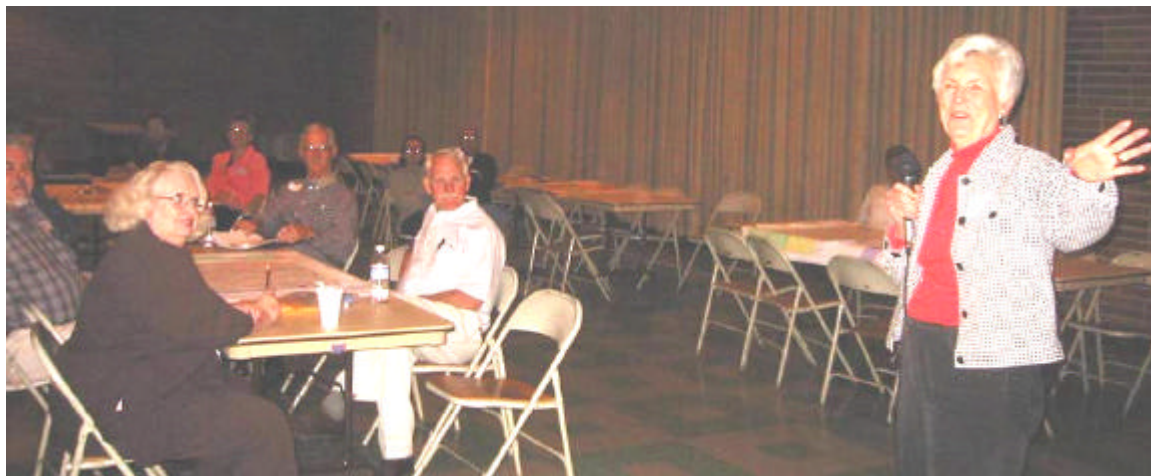




March 24, 2004
Lindsay Memorial Hall
775 North Elmwood Avenue, Lindsay, CA

On March 24, 2004 over 20 people attended a workshop in Lindsay to explore policy choices for the future of Tulare County. Participants started the workshop with a review of planning issues and assets identified at previous General Plan workshops. The participants were then divided into “planning teams.” Working as members of these planning teams, participants developed concepts for Tulare County’s future to the year 2025. Their charge was to map out a future for the County that addressed the issues identified by the community at the previous workshops.



Each planning team used colored paper representing a variety of residential development, employment generating land uses (industrial and commercial), and public facilities. Their objectives were to accommodate the estimated 2025 population while balancing between preservation of farmland, rural and natural landscapes, housing, and new employment opportunities.

Each team had four assignments that addressed leading issues identified by participants at earlier workshops.

Assignment 1: Preserving Natural and Working Landscapes

Issue Identified by Public: Population growth and urban encroachment is impacting agriculture and natural landscapes.

Planning Team Assignment: The planning teams mapped development patterns and suggested overall connections and design framework for Tulare County in 2025.

Assignment 2: Economic Diversification

Issue Identified by Public: Tulare County needs to create more higher paying, year-round employment opportunities.

Planning Team Assignment: The planning teams identified important economic development concepts and indicated on their maps the location of employment centers.

Assignment 3: Inclusive Future

Issue Identified by Public: Poverty, poor housing, and lack of educational facilities for rural Tulare County residents can hold the County back.

Planning Team Assignment: The planning teams listed policies that would provide for a future that would advance all the people in the county.

Bonus Question:

How can your team's ideas improve air quality and protect the agricultural, habitat and biological resources that are vital to the County's health, beauty and economy?

Workshop Highlights

At the end of the workshop, each planning team presented their concepts to everyone at the workshop. There was consensus on some issues and different approaches used on others.

Consensus Concepts and Ideas:

- Build housing at higher densities, thus requiring less agricultural land
- Jobs and education are considered social issues
- Unincorporated communities need improved infrastructure

Variations:

- Growth should happen in existing cities
- Growth should happen in both cities and in rural communities
- Industrial uses should happen along Highway 99
- Jobs/industrial uses should be located near housing

The following pages include written summaries and maps from the planning teams.



Planning Team 1



Where does urbanization happen?

- Infill
- Emphasize high-density and medium density
- Transit corridors

How and where do we diversify our economy?

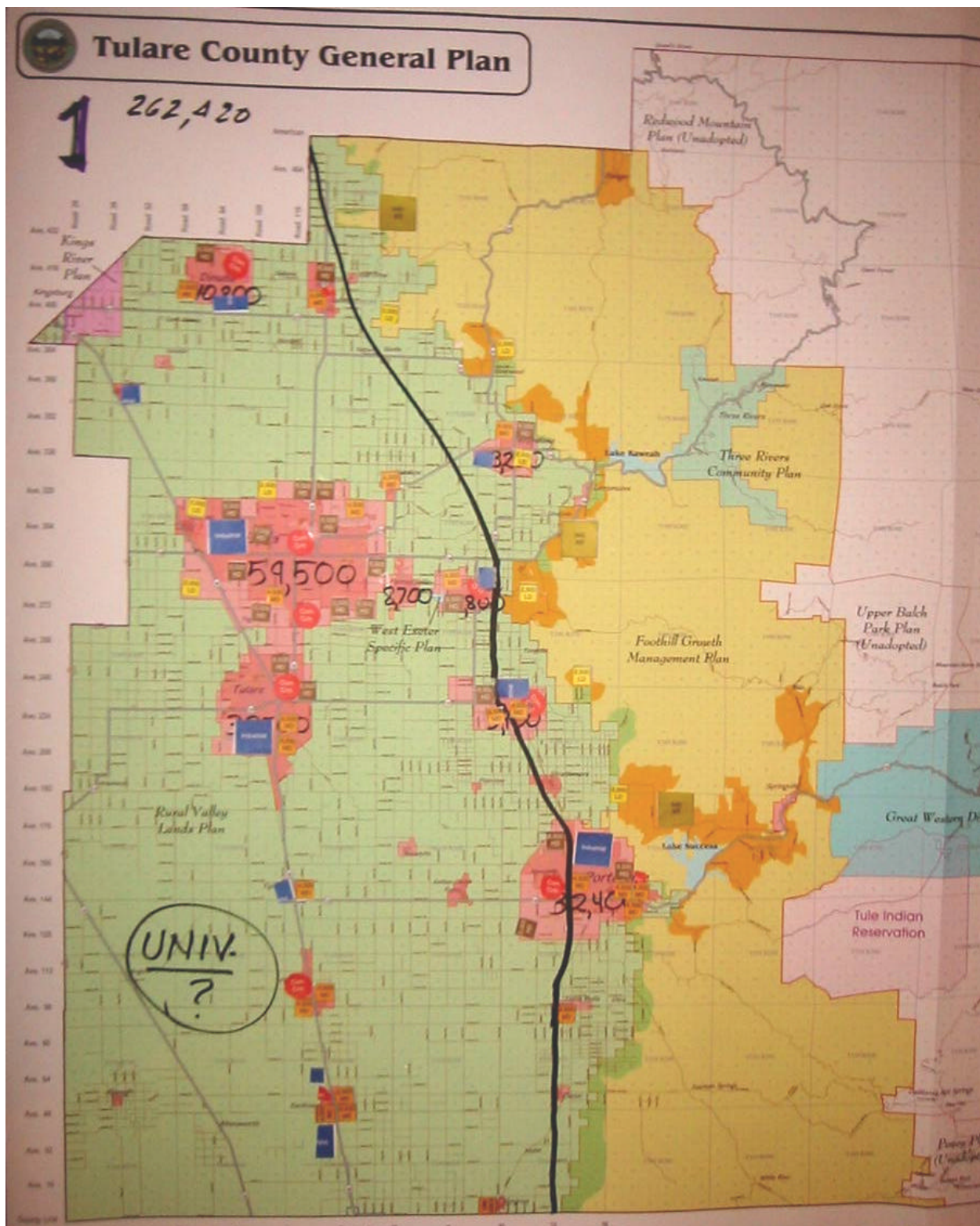
- Diversify agriculture using new technologies
- Tourism
- Focus on alternative energy generation and distribution

How can everyone have a stake in the future?

- Local university and trade schools
- Commit to infrastructure
- Work with Tulare County cities to provide housing that matches the workforce

Bonus question: Making the environment healthy

- Emphasize high density and medium density housing along existing transportation corridors
- Discourage growth in existing agricultural and foothill lands, and open space
- Concentrate commercial centers and industrial near housing centers



Planning Team 1 – Map

Planning Team 2



Where does urbanization happen?

- Increase density
- Infill
- Scenic roadways (tourism)

How and where do we diversify our economy?

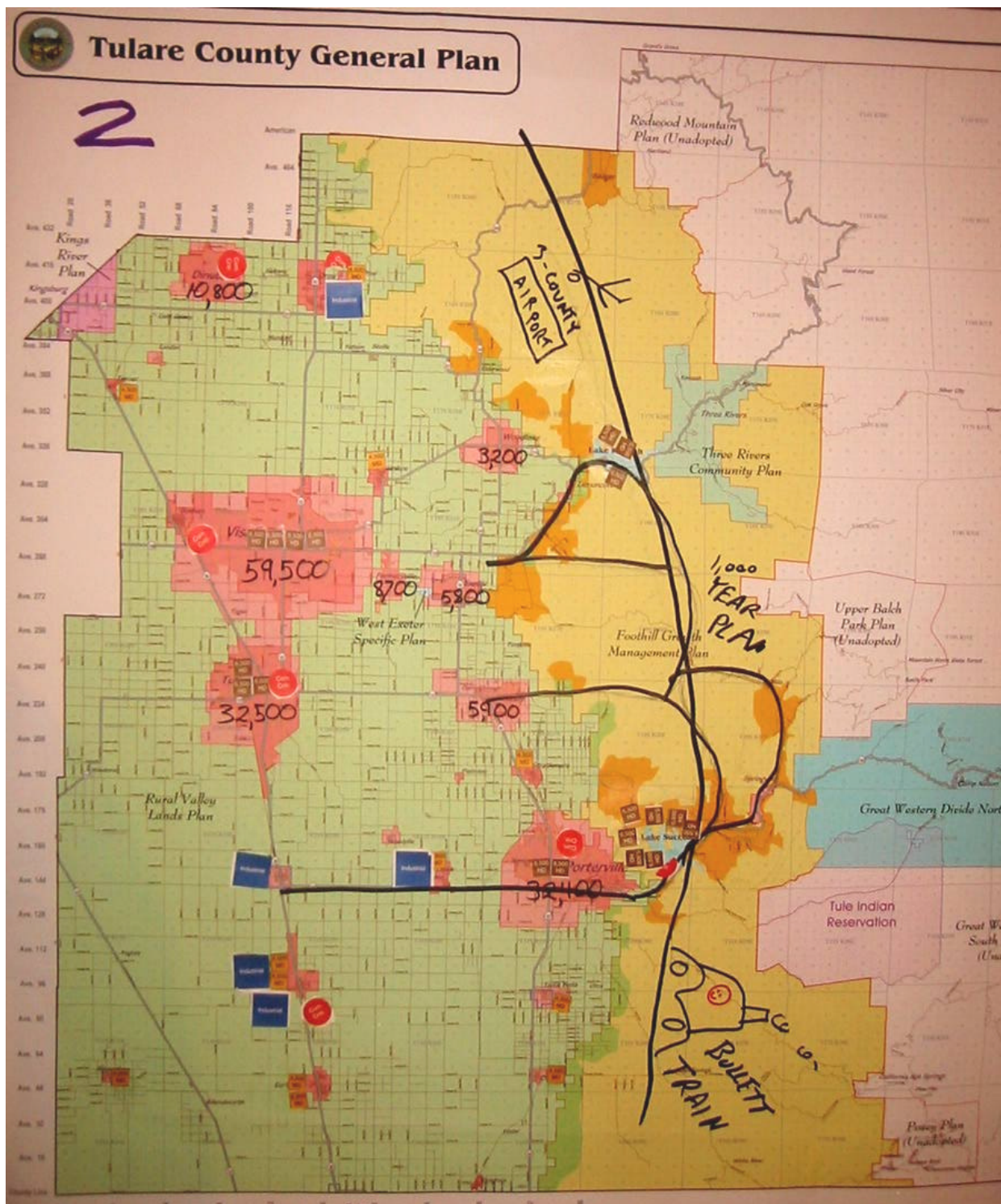
- Industrial 99 corridor and unincorporated communities
- Value-added agricultural processing
- Infrastructure

How can everyone have a stake in the future?

- Infrastructure for unincorporated communities
- Water storage (Temperance Flats)
- Improved education, vocational and higher education

Bonus question: Making the environment healthy

- Incorporate infill and density
- Industry along 99 corridor
- Maintain scenic corridors



Planning Team 2 – Map

Planning Team 3



Where does urbanization happen?

- Preserve agricultural land
- Limit sprawl
- Resource conservation

How and where do we diversify our economy?

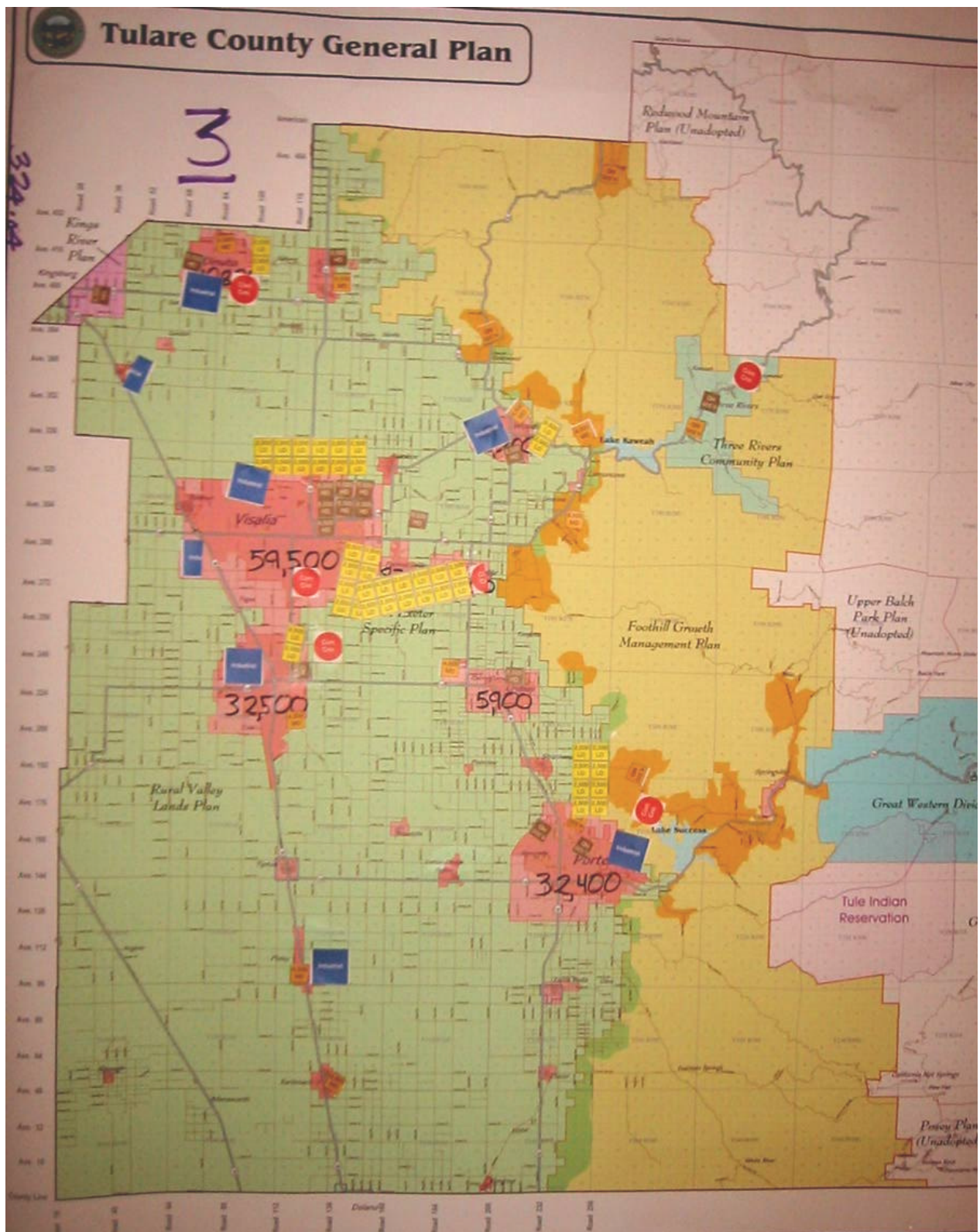
- Balance industry and commercial uses
- Infrastructure development
- Small business development

How can everyone have a stake in the future?

- Vocational education
- Infrastructure for unincorporated areas
- Jobs

Bonus question: Making the environment healthy

- Reduce source travel
- Improve infrastructure
- Develop small business



Planning Team 3 – Map