

# APPENDIX A - GLOSSARY

## ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

The following list includes abbreviations or acronyms found in the 2030 Chico General Plan.

AB: Assembly Bill (State)	HCP/NCCP: Butte Regional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)
ALUC: Airport Land Use Commission (Butte County)	HPO: Historic Preservation Ordinance
ALUCP: Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Butte County)	LAFCO: Local Agency Formation Commission
ARB: Architectural Review Board	Ldn: Day/Night Average Sound Level
BCAG: Butte County Association of Governments	LEED: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
BCAQMD: Butte County Air Quality Management District	Leq: Equivalent Sound Level
CARB: California Air Resources Board	L <sub>min</sub> : Minimum Noise Level
CARD: Chico Area Recreation and Park District	L <sub>max</sub> : Maximum Noise Level
CEQA: California Environmental Quality Act	LID: Low Impact Development
CIP: Capital Improvements Program	LOS: Level of Service
CLG: Certified Local Government	MMLOS: Multi-Modal Level of Service
CNEL: Community Noise Equivalent Level	MOU: Memorandum of Understanding
CSUC: California State University, Chico	NAAQS: National Ambient Air Quality Standard
CRMP: Cultural Resources Management Plan	NOP: Notice of Preparation
DAHC: Downtown Ad Hoc Committee	NPDES: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
dB: decibel	PFFP: Public Facilities Finance Plan
dba: A-weighted sound level	RDA: Redevelopment Agency
DFG: (California) Department of Fish and Game	RHNA: Regional Housing Needs Allocation
DTSC: (California) Department of Toxic Substances Control	RWQCB: Regional Water Quality Control Board
DU/AC: dwelling units per acre	SB: Senate Bill (State)
du: dwelling units	SEL: Single Event Level
DWR: (California) Department of Water Resources	SHPO: State Historic Preservation Office
ECR: Existing Conditions Report	SMARA: (United States) Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
EIR: Environmental Impact Report	SOI: Sphere of Influence
EPA: (United States) Environmental Protection Agency	STF: Sustainability Task Force
FAR: Floor Area Ratio	TDM: Travel Demand Management
FEMA: Federal Emergency Management Agency	USDA: United States Department of Agriculture
FIA: Fiscal Impact Analysis	USFWS: United States Fish and Wildlife Service
FIRM: Flood Insurance Rate Map	VMT: vehicle miles traveled
GHG: greenhouse gas	
GIS: Geographic Information Systems	
GPAC: General Plan Advisory Committee	

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## DEFINITIONS OF SPECIALIZED TERMS

This glossary provides definitions of common planning terms that are used in the General Plan. The definitions may be used to interpret language in the General Plan, but shall not be interpreted as policies, standards, thresholds, or guidelines.

**Action.** An action is a program, implementation measure, procedure, or technique intended to help achieve a specified goal or policy.

**Adverse Impact.** A negative consequence for the physical, social, or economic environment resulting from an action or project.

**Agricultural Uses.** The use of land primarily for farming, ranching, horse breeding, dairy farming and other forms of food and crop production. For land use planning purposes, agricultural land use connotes the primary economic use of the property.

**Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP).** The Butte County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan adopted by the Butte County Airport Land Use Commission.

**Ambient Air Quality Standards.** Standards established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that represent safe levels of common air pollutants and contaminants to avoid specific adverse health effects associated with each pollutant.

**Archaeological Resource.** Material evidence of past human activity found on or below the surface of ground or water.

**Arterials.** Roadways with a primary function of allowing the movement of large volumes of traffic between freeways and other arterials. Arterials generally provide four travel lanes and may provide on-street parking. Bike lanes, medians, park strips, sidewalks, and transit facilities are also accommodated within the right-of-way, but driveways are limited.

**Attainment Status.** The California Air Resources Board is required to designate areas of the state as attainment, nonattainment, or unclassified with respect to applicable standards. An “attainment” designation for an area signifies that pollutant concentrations did not violate the applicable standard in that area. A “nonattainment” designation indicates that a pollutant concentration violated the applicable standard at least once, excluding those occasions when a violation was caused by an exceptional event, as defined in the criteria.

**Base Level Employers.** Local businesses that import money from outside the community by exporting products or services.

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**Bicycle Path (Class I facility).** A separated facility designed for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with minimal cross flows by motorists. Class I bikeways typically have a minimum of 8 feet of pavement with 2-foot graded shoulders on either side.

**Bicycle Lane (Class II facility).** A restricted right-of-way designated for the exclusive or semi-exclusive use of bicycles with through travel by motor vehicles or pedestrians prohibited, but with vehicle parking and cross flows by pedestrians and motorists permitted. Bicycle lanes typically have a five-foot striped and signed lane.

**Bicycle Route (Class III facility).** Designated areas where bicycles share the road with other modes of travel, such as motorized vehicles. Class III routes are typically signed as such.

**Bikeways.** An inclusive term for “bicycle lanes,” “bicycle paths,” and “bicycle routes.”

**Buffer.** An area between potentially conflicting land uses, such as agricultural and non-agricultural uses, utilized or improved to reduce potential conflicts between the different uses. Buffer areas may use landscaping, fencing, or other techniques to reduce potential conflicts.

**Build-out.** The level of urban development when the land depicted in the General Plan Land Use Diagram has developed to its full theoretical capacity, as projected by the assumptions documented in Appendix D.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** Legislation and corresponding procedural components established in 1970 by the State of California to require environmental review for discretionary projects anticipated to potentially result in adverse impacts to the environment; State of California Public Resources Code §§21000—21178.

**Capital Improvements Program (CIP).** A program that schedules funding and construction of permanent municipal improvements, usually for a minimum of five years in the future. The program is generally reviewed for conformance to and consistency with the General Plan on an annual basis.

**Centers.** Concentrations of activity which serve as a focus for commerce and other activities. Centers are destination places with a wide variety of forms and functions. Centers in Chico include neighborhood centers, community centers, regional centers, and special purpose centers.

**Certified Local Government (CLG).** A local government that has been certified by the National Park Service to carry out the purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The CLG program involves a partnership among local governments, the State of California, Office of Historic Preservation, and the National Park Service which administers the National Historic Preservation Program. The CLG program integrates local governments with the national historic preservation program through activities that strengthen decision-making regarding historic places at the local level.

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**Collectors.** Streets that provide a link between local streets and arterials. Collectors provide two travel lanes. On-street parking is generally permitted. Driveway access is allowed, but should be minimized. Bike lanes, park strips, sidewalks, and transit facilities are also typically accommodated within the right-of-way.

**Community Garden.** A single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people.

**Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL).** A 24-hour energy equivalent level derived from a variety of single-noise events, with weighting factors of 5 and 10 dBA applied to the evening (7 PM to 10 PM) and nighttime (10 PM to 7 AM) periods, respectively, to allow for the greater sensitivity to noise during these hours.

**Compatible (Design).** A project design that does not conflict with the site, architecture, and landscape design of surrounding projects.

**Compatible (Land Use).** Capable of existing together without significant conflict.

**Complete Neighborhood.** A planning concept intended to promote livability and safety for residents of varied ages, incomes, and cultural backgrounds. Elements of a complete neighborhood include:

- A mix of housing types and prices;
- Community gathering places such as neighborhood parks, open space/greenways, public plazas, schools, or religious institutions;
- Services and facilities such as schools, parks, small retail, restaurants, and community centers conveniently located and often shared with one or more adjoining neighborhoods;
- Employment opportunities accessible by walking or public transportation;
- An interconnected street network with short blocks and few cul-de-sacs;
- Pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and roadway facilities that are connected to adjacent neighborhoods and corridors;
- Sustainable development that conserves resources; and
- Extensive tree canopy and attractive landscaping.

**Complete Streets.** Roadways designed and operated to enable safe and convenient travel for all modes of transportation. To encourage the development of complete streets in California, the State passed Senate Bill 1358, which mandates the consideration of complete streets in general plans.

**Community Parks.** Multi-purpose parks that serve the entire community, generally designed to provide active play opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

**Conditional Use Permit.** A discretionary land use entitlement that authorizes the establishment or modification of a particular use in a given zoning district, as authorized by the Municipal Code.

**Conservation.** The management of natural resources to prevent waste, destruction, or neglect.

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**Consult.** To solicit and consider comments from another agency, special district, or group. Comments received through consultation must be considered, but do not obligate a jurisdiction to a specific action.

**Corridors.** Roadways and associated land uses that provide services, mobility and connectivity within the community. Corridors in Chico may include transportation corridors, commercial corridors, and open space, habitat and greenway corridors.

**Cultural Resources.** Historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources, including human remains.

**Cumulative Impact.** As defined by CEQA, two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. The individual effects may be changes resulting from a single project or a number of separate projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant projects taking place over a period of time.

**Decibel (dB).** A unit used to express the relative intensity of sound. On the decibel scale, the smallest audible sound (near total silence) is 0 db. Since the decibel scale is logarithmic, a sound 10 times more powerful is 10dB and a sound 100 times more powerful is 20dB.

**dBA.** The “A-weighted” scale for measuring sound in decibels as related to the sensitivity of the human ear. Most measurements of noise for environmental review purposes are expressed in dBA.

**Dedication.** The transfer of fee simple title of property, or grant of an easement, from a property owner to an agency, special district, or municipality for public use, and the acceptance of land for such use by the agency, special district, or municipality having jurisdiction. Dedications for roads, parks, school sites, creekside greenways, or other public uses are often required by a city or county as conditions of approval for a development.

**Density, Gross.** The number of dwelling units per gross acre of developable land designated for residential uses on the General Plan Land Use Diagram. (See Gross Acreage.)

**Design Review.** A discretionary process in which the design of a project is considered for approval in compliance, or consistency, with any adopted design policy, standards, or guidelines. Design review typically entails examining a project’s architecture, site design, building placement, landscaping, lighting, signage, vehicle and pedestrian circulation, and surrounding architectural character. Architectural design review in the City of Chico is conducted in accordance with Chapter 19.18 of the Municipal Code.

**Development.** Any construction activity or alteration of the landscape, its terrain, contour, or vegetation, including the erection or alteration of single or multiple structures and any grading.

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**Dwelling Unit (du).** A room or group of internally-connected rooms that have sleeping, cooking, eating, and sanitation facilities, but not more than one kitchen, which constitute an independent housekeeping unit, occupied by or intended for one household on a long-term basis. Types of housing units include single-family housing, two-family housing/duplexes, multi-family housing, mobile homes, condominiums, and townhouses.

**Ecosystem.** An interacting system formed by a biotic community and its physical environment.

**Environmental Impact Report (EIR).** A report on the effect of a proposed development proposal or other major action which could significantly affect the environment. The report consists of an inventory of existing environmental conditions, projected impacts of development, and mitigation for significant adverse impacts. A general plan EIR is necessarily more general, or programmatic, than a site-specific EIR.

**Flood, 100-year.** In any given year, a flood that has a 1 percent likelihood of occurring, and is recognized as a standard for acceptable risk.

**Floodplain.** The relatively level land area on either side of the banks of a stream regularly subject to flooding.

**Floodway.** The part of the floodplain capable of conveying the 100-year flood with no more than a one-foot rise in water. The floodway includes the stream channel itself and adjacent land areas.

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR).** The ratio between the gross floor area of structures on a site and the gross site area, used to express the intensity of use on the lot. For example, a two-story building covering 50 percent of its site would have a FAR of 1.0, and a 0.5 FAR can describe a single-story building that covers half of a lot and a two-story building covering approximately one-quarter of a lot.

**General Plan.** A jurisdiction's constitutional document regarding its future development. The General Plan is a legal document, with supporting maps and diagrams, required of each local agency by the State of California Government Code Section 65301. In California, the General Plan has seven mandatory elements (Circulation, Conservation, Housing, Land Use, Noise, Open Space and Public Safety) and may include any number of optional elements the jurisdiction deems important.

**Goal.** Broad statements of community desires incorporated into the General Plan elements.

**Green.** Protecting and promoting environmental health.

**Green Business.** A business that operates in ways that solve, rather than cause, environmental problems. Green businesses adopt principles, policies, and practices that improve the quality of life for their customers, employees, communities, and the planet.

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**Green Building.** The practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle: from site design and architecture to construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction.

**Green Development.** A land use planning concept that includes consideration of community-wide or regional environmental implications of development, as well as site-specific green building concepts.

**Greenhouse Gas.** Greenhouse gases include, but are not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride.

**Greenline.** The Greenline is a boundary established in 1982 by Butte County and the City of Chico that separates the Chico urban area from prime agricultural soils to the west.

**Gross Acreage.** The area of a site measured to the centerline of bounding streets and other public right-of-ways.

**Groundwater.** Water that exists beneath the earth's surface, typically found between saturated soils and rock, and used to supply wells and springs.

**Guiding Principles.** Broad statements of purpose and direction to achieve the community vision that served as inspiration for development of the General Plan goals, policies and actions.

**Habitat.** The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or population lives or occurs.

**Heritage Tourism.** Traveling to experience the places, artifacts and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. It includes visiting cultural, historic and natural resources.

**Household.** One or more persons operating as a single housekeeping unit.

**Impact Fee.** A fee charged to a developer by a jurisdiction according to the proposed development project, typically by number of units, square footage, or acreage. The fee is used to offset costs incurred by the municipality for infrastructure such as schools, roads, police and fire stations, sewers, and parks.

**Impervious Surface.** Surface through which water cannot penetrate, such as a roof, road, sidewalk, or paved parking lot. The amount of impervious surface increases with development and establishes the need for drainage facilities to carry the increased runoff.

**Infill Development.** Development that occurs on vacant or partially developed land within areas that are already largely developed and served by public infrastructure.

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**Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).** A voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing and rating high performance, sustainable green buildings. LEED provides a complete framework for assessing building performance and meeting sustainability goals, such as water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. LEED standards are currently available or under development for: new commercial construction and major renovation projects, existing building operations, commercial interiors projects, core and shell projects, and homes.

**Leq, Equivalent Sound Level.** A single measure, in dBA, of average acoustic energy level used to represent fluctuating sound levels over a specific period of time.

**Level of Service (Traffic).** A qualitative measurement of a driver's delay or congestion experienced on a street or at an intersection. Level of Service (LOS) is measured with sequential letters A through F.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).** A five- or seven-member commission within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and mergers of districts with cities. LAFCO commissions are empowered to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve such proposals.

**Local Resource Area.** Areas which are provided City fire suppression services.

**Low Impact Development (LID).** Development that manages stormwater by minimizing run-off close to its source. LID practices retain or reuse run-off on-site rather than draining to waterbodies or evaporating. Methods include rain gardens, vegetated rooftops, and permeable pavement.

**Massing.** The three dimensional bulk of a structure or building shape regarding height, width, and depth.

**Mixed-Use.** Any mixture of land uses, such as mixtures of residences with commercial, offices with retail, or visitor accommodation with offices and retail. As distinguished from single-use land use designations, mixed-use designations authorize a variety of uses for buildings and sites in a particular area.

**Multi-Modal.** The movement of people and goods using more than one mode of travel.

**Municipal Code.** A comprehensive and unified set of adopted provisions and regulations for a municipality relating to and regulating a variety of topics ranging from administration and finance to infrastructure, planning and environmental review. Unless otherwise specified, refers to the Chico Municipal Code.

**Native and Drought Tolerant Landscaping.** Indigenous plant species that are adapted to drought-prone climates and that require small amounts of moisture to flourish.

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**Neighborhoods.** Places with distinctive characteristics where people live and share a sense of identity. Neighborhoods are predominantly residential and may include community gathering places and share supporting service areas with other surrounding neighborhoods.

**Neighborhood Parks.** Smaller-scale parks intended to serve residents in the surrounding neighborhood, designed primarily for unsupervised activities and may include recreational amenities.

**Noise Contour.** A mapping technique connecting points of equal or constant noise level as measured on the same scale.

**Noise Sensitive Land Uses.** Land uses for which noise exposure could cause health-related risks to individuals or where quiet is essential to the use. Land uses identified in Chico as being “noise-sensitive” include all types of residences, nursing homes, day care centers, hospitals, schools, parks, and places of assembly, such as theaters, churches and meeting halls.

**Non-Conforming Use.** Land uses, structures, and parcels that were legally established under past building or zoning regulations, but which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted differently under the terms of current regulations.

**Oak Woodlands.** In California, the Valley oak woodland habitat type is located in relatively flat savanna grassland areas with deep soils and widely spaced Valley oaks comprising the dominant over-story species. The blue oak woodland habitat type occupies the gentle slopes of foothill zones where soils are shallow and dominant over-story consists of moderate to dense stands of blue oak, interspersed by live oak and chaparral species.

**Open Space.** Land in a predominantly undeveloped condition, often designated for conservation and protection of resources that include natural environment and habitat, water corridors, park land, and scenic vistas.

**Parcel.** A lot or tract of land shown on a subdivision, Assessor’s or plat map.

**Pedestrian-Oriented.** A design concept to emphasize the street, sidewalk and pedestrian access to a development, rather than emphasize auto access and parking areas.

**Planning Area.** All land within the City limits, land within the City’s designated Sphere of Influence (SOI), and other land in unincorporated Butte County outside of these boundaries which, in the planning agency’s judgment, relates to the City’s planning efforts.

**Policy.** A statement that guides decision makers in reviewing development proposals and making other decisions.

**Redevelopment.** Any new construction on a site that has a pre-existing use. It can also refer to urban infill on previously developed but now vacant parcels.

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**Riparian.** A habitat and vegetation zone which is associated with the banks and floodplains of a river, stream, or lake. Riparian trees and shrubs are typically phreatophytes, plants whose root systems are in constant contact with groundwater.

**Riparian Communities.** Species and life-forms occurring along the banks of a natural course of water, whether seasonal or annual, and defined by the surrounding riparian vegetation or presence of known wildlife movement pathways.

**Safe Routes to Schools.** A national program established in May 2006 by the National Center for Safe Routes to School that assists communities in enabling and encouraging children to safely walk and bike to and from school.

**Seniors.** People 65 years of age or older.

**Sensitive Receptors (Noise).** (See noise sensitive land uses.)

**Sensitive Receptors (Air Quality).** Members of the population who are most sensitive to air pollution including children, the elderly, the acutely ill, and the chronically ill. The term "sensitive receptors" can also refer to the land use categories where these people live or spend a significant amount of time. Such areas include residences, schools, playgrounds, child care centers, hospitals, retirement homes, and convalescent homes.

**Shovel Ready.** Property that can be readily served by existing infrastructure, utility and other public services and where development is not significantly constrained by the presence of protected environmental species. Land use entitlements and permits are often processed and approved in advance of development proposals for shovel ready sites.

**Significant Industrial User.** Any industrial user that meets the significance criteria as in the Chico Municipal Code Chapter 15.40.

**Smart Growth.** A land use planning concept of directing development toward areas of existing or shared infrastructure and services, with a key goal of limiting sprawl and preserving open space.

**Soil Classification.** The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil classifications for physical and chemical composition, and therefore, suitability for agriculture. A soil classification of Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance indicates the soil is particularly suited to agricultural production.

**Source Reduction.** Any action which causes a net reduction in the generation of solid waste. Source reduction includes, but is not limited to, reducing the use of non-recyclable materials, replacing disposable materials and products with reusable materials and products, reducing packaging, reducing the amount of yard wastes generated, establishing garbage rate structures with incentives to reduce waste tonnage generated, and increasing the efficient use of paper, cardboard, glass, metal, plastic, and other materials.

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**Special-Status Species.** Special-status species are commonly characterized as species that are at potential risk or actual risk to their persistence in a given area or across their native habitat (locally, regionally, or nationally) and are identified by a state or federal resources agency as such. Risk factors to a species' persistence or a population's persistence include, but are not limited to habitat loss, increased mortality factors, invasive species, and environmental toxins.

**Specific Plan.** Under Article 8 of the Government Code (Section 65450 et seq), a legal tool for detailed design and implementation of a defined portion of the area covered by a General Plan. A specific plan may include all detailed regulations, conditions, programs, and/or proposed legislation which may be necessary or convenient for the systematic implementation of any General Plan element(s).

**Sphere of Influence (SOI).** The ultimate service area of a city, and its probable physical boundaries, as determined by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of the county.

**State Responsibility Area.** Areas that are provided State and County fire suppression services for State-designated Very High, High and Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

**Substantial Compliance.** Compliance with the substantial or essential requirements of a policy, statute, or condition that satisfies its purpose or objective. A project may be found to be in substantial compliance if it meets most (if not all) of the requirements.

**Sustainability.** Maintaining a culture of stewardship to enhance the natural environment, economic interests, and quality of life for present and future generations. Sustainability entails aligning the built environment and socioeconomic activities with nature's constraints and opportunities. Central to this concept is meeting both present and future needs through a balance of three components: maintenance of a healthy and equitable society, protection of the environment, and ongoing prosperity of the local economy.

**Sustainability Indicators.** A set of measures used to monitor the progress towards achieving sustainability goals. Sustainability indicators assess the quality of the environment, economy, and social equity, and help guide future decisions and program development.

**Traffic Calming.** Implementation of physical changes to a street with the intent of reducing automobile travel speeds and increasing street safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. Methods include horizontal and vertical street realignment, installation of pedestrian or bicycle facilities, installation of landscaping and other physical modifications.

**Traffic Management.** Measures designed to reduce peak-period auto traffic by making a more efficient use of existing resources, and emphasizing transit, ridesharing, and non-automobile alternatives. Measures which can maximize the capacity of the existing transportation system include:

- Signal coordination

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- Transit prioritization
- Roundabouts
- Shared Parking concepts
- Parking management plans

**Travel Demand Forecasting Model.** A software program used by the City to model existing traffic counts and project future traffic volumes based on planned land uses.

**Travel Demand Management (TDM).** TDM is a program that is intended to manage traffic flow during peak periods. TDM measures surrounding new development would typically include providing the following types of amenities to minimize traffic during peak periods:

- Bicycle lockers/racks and shower facilities
- Subsidized transit passes
- Flexible work hours
- Telecommuting
- Guaranteed ride home program
- Charge for parking
- Preferred parking for carpools
- Provision of Child Care services on-site or near employment centers

**Unincorporated Area.** Land that is located outside of a city's limits and that is subject to county jurisdiction.

**Urban.** An area that is developed with dense residential uses and/or intense nonresidential uses. Typically, urban areas are served by sewer and water infrastructure.

**Urban Area.** The combined land area of incorporated and unincorporated areas concentrated around shared services and infrastructure improvements.

**Use.** The purpose for which land, a site, or structure is designed, arranged, or intended, or for which it is or may be occupied or maintained.

**Utility Corridor.** Rights-of-way or easements for utility lines on either publicly or privately owned property.

**Viewshed.** The field or corridor of vision from which a site is visible, such as a natural scenic feature, or the field of vision from which a collection of viewpoints, such as the foothills, is visible, in the context that such fields or corridors of vision hold aesthetic value which should be maintained as the community develops.

**Visual Intrusion.** Typically with infill development, architectural design that impacts the visual character of a neighborhood or neighboring properties.

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**Wastewater.** Water that has been used for washing, flushing, or in a manufacturing process, and containing waste products such as sewage or chemical byproducts.

**Wayfinding.** The ability of a person to find or orient his or her way to a given destination by various means including historic landmarks, public art, unique architectural or design elements, signage, natural features, roads or paths, parks, or unique buildings.

**Wetland.** An area that is inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, commonly known as hydrophytic vegetation, and which often support various biological species.

**Wetland Communities.** An accumulation of various botanical and biological species supported by a system of wetland resources. Vernal pools and swales are important habitat for a variety of wildlife species including terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and birds, including several species of threatened and endangered crustaceans. Some species depend entirely on these habitats throughout their lifecycle.

**Workforce Housing.** Housing product available to the segment of a given population earning near the median income of the region.

**Xeriscape.** Landscaping with an emphasis on water conservation and efficiency. (See also “Native and Drought Tolerant Landscaping”.)

**Zoning.** An ordinance or other legislative regulation that divides a jurisdiction into districts or zones that regulate many aspects of land use and development activities including:

- Allowable land uses
- Intensity or density of development
- Height, bulk, and placement of structures
- Parking
- Signage
- Environmental resources
- Historic and cultural resources