

GROWTH SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

INTRODUCTION

Growth and land use patterns in Sonoma County have been and will continue to be strongly influenced by the construction of its growth-supporting infrastructure. Key infrastructure elements include water supply and distribution systems, wastewater disposal systems, storm water and flood control facilities and highways, roads and other transportation facilities. Historically, infrastructure investment and development decisions have been made in a piecemeal fashion by multiple, independently chartered governmental entities. Coordination among these decisions and with County and City planning efforts was, until recent years, minimal. Prior to the California Environmental Quality Act, infrastructure and development decisions were largely left to engineering professionals and involved little meaningful public participation.

Prior to the passage of Proposition 13, which both limited the amount of property tax derived revenues available to finance infrastructure development and imposed a two-thirds majority vote of the electorate requirement for the approval of any new property tax supported bond issues, ample public funds were available to support infrastructure development and capacity decisions were generally on the generous side to support additional future growth, planned or not.

These decisions need to be viewed in the historic context of California's post World War II building boom that saw the development of massive statewide infrastructure projects including the State and Federal Water Projects, the Interstate Highway System and expansion of the University of California and State University systems. Public health and safety and environmental concerns prompted the availability of Federal funds for water, sewage disposal and flood control facilities construction. Economic times were good, government coffers brimmed with revenue, and building and growth enjoyed a large measure of public support.

In the 1970's, this pattern of infrastructure development shifted dramatically in response to a number of factors including diminishing public revenues, the rising importance and effectiveness of the State mandated land use planning authorities exercised by local government, the passage of state and federal environmental quality legislation which provided for public disclosure and participation in all significant infrastructure development decisions and changing public attitudes regarding growth and development

The "Infrastructure" section of the Sonoma County Land Use Audit focuses on the County's growth supporting infrastructure with an emphasis on those elements currently lying outside of city urban growth boundaries or with the potential to support

the expansion of those boundaries in the future. This section includes a description of the agencies with responsibility for the operation and potential expansion of key infrastructure elements, their jurisdictional limits, their sources of revenue, their existing capacities, their plans for expansion and any physical limits on their future capacities.

Reference will be made to key historical events and examples of how the development of the County's infrastructure has influenced growth and current land use patterns. The potential for the reuse of wastewater to influence and support agricultural land use will be considered. The Infrastructure section of the Land Use Audit will provide an understanding of the potential for the County's infrastructure to promote and/or constrain future growth and to shape land use patterns. This information can serve as a basis for subsequent evaluation and recommended changes or additions to current policies and regulations needed to achieve goals that will be identified by the Steering Committee.

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

This section will provide a general description of the agencies with responsibility for the operation and potential expansion of key infrastructure elements, their jurisdictional limits, their sources of revenue, their existing capacities, their plans for expansion and any physical limits on their future capacities.

CITIES

- Sonoma
- Petaluma
- Cotati
- Rohnert Park
- Santa Rosa
- Sebastopol
- Windsor
- Healdsburg
- Cloverdale

SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

- Water Supply
 - Cotati
 - Petaluma
 - Rohnert Park
 - Santa Rosa
 - Sonoma
 - Forestville
 - Valley of the Moon Water District

- Sewage Treatment
 - Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup Sanitation Zone
 - Forestville County Sanitation District
 - Geyserville Sanitation Zone
 - Graton Sanitation Zone
 - Occidental County Sanitation District
 - Penngrove Sanitation Zone
 - Russian River County Sanitation District
 - Sea Ranch Sanitation Zone
 - Sonoma Valley County Sanitaiton District
 - Southy Park County Sanitation District

- Flood Control
 - Zone 1A: Laguna de Santa Rosa-Mark West Creek Watershed
 - Zone 2A: Petaluma Creek Watershed
 - Zone 3A: Valley of the Moon Watershed (Upper Sonoma Creek)
 - Zone 4A: Upper Russian River Watershed
 - Zone 5A: Lower Russian River Watershed (Healdsburg South, excluding Zone 1A)
 - Zone 6A: Dry Creek Watershed
 - Zpme 7A North Coastal Watershed
 - Zone 8A: South Coastal Watershed
 - Zone 9A: Bay Watershed (Lower Petaluma River and Lower Sonoma Creek)

SONOMA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Roads
- Public Transit

SONOMA-MARIN RAIL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

KEY INFRASTRUCTURE LAND USE IMPLICATIONS

This section will summarize and describe future infrastructure expansion potential and limitations and their ability to support or constrain future growth and influence future land use patterns.

WATER SUPPLY IMPLICATIONS

SEWAGE DISPOSAL IMPLICATIONS

WASTEWATER REUSE IMPLICATIONS

FLOOD CONTROL IMPLICATIONS

TRANSPORTATION IMPLICATIONS