



November 5, 2003
Lindsay Veterans' Memorial Auditorium
775 North Elmwood Avenue, Lindsay, CA

On November 5, 2003, over 50 people attended the first of five community workshops to participate in updating Tulare County's General Plan. Held at the Lindsay Veterans' Memorial Auditorium, the workshop provided an opportunity for attendees to assist in identifying overall planning issues and assets that should be focused on during the General Plan update.



Participants worked as members of six planning teams. Each team identified top issues facing the County today and what they thought would be leading issues in the year 2025. In addition, they discussed what assets the County could enhance, protect, and build upon. Once they listed these, the teams mapped issues and assets within the County. They also identified their favorite scenic places in the County and discussed which could be at risk.

Following the group discussions, the planning teams shared their efforts and observations with the entire group. Below is a summary of top issues and assets from the teams' presentations.

Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- Air pollution
- Water availability and quality
- Population growth
- Agriculture and open space conservation
- Poverty and employment

Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- Water and air quality
- Urban growth
- Transportation
- Balancing agriculture, natural resources and urban development

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- Scenic landscape and National Parks
- Small towns
- Agriculture
- People

The following pages summarize each planning team's issues and assets lists and maps. For each of the questions, the team's top three items (as selected by the team members) are highlighted in bold type.

Team 1



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Saving agriculture**
- **Water**
- **Workforce and unemployment**
- Big cities rule over us
- Too rapid growth
- Cooperation between City vs. County government
- Air quality
- Rural life
- Mineral King problems/ issues
- Federalization of public lands
- Cooperation and agricultural industry
- Scenic highway
- Tourism
- Crime & gangs, meth. labs, drugs
- Workforce/ unemployed
- Culture gap

Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Viable agriculture and value added industry**
- **Transportation - traffic, light rail, heavy rail**
- **LA will have our water**
- Water quality/quantity major
- Air pollution major problem
- Education – 4 year university, job trade
- Separated bounded cities
- Local food shed
- Separate two world society
- Less understanding
- Gridlock – massive traffic
- Crime

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **People**
- **Small towns**
- **Mountains**
- Agriculture
- Land water climate
- Rural areas – scenic
- Work ethic is Can Do
- Sierra Nevada Mountain Monument
- Central location
- Murals/beautification
- Individuality/ independence

Tulare County

- Q1 Greater workforce □ in *
- Q2 XL Urban Camp + Highways
- Q3 Small town *Small groups*



Team 2



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Water**
- **Population**
- **Environmental clean-up of air, soil**
- Poor zoning
- Poor resource protection
- Rampant growth
- Local tax return
- Agriculture
- Poor housing
- Managed growth
- Funding for government services
- Town - farm interface
- Understanding of cultural diversity

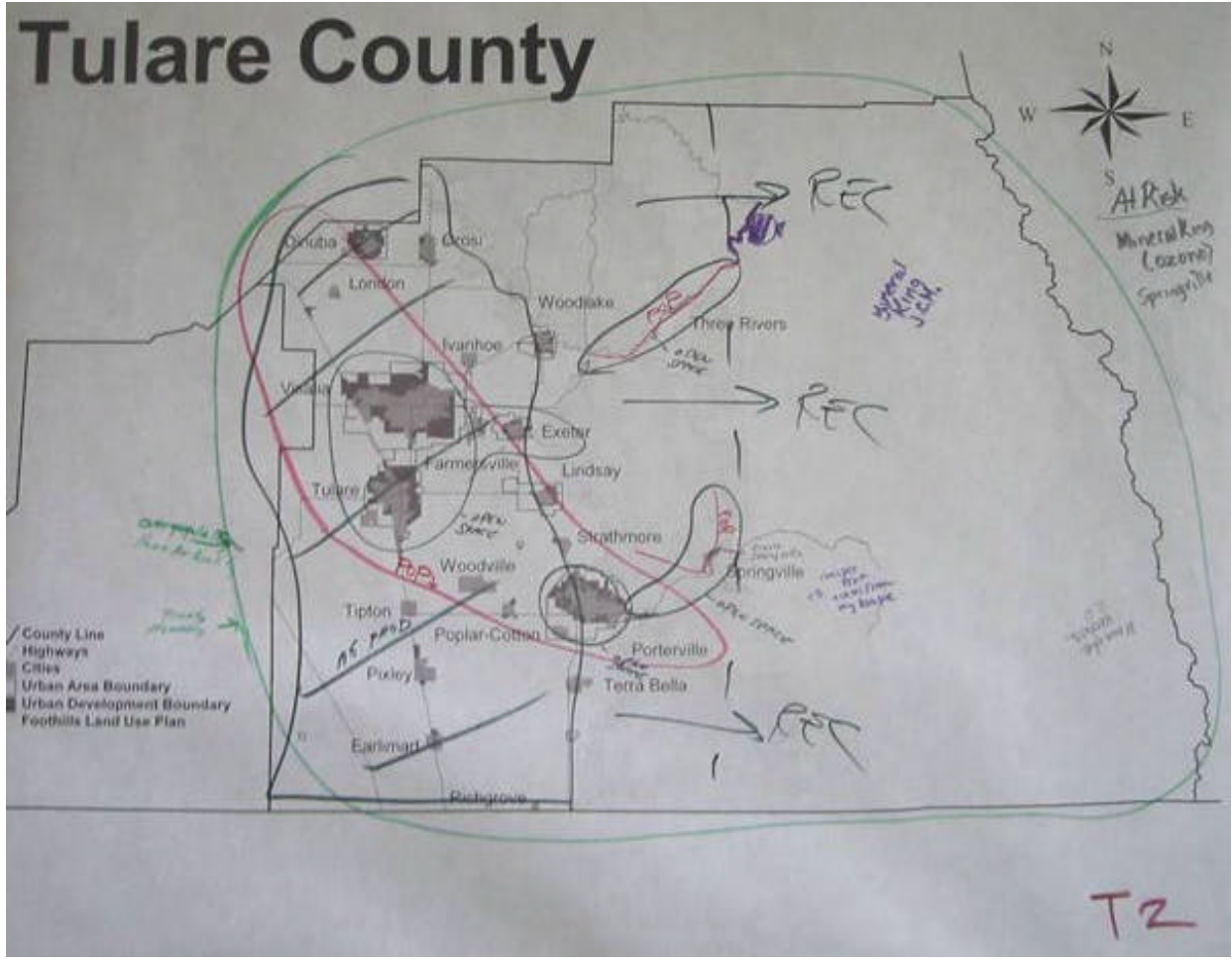
Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Management of over-population**
- **Water shortage and air shortage quality**
- **Timely planning processes**
- Soil depletion
- Change to Hispanic majority
- Pollution and allergies
- Transportation
- Economic distribution
- Crime and poverty

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **Open space**
- **Agricultural productivity**
- **Recreation opportunities**
- Abundant Sierra water
- Rural communities and tourism potential
- Rivers
- Soil
- Wild places
- Sense of community
- Access to national parks
- Rural atmosphere

Tulare County



Team 3



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Air quality**
- **Poverty/economics**
- **Land use planning, agriculture, open space, development**
- Air quality
- Poverty
- Gang problems
- Loss of open space & habitat
- Water shortages
- Public transportation
- Loss of agricultural land
- Poorly planned development
- Lack of open space planning
- Road maintenance
- Water quality
- Small town viability
- Social/cultural image

Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Water/air**
- **Balancing development & resources**
- **Population/traffic/growth**
- Growth/population
- Pollutions
- Limited resources
- Loss of agricultural land
- Water table loss
- Economic development that does not degrade resources
- Foothill development - fire problems
- Traffic

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **Rich agricultural land/soils**
- **Scenic vistas, Sierras, foothills**
- **Communities – rural, small town**
- Climate (good for agriculture), solar energy
- Unique habitat zones/ Sequoias, etc.
- Historical/archeological assets
- Pacific flyway
- Rivers & lakes
- Highway 99 – goods transport

Tulare County



CURRENT ISSUES

1. AIR QUALITY - COUNTY WIDE

2. POVERTY MOSTLY RURAL SMALL TOWN

3. AGLAND & OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION (COUNTY WIDE) URBAN SPRAWL

2025 ISSUES

1. WATER / AIR QUALITY COUNTY WIDE

2. BALANCING DEVELOPMENT VS. RURAL RESOURCE DEGRADATION / AGLAND → OPEN SPACE

3. POPULATION / TRAFFIC GROWTH

ASSETS

1. RICH AGLAND / SOCS

2. SCENIC VISTAS - FOOTHILLS / SIERRAS

3. RURAL / SMALL TOWN COMMUNITIES

- County Line
- Highways
- Cities
- Urban Area Boundary
- Urban Development Boundary
- Foothills Land Use Plan

A+Pisk
Rock Hill
Tule River

U = ATRok

SCENIC TULARE COUNTY.

↳ Western Divide Hwy near Posiderosa (Fire)

- ✓ 1. Colby - Rocky Hill - Pville
- ✓ 2. James - Blossom Peak 3 Rivers
- ✓ 3. Ruben - Kennedy Meadows - USFS SNE (Fire)
- ✓ 4. Kimball - TULE RIVER
- ✓ 5. Pitlake - LAKES
- ✓ 6) Jon - MHSE Springdale - Fire

T3

Team 4



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Water**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Urban sprawl**
- Public safety
- Pollution
- Education
- Ag preservation
- Air quality
- Lack of public transportation
- Economic development
- Telecommunications
- Oppressive business climate
- Energy costs
- Poor county image

Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Air quality**
- **Water**
- **Economic development**
- Population density
- Planned land use
- Higher education facilities
- Medical facilities
- Mass transportation
- Roads and highways

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **Character and diversity of people**
- **Natural environment (agriculture)**
- **Location**

Tulare County



Team 5



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Water quantity and quality**
- **Air quality**
- Unincorporated areas
- General trends in traffic flow
- Unemployment and under-employment
- Undirected and unmonitored growth
- Financial support of County infrastructure
- Loss of natural resources – habitat and biological resources
- Environmental control
- Coordination of State and County permit process
- Increasing growth of fixed income retirees
- Lack of quantified build-out in FGMP
- Lack of medical services
- Groundwater
- Idea of diverting growth to foothills bad
- Fire protection, police protection county services

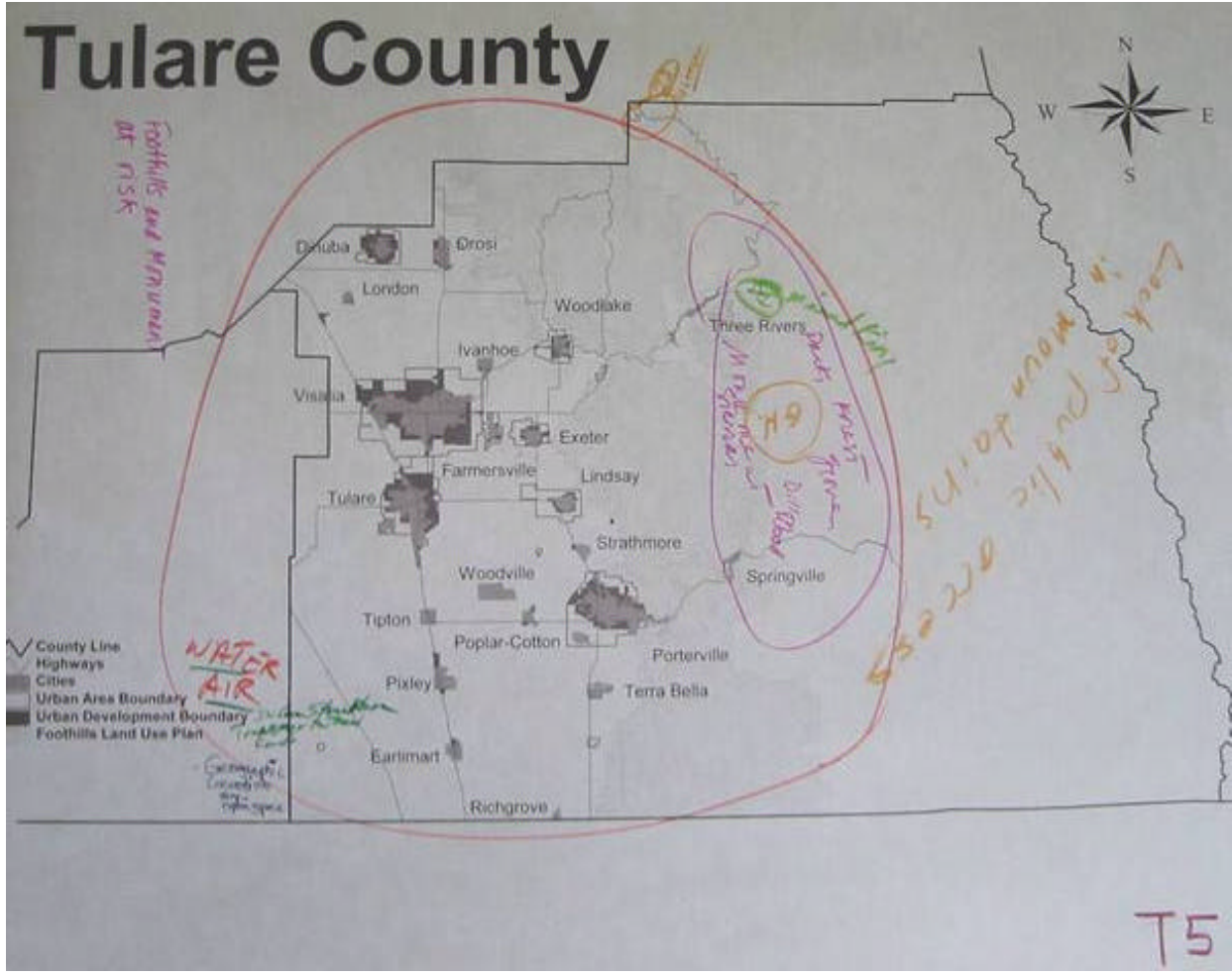
Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Water**
- **Quality of life**
- Air
- Traffic congestion
- Poor urban/rural planning
- Health issues such as adequate access to medical services
- Loss of agricultural land
- Loss of open space
- Equal access to education
- Loss of scenic resources
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Agriculture vs. urban

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **Sierra Nevada & foothills**
- **Visual impact of mountains**
- **Environmental resources**
- Water climate
- Rural aspect
- Location
- Ag industry
- Soils
- People (hardworking population)
- Cultural diversity

Tulare County



T5

Team 6



Q1. What are the top three issues facing Tulare County today?

- **Water**
- **Urbanization/growth**
- **Air quality**
- Limited economic opportunity
- Transportation
- Declining tax revenues
- Poverty
- Declining agricultural land

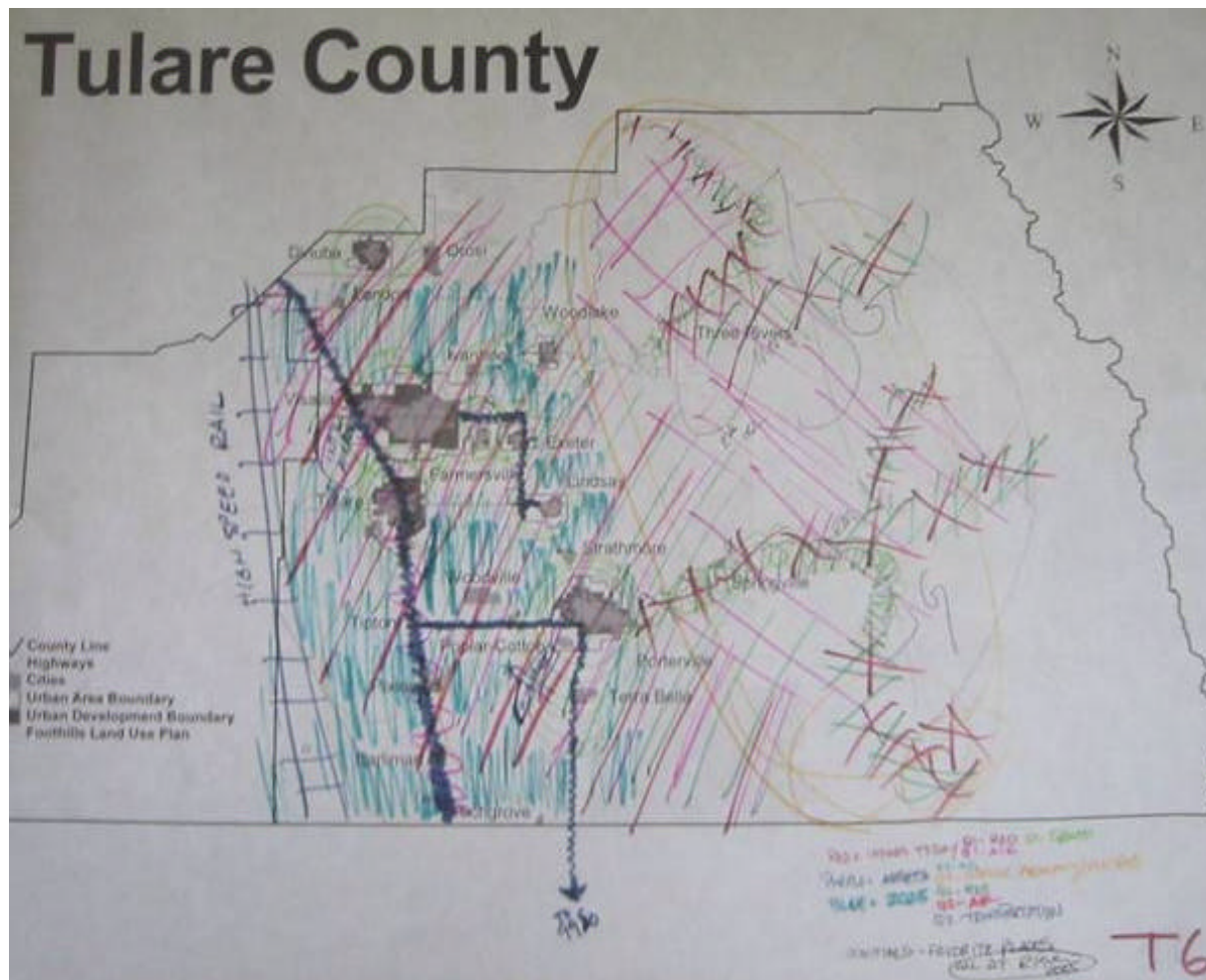
Q2. What are the top three issues that will be facing Tulare County in 2025?

- **Water**
- **Air quality**
- **Transportation**
- Higher education opportunities
- Economic diversity
- Natural resource depletion
- Growth containment

Q3. What are Tulare County's three top assets?

- **Agriculture**
- **Proximity to open space**
- **Scenic beauty (wild land parks, agriculture,**
- **public lands, working landscapes)**
- Cultural diversity
- Prison/State hospital employees
- Available, large workforce

Tulare County



Discussion Regarding Community Outreach and Participation

Following the planning team presentations, the entire group was asked to help improve on the public outreach program.

Who is Not Here That Should Be?

- Young people
- Hispanic community
- Asian-Indian community
- Industrial businesses
- Native Americans
- State representatives
- Irrigation districts
- Labor
- Law enforcement
- Medical providers
- City officers
- Social service recipients
- Higher education representatives (four-year universities)
- Teachers
- Developers
- Military employers
- Tourism interests
- Public lands (BLM and National Parks)
- Seniors and retired people
- CalTrans

Community Participation Approach

- Include community level efforts like those in Springville
- Want a Citizens Advisory Committee
- Low density rural areas are important but under represented
- Why not vote on General Plan?
- Website with agendas, schedule, technical information
- Web BLOG
- On-line survey
- Opposed to cities participating
- Capturing the detailed knowledge of citizens
- Implementation of policies important