



April 12, 2005  
Tulare Public Library  
113 North F Street, Tulare, CA 93274

On April 12, 2005, approximately 30 people attended a General Plan Workshop in the City of Tulare. Attendees had an opportunity to review and share policy ideas for 11 issues identified during previous workshops by the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission and the Technical Advisory Committee.



## **Team Summaries**

Working as members of planning teams, participants identified priority policy ideas they wanted emphasized in the General Plan. Teams then presented their top policy ideas. Popular ideas included:

### **Air Quality:**

- Using low emission vehicles in fleets
- Move dairies away from cities
- Control burning

### **Water Supply:**

- Efficient use of urban and agricultural water
- Water-wise use

### **Water Quality:**

- Improve treatment and opportunities for use of recycled water

**Education and Training:**

- Recruit a 4-year college or university

**Economic Diversity:**

- Tax rather than subsidize infrastructure (use impact fees)

**Expanding Tourism:**

- Van and bus service to the national parks from cities

**Agriculture**

- Grow in cities—city-center development

**Other:**

- No rural subdivisions or new towns
- Code enforcement



The following pages include summaries of each team effort.

## Team 1



### Top Three Ideas:

- Air Quality—Low emission vehicles for County, school districts etc.
- Water Quality—Treatment and recycling of water
- Expanding Tourism—Expand bus and van service between cities and the national parks

### Air Quality

- Regulate burning
- Low emission vehicles for county, school districts etc.
- Use alternative fuels

### Water Supply

- Conservation—efficient use metering and xeriscaping
- Provide new storage facilities
- Recharge ground water

### Water Quality

- Treatment/recycling
- Monitor groundwater quality

### Education and Training

- Recruit a private 4-year college/university
- Community college expansion to rural areas
- Enrichment programs

**Infrastructure**

- Increase development fees
- Expand public transit services where efficient
- Utilize redevelopment agency

**Economic Diversity**

- Internet availability
- Expand vocational training/adult education
- Encourage SBA programs

**Expanding Tourism**

- Expand bus and van service between cities and the national parks, etc.
- Tourism information centers

**Natural Resources**

- Support land trusts and green belts
- Marketing plan for natural resources

**Planning Consistency**

- Work with cities on compatible long range plan

**Housing for all Incomes**

- Set targets for affordable housing in unincorporated communities
- Support development of affordable housing in new residential areas

**Agriculture**

- Limit range of non-agricultural uses in AE zones
- Preserve agriculture through the use of conservation easements

## Team 2



### Top Three Ideas:

- Air Quality—separate air quality impacts from sensitive populations (i.e., keep dairies away from residential areas)
- Water Quality—develop comprehensive source water assessment for the county to determine sources of contamination and develop policies to eliminate them
- Set urban/community growth boundaries

### Air Quality

- Mass transit and bus/trains
- Reduce commutes between communities
- Encourage agriculture with less air quality impacts

### Water Supply

- Ground water plan—coordinate between districts keep water in the county—no trading
- Make sure there is water available before allowing new development
- Encourage ground water conservation through outreach, education, incentives and allowing reuse of water for highway irrigation, etc.

### Water Quality

- Provide treatment/distribution infrastructure for ALL communities in the county
- Develop comprehensive source water assessment for the County to determine sources of contamination and develop policies to eliminate them

### Education and Training

- Consider consolidating small districts to free up resources and improve performance
- Expand curriculum of junior colleges
- Expand extension schools throughout the county

### **Infrastructure**

- Consolidate special districts to increase funds to communities and provide more efficient services for wastewater treatment facilities
- Use redevelopment agency to infill cities and allow for more public transit
- Charge development mitigation fees to help finance infrastructure

### **Economic Diversity**

- Protect agricultural base—preserve agricultural land, its part of our quality of life
- Encourage complimentary industries to agriculture - i.e, processing facilities
- Attract a 4-year college that specializes in agricultural professional programs

### **Expanding Tourism**

- Develop Tulare County Tourism Bureau
- Develop/promote eco-ag tourism
- Develop/promote local fruit festivals
- Do not forget Giant Sequoia National Monument

### **Natural Resources**

- Promote conservation easements, including requiring them for development projects
- River restoration
- Protect natural habitat including bird reserves and foothills

### **Planning Consistency**

- Establish uniform language/terminology and color designation for all planning documents at all levels
- Require different planning entities to meet regularly to coordinate plans particularly along borders

### **Housing for all Incomes**

- Give incentives for infill and rehabilitation
- Put development mitigation fees towards redevelopment/rehabilitation in areas of greatest need
- Pursue grants for rural redevelopment
- Help provide garbage disposal to all communities

### **Agriculture**

- Set urban/community growth boundaries
- No more dairies—promote agriculture not confined animal factories
- Zone for agriculture

## Team 3



### Top Three Ideas:

- Air Quality—control burning—agricultural and parks policies
- Water Supply—more efficient use—agricultural and domestic
- Agriculture—city-centered development

### Air Quality

- Control burning—agricultural and parks policies
- Industrial clustering
- Increase rail transportation for passenger and freight

### Water Supply

- Increase storage capacity (Temperance Flat)
- More efficient use—agricultural and domestic
- Gray water usage

### Water Quality

- Upgrade existing systems
- Require development to be responsible for effects on water supply
- Public education—water quality

### Education and Training

- Need 4-year college/vocational education
- Improve support for 2-year college
- Extended school day

**Infrastructure**

- City-center development
- Support mass transit
- Local control
- Support Amtrak
- Expand airport capacity

**Economic Diversity**

- Stronger business development
- Better promote natural attributes of Tulare County
- Vocational training
- Increase partnerships between businesses and educational providers

**Expanding Tourism**

- Promote National Monument
- Keep water in the Keweah and Success for recreational uses
- Increase airport capacity

**Natural Resources**

- Encourage natural plantings
- Restoration

**Planning Consistency**

- Establish priorities
- Live by the plans

**Housing for all Incomes**

- Support higher density housing
- Encourage more groups like Habitat for Humanity

**Agriculture**

- Focus on city centered development
- Higher density in the cities
- Reduce large lot development in the county
- Keep the ag, ag
- Conservation easements are an efficient tool



## Team 4



### Top Three Ideas:

- Other—stop rural subdivisions
- Water Supply—water-wise use (conservation)
- Education and Training—need 4-year university

### Air Quality

- Regional transit agency
- Greater fuel-efficient vehicles
- Control agricultural emissions
- Greener building

### Water Supply

- Water-wise use (conservation)
- Reclaim wastewater
- Use recharge basins

### Water Quality

- Build a water treatment facility
- Reduce contamination of wells
- Only permit growth where there is adequate infrastructure

### Education and Training

- Need a 4-year university
- Reduce K-12 overcrowding
- Establish vocational trade schools
- Attract high level employment and diversify economic base

**Infrastructure**

- Raise sales tax
- Centralize growth
- Reduce rural subdivisions

**Economic Diversity**

- Advance preparation of potential development sites
- Control development incentives

**Expanding Tourism**

- Promote recreational use for rivers
- County spend more money to promote tourism
- More outdoor recreational opportunities

**Natural Resources**

- Discourage rural subdivisions such as new towns
- Use agriculture, habitat and rangeland trusts
- Identify natural resources (a) longer term (b) conversion to agricultural use

**Planning Consistency**

- Increase cooperation between cities and county
- Update General Plan more often

**Housing for all Incomes**

- Control growth and direct growth toward viable cities
- Offer all choices for housing in cities

**Agriculture**

- Stop rural subdivisions
- More incentives for farmers

**Other**

- Stop rural subdivisions

## Team 5



### **Top Three Ideas:**

Water supply—increase enforcement of water-wasters

Infrastructure—increase impact fees and sales tax to fund repairs/construction

Agriculture—conservation easements paid by impact fees

### **Air Quality**

- Publicize number for polluting vehicles
- Promote alternative vehicles
- Reduce commuting traffic via concentric planning
- Public transit
- Trails between cities

### **Water Supply**

- Buy surface water rights
- Everyone has a water meter
- Increased enforcement of water-wasters
- Educate scarcity of water and overdrafting
- Find ways to use gray water of groundwater

### **Water Quality**

- Curbs and gutters get water into basins
- Crack down on pesticide/toxics
- Educate on damage done by dumping oil, etc.
- Have hazardous waster collection periodically

### **Education And Training**

- Build remote JC campuses
- Allow 4-year degree from College of Sequoias
- Vocational/technical training

### **Infrastructure**

- Increase impact fees to fund repairs/construction
- Increase sales tax to fund repairs/construction

### **Economic Diversity**

- Create inventory of industrial land/parks
- Upgrade Highway 99
- Promote recycling industries

### **Expanding Tourism**

- Agriculture tours
- Better marketing

### **Natural Resources**

- Slow growth
- Improve air quality
- Keep growth in cities
- Preserve habitats on waterways

### **Planning Consistency**

- Coordinate the planning
- Consider joining agencies—COG
- Less zoning designations

### **Housing for all Incomes**

- Disperse low-income housing
- Enforce codes

### **Agriculture**

- Push growth to higher densities in cities
- Conservation easements paid by impact fees