2012-2015 Tactical Plan Executive Summary

In September 2011, the Board of Supervisors held a facilitated discussion with Department Heads and County Administrator staff to develop key policy goals, setting the foundation for detailed tactical plans and implementation strategies. Through this discussion, the following Strategic Plan Goals were identified for 2012-2015:

- Advance innovation
- Champion job creation and economic opportunities
- Collaborate to maximize success
- Enhance and sustain the safety net
- Preserve and ensure safe and crime-free communities
- Preserve and support agriculture
- Protect open space and the environment
- Provide fiscally sound, dynamic and responsive services

Ambitious, results-oriented countywide Three-Year Tactical Plans were developed for each goal by the Department Head Working Group and County Administrator staff, with significant input from employee focus groups, outside stakeholders and department heads.

Interactive & Adaptive Public Policy

Since adopted, the 2012-2015 Strategic Plan Goals and their associated tactical plans allowed Board members, County staff and community members to interact with each other in a transparent and adaptive public policy implementation process. Clear benchmarks supported the ongoing measurement and analysis of progress, and annual staff reports to the Board provided opportunities to amend the Tactical Plans. Knowing significant changes could occur over a three-year implementation period, these updates were integral to creating a culture of inquiry and constant improvement. In celebration of the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan, this report highlights success, acknowledges progress and identifies next steps as the County embarks on the implementation of the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan.
2012-2015 Goal: Advance innovation

To support continuous quality improvements in agency coordination and meet core competency standards, as well as sustain and grow organizational partnerships, Yolo County made a commitment to advance innovation through the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan. Including efforts to develop and engage the County’s workforce, the “advance innovation” goal also featured efforts to identify and integrate new technology to improve staff productivity, service delivery and community outcomes. Since 2012, the county has:

- Modernized the county’s financial and human resources information system to promote organizational efficiency and support fiscal responsibility
- Developed a model for Change Management that includes a framework for agency coordination, an employee-led change management training course and change agents within the organization to provide employee and administrative support
- Established the Employee Council with representatives from all department, which meets regularly and allows employees to provide input on countywide initiatives, increase employee engagement and champion opportunities for employee development and leadership
- Participated in regional efforts to promote broadband in underserved areas and increased broadband service at the Esparto, Knights Landing and Yolo branches of the Yolo County Library

2012-2015 Goal: Champion job creation and economic opportunities

To acknowledge the importance of a balanced, thriving economy that offers job opportunities, ample services and up-to-date infrastructure and technology for long term sustainability, the Board of Supervisors identified the County’s need to “champion job creation and economic opportunities” in the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan. Over the past three years, the County has made significant strides in creating an environment where the Yolo County economy can thrive. Since 2012, the County has:

- Adopted an agricultural zoning ordinance and created the Clarksburg Ag District Overlay Zone
- Developed a balanced and sustainable airport budget and a countywide Capital Improvement Plan
- Established the Rural City Manager role within the County Administrator’s Office to provide direct support and interaction with unincorporated communities
2012-2015 Goal: Collaborate to maximize success

Because we can accomplish more by working together, the Board of Supervisors, County staff and community partners wanted to “collaborate to maximize success” in the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan. Collaboration among County staff and community partners occurred daily during plan implementation through a variety of committees, workgroups and task forces. In addition to these groups, the County achieved the following:

- Developed and established the Yolaborate tool to track collaborative efforts
- Developed a collaborative approach with the Yolo Youth Development Coalition to foster safety and support for positive youth experiences and engagement
- Other examples of collaborative efforts:
  - Strategic Plan Work Group
  - Community Corrections Partnership
  - Yolo County Performance Measurement and Dashboard Group
  - Bridge to Housing

2012-2015 Goal: Ensure and sustain the safety net

At its core, Yolo County strives to assure a thriving community. To show the County’s commitment to promoting healthy living, protecting vulnerable populations and supporting a community that achieves and maintains self-sufficiency, “ensure and sustain the safety net” was identified as a top priority in the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan. Over the past three years, much has been accomplished with a few of the highlights below:

- Piloted Housing First model through Bridge to Housing Pilot Project where 65 of the 71 stable residents of the North Levee Encampment entered the program; 82% of which remained engaged at the end of the program with 92% of them acquiring Housing Choice Vouchers along with other much needed services, i.e. benefits, employment, etc.
- Launched Healthy Yolo and completed a comprehensive community health assessment
- Secured funding and held a dedication for the Hanna & Herbert Bauer Memorial Community Garden
- Increased access to behavioral health services by reducing wait times for first clinical assessments from 32 to 18 days and post hospital follow-ups from an average of 58 days to 16
- Increased CalFresh and MediCal participation (CalFresh by 25%; MediCal by 84%)
- Developed adult and family literacy programs to address the needs of high-need/at-risk residents, probationers and the AB 109 population via the Arthur F. Turner Community Library Family Literacy Program and Day Reporting Center Adult Literacy Program
- Provided Crisis Intervention Training to 436 first responders to further their ability to recognize behaviors and triggers of mental illness when in the field
2012-2015 Goal: Preserve and ensure safe and crime-free communities

Yolo County seeks to collaboratively “preserve and enhance safe and crime-free communities” through partnerships with County staff and community partners. In the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan, the focus of this goal was the use of well-informed offender case management, evidence-based criminal justice practices and collaboration across agencies. Since 2012, much was accomplished by Yolo County and its criminal justice partners:

- Formed the Community Corrections Partnership to support the collaborative evaluation of programs and strategies in the criminal justice system and developed and launched the Community Corrections Partnership Strategic Plan
- Expanded Yolo County Neighborhood Court Program to Woodland and West Sacramento through a $1.95 million grant from the Board of State & Community Corrections.
- Trained and transitioned Probation staff to the Ohio Suite Assessment screening tool
- Expanded Day Reporting Center services to West Sacramento
- Expanded services in the Public Defender’s Office through the addition of an adult and juvenile social worker
- Continued to maintain and expand the Records Mitigation Clinic to ensure re-entry, post-conviction legal services were available to ex-offenders

2012-2015 Goal: Preserve and support agriculture

Yolo County believes in encouraging a vibrant and resilient agricultural economy, while preserving sufficient farmland to maintain regional food security in perpetuity. Acknowledging the county’s rich agricultural history and the need to ensure economic viability, preserve land availability, maintain and enhance infrastructure and cultivate economic benefits locally, a commitment to “preserve and support agriculture” was included in the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan. Here are a few highlights from the plan’s accomplishments:

- Implemented the Yolo County Farmbudsman position to provide permit process support to farmers and ranchers in Yolo County
- Developed and maintained an effective Farm-to-School program in all Yolo County school districts and Yolo County Head Start, increasing procurement of California specialty crops by 49.8% and training 40 farmers on how to sell to schools.
2012-2015 Goal: Protect open space and the environment

By including “protect open space and the environment” in the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan, the Board of Supervisors signaled its role in the efficient management of natural resources and open space for future generations. To achieve this goal, Yolo County has focused on expanding recreational opportunities, improving water quality resources and lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Over the past three years, forward progress has been made in most of these areas:

- Passage of the Esparto Assessment through a Prop 218 vote, a major milestone for the Esparto Community Park and Aquatic Facility Project
- Expanded recreation opportunities through the completion of four grant projects:
  - Knights Landing Boat Launch Improvement Design Project
  - Cache Creek Campground Showers Project
  - Putah Creek Access Improvements
  - Grasslands Regional Park Habitat Restoration
- Surveyed 13 parks (19 sites) through the Yolo County Parks Study which included both a fiscal analysis and usage study

2012-2015 Goal: Provide fiscally sound, dynamic, responsive services

As county employees, we are enthusiastically engaged in providing the services our community needs, in a financially responsible manner. Through implementation of the 2012-2015 Tactical Plan, County staff continued to “provide fiscally sound, dynamic, responsive services” by ensuring services are financially sustainable, adapted to fit changing conditions, and grounded in best practices. Here are some of the major milestones we’ve met since 2012:

- Improved operational efficiency through the creation of the comprehensive Department of Financial Services and combined Clerk-Recorder/Assessor/Elections Office
- Updated and implemented policies to support fiscal accountability with the Board’s adoption of the Capital Asset Management Policy, Budget & Financial Management Policy and Accountability & Auditing Policy
- Reached a major milestone towards implementation of a one-stop-shop model with the integration of Environmental Health and Planning & Public Works into the now Community Services Department