



B. Prosperity Component

The Tulare County General Plan, through its Component B-Prosperity, addresses the agricultural, land use, economic, and housing resources of the County. The General Plan uses communities and hamlets to accommodate new County growth while encouraging a majority of growth to occur within incorporated cities. Component B, Prosperity, is a long-range framework for public and private investment that will result in an agriculturally-rich and economically-viable County.

Prosperity Concepts

Concept 1: Agriculture

One of the most identified assets in Tulare County is the rich agricultural land on the Valley floor and in the foothills. The General Plan identifies agriculture not only as an economic asset to the County, but also as a cultural, scenic, and environmental resource to be protected.

Concept 2: Land Use

Tulare County's communities and hamlets will continue to grow and develop while natural resource lands (agriculture and open space) will be preserved. Projected population growth will require a range of housing choices, neighborhood support services, and employment-producing uses that are centrally located in communities. The County will also limit the conversion of agricultural and other natural resource lands to urban uses.

Concept 3: Economic Development

The County's economy will expand and diversify. Agriculture will remain the mainstay of the County's economy, while agriculturally-related industries and non-agricultural industries will play an increasingly larger role in the local economy. Many of the planning principles and policies in the General Plan protect existing agricultural lands and industries while providing support for advancement and diversification of agriculturally-related enterprises.

Concept 4: Housing

The purpose of the Housing Element is to identify the County's housing needs, state the counties goals and objectives with regard to housing production, rehabilitation, and conservation to meet those needs, and to define the policies and programs that the County will implement to achieve the stated goals and objectives.

Guiding Principles

Agriculture

Principle 1: Protect Agriculture

Protect valuable agricultural uses from urban encroachment [*New Principle*].

Principle 2: Maintain Separators

Maintain rural landscape separators between Tulare County's towns and cities [*New Principle*].

Land Use

Principle 1: Enhancing Communities and Hamlets

Promote land uses which improve the economic vitality and livability of Tulare County's communities and hamlets [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Principle 2: Urban-Rural Interface

Protect valuable agricultural and scenic natural lands from urban encroachment [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Principle 3: Self-Sustaining Communities

Provide a mix of land uses that promote self-sustaining communities and hamlets [*New Principle*].

Principle 4: Rural Separators

Maintain rural landscape separators between Tulare County's hamlets, communities, and cities [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Economic Development

Principle 1: Improve Quality of Life

Create and facilitate opportunities to improve the lives of all County residents [*New Principle*].

Principle 2: Private Investment

Create opportunities for private investment that improves the quality of life of County residents [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Principle 3: Economic Diversification

Diversify economic opportunities in the County's unincorporated communities, hamlets, and incorporated cities [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Principle 4: Protect Agricultural Economy

Protect, expand, and diversify the County's agricultural economy and diversify employment opportunities [*Board of Supervisors, November 2005*].

Housing

[*Not included in this document. Adopted as a separate document on a schedule designated by the State Legislature.*]