3. Identify and reduce constraints that limit retention, expansion, or attraction of business and industry.
4. Support the “Amador Brand” program, encouraging residents to patronize local businesses.
5. Continue to give preference to local businesses and suppliers for County business, and encourage residents to patronize local businesses and suppliers.
6. Encourage the establishment of higher education facilities in the County, including community college, trade school, and technical education facilities.
7. Review training opportunities available in the County and coordinate these opportunities with existing and planned job requirements.

b. Job development activities should be focused on higher wage jobs and jobs which produce goods or services for export from Amador County.

Related Policies: E-1.2, E-1.3, E-1.4, E-3.1, E-3.2, E-4.1, E-4.4, E-5.1

Responsible Agencies/Departments: County Administrative Officer, through direction to County departments
Working With: County’s lead economic development entity

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program C-3: Transportation Coordination.

a. Coordinate with the California Department of Transportation on the following actions:

1. Administration of state highways within the county.
2. Approval of heliports and helistops.
3. Maintenance of scenic highways, including state Route 88.
4. Mutual establishment of clear policies and objectives for meeting regional and local transportation needs.
5. Develop methods to reduce dry weather urban runoff and pollutants in highway and street runoff.
6. Coordination on all plans, activities, and projects which may affect state roadway facilities.
7. Establish adequate fire buffers along state highways by promoting grazing, thinning, mowing, plowing, disking, or controlled burning of roadside grass. Favor those methods that have the least impact on air quality, such as grazing.

b. The County will consult with local city governments and the California Department of Transportation to ensure transportation planning and improvement programs are consistent with the Noise Element.

Related Policies: CM-1.2, CM-1.4, CM-1.5, CM-2.3, CM-3.3, CM-3.6, CM-3.7, CM-4.1, CM-4.2, CM-4.3, N-1.2, N-1.3, N-1.4, N-1.5, N-2.1, N-2.2, S-2.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Transportation and Public Works Department

Working with: California Department of Transportation, Amador County Transportation Commission, Cities

Time Frame: Ongoing.
Program C-4: Interagency Coordination

a. County departments will maintain regular contact with other governmental agencies which provide services or functions in Amador County for the purpose of coordinating activities, and avoiding conflict and overlap. Agencies include (but are not limited to) the Cities, Amador Unified School District, the Amador Water Agency, the Amador County Transportation Commission, the Amador Fire Protection District, the Amador County Recreation Agency, the University of California Cooperative Extension, and Amador Transit. Related County departments will consider meeting with these agencies on a biannual basis.

b. Work with fire districts and other agencies to educate the public regarding fire risks, and periods of elevated or extreme risk due to drought or other factors.

c. Increase cooperative efforts among fire districts, public agencies, and landowners. The County will continue to collaborate with the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE, fire departments of adjacent counties, city fire departments, fire districts, and property owners to prevent and manage wildland fires. Efforts may include monitoring regional fuel buildup, maintaining fuel breaks, sharing firefighting equipment, and providing necessary water supplies. The County will continue to encourage the consolidation of fire districts.


Responsible Agencies/Departments: All County Departments

Working With: Cities, Amador Unified School District, Amador Water Agency, Amador County Transportation Commission, Amador Fire Protection District, Amador County Recreation Agency, the University of California Cooperative Extension, Amador Transit, CAL FIRE, U.S. Forest Service, city and adjacent county fire departments

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program C-5: Tribal Coordination

a. In addition to fulfilling the consultation requirement of SB 18, The County will maintain contacts and communications with recognized Native American Tribes. Through these contacts, the County will:
1. For Tribal projects, provide early and frequent comment on future actions which would occur on land outside the County’s land use jurisdiction, including working to minimize negative effects of any future development.

2. For County projects, seek information from Tribes where development proposals brought before the County may affect traditional tribal sites or resources.

3. Upon request by an affiliated tribe, consult with the affiliated tribe regarding the development of a burial treatment plan for the treatment and disposition of Native American human remains and associated funerary objects.

Related Policies: G-3.4, G-3.5

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Transportation and Public Works Department, Environmental Health Department, Sheriff’s Department

Working With: Native American Tribes

Time Frame: Ongoing

**Program C-6: Tourism and Education**

a. The County will develop a countywide agritourism program that includes the following components:

1. Consultation with agricultural interests and local restaurants and stores to promote the sale and use of agricultural products grown or processed in Amador County;

2. Consultation with cities, federal and state agencies, tourist industries, hotels, chambers of commerce, farm bureau, wine grape association, and other organizations to provide materials to promote Amador County;

3. Recognition of uses, such as education, tourism, value-added processing, limited hospitality uses, and nonagricultural facilities that promote agriculture and agritourism uses. Explore designation of areas where these uses could be allowed and encouraged.
b. The County will protect and promote the county’s historic and cultural resources by:

1. Providing educational materials or programs to the public, staff, and commissions that promote awareness of the county’s history and the value in preserving historic or prehistoric resources;

2. Designating appropriate locations for lodging, shops, restaurants, and other support businesses near tourist-accessible historical and cultural resource sites;

3. Collaborating with nonprofits, cities, the historic society, and other organizations to create programs and materials for historically or culturally significant sites; and

4. Where appropriate, exploring the potential to develop historic resource sites for use as visitor-oriented destinations.

Related Policies: E-7.1, E-7.2, E-7.3, E-7.4, E-7.5, E-7.6, C-7.1, C-7.4, C-7.5, C-7.6, C-8.1, C-8.3, C-8.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Department of Agriculture

Working With: Amador Economic Development Corporation, Amador Council of Tourism, Amador County Historical Society, Amador County Archives

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program C-7: Parks and Recreational Facilities

a. The County will consult with the Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA) and other local agencies to promote the provision of appropriate recreational facilities to serve all Amador County residents, from youth to seniors.

b. The County will work with ACRA and others to identify funding and other resources to maintain existing recreational facilities, and develop new facilities.

c. The County will consult with the cities, Amador County Unified School District, and ACRA to promote joint recreational use of lands and facilities owned by the County, ACRA, school districts and cities.
d. The County will consult with ACRA to promote the provision of sanitation stations and solid waste collection facilities at trailheads and recreation areas.

e. In consultation with ACRA and affected property owners, the County will encourage the construction of a network of recreational trails. These trails will be designed and located to provide transportation options between destinations within the county, including parks, schools, and other recreational areas. In developing this trail network, trails should follow property lines (rather than bisecting properties) and public lands and rights-of-way shall be preferred trail sites. The County and ACRA will consult with other nearby jurisdictions, including the cities and adjacent counties, seeking to coordinate and connect trails where feasible while respecting property rights and avoiding conflicts with all property owners.

Related Policies: LU-8.1, CM-3.1, CM-3.3, E-5.1, OS-1.1, OS-1.2, OS-1.3, OS-2.1, OS-2.2

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Environmental Health Department, Sheriff’s Department

Working With: Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA), Mother Lode Land Trust, Cities, adjacent Counties

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program C-8: Solid Waste Disposal

a. The County will work with solid waste disposal providers to ensure continued capacity. In addition, the County will continue public education programs involving waste reduction, recycling, and household hazardous waste and strive to meet and exceed waste diversion targets set by the California Department of Resource Recovery and Recycling.

Related Policies: LU-3.1

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Waste Management Department

Working With: Solid waste disposal providers

Time Frame: Ongoing
Program C-9: Schools and School Funding

a. In consultation with the Amador County Unified School District, the Amador County Office of Education, and the Amador Community College Association to ensure that new school facilities can be planned, financed, and constructed as necessary to serve current population and future development.

Related Policies: LU-8.1, LU-8.3, E-5.1, G-2.6

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Land Use Agency


Time Frame: Ongoing

Program C-10: Transit Agency Coordination

a. The County will work closely with transit service providers to provide transit opportunities that respond to the needs of County residents and visitors. Actions may include:

1. Promoting express bus service to regional activity and job centers;

2. Encouraging provision of attractive, well designed, and appropriate transit amenities; and/or

3. Providing special transit services (such as direct shuttle or dial-a-ride services).

Related Policies: LU-7.2, CM-1.2, CM-3.6, CM-3.7, C-9.6, C-9.7, C-10.4

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Transportation and Public Works Department, Planning Department.

Working With: Amador Transit, Amador Council of Tourism

Time Frame: Ongoing
Program F-1: Infrastructure Improvements

a. In order to assure that adequate infrastructure is in place to support existing and planned development, the County will consult with water and wastewater providers to support development of new treatment facilities or conveyance systems to minimize:

1. Disposal by leach field in areas of marginal soils or site conditions which may lead to degrading groundwater quality.

2. Potential threats to water resources or the public from wastewater treatment system failures.

3. The risk of life or property due to inadequate water infrastructure serving fire hydrants.

b. The County will maintain and improve existing drainage and stormwater infrastructure. Where right-of-way is available, new drainage and stormwater infrastructure may be developed as needed. The County will explore consolidation of this function to a single County department or responsible agency. When maintaining or developing drainage and/or stormwater infrastructure, the County will consider vector control needs.

c. The County will consult with businesses interested in expanding existing operations or establishing new operations regarding installation of necessary infrastructure improvements. County actions may include:

1. Share existing engineering studies and plans (in conjunction with Amador Water Agency and other water providers) on water supply and treatment capacities, wastewater collection, conveyance and treatment capacities, stormwater drainage and roadway improvements.

2. Consult with project applicants where County improvement plans call for extension or upgrades to infrastructure.

3. Consider financing options to assist applicants in providing necessary infrastructure, including tax credits, deferred fee payment programs,
reimbursement of costs for infrastructure improvements and amortization of infrastructure fees.

4. Allow for phased extension or upgrades to infrastructure in conjunction with approved phasing plans for site development.

Related Policies: LU-4.1, E-1.4, E-1.5, E-2.1, C-3.3, C-4.1, C-4.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Transportation and Public Works Department, and Environmental Health Department

Working With: Water and wastewater providers, including Amador Water Agency, Amador Regional Sanitation Authority

Time Frame: Ongoing

**Program F-2: Future Water Supplies and Funding**

a. In consultation with the County’s water suppliers and local agencies, the County will identify and pursue alternative funding sources for projects that improve water resources and management in Amador County.

b. Consult with Amador County water purveyors to find adequate water for agricultural users. Agricultural water users should be encouraged to utilize surface water supplies, reclaimed water or treated wastewater. Encourage water purveyors to develop an agricultural water fee scale.

c. Consult with Amador County water purveyors to retain access to water rights and both existing and potential points of diversion on all rivers and waterways within the County.

d. Consult with Amador County water purveyors to encourage the development of new and expanded green-energy hydroelectric power generating facilities.

e. Encourage local, state and federal water development projects beneficial to Amador County and work to develop additional water rights.
Related Policies: E-10.1, E-10.2, C-1.1, C-2.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department.

Working With: Amador Water Agency and other water suppliers

Time Frame: Ongoing, as requested by water suppliers

Program F-3: Fire Services Funding

a. The County will consult with the Amador Fire Protection District to establish funding mechanisms, including impact fees, to offset fire protection costs for new development in areas of high wildfire risk.

Related Policies: S-3.1

Responsible Department: Planning Department

Working With: Amador Fire Protection District

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program F-4: Transportation Improvements

a. Maintain the Regional and Local Traffic Impact Fee program so that new transportation needs (including bicycle and pedestrian needs) generated by new development are paid for by the development on a proportional basis. Increased roadway capacity should, to the extent legally possible, be funded through traffic impact fees.

b. Use the County’s annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process to prioritize, fund, and build required roadway improvements, and to address phasing and construction of circulation infrastructure throughout the County. Coordinate CIP priorities with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and planned improvements to Caltrans facilities.

c. Use the established CIP process to implement the circulation system shown on the Circulation Diagram (Figure CM-1). The County will secure funding for roadway improvements, will design and build new roadways, and will complete roadway repairs and improvements. Future roadways must meet the County’s roadway classification design specifications and performance criteria.
d. For those projects that require a traffic study per Mitigation Measure 4.14-1a, and which identify required roadway improvements that are not included in the current RTP or CIP at the time, a fair-share fee calculation shall be conducted to identify the applicable fair-share requirements for the identified improvement(s). The results of the fee calculation shall be paid and accounted for in a special account to fund the identified improvement(s), as applicable. The special account list for fair share funded improvement projects shall be posted or reported on a yearly basis to reflect total fair share contributions of the development projects to the identified traffic improvement(s).

e. Review the Regional and Local Traffic Impact Fee program and the CIP process to ensure that bicycle and pedestrian improvements, goods movement, and transit facilities are represented to provide for the provision of Complete Streets.


Responsible Department: Transportation and Public Works Department, Planning Department

Time Frame: Ongoing

Program F-5: Reclaimed Water

a. Encourage the use of reclaimed water for irrigation, mining, and compatible agricultural, public, commercial, and industrial applications wherever possible. The objective of this program is to reduce wastewater storage and disposal needs, and to extend available water supplies.

Related Policies: LU-4.3, LU-4.4, LU-4.5, E-9.1, C-3.3

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Environmental Health Department

Working With: Amador Water Agency, other water and wastewater providers

Time Frame: Ongoing
Implement Plan including errata as approved by Board of Supervisors on October 4, 2016

Program F-6: Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Green Building

a. The County will identify procedures to:

1. Support Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification or other energy saving programs or methods for new commercial, industrial, public, and multi-family residential buildings;

2. Support increased energy efficiency in new and existing structures;

3. Encourage the use of green building techniques beyond the County’s basic requirements; and

4. Support parcel-scale energy generation.

b. Identify methods to expand renewable and alternative energy production in the county. Methods may include incentives such as expedited permit processing, reduced fees, and technical assistance to encourage energy-efficiency technology, research and practices.

Related Policies: C-6.3, C-6.4, C-6.5, C-9.4, C-10.6, 10.7

Responsible Agencies/Departments: Planning Department, Building Department

Time Frame: Within 6 months from adoption of General Plan, then ongoing.
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