Yolo County Sustainability Plan

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
September 16, 2020
Webinar Tips

- Participants’ audio and video are automatically off.
- You can control the layout of slides and panelists video on your screen. We recommend side-by-side mode.
- Use the Q&A box to submit technical questions or questions for the presenters. The box can be accessed at the bottom of your screen.
Yolo County Sustainability Plan

Meeting Goals

LEARN MORE ABOUT:

• The Sustainability Plan development process
• How the County is currently addressing sustainability issues
• The County’s vision for becoming more sustainable

PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON:

• What sustainability means to you
• What a “Sustainable Yolo County” would look like for your family
• How existing plans have impacted your lives
• Areas where the County can improve
Contacting the Project Team

- Para más información en español, o para hablar con alguien en español, envíe correo a sustainability@yolocounty.org

- The project team can be reached at sustainability@yolocounty.org
POLL:

How would you describe yourself? (select all that apply)

- Student
- Yolo County resident
- Parent
- Farmer/farmworker
- County or State employee
- Member of one or more environmental orgs/groups
- Staff of an environmentally-focused organization
What is a Sustainability Plan and why does Yolo County need one?
A Sustainable Yolo County

One of the five primary goals in Yolo County's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan is a “Sustainable Environment,” defined as “Efficiently utilizing natural resources to provide recreational opportunities and ensure availability for generations to come, protect and improve water quality and quantity, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and maximize the use of renewable energy.”
When we say “A Sustainable Yolo County,” what word(s) come to mind?

- [Insert instructions for word cloud exercise]
What actions or activities do you do regularly that contribute to sustainability?

- Instructions for word cloud exercise
What is a Sustainability Plan?

- An environmental roadmap for the future
- Informed by “existing conditions” (i.e., what sustainability programs and investments the County already has in place)
- Informed by input from the County and the public
- Provides recommendations on sustainability actions in key areas -- expanding existing programs and activities or implementing new ideas)
- Will include near and long-term actions
Developing the Plan

STEP 1  What has the County accomplished so far?

STEP 2  What aspects of sustainability are important to you?

STEP 3  How will we implement our shared sustainability goals?

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We’re Here
Part 2

What has Yolo County accomplished so far in terms of sustainability?
Step 1: What is Yolo County doing about sustainability now?

- Existing conditions set a “baseline” for the plan.
- Plans for the future by understanding the past.
- Considers the many existing plans, programs, and actions related to sustainability in the County.
- Includes research on:
  - Agencies and groups that supported development and implementation of existing plans.
  - Progress made on existing objectives.
Eight Sustainability Elements

- Ecological Health
- Water
- Air Quality
- Buildings
- Waste
- Local Food
- Agriculture
- Education
POLL:

(1) Which of the eight sustainability elements is most important to you?

(2) Which of the eight sustainability elements is the next most important to you?
Element 1: Ecological Health

Promote and sustain the benefits provided by a healthy ecosystem

LOCAL PLANS

• Strategic Plan
• General Plan
• Climate Action Plan
• Organic Agriculture Program
• Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan
• Cache Creek Resources Management Plan

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Protect open space and biological resources through conservation and restoration, consistent with the County General Plan
• Sustain habitats for native plans and animals in relevant State management areas (e.g. Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area)
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address ecological health?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving ecological health?
Element 2: Water

Ensure an abundant, safe, and sustainable water supply to support the needs of existing and future generations

LOCAL PLANS

• Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, Design Guidelines, Organic Agriculture Program, Cache Creek Resources Management Plan, Stormwater Management Program
• Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
• Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency and Sustainability Plan
• Water Resources Association of Yolo County, IRWQMP
• Yolo Habitat Conservancy, HCP/NCCP
• Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Support implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans
• Reduce water consumption in new and existing buildings
• Reduce agricultural water use through alternative irrigation techniques
• Promote greywater and rainwater collection systems
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address water?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving water sustainability?
Element 3: Air Quality

*Improve air quality in the County, with a focus on low-income communities that bear a disproportionate pollution burden*

**LOCAL PLANS**

- Yolo County: General Plan, CAP, GHG Inventory, Bicycle Transportation Plan, Organic Agriculture Program, Rural Community Investment Program, Oak Woodland Conservation and Enhancement Plan
- Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
- SACOG MTC/SCS

**OPPORTUNITY AREAS**

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Encourage alternative transit options
- Increase adoption of electric vehicles
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address air quality?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving air quality?
Element 4: Buildings

Reduce energy consumption and promote resilience within buildings

LOCAL PLANS

• General Plan
• Climate Action Plan
• GHG Inventory
• Yolo Energy Watch
• LEED Building Construction
• Energy Savings Project
• Valley Clean Energy Integrated Resource Plan and Implementation Plan

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Increase energy efficiency
• Increase on-site renewable energy generation
• Reduce consumption of fossil fuels
• Retrofit buildings
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address building health?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving building sustainability?
Element 5: Waste

Reduce waste generation, increase waste diversion rates, and increase the capacity of composting services

LOCAL PLANS

• Strategic Plan
• General Plan
• Climate Action Plan
• GHG Inventory
• Integrated Waste Management Plan
• Waste Diversion Ordinance

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Provide avenues for reusing, repairing, and upcycling objects to remove them from the waste stream
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address waste?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving waste stream sustainability?
Element 6: Local Food

Promote locally grown products and connect farmers to County residents through school programs, tourism, and farm-to-table restaurants

LOCAL PLANS

• Yolo County General Plan
• Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention
• Agriculture Economic Development Fund
• Agricultural Marketing Initiative
• Climate Action Plan

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Expand the County’s agricultural base by promoting a healthy and competitive farm economy
• Support production of local foods and products
• Provide tourism and recreational opportunities related to local food
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address local food?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving local food sustainability?
Element 7: Agriculture

Facilitate a vibrant and resilient agricultural industry that preserves sufficient farmland to maintain local, state, and national food security in perpetuity. Provide increased stability and support for agricultural workers and employers.

LOCAL PLANS

- Yolo County: Strategic Plan, General Plan, CAP, Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention, Agriculture Economic Development Fund, Agricultural Marketing Initiative, Rural Community Investment Program
- California Department of Food and Agriculture: Healthy Soils Program, Alternative Manure Management Program
- California Department of Conservation: Williamson California Certified Organic Farmers
- California Strategic Growth Council: Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Act, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

- Create an agricultural mitigation bank
- Invest in agricultural workforce development
- Facilitate farm-to-market connectivity
- Increase food recovery
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address agriculture?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving agricultural sustainability?
Element 8: Education

Increase outreach, awareness, and education in sustainability topics

LOCAL PLANS

• General Plan
• Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program
• Agriculture Economic Development Fund
• Agricultural Marketing Initiative,
• Yolo Energy Watch
• Integrated Waste Management Plan,
• Rural Community Investment Program
• Stormwater Management Program
• Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Land Management Plan

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

• Raise awareness about stormwater quality, energy efficiency, and waste
• Incorporate sustainability topics into school curriculum
• Post Public Service Announcements and social media content supporting education on sustainability
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE Q&A BOX

(1) What questions do you have about existing plans that address education related to sustainability?

(2) What do you think are “opportunity areas” for improving education related to sustainability topics?
Part 3

How will this information be used to create the Sustainability Plan?
Help us gather more input!

We are gathering more public input in an online survey.


Share this link with your friends, families, and coworkers. We want to understand what a sustainable Yolo County looks like for all its residents.
The Sustainability Plan will guide our implementation of strategies and actions to achieve our sustainability goals.

- Develop the plan (Sept. to Dec.)
- A Nov. public workshop to present plan recommendations
- Revise plan based on public feedback
- 2021 & beyond – implement the plan!

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Provide more input.

- Email questions and suggestions to the project team at sustainability@yolocounty.org

- Visit the project website at https://bit.ly/YCsustainability