

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

Ukiah Valley Conference Center | 200 South School Street | Ukiah, California 95482
Telephone: (707) 463-4470 | E-mail: eo@mendolafo.org | Web: www.mendolafo.org

COMMISSIONERS

Gerald Ward, Treasurer
Public Member

Glenn McGourty
County Member

Maureen Mulheren
County Member

Mari Rodin
City Member

Vacant
City Member

Vacant
Special District Member

Vacant
Special District Member

Gerardo Gonzales, Alternate
City Alternate Member

John Haschak, Alternate
County Alternate Member

Richard Weinkle, Alternate
Public Alternate Member

Vacant, Alternate
Special District Member

STAFF

Executive Officer
Uma Hinman

Clerk/Analyst
Larkyn Feiler

Counsel
Scott Browne

REGULAR MEETINGS

First Monday of each month
at 9:00 AM in the
Mendocino County
Board of Supervisors
Chambers
501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah

A G E N D A

Regular Meeting of **Monday, December 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM**
County Board of Supervisors Chambers 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California

Special Notice – Hybrid Meeting

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, which modified the Brown Act to allow for teleconferencing participation at local legislative body public meetings during the proclaimed state of emergency. As urgency legislation, this law took effect immediately. Pursuant to Government Code §54953(e)(1)(B), the Commission will conduct its December 19, 2022 meeting in a **hybrid** format to accommodate both in-person and remote participation by the Commission and its staff members. The public is similarly welcome to participate in person or remotely (video or telephone). The Commission's **hybrid** meeting can be accessed by the public in person, or remotely as described in the Instructions for Remote Participation Option, below.

The in-person meeting will be held in the County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah. Social distancing practices are recommended whenever possible and seating is arranged to accommodate the six feet recommended by the Health Officer.

Instructions for Remote Participation Option

Join Meeting Live: Please click the following Zoom link below to join the meeting or utilize the telephone option for audio only.

1. Zoom meeting link: <https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/j/85229135214>
2. Telephone option (audio only):
Dial: **(669) 900-9128** (*Please note that this is not a toll-free number*)
Meeting ID: **852 2913 5214**

Public Participation is encouraged and public comments are accepted:

1. Live: via the Zoom meeting link or telephone option above
2. Via Email: eo@mendolafo.org by 8:30 a.m. the day of the meeting
3. Via Mail: Mendocino LAFCo, 200 S School Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

Meeting Participation

To provide comments, please use the raise hand function in Zoom.

- a) For those accessing from a computer, tablet, or smartphone, the raise hand function may be selected by clicking or tapping it from the reactions options. When joining the Zoom meeting, please enter your name so that you can be identified to speak.
- b) For those utilizing the telephone option (audio only), please use the raise hand feature by pressing ***9** on your keypad to raise your hand, and ***6** to unmute yourself. When it is your turn to speak, you will be called on by the last four digits of your phone number, if available, and asked to identify yourself for the record.

All comments received will be conveyed to the Commission for consideration during the meeting. All meetings are live-streamed, recorded and available through the link below.

Live web streaming and recordings of Regular Commission meetings are available via the [Mendocino County YouTube Channel](#). Links to recordings, approved minutes, and meeting documents are available on the [LAFCo website](#).

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

2. AB 361 REMOTE TELECONFERENCING ACTION

Pursuant to AB 361, the Commission will consider the status of the ongoing emergency and facts related to health and safety of meeting attendees due to COVID-19 and consider Resolution No. 2022-23-05 making further findings related to holding this Commission meeting via a hybrid model, including by teleconference, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e). No written report.

3. PUBLIC EXPRESSION

The Commission welcomes participation in the LAFCo meeting. Any person may address the Commission on any subject within the jurisdiction of LAFCo which is not on the agenda. There is a three-minute limit and no action will be taken at this meeting. See public participation information above.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4a) Selection of Interim Officers

The Commission will select interim officers to serve until regular selection of officers in 2023.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following consent items are expected to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted on by the Commission in a single action without discussion, unless a request is made by a Commissioner or a member of the public for discussion or separate action.

5a) November 7, 2022 Regular Meeting Summary

5b) Ratify the November 2022 Claims & Financial Report

5c) 2023 Meeting Calendar

5d) Certificate of Appreciation for Commissioner Orth

5e) Certificate of Appreciation for Commissioner Ignacio

5f) Certificate of Appreciation for Commissioner Froneberger

6. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

6a) PUBLIC HEARING City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and Potential Approval and Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Study as required by LAFCo law. The final report includes written determinations on the level and scope of services provided by the City of Ukiah (City). RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: 1) Find the City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption), and approve the Notice of Exemption for filing; and 2) Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2022-23-06, approving the City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study, adopting the proposed sphere of influence and area of interest, and certifying that the Commission has Considered the Environmental Effects Identified in the Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2022050556) for the Project; adopting Environmental Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; and adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations.

6b) PUBLIC HEARING Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and Finding of Exemption Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

The Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Study as required by LAFCo law. The final report includes written determinations on the level and scope of services provided by the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD). RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: 1) Find the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption), and find the UVSD Sphere of Influence Update is exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 CCR §15061(b)(3) (General Rule), and approve the Notice of Exemption for filing; and 2) Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2022-23-07, approving the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and adopting the proposed sphere of influence and areas of interest.

7. WORKSHOP ITEMS

None

8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

8a) Commissioner Terms, Recruitments and Elections

The Commission will receive an informational report regarding status of Commissioner terms and seats, recruitments and elections.

9. INFORMATION AND REPORT ITEMS

The following informational items are reports on current LAFCo activities, communications, studies, legislation, and special projects. General direction to staff for future action may be provided by the Commission. No immediate action will be taken on any of the following items.

9a) Work Plan, Current and Future Proposals (Written)

9b) Correspondence (Copies provided upon request)

- SDRMA President's Special Acknowledgement Award for no paid claims during the prior 5 years

9c) CALAFCO Business and Legislative Report

9d) Executive Officer's Report (Verbal)

9e) Committee Reports (Executive Committee, Policies & Procedures, Work Plan Ad Hoc) (Verbal)

9f) Commissioner Reports, Comments or Questions (Verbal)

ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Commission Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, **January 9, 2023** at 9:00 AM.
Meeting may be held via a hybrid model due to current State and local mandates related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Notice: This agenda has been posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting and in accordance with the temporary Brown Act Guidelines instated by State Executive Order N-29-20 and AB 361.

Participation on LAFCo Matters: All persons are invited to testify and submit written comments to the Commission on public hearing items. Any challenge to a LAFCo action in Court may be limited to issues raised at a public hearing or submitted as written comments prior to the close of the public hearing.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance: Commission meetings are held via a hybrid model – the in-person option held in a wheelchair accessible facility and also by teleconference. Individuals requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting are requested to contact the LAFCo office at (707) 463-4470 or by e-mail to eo@mendolafco.org. Notification 48 prior to the meeting will enable the Commission to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. If attending by teleconference, if you are hearing impaired or otherwise would have difficulty participating, please contact the LAFCo office as soon as possible so that special arrangements can be made for participation, if reasonably feasible.

Fair Political Practice Commission (FPPC) Notice: State Law requires that a participant in LAFCo proceedings who has a financial interest in a Commission decision and who has made a campaign contribution to any Commissioner in the past year must disclose the contribution. If you are affected, please notify the Commission before the hearing.

**Resolution No. 2022-23-05
of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission**

Making Continued Findings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 to Conduct Remote Public Meetings for the Commission and its Standing Committees During a Proclaimed State of Emergency Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, all the meetings of the Commission are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”) (California Government Code 54950 -54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the Commission conduct business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code Section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code Section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the boundaries of Mendocino County, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, if the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees, Commissioners and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Commission previously adopted a Resolution, Number 2022-23-01 on July 11, 2022, finding that the requisite conditions continue to exist for the legislative bodies of Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions found in Section 54953(e), the Commission must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists in the County, and the Commission has done so; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the County of Mendocino, specifically, the State of Emergency proclaimed by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, due to the COVID 19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health and the Mendocino County Public Health Department continues to recommend requiring face coverings in all public indoor settings attributable to the rise in SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant and the Commission cannot be certain that all persons in attendance at meetings will follow the guidelines or be fully vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, the Commission does hereby find that the rise in SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the County that are likely to be beyond the control of the Commission or its staff, and desires to proclaim a local emergency exists and ratify the proclamation of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Commission does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission shall continue to conduct their meetings without compliance with Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Section 54953(e), and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to meetings as prescribed in Section 54953(e)(2); and

WHEREAS, the Commission provides written agenda that fully describes the process for the public to fully participate in the Commission's hybrid meetings to include attending in person and viewing, listening and commenting in real time on all agenda items; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission does hereby RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Commission hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the Commission's jurisdictional boundaries, and the rise in SARS-CoV-2 Delta Variant has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of all persons participating in the Commission's meetings that are likely to be beyond the control of the Commission or its staff, equipment, and facilities of the Commission.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Commission hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency for COVID 19, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Hybrid Meetings. The Executive Officer and the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the next regular meeting of the Commission when the Commission shall consider renewing its findings by subsequent resolution, in accordance with AB 361 and in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Mendocino County this 19th day of December, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Commission Chair

ATTEST:

UMA HINMAN, Executive Officer

DRAFT

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

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Agenda Item No. 5a

COMMISSIONERS

Tony Orth, Chair
Brooktrails Township CSD

Scott Ignacio, Vice Chair
Point Arena City Council

Gerald Ward, Treasurer
Public Member

Matthew Froneberger
Special District Member

Glenn McGourty
County Board of Supervisors

Maureen Mulheren
County Board of Supervisors

Mari Rodin
City Member

Vacant
Ukiah Valley Fire District

Gerardo Gonzalez, Alternate
Willits City Council

John Haschak, Alternate
County Board of Supervisors

Richard Weinkle, Alternate
Public Member

STAFF

Executive Officer
Uma Hinman

Analyst
Larkyn Feiler

Commission Clerk
Kristen Meadows

Counsel
Scott Browne

REGULAR MEETINGS

First Monday of each month
at 9:00 AM in the
Mendocino County
Board of Supervisors
Chambers
501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah

DRAFT MINUTES

Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission

Regular Meeting (Hybrid) of Monday, November 7, 2022

County Board of Supervisors Chambers 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL (Video Time 4:21)

Chair Orth called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Regular Commissioners Present: Tony Orth, Scott Ignacio, Gerald Ward, Matthew Froneberger, Glenn McGourty, Maureen Mulheren, and Mari Rodin

Regular Commissioners Absent: None

Alternate Commissioners Present: Gerardo Gonzalez

Alternate Commissioners Absent: John Haschak, Richard Weinkle

Staff Present: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer; Larkyn Feiler, Analyst; Kristen Meadows, Clerk; Marsha Burch, Legal Counsel

2. AB 361 REMOTE TELECONFERENCING ACTION (Video Time 6:54)

Treasurer Ward asked for clarification on the upcoming legislation requirement for a quorum of Commissioners to be present in-person at hybrid public meetings. EO Hinman confirmed this requirement and noted that the new legislation goes into effect in March.

The Commission adopted Resolution No. 2022-23-04 making further findings related to holding Commission meetings via a hybrid model pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e).

Motion by Commissioner McGourty to adopt Resolution No. 2022-23-04.

Second by Commissioner Mulheren.

Approved by roll call vote: unanimous.

Ayes: (7) Ignacio, Rodin, McGourty, Mulheren, Ward, Orth, Froneberger

3. PUBLIC EXPRESSION None

4. CONSENT CALENDAR (Video Time 9:24)

4a) September 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Summary

4b) Ratify the September 2022 Claims & Financial Report

September 2022 Claims totaling:	\$17,243.51
Hinman & Associates Consulting	15,531.25
P. Scott Browne	900.00
Cash	136.64
Comcast	93.67
Streamline	50.00
Ukiah Valley Conference Center	531.95

4c) October 2022 Claims & Financial Report

October 2022 Claims totaling:	\$13,775.48
Hinman & Associates Consulting	11,389.22
P. Scott Browne	900.00
Mulheren Reimbursement	799.30
Comcast	93.67
Phone.com	0.24
Streamline	50.00
Ukiah Valley Conference Center	543.05

Treasurer Rodin expressed appreciation for the meeting summary and quality work of Clerk Meadows.

Motion by Commissioner Rodin to approve the Consent Calendar.

Second by Commissioner Mulheren.

Approved by roll call vote: unanimous.

Ayes: (7) Ward, Froneberger, Mulheren, McGourty, Rodin, Ignacio, Orth

5. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS None

6. WORKSHOP ITEMS (Video Time 11:00)

6a) Joint Public Workshop for the City of Ukiah and Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Draft Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Updates

EO Hinman introduced the item regarding a joint public workshop on the Draft Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update studies for the City of Ukiah (City) and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD or District). EO Hinman explained that this is the second of two workshops; the first was held in September and focused on the MSRs and this workshop focuses more on the SOI Update studies for the agencies.

Analyst Feiler provided a [staff presentation](#) on the item. (Video Time 12:36 – 19:23)

Analyst Feiler clarified that no formal action would be taken on the Draft MSR/SOI Updates at this meeting, and a public hearing would be scheduled for formal consideration by the Commission of the Final MSR/SOI Updates.

Analyst Feiler also gave special thanks to the following local agency staff and representatives for assistance in preparing the draft documents.

City of Ukiah

Sage Sangiacomo, City Manager

Craig Schlatter, Community Development Director

Jesse Davis, Chief Planning Manager

Ukiah Valley Sanitation District

Wing-See Fox, Interim General Manager

Ernie Wipf, Board Chair & Ad Hoc Committee Member

Mark DeMeulenaere, Contractor

Following are summary Commission discussion points for this item for ease of review:

- The Slide Deck for the staff presentation was requested to be added to the LAFCo website.
- Feedback was requested from UVSD staff regarding the coterminous sphere recommendation for UVSD.
- The UVSD Interim General Manager responded that the District, City, and LAFCo staff have been working together on this item and in addition an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of two City Councilmembers, two District Board members, and agency staff have been working together on the Interim Services Agreement, which is a milestone agreement, and where many of the recommendations are coming from and dependent upon. A key component is that with City annexations there will not be detachment of any UVSD sewer customers, either in the overlap area or future out-of-agency service agreement connections, which allows the District to remain financially whole. The District and City are cooperating on this and future plans for consolidation once certain thresholds are met.
- Clarification was requested on the anticipated timeframe for the thresholds to be met and transition to occur.
- The UVSD Interim General Manager responded that it is dependent on the City's annexation schedule and noted that both agencies continue to work together related to the 70% thresholds of voters and land area, since the land threshold may be difficult to achieve and could potentially lead to special legislation.

- The City Community Development Director responded that it is difficult to know with any level of certainty, but upon completion of the MSR/SOI Update studies the City plans to submit one to three annexation applications that are currently in a pre-application status with LAFCo, and the thresholds could be met in one to two years depending on application processing timeframes.
- Clarification was requested on the order of operations and why the MSR/SOI is occurring before the annexations.
- The City Community Development Director responded that the City General Plan Update and MSR/SOI Update normally occurs first and this has been requested by the Commission to lay the foundation for significant City annexation applications.
- Clarification was requested on what happens if the annexations are not approved.
- The City Community Development Director responded that City Council gave City staff clear direction in 2020 to proceed with the proposed City sphere boundary that is now memorialized in the City's 2040 General Plan and therefore City staff will continue to implement the Council's direction until such time as the direction changes.
- Clarification was requested on the hard lines in the proposed City SOI, whether is it related to parcels rather than geographic landforms, and what is customary for SOI mapping.
- LAFCo staff responded that the proposed City SOI boundary is based on the historic boundaries of adjacent wastewater and water service providers and topographical constraints including hillsides and water features.
- A suggestion was made to take this legacy opportunity to create a sensible sphere instead of relying on historic approaches; this seems like the time to make a change that works better with the actual landscape and follows logical areas that are buildable and have services in order to avoid abrupt jurisdictional changes from City to County across the street. Of note, there is a peculiar looking area west of the City that appears based on parcels.
- LAFCo staff responded that the area west of the City is based on specific parcels for a future annexation proposal and is related to land acquired by the City for open space preservation and a clustered development.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that there are a number of factors that influence and inform the SOI boundary, such as geopolitical boundaries, proposed annexations, topography, zoning, and noted that the City's General Plan Planning Area, which effectively follows the Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundary, is also a component.
- A comment was made that a more progressive thought is to manage based on watershed and topography, looking at the influence of hydrology on landforms and how it affects the landscape and uses, but instead we are looking at square lines which does not seem to make sense anymore.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that the SOI boundary is a component of what the City's boundary may be in the future; the proposed SOI identifies the City's intentions for annexation and ultimately makes a more consolidated and effective political geography in relation to water and wastewater services. Of note, the Western Hills open space preservation and the headwaters of Gibson Creek encompass unique opportunities presented, and APNs 156-240-09 and 11 should be added to the SOI and were excluded due to a small mapping error.
- A comment was made that on page 92 the City's General Plan Land Use Diagram shows critical uses such as ag lands and public uses and on page 101 shows the Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUC) which are elements included in the SOI. Areas of Interest can also be designated for future consideration of other areas.
- Clarification was requested on whether the MSR/SOI Updates will bind the Commission on the annexations and future consolidation.
- LAFCo staff responded that the SOI establishes the probable boundary of an agency, and any proposed change of organization would come before the Commission for approval.
- Clarification was requested about how the tax share process ties into this and realistically whether this sphere decision will come to fruition in the near-term.
- LAFCo staff responded that a tax share agreement is required prior to Commission consideration of any change of organization, approval of an SOI indicates that the Commission would consider an annexation proposal by the agency, an agency's SOI can be revised in the future, and MSR/SOI studies are commonly reviewed on a five to ten-year cycle with a twenty-year SOI planning horizon. Further, the reason for the jagged looking sphere is to follow parcel boundaries since annexations occur on a parcel basis and are not intended to include partial parcels.
- The City Community Development Director echoed LAFCo staff in confirming that there will be another opportunity for the Commission to consider whether the proposed City SOI is effective in five to ten years and the City's General Plan Update, which is aligning with the SOI Update process, is also a living and breathing document, not static, and needs to be re-evaluated regularly to ensure that it remains appropriate. Further, the area between the City's proposed SOI and General Plan Planning Area is currently proposed as an Area of Interest.

- A comment was made that everyone has been working for years to further refine the City's ridgetop to ridgetop SOI which has led to the proposed sphere based on modern planning efforts.
- A comment was made that typically a City grows to encompass urban and municipal uses and an exception would be made for the City to include agricultural and open space due to inclusion of an Ag Element in the City's General Plan and commitment to ag land and open space protection.
- LAFCo staff elaborated that the Ag Preservation analysis portion of the City's study is on page 166 of the packet and confirmed that normally agricultural and open space areas are not included in a city sphere in order to prevent premature conversion to urban uses; however, the City will be one of a few cities in California with an Agriculture Element, which emphasizes the City's long-term vision for and dedication to agricultural preservation and stewardship, and the City is creating policies and a land uses designation that mirrors those established by the County and therefore the City will provide the same if not greater ag protection as a result. Therefore, the City's proposed SOI is recommended to include ag and open space lands.
- Clarification was requested on why the City's SOI Update has not occurred sooner.
- The City Manager responded that currently there is unprecedented collaboration between the agencies involved, which historically has been focused on protecting territory, and the milestone agreement for interim services and the current effort to reduce the City's SOI and add an Area of Interest has progressed this far because the agencies are now focusing on how to work together to best serve our community. Further, the current interagency collaboration and planning is long overdue and setting the stage to guide short and long-term opportunities for improving the delivery of municipal services in the valley.
- Appreciation was given for the interagency collaboration and convergence of the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, City 2040 General Plan and EIR, and SOI Update which is hugely beneficial.
- Clarification was requested on the long-term and short-term effects of the tax share agreement between the City and County related to the proposed City SOI and annexations.
- The City Manager responded that the County and all four Cities are involved in creating a Master Tax Share Agreement.
- A comment was made to confirm that the County Tax Share Ad Hoc Committee process includes consideration of the proposed SOI and annexation areas and financial impacts to each agency. Further, when specific applications come before the Commission, the Master Tax Share Agreement will provide a template for reviewing revenues, costs, and reduction of liabilities on the County for each proposal.
- Appreciation was given for the Master Tax Share Agreement process and all the studies being prepared to help move the process forward for the benefit of our communities.
- The City Manager elaborated that in addition to the Master Tax Share Agreement, individual LAFCo applications will include a Plan for Services addressing financial implications of the proposal. Further, these current efforts involving tax sharing and SOI planning will have a net positive effect for the areas adjacent to the other three cities in the County and help better manage urbanizing effects based on lessons learned in the Ukiah Valley.
- Clarification was requested on how the City General Plan is addressing changes in State law effecting development that can occur in City limits, such as how commercial can now include mixed-use residential.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that this issue is central to the General Plan, especially related to SB 9 and accessory dwelling units, and the City is looking toward infill as a primary component for addressing the myriad of State laws involving housing, water, and municipal waste. Further, the City already recognizes and provides allowance for multi-family in commercial, the City is already capable of meeting the State law allowing affordable housing in vacant underutilized commercial properties, and the density allowance in commercial zoned areas is aligned with medium or high-density zoning for residential uses. Overall, the City's infill development very much reflects State law and our intent to develop housing and other mixed-use developments, all of which flowed directly into the City's MSR/SOI Update study.
- The City Community Development Director elaborated that there is a tremendous amount of State law coming down to local planning authorities and the City's intent is to retain as much local control as possible, adhere to the longstanding vision of Ukiah Valley as a whole community which can be accomplished through consistency of design and infrastructure connectivity planning, and protect the greenspaces that make the valley unique.
- Appreciation was given for the thorough and yet concise information in each MSR section and the determinations specific to areas of improvement for City services in view of proposed annexations.
- Table 2.3 should be corrected to reflect 2018-2021 as the term for Councilmember Rodin.

- Add a reference to the City-County mutual aid agreement for law enforcement on page 52 of the packet under Section 2.3.3.2.
- Add a definition for “all-risk” related to fire services on page 52 of the packet under Section 2.3.3.3.
- Clarification was requested on the location of the Gardens Gate development south of the City limits and the proposed provision of services.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that the Bella Vista project was originally approved roughly ten years ago, is located within the City’s proposed SOI, and service provision will be reviewed when the County Planning Commission considers the proposed modification to a tentative map. Further, this project is located just south of Gobalet Lane and south of the City limits and is currently within the Willow County Water District boundary.
- Clarification was requested on the lack of information on groundwater in the City’s MSR since there is the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, a heavy reliance on groundwater in the valley, a potential need for a Watershed Element in the City’s General Plan to protect headlands such as Doolin Creek, and the potential for future State limitations on land use and development in critical groundwater recharge habitat areas.
- Clarification was given that originally the City’s SOI was ridgetop to ridgetop representing the watershed and has been criticized as being too extensive and needing a higher level of planning, which the proposed SOI represents.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that the City’s MSR on page 3-117 under Section 3.14.1.3 provides information on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Further, the MSR consolidates information from various recently completed studies, such as the Ukiah Urban Water Management Plan.
- Clarification was requested about whether there are any residential areas currently served by water districts that are not within the City’s proposed SOI boundary.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that he is not aware of such a situation. There are portions of the Willow County Water District beyond the City’s General Plan Planning Area and SOI; however, these areas are primarily agricultural in nature and have limited to no customers. Further, City staff water careful in developing the proposed SOI boundary to ensure that no water district customers were excluded.
- Clarification was requested on the buildout figures for the City’s future annexations.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that the buildout figures are related to the General Plan not the SOI.
- The City Community Development Director elaborated that the General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) maximum buildout projections are unlikely to actually occur but are included for CEQA evaluation purposes.
- A comment was made that the City’s population projections seem low.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that the population projections were based on existing trends and conditions to evaluate what percentage would be appropriate for population increase within the City limits, and the trend is that there are fewer families getting larger and less net migration occurring resulting in a fairly stagnant City population for a number of years and an estimated growth of 1%. Further, more growth would occur upon annexation.
- Clarification was requested on the City’s growth constraint or limiting factor being tied to available Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs) as opposed to water since the City has very underutilized water rights.
- The City Chief Planning Manager responded that there is a combination of limiting factors to growth, such as the cost of construction, available land, and interest rates, and one of the tools for addressing needed housing is accessory dwelling units and infill development which would have limited impact to ESSUs.
- The City Manager elaborated that there is sufficient ESSU capacity to serve projected growth at this time.
- The UVSD Interim General Manager echoed the City Manager’s comment regarding sufficient ESSU capacity.
- The City Chief Planning Manager elaborated that the City-owned property adjacent to the treatment plant will allow for future service expansion when appropriate.
- Clarification was requested on whether recycled water effects capacity at the wastewater treatment plant.
- The City Manager responded that recycled water improves discharge at the plant but does not impact capacity; however, improvements to the collection system to limit water intrusion into the system is improving capacity.
- Clarification was requested whether any determinations from the City’s 2014 MSR warranted discussion.
- LAFCo staff responded that there was nothing of significance to note.
- Clarification was requested on how much of the MSR information originated from LAFCo and City staff.
- LAFCo staff responded that study development was a heavily collaborative effort between the agencies and LAFCo with considerable iterations of review and revision, and a significant amount of information came from the City’s 2040 General Plan and environmental review documents, and other existing studies of the agencies.

- Clarification was requested on the level of public controversy related to the City's General Plan.
- The City Manager responded that City staff have completed an extensive community engagement and diligent planning process over the last couple of years that has informed and advised the General Plan document, and it is not anticipated that there will be controversy related to the City's MSR/SOI Update.
- The City Community Development Director elaborated that it has been a concerted effort by the City, District, and LAFCo staff over the last couple years to move towards open communication and effective collaboration resulting in a community driven MSR/SOI document.
- Clarification was requested from the District on their perspective of the process and outcomes.
- The UVSD Board Chair commented that the Interim Service Agreement will help make for a smooth transition and the remaining kinks will be worked out in moving forward, such as the triggers for when the District becomes a subsidiary of the City, and ultimately the creation of the District to serve areas outside the City limits may not have been the most effective approach in retrospect and has led to duplications in staffing.
- Clarification was requested on how long it will take before the District is consolidated or becomes a subsidiary.
- The UVSD Board Chair responded that it depends on development, and the current arrangement will remain in effect until 70% of the District customers are within the City limits.
- The City Manager elaborated that the agreement allows for enhanced efficiencies in the short-term and the long-term when the consolidation threshold is reached, and immediately releases the log jam building over the last four decades to allow forward movement for the community and property owners.
- Appreciation was given for this plan which lays out a logical development process.
- The UVSD Interim General Manager commented that the cooperation between the City, District, and LAFCo on this arrangement runs deep and everyone is working under a unique set of circumstances and rules and making compromises for the greater good. For example, the landmark agreement between the City and District allows for the City to proceed with annexation plans and the District can be assured of financial viability and ability to meet coverage, covenants, and pay its debt service and service costs. Further, there are exceptions being made by LAFCo in extending support for this excellent cooperation, such as normally with consolidation plans the dissolving agency would have a reduced sphere recommendation, however, in this case the prospect of the District moving from a sphere that matched the City to a reduced sphere that removed the overlap area was too big of a step at this time and therefore a coterminous sphere recommendation was provided as a good compromise.
- A comment was made that while multi-headed bureaucracies are not ideal and can be wasteful, sometimes it is important to have more than one group in control because different groups have different interests and needs, and provided that this encouraging level of cooperation continues between the agencies, this is a beneficial approach for moving forward instead of sideways and building bridges instead of silos.
- A comment was made for public transparency that there is a surcharge on the tipping rate so that anyone who uses the Ukiah transfer station is supporting the closure of the Ukiah landfill (page 135 of 281).
- A comment was made that there is a disconnect between the beginning net position on the finances table and balance sheet.
- On page 95, add a clarification statement for the benefit of the reader that the proposed annexations are pending the tax share agreement and LAFCo approval to be clear that certain steps in the process still need to be addressed.
- Appreciation was given to LAFCo and agency staff for a job well done in preparing the MSR/SOI studies.
- Clarification was requested regarding the City's Electric Utility and PG&E services currently provided in the proposed annexation areas, and at what point in the process does PG&E become part of the conversation.
- The City Manager responded that areas proposed for annexation that are currently receiving PG&E services would not prevent a LAFCo application, but it would be addressed in the Plan for Services and there does have to be a negotiation between the City Electric Utility and PG&E to change the electric service provider, which may or may not happen at the time of annexation. Further, it is in the best interest of customers to be served by the City Electric Utility because there is no revenue allocated to Shareholders and therefore City electricity rates are about 30% cheaper than PG&E. Further, even if PG&E does not provide consensus for service change, it does not prevent the City from building out its infrastructure to provide services to those customers, but it is in the best interest of everyone to reach those types of agreement and the City will be seeking them in the future.

The Chair welcomed public comments on the Draft City and District MSR/SOI Updates. No comments were received.

Chair Orth directed staff to schedule a public hearing to consider adoption of the final City and UVSD MSR/SOI Update studies at the next Commission meeting.

EO Hinman noted that the discussion focused a lot on the City and gave special thanks to the UVSD Interim General Manager and Board Chair for all their assistance in developing the UVSD study. EO Hinman also noted that the teamwork on this effort involved the City, District, and LAFCo staff and appreciated the hard work and relationship building involved in bringing this item forward without controversy and with the high level of coordination.

The Chair called a 5-minute break at 10:46 a.m. (Video Time: 1:48:48)

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 10:55 a.m. (Video Time: 1:58:10) The same Commissioners were present.

7. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

7a) Proposed Rescheduling of December Regular Meeting (Video Time: 1:58:10)

EO Hinman presented a proposal to reschedule the December 5 regular meeting to December 12 to allow time for the Ukiah City Council to consider its 2040 General Plan Update and EIR, which is the CEQA component that LAFCo will rely upon for the Ukiah SOI Update. Additionally, to plan for the potentiality of a delay in the Ukiah City Council process, staff requested the Commission discuss availability for a potential special meeting the last week of the December.

Commissioner Ignacio requested clarification regarding the need to schedule the hearings for December rather than January. EO Hinman responded the intent is to complete the public hearings with the current boards and Commission who have been working through these studies all year and including the two previously held workshops. Most boards and the Commission will be changing seats at the beginning of January and five Commissioner terms are up at the end of December.

Commissioner Mulheren recommended setting the December date and finding alternative locations for the meeting if the Board Chambers are not available.

Motion by Commissioner Ignacio to reschedule the December meeting to December 19, 2022, and also give staff leeway to make the necessary adjustments for alternative locations and alternative dates, as necessary.

Second by Commissioner Mulheren.

Approved by roll call vote: unanimous.

Ayes: (7) Ward, Mulheren, Ignacio, Froneberger, Rodin, McGourty, Orth

7b) New Brown Act Rules for Remote Meetings (AB 2449) (Video Time: 2:08:45)

EO Hinman presented an informational report on a new law AB 2449 that will take effect March 1, 2023 regarding virtual meetings for local agencies. With Governor Newsom's termination of the declaration of emergency that takes effect February 28, 2023, the new law will allow for continued virtual meetings under specific circumstances and limitations. The law requires a quorum of the commission to be present in-person and limits the number of meetings attended virtually by any one commissioner to two in a calendar year (for commissions that meet monthly). Requests by commissioners to attend remotely must be made to the full commission beforehand and reasons must meet the criteria for either "just cause" or "emergency circumstances."

Chair Orth suggested an Executive Committee meeting to discuss how to implement the new law.

Commissioner Ward asked for clarification regarding the three missed meetings language of the bill. Counsel Burch responded that there are a number of open questions regarding the consequences of missed meetings. Counsel will work with staff to develop a plan for implementing the new requirements for discussion with the Executive Committee. Any policy addressing the new meeting requirements should be in place before March 1, 2023.

8. INFORMATION AND REPORT ITEMS

8a) Work Plan, Current and Future Proposals (Video Time: 2:16:20)

EO Hinman presented the staff report, noting that a written summary of the Work Plan and current proposals is located on pages 277 – 281 of the Agenda Packet. In summary, all applications are incomplete at this time, pending, among other things, tax share agreements.

Staff anticipates a proposal from the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District for an Out-of-Agency Service Agreement in the coming months.

There has also been correspondence with the Anderson Valley Community Services District regarding an application to annex its Sphere of Influence for fire services; an application is anticipated in the next couple of months.

8b) Correspondence None

8c) CALAFCO Business and Legislation Report (Video Time: 2:18:34)

Senate Bill 938 was signed and passed by the Governor revising protest thresholds for LAFCo-initiated applications. Staff will present on this further in the first quarter of 2023.

Commissioner Mulheren attended the CALAFCO Conference in October and provided a summary of her take-aways.

Chair Orth suggested sending each newly elected official in the County a link to their agency's MSR/SOI study and an introduction to LAFCo.

Commissioner Rodin recommended that a LAFCo 101 session be provided to the new Commission in early 2023, emphasizing the roles and responsibilities of commissioners.

Chair Orth agreed, noting the importance of educating new commissioners that LAFCo commissioners act for the benefit of all the citizens within Mendocino County and not just for their representing agency.

Commissioner Ignacio noted that we held a LAFCo 101 training workshop last year that was open to everyone.

Commissioner Ward suggested that Commissioners attend district board and city council meetings when they can to stay informed on local issues and concerns.

8d) Executive Officer's Report (Video Time: 2:26:32)

EO Hinman reported the following:

- The Fiscal Year 2021-22 financial report and backup documentation has been provided to our CPA for preparation of the annual audit.
- The special district election ballot deadline is Friday, November 11, for the regular special district seat for the term 2023-2026; candidates are Candace Horsley and Francois Christen. As the only nominee for the alternate special district seat, Francois Christen (Anderson Valley CSD), is automatically appointed the Alternate Member.
- We received one application for the new Public Member term, Commissioner Ward; consideration of appointment will be on the next agenda.
- Kristen Meadows, who has served as our LAFCo Clerk, has accepted a career advancement and her last day will be November 14.
- An Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled following the next regular meeting of the Commission. Chair Orth suggested scheduling a Policies & Procedures Committee meeting in January.

8e) Committee Reports (Executive Committee, Policies & Procedures, Work Plan Ad Hoc) None

8f) Commissioners Reports, Comments or Questions None

ADJOURNMENT (Video Time: 2:31:45)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format to accommodate both in-person and remote participation. The in-person meeting will be held in the County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah.

Live web streaming and recordings of Commission meetings are available via the County of Mendocino's YouTube Channel. [November 7, 2022, YouTube meeting recording](#). Links to recordings and approved minutes are also available on the [LAFCo website](#).

MENDOCINO Local Agency Formation Commission Staff Report

DATE: December 19, 2022
 TO: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
 FROM: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
 SUBJECT: **Claims and Financial Report for November 2022**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the November 2022 claims and financial report.

Name	Account Description	Amount	Total
Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.	5300 Basics Services	\$ 9,027.50	\$ 12,741.61
	5601 Office Supplies (QB, Deluxe Checks)	\$ 356.61	
	7000 Work Plan (Ukiah City, UVSD)	\$ 3,320.00	
	8030 Ukiah/UVSD OASA	\$ 37.50	
P. Scott Browne	6300 Legal Counsel	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
CSDA Membership	6600 Membership Renewal	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00
Comcast	5700 Internet	\$ 93.67	\$ 93.67
Streamline	5700 Website Hosting	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Ukiah Daily Journal	5900 Publications and Legal Notices	\$ 400.01	\$ 400.01
Ukiah Valley Conf. Center	5500 Office Space	\$ 530.00	\$ 532.28
	5600 Postage	\$ 2.28	
Total:			\$ 15,967.57

Deposits: \$28.70 – Records Request Payment from Stokes, Hamer, Kirk & Eads, LLP
 \$93.67 – Comcast credit (Account 5700)
 \$2,500 – City of Ukiah application deposit (Account 8030)

Attachments:

- Budget Tracking Spreadsheet
- Work Plan Tracking
- Invoices: Hinman & Associates Consulting, P. Scott Browne

Please note that copies of all invoices, bank statements, reconciliation reports, and petty cash register were forwarded to the Treasurer.

Mendocino LAFCo Budget Tracking

FY 2022-23 YEAR TO DATE SUMMARY		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BALANCE	ACCOUNT BALANCES								
REVENUE TOTALS		\$ 265,100.00	\$ 67,060.87	\$ 198,039.13	CASH AVAILABLE								\$ 28,704
Operating Income (Apportions)	\$ 265,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 205,000.00	County of Mendocino Operations (Checking)								\$ 28,704	
Interest	\$ 100.00	\$ 35.87	\$ 64.13										
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -										
Applications & SALC	\$ -	\$ 7,025.00	\$ (7,025.00)										
EXPENSES TOTALS		\$ 263,800.00	\$ (87,338.89)	\$ 176,461.11	RESERVES								\$ 115,988
Basic Services (Staffing)	\$ 125,100.00	\$ (37,400.00)	\$ 87,700.00	Legal Reserve								\$ 50,000	
Services and Supplies	\$ 68,700.00	\$ (22,183.89)	\$ 46,516.11	Operations Reserve								\$ 65,988	
Work Plan (MSRs and SOIs)	\$ 70,000.00	\$ (21,887.50)	\$ 48,112.50	CONTINGENCIES								\$ 30,815	
Applications & SALC	\$ -	\$ (5,867.50)	\$ 14,043.00	Work Plan								\$ 30,815	
Budget Balance		\$ (20,278.02)	\$ 21,578.02	Accounts Total								\$ 175,507	

REVENUE	BUDGET	July	August	September	1st Qtr Subtotal	October	November	2nd Qtr Subtotal	3rd Qtr Subtotal	4th Qtr Subtotal	YTD Subtotal	Balance
4020 OPERATING INCOME (APPORTIONS)	\$ 265,000.00		\$ 60,000.00		\$ 60,000.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 205,000.00
4800 MISCELLANEOUS (SERVICE FEES OH, COPIES)		\$ 62.50	\$ 475.00	\$ 312.50	\$ 850.00	\$ 162.50	\$ 147.37	\$ 309.87	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,159.87	\$ (1,159.87)
4910 INTEREST	\$ 100.00	\$ 8.27	\$ 8.97	\$ 9.41	\$ 26.65	\$ 9.22		\$ 9.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35.87	\$ 64.13
Subtotals		\$ 265,100.00										
8000 APPLICATIONS	PRIOR FY DEPOSITS											
8010 City of Ukiah Detachment of UVSD lands (D-2014-8010)	\$ 19,032.75				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,032.75
8022 City of Ukiah North Annexation Pre-Application (P-2020-01)	\$ 1,500.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
8024 Millview CWD Annexation Pre-Application (P-2020-04)	\$ 3,500.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500.00
8025 City of Ukiah Annexation of City-Owned Properties (A-2021-01)	\$ 5,000.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
8028 Elk CSD Activation of Latent Powers (L-2022-01)	\$ 3,000.00			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
8029 City of Ukiah Annexation of Western Hills Properties (A-2022-02)	\$ 5,000.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
8030 City of Ukiah/UVSD Application for Out Of Agency Services (O-2022-03)	\$ -				\$ -		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
8601 Sustainable Ag Lands Committee Grant	\$ 3,225.00	\$ 2,525.00			\$ 2,525.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,525.00	\$ 5,750.00
Subtotals		\$ 2,525.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,525.00			\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,025.00	\$ 47,282.75
REVENUE TOTAL		\$ 2,525.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,525.00			\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,025.00	

EXPENSES	BUDGET	July	August	September	1st Qtr Subtotal	October	November	2nd Qtr Subtotal	3rd Qtr Subtotal	4th Qtr Subtotal	Total Expenses YTD	Budget Balance
5300 Basic Services - EO/Analyst/Clerk	\$ 125,100.00	\$ 6,647.50	\$ 6,495.00	\$ 8,657.50	\$ 21,800.00	\$ 6,572.50	\$ 9,027.50	\$ 15,600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,400.00	\$ 87,700.00
Unfunded Mandates (Public Records Requests)					\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
5500 Rent	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 1,590.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 530.00	\$ 1,060.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,650.00	\$ 3,850.00
5600 Office Expenses	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 492.38	\$ 330.88	\$ 223.59	\$ 1,046.85	\$ 98.29	\$ 358.89	\$ 457.18	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,504.03	\$ 1,795.97
5700 Internet & Website Costs	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 143.67	\$ 143.67	\$ 143.67	\$ 431.01	\$ 143.67	\$ 143.67	\$ 287.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 718.35	\$ 1,781.65
5900 Publication & Legal Notices	\$ 2,000.00				\$ -		\$ 400.01	\$ 400.01	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.01	\$ 1,599.99
6000 Televising Meetings	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 230.10			\$ 230.10			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 230.10	\$ 1,769.90
6100 Audit Services	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 1,875.00			\$ 1,875.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,925.00
6200 Bookkeeping	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 390.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 770.00	\$ 1,485.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,485.00	\$ 3,015.00
6300 Legal Counsel (S Browne)	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 14,500.00
6400 A-87 Costs County Services	\$ 2,100.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,100.00
6500 Insurance - General Liability	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 2,799.92			\$ 2,799.92			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,799.92	\$ 400.08
6600 Memberships (CALAFCO/CSDA)	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 2,329.00			\$ 2,329.00		\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,579.00	\$ 121.00
6670 GIS Contract with County	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 548.96			\$ 548.96			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 548.96	\$ 1,451.04
6740 In-County Travel & Stipends	\$ 4,000.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
6750 Travel & Lodging Expenses	\$ 6,000.00				\$ -	\$ 1,268.52		\$ 1,268.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,268.52	\$ 4,731.48
6800 Conferences (Registrations)	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 625.00			\$ 625.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 625.00	\$ 3,475.00
7000 Work Plan (MSRs and SOIs)	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 2,767.50	\$ 6,310.00	\$ 5,550.00	\$ 14,627.50	\$ 3,940.00	\$ 3,320.00	\$ 7,260.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,887.50	\$ 48,112.50
Subtotals		\$ 263,800.00	\$ 20,279.03	\$ 15,034.55	\$ 16,774.76	\$ 52,088.34	\$ 13,452.98	\$ 15,930.07	\$ 29,383.05	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,471.39
8000 APPLICATIONS	TOTAL DEPOSITS TD											
8010 City of Ukiah Detachment of UVSD lands (D-2014-8010)	\$ 19,032.75				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,518.25	\$ 4,514.50
8022 City of Ukiah North Annexation Pre-Application (P-2020-01)	\$ 1,500.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,122.00	\$ 378.00
8024 Millview CWD Annexation Pre-Application (P-2020-04)	\$ 3,500.00				\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,609.50	\$ (109.50)
8025 City of Ukiah Annexation of City-Owned Properties (A-2021-01)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 120.00			\$ 120.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,722.50	\$ 1,277.50
8028 Elk CSD Activation of Latent Powers (L-2022-01)	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 1,266.25	\$ 781.25	\$ 2,047.50	\$ 485.00		\$ 485.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,205.00	\$ 795.00
8029 City of Ukiah Annexation of Western Hills Properties (A-2022-02)	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 80.00			\$ 80.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ 4,750.00
8030 City of Ukiah/UVSD Out of Agency Service Agreement (O-2022-03)	\$ 2,500.00				\$ -		\$ 62.50	\$ 62.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62.50	\$ 2,437.50
8601 Sustainable Ag Lands Committee Grant	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 2,525.00			\$ 2,525.00			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,750.00	\$ -
Contract Staff Billing Subtotal		\$ 2,662.50	\$ 791.25	\$ 468.75	\$ 3,922.50	\$ 322.50	\$ 37.50	\$ 360.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,282.50	
Service Fees Overhead (OH) Subtotal		\$ 62.50	\$ 475.00	\$ 312.50	\$ 850.00	\$ 162.50	\$ 25.00	\$ 187.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,037.50	
Application Expenses Total		\$ 2,725.00	\$ 1,266.25	\$ 781.25	\$ 5,320.00	\$ 485.00	\$ 62.50	\$ 547.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,867.50	
EXPENSES TOTAL		\$ 23,004.03	\$ 16,300.80	\$ 17,556.01	\$ 57,408.34	\$ 13,937.98	\$ 15,992.57	\$ 29,930.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87,338.89	
MONTHLY CLAIMS TOTAL (not including OH fees)		\$ 22,941.53	\$ 15,825.80	\$ 17,243.51	\$ 56,558.34	\$ 13,775.48	\$ 15,967.57					

Mendocino LAFCo
FY 2022-23 Estimated Work Plan Implementation Schedule and Cost Tracking
 December 1, 2022

Subject to Change: The estimated schedule and costs for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Work Plan are subject to change based on agency responsiveness, timely provision of requested information, complexity of issues, level of public and affected agency controversy, and changing needs and priorities.

CEQA: Based on LAFCo practice, the work plan assumes minimal costs for CEQA compliance related to preparing a Notice of Exemption, unless an agency proposes a non-coterminous SOI and pays for any necessary studies and preparation of a Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report.

Rolling Work Plan: It is difficult to completely contain staff activities in a single fiscal year; therefore, completion of a study may roll over to the next fiscal year. This estimated work plan implementation schedule and cost tracking table is intended to enhance communication and transparency.

Agency	Coordination/ Request for Information	Admin Draft	Public Workshop	Public Hearing	Final Study	Total Cost Estimate ¹	Previous FY Expenses	FY 2022-23 Budget	FY 2022-23 Expenses	Total Cost to Date ²
County Service Area 3	Complete	Complete	4/4/2022	6/6/2022 7/11/2022	7/15/2022	\$10,000	\$16,199	\$0	\$1,031	\$17,230
Ukiah Valley Sanitation District	Ongoing	Complete	9/12/2022 11/7/2022	12/19/2022	TBD	\$40,000	\$22,703	\$10,000	\$6,623	\$29,326
City of Ukiah	Ongoing	Complete	9/12/2022 11/7/2022	12/19/2022	TBD	\$25,000	\$8,380	\$15,000	\$14,234	\$22,614
Inland Water Districts (8)	Pending					\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000		\$0
Coastal Water Districts (6)	Pending					\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000		\$0
					Estimated Total			\$70,000	\$21,888	

¹ Column indicates the initial cost estimated for each study and accounts for in process studies rolled over from prior fiscal years.

² Column indicates a running total for actual expenses incurred to date for each study in process and is not limited to a specific fiscal year.



Hinman & Associates Consulting

PO Box 1251 | Cedar Ridge, CA 95924
 (916) 813-0818 | uhinman@comcast.net

Date December 1, 2022 **Invoice No.** 715
To Mendocino LAFCo **Invoice Total** **\$ 12,741.61**
Project Executive Officer Services
Work Period November 1 - November 30, 2022

Account Description	Staff/Hours			Other (At Cost)	Totals
	Executive Officer \$110	Analyst \$75	Clerk \$40		
5300 Basic Services Public Records Act Requests	62.25	14.00	28.25		\$ 9,027.50
5601 Office Supplies Quickbooks Online Fee Deluxe Checks				\$ 85.00 \$ 271.61	\$ 356.61
6200 Bookkeeping					\$ -
6750 Travel & Lodging Expenses					\$ -
7000 Work Plan (MSR/SOI/Special Studies) City of Ukiah Ukiah Valley Sanitation District	7.00 3.75	22.75 5.75			\$ 2,476.25 \$ 843.75
8028 ECSD Activation of Latent Powers					\$ -
8029 City of Ukiah Annex Western Hills					\$ -
8030 City of Ukiah/UVSD OASA		0.50			\$ 37.50
Totals	\$ 8,030.00	\$ 3,225.00	\$ 1,130.00	\$ 356.61	\$ 12,741.61

5300 Basic Services

Administrative tasks and Clerk duties. File research and maintenance. October and November claims. Communications with Commissioners, respond to public inquiries, etc. File research and resolution scanning. Communications with special districts regarding the election process for special district seats; prepare and distribute extension of special district election due to lack of a quorum. Coordinate with commissioners regarding special district commissioners' board elections and transitions. Conduct noticing and process for public member seat, term 2023-2026.

6200 Bookkeeping

Prepared and coordinated with Treasurer and check signatories regarding claims. Entered claims into Quickbooks and prepared checks. Reconciled Quickbooks.

7000 Work Plan (Sphere of Influence Updates, Municipal Service Reviews, and Special Studies)

City of Ukiah and UVSD: Coordinated with UVSD and City staff through regularly scheduled meetings. Coordination with agencies for additional information and clarifications. Revisions to the MSR/SOI studies in preparation for the December 19th public hearing for both agencies.

8025 City of Ukiah Annexation of City-owned Properties

No activity.

8028 Elk Community Services District Activation of Latent Powers

No activity.

8029 City of Ukiah Annexation of Western Hills Properties

No activity.

8030 City of Ukiah/ UVSD Out of Agency Extension of Wastewater Services

Receive application and create files.

From: Intuit QuickBooks Team <No_Reply@notifications.intuit.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2022 5:27 AM
To: eo@mendolafco.org
Subject: We received your QuickBooks subscription payment!



Payment success

Executive Officer, thank you for your payment.

Invoice number:
10001192598798
Invoice date: 11/19/2022
Total: \$85.00
Payment method: VISA ending
in

Sign in to QuickBooks where you can see your billing history and view, save, and print your invoice.

[View billing history](#)

Account details

Billed to: Mendocino LAFCo
Company ID ending:
Items on this invoice: QuickBooks Online Plus

(1) For subscriptions, your payment method on file will be automatically charged monthly/annually at the then-current list price until you cancel. If you have a discount it will apply to the then-current list price until it expires. Additional service fees may apply based on whether you add or remove services and your usage. See your [Billing & Subscription](#) page for additional pricing details. To cancel your subscription at any time, go to [Account & Settings](#) and cancel the subscription. (2) For one-time services, your payment method on file will reflect the charge in the amount referenced in this invoice. Terms, conditions, pricing, features, service, and support options are subject to change without notice.

Shipping Details

Shipping Address

Executive Officer
 200 S SCHOOL ST,
 Ukiah, CA 95482
 USA (707) 463-4770

Shipping Method

Standard Shipping
 Arrives in 7-10 business days

Payment Summary

Billing Address

Uma Hinman
 PO Box 1251,
 Cedar Ridge, CA 95924
 USA (916) 813-0818

Amount:

\$271.61

Order Details: Order #: 492046486

PRODUCT NAME	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
Deluxe High Security Laser Top Check Item#: SSLT104	200	\$254.99	\$254.99
EZ Shield: Identity Restoration® and Check Fraud Protection®		\$18.50	\$18.50

Product Total: \$273.49

Discount: \$50.00

HH590: \$50 Off Orders \$200 and Up

Sub Total: \$223.49

Shipping & Handling: \$25.99

Tax: \$22.13

Order Total: \$271.61

Total Savings: \$50.00

Law Office of P. Scott Browne
P.O. Box 764
Rough and Ready, CA 95975
5302724250
Tax ID: 68-0348904

November 15, 2022

Mendocino LAFCo
200 South School St. Ste F
Ukiah, CA 95482

Invoice Number: 1187
Invoice Period: 10-16-2022 - 11-15-2022

Payment due by the 15th of next month.

RE: Mendocino LAFCo - General
Mendocino LAFCo - General

Mendocino LAFCo - General

Time Details

Date	Staff Member	Description	Hours	
10-16-2022	PSB	Monthly flat rate, as agreed upon in Legal Representation Agreement		
10-19-2022	PSB	Attend CALAFCo conference (Time split between all agencies)	1.30	
10-27-2022	MB	Zoom with executive officer and Analyst regarding City of Ukiah GP update.	1.00	
10-28-2022	MB	Review GPU DEIR; review ag policies.	0.80	
10-31-2022	MB	Review policies; research regarding ag land in SOI and Williamson Act; message to executive officer and Analyst.	1.20	
11-04-2022	PSB	Legislative Committee - time apportioned among all LAFCo clients	0.25	
11-07-2022	MB	Attend LAFCo meeting.	2.50	
11-11-2022	MB	Research questions regarding vacancy of seat in event commissioner is not elected; message to executive officer.	1.20	
11-14-2022	MB	Research regarding LAFCo make up of commission for specific actions.	0.40	
			Total	900.00

Total for this Invoice 900.00
Total Amount to Pay 900.00

We appreciate your business.

Page 1 of 2

Project Statement of Account

As of 11-15-2022

Project	Balance Due
Mendocino LAFCo - General	900.00
Total Amount to Pay	900.00

Mendocino LAFCo - General

Transactions

Date	Transaction	Applied	Invoice	Amount
10-15-2022	Previous Balance			900.00
11-08-2022	Payment Received - Reference Check #1812			(900.00)
11-14-2022	Payment Applied	270.00	1072	
11-14-2022	Payment Applied	630.00	1182	
11-15-2022	Invoice 1187			900.00
			Balance	900.00

MENDOCINO Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Report

DATE: December 19, 2022
TO: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: 2023 Regular Commission Meeting Schedule

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the proposed Mendocino LAFCo Regular Commission meeting schedule for the 2023 calendar year.

BACKGROUND

All regular meetings of the Commission fall on the first Mondays of the month starting at 9 a.m., unless otherwise scheduled to accommodate observance of federal holidays. Meetings are held in the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chambers on Low Gap Road, Ukiah.

The following meeting dates are proposed for 2023:

Month	Date	Notes
January*	9	New Years Day falls immediately before the first Monday
February	6	
March	6	
April	3	
May	1	
June	5	
July	3	
August	7	
September *	11	Labor Day observed September 4
October	2	
November	6	
December	4	

2023 Calendar

January							February							March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	29	30	31	1

April							May							June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
30	1	2	3	4	5	6														

July							August							September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
25	26	27	28	29	30	1	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
30	31	1	2	3	4	5														

October							November							December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Holidays and common observances (United States)

1 Jan. New Year's Day
 16 Jan. Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
 20 Feb. Washington's Birthday (Presidents' Day)
 9 Apr. Easter

29 May Memorial Day
 19 June Juneteenth
 4 July Independence Day
 4 Sept. Labor Day

9 Oct. Columbus Day
 11 Nov. Veterans Day
 23 Nov. Thanksgiving Day
 25 Dec. Christmas

 Proposed meeting date

 Federal holiday

Certificate of Commendation

WHEREAS, Charles A. Orth was first appointed as a Special District Member on the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission in 2006, serving a total of twenty years since that time; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to the accomplishments of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commission he served as Chair, on the Executive Committee, the Policies and Procedures Committee, and ad hoc committees; his experience and dedication have been invaluable.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission does hereby commend

Charles A. Orth

For his valuable service and leadership as a member of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission Presented on this 19th Day of December 2022.

Commission Interim Chair

Uma Hinman, Executive Officer

Certificate of Commendation

WHEREAS, Scott Ignacio was appointed as a City Member on the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission in 2017, serving a total of six years; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to the accomplishments of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commission he served as Vice-Chair and on the Executive Committee; his experience and dedication have been invaluable.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission does hereby commend

Scott Ignacio

For his valuable service and leadership as a member of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission, presented on this 19th Day of December 2022.

Commission Interim Chair

Uma Hinman, Executive Officer

Certificate of Commendation

WHEREAS, Matthew Froneberger was elected as a Regular Special District Member on the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission in 2021; and

WHEREAS, he contributed significantly to the accomplishments of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Commission, his experience and dedication have been invaluable.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Local Agency Formation Commission of Mendocino County does hereby commend

Matthew Froneberger

For his valuable service and leadership as a member of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission Presented on this 19th Day of December 2022.

Commission Interim Chair

Uma Hinman, Executive Officer

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Report

MEETING December 19, 2022
TO Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT **PUBLIC HEARING City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and Potential Approval and Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act**

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Find the City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption), and approve the Notice of Exemption for filing; and
- 2) Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2022-23-06, approving the City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study, adopting the proposed sphere of influence and area of interest, and certifying that the Commission has Considered the Environmental Effects Identified in the Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2022050556) for the Project; adopting Environmental Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; and adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations.

BACKGROUND

This is a Public Hearing to consider public testimony and proposed adoption of the City of Ukiah (City) Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Study.

The Commission held two public workshops on the City's draft MSR/SOI Update Study on [September 12, 2022](#) and [November 7, 2022](#) to hear public/agency comments and request revisions. Video recordings of the meetings are available [online](#) and the recent summary minutes are included in this agenda packet.

Revisions List

Below is a brief list of significant study revisions made since the November workshop.

- a. Cover Page: Added a new cover picture for copyright purposes.
- b. Table 2.3: Corrected the City Councilmember terms information.
- c. Section 2.3.3.2: Added information on the City-County mutual aid agreement for law enforcement.
- d. Section 2.3.3.3: Clarified the term all-risk for fire agency services.
- e. Section 2.3.3.5: Under Wastewater, added clarifying language for wastewater service allocations.
- f. Section 2.3.3.5: Under Law Enforcement, added an example of County crisis workers responding to mental health crisis for de-escalation.
- g. Section 2.3.4.1: Added City streets to the list of public services that benefit non-City residents.
- h. Section 2.5.1.1: Corrected the unemployment rate date from 2023 to June 2020.
- i. Section 2.5.1.3: Added clarification on the source of data for Table 2.9 and noted that the summary of land uses is based on Assessor land use codes instead of land use designations or zoning.
- j. Table 2.10: Updated the status of the Live Oak Apartments – Project Homekey.
- k. Figure 2-12: Included an updated version of the General Plan Land Use Diagram.
- l. Section 2.5.1.4.1: Clarified that City proposed annexations require a County Tax Share Agreement.

- m. Sections 2.6.1, 3.15.1.2, 4.1.6.5: Added Alexander Estates to the DUC #3: Empire Gardens name.
- n. Table 3.1: Added BLM and USACE to the table for park and recreation facilities.
- o. Section 3.11.2.1: Reworded details on the design and permit capacity of the Ukiah Transfer Station.
- p. Section 4.1.2.2: Added clarifying language about the similarity and difference between the City's 2040 General Plan Planning Area and the Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundaries.
- q. Figure 4-2: Corrected the proposed City SOI map to add APNs 156-240-09 and 156-240-11.
- r. Figure 4-3: Added an Area of Interest map and renumbered Figures 4-4 and 4-5 accordingly.

Sphere of Influence

This is the first SOI Update for the City of Ukiah. The 1984 SOI boundary for the City is the same as the boundary of the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) Planning Area. As part of the [City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan](#) (Ukiah 2040), the City developed a proposed SOI boundary which encompasses territory of existing wastewater and water agencies, including a portion of the Rogina Mutual Water Company, in support of consolidation efforts, and also includes territory located west of the current City limits associated with the City-owned Properties and Western Hills annexation proposals. It is recommended that the Commission adopt the City's 2040 General Plan proposed SOI boundary, which is larger than the current City limits and smaller than the 1984 sphere boundary.

Area of Interest

The City's MSR/SOI Update Study recommends that the Commission designate an Area of Interest (AOI) for the Ukiah 2040 Planning Area Study Area for enhanced coordination between the City and other local government agencies on any plans or projects with the potential to impact City or other agency lands, facilities, and/or services.

The Ukiah 2040 Planning Area Study Area encompasses all lands between the proposed City SOI boundary and the City's 2040 General Plan (Ukiah 2040) Planning Area. The Ukiah 2040 Planning Area is similar to the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) boundary but differs slightly from the UVAP to include the City's proposed Western Hills Annexation area.

CEQA Compliance

The City's MSR is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption). This finding is based on the use of the MSR as a data collection and service evaluation study. There are no land use changes or environmental impacts created or recommended by the MSR. The information contained within the MSR may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review. Refer to the prepared Notice of Exemption (NOE) for further information (Attachment 3).

The City of Ukiah, as Lead Agency for the sphere of influence update, certified an Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2022050556), adopted Findings of Fact pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) §21081 and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15091, adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations in accordance with PRC §21081(B) and CEQA Guidelines §15093, and approved a Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program in connection with the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan (Ukiah 2040), including analysis for the City of Ukiah sphere of influence update, on December 7, 2022 per City Resolution No. 2022-78.

The Commission, as a Responsible Agency, will independently review and analyze the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report and associated documents (Attachments 4 – 8) in connection with consideration of the recommended City of Ukiah SOI Update. The Commission, as a Responsible Agency, will also consider making findings related to the Lead Agency's CEQA determination in connection with the recommended City of Ukiah SOI Update as detailed in the attached LAFCo Resolution No. 2022-23-06 (Attachment 9).

The Commission, as a Responsible Agency, will also consider affirming in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15096 the Lead Agency's certified Environmental Impact Report and affirming/adopting the City's Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program included in City Resolution No. 2022-78 (Attachment 4).

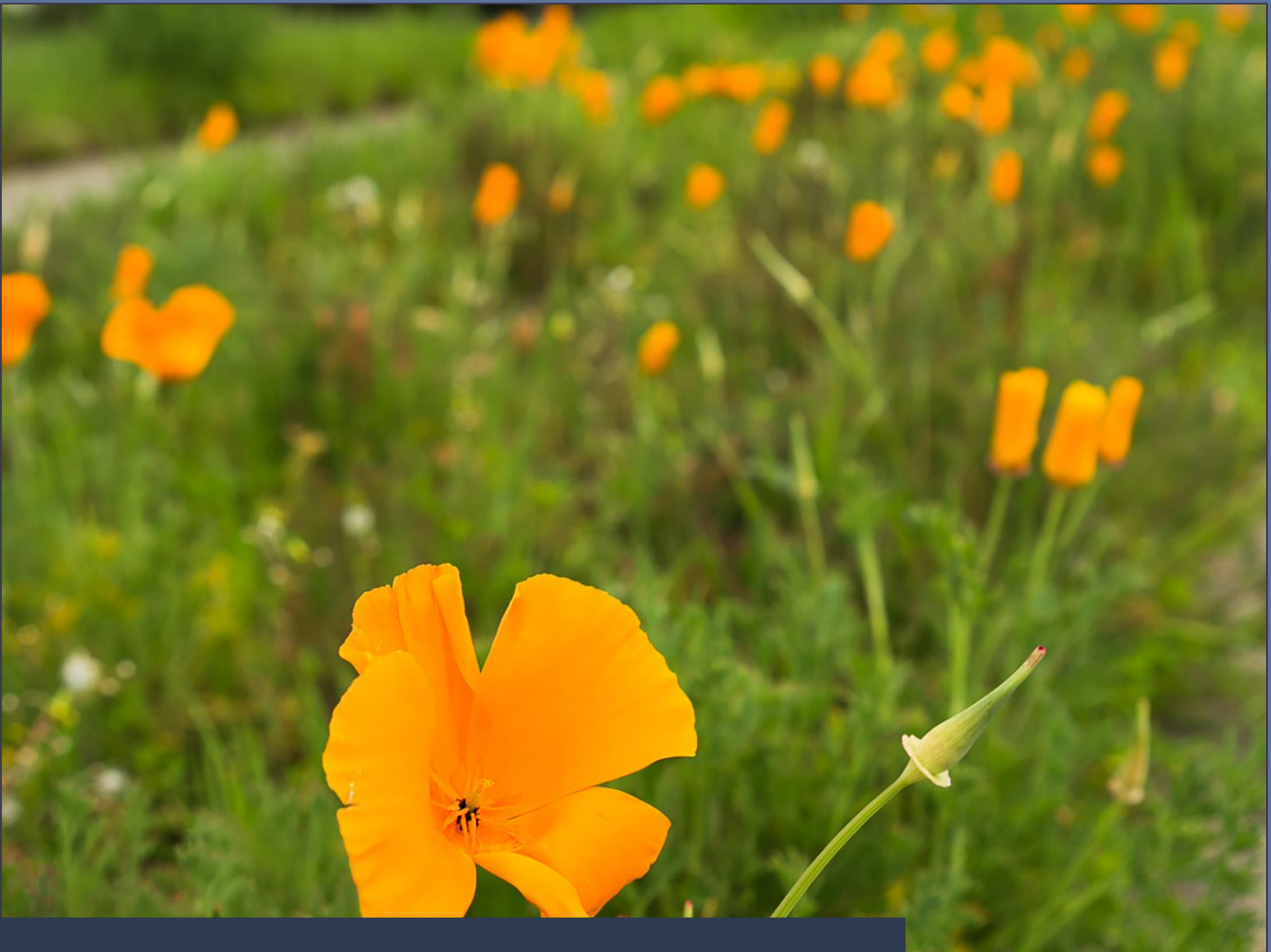
Public Notice

The 21-day Notice for this Public Hearing was properly published, posted, and distributed by Monday November 28, 2022. The newspapers Proof of Publication is included as Attachment 2.

Public Comments

No public comments have been received to date.

- Attachments:**
- (1) City of Ukiah MSR/SOI Update 2022
 - (2) Proof of Publication
 - (3) Notice of Exemption
 - (4) City Resolution No. 2022-78 (EIR)
 - (5) City Resolution No. 2022-79 (GP)
 - (6) City Notice of Determination (NOD)
 - (7) City General Plan FEIR
 - (8) City General Plan DEIR
 - (9) LAFCo Resolution No. 2022-23-06



City of Ukiah

2022 – Municipal Service Review and Sphere of
Influence Update

Prepared For:

Mendocino LAFCo

200 South School Street

Ukiah, California 95482

<http://www.mendoLAFCo.org>

Workshop: September 12, 2022

Workshop: November 7, 2022

Public Hearing: December 19, 2022

Adopted: [Publish Date]

LAFCo Resolution No: XXXX-XX-XX

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Local Agency Formation Commission

Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo) are quasi-legislative, independent local agencies that were established by State legislation in 1963 to oversee the logical and orderly formation and development of local government agencies including cities and special districts. There is one LAFCo for each county in California.

LAFCo is responsible for implementing the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (California Government Code Section 56000 et. seq.) in order to promote orderly growth, prevent urban sprawl, preserve agricultural and open space lands, and oversee efficient provision of municipal services.

LAFCo has the authority to establish and reorganize cities and special districts, change their boundaries and authorized services, allow the extension of public services, perform municipal service reviews, and establish spheres of influence. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating boundary changes through annexations or detachments and forming, consolidating, or dissolving local agencies.

1.2 Mendocino LAFCo

The CKH Act provides for flexibility in addressing State regulations to allow for adaptation to local needs. Mendocino LAFCo has adopted policies, procedures and principles that guide its operations. These policies and procedures can be found on Mendocino LAFCo's website at the following location: <http://www.mendoLAFCo.org/policies.html>.

Mendocino LAFCo has a public Commission with seven regular Commissioners and four alternate Commissioners. The Commission is composed of two members of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, two City Council members, two Special District representatives, and one Public Member-At-Large. The Commission also includes one alternate member for each represented category.

1.3 Municipal Service Review

The CKH Act (GC §56430) requires LAFCo to prepare a Municipal Service Review (MSR) for all local agencies within its jurisdiction. MSRs are required prior to and in conjunction with the update of a Sphere of Influence (SOI).

An MSR is a comprehensive analysis of the services provided by a local government agency to evaluate the capabilities of that agency to meet the public service needs of their current and future service area. An MSR must address the following seven factors:

1. Growth and population projections for the affected area.
2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.
3. Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.
4. Financial ability of agencies to provide services.
5. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities.

6. Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.
7. Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

MSRs include written statements or determinations with respect to each of the seven mandated areas of evaluation outlined above. These determinations provide the basis for LAFCo to consider the appropriateness of a service provider's existing and future service area boundary.

1.4 Sphere Of Influence

The CKH Act requires LAFCo to adopt an SOI for all local agencies within its jurisdiction. A SOI is "a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency or municipality as determined by the Commission" (GC §56076).

When reviewing an SOI for a municipal service provider, LAFCo will consider the following five factors:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.
5. For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, that occurs pursuant to subdivision (g) on or after July 1, 2012, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

Sphere of Influence Plan Updates include written statements or determinations with respect to each of the five mandated areas of evaluation outlined above. These determinations provide the basis for LAFCo to consider the appropriateness of establishing or modifying a service provider's SOI or probable future boundary.

1.5 Mendocino LAFCo Policies

In addition to making the necessary determinations for establishing or modifying a SOI Plan consistent with the CKH Act, the appropriateness of an agency's SOI is also based on an evaluation of consistency with local LAFCo policies.

The following Sphere of Influence policies are from the Mendocino LAFCo Policies and Procedures Manual, adopted November 5, 2018.

10.1.1 Legislative Authority and Intent

A sphere of influence is the probable 20-year growth boundary for a jurisdiction's physical development. The Commission shall use spheres of influence to:

- a) promote orderly growth and development within and adjacent to communities;

- b) promote cooperative planning efforts among cities, the County, and special districts to address concerns regarding land use and development standards, premature conversion of agriculture and open space lands, and efficient provision of public services;
- c) guide future local government reorganization that encourages efficiency, economy, and orderly changes in local government; and
- d) assist property owners in anticipating the availability of public services in planning for the use of their property.

10.1.2 Definitions

The Commission incorporates the following definitions:

- a) an “establishment” refers to the initial development and determination of a sphere of influence by the Commission;
- b) an “amendment” refers to a limited change to an established sphere of influence typically initiated by a landowner, resident, or agency; and
- c) an “update” refers to a comprehensive change to an established sphere of influence typically initiated by the Commission.

10.1.3 Sphere Updates

In updating spheres of influence, the Commission’s general policies are as follows:

- a) The Commission will review all spheres of influences every five years for each governmental agency providing municipal services. Municipal services include water, wastewater, police, and fire protection services.
- b) Sphere of influence changes initiated by any agency providing a municipal service shall generally require either an updated or new service review unless LAFCo determines that a prior service review is adequate.
- c) Spheres of influence of districts not providing municipal services including, but not limited to, ambulance, recreation, hospital, resource conservation, cemetery, and pest control shall be updated as necessary.

10.1.4 Reduced Spheres

The Commission shall endeavor to maintain and expand, as needed, spheres of influence to accommodate planned and orderly urban development. The Commission shall, however, consider removal of land from an agency’s sphere of influence if either of the following two conditions apply:

- a) the land is outside the affected agency’s jurisdictional boundary but has been within the sphere of influence for 10 or more years; or
- b) the land is inside the affected agency’s jurisdictional boundary but is not expected to be developed for urban uses or require urban-type services within the next 10 years.

10.1.5 Zero Spheres

LAFCo may adopt a “zero” sphere of influence encompassing no territory for an agency. This occurs if LAFCo determines that the public service functions of the agency are either nonexistent, no longer needed, or should be reallocated to some other agency (e.g., mergers, consolidations). The local agency which has been assigned a zero sphere should ultimately be dissolved.

10.1.6 Service Specific Spheres

If territory within the proposed sphere boundary of a local agency does not need all of the services of the agency, a “service specific” sphere of influence may be designated.

10.1.7 Agriculture and Open Space Lands

Territory not in need of urban services, including open space, agriculture, recreational, rural lands, or residential rural areas shall not be assigned to an agency’s sphere of influence unless the area’s exclusion would impede the planned, orderly and efficient development of the area. In addition, LAFCo may adopt a sphere of influence that excludes territory currently within that agency’s boundaries. This may occur when LAFCo determines that the territory consists of agricultural lands, open space lands, or agricultural preserves whose preservation would be jeopardized by inclusion within an agency’s sphere. Exclusion of these areas from an agency’s sphere of influence indicates that detachment is appropriate.

10.1.8 Annexations Are Not Mandatory

Before territory can be annexed to a city or district, it must be within the agency’s sphere of influence (G.G. §56375.5). However, territory within an agency’s sphere will not necessarily be annexed. A sphere is only one of several factors that are considered by LAFCo when evaluating changes of organization or reorganization.

10.1.9 Islands or Corridors

Sphere of influence boundaries shall not create islands or corridors unless it can be demonstrated that the irregular boundaries represent the most logical and orderly service area of an agency.

10.1.10 Overlapping Spheres

LAFCo encourages the reduction of overlapping spheres of influence to avoid unnecessary and inefficient duplication of services or facilities. In deciding which of two or more equally capable agencies shall include an area within its sphere of influence, LAFCo shall consider the agencies’ service and financial capabilities, social and economic interdependencies, topographic factors, and the effect that eventual service extension will have on adjacent agencies. Where an area could be assigned to the sphere of influence of more than one agency, the following hierarchy typically applies:

- a) Inclusion within a city’s sphere
- b) Inclusion within a multi-purpose district’s sphere
- c) Inclusion within a single-purpose district’s sphere

Territory placed within a city’s sphere indicates that the city is the most logical provider of urban services. LAFCo encourages annexation of developing territory (i.e., area not currently receiving services) that is currently within a city’s sphere to that city rather than to one or more single-purpose special districts. LAFCo discourages the formation of special districts within a city’s sphere. To promote efficient and

coordinated planning among the county's various agencies, districts that provide the same type of service shall not have overlapping spheres.

10.1.11 Memorandum of Agreements (For City Sphere Amendments and Updates)

Prior to submitting an application to LAFCo for a new city sphere of influence or a city sphere of influence update, the city shall meet with the County to discuss the proposed new boundaries of the sphere and explore methods to reach agreement on development standards and planning and zoning requirements as contained in G.C. §56425. If an agreement is reached between the city and County the agreement shall be forwarded to LAFCo. The Commission shall consider and adopt a sphere of influence for the city consistent with the policies adopted by LAFCo and the County, and LAFCo shall give great weight to the agreement to the extent that it is consistent with LAFCo policies in its final determination of the city sphere.

10.1.12 Areas of Interest

LAFCo may, at its discretion, designate a geographic area beyond the sphere of influence as an Area of Interest to any local agency. (Resolution No. 2018-19-01)

- a) An Area of Interest is a geographic area beyond the sphere of influence in which land use decisions or other governmental actions of one local agency (the "Acting Agency") impact directly or indirectly upon another local agency (the "Interested Agency"). For example, approval of a housing project developed to urban densities on septic tanks outside the city limits of a city and its sphere of influence may result in the city being forced subsequently to extend sewer services to the area to deal with septic failures and improve city roads that provide access to the development. The city in such a situation would be the Interested Agency with appropriate reason to request special consideration from the Acting Agency in considering projects adjacent to the city.
- b) When LAFCo receives notice of a proposal from another agency relating to the Area of Concern, LAFCo will notify the Interested Agency and will consider its comments.
- c) LAFCo will encourage Acting and Interested Agencies to establish Joint Powers Agreements or other commitments as appropriate.

(LAFCo, 2018)

1.6 [Senate Bill 215](#)

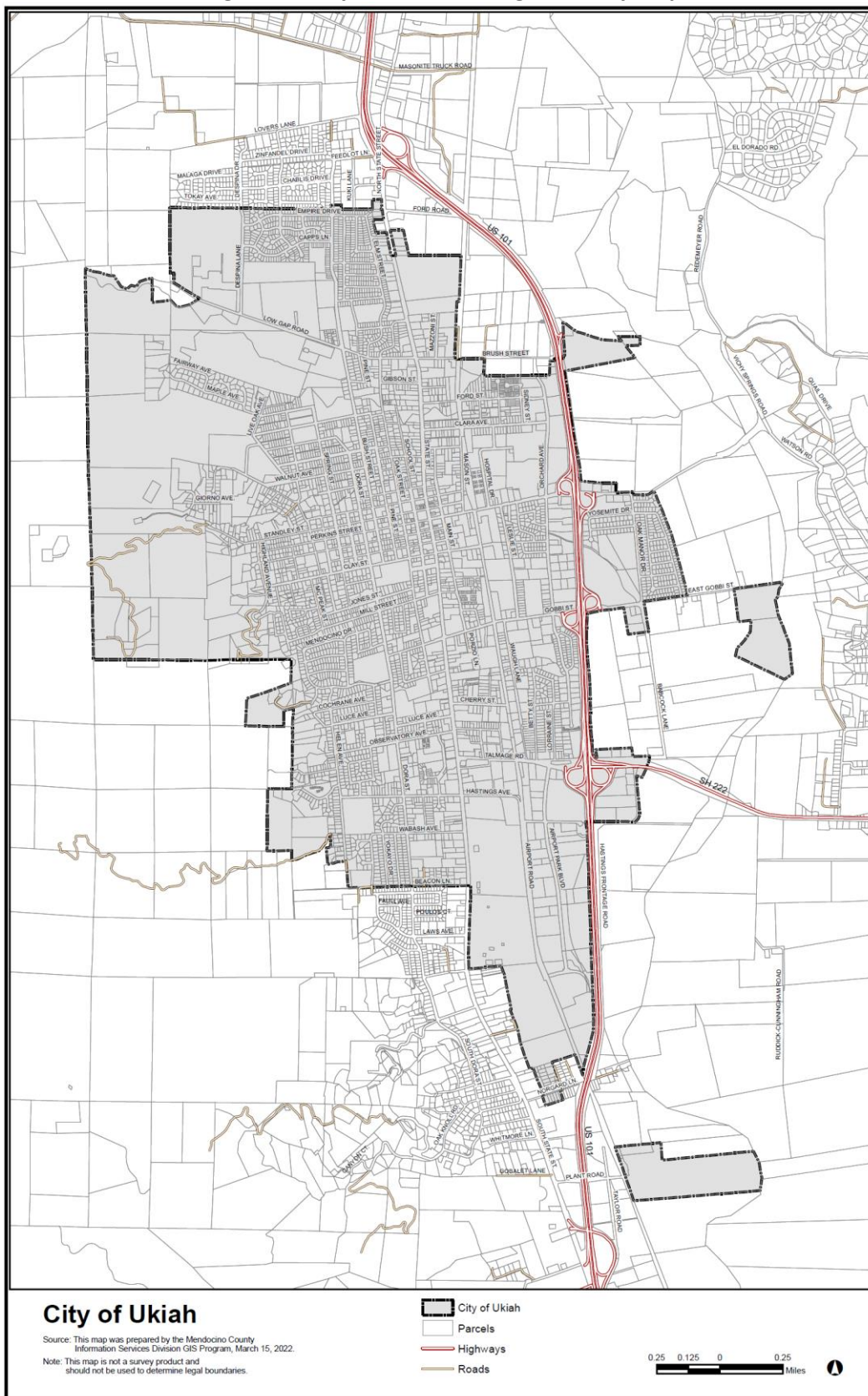
Senate Bill (SB) 215 (Wiggins) requires LAFCo to consider regional transportation plans and sustainable community strategies developed pursuant to SB 375 before making boundary decisions. Senate Bill 375 (Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act) requires each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) to address regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets for passenger vehicles in their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by integrating planning for transportation, land-use, and housing in a sustainable communities strategy.

Mendocino County is not located within an MPO boundary and therefore is not subject to the provisions of SB 375. However, the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) supports and coordinates the local planning efforts of Mendocino County and the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits to address regional housing and transportation needs and helps provide a framework for sustainable regional growth patterns through the 2018 Mendocino County Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RNHA) Plan and Vision Mendocino 2030 Blueprint Plan. MCOG is also responsible for allocating regional

transportation funding to transportation improvement projects consistent with the 2017 RTP for Mendocino County.

Mendocino County and the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits are the local agencies primarily responsible for planning regional growth patterns through adoption and implementation of general plan and zoning regulations. While Mendocino County is not subject to the provisions of SB 375, LAFCo will review applicable regional transportation and growth plans when considering a change of organization or reorganization application.

Figure 1-1 City of Ukiah Existing Boundary Map



2 AGENCY OVERVIEW

Table 2.1 City of Ukiah Profile	
Agency Name:	City of Ukiah
Civic Center:	300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, CA 95482
Mailing Address:	Same as above
Phone Number:	(707) 463-6200
Fax Number:	(707) 463-6204
Website:	http://cityofukiah.com/
Date of Formation:	March 8, 1876
Agency Type:	General Law City, Multiple-Service Provider, At-Large
Enabling Legislation	Government Code Section 34000 et seq.
Council Meeting Schedule:	First and third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at Civic Center.

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

2.1 History

2.1.1 Formation

The City of Ukiah (City or Ukiah) incorporated on March 8, 1876 as a General Law City under the California Constitution and operates within the parameters and guidelines of California Municipal Law. (LAFCo, 2012)

2.1.2 Community Background

While Ukiah became a city more than 140 years ago, this area has existed as a distinct community for more than 160 years. The history of Ukiah, the Ukiah Valley, and its people, goes back even further. Before western settlement, the Ukiah Valley and much of what is now Mendocino County, was inhabited by the Pomo people. With the arrival of western settlers, the Pomo were driven off their land, their population dropped dramatically, and they were eventually forced onto reservations. Today, there are three small reservations, called rancherias, in the Ukiah Valley that are home to groups of Pomo. The name “Ukiah” draws from the history of the Pomo people. Ukiah is an anglicized version of the Pomo word *yokaya*, meaning “deep valley.” (Ukiah, 2020)

Western settlers first settled in Ukiah in the mid-19th century, which followed the initial settlement and development of Mendocino County along the coast. At the time, the major industry of inland Mendocino County was logging. Development of the timber industry led to the establishment of towns such as Ukiah, Hopland, Willits, Boonville, Comptche, Branscomb, Philo, and Yorkville during the 1860s. The rugged interior of the county is relatively isolated and many areas remain sparsely occupied to this day. (Mendocino County, 2008)

Ukiah was designated as the seat of Mendocino County in 1859. During Ukiah’s early history, the slow-growing city remained relatively isolated (Ukiah, 2020). In addition to logging, hot springs resorts attracted settlement of interior towns such as Ukiah, which is located near Vichy Springs. Vichy Springs, originally named Doolan Ukiah Vichy, began operation in the late 1880s and is one of the oldest continuously operated hot springs resorts in the country (Mendocino County, 2008). In 1889, the railroad was extended to Ukiah and the city became more accessible to the region and country. Ukiah’s prime soils and climate

supported farming and agricultural opportunities, which became a dominant economic driver for the city. The dominant crop during the early settlement period of the City was hops (Ukiah, 2020).

Ukiah remained relatively small and slow growing until the 1920s. In the following decades, especially after the end of World War II, the City grew rapidly. This growth coincided with the continued development of the logging industry in California’s northern coasts. The redwood forests to the north of Ukiah became extremely valuable for lumber, and the logging industry in the area grew rapidly supporting an increase in employment and growth in the region. (Ukiah, 2020)

Mendocino Forest Products still operates a sawmill in Ukiah. This mill is one of only a handful left in Mendocino County since the decline of the West Coast timber industry. As a result of the timber boom, Ukiah’s population grew to around 6,000 by 1950. In the 1960s, Mendocino County, including Ukiah, experienced an influx of former urbanites following the “back to the land movement.” (Ukiah, 2020; LAFCo, 2012)

Since the mid-20th century, the logging industry has been on a steady decline along the northern coast and other industries have emerged. In 2001, Masonite, which at the time employed 280 employees, closed its Ukiah location (Tsai, 2004). While vast tracts of the former industrial site remain vacant, portions have been returned to manufacturing activities, including 10 acres purchased in 2013 by Mendocino Industrial Park LLC, and used by companies such as Factory Pipe. (Ukiah, 2020)

As of 2022, Ukiah remains the county seat and largest City in Mendocino County. With both City of Ukiah and County administrative offices within the City, Ukiah boasts a large number of public sector employment opportunities, particularly in education and social services.

Additionally, the City is surrounded by mineral rich agricultural lands capable of supporting viticulture operations. In recent years, the region has seen an increase in local vineyards opening adjacent to the city. The increase in local wine production and processing reflects the increasing popularity of the Ukiah Valley as a wine region and destination.

2.1.3 Boundary

The City of Ukiah is located approximately 155 miles south of Eureka, 110 miles north of San Francisco, and is situated along US 101 in southeastern Mendocino County. The US 101 bypasses the City in a north/south direction. State Route (SR) 222, also known as Talmage Road, is a relatively short east/west state highway that intersects US 101 in the southern portion of the City. US 101 connects Ukiah to Santa Rosa and San Francisco, providing major regional access to the City. SR 253, located at the south end of Ukiah, begins at US 101 and travels in an east/west direction connecting Ukiah with SR 1 along the coast. (Ukiah, 2013) The City of Ukiah spans more than 3,000 acres (4.7 square miles), refer to Figure 1-1 (Ukiah, 2020).

The Ukiah Valley is approximately nine miles long, running north to south, comprising more than 40,000 acres along U.S. Route 101. The Russian River follows the valley, winding through agricultural lands just outside of Ukiah to the east. The valley is approximately 630 feet in elevation, with the hills of the

Mendocino and Mayacamas ranges that flank the valley reaching up to 3,000 feet in elevation. (Ukiah, 2020)

The nearest major city to Ukiah is Santa Rosa, a city of 175,000, which is located approximately 60 miles to the south. Larger urban centers including San Francisco and Sacramento are approximately 100 miles to the south and southeast. Ukiah’s relative isolation from major population centers increases its importance as a regional center for employment and commerce. Close to Ukiah there are several small unincorporated communities, including Talmage, The Forks and Calpella, as well as neighboring Redwood Valley to the north and Hopland to the south. (Ukiah, 2020)

2.1.3.1 BOUNDARY CHANGE HISTORY

City records show that the last jurisdictional boundary change involving the City of Ukiah was approved in 2004, but was not affirmed by the City Council until 2006. That boundary change involved the detachment of old North Fire Station property. The City has not expanded its jurisdictional area since the “Bush Street – North Reorganization” in 1988. That request added 0.41-acres for the Roy Lee Tindle Jr. College Court Apartments, currently owned and operated by the Community Development Commission of Mendocino County, as well as a portion of Bush Street to the City of Ukiah’s jurisdiction. Table 2.2 below shows the recent boundary change history for Ukiah.

Annexation Name	Action	Date	FILE #
“Denny & Gianoli-McCarty”	Reorganization	April 12, 1978	#76-12(LAFCO File #)
“Orchard Avenue – South”	Reorganization	December 7, 1979	#78-1(LAFCO File #)
“Orr Creek”	Annexation	October 12, 1979	#79-3(LAFCO File #)
“Lewis Lane”	Reorganization	May 16, 1980	#80-2 (LAFCO File #)
“Cagle-Kennedy”	Reorganization	September 4, 1980	#76-2(LAFCO File #)
“Las Casas”	Reorganization	December 16, 1980	#80-3 (LAFCO File #)
“Airport Industrial Park”	Reorganization	May 28, 1981	#80-5 (LAFCO File #)
“Munson-Hastings”	Reorganization	February 10, 1982	#81-6 (LAFCO File #)
“Old-Treatment Plant & North Fire Station”	Reorganization	April 30, 1985	#85-1 (LAFCO File #)
“Ukiah Airport South”	Reorganization	October 9, 1986	#86-3 (LAFCO File #)
“Caldwell Frontage”	Reorganization	November 25, 1986	#86-1 (LAFCO File #)
“Bush Street - North”	Reorganization	January 4, 1988	#87-1 (LAFCO File #)
“North Fire Station”	Detachment	April 7, 2004 (Sold); August 28, 2006 (Detached)	#80-45 (City Resolution)

2.1.4 Services

The City provides an array of municipal services to its citizens, including Administration, Airport, Animal Control, Electric Utility, Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Law Enforcement, Community Services (Parks and Recreation), Public Works, Solid Waste, Stormwater, Wastewater, and Water. For more information regarding City services refer to Chapter 3 and for other services provided by contract or Joint Powers Authority (JPA) refer to Section 2.3.3.

2.2 Government Structure

2.2.1 Governing Body

The City Council is the legislative body for the City and is responsible for enacting ordinances, establishing policy, adopting and amending the annual budget, adopting resolutions, and appointing committees. The City Council appoints the City Manager, the City Attorney, and all members of advisory boards and commissions.

The City is governed by a five-member City Council elected at-large to serve staggered four-year terms (Table 2.3). Council members must be residents of the City. City Council elections are held in November of even numbered years with the next upcoming election scheduled for November, 2022. The City Council elects officers, including Mayor and Vice Mayor, annually at the first meeting in December for one-year appointments. The Mayor conducts the Council meetings and represents the City in ceremonial functions. The City operates under an “at-large” election system where voters of the entire City of Ukiah elect all members of the City Council.

City Councilmembers receive \$490 per month compensation for their service. Elected officials may choose to have Social Security deducted or to participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). City Councilmembers are eligible for participation in City of Ukiah group health, dental, and vision insurance plans. Elected Officials are provided a monthly health insurance contribution by the City, which is equivalent to the “employee only” REMIF EPO 250 health plan premium (Fiscal Year 2022-23 is \$837 per month). (Ukiah, 2022a)

In addition, out-of-County travel and other eligible expenses incurred by Councilmembers in the performance of City-related duties are subject to reimbursement.

The City Council acts as the governing authority for the Successor Agency to the former Ukiah Redevelopment Agency (RDA) and is responsible for the following tasks:

- Administering debt service for the former agency's obligations
- Overseeing maintenance of former agency capital assets
- Administering the county-wide Oversight Board
- Support services to other departments and divisions involved in redevelopment dissolution

(Ukiah, 2022a)(V&F, 2021)(LAFCo, 2012)

The City Council, listed below in Table 2.3, also acts as the governing body of the Ukiah Public Finance Authority and the Ukiah Industrial Development Authority.

Name	Office/Position	First Year of Service	Term Expiration	Serving Consecutive Terms
Jim Brown	Mayor	2014	Nov. 2022	Yes
Josefina Dueñas	Vice Mayor	2020	Nov. 2024	No
Mari Rodin	Councilmember	2018	Nov. 2022	No
Douglas Crane	Councilmember	2004	Nov. 2024	Yes
Juan Orozco	Councilmember	2018	Nov. 2022	No

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

Staff support for the City Council includes the City Manager, City Clerk, and City Attorney. The City Council is advised by a number of commissions and committees consisting of appointed members of the public. Some commissions/committees also have designated review functions. (Ukiah, 2022a)

Several of the Councilmembers have served the City for multiple consecutive terms which can be a significant benefit in establishing long-standing positive working relationships in the community, understanding the history and unique aspects of the organization, and maintaining institutional knowledge. The City Council does not currently have any vacancies and three seats are set to expire this year and are scheduled to be filled by election in November 2022.

The City Treasurer is an elected position and performs an oversight role for the investing of all public funds for the City of Ukiah, in concert with the City’s Financial Department and Director of Finance. The City Treasurer is also responsible for the Investment Oversight Committee. (Ukiah, 2022a)

Name	Office/Position	First Year of Service	Term Expiration	Serving Consecutive Terms
Allen Carter	City Treasurer	2004	Nov. 2024	Yes

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

2.2.2 Public Meetings

Regularly scheduled City Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center located at 300 Seminary Avenue in Ukiah. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, public meetings have been held remotely via Zoom, and are currently being held as a hybrid model with both physical and virtual locations available in accordance with current health order protocols. City Council meetings are televised and broadcast live on the City website and on Cable Channel 3. Meetings are also recorded and then made available on the City website.

In accordance with the Brown Act, all public meetings are open to the public and are publicly posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to regular meetings, or a minimum of 24 hours prior to special meetings. Meeting notices are posted on the bulletin board at the main entrance of Ukiah City Hall and on the City’s website. The City Council chambers are compliant with accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act to ensure accessibility for all people to public meetings.

Public notice and meeting information including agendas, meeting minutes, reports, resolutions, and ordinances are published on the City’s website and are available at the Civic Center upon request. Minutes are kept for all public meetings and are adopted at a subsequent meeting.

(Ukiah, 2022a)(LAFCo, 2012)

2.2.3 Standing Committees

Boards, commissions, and committees assist in carrying out various functions of local government.

The City of Ukiah has a number of citizen volunteers serving on boards, commissions, and committees. These bodies complete business of their own and/or make recommendations to the City Council. All members are appointed by the City Council with terms commencing throughout the year.

The City’s “planning agency” required by Government Code Section 65100 is the Planning Commission, which consists of five citizen members appointed by the City Council. (Ukiah, 2022a). The Planning Commission meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Civic Center Council Chambers (300 Seminary Avenue) beginning at 6 p.m. The Commission is responsible for approving certain environmental documents, design reviews, conditional use permits, and variances. The Planning Commission also makes recommendations to the City Council on General Plan amendments, zoning changes, and subdivision maps.

The Ukiah City Council has established other local advisory bodies to assist the City in its decision-making processes. Specific responsibilities for each advisory body are established by their respective ordinance or resolution. These advisory bodies include the following:

- **Airport Commission:** This Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month for regular meetings. It is a five-member Commission appointed by the City Council. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in all matters pertaining to the operations of the municipal airport; aids and advises the City Manager in the selection of personnel for the operation of the municipal airport in keeping with the provisions of the civil service ordinance; and recommends and advises regarding the purchase of supplies, materials and service required for the operation and maintenance of the municipal airport.
- **Building Appeals Board:** This Board meets on an as needed basis. It is a five (5) member Board with three (3) alternates appointed by the City Council that serves to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations by the building official. The City’s building official is the ex officio member.
- **Civil Service Board:** This three (3) member Board meets on an as needed basis and is tasked with consideration of personnel matters.
- **Demolition Review Committee:** This Committee meets on an as needed basis. It is a five (5) member Committee appointed by the City Council as follows: Director of Community Development, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Building Inspector, a representative of the Mendocino County Historical Society, as well as a City of Ukiah resident with expertise in architecture, building, or closely related field. Responsibilities include: recommendation to the City Council regarding whether any of the criteria listed in Ukiah City Code apply to the subject structure requesting a Demolition Permit, and whether the Demolition Permit should be issued, issued with conditions, or denied.
- **Design Review Board:** This Board meets on the fourth Thursday of the month as needed to evaluate development proposals. It is a five (5) member Board that serves as an advisory body to the Planning Commission on Major Use and Site Development Permits, the Zoning Administrator on Minor Use and Site Development Permits, and the City Council, as needed. It also reviews construction, renovations, and alterations to building exteriors located within the boundaries of the Downtown Design District for consistency with the Downtown Design Guidelines, as needed.
- **Public Spaces Commission:** The Commission consists of seven (7) members and is the result of the merging of the Paths, Open Space and Creeks Commission with the Parks, Recreation and Golf Commission. The Commission provides advice and recommendations to Council regarding 1) City-owned properties that are open to the public, free of charge, such as parks, paths, and public right-of-ways; 2) creeks within the City limits; 3) open spaces within and outside of the City limits that are undeveloped and conserved or in consideration of future conservation; 4) and the recreational uses of these spaces.

- **Diversity and Equity Committee:** This eleven (11) member standing committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. The Committee is tasked with adopting written objectives to improve diversity and equity in the City’s workforce and in the provision of municipal services; developing a written Action Plan to achieve those objectives; implementing and overseeing the Action Plan; providing an annual review and update to the City Council on the Committee’s progress; and proposing revisions to the plan as necessary.
- **Traffic Engineering Committee:** This Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month as needed to serve as the City’s Traffic Engineer. It is a nine (9) member Committee, that assists the City Engineer to determine the installation and proper timing and maintenance of traffic-control devices and signals, to conduct engineering analyses of traffic accidents and to devise remedial measures, to conduct engineering and traffic investigations of traffic conditions and to cooperate with other city officials in the development of ways and means to improve traffic conditions.
- **Investment Oversight Committee:** This is a five (5) member Committee that provides information quarterly. This Committee is responsible for the following: conducts a comprehensive review of the City’s investment activities to ensure regulations are adhered to and adopted strategies are appropriate and being followed; reviews annual audit of investments; reviews policy, investment strategies, and investment performances; develops long range planning for the City’s investment portfolio; receives and reviews monthly portfolio reports and quarterly performance reports from an Advisory firm; reports its findings and make recommendations as needed to the City Council.
- **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission prepares, makes and adopts, subject to the provisions of law, a master plan for the physical development of the city, and of any land situated outside the City boundaries, which in the Commission’s judgement bears relation to the planning thereof. The Commission may appoint officers and employees and contracts for services, subject to the provisions of law, provided that all expenditures of the Commission, exclusive of gifts, shall be within the amounts appropriated for the purpose by the City Council.
(Ukiah, 2022a)

2.2.4 Public Outreach

The City has a website at <http://cityofukiah.com/>, which is a helpful communication tool to enhance government transparency and accountability. The City’s website is user-friendly, well organized, regularly maintained, and provides extensive information on City departments, services, programs, policies, finances, and public meetings including agendas and minutes dating back to 2015. Further, it can be translated into multiple languages for accessibility with a click of the button. (Ukiah, 2022a)

The City also communicates with its residents through a number of publications, including mailings and bill inserts. Residents may receive electronic subscriptions to news and press releases, water conservation updates, City Council agendas, and notification of recreational events upon request or electronic subscription. The City also publishes a recreation and activity guide describing recreational events and classes the City offers through its Community Services Department. The activity guide is published three times a year in January, June, and September. The activity guide is directly mailed to residences and businesses in Ukiah, Redwood Valley, Calpella, Talmage, and Potter Valley. The guide is also published on the City’s website. (LAFCo, 2012)

Social media has become an integral part of local government communications as more Americans have developed a habit of consuming news and information from social media feeds. Since the pandemic, residents are increasingly seeking local community news and information from social media related

accounts. The City maintains multiple social media platforms. The audiences on Facebook of interest to the City of Ukiah, and that are likely to be active on this platform are: Ukiah residents, local government officials and staff, older residents, and local businesses. As of May 2022, the social media accounts, primarily Facebook, associated with the City are listed, below:

Department	Account	Followers (as of 05/2022)	Objective
City of Ukiah	@cityofukiah	5,400	Provide an online forum for the Ukiah community to engage with City staff; Share important City news and updates
Ukiah Recreation	@ukiahrec	6,500	Inform residents of upcoming events, sports leagues, and classes from the recreation department; Promote event participation and increase engagement with the community
Ukiah Police	@ukiahpolice	9,900	Inform residents of events that may impact community health and safety, criminal activity, etc.
Ukiah Valley Fire Authority	@ukiahvalleyfireauthority	9,457	Inform residents of fire emergencies, evacuations, fire prevention tips, fire hazards, etc.
Anton Stadium	@antonstadium	112	Promote event participation and increase engagement with the community
Ukiah Regional Airport	@ukiahairport	1,037	Inform residents of City efforts to improve the airport; Promote travel to and from the area when appropriate
Ukiah Latitude Observatory	@ukiahlatitudeobservatory	1,024	Educate residents about a historical landmark within Ukiah; Increase community participation at events
Ukiah Valley Conference Center	@ukiahvalleyconferencecenter	619	Promote City facilities for community use and attract business
Grace Hudson Museum	@GraceHudsonMuseum	465	Promote City preserve, document, research, and interpret the lifework of artist Grace Carpenter Hudson, and related exhibits

Additionally, a number of current elected officials maintain social media accounts (primarily Facebook). The City also utilizes official Twitter (@cityofukiah) and LinkedIn accounts. The City of Ukiah Police Department (UPD) utilizes both Twitter and Instagram accounts (@UkiahPolice). Additionally, the Community Services Department maintains an Instagram account (@UkiahRec). (Ukiah, 2022)

2.2.5 Complaints

Complaints with an imminent threat to public safety are of the highest priority and are immediately referred to and handled by the appropriate department. All other complaints are prioritized by the severity of the violation. (Ukiah, 2022a)

The City of Ukiah has established a code enforcement program to ensure compliance with the City's laws and regulations for building, housing, land use, zoning, and environmental health. A high priority is placed on code compliance as a means of accomplishing adopted community goals, such as maintaining the quality of neighborhoods, avoiding nuisances, and protecting the environment. (Ukiah, 2022a)

The code enforcement process is conducted on a city-wide basis, and all complaints are treated equally and processed according to the same administrative process. The code compliance process is not intended to be selective or discriminatory against any one individual, group, area, or business. The City is legally required to resolve code violations that are confirmed through investigations and cannot simply dismiss them at the request of the property owner. (Ukiah, 2022a)

In recent years, the City of Ukiah had partnered with iWorQ to provide a simple and intuitive platform empowering residents to identify civic issues (public safety, quality of life, environmental issues, etc.) and report them to city hall for quick evaluation. Types of issues/complaints submitted through the application, included: Storm Drain, Fire Hydrant, and Other Water Problems, Potholes/Street Surfaces, Street Lights, Signs, or Signal Issues, Building Permit Violations, Business License Check, Code Enforcement, Parks, Graffiti, Shopping Carts, and Street Tree Problems. (Ukiah, 2022a) Unfortunately, iWorQ was discontinued, and the City is looking for an alternative platform. The City is committed to new and digital platforms for engagement and reporting.

Additionally, the public may file complaints with the City Clerk and may provide verbal comments or complaints in person at City Hall during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or at the City Council meetings during the general public comment period. A member of the public may address the Council on any matter not appearing on the agenda and is within the jurisdiction of the Council. No action can be taken by the Council on any item not on the agenda. Council may request the item to be brought back at a subsequent meeting. (Ukiah, 2022a)

2.2.6 Transparency and Accountability

The Political Reform Act requires all state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate a Conflict-of-Interest Code pursuant to GC §81000 et seq.

The Political Reform Act also requires persons who hold office to disclose their investments, interests in real property, and incomes by filing a Statement of Economic Interests (Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700) each year pursuant to GC §87203.

According to Assembly Bill (AB) 1234, if a local agency provides compensation or reimbursement of expenses to local government officials, then all local officials are required to receive two hours of training on public service ethics laws and principles at least once every two years and establish a written policy on reimbursements pursuant to GC §53235.

The City complies with these above requirements. Refer to Appendix A for a brief list of educational resources regarding open government laws and Appendix B for a website compliance handout.

The City Clerk is the local official who administers democratic processes such as elections, access to city records, and all legislative actions ensuring transparency to the public. (Ukiah, 2022a; City Clerk)

In 2020, the City of Ukiah became the first city in California to publish a fully digital budget, and was presented with an Innovation Award at this year's California State Municipal Finance Officers conference for its work using OpenGov's interactive budget book to publish the fully digital budget. (Opengov, 2020)

Current Ukiah Police Department Policy regarding Automatic License Plate Readers and other camera usage can be found in Section 470 of Ukiah Police Policy Manual. (Ukiah Police, 2022)

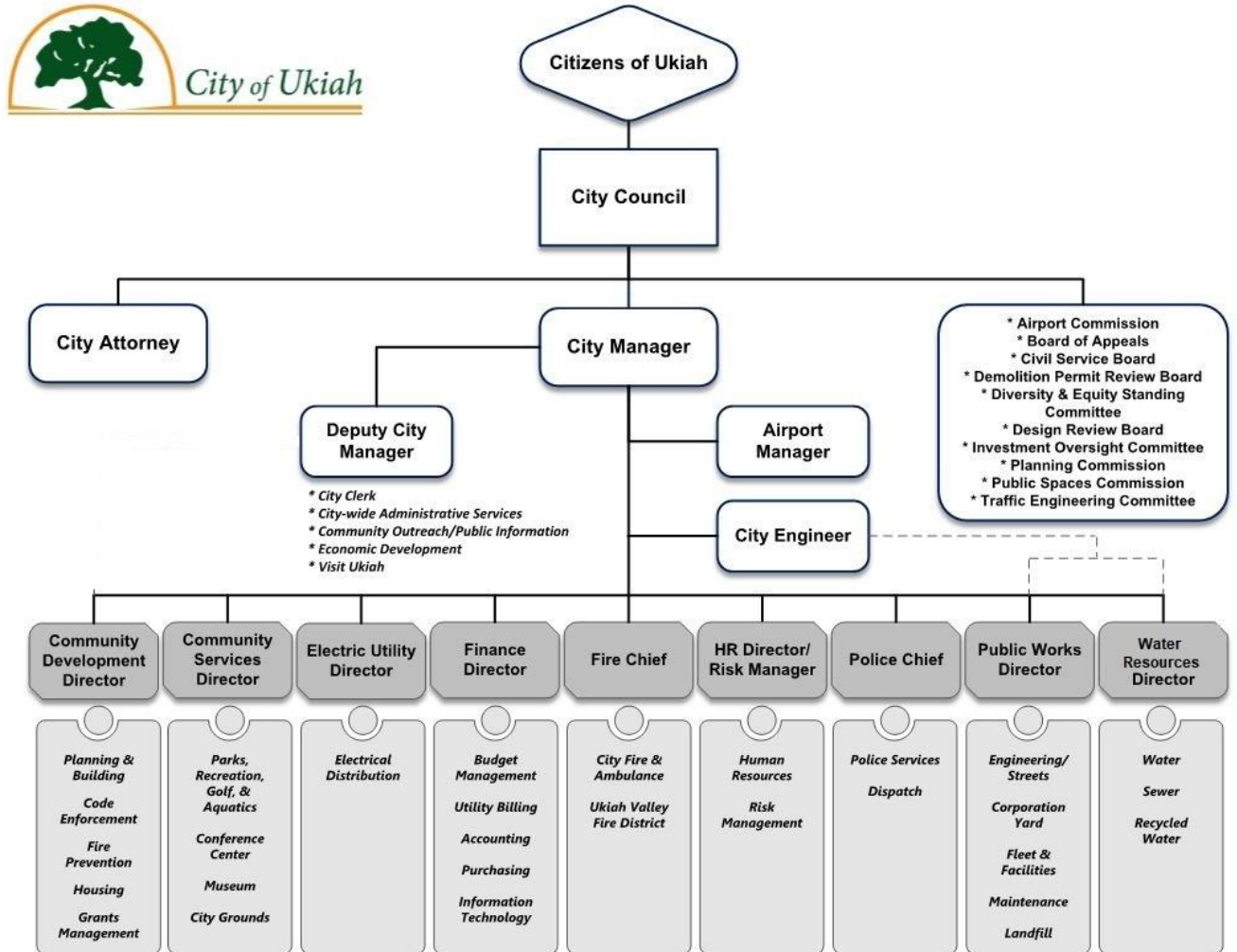
2.3 Operational Efficiency

2.3.1 Management and Staffing

The City operates under the Council-Manager form of government, whereby the City Council serves as the legislative body and the City Manager serves as the executive. The City Council appoints a City Manager to support their efforts, make recommendations, and oversee the daily operations of the City to ensure that the Council's policies, programs, and priorities are implemented. The City Manager is also responsible for the administration of City services and each department reports to the City Manager. (Ukiah, 2022a)

The City is comprised of nine municipal departments including Water Resources, Public Works, Finance, Human Resources/Risk Management, Community Development, Police, Fire, Electric Utility and Community Services. Per the 2021-2022 Budget, the City employs both full-time and part-time positions, for a total staffing level of 231 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions. The City contracts for the position of City Attorney. Management of city services is clearly defined. Figure 2-1 shows the organization chart for city departments.

Figure 2-1 City of Ukiah Department Organization Chart



Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

2.3.2 Agency Performance

A component of monitoring agency performance is routinely assessing staff productivity. The City tracks employee workload and progress through a timekeeping system, regular staff meetings, and annual written performance evaluations for all employees.

Evaluations for line employees are conducted by their Department heads, Department heads are evaluated by the City Manager, and the City Manager is evaluated by the City Council. Review and evaluation of the City Manager is conducted annually. An evaluation form is utilized for all evaluations and follows a standard process prescribed by Human Resources. All employees submit detailed time sheets by job task. This is important because employees can work in more than one department and/or

perform duties tied to a specific funding source during a pay period. All time sheets are reviewed by the Department heads and entered into the bookkeeping system by the Finance Department.

During the annual budget development process, the City Council reviews the goals and objectives from the prior fiscal year and establishes goals and objectives for the upcoming fiscal year.

In the regular performance of duty, City staff identifies areas of improvement and takes corrective action when feasible and appropriate or informs the City Manager when further direction is needed.

City staff also learns about new opportunities to achieve operational efficiencies by attending regional and service-specific meetings and communicating with colleagues regarding industry standards, best management practices, changing regulations, and service delivery models implemented by other local agencies.

The City monitors and evaluates agency operations through regulatory reporting and review of City databases and records reports.

(Ukiah, 2022)

2.3.2.1 STRATEGIC PLAN

In addition to the City's current efforts to update its General Plan, the City Council has worked to draft a Strategic Plan to provide a comprehensive framework that prioritizes focus on core functions and ensures City Departments are working together to meet the needs of residents and businesses. The priorities identified in the Plan guide decision-making to desired outcomes through strategies and specific actions.

During the annual budget process, the City Council reviews and modifies the Plan as necessary and sets annual objectives for all departments that are in line with the City's priorities. In addition, successful development and implementation of the Strategic Plan requires continued engagement, collaboration, and review with the commissions and citizens.

The primary outcomes for the Strategic Planning Process are threefold:

1. Create alignment among Council members, City Staff, and the Community about the top strategic priorities for the City of Ukiah.
2. Develop a set of operational principles that will guide the practices and decisions of the Council in focusing the strategic priorities.
3. Identify specific mechanisms for tracking these strategic priorities over time that will allow the Council and City Staff to make the necessary adjustments to achieve the strategic priorities.

(Ukiah, 2022a)

2.3.3 Shared Service Delivery and Collaboration

2.3.3.1 REGIONAL AND SERVICE-SPECIFIC PARTICIPATION

The City participates in the following regional and service-specific associations and organizations:

- League of California Cities-Redwood Empire
- Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG)
- Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MSWMA)
- Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA)
- Greater Ukiah Business and Tourism Alliance
- Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission (MCIWPC)
- Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA)
- Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA)
- Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
- Northern California Power Agency (NCPA)
(Ukiah, 2022)

Some of these associations and organizations are further described in sections below.

2.3.3.2 INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Interagency collaboration involves local agency officials and/or staff proactively or willingly working together to address issues of common interest; such activities are not the result of a legally binding obligation, although these types of collaborative efforts can lead to such arrangements. It is to the benefit of each individual local agency and the constituents they serve when interagency relationship building is strong and productive.

The City's Emergency Management Office partnered with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, Mendocino College, Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, Coastal Valleys EMS Agency, North Coast Opportunities, and Mendocino County Public Health, to organize COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites where thousands of community members were successfully tested and/or vaccinated. (V&F, 2021)

The City is currently participating in an effort with the County and four Cities to develop a Master Tax Share Agreement for the purpose of future LAFCo applications. The City and the Sanitation District are currently participating in an ad hoc committee regarding a long-term plan for wastewater services in the Ukiah Valley.

During the 2021 drought, the City participated with several other local agencies in the County to find solutions to address emergency water shortages for specific communities.

A Mutual Aid Agreement was made and entered into by and between the City of Ukiah, the City of Fort Bragg, the City of Willits, and the City of Point Arena, and the Cities of Clearlake and Lakeport (Lake County) on October 24, 2022. The agreement addresses collaboration and response to potential vulnerabilities including natural and manmade disasters, such as earthquakes, fires, pandemics, droughts and other emergencies. Additionally, the City continues to maintain a long-standing mutual aid agreement with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services.

2.3.3.3 CONTRACT OR JPA SERVICES

In 2017, the Ukiah Valley Fire District (UVFD) and the City of Ukiah entered into an agreement for combined fire services, known as the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA or Fire Authority). The JPA outlined terms for jointly managing, equipping, maintaining, and operating all types of (all-risk) fire, medical, and emergency services in the District and City boundaries. Although the District and City were not legally consolidated, for operational purposes they functioned as one entity.

On October 4, 2021, LAFCo approved the UVFD annexation of the City of Ukiah to support a more equitable and stable funding of fire services under the UVFA JPA (LAFCo Resolution No. 2021-22-03). The annexation was the final step of many taken between the agencies since 2012 to establish a long-range, functional consolidation of fire/emergency services to improve staffing and performance levels for the District and City service areas. The annexation was intended to equalize the tax structure and government representation model for all District and City residents.

The annexation is anticipated to result in additional revenue to address multiple needs and more effectively provide fire/emergency services. In the short-term, the same level of service is being provided by shared personnel using shared facilities and equipment under the same JPA service delivery model. The District and City anticipate accomplishing important service enhancement goals, such as increased staffing on apparatus and providing an overall improved level of service in the District and City service areas in the coming years. (LAFCo, 2021)

The Ukiah Electric Department receives power from generation facilities, jointly owned with other utilities and operated by Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), and power purchase contracts. (LAFCo, 2022)

Transportation services are provided by the Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA), a joint powers authority (JPA) providing bus service for Mendocino County. The City is a signatory and has a seat on the board of directors. (LAFCo 2012)

The City participates in regional water agencies such as the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission (MCIWPC). The MCIWPC is a joint powers agency that includes Mendocino County, the City of Ukiah, Russian River Flood Control District (RRFC), Potter Valley Irrigation District, and Redwood Valley County Water District. The agency was formed to protect and procure adequate water supplies for its member agencies and to facilitate coordination between the Potter Valley Irrigation District and PG&E on the Potter Valley Project. (LAFCo 2012)

The City participates in the Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MSWMA), a Joint Powers Authority, with the County of Mendocino, the City of Fort Bragg, and the City of Willits. Over the years, MSWMA has evolved into a special waste agency with the following main responsibilities: hazardous waste management, electronic waste management, appliance hazardous waste management, recycling promotion and public information, monitoring and reporting, and illegal dump abatement. It was organized in 1990 to deal with the increasing complexity of solid waste management. (LAFCo 2012). The agreement was amended and restated in 2019 by all parties.

The Ukiah Police Department contracts for a number of services including trainings, transcription, as well as repair and maintenance of equipment. (LAFCo 2012)

2.3.3.4 ADJACENT PROVIDERS

Unincorporated lands adjacent to Ukiah are governed by the County of Mendocino and feature a variety of special districts and service providers, as shown in Table 2.6 below.

District or Service Provider	Services
Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA)	Fire, Emergency Services
Millview County Water District (MCWD)	Treated Water

Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (RRFC)	Untreated Water – Wholesale
Willow County Water District (WCWD)	Treated Water
Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD)	Sewer
Rogina Water Company	Treated Water
Russian River Cemetery District	Cemetery Services
County of Mendocino (MCSO, MCDOT, EH)	Law Enforcement, Transportation, Public Health

Multiple special districts provide services within the City’s boundary and adjacent areas. The Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) boundaries include portions of Ukiah. The Willow County Water District (WCWD) serves customers in the City. The Millview County Water District (MCWD) boundaries include limited overlap with the City of Ukiah. MCWD overlaps with two properties within the City’s boundary, particularly 1461 North Bush Street and 1310 North State Street. The MWCD serves the Roy Lee Tindle Jr. apartments at 1461 North Bush Street, while the City provides service to 1310 North State Street, which has been subject to the City’s jurisdiction since the 1950s and historically served with City water for commercial purposes. (Ukiah, 2022)

A public library is available to City residents as part of the County library system. The main library branch is located within the City at the intersection of Main Street and Perkins Street. (LAFCo, 2012)

2.3.3.5 SHARED SERVICES AND FACILITIES

The City works cooperatively with federal entities, state agencies, Mendocino County, and special districts to reduce the cost of services and infrastructure.

School Facilities: The City works cooperatively with the Ukiah Unified School District (UUSD). The City has a facility use agreement that allows the City and the schools to use each other’s facilities at no cost by simply filing out an application. (LAFCo, 2012)

Electric Utility: The Department works cooperatively with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Sonoma Water Agency to operate the Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant. The City of Ukiah is responsible for maintaining and operating the hydroelectric plant, while the Coyote Dam and structures are operated and maintained by the USACE. (LAFCo, 2012). The Sonoma Water Agency controls water release through the dam’s outlet conduit needed for the generation of electricity. The hydroelectric plant, located at the outlet for Coyote Dam, became operational in 1986. It contains two turbine/generator units: a 1,000-kW unit and a 2,500-kW unit. (Ukiah, 2022a)

Animal Control: Animal control services for the City of Ukiah are shared between the County of Mendocino and the Ukiah Police Department. The County of Mendocino Department of Animal Care Services undertakes rabies prevention, licensing, impounding stray or lost animals, responding to injured or sick animals, investigating suspected cruelty to animals and promoting responsible pet ownership. However, the Ukiah Police Department’s Community Service Officers (CSOs) are responsible for most animal control related inquiries within City limits. In 2021, CSOs responded to 396 Animal Complaint calls.

The City shares costs for the Ukiah Animal Shelter with Mendocino County through staffing and by funding a portion of the debt service. Based on County data provided, the Ukiah animal shelter has been operating near its capacity for a number of years. In June 2022 the facility was at 100% capacity; however, space constraints are addressed through the support of a variety of non-profit organizations. The Mendocino

County Animal Control Unit is currently in the process of transitioning from the Sheriff Department to Animal Care Services by July 1, 2022 (Mendocino County, 2022). The City's FY 2021-22 budget appropriated \$95,000 to animal control related costs. Additionally, per agreement with the County, the City waives jurisdictional license fees for dogs within City limits, which further contributes to the operation of shared facilities and services (Sangiaco, 2022). The County Animal Shelter is located within City limits at 298 Plant Road, adjacent to the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF).

Parks: The Community Services Department works cooperatively with the UUSD to share school facilities for recreational programming and facility use. The City's informal facility agreement allows the City and the schools to use each other's facilities by no-fee application. The Department and UUSD also share the Alex Rorabaugh Ukiah Valley Cultural & Recreational Center. The Community Services Department collaborates with all Ukiah based organizations to maximize the use of the athletic fields and turf areas in parks. The City leases park space to non-profit organizations such as Youth Baseball and Youth BMX to maximize the use of park space and provide greater services to residents. (LAFCo, 2012)

Additionally, the City and the County of Mendocino through various agreements are responsible for different aspects and amenities of Low Gap Park, as well as the Low Gap Dog Park (Mendocino County, 2022).

Wastewater: Wastewater services within and adjacent to the City are provided under a participation agreement between the City and UVSD that allows for conveyance to and treatment of wastewater at the City's WWTP. The agreement defines the allocation of Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs) to accommodate growth in both jurisdictions. As part of the agreement, the City also maintains the sewer system for the District and provides the UVSD with staffing services associated with operation and maintenance of the sewer collection system and the WWTP.

Public Works: The City maintains agreements with local and state agencies to share maintenance costs for portions of the transportation infrastructure. The City has an agreement with the County and Caltrans for maintaining traffic signals, with Caltrans for maintaining the overcrossings on US 101, and with the County for maintaining the Orchard Avenue Orr Creek Bridge.

Solid Waste: Through an agreement with the City of Ukiah, overseen by the Public Works Department, solid waste removal is provided by Ukiah Waste Solutions (UWS), which pays the City a franchise fee (refuse disposal fee) to provide services. The City charges fees to cover the cost of solid waste removal provided by UWS. Fees are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Fuel Index, and other pass-through costs.

Airport: The Ukiah Municipal Airport affords accessibility to a number of public agencies as a shared facility. CALFIRE houses multiple air tankers and spotter planes at its Air Attack Base, located on the west side of the airport, for aerial suppression efforts with. The aircraft provide immediate response to wildland or structure fires. Additionally, the Mendocino County Sheriff uses the airport for search and rescue services. MCSO uses its aircraft to conduct training missions and search and rescue operations. Further, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) uses the airport for traffic surveillance. The Airport also houses planes for Fed Ex and UPS, as well as Reach air ambulance (Ukiah, 2022). (LAFCo, 2012)

Law Enforcement: The City's Police Department is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for emergency (9-1-1) calls within the City of Ukiah and its surrounding area, as well as the City of Fort Bragg. The Police

Department coordinates with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, the California Highway Patrol, the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA), and CALFIRE. UPD also provides after-hours dispatching services for Electric, Water, Wastewater and other City of Ukiah services, and makes emergency notifications to the community. UPD serves on the Redwood Community Services Homeless Services Community Center and the Mendocino County Youth Project. There is also regular collaboration between UPD and County Health and Human Services (HHSA) Administration Staff, including a crisis worker from County Behavioral Health responding to mental health crisis for de-escalation. (Ukiah Police, 2022; Ukiah, 2022)

The Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) operates under the supervision of the State Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. The MCTF deals with crimes involving violence, such as homicide and assault as well as burglary and drug crimes. However, drug suppression is its major mission and the unit directs its primary activities toward elimination of production, trafficking, and use of methamphetamine in the County. Personnel consist of Sheriff's deputies and officers from each from the Fort Bragg, Ukiah, and Willits Police departments; the California Highway Patrol; a County Probation Officer; a representative from the State Parks Department; and a representative of the District Attorney. The City of Ukiah provides salary and related support funding for one UPD officer to participate on the task force. The MCTF was formed to operate under a Memorandum of Understanding. (LAFCo, 2012)

The City works cooperatively with other service providers to deliver services more effectively or efficiently by sharing public facilities, resources, and/or service delivery responsibility when feasible.

2.3.4 Governmental Structure and Community Needs

2.3.4.1 ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY OPTIONS

As the largest urbanized area in the region, the City serves as a regional hub for municipal services. The City's airport, golf course, museum, and wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) serve populations beyond the City limits within the Ukiah Valley. Residents of neighboring communities often participate in the City's recreation programs and enjoy City streets, parks and open space. The City limits contain regional facilities including a hospital, high school, and cemetery. (LAFCo, 2012)

As a full-service City, there are limited instances of other public agencies directly serving City residents, such as internet and phone service. However, there is a large overlap area between the City and Sanitation District and a small amount of overlap areas between the City and Water Districts.

The existing City limits is substantially built-out, and future proposals for City annexation or expansion have the potential to extend into areas already served by special districts and the County, or within the jurisdictional boundary of these agencies for undeveloped properties.

Significant wastewater service efficiencies have already been realized through the partnership agreement between the City and the Sanitation District and associated functional consolidation for this service. It is likely that further efficiencies or cost savings for wastewater service in the Ukiah Valley could only be accomplished upon a future reorganization effort between these agencies.

The current provision of water service in the Ukiah Valley involves many public agencies, complex interagency service arrangements and relationships, and represents a significant opportunity to achieve both greater organizational and operational efficiencies.

The purpose of the Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) JPA is to provide economies of scale, provide a method of jointly addressing sewer and water issues, and fostering coordination on these issues. The intent of the JPA is to work towards the consolidation of Ukiah Valley's water, which was expanded to a regional consolidation of water and wastewater service providers with the inclusion of the UVSD. The board now consists of a single board member from Willow County Water District (CWD), Calpella CWD, Redwood Valley CWD, Millview CWD, and the UVSD. The JPA is a collaboration of member agencies formed with the purpose of working together for the voluntary consolidation of Ukiah Valley's water and wastewater service providers. While the City of Ukiah is not a member of the JPA, the water districts within URRWA, similar to UVSD, have recently been communicating with the City to discuss the regional provision of water services in Ukiah Valley.

Due to prolonged and extreme drought conditions, in recent years multiple local water agencies have struggled with very limited to critically low local water supply to serve coastal and inland communities resulting in interagency collaboration and mutual aid agreements for emergency short-term shared facilities and water resources.

Although the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) does not typically deal with housing issues, the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has designated them as the appropriate regional agency to coordinate the housing need allocation process. The political jurisdictions that comprise the region consist of the Mendocino County unincorporated area and the Cities of Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Willits and Point Arena.

2.3.4.2 GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURE OPTIONS

Government restructure options should be pursued if there are potential benefits in terms of reduced costs, greater efficiency, greater accountability, or other advantages to the public.

Fire District Annexation

In 2012, the UVFD and the City hired a consultant to investigate the possibility of legally consolidating their fire agencies. The study concluded that consolidation would improve service but would not provide any cost savings for multiple reasons, such as the salary differential between fire personnel and the substantial equipment replacement needs of both agencies.

In 2021, the UVFD annexed the City of Ukiah to provide fire services, equalize the tax structure, and improve level of service for all residents within the previous service areas. The two agencies continue to coordinate unified services under the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority.

Wastewater Service Reorganization

The City and the Sanitation District have been working through an ad hoc committee assigned for the purpose to develop an interim agreement for service provision in the areas adjacent to the City, and ultimately, the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region. The mutual agreement identifies the applicant and future annexation thresholds for reorganization of the UVSD into either a subsidiary district or merger with the City, among other things.

The mutually developed points of the agreement are roughly as follows (paraphrased):

- The City will be the applicant for any Out of Area Service Agreement and the District will bear the costs for the application process to LAFCo.
- The City will not pursue detachment of District territory from the City now or in the future.
- The District will support City annexations and will work cooperatively with the City on General Plan and SOI Updates.
- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.
(City/UVSD, 2022)

As the City of Ukiah expands in accordance with the annexation plan developed for and in conjunction with its 2040 General Plan Update, the area served by the Sanitation District will concurrently decrease. The interrelated nature of the sewer collection, treatment and disposal systems support a merger or reorganization of the District. This concept has gathered momentum as a result of the substantial groundwork of the City/UVSD ad hoc committee established for the purpose of the collaborative development of a long-term plan for the interim and long-term provision of sewer services in the Ukiah Valley.

Water Service Consolidation

There are five major providers of community water services in the Ukiah Valley. The City of Ukiah serves customers within the City, while Rogina Water Company and Millview, Calpella, and Willow County Water Districts (predominantly) serve the unincorporated areas. There are, however, small areas of overlap between the City and Willow and Millview County Water Districts. All suppliers are regulated by the California Department of Health Services, and the privately-owned Rogina Water Company is additionally regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. These water providers hold varying claims to water rights for current and future use. The primary water source for water providers in the Valley is the Russian River and water stored in Lake Mendocino, which also includes diverted Eel River water through the Potter Valley Project.

Property owners without access to the City or community systems obtain water from individual wells, springs or direct diversions of Russian River water. Some water needs are also supplied by wells that tap groundwater aquifers that are not connected to the underflow of the Russian River. (Mendocino County, 2011). Since the Mendocino County Ukiah Valley Special Districts Municipal Service Review (2013), a variety of consolidation approaches have been considered by the City, LAFCo, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and individual special districts. In recent years, climate change, uncertainty around Pacific Gas & Electric's (PG&E) [Potter Valley Project](#), and fiscal/operational considerations have presented new motivation to pursue water service consolidation efforts.

While no active application or pre-applications have been submitted, on May 18, 2022, the Ukiah City Council approved a Letter of Intent to the SWRCB regarding *Consolidation of Municipal Water Providers*. Under new programs, the SWRCB is offering significant financial incentives to help fund the necessary infrastructure that would allow the interconnection and overall improvement of small systems into a single resilient provider. The City of Ukiah has a large and diverse water supply, but there is no mechanism

to share it at a regional scale. Currently, the City of Ukiah and the URRWA are only connected with emergency interties.

2.4 Finances

The City of Ukiah's financial resources are accounted for in different funds based on organizational units, such as departments, divisions, programs, functions, and services. The General Fund is the City's primary operating fund and accounts for the financial resources of the City's general government services.

The City Council establishes annual budgets for the General Fund, proprietary (enterprise and internal service) funds, and all special revenue funds, with a possible exception for certain special revenue funds for which expenditures are controlled by grant funding or by special assessments. The City also has annually audited financial statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) which serves as financial assurance for the use of public funds.

The City's investments are professionally managed by Public Financial Management, Inc. (The PFM Group) in accordance with investment policies adopted by the City Council. These investment policies conform to both Federal and State laws governing investments of public funds. City Council appoints an investment oversight committee consisting of the Treasurer, a council member, and City staff, as well as a public member, who advises the City Council regarding investment policies and management. (Ukiah, 2022a)

All the City's major functions are grouped into either governmental activities or business-type activities. The City's basic services (categorized below) are governmental activities, and these services are supported by general City revenues, such as taxes, and by specific program revenues, such as user fees and charges.

Governmental Activities

- General and administrative (City Council, City manager, City Clerk)
- General government (administration, finance and accounting, human resources, legal, treasurer, etc.)
- Community development (planning and building)
- Roads and infrastructure (road maintenance, city engineer and public works,)
- Housing and support programs (CDBG and HOME grants, etc.)
- Redevelopment/Economic development
- Public safety (Police and Fire)
- Parks, buildings, and grounds (parks, building and grounds maintenance, etc.)
- Culture and recreation (museum, pool, sports, etc.)

The City's business-type or enterprise activities (categorized below) are unlike governmental activities. These services are supported by charges paid by users based on the amount of the service they use.

Business-type activities

- Airport
- Ambulance
- Conference Center
- Electric
- Golf Course
- Landfill
- Parking District
- Street lighting

- Wastewater
- Water

Revenue Sources

The City's largest two sources of General Fund revenue are sales tax and property taxes. As shown in Figure 2-2 below, the City's top ten revenue sources account for roughly 85-percent of total General Fund income, and include revenues generated from the City's various enterprise activities. Focusing on these sources can provide a useful understanding of the City's revenue position.

Figure 2-2 City of Ukiah Top 10 Revenue Sources

TOP 10 - REVENUES

Current from Prior
Year Ended June 30, 2021

REVENUE	2020-21	2019-20	Percent Change	Percent of Total 2020-21 General Revenues
Top 10:				
Bradley-Burns Sales Tax	\$ 7,813,891	\$ 6,572,573	18.89%	29.11%
1/2% District Sales Tax (Measure Y)	3,862,145	3,368,450	14.66%	14.39%
1/2% District Sales Tax (Measure P)	3,858,985	3,372,183	14.44%	14.38%
Prop Tax In Lieu Of Vif	1,559,290	1,530,602	1.87%	5.81%
Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)	1,362,133	1,365,477	-0.24%	5.08%
Redevelopment Tax Increment Pass-Through	1,007,559	763,483	31.97%	3.75%
City Utility Franchise Fee	979,180	951,857	2.87%	3.65%
Secured Property Tax	710,556	743,317	-4.41%	2.65%
Refuse Disposal Franchise Fee	686,967	657,307	4.51%	2.56%
Business License Tax	484,533	389,829	24.29%	1.81%
Total top 10	22,325,239	19,715,078	13.24%	83.18%
Other Revenue	4,513,875	1,620,423	178.56%	16.82%
Total current revenue	\$ 26,839,114	\$ 21,335,501	25.80%	100.00%

Source: V&F, 2021.

Overall, these key revenue sources, discussed further below, performed better in FY 2020-21 than in FY 2019-20. The strongest performer was the Redevelopment Tax Increment Pass-Through, due principally to changes in funding and obligation requirements for the Ukiah Redevelopment Successor Agency. Business License Tax revenue was the next best performer in this period, but increased revenues from this source reflect more on the timing of payments from businesses that were past due or late in payment from the prior year. The most informative change in terms of the underlying revenue picture for the City's General Fund is that of sales and transaction and use taxes (Bradley Burns and Measures P and Y). As the City is strongly reliant on the economic vitality of its retailers, strong returns in this revenue source signaled strong overall economic health for both the City and broader retail trade area. (V&F, 2021)

Sales Tax

The City collects sales tax from three sources: normal Bradley-Burns sales taxes (1 percent of taxable transactions), a ½ cent transaction and use tax, commonly referred to as Measure P, and a ½ cent transaction and use tax, commonly referred to as Measure Y. All are devoted entirely to the City and are distinct and considered separate sources of revenue. Each behave slightly differently given their tax base.

Bradley-Burns sales taxes are referred to as "sales and use" taxes, levied on transactions based geographically in the City. More information about these taxes are presented in Section 2.4.1.4.

Measures P and Y are referred to as a “transaction and use” taxes and are applied to any taxable sale in the City as well as any sale where the use of the item is in the City.

For instance, a car purchased outside the City but registered to an address within the City, and therefore presumed to be used in the City, would be levied the ½ cent on the purchase price for Measure P and the same amount for Measure Y. Both are general taxes and can be used for any regular, general governmental purpose; however, the City Council, through resolution, has assigned their use to public safety and streets, respectively.

Due to the pandemic restrictions on socialization and commerce resulting in more remote and online shopping, sales tax collected from Measures P and Y was more pronounced. Overall, sales tax receipts (Bradley-Burns and Measure P) increased in FY 2020-21 due in part to growth across most of the City’s major industry groups. Driving the change was general consumer goods (up 13.9% from the prior year), which also affected the City’s share in the state and county pool allocation (up 28.9%). All sales tax due to the City is administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA).

Property Tax in Lieu of Vehicle License Fee

These are property tax shares allocated to cities and counties beginning in FY 2004-05 as compensation for the state’s take of Vehicle License Fees (VLF). This revenue source typically follows regular property tax collections (Secured Property Tax), and modest growth is expected from this revenue source.

Transient Occupancy Tax

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) is commonly referred to as a “bed,” “hotel,” or “room” tax. The TOT rate in Ukiah is currently 10-percent, and 1 percentage point has been committed by the Ukiah City Council to fund the Visit Ukiah Program, and another 1 percent goes to help fund the museum.

TOT has performed strongly in the last decade; however, travel restrictions due to the pandemic negatively impacted this revenue source, which is driven by tourism in the greater Mendocino County area and travelers heading to adjacent regions. This revenue source is expected to continue its growth trend.

City Utility Franchise Fees

Franchise fees are not taxes; rather, they are rents paid by utility providers to operate on or in City rights-of-way and City property, such as roads, sidewalks, parklands, etc. This revenue source is a charge to the City’s electric utility. The rents are established by the City Council and typically are correlated to gross revenues generated by the utility provider.

Electric revenues, most notably commercial revenues, were impacted more than other utilities. As such, the franchise fee to the general fund was diminished. The state of the economy in FY 2020-23 will be a driving factor in how this revenue source performs. Revenues from this source anticipated to trend positively or increase.

Redevelopment Tax Increment Pass-Through

After the dissolution of Redevelopment in California by the Legislature, the Ukiah Redevelopment Agency was sent into receivership of a successor agency. Property tax increment revenue once received by the

former redevelopment agency was instead held in trust by the County Auditor-Controller in a specific fund, known as the Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF).

Property tax increment collected in this fund would first pay the County Auditor-Controller's administrative costs, then pass to the successor agency of the former RDA (City of Ukiah) to satisfy the obligations of the former agency, then to the taxing entities in the project area of the former RDA, including the Ukiah Unified School District and the County of Mendocino General Fund. The City also receives a share of these residuals which are reported in the General Fund.

This revenue source tracks like regular (secured) property tax, although it is calculated from a slightly different derivative property tax base (tax increment). This revenue source is expected to continue to trend positively.

Secured Property Tax

Property taxes are assessed against real and unsecured property in the City. Secured property is any property that cannot be moved, like homes or land. Proposition 13 limits the tax rate to 1-percent of a property's current assessed value, plus any voter-approved bonds and assessments.

The City is not the only entity that collects property tax on property assessed in the City of Ukiah. For every dollar of secured property taxes collected in the City, the City receives about nine cents. The majority is distributed to local schools (61 cents) and the County of Mendocino (24 cents). Local special districts also collectively receive 6 cents of the total dollar.

Traditionally, revenue from property tax was viewed as a very stable source. The housing collapse of 2008 tested that assumption. However, as the housing market continued to recover modestly in Ukiah, receipts came in lower than the year prior. This was due to adjustments made by the County Auditor-Controller.

Revenue from this source may continue to trend positively over the next few years, but not as robustly as desired. Even though housing prices are expected to reach all-time highs in FY 2023, low inventory and turnover will hinder the City's ability to realize a significant benefit from property taxes. Low real estate transfer volumes limit Proposition 13 property value adjustments that yield higher secured property taxes from increased housing prices.

Refuse Disposal Franchise Fees

Franchise fees, as noted above, are not taxes. This revenue source is a charge to the City's franchise solid waste hauler, for the use of rights-of-way to provide and distribute its services.

In FY 2020-21, revenues from this source were higher than in the preceding year due to increased sales and rate adjustments by the hauler, Ukiah Waste Solutions. Nominal increases to this revenue source are expected.

Business License Tax

Businesses that operate within City limits are required to obtain a business license. The fees are based on the type of business and an estimate of their gross receipts. The proceeds from the Business License Tax collected are available for unrestricted use in the General Fund.

As noted above, receipts from Business License Tax were higher in FY 2020-21 than in the prior year due to late payments. Before the onset of the pandemic in March 2020, business license activity was trending positively. That trend slowed due to the pandemic, began to normalize in FY 2021-22, and is currently showing signs that this revenue source will continue to increase as businesses re-open and even expand.

(Ukiah, 2022a)(V&F, 2021)(Ukiah, 2022)

FY 2022-23 Budget

The figure below shows the total amount of budgeted appropriations for the City as a whole broken down into major cost categories.

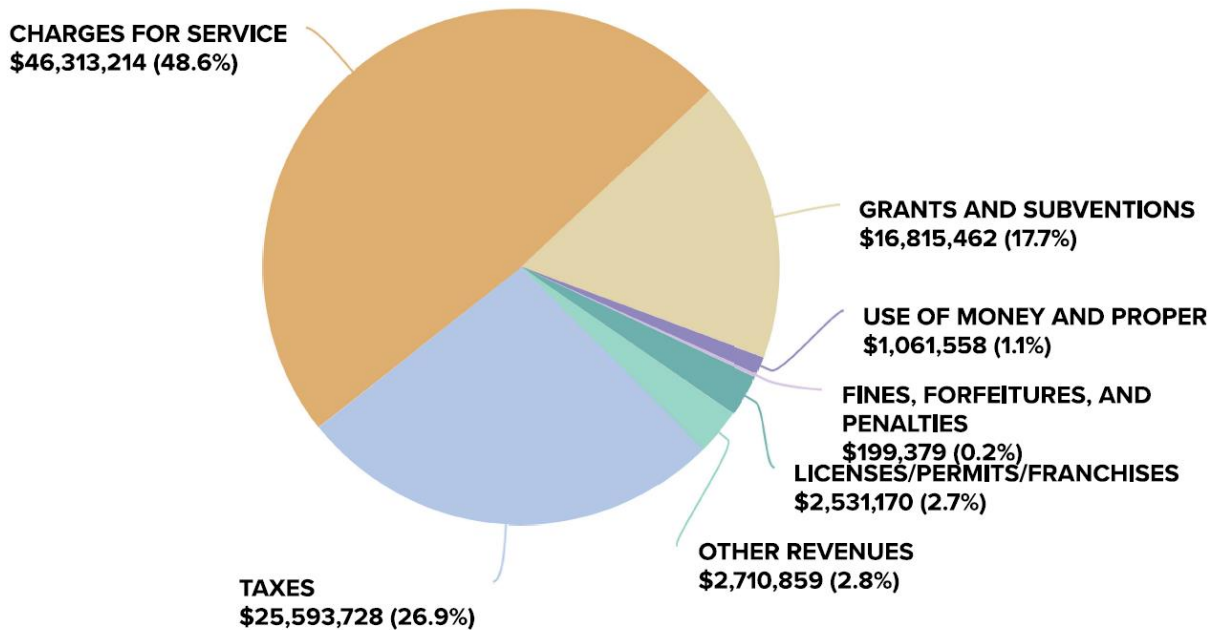
Figure 2-3 Ukiah City-wide Expenditures for FY 2022-23

Category	2023
CAPITAL	\$60,346,560.43
SERVICES & OTHER OPERATING	\$34,625,858.08
PERSONNEL	\$33,088,159.00
DEBT SERVICE	\$11,759,264.72
GRANTS AND LOANS	\$2,098,811.74

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

The figure below shows the total amount of budgeted revenues for the City as a whole broken down into major revenue categories.

Figure 2-4 Ukiah City-wide Revenues for FY 2022-23



Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

Economic Outlook

As the economic hub of the greater Mendocino County and adjacent areas, Ukiah has a strong and diverse sales tax base. This served the City well in providing sufficient revenues to maintain service levels at pre-pandemic levels with minimal interruption or disruption. Ukiah businesses have endured, and continue to endure, through the most challenging financial impacts of the pandemic, and the City finances have remained reasonably stable.

The City's sales tax and property taxes grew modestly in FY 2020-21 and are expected to grow modestly in FY 2021-22. In FY 2022-23, the City expects strong growth in revenues derived from sales tax due to significant inflationary pressure on the price of taxable goods. In addition, the housing market has improved markedly and property-related revenues in general are expected to increase modestly in FY 2022-23 and beyond, likely to average 2-2.25 percent. Expenses related to personnel (primarily in health premium and pension costs) are increasing at a substantial, though manageable, pace.

To date, Measure Y has generated roughly \$3.5 million per year, helping to finance major projects like the reconstruction of Washington, Luce, Observatory, Orchard, and parts of State Street, as well as extensive slurry seals.

Grant funding was obtained for Phase Four of the Great Redwood Trail Ukiah, which will take the trail south, even beyond the city limits. All non-recurring capital outlay currently programmed for FY 2022-23 and in the underlying five-year CIP budget are not expected to affect current or future operating budgets and the services the City of Ukiah provides.

Maintaining and growing revenue streams and continuing to maximize cost saving measures remains a high priority for City staff balanced with providing the highest level and quality of service that the community needs, expects, and deserves. The City continues to maintain a cautiously optimistic view through recovery from the pandemic and plans and budgets for service delivery with conservative revenue assumptions.

(Ukiah, 2022a; Ukiah 2022)(V&F, 2021)

2.4.1 Current Fiscal Health

This section includes City financial information for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 and long-term financial considerations.

2.4.1.1 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The City prepares and adopts an annual budget prior to the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1), which serves as a financial planning tool and an expense control system. The annual budget also serves as a financial management tool and an operational plan for the delivery of City services and the implementation of funded capital projects. Expenses cannot exceed the authorized budgeted amounts unless the budget is amended by the City Council by resolution during the fiscal year. The City completes a quarterly and mid-year budget review to ensure that the City is on target with departmental and fund budget amounts and to verify the necessity of any budget amendments.

Year-end revenue over expenses (net position) is an important measure of an agency's financial performance during a fiscal year. When an agency operates at a net income, annual revenue exceeds annual expenses producing a surplus. When an agency operates at a net loss, annual expenses exceed annual revenue producing a deficit. When an agency operates at a net neutral, annual revenue equals annual expenses producing a balance.

When year-end revenue over expenses for multiple years is compared, it shows the financial planning and policy of an agency, such as structural surplus/deficit budgeting practices or a balanced budget. Under normal operating circumstances, the financial approach of prior years can be useful in projecting the long-term financial standing of an agency. This comparison may serve as a valuable indicator for upcoming decision-points, such as whether there is sufficient annual revenue generated to continue the current level of service or whether a rate increase is necessary to maintain or expand the level of service.

The following tables provides year-end audit (not budget) financial information for the City. This table summarizes the Statement of Activities prepared by Van Lant & Frankhanel, LLP, a firm of CPAs that the City contracts with for independently audited financial statements. The table below represents the short-term financial standing of the City based on reporting annual income, expenses, and profits/losses using the full accrual basis of accounting, which is an accounting method where revenue or expenses are recorded when a transaction occurs rather than when payment is received or made.

The financial information in the table below also involves depreciation expense, which is a method of spreading the cost of a capital asset over its estimated useful life, as opposed to recognizing the full cost of a capital asset as an expenditure at the date of acquisition. The City's annual financial report defines capital assets, including roads, bridges, curbs and gutters, streets, sidewalks, drainage systems, and lighting systems, as assets with a cost of more than \$10,000 and an estimated useful life of more than two years. (V&F, 2021)

Figure 2-11 shows the most recent Statement of Net Position, which represents the long-term financial standing, or net position, of the City based on reporting the difference between the City's assets and liabilities.

Table 2.7 City of Ukiah Financial Summary - Governmental Activities (in \$)

	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Beginning Net Position	18,728,066	28,029,808	29,490,947	36,055,617	38,088,337
Prior Period Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Net Position	28,029,808	29,490,947	36,055,617	38,088,337	47,894,303
Program Revenues Over Total Expenses					
General and Administrative	827,729	0	0	0	0
General Government	47,919	(1,249,613)	(1,965,315)	147,606	(561,505)
Public Safety	(7,902,988)	(12,358,054)	(11,207,740)	(11,981,649)	(12,536,790)
Roads and Infrastructure	168,864	0	0	0	0
Housing and Community Development	(545,764)	(1,061,468)	(1,324,889)	(2,414,740)	4,616,454
Public Works	0	1,143,077	(1,179,899)	(3,417,072)	(1,150,683)
Parks, Buildings, and Grounds	(957,520)	(1,412,291)	(354,205)	2,649,700	(1,200,252)
Recreation and Culture	3,034,071	(817,556)	(2,357,051)	(2,796,301)	(854,843)
Economic Development & Redevelopment	(163,124)	0	(32,020)	(396,519)	(40,261)
Interest on Long-term Debt	0	(73,532)	(176,067)	(165,210)	(992,902)
Total Net Income (Loss)	(5,490,812)	(15,829,437)	(18,597,186)	(18,374,185)	(12,720,782)
General Revenues/Transfers:					
Property Tax	1,470,323	2,838,902	2,984,192	3,139,960	3,408,846
Sales Tax	9,805,225	10,853,469	11,974,379	13,313,206	15,535,021
Transient Occupancy	1,302,336	1,406,417	1,496,473	1,365,477	1,367,852
Other Taxes	249	0	462	888	1,136
Licenses, Permits, Franchises	1,792,595	1,653,146	1,781,141	1,742,671	1,815,271
Business License	391,224	434,464	303,604	411,997	560,527
Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	73,835	0	0	0	0
Use of Money and Property	404,235	328,535	850,711	696,930	266,006
Other Revenue	192,351	139,439	181,676	189,241	17,052
Gain on Sale of Assets	0	0	0	57,078	0
Transfers	(639,819)	(363,796)	(410,782)	(510,543)	(444,963)
<u>Total General Revenues/Transfers</u>	<u>14,792,554</u>	<u>17,290,576</u>	<u>19,161,856</u>	<u>20,406,905</u>	<u>22,526,748</u>
Redevelopment Agency Loan Reinstated	0	0	6,000,000	0	0
Change In Net Position from Prior FY	9,301,742	1,461,139	6,564,670	2,032,720	9,805,966

Source: V&F, 2021, 2020a, 2020b, 2019, & 2018.

Consistent net income or revenue gain is a key measure of fiscal health and indicates the following:

- An agency does not need to utilize reserve or unrestricted funds to balance the budget or meet current operating costs.
- An agency is generating sufficient annual revenue to continue the current level of operations.

- An agency maintains a sufficient fund balance to protect against unexpected costs and/or build reserves to fund capital improvements and equipment maintenance.

According to the audited financial information in the governmental activities table above, certain City programs operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, during the five years studied; however, the overall governmental activities operated at a net income, or revenue gain, each year. Over the five fiscal years studied, the City's financial performance for governmental activities shows an increase in net position of \$29,166,237 or 61-percent, which signals a strengthening in financial position.

Table 2.8 City of Ukiah Financial Summary - Business-type Activities (in \$)					
	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Beginning Net Position (*restated)	83,375,660	77,688,331	90,965,211	*102,691,776	121,379,142
Prior Period Adjustments/Restatement	0	10,230,998	0	0	0
Ending Net Position	77,688,331	90,965,211	102,691,776	121,379,142	119,006,192
Program Revenues Over Total Expenses					
Airport	(503,431)	(275,216)	239,783	3,469,145	88,967
Ambulance Services	0	0	0	28,352	23,997
Conference Center	(42,456)	(1,582)	(131,060)	(228,651)	549,111
Electric	(1,430,570)	571,548	(390,494)	(3,107,122)	(933,459)
Golf	(8,116)	(81,782)	(177,280)	(211,078)	30,586
Landfill	(203,801)	(44,759)	(1,467,965)	(3,462,162)	(253,577)
Parking District	(99,294)	(18,941)	(8,522)	(57,637)	(37,251)
Street Lighting	(144,633)	(204,334)	145,465	41,012	(3,487)
Wastewater	69,605	574,303	(453,560)	17,108,763	(1,723,577)
Water	629,873	1,774,741	12,363,863	3,628,671	(950,941)
Recycled Water	(78,018)	0	0	0	0
Total Net Income (Loss)	(1,810,841)	2,293,978	10,120,230	17,209,293	(3,209,631)
General Revenues/Transfers:					
Property Tax	13,146	73,004	17,121	16,815	16,714
Licenses, Permits, Franchises	72,038	0	0	0	0
Use of Money and Property	289,051	315,104	1,166,919	950,715	352,781
Other Revenue	47,770	0	11,513	0	22,223
Transfers	639,819	363,796	410,782	510,543	444,963
<u>Total General Revenues/Transfers</u>	<u>(3,876,488)</u>	<u>751,904</u>	<u>1,606,335</u>	<u>1,478,073</u>	<u>836,681</u>
Change In Net Position from Prior FY	(5,687,329)	3,045,882	11,726,565	18,687,366	(2,372,950)

Source: V&F, 2021, 2020a, 2020b, 2019, & 2018.

According to the audited financial information in the business-type or enterprise activities table above, several (six out of eleven) City enterprise programs and the overall business-type activities in FY 2016-17 and FY 2020-21 operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, during the five years studied. While a net loss

in any given year is not ideal, isolated revenue shortfalls do not necessarily indicate a problem, especially when infrequent and/or followed by years of net income. The following enterprise programs operated at a net loss consistently (three out of five years) over the study period: Conference Center, Electric Utility, Golf Course, Landfill Closure, Parking District, and Street Lighting.

Also, during the five years studied, several (seven out of eleven) City enterprise programs and the overall business-type activities in FY 2017-18, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20 operated at a net income, or revenue gain. Over the five fiscal years studied, the City's financial performance for business-type activities shows an increase in net position of \$35,630,532 or 30-percent, which signals a strengthening in financial position.

FY 2020-21 Overall Activities

Expenses incurred by the City for FY 2020-21 totaled \$65.4 million, a decrease from FY 2019-20 of \$3.0 million. Much of this decrease was related to reductions to pension costs of the City unfunded accrued pension liabilities (UAL) with CalPERS. Governmental expenses totaled nearly \$24.9 million or 38-percent of total expenses. Public safety costs represented most of the governmental expenses, followed by public works and recreation. Business-type activities incurred \$40.6 million of expense during FY 2020-21, 62-percent of all City expenses.

FY 2020-21 Governmental Activities

Net expenses of \$10.5 million for the provision of these governmental activities was funded by general revenues, primarily in the general fund, including taxes, licenses, permits, franchise fees, and rents. Public safety (police, fire, and emergency medical services) comprised the largest activity segment of governmental expenses (\$13.6 million, 60.32-percent). A significant portion of this expense is related to retirement benefit costs. Maintenance of streets and rights-of-way were the next largest expense of the City's governmental activities. The City has deployed a significant portion of its discretionary and programmatic resources toward the improvement of City streets, walkways, and trails.

Significant revenues for the City came from taxes (59.4-percent), which included sales taxes (Bradley-Burns, Measure P and Measure Y transactions and use taxes), property taxes, and transient occupancy taxes. Despite the continuation of the pandemic, tax revenues overall were higher than in FY 2019-20 due to increases to the sales and property tax base from a strong and diversified local economy.

FY 2020-21 Business-type Activities

In FY 2020-21, business-type activities decreased the City's net position by \$2.3 million. That loss came from net revenues, which is defined as total expenses minus program revenues, which include charges for service, as well as operating and capital grants and contributions.

General revenues for business-type activities include rents and interest earnings as well as some property taxes collected by the City's parking district. The general revenues were down from FY 2019-20 approximately 50-percent resulting primarily from smaller returns on the City's investment portfolio from less cash invested. Charges for services, however, was higher than FY 2019-20 due to certain reimbursable jobs in the electric utility as well as increased rate revenue from the scheduled adjustment to water and sewer rates in October 2020.

FY 2020-21 Capital Assets

The City's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2021 totaled \$236.5 million (net of accumulated depreciation). The investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, equipment, vehicles, infrastructure, and construction in progress. The total amount of depreciation expense for the year, government-wide, totaled \$7.5 million. Reasons for the change in capital assets were engagement in major work on several construction projects, including work on the airport runway and several streets and rights-of-way.

FY 2020-21 Long-Term Liabilities

The City's outstanding noncurrent liabilities, including bonds, loans payable, the net pension liability, and compensated absences totaled over \$135 million as of June 30, 2021. The most significant obligation added during FY 2020-21 was to the landfill closure, post closure, and corrective action plan, the engineering estimates for which were updated in 2019 and adjusted for inflation. However, a more accurate estimate of total landfill closure, post-closure, and corrective action costs will not be determined until contractor bids are received.

FY 2020-21 General Fund Financial Condition

The City's General Fund is its primary source of discretionary resources for the provision of service deemed necessary and desirable by the citizens of Ukiah and the City Council. General fund revenues were up nearly \$4.6 million from FY 2019-20, driven by stronger than anticipated sales tax growth (even with the continuation of the pandemic) and the receipt of grant revenues. A diverse local economic base supports this growth. Similarly, total expenditures were higher by \$2.2 million due mostly to lower capital outlays. After other financing sources and uses were accounted for, fund balance increased by \$1.9 million. As of June 30, 2021, the City's governmental fund balance was \$30.7 million.

Other governmental funds reported a net increase in fund balance of \$8.8 million, primarily influenced by an addition of \$3.5 million of cash from bond proceeds refunding the City's payment to CalPERS for its 2021 unfunded accrued liability payment. This amount was placed in a newly created fund as a reserve for future advanced prepayment of unfunded pension liabilities. These funds also include revenues from many federal, state and special district grants which vary greatly from year to year. Governmental funds reported \$5.04 million in non-spendable fund balance at the end of FY 2020-21. This is comprised of long-term interfund advances held by the General Fund as well as reinstatement of a loan receivable from the Ukiah Redevelopment Successor Agency.

The balance of \$15.3 million in restricted fund balance is found in special revenue funds for law enforcement, housing and streets, and infrastructure; these financial resources can only be spent on specific activities as defined by outside entities (e.g. a grantor, state agency, statute, etc.).

Committed fund balance of \$415 thousand consists primarily of several select capital projects earmarked by the City Council through resolution. \$4.9 million in assigned fund balance consists of reserve amounts designated by management for future capital acquisition and specific projects, including maintaining a reserve for the advanced payment of pension liabilities.

The remaining amount of \$4.9 million of unassigned fund balance result primarily from general fund reserves and deferred revenues in several special revenue funds that have not been converted to revenues but are expected to in the following year.

FY 2020-21 Proprietary Funds

Landfill Enterprise Fund: The net position of the landfill closure and post-closure fund increased \$223 thousand from a negative 9.4 million to \$9.2 million. Surcharge amounts collected at the Ukiah Transfer Station and transferred to the Landfill fund helped to bolster it in preparation for final closure and remediation activities forthcoming.

Electric Enterprise Fund: The net position of the electric enterprise fund decreased \$817 thousand primarily due to decreased pandemic-related rate revenue in commercial accounts. Operating expenses exceeded operating revenues by \$757 thousand, driven by increased personnel costs related to market-based salary adjustments.

Water Enterprise Fund: The net position of the water enterprise fund decreased \$563 thousand primarily due to decreased pandemic-related rate revenue. Operating expenses nominally exceeded operating revenue while non-operating expenses, influenced by interest and fiscal costs, outpaced non-operating revenue.

Wastewater Enterprise Fund: The net position of the wastewater enterprise fund decreased \$1.9 million. Operating revenue was lower than operating expenses, resulting in an operating loss of \$977 thousand. The change was influenced in large part by operating costs (notably insurance premium increases) that exceeded pandemic-related decreasing rate revenue. The adoption of rate adjustments in October 2020 helped to reduce the effect. Further, nonoperating expenses outpaced revenues by \$1.6 million driven by interest and other fiscal charges.

(V&F, 2021)

2.4.1.2 PROPERTY TAXES

The City receives a portion of Mendocino County property taxes. The total amount of property taxes associated with governmental activities received by the City between FY 2016-17 and FY 2020-21 ranged from a high of \$3,408,846 and a low of \$1,470,323, as shown in Table 2.7 above.

2.4.1.3 GANN LIMIT

Local agencies that receive taxes are subject to certain spending limits (Gann Limit or Proposition 4). Annual appropriations that are subject to spending limits may not exceed an appropriations limit based on a calculated limit for fiscal year 1978-1979, adjusted annually for population and cost of living increases. On or before July 1st of each year the board is required to adopt its appropriation limit and make other necessary determinations for the following fiscal year pursuant to Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Government Code Section 7900 et seq. [61113(b)].

Not all appropriations are subject to this limit. The limit only applies to tax revenues. The limit does not apply to proceeds from user charges, user fees or other such assessments provided that these revenue sources do not exceed the costs reasonably borne in providing the product or service for which the fee or assessment is imposed. The limit does not apply to a district which existed on January 1, 1978 and which did not as of 1977-1978 fiscal year levy an ad valorem tax on property in excess of 12½ cents per hundred dollars of assessed value.

For FY 2022-23, the City's Gann or appropriations limits is \$51,268,540, and the appropriations subject to this limit are estimated to be \$20,897,877. (Ukiah, 2022a)

2.4.1.4 SPECIAL TAXES AND REVENUES

The City does not levy or collect any special taxes but does collect other special revenues. (Ukiah, 2022)

Measure P

Measure P is a one-half of one-percent general (unrestricted) transaction and use tax used to fund essential public services, including police, fire prevention and protection, and emergency medical services (Ordinance No. 1149).

A general, unrestricted tax is one that can be used to fund any program, function, service, or project at the discretion of the City Council. It is not a special, restricted tax, which would require approval of two-thirds of the voting public.

This ballot measure passed by a simple majority (50-percent plus 1) of Ukiah voters in November of 2014 and is effective until repealed by majority vote in a municipal election.

Measure P replaced a sun-setting transaction and use tax, known as Measure S (2005), accompanied by an advisory Measure T (2005) indicating the voting public's preference for the use of Measure S proceeds. Measure P passed without an advisory measure. The purpose of Measure P is to augment public safety expenditures to provide a higher level of police and fire service to the community. Amounts collected from the tax are to be used in addition to, not in replacement of, the commitment of the General Fund.

The Ukiah City Council established an expenditure plan (Resolution No. 2014-28) for the use of Measure P revenues, consistent with the previously passed advisory Measure T. That resolution stated that those revenues should be used first to maintain a minimum level of public safety services defined to be the level of services available in FY 2014-15, including the following: (1) thirty-two full-time peace officers, and (2) a level of fire prevention and protective services commensurate with the City of Ukiah's portion of any City and District contractual agreement for joint fire, paramedic, and fire prevention operations.

(Ukiah, 2022a)(V&F, 2021)

Measure Y

Measure Y is a one-half of one-percent general (unrestricted) transaction and use tax used to fund essential City services, including street repair and maintenance (Ordinance No. 1165).

This ballot measure passed by a simple majority (50-percent plus 1) of Ukiah voters in November of 2016 and is effective until repealed by majority vote in a municipal election.

Advisory Measure Z passed in conjunction with, but distinctly separate from, Measure Y and indicated the voting public's preference for the exclusive use of Measure Y proceeds for street repair and maintenance and related public infrastructure improvements and additionally indicated that Measure Y revenues would add to, not replace, current spending for street maintenance and repair.

(Ukiah, 2022a)(V&F, 2021)

Former Ukiah Redevelopment Agency

The City's governmental activities include the housing activities of the (former) Ukiah Redevelopment Agency, a separate legal entity for which the City is financially responsible. As of February 1, 2012, the Ukiah Redevelopment Agency was dissolved, and a successor agency was established to handle the remaining affairs and obligations of the former agency. The City of Ukiah volunteered to be the successor

agency. Upon dissolution, the assets and liabilities of the former agency were transferred to a private-purpose trust fund, which is not reported on the government-wide statements but is presented in fund-based statements using the full accrual basis of accounting. (V&F, 2021)

2.4.1.5 ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES

The City's enterprise services are accounted for and reported as proprietary funds, or business-type activities, instead of governmental activities. Enterprise or proprietary services are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the costs (including depreciation) to provide the public service are recovered through service rates or supported by user charges paid by customers based on the amount of the service used. Wastewater, water, and electric City enterprise services are expected to realize increased revenue related to recent rate increases with annual adjustments for five-years.

Wastewater Enterprise

The City and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) have a longstanding joint venture for shared operation of the City-owned Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that treats the combined sewage from the City and UVSD sewer collection systems, based on the number of Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs). There are several agreements between the agencies that constitute the arrangement regarding the allocation of cost for the combined sewer system operation, as briefly listed below.

- 1995 Participation Agreement
- 2018 Operating Agreement
- 2018 Settlement Agreement
- 2020 Refinance Agreement
- 2020 Joint Sewer Rate Study Professional Services Agreement
- Annual Budget Approval Agreement

The Ukiah City Council and UVSD Board of Directors adopt an annual Wastewater Enterprise Joint Budget for the combined City/District sewer system operation, including shared expenses and capital projects. For Fiscal Year 2021-22, a total budgeted estimate of \$5,166,465 for the Wastewater Enterprise was projected to be shared at a rate of 50.52% City and 49.48% District, and included \$4,524,050 in direct operating budgeted costs, defined as costs of Personnel and Operations, and an Operating Indirect Rate (OIR) on such costs of 14.20% (\$642,415). The joint budget also included total direct costs of \$2,730,000 for Capital Outlay funded at the same share of cost of 50.52% City and 49.48% District, and a Capital Indirect Rate (CIR) of 9% for costs less than \$200,000, and a negotiated rate for projects over \$200,000 based on an estimate of required indirect costs to complete the capital project.

The City and UVSD have retained Hildebrand Consulting, LLC to provide consulting services related to the share of cost between the agencies for the combined City/District sewer system operation. Since wastewater flow meters are problematic, the share of cost is allocated based on each agency's proportionate share of winter water usage (monthly average of January through March) from multiple water providers in the valley from the prior fiscal year, and the relative strength of sewage discharge to the wastewater treatment plant, based on the relative number of Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSUs).

The relative number of ESSUs varies slightly every year due to the ever-changing volume of water usage and number of customers in the overall service area but remains close to a 50-50 share of cost. The water

usage data needed to determine the ESSSU percentages for the share of cost becomes available after the annual joint budget is adopted. Therefore, often an Annual ESSSU Reconciliation Memo is prepared by the consultant resulting in amendments to the annual joint budget and re-adoption by the agencies.

Additional components of the Wastewater Enterprise Joint Budget are as follows.

- The City and UVSD are each responsible for the administrative and other overhead costs allocated directly to the wastewater activities of their respective agencies.
- The District makes fixed monthly payments to the City of 1/12th of the District's share of the agreed upon operating budget (Personnel, Operations, and Indirect Rate) by the 1st of every month.
- The budgeted share of cost (operating, capital, and debt service) between the agencies can change based on updated ESSSU percentages and result in true-up payments after the fact.
- Every quarter, the City and District review the actual costs incurred and reconcile differences between actual costs incurred, budget costs, and over/under payments made by either agency within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year.
- The share of debt service between the City and District is based on two components. A constant calculation for the "Capacity" portion of 25.8414% of the existing debt is allocated 35% to the City and 65% to the District. Second is a variable calculation for the "Upgrade/Rehabilitation" portion of the remaining 74.1586% of the existing debt is allocated based on the ESSSU percentages or split.
- The agencies negotiate the rate of City indirect administrative and overhead costs for District-only activities or projects (e.g. a main line replacement of a District asset) performed by the City or City contractor on the District's behalf.
- Any portion of capital projects paid by the District are capitalized on its books as intangible assets and depreciated.

(City/UVSD, 2021) (Fox, 2022)

The financial arrangement between the agencies for the combined sewer system operation is based on terms and conditions contained in multiple legal agreements. This complex structure represents the historically complicated nature of the relationship between the agencies involved and emphasizes the need for a more simplified service delivery structure for public wastewater in the Ukiah Valley area. It is recommended that the City and UVSD prepare a summary of the key points of agreement between the agencies related to finances in a single document to improve broad-based understanding and overall public transparency.

As a requirement of a 2020 loan refinance process, the City and UVSD collaborated in contracting with Hildebrand Consulting, LLC and The Reed Group, Inc. to prepare the 2020 Joint Sewer Rate Study completed on April 24, 2020. The 2020 Sewer Rate Study proposed increases for commercial and residential rate payers in response to anticipated current and future expenditure increases in operating costs, capital outlays, and settlement payments to the Sanitation District. The City adopted the wastewater rate increase on June 17, 2020 per Resolution No. 2020-34. The rate increase went into effect on October 1, 2020. An annual adjustment to rates was scheduled to continue at the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1) for four years. (V&F, 2021)(Ukiah, 2022) The figure below shows the City's current Wastewater Rate Schedule.

Figure 2-5 City of Ukiah Wastewater Rate Schedule

Table 16: City 5-Year Sewer Rate Schedule

	July 1, 2020	July 1, 2021	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Monthly Service Charge*:	\$49.35	\$50.34	\$51.35	\$51.86	\$52.38
Consumption Rate (per HCF):					
Residential:	\$3.57	\$3.64	\$3.71	\$3.75	\$3.79
Commercial 1:	\$3.57	\$3.64	\$3.71	\$3.75	\$3.79
Commercial 2:	\$3.89	\$3.97	\$4.05	\$4.09	\$4.13
Commercial 3:	\$7.77	\$7.92	\$8.08	\$8.16	\$8.24
Commercial 4:	\$10.32	\$10.53	\$10.74	\$10.85	\$10.96

* Service Charge is per dwelling unit for residential and per ESSFU for commercial accounts (with a minimum charge of 1 ESSFU).

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

Water Enterprise

The City contracted with Hildebrand Consulting, LLC and The Reed Group, Inc. to prepare the 2020 Water Rate Study completed on June 5, 2020. The 2020 Water Rate Study proposed to maintain the current cost allocation methodology and rate structure, involving a uniform water usage rate for all customer classes and monthly service charges based water meter size, and to change the total amounts allocated for the usage rate and service charges to meet revenue requirements and the cost of service analysis. The City adopted the water rate increase on August 19, 2020 per Resolution No. 2020-45. The rate increase went into effect on October 1, 2020. An annual adjustment to rates was scheduled to continue at the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1) for four years. (V&F, 2021)(Ukiah, 2022) The figure below shows the City's current Water Rate Schedule.

Figure 2-6 City of Ukiah Water Rate Schedule

**Exhibit III-3
City of Ukiah
Current and Proposed Water Rates**

	Current (1)	Oct. 2020	July 2021	July 2022	July 2023	July 2024
Water Usage Rate (\$/CCF)						
All Water Usage	\$ 3.22	\$ 3.26	\$ 3.48	\$ 3.72	\$ 3.98	\$ 4.18
Monthly Service Charge						
3/4" meter	\$ 37.85	\$ 39.88	\$ 42.67	\$ 45.66	\$ 48.86	\$ 51.30
1" meter	\$ 60.78	\$ 63.87	\$ 68.34	\$ 73.12	\$ 78.24	\$ 82.15
1 1/2" meter	\$ 117.57	\$ 123.31	\$ 131.94	\$ 141.18	\$ 151.06	\$ 158.61
2" meter	\$ 186.02	\$ 194.92	\$ 208.56	\$ 223.16	\$ 238.78	\$ 250.72
3" meter	\$ 345.80	\$ 362.14	\$ 387.49	\$ 414.61	\$ 443.63	\$ 465.81
4" meter	\$ 574.03	\$ 600.97	\$ 643.04	\$ 688.05	\$ 736.21	\$ 773.02
6" meter	\$ 1,144.08	\$ 1,197.51	\$ 1,281.34	\$ 1,371.03	\$ 1,467.00	\$ 1,540.35

Notes:

(1) Effective January 1, 2020.

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

Electric Enterprise

An electric rate increase was proposed in February 2022 to address increasing cost pressures related to accelerated system investment for fire mitigation and to improve resiliency, such as undergrounding of facilities, coupled with an inflationary market increasing energy and transmission costs. Since 2017, electric utility reserves had been reduced to \$3.6 million, despite a target reserve of \$6.5 to \$7.5 million.

To meet these challenges and increase cash reserves to acceptable levels, a phased five-year rate increase was proposed with a review and adjustment of rates implemented each year (April 1) through 2026 to adequately account for changes in the Utility's reasonable operating costs.

In addition, the Ukiah 100% Green Energy Rate of an additional 2.021 cents per kilowatt hour was proposed to be established for customers interested in reducing greenhouse gas emissions via the electric utility procuring renewable energy resources on their behalf to match their monthly energy consumption.

The City adopted the electric rate increase and the Ukiah 100% Green Energy Rate establishment on February 2, 2022 per Resolution No. 2022-08. The rate increase went into effect on April 1, 2022.

In August 2022, a Power Cost Surcharge Rider was proposed to be established to fully recoup the cost to deliver power to Ukiah customers because the projections for energy costs from January 2022 utilized for the February 2022 rate increase and FY 2022-23 budget fell short of actual energy purchase costs due to the California energy market's price volatility from drought, natural gas prices, inflation, and geopolitical issues.

The Power Cost Surcharge was proposed to true-up any differences in the actual cost to provide power with the cost projected in January 2022, either up or down, and to be adjusted bi-annually on the first of April and October of every year.

The City adopted the electric rate increase on August 17, 2022 per Resolution No. 2022-54. The rate increase went into effect on October 1, 2022. The figure below show the City's current Electric Rate Schedule.

(Ukiah, 2022)

Figure 2-7 City of Ukiah Electric Rate Schedule

Residential Service Electric Rate E1, E2*							
Rate Year	Rate effective date	Energy kWh Charge		Monthly Fixed Charge - per KWH level			Mimimun monthly charge
		Kwh less than Baseline (\$/kWh)	kWh equal to or Greater than Baseline (\$/kWh)	Less than 200 kWh per month	201-550 kWh per month	Greater than 550 kWh per month	
1	April 1, 2022	\$0.14797	\$0.19395	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$2.75	\$5.00
2	April 1, 2023	\$0.16009	\$0.20983	\$2.00	\$3.19	\$4.56	\$5.00
3	April 1, 2024	\$0.17344	\$0.22733	\$3.00	\$4.63	\$6.38	\$5.00
4	April 1, 2025	\$0.18837	\$0.24691	\$4.00	\$6.06	\$8.19	\$5.00
5	April 1, 2026	\$0.20493	\$0.26861	\$5.00	\$7.50	\$10.00	\$5.00

(The amended rates will apply to the first full month's consumption following the rate's effective date)

BASELINE QUANTITIES (kWh PER MONTH)

	WINTER (Nov 1-Apr 30)	SUMMER (May 1 -Oct 31)
Basic Service (E1)	360	360
All Electric E2*	660	360

***All Electric Rate E2 was closed to new customers effective 1/1/2017.** Current customers will be allowed to stay on the rate no matter how they qualified. Other rate discounts and or adjustments to baseline quantities for various programs such as but not exclusive of senior and life support will remain the same. The minimum charge will be billed if the sum of the basic and the energy charges are less than the minimum charge amount.

This rate schedule is applicable to general commercial and non-commercial residential lighting, heating and all single phase and three phase alternating current loads in which energy use is less than 144,000 kWh per meter for 12 consecutive months. This schedule will not be applicable to commercial uses permitted by the City under a Home Occupation Permit.

Small Commercial Service Electric Rate E5, E6, C5, C6					
Rate Year	Rate effective date	Energy Charge (\$/kWh)		Monthly fixed charge (\$)	
		Winter	Summer	E5/C5	E6/C6
1	April 1, 2022	\$0.16090	\$0.20010	\$15.50	\$16.50
2	April 1, 2023	\$0.17619	\$0.21911	\$17.21	\$18.32
3	April 1, 2024	\$0.19292	\$0.23992	\$19.10	\$20.33
4	April 1, 2025	\$0.21125	\$0.26272	\$20.91	\$22.26
5	April 1, 2026	\$0.23132	\$0.28768	\$22.90	\$24.38

WINTER (Nov 1 – Apr 30)
SUMMER (May 1 – Oct 31)

***New electric accounts with intermittent loads (used infrequently) and disconnected within the last 12 months shall be charged \$50 in addition to all other new account fees**

This rate is applicable to commercial and non-residential lighting, heating, and all single phase and three phase loads in which energy use is 144,000 kWh or greater per meter for 12 consecutive months. The customer bill will consist of a basic month charge, energy and demand charges.

Demand Charge

The customer will be billed for demand according to the customer's "maximum kilowatt demand" each month. The number of kilowatt (kW) used will be recorded over 15-minute intervals; the highest 15-minute average kW use in the month will be the customer's maximum demand.

Medium/Large Commercial Service with Demand Electric Rate E7, C7						
Rate Year	Rate effective date	Energy Charge (\$/kWh)		Demand Charge (\$/kW)		Monthly Fixed Charge (\$)
		Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	
1	April 1, 2022	\$0.11139	\$0.13834	\$5.48	\$8.10	\$114.62
2	April 1, 2023	\$0.12108	\$0.15037	\$6.42	\$8.85	\$137.54
3	April 1, 2024	\$0.13260	\$0.16470	\$7.03	\$9.69	\$150.61
4	April 1, 2025	\$0.14520	\$0.18030	\$7.70	\$10.61	\$164.92
5	April 1, 2026	\$0.15900	\$0.19740	\$8.43	\$11.62	\$180.59

WINTER (Nov 1 – Apr 30)
SUMMER (May 1 – Oct 31)

Industrial Service with Demand Electric Rate I1

This schedule is applicable to large industrial production, lighting, heating and all single and three phase loads in which energy use is an average of 75,000 kWh monthly or greater with a demand of 200 kW monthly or greater for at least six consecutive months (multiple meters at a single location will be combined).

The Industrial rate is applicable to large manufacturing facilities, defined as businesses or corporations that produce products for either wholesale or retail sales or businesses that contract to fulfill obligations to produce specific components.

Demand Charge

The customer will be billed for demand according to the customer's "maximum kilowatt demand" each month. The number of kilowatt (kW) used will be recorded over 15-minute intervals; the highest 15-minute average kW use in the month will be the customer's maximum demand.

Industrial Service with Demand Electric Rate I1 (Replaces EI Rate)						
Rate Year	Rate effective date	Energy Charge (\$/kWh)		Demand Charge (\$/kW)		Monthly Fixed Charge (\$)
		Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	
1	April 1, 2022	\$0.08608	\$0.11300	\$5.29	\$8.10	\$143.27
2	April 1, 2023	\$0.09426	\$0.12374	\$5.92	\$8.83	\$179.09
3	April 1, 2024	\$0.10320	\$0.13550	\$6.48	\$9.67	\$196.10
4	April 1, 2025	\$0.11300	\$0.14840	\$7.10	\$10.59	\$214.73
5	April 1, 2026	\$0.12370	\$0.16250	\$7.77	\$11.60	\$235.13

WINTER (Nov 1 – Apr 30)
SUMMER (May 1 – Oct 31)

For customers wishing to promote the development and use of renewable energy; the City of Ukiah offers a 100% Green Electric Rate. This rate is available to all City of Ukiah customers.

The City will procure, on the customer’s behalf, Renewable Energy to match the customer’s monthly energy consumption. Customers choosing the Green Rate will incur an additional 2.021 cents per kWh for every kWh consumed during the billing period. The 100% Green Rate will be updated yearly and will be based on renewable energy cost, delivery costs and imposed fees. Customers may opt into the program anytime and may opt out any time after the second complete billing cycle on the program.

100% Green Energy Rate		
Program:	Ukiah Green Energy Rate:	Billing Period:
Ukiah Green Energy	0.02021 per kWh	Monthly

Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rate

This rate schedule is applicable to electric vehicle (EV) charging stations that are available to the public and owned by City of Ukiah Electric. This schedule is not applicable to EV chargers owned by the City of Ukiah or by private residences or businesses.

Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rate EV1 (Public)	
Charging Energy Rate, \$/kWh:	\$0.2100
Non-Charging (Parking) Rate \$/hr.	\$3.00

Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

Solid Waste Enterprise

The City provides solid waste collection services to residents and businesses through a contract with Ukiah Waste Solutions, Inc (UWS). The current solid waste rate was adopted by the City on December 6, 2017 per Resolution No. 2017-59. The rate schedule went into effect on January 1, 2018 and provided for annual modification based on changes in the Consumer Price Index, the Fuel Index, Recycling Reduction, and Pass-through Costs primarily from the disposal of solid waste collected at the Ukiah Transfer Station.

The UWS contract specifies that every five-years after rate adoption, the City will conduct a review of the rates in accordance with Proposition 218 procedures and standards to determine whether the automatic annual adjustments adequately account for the actual changes in the reasonable operating costs for UWS.

A five-year rate review was completed utilizing UWS business and financial records through December 30, 2020 and resulted in a proposed rate increase public hearing on March 16, 2022. A rate increase was not adopted at that time; therefore, the 2018 solid waste rate remains in effect. (Ukiah, 2022) The figure below shows the City's current Solid Waste Schedule.

Figure 2-8 City of Ukiah Solid Waste Rate Schedule

Effective Date January 1, 2018

SUMMARY OF RATES FOR STANDARD SERVICES

Service Level	YEAR 2018	New 2018 Rate
<u>Curbside Service</u>		
No Service Minimum Charge		\$ 10.00
20 gallon can rate		17.12
32 gallon can rate		18.63
68 gallon can rate		44.03
95 gallon can rate		62.02
Other combinations - rate per gallon		0.73
1 yard bin rate		131.80
1.5 yard bin rate		155.74
2 yard bin rate		207.67
3 yard bin rate		311.48
4 yard bin rate		415.31
6 yard bin rate		622.97
<u>Packout Service</u>		
32 gallon can rate		24.40
68 gallon can rate		57.31
95 gallon can rate		82.79
Other combinations - rate per gallon		0.89
<u>Remote Area Service</u>		
Add to the Packout Service rate.		8.14
In areas with limited access, an additional fee is charged to fund the costs of special equipment and special handling necessary to provide garbage pickup services. This fee is in addition to the "Packout Service" fee listed in this schedule.		

*10-gallon containers and rates will no longer be available to new customers, effective January 1, 2018.

<u>Commercial / Multi-Family Service</u>		
20 gallon can rate		20.68
32 gallon can rate		20.68
68 gallon can rate		48.87
95 gallon can rate		68.87
1 yard bin rate		131.80
1.5 yard bin rate		155.74
2 yard bin rate		207.67
3 yard bin rate		311.48
4 yard bin rate		415.31
6 yard bin rate		622.97

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

2.4.2 Long Term Financial Considerations

2.4.2.1 RESERVES

The Ukiah City Council approved Policy Resolution No. 39 in 2013, incorporated in the City's financial management policies, which established an unrestricted fund balance of at least 25-percent of annual operating expenditures in the General Fund to serve as a strategic reserve, ensuring liquidity of the General Fund and to make certain adequate resources are available to manage economic uncertainties (Fund Balance and Reserves Policy J.1).

The City maintains a general minimum reserve policy of 25-percent of annual expenditures in its major operating funds. Most funds have balances in excess of the minimum, including the General Fund, with a reported fund balance reserve of 52.3-percent of expenditures.

(V&F, 2021)(Ukiah, 2022)

2.4.2.2 OUTSTANDING DEBT

The City has issued and currently services a number of debt financings used to construct capital facilities and restructure more expensive obligations, such as its unfunded accrued pension liability (UAL), with lower-cost bond financing, resulting in significantly lower interest expense and budgetary savings over the remaining maturity of those obligations. Estimated total savings from restructured debt issues approached \$20 million. In fiscal year 2021-22, the City issued lease and rate revenue bonds totaling \$50 million to engage in infrastructure and other capital projects, and taking advantage of historically low borrowing costs while saving on construction costs, which have and will continue to increase dramatically due to historic inflationary pressures. Specifically, bond proceeds are scheduled as follows: \$25 million on streets and rights-of-way projects, \$15 million to reconstruct an end-of-life corporation yard, and \$10 million on electric equipment and infrastructure. These projects are expected to be completed by the 2024-25 fiscal year. The following schedules outline the debt service obligations for City governmental and enterprise activities, through their maturities. (Ukiah, 2022)

Figure 2-9 Long-term Debt Activity for FY 2022-23

Debt Service Schedule Governmental		Governmental Activities									
Year Ending	I-Bank Financing Lease (2017)		Capital Lease, Fire Engines (2017)		Capital Lease-Purchase, Fire Brush Truck (2020)		Equipment Lease-Purchase, Fire Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus System (2020)		Series 2020A Community Facilities Improvement Project Lease Revenue Bonds		
June 30,	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	
2023	91,173	130,383	112,338	15,622	21,389	4,355	31,921	6,961	90,000	89,750	
2024	94,182	127,050	115,159	12,800	21,907	3,837	32,694	6,188	95,000	87,050	
2025	97,290	123,609	118,051	9,908	22,437	3,307	33,485	5,397	95,000	84,200	
2026	100,501	120,053	121,016	6,943	22,980	2,764	34,295	4,587	100,000	80,400	
2027	554,495	542,690	187,246	4,693	23,536	2,208	35,125	3,757	105,000	76,400	
2028-2032	652,230	434,456	-	-	74,082	3,150	129,769	6,318	590,000	315,200	
2033-2037	767,188	307,151	-	-	-	-	-	-	715,000	188,400	
2038-2042	902,411	157,403	-	-	-	-	-	-	500,000	40,600	
2043-2047	404,047	15,271	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2048-2052	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	\$ 3,663,517	\$ 1,958,066	\$ 653,810	\$ 49,966	\$ 186,331	\$ 19,621	\$ 297,290	\$ 33,209	\$ 2,290,000	\$ 962,000	
Due within one year	\$ 91,173	\$ 130,383	\$ 112,338	\$ 15,622	\$ 21,389	\$ 4,355	\$ 31,921	\$ 6,961	\$ 90,000	\$ 89,750	
Due after one year	3,572,344	1,827,683	541,472	34,344	164,942	15,266	265,369	26,248	2,200,000	872,250	
Total	\$ 3,663,517	\$ 1,958,066	\$ 653,810	\$ 49,966	\$ 186,331	\$ 19,621	\$ 297,290	\$ 33,209	\$ 2,290,000	\$ 962,000	

Year Ending	Series 2020B CalPERS Prepayment Project Taxable Lease Revenue Bonds		Series 2022 Lease Revenue Bonds (Street Projects)		Series 2022 Lease Revenue Bonds (Corporate Yard Projects)		Total	
June 30,	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2023	1,220,000	1,803,540	1,245,000	651,522	235,000	604,263	3,046,821	3,306,396
2024	1,295,000	1,784,374	1,335,000	564,200	280,000	560,063	3,268,942	3,145,562
2025	1,330,000	1,761,038	1,385,000	510,800	290,000	548,863	3,371,263	3,047,122
2026	1,380,000	1,734,411	1,440,000	455,400	305,000	537,263	3,503,792	2,941,821
2027	1,410,000	1,700,753	1,500,000	397,800	315,000	525,063	4,130,402	3,253,363
2028-2032	7,960,000	7,862,154	8,445,000	1,040,000	1,775,000	2,426,313	19,626,081	12,087,591
2033-2037	9,850,000	6,395,063	-	-	2,170,000	2,028,263	13,502,188	8,918,876
2038-2042	12,705,000	4,224,323	-	-	2,655,000	1,548,563	16,762,411	5,970,888
2043-2047	10,475,000	1,553,864	-	-	3,000,000	991,563	13,879,047	2,560,697
2048-2052	1,545,000	88,884	-	-	3,825,000	381,063	5,370,000	469,946
Total	\$ 49,170,000	\$ 28,908,403	\$ 15,350,000	\$ 3,619,722	\$ 14,850,000	\$ 10,151,275	\$ 86,460,948	\$ 45,702,263
Due within one year	\$ 1,220,000	\$ 1,803,540	\$ 1,245,000	\$ 651,522	\$ 235,000	\$ 604,263	\$ 3,046,821	\$ 3,306,396
Due after one year	47,950,000	27,104,863	14,105,000	2,968,200	14,615,000	9,547,013	83,414,127	42,395,866
Total	\$ 49,170,000	\$ 28,908,403	\$ 15,350,000	\$ 3,619,722	\$ 14,850,000	\$ 10,151,275	\$ 86,460,948	\$ 45,702,263

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

Figure 2-10 Long-term Debt Activity for FY 2022-23

Debt Service Schedule Enterprise (Business-Type)		Enterprise Activities							
Year Ending June 30,	2017 Cal Trans (FAA) Loan - Airport		2016 Water Revenue Refunding Bonds		2017 SRF Recycled Water Loan		Series 2020 Wastewater Refunding Bonds		
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	
2023	10,903	3,471	415,000	335,618	529,130	176,996	1,471,000	528,008	
2024	11,157	3,217	435,000	316,444	534,421	171,705	1,507,000	492,192	
2025	11,417	2,957	460,000	294,069	539,765	166,360	1,543,000	455,505	
2026	11,683	2,691	480,000	270,569	545,163	160,963	1,581,000	417,934	
2027	62,629	9,243	2,795,000	957,218	2,808,689	721,941	1,620,000	379,444	
2028-2032	41,191	7,784	3,470,000	280,891	2,951,960	578,669	8,710,000	1,286,097	
2033-2037	27,776	976	-	-	3,102,538	428,151	5,752,000	246,054	
2038-2042	-	-	-	-	3,260,800	269,829	-	-	
2043-2047	-	-	-	-	3,427,134	103,495	-	-	
Total	\$ 176,756	\$ 30,339	\$ 8,055,000	\$ 2,454,809	\$ 17,699,600	\$ 2,778,109	\$ 22,184,000	\$ 3,805,232	
Due within one year	\$ 10,903	\$ 3,471	\$ 415,000	\$ 335,618	\$ 529,130	\$ 176,996	\$ 1,471,000	\$ 528,008	
Due after one year	165,853	26,868	7,640,000	2,119,191	17,170,470	2,601,113	20,713,000	3,277,225	
Total	\$ 176,756	\$ 30,339	\$ 8,055,000	\$ 2,454,809	\$ 17,699,600	\$ 2,778,109	\$ 22,184,000	\$ 3,805,232	

Year Ending June 30,	Series 2022 Lease Revenue Bonds (Utilities Projects)		Series 2022 Electric Revenue Bonds		Total	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2023	-	378,074	-	363,539	2,426,033	1,785,705
2024	-	356,300	310,000	388,350	2,797,578	1,728,208
2025	-	356,300	330,000	372,850	2,884,182	1,648,041
2026	-	356,300	345,000	356,350	2,962,846	1,564,807
2027	-	356,300	360,000	339,100	7,646,318	2,763,246
2028-2032	2,360,000	1,600,100	2,070,000	1,410,750	19,603,151	5,164,291
2033-2037	2,885,000	1,071,800	2,590,000	906,850	14,357,314	2,653,831
2038-2042	3,525,000	434,200	3,185,000	311,600	9,970,800	1,015,629
2043-2047	-	-	-	-	3,427,134	103,495
Total	\$ 8,770,000	\$ 4,909,374	\$ 9,190,000	\$ 4,449,389	\$ 66,075,356	\$ 18,427,252
Due within one year	\$ -	\$ 378,074	\$ -	\$ 363,539	\$ 2,426,033	\$ 1,785,705
Due after one year	8,770,000	4,531,300	9,190,000	4,085,850	63,649,323	16,641,547
Total	\$ 8,770,000	\$ 4,909,374	\$ 9,190,000	\$ 4,449,389	\$ 66,075,356	\$ 18,427,252

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

2.4.2.3 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a comprehensive financial planning tool that identifies and prioritizes current and future major capital asset projects for facilities, infrastructure, and equipment.

The [City’s CIP Schedule for FY 2022-23 through FY 2026-27](#) identifies estimated costs and potential funding sources for capital projects over the next five years in the following categories: Streets & Rights-of-Way, Infrastructure, Information Technology, Facilities, Buildings, and Land, Vehicle and Machinery & Equipment, Future Projects, and Unfunded Projects. Actual project implementation is scheduled and funded as part of the annual budget development process.

The [City’s Ukiah Capital Improvement Map](#) is an interactive way for the public to view the location and description for individual capital projects. There is additional information for individual capital projects available under the map through CIP Category tiles which provide project tiles by capital project name.

The City uses current financial resources, including current revenues and available fund balance or working capital reserves, to finance routine maintenance and repairs of City facilities and equipment. The City uses a combination of current resources (revenues and reserves), interfund borrowing, and debt

financing to fund major capital improvements and some major equipment purchases. Debt financing is typically reserved for purchasing assets with an estimated useful life of more than ten-years. (Ukiah, 2022)

Figure 2-11 FY 2020-21 City of Ukiah Statement of Net Position

City of Ukiah
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2021

	Primary Government		Total
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	
ASSETS			
Cash and investments	\$ 15,763,095	\$ 20,133,777	\$ 35,896,872
Restricted cash and investments	2,864,287	-	2,864,287
Investment in NCPA reserves	-	7,749,546	7,749,546
Accounts receivables (net allowance for uncollectibles)	6,252,963	7,680,913	13,933,876
Notes and loans receivable	121,175	-	121,175
Inventories and prepaids	207,097	1,430,648	1,637,745
Land held for resale	2,435,114	-	2,435,114
Internal balances	943,385	(943,385)	-
Noncurrent assets:			
Notes and loans receivable	11,868,777	5,500	11,874,277
Capital assets not being depreciated:			
Land	4,092,630	7,042,727	11,135,357
Construction in progress	6,971,422	8,470,658	15,442,080
Intangible assets	-	180,000	180,000
Capital assets, net depreciation:			
Buildings and improvements	14,013,246	29,341,998	43,355,244
Infrastructure and network	29,801,312	127,499,366	157,300,678
Machinery equipment and vehicles	3,525,612	5,515,025	9,040,637
Total assets	<u>98,860,115</u>	<u>214,106,773</u>	<u>312,966,888</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflow of resources related to pension	35,276,895	18,409,328	53,686,223
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>35,276,895</u>	<u>18,409,328</u>	<u>53,686,223</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>134,137,010</u>	<u>232,516,101</u>	<u>366,653,111</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	3,998,603	2,232,794	6,231,397
Accrued payroll liabilities	1,241,136	650,835	1,891,971
Interest payable	639,990	311,375	951,365
Deposits payable	-	5,724	5,724
Noncurrent liabilities:			
Due within one year	1,124,841	3,914,868	5,039,709
Due in more than one year	78,801,801	106,385,420	185,187,221
Total liabilities	<u>85,806,371</u>	<u>113,501,016</u>	<u>199,307,387</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred inflow of resources related to pension	436,336	8,893	445,229
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>436,336</u>	<u>8,893</u>	<u>445,229</u>
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	<u>86,242,707</u>	<u>113,509,909</u>	<u>199,752,616</u>
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	50,915,097	126,053,127	176,968,224
Restricted for:			
Housing and community development	13,749,628	-	13,749,628
NCPA Projects	-	251,126	251,126
Parks and recreation:			
Expendable	8,460	-	8,460
Nonexpendable	137,576	-	137,576
Public safety	920,250	-	920,250
Public works	668,822	-	668,822
Unrestricted	(18,505,530)	(7,298,061)	(25,803,591)
Total net position	<u>\$ 47,894,303</u>	<u>\$ 119,006,192</u>	<u>\$ 166,900,495</u>

Source: V&F, 2021.

2.5 Growth

Land use policies, plans, and ordinances guide development and shape the urban fabric of the Ukiah Planning Area. This section provides a snapshot of local land use patterns in Ukiah and examines existing and planned development.

2.5.1 Present and Planned Land Use and Development

2.5.1.1 COMMUNITY PROFILE

Ukiah is a travel and recreation-oriented destination and serves as a hub for Lake, Mendocino, southern Humboldt, and northern Sonoma counties. The Ukiah business environment is positive and well organized. Driven by an active business and tourism alliance, local businesses are community-oriented and engaged in City-business partnerships, including economic development, job creation, tourism, and community events. The City's permanent retail trade area population is approximately 104,000 people with 45,000 within a 10-mile radius. Ukiah's historic downtown area is the center of commercial activity within the community. There are also commercial areas along Orchard/Perkins corridor, Airport Park Boulevard, Perkins Street, as well as much of State Street.

The City's total labor force is approximately 6,960. Unemployment in Ukiah was approximately 6.4 percent in June 2021, down from 15.3 percent in June 2020. Within ten miles, there is a diverse labor force specializing in such occupations as sales, technical and professional services, education, medical, agriculture, and government services, and other specialties. The largest employment sectors in the Ukiah area are: government (county and city); education; healthcare; light industry; and the service and hospitality trades. The agricultural and construction sectors are important, and the transportation/public utilities, wholesale trade, finance/insurance/real estate and manufacturing sectors round out the employment picture. Some of the larger employers in the primary trade area include the Ukiah Valley Medical Center, Ukiah Unified School District, County of Mendocino, City of Ukiah, and Savings Bank of Mendocino County. Approximately 19.14 percent of all jobs in Mendocino County are located within the City of Ukiah.

(V&F, 2021)(Ukiah, 2022)

2.5.1.2 LAND USE PLANNING HISTORY

The 1995 City of Ukiah General Plan, although serving as the City's municipal general plan, was designed as an early area plan for the Ukiah Valley. This effort established a large Planning Area, as well as goals, policies and programs that reflected an area-wide approach. (Ukiah, 2020)

In 2011, Mendocino County adopted the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP), a comprehensive and long-range inter-jurisdictional planning document that defines how the Ukiah Valley will develop in the future. (Ukiah, 2020)

In February 2019, the City of Ukiah, with support from the County of Mendocino and the Airport Land Use Committee initiated a planning effort to prepare an updated compatibility plan for the Ukiah Municipal Airport, entitled the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP). Subsequently, on July 21, 2021, the City adopted the UKIALUCP. The basic function of this airport land use compatibility plan is to promote compatibility between the Airport and surrounding land uses. The plan sets compatibility criteria applicable to local agencies in their preparation or amendment of land use plans and ordinances and to landowners in their design of new development. By maintaining an updated and

compatible airport land use plan, the City provides clarity to developers regarding potential development within areas influenced by the airport. (MCALUC, 2021)

While the 1995 City General Plan has served the community well, the City has initiated an update to refine the Plan, address emerging trends and recent State laws, consider new issues, and remove completed implementation measures. The City General Plan Update is being developed by City staff with direction from the City Council and input from the Planning Commission and the community. Completion is expected by 2023.

In accordance with good planning principles and practices, LAFCo has coordinated with the City's General Plan Update process to prepare a concurrent MSR and SOI Update, which will be analyzed in the City's 2040 General Plan Update and associated Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

2.5.1.3 LAND USE

Existing development in the Ukiah Valley consists of a mix of uses, including agricultural, residential, commercial, and light industrial. The City boundaries encompass 4.72 square miles. Over 33.1 percent of this area is comprised of residential development (i.e., single-family, multifamily, mobile home parks). Public and Quasi-Public uses make up nearly 18.7 percent of the city. Commercial areas comprise 12.2 percent of the city and are concentrated along Main and State Streets and near Highway 101. Parks and open space areas make up 9.74 percent of Ukiah, which include parks, the Ukiah Valley Golf Course, and trails. The table below shows a breakdown of existing land uses based on review provided by the Mendocino County Assessors' Office and considers the taxed use for each parcel. This existing land use of a property does not carry any regulatory significance and may or may not be consistent with the current General Plan land use designation or zoning for the property (Ukiah, 2020)(Ukiah, 2022).

Land Use	Acres	Percent of City Jurisdiction
Agriculture	72.4	2.4
Commercial	376.3	12.3
Industrial	43.4	1.4
Parks and Open Space	299.2	9.7
Public/Quasi-Public	574.9	18.7
Residential	1015.2	33.1
Vacant	239.4	7.8
Undefined	16.3	0.5
Roadways	433.9	14.1
Total	3,071	100.0

Source: Ukiah, 2020.

Single-Family Residential (R-1) zoning is predominant (55%); however, since 2017, a number of multi-family residential projects have been completed or planned for development. These projects are indicative of the City's efforts to appropriately locate housing within City limits with immediate access to needed services, infrastructure and retail (Table 2.10). Additionally, recent large-scale commercial developments include two developments on Airport Boulevard were completed since 2017 (Table 2.10).

Table 2.10 Large Scale Development Projects since 2017

Development Name	Location	Units	Status
Residential Projects			
Willow Terrace	237 East Gobbi Street	38	Completed 2018
Sun House Apartments	170 Cleveland Lane	41	Completed 2018
Main Street Apartments	345 North Main Street	35	Completed 2019
Ukiah Senior Apartments	763 South Oak Street	31	Completed 2021
Live Oak Apartments – Project Homekey	555 South Orchard Avenue	50	30 Units Completed; 20 Units Remain Under Construction, 2022
Acorn Valley Plaza	210 East Gobbi Street	72	Permit Review, 2022
Commercial Projects			
Costco Wholesale	1275 Airport Boulevard	141,000 sq ft	Completed 2018
Holiday Inn Express	1270 Airport Park Boulevard	52,634 sq ft/92 rooms	Completed 2021

In 2012, the City adopted the Downtown Zoning Code (DZC) to encourage the development of a healthy, safe, diverse, compact, and walkable urban community. The DZC created three downtown-specific zoning districts, General Urban (GU), Urban Center (UC), and Downtown Core.

- General Urban (GU) zone allows for mixed-use and urban residential uses in a wide range of building types, from single use and single-family to a mix of uses and multifamily. GU zone allows for residential densities between 10 and 28 du/ac.
- Urban Center (UC) zone allows for higher-density residential and mixed-use buildings that may accommodate retail, office, services, local and regional civic uses, and residential uses. This zone has a tight network of streets with wide sidewalks, regularly spaced street tree planting, and buildings set close to lot frontages. The UC zones allows for residential densities between 15 and 28 du/ac.
- Downtown Core (DC) zone allows the highest density and intensity of development by allowing a wide variety of commercial and residential uses located in mixed-use buildings. This zone has small, walkable blocks with regularly spaced street trees and buildings set at the frontage line. The DC zone allows for residential densities between 15 and 28 du/ac.

Including the aforementioned downtown districts, the City of Ukiah has 11 additional Zoning Districts, organized as follows:

- R1, R1H, R2, and R3 are residential zones ranging from low density hillside single-family to higher density multifamily. Combined, these residential zones account for more than 49 percent of the area within city limits and the majority of the west side. Residential land uses range in density from 1 du/ac in R1H to 28 du/ac in R3.
- Industrial and commercial zones are Manufacturing (M), Community Commercial (C1), Heavy Commercial (C2), and Neighborhood Commercial (CN). Commercial zones are generally situated immediately west of U.S. Route 101 and along North and South State Street, and account for approximately 15 percent of city. Height restrictions for commercial zones are 50 feet in Manufacturing zones, 50 feet in Community Commercial zones, 40 feet in Heavy Commercial zones, and 30 feet in Neighborhood Commercial zones.

- The Public Facilities zone (PF) includes City facilities, parks, and public land. PF is the largest zone in the city, containing approximately 24 percent of the city, including the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Building heights in the Public Facilities zone are restricted to 30 feet for park, school, and fairground buildings, and 40 feet for utility facilities and safety structures.
- Planned Development zones are intended to encourage development by providing more flexibility than is possible through the strict application of the Zoning Code requirements and allowing flexibility of design and the application of new techniques in land development. Large Residential Planned Development sites can be found at the intersection of Empire Drive and Despina Drive, along North Orchard Avenue just north of Clara Avenue, and along South Orchard Avenue just south of East Gobbi Street. Commercial Planned Development is comprised of a large area bounded by Airport Road to the west, U.S. Route 101 to the east, and Talmage Road to the North.

Table 2.11 shows the land distribution of existing land use zones in the City of Ukiah.

Zone	Acres	Percent (%)
Community Commercial (C1)	203.5	7.7
Heavy Commercial (C2)	138.4	5.2
Neighborhood Commercial (CN)	49.6	1.9
Manufacturing (M)	28.5	1.1
Planned Development, Commercial (PDC)	128.5	4.9
Planned Development, Residential (PDR)	91.5	3.5
Public Facilities (PF)	638.3	24.2
Single-Family Residential (R1)	626.0	23.7
Single Family Residential, Hillside (R1H)	489.4	18.6
Medium-Density Residential (R2)	75.1	2.8
High-Density Residential (R3)	108.4	4.1
Downtown Core (DC)	5.2	0.2
General Urban– (GU)	14.7	0.6
Urban Core (UC)	37.7	1.4
Right-of-Way	2.4	0.1
Total	2637.2	100.0

Source: Ukiah, 2020.

In the UVAP, the County supplements its General Plan inland land use classifications, adding several special land use classifications associated with specific parcels within the UVAP planning area. The following new land use classifications are specific to the UVAP planning area:

- Mixed Use North State Street (MUNS)
- Mixed Use Brush Street Triangle (MUBST)
- Mixed Use General (MU-2)

Generally, mixed use and compact development patterns allows greater efficiency and economy in providing public services, conserves agriculture and resource lands, preserves the rural character desired by many of the County’s residents, and can provide more affordable housing. It also encourages more walking and biking, benefiting community health. Both the County’s General Plan and this document

include Mixed Use as a land use option. Within the UVAP, Land Use policies encourage higher population, building and land use density and intensity along appropriately classified roads with existing capacity.

(Ukiah, 2020)

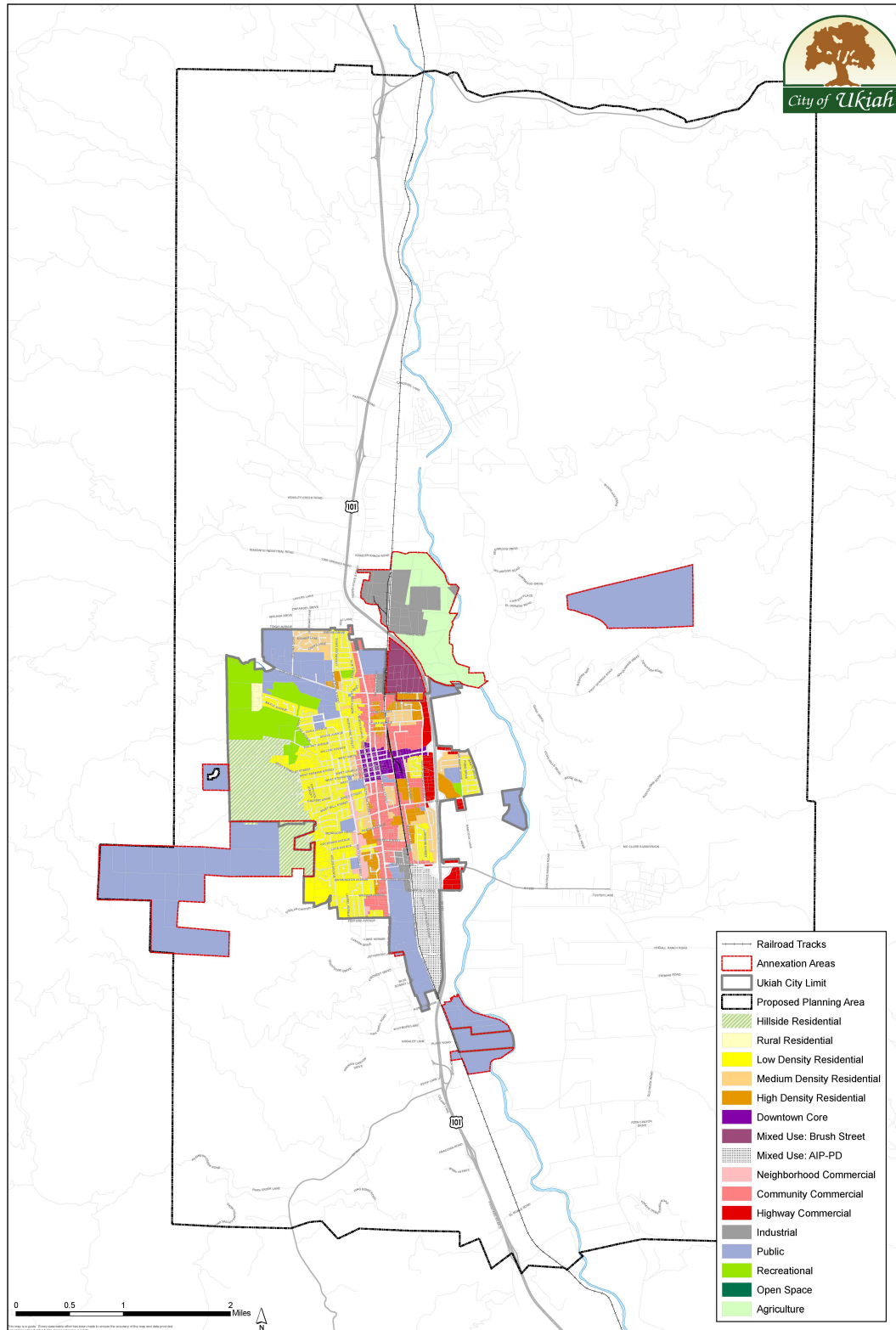
2.5.1.4 DEVELOPMENT

Future development patterns in the Ukiah Valley are anticipated to follow applied zoning and proximity to existing infrastructure, maintaining a north-south pattern following the major transportation corridors. The area within the City limits is approaching build-out and a relatively significant level of urban development has already occurred in areas adjacent to the City, particularly along North State Street. The UVAP effectively maintains these past patterns and inserts new mixed-use and commercial considerations along the US 101 corridor, as well as limited growth in the eastern hills. (LAFCo, 2021)

As part of the City's 2040 General Plan Update, the City is developing an updated land use map that will guide locations of specific land uses, as well as what density/intensity of development will be allowed. (Figure 2-12) In April 2022, the City Council selected a preferred development pattern (Alternative #3) that introduced new, expanded land use designations that provide greater distinction between residential and commercial land use types and align existing land uses with corresponding designations. Four new designations are included to reflect a variety of considerations, including Hillside Residential, Agriculture, Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle, and Mixed Use: AIP-PD. The selected alternative also identified increased residential densities and building intensities (FARs). (Ukiah, 2022b)

Figure 2-12 City of Ukiah 2022 General Plan Update Land Use Diagram

City of Ukiah Planning Area



Source: Ukiah, 2022.

In the 2019 Housing Element process, the City used parcel improvement value data from the County Assessor to identify underutilized parcels. Underutilized sites were classified as parcels where the improvement value was less than \$20,000, which suggested that the parcels were underutilized to a degree that would make them more likely to redevelop within the planning period. As required by State Law, the vacant and underutilized parcel list is updated annually, and is included as **Appendix C** to this MSR. While considered vacant, it is noted that only a handful of these parcels have no intended development within the next ten years. Most are associated with some intended development for expansion or replacement of existing facilities, such as the County Courthouse, hospital, airport, etc.

While not particular to the City of Ukiah, recent updates to State law will inform and encourage more effective use of underutilized properties within the City, as well as bolster additional infill projects. SB 9, as well as various Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) streamlining efforts, including AB 68, AB 881, SB 13, AB 587, AB 670 and AB 671 encourage the use of underutilized properties by reducing the barriers to subdivision or more intensive residential use of existing space. In 2022, the City processed its first SB 9 subdivision. Beginning in 2020, staff notes that 17 applications for ADU construction or conversion have been received by the City.

In the coming years, substantial opportunities for redevelopment or adaptive reuse will arise in the City's downtown. Opportunities include development of a new courthouse along East Perkins Street, as well as redevelopment of the former courthouse site and associated facilities along State Street and School Streets. These future projects follow recent investments along the State Street corridor that included sidewalk widening, curb ramps and bulb outs, street lights, street furniture and tree planting. The project also included a road diet between Henry Street and Mill Street that transformed the existing corridor into a more walkable environment. Additionally, future streetscape improvement projects are proposed along the State Street and Perkins Street corridors in accordance with the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

The California Court system is planning to develop a new courthouse to serve Mendocino County, which will replace two County Courthouses that have been deemed unsafe, overcrowded, and physically deficient court facilities: the main Ukiah Courthouse and the Willits branch. The Mendocino Courthouse in Ukiah dates to the 1950s and is located on a downtown city block between South State and South School Streets, and West Perkins and West Standley Streets. The Willits branch closed at the end of 2009.

The current Courthouse in downtown Ukiah is overcrowded and has significant security deficiencies, functional deficiencies, and problems with access under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As proposed, the new courthouse will be located off East Perkins Street behind the historic train depot. Hospital Drive will be extended into the property, where it will meet with a new extension of East Clay Street. The City is facilitating this development in order to preserve the community's interest in the location and functionality of the project, ensure that "islands" of land that can't be developed aren't created, keep the development compatible with other City plans and projects, and ensure that no negative impacts (parking, drainage, etc.) will result from the project.

The site of the existing courthouse, as well as associated County facilities such as parking lots and administrative offices that may need to be relocated, present substantial opportunity for enhancing the urban fabric of Downtown Ukiah. The proposed courthouse project will provide a new 7-courtroom courthouse of 82,000 square feet and will include secured parking for judicial officers and approximately 160 surface parking spaces for jurors and the public, with solar power generation capability.

Another substantial downtown redevelopment site is the Palace Hotel, which has been vacant since 1995. The building is privately owned, thus complicating the abatement process. Over the last three decades, the City of Ukiah has actively worked to encourage improvements of the nearly 60,000 square foot structure. Various studies, evaluations, and an appraisal were commissioned by the City and/or the Redevelopment Agency in an effort to facilitate repairs. In 2021, the City entered into a purchase agreement, starting a nine-month escrow during which additional due diligence will be performed. If the current purchase agreement closes successfully and other terms of the settlement agreement are reached, redevelopment of the site can commence. (Ukiah, 2022a)

In general, the City of Ukiah has a demonstrated history of attracting new tenants when larger retail properties have become vacant. This includes Home Depot replacing Big Kmart and Kohl's replacing Mervyn's. This trend extends to manufacturing uses as well, where recent cannabis related businesses have been approved to occupy vacant manufacturing/warehouse structures at 902 Waugh Lane (APN 003-090-38), as well as 120 and 150 Brush Street (APN 002-040-32).

2.5.1.4.1 Annexation Efforts

Annexation efforts for the City of Ukiah have been discussed over the last three decades and addressed in multiple planning documents. Themes within these documents include collaboration between cities on regional housing and the need for preservation of open space and agricultural lands. Consistent with direction received from Council, an adopted Annexation Policy, and relevant City and County planning documents, the City of Ukiah intends to pursue annexation of land within the planning period of this study. The areas currently proposed for annexation are identified in Table 2.12.

Annexation Area	LAFCo File No.	Acreage	Status
City-Owned Properties	A-2021-01	+437	Submitted 2020
Western Hills Area	A-2022-02	+707	Submitted 2022
Brush Street/Masonite Area	TBD	+473	Tentatively proposed for 2023
Total		+1,617	

The following provides additional detail about the areas proposed for annexation. Annexation requests and jurisdictional changes must be reviewed and approved first by City Council, then by the County for Tax Share Agreement, and then by LAFCo, and must be located within an agency's SOI, among other requirements.

A: City-Owned Properties: The City proposes to annex approximately 437 acres of non-contiguous City-owned properties acquired by the City for public purposes over the past three decades. The City, however, only recently applied to LAFCo for annexation (LAFCo File No. A-2021-01). City-owned lands proposed for annexation include the following:

- The former landfill site on Vichy Springs Road;
- An airport hanger associated with the Ukiah Municipal Airport along South State Street;
- Landbanked properties, recycled water infrastructure, and a wastewater treatment pond adjacent to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant along Norgard Lane, Taylor Drive and Plant Road;
- The City's Solid Waste Transfer Station located on Plant Road;
- Former fish hatchery and headwaters for Gibson Creek, at the terminus of Standley Street.

As mentioned above, the majority of these properties host City operations such as the WWTP, recycled water system, and a portion of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Other parcels are undeveloped and are to be preserved as open space.

Once annexed, these City-owned properties would continue to be used for their existing uses of agriculture, open space, or municipal function. As such, these lands are proposed to be designated as Public Facilities, and the buildout analysis assumed no new development (aside from potential new or expansion of public facilities) on these sites for the next 20 years.

B: Brush Street/Masonite Area Properties Annexation Area: The City proposes to annex properties totaling approximately 473 acres north of the City limits and consists of areas locally known as the “Masonite” and “Brush Street Triangle”. These areas are located along Kunzler Ranch Road, Ford Road, Masonite Road, Brush Street, Brunner Street, and Orchard Avenue. Development in this area includes some commercial, industrial and manufacturing uses (both existing and decommissioned), as well as areas containing vacant and agricultural land. For the Brush Street Triangle, development assumptions were analyzed by using the current UVAP Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle designation. For the Masonite area, the existing Industrial designation was used. The Agriculture designation is proposed to remain on the areas south of the Masonite site and north of Ford Road that are currently developed with agriculture uses.

C: Western Hills Annexation Area.

This request is concentrated in the hills west of Ukiah. This area contains approximately 752 acres and a portion of that area (707 acres) is being pursued as part of the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021. Approximately 640 acres of this land is currently preserved for open space conservation and is pre-zoned as Public Facilities. Approximately 54 acres of this land would allow for residential development through the creation of seven “Development Parcels,” beginning at the terminus of Redwood Avenue. Parcels eligible for residential uses feature a Single-Family Residential – Hillside Overlay, allowing for a maximum of 14 units total (seven-single family homes and seven accessory dwelling units) upon annexation. Additionally, 14 acres of privately owned property was included in the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement for access to the project parcels. These parcels currently provide access to the project and are also proposed for annexation. Although these parcels are pre-zoned as Single-Family Residential – Hillside Overlay for consistency with surrounding zoning and land uses, they are not included in the Development Agreement and no further development is proposed or expected. Finally, approximately 44 acres of private property are included in this annexation to address existing LAFCo policies and known mapping errors, and to avoid the formation of an unincorporated island. The median size of these privately owned parcels is .94 acres, as the majority are unincorporated remnants of lots already developed within the City along Lookout Drive. As these additional parcels are privately owned, the application of a Public Facilities zoning designation is inappropriate. Therefore, a Single-Family Residential - Hillside Overlay was applied to these fragment and island parcels for consistency.

2.5.2 Existing Population and Projected Growth

Over the past several years, Ukiah’s population has remained relatively static, hovering around 16,000 residents. As of the 2010 U.S. Census, Ukiah had 16,075 residents. In the following years, the estimated population dipped just below 16,000, before growing to an estimated population of 16,296 in 2019. Based on the 2020 Census, the population for the City is 16,607.

Although population growth projections specific to Ukiah are unavailable, the California Department of Finance estimates that Mendocino County as a whole will grow by six percent by 2040, or an average rate of 0.3% annually. (Ukiah, 2020a) As of January, 2022, similar to the State of California, a slight population decline was noted for the City of Ukiah (-0.9%) and County of Mendocino (-0.7%). As of January 1, 2022, the population for the City of Ukiah was 16,228. (DOF, 2022)

Within the City’s 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), the City cites a Department of Finance (DOF) growth rate of 0.36% for their projections. Population projections for 2045 from the UWMP at every five-year increment are shown in the table below (Ukiah, 2020b):

Year	Population
2025	16,350
2030	16,639
2035	16,928
2040	17,217
2045	17,506

Source: Ukiah, 2020b.

2.5.3 Demographics and Housing

Overall, Ukiah has a population that is decreasing in age. The median age, based on 2017 American Community Survey estimates, is 34.8 years old, down from 35.9 in 2010. Much of this change is due to an increased percentage of young adults between 25 and 35 in the City, indicating that young families are moving to Ukiah. This is a major divergence from countywide trends, which suggest, on average, an older and increasingly aging population. In 2010, the median age in the county was 41.5 years old, which increased to 42.4 years old in 2017. Ukiah also has a high percentage of working age residents between 25 and 54, which combine to make up nearly 42% of the population.

While a majority of the population identifies as White (57.3%), nearly a third of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino (32.7%). This differs from Mendocino County as a whole where just 24.5% of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino. Approximately 30% of Ukiah residents speak a primary language other than English, compared to a countywide average of approximately 22%.

The California DOF estimates that in January 2018, the majority (55%) of the City’s housing stock was single-family detached homes. The second most common type of housing was multifamily (19%), which includes apartments and condominiums. In 2018, there were significantly less 2-unit to 4-unit complexes or mobile homes. From 2013-2017, Ukiah had a higher rate of overcrowding in owner-occupied households at 6.3% compared to statewide rate of 4.0%. However, statewide, there was significantly more overcrowding in renter-occupied housing at 13.3% compared to 2.9% in Ukiah.

Over 90% of all housing stock in the City of Ukiah was built prior to 1990 and is over 30 years of age. Only 10% of housing stock is newer, and until quite recently very few new housing units were constructed. From 2013-2017, Ukiah had a higher rate of overcrowding in owner-occupied households at 6.3% compared to statewide rate of 4.0%. However, statewide, there was significantly more overcrowding in renter-occupied housing at 13.3% compared to 2.9% in Ukiah.

State law requires each city and county to plan for its “fair share” of the statewide housing need. This fair share is calculated through a process called the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). For the sixth cycle RHNA projection period from December 31, 2018 to August 15, 2027, the City of Ukiah was assigned a RHNA of 239 units. Even after accounting for the difference in the number of years in this cycle compared to the 2014-2019 cycle, the 2018-2027 RHNA is significantly higher (more than 200 percent) than the 2014-2019 RHNA at 45 units.

(Ukiah, 2020a)

In general, the City continues to make adequate progress on its assigned RHNA. In 2021, the City reported completion of 86 of the required 239 units with 5 years remaining in the accounting period.

Income Level	Units Required	Units Issued	Units Remaining
Very Low	86	30	56
Low	72	33	39
Moderate	49	11	38
Above Moderate	32	12	20

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

2.6 Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

Senate Bill (SB) 244, which became effective in January 2012, requires LAFCo to evaluate any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs), including the location and characteristics of any such communities, when preparing an MSR that addresses agencies that provide water, wastewater, or structural fire protection services. A DUC is an unincorporated geographic area with 12 or more registered voters with a median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the State MHI of \$80,440 or \$64,000 (USCB, 2019c). This State legislation is intended to ensure that the needs of these communities are met when considering service extensions and/or annexations in unincorporated areas.

2.6.1 CALAFCO DUC Mapping

Three DUCs were identified per the [CALAFCO Statewide DUC Mapping Tool](#), which is based on the American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2015-2019) and updated March 2022. The mapping parameters meet the definition of DUCs per SB 244 and utilizes a threshold of 50 registered voters to identify communities. The following DUCs are located Adjacent to the City of Ukiah (CALAFCO, 2022).

- DUC #1: Ukiah SXSW
- DUC #2: Norgard/Airport South
- DUC #3: Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates)

2.6.2 City General Plan Update DUC Analysis

As defined under Government Code Section 65302.10, the DUCs identified below for the City of Ukiah 2040 Land Use Element are detailed in Table 2.15 and shown in Figure 2-13. The DUCs of ‘Talmage’ and ‘The Forks’ were identified by the County of Mendocino in their 6th Cycle Housing Element and for consistency are included in this review.

- 1) Ukiah SXSW

- 2) Norgard/Airport South
- 3) Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates)
- 4) Talmage
- 5) The Forks

Table 2.15 Infrastructure in Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities – City of Ukiah 2022					
DUC Identifier	Water	Wastewater	Storm-Water	Fire Protection	Underserved
South - City of Ukiah City Limits					
Ukiah SXSX - DUC	■	■	■	■	■
Norgard/ Airport South – DUC	■	■	■	■	■
North - City of Ukiah City Limits					
Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates) – DUC	■	■	■	■	■
Mendocino County Housing Element DUCs					
The Forks - DUC	■	■	■	■	■
Talmage - DUC	■	■	■	■	■
KEY:					
■ No Deficiencies					
■ Deficient					

Ukiah SXSX (DUC #1): The Ukiah SXSX DUC is located adjacent to the southwestern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County. This area spans from Beacon Lane to Gobalet Lane and includes ±586 parcels totaling ±286 acres with a mixture of single-family, mobile-home and multi-family residential units. Considered a ‘Fringe Community’, this DUC is within the existing and proposed Sphere of Influence for the City of Ukiah, and was first identified by the City of Ukiah in 2019.

While the DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those finalized, the City has updated the boundaries to remove parcels not contiguous to City limits or the DUC itself. The community is associated with Block Group 2, Census Tract 113, which has a MHI of approximately \$44,229.

Norgard/Airport South (DUC #2): The Norgard/Airport South DUC is located adjacent to the southern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County to the north of Norgard Lane. Considered a ‘Fringe Community’, it is within the existing and proposed Sphere of Influence for the City of Ukiah. Approximately half of this DUC was identified by the City of Ukiah in 2019. Presently, this area includes 36 parcels totaling nearly 15 acres. It is adjacent to the Ukiah Municipal Airport, and is bifurcated by U.S. Route 101 (US 101).

While the DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those finalized, the City has modified this boundary to include similar residential development to the east of the US 101. The community on the eastern side of the US 101 is within a different Census Block Group, which is a potential reason why it was not included with the previous analysis.

Additional considerations for this DUC include development limitations created by the associated Airport Compatibility Zones, as well as the applied non-residential zoning designations of industrial (Light-Industrial – I 1) and agricultural (AG 40). The community is primarily associated with Block Group 3, Census Tract 116, which has a MHI of approximately \$31,344. Again, a portion of the community also exists in Block Group 2, which is substantially wealthier.

According to the County of Mendocino Geographic Information System (GIS), as well as FEMA flood maps, portions of the community, particularly along Norgard Lane, are within the 100-year floodplain. With limited storm-water infrastructure, flood-events for this DUC are likely to be more severe and frequent in the future. Both Pomo Lane and Townswend Lane are considered private, and are not publicly maintained. Stormwater drainage capture and transport appear non-existent within this community. Even roadside ditches, used to manage and transport stormwater runoff, appear limited. There does appear to be some curbs diverting water in front of at least one (1) residential property along Norgard Lane, but it does appear installed as part of a planned system. Due to these conditions, the Norgard/Airport South DUC is considered underserved for stormwater, and is underserved overall due to the constraints of zoning, noise, airport land use, and flooding.

Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates) (DUC #3): This Empire Gardens DUC is adjacent to the northern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County. Considered a ‘Fringe Community’, it is within the existing and proposed Sphere of Influence for the City of Ukiah, and was identified as a DUC by the City of Ukiah in 2019. This area includes 295 parcels spanning approximately 66 acres that feature a mixture of single-family, duplexes and multifamily residential.

While the DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those finalized, the City has modified the boundaries, as previous iterations included a gap between the City boundary and the identified DUC. Additionally, the DUC as identified by CALAFCO included portions of active agricultural land, as well tribal properties.

The community is associated with Block Group 1, Census Tract 113, which has a MHI of approximately \$47,833

The Forks (DUC #4): The Forks DUC is located due north of Ukiah and one mile west of Lake Mendocino. It was originally identified by the County of Mendocino and the City of Ukiah in their respective 6th Cycle Housing Elements. Considered a ‘Fringe Community’, it is within the existing and proposed Sphere of Influence for the City of Ukiah. The Forks DUC was not identified by the CALAFCO Statewide DUC Mapping Tool, but is included to ensure consistency with the County of Mendocino’s Housing Element, as it is located within the City’s proposed Sphere of Influence.

The existing residential land uses located in The Forks DUC consist of approximately 75 housing units on approximately 85 acres. The current Mendocino County zoning is primarily Suburban Residential (SR), although there are some agricultural parcels as well. Surrounding land uses consist mainly of low-density residential uses, but the DUC itself includes the mobile-home park communities of “Happiness Is” and ‘Lake Mendocino Mobile Home Estates’. The West Fork Estates subdivision was not included or identified as part of this DUC. Per the County of Mendocino’s Housing Element, The Forks DUC has a median household income of \$53,735 or lower.

Talmage (DUC #5): The Talmage DUC is located one mile southwest of Ukiah along Talmage Road and bounded by Mill Creek to the south. Existing residential land uses located in Talmage DUC consist of

approximately 136 housing units within an area of 49 acres, leading to an average density of 2.8 dwelling units per acre. The current Mendocino County zoning in Talmage DUC is Suburban Residential (SR), Multi-Family Residential (R3), and Inland Limited Commercial (C1). Surrounding land uses consist mainly of agricultural and low-density residential uses. The Census tract where Talmage DUC is located contains median household incomes of \$53,735 or lower. Presently, there is no wastewater collection and treatment system in Talmage DUC. Talmage DUC is considered underserved for wastewater and storm-water infrastructure.

2.6.3 City General Plan Update – Environmental Justice Policies

As required by State Law, environmental justice objectives and policies should seek to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities through strategies such as reducing pollution exposure, improving air quality, and promoting public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity; promote civil engagement in the public decision-making process; and prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities. Included below are some of the policies identified in Section 2.7 (Environmental Justice) of the City’s 2040 General Plan.

2040 General Plan Goals and Policies

Goal: LU-12: To ensure that land use decisions do not adversely impact disadvantaged individuals and groups differently than the population as a whole.

- **Policy: LU 12.2: Disproportionate Land Use Impacts** - The City shall evaluate and avoid, reduce, or mitigate disproportionate adverse health and safety impacts of land use decisions on identified disadvantaged communities.
- **Policy: LU 12.3: Coordination on Siting of Utilities** - The City shall coordinate with utility providers in the siting, site layout, and design of gas and electric facilities, including changes to existing facilities, to minimize environmental, and safety impacts on disadvantaged communities.

Goal: LU-14: To develop, implement, and enforce policies to ensure access to safe and sanitary housing throughout the community.

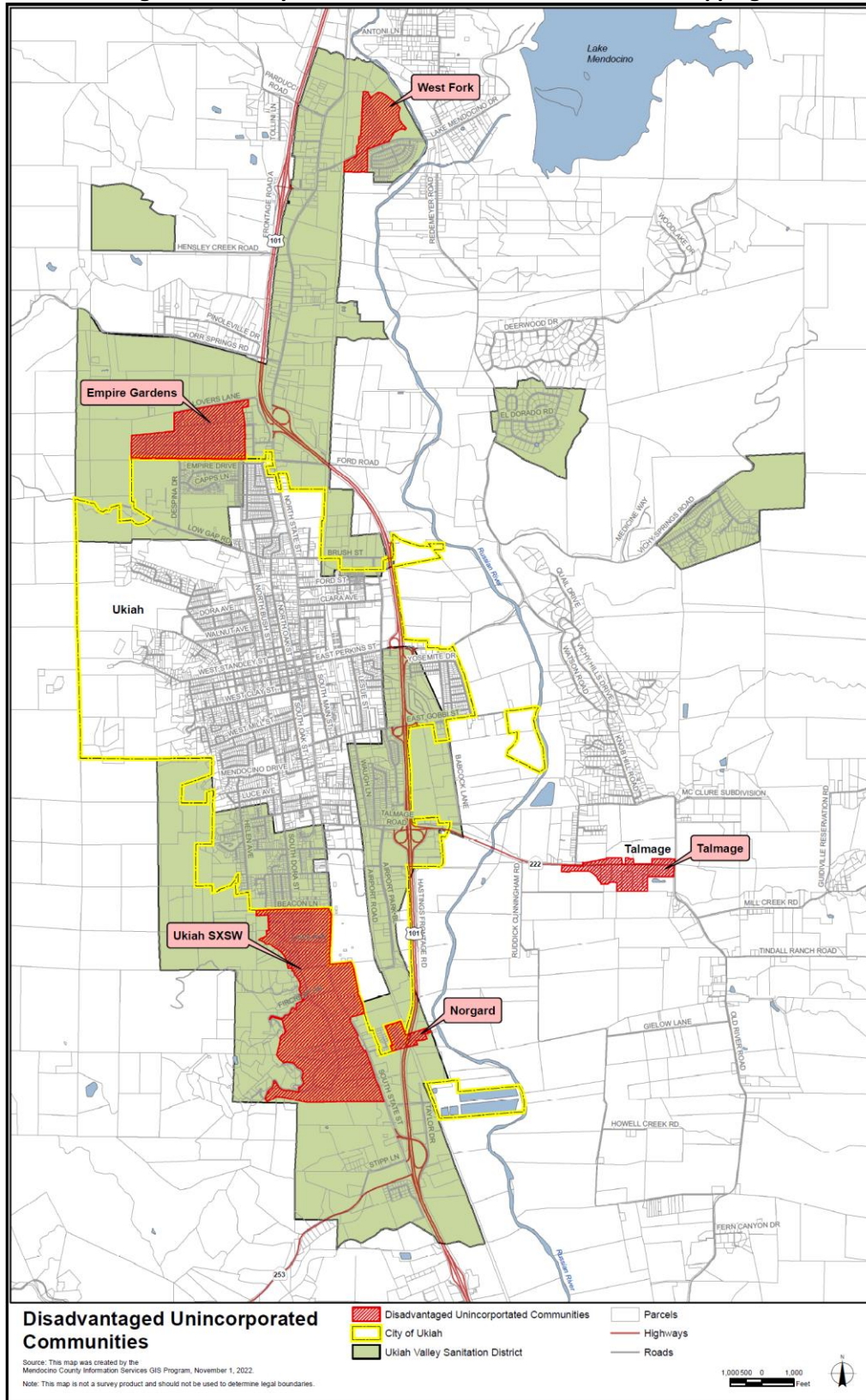
- **Policy: LU 14.1: Code Enforcement** - The City shall prioritize code enforcement for rental housing in disadvantaged communities to assure safe, sanitary housing.
- **Policy: LU 14.2: Clean and Safe Drinking Water** - The City shall ensure access to clean and safe drinking water for all community members.

Goal: LU-15: To promote meaningful dialogue and collaboration between members of disadvantaged communities and decision-makers to advance social and economic equity.

- **Policy: LU 15.1: Community Input** - The City shall continue to facilitate opportunities for disadvantaged community residents and stakeholders to provide meaningful and effective input on proposed planning activities early on and continuously throughout the public review process.
- **Policy: LU-15.3: Public Engagement** - The City shall hold special meetings, workshops, and other public engagement opportunities at times and locations that make it convenient for disadvantaged community members to attend, particularly stakeholders who are the most likely to be directly affected by the outcome.

(Ukiah, 2022c)

Figure 2-13 - City of Ukiah 2040 Land Use Element DUC Mapping



3 MUNICIPAL SERVICES

3.1 Service Overview

A Municipal Service Review (MSR) is a comprehensive analysis of the services provided by a local government agency to evaluate the capabilities of that agency to meet the public service needs of their current and future service area. The MSR determinations inform the SOI Update process and assist LAFCo in considering the appropriateness of a public service provider’s existing and future service area boundary. The information and analysis presented in Chapters 2 and 3 of this document form the basis for the MSR determinations provided under Section 3.7.

3.1.1 Services

One of the core responsibilities of a City is to ensure provision of public facilities and services to its residents. Public facilities and services contribute to the quality of life for both individuals and groups in the community. A key consideration in the MSR process is planning adequate public facilities, services, and infrastructure to accommodate future growth and changes.

This section provides information regarding the wide range of municipal services provided by the City of Ukiah, including the following:

- General Government
- Finance
- Public Safety
- Community Development
- Community Services (Parks and Recreation)
- Public Works
- Water & Recycled Water
- Wastewater
- Airport
- Electrical Utility

Additional municipal services are provided to City residents by other public agencies through agreements and Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and by private businesses through service contracts. This MSR only reviews services provided by the City. This is the second MSR prepared for the City; the first one was adopted by the Commission on September 4, 2012.

Table 3.1 shows the services provided in the City and adjacent areas. The City of Ukiah is a full-service city, providing services through city departments. Unique for its size is the City’s electric utility and airport. As seen in the table, special districts also provide services within the City’s boundary. The Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) boundaries include portions of Ukiah. Additionally, the Willow County Water District (WCWD).

Table 3.1 Services Provision in the Ukiah Valley by Agency

Service	City	UVSD	UVFA	Willow	Millview	RRFC ¹	County	BLM & USACE
Airport	●							
Animal Control ²	●						●	
Electric Utility	●							
Fire			●					
Law Enforcement	●						●	
Parks & Recreation ²	●						●	●

Public Works	●							
Public Health							●	
Storm-Water	●							
Wastewater	●	●						
Water	●			●	●	●		
Recycled Water	●							

¹Wholesale Provider
²Shared operations and/or maintenance:
 ○ Animal Control: The County maintains the facility on City property and Ukiah Community Service Officers respond to animal control issues within the City limits.
 Parks & Recreation: Low – Gap Park (Trail Creation and Maintenance)

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

3.1.2 Service Area

The City limits is 4.7-square miles in size and located along the busy Highway 101 corridor and near the east/west intersection with Highway 20, providing access to the Central Valley and Coast. Refer to Section 2.1.3 for a detailed description of the City’s jurisdictional boundary. (V&F, 2021)

The City serves a resident population of approximately 16,000. In addition, the weekday population can increase to as much as 40,000 or more because the City of Ukiah is the Mendocino County seat and the business/education/shopping center for much of Mendocino, Lake, southern Humboldt, and northern Sonoma Counties. There are also large influxes of visitors to the Ukiah Valley area during the summer tourist season, as well as for special events such as Concerts in the Park and Pumpkinfest. (V&F, 2021)

There is a common area between the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) service areas, known as the “overlap area” and represents roughly one-third of City residents, which was created when the City incorporated this area without a concurrent detachment from the District.

3.1.3 Out-of-Agency Services

The City has agreed to provide municipal water Out-of-Agency Services (OAS) to a single parcel to serve up to 151 units of affordable housing through a LAFCo approved OAS agreement (LAFCo Resolution No. 2004-01). As of June 2022, 80 units of supportive housing have been constructed in conjunction with *Orr Creek Commons*, located in the Brush Street Triangle area. In 2022, the County of Mendocino approved the subject parcel for subdivision. It is the intention of the developer (RCHDC) to construct an additional 32 units of multi-family affordable housing on the resulting lot. (Mendocino, 2022)

3.2 Administration

3.2.1 Staffing

The City of Ukiah operates a full range of municipal functions including public safety, public works, community development, and community services. The City provides electric, water, and wastewater utilities for its residents and operates an airport, golf course, museum, and conference center. In fiscal year (FY) 2021-2022, the City had 231 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees budgeted, nearly half of whom work in administrative and technical roles. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.2.1.1 CITY MANAGER

The City Manager's Office is a department consisting of seven divisions: City Manager, City-Wide Administration, Community Outreach, City Clerk, Economic Development, Visit Ukiah, Emergency

Management; and the Redevelopment Successor Agency. The daily business of City operations is the responsibility of the City Manager who is appointed by the City Council. The City Manager prepares recommendations and implements the policy direction approved by the Council. The City Manager is also responsible for the administration of services provided by the City. Each department reports to the City Manager.

The City Council/City Manager Administrative Support role involves providing direct support for office services and meeting management. The Public Relations and Communications role involves informing, engaging, educating, and interacting with the people the City government serves, as well as with regional partners and the media. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.2.1.2 CITY CLERK

The City Clerk's office serves the City Council and is a resource for the public and City staff, as well as functioning as administrative support for the City Manager's office. The City Clerk conducts municipal elections, and is also charged with keeping and maintaining complete and accurate records for the City and other related proceedings; maintaining the Municipal Code; assisting in the filing of Campaign Statements and Statements of Economic Interests; publishing all ordinances adopted by Council; posting notices of hearings, bid openings, Board and Commission vacancies, and other legal notices; receiving claims and court documents; processing Public Record Act requests; administering the Records Management Program; Recruiting and Maintaining the Qualified Contractors List; and maintaining a comprehensive historical collection of documents; and writing staff reports to Council throughout the year. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.2.1.3 CITY ATTORNEY

The City of Ukiah contracts with David Rapport, City Attorney, and Darcy Vaughn, Deputy City Attorney, for the provision of general legal services, to provide sound, timely, and cost-effective legal advice and representation to the City Council, Commissions, Boards, City officers, and staff. Responsibilities, include:

- Provide legal representation to the City
 - Review contracts, leases, agreements, and other documents
 - Assist with the formation of policy, regulations, and ordinances
 - Assess claims and other risk management issues
- (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3 Community Development

The Community Development Department is comprised of the following five integrated divisions.

- Planning Division
 - Building and Code Enforcement Services Division
 - Housing Services Division
 - Grants Management Division
 - Fire Prevention Services Division
- (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.1.1.1 Planning Division

The Planning Services Division assists with planning for the City's future development and maintains and implements the City's General Plan, while also providing information to the public and processing applications related to planning permits, zoning, and development requirements.

The Division also provides primary staff support to the Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator, Design Review Board, Building Appeals Board, as well as the Demolition Permit Review Committee. The Division supports and assists with the City Engineer and Traffic Engineering Committee. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.1.1.2 Building and Code Enforcement Division

The Building and Code Enforcement Services Division is responsible for reviewing plans, issuing building permits, performing field inspections, and monitoring building code enforcement activities to ensure compliance with local and state mandated regulations related to building construction, maintenance, rehabilitation, and accessibility. The Division partners with the Ukiah Police Department for code enforcement activities and to ensure building safety. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.1.1.3 Housing Services Division

The Housing Services Division administers and implements the City's federal, state, and local housing and community development programs to improve and expand the City's housing stock and assist in the development of economic opportunities for residents. Housing Services also coordinates the City's housing efforts and implementation of the General Plan Housing Element with Planning Division staff and partners with the City Manager's Office to implement business assistance loan activities. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.1.1.4 Grants Management Division

Grants Management is a division of the Community Development Department. Grants Management acquires grant funds and provides grant seeking, coordination and grants management to City departments to assist in the delivery and/or improvement of City services, expand housing and economic opportunities for the Ukiah community, and to supplement limited City resources. (Ukiah, 2022a)

The largest funding sources for Division programs include the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.1.1.5 Fire Prevention Services Division

Fire Prevention is a division of the Community Development Department and works in partnership and close coordination with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to provide fire code plan check services, the issuing of fire prevention permits, and fire code-related inspection services. The Division also works closely with Code Enforcement on fire prevention enforcement issues such as weed abatement and tire storage. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.3.2 Service Adequacy

3.3.2.1 CHALLENGES

Needs: Enhanced GIS and Mapping, Electronic Permit System, and Digitalization of Records.

Challenges: State Law Updates and Mandates, CEQA Complexity.

3.4 [Airport](#)

The Ukiah Municipal Airport (UKI) provides an important alternative form of transportation and emergency access for Ukiah and is situated on 160 acres at the south end of the City. The Ukiah Municipal

Airport has been owned and operated by the City of Ukiah since the 1930s. Several companies, including Federal Express and Calstar, are longstanding users of its facilities, and the airport serves as a CAL FIRE air attack base to combat wildfires throughout the region, including coordinated suppression efforts with the United States Forest Service across Mendocino, Lake, Trinity, Sonoma, and Tehama Counties.

3.4.1 Service Overview

The operations and maintenance activities of the airport include management, supervision and training of staff as well as the upkeep of facilities and equipment. Services include freight operations, flight instruction, charter flights, sales and rental, as well as emergency services, including search and rescue, fire suppression, and medical air ambulance flights to nearby medical facilities.

Per the *Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (2021)*, 30,916 annual operations are expected by 2040. This forecast is double the 2019 activity level of 15,458 annual operations and is representative of the airport's current condition and potential growth, especially as it relates to potential increase in wildfire activity across Northern California. (MCALUC, 2021)

3.4.1.1 STAFFING

Per the FY 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, the Airport was allocated the following positions and employed approximately five (5) individuals:

- Airport Manager
- Airport Assistant
- Airport Attendant
- Airport Attendant (part-time)
- Airport Grounds Maintenance Attendant (part-time)

The City estimates that an additional 126 employees are supported by operations of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.4.2 Facilities and Capacity

The Ukiah Municipal Airport sits on 160 acres at the south end of Ukiah. The Airport has one asphalt runway, Runway 15-33, which is currently 4,451 feet in length, 150 feet wide and 31 years old. The Airport has three instrument approach procedures:

- RNAV (GPS) Procedure – Circling (as low as 1 ¼ mile visibility minimums)
- VOR procedure – Circling (as low as 1 ¼ mile visibility minimums)
- Localizer Procedure – Runway 15 (as low as 1 ¼ mile visibility minimums)

The existing Airport Reference Code (ARC) at Ukiah Municipal Airport is B-II. The ARC is based on the largest aircraft that operates at least 500 times per year at the Airport. For Ukiah Municipal Airport, the aircraft meeting that requirement is the Beechcraft King Air. The Airport's existing layout satisfies safety standards for a B-II airport.

With regard to fueling service, the Airport maintains two fuel trucks holding 5,000 gallons (Jet A truck) and 750 gallons (Avgas truck) of fuel; 12,000 gallons self-service Avgas storage tank; and a 20,000-gallon bulk fuel storage tank that is split, but currently is only used to store 8,000 gallons of Jet A fuel.

Other improvements at the Airport include the terminal office building, a 75-slot parking lot, 4 tie-down areas, and 10 conventional hangars. The tie-down areas can accommodate 65 aircraft. In addition, there are two T-hangar buildings with a capacity to store approximately 20 aircraft and a shade hangar with a capacity of 24 aircraft. In total, approximately 100 aircraft are based at the Airport with a capacity for 109. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.4.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The current master plan for the Ukiah Municipal Airport was adopted by the City in 1996. The Airport Layout Plan drawing was approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in January 2016 and illustrates proposed alterations to the airfield system. The principal development proposal shown on the Airport Layout Plan is extending the Runway 15 end 465 feet north.

In November 2020, the Ukiah City Council unanimously approved a recommendation to the ALUC that the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP) protect for a future 5,000-foot runway to accommodate operations by CalFire Lockheed C-130 fire attack aircraft.

(MCALUC, 2021)

On February 3, 2022, the Ukiah City Council commenced an Exploratory Study to determine the feasibility of extending the Ukiah Municipal Airport Runway 15/33 to a total length of 5,000 feet; this would require an extension of 577 feet. This study is funded by the City of Ukiah with no participation from the FAA.

3.4.3 Service Adequacy

3.4.3.1 CHALLENGES

As is common in communities with airports, the Ukiah Municipal Airport faced pressure from nearby development. Land use conflicts among adjacent uses, such as residential, commercial, industrial or aviation-related uses, often occur as density of development increases near airports. At the same time, the airport land use restrictions, to a certain extent, limit infill potential in both the City and the unincorporated County. Because airport planning matters involve both jurisdictions, City-County cooperation is essential in planning for the viable operation of the airport.

Per the UVAP, it is important to maintain consistent City-County land use regulations that protect the airspace to ensure safe flight operations, minimize hazards on the ground in the event of a crash, and minimize noise impacts to surrounding development. Adhering to airport compatibility guidelines by strategically planning for acceptable types of uses and density of development near the airport will enhance safety and minimize potential land use conflicts. The adoption of the UKIALUCP in 2021 addressed many of these associated challenges.

3.5 Animal Control

Animal control services for the City of Ukiah are shared between the County of Mendocino and the Ukiah Police Department. Ukiah's Community Service Officers work closely with the Mendocino County Department of Animal Care Services that operates out of the Ukiah Animal Shelter located at 298 Plant Road, Ukiah, CA.

3.5.1 Service Overview

Services provided in the field by the Mendocino County Department of Animal Care Services are rabies prevention, impounding stray or lost animals, responding to injured or sick animals, investigating suspected cruelty to animals and promoting responsible pet ownership.

In 2021, the City of Ukiah Community Service Officers responded to 396 Animal Complaint calls, and worked closely with the Department of Animal Care Services. The City of Ukiah is responsible for responding to most animal related concerns or complaints within City limits. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.5.1.1 STAFFING

Per the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, the Ukiah Police Department allocated four (4) Community Service Officers that were responsible for parking and animal control related issues. The Police Department funds the Community Service Officer positions, and the City of Ukiah funds its proportional share of the animal shelter and related services, which is operated by the Mendocino County Department of Animal Care Services.

3.5.2 Facilities and Capacity

The Mendocino County Department of Animal Care Services operates out of the Animal Shelter located at 298 Plant Road, Ukiah, CA. The facility and subject property are owned by the County of Mendocino, but located within the City-limits. The City's FY 2021-22 budget appropriated \$95,000 to animal control related costs. The County Animal Shelter is located within City limits at 298 Plant Road adjacent to the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility. Additionally, per agreement with the County, the City does not collect associated license fees for dogs, which further contributes to the operation of shared facilities and services. (Personal Communication: Sage Sangiacomo and Dan Buffalo)

3.5.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

There are no plans to expand the animal shelter even though the Ukiah and Fort Bragg facilities generally operate at or near capacity.

3.5.3 Service Adequacy

The Mendocino County Animal Shelters can house approximately 60 dogs and 60 cats at 100% occupancy. The Ukiah animal shelter has been operating near capacity for a number of years, and was at 100% capacity in June 2022 (Mendocino, 2022).

3.5.3.1 CHALLENGES

During the pandemic stay-at-home orders, there was an increase in dog ownership that was not successful in the long-term and has resulted in especially high occupancy levels in dog kennels. (Mendocino, 2022)

3.6 [Electric Utility](#)

The Electric Utility Department oversees the procurement of wholesale power and energy sales; maintains and operates the electricity distribution system; and provides advanced engineering and planning for improvements, replacement, and expansion of the distribution system. In addition, the Department provides engineering services to new commercial and residential development projects. The Department also maintains the City's streetlights and provides engineering support to other City Departments.

3.6.1 Service Overview

The Ukiah Electric Utility Department is Mendocino County's only municipal-owned electric utility, supplying electricity to more than 16,000 residents and 2,000 businesses. The Electric Utility Department is a department that consists of three divisions (Distribution, Technical Services, and Administration). The Distribution Division provides skilled construction services supporting the customer's electric needs. The Division also provides a wide range of services including contract administration, inspection and 24/7 emergency response services supporting first responders.

The Technical Services Division is responsible for the operation, maintenance, testing and calibration of the Department's substation, hydroelectric plant, metering, protection and control systems used for generation, distribution, and communication systems. Responsibilities include High Voltage maintenance of circuit breakers, switchgear and power transformers, which are necessary and critical to the Department's operation. The Division plans and schedules work on the Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant (LMHP) internally and externally with the United States Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fish & Wildlife, Sonoma Water Agency and Northern California Power Agency (NCPA). The team deals with a wide variety of advanced systems that provide control and protection of the Utility's most critical systems.

The Administration Division provides the financial and organizational oversight of the department. Additionally, other duties include; system design and engineering, administrative support, energy resource purchasing, system planning and management of the Public Benefit Program. This Division develops rates and rate structures, establishes department policies, goals and objectives, monitors cash flow, capital and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) budgets, and coordinates training that develops each individual to their full potential for the department. (Ukiah, 2022a)(LAFCo, 2012)

3.6.1.1 STAFFING

Per the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, the Electric Utility was allocated the following positions and employed approximately 21 individuals across the following Personnel Division:

- Professional – 6
 - Management – 3
 - Administration and Technical- 10.96
 - Executive - 1
- (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.6.2 Facilities and Capacity

As of 2021, the electric utility serves 6,665 residential and 1,677 commercial customers for a total of 8,342 customers. The department operates the Lake Mendocino Hydro Plant, which has the capability to produce 3.5MW, and yields an annual production of 10,000 MWh. The lake is a result of the Coyote Dam, which straddles the East Fork of the Russian River. Water flowing through the dam's outlet conduit is used to power turbines that generate electricity at the plant. The Coyote dam and structures are operated and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The USACE has the responsibility for flood control releases. The Ukiah Electric Department also receives power from generation facilities, jointly owned with other utilities and operated by Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), and through power purchase contracts. (LAFCo, 2012)(Personal Communication: Cindy Sauers)

Name	Location
Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant	1229 Lake Mendocino Drive
Distribution System	40 miles UG cable 36 miles OH conductor Transformers & switchgear
Orchard Street Substation	724 South Orchard Avenue
Electric Service Center (to be completed by 2023)	1350 Hastings Road

Source: LAFCo, 2012; Ukiah, 2022; Personal Communication: Cindy Sauers.

3.6.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Currently, offices for the Distribution and Technical Services Division are located in 40-year old temporary modular buildings with no foundation. The electrical construction and maintenance materials are stored in an unsealed, non-insulated tin building. The Electric Service Center property at 1350 Hastings Road was purchased to house all divisions and provide adequate warehousing for materials and equipment. Site improvements on the new Electric Service Center were completed in 2021. As of 2022, design for the interior remodel is underway. (Ukiah, 2022a)

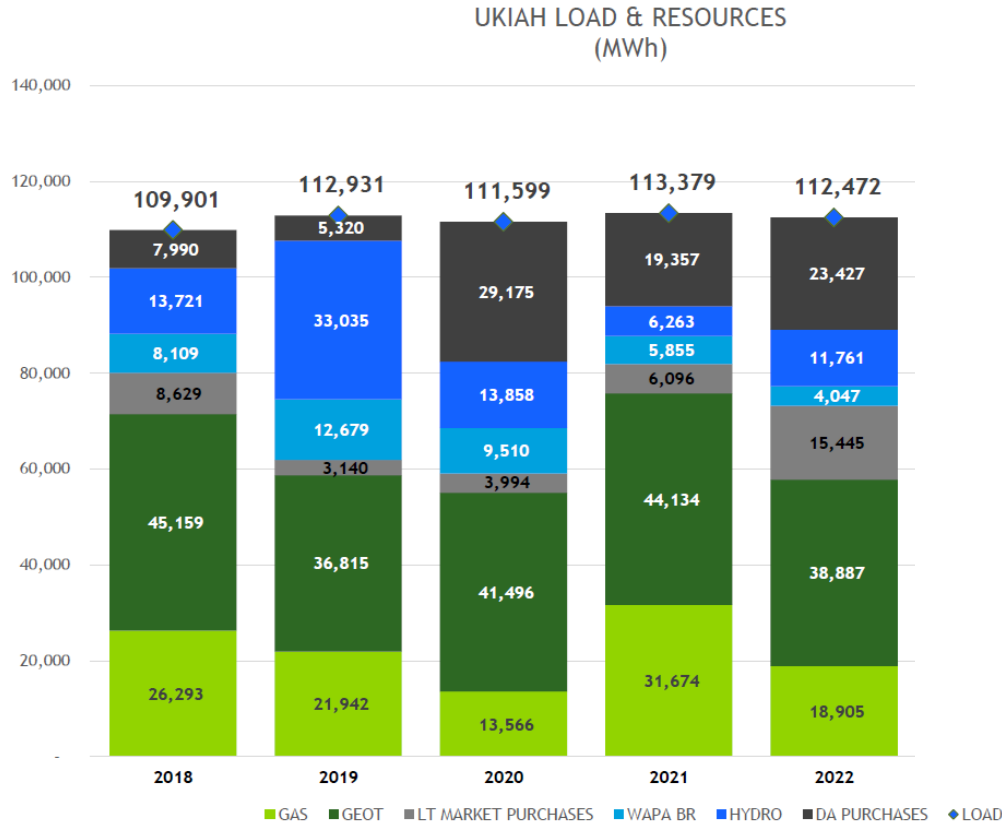
3.6.3 Service Adequacy

The Electric Utility Department produces up to 3.5MW at Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant and also receives power from jointly owned generation facilities and through power purchase contracts. Power is delivered to the Orchard Street substation, which serves as the main distribution center and has adequate capacity to serve current demand.

As the City grows, additional energy resources will be procured, and subsequent energy facilities will be built systematically to meet additional load. The City's 2021 Power Content Label lists Ukiah's energy resources as 38.8 percent eligible renewable which exceeds its renewable energy source requirement of 33 percent in 2020.

The figure below shows the historic energy use demand for the City and the different energy sources.

Figure 3-1 City of Ukiah Electricity Portfolio



Source: Ukiah, 2022a.

The Electric Utility has sufficient capacity to meet power needs of the City, and should there be an anticipated shortage, the City has the ability to purchase additional power from jointly owned generation facilities and through power purchase contracts.

3.6.3.1 CHALLENGES

The Electric Utility Department faces many challenges, including increasing energy prices and drought, which directly impacts the supply for the energy market. Additionally, keeping up with the State goals for climate while balancing resources and keeping rates low for City customers is a challenge.

3.7 Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Emergency services within the City of Ukiah are provided through the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA), a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) under which the Ukiah Fire Department and Ukiah Valley Fire District (UVFD) seamlessly operate and manage the provision of services. The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority responds to fires, medical emergencies, traffic collisions, technical rescues, hazardous materials, explosions, floods and earthquakes, as well as non-emergency public service calls, through a consistent state of readiness. Volunteer Firefighters participate in training activities and augment career staffing during emergency and non-emergency activities.

For purposes of this MSR, the description of services and analysis will be focused on the UVFA. Unless noted otherwise, all information in this section is sourced from the 2021 UVFD MSR/SOI Update.

3.7.1 Service Overview

The UVFA is organized into five divisions: Administration, Operations, Emergency Medical Services, Training and Safety, and Fire Prevention. The Administration division provides leadership and management to the operations, training and safety, and fire prevention activities, including the implementation and liaison of the financial and general services provided by the City of Ukiah. The Administration division also supports the UVFA Board and FEC functions.

The Operations division provides emergency response to fires, medical emergencies, traffic collisions, technical rescues, hazardous materials, explosions, floods and earthquakes, as well as non-emergency public service calls, through a consistent state of readiness. Volunteer firefighters participate in training activities and augment career staffing during emergency and non-emergency activities.

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division oversees the training, continuous quality improvement (CQI), and continuing education (CE) for all of the Fire Authority's Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics. The EMS division also oversees the operation of the city's ambulance service.

The Training and Safety division ensures that all personnel complete annual in-service mandatory and recurrent training, all required medical continuing education and certifications, along with maintaining license and training records, administering skills testing, course development and instruction, maintaining and updating training materials, setting standards, assisting in recruitments and testing, all designed to attain and provide for a high level of proficiency and excellence for career and volunteer staff.

The Fire Prevention division ensures compliance and is responsible for administering the California Fire Code, as amended by the City and District, as it relates to new and existing businesses, schools, multifamily and other permitted occupancies. Further, services are provided for new construction plan reviews and inspections, vegetation management and weed abatement, hazard abatement, along with fire cause and origin investigations, community awareness and safety programs, public education and outreach.

3.7.1.1 UKIAH VALLEY FIRE AUTHORITY

The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA) became effective on July 1, 2017, as a result of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Fire Protection District (UVFD). The Agreement jointly manages, equips, maintains and operates all-risk fire, emergency medical and rescue services to the City and Fire District. UVFA was formed with the desire to maximize the use of existing resources, create cost containment opportunities, reduce duplication, maintain local control and continue to deliver fire, medical, and other emergency services at a high level of service.

3.7.1.2 STAFFING

The Fire Chief of the UVFA reports to the City Manager and provides general administration and oversight of the City and District Fire Operations. A Fire Executive Committee (FEC) consists of two appointees each from the City Council and Fire District Board and provides advisory support to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief coordinates and cooperates with the City and District regarding performance of services within their respective jurisdiction. The City and District provides direction to the Fire Chief regarding services or any desired special projects to be performed for them. The FEC collaborates regarding directions from their respective agencies, for the purpose of avoiding conflicting guidance or creating conflicts relating to priority of services

The Fire Chief manages and oversees the daily operations of the Fire Authority to ensure that the policies, programs, and priorities of the joint fire service operation between the District and City is implemented effectively and efficiently. The following table provides information regarding the current staff resources dedicated to providing fire protection and emergency medical services to the District and the City under the Fire Authority.

Table 3.3 Fire Authority Staffing			
Title	Career	Paid On-Call	Volunteer
Fire Chief	1	0	0
Battalion Chief	2	0	0
Captain	6	0	0
Engineer	8	0	0
Firefighter	4	0	15
Adm. Secretary	1	0	0
Ambulance Operator-Paramedic	3	0	-
Ambulance Operator-EMT	3	5	-

Note: There are 19 EMTs and 13 Paramedics that operate at an EMT level. All career personnel are at least EMT or Paramedic certified.

The District reports that the current paid staffing level is not adequate to deliver services. Based on the International City Managers Association's recommendation of 0.98 firefighters per 1,000 residents, the Fire District should have at least 33 firefighters. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Code and Standard 1720 calls for a minimum of 15 firefighters to respond to a residential structure fire in an urban area (defined as an area with more than 1,000 people per square mile).

3.7.1.3 TRAINING

The Fire Authority is an All-Risk combination fire department, consisting of paid career firefighters as well as volunteer firefighters. Volunteer firefighters have been provided with the necessary safety equipment and basic training, including mandatory weekly training. Volunteers are eligible to augment daily staffing levels as well as receive additional training, and they receive a stipend semiannually based upon their attendance at training and their response to emergency incidents.

Volunteer personnel are trained in emergency medical services, fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials release response, the Incident Command System, wildland firefighting, and the operation of fire engines and aerial apparatus. The volunteer workforce creates a source of individuals who can also compete for and obtain permanent full-time career positions.

The maximum number of volunteers that the District can support is 25 regular members. Currently, the District has 15 volunteer firefighters and 0 auxiliary members. The District reports that there are not sufficient volunteers available to supplement paid staff for all shifts throughout the 24/7 operation. The District is always recruiting for new volunteer firefighters because their volunteer force is aging, declining in number, and becoming less available during daytime hours.

3.7.1.4 DISPATCH

In Mendocino County, dispatch for fire protection services and emergency medical services are provided by the CAL FIRE Emergency Communications Command Center (ECC) at the Howard Forest Station near Willits. Mendocino County pays for the countywide dispatch system through a portion of Proposition 172 funds.

Due to the dynamic and unpredictable nature of emergencies, multiple public agencies could be dispatched to a single service call. In responding to medical emergencies, local fire protection and ambulance service providers are often dispatched simultaneously. In many cases, local fire agencies are the first to arrive on scene and provide first aid and basic life support while preparing the patient for transport.

3.7.1.5 MUTUAL AND AUTOMATIC AID AGREEMENTS

The UVFA participates in the following regional and service-specific associations and organizations:

- The Fire Chief is an active member of the Mendocino County Fire Chief's Association, the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts, the Fire Districts Association of California, and the California Fire Chiefs Association.
- The District is a sponsor of the Mendocino Fire Safe Council.

Below are examples of the UVFA's interagency collaborative arrangements and efforts:

- The District actively participates in Redwood Empire Hazardous Incident Team.
- The District is a County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System participant.
- The District works with CAL FIRE in implementing vegetation fuel management grants to reduce vegetative fire hazards in and around the District, such as when the District as part of the UVFA cooperated with CAL FIRE on the Western Hills Fuel Break.

Mutual aid refers to reciprocal service and support provided to another agency upon request under a mutual aid agreement between one or more agencies. Automatic aid differs in that no request for aid is necessary for reciprocal service and support between agencies within the automatic aid agreement. These types of pre-arrangements allow for the dispatch and use of additional equipment and personnel that a single jurisdiction cannot provide on its own and also entails a reciprocal return of resources when needed. The District maintains verbal mutual aid agreements with the Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District, Hopland Fire Protection District, Potter Valley Community Services District and Little Lake Fire Protection District, as well as an automatic aid agreement with CAL FIRE.

The Fire Authority primarily serves residents and property within the District and City jurisdictional boundaries. However, due to the critical need for rapid response in emergency situations, when a call for service is received, the nearest available response unit is dispatched regardless of jurisdictional boundary. Therefore, the Fire Authority response area is larger than the District and the City boundaries based on the Countywide Mutual Aid System. According to the 2015 Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, the Fire Authority is within Mutual Aid/Planning Zone 2, which includes the City of Ukiah, Ukiah Valley Fire District, Potter Valley Community Services District, Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District, and Hopland Fire Protection District.

The UVFA does not maintain contracts with individual property owners to provide services outside its boundary. The District does not provide any other out-of-agency services, except for mutual aid responses

and dispatched service calls as necessary for public health and safety. In addition to the local mutual aid system, the Fire Authority participates in the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System for wildland fire incidents throughout the State. The Fire Authority responds to out-of-County fire incidents upon request and when the remaining equipment and personnel are capable of providing adequate service levels in the District and City boundaries.

3.7.2 Facilities and Assets

The UVFA has worked cooperatively with the City of Ukiah to maximize the efficient provision of fire services in Ukiah Valley since 2012. All fleet maintenance is completed by trained fleet mechanics at the City of Ukiah Fleet Maintenance facility.

The Fire Authority operates and maintains multiple capital assets including land, buildings, equipment, and infrastructure owned and funded by the District and the City.

3.7.2.1 FACILITIES

The Fire Authority primarily operates from the stations listed below:

- The South Fire Station is located at 1500 South State Street and is the Main Station. The South Station was once a CHP administrative office and was not intended to house staff. The Fire Authority currently houses its administrative staff, including three Division Chiefs, one Fire Chief and one Administrative Secretary, as well as two to three suppression members at this station. The South Station needs significant remodel to bring it up to modern, livable standards, since it was never intended to be used to house suppression staff. The apparatus bay is a detached uninsulated steel building that can house one Type I Fire Engine, one Type 3 Fire Engine, and one Ambulance. Neither building meets current seismic standards for an essential facility or ADA access requirements.
- The North Fire Station is located at 141 Lovers Lane. The North Station was once a general contractor's business location and residence. The typical on-duty staff of two live in a relatively comfortable doublewide modular home, which adequately houses them, and may be able to accommodate two additional members if the need should arise. The apparatus bay at this location is an uninsulated building housing the duty office, Type 1 Fire Engine, one Type 3 Fire Engine and one ambulance. The property is not paved and needs paving around the entire site. The dust generated at this site is problematic for the micro-switches and electronics on the apparatus as well as the storage of safety gear and structural turnout. Neither building meets current seismic standards for an essential facility or ADA access requirements.
- The Central Fire Station is owned by the city and is attached to the rear of the Civic Center at 300 Seminary. The station currently houses one Type I Fire Engine, one Type 6 Fire Engine, a Water Tender, a 75-foot Quint Fire Truck, one Incident Support vehicle, one Ambulance and the on-duty Battalion Chief's vehicle. The County's Hazardous Material Response Unit is also housed there under an agreement with Mendocino County. The on-duty Battalion Chief's quarters are located there, along with quarters for the UVFA's full time paramedic ambulance. The station does not meet current seismic standards for an essential facility, or ADA access requirements. The size of the apparatus bay doors is also a limiting factor in what apparatus can be housed here.

The Talmage Volunteer Fire Station is located at 1301 Talmage Road, at the intersection of Talmage Road and Sanford Ranch Road. It has a small office space but no kitchen, living room, or sleeping quarters. Additionally, it is uninsulated, not climate controlled and does not meet current seismic standards for an essential facility or ADA access requirements.

3.7.2.2 EQUIPMENT

The UVFA owns, operates, and maintains multiple fire engines, emergency response vehicles, and other capital assets. The following table shows the current schedule of vehicles for the Fire Authority.

Reserve and volunteer assigned apparatus includes a Type I Ladder Truck (Quint), Type I (Structural) Engine, Type V (Wildland) Engine, Type I Water Tender, Breathing Air Support Unit, Breathing Air and Light Trailer, USAR Trailer and Rescue Boat. The Fire Authority is also the host agency for the Redwood Empire Hazardous Incident Team Hazmat Unit and the Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association's Fire Safety Trailer.

Identifier	Manufacture Year	Equipment Description
6881	2018	Type I Engine
6882	2007	Type I Engine
6883	2018	Type I Engine
6861	2014	Type II Engine
6862	2019	Type IV Engine
6863	2015	Type II Engine
6872	1980	Type III Engine
6852	2009	75 ft. Aerial/Quint
6892	2005	2000 gal. Water Tender
6856	2002	Support Unit
6821	2014	Type 3 Ambulance*
6823	2000	Type 3 Ambulance*
6822	2018	Type 3 Ambulance
6800	2019	Utility Pickup
6802	2007	Utility Pickup
6804	2008	Utility Pickup
6806	2019	Utility Pickup
6807	2006	Utility Pickup
6841	1999	Utility

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

*Identified for Replacement

The District reports that the current fire protection fleet is adequate to deliver services, provided that the Fire Authority Fleet Replacement Plan continues to be implemented and updated regularly to reflect the actual condition of vehicles and to address unanticipated needs.

Routine maintenance of equipment and facilities is generally performed based upon the manufacturer's recommended schedule, industry best practices, and actual need, and is funded through the annual budget development process.

EMS and ambulance services in the Ukiah Valley and throughout Mendocino County have been severely constrained in recent years due to a lack of funding and resources. These resources have been further constrained as the need for these services has increased since and because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase in demand for ambulance services is driven by two primary factors:

- 1) An increase in sick patients, primarily in low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities who do not have access to primary health care; and

- 2) Limited Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds in hospitals countywide resulting in an increased need to transfer seriously ill COVID-19 patients to other, non-local hospitals that have open ICU beds.

In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic stretching already limited ambulance services, existing UVFA ambulances are at the limits of their operational capacities. Of the UVFA's three current ambulances, one is 21 years old, and the other has over 200,000 miles. While these ambulances are useful for occasional back-up services, using them as primary ambulances for the UVFA, especially with the increase in volume of calls due to COVID-19, is significantly straining the capability of these vehicles. The purchase of new ambulances for the UVFA, expected to be delivered in April 2023, will enhance ambulance and EMS services in the Ukiah Valley, providing a safe and modern ambulance to address increasing service demands due to COVID-19. With insurance records showing 79% of the UVFA's ambulance patients as LMI, purchase of the ambulances is necessary for ensuring safe and equitable access to ambulance/health care services to LMI communities throughout the Ukiah Valley. (Ukiah, 2022)

3.7.2.3 FIRE FLOW AND WATER SUPPLY

Available water supply for fire suppression varies based on location in the UVFA and includes such resources as hydrants from small water districts, on-site residential water storage tanks, various water tenders, on-board tanks on fire engines, and other water supplies available for drafting such as ponds, rivers, and streams. In some cases, property located within the UVFA near the City limits may have use of City fire hydrants in an emergency.

In the City of Ukiah, water for fire suppression is available from the City's public water system via fire hydrants located throughout the City limits. The City's water distribution system provides adequate water pressure for fire flow and is not subject to unreliability issues from different pressure zones.

3.7.3 Service Adequacy

3.7.3.1 SERVICE CALLS

The following table provides a summary of the total number and types of service calls by location the Fire Authority responded to over the last two years. Of note, in 2021 the Ukiah Valley Fire District annexed the entire City of Ukiah jurisdiction (LAFCo Resolution No. 21-22-03).

Service Call Type	2020		2021		2022 - YTD	
	District	City	District	City	District	City
Fires	92	129	98	114	22	33
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear (No fire)	3	1	2	1	1	1
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	666	1287	742	1429	257	524
Hazardous Condition (No fire)	27	55	40	49	16	29
Service Call	123	299	161	288	52	102
Good Intent Call	305	631	289	677	100	228
False Alarm & False Call	34	103	70	132	25	60
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	2	1	2	8	1	
Special Incident Type	2	1	0	1		1
Subtotal	1254	2507	1404	2699	474	978
Grand Total	3761		4103		1452	

Source: Ukiah, 2022.

The Fire Authority responds to over 4,000 calls per year, varying from structure fires to public assistance. The majority of service calls are related to emergency medical responses, at approximately 70%. The Fire Authority can struggle at times to successfully manage multiple service calls simultaneously and for all shifts throughout the 24/7 operation. In 2020, the Fire Authority had an overall overlapping call rate of 35.5%, which rose to 38.2% in 2021. These overlaps can last seconds to hours depending on the type of incident(s) occurring. With only two-staffed units, anything more than two simultaneous incidents, or a single multi-unit response, effectively limits any further response from the Fire Authority until volunteers arrive, unless volunteers are already included in the multi-unit response, or until adjacent service providers are dispatched for additional service calls.

The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority operates Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 24 hours per day/7 days per week with one full time ambulance (starting May 2022), and two on-duty Engine Companies that can cross staff two additional ambulances as needed. In 2021, the two Engine Companies responded to over 4,000 calls, covering an area of approximately 160 square miles. Just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the private ambulance providers in the county stopped service, resulting in a 1/3rd reduction in available ambulances countywide. As a result, the burden to UVFA in providing service significantly increased. Additionally, as a result of COVID-19, the amount of time spent on calls increased due to prolonged cleaning and decontamination time and the increase in patient transfers. These issues coupled with a lack of existing resources have both reduced the capacity and increased the need for UVFA's ambulance services. (Ukiah, 2022)

Since the start of COVID-19 vaccination efforts, UVFA personnel have administered and stood by to administer COVID-19 vaccines at local vaccination clinics. UVFA personnel have also been available in case of allergic reactions or other complications from vaccines. Supporting these vaccination sites also means having an ambulance on scene and leaving only one of the two ambulances available for Ukiah Valley residents. Purchase of a new ambulance would enable this vaccination support to continue without impairing the ability of the UVFA to provide ambulance services in the Ukiah Valley. (Ukiah, 2022)

3.7.3.2 RESPONSE TIMES

Response time relates to the time elapsed between the dispatch of personnel and the arrival of the first responder on the scene of an incident. There are different response time expectations and first responder capabilities in serving urban, suburban, and rural areas. In general, the faster the response time the higher the likelihood of a positive outcome related to managing and addressing the incident. A fast response time for medical care is especially important for incidents involving patients who are suffering from a life-threatening condition. Further, a fast response time for fire suppression is important to prevent a structure fire from rapidly spreading to other structures and/or wildland interface areas.

3.7.3.3 ISO RATING

Fire services in communities are classified by the Insurance Service Office (ISO), which is an advisory organization depended on by insurance companies for establishing the availability and costs for fire insurance. The ISO rating classifies fire service in communities with a ranking from 1 to 10, indicating the general adequacy of coverage. Communities with the best fire protection facilities, systems for water distribution, fire alarms, communications, equipment, and personnel receive a rating of 1. Primary factors assessed in establishing ISO ratings are maintaining more than one fire station within a district boundary to meet the 5-mile radius requirements, ensuring appropriate facility maintenance and upgrades are made, and sufficient personnel and volunteers exist to respond to each station.

The UVFD has an ISO rating of 4/4X on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the highest. The City of Ukiah has an ISO rating of 3. While wildfires are a natural occurrence in California, the effects of prolonged drought, high tree mortality rates from bark beetles and other infestations, high fuel loads and ladder fuels in wildland areas, record high temperatures, and longer fire seasons are resulting in increasingly extreme and destructive wildfires both in the wildland areas as well as the wildland urban interface (WUI) and even urban areas. There is a growing trend of insurance companies issuing non-renewal notices for existing homeowner's insurance policies due to high wildfire risk.

The insurability of property has historically been closely tied to the ISO rating classification system. With the changing landscape of wildfires in California, some insurance companies are moving away from ISO rating altogether and some are also relying on information regarding the level of fire severity established by CAL FIRE. With more sophisticated fire behavior modeling available, CAL FIRE is anticipated to update the 2007 Fire Hazard Severity Zones mapping, which could potentially result in property being re-classified into a higher fire severity zone and becoming less insurable.

As a last resort, the California Fair Access to Insurance Requirements (FAIR) Plan is a fire insurance pool comprised of all California licensed insurers to provide insurance for property owners that are not able to obtain basic coverage in the voluntary insurance market. There may be properties within the UVFA boundary that have received notice of non-renewal, but the UVFA has not received reports of property owners unable to find coverage from other insurance providers.

3.7.3.4 CHALLENGES

As it relates to fire protection services, adequate water supply, pressure and hydrants play a critical role in fire suppression activities. Water availability has long been an issue in the Ukiah Valley outside the City limits and is a likely constraint to future development in the Valley, complicated by legal, environmental, political and socioeconomic issues. Challenges include decreased water diversion, as well as difficulties and lengthy time inherent in developing new supplies in the face of increasing demand. Various "unknowns" related to water supply make planning for future growth and development a difficult task. There are areas within the UVAP planning area that are served by public water providers which are under a moratorium. Non-environmental constraints to development include a limited amount of developable land and regulatory requirements mandated by state government. While neither factor prevents development, it does increase time and cost of land use projects.

The UVFA and the City work together to plan and fund capital improvements through a 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Through the Fire Authority, the District and City prepare a Fleet Replacement Plan to address equipment needs. The Fire Authority does not currently have a Facilities Replacement Plan, which would require studies to determine the best locations based on various factors, such as, current and projected population growth, call volumes, response times.

While funding capital needs and maintenance costs are generally addressed at the individual agency level, conducting joint comprehensive planning activities for capital needs and priorities is important since deficiencies in facilities, equipment, and infrastructure can translate to a diminished level of the shared delivery of services.

It is recommended that the Fire Authority develop a long-range comprehensive Service Enhancement Plan that prioritizes fire and emergency response service enhancement projects related to such goals as increasing staffing levels, equipment replacement and major maintenance, facility upgrades and

improvement needs including water storage, tactical and specialized training, expanded fire prevention programs, and technological advancements (drones, in-helmet thermal imaging cameras, etc.) and identifies options for generating additional revenue and an anticipated implementation schedule for priority projects.

Below are needs and deficiencies identified by the UVFA to date:

- UVFA fire station deficiencies include providing adequate sleeping quarters for personnel, ADA compliance, seismic retrofits, and emergency generators for power during outages.

The UVFA is also impacted by a reduction in Learning and Development funding due to significant staff turnover and the high cost of external training sources. The UVFA is working to increase the number of staff members in the instructor cadre so that they can provide in-house training as much as possible.

3.8 Law Enforcement

The Ukiah Police Department (UPD) is a professional organization comprised of dedicated, well-trained officers and staff who are committed to work in partnership with the community to provide public safety to the residents and visitors of Ukiah. Officers serve by patrolling the City and by responding to calls for police service, performing crime prevention activities, conducting investigations, promoting traffic safety, and apprehending offenders. Officers are also responsible for providing general public safety and public order and strive to make a positive difference in the community's quality of life.

The department is organized into three divisions which are overseen by the Police Captain who is second-in command. The Operations and Administrative Divisions are commanded by lieutenants, and the Communications and Records Division is supervised by a civilian manager.

The UPD Communications Center handles all 911 and non-emergency calls for the City of Ukiah and City of Fort Bragg Police Departments, provides after-hours dispatching services for Electric, Water, Wastewater and other City of Ukiah services, and makes emergency notifications to the community.

The Police Department has continued to maintain and build its relationships with community and county agencies along with various supportive service providers. To facilitate reducing neighborhood crime and addressing community concerns, the City maintains memberships on RCS Homeless Services Community Center and the Mendocino County Youth Project. Additionally, the City has entered into partnership with Mendocino County's Whole Person Care program to establish a pilot Homeless Outreach Team and develop this program.

3.8.1 Service Overview

3.8.1.1 STAFFING

Ukiah Police Department Staffing is made up of many divisions (described below), but overall the total number of full-time equivalent staff is as follows:

- Professional 31
- Management 9
- Administrative 2.76
- Executive 1

(Ukiah, 2022)

The Operations Division is the most visible division within the Ukiah Police Department, with Patrol typically the first point of contact between law enforcement and the community. The Patrol Division is divided into shifts that provide coverage to the entire City of Ukiah 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The Patrol Division works 12-hour shifts and is the backbone of the Ukiah Police Department. A typical shift will comprise of a patrol Sergeant and include two to three officers.

The Patrol Division is responsible for providing law enforcement and crime prevention services to Ukiah's residents and visitors, which is accomplished by providing uniformed police response to emergency and non-emergency calls for service. These law enforcement services include but are not limited to serving criminal warrants, making arrests, issuing citations, taking reports, conducting criminal investigations, providing extra security and traffic control patrol for special events, vacation home checks, extra patrol requests, traffic enforcement and collision reports, and assisting other law enforcement agencies when needed.

The Patrol Division's Community Service Officers (CSOs) handle numerous calls for service each day, which diverts workload from patrol officers by increasing their availability for priority calls for service. CSOs are typically responsible for handling non-hazardous situations such as traffic collisions, lost and found property, abandoned vehicle complaints, animal control enforcement, theft-related calls when a suspect is unknown, and a variety of other service requests.

The Department's CSOs also assist the Detective Bureau by facilitating mandated registration of individuals convicted of sex and arson crimes.

3.8.1.1.1 Administrative Division Arrests

The Detective Bureau prepares and submits cases to be reviewed and prosecuted by the District Attorney's Office, works closely with neighboring law enforcement and social service agencies, provides testimony and presents evidence in court, and assists the DA's office in prosecuting those that victimize our community.

The Detective Bureau is responsible for conducting initial and follow up investigations on complex crimes that fall outside the scope of normal patrol duties. Those crimes include:

- Arson, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Burglary, Homicide, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, Embezzlement, Robbery, Missing Persons, Sex Crimes, and Sex Offender Registration Monitoring.

3.8.1.1.2 Parking Enforcement

The Community Services Officer assigned to Parking Enforcement unit is responsible for ensuring drivers comply with local parking regulations and ordinances, especially in the downtown Ukiah area. In 2021, the Parking Enforcement vehicle was equipped with a pair of License Plate Reader (LPR) mounts that use satellite technology to aid in identifying parking violations as opposed to chalking tires.

3.8.1.1.3 School Resource Officer

In partnership with the Ukiah Unified School District (UUSD), the UPD assigns one School Resource Officer (SRO) to oversee attendance for six elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools within the district. The SRO maintains a close partnership with school administrators in order to provide for a safe school environment. The SRO is visible within the school community, often attends and participates in school functions, as well as providing safety by being present during school searches, which may involve weapons or controlled dangerous substances.

In addition to day-to-day duties, the SRO provides Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT). This violence prevention program is designed to be taught by trained law enforcement officers. In this program, children learn important skills to help them avoid participating in bullying, violence, and gangs.

3.8.1.1.4 Property and Evidence

Thousands of pieces of property pass through the UPD each year. The CSO assigned to the Property and Evidence unit ensures these items are properly catalogued and maintained as either evidence, safekeeping, or found property. Evidence is held until needed for court. Illegal property, such as narcotics, paraphernalia and weapons, are destroyed.

3.8.1.1.5 Communications & Records

The Communications Center is the initial contact point for public safety services for the City of Ukiah and the City of Fort Bragg.

The center consists of a team of eight fulltime Dispatchers and one Dispatch Supervisor, with two dispatchers assigned to a 12-hour shift seven days a week. Dispatchers quickly assess incoming calls and dispatch the appropriate units through the police radios. The dispatchers type the caller's information into the Computer Aided Dispatch System and use several different computer software applications simultaneously.

3.8.1.1.6 Records

The Records Division processes and files all the paperwork necessary for the courts, district attorney's office, and in-house detectives. Clerical staff also answer calls from the public on business lines and assist walk-in citizens during business hours. Additionally, they handle a variety of tasks ranging from receiving subpoenas, sending monthly statistical crime reports to the State of California, processing taxi permits, conducting Livescan fingerprinting services, processing Public Records Acts requests, among several other administrative functions.

3.8.2 Facilities and Capacity

The Police Department is headquartered at the Ukiah Civic Center at 300 Seminary Avenue. The Police Department has a staff of 44, which includes dispatch. Table 3.6 shows staffing for years 2018 through 2022 year-to-date (YTD). The table distinguishes between sworn personnel and support personnel.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 -YTD
Chief/DOPs	1	1	1	1	0
Captains	1	1	1	1	1
Lieutenants	2	2	2	2	2
Sergeants	6	6	6	6	5
Officers	22	17	16	15	19
Sworn Officers Total	32	27	26	25	27
Records Clerk	3	3	3	3	3
CSO (Animal & Parking)	2	5	4	3	3
Evidence Tech & Crime Analyst	2	2	2	1	2
UPD Dispatch	9	9	9	9	9
Support Total	16	19	18	16	17

Source: (Ukiah, 2022 - UPD)

The ratio of sworn officers per 1000 population is a measure of the need for more services. Typically, large urban areas strive for one (1) officer per thousand, while smaller communities have higher ratios because of the minimum staffing requirements of a police department. The ratio of sworn officers per thousand for the City ranges from 1.92 to 1.62 between 2018 and 2021. On average, UPD has 27 sworn officers for a population of around 16,000, a ratio of 1.62 per thousand. The FY 2022-23 budget proposes no change in the number of positions in UPD from FY 2021-22. (Ukiah, 2022 - UPD)

Since officers are responding to calls in excess of industry work and staffing standards, the department is operating at capacity. To accommodate growth, the department should maintain or exceed the current ratio of sworn officers per thousand.

The department has been housed at its current location for more than 30 years. During this time, the policing needs of the community have increased and the department has grown both in its patrol and dispatch operations. The department facility is currently at capacity for what the Police Facility can accommodate. A few examples are the limited space in report writing, training, evidence storage, locker rooms, parking and dispatch facilities. The facility also lacks modern security features such as secured parking and electric gates. The department also currently relies on the use of external ranges for firearms training, which is perishable skill and would benefit from the operation of its own facility.

3.8.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The UPD has several current needs which include secured parking/ access for staff and patrol vehicles. The department will need to replace outdated radio equipment at our repeater site and comply with future requirements for radio encryption.

The department has been using the same Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System since 1998. The provider of this CAD system has changed ownership multiple times since the initial purchase. Currently there are only 6 Agencies in the state using this system and it does not have standard functionality such as mapping, found in more modern systems. It is likely that this system will be discontinued in the future. The department is reviewing options and funding sources for replacement of our CAD system. The expected cost of a new system is in the area of \$500,000.

3.8.3 Service Adequacy

Overall, in 2021 the City's Emergency Communication Center received 78,534 calls: 16,188 emergency 911 calls and 62,346 non-emergency calls. Of these, 24,355 total calls for service were generated from patrol officers to assist the community. (Ukiah, 2022)

Table 3.7 shows a summary of calls for service by type for years 2018 through 2022-YTD.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 -YTD
Misdemeanor Arrests	945	986	526	483	396
Felony Arrests	427	427	438	475	329
DUI	125	123	63	132	116
Total Arrests	1,372	1,413	964	1,109	725
Crime Reports	3,317	3,505	2,934	2,420	1,879
Total Calls for Service	24,142	24,967	26,605	24,355	17,786
Outside Agency Assists (#)	679	685	663	618	345
Outside Agency Assists (%)	2.8%	2.7%	2.5%	2.5%	1.9%

Average Calls Per Day	66	68	73	67	69
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Source: (UPD, 2022 - UPD)

Between 2018 and 2021, UPD calls for service ranged from a low of 24,142 to a high of 26,605 annually or approximately 70 calls per day. With this level of demand for service, police officers are currently committed to calls over 80-percent of their work time. Industry work and staffing standards recommend that a typical patrol officer be committed no more than 60-percent of the time, which allows 40-percent of the time to be available for proactive preventative and community service type functions.

The following table shows crime statistics from 2021.

Crime	Number
Misdemeanors	483
Felonies	475
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)	132
Larceny/Theft	403
Aggravated Assault	262
Stolen Vehicle	86
Burglary	67
Robbery	19
Rapes	12

Source: Ukiah, 2022 - UPD.

In 2021, CSOs handled 2,498 calls for service and wrote 442 reports. (Ukiah, 2022 - UPD)

The UPD average call response times are shown below:

- Call Priority 1 - 3:10 minutes
- Call Priority 2 - 8:06 minutes
- Call Priority 3 - 13:27 minutes

(Ukiah, 2022)

3.8.3.1 CHALLENGES

For several years, police departments across the nation have struggled to recruit, hire and retain officers to meet staffing levels. To address these challenges, the Ukiah Police Department has increased incentives for new hires such as:

- \$20,000 bonus for lateral police officers
- \$10,000 bonus for Academy graduate recruits
- \$8,000 relocation benefit for out of the area applicants
- Vacation & sick bank hours for lateral applicants.
- Current employees are eligible for a recruitment bonus for new hired police officers

In 2021, the UPD was able to hire five Police Officers, one Dispatcher, and one Records Clerk. Recruiting continues to be a top priority for the UPD. The Department is still actively recruiting for diverse and community-oriented candidates to serve the City in a professional manner.

3.9 Community Services (Parks and Recreation)

3.9.1 Service Overview

Community Services is a department consisting of nine divisions, including the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center, Parks, Park Development, Aquatics, Golf, Conference Center, Museum, Recreation, and Special Services. While operated by the City of Ukiah, the Community Services Department plays a significant role in providing recreational services and opportunities to a broad population base, including those in unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley. According to the Trust for Public Land, 76.9-percent of Ukiah residents live within a 10-minute walk to a park or recreational asset. (TPL, 2022)

3.9.1.1 STAFFING

Per the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, Community Services allocated the following positions and employed approximately thirty-three (33) individuals across the following Personnel Division:

- Executive – 1
- Management – 4
- Administrative and Technical – 28
- Seasonal – 50-175 (Varies)

The maintenance practices and procedures within the Parks Division place a high priority on safety in parks. Therefore, Parks Division staff members must maintain current certifications and licensing for Playground Safety Inspections, Certified Pool Operator, Pesticide Application, Tree Care, and the ability to operate maintenance equipment in a safe and appropriate manner. The City of Ukiah is one of the largest employers of youth within Mendocino County, with the Community Services Department employing the majority of these individuals during summer months or in support of after-school programming.

3.9.2 Facilities and Capacity

3.9.2.1 EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

3.9.2.1.1 Recreation Facilities

The Community Services Department is responsible for maintenance and operations of multiple facilities. Major facilities are described below.

Grace Hudson Museum

The Grace Hudson Museum is an art, history, and anthropology museum focusing on the life's work of Grace Carpenter Hudson (1865-1937) and her ethnologist husband, Dr. John W. Hudson (1857- 1936). Permanent and changing exhibits feature Western American art, California Indian cultures, histories of California's diverse North Coast region, and the work of contemporary regional artists. Grace and John Hudson built their Craftsman bungalow home, The Sun House, on a large lot in central Ukiah in 1911. The property is now preserved as a park by the City of Ukiah. The Grace Hudson Cultural Center park includes the Sunhouse, Museum, Wild Gardens, and the Ts'wish Wetlands. The Norma & Evert Person Gallery features articles, textiles, photographs, and manuscripts highlighting the history and celebrating the legacy of the Carpenter-Hudson family. The six-room Sun House is furnished with items from the museum collection to retain the flavor of the Hudson's lifestyle. The Sun House is California Historical Landmark No. 926, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Ukiah Valley Conference Center

The department also manages the Ukiah Valley Conference Center. The Ukiah Valley Conference Center is a 26,000-square-foot facility located in Ukiah’s historic downtown district alongside shopping and dining services. The Center has popular street front retail space, a number of office tenants as well as meeting room facilities for small groups and large groups. The facility includes eight meeting rooms named for red and white grape varietals. The white rooms (Chardonnay, Riesling, Chenin, and Blanc) are small and medium-size conference rooms designed for board meetings, seminars, small receptions, and banquets. The red rooms (Cabernet I, Cabernet II, Merlot, and Zinfandel) can be divided into two rooms or combined to form a large room for wedding receptions, banquets, trade shows, and large seminars. By December, 2022, installation of a backup emergency generator for use during Public Safety Power Shutoffs or other emergencies will be finalized.

Alex Rorabaugh Center

The Community Services Department operates the 21,000-square-foot Alex Rorabaugh Center, while UUSD is responsible for field and outdoor maintenance. The indoor meeting rooms and active community spaces provide an important venue for recreation programs, as well as community activities and events. The facility is co-managed with the UUSD, as well as a local non-profit.

Ukiah Municipal Pool

The Ukiah Municipal Pool offers the only Red Cross-certified learn-to-swim program in the Ukiah Valley. The 65,000 square foot pool facility is located at Todd Grove Park. In addition, the pool offers public swim, lap swim, private party rentals, and aquatic sports.

Civic Center & 501 South State Street

In 2020, the City purchased the former Bank of America building located at 501 South State Street. Presently, a comprehensive plan for space allocation/usage and facility renovations is under development for both the Civic Center and 501 South State Street. The City has successfully bonded for facility improvements. A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) planning grant was awarded for ADA planning at 501 South State and additional funding for ADA improvements will be sought.

Observatory Park

The city acquired the property for Observatory Park in 1991, but the observatory and adjoining land was closed to the public until March 2014. A \$54,000 grant from the California Land and Water Conservation Fund, along with matching funds from the City of Ukiah, made the improvements necessary to reopen the park. The park is currently subject to the City of Ukiah Observatory Park Strategic Plan 2018—2023.

Community and Recreation Programming

A substantial aspect of the Community Service Department includes regional programming and events, which occur throughout the City, predominantly on City owned properties. The largest events include the Sundays in the Park Series with 6-8 concerts per year, Summer Safari youth camp, Pumpkin Fest, the Holiday Ice Rink, and the Holiday Light Parade, as well as the Tree lighting ceremony. These larger events attract thousands of participants from across the Ukiah Valley.

Recreation staff also average two to three smaller events per month. These smaller events include the Splash Parties, Community Yard Sales, “Bounce to the Stars” events at the Historic Observatory, Kids Triathlon, *Día de los Muertos*, Movies in the Park (4-6 per year), Haunted House, Dog Walks, volunteer opportunities, and more. Recreation staff support the provision of community led recreation by publishing

a three time per year recreation guide. City staff, with support from Public Safety, Public Works, and Parks, collaborate and provide support to a wide variety of community led parades and street closing events including the Chili Cook Off, Car Shows, and the Taste of Downtown.

As a result of associated programs, the City is considered the largest employer of youth in the region. The number of youth employed varies seasonally. In the summer, youth work as lifeguard and camp counselors. Youth also work in our After School Education and Safety (ASES) program providing education, supervision, and recreation after school to hundreds of students under a contract with UUSD. Youth also work as support staff throughout the year with a wide variety of recreational programs.

3.9.2.1.2 Parks and Recreation

Table 3.9 shows the park and trail facilities across the City. The skate park is one of the newest facilities, having opened in early 2011, and is regularly utilized in conjunction with Low Gap Regional Park.

Table 3.9 City of Ukiah Park and Trail Facilities

Park/Facility	Address	Acreage	Open Area	Playground or Skate Park	Picnic Tables and/or Benches	Reservable Group Picnic Area	Tennis Courts & Pickleball	Basketball Courts	Covered Gazebo/Shelter	Softball/Baseball Diamonds	Multipurpose Meeting Rooms	Wetland/Resource Protection	Concert Area/Amphitheater	Restrooms/Portalets	Community Garden	Trail(s)	Soccer Field(s)
Alex R. Thomas Plaza	310 S State St	>1 Acre	X		X	X			X				X	X			
Alex Rorabaugh Center & Fields - UUSD	1640 S State St	±10 Acres	X	X				X			X			X			X
Gardner Park	248 N Oak St	>.5 Acre			X												
Giorno Park & Anton Stadium	506 Park Blvd	12 Acres	X							X							
Grace Hudson Museum & Ts'wich Wetlands	431 S Main St	>1 Acre	X		X						X	X		X			
Great Redwood Trail	N/A	± 3 miles	North South Community Path/Trail													X	
Low Gap Park (County & City)/City View Trail	1167 Low Gap Rd	±80 Acres	X	X	X	X	X		X				X	X		X	
McGarvey Park	310 Dora St	>1 Acre	X		X												
Nokomis Park (Tennis Courts) - UUSD	1323 Laurel Ave	>1 Acres	X				X										
Oak Manor Park	500 Oak Manor Dr	>1 Acre	X	X	X	X	X		X					X			
Observatory Park	855 Cindee Dr	>1 Acre	X		X											X	

the City does not maintain any designated soccer fields, besides open-space that sometimes serves as practice locations.

Observatory Park is the home of the Ukiah Latitude Observatory, one of five international latitude observatories around the world operated from 1899 to 1982. The City of Ukiah offers several events associated with this unique park. In 2014, Observatory Park was dedicated to the people of Ukiah. A commitment was made at that time to preserve the Ukiah Latitude Observatory and for the park to become part of Ukiah's living heritage.

3.9.2.2 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The City's Softball complex is currently only accessible via Highway 101 and is therefore inaccessible to pedestrians or bicyclists. Access could be provided with an over or underpass or via a bike path along Highway 101 or via an easement across private property. Many of the City's parks have aging irrigation systems that will require replacement. Access to the Russian River is limited and there are no developed entrances or exits for kayaking or floating the river. Also, the City has a shortage of quality soccer fields. (Personal Communication: Neil Davis)

3.9.2.3 FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND EXPANSION

The City of Ukiah has recently acquired 700 acres of open space on the southwestern hills of Ukiah. The City is working on a conservation and recreation plan with hopes to open the area for recreational use in the future. The City is also exploring the possibility of establishing new park facilities with Russian River access at Riverside Park and is looking for property on which to enhance recreational opportunities for the Wagenseller neighborhood. (Personal Communication: Neil Davis)

A conceptual plan to establish an Orr Creek Greenway with a goal to provide creek restoration and a bike and pedestrian walkway from Low Gap Park to the Russian River.

3.9.3 Service Adequacy

The Community Services Department strives to fill gaps of recreational and quality of life opportunities that are unmet by commercial providers. The City undertakes periodic surveys and assessments to determine unmet community needs. Where possible, fee for service charges are collected to expand services. Otherwise the City attempts to address unmet needs where possible and within budgetary constraints. (Personal Communication: Neil Davis)

3.9.3.1 CHALLENGES

The City's 87-acre Ukiah Municipal Golf Course is a challenging asset and is maintained as an enterprise funded service. The City of Ukiah contracts with Tayman Park Golf Group, Inc. (TPGG), a private contractor specializing in golf course management, to manage the operations, maintenance, and improvements at the Ukiah Valley Golf Course. Revenue at the golf course was severely impacted by pandemic, and future operations are likely to be constrained by ongoing drought, as well as demographic changes in course users. (Ukiah, 2022)

3.10 Public Works

The Public Works Department develops, operates, and maintains the public infrastructure of Ukiah, excepting electrical utility services and water and wastewater services. This includes maintaining streets, storm drains, buildings, the Landfill, and the City's plant and fleet. In FY 2023, the Building Maintenance Division was reorganized into the Public Works Department from Community Services upon consideration

of staffing and operational efficiencies. The Public Works Department is comprised of six (6) divisions providing public infrastructure-related services.

3.10.1 Service Overview

The engineering services division performs a variety of professional engineering and project management services. This includes, but is not limited to, review and inspection of development projects, floodplain management, project design and inspection, contract and construction administration, encroachment and transportation permits, technical assistance to the Traffic Engineering Committee, and related engineering and administration services. The engineering division also manages the City's stormwater program.

The street maintenance division maintains over 53 centerline miles of two-way streets within the City of Ukiah. The division maintains street lights, signs, and markings, repairs potholes, removes graffiti and cleans up debris from traffic collisions, maintains stormwater drains and creeks, sweeps the streets, and maintains other City-owned rights-of-way including weed abatement. The landfill property is also maintained on a regular basis by the street maintenance division, and the engineering division is currently working with other agencies on the final closure of the 283-acre property.

The City fleet and plant maintenance division provides maintenance to over 400 vehicles and equipment. Vehicles are serviced at regular intervals, depending on use. The division also performs maintenance and repair for machine equipment at the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City mechanics ensure compliance with requirements of the California Highway Patrol, Bi-annual Terminal inspections, Occupational Safety and Health Administration Aerial Inspections, California Air Resources Board, Mendocino County Air Quality Management District, and Mendocino County Division of Environmental Health.

The Building Maintenance division provides operational maintenance for the Civic Center, Annex Facility, Train Depot, UVCC, Grace Hudson Museum, Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center (ARRC), and many other City owned and operated buildings. It is also responsible for ongoing preventative and routine maintenance as well as emergency repairs.

The Corporation Yard, located at 1320 Airport Road, is the base of operations for Public Works field crews and Electric Utility Department crews, and serves as the City Fleet and Maintenance Facility. The Street Maintenance Crew, the Water and Sewer Maintenance Crew, and the Electric Utility Maintenance Crew stage their equipment and maintenance supplies at the Corporation Yard.

(Ukiah, 2022a)(LAFCo, 2012)

3.10.1.1 STAFFING

According to the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, the Public Works Department was allocated the following positions:

Engineering Services Division

- One (1) Public Works Director/City Engineer
- One (1) Senior Civil Engineer
- One (1) Associate Engineer
- One (1) Management Analyst II
- One (1) Engineering Technician I

Street Maintenance Division

- One (1) Street Sweeper Operator
- Four (4) Public Works Maintenance I
- One (1) Public Works Maintenance II

Fleet and Plant Division

- One (1) Fleet Maintenance Supervisor
- One (1) Lead Equipment Mechanic
- Two (2) Equipment Mechanics
- One (1) Equipment Mechanic Apprentice

Landfill Division

- No allocated personnel.

Corporation Yard Division

- No allocated personnel.

Building Maintenance Division

- One (1) Custodian
- One (1) Event & Facility Attendant
- One (1) Receptionist/Clerk
- One (1) Building Specialist
- One (1) Buildings/Facilities Lead Worker

3.10.2 Facilities and Capacity**Corporation Yard**

As referenced in previous sections, the base of operations for public works field crews is the Corporation Yard, located at 1320 Airport Road. The Street Maintenance Crew, the Water and Sewer Maintenance Crew, and the Electric Utility Maintenance Crew stage their equipment and maintenance supplies at the Corporation Yard. Given the age and existing condition of this facility, planned within the 2022-2023 CIP schedule is for the design of plans and specifications for the future renovation of this facility.

Ukiah Landfill Closure Project

The proposed landfill closure project is located at 3100 Vichy Springs Road and is owned and was operated by the City of Ukiah. The landfill operated from 1955 to September 2001. Closure of the Ukiah Landfill will be performed in accordance with applicable regulatory standards.

3.10.2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Annually, the Public Works Department makes updates to the CIP schedule with review and approval by the City Council. Recent and future Capital Improvement Projects include:

Downtown Ukiah Streetscape Project – Completed in 2021

In late 2021, the Public Works Department, in partnership with the Electric Utility Department, Water Resources, and City Manager's Office, completed the Ukiah Downtown Streetscape Project. The project provided streetscape improvements in downtown Ukiah on State Street, Perkins Street, Church Street, Clay Street, and Standley Street, including sidewalk widening, curb ramps and bulb outs, street lights,

street furniture and tree planting. The project also included a road diet between Henry Street and Mill Street that transformed the existing four-lane cross section into a three-lane cross section with one travel lane in each direction and a two-way left-turn lane in the center with on-street parking maintained. In addition to the road diet, signal modifications were made at each of the three signalized intersections (Standley Street, Perkins Street, and Mill Street) to provide vehicle detection, improve coordination and re-orient the signal equipment to support the road diet alignment. This work also included a pavement overlay, striping, and pavement markings.

Corporation Yard Renovation Project (Pending)

This project is for the complete renovation of the existing Corporation Yard. The project will include demolition of all accessory buildings and construction of new structures and facilities, depending on results of a needs assessment. Planned for 2022-23 is development of plans and specifications.

Landfill Closure (Pending)

Specific details of landfill closure will require additional City Council review, input, and approval. Construction activity for closure of the landfill will commence once these details are approved.

Streets and Rights-of-Way Projects (Pending)

Several street improvement projects are planned, including:

- Dora Street Utility Improvement Project
- East Clay Street Improvement Project
- Street Striping
- Slurry Seal Project
- Main Street Reconstruction Project
- Clara Avenue Reconstruction Project
- Leslie Street Rehabilitation Project
- Perkins Street Storm Drain and Widening Project

Planned rights-of-way projects include:

- Completion of a planning study for the Orr Street Bridge and Transportation Corridor, which will eventually lead to transportation improvements for the corridor
- Gobbi/Main Streets Traffic Signal

3.10.3 Service Adequacy

Street Maintenance – Prioritizing Repairs

The Public Works department uses a strategized approach to improve and maintain over 53 centerline miles within the City of Ukiah. City staff use a Pavement Management System (computer program) that evaluates the health of local streets and identifies the right treatment for the street: reconstruction, overlay, or slurry seal. Based upon the amount of Measure Y and gas tax funds available, the weather, and the timing of other related projects in the area, the street rehabilitation project is then submitted to City Council for review and approval. Measure Y funds are not used for electric, water, or sewer utilities, or for other City projects; those projects are either funded through their associated departments or through grants.

The majority of the street network comprises residential/local streets. In order to determine maintenance needs, the City rates each of its roadways in terms of a pavement condition index (PCI). The PCI ranges from 0 to 100. A newly constructed road would have a PCI of 100, while a failed road would have a PCI of 25 or less. The average weighted PCI for the City’s network in 2021 was 53. Table 3.10 describes the pavement rating scale, while Table 3.11 shows the percentage of the City’s roadways in each category for 2021.

PCI Range	Condition	Description
70 – 100	Good to Excellent	No or little distress, with the exception of utility patches in good condition or minor to moderate hairline cracks. Typically, lightly weathered. No treatments assigned if PCI > 90.
50 – 69	At Risk	Light to moderate weathering, light load-related base failure, moderate linear cracking.
25 – 49	Poor	Moderate to severe weathering, light to moderate levels of base failure, moderate to heavy linear cracking.
0 – 25	Failed	Extensive weathering, moderate to heavy base failure, failed patches, extensive network of moderate to heavy linear cracking.

Source: Department of Public Works, 2022.

Functional Class	2022 Average PCI
Arterial	50
Collector	50
Residential/Local	56

Source: Department of Public Works, 2022.

3.10.3.1 CHALLENGES

In recent years, cities have been challenged to maintain streets due to insufficient funding. Ukiah’s street maintenance is currently funded through General funds, Measure Y funds, and grant-funding when available. Starting in 2004, State and Federal monies that formerly went to local jurisdictions for street repairs were either diverted or reduced. For example, local agencies had relied upon State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding to improve local streets. Now, these funds are reserved for roads that are connected to State Highway facilities. As a result, by 2016, 67% of Ukiah’s streets were in poor or “failed” condition.

In 2016, City of Ukiah voters passed Measure Y as a way to provide additional annual funding for street maintenance. Measure Y is a 0.5% transaction and use tax. According to the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah budget, Measure Y was projected to generate \$3,822,144 for street maintenance projects.

3.11 Solid Waste

3.11.1 Service Overview

Through an agreement with the City of Ukiah, overseen by the Public Works Department, Ukiah Waste Solutions (UWS) provides solid waste removal within City limits, and pays the City a franchise fee (refuse disposal fee) to provide this service. UWS has served the City of Ukiah since 2007.

As shown in the FY 2021-22 budget, the City anticipates receiving \$415,000 in refuse disposal fees or 1.3 percent of general fund revenues. The City charges fees to cover the cost of solid waste removal provided by UWS, which are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Fuel Index, and other pass-through costs. (Ukiah, 2022a).

Within unincorporated portions of the Ukiah Valley and proposed Sphere of Influence, solid waste collection is undertaken by Redwood Waste Solutions (RWS), which commenced services on July 1, 2022. More particularly, RWS services Franchise Collection Area #2, which includes areas of unincorporated Ukiah, as well as Fort Bragg and some unincorporated communities along the coast, including Albion and Mendocino. UWS and RWS exist as stand-alone companies managed by C&S Waste Solutions. (Ukiah, 2022)

3.11.1.1 STAFFING

According to the FY 2021-2022 City of Ukiah budget, there were no City staff assigned or allocated for the provision of solid waste collection, as UWS provides all services to the City of Ukiah. The Customer Service branch of the City of Ukiah Finance Department, however, handles service setup, disconnect, and billing services for residential customers. UWS works directly with commercial and institutional customers for service setup and billing. (Ukiah, 2022)

3.11.2 Facilities and Capacity

3.11.2.1 SOLID WASTE

Solid waste collected by UWS is transported to the Ukiah Transfer Station. This facility, located at 3151 Taylor Drive, operates as a location for the collection of municipal solid waste (garbage) as well as a number of household and commercial materials that are subsequently recycled. When loads of mixed waste arrive at the facility, they are sorted to the extent feasible to extract recyclables and increase diversion from landfilling. Non-recyclable materials are then transported to Potrero Hills Landfill located in Solano County.

Based on estimated capacity, anticipated closure of the Potrero Hills Landfill in Solano County is expected to occur in 2059. RWS operations within unincorporated portions of the proposed Sphere of Influence are similar to those of UWS, and utilize the same facilities just outside City limits. C&S Waste Solutions manages the following facilities within the Ukiah Valley:

- Pacific Organic Solutions - Green Waste Processing Facility - 3515 Taylor Drive
- Pacific Recycling Solutions - Materials Recovery Facility - 3515 Taylor Drive
- Tri-County Scrap Metals – Scrap-Yard - 3515 Taylor Drive
- Ukiah Transfer Station and Recycling Center - 3151 Taylor Drive

Solid Waste Systems operates the Ukiah Transfer Station, which handles solid waste and recyclables from both incorporated and unincorporated sources. The transfer station is currently configured to facilitate 200 tons of waste per day and receives an average of 120 to 130 tons per day. Under the existing permit,

the transfer station can be expanded to accommodate 400 tons per day, should additional capacity be necessitated.

(Ukiah, 2022)

3.11.2.2 GREEN WASTE & ORGANIC WASTE

Green waste is biodegradable discards composed of garden, food or yard waste, such as leaves, branches under 4 inches in diameter, grass or flower cuttings and hedge trimmings, from residential and commercial sources. Once chipped and ground, green waste can be recycled into organic matter that can be used for composting, anaerobic digestion or gasification. Both wood waste, food waste, and green waste are processed at the Pacific Organic Solutions' Ukiah facility. After any contaminants are removed, wood, food, and green waste is processed through a grinder and used in a variety of ways, including compost production, landscaping materials, and electricity generation. Beginning in 2022, SB 1383 requires every jurisdiction to provide organic waste collection services to all residents and businesses.

UWS and RWS transport compostable organic waste from designated 'Greenwaste Bins' to Cold Creek Compost in Potter Valley, California (6000 East Side Potter Valley Road, Ukiah, CA). Compostable bags or plastics are not accepted by Cold Creek Compost, Inc.

3.11.2.3 RECYCLABLES

Recyclables are processed at Pacific Recycling Solutions Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) utilizing machinery and employees to sort all received material. This facility processes commingled recyclables collected from homes and businesses across the Ukiah Valley.

Manual and mechanical methods are used to separate the commingled materials into individual commodities. These materials are then baled separately and sent to additional processors and manufactures for making new recycled products. Materials processed include glass, aluminum, cardboard, newspaper, mixed paper and mixed plastics. Incoming material that is free of contamination gets baled and sent for processing into new recycled products. (Ukiah, 2022a) (LAFCo, 2012)(C&S, 2022)

3.11.2.4 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous and electronic waste (e-waste) is prohibited from being landfilled and must be handled separately from trash and recyclables. This includes all paints, thinners, pesticides, motor oil, fluorescent tubes, and electronics such as televisions, monitors, and VCRs.

Certain hazardous waste and e-waste are accepted in designated areas of the Transfer station at no charge. Other hazardous waste and e-waste are accepted through the Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MendoRecycle) at 3200 Taylor Drive, Ukiah. (LAFCo, 2012)

3.11.2.5 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Since 2018, C&S Waste Solutions has worked to create efficiencies by consolidating operations closer to existing facilities and office along Taylor Drive in unincorporated Mendocino County. C&S Waste Solutions has the ability to expand the Green Waste Processing facility by six more bunkers if needed.

3.11.3 Service Adequacy

The transfer station is adequately designed to accommodate service demands and abate odors and other associated nuisances pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

The City continues to steadily reduce the amount of refuse material sent to the landfill and exceed the state mandated diversion rate of 50% with an estimated average of 69%.

The Ukiah Transfer Station is operating at 65-percent capacity and 33-percent of permitted capacity and the Potrero Hills Landfill in Solano County has capacity through 2059, which is anticipated to be sufficient to serve the City and greater Ukiah Valley area.

3.11.3.1 CHALLENGES

Educating customers on evolving regulations, which are constantly changing as to the appropriate refuse protocols, is considered a pressing challenge, as it substantially affects downstream operations and waste diversion percentages. This is especially important as SB 1383 took effect on January 1, 2022. Moving forward all levels of the community will need to be educated on appropriate organic waste recycling, edible food recovery, reduction, and diversion requirements to ensure compliance with State law.

3.12 Stormwater

The City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities, and has developed a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) to reduce the discharge of pollutants from urban runoff into creeks and the Russian River. The storm drainage system is maintained by the Public Works Department, and residents are charged fees that support these activities. The City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities as well as three named main creeks within the City of Ukiah: Orrs Creek, Gibson Creek, and Doolin Creek. There is also an “unnamed” creek (Mendocino Creek) that flows through the City of Ukiah and joins Doolin Creek. These creeks ultimately discharge into the Russian River outside of the city limits, in the unincorporated area of Mendocino County. (LAFCo, 2012)

3.12.1 Service Overview

In 2006, the City adopted a Stormwater Management Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to implement and enforce a series of management practices designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from urban runoff or municipal separate storm sewer systems to the “maximum extent practicable,” to protect water quality, and to satisfy the applicable water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. The plan groups BMPs under six “minimum control measures,” as follows:

- 1) Education and outreach,
- 2) Public involvement and participation,
- 3) Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- 4) Construction site stormwater runoff control,
- 5) Post-Construction stormwater management, and
- 6) Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations.

In 2014, the City adopted the Low Impact Development (LID) Manual that is utilized by Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. The Manual provides the technical design guidelines for development projects in the implementation of permanent water quality features. (Ukiah, 2022a)(LAFCo, 2012)

3.12.1.1 STAFFING

Managing the City’s stormwater collection system is the responsibilities of field crews within the Public Works Department. The Streets Division is responsible for the maintenance of City streets, creeks, storm drains, and overall maintenance of the City-owned rights-of-way. The Streets Division is a General Fund operation. It consists of five full-time permanent employees, one street sweeper and one seasonal position.

3.12.2 Facilities and Capacity

The City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities that drain into Orrs Creek, Gibson Creek, and Doolin Creek, and eventually to the Russian River. The capacity of the stormwater drainage system is unknown. Much of the City's stormwater is conveyed by surface flow along the curb and gutter. There are intermittent storm drains throughout the City; however, there is no central trunk line for all of the storm drains to collect and convey stormwater to the Russian River. (LAFCo, 2012)

If recycled water needs increase in the future, the City can expand its recycling capacity and recycle additional wastewater entering the WWTP from the City's sewer piping network. Thus, the City does not need additional sources of water for recycling purposes. Finally, the costs associated with expansion of the WWTP to include stormwater recycling would be prohibitive unless sufficient recycled water customers are identified in the future, or State regulations are enacted requiring treatment of stormwater runoff.

Nonetheless, stormwater can provide groundwater recharge benefits for the City, provided that the stormwater entering Basin aquifers does not compromise groundwater quality. Development of land typically increases impervious surfaces which can compromise stormwater quality.

In 2014, the County of Mendocino published a LID Technical Design Manual. This manual provides technical guidance for redevelopment projects that significantly impact the impervious surface on a redevelopment site, and therefore require permanent stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to offset the impact. In 2011, the City of Santa Rosa and County of Sonoma prepared a similar LID manual. The City of Ukiah adopted the latter LID Manual by Resolution No. 2014-27. (Santa Rosa, 2011)

3.12.2.1 COLLECTION SYSTEM

As noted above, the City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities that drain into Orrs Creek, Gibson Creek, and Doolin Creek, and eventually to the Russian River.

3.12.2.2 TREATMENT

The City has developed a Stormwater Management Plan to reduce the discharge of pollutants from urban runoff into creeks and the Russian River. The plan addresses several areas of concern, public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post-construction stormwater management, and pollution prevention. The Public Involvement and Participation Program includes development and implementation of ways to detect and eliminate illicit discharges to the storm sewer system. Construction runoff control could include silt fences and temporary stormwater detention ponds.

Post-construction management consists of preventative actions such as protecting sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands) or the use of structural best management practices such as grassed swales or porous pavement. Pollution prevention involves developing and implementing a program for preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. (LAFCo, 2012; page 116)

3.12.2.3 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Currently unknown.

3.12.3 Service Adequacy

The City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities that drain into Orrs Creek, Gibson Creek, and Doolin Creek, and eventually to the Russian River. There is no central trunk line to collect and convey stormwater to the Russian River and the stormwater system capacity is unknown.

3.12.3.1 CHALLENGES

Currently unknown.

3.13 Wastewater

The City wastewater enterprise provides for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater for the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD). Due to the overlap area of the City and UVSD jurisdictional boundaries, some City residents receive wastewater services from the City, while other City residents receive wastewater services from the UVSD.

The City provides wastewater services to approximately two-thirds of City residents. The remaining one-third of City residents receive service from the UVSD. The UVSD also serves areas located north and south of the City limits. In total, half of the UVSD service units are located within the City limits.

In 1995, the City and UVSD entered into a participation agreement whereby the City agreed to operate and maintain the UVSD sewer collection system and provide UVSD wastewater treatment services at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), and UVSD agreed to share the costs based on the number of Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs). ESSUs are utilized as a measure of flow volume and treatment capacity, and one ESSU is equivalent to a two-bedroom dwelling unit. (LAFCo, 2012)

Costs for operation and capital are jointly developed through the City's annual budget process, budgeted in City funds, and costs are shared by the City and UVSD based on an agreed upon apportionment. (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.13.1 Service Overview

The Wastewater Division is managed under the Water Resources Department and is comprised of three sections: Administration, Collection and Treatment. The Administration section is responsible for all compliance, permitting, funding oversight, budgeting and assists the other divisions with technical assistance. The Collection section is closely coordinated with the Water Distribution section of the Water Division, as the same team of employees maintains and improves both systems. The Treatment section is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the WWTP and all discharges from the WWTP.

Administration:

- Ensure that Compliance with the Wastewater Collection System and WWTP meets all State requirements
- Administer the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for discharge to the Russian River from the WWTP
- Implement Capital Improvement Projects for system upgrades while monitoring revenues and expenditures to ensure the rates are supporting their purpose

Operations and Maintenance:

- Provide daily maintenance to the collection system to keep it in operation

- Identify defects in the system that need to be repaired or upgraded

Treatment:

- Operate and maintain the WWTP in a manner that meets the regulatory requirements for discharge
- Maintain the plant to keep it fully functioning (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.13.1.1 STAFFING

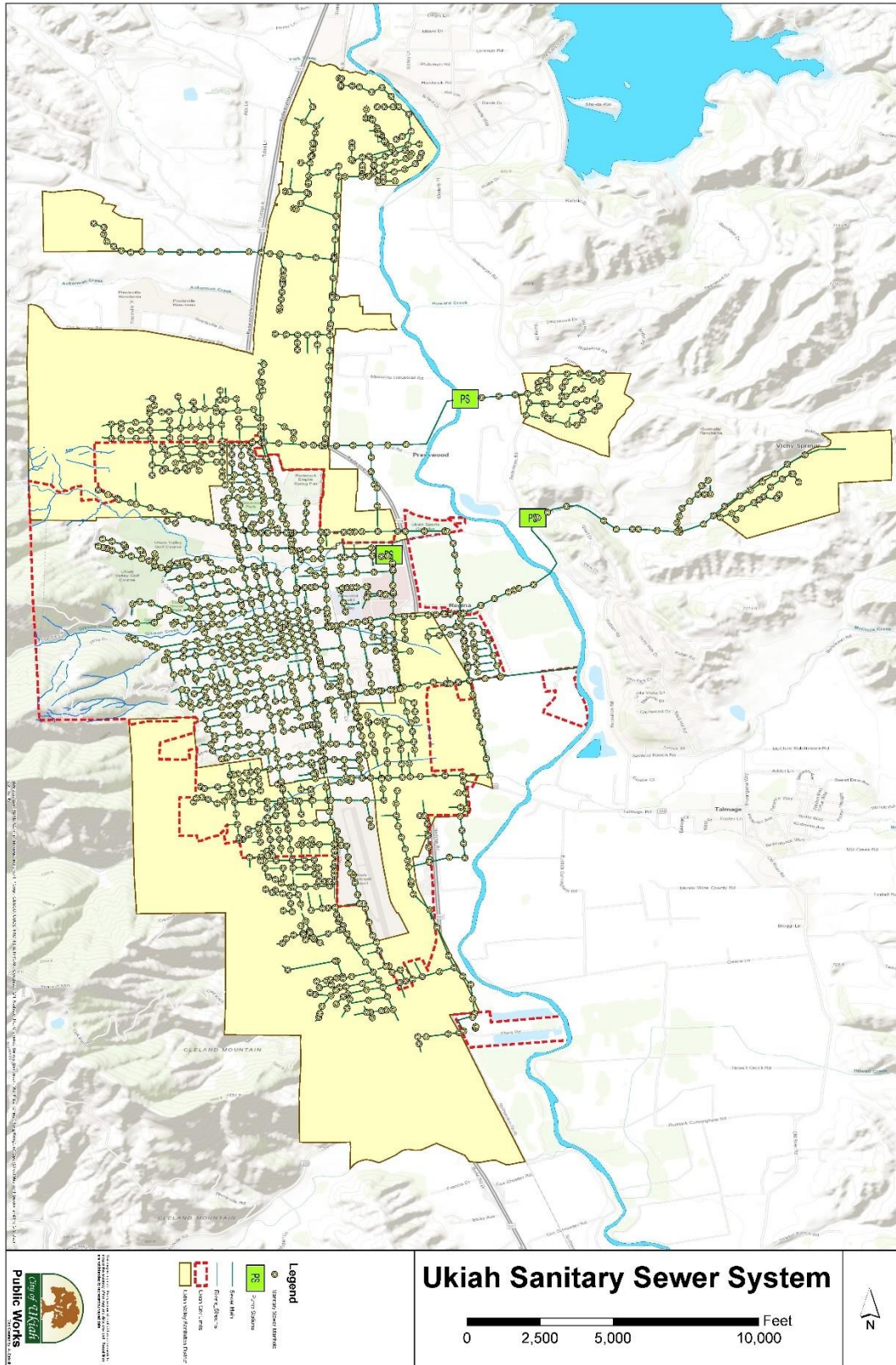
Per the 2021-2022 City of Ukiah Budget, Wastewater Services were allocated the following positions and employed approximately sixteen (16) individuals:

- Executive (.6)
- Management (1.7)
- Professional (.55)
- Administrative and Technical (13.75)
(Ukiah, 2022a)

3.13.1.2 OPERATIONS

The WWTP is owned by the City and serves the City of Ukiah, as well as the UVSD. The WWTP has a current treatment capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD) of average dry weather flow and 24.5 MGD of peak wet weather flow. The WWTP includes primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment. Wastewater collection is provided by the City of Ukiah and the UVSD and conveyed to the City's WWTP, located southeast of the City. Like the electric utility, wastewater collection and treatment is an enterprise activity. Residents are charged fees for service. (LAFCo, 2012)(Ukiah, 2022a)

Figure 3-3 City of Ukiah and UVSD Entire Sewer System Map



Source: City/UVSD, 2020a.

3.13.1.3 JOINT AGREEMENT WITH UKIAH VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT

Within the Ukiah Valley there are three agencies that provide wastewater treatment services: (1) City of Ukiah (City); (2) UVSD and; (3) Calpella County Water District (CWD). The City owns the collection system within a portion of its jurisdictional boundaries and a WWTP. The UVSD owns the collection system within its jurisdictional boundaries, a part of which is within the City's boundaries (known as the overlap area). The UVSD contracts via a Participation Agreement with the City of Ukiah for use of the City-owned WWTP and for operation and maintenance of the UVSD collection system. Calpella CWD owns its collection system and treatment plant. (UVSD, 2022)

In 2008, the UVSD transitioned to a five-member elected board. Prior to that, the district was represented by a three-member board of directors chosen from the City Council and Board of Supervisors. The UVSD is responsible for maintaining its portion of the network of collection pipes leading to the City of Ukiah's sewage treatment facility. The district currently encompasses lands north of the City to Mendocino College and beyond The Forks, south of Ukiah extending past State Route 253, east to El Dorado, Vichy Springs and Guideville Rancheria in the eastern valley and within limited areas of the City in the overlap area. (Mendocino County, 2011)

The UVSD does not have operations staff and contracts with the City of Ukiah for the provision of wastewater services. The City has its own staff, equipment and facilities for management and operation of wastewater services within the City's jurisdiction. Under the Participation Agreement, and subsequent agreements, both agencies are able to operate together in a unified manner to provide wastewater services to their respective jurisdictions.

The current Participation Agreement was finalized in July of 1995. In March of 1999, an amendment was agreed to by both agencies (Amendment No. 1) and following that in December of 2004, Amendment No. 2 was adopted by both agencies. Collectively, the 1995 Agreement and Amendments 1 & 2 contain the entire Agreement between the City and the UVSD concerning the City owned WWTP and the City's operation of the sewer collection system for the City and the UVSD. The term of the Agreement is for thirty-years and allows either agency to cancel upon five-years notice.

The Participation Agreement specifies that the annual costs of the entire sewer system (WWTP and collection system) be apportioned between the City and the UVSD each year according to the ratio of ESSUs utilized between the two entities. Annual costs include treatment, maintenance, operation, administration, repair and replacement, expansion, upgrading, debt service, insurance and financial services for the system.

Under this Agreement, the UVSD is required to establish rules and regulations necessary for the orderly administration of the UVSD's collection system. These rules and regulations address the use of the sewers, the installation of sewer laterals and mains, and the discharge of wastewater into the collection system. The UVSD is also required to establish fees and charges for use of the system to include connection fees, service fees and capacity charges. Additionally, the UVSD is required to establish fees for permits and inspection sufficient to reimburse the City for its actual of performance of these services.

The City is no longer the paying and receiving agent for UVSD operation and maintenance funds. The UVSD provides monthly billing to service recipients and receives payments for the billings via a contract with the Willow CWD. The City is responsible for the initial preparation of the proposed annual budget for the

entire sewer system which must receive approval from the City Council and the Board of Directors of UVSD.

(UVSD, 2022)

3.13.2 Facilities and Capacity

3.13.2.1 COLLECTION SYSTEM

The City provides wastewater collection services to approximately two-thirds of its service area, which covers the entirety of the City's boundaries. Additionally, the City also collects wastewater from the UVSD service area, located within and just outside of the City.

Municipal wastewater in the City is generated from a combination of residential, commercial, and institutional sewer discharges. The City does not have any industrial properties that discharge high amounts of industrial wastes, such as brine. The sewage from the City is collected from roughly 490,000 feet (93 miles) of local sewer mains that range in size from 4 inches to 12 inches. The wastewater proceeds in a southerly direction and consists of three (3) lift stations. The wastewater is discharged into larger trunk sewer lines that range in size from 15 inches to 42 inches that proceed southerly to the WWTP. The trunk sewers travel about five (5) miles from the northern portion of the City to the WWTP in the southerly part of the City. (Ukiah, 2020b)

3.13.2.2 WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 300 Plant Road, south of the airport, east of US 101, and west of the Russian River. The WWTP has been operational since 1958 and has been upgraded multiple times over the years.

The WWTP is owned and operated by the City, and treats wastewater collected from the City and the UVSD. The WWTP has an average dry-weather flow capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD), an average wet-weather flow capacity of 6.89 MGD, and a peak wet-weather flow capacity of 24.5 MGD. The WWTP includes primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment, as well as solids handling facilities.

Primary treatment removes floating material, oils and greases, sand and silt and organic solids heavy enough to settle in water. Secondary treatment biologically removes most of the suspended and dissolved organic material. Treatment steps are grit removal, primary sedimentation, secondary treatment (trickling filters), secondary sedimentation, final clarification (advanced waste-water treatment facility), sludge digestion (digesters), disinfection, dechlorination, and effluent discharge to the percolation ponds.

The WWTP discharges disinfected secondary effluent to three percolation/evaporation ponds located east of the plant along the Russian River. During dry weather months, wastewater flows are low enough that the full flow is stored in percolation ponds. The WWTP is permitted to discharge disinfected, tertiary wastewater to the Russian River only from October 1 through May 14 at a rate of up to 1 percent of the total Russian River flow, according to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Discharge Permit No. CA0022888 issued on November 2018. (LAFCo, 2012; Ukiah, 2022) As of 2021, about one-third of the wastewater at the WWTP is recycled, and about two-thirds of the wastewater is discharged to percolation ponds at the WWTP. (Ukiah, 2020b)

Between 2005 and 2009, the WWTP underwent a multi-year, \$56.5M improvement project to meet Title 22 recycled water standards and to add wastewater service capacity of 2,400 ESSUs to accommodate future growth. (Ukiah, 2022; WWTP)(LAFCo, 2012)

3.13.2.3 SYSTEM CAPACITY

The current WWTP dry weather flow is currently roughly 2 MGD, which is significantly lower than the WWTP design dry-weather flow capacity of 3.01 MGD (Ukiah, 2022). The quantities of wastewater generated are proportional to the population and the water used in the City's service area. Estimates of the wastewater flows in the City's service area are included in Table 3.12 below. The wastewater flows were calculated assuming wastewater flow is equivalent to about 75% of the water demand, which is in accordance with typical municipal wastewater master plans.

Year	Wastewater (AF)	Wastewater (MG)
2020	2,671	870
2019	2,568	837
2018	2,572	838
2017	2,546	830
2016	2,326	758
Average	2,537	827

Since housing development and population growth are not expected to drastically spike over the course of this UWMP planning period (2045), the City anticipates that future wastewater flows can be estimated using the projected demands from the 2020 UWMP, multiplied by a return rate of 75%. Table 3.13 below shows the projected wastewater flows:

Year	Flows (AF)	Flows (MG)
2025	2,875	937
2030	2,852	929
2035	2,825	921
2040	2,796	911
2045	2,785	907
Average	2,827	921

As indicated in the above table, wastewater flows will only be slightly greater in 2045 than in 2020, in spite of a projected 10% growth in population by 2045 as indicated in the 2020 UWMP. This is due to increases in water use efficiency by institutional and residential users.

3.13.2.4 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The City and UVSD plan for capital projects for the collection system and WWTP through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as part of the annual budget development process. Refer to Section 2.4.2.3 for the City's Fiscal Year 2022-23 Five-year CIP Schedule.

3.13.3 Service Adequacy

The WWTP was significantly upgraded twelve years ago and remains in good working order. Based on the available capacity data in Table 3.14 below, the City has 434 ESSUs or forty-eight percent capacity remaining for growth or expansion of existing uses.

Table 3.14 Summary of ESSUs by Agency			
Area	UVSD	City of Ukiah	Totals
Current Usage (May 2022)	5,688	6,833	12,521
Percent of Total ESSUs	45.43%	54.57%	49.84%
New WWTP Agreement	65%	35%	100%
New WWTP Capacity	1,560	840	2,400
New WWTP ESSU's Used	618	406	1,024
New WWTP ESSU's Percent Used	39.63%	48.33%	42.68%
New WWTP ESSUs Remaining	942	434	1,376

Source: City/UVSD, 2020b.

The aging sewer collection system is the primary factor influencing the City's ability to provide wastewater services to customers.

The City and UVSD 2009 Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) was updated in 2020 by Winzler & Kelly. The SWRCB requires the SSMP to provide a plan and schedule to properly manage, operate, and maintain all parts of the sanitary sewer system in order to reduce and prevent sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) as well as mitigate any future SSOs. The City and UVSD identified the following goals to achieve the SWRCB requirements:

1. Maintain or improve the condition of the collection system infrastructure in order to provide reliable service now and into the future.
2. Cost-effectively minimize infiltration/inflow and provide adequate sewer capacity to accommodate design storm flows.
3. Minimize the number and impact of sanitary sewer overflows.

The City and UVSD have several programs to implement these goals, such as: adopted fats, oils, and grease (FOG) ordinances, scheduled cleaning of known areas that have been the cause of overflows (hot spots), mapped FOG problem areas, and conducted closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspections of the entire collection system, including laterals.

The City and UVSD have an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Program to maintain the collection system mapping, conduct routine preventative O&M activities, perform rehabilitation and replacement, keep contingency equipment and replacement part inventories, and provide training opportunities for staff.

The City and UVSD have ordinances, standards, and established guidance for sewer main and lateral construction, inspections, and testing.

The City has an Overflow Emergency Response Plan (OERP) to minimize any health risks or damage to private property or the environment from SSOs.

The City and UVSD continue to work to identify and implement best management practices through the SSMP, including implementing a new Computerized Maintenance Management System.

(City/UVSD, 2020a)

3.13.3.1 CHALLENGES

Currently unknown.

3.14 Water

Water availability has long been an issue in many areas of the Ukiah Valley outside the City of Ukiah and is a likely constraint to future development in the Ukiah Valley outside the City of Ukiah.

Surface water supplies for the Ukiah Valley include the Eel River, from which water is diverted into the Russian River watershed through the Potter Valley Project, Lake Mendocino, and the Russian River and its tributaries. Groundwater is extracted from the Ukiah Valley groundwater basin. The Ukiah Valley groundwater basin is the northernmost basin in the Russian River water system.

There are five major providers of community water services in the Ukiah Valley. With limited exceptions, the City of Ukiah serves customers within the City, while Rogina Water Company and Millview, Calpella, and Willow County Water Districts serve the unincorporated areas. Each of these water service providers are regulated in part by the California Department of Health Services, and Rogina Water Company is additionally regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. These water providers hold varying claims to water rights for current and future use.

The primary source of surface water for water service providers in the Ukiah Valley is the Russian River and imported supplies from the Eel River. A majority of property owners without access to the City, County Districts, or community water systems obtain water from individual/domestic groundwater wells, springs or direct diversions of surface water. Some water needs are also supplied by wells that tap groundwater aquifers that are not connected to the underflow of the Russian River.

(Mendocino County, 2011)

3.14.1 Service Overview

3.14.1.1 STAFFING

Per the 2020-2021 City of Ukiah Budget, Water Resources were allocated the following positions and employed approximately 27 individuals:

- Executive (1.4)
 - Management (2.5)
 - Professional (2.1)
 - Administrative and Technical (26.25)
- (Ukiah, 2022a)

3.14.1.2 OPERATIONS

Water resources is a department consisting of three divisions water services, wastewater services, recycled water services:

Water Services Division: The Water Services Division is comprised of three sections: Administration, Production and Distribution. The Administration section is responsible for all compliance, permitting, funding oversight, budgeting, and assists the other divisions with technical assistance. The Distribution section is closely coordinated with the Wastewater Collection section of the Wastewater Division, as the same team of employees maintains and improves both systems. The Production section is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and all other groundwater and surface water sources. The Water Services Division provides three primary functions:

- **Administration:** Provide technical assistance to the Water Division Teams in order to ensure their operations are efficient Implement Capital Improvement Projects for system upgrades while monitoring revenues and expenditures to ensure the rates are supporting their purpose
- **Operations and Maintenance:** Provide daily maintenance to the system to keep it in operations; Identify defects in the system that need repaired or upgraded
- **Treatment:** Operate the Water Treatment Plant in a manner that meets the regulatory requirements for providing clean, safe and reliable drinking water supply for the community; Maintain the Water Treatment Plant and groundwater wells to keep them fully functioning; Monitor the Water Distribution system to ensure it is properly functioning.

Wastewater Division: The Wastewater Division is comprised of three sections: Administration, Collection and Treatment. The Administration section is responsible for all compliance, permitting, funding oversight, budgeting and assists the other divisions with technical assistance. The Collection section is closely coordinated with the Water Distribution section of the Water Division, as the same team of employees maintains and improves both systems. The Treatment section is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and all discharges from the WWTP. See Section 3.12 for more detail.

Recycled Water Division: The Recycled Water Division is a relatively new operation that evolved from the need to discharge treated effluent from the WWTP to a location other than the Russian River and was driven by the increased regulations that are in place for discharging treated effluent to a surface water body. The recycled water system is a valuable resource that augments existing water supplies in the Ukiah Valley. Recycled water use offsets existing and future water demands for irrigation and frost protection of agricultural land outside the City, benefitting the local agricultural industry, reducing demands for limited groundwater and surface water resources, and improving the reliability of the water supply over a wider range of hydrologic conditions. While a shared responsibility amongst existing staff, the Recycled Water Division is responsible for the following:

- Operation of the Phases 1-3 of the Recycled Water System
- Design and construction of Phase 4 of the Recycled Water System
- Maintenance of system facilities and equipment
- Manage distribution of recycled water to customers

(Ukiah, 2022a)

3.14.1.3 GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is a 20-year plan to ensure the sustainable use of groundwater within a groundwater basin. The [Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency \(UVBGS\)](#) is required by state law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), to develop a GSP by 2022. The goal of the GSP is to establish a standard for “sustainability” of groundwater management and use, and to determine how the basin will achieve this standard (Mendocino County, 2022; GSP). All studies currently indicate that there is little concern regarding the sustainability of groundwater within the Ukiah Valley.

SGMA, passed by the California legislature in 2014, requires local entities to jointly assess groundwater conditions in their local areas and to develop a GSP by a specified deadline to ensure that sustainable conditions are achieved within 20 years of GSP adoption. An effective and efficient groundwater

management plan is critical for the local economy and the health and welfare of the people, the environment, and all other beneficial uses and users of groundwater in a local area.

The Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) is a medium-priority groundwater basin located in Mendocino County. The sole Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Basin is the UVBGSA. UVBGSA consists of the following local agencies: the County of Mendocino, the City of Ukiah, the Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA), and the Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation and Improvement District (RRFC). The UVBGSA applied for and was awarded Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 grant funds to develop its GSP and meet the SGMA-mandated schedule for submitting a GSA-approved GSP to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 31, 2022.

The UVBGSA will be funded through member agency contributions during the first 5-year implementation period until a fee structure is implemented to support and fund UVBGSA activities. Additional funding opportunities will continue to be explored, including grants. In late-2022, DWR will open Round 2 solicitations under the SGMA Grant Program, which will provide approximately \$204 million to high and medium priority sub-basins to implement GSPs and any associated projects and management actions.

(Mendocino County, 2021)

3.14.1.4 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) for the City of Ukiah was prepared in compliance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act, which was established in 1983 and has been codified into the California Water Code sections 10610 through 10657. The Act requires “every urban water supplier providing water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually, to prepare and adopt, in accordance with prescribed requirements, an Urban Water Management Plan.” These plans must be filed with the DWR every five (5) years, describing and evaluating reasonable and practical efficient water uses, reclamation, and conservation activities.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2 Water Supply and Demand

3.14.2.1 WATER SUPPLY

The City currently uses both potable water and non-potable (recycled) water to meet the needs of its service area. The City’s potable water comes from local water sources only, including surface water from the Russian River and groundwater from the Basin. The groundwater basin is not currently limited with water rights agreements, whereas the City has water rights agreements with the State for use of surface water from the Russian River water. The City maintains groundwater wells, a Ranney collector, surface well, and a potable water treatment plant to produce water in the City. The City supplies its water from the following sources: (1) Surface Water – Russian River, (2) Surface Water (Pre-1914), (3) Imported (Surface) Water, and (4) Groundwater. In the near future, the City's overall water supply reliability is expected to increase due to increases in water use efficiency and through the use of the City’s new recycled water system.

Supply Source	Supply Available (AF)	Projected Supply Use (AF)
Surface Water	16,507	1,500
Groundwater	4,677	1,250

Recycled Water	1,400	1,400
Total	23,584	4,150

Source: Ukiah, 2020b.

The City’s available supply through permitted rights is more than sufficient to meet the City’s needs. By maintaining the City’s wells and WTP in excellent condition, the City’s water supply capacity should be able to meet demands for all climate scenarios through 2045. The City’s UWMP does not anticipate a water supply shortage for City residents and water users due to drought conditions through 2045. Groundwater supplies are not expected to be affected during droughts lasting up to five (5) years. Likewise, the City’s Pre-1914 surface water rights are expected to be available during drought periods.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.1.1 Water Rights

The drought of 2020-2021 impacted agencies throughout the Russian River watershed and has continued into the 2021-2022 water year. Data from local flow monitoring stations indicate that water levels in the Russian River are close to a “Critical Drought” classification under the water rights permits given to local agencies in 1961 and 1986. Due to the drought, Sonoma County Water Agency has requested temporary allowances to the conditions of its water right permits, which affects dam releases from Lake Mendocino into the Russian River upstream of the City’s surface water intake. These conditions indicate that local agencies that rely on surface water should increase efforts to maintain and enhance groundwater and recycled water supplies, to prepare for up to five (5) years of drought. However surface flows during recent severe droughts still exceeded the City’s Pre-1914 surface water rights, and the City expects to be able to rely on this right even through periods of drought.

The City maintains multiple water-rights permits with the SWRCB for diversions from the Russian River. The City’s Pre-1914 Appropriative Right to divert from the Russian River provides a reliable supply source, but was once curtailed in 2021. The City also has a water right from 1954, Permit 12952, to divert up to 20 cubic feet per second or 14,479.6 acre-feet a year from the Russian River for use within the City and environs. The City has another water right from 1963, License 8821, to divert up to 0.6 cubic feet per second from the Russian River. Finally, the City has a right, License 12982, to divert up to 400 cubic feet per second for purposes of hydropower from the East Fork of the Russian River – this is a water right for non-consumptive use.

Despite this diverse portfolio, for conservative planning purposes, it is assumed that the City’s surface water supplies during dry years will be one-third of normal water year surface supplies. Importantly, this assumption would impact only the City’s Water Right Permit 12952 (Application 15704), since the City’s Pre-1914 Right is unlikely to be curtailed by the SWRCB. This would result in the following surface water supplies during dry years:

- Surface Water (Pre-1914): 2,027 AFY
- Surface Water (Permit 12952): 4,826 AFY

This results in a total surface supply of 6,853 AFY. Since annual groundwater recharge exceeds the City’s pumping capacity, groundwater is expected to be a “drought proof” source of supply. Thus, the City’s total supply (surface + groundwater) during dry years is 11,534 AFY.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.1.2 Water Storage

For potable water storage needs, the City maintains eight operating storage reservoirs with a combined storage capacity of 6.1 million gallons (MG) (Table 3.16).

Reservoir	Storage Capacity (gallons)	Date
Concrete Tank	2,500,000	1948
Steel Tank*	160,000	2021
Steel Tank	30,000	1996
Steel Tank	1,500,000	2005
Steel Tank	1,500,000	2005
Steel Tank	315,000	2005
Redwood Tank	13,000	1960
Concrete clearwell	135,000	1990
Total	6,153,000	

*The City recently completed upsizing the steel tank from 100,000 gallons.

Source: Ukiah, 2020b; Ukiah 2022.

Two reservoirs provide flood protection and water supply storage for the Russian River Watershed: 1) Lake Mendocino on the East Fork Russian River near the City of Ukiah, and 2) Lake Sonoma on Dry Creek west of Healdsburg. Lake Mendocino was formed when the Coyote Valley Dam was constructed in 1958, and Lake Sonoma was formed in 1984 after completion of the Warm Springs Dam. Both dams were constructed by the USACE as flood control projects, but also provide both water storage and hydroelectric power.

During dry periods, the volume of surface flows in the Russian River within the Ukiah Valley are significantly influenced by the operations of the Potter Valley Powerhouse (PVP) and Lake Mendocino. The PVP is managed by Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E). Lake Mendocino is managed by the UUSACE, San Francisco District, for purposes of flood control operations and by Sonoma County Water Agency for purposes of water supply operations for Sonoma County. Sonoma County Water Agency and the RRFC own storage space in Lake Mendocino. These agencies coordinate water releases from Lake Mendocino with the USACE and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.2 RECYCLED WATER

As of 2019, the City distributes recycled water through a 7.8-mile network of recycled water distribution mains. Per the 2015 UWMP, the City did not deliver recycled water, but had secured grant funding to expand recycled water delivery by 2020. The implementation of recycled water was broken up into a four-phase plan to deliver up to 1,400 AFY of recycled water to irrigation and industrial users. The City completed Phases 1 to 3 in September of 2019.

“Recycled” or “reclaimed” water is defined as wastewater purified through primary, secondary, tertiary (Title 22), or advanced treatment. Recycled water is acceptable for most non-potable water purposes such as agriculture, golf course and park irrigation, and industrial processes. The City of Ukiah treats roughly 2.7 MG of wastewater each day. Since 2019, a portion of this wastewater is recycled within the City’s service area. The remainder of the wastewater is treated and discharged to adjacent percolation ponds

for groundwater replenishment. Recycled water is considered a reliable and droughtproof water source that reduces the City's reliance on potable water. Recycled water will continue to be a critical part of the City's water supply portfolio, with planned expansions under design.

The WWTP underwent a \$56.5 million upgrade in 2009 for expansion and regulation compliance purposes. This expansion also enabled the City to construct a recycled water pumping and distribution system. The City was subsequently awarded \$25,564,000 from the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) and \$9,996,000 in grants from the Water Recycling Funding Program (WRFP) to construct Phases 1, 2 and 3 of the Recycled Water Project. In 2019, the City completed the first three phases of the City's recycled water system, which provides up to 1,000 AFY of recycled water to the City and surrounding Ukiah Valley.

The project also addresses regulatory requirements that limit the City's wastewater discharges to the Russian River. Ultimately, it also creates a more diversified and drought-resilient water supply for agricultural and irrigation uses. The new recycled water system includes nearly eight (8) miles of pipeline, a 66 MG water storage reservoir, upgraded treatment (tertiary) facilities. The system also included recycled water pipelines along Highway 101 and Oak Manor Drive. This recycled water system allows the City to serve approximately 325 MG of water to farmers, parks, and schools each year.

The City meters the recycled water flow in their system. As of 2019, the City's recycled water distribution system provides irrigation to agricultural lots and softball fields. The Table below indicates the recent recycled water used by the City.

Year	Recycled Water Produced or Used (AF)	Recycled Water Produced or Used (MG)
2016	0	0
2017	0	0
2018	0	0
2019	120	39
2020	742	242
2021	982	320

Source: Ukiah, 2020b.

The current annual capacity of the City's recycled water system is approximately 1,000 AFY. The City estimates that about 1,000 AF of recycled water was used in 2021. The fourth phase of the recycled water project will supply an additional 400 AFY of recycled water to the City for agriculture and recreational purposes. Once Phase 4 of the recycled water project is complete, the City projects the following amounts of recycled water through 2045 (Table 3.18).

Year	Recycled Water Production/Use (AF)	Recycled Water Production/Use (MG)
2025	456	1,400
2030	456	1,400
2035	456	1,400
2040	456	1,400

Source: Ukiah, 2020b.

Among the amounts projected above, about 220 AF will be used at the Ukiah Valley Golf Course once Phase 4 is complete.

The expansion of the recycled water system beyond the pending capacity of 1,400 AFY would be possible if the funding for recycled water pipeline infrastructure was covered by potential recycled water users, and an agreement was in place for the use of recycled water. The City would then be able to expand the use of recycled water beyond 1,400 AFY.

A recycled water master plan has not been prepared for the City to date, and the City has not made a formal identification of potential recycled water users other than those mentioned in Phases 1 to 4 of its current recycled water project. A detailed study was conducted and noted that the system will be at capacity after Phase 4. Phase 4 construction is intended to commence in 2023. However, typical recycled water users include the following:

- Landscape Users (parks, sports fields)
- Commercial/Manufacturing Users
- Energy/Power Production

The City has large landscape municipal customers such as parks and schools located in the center of the City. Theoretically, there would be existing customers available to purchase recycled water if and/or when additional recycled water infrastructure is in place. More specifically, the City will be able to identify existing or future potential recycled water users through the following means:

- Existing water consumption records (*determine high volume users of water*)
- Existing commercial website data (*to determine potential use of recycled water*)

By using recycled water, the City has offset diversions from the Russian River and has improved water supply reliability in Lake Mendocino. The City can encourage recycled water use by restructuring its water rates and service charges for customers who use recycled water for a period of time. For example, the City is currently providing recycled water to its initial recycled water customers at no cost. The exact incentive methods for recycled water are currently in development. This may include (1) monitoring, enforcement and training for recycled water use, and (2) delivery of recycled water at a reduced rate or a rate less than that of potable water for an initial period of time.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.3 WATER CONSERVATION

In the commercial and institutional sector, water needs vary as customers range from restaurants to offices and from retail stores to schools. Office buildings and retail stores require significantly less water than restaurants and schools and are not usually the key focus of water conservation efforts.

To prevent water waste the City follows a domestic irrigation schedule that limits the length of irrigating lawns and gardens to avoid overspray runoff and also evapotranspiration from daytime watering. Overall water use characteristics within the City's service area reflect slightly higher than average regional water use characteristics within the North Coast Hydrologic Region and Mendocino County.

Nevertheless, the City has reduced water consumption by about 22% in the past two decades. Additionally, the City is updating its Water Shortage Contingency Plan to prohibit water waste.

Although the population of the City has mildly increased over the past two decades, overall water use within the City's service area has declined steadily. This is a result of water conservation, as water-use

efficiency has outweighed the additional water users. The City can maintain its water consumption rates below its SBx7-7 target by focusing on water conservation measures.

The City should experience only mild increases in its water consumption over the long term in spite of overall population increases. This is due to “passive savings.” That is, over time, homes will be equipped with water-saving fixtures and landscapes. Also, over time, residents will become more aware of water conservation and City water code policies such as limitations on landscape irrigation and car washing. This “passive savings” will offset new water demands stemming from population growth. For the sake of future water demand projections in this UWMP, “passive savings” is taken into consideration by analyzing the declines in water consumption rates. The estimated rate of decline in the water consumption rate (GPCD) is 0.5% annually. It is practical to assume that water use efficiency will continue to increase on its own over the next couple of decades.

The City acknowledges that efficient water use is the foundation of its current and future water planning and operations policies. The City implements water conservation through a combination of programs, resources, and policies, including Demand Management Measures (DMM) that have a significant impact on water use. The City actively promotes the reduction of water demand through various water conservation outreach programs.

- 1) Water Waste Prevention
- 2) Metering
- 3) Conservation Pricing
- 4) Public Education and Outreach
- 5) Programs to Assess and Manage Distribution System Real Loss
- 6) Water Conservation Program Coordination and Staffing Support

In addition to the six DMMs described above, the City implements a large landscape irrigation conservation program and a commercial, industrial, institutional water customer conservation program. The City has not historically tracked the actual water savings associated with the implementation of this conservation measure. Implementation of this conservation measure is expected to help the City maintain its water use targets by tracking water use of large industrial customers and alerting the customer to substantial changes in water use that could indicate the need for greater water use awareness within the industrial facility.

3.14.2.4 WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT

The City continually reviews practices that will provide its customers with adequate and reliable supplies in an environmentally and economically responsible manner. The City’s water demand within its service area should remain relatively constant over the next 25 years due to minimal population growth combined with water use efficiency measures and the potential use of recycled water. Although the current water supply sources are considered adequate for existing and projected water demands, the City may add additional groundwater wells in the future to improve the reliability of the City’s overall water supply. The City will also be focusing on replacement of pipelines, water meters, valves, and fire hydrants to improve water supply reliability and enhance the operations of the City’s water system.

Currently, there are no plans in place for new groundwater wells within the next five years, or until the 2025 UWMP. With the formation of the UVBGS, the City will be coordinating its long-term groundwater planning with other local Ukiah Valley Basin agencies.

3.14.2.5 WATER DEMAND

The City's water service area is almost fully developed, and water use needs have been well-established for nearly three decades. As such, total water demand on the City's water supply system is not subject to significant change each year. However, water use within the City's service area varies each month based on climate conditions. The full impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on the water industry are still emerging, including the effect on residential and commercial water demands. Available data for most agencies indicate that residential water demand has increased while non-residential demand has decreased.

The City records water use per service connection only and bills customers based on a single water rate structure. Water sales data is compiled by City water staff and submitted to DWR in the Electronic Annual Report.

The total water consumption by customer type since 2015 is shown on table below. As noted by the table below, single-family and multi-family residential accounts are equivalent, and are the highest consuming sectors in the City since most of the City is zoned mostly for residential accounts.

Sector	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Single Family Residential	710	777	783	786	817
Multi-Family Residential	710	777	783	786	817
Commercial/Institutional	652	714	723	719	748
Industrial	48	53	54	53	55
Landscape Irrigation	185	202	205	200	209
Other	25	27	26	26	27
Total Water Sales	2,326	2,547	2,573	2,569	2,672
Unaccounted for Water	232	257	317	313	359
Total Water Consumption	2,557	2,803	2,890	2,881	3,030

As indicated above, the City's unaccounted for water ranged from 232 to 359 AF, which is about 10.4 percent of the total water supply into the City's distribution system. Unaccounted for water consists of routine flushing, unmetered use, and water losses. Although water losses have cost impacts on water agencies, they cannot be prevented entirely. Instead, effort is given to controlling the quantity of water losses (to a cost-effective extent) in order to reduce the cost impact of water losses on water operations. For this reason, the City has prepared water loss audits using American Water Works Association (AWWA) software. The water audits for 2016 to 2019 are provided in the appendix of the UWMP. The 2019 Audit shows that the City's Leakage Index (the ratio of real loss to unavoidable loss) was 2.39, which is a good score for water agencies.

Although the City is in a "built-out" condition, the UWMP analyzed three scenarios, the first of which was a "normal" scenario (no expansion of the water service area) and resulted in up to 2,500 additional service connections. The other two were possible, however unlikely, growth scenarios that indicated up to 5,000 additional service connections by the year 2045. It is assumed that in each five-year increment a total of 500 or 1,000 additional service connections could be served by the City, until the year 2045. The additional service connections estimated would come from outside the City's current water service area.

Under existing conditions, it is assumed that in each five year increment a total of 500 or 1,000 additional service connections could be served by the City, until the year 2045. The additional service connections estimated would come from outside the City's current water service area, but within the City's proposed SOI.

The UWMP stated that the analysis did not imply any intent by the City to expand their water service area. Rather, the scenarios were analyzed only for the purpose of demonstrating resiliency of the City's water system to meet demands.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.6 REGIONAL CONTEXT

The City is a retail agency within the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin. The City draws water from the Russian River, which includes imported water from the Eel River and the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin. Other agencies, such as the Redwood Valley County Water District, Willow County Water District, Millview County Water District, Calpella County Water District, Rogina Water Company, RRFC, and Sonoma County Water Agency, also rely on one or more of these sources of water.

The City is also a member of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), which is a coalition of eleven cities, counties and special districts in the Russian River watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. The RRWA was formed in 2003 to create opportunities for member agencies to expand their stewardship role in the watershed. These member agencies include the cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, and Ukiah, as well as Mendocino and Sonoma County, Sonoma Water Agency, and the Town of Windsor.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.2.6.1 Emergency Interties

The City does not regularly transfer or exchange water with its neighboring water agencies. However, the City maintains emergency agreements with both the Willow County Water District and the Millview County Water District.

Besides the two agencies above, the Redwood Valley County Water District, benefits indirectly from the City's actions. For instance, the City's relinquishing of its agreement with the RRFC allow the Redwood Valley County Water District to obtain additional surface water from the RRFC through an agreement for "surplus" water.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

In 2021, extreme drought conditions resulted in substantial water supply shortages for Mendocino County's coastal communities, and in the City of Fort Bragg and the Town of Mendocino in particular. Through the City's insistence and Mendocino County's drought emergency coordination efforts, the City of Ukiah used a small portion of its Pre-1914 water right to divert 1.4 CFS to support the interbasin hauling of water to these impacted communities through the drought. The City now maintains an ongoing emergency services agreement for shared water resources with Fort Bragg, Willits and the County of Mendocino.

Following the curtailments of 2021, efforts to develop a more dynamic approach to allocating water supply during severe drought resumed. The outcome of the year-long effort is an agreement that creates an alternative, voluntary, tract to the traditional water rights system. Key points of the [Upper Russian River 2022 Voluntary Water Sharing Program](#) are:

- Program is first of its kind – This regional, voluntary water-sharing program offers a chance for collaboration on water transfers and exchanges to maximize use of available water for community benefit.
- Program is preferable to curtailment – Rather than face strict, top-down curtailment orders from the State (like in 2021), this program offers water users a more flexible, bottom-up approach. The partnership allows for locally driven decisions to be made to adapt to changing conditions.
- City of Ukiah was in the leadership role – From the beginning of discussions about possible curtailment actions, the City called for an approach that would avoid regional curtailment of water for the entire Upper Russian River Watershed, regardless of use and regardless of priority. The City has senior water rights and values interagency participation to protect the region as a whole and to leverage available resources for maximum benefit.
- Improves information sharing and collaboration – In the past, individual water users have made siloed decisions, with incomplete information. The new program will improve tracking on supply and demand, and feed that information into a process for collaborative decision-making.
- Protects and preserves water rights legal framework – The program recognizes the existing water rights system, and allows for actions based on seniority. Senior water rights holders will have greater certainty in avoiding curtailment, while junior rights holders will have an opportunity to secure transfers from regional partners who are in a position to share.
- The entire Ukiah Valley will benefit – This partnership offers a new way to manage limited resources in the Upper Russian River watershed so that water can be transferred or exchanged based on the most urgent needs. This helps minimize the economic harm and community impact that comes from strict curtailment orders.
- Success depends on participation – This program depends on the participation of a variety of water users with both junior and senior water rights.

Implementation of the Voluntary Regional Water Sharing Program was considered at the SWRCB board meeting on June 7, 2022. After hours of positive testimony, the Water Board approved the program unanimously, and touted it as great example for other areas in the state. The Ukiah City Council approved becoming a signatory participant in the Voluntary Regional Water Sharing Program at its [June 15, 2022 City Council meeting](#). Due to excessive drought conditions, the Program was paused in July, although is expected to come back into effect once there is sufficient water available and as long as the Governor's Emergency Drought Declaration remains in effect.

3.14.3 Facilities and Capacity

3.14.3.1 COLLECTION FACILITIES

The City maintains groundwater wells, a Ranney collector, surface well, and a potable water treatment plant to produce potable water in the City. The City maintains four active wells, including one new well since the 2015 UWMP (Well #9), which went online in 2017. The City's wells are summarized as follows:

Well No.	Capacity (GPM)	Location
4	1,000	Lorraine Street & Betty Street
7	700	East Gobbi Street
8	850	Oak Manor Drive
9	700	Orchard Avenue

Source: Ukiah, 2020b.

Prior to 2019, Well #4 had been offline for rehabilitation. Well #8 experienced some problems during installation and has not produced as anticipated from the beginning of its operation. It was rehabilitated in 2021 from 500 to 850 gpm as of 2022. The total pumping capacity of Wells #4, #7, and #8 are 3,548 AFY. Well #9 went online in 2017 with a pumping capacity of approximately 1,129 AFY. This brings the total groundwater pumping capacity of all 4 groundwater wells to 4,677 AFY.

Further, the City's capacity to extract its total available surface water rights is limited by its current pumping infrastructure, which currently consists of its Ranney Collector and Well #3. Well #3 draws water from an alluvial zone along the Russian River as well. The City's Ranney Collector has a capacity of 5,155 AFY and Well #3 has a capacity of 483 AFY, which results in a combined total of 5,638 AFY, and roughly double the City's current water demand level.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.3.2 TREATMENT FACILITIES

The City's WTP was constructed and began operation in April 1992, and treats water collected in the Ranney Collector. The WTP is located about 300 feet away from the Ranney collector and uses the Microfloc contact clarification-filtration. Treatment processes include prechlorination, adsorption, clarification, mixed media gravity filtration, and disinfection. Filter backwash water generated from the water treatment plant processes is discharged to two 216,000-gallon clarification reservoirs for recycling. Treated water is pumped to a 1.5 MG clearwell / reservoir for post chlorination. From the clearwell, the water is pumped into the distribution system by vertical turbine high service pumps. Operation of the treatment plant is controlled through the use of a pressure transducer in the City's new 1.5 MG reservoir.

The most-recent improvements to the WTP included an additional Microfloc contact clarification-filtration unit for reliability and redundancy, new chlorine scrubber, new sodium hydroxide tank and dispensing system, new water distribution SCADA system, and high service pumps.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

3.14.3.3 DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES

The City distributes water to residential, commercial, and other customers through approximately 5,030 service connections using a 62-mile network of distribution mains. The water system consists of four pressure zones that provide modified pressure to customers. Zone 1 is the main zone and serves 97 percent of the City's water system. Zone 1 is served by gravity from the two largest storage tanks. Smaller pressure zones are supplied by booster pump stations.

3.14.3.4 RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM

The new recycled water system includes nearly eight miles of pipeline, a 66 MG water storage reservoir, and upgraded treatment (tertiary) facilities. The system also included recycled water pipelines along US

101 and Oak Manor Drive. The recycled water system allows the City to serve approximately 325 MG of water to farmers, parks, and schools each year. The fourth phase will commence construction in 2023, which will expand the recycled water system by 400 AFY to serve the Ukiah Valley Golf Course, Ukiah High School, an agricultural field, adjacent parks, and softball fields. See Section 3.13.2.2 for more information.

3.14.3.5 CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The City plans for capital projects for the distribution system and WTP through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as part of the annual budget development process. Refer to Section 2.4.2.3 for the City's Fiscal Year 2022-23 Five-year CIP Schedule.

3.14.4 Service Adequacy

The City's potable water comes from local water sources only, including surface water from the Russian River and groundwater from the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin. The City's total annual potable water supply available through permitted rights is 21,184 AF. The City's total annual potable water supply available from surface and groundwater sources during dry years is 11,534 AF. In addition, the City's total non-potable water supply currently available for agriculture and recreational purposes is 1,000 AF. The City also maintains eight operating storage reservoirs with a combined potable water storage capacity of 6.153 MG.

The City maintains four groundwater wells with an annual total pumping capacity of 4,677 AF, a Ranney Collector with an annual capacity of 5,155 AF, a surface water well with an annual capacity of 483 AF, and a water treatment plant to produce potable water for City customers. The City's capacity to extract its total available surface water rights is limited by its current pumping infrastructure consisting of its Ranney Collector and Well #3, which draw water from an alluvial zone along the Russian River.

The City's total annual water consumption ranges between 2,800 to 3,000 AF, based on 2017 - 2020 water demand data. The City has sufficient water available to meet current demand and for considerable growth.

The City's single-family and multi-family residential accounts are the highest water consuming sectors. The City has reduced water consumption by about twenty-two percent in the past two decades due to water-use efficiency, and this trend is expected to continue with prolonged drought and necessary water conservation efforts.

The City's WTP was built about 20 years ago and remains in good working order. The recycled water system was recently completed in 2019. It is common to have unaccounted for water in water distribution systems. The City's 2019 water audit showed that the City's Leakage Index (the ratio of real loss to unavoidable loss) was 2.39, which is a good score for water agencies.

3.14.4.1 CHALLENGES

If water quality becomes an issue for water supply reliability in the future, the City will evaluate the need for upgrades to its current treatment system or construction of a new water treatment facility.

3.15 Determinations

3.15.1 MSR Review Factors

3.15.1.1 GROWTH

Growth and population projections for the affected area

1. The City of Ukiah has land use authority over its jurisdictional boundary and makes land-use decisions based on the City's General Plan, which is currently being updated.
2. Areas adjacent to the City limits are under the jurisdiction of the County of Mendocino and are regulated through the County's General Plan and Zoning Code.
3. During the 2020 Census, the population for the City was 16,607. Based on the California Department of Finance, as of January 1, 2022, the population for the City of Ukiah was 16,228.
4. Population growth projections specific to the City are unavailable. The California Department of Finance estimates that Mendocino County as a whole will grow by six percent by 2040, or an average rate of 0.3% annually.

3.15.1.2 DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

5. A DUC is an unincorporated geographic area with 12 or more registered voters with a median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the State MHI of \$80,440 or \$64,000.
6. According to the CALAFCO Statewide DUC Mapping Tool, the following three DUCs have been identified adjacent to or near the City limits: DUC #1: Ukiah SXSX, DUC #2: Norgard/Airport South, DUC #3: Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates).
7. According to the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update Land Use Element, the following five DUCs have been identified adjacent to or near the City limits: 1) Ukiah SXSX, 2) Norgard Lane, 3) Empire Gardens, 4) Talmage, 5) The Forks.
8. Special consideration will be given to any DUCs affected by future annexation proposals consistent with GC §56375(8)(A) and LAFCo Policy.

3.15.1.3 CAPACITY OF FACILITIES AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

9. The City is a full-service city and provides Administration, Airport, Animal Control, Electric Utility, Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Law Enforcement, Community Services (Parks and Recreation), Public Works, Solid Waste, Stormwater, Wastewater, and Water municipal services.
10. The City provides wastewater services to approximately two-thirds of City residents. The remaining one-third of City residents receive service from the UVSD. The UVSD also serves areas located north and south of the City limits. In total, half of the UVSD service units are located within the City limits.
11. The City's WWTP was significantly upgraded twelve years ago and remains in good working order. The current WWTP dry weather flow is currently roughly 2 MGD, which is significantly lower than the WWTP design dry-weather flow capacity of 3.01 MGD. Based on the available capacity data, the City has 434 ESSUs or forty-eight percent capacity remaining for growth or expansion of existing uses.

12. The aging sewer collection system is the primary factor influencing the City's ability to provide wastewater services to customers, which is addressed through the 2020 Sewer System Management Plan to reduce and prevent sanitary sewer overflows.
13. The City's total annual potable water supply available through permitted rights is 21,184 AF. The City's total annual potable water supply available from surface and groundwater sources during dry years is 11,534 AF. In addition, the City's total non-potable water supply currently available for agriculture and recreational purposes is 1,000 AF. The City also maintains eight operating storage reservoirs with a combined potable water storage capacity of 6.153 MG.
14. The City maintains four groundwater wells with an annual total pumping capacity of 4,677 AF, a Ranney Collector with an annual capacity of 5,155 AF, a surface water well with an annual capacity of 483 AF, and a water treatment plant to produce potable water for City customers. The City's capacity to extract its total available surface water rights is limited by its current pumping infrastructure consisting of its Ranney Collector and Well #3, which draw water from an alluvial zone along the Russian River.
15. The City's total annual water consumption ranges between 2,800 to 3,000 AF, based on 2017 - 2020 water demand data. The City has sufficient water available to meet current demand and for considerable growth.
16. The City's WTP was built about 20 years ago and remains in good working order. The recycled water system was recently completed in 2019. It is common to have unaccounted for water in water distribution systems. The City's 2019 water audit showed that the City's Leakage Index (the ratio of real loss to unavoidable loss) was 2.39, which is a good score for water agencies.
17. The City has agreed to provide municipal water outside the City limits to a single parcel, located in the Brush Street Triangle area, to serve up to 151 units of affordable housing through a LAFCo approved Out-of-Agency Services Agreement (LAFCo Resolution No. 2004-01).
18. There are currently no water or wastewater capacity issues or infrastructure needs for the City that need to be addressed within the timeframe of this MSR.
19. On average, the Ukiah Police Department (UPD) has 27 sworn officers for a population of around 16,000, a ratio of 1.62 per thousand. Based on 2018 and 2021 data, the average total UPD calls for service is approximately 70 calls per day, with approximately 3% of calls assisting outside agencies. Since officers are responding to calls in excess of industry work and staffing standards, the department is operating at capacity. To accommodate growth, the department should maintain or exceed the current ratio of sworn officers per thousand.
20. The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority reports that the current paid staffing level is not adequate to deliver services. Based on the International City Managers Association's recommendation of 0.98 firefighters per 1,000 residents, the Fire Authority should have at least 33 firefighters. The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority currently has 22 career firefighters and 15 volunteer firefighters.
21. The City rates each of its roadways in terms of a pavement condition index (PCI) In order to determine maintenance needs. The average weighted PCI for the City's network in 2021 was 53 or considered at risk (light to moderate weathering, light load-related base failure, moderate linear cracking). This is an improvement from 2016 when 67% of Ukiah's streets were in poor or "failed" condition.
22. The Electric Utility (EU) serves 6,665 residential and 1,677 commercial customers for a total of 8,342 customers. The EU operates the Lake Mendocino Hydro Plant, which has the capability to produce 3.5MW, and yields an annual production of 10,000 MWh. Power is delivered to the Orchard Street substation, which serves as the main distribution center and has adequate capacity to serve current

demand. Power is also received from generation facilities, jointly owned with other utilities and operated by Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), and through power purchase contracts. The EU has sufficient capacity to meet power needs of the City and has the ability to purchase additional power. As the City grows, additional energy resources will be procured, and subsequent energy facilities will be built systematically to meet additional load. The Electric Utility has sufficient capacity to meet power needs of the City, and should there be an anticipated shortage, the City has the ability to purchase additional power.

23. The City has a franchise agreement with Ukiah Waste Solutions (UWS) for solid waste removal. UWS collects and transports solid waste to the Ukiah Transfer Station, operated by Solid Waste Systems and managed by C&S Waste Solutions, which is then transferred to the Potrero Hills Landfill in Solano County. Within the Ukiah Valley unincorporated areas, solid waste collection is undertaken by Redwood Waste Solutions (RWS); UWS and RWS are stand-alone companies managed by C&S Waste Solutions. The City continues to steadily reduce the amount of refuse material sent to the landfill and exceed the state mandated diversion rate of 50% with an estimated average of 69%. The Ukiah Transfer Station is operating at 65-percent capacity and 33-percent of permitted capacity and the Potrero Hills Landfill in Solano County has capacity through 2059, which is anticipated to be sufficient to serve the City and greater Ukiah Valley area.
24. The City has owned and operated the Ukiah Municipal Airport since the 1930s. This regional facility has longstanding commercial users and serves as a CAL FIRE air attack base to combat wildfires, including coordinated suppression efforts with the United States Forest Service across Mendocino, Lake, Trinity, Sonoma, and Tehama Counties. Based on 2019 data, the current activity level at the Airport is 15,458 annual operations and is expected to increase to 30,916 annual operations by 2040. In total, approximately 100 aircraft are based at the Airport with a capacity for 109.
25. The Community Services Department (CSD) provides parks and recreation services, including 53-acres of neighborhood and community parks. In addition, the 80-acre Low Gap Regional Park, in the County system, is located partially within the City limits, offering additional recreation opportunities. In addition to parks, the CSD maintains and operates the Grace Hudson Museum, Ukiah Valley Conference Center, Alex Rorabaugh Center, Ukiah Municipal Pool, Ukiah Civic Center, and Observatory Park. The City also recently acquired 700-acres of open space on the southwestern hills of Ukiah. 76.9-percent of Ukiah residents live within a 10-minute walk to a park or recreational asset. The City plays a significant role in providing recreational services opportunities to a broad population base, including those in unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley.
26. The City's 87-acre Ukiah Municipal Golf Course is a challenging asset and is maintained as an enterprise funded service. The City contracts with Tayman Park Golf Group, Inc. to manage the operations, maintenance, and improvements at the Ukiah Valley Golf Course. Revenue at the golf course was severely impacted by pandemic, and future operations are likely to be constrained by ongoing drought, as well as demographic changes in course users.
27. The Mendocino County Animal Shelters can house approximately 60 dogs and 60 cats at 100% occupancy. The Ukiah animal shelter has been operating near capacity for a number of years, and there are no plans to expand the animal shelter even though the Ukiah and Fort Bragg facilities generally operate at or near capacity.
28. The City maintains a system of surface and underground drainage facilities that drain into Orrs Creek, Gibson Creek, and Doolin Creek, and eventually to the Russian River. There is no central trunk line to collect and convey stormwater to the Russian River and the stormwater system capacity is unknown.

3.15.1.4 FINANCIAL ABILITY OF AGENCY

Financial ability of agencies to provide services

29. The City prepares and adopts an annual budget prior to the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1), which serves as a financial planning tool and an expense control system. The City also has annually audited financial statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) which serves as financial assurance for the use of public funds. The City's financial documents are posted on their website.
30. According to the audited financial information from Fiscal Years 2016-17 through 2020-21, certain City programs operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, during the five years studied; however, the overall governmental activities operated at a net income, or revenue gain, each year. Over the five fiscal years studied, the City's financial performance for governmental activities shows an increase in net position of \$29,166,237 or 61-percent, which signals a strengthening in financial position.
31. According to the audited financial information from Fiscal Years 2016-17 through 2020-21, several (six out of eleven) City enterprise programs and the overall business-type activities in FY 2016-17 and FY 2020-21 operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, during the five years studied. In addition, multiple enterprise programs operated at a net loss consistently (three out of five years) over the study period. Also, during the five years studied, several (seven out of eleven) City enterprise programs and the overall business-type activities in FY 2017-18, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20 operated at a net income, or revenue gain. Over the five fiscal years studied, the City's financial performance for business-type activities shows an increase in net position of \$35,630,532 or 30-percent, which signals a strengthening in financial position.
32. The City maintains a Five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that prioritizes current and future major capital asset projects and identifies estimated costs and potential funding sources during the annual budget development process.

3.15.1.5 SHARED SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities

33. The City works cooperatively with many other service providers to deliver services more effectively or efficiently by sharing public facilities, resources, and/or service delivery responsibility when feasible.
34. In 2017, the City and the Ukiah Valley Fire District (UVFD) entered into a joint powers agreement for combined fire services, known as the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. Since then, the Fire Authority has been jointly managing, equipping, maintaining, and operating all-risk fire, medical, and emergency services in the City and Fire District boundaries.
35. In 2021, the UVFD annexed the Ukiah City limits to provide fire services, equalize the tax structure, and improve level of service for all residents within the previous service areas. The two agencies continue to coordinate service provision under the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority.
36. The Ukiah Valley Sanitation District boundaries include portions of Ukiah. The Willow County Water District serves customers in the City. The City provides wastewater services through an interconnected system of sewer collection and shared WWTP capacity that is operated and maintained under agreements with the City and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District.
37. Due to prolonged and extreme drought conditions, in recent years multiple local water agencies have struggled with very limited to critically low local water supply to serve coastal and inland communities

resulting in interagency collaboration and mutual aid agreements for emergency short-term shared facilities and water resources.

3.15.1.6 ACCOUNTABILITY, STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

38. The City is governed by a City Council comprised of five seats elected to serve staggered 4-year terms.
39. Regularly scheduled meetings for the City Council are held on first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Civic Center Council Chambers (300 Seminary Avenue) beginning at 6 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and are publicly posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act. Meetings are currently being held via a hybrid model with both an in-person and virtual option for attendance and public participation.
40. The City Council conducts business and takes action by approving motions and adopting resolutions and ordinances by a majority vote of a sufficient quorum. The City Council has adopted policies and procedures related to elected officials including conflict of interest and reimbursement, finances, and personnel. The City Council members file a Statement of Economic Interests (Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700) each year pursuant to Government Code §87203 of the Political Reform Act and receive two hours of training on public service ethics laws and principles at least once every two years pursuant to AB 1234. The City Council considers proposed increases to rates and fees at a properly noticed public hearing and subject to mailing a notice of hearing for protests to all property owners pursuant to Proposition 218. The City complies with local government ethics laws and regulations and operates with accountability and transparency.
41. The City has a website at <https://www.cityofukiah.com>, which is a helpful communication tool to enhance government transparency and accountability. The City's website is user-friendly, well organized, regularly maintained, and provides extensive information on City departments, services, programs, policies, finances, and public meetings including agendas and minutes dating back to 2015.
42. The public can submit written or provide verbal comments or complaints in person or by phone at the City's Civic Center during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., via the website, or at the City Council meetings during the general public comment period.
43. The interconnected sewer collection systems, shared WWTP capacity, and overlapping service areas suggest efficiencies could be gained by a reorganization with the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District.
44. The current provision of water service in the Ukiah Valley involves many public agencies, complex interagency service arrangements and relationships, and represents a significant opportunity to achieve both greater organizational and operational efficiencies.

3.15.1.7 OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY MATTERS

Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy

45. There are no other matters related to service delivery required by Mendocino LAFCo Policy.

4 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

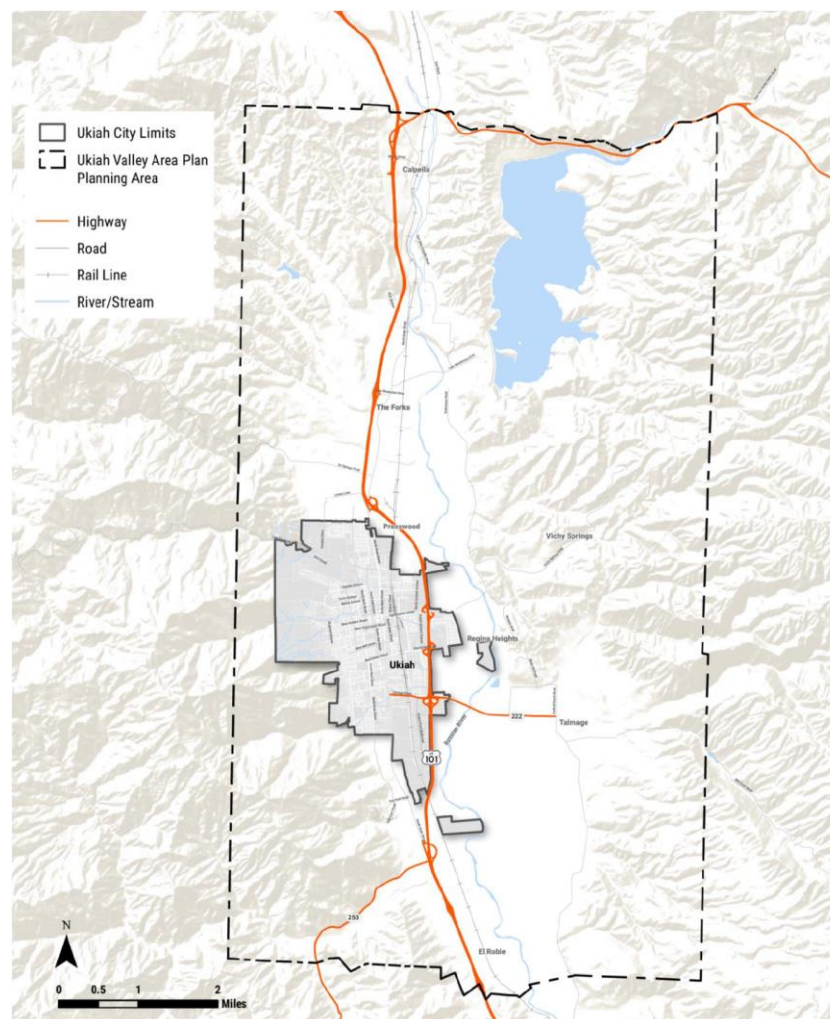
LAFCo prepares a Municipal Service Review (MSR) prior to or in conjunction with the Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update process. An SOI Update considers whether a change to the SOI, or probable future boundary, of a local government agency is warranted to plan the logical and orderly development of that agency in a manner that supports CKH Law and the Policies of the Commission. The MSR and required determinations are presented in Chapters 2 and 3 of this document and form the basis of information and analysis for this SOI Update. This chapter presents the SOI Update and required determinations pursuant to California Government Code §5642(e).

4.1 SOI Update

4.1.1 Existing Sphere of Influence

This is the first SOI Update for the City of Ukiah. In 1984, based on recommendations contained in a report known as the Zion Study, SOIs were adopted for nearly all of the special districts and cities in Mendocino County, including the City. The 1984 SOI boundary for the City is shown in Figure 4-1 below and is the same as the boundary of the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) Planning Area.

Figure 4-1 Existing City of Ukiah SOI Boundary (1984)



Source: Ukiah, 2022c.

4.1.2 Study Areas

Study areas are unique to a specific agency and are used to define the extent of one or more locations for SOI analysis purposes. Study areas may be created at different levels of scope and/or specificity based on the circumstances involved. The following descriptions demonstrate the array of scenarios that may be captured by a SOI study area.

- An area with clear geographic boundaries and scope of service needs based on years of interagency collaboration or public engagement and a project ready for grant funding or implementation.
- An area involving broader community regions or existing residential subdivisions with a large or long-term vision in need of fostering and/or establishing interagency partnerships.
- An area in early stages of conception that is not currently geographically well-defined and generally involves one or more ideas identified by agency or community leaders needing further definition.
- An area geographically defined by a gap between the boundaries of existing public service providers.
- An area adjacent to an existing agency's boundary slated for development needing urban services.

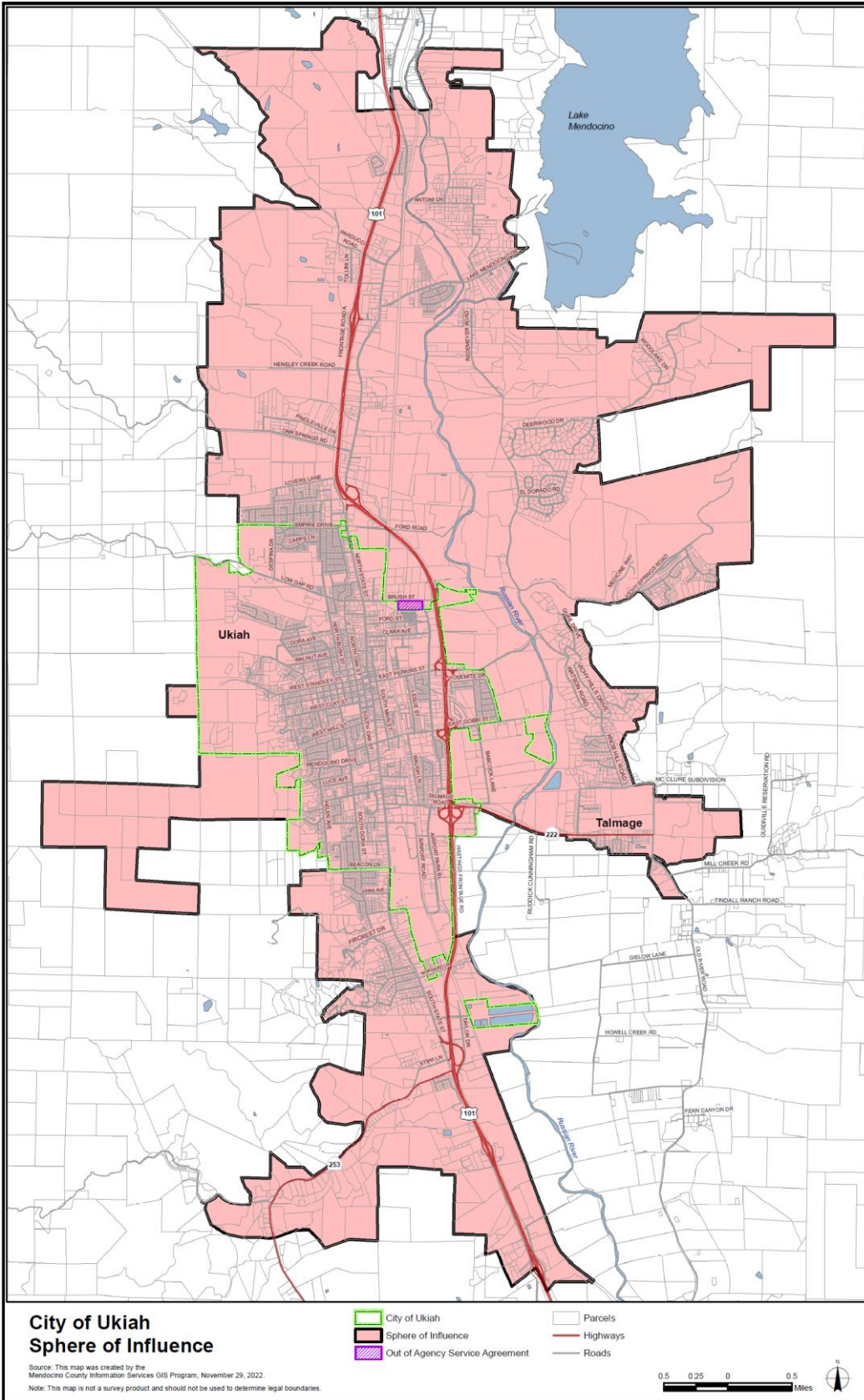
Study areas can result in a proposed SOI boundary, an Area of Interest designation for enhanced interagency coordination, or areas earmarked for future SOI consideration.

4.1.2.1 CITY 2040 GENERAL PLAN PROPOSED SOI

As part of the City's 2040 General Plan Update, the City developed a proposed SOI boundary shown in Figure 4-2. The City's proposed SOI encompasses territory of existing wastewater and water agencies, including a portion of the Rogina Mutual Water Company, in support of consolidation efforts. The proposed SOI boundary is based on direction from the Ukiah City Council in 2020 and is considerably smaller than the City's 1984 sphere boundary. The proposed SOI also includes territory located west of the current City limits associated with the City-owned Properties and Western Hills annexation proposals.

The City's 2040 General Plan Update (Ukiah 2040) designates land uses defining the type and amount of development that can occur throughout the City and proposed annexation areas (refer to Section 2.5.1.4.1 Annexation Efforts) through the 2040 planning horizon. Based on the potential land use changes, Ukiah 2040 has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 square feet of non-residential use (refer to Figure 2-12 City of Ukiah 2022 General Plan Update Draft Land Use Diagram). Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations for the remaining SOI boundary, and so development within the sphere is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. Growth facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would occur primarily as infill and redevelopment within urbanized areas of the City and some adjacent areas where existing roads, water, sewer, and other utilities are already in place or within the service area of existing utility service providers. (Ukiah, 2022c & 2022d)

Figure 4-2 City of Ukiah Proposed SOI Boundary



4.1.2.2 UKIAH 2040 PLANNING AREA

A General Plan must address all areas within the jurisdiction's Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the City. For the City, the Planning Area is defined as the area that includes the City limits, proposed SOI boundary, and is very similar to the UVAP Planning Area boundary shown in Figure 4-1. The UVAP was adopted by Mendocino County in 2011 and includes land use and planning goals and policies for the unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley. Although the UVAP does not cover the City limits, it does establish land use designations and development standards within the City of Ukiah General Plan Planning Area and proposed sphere boundary. (Ukiah, 2022c). While similar, the City's proposed Planning Area differs slightly from the UVAP to encompass the proposed Western Hills Annexation area.

4.1.3 Area of Interest Designation

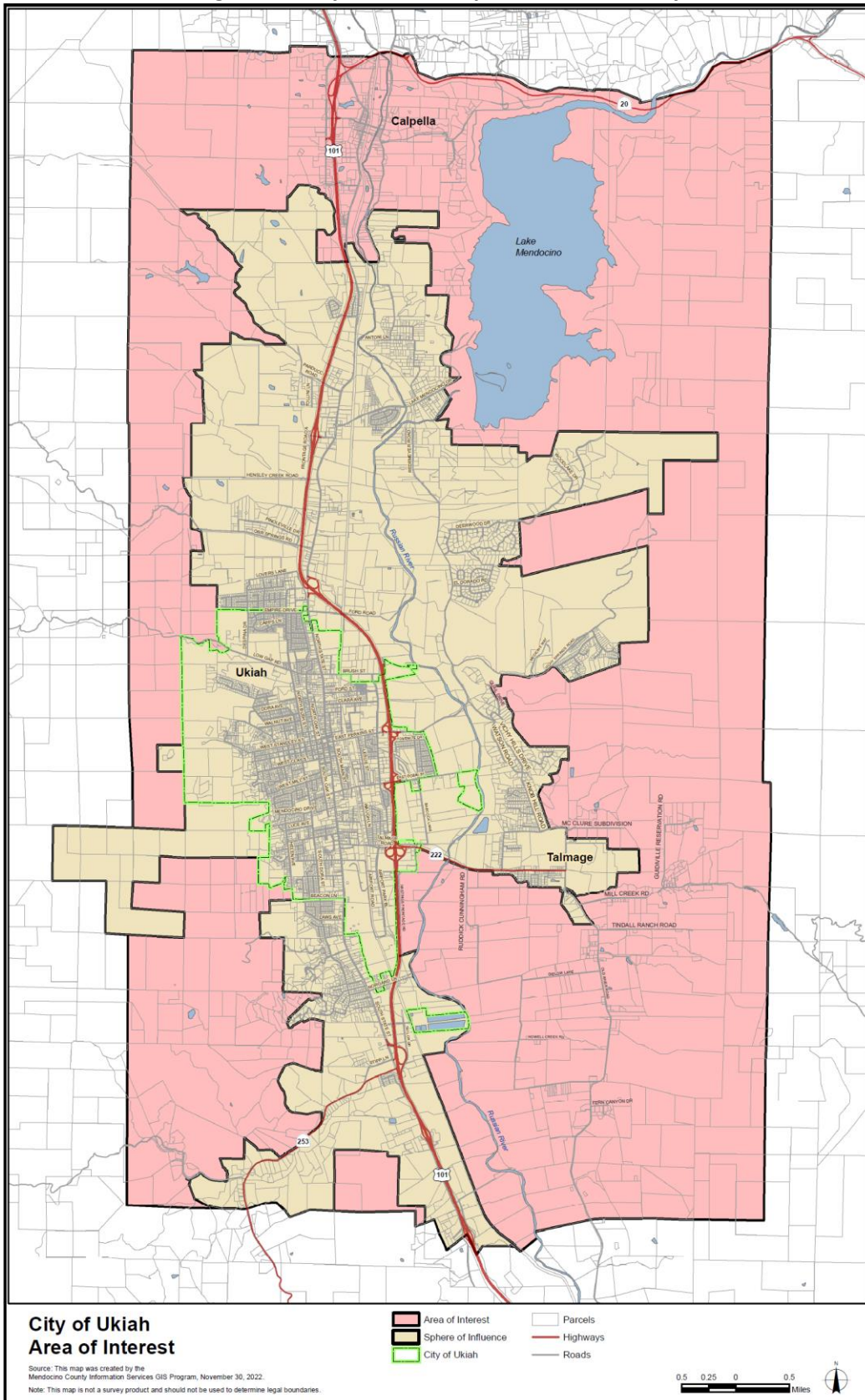
LAFCo's Area of Interest Policy, per Section 10.1.12, provides for the designation or identification of unincorporated areas located near to, but outside the jurisdictional boundary and established SOI of a city or district, in which land use decisions or other governmental actions of another local agency directly or indirectly impact the subject local agency.

An Area of Interest (AOI) designation serves as a compromise approach that recognizes situations involving challenging boundary or municipal service delivery considerations, or for which urbanization may be anticipated in the intermediate or long-range planning horizons. It is a tool intended to enhance communication and coordination between local agencies.

An AOI designation is most helpful when the county and city or district can reach agreement that development plans related to LAFCo designated AOI will be treated the same as if these areas were within the city or district SOI boundary, particularly regarding notification to and consideration of input from the city or district.

The Ukiah 2040 Planning Area Study Area described above has been designated as an AOI for the City of Ukiah as shown in Figure 4-3.

Figure 4-3 City of Ukiah Proposed AOI Boundary



4.1.4 Proposed Sphere of Influence

The City's 2040 General Plan Update proposed SOI boundary, which is larger than the current City limits and smaller than the 1984 sphere boundary (Figure 4-2), is proposed for Commission consideration.

4.1.5 Consistency with LAFCo Policies

Mendocino LAFCo has established policies to help meet its Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act mandates. This section identifies potential inconsistencies between the proposed SOI and local LAFCo policies.

Agricultural Preservation

Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.7 specifies that areas that do not need urban services, such as open space and agricultural areas, should not be included in the agency's SOI, unless excluding the area would impede the planned, orderly and efficient development of the area.

Normally agricultural areas and/or resources are not included in a city's sphere in order to prevent annexation and premature conversion to non-agricultural uses and to minimize potential conflicts between proposed urban development and adjacent agricultural uses.

Upon adoption of the 2040 General Plan Update, the City will be one of a few cities in California with an Agriculture Element, which emphasizes the City's long-term vision for and dedication to agricultural preservation in the valley. This is supported by the following Agriculture Goals, Policies, and Programs:

Goal AG - 1

To preserve and strengthen agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that influence the regional economy.

- Policy AG-1.1 Reduce Agricultural/Urban Conflict
The City shall reduce conflict between incompatible uses and agriculture within and adjacent to the City.
- Policy AG-1.2 Preserve Agricultural Lands
With the exception of presently proposed or approved subdivisions, the City shall discourage urban development on unincorporated land within its Sphere of Influence until annexed by the City. The City shall support County land use regulations that protect the viability of local agriculture in the Ukiah Valley.
- Policy AG-1.3 Plan Together
The City shall identify and involve stakeholders, as well as advisors with knowledge and expertise, to create and implement a comprehensive planning framework that preserves and strengthens agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that inform and influence the regional economy.
 - Implementation Program A - Agricultural Buffer
The City shall work with Mendocino County to establish setback or buffers for new non-agricultural development adjacent to agricultural lands to reduce conflict between incompatible land uses.
 - Implementation Program B - Right to Farm
The City shall adopt a right-to-farm ordinance to ensure appropriate disclosure of agricultural activities both within and adjacent to the City of Ukiah.
 - Implementation Program C - Align Agricultural Standards
The City shall revise agricultural standards and use terminology to be consistent with adjacent jurisdictions within the Ukiah Valley for the support of future annexation efforts.

- Implementation Program D - Williamson Act

In coordination with the County Assessor, the City shall establish a Williamson Act program that aligns with ongoing efforts to preserve agricultural lands across Mendocino County.

In addition, the City has created a new Agriculture Land Use Designation which assumes the same development and density standards as stated in the Mendocino County General Plan (one dwelling unit per legal parcel at a minimum 40 acres).

(Ukiah, 2022c & 2022d)

Upon adoption of the City's 2040 General Plan, the City will begin a collaborative stakeholder process to implement the Agriculture Element goals, policies, and programs by creating a comprehensive planning framework that preserves and strengthens agricultural uses in and around Ukiah and unifies land use policies. This process will implement the City's new Agriculture Land Use Designation through the Zoning Ordinance. This process will also align with the County's approach to agricultural preservation and create an agricultural plan unique to the characteristics and needs in the Ukiah Valley.

The City is capable and motivated to provide long-term agricultural stewardship in the valley both to bolster economic vitality and foster a community sense of identity and quality of life.

The agricultural areas and resources proposed to be included in the City's SOI boundary are currently susceptible to sprawl or disorderly development by nature of the multiple water/sewer single-service districts adjacent to the City limits in concert with unincorporated ministerial-level development permits.

The expected outcome of including agricultural areas and resources in the City's SOI boundary is an enhanced level of agricultural preservation and on-going agriculture operations. Therefore, agricultural preservation is not anticipated to be jeopardized by inclusion of these areas in the City's SOI boundary.

It is noteworthy that without development of the City's upcoming Agricultural Zoning District and effective assignment to appropriate lands consistent with the City's new Agriculture Land Use Designation, or another effectively similar arrangement, the City's SOI may be re-evaluated for policy consistency.

Irregular Boundaries

Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.9 specifies that the SOI area should not create irregular boundaries, such as islands or corridors, unless it represents the most logical and orderly service area of an agency. The proposed irregular SOI boundary is related to topographical constraints from the hillsides located west and east of the City limits, natural constraints from water features, and the historically established extent of existing wastewater and water service providers, and represents a logical and orderly SOI boundary.

Overlap Areas

Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.10 specifies that agencies providing the same type of service should not have overlapping spheres in order to avoid unnecessary and inefficient duplication of services or facilities. Further, territory placed within a city's sphere indicates that the city is the most logical provider of urban services and the appropriate agency for annexation of developing territory rather than to one or more single-purpose special districts.

There is a large overlap area between the City and Sanitation District and a small amount of overlap areas between the City and Water Districts. Overlap areas were created over the years as parcels were annexed into the City without concurrent detachment from single-service special districts.

The overlap area between the City and Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) represents approximately one-third of the District's geographic area and one-half of its customers, as shown on Figure 4-3.

The overlap area between the City and Willow County Water District (WCWD) is visible on the south end of the City limits, as shown on Figure 4-4.

The overlap area between the City and Millview County Water District (MCWD) is very limited in size and is not visible on the north end of the City limits, as shown on Figure 4-4. The City-MCWD overlap is limited to the following two properties: 1461 North Bush Street (APN 170-220-07) and 1310 North State Street (APNs 170-140-16 and 170-140-17).

As the City expands in accordance with the annexation plan developed for and in conjunction with its 2040 General Plan Update, areas served by single-service districts would normally concurrently decrease.

The interrelated nature of the City and UVSD sewer collection, treatment and disposal systems support the ultimate merging of these two agencies. The agencies have developed a strategy and agreement for the interim provision of wastewater services to areas around the City seeking to develop and ultimately the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region (Interim Service Agreement). The Interim Service Agreement also conditions a delay in detaching overlap areas until minimum thresholds are met, after which the UVSD would cease to be independent and separate from the City, through a LAFCo application process. The thresholds identified in the Interim Service Agreement are summarized as follows:

- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.

The Interim Service Agreement established between the City and UVSD represents a significant evolution in the relationship between the agencies, and in recognition and support of those efforts and results, a coterminous sphere is recommended for the UVSD, thus maintaining the overlap structure in an effort to sustain the UVSD financial viability and ability to serve their customers in the interim period.

The current provision of water service in the Ukiah Valley involves many public agencies, complex interagency service arrangements and relationships, and represents a significant opportunity to achieve both greater organizational and operational efficiencies. The City and Water Districts are in the early stages of interagency coordination. The potential for collaborative development of a long-term plan for the interim and long-term coordinated provision of water services in the region would be a significant step forward.

Figure 4-4 City and Wastewater District Boundary Overlap

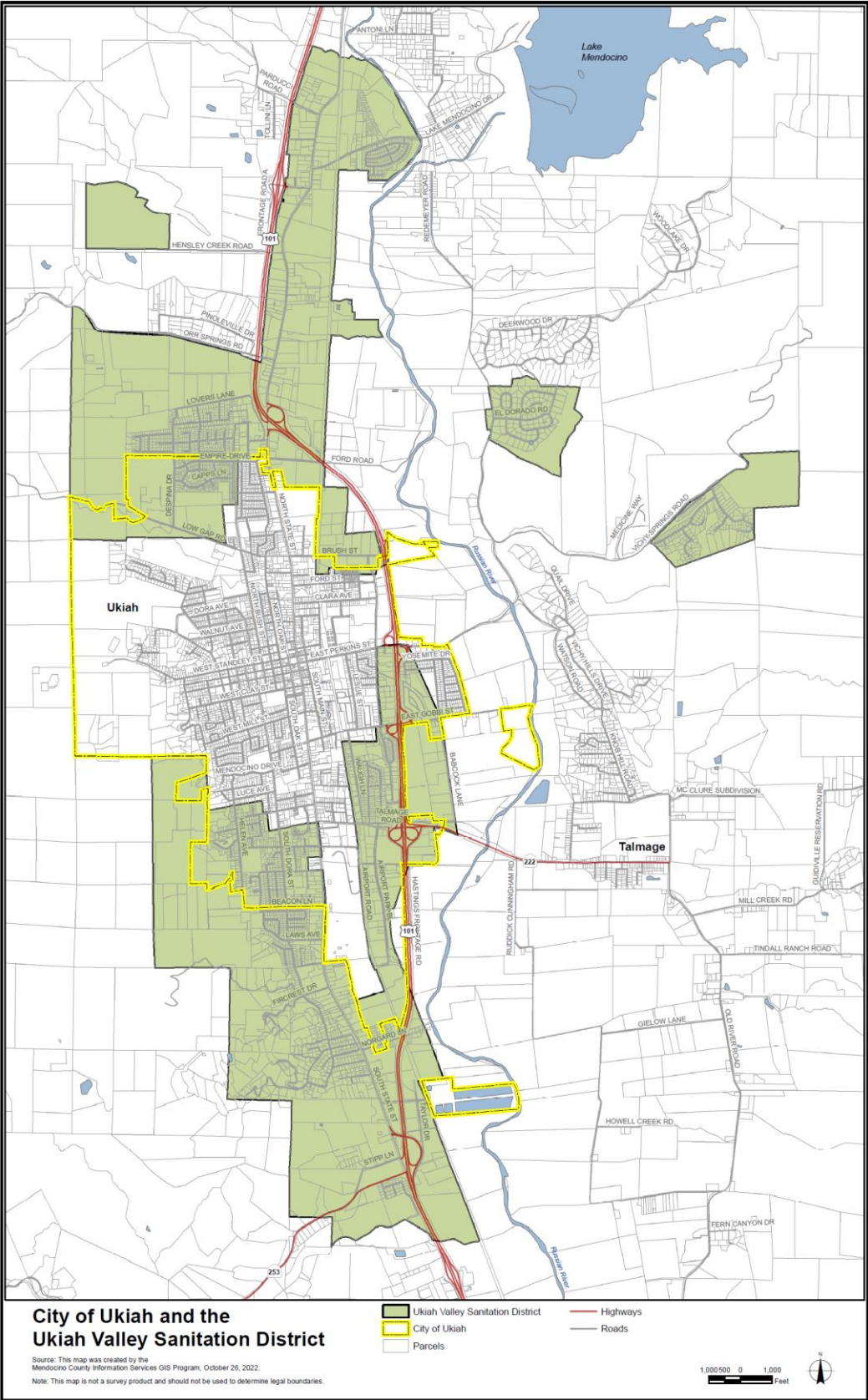
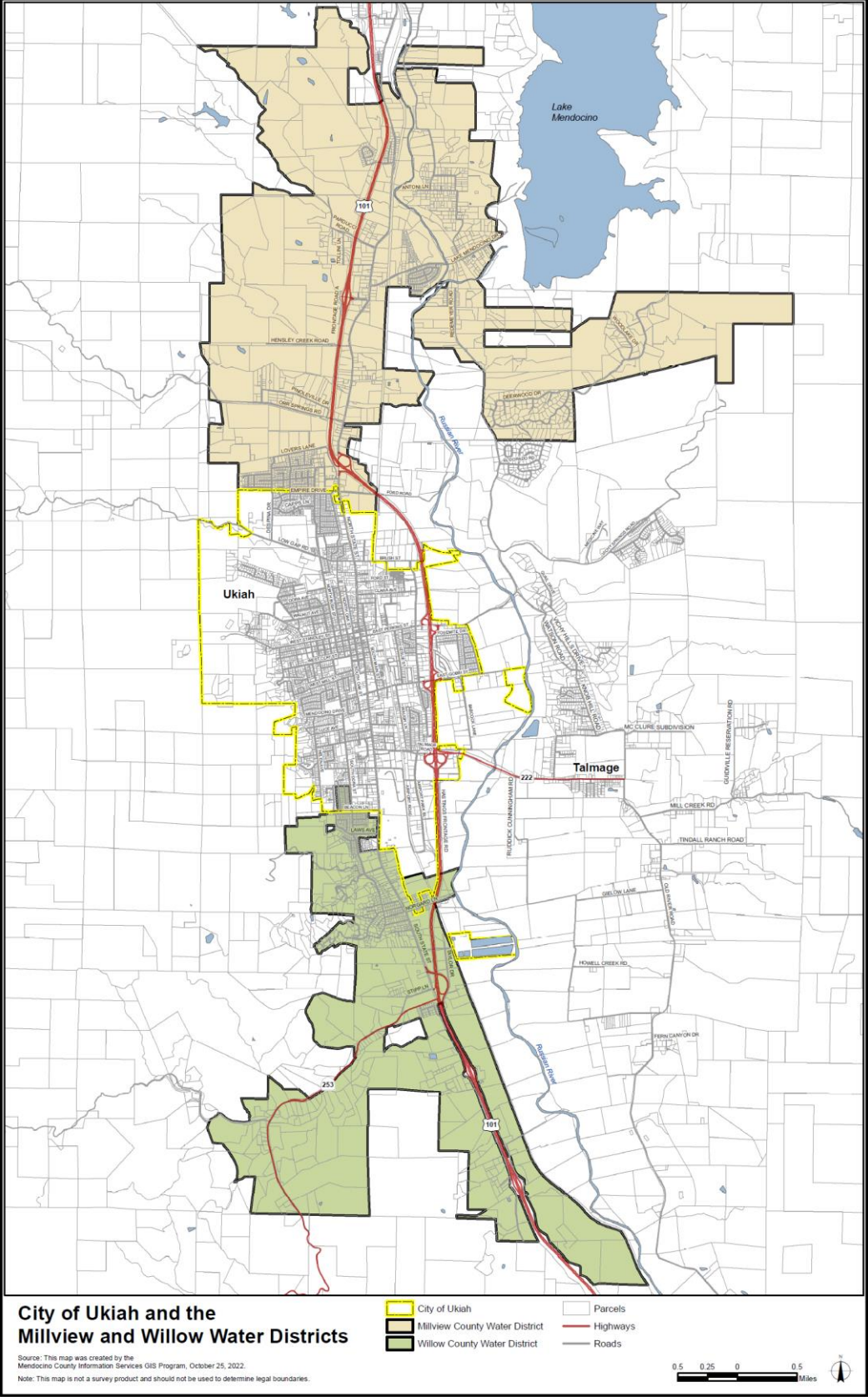


Figure 4-5 City and Water District Boundary Overlap



4.1.6 Determinations

It is recommended that the Commission adopt the City's 2040 General Plan Update proposed SOI boundary for the City of Ukiah that is larger than the current City limits and smaller than the 1984 sphere boundary (Figure 4-2). The following statements have been prepared in support of this recommendation.

4.1.6.1 LAND USES

The City of Ukiah has land use authority over its jurisdictional boundary and makes land-use decisions based on the City's General Plan, which is currently being updated, and Zoning Regulations.

Over 33.1 percent of the City limits is comprised of residential development (i.e., single-family, multifamily, mobile home parks). Public and Quasi-Public uses make up nearly 18.7 percent of the City. Commercial areas comprise 12.2 percent of the City and are concentrated along Main and State Streets and near Highway 101. Parks and open space areas make up 9.74 percent of Ukiah, which include parks, the Ukiah Valley Golf Course, and trails.

Areas adjacent to the City limits are under the jurisdiction of the County of Mendocino and are regulated through the County's General Plan, Zoning Regulations, and Specific Plans. Existing development in the greater valley consists of a mix of uses, including agricultural, residential, commercial, and light industrial.

The Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) was adopted in 2011 and provides a comprehensive land use plan for the area from just south of Ukiah and north to Calpella. The following land use classifications are specific to the UVAP planning area: Mixed Use North State Street (MUNS), Mixed Use Brush Street Triangle (MUBST), and Mixed Use General (MU-2).

4.1.6.2 NEED FOR FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The City of Ukiah is estimated to serve a population of roughly 16,228. Population growth is expected to increase at an annual rate of 0.3 percent for Mendocino County as a whole. Based on the growth rate, the City can expect a small population increase of approximately 411 by 2030.

The City provides multiple services that are critical for public health and safety. The residents and visitors currently receiving City services will continue to need these public services.

Based on the City's proposed General Plan Update potential land use changes, there is a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 square feet of non-residential use through the 2040 planning horizon.

As identified in the City's 2040 General Plan Update, the City is pursuing three separate annexation areas currently under the County of Mendocino's jurisdiction, totaling approximately 1,617 acres.

Annexation Area A consists of 16 City-owned properties located southeast, northeast, and west of the City, totaling approximately 437 acres. The City-owned properties currently host City operations, such as landfill, airport, and wastewater treatment uses. Once annexed, Annexation Area A would continue to be utilized as agriculture, open space, or municipal uses and the lands would be designated as Public and Open Space.

Annexation Area B consists of 63 properties comprised of the Bush Street Triangle/Masonite area located north of the City, totaling approximately 473 acres. The properties contain commercial, industrial, and manufacturing uses (both existing and decommissioned), as well as areas containing vacant and agricultural lands. Once annexed, most of Annexation Area B would be designated by the City as a new

land use category proposed under Ukiah 2040, Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle, which is consistent with its existing designation under the UVAP. Other portions of Annexation Area B would be designated as Industrial, while the lands currently vacant or developed with agriculture uses would be designated as Agriculture.

Annexation Area C is concentrated in the hills west of Ukiah and contains approximately 752 acres and a portion of that area (707 acres) is being pursued as part of the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021. Most of the area is pre-zoned as Public Facilities and would be preserved for open space conservation. The remaining portions of Annexation Area C are pre-zoned as Rural Residential with a Single-Family Residential-Hillside Overlay designation. However, development on these parcels would be restricted to a maximum number of 14 units total (seven-single family homes and seven accessory dwelling units) due to the existing Development Agreement with the current property owner.

4.1.6.3 CAPACITY OF FACILITIES AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

The City of Ukiah is a full-service city and provides Administration, Airport, Animal Control, Electric Utility, Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Law Enforcement, Community Services (Parks and Recreation), Public Works, Solid Waste, Stormwater, Wastewater, and Water municipal services.

As determined in the MSR prepared for this agency, the City has adequate facilities, personnel, finances, and equipment to meet current and future growth demands for public services within the timeframe of this study.

4.1.6.4 COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Communities of interest are typically located adjacent to an agency's boundary or a proposed sphere.

The Ukiah Valley Area Plan Planning Area boundary has been designated as an Area of Interest for enhanced interagency coordination.

No other social or economic communities of interest have been identified that should be included in the City limits or SOI.

4.1.6.5 DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

According to the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update Land Use Element, the following five DUCs have been identified adjacent to or near the City limits: 1) Ukiah SXSW, 2) Norgard Lane, 3) Empire Gardens (Alexander Estates), 4) Talmage, 5) The Forks. Special consideration will be given to any DUCs affected by future annexation proposals consistent with GC §56375(8)(A) and LAFCo Policy.

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6 ACRONYMS

AB	Assembly Bill
ADA	American with Disabilities Act
ADU	Accessory Dwelling Unit
ARC	Airport Reference Code
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAD	Computer Aided Dispatch
CALFIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CALTRANS	California Department of Transportation
CDGB	Community Development Block Grant
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CSO	Community Service Officer
CWSRF	Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund
DA	District Attorney
DMM	Demand Management Measures
DOF	Department of Finance
DUC	Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
DZC	Downtown Zoning Code
ECC	Emergency Command Center
EH	Environmental Health
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FAIR	California Fair Access to Insurance Requirement
FAR	Floor Area Ratios
FEC	Fire Executive Council
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
FY	Fiscal Year
GPS	Global Positioning System
GREAT	Gang Resistance Education and Training
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
ISO	Insurance Service Office
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
kW	Kilowatt
LID	Low Impact Development
LMHP	Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant
LPR	License Plate Reader
MCALUC	Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission

MCDOT	Mendocino County Department of Transportation
MCIWPC	Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission
MCOG	Mendocino Council of Governments
MCSO	Mendocino County Sheriff Office
MCTF	Major Crimes Task Force
MCWD	Millview County Water District
MGD	Million gallons per day
MSR	Municipal Service Review
MSWMA	Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority
MTA	Mendocino Transit Authority
NCPA	Northern California Power Agency
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PVP	Potter Valley Project
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Allocation
RNAV	Area Navigation
RRFC	Russian River Flood Control District
RRWA	Russian River Watershed Association
SB	Senate Bill
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SRO	School Resource Officer
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
SWA	Sonoma Water Agency
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
UKI	Ukiah Municipal
UKIALUCP	Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
UPD	Ukiah Police Department
URRWA	Upper Russian River Water Agency
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
UUSD	Ukiah Unified School District
UVAP	Ukiah Valley Area Plan
UVFA	Ukiah Valley Fire Authority
UVFD	Ukiah Valley Fire District
UVBGS	Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
UVSD	Ukiah Valley Sanitation District
UWS	Ukiah Waste Solutions
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VOR	Very High Frequency Omni-Directional
WCWD	Willow County Water District

WRFP	Water Recycling Funding Program
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface
WWTF	Wastewater Treatment Facility
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 Report Preparation

This Municipal Service Review was prepared by Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc., contracted staff for Mendocino LAFCo.

Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
 Larkyn Feiler, Analyst
 Kristen Meadows, Commission Clerk

Additionally, technical writing support was provided by Jessica Hankins, an independent contractor under Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.

7.2 Assistance and Support

This Municipal Service Review could not have been completed without the assistance and support from the following organizations and individuals.

City of Ukiah	Sage Sangiacomo, City Manager Shannon Riley, Deputy City Manager Craig Schlatter, Community Development Director Jesse Davis, Chief Planning Manager Daniel Buffalo, Finance Director Sean White, Water and Sewer Director
County of Mendocino	Russ Ford, Senior Planner/Cartographer

8 APPENDICES

8.1 Appendix A – Open Government Resources

The purpose of this appendix is to provide a brief list of some educational resources for local agencies interested in learning more about the broad scope of public interest laws geared towards government transparency and accountability. This appendix is not intended to be a comprehensive reference list or to substitute legal advice from a qualified attorney. Feel free to contact the Mendocino LAFCo office at (707) 463-4470 to make suggestions of additional resources that could be added to this appendix.

The websites listed below provide information regarding the following open government laws: (1) **Public Records Act** (Government Code §6250 et seq.), (2) **Political Reform Act** – Conflict-of-Interest regulations (Government Code §81000 et seq.), (3) **Ethics Principles and Training** (AB 1234 and Government Code §53235), (4) **Brown Act** – Open Meeting regulations (Government Code §54950 et seq.), and (5) **Online Compliance** regulations (Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act and Government Code §11135).

- Refer to the State of California Attorney General website for information regarding public access to governmental information and processes at the following link: <https://oag.ca.gov/government>.
- Refer to the State of California Attorney General website for information regarding Ethics Training Courses required pursuant to AB 1234 at the following link: <https://oag.ca.gov/ethics>.
- The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing the Political Reform Act. The website for the Fair Political Practices Commission is available at the following link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/>.
- Refer to the California Department of Rehabilitation website for information regarding Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act and other laws that address digital accessibility at the following link: <http://www.dor.ca.gov/DisabilityAccessInfo/What-are-the-Laws-that-Cover-Digital-Accessibility.html>.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website to download the Good Governance Checklist form at the following link: www.ca-ilg.org/post/good-governance-checklist-good-and-better-practices.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website to download the Ethics Law Principles for Public Servants pamphlet at the following link: www.ca-ilg.org/node/3369.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website for information regarding Ethics Training Courses required pursuant to AB 1234 at the following link: <http://www.ca-ilg.org/ethics-education-ab-1234-training>.

Refer to the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) website for information regarding online and website compliance webinars at the following link: <http://www.csda.net/tag/webinars/>.

8.2 Appendix B – Website Compliance Handout

Refer to the next page.

Appendix B

California Website Compliance Checklist

Use this checklist to keep your district's website compliant with State and Federal requirements.

Public Records Act

SB 929

Our district has created and maintains a website

Passed in 2018, all independent special districts must have a website that includes contact information (and all other requirements) by Jan. 2020

SB 272

Our Enterprise System Catalog is posted on our website

All local agencies must publish a catalog listing all software that meets specific requirements—free tool at getstreamline.com/sb272

AB 2853 (optional):

We post public records to our website

This bill allows you to refer PRA requests to your site, if the content is displayed there, potentially saving time, money, and trees

The Brown Act

AB 392:

Agendas are posted to our website at least 72 hours in advance of regular meetings, 24 hours in advance of special meetings

This 2011 update to the Act, originally created in 1953, added the online posting requirement

AB 2257:

A link to the most recent agenda is on our home page, and agendas are searchable, machine-readable and platform independent

Required by Jan. 2019—text-based PDFs meet this requirement, Microsoft Word docs do not

State Controller Reports

Financial Transaction Report:

A link to the Controller's "By the Numbers" website is posted on our website

Report must be submitted within seven months after the close of the fiscal year—you can add the report to your site annually, but posting a link is easier

Compensation Report:

A link to the Controller's PublicPay website is posted in a conspicuous location on our website

Report must be submitted by April 30 of each year—you can also add the report to your site annually, but posting a link is easier

Healthcare District Websites

AB 2019:

If we're a healthcare district, we maintain a website that includes all items above, plus additional requirements

Including budget, board members, Municipal Service Review, grant policy and recipients, and audits

Open Data

AB 169:

Anything posted on our website that we call "open data" meets the requirements for open data

Defined as "retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable; platform independent and machine readable" among other things

Section 508 ADA Compliance

CA gov code 7405:

State governmental entities shall comply with the accessibility requirements of Section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Requirements were updated in 2018—if you aren't sure, you can test your site for accessibility at achecker.ca



California Special Districts Association
CSDA
Districts Stronger Together



STREAMLINE
Website compliance made easy

The Brown Act: new agenda requirements

Tips for complying with AB 2257 by January, 2019

Placement:

What it says: An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary Internet Web site homepage of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda.

What that means: Add a link to the **current agenda directly to your homepage**. It cannot be in a menu item or otherwise require more than a single click to open the agenda.

Exception:

What it says: A link to the agenda management platform may be added to the home page instead of a link directly to the current agenda, if the agency uses an integrated agenda management platform that meets specified requirements, including, among others, that the current agenda is the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

What that means: If you use an agenda management system, you may add a link to that system directly to your homepage (again, not in a menu item), if the format of the agenda meets the requirements below, and if the current agenda is the first at the top of the list.

Format:

What it says: [agenda must be] Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used Internet search applications. Platform independent and machine readable. Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

What that means: You cannot add Word Docs or scanned (image-based) PDFs of your agenda to your website—Word Docs are not platform independent (the visitor must have Word to read the file), and scanned PDFs are not searchable. Instead, **keep your agenda separate from the packet** and follow these steps:

1. From Word or other document system: Export agenda to PDF
2. Add that agenda to your website (or to your agenda management system), and include a link to that agenda on your homepage
3. Then, you can print the agenda, add it to your pile of documents for the packet, and scan that to PDF - just keep the packet separate from the agenda (only the agenda must meet AB 2257)
4. Keep the link on the homepage until the next agenda is available, then update the link

Questions? Contact sloane@getstreamline.com or dillong@csga.net

8.3 Appendix C - Vacant and Underutilized Parcel List

Refer to the next page.

TABLE 4.3: VACANT AND UNDERUTILIZED INVENTORY

Amended 12-09-2022

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
Very-Low/Low Vacant Parcels												
4	00230155	763 S Oak St	Vacant	C1	C	0.88	38,332	31	77	Very-Low/Low	Zone 4	<i>Removed 2/14/22. Construction of Ukiah Senior Apartments completed: 31 Units</i>
2	00237027	None Assigned. Corner of Clara & N Orchard	Vacant	C1	C	0.67	29,185	15	37	Very-Low/Low	None	Undeveloped. Realistic development capacity- 22,806 sf available to build up to 15 multi-family units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
3	17903025	700 E Perkins St	Vacant	C1	C	1.24	54,014	25	62	Very-Low/Low	None	Undeveloped. Realistic development capacity- 37,800 sf available for up to 25 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
4	17903028	730 E Perkins St	Vacant	C1	C	0.58	25,264	16	40	Very-Low/Low	0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd	Undeveloped. Realistic development capacity- up to 16 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
5	17906104**	705 E Perkins St	Underutilized – Parking Lot	C1	C	0.52	22,651	14	35	Very-Low/Low	0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd	Minor improvements including parking lot. Realistic development capacity for up to 14 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
Very-Low/Low Vacant Parcels Subtotal						3.89	169,446	101 70	251 174			
Moderate/Above-Moderate Vacant Parcels												
6	00114126	655 Dora Ave, Unit A & B	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.16	6,969	2	5	Mod/Above-Med	None	<i>Removed 2/14/22. Construction of an SFD and ADU completed. 2 Units</i>
7	00114239*	179 Park Pl	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.41	17,859	2	5	Mod/Above-Med	None	Mostly undeveloped but some topographical lot restrictions. Surrounded by SFDs. Realistic development capacity of up to 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
8	00114244	169 Park Pl	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.27	11,761	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Removed 2/14/22. Previously developed with SFD.
9	00114245	169 Park Pl	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.24	10,454	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped. Some lot restrictions including road access. Realistically could build 2 units- SFD and accessory dwelling unit (ADU). Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
10	00121404	None Assigned. Near S Barnes St & W Clay St	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.54	23,522	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped. Lot restrictions and zoning restrict number of units that can be realistically developed to 3. Could increase density if merging with parcel 00121409. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
11	00125330; 00125331; 00125332; 00125333; 00125334	None Assigned. Oak Park Ave Between W Clay St & Jones St	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.47	20,473	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped and surrounded by SFDs. Realistic development capacity for up to 3 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
12	00142036	274 Mendocino Pl	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.46	20,037	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope	Removed 2/19/20. One legal lot of record with APN 001-420-37 (divided by tax line).
13	00211480	None Assigned (Behind SFR on Oak Street)	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.15	8,464	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd; Floodway (Portion)	Undeveloped. Needs road access but realistically could develop 2 units- an SFD and ADU. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
14	00304059	302 Banker Blvd	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.15	6,534	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Removed 2/14/22. Developed with landscaping and accessory structures associated with adjacent residence on Bankers Boulevard.
15	00302124	None Assigned. Cochrane Ave Between 410 & 420	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.14	6,098	1	2	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped. Due to setback limitations realistic development capacity is 1 unit. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
16	00311056	None Assigned. At the terminus of Redwood Ave	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.29	12,632	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope	Undeveloped. Existing slope constraints allow a realistic development maximum of 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
17	00311079	1080 Helen Ave	Underutilized	R1	LDR	0.50	21,780	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped flag lot; surrounded by SFDs. Due to lot limitations realistic development capacity is 3 units maximum. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
18	00352055	None Assigned. Off of S Dora St Near Washington behind homes	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.16	6,969	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped; surrounded by SFDs. Due to lot size, setbacks, and access limitations, realistic development capacity is up to 2 units. Expected to be developed within the planning period.
19	00352056	None Assigned. Off of S Dora St near Washington behind homes	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.15	6,534	2	2	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped; similar to parcel 00352055 and same owner. Due to lot size, setbacks, and access limitations, realistic development capacity is up to 2 units. Expected to be developed within the planning period.
20	00354065	181 Cresta Dr	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.21	9,147	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 6	Undeveloped. Lot size limitations and setbacks set realistic development capacity at not more than 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
21	00354066	191 Cresta Dr	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.20	8,712	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 6	Undeveloped. Lot size limitations and setbacks set realistic development capacity at not more than 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
22	00357217	None Assigned. Cooper Ln near Betty St	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.19	8,276	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 3; 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd	Undeveloped. Lot size limitations and setbacks set realistic development capacity at not more than 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out,

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
												expected to be developed within planning period.
23	00357218	None Assigned. Cooper Ln near Betty St	Vacant	R1	LDR	1.792	78,085	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 3; 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd	Undeveloped. Lot size limitations and setbacks set realistic development capacity at not more than 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
24	00309045	None Assigned (Behind 21 Betty Street, along Waugh Ln.)	Vacant	R2	MDR	0.13	5,662	1	2	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 3; 0.2 % Annual Chance Flood Hzd	Undeveloped. Parcel has some access and lot size limitations and realistically could accommodate one SFD. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
25	00211432	670 N State St	Vacant	C1	C	0.31	13,503	9	22	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped, surrounded by residential development. Realistically could accommodate up to 9 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
26	00214611	528 N State St	Vacant	C1	C	0.31	13,815	9	22	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped, surrounded by residential development. Realistically could accommodate up to 9 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
27	00230153	638 S State St	Vacant	C1	C	0.26	11,325	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 4	Undeveloped but given lot limitations and setbacks only 4,550 sf could be realistically developed, setting maximum capacity at 3 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
28	00204047	None Assigned. On Low Gap Rd in between N State St & Mazzoni St	Vacant	C2	C	0.21	9,147	6	15	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Undeveloped, narrow lot sets realistic development capacity at up to 6 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
29	00228110*	190 Cleveland Ln	Vacant	G2	G	0.19	8,403	6	15	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone-6	Removed 2/14/22. Developed with SFD and ADU.
30	00313065	1137 S Dera St	Vacant	CN	G	0.41	17,859	6	15	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone-6	Removed 2/14/22. Parking lot was developed for medical facilities. Not likely to be developed with residential.
31	00226307	None Assigned. Corner of W Clay St & S Oak St	Underutilized	GU	C	0.10	3,257	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Zone 6	Undeveloped; surrounded by commercial development. Zoning allows up to 28 du/acre but lot and setback limitations limit realistic development capacity to 2 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
32	00350014	None Assigned. Access from Helen Ave and Foothill Ct	Vacant	R1	LDR	7.56	329,313	12	30	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; HFHZ	Existing slope constraints allow for 299,000 sf (6 ac) of lot to be developed. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre setting realistic development capacity at 12 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
33	00104002** *	None Assigned. Access off of W Stanley St	Vacant	R1H	LDR	36.97	1,610,413	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with a 5 acre lot; 2 units are possible on this parcel and are expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
34	00104065** *	500 Lookout Drive	Vacant	R1H	LDR	6.29	273,992	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
												calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with 5 acre lots; a maximum of 2 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
35	00104082** *	360 S Highland Ave	Vacant	R1H	LDR	29.63	1,290,682	12	30	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with 5 acre lots; a maximum of 12 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
36	00104084** *	None Assigned. Access from Highland Ave	Vacant	R1H	LDR	10.08	439,084	4	10	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; \VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with 5 acre lots; a maximum of 4 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
37	00104088** *	None Assigned. Access from Highland Ave	Vacant	R1H	LDR	8.45	368,081	4	10	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with 5 acre lots; a maximum of 4 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
38	00104092	335 Janix Dr	Vacant	R1H	LDR	4.77	207,781	8	20	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
												in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre; a maximum of 8 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
39	00104093** *	335 Janix Dr	Vacant	R1H	LDR	4.86	211,701	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; infrastructure ; VHFHZ	Undeveloped but constrained by steep slopes. Although General Plan allows up to 6 units per acre, given other residential development in this district, as well as existing lot limitations and constraints, realistic development capacity has been calculated at roughly 2 du/acre with 5 acre lots; a maximum of 2 units is possible on this parcel and is expected to be developed within the planning period given need for housing and citywide build-out.
Moderate/Above-Moderate Vacant Parcels Subtotal						115.43 113.79	5,000,718 4,929,155	124 104	308 258			
Very-Low/Low Underutilized Parcels												
40	00304079; 00304077**; 00304078**;	210 E Gobbi St	Vacant	C1;C2	C	2.4	22,098	36	90	Very-Low/Low	Zone 2 & Zone 4	<i>All three parcels were included in the rezone and establishment of the East Gobbi Housing Overlay Zone "HOZ" that was adopted by City Council in March 2021, as a part of Housing Element Implementation Task 2h to create by right housing. As of 11/19/22, building permits were submitted and under review for 72 Units of housing.</i>
41	00357407**	817 Waugh Ln	Underutilized	R3	HDR	1.66	72,309	24	60	Very-Low/Low	Zone 3	Underutilized with existing SFD and minor outbuildings. Existing topographical and lot limitations, plus airport constraints, set realistic development capacity at up to 24 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
Very-Low/Low Underutilized Parcels Subtotal						4.06	94,407	60	150			

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
Mod/Above-Mod Underutilized Parcels												
42	00104061	None Assigned. Parcel off of Hillview Ave	Underutilized	R1	LDR	3.23	140,698	14	35	Mod/Above-Mod	VHFHZ	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Due to existing lot limitations, approximately 30% of the lot has been removed for potential development capacity. Lot area for development is expected to be 87,000 sf and would accommodate up to 14 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
43	00125129	438 Mcpeak St	Underutilized	R1	LDR	0.18	7,840	1	2	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Existing lot limitations and development set future realistic development capacity at 1 unit. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
44	00126618	611 W Clay St	Underutilized	R1	LDR	0.29	12,632	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site, realistic development capacity is 1 SFD and 1 ADU (2 units). Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
45	00142034	275 Mendocino PI	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.98	42,688	6	15	Mod/Above-Mod	HFHZ; Slope	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing topographical, development, and lot limitations including slope constraints, realistic development capacity anticipated at no more than 6 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
46	00142041	145 Mendocino PI	Vacant	R1	LDR	0.84	36,590	5	12	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing topographical, development, and lot limitations including slope constraints, realistic development capacity anticipated at no more than 5 units. Due to need for

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
												housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
47	00113052	1217 W Standley Ave	Underutilized	R1H	LDR	1.18	51,400	1	2.5	Mod/Above-Mod	Slope; HFHZ	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site plus slope limitations, realistic development capacity is 1 SFD and 1 ADU (2 units). Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
48	00212404	217 Ford St	Underutilized	R2	MDR	0.22	9,583	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site plus topographical limitations, realistic development capacity is no more than 3 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
49	00213309	308 Clara Ave	Underutilized	R2	MDR	0.22	9,582	3	7	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site plus topographical limitations, realistic development capacity is no more than 3 units. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
50	00215305	221 Norton St	Underutilized	R3	HDR	0.46	20,037	2	5	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site plus slope limitations, realistic development capacity is 1 SFD and 1 ADU (2 units). Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
51	00208004	170 Low Gap Rd	Underutilized	C1	C	0.17	7,405	4	10	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Parking lot. Realistic development capacity is up to 4 units and expected to be developed within the planning period.

Map ID	APN	Location	Existing Use	Zoning	General Plan	Acres	Square feet	Realistic Potential (units)	Population	Income Group	Constraints	Notes
52	00211436	678 N State St	Underutilized	C1	C	0.22	9,583	1	2	Mod/Above-Mod	None	Partially developed with residential and/or commercial. Given existing development on site plus lot limitations, realistic development capacity is 1 unit. Due to need for housing and citywide build-out, expected to be developed within planning period.
Moderate/Above-Moderate Underutilized Parcels Subtotal						7.77	197,757	41	100.5			
Very-Low/Low Vacant Parcels Subtotal						3.89 3.01	169,446 131,114	104 70	254 174			
Moderate/Above-Moderate Vacant Parcels Subtotal						115.43 113.79	5,000,718 4,929,155	124 104	308 258			
Very-Low/Low Underutilized Parcels Subtotal						4.06	94,407	60	150			
Moderate/Above-Moderate Underutilized Parcels Subtotal						7.77	197,757	41	100.5			
Totals Very-Low/Low Vacant + Underutilized Parcels						7.95 7.07	263,853 225,518	164 111	404 274.5			
Totals Moderate/Above-Moderate Vacant + Underutilized Parcels						123.2 121.56	5,19,847 4,489,912	165 145	408.5 358.5			
<p>LEGEND: Zoning: R1- Single Family Residential; R1h-Single Family Residential, Hillside Combining District; R-2- Medium Family Residential; R-3- High Density Residential; C1- Community Commercial; CN-Neighborhood Commercial; C2-Heavy Commercial; GU-General Urban; DC- Downtown Core; UC-Urban Center. General Plan: LDR- Low Density Residential; MDR- Medium Density Residential; HDR- High Density Residential; C-Commercial. Constraints (Airport Influence Zones): Zone 2 (Inner Approach/ Departure), Zone 3 (Inner Turning), Zone 4 (Extended Approach/ Departure), Zone 5 (Sideline), Zone 6 (Traffic Pattern); Other Airport Environs (OAE) are not included; Very-High Fire Hazard Zone (VHFHZ); High Fire Hazard Zone (HFHZ) *= Identified in both 2009-2014 and 2014-2019 HE cycles ** = Neither of these sites were identified in the prior planning period. ***= R1H regulations require a 5 acre lot for parcels with 30-50% slopes. NOTE: All parcels have access to infrastructure and utilities unless otherwise noted NOTE for 2022 update: Additionally, the table has not been updated to reflect the zoning code amendments adopted by City Council (Ordinance 1216) on 9/1/2021 under HE Program 2h including by-right housing development with objective design and development standards, increasing residential density in the C-N zone, and by-right housing for select parcels.</p>												

Ukiah Daily Journal

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200 SOUTH SCHOOL ST
UKIAH, CA 95482

**PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5 C.C.P.)**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Ukiah Daily Journal, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of Ukiah, County of Mendocino and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Mendocino, State of California, under the date of September 22, 1952, Case Number 9267; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than non-pareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

11/26/2022

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Ukiah, California,
November 29th, 2022



Molly E. Lane, LEGAL CLERK

Legal No. **0006715310**

6676-22

11-26/22

Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 9:00 AM (or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard) in a hybrid meeting format with in-person participation in the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California, and remote participation pursuant to State Executive Order N-29-20 and AB 361 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic via video or telephone as described in the Instructions for Remote Participation Option in the agenda to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, and livestreamed at www.youtube.com/MendocinoCountyVideo, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) will hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the following: City of Ukiah (City) and Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Studies. The MSR Studies for the City and UVSD are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 CCR §15306. The City, as Lead Agency, prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update (<https://ukiah2040.com/>), which includes analysis for the City SOI Update. The UVSD SOI Update is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Title 14 CCR §15061(b)(3). Copies of all related documents may be reviewed once available at the LAFCo website (www.mendolafco.org) or at the LAFCo office. If you cannot attend the Public Hearing described in this notice, you may submit written comments prior to the hearing. Please direct comments, questions, and requests to review documents to LAFCo, 200 South School Street, Ukiah, CA 95482; e-mail: eo@mendolafco.org; phone: (707) 463-4470. All interested persons are invited to attend, be heard, and participate in the hearings. BY ORDER OF THE MENDOCINO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION. UMA HINMAN, Executive Officer.

Notice of Exemption*(Exempt from fees per GOV Section 27383)***Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Mendocino

From: (Public Agency): Mendocino LAFCo
200 South School Street
Ukiah, California 95482

(Address)

Project Title: City of Ukiah MSR/SOI Update 2022

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location - Specific:

The City of Ukiah incorporated area and adjacent unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley.

Project Location - City: City of Ukiah Project Location - County: Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This is a LAFCo-initiated Municipal Service Review (MSR) study for the City of Ukiah (City) prepared in accordance with California Government Code §56430.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: §15306 (Class 6 Exemption)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

§15306 (Information Collection): The MSR is a data collection and service evaluation study. There are no land use changes or environmental impacts created or recommended by the MSR. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 463-4470

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: 12/19/2022 Title: Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-78

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UKIAH CERTIFYING AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SCH NO. 2022050556); ADOPTING FINDINGS OF FACT PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE ("PRC") §21081 AND CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") GUIDELINES §15091; AND ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRC §21081(b) AND CEQA GUIDELINES §15093; AND APPROVING A MITIGATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING PROGRAM IN CONNECTION WITH THE UKIAH 2040 GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS:

1. Government Code Section 65300 requires each legislative body and planning agency to prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the City; and
2. The City of Ukiah General Plan was last comprehensively updated on December 6, 1995 and subsequently amended in 2004 with the Circulation and Transportation Element, in 2019 with certification of the 2019-2027 Housing Element, and in 2019 with the Land Use Element; and
3. In 2019, the City initiated a multi-year process to comprehensively update the General Plan (2040 General Plan or "Project") by approving a work plan and schedule, hiring consultants, launching the General Plan Update website, and commencing public outreach efforts; and
4. On August 5, 2022, the City sent the Public Review Draft 2040 General Plan to affected public entities and agencies in compliance with state law (Government Code Sections 65302(g)(7), 65302.5, 65302.7, 65352, 65352(a)(9) and Public Utilities Code Section 21676), and in accordance with Government Code Section 65352.3, and invited comments by the public; and
5. The City has included a General Plan Errata, dated November 23, 2022, as a part of the 2040 General Plan to summarize changes and revisions that are proposed to the Public Review Draft 2040 General Plan since its release on August 5, 2022; and
6. In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) was circulated from May 31, 2022 to June 30, 2022. The NOP was circulated to all interested parties, stakeholders, and public agencies; posted at the State Clearinghouse and Mendocino County Clerk's office, as well as on the 2040 General Plan website; published in the Ukiah Daily Journal; and posted in the Civic Center glass case; and
7. During circulation of the NOP, the City of Ukiah received seven (7) written comments and one (1) verbal comment. A summary of comments and City responses to the comments are included in DEIR Table 1-1 (beginning on pp. 1-5); and
8. On April 7, 2022, the City sent a letter to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) requesting a current SB 18 and AB 52 Native American Contact List for the Project vicinity. On June 9, 2022, the NAHC provided a list of fifteen (15) tribal contacts with connections to the Planning Area. In accordance with AB 52 and SB 18, on June 21, 2022, the City notified the fifteen (15) tribes about the Project and invited them to participate in consultation. As noted in the DEIR (pp. 4.12-2 and 4.12-3), the City received letters from two tribes and provided responses in accordance with AB 52 and SB 18. No further action was required and the AB 52 and SB 18 process concluded on July 26, 2022; and

9. The City held a public scoping meeting for the DEIR on June 15, 2022. The scoping meeting was held in-person at the City's Civic Center Council Chamber, and participants were also able to join virtually via teleconference; and
10. The DEIR was prepared and made available for a 45-day public review period on October 7, 2022. The Notice of Availability of the DEIR was posted with the State Clearinghouse, at the office of the Mendocino County Clerk, and on the City's 2040 General Plan website. The Notice of Availability was also published in the Ukiah Daily Journal. Furthermore, copies of the Notice of Availability were e-mailed to all parties that commented on the NOP, agencies expected to provide water, sewage, streets, roads, schools, or other essential facilities or services to the project (Govt. Code 65091(3)); as well as all interested parties, stakeholders, and members of the public that requested being added to the City's 2040 General Plan email contact list. The DEIR was posted electronically on the City's 2040 General Plan website and hard copies of the DEIR were made available for public review at the Community Development Department's office and at the Mendocino County Public Library (Ukiah Branch); and
11. The DEIR public review period ended on November 21, 2022; the City received three comment letters on the DEIR during the public review period; and
12. On November 23, 2022 a Final EIR ("FEIR"), including copies of comments received on the DEIR and City responses to those comments, and changes proposed as a result of comments received, was prepared (comments and responses are included in Section 4 of the Final EIR, beginning on pp. 26). The FEIR was distributed via email to all parties that commented on the DEIR, agencies expected to provide water, sewage, streets, roads, schools, or other essential facilities or services to the project (Govt. Code 65091(3)); as well as all interested parties, stakeholders, and members of the public that requested being added to the City's 2040 General Plan email contact list. The FEIR was also posted to the 2040 General Plan website and made available at the Community Development Department 's office; and
13. As described in DEIR Section 2.7.8, Project Buildout, the EIR (DEIR and FEIR) analyzes impacts from the 2040 General Plan. Impacts are specific to the 2040 General Plan designating land uses that define the type and amount of development that can occur throughout the City and proposed annexation areas through the planning horizon year of 2040 (over approximately 18 years). Based on the potential land use changes, the 2040 General Plan has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 non-residential square feet. These numbers represent a "maximum buildout" scenario which is an estimate and not intended to predict the amount of development that will in fact occur in the City in the future. Similarly, this "maximum buildout" scenario is used as a conservative assumption for purposes of the CEQA analysis in the EIR and future streamlining opportunities; and
14. The DEIR (Chapter 4) identified environmental impacts of the Project and determined that impacts to air quality, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise cannot be mitigated to a level considered less than significant and would remain significant and unavoidable, as summarized below:
 - Air Quality Impact AQ-2: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would result in a net increase of criteria pollutants due to operational vehicle miles traveled (VMT) compared to existing conditions. The City has adopted thresholds of significance and screening criteria for transportation impacts (to determine if they are exempt from CEQA) that would be expected to result in a less than significant transportation impact for nearly all of the projects facilitated under the 2040 General Plan (see DEIR Appendix D). Additionally, Mitigation Measure AQ-2 requires projects that are not exempt from CEQA to use Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) screening thresholds to analyze project impacts, and implementation of measures for

reduction of operational pollutants. Lastly, all feasible measures to reduce VMT are included as policies in the 2040 General Plan. However, the EIR conservatively determines that the overall operational impacts to air quality would remain significant and unavoidable because the maximum buildout of the 2040 General Plan would increase criteria pollutants when compared to existing conditions (see FEIR pp. 2; DEIR pp. 4.3-13 and 4.11-13; and Appendix D).

- Cultural Resources Impact CUL-1: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would have the potential to impact historical resources (structures). Existing Ukiah City Code and CEQA regulations, in addition to proposed 2040 General Plan policies and Mitigation Measure CUL-1, would reduce impacts to historic resources to the extent feasible. However, because historic structures could potentially be demolished or significantly modified in the future, impacts would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp. 8; DEIR pp. 4-5.12).
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact GHG-1: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would make progress towards achieving State goals but would not necessarily meet State 2030 or 2045 goals. Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would result in implementation of CEQA GHG thresholds and a Climate Action Plan (CAP) update; however, development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would not meet the 2030 or 2045 goals until the CAP is updated and adopted. This impact would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp.10; DEIR pp. 4-6.12).
 - Noise Impact NOI-1: Construction of individual projects facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-sensitive land uses. Additionally, development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would introduce new (operational) on-site noise sources and would contribute to increases in traffic noise. Mitigation Measure NOI-1 requires implementation of construction noise reduction measures, and the continued regulation of on-site noise, consistent with the Ukiah City Code and implementation of proposed 2040 General Plan policies would minimize disturbance to adjacent land uses. However, construction noise and traffic noise may still exceed noise standards and impacts would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp.11; DEIR pp. 4-8.12); and
15. Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21081 and CEQA Guidelines section 15091 provide that the City shall not approve or carry out a project for which an EIR has been completed that identifies one or more significant environmental impacts, unless it makes specified findings; and
 16. PRC Section 21081(b) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15093 require adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations for a project that will have any unmitigated adverse environmental impacts; and
 17. As stated below, the City Council has made the Findings of Fact and the Statement of Overriding Considerations required under CEQA Guidelines Section 15093, where, as here, a project has an adverse environmental impact that cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance; and
 18. For purposes of CEQA and these Findings, the record before the City Council includes: the DEIR and all appendices; the FEIR including revisions to the DEIR, comments on the DEIR and responses to comments and all appendices to the Final EIR; all notices required by CEQA; all studies conducted for the 2040 General Plan and EIR and contained in, or referenced by, the DEIR or the FEIR; and all public comments received; and
 19. The record of proceedings upon which this decision is based, including all of the aforementioned documents and information, is maintained in the office of the City's Community

Development Department, located at 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, CA 95482, as the custodian of the record, and is available for public inspection upon request of the Director of Community Development, or his/her designee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The City Council finds that the FEIR (SCH No. 2022050556) were prepared and made available for public review and comment in full compliance with the procedures set forth in CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines.
2. The City Council finds that the FEIR was considered at a duly noticed public meeting held on December 7, 2022.
3. The City Council has considered all public comments and documents submitted and oral testimony given during the public comment period for the DEIR, the FEIR itself, and the December 7, 2022 Staff Report recommending certification of the FEIR (incorporated herein by reference).
4. The City Council has independently reviewed and analyzed this resolution and the FEIR.
5. The City Council hereby certifies the FEIR for the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan.
6. The City Council hereby adopts the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations included in Exhibit A, in accordance with sections 15091 and 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines.
7. The City Council hereby adopts the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program contained within Exhibit B, in accordance with Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of December, 2022 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Orozco, Sher, Crane, Duenas, and Mayor Rodin
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None



Mari Rodin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristine Lawler, City Clerk

Ukiah 2040 General Plan EIR CEQA Certification and Findings of Fact

- A. The 2040 General Plan or "the Project" is described in full in the EIR (DEIR and FEIR), at pp. 2-1 through 2-14, and FEIR pp. 1 through 4. This project description is incorporated herein by reference.
- B. The EIR evaluated the impacts of the Project itself as well as its impacts in combination with impacts from past, present, and probable future projects. Those impacts, both individual and cumulative, along with recommended mitigation measures and suggested conditions, are summarized in the Executive Summary provided in DEIR pp. ES-1 et seq. and Table 1: Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures, FEIR pp. 5 et seq.
- C. The City finds that, based upon substantial evidence in the record, as discussed throughout the EIR (DEIR Chapter 4, Environmental Impact Analysis), the Project's impacts on the topical areas outlined in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines are as follows:
- i. **Less than Significant Impact: Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Land Use and Planning, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation, and Utilities and Service Systems.**
 - ii. **Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation: Biological Resources, Tribal Cultural Resources, Wildfire, and Paleontological Resources.**
 - iii. **As discussed in DEIR Section 4.16, Effects Found Not to be Significant, during evaluation of the 2040 General Plan, the following topical areas were found to have a less than significant impact or no impact: Energy, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Hydrology and Water Quality and Mineral Resources. As allowed under CEQA Guidelines Section 15128, these topical areas are not further discussed in detail in the DEIR as individual sections.**
 - iv. **Significant and Unavoidable: Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Noise.**
- D. Mitigation measures designed to avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effects of the Project as identified in the EIR are set forth in the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan ("MMRP"), and incorporated herein by reference. The measures constitute binding commitments and those measures shall be incorporated into the Project and monitored in accordance with the MMRP.
- E. Based on substantial evidence presented and discussed throughout the EIR (DEIR Chapter 4, Environmental Impact Analysis), the City Council finds that these mitigation measures will avoid or reduce impacts to Biological Resources, Tribal Cultural Resources, Wildfire and Paleontological Resources to less than significant levels.
- F. The City finds that, based upon substantial evidence in the record, as discussed throughout the EIR (DEIR Chapter 4, Environmental Impact Analysis), the Project's impacts on the following topical areas outlined in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines would remain significant and unavoidable: Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Noise.
- G. Based on the foregoing and pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21081(b) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(a)(3) and 15093(b), the City Council finds that the remaining significant unavoidable impacts of the Project are acceptable in light of its economic, fiscal, technological, and social benefits as well as other considerations. Such

benefits outweigh identified significant and unavoidable impacts and provide the substantive and legal basis for this Statement of Overriding Considerations.

- H. The City Council finds that the specific benefits and economic, legal, social, technological or other considerations below outweigh the Project's significant and unavoidable impacts and make the Project alternatives identified in the EIR infeasible.
- i. **The Project Objectives.** As discussed on DEIR pp. 2-6 and 2-7, the 2040 General Plan is intended to function as a policy document to guide the City's long-term framework for future growth and resource management within the planning area through the year 2040. Based on community input and in recognition of the State's planning priorities, a vision and values supporting the vision for the community were developed.

The Ukiah City Council approved the following Vision Statement for the 2040 General Plan on March 3, 2021:

"The City of Ukiah is a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community connected to the beautiful, surrounding natural open space areas that give the community its unique sense of place. Ukiah is a safe and resilient community that is fiscally responsible, environmentally conscious, and inclusive. The city offers a great place for people of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities to live, work, and visit."

The City of Ukiah developed guiding principles to expand on the main ideas contained in the vision statement. The following guiding principles express the key values and aspirations for Ukiah's future, guide the goals, policies and implementation measures contained within the 2040 General Plan, and serve as the Project's overarching objectives:

- Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically.
- Ensure development in all neighborhoods is compatible with the unique characteristics and land use patterns and fosters a sense of place.
- Promote resilient and sustainable facilities and infrastructure to ensure delivery of high-quality services.
- Promote a diverse, local, business-friendly economy that fosters new job growth and is adaptable to changes in consumer habits and market trends.
- Maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods.
- Preserve existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities.
- Manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations.
- Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters.
- Preserve Ukiah Municipal Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah

Municipal Airport Master Plan and Mendocino County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

- Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

ii. **Infeasibility of Project Alternatives Discussed in EIR.** The following social, economic, legal, technological, and other considerations make the two alternatives identified in the EIR (DEIR pp. 5-1 through 5-19) infeasible. The two alternatives are: 1) No Project Alternative; and 2) Decreased Residential Density Alternative.

- a. *No Project Alternative.* The No Project Alternative (Alternative 1) assumes there is no change in zoning or General Plan land use designations and analyzes the existing General Plan land use designations and densities for vacant land within the City. The No Project Alternative includes identified sites for annexation, as well as housing sites identified as part of the 2019-2027 Housing Element. As the No Project Alternative focuses on existing designations, Annexation Areas would have existing land use designations, in contrast to the proposed Project, which apply City land use designations to these areas. Buildout under the No Project Alternative, assuming a maximum buildout scenario, would allow for 1,692 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses.

The No Project Alternative would result in less impacts when compared to the Project, but would not accomplish the project objectives to the extent that the proposed Project would, as the No Project Alternative would provide reduced housing options and exclude multiple policies from the 2040 General Plan pertaining to community development, preservation of natural resources, sustainability, and improvement of Ukiah's circulation network.

- b. *Decreased Residential Density Alternative.* The Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) assumes increased residential densities (1,868 units total) allowed by each land use designation compared to the existing General Plan (1995) and No Project Alternative (1,692 units total), but decreased residential densities when compared to the proposed Project (2,350 total units). For example, the existing General Plan (1995) allows High Density Residential development of up to 28 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) and the proposed Project (as well as Alternative 2) would allow a density of up to 40 du/ac. Both the proposed Project and Alternative 2 would apply new and/or existing General Plan land use designations to lands within the city limits and Annexation Areas. However, Alternative 2 would not add new land use designations intended to increase commercial land uses and would rely on existing General Plan land use designations (and densities). Because Alternative 2 would maintain the same designations for non-residential spaces, the buildout of non-residential space would be the same as the No Project Alternative. In addition, Alternative 2 would not add some of the new land use designations identified for the proposed Project, which explains why Alternative 2 would have less residential units than the proposed Project.

Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, buildout under Alternative 2 would allow for 1,868 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses (refer to DEIR Table 5-1). Non-residential development would be the same as the No Project Alternative but would be less than the proposed Project. Resulting residential density would be less than the proposed

Project and more than the No Project Alternative. However, Alternative 2 would not accomplish project objectives to the extent that the proposed Project would, as Alternative 2 would provide reduced housing options.

iii. Alternatives Considered but Rejected in the EIR

As discussed on DEIR pp. 5-17, in an effort to reduce noise impacts identified in the DEIR, the City considered an alternative that would require an update to the zoning code to include requiring noise barriers to reduce construction noise for development on project sites. Noise barriers would reduce on-site noise by about 10 to 20 dBA depending on construction materials and barrier height, since noise barriers are traditionally constructed of material with a minimum weight of 2 pounds per square foot with no gaps or perforations. Noise barriers may be constructed of, but are not limited to, 5/8-inch plywood, 5/8-inch oriented strand board, or hay bales. This alternative, which would require noise barriers that would reduce construction noise, could reduce the significant construction noise impact, but would not reduce the significant and unavoidable operational noise impact. Additionally, construction of noise barriers could result in increased impacts associated with ground disturbance (such as those related to biological resources, geology and soils, air quality, etc.) and visual impacts. Lastly, this alternative would meet Project objectives to provide housing, but fewer housing units would likely be built, because development on certain sites would be infeasible due to construction cost constraints.

iv. Environmentally Superior Alternative

CEQA requires identification of the environmentally superior alternative among the alternatives to the proposed project. The environmentally superior alternative must be an alternative that reduces some of the project's environmental impacts, regardless of the financial costs associated. Identification of the environmentally superior alternative is an informational procedure and the alternative identified as the environmentally superior alternative may not be that which best meets the goals or needs of the proposed project.

Table 5-2 of the DEIR (pp. 5-18) provides a summary of Project impacts and indicates whether each alternative's environmental impact is greater than, less than, or equal to the proposed Project for each of the issue areas studied. Overall, none of the alternatives identified in the analysis changed the impact conclusions that were identified for the proposed Project. However, some of the alternatives did reduce the severity of the impact; thus, the analysis considers the severity of the impact to identify the environmentally superior alternative. Based on the analysis of alternatives in the DEIR, the No Project Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative as it lessens the severity of most impacts of the proposed Project.

If the No Project Alternative is determined to avoid or reduce more impacts than any other alternative, CEQA requires that the EIR identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6[e]). Of the other alternatives evaluated in the EIR, the Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) would be the environmentally superior alternative. Like the No Project Alternative, Alternative 2 would result in less construction impacts (air quality construction emissions, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, temporary noise, tribal cultural resources, and paleontological resources) than the proposed Project because of a reduction in buildout. In addition, Alternative 2 would result in less operational impacts (aesthetics, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, public services, recreation, and utilities) due to the reduced buildout. Nonetheless, compared to the proposed Project, Alternative 2 would not fulfill the project objectives as well. This is because the proposed Project would offer more housing

opportunities and a diversity of land uses for future Ukiah residents.

Pursuant to CEQA requirements, Alternative 2 would be considered the environmentally superior alternative; however, the 2040 General Plan would offer benefits that would not be achieved by Alternative 2, primarily housing opportunities and a diversity of land uses.

Statement of Overriding Considerations

CEQA requires decision makers to balance the benefits of the proposed Project against its unavoidable environmental risks when determining whether to approve the Project. If the benefits of the Project outweigh the unavoidable adverse effects, those effects may be considered "acceptable" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15093[a]). CEQA requires the lead agency to support, in writing, the specific reasons for considering a project acceptable when significant impacts are infeasible to mitigate. Such reasons must be based on substantial evidence in the Final EIR or elsewhere in the administrative record (CEQA Guidelines Section 15093[b]). The agency's statement is referred to as a "Statement of Overriding Considerations." The following sections provide a description of each of the Project's significant and unavoidable impacts and the justification for adopting a statement of overriding considerations.

- Air Quality Impact AQ-2: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would result in a net increase of criteria pollutants due to operational vehicle miles traveled (VMT) compared to existing conditions. The City has adopted thresholds of significance and screening criteria for transportation impacts (to determine if they are exempt from CEQA) that would be expected to result in a less than significant transportation impact for nearly all of the projects facilitated under the 2040 General Plan (see DEIR Appendix D). Additionally, Mitigation Measure AQ-2 requires projects that are not exempt from CEQA to use Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) screening thresholds to analyze project impacts, and implementation of measures for reduction of operational pollutants. Lastly, all feasible measures to reduce VMT are included as policies in the 2040 General Plan. However, the EIR conservatively determines that the overall operational impacts to air quality would remain significant and unavoidable because the maximum buildout of the 2040 General Plan would increase criteria pollutants when compared to existing conditions (see FEIR pp. 2; DEIR pp. 4.3-13 and 4.11-13; and Appendix D).
- Cultural Resources Impact CUL-1: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would have the potential to impact historical resources (structures). Existing Ukiah City Code and CEQA regulations, in addition to proposed 2040 General Plan policies and Mitigation Measure CUL-1, would reduce impacts to historic resources to the extent feasible. However, because historic structures could potentially be demolished or significantly modified in the future, impacts would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp. 8; DEIR pp. 4-5.12).
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact GHG-1: Development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would make progress towards achieving State goals but would not necessarily meet State 2030 or 2045 goals. Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would result in implementation of CEQA GHG thresholds and a Climate Action Plan (CAP) update; however, development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would not meet the 2030 or 2045 goals until the CAP is updated and adopted. This impact would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp.10; DEIR pp. 4-6.12).
- Noise Impact NOI-1: Construction of individual projects facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-

sensitive land uses. Additionally, development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would introduce new (operational) on-site noise sources and would contribute to increases in traffic noise. Mitigation Measure NOI-1 requires implementation of construction noise reduction measures, and the continued regulation of on-site noise, consistent with the Ukiah City Code and implementation of proposed 2040 General Plan policies would minimize disturbance to adjacent land uses. However, construction noise and traffic noise may still exceed noise standards and impacts would be significant and unavoidable (see FEIR pp.11; DEIR pp. 4-8.12).

For the following reasons, the City Council finds that the economic, social, technological or other benefits of the Project outweigh the significant and unavoidable air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, cultural resources and noise impacts and identified in the EIR. The City finds that each of the benefits set forth below in this Statement constitutes a separate and independent ground for finding that the benefits of the proposed plans outweigh the risks of their potential significant adverse environmental impacts. The benefits of the proposed General Plan Update are as follows:

- Under State law, the City must adopt a General Plan which is its long-term framework or “constitution” for future growth and development. The general plan represents the community’s aspiration for its future growth and development. The general plan contains the goals and policies upon which the City Council and Planning Commission will base their land use decisions.
- The City has prepared the update to refine the General Plan, address emerging trends and recent State laws, consider new issues, and remove and/or consolidate implementation measures. This effort is a comprehensive overhaul of the existing General Plan. This allows the City to implement best practices in planning to ensure Ukiah is resilient to future risks while also improving quality of life.
- The 2040 General Plan was shaped by an extensive public outreach process that engaged the community and decision-makers. The City hosted a series of community workshops, online forums, stakeholder interviews, and Planning Commission and City Council meetings. The 2040 General Plan was developed with all this public input and consideration.
- The 2040 General Plan would achieve a number of economic benefits that address both City and regional goals for fiscal sustainability, housing supply and affordability, enhancement of public infrastructure and facilities and improved quality of employment opportunities (as demonstrated through the Project’s Objectives listed above).
- The 2040 General Plan reflects the stated vision, goals and objectives of the City of Ukiah (summarized above under Finding of Fact H(i) above and incorporated here by reference).
- The 2040 General Plan will ensure orderly development patterns to accommodate projected increases in population through buildout of the General Plan by providing strategic land use designations that avoid or minimize land use conflicts.
- The 2040 General Plan will maximize and broaden the City’s sales tax base by providing local and regional tax-generating uses.
- Through numerous legislative actions in the past several years, the State of California has identified the lack of housing as a significant area of public concern, leading to an unsustainable lack of housing affordability, increased homelessness, social stress related to increased poverty and a reduction in economic prosperity for many state residents. The 2040 General Plan will provide a variety of housing opportunities with a range of densities, styles, sizes and values that will be designed to satisfy existing and future

demand for quality housing in the area, and aid in achieving the City's regional housing needs allocation (RHNA).

The City Council finds that any one or more of these overriding considerations are sufficient to outweigh adverse impacts. As the CEQA Lead Agency for the proposed action, the City Council has carefully reviewed the Project and the alternatives presented in the EIR, and fully understands the Project and Project alternatives. Further, this City Council finds that all potential adverse environmental impacts and all feasible mitigation measures to reduce the impacts from the Project have been identified in the DEIR, the Final EIR and public testimony. On balance, the City finds that there are specific considerations associated with The 2040 General Plan that serve to override and outweigh the Project's significant unavoidable impacts. Therefore, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15093(b), these adverse effects are considered acceptable and the City Council adopts this Statement of Overriding Considerations.

CITY OF UKIAH 2040 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE MITIGATION, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
Air Quality					
AQ-1: Implement BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures					
<p>To reduce fugitive dust emissions from the construction of individual projects, the City shall require that future projects implement the BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures. These include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times a day. • All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered. • All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited. • All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour. • All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used. • Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California Airborne Toxics Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points. 	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	During Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacture's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper conditions prior to operation. Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. 					
AQ-2: Implement Measures to Reduce Operational Emissions					
<p>Prior to discretionary approval by the City of Ukiah for development projects subject to CEQA review (i.e., non-exempt projects), a screening assessment shall be performed by the City using the screening criteria from the 2017 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. If the project exceeds the screening size by land use type, the project applicant shall prepare and submit a technical assessment to the City for review and approval, which evaluates potential project-related operational air quality impacts. The evaluation shall be prepared in conformance with BAAQMD methodology in assessing air quality impacts. If operation-related air pollutants are determined to have the potential to exceed the BAAQMD-adopted thresholds of significance, the City shall require that applicants for new development projects incorporate mitigation measures to reduce air pollutant emissions during operational activities. The identified measures shall be included as part of the conditions of approval. Possible mitigation measures to reduce long-term emissions could include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For site-specific development that requires refrigerated vehicles, the planning documents 	<p>City Community Development Department Developer/Applicant</p>	<p>Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department</p>	<p>Prior to Project Approval</p>		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>shall demonstrate an adequate number of electrical service connections at loading docks for plug-in of the anticipated number of refrigerated trailers, to reduce idling time and emissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants for manufacturing and light industrial uses shall consider energy storage and combined heat and power in appropriate applications to optimize renewable energy generation systems and avoid peak energy use. • Site-specific developments with truck delivery and loading areas and truck parking spaces shall include signage as a reminder to limit idling of vehicles while parked for loading/unloading in accordance with California Air Resources Board Rule 2845 (13 California Code of Regulations Chapter 10 Section 2485). • Provide changing/shower facilities as specified in Section A5.106.4.3 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). • Provide bicycle parking facilities pursuant to Section A4.106.9 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. • Provide preferential parking spaces for low-emitting, fuel-efficient, and carpool/van vehicles per Section A5.106.5.1 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). • Provide facilities to support electric charging stations pursuant to Section A5.106.5.3 (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures) and Section A5.106.8.2 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. • Applicant-provided appliances (e.g., dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) shall be Energy Star–certified appliances or appliances of equivalent energy efficiency. Installation of Energy Star–certified or equivalent appliances 					

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>shall be verified by Building & Safety during plan check.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants for future development projects along existing and planned transit routes shall coordinate with the City and County to ensure that bus pad and shelter improvements are incorporated, as appropriate. 					
AQ-3: Conduct Construction Health Risk Assessment					
<p>For individual projects (excluding accessory dwelling units, single-family residences, and duplexes) where construction activities would occur within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors, would last longer than two months, and would not utilize Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment, the project applicant shall prepare a construction health risk assessment (HRA) prior to project approval. The HRA shall determine potential risk and compare the risk to the following BAAQMD thresholds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliance with Qualified Community Risk Reduction Plan; Increased cancer risk of > 10.0 in a million; Increased non-cancer risk of > 1.0 Hazard Index (Chronic or Acute); or Ambient PM2.5 increase of > 0.3 µg/m3 annual average <p>If risk exceeds the thresholds, measures such as requiring the use of Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment shall be incorporated to reduce the risk to appropriate levels.</p>	Developer/Applicant	City Community Development Department	Prior to Project Approval or Construction		
Biological Resources					
BIO-1: Recommended Policy for Biological Resource Assessment					
<p>The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040: Policy ENV-4.9: Biological Resource Assessment. The City shall require that new</p>	Developer/Applicant	City Community Development Department	Prior to Project Approval or Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
development proposed in or adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas, to complete a site-specific biological resource assessment prepared by a qualified biologist that establishes the existing resources present.		Qualified Biologist			
BIO-2: Pre-Construction Bird Surveys, Avoidance, and Notification					
<p>For construction activities initiated during the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 15), involving removal of vegetation, abandoned structures, man-made features, or other nesting bird habitat, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal. The nesting bird pre-construction survey shall be conducted on foot and shall include a buffer around the construction site at a distance determined by a qualified biologist. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the identification of avian species known to occur in the Mendocino Region. If nests are found, an avoidance buffer shall be determined by the biologist dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site. The buffer shall be demarcated by the biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to demarcate the boundary. All construction personnel shall be notified of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities shall occur within the buffer until the biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist on the basis that the encroachment will not be detrimental to an active nest. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey(s) shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and shall be</p>	Developer/Applicant	<p>City Community Development Department</p> <p>Qualified Biologist</p>	14 days Prior to Construction Activities Occurring February 1-September 15		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>submitted to the City prior to the commencement of construction activities.</p> <p>Project site plans shall include a statement acknowledging compliance with the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code that includes avoidance of active bird nests and identification of Best Management Practices to avoid impacts to active nests, including checking for nests prior to construction activities during February 1 to September 15, and what to do if an active nest is found so that the nest is not inadvertently impacted during grading or construction activities.</p>					
BIO-3: Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance Prior to Removal					
<p>Prior to tree and structure removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused survey of all trees and structures to be removed or impacted by construction activities to determine whether active roosts of special-status bats are present on site. Tree or structure removal shall be planned for either the spring or the fall, and timed to ensure both suitable conditions for the detection of bats and adequate time for tree and/or structure removal to occur during seasonal periods of bat activity exclusive of the breeding season, as described below. Trees and/or structures containing suitable potential bat roost habitat features shall be clearly marked or identified. If no bat roosts are found, the results of the survey will be documented and submitted to the City within 30 days of the survey, after which no further action will be required.</p> <p>If day roosts are present, the biologist shall prepare a site-specific roosting bat protection plan to be implemented by the contractor following the City's approval. The plan shall incorporate the following guidance as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When possible, removal of trees/structures identified as suitable roosting habitat shall be 	<p>Developer/Applicant</p>	<p>City Community Development Department</p> <p>Qualified Biologist</p>	<p>Prior to Tree and/or Structure Removal</p>		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between September 1 and about October 15, or before evening temperatures fall below 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. • Between March 1 and April 15, or after evening temperatures rise above 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or no more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. • If a tree/structure must be removed during the breeding season and is identified as potentially containing a colonial maternity roost, then a qualified biologist shall conduct acoustic emergence surveys or implement other appropriate methods to further evaluate if the roost is an active maternity roost. Under the biologist's guidance, the contractor shall implement measures similar to or exceeding the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If it is determined that the roost is not an active maternity roost, then the roost may be removed in accordance with the other requirements of this measure. • If it is found that an active maternity roost of a colonial roosting species is present, the roost shall not be disturbed during the breeding season (April 15 to August 31). • Tree removal procedures shall be implemented using a two-step tree removal process. This method is conducted over two consecutive days and works by creating noise and vibration by cutting non-habitat branches and limbs from habitat trees using chainsaws only (no excavators or other heavy machinery) on day one. The noise and vibration disturbance, together with the visible alteration of the tree, is very effective in causing 					

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>bats that emerge nightly to feed to not return to the roost that night. The remainder of the tree is removed on day two.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prior to the demolition of vacant structures within the project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused habitat assessment of all structures to be demolished. The habitat assessment shall be conducted enough in advance to ensure the commencement of building demolition can be scheduled during seasonal periods of bat activity (see above), if required. If no signs of day roosting activity are observed, no further actions will be required. If bats or signs of day roosting by bats are observed, a qualified biologist will prepare specific recommendations such as partial dismantling to cause bats to abandon the roost, or humane eviction, both to be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, if required. <p>If the qualified biologist determines a roost is used by a large number of bats (large hibernaculum), bat boxes shall be installed near the project site. The number of bat boxes installed will depend on the size of the hibernaculum and shall be determined through consultation with CDFW. If a maternity colony has become established, all construction activities shall be postponed within a 500-foot buffer around the maternity colony until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have dispersed. Once it has been determined that the roost is clear of bats, the roost shall be removed immediately.</p>					
BIO-4: Bird Safe Design					
<p>Development shall incorporate bird-friendly building materials and design features, including but not limited to the following:</p> <p>There are no "see through" passageways or corners.</p>	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	Prior to Project Approval/Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside lighting is appropriately shielded and directed to minimize attraction to night migrating or nocturnal birds. • Interior lighting is turned off at night if not in use and designed to minimize light escaping through windows during night operation. • Landscaping is designed without features known to increase collisions. <p>The City shall review and approve the bird-friendly building materials and design features prior to project approval.</p>					
Cultural Resources					
CUL-1: Historical Resources Study Program					
<p>The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to impact historical resources. For a project involving a property that contains buildings structures, objects, sites, landscape/site plans, or other features that are 50 years of age or older, a historical resources study shall be conducted to determine if the project would demolish or otherwise alter the characteristics that make a historical resource eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. The study shall, at a minimum, be conducted by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for architectural history (NPS 1983). The study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and background research including a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), building permit research, and/or research with the local historical society(ies). The subject property(ies) and/or structures shall be evaluated for federal (as applicable), and state significance on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms, included as an appendix to the study.</p>	Developer/Applicant	<p>Qualified Professional</p> <p>City Community Development Department</p>	Prior to Project Approval		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>If historical impacts are identified, the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on historical resources and the project sponsor shall implement the recommendations or conduct additional environmental review. Application of mitigation shall generally be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS, unless unnecessary in the circumstances (e.g., preservation in place). In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review.</p> <p>Efforts shall be made to the greatest extent practical to ensure that the relocation, rehabilitation, or alteration of the resource is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatments of Historic Properties (Standards). In accordance with CEQA, a project that has been determined to conform with the Standards generally would not cause a significant adverse direct or indirect impact to historical resources (14 CCR Section 15126.4(b)(1)). Application of the Standards shall be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS. In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.</p> <p>If significant historical resources are identified on a development site and compliance with the Standards and/or avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. Mitigation measures may include documentation of the historical resource in the form of a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) report.</p>					

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>The report shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation and shall generally follow the HABS Level III requirements, including digital photographic recordation, detailed historic narrative report, and compilation of historic research. The documentation shall be completed by a qualified architectural historian or historian who meets the PQS and submitted to the implementing agency prior to issuance of any permits for demolition or alteration of the historical resource. Copies of the report shall be provided to a local library and/or other appropriate repositories.</p>					
CUL-2: Archaeological Resources Study Program					
<p>The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to disturb archaeological resources. If preliminary reconnaissance suggests that cultural resources may exist, a Phase I cultural resources study shall be performed by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for archaeology (NPS 1983). A Phase I cultural resources study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and sufficient background research and, as necessary, field sampling to determine whether archaeological resources may be present. Archival research shall include a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and coordination with Native American tribes listed by the NAHC. The Phase I technical report documenting the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on archaeological resources, such as establishing environmentally-sensitive areas excluded from project activities, archaeological and/or Native American monitoring, or redesign of the project to avoid known cultural</p>	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	Prior to Project Approval/Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
resources. The project sponsor shall implement the recommendations prior to and during construction.					
Greenhouse Gas Emissions					
GHG-1: Adopt and Implement a CEQA GHG Emissions Threshold					
The City shall include and implement a new 2040 General Plan policy under the Environment and Sustainability Element to prepare, adopt, and implement a CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance. The City shall adopt the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance by Fall 2024 for use in future CEQA GHG emissions analyses through 2030. In addition, upon completion of future CAP updates and as necessary, the City shall update the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance and Ukiah CEQA GHG Checklist to be consistent with each CAP update.	City Community Development Department	City Community Development Department City Council	By Fall of 2024		
GHG-2: Update Ukiah CAP to the State's 2030 and 2045 GHG Emissions Goals					
The City shall update the Ukiah CAP by Fall 2024 to outline how Ukiah will meet the State's 2030 goal of 40 percent below 1990 emissions levels and 2045 goal of carbon neutrality. Implementation measures in the updated CAP to achieve the 2030 and 2045 goals may include, but are not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and adopt Zero Net Energy requirements for new and remodeled residential and non-residential development; • Develop and adopt a building electrification ordinance for existing and proposed structures; • Expand charging infrastructure and parking for electric vehicles; • Implement carbon sequestration by expanding the urban forest, participating in soil-based or compost application sequestration initiatives, supporting regional open space protection, and/or incentivizing rooftop gardens; and 	City Community Development Department	City Community Development Department City Council	By Fall of 2024		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement policies and measures included in the California 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, such as mobile source strategies for increasing clean transit options and zero emissions vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging stations. 					
Noise					
NOI-1: Construction Noise Reduction Measures					
<p>The following measures to minimize exposure to construction noise shall be included as standard conditions of approval for applicable projects involving construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mufflers. During excavation and grading construction phases, all construction equipment, fixed or mobile, shall be operated with closed engine doors and shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers consistent with manufacturers' standards. Stationary Equipment. All stationary construction equipment shall be placed so that emitted noise is directed away from the nearest sensitive receivers. Equipment Staging Areas. Equipment staging shall be located in areas that will create the greatest distance feasible between construction-related noise sources and noise-sensitive receivers. Smart Back-up Alarms. Mobile construction equipment shall have smart back-up alarms that automatically adjust the sound level of the alarm in response to ambient noise levels. Alternatively, back-up alarms shall be disabled and replaced with human spotters to ensure safety when mobile construction equipment is moving in the reverse direction. Signage. For the duration of construction, the applicant or contractor shall post a sign in a 	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	Project Approval During Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>construction zone that includes contact information for any individual who desires to file a noise complaint.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Noise Barriers. Erect temporary noise barriers, where feasible, when construction noise is predicted to exceed the acceptable standards (e.g., 80 dBA Leq at residential receivers during the daytime) and when the anticipated construction duration is greater than is typical (e.g., two years or greater). Temporary noise barriers shall be constructed with solid materials (e.g., wood) with a density of at least 1.5 pounds per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier. If a sound blanket is used, barriers shall be constructed with solid material with a density of at least 1 pound per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier and be lined on the construction side with acoustical blanket, curtain or equivalent absorptive material rated sound transmission class (STC) 32 or higher. 					
NOI-2: Construction Vibration Control Plan					
<p>Prior to issuance of a building permit for a project requiring pile driving during construction within 135 feet of fragile structures such as historical resources, 100 feet of non-engineered timber and masonry buildings (e.g., most residential buildings), or within 75 feet of engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster); or a vibratory roller within 25 feet of any structure, the project applicant shall prepare a noise and vibration analysis to assess and mitigate potential noise and vibration impacts related to these activities. This noise and vibration analysis shall be conducted by a qualified and experienced acoustical consultant or engineer. The vibration levels shall not exceed FTA architectural damage thresholds (e.g., 0.12 in/sec PPV for fragile or historical resources, 0.2 in/sec PPV for</p>	Developer/Applicant	City Community Development Department	Prior to Issuance of Building Permit		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>non-engineered timber and masonry buildings, and 0.3 in/sec PPV for engineered concrete and masonry). If vibration levels would exceed this threshold, alternative uses such as drilling piles as opposed to pile driving, and static rollers as opposed to vibratory rollers shall be used. If necessary, construction vibration monitoring shall be conducted to ensure vibration thresholds are not exceeded.</p>					
Tribal Cultural Resources					
TCR-1: Avoidance of Tribal Cultural Resources					
<p>When feasible, development facilitated by the project shall be designed to avoid known tribal cultural resources. Any tribal cultural resource within 60 feet of planned construction activities shall be protected by establishing an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that would be fenced, or otherwise protected to ensure avoidance. The feasibility of avoidance of tribal cultural resources shall be determined by the City and applicants in consultation with local California Native American tribe(s).</p>	Developer/Applicant	City Community Development Department Local Native American Tribes	Prior to Project Approval/Construction		
TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery					
<p>If previously unidentified tribal cultural resources are encountered during project implementation, altering the materials and their stratigraphic context shall be avoided and work shall halt immediately. Project personnel shall not collect, move, or disturb cultural resources. A representative from a locally-affiliated Native American Tribe shall be contacted to evaluate the resource and prepare a tribal cultural resources plan identifying methods necessary to protect the resource, in consultation with the City.</p>	Developer/Applicant	City Community Development Department Local Native American Tribes	Prior to Project Approval/Construction		
Wildfire					
WFR-1: Construction Wildfire Risk Reduction					

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>The City shall require the following measures during project construction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activities with potential to ignite wildfires shall be prohibited during red-flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service for the site. Example activities include welding and grinding outside of enclosed buildings. 2. Fire extinguishers shall be available onsite during project construction. Fire extinguishers shall be maintained to function according to manufacturer specifications. Construction personnel shall receive training on the proper methods of using a fire extinguisher. 3. Construction equipment powered by internal combustion engines shall be equipped with spark arresters. The spark arresters shall be maintained pursuant to manufacturer recommendations to ensure adequate performance. <p>At the City's discretion, additional wildfire risk reduction requirements may be required during construction. The City shall review and approve the project-specific methods to be employed prior to building permit approval.</p>	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	During Project Construction		
WFR-2: Project Design Wildfire Risk Reduction					
<p>Prior to finalizing site plans, proposed structure locations shall, to the extent feasible given site constraints, be located outside of known landslide-susceptible areas and located at least 50 feet from sloped hillsides. Project landscape plans shall be encouraged to include fire-resistant vegetation native to Mendocino County and/or the local microclimate of the site and prohibit the use of fire-prone species especially non-native, invasive species. Should the project meet the above criteria, no additional</p>	Developer/Applicant	Developer/Applicant City Community Development Department	Prior to Project Approval/Construction		

Mitigation Measure	Implementation Responsibility	Monitoring & Reporting Responsibility	Timing	Date Implemented	Notes
<p>measures are necessary. Should the location be within a known landslide area or within 50 feet of a sloped hillside, structural engineering features shall be incorporated into the design of the structure to reduce the risk of damage to the structure from post-fire slope instability resulting in landslides or flooding. These features shall be recommended by a qualified engineer and approved by the City prior to the building permit approval.</p>					
Paleontological Resources					
PAL-1: Retention of Qualified Professional Paleontologist					
<p>Prior to initial ground disturbance in areas underlain by high sensitivity geologic units (i.e., Quaternary terrace deposits and Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks), the City shall require the project applicant retain a Qualified Professional Paleontologist, as defined by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (2010), to determine the project's potential to significantly impact paleontological resources according to SVP (2010) standards. If necessary, the Qualified Professional Paleontologist shall recommend mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources to a less than significant level.</p>	<p>Developer/Applicant</p>	<p>City Community Development Department</p> <p>Qualified Professional Paleontologist</p>	<p>Prior to initial ground disturbance</p>		

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-79

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UKIAH ADOPTING THE CITY OF UKIAH 2040 GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS:

1. Government Code Section 65300 requires each legislative body and planning agency to prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the City; and
2. The City of Ukiah General Plan was last comprehensively updated on December 6, 1995 and subsequently amended in 2004 with the Circulation and Transportation Element, in 2019 with certification of the 2019-2027 Housing Element, and in 2019 with the Land Use Element; and
3. In 2019, the City initiated a multi-year process to comprehensively update the General Plan (2040 General Plan or "Project") by approving a work plan and schedule, hiring consultants, launching the General Plan website, and commencing public outreach efforts; and
4. The City Council and Planning Commission received periodic briefings from City staff and the consultant team to review input and receive information relevant to the specific topics throughout the 2040 General Plan process; and
5. In accordance with Government Code Section 65302, a comprehensive update to the City's 2040 General Plan has been prepared to address the eight mandatory elements required by state law, as well as two optional elements (Economic Development and Agriculture); and
6. The 2040 General Plan includes goals, policies, and actions regarding each of these General Plan elements; and
7. The 2040 General Plan carries forward some of the major goals of the 1995 General Plan but has been substantially updated to address current local conditions and community priorities; and
8. The 2040 General Plan includes an updated Land Use Map (General Plan Figure 2-1; included as Exhibit A) that incorporates new or amended land use designations included in the 2040 General plan, and hereby amends the official Land Use Map for the City of Ukiah; and
9. The City sent the Public Review Draft 2040 General Plan to affected public entities and agencies in compliance with state law (Government Code Sections 65302(g)(7), 65302.5, 65302.7, 65352, 65352(a)(9) and Public Utilities Code Section 21676), and, in accordance with Government Code Section 65352.3, contacted California Native American tribes that are on the contact list maintained by the Native America Heritage Commission to invite those tribes to consult on the proposed Draft 2040 General Plan; and
10. The City released the Public Review Draft 2040 General Plan on August 5, 2022 and invited comments by the public; and

11. The City has included a General Plan Errata, dated November 23, 2022, as a part of the 2040 General Plan to summarize changes and revisions that are proposed to the Public Review Draft General Plan since its release on August 5, 2022; and
12. The City prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) (SCH#: 2022050556) for the 2040 General Plan that provides a description of potential environmental impacts of the Project and recommends mitigation measures to reduce the impacts to a less than significant level, where feasible, and released the DEIR on October 7, 2022 for a 45-day public review and comment period; and
13. The Notice of Availability of the DEIR was posted with the State Clearinghouse, at the office of the Mendocino County Clerk, and on the City's 2040 General Plan website. The Notice of Availability was also published in the Ukiah Daily Journal. Furthermore, copies of the Notice of Availability were e-mailed to all parties that commented on the NOP, agencies expected to provide water, sewage, streets, roads, schools, or other essential facilities or services to the project (Govt. Code 65091(3)); as well as all interested parties, stakeholders, and members of the public that requested being added to the City's 2040 General Plan email contact list. The DEIR was posted electronically on the City's 2040 General Plan website and hard copies of the DEIR were made available for public review at the Community Development Department's office and at the Mendocino County Public Library (Ukiah Branch); and
14. On October 20, 2022 the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission reviewed the 2040 General Plan for consistency with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP), in accordance with UKIALUCP Policy 2.2.1(b) and Public Utilities Code Section 21676, and adopted Resolution 22-0006, finding the 2040 General Plan consistent with the UKIALUCP; and
15. On November 9, 2022, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on the 2040 General Plan and considered all written and oral reports of staff and public testimony on the matter, including all written public comments received as of November 9, 2022; and adopted Planning Commission Resolution No. 2022-01, recommending that the City Council adopt the 2040 General Plan; and
16. On November 23, 2022, a Final EIR (FEIR), incorporating City responses to comments received on the DEIR and any proposed changes as a result of comments received, was prepared and distributed via email to all parties who commented on the DEIR, agencies expected to provide water, sewage, streets, roads, schools, or other essential facilities or services to the project (Govt. Code 65091(3)); as well as all interested parties, stakeholders, and members of the public that requested being added to the City's 2040 General Plan email contact list; and
17. On December 7, 2022, in accordance with Govt. Code 65302.5, the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection reviewed and approved the Safety Element of the 2040 General Plan; and
18. On December 7, 2022, the City Council held a duly noticed public hearing on the 2040 General Plan and EIR and considered all written and oral reports of staff and public testimony on the matter, including all written public comments received as of December 7, 2022; and
19. At the December 7, 2022 meeting, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2022-78, certifying the EIR, and adopting the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines 15091 and 15093, as well as the Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program in accordance with CEQA Guidelines 15091.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ukiah hereby adopts the 2040 General Plan to replace the existing General Plan (1995 Ukiah Valley General Plan and Growth Management Program).

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of December, 2022, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Orozco, Sher, Crane, Duenas, and Mayor Rodin

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None



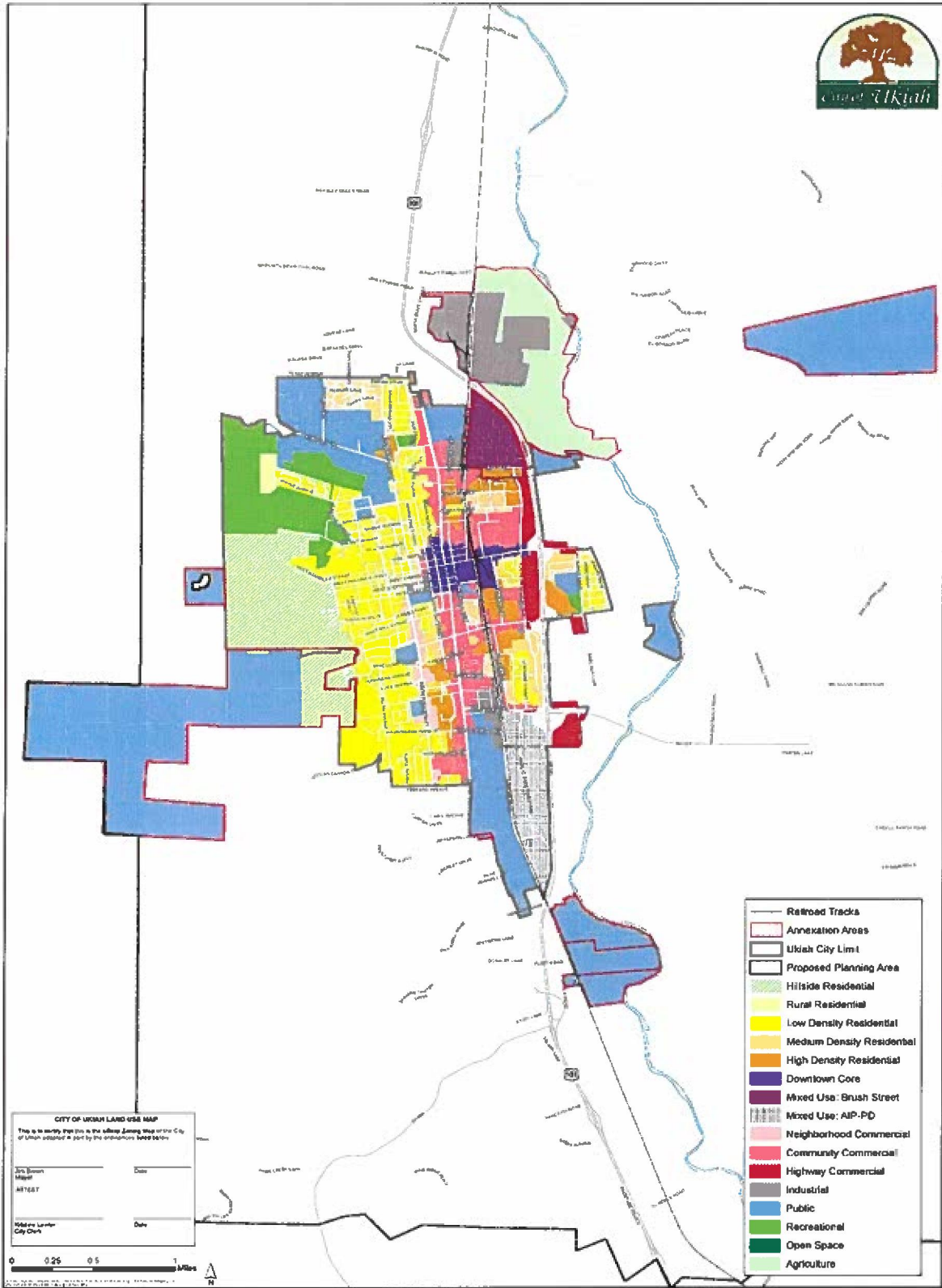
Mari Rodin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristine Lawler, City Clerk

UKIAH GENERAL PLAN - 2040 Land Use Diagram



Notice of Determination

To:

Office of Planning and Research
U.S. Mail: Street Address:
P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

County Clerk
County of: Mendocino
Address: 501 Low Gap Road, #1020
Ukiah, California 95482

From:

Public Agency: City of Ukiah
Address: 300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482
Contact: Craig Schlatter, Community Dev. Dir.
Phone: 707-463-6219

Lead Agency (if different from above):
Address: _____
Contact: _____
Phone: _____

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.

State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2022050556

Project Title: City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update

Project Applicant: City of Ukiah

Project Location (include county): City of Ukiah, Mendocino County

Project Description:

The proposed project consists of an update to the City's existing General Plan (1995) which will serve as a long-term framework for future growth and development. The 2040 General Plan represents the community's view of its future and contains the goals and polices upon which the City Council, Planning Commission, staff, and the entire community will base land use and resource decisions.

This is to advise that the City of Ukiah has approved the above
(Lead Agency or Responsible Agency)

described project on 12/07/2022 and has made the following determinations regarding the above
(date)
described project.

1. The project [will will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
 A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [were were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [was was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [was was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [were were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:
300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, California 95482 and online at: <https://ukiah2040.com/>

Signature (Public Agency):  Title: Community Development Director

Date: 12-08-22 Date Received for filing at OPR: _____



Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update

Final Environmental Impact Report

prepared by

City of Ukiah

City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482

Contact: Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development

prepared with the assistance of

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
449 15th Street, Suite 303
Oakland, California 94612

November 2022



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers
rinconconsultants.com

Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update

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Appendices

Appendix A Revisions to the General Plan

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1 Executive Summary

This Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) is an informational document prepared by the City of Ukiah (City) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts that would result from the Ukiah 2040 General Plan (Ukiah 2040 or project). As the lead agency, the City of Ukiah is required to evaluate comments on environmental issues received during the public comment period from persons who have reviewed the Draft EIR and to prepare written responses to those comments. This Final EIR contains individual responses to each comment received during the public review period for the Draft EIR. In accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15088(b), the written responses include a response to any significant environmental issues raised.

1.1 Project Description

This EIR has been prepared to examine the potential environmental effects of Ukiah 2040. The following is a summary of the project description. The full project description can be found in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, of the Draft EIR.

Guiding Principles

The City of Ukiah developed guiding principles to expand on the main ideas contained in the vision statement. The following guiding principles express the key values and aspirations for Ukiah's future and serve as guideposts for the goals, policies, and implementation programs contained in Ukiah 2040:

- Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically.
- Ensure development in all neighborhoods is compatible with the unique characteristics and land use patterns and fosters a sense of place.
- Promote resilient and sustainable facilities and infrastructure to ensure delivery of high-quality services.
- Promote a diverse, local, business-friendly economy that fosters new job growth and is adaptable to changes in consumer habits and market trends.
- Maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods.
- Preserve existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities.
- Manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations.
- Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters.

- Preserve Ukiah Municipal Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan and Mendocino County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
- Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

Ukiah 2040 Organization

The project is a comprehensive update of the City's current 1995 General Plan, which is made up of 13 chapters. To provide a contemporary plan that will guide the community through the year 2040, Ukiah 2040 has been reorganized and reformatted to addresses changes in the community, including new issues and opportunities, changes in state law, and new trends. Ukiah 2040 is comprised of seven elements, summarized as follows:

- **Land Use Element.** This element will consider current and proposed land use amendments.
- **Economic Development Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to promote and further economic development, job retention, and fiscal sustainability within Ukiah.
- **Agricultural Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to conserve agricultural resources within Ukiah.
- **Mobility Element.** This element will address existing and planned vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure across the City.
- **Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies related to public services, including but not limited to police, fire, airport, recreation, water/wastewater, and emergency services.
- **Environment and Sustainability Element.** This element will address the wide variety of parks, trails, and open spaces serving the diverse recreation needs of Ukiah residents, particularly youth, and emphasize the unique features of the City's natural environment. This element will also consider the effects of existing and planned development on natural resources located on public lands.
- **Hazards and Safety Element.** This element will cover seismic activity, other geologic hazards, fire hazards, hazardous materials, flooding, and other potential hazards, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(g). It will also address resiliency and risks from natural hazards in Ukiah, pursuant to SB 379. This element will also cover noise element requirements, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(f), including new existing noise contours as well as projected noise contours based on future traffic volumes projected to arise from improvements planned for in the Mobility Element.

Proposed Land Use Designations

The project would result in changes to the existing land use pattern in the City. Ukiah 2040 introduces new and expanded land use designations that provide a greater distinction between residential and commercial land use types and better align existing land uses with corresponding designations. Specifically, the project divides the existing Commercial land use designation into more detailed designations: Downtown Core, Highway Commercial, Community Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial. The project also introduces four new designations to the City's Land Use Map: Hillside Residential, Agriculture, Mixed Use: Brush Street Triangle, and Mixed Use: AIP-PD.

Planning Area

A general plan, pursuant to State law, must address all areas within the jurisdiction's Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the city. For Ukiah, the Planning Area is defined as the area that includes both the city limits and SOI, as well as the existing Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundary.

Proposed Sphere of Influence

The City of Ukiah's current sphere of influence (SOI) was adopted in 1984, Ukiah 2040 would result in an update to the City's SOI, and would include areas north, east, and south of city limits. The SOI update is intended to reduce the City's ultimate probable boundary. The decision to update the City's SOI is based upon direction provided by the Ukiah City Council in January 2020.

Proposed Annexation Areas

As part of the proposed project, the City of Ukiah is pursuing three separate annexation areas currently located in the County of Mendocino's jurisdictional boundaries, totaling approximately 1,617 acres. Annexation Area A consists of 16 City-owned properties located southeast, northeast, and west of the City, totaling approximately 437 acres. Annexation Area B is comprised of the Bush Street Triangle/Masonite area north of the City and contains 63 properties, totaling approximately 473 acres. Annexation Area C is concentrated in the hills west of Ukiah. This area contains approximately 752 acres and a portion of that area (707 acres) is being pursued as part of the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021.

Project Buildout

Ukiah 2040 designates land uses defining the type and amount of development that can occur throughout the City and proposed annexation areas through the planning horizon year of 2040 (over approximately 18 years). Ukiah 2040 also includes increased residential densities (number of units) and building intensities (floor area ratio [FAR]) for certain land use designations compared to the existing density and intensity thresholds. Development projections for the project were determined by analyzing vacant and underutilized parcels with the buildout capacity potential that is allowed under the applicable updated land use designations, the incorporation of annexation areas being pursued by the City of Ukiah, and the development of mixed-use designated areas anticipated under Ukiah 2040. Based on the potential land use changes, the project has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 square feet of non-residential use. This buildout is an estimate of maximum buildout and is used as a conservative assumption in the environmental analysis of this EIR. While Ukiah 2040 would facilitate development, the development of the various land uses associated with Ukiah 2040 would occur over an extended period and would depend on factors such as local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. For example, a future developer may choose to develop a site at a density lower than what is allowed, or a vacant lot could remain vacant for several years until a development is identified for that property. For these reasons, the maximum buildout is an estimate and is not intended to predict the amount of development that will occur in the City in the future. Furthermore, this buildout is projected to occur specifically within the existing City limits and Annexation Areas. Overall, Ukiah 2040 would promote infill development; the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties; and the adaptation of existing residential units to

support multi-family use. Future development within the remaining SOI and Planning Area will be analyzed under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on a project-level basis.

1.2 Alternatives

As required by CEQA, the EIR examines alternatives to the project. Studied alternatives include the following two alternatives.

- Alternative 1: No Project Alternative
- Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density

Refer to Section 5, *Alternatives*, in the Draft EIR for analysis of these alternatives and a discussion of the environmentally superior alternative.

1.3 Areas of Known Controversy/Issues to be Resolved

The EIR scoping process did not identify any areas of known controversy related to the project.

1.4 Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Table 1, below, lists the environmental impacts of Ukiah 2040, the proposed mitigation measures, and residual impacts (or significance after mitigation). Impacts are defined as significant, unavoidable adverse impacts that require a statement of overriding consideration, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15093 if Ukiah 2040 is approved; significant, adverse impacts that can be feasibly mitigated to less than significant levels and that require findings to be made under CEQA Guidelines Section 15091; adverse impacts that are less than those allowed by adopted significance thresholds; and no impact.

Table 1 Summary of Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Aesthetics		
Impact AES-1. Development facilitated by the project may impact scenic vistas; however, compliance with Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies, Ukiah City Code, and the City’s Design Guidelines would ensure that new development does not have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact AES-2. The project would have no impact to scenic resources visible from a state scenic highway.	None required.	No Impact
Impact AES-3. Implementation of the project would facilitate development in previously undeveloped areas through rezoning and changes to land use. Scenic quality would be protected through adherence to City design guidelines, Ukiah city code, and implementation of Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies that address visual quality. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact AES-4. Development facilitated by the project would introduce new sources of light and glare. With adherence to existing ordinances that regulate light and glare for new development, impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Agricultural and Forestry Resources		
Impact AG-1. Development facilitated by the project is designed to encourage the continued operation of existing agriculture in and surrounding the city. With implementation of Ukiah 2040 goals and policies, impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact AG-2. The project would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland, or timberland production, nor result in the loss of forest land or convert forest land to non-forest uses. There would be no impact.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
Air Quality		
<p>Impact AQ-1. The project would be consistent with MCAQMD’s 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and BAAQMD’s 2017 Clean Air Plan. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact AQ-2. Development facilitated by the project would result in the generation of air pollutants during construction, which could affect local air quality. Development facilitated by the project would also result in a net increase of criteria pollutants due to VMT. All feasible mitigation measures to reduce VMT are included as Policies in Ukiah 2040. Overall operational impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>AQ-1 Implement BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures</i></p> <p>To reduce fugitive dust emissions from the construction of individual projects, the City shall require that future projects implement the BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures. These include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times a day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered. ▪ All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited. ▪ All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour. ▪ All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used. ▪ Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California Airborne Toxics Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points. ▪ All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacture’s specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper conditions prior to operation. 	<p>Significant and Unavoidable</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District’s number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. <p><i>AQ-2 Implement Measures to Reduce Operational Emissions</i></p> <p>Prior to discretionary approval by the City of Ukiah for development projects subject to CEQA review (i.e., non-exempt projects), a screening assessment shall be performed by the City using the screening criteria from the 2017 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. If the project exceeds the screening size by land use type, the project applicant shall prepare and submit a technical assessment to the City for review and approval, which evaluates potential project-related operational air quality impacts. The evaluation shall be prepared in conformance with BAAQMD methodology in assessing air quality impacts. If operation-related air pollutants are determined to have the potential to exceed the BAAQMD-adopted thresholds of significance, the City shall require that applicants for new development projects incorporate mitigation measures to reduce air pollutant emissions during operational activities. The identified measures shall be included as part of the conditions of approval. Possible mitigation measures to reduce long-term emissions could include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For site-specific development that requires refrigerated vehicles, the planning documents shall demonstrate an adequate number of electrical service connections at loading docks for plug-in of the anticipated number of refrigerated trailers, to reduce idling time and emissions. ▪ Applicants for manufacturing and light industrial uses shall consider energy storage and combined heat and power in appropriate applications to optimize renewable energy generation systems and avoid peak energy use. ▪ Site-specific developments with truck delivery and loading areas and truck parking spaces shall include signage as a reminder to limit idling of vehicles while parked for loading/unloading in accordance with California Air Resources Board Rule 2845 (13 California Code of Regulations Chapter 10 Section 2485). ▪ Provide changing/shower facilities as specified in Section A5.106.4.3 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). ▪ Provide bicycle parking facilities pursuant to Section A4.106.9 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. 	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact AQ-3. Construction activities for individual projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; however, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide preferential parking spaces for low-emitting, fuel-efficient, and carpool/van vehicles per Section A5.106.5.1 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). ▪ Provide facilities to support electric charging stations pursuant to Section A5.106.5.3 (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures) and Section A5.106.8.2 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. ▪ Applicant-provided appliances (e.g., dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) shall be Energy Star–certified appliances or appliances of equivalent energy efficiency. Installation of Energy Star–certified or equivalent appliances shall be verified by Building & Safety during plan check. ▪ Applicants for future development projects along existing and planned transit routes shall coordinate with the City and County to ensure that bus pad and shelter improvements are incorporated, as appropriate. <p><i>AQ-3 Conduct Construction Health Risk Assessment</i></p> <p>For individual projects (excluding accessory dwelling units, single-family residences, and duplexes) where construction activities would occur within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors, would last longer than two months, and would not utilize Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment, the project applicant shall prepare a construction health risk assessment (HRA) prior to project approval. The HRA shall determine potential risk and compare the risk to the following BAAQMD thresholds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-compliance with Qualified Community Risk Reduction Plan; ▪ Increased cancer risk of > 10.0 in a million; ▪ Increased non-cancer risk of > 1.0 Hazard Index (Chronic or Acute); or ▪ Ambient PM_{2.5} increase of > 0.3 µg/m³ annual average <p>If risk exceeds the thresholds, measures such as requiring the use of Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment shall be incorporated to reduce the risk to appropriate levels.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact AQ-4. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would not create objectionable odors that could adversely affect a substantial number of people and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Biological Resources		
<p>Impact BIO-1. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to modify habitat that could affect special-status species during construction and operation. Implementation of federal, state, and local regulations and policies, as well as Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4 would ensure riparian habitat and wetlands are not significantly impacted. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>BIO-1: Recommended Policy for Biological Resource Assessment</i> The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040: Policy ENV-4.9: Biological Resource Assessment. The City shall require that new development proposed in or adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas, to complete a site-specific biological resource assessment prepared by a qualified biologist that establishes the existing resources present.</p> <p><i>BIO-2: Pre-Construction Bird Surveys, Avoidance, and Notification</i> For construction activities initiated during the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 15), involving removal of vegetation, abandoned structures, man-made features, or other nesting bird habitat, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal. The nesting bird pre-construction survey shall be conducted on foot and shall include a buffer around the construction site at a distance determined by a qualified biologist. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the identification of avian species known to occur in the Mendocino Region. If nests are found, an avoidance buffer shall be determined by the biologist dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site. The buffer shall be demarcated by the biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to demarcate the boundary. All construction personnel shall be notified of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities shall occur within the buffer until the biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist on the basis that the encroachment will not be detrimental to an active nest. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey(s) shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and shall be submitted to the City prior to the commencement of construction activities.</p> <p>Project site plans shall include a statement acknowledging compliance with the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code that includes avoidance of active bird nests and identification of Best Management Practices to avoid impacts to active nests, including checking for nests prior to construction activities during February 1 to September 15, and what to do if an active nest is found so that the nest is not inadvertently impacted during grading or construction activities.</p> <p><i>BIO-3: Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance Prior to Removal</i></p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>Prior to tree and structure removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused survey of all trees and structures to be removed or impacted by construction activities to determine whether active roosts of special-status bats are present on site. Tree or structure removal shall be planned for either the spring or the fall, and timed to ensure both suitable conditions for the detection of bats and adequate time for tree and/or structure removal to occur during seasonal periods of bat activity exclusive of the breeding season, as described below. Trees and/or structures containing suitable potential bat roost habitat features shall be clearly marked or identified. If no bat roosts are found, the results of the survey will be documented and submitted to the City within 30 days of the survey, after which no further action will be required.</p> <p>If day roosts are present, the biologist shall prepare a site-specific roosting bat protection plan to be implemented by the contractor following the City’s approval. The plan shall incorporate the following guidance as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When possible, removal of trees/structures identified as suitable roosting habitat shall be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between September 1 and about October 15, or before evening temperatures fall below 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. ▪ Between March 1 and April 15, or after evening temperatures rise above 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or no more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. ▪ If a tree/structure must be removed during the breeding season and is identified as potentially containing a colonial maternity roost, then a qualified biologist shall conduct acoustic emergence surveys or implement other appropriate methods to further evaluate if the roost is an active maternity roost. Under the biologist’s guidance, the contractor shall implement measures similar to or exceeding the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If it is determined that the roost is not an active maternity roost, then the roost may be removed in accordance with the other requirements of this measure. ▪ If it is found that an active maternity roost of a colonial roosting species is present, the roost shall not be disturbed during the breeding season (April 15 to August 31). ▪ Tree removal procedures shall be implemented using a two-step tree removal process. This method is conducted over two consecutive days and works by creating noise and vibration by cutting non-habitat branches and limbs from 	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>habitat trees using chainsaws only (no excavators or other heavy machinery) on day one. The noise and vibration disturbance, together with the visible alteration of the tree, is very effective in causing bats that emerge nightly to feed to not return to the roost that night. The remainder of the tree is removed on day two.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior to the demolition of vacant structures within the project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused habitat assessment of all structures to be demolished. The habitat assessment shall be conducted enough in advance to ensure the commencement of building demolition can be scheduled during seasonal periods of bat activity (see above), if required. If no signs of day roosting activity are observed, no further actions will be required. If bats or signs of day roosting by bats are observed, a qualified biologist will prepare specific recommendations such as partial dismantling to cause bats to abandon the roost, or humane eviction, both to be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, if required. <p>If the qualified biologist determines a roost is used by a large number of bats (large hibernaculum), bat boxes shall be installed near the project site. The number of bat boxes installed will depend on the size of the hibernaculum and shall be determined through consultation with CDFW. If a maternity colony has become established, all construction activities shall be postponed within a 500-foot buffer around the maternity colony until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have dispersed. Once it has been determined that the roost is clear of bats, the roost shall be removed immediately.</p> <p><i>BIO-4: Bird Safe Design</i></p> <p>Development shall incorporate bird-friendly building materials and design features, including but not limited to the following:</p> <p>There are no “see through” passageways or corners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outside lighting is appropriately shielded and directed to minimize attraction to night migrating or nocturnal birds. ▪ Interior lighting is turned off at night if not in use and designed to minimize light escaping through windows during night operation. ▪ Landscaping is designed without features known to increase collisions. <p>The City shall review and approve the bird-friendly building materials and design features prior to project approval.</p>	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact BIO-2. Development facilitated by the project could adversely impact riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities during construction and/or operation. Implementation of federal, state, and local regulations and policies, as well as Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would ensure riparian habitat and wetlands are not significantly impacted. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure BIO-1</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact BIO-3. Development facilitated by the project would avoid impacts to wildlife movement corridors by conserving natural areas, as directed by proposed policies and would minimize impacts to wildlife movement through implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p>Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact BIO-4. Development facilitated by the project would conform with applicable local policies protecting biological resources and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact BIO-5. Implementation of the project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
<p>Cultural Resources</p>		
<p>Impact CUL-1. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to impact historical resources. Existing Ukiah City Code and CEQA regulations, in addition to proposed Ukiah 2040 policies and mitigation would reduce impacts to historic resources. Nonetheless, impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>CUL-1 Historical Resources Study Program</i> The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to impact historical resources. For a project involving a property that contains buildings structures, objects, sites, landscape/site plans, or other features that are 50 years of age or older, a historical resources study shall be conducted to determine if the project would demolish or otherwise alter the characteristics that make a historical resource eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. The study shall, at a minimum, be conducted by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for architectural history (NPS 1983). The study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and background research including a records search at the Northwest Information</p>	<p>Significant and Unavoidable</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>Center (NWIC), building permit research, and/or research with the local historical society(ies). The subject property(ies) and/or structures shall be evaluated for federal (as applicable), and state significance on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms, included as an appendix to the study.</p> <p>If historical impacts are identified, the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on historical resources and the project sponsor shall implement the recommendations or conduct additional environmental review. Application of mitigation shall generally be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS, unless unnecessary in the circumstances (e.g., preservation in place). In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review.</p> <p>Efforts shall be made to the greatest extent practical to ensure that the relocation, rehabilitation, or alteration of the resource is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatments of Historic Properties (Standards). In accordance with CEQA, a project that has been determined to conform with the Standards generally would not cause a significant adverse direct or indirect impact to historical resources (14 CCR Section 15126.4(b)(1)). Application of the Standards shall be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS. In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.</p> <p>If significant historical resources are identified on a development site and compliance with the Standards and/or avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. Mitigation measures may include documentation of the historical resource in the form of a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) report. The report shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation and shall generally follow the HABS Level III requirements, including digital photographic recordation, detailed historic narrative report, and compilation of historic research. The documentation shall be completed by a qualified architectural historian or historian who meets the PQS and submitted to the implementing agency prior to issuance of any permits for demolition or alteration of the historical resource. Copies of the report shall be provided to a local library and/or other appropriate repositories.</p>	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact CUL-2. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to impact archaeological resources. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>CUL-2 Archaeological Resources Study Program</i> The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to disturb archaeological resources. If preliminary reconnaissance suggests that cultural resources may exist, a Phase I cultural resources study shall be performed by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for archaeology (NPS 1983). A Phase I cultural resources study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and sufficient background research and, as necessary, field sampling to determine whether archaeological resources may be present. Archival research shall include a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and coordination with Native American tribes listed by the NAHC. The Phase I technical report documenting the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on archaeological resources, such as establishing environmentally-sensitive areas excluded from project activities, archaeological and/or Native American monitoring, or redesign of the project to avoid known cultural resources. The project sponsor shall implement the recommendations prior to and during construction.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact CUL-3. Ground-disturbing activities associated with development facilitated by the project could result in damage to or destruction of human burials. However, compliance with existing regulations on human remains would ensure less than significant impacts.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</p>		
<p>Impact GHG-1. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would make progress towards achieving State goals but would not necessarily meet State 2030 or 2045 goals. Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would result in implementation of CEQA GHG thresholds and a CAP update; however, development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would not meet the 2030 or 2045 goals until the CAP is updated and adopted. This impact would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>GHG-1 Adopt and Implement a CEQA GHG Emissions Threshold</i> The City shall include and implement a new 2040 General Plan policy under the Environment and Sustainability Element to prepare, adopt, and implement a CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance. The City shall adopt the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance by Fall 2024 for use in future CEQA GHG emissions analyses through 2030. In addition, upon completion of future CAP updates and as necessary, the City shall update the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance and Ukiah CEQA GHG Checklist to be consistent with each CAP update.</p> <p><i>GHG-2 Update Ukiah CAP to the State’s 2030 and 2045 GHG Emissions Goals</i> The City shall update the Ukiah CAP by Fall 2024 to outline how Ukiah will meet the State’s 2030 goal of 40 percent below 1990 emissions levels and 2045 goal of</p>	<p>Significant and Unavoidable</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	carbon neutrality. Implementation measures in the updated CAP to achieve the 2030 and 2045 goals may include, but are not limited to, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and adopt Zero Net Energy requirements for new and remodeled residential and non-residential development; ▪ Develop and adopt a building electrification ordinance for existing and proposed structures; ▪ Expand charging infrastructure and parking for electric vehicles; ▪ Implement carbon sequestration by expanding the urban forest, participating in soil-based or compost application sequestration initiatives, supporting regional open space protection, and/or incentivizing rooftop gardens; and ▪ Implement policies and measures included in the California 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, such as mobile source strategies for increasing clean transit options and zero emissions vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging stations. 	
Land Use and Planning		
Impact LU-1. Implementation of the project would maintain orderly development in the planning area and would not physically divide an established community. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact LU-2. Implementation of the project would be generally consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted to avoid or mitigate environmental effects. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Noise		
Impact NOI-1. Construction of individual projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-sensitive land uses. Development facilitated by the project would introduce new on-site noise sources and would contribute to increases in traffic noise. The continued regulation of on-site noise, consistent with the Ukiah City Code and implementation of proposed Ukiah 2040 policies would minimize disturbance to adjacent land uses. However, construction noise and traffic noise may	NOI-1 Construction Noise Reduction Measures The following measures to minimize exposure to construction noise shall be included as standard conditions of approval for applicable projects involving construction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mufflers. During excavation and grading construction phases, all construction equipment, fixed or mobile, shall be operated with closed engine doors and shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers consistent with manufacturers' standards. ▪ Stationary Equipment. All stationary construction equipment shall be placed so that emitted noise is directed away from the nearest sensitive receivers. 	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>still exceed noise standards and impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Equipment Staging Areas. Equipment staging shall be located in areas that will create the greatest distance feasible between construction-related noise sources and noise-sensitive receivers. ▪ Smart Back-up Alarms. Mobile construction equipment shall have smart back-up alarms that automatically adjust the sound level of the alarm in response to ambient noise levels. Alternatively, back-up alarms shall be disabled and replaced with human spotters to ensure safety when mobile construction equipment is moving in the reverse direction. ▪ Signage. For the duration of construction, the applicant or contractor shall post a sign in a construction zone that includes contact information for any individual who desires to file a noise complaint. ▪ Temporary Noise Barriers. Erect temporary noise barriers, where feasible, when construction noise is predicted to exceed the acceptable standards (e.g., 80 dBA Leq at residential receivers during the daytime) and when the anticipated construction duration is greater than is typical (e.g., two years or greater). Temporary noise barriers shall be constructed with solid materials (e.g., wood) with a density of at least 1.5 pounds per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier. If a sound blanket is used, barriers shall be constructed with solid material with a density of at least 1 pound per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier and be lined on the construction side with acoustical blanket, curtain or equivalent absorptive material rated sound transmission class (STC) 32 or higher. 	
<p>Impact NOI-2. Development facilitated by the project could temporarily generate groundborne vibration during construction, potentially affecting nearby land uses. Operation of future development would not result in substantial vibration or groundborne noise. Impacts would less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>NOI-2 Construction Vibration Control Plan</i></p> <p>Prior to issuance of a building permit for a project requiring pile driving during construction within 135 feet of fragile structures such as historical resources, 100 feet of non-engineered timber and masonry buildings (e.g., most residential buildings), or within 75 feet of engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster); or a vibratory roller within 25 feet of any structure, the project applicant shall prepare a noise and vibration analysis to assess and mitigate potential noise and vibration impacts related to these activities. This noise and vibration analysis shall be conducted by a qualified and experienced acoustical consultant or engineer. The vibration levels shall not exceed FTA architectural damage thresholds (e.g., 0.12 in/sec PPV for fragile or historical resources, 0.2 in/sec PPV for non-engineered timber and masonry buildings, and 0.3 in/sec PPV for engineered concrete and masonry). If vibration levels would exceed this threshold, alternative uses such as drilling piles as opposed to pile driving, and static rollers as opposed to vibratory</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	rollers shall be used. If necessary, construction vibration monitoring shall be conducted to ensure vibration thresholds are not exceeded.	
<p>Impact NOI-3. Development facilitated by the project would not result in significantly increased airport and airstrip activity, since the Ukiah Municipal Airport would not serve travelers or industry. The continued regulation of airport noise consistent with state and federal regulations as well as the implementation of proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 and the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan would minimize disturbance to people residing or working within proximity of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Population and Housing</p>		
<p>Impact POP-1. Implementation of the project would facilitate the construction of new housing in Ukiah and would increase population growth. However, the project is intended to accommodate and plan for population growth and includes policies to manage growth and development. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact POP-2. Implementation of the project would not result in the displacement of substantial numbers of housing or people. The project would facilitate the development of new housing in accordance with state and local housing requirements, while preserving existing residential neighborhoods. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Public Services and Recreation</p>		
<p>Impact PSR-1. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to the city's population. The estimated population increase would increase demand for fire and police protection services and potentially create the need for new or altered police, fire, or other service facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new</p>	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Ukiah 2040 policies would ensure that police and fire services staffing and facilities are maintained at a level which accommodates for sustained population growth. Therefore, impacts to police and fire services associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>		
<p>Impact PSR-2. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase in population of school-aged children. Population increase would increase demand for school services and potentially create the need for new school facilities. Compliance with Ukiah 2040 policies would reduce impacts to school facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to schools associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact PSR-3. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to population, which could increase the use of existing parks and recreational facilities, and thus reduce the city’s parkland to population ratio. However, Ukiah 2040 policies would also result in additional recreational facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to park facilities associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact PSR-4. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to population, which could increase demand for existing public facilities such as libraries. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to libraries associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>		
Transportation		
<p>Impact TRA-1. The project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact TRA-2. The project would provide a diversity of land uses superior to countywide averages and would thus be anticipated to generate VMT at lower rates than countywide averages. The project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines 15064.3(B) and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact TRA-3. The project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact TRA-4. The project would not result in inadequate emergency access and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
Tribal Cultural Resources		
<p>Impact TCR-1. Development facilitated by the project may involve excavation, which has the potential to impact previously unidentified tribal cultural resources. However, with adherence to existing CEQA regulations and proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, impacts on tribal cultural resources would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>TCR-1: Avoidance of Tribal Cultural Resources</i> When feasible, development facilitated by the project shall be designed to avoid known tribal cultural resources. Any tribal cultural resource within 60 feet of planned construction activities shall be protected by establishing an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that would be fenced, or otherwise protected to ensure avoidance. The feasibility of avoidance of tribal cultural resources shall be determined by the City and applicants in consultation with local California Native American tribe(s).</p> <p><i>TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery</i> If previously unidentified tribal cultural resources are encountered during project implementation, altering the materials and their stratigraphic context shall be avoided and work shall halt immediately. Project personnel shall not collect, move, or disturb cultural resources. A representative from a locally-affiliated Native American Tribe shall be contacted to evaluate the resource and prepare a tribal</p>	Less than Significant with Mitigation

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
cultural resources plan identifying methods necessary to protect the resource, in consultation with the City.		
Utilities and Services Systems		
<p>Impact U-1. Development facilitated by the project would increase demand for water, wastewater, electric power, natural gas, telecommunications, and stormwater drainage facilities. However, Adherence to Ukiah 2040 policies would facilitate efficient energy use, sustainable and renewable energy, and safe and resilient utility and infrastructure systems that would lessen the need for new or expanded facilities. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-2. Development facilitated by the project would increase water demand; however, the City has sufficient water supply to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-3. Development facilitated by the project would increase demand for wastewater treatment. The timing, intensity, and location of an expansion of wastewater treatment facilities is unknown at this time, but an expansion would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. As such, impacts related to expansion of wastewater treatment facilities as a result of Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-4. Development facilitated by the project would increase the volume of solid waste generated in Ukiah. However, Ukiah 2040 contains policies to increase recycling and comply with federal, State, and local management reduction regulations. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Wildfire		
<p>Impact WFR-1. Buildout of the project could result in new development in Very High FHSZs. However, existing local and state regulations, and Ukiah 2040 proposed policies address emergency planning, management, access, and education; as well as enforce maintaining an emergency management plan. These regulations and proposed policies would address issues related to access and emergency response and the project would not impair an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact WFR-2. The project envisions potential future development on sites that are in or near moderate, high, and very high FHSZs. Development facilitated by the project would expose project occupants and structures to wildfire risks for sites located in or near SRAs or very high FHSZs. Wildfire risk would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>WFR-1 Construction Wildfire Risk Reduction</i> The City shall require the following measures during project construction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activities with potential to ignite wildfires shall be prohibited during red-flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service for the site. Example activities include welding and grinding outside of enclosed buildings. 2. Fire extinguishers shall be available onsite during project construction. Fire extinguishers shall be maintained to function according to manufacturer specifications. Construction personnel shall receive training on the proper methods of using a fire extinguisher. 3. Construction equipment powered by internal combustion engines shall be equipped with spark arresters. The spark arresters shall be maintained pursuant to manufacturer recommendations to ensure adequate performance. <p>At the City’s discretion, additional wildfire risk reduction requirements may be required during construction. The City shall review and approve the project-specific methods to be employed prior to building permit approval.</p> <p><i>WFR-2 Project Design Wildfire Risk Reduction</i> Prior to finalizing site plans, proposed structure locations shall, to the extent feasible given site constraints, be located outside of known landslide-susceptible areas and located at least 50 feet from sloped hillsides. Project landscape plans shall be encouraged to include fire-resistant vegetation native to Mendocino County and/or the local microclimate of the site and prohibit the use of fire-prone species especially non-native, invasive species. Should the project meet the above criteria, no additional measures are necessary. Should the location be within a known landslide area or within 50 feet of a sloped hillside, structural engineering features shall be incorporated into the design of the structure to reduce the risk of</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>damage to the structure from post-fire slope instability resulting in landslides or flooding. These features shall be recommended by a qualified engineer and approved by the City prior to the building permit approval.</p>	
<p>Paleontological Resources</p>		
<p>Impact PAL-1. Development facilitated by the project has the potential to impact paleontological resources. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>PAL-1 Retention of Qualified Professional Paleontologist</i> The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040: Prior to initial ground disturbance in areas underlain by high sensitivity geologic units (i.e., Quaternary terrace deposits and Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks), the City shall require the project applicant retain a Qualified Professional Paleontologist, as defined by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (2010), to determine the project’s potential to significantly impact paleontological resources according to SVP (2010) standards. If necessary, the Qualified Professional Paleontologist shall recommend mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources to a less than significant level.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

2 Introduction

2.1 Environmental Review Process

Pursuant to CEQA, lead agencies are required to consult with public agencies having jurisdiction over a proposed project and provide the general public with an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR.

On May 31, 2022, the City of Ukiah circulated a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for a 30-day period to identify environmental issue areas potentially affected if the project were to be implemented. The NOP was, e-mailed or otherwise provided to public agencies, the State Clearinghouse, County Clerk, organizations, and individuals considered likely to be interested in the project and its potential impacts. The NOP was also posted on the City's Ukiah 2040 website and published in the Ukiah Daily Journal newspaper. Comments received by the City of Ukiah on the NOP are provided in Appendix A of the Draft EIR and are summarized in Table 1-1 of the Draft EIR. These comments were considered during the preparation of the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR was made available for public review on October 7, 2022 and was distributed to local, regional, and State agencies. The Notice of Availability of the Draft EIR was posted with the State Clearinghouse, at the office of the Mendocino County Clerk, and on the City's website. The Notice of Availability was also provided in a newspaper ad (Ukiah Daily Journal). Furthermore, copies of the Notice of Availability were e-mailed to a list of interested parties, groups, and public agencies. The Draft EIR was posted electronically on the City's Ukiah2040 website and hardcopies of the Draft EIR were made available for public review at City Hall and at the Mendocino County Public Library (Ukiah Branch).

The 45-day CEQA public comment period began on October 7, 2022 and ended on November 21, 2022. The City of Ukiah received three comment letters on the Draft EIR.¹ Copies of written comments on the Draft EIR received during the comment period, as well as responses to those comments, are included in Section 4 of this document. On November 9, 2022, during the 45-day CEQA public comment period, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the project. No comments on the Draft EIR were received at the hearing.

2.2 Document Organization

This Response To Comments document consists of the following sections:

- *Section 1: Executive Summary.* This section provides an executive summary that is primarily focused on presenting impacts and mitigation measures for the project.
- *Section 2: Introduction.* This section discusses the purpose and organization of this document and the Final EIR, and summarizes the environmental review process for the project.

¹ In addition, the City received a letter from the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Native America Tribe on November 14, 2022 that was previously sent on July 13, 2022 during the AB52/SB 18 review period. A summary of the letter on July 13, 2022, as well as a summary of the City's actions to respond to that comment, including notifying additional tribes is included in Section 4.12, *Tribal Cultural Resources* in the Draft EIR. Because the City has already responded to the content of the Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake Native America Tribe's letter, no additional responses are provided in this Final EIR.

- *Section 3: List of Commenters.* This section contains a list of the agencies and private groups, organizations, and individuals that submitted written comments during the public review period on the Draft EIR.
- *Section 4: Comments and Responses.* This section contains reproductions of all comment letters received on the Draft EIR. A written response for each CEQA-related comment received during the public review period is provided. Each response is keyed to the corresponding comment.
- *Section 5: Draft EIR Revisions.* Revisions to the Draft EIR that are necessary considering the comments received, the responses provided, or to amplify or clarify material in the Draft EIR, are included in this section.

3 List of Commenters

This section presents a list of comment letters received during the public review periods and describes the organization of the letters and comments that are provided in Section 4, *Comments and Responses*, of this document.

3.1 Organization of Comment Letters and Responses

The three letters are presented in the following order:

- Regional and local public agencies
- Private groups and organizations
- Individuals

No federal or state agencies provided written comments. Each comment letter has been assigned a code based on the type of commenter. For example, the first regional agency to provide a comment has been assigned the code R1 and the second regional agency to provide a comment has been assigned the code R2. In addition, each separate issue raised by the commenter has been assigned a number. The responses to each comment identify first the code of the comment letter and then the number assigned to each issue. For example, Response R-1.1 indicates that the response is for the first issue raised in comment Letter R-1.

3.2 Comments Received

The following letters were submitted to the City during the first public review period for the Draft EIR:

Table 2 List of Public Comments Received on the Draft EIR

Letter Number and Commenter	Agency/Group/ Organization	Page Number
Regional and Local Agencies		
R-1 Loretta J Ellard, Deputy Planner	Mendocino Council of Governments	27
Private Groups and Organizations		
P-1 George Hollister, President	Mendocino County Farm Bureau	29
Individuals		
I-1 Linda Sanders	Linda Sanders	35

4 Comments and Responses

Written responses to each comment letter received on the Draft EIR are provided in this section. All letters received during the public review period on the Draft EIR are provided in their entirety. Please note that text within individual letters that has not been numbered does not specifically raise environmental issues nor relate directly to the adequacy of the information or analysis within the Draft EIR, and therefore no comment is enumerated, or response required, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15088 and 15132.

Revisions to the Draft EIR necessary considering the comments received and responses provided, or necessary to amplify or clarify material in the Draft EIR, are included in the responses. Underlined text represents language that has been added to the Draft EIR. Text with ~~strikeout~~ has been deleted from the Draft EIR. All revisions are then compiled in the order in which they would appear in the Draft EIR (by page number) in Section 5, *Draft EIR Text Revisions* of this Final EIR document. Page numbers cited in this section correspond to the page numbers of the Draft EIR.

LETTER R-1

From: [Loretta Ellard](#)
To: [Craig Schlatter](#)
Cc: [Michelle Irace](#); [Nephele Barrett](#)
Subject: RE: Notice of Availability of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report
Date: Friday, October 7, 2022 10:40:43 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Craig,

I see that the GHG chapter of the DEIR (4.6) refers to MCOG's 2017 Regional Transportation Plan. Please note that the plan was updated last year and the 2022 RTP was adopted by MCOG on 2/7/22.

It may be viewed on MCOG's website:

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/653d21e36/2022+RTP-ATP+Feb+2022-Final+Adopted.pdf>

Thank you, and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Loretta J. Ellard, Deputy Planner
Mendocino Council of Governments (Planning)
525 S. Main St., Suite G
Ukiah, CA 95482
707-234-3434 phone; 707-671-7764 fax
lellard@dbcteam.net
www.mendocinocog.org



R-1.1

Letter R-1

COMMENTER: Loretta Ellard, Deputy Planner, Mendocino Council of Governments

DATE: October 7, 2022

Response R-1.1

The commenter states the Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, of the Draft EIR refers to Mendocino Council of Government's (MCOG) 2017 Regional Transportation Plan, which was updated and adopted in February 2022. The commenter provides a link to the updated plan and offers a contact for questions. In response to this comment, Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions* has been revised to reflect the updated Regional Transportation Plan (see Section 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR* of this document). No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.



Mendocino County Farm Bureau

303-C Talmage Road • Ukiah, CA. 95482 • (707) 462-6664 • Fax (707) 462-6681 • Email: admin@mendofb.org
Affiliated with the California Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation

November 21, 2022

Craig Schlatter, Director
City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482

Sent Via Email: cschlatter@cityofukiah.com

RE: Comments on the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Schlatter,

The Mendocino County Farm Bureau (MCFB) is a non-governmental, non-profit, voluntary membership, advocacy group whose purpose is to protect and promote agricultural interests throughout the county and to find solutions to the problems facing agricultural businesses and the rural community. MCFB would like to offer the following comments on the Ukiah 2040 General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Agriculture and Forestry Resources

IMPACT AG-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF EXISTING AGRICULTURE IN AND SURROUNDING THE CITY. BUILDOUT OF THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN A DECREASE OF SEVEN ACRES OF DESIGNATED AGRICULTURAL LAND WITHIN THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AREAS BUT WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF UKIAH 2040 GOALS AND POLICIES, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

P-1.1

Under Impact AG-1, it is discussed that there is no Williamson Act lands within the three listed areas that are proposed to be annexed into the City and therefore the project would not have any impact on Williamson Act lands. However, as shown on Figure 4.2-2, Williamson Act Contract Lands in the Planning Area, there are significant property areas under Williamson Act contracts within the planning area for this general plan as well as lands under Williamson Act contract that adjoin the Brush Street/Masonite proposed annexation area, the City owned property annexation

P-1.2

area on Vichy Springs Road and the City owned annexation are adjoining the wastewater treatment plant.

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines agricultural and forestry resource Threshold 2 asks, “Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?” There may not be any Williamson Act contracted lands within the proposed annexation areas, but there should be consideration of what the annexation and potential future conversion action (if any) within the annexation areas may have on the adjoining Williamson Act properties. The annexation is one part of the project that needs to be considered, but ultimately if there are conversions of use within the annexed areas that could impact adjoining agricultural lands/Williamson Act lands, this should be considered in the EIR evaluation as well.

P-1.2

Figure 4.2-1, Farmland in the Planning Area, maps out the California Department of Conservation (DOC) farmland designations. Within the Brush Street/Masonite proposed annexation area there are areas of DOC designated agricultural lands, however there are also swaths of current lands under agricultural production that are not shown under DOC designation that are within this proposed annexation area. Figure 2-1 2040 Land Use Diagram (P. 2-12) for the public review draft for the 2040 General Plan shows a more expansive amount of agricultural land use within this proposed annexation area.

It is understood that Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines agricultural and forestry resource Threshold 1 is specific to DOC designations, however since the public review draft of the 2040 General Plan AG designation description recognizes the value of maintaining, and securing for the future, lands within the General Plan oversight area, for commercial agriculture, there should be recognition within the EIR of all of the existing agricultural lands within the Brush Street/Masonite proposed annexation area. If the EIR does not consider these additional agricultural lands, there should be an expansion of the discussion for mitigating for the potential impact of the conversion of these properties (Per Appendix G threshold 5) to support the conclusion that the implementation of Ukiah 2040 is not expected to result in the conversion of agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses.

P-1.3

Impact AG-2 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH EXISTING ZONING FOR FOREST LAND, TIMBERLAND, OR TIMBERLAND PRODUCTION , NOR RESULT IN THE LOSS OF FOREST LAND OR CONVERT FOREST LAND TO NON- FOREST USES . THERE WOULD BE NO IMPACT.

It is stated that, “The Ukiah 2040 land use pattern would not result in rezoning of any existing forest land or timberlands within the City or Annexation Areas. Because no forest land or timber areas are within the City or Annexation Areas, there would be no impact on conversion of forest land or conflicts with land zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland production.” This is true based on Figure 4.2-3 Timber Production Zones in the Planning Area. However, as also seen on Figure 4.2-3, there are areas to the West of the Western Hills annexation area that are in timber production.

P-1.4

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines agricultural and forestry resource Threshold 4 asks, “Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?”. The

issue of the Western Hills annexation may be discussed in other land use sections of the draft EIR, but it would be worth discussing or referencing in the agriculture and forestry resources section any fire prevention/suppression actions that are planned to be implemented as part of the 2040 General Plan project in relation to the Western Hills annexation.

Fire that originates in the annexed areas of the City could have a significant impact on adjoining forest lands that could result in the loss of forest land per Threshold 4. It would be beneficial to expand upon the conversation to demonstrate how future annexation actions under the 2040 General Plan project will work to protect these forest land resources from potential loss due to fire.

P-1.4

MCFB encourages the City of Ukiah staff and elected officials to consider the comments provided above in the discussions related to the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report. If there are any questions regarding these comments, please contact the MCFB office.

Sincerely,



George Hollister
President

Letter P-1

COMMENTER: George Hollister, President, Mendocino County Farm Bureau

DATE: November 21, 2022

Response P-1.1

The commenter provides the Impact Statement for Impact AG-1, which identifies the conversion of seven acres of agricultural lands. As a matter of clarification, the project is not expected to result in the conversion of agricultural lands to non-agricultural lands. In response to this comment, Section 4.2, *Agricultural and Forestry Resources* has been revised (see Section 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR* of this document). These changes do not result in any changes to the impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response P-1.2

The commenter identifies that there are Williamson Act lands in the Planning Area, as well as in the areas that adjoin Annexation Area B (Brush Street/Masonite area) and Annexation Area A (Vichy Springs Road area and the area near the wastewater treatment plan). The commenter requests that the EIR identify the potential impacts on Williamson Act lands from future conversion of lands in the area adjoining the annexation areas.

The analysis in the EIR is limited to the areas where future development could foreseeably occur, including the current City limits and the proposed annexation areas. The areas identified by the commenter are within the proposed Sphere of Influence (SOI) and Planning Area, which are areas in which the City is not currently proposing any new or future development. A summary of the City's rationale for its analysis is included in Chapter 4, *Environmental Impact Analysis* of the Draft EIR and repeated here:

Information about the setting within the Planning Area and proposed SOI are provided for informational purposes but because Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations to the proposed SOI and Planning Area, development within these areas for the purpose of this analysis is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. Therefore, impacts within the Planning Area and proposed SOI are not discussed further in this EIR. While specific project-level impacts to the SOI and Planning Area are not analyzed in detail throughout this EIR, impacts from future projects in accordance with existing zoning and land use regulations within these areas would likely be similar to those analyzed within this EIR. For example, ground disturbing activities discussed within Section 4.4, *Biological Resources* would also apply to projects of similar nature within the SOI and Planning Area. Projects within these areas may use this EIR for tiering and streamlining purposes if they are consistent with the impacts analyzed herein. However, if future projects within these areas propose land use or zoning changes, or development that is not consistent with current allowable development intensities as well as impacts analyzed within this EIR, additional CEQA, such as a Subsequent EIR may be required.

CEQA Guidelines Sections 15145 and 15187(d) identify that lead agencies should not engage in speculation when considering environmental impacts. The analysis of future conversion of Williamson Act lands in areas where the City has not identified plans for changes in land uses or zoning would require speculation, and for that reason is not discussed further. If there are any

proposed changes in the future that would result in impacts on agricultural lands within the proposed SOI or Planning Area, then additional CEQA would be conducted to analyze those impacts. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response P-1.3

The commenter identifies that there are Important Farmlands, as designated by the California Department of Conservation (DOC) in Annexation Area B (Brush Street/Masonite proposed annexation area), as shown in Figure 4.2-1 of the Draft EIR. The commenter also identifies that there are additional agricultural lands in Annexation Area B that do not meet DOC designations and are not shown in Figure 4.2-1. The commenter identifies that Figure 2-1 in the 2040 General Plan shows a more expansive view of the existing agricultural lands within Annexation Area B. The commenter requests that the EIR recognize the existing agricultural lands within Annexation Area B or expand the discussion for mitigating potential impacts from the conversion of properties with agriculture.

CEQA Guidelines Section 21060.1 defines agricultural lands as “prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, or unique farmland, as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture land inventory and monitoring criteria, as modified for California.” The City conducted its analysis of impacts on agricultural resources based on this definition. For the purposes of CEQA, this analysis is sufficient to consider the potential impacts on agricultural resources.

In addition, the City also considered existing agricultural resources that did not meet the DOC definition during the development of the General Plan EIR. The northern portion of Annexation Area B (the Masonite road area) currently includes lands designated as Industrial by the County, while the southern portion includes lands designated as Agriculture by the County. The 2040 General Plan does not propose to change these designations, with the exception of adding the Agriculture designation to some areas of the northern portion currently designated as Industrial. This change is proposed due to these areas containing lands designated as Important Farmland by the DOC. The County’s Industrial designation allows agricultural uses by right, as evidenced by current agricultural uses in some of the parcels that are currently designated as Industrial but are not designated as Important Farmland by the DOC. These parcels are proposed to remain designated as Industrial. However, the City’s current Agriculture Combining district may be applied to all land use designations. As such, for clarification proposes, the 2040 General Plan (Land Use Element Table 2-2) has been revised to clarify that “Agriculture Combining” is a compatible zoning district in the Industrial Land Use Designation. This change can be found within the Errata document prepared by the City of Ukiah, which is attached to this Final EIR as Appendix A. For these reasons, no additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response P-1.4

The commenter identifies that there are Timber Protection Zones located west of the western hills (Annexation Area C), as shown in Figure 4.2-3 of the Draft EIR. The commenter identifies that it would be worth discussing or referencing in the Agriculture and Forestry Resources Section, fire prevention and suppression actions that are planned to be implemented as part of the 2040 General Plan, as it relates to Annexation Area C. The commenter also states that fires that originate in the annexed areas of the City could have an impact on forest lands.

Section 4.14, *Wildfire* of the Draft EIR includes the fire prevention and suppression strategies that are planned as part of implementing the 2040 General Plan, including from annexing Annexation

Area C. In response to this comment, Section 4.2, *Agricultural and Forestry Resources* has been revised to include a reference to the Wildfire section in the Draft EIR (see Section 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR* of this document). These changes do not result in any changes to the impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

CEQA Guidelines Sections 15145 and 15187(d) identify that lead agencies should not engage in speculation when considering environmental impacts. While the City can identify that potential wildfire impacts due to the project can be minimized through the measures identified in Section 4.14, *Wildfire*, the City cannot speculate on the potential for a future wildfire to impact forest lands several miles away from the Planning Area.

LETTER I-1

Public Comments on the Ukiah 2040 Draft Environmental Impact Review (DEIR) and General Plan (GP)

Linda Sanders, 11-16-2022

Please note that all text highlighted in **bold** are my recommendations for additions to the DEIR/GP document.

1. Rationale for including additions to sections ES-1 and ES-2. In reviewing the *City of Ukiah General Plan Update, Existing Conditions and Trend Workbook*, dated March 2020 it indicates that in 2017, the population mean living in the City of Ukiah was in the 25-54 age group, 41.7% of the population. Also in the demographic breakdown is the age range of 0-24 with a percentage of 33.9%. This percentage is followed by 24.4% of the population in the 55-85+ age group. It's important that the city account and consider the needs and opportunities of all ages of our population, including children, young adults and seniors when designing future programs and responding to trends.

I referred to the *Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), Mendocino County Regional Housing Needs Plan, dated August 2018* in determining the housing needs of special populations. The plan identified the top two needs for developing housing in the county for people in the high-moderate income range followed by those with very low incomes. It is important that future housing developments are designed with people with disabilities such as mobility problems.

The report states,

“According to the Department of Finance Report E-5 City/County Population & Housing Estimates, multi-family units make up approximately 13% of the county’s housing units, with the largest concentration of those units in the Ukiah area. Mendocino County has a large senior (65 and older) population (18.9% based on 2016 data from the American Community Survey Demographic and Housing Estimates) that also significantly impacts the need for housing, as older people form households with fewer people per home. Many seniors need affordable housing due to the high cost of housing and the impact on fixed incomes. Some also need special services that can be provided in affordable housing developments. People with disabilities or special needs require safe, decent, and affordable housing. Very low-income individuals rely on government assistance in order to access affordable housing, and those with large families also have unique needs.”

“According to the DOF projections, the age groups that are expected to have the most significant growth are those 75 years and over.”

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/e7df662e9/RHNA+Plan+2018>

I-1.1

I was unable to find in the DEIR bibliography anything specific to people with mental disabilities. However, in contacting Mendocino County Behavioral Health I was able to obtain the following information:

FY 21-22
1,615

Number of persons served by specialty mental health service providers in the Ukiah Area.

Redwood Quality Management Company Data Dashboard- June 2022 Year End and FY21/22 Behavioral Health Board Minutes from 9-28-2022 Pages 30-52

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/health-and-human-services-agency/mental-health-services/mental-health-board>

I-1.1

ES-1

The City of Ukiah developed guiding principles to expand on the main ideas contained in the vision statement. The following guiding principles express the key values and aspirations for Ukiah’s future and serve as guideposts for the goals, policies, and implementation programs contained in Ukiah 2040:

♣ Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically

I-1.2

Add “all age groups” to the above paragraph in ES-1 of the DEIR to read as follows:

...where people from all age groups, racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically

ES-2

Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

Add “physical and mental disabilities” to the above paragraph in ES-2 of the DEIR to read as follows:

...a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, ethnicities and physical and mental disabilities.

I-1.3

2. Rationale for including additions to PFS-10 of the DEIR and GP. The advantages of Community Policing provide an expanded outlook on crime control and prevention. It also encourages community members to become active problem-solvers and educates the public about public safety issues. It identifies the root cause of neighborhood crime. More importantly, it increases trust in law enforcement. Add to the list of populations that law enforcement serves to include: economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities.

PFS 10 Pg 114 of the GP (P 113 of Errata)

To provide high-quality public safety and crime reduction services to maintain a safe and secure community. (Source: New Goal)

PFS 10.3

Community Policing Strategies

The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques. (Source: New Policy)

Add “economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities” to the above paragraph in PFS 10.3 of the DEIR to read as follows:

...including those of all races, ethnicities, cultural backgrounds, economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

Define Community Policing in the General Plan either in this section or in the glossary.

i.e., Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques and implementing community policing organizational features to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

Common methods of community-policing include: Encouraging the community to help prevent crime by providing advice, talking to students, and encouraging neighborhood watch groups. Increased use of foot or bicycle patrols. Increased officer accountability to the communities they serve.

Add Ukiah crime statistics from 2018-2021 and crime prevention strategies.

Add the information below to the GP Implementation Measures.

- **Enhance the Ukiah Police Department’s website to include the following features: how community policing works with contact information; how to file a complaint and information about the review structure; and the City of Ukiah’s practices for conducting an internal affairs investigation.**

I-1.4

I-1.5

I-1.6

I-1.7

- **Provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the city’s crime statistics and crime prevention strategies in an annual presentation to the full City Council at a publicly noticed meeting.**

I-1.7

3. Rationale for including additions to PFS-15.1 of the DIR/GP. At a recent General Plan workshop, a vocal group expressed their concern about having too many cannabis dispensaries in the Cty. The Ukiah Daily Journal also covered the controversy of the opening of the latest dispensary located on South State Street and Talmage.

PFS-15.1

Public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

Add “cannabis” to Section D of Implementation Measures of the General Plan under the heading Alcohol and Tobacco Ordinance.

I-1.8

To read as follows: Alcohol and Tobacco and Cannabis, The City shall prepare a feasibility analysis studying the establishment of zoning code provisions related to the location and number of businesses selling cannabis, alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my comments to the draft EIR and GP documents.

Letter I-1

COMMENTER: Linda Sanders

DATE: November 16, 2022

Response I-1.1

The commenter provides information related to the housing needs for special populations, including older people, people with disabilities (such as mobility problems), and people with mental disabilities. In subsequent comments, the commenter provides specific requests to revise language in the EIR and the General Plan. Responses to those comments are provided in the following responses. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response I-1.2

The commenter requests that one of the Guiding Principles related to guiding land use development that meets the needs of a diverse population (which is identified in the Executive Summary of the Draft EIR) be updated to include the phrase “all age groups.” The Guiding Principles were adopted by the City Council in January 2021 to guide the entire preparation of the 2040 General Plan. The City Council’s intention in developing the Guiding Principles was to be comprehensive but concise. Although the phrase “all age groups” was not included in the Guiding Principle, the City did include the word “diverse” in this Guiding Principle, and the City intends to guide its land use development by considering a diverse population, including people of all age groups. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response I-1.3

The commenter requests that one of the Guiding Principles related to fostering an inclusive community with a diversity of housing options (which is identified in the Executive Summary of the Draft EIR) be updated to include people with “physical and mental disabilities.” The Guiding Principles were adopted by the City Council in January 2021 to guide the entire preparation of the 2040 General Plan. The City Council’s intention in developing the Guiding Principles was to be comprehensive but concise. Although the phrase people with “physical and mental disabilities” was not included in the Guiding Principle, the City did include the word “inclusive” and “diversity” in this Guiding Principle, and the City intends to foster an inclusive community, including for those with physical and mental disabilities. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response I-1.4

The commenter requests revisions be made to Policy PFS 10.3, which is a policy that promotes community policing strategies. Specifically, the commenter requests that the policy be updated to include people of all economic statuses, sexual orientation, and disabilities as people served by the police. The City has incorporated this change into the 2040 General Plan. This change can be found within the Errata document prepared by the City of Ukiah, which is attached to this Final EIR as Appendix A.

Response I-1.5

The commenter requests that a definition of community policing be included in the Glossary of the 2040 General Plan. In response to this comment, the City has added a definition of community policing in the General Plan. This change can be found within the Errata document prepared by the City of Ukiah, which is attached to this Final EIR as Appendix A.

Response I-1.6

The commenter requests that crime statistics for Ukiah between 2018 and 2021 be included, as well as crime prevention strategies. The Ukiah Police Department website has the latest information related to policing in Ukiah and can be accessed here: <https://www.ukiahpolice.com/>. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response I-1.7

The commenter requests additional Implementation Measures in the 2040 General Plan, including enhancing the Ukiah Police Department website and providing an opportunity for the public to learn about crime. This comment is noted; however, the City is not making these recommendations at this time because the Ukiah Police Department maintains their website with current information and will continue to update it, as new information is available. In addition, the Ukiah Police Department already provides annual presentations to City Council at publicly noticed meetings related to crime rates and statistics; crime prevention strategies; new personnel; proposed and active policing technologies, including evaluation of their results and recommendation for improvements. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

Response I-1.8

The commenter identifies concern over the number of cannabis dispensaries in Ukiah and requests that revisions be made to the 2040 General Plan to study the location of businesses selling cannabis (in addition to tobacco and alcohol) near sensitive land uses. Because cannabis is not regulated in the same manner as alcohol or tobacco and because the City already has an ordinance restricting the location of cannabis dispensaries near sensitive uses, discussions about limiting the number of cannabis dispensaries should be undertaken as a part of the ongoing review of the City's cannabis dispensaries ordinance. No additional revisions to the Draft EIR are required in response to this comment and it does not result in changes to impacts identified in the Draft EIR.

5 Revisions to the Draft EIR

This section presents specific changes to the text of the Draft EIR that have been made to clarify information presented in the Draft EIR. The changes in this section include both the changes and revisions to the Draft EIR made in response to the comments received on the Draft EIR, as presented in Section 4, *Comments and Responses*, as well as additional changes made for clarification. These revisions are not considered significant new information that would trigger Draft EIR recirculation pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5. For example, they do not disclose a new or substantially more severe significant environmental impact, or a new feasible mitigation measure or alternative not proposed for adoption. Rather, the revisions correct or clarify information presented.

After preparation of the Draft EIR, some non-substantive changes, including some changes to land use designations were made to the Draft General Plan document that was published on August 5, 2022. These changes are addressed within an Errata document prepared by the City of Ukiah and attached to this Final EIR as Appendix A. The changes include either minor typographical corrections, edits intended to clarify existing information, or revisions and additions to language and policies based on comments received during public review and outreach efforts. The changes to policy language do not constitute significant changes to the Draft EIR analysis, as discussed further within Section 6, *Recirculation Not Warranted*.

Where revisions to the main text are called for, the page and paragraph are set forth, followed by the appropriate revision. Added text is indicated with underlined text. Text deleted from the Draft EIR is shown in ~~strike through~~. Page numbers correspond to the page numbers of the Draft EIR, or when applicable, the partially recirculated Draft EIR.

5.1 Agricultural and Forestry Resources

Impact AG-1 on page 4.2-10 of the Draft EIR is revised as follows:

Impact AG-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF EXISTING AGRICULTURE IN AND SURROUNDING THE CITY. ~~BUILDOUT OF THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN A DECREASE OF SEVEN ACRES OF DESIGNATED AGRICULTURAL LAND WITHIN THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AREAS BUT~~ WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF UKIAH 2040 GOALS AND POLICIES, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Impact AG-2 on page 4.2-12 of the Draft EIR is revised as follows:

Impact AG-2 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH EXISTING ZONING FOR FOREST LAND, TIMBERLAND, OR TIMBERLAND PRODUCTION, NOR RESULT IN THE LOSS OF FOREST LAND OR CONVERT FOREST LAND TO NON-FOREST USES. THERE WOULD BE NO IMPACT.

As shown on Figure 4.2-3, there are no zoned TPZs or forest lands within the City limits or annexation areas. Most timber resources in the region are located west of the City. There are associated lumber processing and industrial activities within the City, but those are located on industrially zoned lots. The Ukiah 2040 land use pattern would not result in rezoning of any existing forest land or timberlands within the City or Annexation Areas. Because no forest land or timber areas are within the City or Annexation Areas, there would

be no impact on conversion of forest land or conflicts with land zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland production.

In addition, Section 4.14, *Wildfire* includes an analysis of the potential wildfire impacts from implementation of the project, as well as regulations, Ukiah 2040 policies, and mitigation measures that would reduce potential wildfire impacts.

5.2 Biological Resources

Section 4.4, Biological Resources, page 4.4-11 of the Draft EIR is revised as follows:

The California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project: A Strategy for Conserving Connected California (Spencer et al. 2010) evaluates critical wildlife movement corridors throughout California. Essential Connectivity Areas (ECA) represent the most critical wildlife movement areas for long-term conservation of California’s special-status wildlife species. While ECAs do not occur in the Planning Area, the Gube Mountain – Snow Mountain ECA is approximately 1.75 miles southwest of the Planning Area, ~~going north to south~~ crossing the southern end of the Ukiah Valley. CDFW has mapped several other potentially important connectivity areas outside of the City limits but either overlapping with, or regionally adjacent to the proposed SOI and Planning Area. These include Natural Landscape Blocks - California Essential Habitat Connectivity, Linkage Design for the California Bay Area Linkage Network, Natural Areas Small - California Essential Habitat Connectivity, and Bobcat Connectivity Modeling for the California Bay Area Linkage Network (CDFW 2022a).

Section 4.4, Biological Resources, page 4.4-25 of the Draft EIR is revised as follows:

Ukiah 2040 contains proposed goals and policies that would further reduce impacts to riparian and wetland habitats, along with other sensitive natural communities. Goal ENV-4, Policies ENV-4.1 through ENV-4.3, Goal ENV-6, and Policies ENV-6.1 through ENV-6.8 (shown in Impact BIO-1) address development in or near riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities. Furthermore, Implementing Program K would establish creek and stream protection zones for waterways that extend a minimum of 30 feet, with wider buffers where sensitive habitat areas or potential wetlands exist. The program would prohibit development within a creek and stream protection zones, except as part of greenway enhancement, including habitat conservation, bike and walking paths, wildlife habitat, and native plant landscaping.

5.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, page 4.6-8 of the Draft EIR is revised as follows:

The City of Ukiah is within the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), which is a non-MPO Rural Regional Transportation Planning Area (RTPA). Non-MPO Rural RTPAs are not required to prepare CARB-certified SCS. MCOG’s most recent RTP was adopted in February ~~2018~~ 2022 and includes policies that support achieving targets established by SB 375, which are discussed under *Regional and Local Regulations* ~~(MCOG 2018)~~. (MCOG 2022).

Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, pages 4.6-10 through 11 of the Draft EIR are revised as follows:

The ~~2017~~ 2022 Mendocino RTP is a long-range planning effort, undertaken by MCOG, that involves federal, State, regional, local and tribal governments; public and private organizations; and individuals working together to plan how future regional transportation needs can be met. The RTP Guidelines require that the issue of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions be addressed during the RTP process. While predominately rural areas such as Mendocino County are not subject to the same requirements as urban regions, discussion of the issue in the RTP provides the opportunity to identify existing and future efforts that will contribute to the emission reduction targets. Strategies to reduce GHG generation entail expanded transit use, improving streets/roads efficiency, ~~and~~ expanding non-motorized travel opportunities, and reducing VMT. These strategies have been and will continue to be employed in Mendocino County throughout the time frame of the 2022 ~~2017~~ RTP, which is ~~2017 to 2030~~ through the next 20 years. The RTP includes the objective to “invest in transportation projects and participate in regional planning efforts that will help Mendocino County residents to proportionately contribute to the California greenhouse gas reduction targets established by Assembly Bill 32 and SB 375, as well as support Governor’s Executive Orders EO N-19-19 and EO-79-20” (MCOG 2018). (MCOG 2022). Policies to support that objective include the following:

- Evaluate transportation projects based on their ability to reduce Mendocino County’s transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Prioritize transportation projects which lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and reduced vehicle miles traveled, and prioritize projects that can mitigate for VMT increasing projects.
- Monitor new technologies and opportunities to implement energy efficient and nonpolluting transportation infrastructure.
- Continue to consider bicycle transportation, pedestrian, and transit projects for funding in the State Transportation Improvement ~~program~~ Program (STIP).
- Continue administrative, planning, and funding support for the Region’s transit agency, Mendocino Transit Authority.
- Continue to encourage private and public investment in a countywide electric vehicle charging station network and seek funding to fill gaps in the network; and continue to participate in multi-agency planning efforts to expand EV charging station network.
- Continue to update MCOG’s Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) Regional Readiness Plan, as needed.
- Continue to seek mobility solutions for remote rural areas of the County unable to be served by traditional transit service due to remoteness and low population density.
- Work with public health agencies and walking and biking groups to encourage more extensive walking and biking for transportation purposes, in support of reducing GHG.
- Support prioritization of transportation projects that result in reduction of Vehicle Miles Travel (VMT) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

- Support Mendocino Transit Authority’s efforts to diversify fleet size, and work toward an all-electric public transit fleet, as feasible.

5.4 References

Chapter 7, *References*, of the Draft EIR has been revised as follows:

Biological Resources

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2022. California Natural Diversity Database, Rarefind V. 5. Accessed June 2022.

. 2022a. Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS). Retrieved August, 2022 from www.wildlife.ca.gov/data/BIOS

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

~~Mendocino Council of Governments. 2018. 2017 Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan. Adopted February 5, 2018.~~

~~<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/742330750/2017+RTP+As+Adopted%28web+format%29.pdf> (accessed June 2022).~~

Mendocino Council of Governments. 2022. 2022 Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan. Adopted February 7, 2022.

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/653d21e36/2022+RTP-ATP+Feb+2022-Final+Adopted.pdf> (accessed October 2022).

6 Recirculation Not Warranted

As presented in Chapter 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, the minor revisions to the Draft EIR would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant impacts. Chapter 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, identifies textual modifications to the Final EIR. The revised text serves to amplify, correct, supplement or clarify information in the public review Draft EIR. It does not substantively affect the level of impact, nor the conclusions presented. Therefore, recirculation of the Draft EIR is not warranted.

CEQA requires recirculation of a Draft EIR only when “significant new information” is added to a Draft EIR after public notice of the availability of the Draft EIR has occurred but before the EIR is certified (Public Resources Code Section 21092.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5). Recirculation is not required where the new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications in an adequate EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(b)).

The relevant portions of CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5 (items a, b and e) read as follows:

- (a) *A lead agency is required to recirculate an EIR when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notice is given of the availability of the draft EIR for public review under Section 15087 but before certification. As used in this section, the term “information” can include changes in the project or environmental setting as well as additional data or other information. New information added to an EIR is not “significant” unless the EIR is changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse environmental effect of the project or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect (including a feasible project alternative) that the project’s proponents have declined to implement. “Significant new information” requiring recirculation include, for example, a disclosure showing that:*
- 1) *A new significant environmental impact would result from the project or from a new mitigation measure proposed to be implemented.*
 - 2) *A substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact would result unless mitigation measures are adopted that reduce the impact to a level of insignificance.*
 - 3) *A feasible project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the project, but the project’s proponents decline to adopt it.*
 - 4) *The draft EIR was so fundamentally and basically inadequate and conclusory in nature that meaningful public review and comment were precluded.*
- (b) *Recirculation is not required where the new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies or makes insignificant modifications in an adequate EIR.*
- (e) *A decision not to recirculate an EIR must be supported by substantial evidence in the administrative record.*

As detailed in Chapter 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, implementation of revisions would not alter impacts to aesthetics, agriculture and forestry resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation, tribal cultural resources, utilities and service

systems, and wildfire. Impacts would remain less than significant and would not differ in type from those disclosed in the Draft EIR.

As demonstrated in this analysis, the proposed revisions do not constitute significant new information because updates to the Draft EIR's analysis would not result in any new significant impacts nor a substantial increase in the severity of any impact already identified in the Draft EIR. Thus, recirculation is not required under CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5.

Recirculation is not required where new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies or makes minor modifications in an EIR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5(b)). Revisions to the Draft EIR clarify and amplify the standards established by these measures and they would not result in any secondary or otherwise undisclosed effect.

The information and revisions as shown in Section 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, would not result in a substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact, nor a new significant environmental impact. Finally, additional information provided in this Final EIR does not present a feasible project alternative or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed in the EIR that would lessen an environmental impact, but the City declined to adopt.

The information added to this Final EIR supplements, clarifies, amplifies, and corrects information in the Draft EIR. The City has reviewed the information in Section 5, *Revisions to the Draft EIR*, and has determined that it does not change any of the basic findings or conclusions of the EIR, does not constitute "significant new information" pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5, and does not require recirculation of the Draft EIR. This decision is supported by substantial evidence provided in this EIR.

Appendix A

Revisions to the General Plan

Proposed General Plan Errata Sheet, as of 11/23/22

While typically used to document changes in a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), this Errata document is intended to summarize changes and revisions that are proposed to the Draft General Plan distributed on August 5, 2022. This General Plan Errata Sheet is not intended to supplant the FEIR Errata that will be prepared as a part of the FEIR process.

The proposed changes noted in this Errata Sheet include either minor typographical corrections, edits intended to clarify existing information, or revisions and additions based on comments received during public outreach efforts. A summary of these edits is provided below, organized by General Plan Element. Text that has been added is identified as underline text, and text that has been deleted is identified as ~~strike through text~~. The below list does not include every minor change to correct grammatical errors, formatting issues, or minor clarification issues.

However, Exhibit A includes all General Plan elements and appendices with the proposed changes noted within this Errata.

Land Use Element

- Add clarifying language to distinguish between the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan and the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan (p.2-32)
- Revise Policy LU-2.1 as follows:

The City shall encourage mixed-use development to locate within the Downtown. Such developments include housing, retail commercial, offices, open space, and other compatible uses. This development pattern should create vibrant, walkable areas, ~~in contrast to~~ rather than non-pedestrian friendly strip retail developments along downtown corridors. (*Source: New Policy*)

- Add the following Implementation Program for consistency with adopted City Council Annexation Policies:

Implementation Program I, Annexation Guide. The City shall develop, maintain, and make publicly-available a City of Ukiah Annexation Guide that includes an annexation applicant's responsibilities, the requirements for environmental review, requirements for development plans, and fees associated with applications for annexation.

- Revise Policy LU-7.2 for consistency with adopted City Council Annexation Policies:

LU-7.2 Annexations. The City shall support property owners and applications that seek to annex adjoining unincorporated land within the City's Sphere of Influence where the City determines it to be in residents' interests to do so, to promote orderly development, to implement General Plan goals, and if the annexation would improve the fiscal health of the City, provide a more efficient delivery of municipal services to the area, and/or create a more logical City boundary. The City shall consider annexation of lands outside the SOI but within the Planning Area if the City and all local agencies with relevant jurisdiction, arrive at an agreement ensuring adequately compensated for the costs it will incur due to development in its Planning Area. (*Source: New Policy; City Staff; City Council Annexation Policies*).

- Revise Policy 4.2 as follows for clarification:

LU-4.2 Commercial Center Design. The City shall require new commercial centers to incorporate standards of site design, construction, buffering, and screening that objective compatibility development standards when located adjacent to residential neighborhoods.

- Revise Policy LU-8.6 as follows:

LU-8.6 Historic Resource Maintenance. The City shall encourage property owners to maintain these structures in accordance with local, state and federal standards.

- Clarify the following typographical error in Policy LU-11.7:

LU-11.7 Sign Regulations. The City shall update the Zoning Code sign provisions to incorporate a consistent program for new signs to simplify the signage process.

(Source: Existing Program CD-13.1c, modified).

- Include the updated Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUC) analysis as Appendix C (see “Appendices” section below). Replace Figure 2-6 with DUC map that was previously identified as forthcoming.
- Make edits and revisions to the proposed 2040 land use map (Figure 2-1) for consistency with existing land uses and to rectify minor mapping errors and inconsistencies. In addition to the revised figure being included in the Land Use Element, a list of parcels and proposed changes are included in Exhibit A for informational purposes.
- Add a column to Table 2-2 identifying compatible zoning districts with General Plan Land Use Designations.

Table 2-2 General Plan Land Use Designation Summary Table

Land Use Designation		Density Range (units/acre)	Floor Area Ratio	<u>Compatible Zoning Districts</u>
HR	Hillside Residential	1 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential-Hillside Overlay (R1-H)</u>
RR	Rural Residential	2 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential (R1)</u>
LDR	Low Density Residential	15 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential (R1)</u>
MDR	Medium Density Residential	15 - 28 du/ac	N/A	<u>Medium Density Residential (R2)</u>
HDR	High Density Residential	28 - 40 du/ac	N/A	<u>High Density Residential (R3)</u>
DC	Downtown Core	28 - 40 du/ac	2.5	<u>All Downtown Zoning Code districts</u>
MUBST	Mixed Use: Brush Street	SFD: 5 - 9 du/ac MFR: 9 - 20 du/ac	0.3-1.0	<u>All existing and future zoning districts that meet the intent of the MUBST</u>

AIP-PD	Mixed Use: AIP-PD	N/A	1.0	<u>All AIP-PD zoning districts, as well as Commercial, Manufacturing, and Industrial zoning districts that meet the intent of the AIP-PD</u>
NC	Neighborhood Commercial	8 - 15 du/ac	1.0	<u>Neighborhood Commercial (CN)</u>
CC	Community Commercial	15 - 28 du/ac	1.5	<u>Community Commercial (C1)</u>
HC	Highway Commercial	28 - 40 du/ac	1.0	<u>C1; Heavy Commercial (C2)</u>
I	Industrial	Live Work: 20 du/ac	1.0	<u>Industrial; Manufacturing; Agricultural Combining</u>
P	Public	N/A	1.0	<u>Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space</u>
REC	Recreational	N/A	N/A	<u>Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space</u>
OS	Open Space	N/A	N/A	<u>Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space</u>
AG	Agriculture	1 du/40 ac	N/A	<u>Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space</u>

Economic Development Element

- Modify the following policy:
 Policy ED-10.1 Value-Added Agriculture. The City shall encourage and support the expansion of value-added agricultural products (e.g., processing, packaging, product development) with an emphasis on local distribution and consumption.

Mobility Element

- Add information about existing regional transportation network, as well as information related to the Downtown Streetscape Project.

Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element

- Correct the agency name to Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (Flood Control District).
- Modify the following policies:

Policy PFS 4.1 ~~Solid Waste Diversion Targets~~ Private Property Nuisances. The City shall provide adequate staffing to support code enforcement efforts to the extent financially feasible to reduce the number of nuisance issues on private property. (Source: ~~New Policy aligning with the Ukiah Climate Action Plan, Strategy/Objective SW.1.2 which was not adopted.~~)

Policy PFS-5.1 Low Impact Development. The City shall require new developments to install green infrastructure consistent with the Stormwater Low Impact Development Technical Design Manual and sustainable objectives of the State and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to pervious pavement, infiltration basins, raingardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other types of low impact development (LID).

Policy PFS 10.3 Community Policing Strategies. The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, ~~and~~ cultural backgrounds, economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

Policy PFS-15.1 Alcohol and Tobacco Sales. The City shall study the feasibility of establishing zoning code provisions limiting the location and concentration of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.

- Add the following implementation programs to support existing policies:

Implementation Program D, Alcohol and Tobacco Ordinance. The City shall prepare a feasibility analysis studying the establishment of establishing zoning code provisions related to the location and number of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.

Implementation Program E. Solid Waste Reduction. The City shall review existing programs, and study the feasibility of new or expanded programs related to waste reduction. These efforts should be coordinated with preparation of the City's Climate Action Plan and incorporated where necessary (Source: New Implementation Program)

Environment and Sustainability Element

- Modify the following policy and implementation programs:

Policy ENV-2.1 ~~City Tree Inventories~~ Tree Preservation. The City shall update and maintain City tree inventories to support landmark trees preservation and urban biodiversity, including trees designated for streets and parking lots, and city facilities. The City shall also prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan, review its Tree Management Guidelines and study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance.

Implementation Program E, Prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan. The City shall prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan that includes the types of trees appropriate for Ukiah and locations where the city would receive the greatest benefits of new trees. This plan should include trees within commercial and residential areas, as well as those at city parks and facilities. This plan shall be updated every five years.

Implementation Program F, Tree Protection Ordinance. The City shall review its Tree Management Guidelines and study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance.

Safety Element

- The Safety Element has been revised in response to feedback and informal comments received by the California Geological Survey (CGS), in accordance with Government Code 65302.5(a), and by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire), in accordance with Senate Bill 99 and Assembly Bill 747.

The CGS suggested that Staff add one reference to the Safety Element related to landslides, which Staff has addressed. However, Cal Fire had several comments and suggestions related to information, formatting and specific requirements for the way certain information is presented. The informal review process with Cal Fire is required prior to the Board of Forestry's formal review of the Safety Element. Working collaboratively with Cal Fire, Staff has addressed all Cal Fire comments but is still in the informal review process as of the date of this update. Staff anticipates the Safety Element will be formally reviewed by Cal Fire at their December Board meeting (tentatively December 6 or 7, 2022) and although not anticipated, additional minor non-substantive revisions may be necessary. Staff recommends all changes suggested or required by Cal Fire and CGS be incorporated into the General Plan.

- Add references to available resources provided by the commenting agencies.
- Add clarifying language to the setting section related to existing regional plans, high fire hazard severity zones, fuel breaks, and evacuation routes.
- Add Figure 7-4 to depict historic fires around Ukiah.
- Modify and update Figure 7-5 to reflect the most up to date information related to fire hazard severity zones and proximity to the City's critical facilities.
- Add Figures 7-6 and 7-8 related to traffic noise, which were previously identified as forthcoming.
- Revise the following policies and implementation programs:

Policy SAF-4.6 Local Fire Protection Plans. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to continue developing local fire protection planning and programs, particularly for new development in Very High Fire Hazard Safety Zones (VHFHSZs). (Source: New Policy)

Policy SAF-5.1 Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation. The City shall to the extent possible, ensure that future public facilities are not located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or in an area lacking service. If facilities are located within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones the City shall reduce the hazard potential ~~for public facilities located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone~~ by requiring the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements. If facilities are proposed in areas lacking existing service, service shall be expanded to such areas to provide adequate fire protection. (Source: New Policy)

Policy SAF-5.2 Vegetation and Fuel Management. The City shall require that structures located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity zone maintain the required hazardous vegetation and fuel management specified within the California Fire Code and Public Resources Code 4291.

Policy SAF-5.3 Evacuation Routes. The City shall identify and maintain adequate evacuation routes in the city to safeguard human life in the case of fire. Evacuation

routes shall be analyzed for their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios in accordance with Assembly Bill 747. Evacuation routes within VHFHSZs shall be developed in accordance with SRA Fire Safe Regulations (Title 14, Division 1.5), and residential development in VHFHSZs that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes shall also be identified in accordance with Senate Bill 99.

Policy SAF-5.6 Water Supply Infrastructure. The City shall regularly assess the integrity of existing water supply infrastructure and prioritize required system for existing and proposed development to ensure adequate fire suppression needs are met.

Policy SAF-5.7 Fire Code Compliance. The City shall require that all new or significantly renovated structures and facilities within Ukiah comply with local, State, and Federal regulatory standards including the California Building and Fire Codes as well as other applicable fire safety standards, including but not limited to, Public Resources Code 4291.

Policy SAF-5.8 Site Design Standards for Fire Hazard Reduction. The City shall prioritize the maintenance and update of stringent site design standards (such as those contained within the Hillside Overlay District) to reduce potential fire hazard risk, particularly within VHFHSZs, and ensure that new development maintains adequate access (ingress, egress). New residential development with VHFHSZs should be minimized.

Policy SAF-5.9 Adequate Water Supply Infrastructure. All new development shall have adequate fire protection resources. The City shall prioritize new development in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure.

Policy SAF-5.10 Fire Safety Education Programs. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to inform property owners and residents of the most recent best practices in building and land management and fire safety measures to protect people and property from fire hazards. This shall include providing information to at-risk populations related to evacuation routes and wildfire evacuation events, defensible space, fire hazard impacts (such as structural damage, wildfire smoke, etc.), fire prevention measures, and structural hardening.

Policy SAF-6.3 Locally Focused Plans. The City shall maintain and implement locally focused plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan, to maintain consistency with State and Federal requirements. This shall include developing a plan for repopulation and redevelopment after large disaster events.

Implementation Program N, Local Fire Protection Plans. The City shall request quarterly meetings with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to develop and implement local fire protection planning and programs. If new residential subdivisions are proposed within the VHFHSZ a Fire Protection Plan with the following components shall be included in the proposal and reviewed by the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority:

- Risk Analysis.
- Fire Response Capabilities.
- Fire Safety Requirements – Defensible Space, Infrastructure, and Building Ignition Resistance.
- Mitigation Measures and Design Considerations for Non-Conforming Fuel Modification.
- Wildfire Education Maintenance and Limitations.

Agriculture Element

- Revise the following policy:

Policy AG-3.1 Establish Infrastructure to Grow the Agricultural Economy. The City shall support existing agriculture operators by encouraging a diverse, vibrant, and innovative agriculture economy that creates new opportunities and products from regional producers for local consumption and export. In conjunction with stakeholders, the City shall encourage the creation of agricultural business incubators, shared kitchens, and workforce development programs that create locations to strengthen agricultural operators within the region.

Cover

- Replace photo, update title and date for December adoption. Headers and footers will also be updated throughout the document prior to adoption.

Glossary

- Add the following definition:

Community Policing. According to the U.S. Department of Justice's publication on community policing, titled "Community Policing Defined", which can be found online at: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>, the term "community policing" refers to a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

Appendices

- Appendix A. Add all goals, policies and implementation programs contained within Ukiah 2040 and include proposed edits to the goals, policies and implementation programs noted within this errata sheet. However, this appendix is provided as "clean" and does not show underline and strikethrough text.
- Appendix C. Add Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Analysis as Appendix C. The City's DUC analysis was last updated in 2019 for adoption of the City's 6th Cycle Housing Element and has been updated as a part of Ukiah 2040's Land Use Element using data from the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO). Additionally, updated DUC analysis is required by the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) for review of the City's municipal service review and annexation applications. The Draft General Plan included a place holder for the updated DUC analysis and it is now proposed as Appendix C.

EXHIBIT A- GENERAL PLAN ERRATA



CITY OF UKIAH 2040 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
**FINAL DRAFT
POLICY DOCUMENT**

DECEMBER 2022



Land Use Element

The Land Use Element establishes goals, policies, and programs to strategically accommodate future growth and change while preserving and enhancing the qualities that make Ukiah a great place to live and work. The Element contains the Land Use Diagram, a map of land uses within the planning area. It also contains a description of the land use designations. The goals, policies, and programs are designed to enhance Ukiah’s neighborhoods with an attractive mix of uses and amenities that expand the local economy, protect environmental resources, and improve the overall quality of life of residents. A variety of topics are discussed within the Element, including the pattern of development, missing middle housing, special planning areas, infill development, and community character and design.

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2.2	Pattern of Development	2-19
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Table 2-1 General Plan Land Use Designations

Designation	Description	Density / Intensity
Residential Designations		
Hillside Residential HR	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation replaces existing Rural Residential areas in the hillsides west of Highland Avenue and Park Boulevard, with a maximum allowable density of one dwelling unit per gross acre. The intent of this designation is to allow for single-family residential at a lower density to align with the goal of reducing development in designated High Fire Hazard Areas.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single-family detached dwellings ▪ Accessory dwelling units 	Minimum Density: N/A Maximum Density: 1 du/ac Floor Area Ratio: N/A
Rural Residential RR	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation allows for single-family residential development at a density of up to two units per gross acre. This designation shall be reserved for those lands that are on the fringe of the community, have already been divided into lot sizes that are one-half acre or larger, or are required to "buffer" an industrial, agricultural, or public use. Development in this category is required to connect to the City's wastewater collection system and water system. The City may also require new projects to install infrastructure, such as sidewalks, curbs/gutters, or streetlights.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single-family detached dwellings ▪ Accessory dwelling units ▪ Compatible public and quasi-public uses (e.g., churches, day-care centers, community centers, parks, and schools) 	<u>Minimum Density:</u> <u>N/A</u> Maximum Density: 2 du/ac Floor Area Ratio: N/A
Low Density Residential LDR	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to provide land for attached and detached single-family residential uses. This designation is the traditional suburban style or City neighborhood style development density. The LDR classification is for lands within the City, the Sphere of Influence, Master Plan Areas, and within Rural Communities, or large subdivisions or planned unit developments.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single family detached dwellings ▪ Mobile home parks ▪ Compatible public and quasi-public uses (e.g., churches, day-care centers, community centers, parks, and schools) 	<u>Minimum Density:</u> <u>N/A</u> Maximum Density: 15 du/ac Floor Area Ratio: N/A
Medium Density Residential	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to provide land for a range of residential densities and a variety of housing types and ownerships, including</p>	Minimum Density: 15 du/ac

Designation	Description	Density / Intensity
MDR	<p>townhomes, multiple family residential development, mobile home parks, and more urban-scale density development. Lands classified MDR shall be located within the incorporated City, Ukiah Sphere of Influence, Master Plan areas, or Rural Communities. MDR lands are intended to be located in proximity to parks, schools, and public services.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single-family detached dwellings ▪ Small-lot multifamily dwellings, including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, apartments, townhomes, and mobile homes ▪ Compatible public and quasi-public uses (e.g., churches, day-care centers, community centers, parks, and schools) 	<p>Maximum Density: 28 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: n/a</p>
<p>High Density Residential</p> <p>HDR</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended for high-density apartment or townhome projects to meet the diverse needs of the population in terms of mixed types and affordability of housing. The HDR classification is permitted within the incorporated City and Sphere of Influence. This designation is also permitted as a part of a planned unit development or Master Plan Area. This designation is also intended to provide opportunities for limited neighborhood-directed commercial development that is designed to serve the needs of a residential area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single-family detached dwellings ▪ Multi-family dwellings, including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, apartments, townhomes, and mobile homes ▪ Neighborhood commercial ▪ Compatible public and quasi-public uses (e.g., churches, day-care centers, community centers, parks, and schools) 	<p>Minimum Density: 28 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: 40 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: n/a</p>
Mixed Use / Commercial / Industrial		
<p>Downtown Core</p> <p>DC</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is applied to the central core of Ukiah, generally extending along East Perkins Street and State Street that currently comprises parcels with the Downtown Zoning District. This designation is intended to establish and promote Downtown Ukiah as the central gathering place in the community for commercial, entertainment, hospitality, and urban living. Development in the Downtown Core is meant to establish a walkable, infill-oriented environment, focusing on multi-modal transportation and overall connectivity to the remainder of the city. This designation allows for a combination of higher-density residential, mixed-use, office, and commercial uses. Projects in this</p>	<p>Minimum Density: 28 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: 40 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 2.5</p>

Designation	Description	Density / Intensity
	<p>designation are required to comply with the design standards and guidelines as specified in the Downtown Zoning Code.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-family dwellings ▪ Mixed-use multi-family, commercial, retail, live/work, office ▪ Entertainment venues ▪ Hotels and lodging establishments ▪ Restaurants and similar hospitality uses ▪ Large and small format retail sales ▪ Personal service/repair, medical, and office uses ▪ Administrative and professional offices ▪ Central gathering spaces, plazas, and paseos 	
<p>Mixed Use: Brush Street</p> <p>MUBST</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to allow two to three story mixed-use development with commercial uses encouraged at street level. Uses may be mixed vertically or horizontally (stacked or linearly) on the site. Mixed-use (MU) development shall combine two or more of the permitted uses listed below along with some form of public open space, and single use development shall be prohibited by implementing zoning.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single- and multi-family (MFR) dwellings ▪ Retail commercial and light industrial ▪ Mixed-use multi-family, commercial, retail, live/work, office, medical related uses such as clinics and hospitals 	<p>Minimum Density: SFD: 5 du/ac MFR/MU: 9 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: SFD: 9 du/ac MFR/MU: 20 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: Min: 0.3 Max: 1.0</p>
<p>Mixed Use: AIP-PD</p> <p>AIP-PD</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation replaces the Master Plan Area designation for the Airport Industrial Park Planned Development (AIP-PD) area in southern Ukiah along Highway 101. The AIP-PD was originally approved in 1981, and the Ordinance regulating current land uses was first adopted in 2013; lands within this area are currently governed by AIP-PD Ordinance No. 1213 which was adopted in 2021. Since adoption of the 1995 General Plan this area is almost completely built out with a variety of commercial, industrial, and mixed-use development. Land Use within this area is further broken down into seven land use categories: Highway Commercial; Industrial; Industrial Auto; Commercial; Light Manufacturing Mixed Use; Open Space; Professional Office; and Retail Commercial (as shown on the AIP-PD land use designation map). Each designation contains a set of development standards (setbacks, height, design, land use, landscaping, etc.). While the AIP-PD notes that residential density is limited to 60 people per acre, and commercial development is subject to 40 percent maximum lot coverage, due to its proximity to the airport, the AIP-PD relies on density restrictions noted within UKIALUCP.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p>	<p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.0</p>

Designation	Description	Density / Intensity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large format retail sales ▪ Restaurants ▪ Light industrial/manufacturing ▪ Personal service/repair, medical, and office uses ▪ Administrative and professional offices ▪ Highway-oriented uses ▪ Automotive commercial ▪ Open Space 	
<p>Neighborhood Commercial</p> <p>NC</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation identifies areas generally located within existing neighborhoods in the city, primarily adjacent to single-family areas along South Dora Street. The intent of this designation is meant to provide enhanced neighborhood serving uses that are compatible with and limit conflict with adjacent residential areas. In an effort to stimulate additional housing opportunities in the city, this designation supports the inclusion of single- and multi-family dwelling types, specifically walkable infill development, including mixed-use development (both horizontal and vertical formats). This designation focuses development of small format retail and personal services that serve the everyday needs of the immediate neighborhood.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small format retail sales ▪ Restaurants ▪ Personal service/repair, medical, and office uses ▪ Single- and multi-family dwellings ▪ Mixed-use (multi-family, commercial, retail, live/work, office) 	<p>Minimum Density: 8 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: 15 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.0</p>
<p>Community Commercial</p> <p>CC</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation identifies areas generally located along major corridors in the city including State Street, East Gobbi Street, and Talmage Road, with the intent of providing a transition between higher-intensity commercial uses along Highway 101 and residential neighborhoods on the western side of the city. In an effort to stimulate additional housing opportunities in the city, this designation supports the inclusion of higher-density multi-family dwellings, including mixed-use development (both horizontal and vertical formats). This designation focuses development for small and large format retail, shopping centers, chain restaurants, and personal services that provide for the community as well as consumers outside the city.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large format retail stores, with a focus on national and regional chains ▪ Hotels and lodging establishments ▪ Restaurants ▪ Personal services and office uses 	<p>Minimum Density: 15 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: 28 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.5</p>

Designation	Description	Density / Intensity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-family dwellings ▪ Mixed-use (multi-family, commercial, retail, live/work, office) 	
<p>Highway Commercial</p> <p>HC</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation identifies areas generally located adjacent to Highway 101 on the far eastern side of the city. This designation focuses development of more auto-oriented uses, visitor-serving uses, and large format retail that are typically associated with highway users. The intent is to limit the impact of such auto-oriented uses on established residential areas and neighborhood-focused commercial centers, including Downtown.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large format retail ▪ Hotels and lodging establishments ▪ Restaurants and supporting hospitality uses, including drive-thru establishments ▪ Gas stations and vehicle fueling stations, including vehicle repair ▪ Guidance services and professional offices 	<p>Minimum Density: 28 du/ac</p> <p>Maximum Density: 40 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.0</p>
<p>Industrial</p> <p>I</p>	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to identify those areas of the General Plan where manufacturing and major employment uses may occur. The Industrial classification applies to lands suited for industrial uses where public facilities and services (transportation systems, utilities, fire protection, water, and sewage disposal) exist or can be efficiently provided. Industrial uses may be sited where there can be the least impact to proximate uses and where the potential for environmental disruption is minimal or can be adequately controlled. Industrial uses may be managed through individual zoning districts to ensure a level of land use compatibility that reflects site specific conditions and requirements. New Industrial lands are intended to be located in the City limits, the Sphere of Influence, or Master Plan Areas.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manufacturing, processing, fabrication and assembly, and warehousing ▪ Public facilities, places of assembly ▪ Business centers, business parks, office parks, mixed commercial, office, and industrial sites. ▪ Limited live-work uses ▪ <u>Agriculture</u> 	<p><u>Minimum Density:</u> <u>N/A</u></p> <p>Maximum Density: Live/work: 20 du/ac</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.0</p>

Public / Quasi-Public		
Public P	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to identify lands owned by public agencies including the City, County, School districts, and special districts, as well as quasi-public utilities such as Pacific Gas & Electric and internet and telephone service providers. Public land uses identify facilities that are unlikely during the life of the General Plan to be considered surplus property because of the extent or nature of the existing facility. The P classification is the equivalent of the County's Public Lands and Public Services classification.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government buildings ▪ Libraries ▪ Water, wastewater, and drainage facilities ▪ Transportation and utility facilities ▪ Compatible public buildings ▪ Natural resource areas 	<p>Minimum /Maximum Density: n/a</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: 1.0</p>
Recreational REC	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to identify recreation facilities with generally unrestricted access. REC lands apply to public parks and recreation facilities, quasi-public recreation facilities within residential development, and private parks or recreation facilities such as campgrounds or private golf courses.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campgrounds, trails, parks, baseball fields, soccer fields, BMX tracks, RV parks, golf courses, country club facilities. 	<p>Minimum /Maximum Density: n/a</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: n/a</p>
Open Space OS	<p>Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to identify lands not suited for development or to land most valuable in its undeveloped state. Factors limiting the development of land would include such constraints as unstable soils, high fire hazard, remote location, poor access, or susceptibility to flooding. Valuable natural areas could include rare and endangered species and habitat, wildlife corridors, riparian vegetation zones, areas with creeks or water features, or designated scenic resources. The OS classification is the equivalent of the County's Open Space classification.</p> <p>Typical Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture, conservation and development of natural resources • Mineral extraction • Recreation • Essential utility installations 	<p>Minimum /Maximum Density: n/a</p> <p>Floor Area Ratio: n/a</p>

Other			
Agriculture AG		Purpose and Application: This designation is intended to apply to lands which are suited for and are used for production of crops, commercially cultivated lands under agricultural preserve contracts, land having present or future potential for agricultural production, and contiguous or intermixed smaller parcels on which non-compatible uses could jeopardize the agricultural use of agricultural lands. Lands within the AG classification with agricultural commodities, excluding cannabis, are protected from encroachment of incompatible uses by the "Right to Farm" provisions of the Agriculture Element. Agriculture lands are intended to include both the growing, raising, and harvesting of agricultural produce, fruit, or livestock. Typical Uses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Single-family dwellings ▪ Farm labor housing ▪ Crop production, grazing, livestock raising facilities, dairies ▪ Packing houses, feed/grain storage ▪ Natural open space areas ▪ Agriculturally related industries, wineries, food processing 	Minimum Density: n/a Maximum Density: 1 du/40 ac Floor Area Ratio: n/a

Table 2-2 General Plan Land Use Designation Summary Table

Land Use Designation		Density Range (units/acre)	Floor Area Ratio	Compatible Zoning Districts
HR	Hillside Residential	1 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential-Hillside Overlay (R1-H)</u>
RR	Rural Residential	2 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential (R1)</u>
LDR	Low Density Residential	15 du/ac	N/A	<u>Low Density Residential (R1)</u>
MDR	Medium Density Residential	15 - 28 du/ac	N/A	<u>Medium Density Residential (R2)</u>
HDR	High Density Residential	28 - 40 du/ac	N/A	<u>High Density Residential (R3)</u>
DC	Downtown Core	28 - 40 du/ac	2.5	<u>All Downtown Zoning Code districts</u>
MUBST	Mixed Use: Brush Street	SFD: 5 - 9 du/ac MFR: 9 - 20 du/ac	0.3-1.0	<u>All existing and future zoning districts that meet the intent of the MUBST</u>
AIP-PD	Mixed Use: AIP-PD	N/A	1.0	<u>All AIP-PD zoning districts, as well as Commercial, Manufacturing, and Industrial zoning</u>

				districts that meet the intent of the AIP-PD
NC	Neighborhood Commercial	8 - 15 du/ac	1.0	Neighborhood Commercial (CN)
CC	Community Commercial	15 - 28 du/ac	1.5	Community Commercial (C1)
HC	Highway Commercial	28 - 40 du/ac	1.0	C1; Heavy Commercial (C2)
I	Industrial	Live Work: 20 du/ac	1.0	Industrial; Manufacturing; Agricultural Combining
P	Public	N/A	1.0	Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space
REC	Recreational	N/A	N/A	Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space
OS	Open Space	N/A	N/A	Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space
AG	Agriculture	1 du/40 ac	N/A	Public Facilities; Agricultural Combining; Open Space



For parcels that fall within a designated Airport Compatibility Zone, refer to Chapter 3 of the UKIALUCP which lists restrictions for each land use within each Compatibility Zone related to height, density (both residential and non-residential), land use, noise, and open land.

Goals and Policies

Residential

LU-1 *To provide a variety of housing types that offer choices for Ukiah residents and create complete, livable neighborhoods. (Source: New Goal)*

LU-1.1 Existing Neighborhoods

The City shall maintain and enhance the quality of existing residential neighborhoods, ensuring adequate public facilities such as parks, streets, water supply, and drainage. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-1.2 Connectivity

The City shall encourage new residential development to incorporate design features that promote walking and connectivity between blocks. *(New Policy)*

LU-1.3 Neighborhood Infill

The City shall encourage objectively designed infill developments that enhance neighborhood quality and respond to community input in the planning and design of infill projects or non-residential, neighborhood-serving uses. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-1.4 High-Density Residential Uses

The City shall encourage new high-density residential development to locate in areas close to services and transit. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-1.5 Existing Neighborhoods

The City shall encourage all new multi-family residential development to comply with objective design and development standards. *(Source: New Policy)*

Mixed-Use

LU-2 *To encourage mixed-use development projects that create vibrant, walkable districts. (New Goal)*

LU-2.1 Downtown Mixed-Use

The City shall encourage mixed-use development to locate within the Downtown. Such developments include housing, retail commercial, offices, open space, and other compatible uses. This development pattern should create vibrant, walkable areas, ~~in contrast to~~ rather than non-pedestrian friendly strip retail developments along downtown corridors. *(Source: New Policy)*

Improvements could include pedestrian-oriented amenities such as lighting, wider sidewalks, clearly marked pedestrian crossings, benches, landscaping, signage, sidewalk seating areas, and public art. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-3.5 Downtown Parking

The City shall prepare and implement a Downtown parking plan that provides enough parking downtown to support area businesses while maintaining a pedestrian-friendly environment. *(Source: New Policy)*

Commercial

LU-4 *To encourage the growth and development of retail, office, service, and entertainment uses in Ukiah to provide jobs, support City services, and make Ukiah an attractive place to live. (New Goal)*

LU-4.1 High-Quality Building Design

The City shall encourage distinctive and high-quality commercial building design and site planning that respects the character of Ukiah. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-4.2 Commercial Center Design

The City shall require new commercial centers to incorporate standards of site design, construction, buffering, and screening that ~~objective compatibility development standards~~ when located adjacent to residential neighborhoods. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-4.3 Clustering Commercial Uses

The City shall encourage new commercial uses to group into clustered areas or centers containing professional offices, retail sales and services. New commercial clusters shall be located at the intersections of major thoroughfares and exclude “strip” commercial. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-4.4 Commercial Property Landscaping

The City shall require that landscaping on commercial properties be well maintained and encourage those commercial properties currently without landscaping to provide landscaping. *(Source: Existing Program CD-17.2a, modified)*

LU-4.5 Pedestrian Access to Commercial Uses

The City shall support convenient and direct pedestrian access to commercial uses that are located adjacent to residential areas. *(Source: New Policy)*

2.2 Pattern of Development

Over the course of this General Plan, the City will continue to develop and grow to meet the needs of current and future residents, businesses, and visitors. The General Plan is intended to ensure an orderly, contiguous pattern of development that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities. The Plan is also designed to promote sustainable development and local growth patterns that enhance Ukiah's overall quality of life. Through this General Plan the City prioritizes land development that meets the needs of the current population without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. New development should minimize resource consumption, reduce dependency on the automobile, preserve sensitive environmental resources, reduce maintenance and utility expenses, ~~and promote physical, mental, and social well-being~~ ~~improve social health and interaction~~.

Future Annexations

Annexation efforts for the City of Ukiah have been discussed over the last three decades and addressed in multiple planning documents produced over the past 35 years, including the 1984 Ukiah General Plan, the 1995 Ukiah General Plan, the 2009-14, 2014-19, and 2019-27 Ukiah Housing Elements, Mendocino County's 2019-2027 Housing Element, and the 2011 Ukiah Valley Area Plan. Themes within these documents related to annexation include supporting future housing needs through annexation efforts that lead to the orderly expansion of growth to avoid sprawl; collaboration between the cities within the county on regional housing by supporting annexation applications to the Mendocino LAFCo from cities for annexations of contiguous lands; and the need for preservation of open space and agricultural lands.

Consistent with direction received from the City Council, the adopted Annexation policy, and relevant City and County planning documents, the City of Ukiah intends to pursue annexation of approximately 910 acres of land, currently located in the County of Mendocino's jurisdictional boundaries, into the City limits. The 910 acres proposed for annexation are categorized as the following Annexation Areas: City-Owned Properties; the Brush Street/Masonite Annexation Area; and the Western Hills Annexation Area. All of the land the City is pursuing for annexation is located within the City's current SOI, and with the exception of the Western Hills annexation, a portion of the landfill site along Vichy Road, and the open space area west of the terminus of Standley Street. However, all of the land the City is pursuing for annexation is located within the City's proposed SOI. The Annexation Areas being pursued by the City are summarized below and shown on Figure 2-2.

Annexation requests and jurisdictional changes must be reviewed and approved first by City Council, then by the Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). In December 2021, the City submitted annexation pre-applications to LAFCo for annexation of the City Owned Properties and the Northern Annexation Area. The City anticipates submitting pre-applications and full applications to LAFCo for all areas within the Proposed SOI shown within Figure 2-2 over the next one to three years.

- **A: City-Owned Properties.** Includes 16 City-owned properties, totaling approximately 437 acres, that the City of Ukiah has acquired within the City's Sphere of Influence (SOI) for public purposes, but has not

Goals and Policies

LU-7 *To ensure the orderly and timely growth and expansion of the City. (Source: New Goal)*

LU-7.1 Development Pattern

The City shall ensure an orderly, contiguous development pattern that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-7.2 Annexations

The City shall ~~property owners and applications that seek to annex adjoining unincorporated land within the City's Sphere of Influence where the City determines it to be in residents' interests to do so, to promote orderly development, to implement General Plan goals, and consider annexation of adjoining unincorporated land within the City's Sphere of Influence~~ if the annexation would improve the fiscal health of the City, provide a more efficient delivery of City services to the area, and/or create a more logical City boundary. ~~The City shall consider annexation of lands outside of the SQI but within the Planning Area if the City and all local agencies with relevant jurisdiction, arrive at an agreement ensuring adequately compensated for the costs it will incur due to development in its Planning Area.~~ *(Source: New Policy; City Staff; City Council Annexation Policies)*

LU-7.3 Annexation Considerations

The City shall consider the following factors when reviewing annexation proposals:

- a. Availability of public services and facilities;
- b. Proximity to existing urban development;
- c. Existing agricultural uses;
- d. Fiscal impacts on City finances;
- e. Potential economic benefits;
- f. Regional housing needs; and
- g. Public health and safety.

(Source: New Policy)

LU-7.4 Required Public Facilities and Services

The City will support annexation of land for new development only if public services and facilities meeting City standards are available or plans are in place demonstrating their availability in the near future. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-8.2 Protection of Agricultural Areas

The City shall support the long-term economic viability of agriculture and agrotourism and encourage landowners with land in agricultural production to undertake succession planning or agricultural preservation, as appropriate. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-8.3 Infill Development

The City shall encourage population and employment growth toward infill development sites within the city. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-8.4 Reuse of Underutilized Property

The City shall encourage property owners to revitalize or redevelop abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties to accommodate growth. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-8.5 Historic Preservation

The City shall strive to preserve residential and commercial structures of historic value to the community. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-8.6 Historic Resource Maintenance

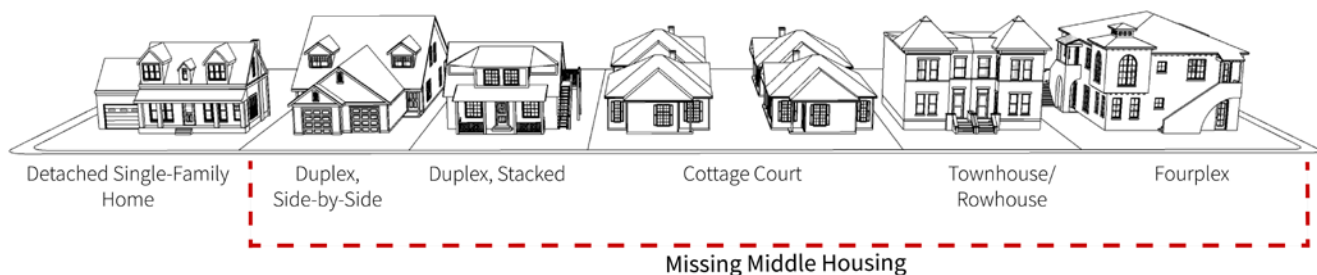
The City shall encourage property owners to maintain these structures in accordance with local, state and federal standards. *(Source: New Policy)*

2.4 Missing Middle Housing

Meeting the Housing Needs of Ukiah

While housing and residential neighborhoods form the fabric that makes the City a cohesive community, finding a place to call home in Ukiah can sometimes be challenging. The City is not affordable for some prospective residents, and the range of housing types and sizes to accommodate varied households is limited. The domination of single-family neighborhoods and the trend towards building single-family homes geared toward higher-income earners has further contributed to the housing issues in the City.

These housing issues are not unique to Ukiah and are seen throughout many communities in California. The State of California has been working with communities to help meet the number and affordability of housing units needed in the State. As part of the Housing Element process, the State dictates the number of units, at a variety of income



Airport Related Plans

[Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan](#)

[Ukiah is a unique community with a complex development pattern that is affected by the Ukiah Municipal Airport Compatibility Zones, as described within the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan \(UKIALUCP 2021\). The UKIALUCP is a Mendocino County regulatory plan applicable to development in the vicinity of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Whereas the UKI Master Plan applies to the airport proper, the UKIALUCP applies to development within the Area of Influence of the airport.](#)

[Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan](#)

[The Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan \(Airport Master Plan\), adopted by the City in 1996, serves as a framework within which individual airport projects can be implemented. The Airport Master Plan summarizes airport inventory, role and activity, and financial plan, and establish standards for airfield design and building area development. In January 2016, the Federal Aviation Administration \(FAA\) approved Ukiah Municipal Airport's Airport Layout Plan, illustrating proposed alterations to the airfield system.](#)

[Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan](#)

[Adopted in 2021 by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission \(ALUC\) and City of Ukiah, the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan \(UKIALUCP\) replaces the compatibility plan for Ukiah Municipal Airport adopted by the ALUC in 1996 as part of the countywide Mendocino County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan \(MCACLUP\). Whereas the UKI Master Plan applies to the airport proper, the UKIALUCP applies to development within the Area of Influence of the airport. The UKIALUCP is wholly self-contained and does not rely upon any policies or other content contained in the MCALUCP. The MCALUCP remains in effect for other airports in Mendocino County.](#)

[The Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission \(ALUC\) is the principal body for oversight of the UKIALUCP. The basic function of the UKIALUCP is to promote compatibility between the airport and surrounding land uses. As adopted by the ALUC, the plan serves as a tool for use by the ALUC in fulfilling its duty to review certain airport and adjacent land use proposals. Additionally, the plan sets compatibility criteria applicable to local agencies in their preparation or amendment of land use plans and ordinances and to landowners in their design of new development.](#)

The operation of the Ukiah Municipal Airport affects development in a significant portion of the city through the enforcement of the six Airport Land Use Compatibility Zones (see Figure 2-5), with the addition of an overlay zone to two of the zones, which functionally creates restrictions on development within the vicinity of the airport based on proximity to the airport and flight path. Specifically, Chapter 3 of the UKIALUCP lists restrictions for each land use within each Compatibility Zone related to height, density (both residential and non-residential), land use, noise, and open land (see UKIALUCP Table 3A for a summary of restrictions and development standards). These standards are intended to promote compatibility between the Ukiah Municipal Airport and surrounding land uses and were applied to each of the land use designations on the General Plan Land Use Diagram (see Figure 2-1).

LU-11.7 Sign Regulations

The City shall update the Zoning Code sign provisions to incorporate a consistent program for new signs to simplify the signage process.

(Source: Existing Program CD-13.1c, modified)

LU-11.8 Tree Preservation

The City shall encourage the preservation of trees on public and private property. Priority should be given to the preservation of trees considered significant due to their size, history, unusual species, or unique quality. *(Source: Existing Program CD-4.3b, modified)*

LU-11.9 Historic Preservation and Restoration

The City shall encourage restorative maintenance to deteriorated buildings, particularly in Downtown, and restrict the demolition of historically and/or architecturally significant buildings to accommodate new development. The City shall encourage adaptive re-use of historic structures to maintain their historic character while supporting economic development. *(Source: New Policy)*

LU-11.10 Water Efficient Landscaping

The City shall ensure that Zoning Code landscape standards and design guidelines reflect the most current water efficient landscape standards that include native, adaptive, and drought resistant vegetation, as well as provisions for street canopies and streetscape enhancement. *(Source: Existing Programs CD-4.2a and -4.3a)*

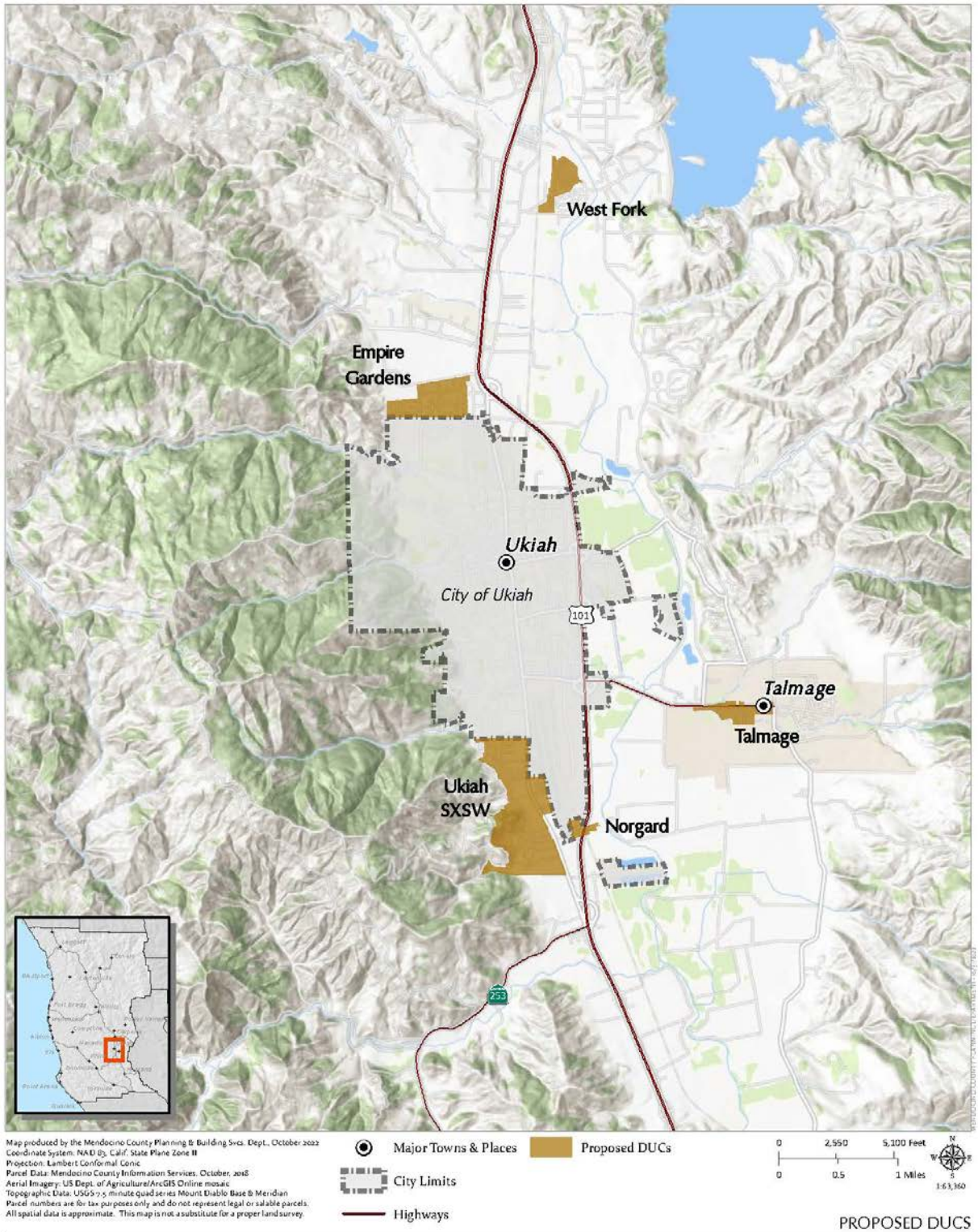
2.7 Environmental Justice

Environmental justice is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Today, and throughout much of California and United States history, communities with lower incomes, lower levels of education, and higher proportions of minority residents often bear a disproportionately large burden of exposure to environmental hazards. These environmental inequities are largely a result of land use policy and zoning regulations (e.g., residential uses located adjacent to industrial uses) that have led some communities to experience higher levels of exposure to air and water pollution. Environmental justice laws seek to address these inequities. California Senate Bill 1000, enacted in 2016, requires general plans adopted after January 2018 to include an environmental justice element, or related goals, policies, and objectives, integrated in other elements. Environmental justice objectives and policies should seek to reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities through strategies such as reducing pollution exposure, improving air quality, and promoting public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity; promote civil engagement in the public decision-making process; and prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.



*For additional analysis on identified disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs) please refer to the SB 244 Analysis provided in Appendix **GX**.*

Figure 2-6 Identified Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities



**THIS MAP AND DATA ARE PROVIDED WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND.
 DO NOT USE THIS MAP TO DETERMINE LEGAL PROPERTY BOUNDARIES**

<p>H Five Year General Plan Review The City shall conduct a technical review of the General Plan every five years and revise and update as necessary to assure compliance with State law and responsiveness to current City needs. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>LU- 16.4</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>		
<p>I <u>Annexation Guide.</u> <u>The City shall develop, maintain, and make publicly-available a City of Ukiah Annexation Guide that includes an annexation applicant’s responsibilities, the requirements for environmental review, requirements for development plans, and fees associated with applications for annexation. (Source: New Implementation Program; City Council Annexation Policies)</u></p>	<p><u>LU-7.2</u></p>	<p><u>Community Development</u></p>		<p>■</p>			

List of Parcels and Proposed Land Use Designation Updates to Figure 2-1

APN	Identified GP Designation	Updated GP Designation	Reason
003-181-01	Public	Highway Commercial	Error (2022 Rezone and General Plan Amendment Not Reflected)
180-120-16	Public	Mixed Use: AIP-PD	Error (Currently Zoned Industrial within the AIP-PD)
003-330-69	NA-Not Included on Map	Public	Identified For Annexation (Airport Hanger)
003-330-68	NA-Not Included on Map	Public	Identified For Annexation (Airport Hanger)
003-330-70	NA-Not Included on Map	Public	Identified For Annexation (Airport Hanger)
156-240-09	Open Space	N/A- Removed From Map	Error (Not Subject to Annexation)
156-240-11	Open Space	N/A-Removed From Map	Error (Not Subject to Annexation)
003-190-11	NA-Not Included on Map	Annexation Boundary Modification	Error (Update Proposed Annexation Boundary for Western Hills)
180-030-08	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
180-030-38	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
180-030-40	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
180-030-39	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
179-061-26	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (E Perkins Street - Current C1 Zoning Designation)
179-061-34	Neighborhood Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (E Perkins Street - Current C1 Zoning Designation)
179-061-04	Community Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (E Perkins Street - Current C1 Zoning Designation)
179-030-25	Community Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (E Perkins Street - Current C1 Zoning Designation)
179-030-28	Community Commercial	Highway Commercial	Consistency Update (E Perkins Street - Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-204-00	Highway Commercial	Downtown Core	Consistency Update (Within the Downtown Zoning Code Boundary)
002-247-01	Highway Commercial	Downtown Core	Consistency Update (Within the Downtown Zoning Code Boundary)
002-200-29*	Highway Commercial	Downtown Core	Consistency Update (Within the Downtown Zoning Code Boundary)
002-200-29*	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Pear Tree Center-Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-370-30	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Pear Tree Center-Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-370-26	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Pear Tree Center-Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-370-30	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Pear Tree Center-Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-370-29	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Pear Tree Center-Current C1 Zoning Designation)
001-130-51	Rural Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-130-52	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-02	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-92	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-93	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)

APN	Identified GP Designation	Updated GP Designation	Reason
001-040-82	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-84	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-88	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
001-040-65	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency Update (Current R1H Zoning Designation)
003-190-09	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency (WH Annexation Area - Predated New Hillside GP Designation)
003-110-90	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency (WH Annexation Area - Predated New Hillside GP Designation)
003-190-14**	Low Density Residential	Hillside Residential	Consistency (WH Annexation Area - Predated New Hillside GP Designation)
003-190-13**	Low Density Residential	Public	Consistency (WH Annexation Area - Prezoned as Public)
002-193-23	Highway Commercial	Community Commercial	Adventist Hospital (Split Land Use With Adjacent Hospital Parcel/Improvements)
001-020-77	Recreation	Public	Consistency Update (Current County Jail and Mendocino County Sherriff Station)
002-281-32	Public	Community Commercial	Consistency (Sun House Senior Apartments - Not Public)
002-125-01	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
002-125-02	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
002-124-10	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
002-125-01	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C2 Zoning Designation)
002-123-10	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-122-01	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-122-02	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-122-03	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-281-21	Neighborhood Commercial	Community Commercial	Consistency Update (Current C1 Zoning Designation)
002-271-16	Community Commercial	Neighborhood Commercial	Consistency Update (Current CN Zoning Designation)
003-582-39	Community Commercial	Public	Consistency Update (Current City Well Facility)
003-582-37	Community Commercial	Public	Consistency Update (Current Electric Substation)

NOTES:

*Split Land Use Designation to Reflect Downtown Zoning Code District Boundary

** Western Hills Annexation Parcel Numbers May Differ

C1: Community Commercial

C2: Heavy Commercial

R1H: Single Family Residential-Hillside Overlay

CN: Neighborhood Commercial

AIP-PD: Airport Industrial Park Planned Development

Economic Development Element

[\[moved setting language that was to here the next page\]](#) This Economic Development Element provides guidance on how Ukiah can build upon its successes by fostering a business-friendly environment, encouraging additional local employment opportunities, cultivating economic diversification, and expanding the tourism industry. The City also has an opportunity to seek partnerships through collaboration, which are key to a successful economic development strategy.

Section	Title	Page
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3.3	Tourism and Recreation.....	3-6
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3.5	Workforce Training and Education.....	3-8
3.6	Diversified Economy.....	3-9
3.7	Implementation Programs	3-12

3.1 Regional Economy

Ukiah's economy is steadily growing. It reflects Ukiah's position in the broader regional context. Most of the city's industries and jobs are driven by the surrounding natural resources and the city's importance as a regional and governmental center. Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations make up an outsized portion of the city's employment base. These occupations employ about four percent of city residents, which is more than six times the national average for such occupations.

By sector, more residents of Ukiah are employed in health care, education and social assistance than any other industry, with about 14 percent of residents working in those fields. After healthcare and social assistance, retail trade accounts for 13 percent of employment; retail and food services make up about 10 percent.

Ukiah's position as Mendocino County's seat means that public administration jobs also make up a large portion of the city's employment base, with approximately seven percent of the city's residents employed in public administration. Generally, Ukiah's economic base is slowly growing and diversifying. Since 2013, the number of jobs in the city has increased from 6,200 to 6,700.

Major employers in and around Ukiah mirror the major employment sectors. In government, both Mendocino County and the City of Ukiah are major employers. Ukiah Valley Medical Center, the largest medical center in the region, serving both the city and many of the rural communities nearby, is the largest employer in the healthcare sector. Education-related employers include Ukiah Unified School District, Mendocino College, and several private and charter schools. Costco and Walmart are the largest retail employers, collectively employing several hundred residents between them. Finally, there are several major agricultural and forestry related employers in and around Ukiah.

The City's ability to meet its economic development goals depends on regional market forces outside of the City's control. However, the City does have control over how to position itself as a place to do business. This includes targeting the types of businesses that the community wants to attract and retain, ensuring that resources are available for the labor force to improve its occupational skills, and sustaining a business climate that makes the community attractive for business location and expansion. By targeting business attraction, improving the labor force, and optimizing the business climate, a community positions itself to attract and retain businesses that serve markets beyond its own borders and bring higher paying jobs into the community.

In addition to accommodating growth and attracting new businesses, successful economic development also requires a consensus about the needs of growing businesses, community values, and the type of community in which people want to live. The City, by helping make Ukiah attractive as a place to live for creative and skilled residents, will, in turn, create opportunities for economic growth, including opportunities to expand access and availability for remote working. These initiatives are essential activities that can ensure sustainable and diversified economic growth opportunities.

The City relies partially on partnerships with Mendocino County, local economic development organizations, and businesses to pursue its economic development goals. Goals and policies in this section seek to leverage resources throughout the city, county, and region to support and implement the goals of the 2040 General Plan and the

Goals and Policies

ED-6 *To maintain a supportive business climate and a healthy economy that leads to the expansion of existing businesses and the attraction of new ones. (Source: New Goal)*

ED-6.1 Regulatory Environment

The City shall promote business-friendliness in the regulatory and permitting process through collaboration, innovation, exchange of ideas and best practices, and the improvement in clarity and efficiency in the permitting process to take advantage of opportunities for streamlining in the development permit process. (Source: New Policy)

ED-7 *To grow the local economy and employment base by supporting efforts to retain, expand and attract local businesses. (Source: New Goal)*

ED-7.1 Attract Skilled Workers

The City shall support, maintain, and enhance the social and cultural amenities of the city (such as attractive public spaces, public art displays, museum(s), historic venues and sites, and recreational facilities and programs). (Source: New Policy)

ED-8 *To cultivate a culture of entrepreneurship to encourage and support local business start-ups. (Source: New Goal)*

ED-8.1 Business Incubators

The City shall encourage and support the establishment of local business incubators and programs designed to support the successful development of entrepreneurial companies through an array of business support resources and services. (Source: New Policy)

ED-8.2 Home-Based Businesses

The City shall support and expand the opportunities for establishment and operation of home-based businesses that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. (Source: New Policy)

3.5 Workforce Training and Education

The local labor force represents one of the most crucial competitive factors for economic vitality. Businesses depend on having enough [healthy, reliable](#) workers suited to the functions that their operations require. From a planning perspective, the skills, education levels, and other qualifications needed for local jobs should be matched

Goals and Policies

ED-10 *To foster a robust and diversified local economy that provides quality employment and attracts stable businesses. (Source: New Goal)*

ED-10.1 Value-Added Agriculture

The City shall encourage and support the expansion of value-added agricultural products (e.g., processing, packaging, product development) with an emphasis on local distribution and consumption. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.2 Agricultural Support Services

The City shall encourage agricultural support services, such as vineyard and harvest management, to be based in Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.3 Airport-Related Businesses

The City shall encourage and promote the development of airport-related businesses at the Ukiah Municipal Airport. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.4 Local-Serving Retail

The City shall encourage the establishment and expansion of commercial businesses that increase local spending within Ukiah and provide needed goods and services to residents and businesses. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.5 Culturally Diverse Businesses

The City shall review and amend its policies and procedures to ensure equity of opportunity to encourage and support a diverse business community. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11 *To diversify the economic base of Ukiah through the development and expansion of environmental, creative, and innovative businesses, including the non-profit sector. (Source: New Goal)*

ED-11.1 Creative Economy

The City shall encourage the expansion of the local creative economy, including arts businesses, creative and performing arts, and non-profit organizations, as well as professional service sectors built around the creative arts. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11.2 Green Economy

The City shall support the development and reduce local regulatory barriers for industries and businesses that promote and enhance environmental sustainability, greenhouse gas reductions, decarbonization, climate change adaptation, resiliency, and renewable energy generation, storage,



Mobility Element

The Mobility Element describes the planned citywide transportation network. A key goal of the General Plan is the provision of a well-connected network of “complete streets” that provide multi-modal mobility, access to land uses, and support Ukiah’s economic and sustainability goals. The Mobility Element describes and illustrates the circulation system and provides guidelines to support and complement existing and planned development. The goals of the Mobility Element include ensuring that transportation and land use decisions are coordinated, promoting the safe and efficient transport of goods, efficient use of existing facilities, and protecting environmental quality.

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4.2 Transportation Setting

This section summarizes existing characteristics of Ukiah's transportation system. This information provides the background for the goals, policies, and implementation programs that reflect the community's vision for the future of Ukiah. The transportation system enables the movement of people and goods from one place to another, and, in doing so, affects community character, natural and built environment, and economic development patterns. Additionally, the community development pattern helps shape the transportation system.

Transportation Network

Streets and Highways. The circulation network serving the city of Ukiah includes a network of city and county-maintained streets and state highways. There are roughly 54.68 miles of roadways owned and maintained by the City of Ukiah. The state highways in Ukiah consist of U.S. Highway 101.

The connections between these roadway systems play an integral role in connecting the city of Ukiah to unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley, some of which use City services and exist as part of the Ukiah community, the greater Mendocino County region and additional regional destinations outside of Ukiah and Mendocino County. For example, State Routes 20 and 253 are located outside of the city limits but provide residents with east and west access to Mendocino County, Lake County, and connections to other major north-south highways such as State Route 1 and Interstate 5 which traverse most of the state. Ukiah is the largest city in Mendocino County, making the jurisdiction a city center of Mendocino County.

The cost of road improvements that serve both specific projects as well as general traffic needs is one of the most expensive components of development. As the Valley grew, there was a tendency to reduce or even avoid road improvement requirements on new subdivisions and other projects because of the cost burden. In a growing California rural community, this is not unusual. Some neighborhoods have connecting streets in a less than congruous pattern, resulting in through traffic being forced into residential areas.

Bicycling and Walking Facilities. Ukiah has an extensive sidewalk network, specifically through the downtown and surrounding areas, which provide an environment that encourages walking. Dedicated bicycle facilities in Ukiah include 1.85 miles of shared-use paths and 7.97 miles of on-street bicycle lanes. However, major areas of the city have no designated bicycle facilities, and barriers to walking trips exist, including wide crossing distances, a lack of adequate pedestrian facilities on intermittent sections of State Street, and various gaps in sidewalks throughout the City.

Public Transit Service. Public Transportation in Ukiah is provided by the Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA). MTA jurisdiction is sanctioned by a 1976 Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement between the County of Mendocino and



Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project. Phase 1 of the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project was completed by the City’s Department of Public Works and its contractors in August 2021. Phase I included a “road diet” and streetscape improvements in Downtown Ukiah. The intent of the project is to transform Downtown Ukiah into a more pedestrian-oriented environment and an active location for business, recreation, and shopping while also enhancing the Downtown area for all users, including motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The project includes a road diet between Henry Street and Mill Street, and it transformed the previously existing four-lane cross section into a three-lane cross section with one travel lane in each direction and a two way left-turn lane in the center, with on-street parking. In addition to the road diet, signal modifications were made at each of the three signalized intersections (Standley Street, Perkins Street, and Mill Street) to provide vehicle detection, improve coordination, and re-orient the signal equipment to support the road diet alignment. Streetscape improvements on State Street, Perkins Street, and Standley Street included sidewalk widening, curb ramps and bulb outs, street lights, street furniture, and tree planting. Phase 2 is currently being designed for portions of South State Street (Mill Street to Gobbi Street and Henry Street to Norton Street).

Bikeway Network

Active transportation methods that focus on bicycling and walking should be prioritized to enhance the community, for health or safety reasons, for convenience or necessity, for social reasons, or for just plain fun. An appealing, safe, system of connected bicycles and pedestrian’s facilities are to be enhanced and further developed during the life of the General Plan in order to reduce the negative impacts associated with transportation such as the use of non–renewable resources, creation of stormwater and air pollution, and traffic congestion. The attractiveness, safety, and directness of network will encourage people to leave their cars at home and use alternate transportation.

A key goal of the Mobility Element is to enhance bicycle travel throughout Ukiah by completing a citywide network of bikeways consistent with the City of Ukiah’s adopted Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan. In addition, one of the underlying goals of “complete streets” is that all modes of travel, including bicycles, should be adequately accommodated on most city streets, not just streets that are designated as bikeways. Therefore, the provision of bicycle accommodations may occur throughout the city’s transportation network (not limited to designated bikeways), consistent with the recommendations for each functional street classification described within the Mobility Element.

Types of Bikeways

Designated bikeways are routes where an additional level of bicycle accommodation is to be provided. There are four classifications of designated bikeway facilities in California, as defined by the Caltrans:

Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element

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5.1 Water

The City is a municipal water supply agency within the Upper Russian River Watershed. The City is bounded by a number of other agencies, including: Redwood Valley County Water District, Willow County Water District, Millview County Water District, Rogina Water Company, Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation **Improvement** District (Flood Control District), and Sonoma County Water Agency. The City provides water service to about 99 percent of the City limits through 5,030 active water service accounts, including residential, commercial, and institutional accounts, and maintains emergency service intertie agreements with Millview and Willow County Water District. The City's water service area is roughly 3,000 acres or 4.7 square miles in size, with a population of approximately 16,000 persons. The City's senior water rights, recycled water program, groundwater facilities, and conservation measures have allowed the City to develop a diverse and resilient water supply portfolio. The City has been able to share a small portion of the water right with neighboring water districts, in times of need.

The City is a member of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), which is a coalition of eleven cities, counties, and special districts in the Russian River watershed that coordinate regional programs for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. RRWA was formed in 2003 to create opportunities for member agencies to expand their stewardship role in the watershed. These member agencies include the Cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, and Ukiah, as well as Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, Sonoma Water, and the Town of Windsor.

Goals and Policies

PFS-1 *To maintain a safe and adequate water system to meet the needs of existing and future development. (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-1, modified)*

PFS-1.1 Water Service Annexation Impacts

The City shall ensure newly annexed areas within the city do not negatively affect water services to existing customers. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-1.2 Russian River Water Rights

The City shall protect and confirm all Russian River tributary water rights to which the Ukiah Valley and City may be entitled. *(Source: Existing Policy CF-1.1, modified)*

PFS-1.3 Consolidation of Water Districts

The City shall support the consolidation of water districts as part of future annexations to establish efficient services and ensure adequate water supply and delivery. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-1.4 Water Storage

The City shall encourage the protection and expansion of existing sources and methods of water storage for future development. *(Source: Existing Policy CF-1.2, modified)*

PFS-4.1 ~~Solid Waste Diversion Targets Private Property Nuisances~~

The City shall provide adequate staffing to support code enforcement efforts to the extent financially feasible ~~to reduce the number of nuisance issues on private property. (Source: New Policy aligning with the Ukiah Climate Action Plan, Strategy/Objective SW.1.2 which was not adopted.)~~

5.4 Stormwater Management

Stormwater can provide groundwater recharge benefits for the City, provided that the stormwater entering Basin aquifers does not compromise groundwater quality. Development of land typically increases impervious surfaces which can compromise stormwater quality. The City of Ukiah adopted a Low Impact Development (LID) Technical Manual to provide technical guidance for development projects that significantly impact the impervious surface on a redevelopment site, and therefore require permanent stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to offset the impact.

Goals and Policies

PFS-5 *To maintain an adequate stormwater management system to accommodate runoff and improve environmental quality. (Source: New Goal)*

PFS-5.1 Low Impact Development

The City shall require new developments to install green infrastructure consistent with the [Stormwater Low Impact Development Technical Design Manual and](#) sustainable objectives of the State and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to pervious pavement, infiltration basins, raingardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other types of low impact development (LID). *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-5.2 Pollutants Discharge Reduction

The City shall provide non-point source pollution control programs to reduce and control the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system and Russian River. *(Source: New Policy)*



For goals and policies relating to flooding and related hazards, please refer to Section 7.4 (Flood Hazards) in the Safety Element.

5.5 Utilities and Energy

The City of Ukiah Electric Utility is a Municipal Utility and operates as a department of the City of Ukiah under the authority and direction of the City Council, the City Manager, and the Electric Utility Director. The Utility is composed of electric generation, transmission and distribution facilities and boasts a diverse portfolio of power sources. The Utility owns, operates, and maintains a 3.5 Megawatt (MW) hydroelectric plant located at Lake Mendocino, transmission facilities and overhead and underground distribution facilities. Additionally, the Utility is responsible for power procurement, state, and federal regulatory requirements, and providing conservation programs to its customers. Goals and Policies

PFS-10.2 Interagency Coordination

The City shall coordinate with the Mendocino County Sherriff's Office on joint operations and services. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-10.3 Community Policing Strategies

The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, **and** cultural backgrounds, **economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities**, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

PFS-10.4 School Safety

The City shall collaborate with the Ukiah Unified School District to enhance school security and student, teacher, and administrator safety. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-10.5 Public Safety Communications

The City shall use a variety of communication methods (e.g., social media, text messaging, television and radio alerts, website postings) to communicate and inform residents and businesses about crimes, investigations, and emergencies. *(Source: New Policy)*

Office of Emergency Management

Office of Emergency Management has the responsibility of anticipating hazards and vulnerability and undertake measures to deal with disasters more effectively.

Mitigation

Enhance the Mitigation System through developing and leveraging technology, funding opportunities, partnerships, and policy.

Preparedness

Enhance protection through training, exercises, and outreach to first responders, support agencies, and community members.

Response

Strengthen and ensure a multi-faceted response capability through response programs, advanced resource management and coordination and planning with partners.

Recovery

Cultivate, develop, and sustain a comprehensive recovery system that provides a better and safer community after a disaster.



For goals and policies relating to emergency operations and planning, please refer to Section 7.6 (Emergency Planning and Awareness) in the Safety Element.

Lifelong Learning

PFS-14 *To enhance the educational support system serving the City to the benefit of all residents, regardless of age and location within the community. (Source: New Goal)*

PFS-14.1 Implementing Continuing Education

The City should encourage Mendocino College, local vocational schools, and technical training institutes to maintain and improve continuing education courses and certificate programs, including opportunities for on-line learning. *(Source: New Policy)*

5.9 Healthy Community

A healthy community promotes a positive physical, social, and economic environment that supports the overall well-being of its residents. While other parts of the General Plan also touch on aspects of health and quality of life, the purpose of section is to promote a healthy lifestyle and improve residents' quality of life.

Goals and Policies

PFS-15 *To ensure all residents have access to healthy lifestyle options. (Source: New Goal)*

PFS-15.1 Alcohol and Tobacco Sales

The City shall [study the feasibility of](#) establishing zoning code provisions limiting the location and concentration of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-15.2 Healthy Food Options

The City shall support programs that guide healthy food options in the community. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-15.3 Support Government-Issued Vouchers

The City shall support the acceptance of Government-issued food vouchers (such as WIC and Cal FRESH) via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card at food retailers and farmers markets. *(Source: New Policy)*

PFS-15.4 Vending Machine Options

The City shall support healthy food options for vending machines in City-owned and leased locations. *(Source: New Policy)*

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>C Park Maintenance and Security Program The City shall establish a comprehensive maintenance and security program for all recreational facilities, parks, and trails in the Ukiah area. <i>(Source: Existing Policy PR-2.1)</i></p>	<p>PFS– 12.1 PFS– 12.5 PFS– 12.6</p>	<p>Community Services</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>D Alcohol and Tobacco Ordinance <u>The City shall prepare a feasibility analysis studying the establishment of establishing zoning code provisions related to the location and number of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.</u> <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p><u>PFS- 15.1</u></p>	<p><u>Community Development</u></p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>E Solid Waste Reduction <u>The City shall review existing programs, and study the feasibility of new or expanded programs related to waste reduction. These efforts should be coordinated with preparation of the City’s Climate Action Plan and incorporated where necessary</u> <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p><u>PFS-3.1</u> <u>PFS-3.2</u> <u>PFS-3.3</u> <u>PFS-3.4</u> <u>PFS-3.5</u> <u>PFS-3.6</u></p>	<p><u>Public Works</u> <u>Community Development</u></p>	<p>■</p>				

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Environment and Sustainability Element

The Environment and Sustainability Element evaluates environmental, biological, and agricultural resources, air quality, open space, and climate change and sustainability in Ukiah. It establishes policies and actions to protect and manage these resources including an emphasis on climate adaptation and sustainability, to protect the community.

Section	Title	Page
6.1	Open Space	6-3
6.2	Historic-Archeological	6-6
6.3	Conservation	6-7
6.4	Biological Resources	6-8
6.5	Air Quality	6-10
6.6	Climate Change and Sustainability	6-11
6.7	Implementation Programs	6-14

6.1 Open Space

Open space, or any parcel or area of land or water that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open-space use, is abundant in the greater Ukiah Valley region, and the city of Ukiah has additional opportunities for local acquisition and management of open spaces as shown in Figure 6-1. Ukiah has a number of local parks and recreation facilities totaling 260 acres, as well as an 80-acre open-space park called Low Gap Park, managed by Mendocino County. Low Gap Park has an existing network of trails, ~~and the 1.5-mile City View Trail~~ which extend from Low Gap Park through the hills west of the city. The greater Planning Area for Ukiah includes a number of County and Federal parks including Mill Creek Park (400-acres), and two Federal open space recreation areas: Lake Mendocino Recreation Area (5,110-acres) and Cow Mountain Recreation Area (60,000-acres). Adjacent to Ukiah City Limits, the Russian River provides recreational opportunities for Ukiah residents including swimming, fishing, inner-tubing, and picnicking. There are four access points to the river from the city: the City's Softball Complex, Vichy Spring-Perkins Road crossing, Riverside Park, and Talmage Road crossing.

Goals and Policies

ENV-1 *Preserve open space land for the commercial agricultural and productive uses, the protection and use of natural resources, the enjoyment of scenic beauty and recreation, protection of tribal resources, and the protection from natural hazards. (Source: New Goal)*

ENV-1.1 **Landscaping Compatibility**

The City shall require landscaping in new development to be compatible with preservation and restoration goals of open space management and native vegetation. *(Source: Existing Policy CC-1.3, modified)*

ENV-1.2 **Open Space Management**

The City shall manage and maintain City-owned open spaces to preserve the integrity of these public spaces. *(Source: New Policy)*

ENV-1.3 **Open Space and Renewable Energy Production**

The City shall seek, where feasible, to develop renewable energy production within City-owned open space. *(Source: New Policy)*

ENV-2 *To maintain and enhance the urban forest to create a sense of urban space and cohesiveness with the surrounding natural environment. (Source: Existing GP Goal CC-29, modified)*

ENV-2.1 **City Tree Inventories Tree Preservation**

The City shall update and maintain City tree inventories to support landmark trees preservation and urban biodiversity, including trees designated for streets and parking lots, and city facilities. The City shall also prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan, review it's Tree Management Guidelines and study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-2.2 **Protect Healthy Trees**

The City shall review new construction and landscaping site plans to ensure that healthy trees are not removed unnecessarily. (Source: Existing Program OC-29.1b, 22-1a)

ENV-2.3 **Accommodation of Trees along Roadways**

The City shall ensure future roadway plans accommodate existing and new trees without compromising sidewalk accessibility. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-2.4 **Tree Trimming for Fire Prevention**

The City shall encourage private tree trimming as a fire hazard mitigation. (Source: New Policy)



For goals and policies relating to parks and recreation uses and designated facilities, please refer to Section 5.7 (Parks and Recreation Facilities) in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>D Updated Undeveloped Land Inventory The City shall annually update the undeveloped lands inventory. <i>(Source: Existing Program CC-1.1a)</i></p>	ENV – 1.2	Community Development				■	
<p>E Prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan The City shall prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan that includes the types of trees appropriate for Ukiah and locations where the city would receive the greatest benefits of new trees. <u>This plan should include trees within commercial and residential areas, as well as those at city parks and facilities.</u> This plan shall be updated every five years. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	ENV – 2.1	Community Development — Public Works Community Services			■		
<p>F Tree Protection Ordinance The City shall <u>review it’s Tree Management Guidelines and</u> study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	ENV – 2.1 ENV – 2.2	Community Development			■		
<p>G Historic Structure Preservation Policy and Architectural Inventory The City shall update the Historic Structure Preservation policy and architectural resource inventory in collaboration with the Mendocino County Historical Society to focus on preservation of identified historic and architectural resources, while also streamlining development/demolition of older, non-resource structures. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	ENV – 3.1	Community Development		■			

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>L Erosion Prevention Program</p> <p>The City shall revise the Zoning Code to include design standards for new development that require riparian habitat integration into project design as a means of avoiding potential impacts of river sedimentation and lessening the effects of erosion.</p> <p><i>(Source: Existing Program CC-7.5a, modified)</i></p>	<p>ENV – 6.1 ENV – 6.2 ENV – 6.4 ENV – 6.5 ENV – 6.6</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">■</p>			
<p>M Adopt a Municipal Climate Action Plan (CAP)</p> <p>The City shall adopt a municipal Climate Action Plan to achieve carbon neutrality for all municipal operations and meet State and City GHG emission reduction goals.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>ENV – 8 ENV – 8.1 ENV – 8.3 ENV – 9.1 <u>PFS – 3 (and supporting policies)</u></p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">■</p>				

Safety Element

To maintain a high quality of life for Ukiah residents, the City must minimize natural hazard risks, such as earthquakes, wildfire, and flooding, as well as man-made hazards, such as noise. Increasingly, climate change is also a risk for which the city must adapt. This Safety Element addresses these risks along with disaster preparedness and emergency response. These actions aim to protect the health and safety of residents and visitors, reduce damage and destruction of public and private property, minimize interruption to important services, protect local ecosystems, and keep the city's economy diverse and resilient.

Section	Title	Page
7.1	Regulatory Background.....	7-3
7.2	Geologic and Seismic Hazards.....	7-3
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Landslides and Liquefaction

When strong ground shaking occurs, it can lead to liquefaction and landslides. Liquefaction occurs when loosely packed, water-logged soil at or near the surface loses its strength in response to ground shaking. This sudden loss of strength can result in major damage to buildings and other structures as the ground underneath loses its stability. Ukiah is not highly susceptible to liquefaction; however, there is moderate risk of liquefaction along creeks and rivers.

The term landslide refers to a wide range of ground movement, including rock falls, deep slope failures, and shallow debris flows. A variety of ground conditions, including soil type, soil strength, and slope height, may predispose slopes for landslide risk. Precipitation, vegetation, human modifications, and groundwater seepage can also affect landslide risk. Landslides can block transportation routes, dam creeks or drainages, and contaminate water supplies pertinent to the City's operation. With regard to transportation, landslides impacting transportation corridors are not uncommon, especially along highway segments near the Mendocino County – Sonoma County border. When landslides affect transportation routes, they can be difficult to clean-up and create substantial economic or operational impacts.

Landslides have occurred in the Ukiah Valley over the years and geologic studies have revealed several large ancient landslides located in Spanish Canyon, Gibson Canyon, and the Robinson Creek drainage. Steep mountain slopes are susceptible to rapidly moving surface landslides that occur during torrential rains. The risk of these slides is increased when the ground is already saturated by high rainfall and the water becomes trapped between the surface soils and bedrock. [The California Geological Survey \(CGS\) has not yet assessed the potential for liquefaction and seismically induced landslides in the Ukiah area. However, information related to landslide susceptibility throughout the state is available in CGS Map Sheet 58.](#)

The following goals and policies address geologic and seismic hazards in Ukiah.

Goals and Policies

SAF-1 *Minimize risk to people and property resulting from geologic and seismic hazards through effective development regulation (Source: UVAP Policy HS1.1)*

SAF-1.1 Building Code Requirements

The City shall mitigate the potential impact for harm associated with geologic hazards by adopting and implementing the requirements outlined within the California Building Code and State seismic design guidelines. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-1.2 Geotechnical Report

Where projects are proposed within designated risk zones, require professionally prepared geotechnical evaluations prior to site development. If a discretionary permit is required, the geotechnical report shall be submitted with the permit application. (Source: UVAP, HS1.1c)

The following goals and policies address flood hazards in Ukiah.

Goals and Policies

SAF-3 *Minimize adverse impacts related to flooding through flood mitigation components and ongoing flood management practices. (Source: New Goal)*

SAF-3.1 Flood Control Regulation

The City shall coordinate with FEMA to ensure that the City's regulations related to flood control are in compliance with Federal, State, and local guidelines. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-3.2 Flood Plain Management Ordinance

The City shall maintain an updated Flood Plain Management Ordinance specifying proper construction methods in identified flood hazard areas. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-3.3 National Flood Insurance Program

The City shall maintain compliance with the provisions of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). *(Source: New Policy)*

7.5 Wildfire

Mendocino County, like much of California, is highly susceptible to wildfires. Climate conditions, topography and landscape patterns are all key contributors to the fire hazard potential of an area. The regional Mediterranean climate in California creates an environment hospitable to fire development, and the shrubs and trees native to the California landscape are often highly susceptible to burning. Mendocino County has this natural environment of large, forested areas, brush, and mixed chaparral that are conducive to burning. Similarly, the steep terrain on either side of the Ukiah Valley is susceptible to wildland fires. The area is fairly inaccessible to emergency vehicles and consists of manzanita and scrub vegetation with a high oil and fuel content that will burn quickly with extreme heat. Under dry and/or windy weather conditions a small fire could move quickly through the dry brush and grow out of control. Fires in the Valley's hilly areas are not only a threat to residences located in the hills but could endanger the more heavily populated areas along the base of the slopes, or even the City of Ukiah itself.

Wildfires in Mendocino County are a common occurrence, with a declared fire season typically lasting from early June to mid or late October. Climate change has exacerbated fire hazard risk by creating warmer temperatures and variations in rainfall, resulting in more intense wildfires. The County has experienced historic wildfires that have burned thousands of acres and resulted in considerable damage to property and human life. The following is a list of recent historic wildfires within close proximity to the City of Ukiah ([as shown on Figure 7-4](#)).

- August Complex Fires (2020) - The August Complex Fire consisted of multiple wildfires sparked by erratic summer thunderstorms across northern California. The fires burned over 1 million acres across seven counties including over 600,000 acres within the Mendocino National Forest from August through

November of 2020. The August Complex Fires combined accounted for \$319 million in damages and became one of the single-largest wildfire events in California history.

- Mendocino Complex Fire - Ranch and River Fires (2018) - The Mendocino Complex Fire consisted of multiple wildfires that burned across northern California in late 2018. The Mendocino Complex Fire burned 410,203 acres over 3 counties, including Mendocino, Colusa, and Glenn Counties. The Ranch Fire, a component of the Mendocino Complex Fire, burned approximately 8 miles northeast of Ukiah.
- Redwood Complex Fire (2017) - The Redwood Complex Fire consisted of multiple fires that burned 36,523 acres of land north of Ukiah in Mendocino County. The fire complex destroyed over 500 structures and burned for 21 days.
- Hopkins Fire (2021) - The Hopkins Fire was the result of arson and burned 257 acres of land north of Ukiah. The fire complex destroyed over 46 structures, and damaged at least 5 more.

Data and mapping of historic wildfires throughout the state is maintained by the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection . Additionally, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) LANDFIRE (LF) products (available online) can be used by local jurisdiction in support of strategic vegetation, fire, and fuels management planning to evaluate management alternatives across boundaries and facilitate national- and regional-level strategic planning and reporting of wildland fire management activities.

Severity Zones

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is the fire department for the California Natural Resources Agency and is responsible for oversight of the State's private and public forests, as well as providing emergency services to local governments through agreements. CAL FIRE has identified fire hazard severity levels for the areas within its state responsibility area (SRA). Levels may be identified as Moderate Fire Hazard Severity, High Fire Hazard Severity, Very High Fire Hazard Severity, or Unzoned based on a number of factors, such as fuel, slope, fire weather, et. Lands within the City limits are not located within the SRA but are included in the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) and under the jurisdiction of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. However, the City of Ukiah contains approximately 387 acres of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) in an LRA along the western city limits, and is bounded by a VHFHSZ in an SRA to the west. Figure 7-5 depicts the Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the City of Ukiah and the immediate vicinity. CAL FIRE maintains the most up to date Fire Hazard Severity Zones through CAL FIRE's Fire Resource Assessment Program (FRAP).

There are no critical City facilities or infrastructure currently located within a VHFHSZ or in an area lacking service (see Figure 7-5). However, as conveyed on Figure 2-1 of the Land Use Element, areas that contain VHFHSZ lands include Recreational (Low Gap Regional Park and Ukiah Golf Course), Public Facilities (open land and Public uses such as the landfill within future Annexation Areas), Rural Residential, Low-Density Residential, and Hillside Residential Land Uses. Presently, existing development in the VHFHSZ include only recreation opportunities and limited residential and the low-intensity recreational uses listed above.

Although properties within the City limits are not located within an SRA, the City of Ukiah (Ukiah City Code Section 5200) has adopted the SRA regulations for lands within the City limits located in High or VHFHSZs. This includes

development standards contained within Public Resources Code Sections 4290 and 4291, which are designed to provide defensible space and fire protection for new construction and ensure adequate emergency access. Additionally, the City's Hillside Overlay Zoning District (which also generally overlaps lands within VHFHSZs) includes development standards for residential development relating to fire hazards, including increased setbacks, the restriction of using combustible roof materials, water and fire hydrant requirements, slope requirements, etc.

Ukiah is also susceptible to wildfire threats starting outside of the City boundaries. Ukiah is in a region with large stretches of high fire severity hazard zones located to the west, southwest, and northwest. Although the risk from those areas is lessened due to their relative distance from Ukiah, fire in these areas could spread to the city, as demonstrated in recent urban conflagrations in Santa Rosa and Paradise. Brush fires in Ukiah and the surrounding area are common during the summer but are generally extinguished before developed areas sustain much damage. Large fires in the surrounding area do pose threats to the City of Ukiah.

In 2003, CAL FIRE constructed a shaded fuel break (north to south) along the base of the western hills along the entire length of the city to reduce fuel loads and protect the community from wildfire risk. A shaded fuel break is a forest management strategy used for mitigating the threat of wildfire leading to a dangerous buildup of combustible vegetation. The goal of a shaded fuel break is to thin the surface vegetation, conduct selective thinning, remove dead and down woody material, and remove ladder fuels to prevent a catastrophic fire and prevent the loss of structures. Maintenance was performed on the 100-foot wide, 2.6-mile fuel break in late 2018 and early 2019, with ongoing annual maintenance performed by the property owners and the City.

Figure 7-4 Historic Wildfires Around Ukiah (new figure)

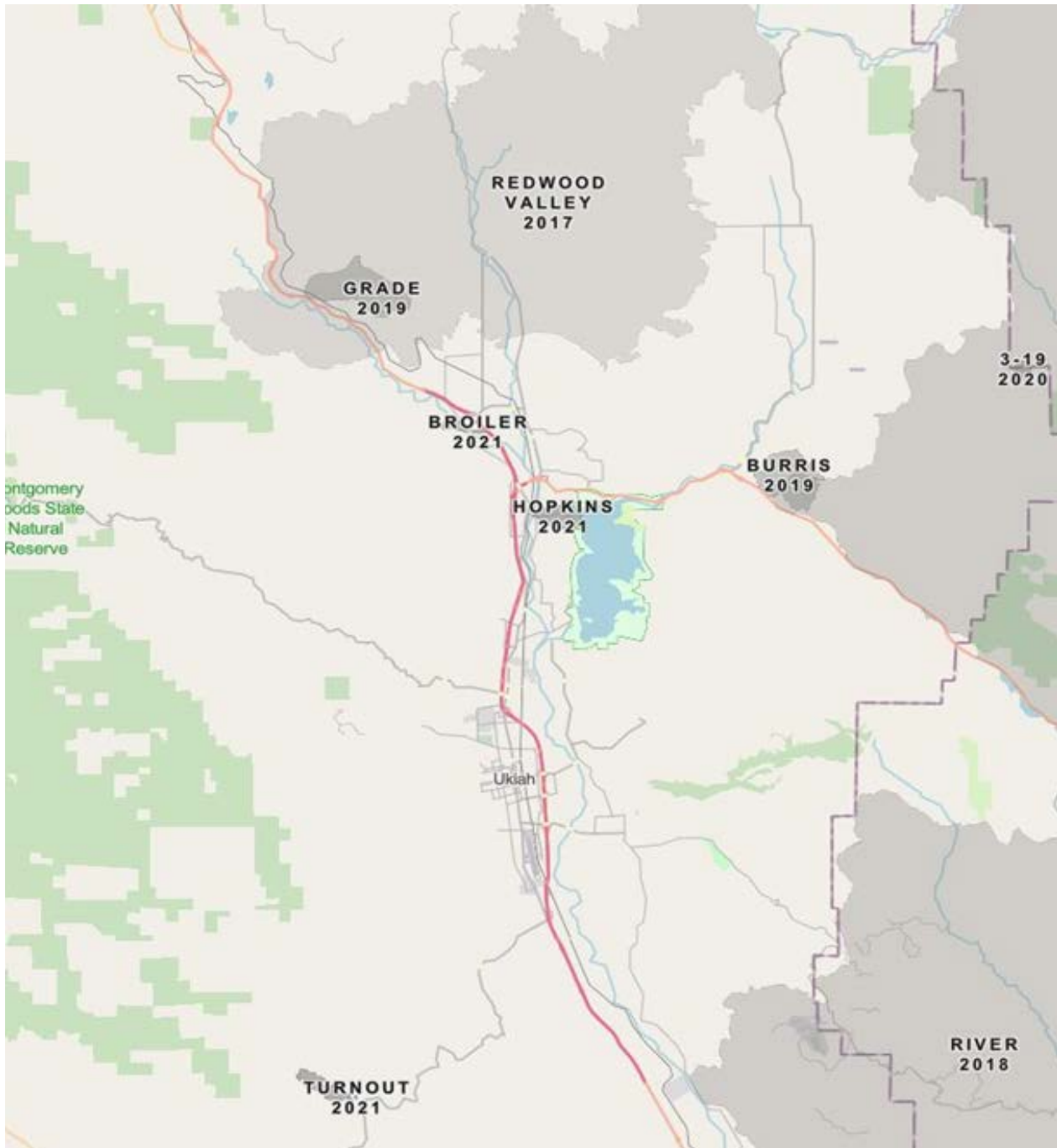
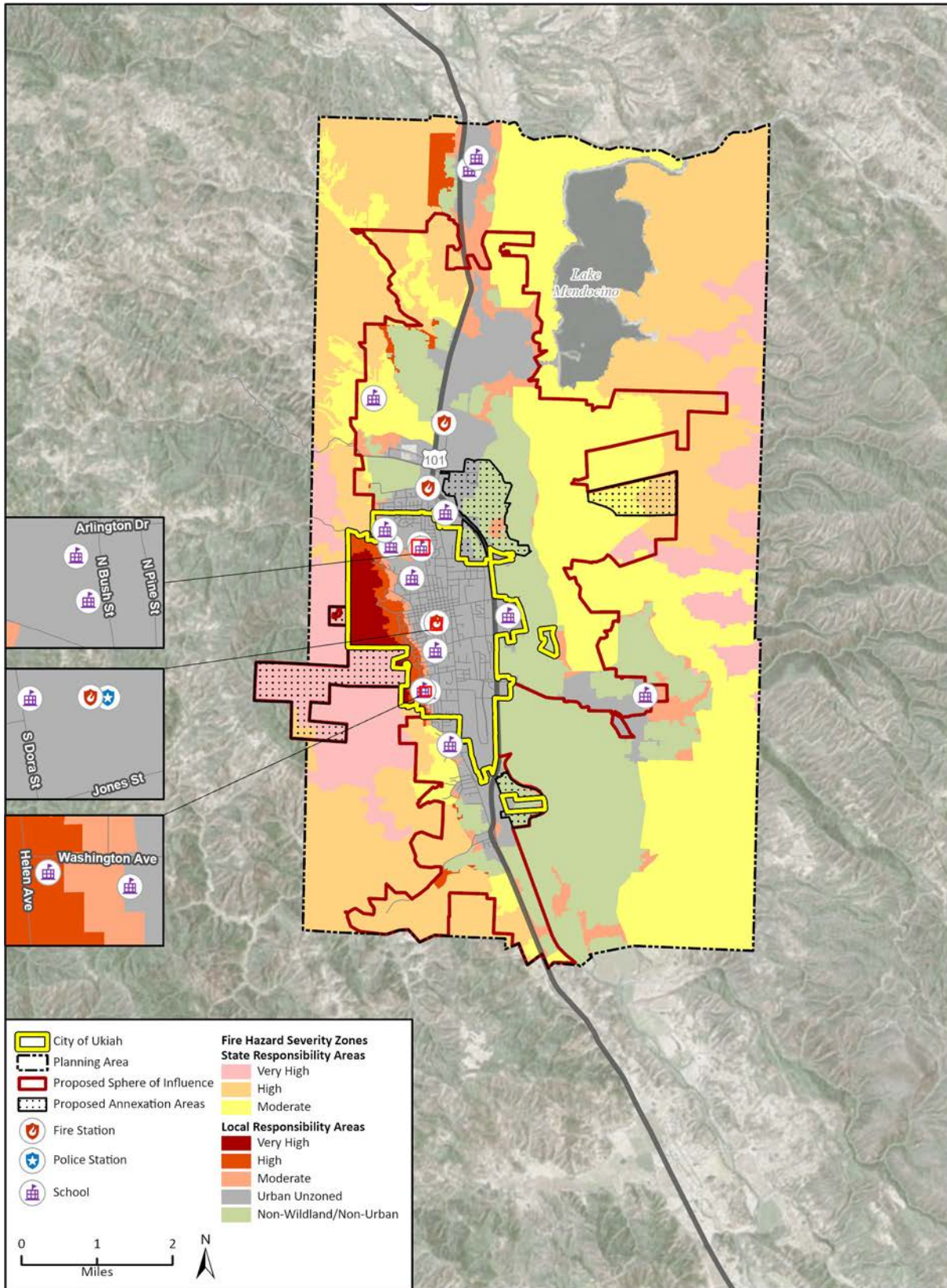


Figure 7-5 Fire Hazard Severity Zones (updated figure)



Imagery and basemap data provided by Esri and its licensors © 2022.
Additional data provided by Mendocino County and Cal Dept of Conservation, 2015; CAL FIRE, 2007.

Fire Protection

Ukiah Valley Fire Authority

The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA) is responsible for fire protection services within the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley. The UVFA is a consolidated body of two previously separate fire agencies; the City of Ukiah Fire Department and the Ukiah Valley Fire District. As of July 2017, under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Fire Protection District, the UVFA became permanently effective as a joint organization to maximize the use of existing resources, reduce costs, and deliver effective fire services. [The Agreement jointly manages, equips, maintains and operates all-risk fire, emergency medical and rescue services to the City and Fire District.](#) This relationship was further strengthened in October 2021 when the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approved the Ukiah Valley Fire Protection District's annexation of the City of Ukiah. A primary purpose of the annexation was to ensure fiscal stability of fire and emergency medical response services for the long-term benefit of Ukiah Valley residents served by the UVFA.

The service area for UVFA covers approximately 90 square miles, including the city of Ukiah and a majority of the Ukiah Valley. [The UVFA is organized into four divisions: Administration, Operations, Training and Safety, and Fire Prevention.](#) There are four fire stations operated by the UVFA, two of which are staffed with career personnel. There are sixteen full-time safety employees, including a Fire Chief, two Battalion Chiefs, six Captains, six Engineers, and three Firefighters. The safety employees are supplemented by UVFA's Volunteer Fire Division, consisting of up to twenty dedicated volunteer firefighters. [The UVFA responds to fires, medical emergencies, traffic collisions, technical rescues, hazardous materials, explosions, floods and earthquakes, as well as non-emergency public service calls, through a consistent state of readiness. Volunteer Firefighters participate in training activities and augment career staffing during emergency and non-emergency activities.](#)

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit

The majority of areas within Mendocino County are considered State Responsibility Areas for fire protection. The CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit is geographically divided into six battalions. During the fire season, the CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit includes approximately 125 career personnel and approximately 120 seasonal personnel. The unit has 10 fire stations, 16 engines, 5 bulldozers, and other fire suppression equipment. CAL FIRE has two stations in the planning area: one just North of Hopland and one north of Ukiah on North State Street near Hensley Creek.

The Ukiah Valley includes the densest population centers in Mendocino County, including the city of Ukiah. CAL FIRE works in coordination with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to mitigate the fire hazards and protect the community from fire-related damage.

Mutual Aid Agreements

[The UVFA primarily serves residents and property within the District and City jurisdictional boundaries. However, due to the critical need for rapid response in emergency situations, when a call for service is received, the nearest available response unit is dispatched regardless of jurisdictional boundary. Therefore, the UVFA response area is larger than the UVFA and the City boundaries based on the Countywide Mutual Aid System. Mutual aid refers to reciprocal service and support provided to another agency upon request under a mutual aid agreement between one](#)

or more agencies. Automatic aid differs in that no request for aid is necessary for reciprocal service and support between agencies within the automatic aid agreement. These types of pre-arrangements allow for the dispatch and use of additional equipment and personnel that a single jurisdiction cannot provide on its own and also entails a reciprocal return of resources when needed.

According to the 2015 Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, the UVFA is within Mutual Aid/Planning Zone 2, which includes the City of Ukiah, Ukiah Valley Fire District, Potter Valley Community Services District, Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District, and Hopland Fire Protection District. The UVFA maintains verbal mutual aid agreements with the Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District, Hopland Fire Protection District, Potter Valley Community Services District and Little Lake Fire Protection District, as well as an automatic aid agreement with CAL FIRE. In addition to the local mutual aid system, the UVFA participates in the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System for wildland fire incidents throughout the State. UVFA responds to out-of-County fire incidents upon request and when the remaining equipment and personnel are capable of providing adequate service levels in the District and City boundaries.

Lastly, the UVFA participates in the following regional and service-specific associations and organizations:

- The Fire Chief is an active member of the Mendocino County Fire Chief's Association, the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts, the Fire Districts Association of California, and the California Fire Chiefs Association.
- The District is a sponsor of the Mendocino Fire Safe Council.

Below are examples of the UVFA's interagency collaborative arrangements and efforts:

- Actively participates in Redwood Empire Hazardous Incident Team.
- Is a County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) System participant.
- Works with CAL FIRE in implementing vegetation fuel management grants to reduce vegetative fire hazards in and around the District, such as when the District as part of the UVFA cooperated with CAL FIRE on the Western Hills Fuel Break.

Regional **Wildfire** Plans

Regional plans also contribute to wildfire mitigation and readiness of the area. Mendocino County has three regional fire plans:

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Strategic Fire Plan. The Mendocino Unit Strategic Fire Plan was developed in 2020 by the CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit. It is focused on fire suppression capabilities and proposed pre-fire projects to reduce future fire impacts. The Plan expands on the broad goals set forth in the 2019 Strategic Fire Plan for California to establish an appropriate community context and was most recently updated in 2021.

The Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (MCCWPP). The MCCWPP (2015) is a cooperative effort of the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council and CAL FIRE's Mendocino Unit, with input from local fire departments and engaged citizens. The Plan establishes goals and policies for pre-fire projects, local fire safe councils, mutual aid agreements and relationships, and establishes a Community Wildland Protection Plan.

Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Analysis: The overall goal of the Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Assessment (FVA) is to prevent loss of life, minimize property damage caused by wildfires and reduce recovery effort spending. To accomplish this, County areas and populations that are most vulnerable to fire ([critical facilities, infrastructure, commercial buildings, vulnerable population locations and private property \(residential units\)](#)) have been identified and recommendations are made on how to improve the County's existing strategies and practices. [See Section 7.6, Emergency Planning, below for a discussion of other regional and local hazard mitigation and emergency response plans, including information related to evacuation. Water supply, fire protection and emergency response is also further discussed in Section 5.1 Water, and Section 5.6 Emergency Services in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.](#)

The following goals and policies address wildfire hazards in Ukiah.

Goals and Policies

SAF-4 *To maintain adequate and effective fire protection services for Ukiah. (Source: New Goal)*

SAF-4.1 Fire Service Rating

The City shall optimize the ISO ratings of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to Class 1 by prioritizing agency needs and balancing cost/quality trade-offs. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-4.2 Fire Service Funding

The City shall explore opportunities for increased funding for the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority in order to expand services appropriately. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-4.3 Fire Protection Resources

The City shall foster cooperative working relationships with public fire agencies, including CAL FIRE, to optimize fire protection resources within Ukiah. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-4.4 Mutual Aid Participation

The City shall continue to participate in existing mutual aid systems and agreements, and participate in opportunities for new agreements, to supplement the capacity of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-4.5 Regional Fire Protection Plans

The City shall coordinate with CAL FIRE and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council to implement and regularly update regional fire protection plans. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-4.6 Local Fire Protection Plans

The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to continue developing local fire protection planning and programs, [particularly for new development in VHFHSZs](#). *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-5 *To minimize wildland fire risk to protect life and property. (Source: Existing GP Goal SF-7, modified)*

SAF-5.1 Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation

The City shall to the extent possible, ensure that future public facilities are not located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or areas lacking service. If facilities are located within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones the City shall reduce the hazard potential ~~for public facilities located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone~~ by requiring the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements. If facilities are proposed in areas lacking existing service, service shall be expanded to such areas to provide adequate fire protection. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.2 Vegetation and Fuel Management

The City shall require that structures located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity zone maintain the required hazardous vegetation and fuel management specified within the California Fire Code and Public Resources Code 4291. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.3 Evacuation Routes

The City shall identify and maintain adequate evacuation routes in the city to safeguard human life in the case of fire. Evacuation routes shall be analyzed for their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios in accordance with Assembly Bill 747. Evacuation routes within VHFHSZs shall be developed in accordance with SRA Fire Safe Regulations (Title 14, Division 1.5), and residential development in VHFHSZs that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes shall also be identified in accordance with Senate Bill 99. The City shall also work with the County to update the Mendocino Evacuation Plan accordingly. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.4 Roadway Vegetation Clearance

The City shall maintain an adequate vegetation clearance on public and private roads to mitigate wildfire hazards. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.5 Fuel Breaks

The City shall prioritize increasing funding for and the maintenance of appropriate fuel breaks, reductions, and pest management in high fire hazard areas to prevent the spread of fire and limit potential damages. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.6 Water Supply Infrastructure

The City shall regularly assess the integrity of ~~existing~~ water supply infrastructure and prioritize required system for existing and proposed development to ensure adequate fire suppression needs are met. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.7 Fire Code Compliance

The City shall require that all new or significantly renovated structures and facilities within Ukiah comply with local, State, and Federal regulatory standards including the California Building and Fire

Codes as well as other applicable fire safety standards, including but not limited to, Public Resources Code 4291. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.8 Site Design Standards for Fire Hazard Reduction

The City shall prioritize the maintenance and update of stringent site design standards (such as those contained within the Hillside Overlay District) to reduce potential fire hazard risk, particularly within VHFHSZs, and ensure that new development maintains adequate access (ingress, egress). New residential development with VHFHSZs should be minimized. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.9 Adequate Water Supply Infrastructure

All new development shall have adequate fire protection resources. The City shall prioritize new development in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.10 Fire Safety Education Programs

The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to inform property owners and residents of the most recent best practices in building and land management and fire safety measures to protect people and property from fire hazards. This shall include providing information to at-risk populations related to evacuation routes and wildfire evacuation events, defensible space, fire hazard impacts (such as structural damage, wildfire smoke, etc.), fire prevention measures, and structural hardening. (Source: Existing Policy SF-10.1, modified)



For goals and policies relating to water supply, fire protection and emergency response please refer to Section 5.1 (Water) and Section 5.6 (Emergency Services) in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.

7.6 Emergency Planning and Awareness

The State of California requires all municipal governments to prepare and plan for potential emergencies including natural, man-made, and health-related events. Ukiah seeks to keep residents, property, and infrastructure as safe as possible in the event of a disaster through land use controls, hazard mitigation and emergency response efforts, and community programs. The City also works with Mendocino County on a number of plans and programs to coordinate preparedness efforts and resources. Emergency preparedness efforts in Ukiah include:

- Participation in the Mendocino County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Participation in the North Coast Opportunities Disaster Preparedness Training Programs
- Training for residents in community preparedness and resilience skills
- Upgrades to structures to comply with building and fire codes
- Support for and information on creating a Family Disaster Plan for residents

~~In addition to the plans discussed in Section 7.5, *Wildfire* above, Mendocino County, as well as the City of Ukiah maintains multiple emergency planning documents to prepare for regional emergency events and hazard risks. The Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) was adopted in 2020 and includes a hazard mitigation assessment and report for Ukiah. In addition to the MJHMP, Mendocino County maintains a regional Emergency Operations Plan consistent with State guidelines. A summary of these plans is provided below.~~

~~**Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) and the City's Jurisdictional Annex (Local Hazard Mitigation Plan):** The MJHMP provides a discussion of prevalent hazards within the County, identifies risks to vulnerable assets, both people and property, and provides a mitigation strategy to achieve the greatest risk reduction based upon available resources.~~

~~The four cities within Mendocino County, including the City of Ukiah, participated in preparation of the MJHMP to individually assess hazards, explore hazard vulnerability, develop mitigation strategies, and create their own plan for each respective city (referred to as a "jurisdictional annex" to the MJHMP). The MJHMP (and the City's Jurisdictional Annex, which serves as the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan) was developed in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and followed FEMA's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance. Within the City's Annex, hazards are identified and profiled, people and facilities at risk are analyzed, and mitigation actions are developed to reduce or eliminate hazard risk. The implementation of these mitigation actions, which include both short and long-term strategies, involve planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities. The City of Ukiah adopted its jurisdictional annex chapter of the MJHMP on November 18, 2020. Hazards identified for the City of Ukiah include earthquakes, wildfire, dam failure, flood and pandemic. Table 1-13 of the City's jurisdictional annex lists each hazard and mitigation action for City of Ukiah.~~

~~**Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Assessment:** As discussed in Section 7.5 *Wildfire* above, wildland fires in Mendocino County have historically burned thousands of acres and engendered considerable property loss with occasional loss of life. The overall goal of the Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Assessment (FVA), which was~~

adopted in August 2020, is to prevent loss of life, minimize property damage caused by wildfires and reduce recovery effort spending. To accomplish this, County areas and populations that are most vulnerable to fire have been identified and recommendations are made on how to improve the County's existing strategies and practices. The Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Assessment also lists and provides addresses for all critical public facilities and infrastructure.

Mendocino County/Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (EOP): The Mendocino County EOP was adopted in September, 2016, and is in the process of being updated by the County. The Mendocino County EOP addresses response to and short term recovery from disasters and emergency situations affecting the Mendocino County Operational Area, which consists of the cities, special districts and the unincorporated areas of the County. This document serves as the legal and conceptual framework for emergency management in the Mendocino County Operational Area. However, notes that there are a number of separately published documents that support the EOP.

The Mendocino Evacuation Plan: The Mendocino Evacuation Plan (July, 2020) is an annex to the EOP and identifies evacuation routes within the County. This Plan describes existign conditions, access concerns, and strategies for managing evacuations which exceed the day-to-day capabilities of the various public safety agencies in Mendocino County. The City of Ukiah is identified as being located within ‘Planning Area 2’ and ‘Zone 2f’ of the Evacuation Plan. A detailed disuession of Planning Area 2, including climate, disaster history, access issues, evacuation routes, and critical infrastructure and facilities is provided within the Evacuation Plan (p.72).

City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan: The City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan (May, 2021) is designed to ensure continuity of operations and essential services, such as police, fire, utilities, and other day-to-day operations during and after an emergency or disaster. This plan was developed in consultation with the Ukiah Disaster Council it complies with all local ordinances, state law, and aligns with contemporary emergency planning guidance. This plan serves as the primary guide for reducing emergency and disaster risk within the City of Ukiah, and establishes roles and procdures for deployment of the City's Emergency Operations Center. A current map of evacuation zones and routes is also maintained on the City of Ukiah's Office of Emergency Management webpage.

Aditioanlly, a map of evacuation zones, and critical infrastructure such as hospitals, fire stations and law enforcement facilities is also maintained online by the County of Mendocino through their public Geographic Information System (GIS) portal. The following goals and policies address emergency planning and awareness in Ukiah. Emergency response is also further discussed in Section 5.6, *Emergency Services*, in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.

Goals and Policies

SAF-6 *To ensure that the City is adequately prepared for emergencies of any variety through effective planning measures. (Source: New Goal)*

SAF-6.1 Evacuation Route Coordination

The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to review, update, and periodically exercise emergency access, protocols, and evacuation routes and associated plans to assess their effectiveness. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-6.2 Hazard Mitigation Plan

The City shall continue to participate in and implement the Mendocino County Hazard Mitigation Plan to ensure maximum preparedness for hazard events. *(Source: New Policy)*

SAF-6.3 Locally Focused Plans

The City shall maintain and implement locally focused plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan, to maintain consistency with State and Federal requirements. This shall include developing a plan for repopulation and redevelopment after large disaster events. *(Source: New Policy)*

7.7 Noise

The noise environment within a community often plays a significant role in the quality of life for residents and workers. When noise levels are excessive, they are often perceived as intrusive or irritating. Perception of noise is highly variable and can be influenced by the time of day, distance from the noise source, qualities of the noise source, and characteristics of the noise receptor. Given the range of factors that can impact noise perception, public agencies typically establish their noise standards in a manner that considers timing, receptor-types, and source-types.

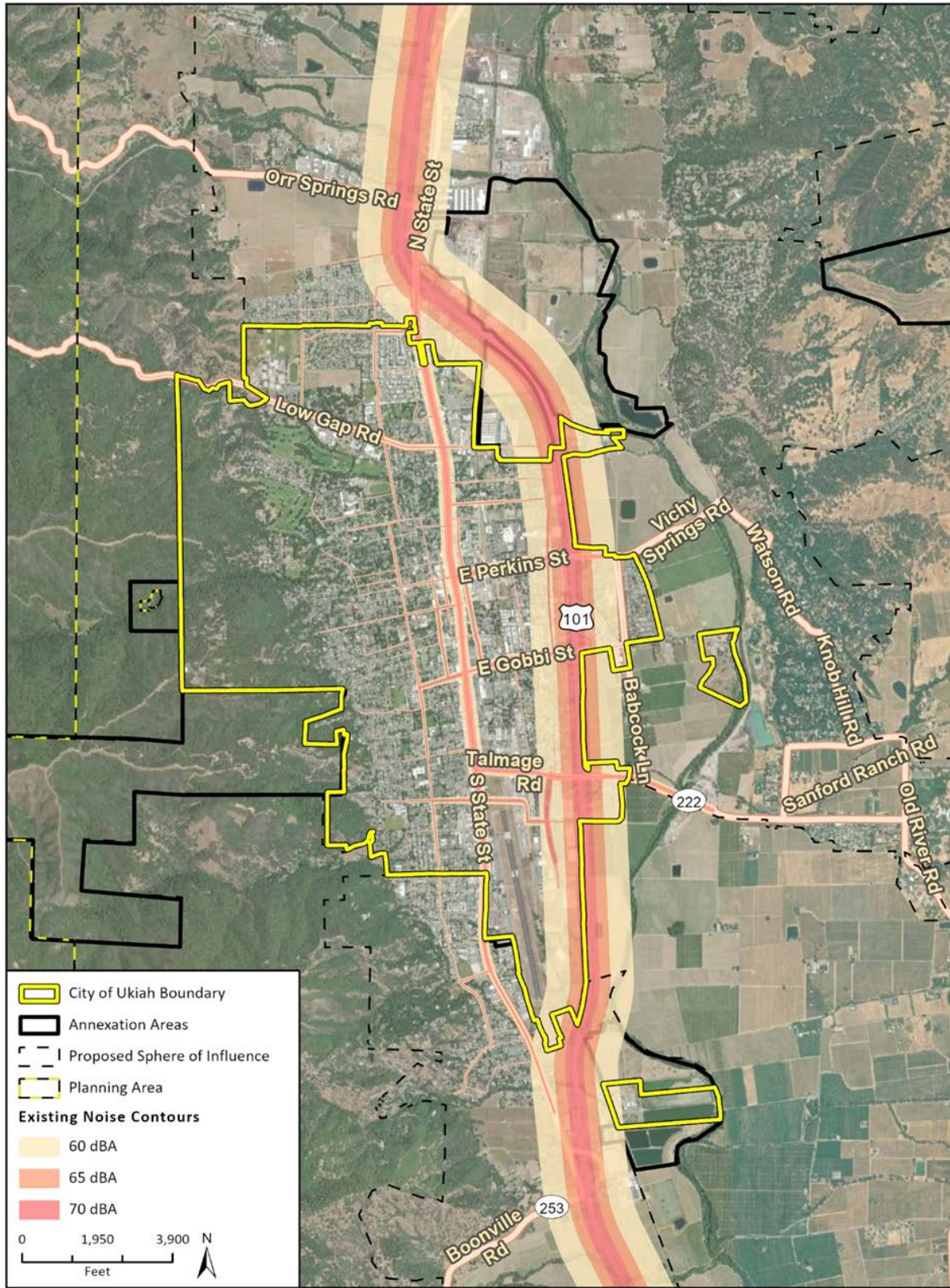
Sensitive noise receptors are of critical significance to the assessment of noise within a community. Sensitive receptors are key locations or people within a community that may have increased sensitivity to noise levels. Sensitive receptors typically include, but are not limited to, schools, libraries, residences, hospitals, daycare facilities, elderly housing, and convalescent facilities. Cities and counties can protect the sensitive receptors within their communities by adopting land use policies that mandate the placement of significant noise producers away from sensitive receptors or require noise mitigation.

Noise Measurement

Noise is typically described in terms of the loudness (amplitude) of the sound and frequency (pitch) of the sound. Noise loudness is measured in decibels (dB). Decibels (dB) are based on a logarithmic scale that condenses the range in sound pressure levels to a more usable number range. A weighted decibel (dBA) is an additional measure of sound that adjusts the sound rating scale to levels consistent with the sensitivity range of the human ear. For example, people perceive a sound 10 dBA higher than another sound as being twice as loud, and 20 dBA higher as being four times as loud, and so forth. Everyday sounds normally range from 30 dBA (very quiet) to 100 dBA (very loud).

In California, land use compatibility is primarily measured using Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL). The CNEL rating is the average sound level over a 24-hour period, with a penalty of 5 dB added between 7 pm and 10 pm,

Figure 7-7 Existing Traffic Noise Contours



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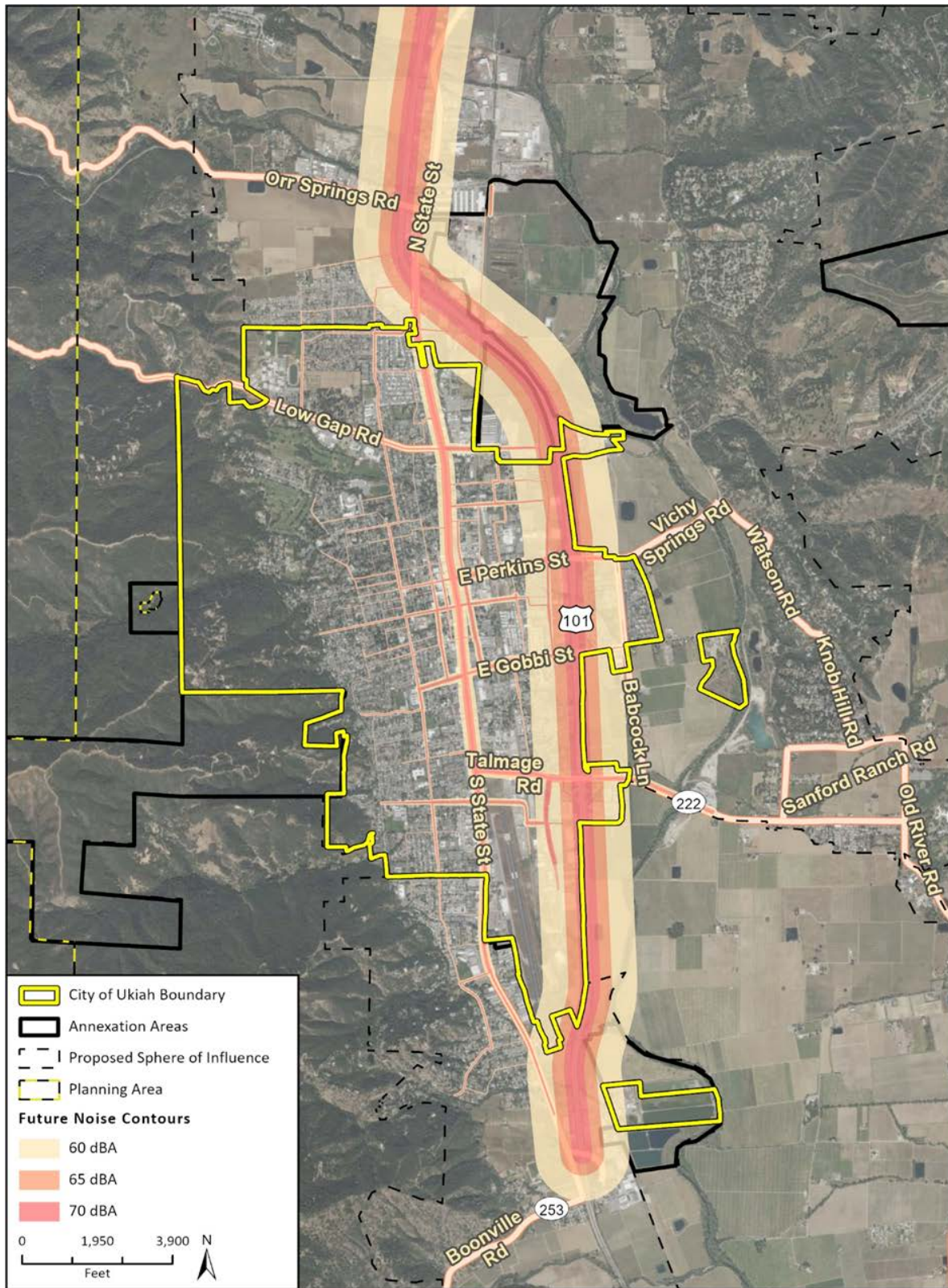
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Noise Contours
2020 Noise Contours Overview Map

Future (2040) Noise Contours

~~{Description of changes to noise environment based on general plan buildout}~~ The future noise contours for the City of Ukiah are depicted in Figure 7-8 below. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 could result in additional buildout, which would generate new vehicle trips that could incrementally increase the exposure of land uses along roadways to traffic noise. The traffic noise increase shown in Figure 7-8 results from the difference between the projected future noise level and the existing noise levels. The following Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and polices are intended to help reduce traffic-related noise associated with future buildout.

Figure 7-8 2040 Traffic Noise Contours



Imagery provided by Microsoft Bing and its licensors © 2022.
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Noise Contours
2040 Noise Contours Overview Map

7.8 Implementation Programs

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Building and Zoning Code</p> <p>The City shall review and update the building and zoning code upon amendments to the California Building Code, Alquist-Priolo Act, and all published regulations related to development and construction.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	HSSAF – 1.1	Community Development					■
<p>B Geotechnical Report</p> <p>The City shall update Municipal Code with provisions to require professionally prepared geotechnical evaluations prior to site development. If a discretionary permit is required, the geotechnical report shall be submitted with the permit application.</p> <p><i>(Source: UVAP, HSI. 1c)</i></p>	HSSAF – 1.2	Community Development		■			
<p>C Resilient Infrastructure</p> <p>The City shall reach out to property owners of privately owned critical facilities (e.g., hospitals, emergency shelters) and coordinate building inspections to evaluate the ability of the buildings to withstands moderate to significant earthquakes and to address any deficiencies identified.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	HSSAF – 1.3	Community Development					■

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>D Resilient Infrastructure</p> <p>The City shall continue an outreach and education program for owners and tenants in downtown unreinforced masonry buildings and provide ongoing information regarding earthquake risks, precautions, retrofitting options, and available funding mechanisms.</p> <p><i>(Source: MJHMP, 2021, modified)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 1.4</p>	<p>Community Development</p>					<p>■</p>
<p>E Floodplain Development</p> <p>The City shall review and update the City Code to incorporate FEMA Flood Insurance Program standards and regulations for development within identified floodplains or areas subject to inundation by a one-hundred-year flood. The standards shall prohibit development within floodways except as permitted by Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Program.</p> <p><i>(Source: Existing Program SF-3.1a)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 3.1 HSSAF – 3.2 HSSAF – 3.3</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>F Resilient Communities</p> <p>The City shall coordinate and collaborate with community service organizations to ensure that the information and services related to emergency preparedness are made available through handouts, outreach meetings, and online resources to persons with limited transportation, communication, and other lifeline resources and services.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF -2.1 HSSAF -2.2</p>	<p>City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>	<p>■</p>				

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
G Storm Drain Maintenance for Flood Control The City shall maintain and regularly assess the local storm drains for adequate operation to prevent flooding and debris flows. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 3.1 HSSAF – 3.3	Public Works					■
H Fire Protection Rating Monitor the City’s fire protection rating and cooperate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to correct deficiencies. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 4.1	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority				■	
I Insurance Services Officer (ISO) The City shall work with the County, special districts, and the State to implement ISO recommendations and take steps necessary to maintain or improve the areas’ ISO Rating. <i>(Source: Existing Program SF-6. 1a)</i>	HSSAF – 4.1	City Manager — Community Development					■
J Fire Service Funding The City shall explore opportunities such as state and federal grants and partnerships with other organizations for increased funding related to fire risk mitigation. Funding opportunities for private landowners will be promoted through City communications channels. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 4.2	Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					■

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
K Fire Liaison Designate a Fire Safety Liaison to regularly coordinate with CAL FIRE and neighboring fire agencies on staffing, local programs, and key issues. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 4.3	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					
L Mutual Aid Participation The City shall participate in mutual aid systems and agreements to supplement the capacity of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 4.4	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					
M Regional Fire Protection Plans The City shall coordinate with CAL FIRE and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council to implement and regularly review and update regional fire protection plans, such as the Mendocino County Wildfire Protection Plan, Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Analysis, Mendocino County/Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan, Mendocino Evacuation Plan, etc. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 4.5 SAF-5.3	City Manager — CAL FIRE Mendocino Mendocino County Fire Safe Council					


Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>N Local Fire Protection Plans</p> <p>The City shall request quarterly meetings with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to develop and implement local fire protection planning and programs.</p> <p><u>If new residential subdivisions are proposed within the VHFHSZ a Fire Protection Plan with the following components shall be included in the proposal and reviewed by the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Risk Analysis.</u> • <u>Fire Response Capabilities</u> • <u>Fire Safety Requirements – Defensible Space, Infrastructure, and Building Ignition Resistance.</u> • <u>Mitigation Measures and Design Considerations for Non-Conforming Fuel Modification.</u> • <u>Wildfire Education Maintenance and Limitations.</u> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 4.6</p>	<p>City Manager</p> <p>—</p> <p>Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>					■
<p>O Fire Safety Standards</p> <p>The City shall review the Ukiah City Code every five years to confirm compliance with all applicable State regulatory standards related to fire safety and update the Code as necessary.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	■	■	■		

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>P Fire Hazard Zone Update The City shall continue to update and adopt local fire hazard zones designations as changes to the state zoning designation occur. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5</p>	<p>Community Development</p>					<p>■</p>
<p>Q Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation The City shall require the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements for public facilities located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.1</p>	<p>Community Development</p>					<p>■</p>
<p>R Evacuation Route Standards The City shall establish minimum road widths and flammable vegetation clearances for evacuation routes in accordance with California regulatory standards. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.2 HSSAF – 5.3 HSSAF – 6.1</p>	<p>City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>S Out of Compliance Roadways The City shall identify all road networks in VHFHSZs that do not meet State standards outlined in Title 14, Chapter 7 of the California Code of Regulations and prepare recommendations and a program for bringing the roadways into compliance with State standards. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.4</p>	<p>Public Works — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>		<p>■</p>			

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>T Fuel Break Assessment The City shall develop a strategic Fuel Break Assessment to establish priorities for developing and maintaining fuel breaks within the city. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.5</p>	<p>Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>U Cooperative Pest Management The City shall collaborate with state and federal land management agencies on pest and fuel management activities. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.5</p>	<p>Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>V Community Chipper Program The City shall participate annually and expand the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council’s Community Chipper Program to provide a free service to chip and haul limbs and brush for residences defensible space. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.5</p>	<p>Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority Mendocino County Fire Safe Council</p>				<p>■</p>	
<p>W Water Supply Infrastructure The City shall regularly assess the integrity of existing water supply infrastructure through water tests and inspections of water lines. <u>Future development will be assessed to ensure adequate water for fire suppression needs is provided.</u> Developments in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure <u>will be prioritized.</u> <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.6 HSSAF – 5.9</p>	<p>Public Works</p>				<p>■</p>	



Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>X Hillside Development Standards The City shall review and update the Hillside Development Standards outlined within the Ukiah City Code by 2030 for consistency with new wildfire safety legislation. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.7 HSSAF – 5.8 HSSAF – 5.10</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>Y Site Design Standards The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to update site design standards in accordance with published State guidance and current conditions. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.8</p>	<p>Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>				<p>■</p>	
<p>Z Public Information Program The City shall develop a comprehensive public information program related to fire safety to inform residents, <u>particularly those that include at-risk populations</u>, of present hazards and strategies for mitigation. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.10</p>	<p>City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>			<p>■</p>		
<p>AA Communities at Risk The City shall identify and map existing multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing located in VHFHSZs and require the development of adequate evacuation or shelter in place plans. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.10</p>	<p>City Manager — Community Development Police Department Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>	<p>■</p>				

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>BB Fire Safety Education</p> <p>The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority District to schedule and host annual public meetings to review established wildfire prevention and protection measures as well as emergency response plans, especially evacuation plans and routes.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 5.10</p>	<p>City Manager</p> <p>—</p> <p>Police Department</p> <p>Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>				<p>■</p>	
<p>CC Mendocino MJHMP</p> <p>The City shall update city plans, regulations, and standards to implement the 2020 Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 6.2</p>	<p>Police Department</p> <p>—</p> <p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>DD Mendocino County EOP</p> <p>The City shall update city plans, regulations, and standards every five years to assure compatibility with the Mendocino County Emergency Operations Plan. <u>This shall include developing a plan for repopulation and redevelopment after large disaster events.</u></p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 6.3</p>	<p>Police Department</p> <p>—</p> <p>City Manager</p> <p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>		

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
EE Sound Attenuation Regulations The City shall require any new residential development located along a major transportation corridor to reduce any potential noise impacts to a less than significant level by using current best practices, including building materials, site design, barriers and berms, and other methods of noise reduction. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 7.2	Community Development					

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>FF Airport Disclosure</p> <p>The City shall prepare an ordinance requiring that the following statement be included in all property transactions or as a part of the issuance of use permits for property or projects within the airport's area of influence, both core and peripheral.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This project/residence is in close proximity to the Ukiah Municipal Airport which is a major noise generating source. Development in this area will be subject to overflights of aircraft taking off from and landing at the airport. These aircraft include privately-owned corporate jets and firefighting air tankers from the California Department of Forestry. It is anticipated that the volume of traffic and resulting noise may increase in future years.</i> (Source: Existing Program NZ-1.5a) 	<p>HSSAF – 7.3</p>	<p>Planning Services</p> <p>—</p> <p>Building Services</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>			
<p>GG Airport Noise Attenuation</p> <p>The City shall update the Municipal Code to require the incorporation of sound reducing measures, as needed, in all new construction in the airport compatibility zones, consistent with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>HSSAF – 7.4</p>	<p>Planning Services</p> <p>—</p> <p>Building Services</p>	<p>■</p>				

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
HH	<p>Roadway Expansion</p> <p>The City shall require the use of accepted acoustic engineering features when designing for the expansion of existing roads where such expansion has the potential to result in a noise impact that can be feasibly mitigated. Examples include low landscaped berms, landscaping, below-grade construction, and speed control - to minimize expansion of the existing Design to Cost (DTC).</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	HSSAF – 7.5	Public Work Department					■
II	<p>Noise Attenuation</p> <p>The City shall review and update Article 6 of the City Municipal Code to ensure enforcement of best practices for noise attenuation standards, and to include a requirement for all new commercial and manufacturing uses that could produce noise that exceeds the noise limit regulations listed in Article 6 to incorporate applicable noise mitigation measures to reduce noise levels to acceptable levels.</p> <p><i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i></p>	<p>HSSAF – 8.1</p> <p>HSSAF – 8.3</p>	<p>Planning Services</p> <p>—</p> <p>Building Services</p>	■				■

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
JJ Noise Impact Analysis Where noise analysis has been required as a condition of project approval, the City shall ensure adequate analysis of noise impacts when reviewing project permits by requiring noise details and specifications as part of the submittal packet. <i>(Source: Existing Policy NZ-2.2)</i>	HSSAF – 8.2	Planning Services — Building Services					
KK Acoustical Studies The City shall add provision to Municipal Code to require acoustical studies for all new development projects with potential to generate excessive noise to identify potential noise impacts and appropriate mitigation measures. <i>(Source: New Implementation Program)</i>	HSSAF – 8.4	Planning Services — Building Services					

Links to Referenced Documents and Plans

California Geological Survey (CGS) Map Sheet 58, Susceptibility to Deep-Seated Landslides in California, 2011.

https://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/Documents/Publications/Map-Sheets/MS_058.pdf

City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Land Use Element (Draft)

http://ukiah2040.com/images/docs/UKGP_02_PRD_LU_Element_2022_08_02_BG.pdf

Ukiah City Code Section 5200 (SRA Regulations adopted into City Code)

<https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Ukiah/#!/html/Ukiah06/Ukiah0603-0100.html>

Ukiah City Code Section 9135-9139 (Hillside Overlay District)

<https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Ukiah/#!/Ukiah09/Ukiah0902-1100.html>

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Strategic Fire Plan https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/media/cisd30yl/2021_meu_fireplan.pdf

The Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan <https://firesafemendocino.org/mccwpp/>

Mendocino County Fire Vulnerability Analysis

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/7261d7732/FireVulnerabilityAssessment.pdf>

City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element (Draft)

http://ukiah2040.com/images/docs/UKGP_05_PRD_PFS_Element_2022_08_02_BG.pdf

Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP), Vol. 1

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/43436/637587367488300000>

MJHMP, Vol. 2

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/43438/637587367973030000>

MJHMP-City of Ukiah Jurisdictional Annex <https://cityofukiah.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Mendocino-MJHMP-City-of-Ukiah.pdf>

Mendocino County/Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/8211/636329380557000000>

The Mendocino Evacuation Plan

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/files/cbb6532a3/%2307c+EvacuationPlan071520.pdf>.

City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan <https://cityofukiah.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/City-of-Ukiah-Emergency-Operation-Plan.pdf>

City of Ukiah's Office of Emergency Management webpage <https://cityofukiah.com/office-of-emergency-management/>

County of Mendocino Geographic Information System (GIS) evacuation map and critical facilities

<https://gis.mendocinocounty.org/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=96e8ab92ca234a74b66a9df596108e34>



Agriculture Element

Section	Title	Page
8.1	Agriculture	8-3
8.2	Ukiah Valley Agricultural Stakeholders	8-5
8.3	Implementation Programs	8-6

8.1 Agriculture

Formalized agriculture within the Ukiah Valley began in the 1850s. Efforts included the raising of livestock and the growing of various grains, ~~and predominantly~~ hops. When the Northwestern Pacific Railroad was completed in 1889, prunes, potatoes, pears, and hops were sent from the Ukiah Valley to San Francisco and other regional markets. Hops, pears, prunes and grapes were the most widely planted crops in the 1950s, and today the Ukiah Valley is home to a number of productive agricultural activities, including organically produced crops and notable vineyards. The Valley's rich bottom-land, resourced by the Russian River, consists of prime, fertile soils and benchlands highly productive for grapes. Presently, agricultural land within the region is mostly comprised of vineyards and pear orchards but also includes row crops and pasturelands.

Agricultural production has been an important part of the regional economy for generations and will continue to be a foundational component for decades to come. In addition to the economic benefits, agricultural lands provide a pastoral quality that helps define the character of the Ukiah Valley. ~~To preserve this agricultural identity, the City has historically limited agricultural land under its jurisdiction to non-urban, agricultural uses. Increasingly, however, if~~ undertaken appropriately by addressing issues related to health and ~~environmental factors~~, potential nuisances (e.g., noise, odor, aesthetics), ~~as well as profitability~~, urban agriculture can improve access to healthy food, promote community development, and create jobs.¹

While agricultural resources are addressed and protected by numerous State laws, this Agriculture Element is included here to implement new approaches to local agriculture and strengthen existing City policies regarding preservation and enhancement of regional working lands.

Goals and Policies

AG-1 *To preserve and strengthen agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that influence the regional economy. (Source: New Goal)*

AG-1.1 Reduce Agricultural/Urban Conflict

The City shall reduce conflict between incompatible uses and agriculture within and adjacent to the City. *(Source: New Policy)*

AG-1.2 Preserve Agricultural Lands

With the exception of presently proposed or approved subdivisions, the City shall discourage urban development on unincorporated land within its Sphere of Influence until annexed by the City. The City shall support County land use regulations that protect the viability of local agriculture in the Ukiah Valley. *(Source: New Policy)*

¹ Golden, S. (2013). *Urban Agriculture Impacts: Social, Health, and Economic: A Literature Review*. University of California Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program: Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis.

AG-1.3 Plan Together

The City shall identify and involve stakeholders, as well as advisors with knowledge and expertise, to create and implement a comprehensive planning framework that preserves and strengthens agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that inform and influence the regional economy. (*Source: New Policy*)

AG-2 *To create a healthy, equitable and resilient local-food system that further integrates agriculture into the City's identity. (Source: New Goal)*

AG-2.4 Backyard Food

The City shall allow and encourage residents to undertake supplementary local agriculture, including backyard gardens, apiaries, poultry, and 'foodscaping'. Examples include community, school, backyard, and rooftop gardens with a purpose extending beyond home consumption and education. (*Source: New Policy*)

AG-2.5 Buy Local, Enjoy Local

The City shall encourage additional farmer and community markets, food trucks, and farm stands to support production, distribution, and sale of locally grown foods and continue to support community-based food production and local, nutritious food by working with local landowners for the creation of additional community gardens. (*Source: New Policy*)

AG-2.6 Support Gardeners

The City shall coordinate with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Mendocino County Master Gardener Program, to connect city residents with backyard gardening knowledge. (*Source: Existing General Plan Policy CG-21.1*)

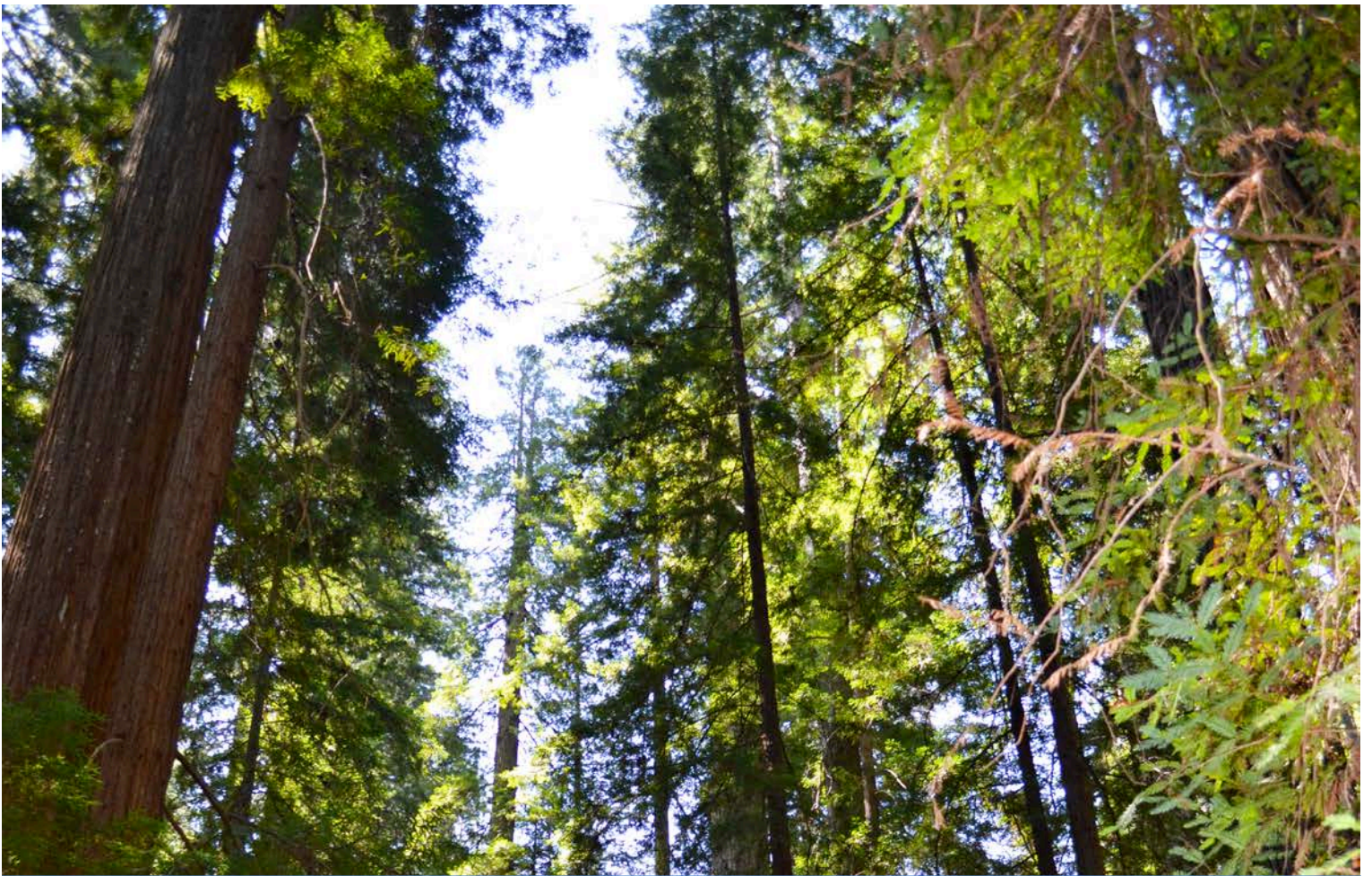
AG-2.7 Farmer's Markets

In conjunction with the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association, the City shall research and identify additional ways to support the sale of local produce and goods at farmers markets within the City of Ukiah. (*Source: New Policy*)

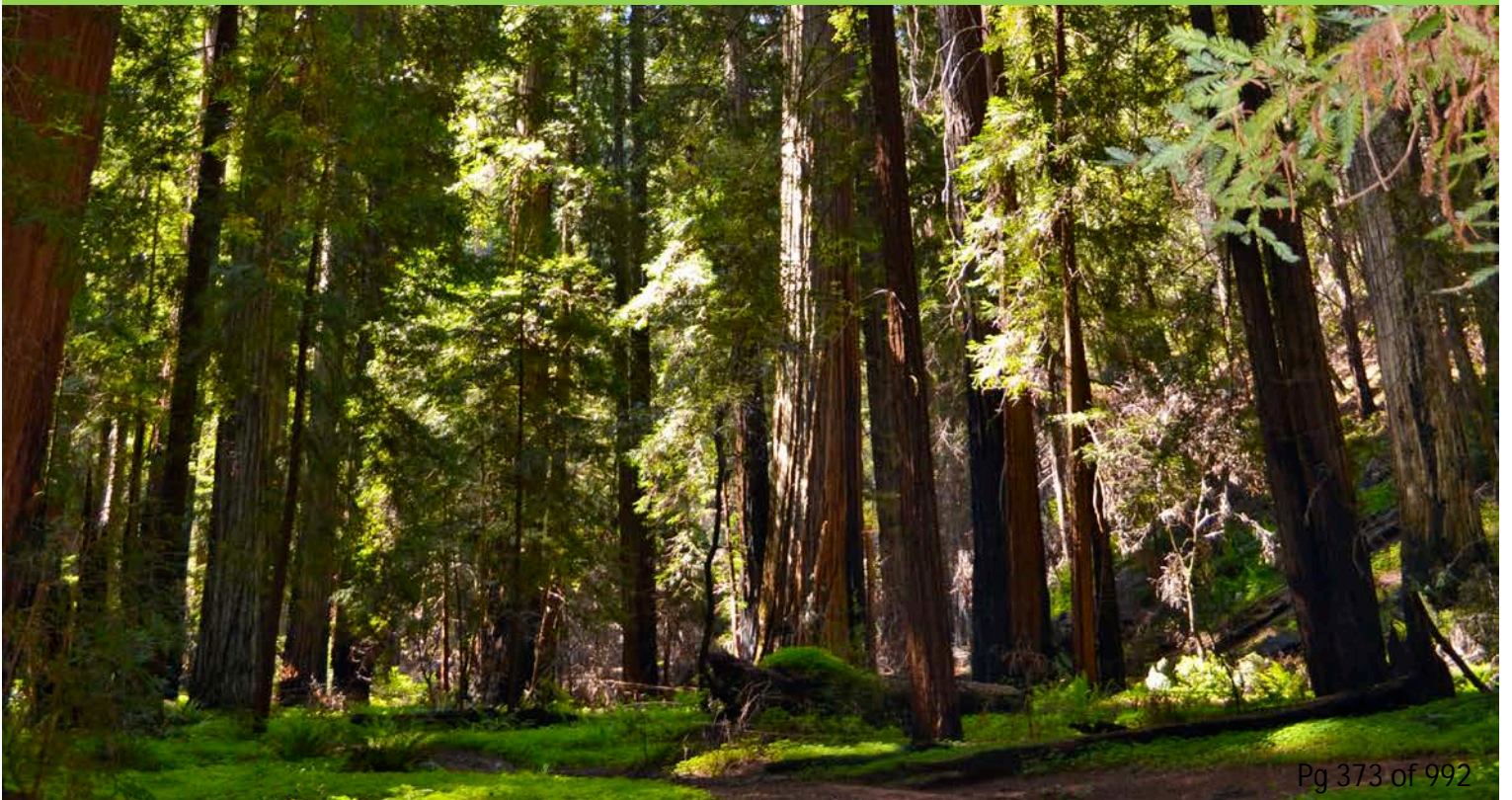
AG-3 *Help existing agricultural stakeholders move 'Beyond the Farm'. (Source: New Goal)*

AG-3.1 Establish Infrastructure to Grow the Agricultural Economy

The City shall support existing agriculture operators by encouraging a diverse, vibrant, and innovative agriculture economy that creates new opportunities and products from regional producers **for local consumption and export.** In conjunction with stakeholders, the City shall encourage the creation of agricultural business incubators, shared kitchens, and workforce development programs that create locations to strengthen agricultural operators within the region. (*Source: New Policy*)



10 Glossary



the sun's intensity or slow changes in the earth's orbit around the sun; natural processes within the climate system (e.g., changes in ocean circulation); human activities that change the atmosphere's composition (e.g., through burning fossil fuels); and the land surface (e.g., deforestation, reforestation, urbanization, desertification, etc.). (*Source: New*)

Collector Streets. Collector streets provide connections between neighborhoods and activity centers, and convenient access to land uses, via all modes of travel including walking, bicycling, vehicle and transit. Collectors also provide connections between arterial and local streets. (*Source: New*)

[Community Policing.](https://cops.usdoj.gov/) According to the U.S. Department of Justice's publication on community policing, titled "Community Policing Defined", which can be found online at: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>, the term "community policing" refers to a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

Community Noise Equivalent Levels CNEL. The average A-weighted noise level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of five decibels to noise levels occurring in the evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the addition of 10 decibels to sound levels measured in the night between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (*Source: New*)

Complete Streets. Refers to a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets - including pedestrians, bicyclists, children, seniors, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, and public transit (*Source: New*)

Conservation. The management of resources, including natural resources, cultural resources

(includes archaeological and historic resources), and man-made resources in a manner that avoids waste, destruction, or neglect. (*Source: Existing General Plan*)

Critical Habitat. A term defined and used in the Endangered Species Act. It is a specific geographic area(s) that contains features essential for the conservation of a threatened or endangered species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may include an area that is not currently occupied by the species but that will be needed for its recovery. (*Source: New*)

Cultural Resources. Any prehistoric or historic remains or indicators of past human activities, including artifacts, sites, structures, landscapes, and objects of importance to a culture or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons. (*Source: New*)

D

Day/Night Average Sound Level (Ldn). The average A-weighted noise level equivalent sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels in the night after 10:00 p.m. and before 7:00 a.m. (*Source: New*)

Decibel (db). A physical unit commonly used to describe noise. It is a unit for describing the amplitude of sound as heard by the human ear. (*Source: New*)

Defensible Space. An area around a building in which vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of fire to and from the building. (*Source: New*)

Density. Residential developments are regulated by an allowed density range (minimum and maximum) measured in "dwelling units per acre." Residential density is calculated by dividing the number of



Δ Appendix A | Goals, Policies, and Implementation Programs



Appendix A | Goals, Policies, and Implementation Programs

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A.1 Land Use Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

Residential

LU-1 To provide a variety of housing types that offer choices for Ukiah residents and create complete, livable neighborhoods. (Source: New Goal)

LU-1.1 Existing Neighborhoods. The City shall maintain and enhance the quality of existing residential neighborhoods, ensuring adequate public facilities such as parks, streets, water supply, and drainage. (Source: New Policy)

LU-1.2 Connectivity. The City shall encourage new residential development to incorporate design features that promote walking and connectivity between blocks. (New Policy)

LU-1.3 Neighborhood Infill. The City shall encourage objectively designed infill developments that enhance neighborhood quality and respond to community input in the planning and design of infill projects or non-residential, neighborhood-serving uses. (Source: New Policy)

LU-1.4 High-Density Residential Uses. The City shall encourage new high-density residential development to locate in areas close to services and transit. (Source: New Policy)

LU-1.5 Existing Neighborhoods. The City shall encourage all new multi-family residential development to comply with objective design and development standards. (Source: New Policy)

Mixed-Use

LU-2 To encourage mixed-use development projects that create vibrant, walkable districts. (New Goal)

LU-2.1 Downtown Mixed-Use. The City shall encourage mixed-use development to locate within the Downtown. Such developments include housing, retail commercial, offices, open space, and other compatible uses. This development pattern should create vibrant, walkable areas, rather than non-pedestrian friendly strip retail developments along downtown corridors.

LU-2.2 Compatibility with Adjacent Uses. The City shall require new mixed-use development to be compatible with adjacent land uses, particularly residential uses, through site and architectural design techniques that establish transitions between uses and minimize negative impacts. (Source: New Policy)

LU-2.3 Mixed-Use Design. The City shall require new mixed-use development to limit the number of access driveways, minimize building setbacks, and provide public ground floor spaces adjacent to sidewalks. (Source: New Policy)

LU-2.4 Pedestrian Orientation. The City shall require new mixed-use and commercial developments with street or bike route frontage to include amenities that connect and create a comfortable environment for walking, sitting, and socializing. (Source: New Policy)

LU-2.5 Live/ Work. The City shall encourage mixed-uses in appropriate non-residential or existing mixed-use areas, facilitate the adaptive reuse of otherwise obsolete structures, and promote the growth of the arts and small business ventures in the community by allowing combined workspace and living quarters in appropriate buildings in commercial or industrial zoning districts. (Source: New Policy)

Downtown

LU-3 To improve and enhance the appearance and vibrancy of Downtown Ukiah to create a high-quality place for residents, businesses, and visitors. (Source: Existing GP Goal CD-9, modified)

LU-3.1 Downtown Activities and Functions. The City shall maintain the Downtown as a center for shopping and commerce, social and cultural activities, and government and civic functions. (Source: New Policy)

LU-3.2 New Downtown Development. The City shall ensure new development in the Downtown is compatible with existing uses and enhances the character of the area. (Source: Existing Policies CD-9.2 and CD-9.3, modified)

LU-3.3 Downtown Arts Entertainment. The City shall encourage private-sector investment in Downtown to transform it into a safe, vibrant, and prosperous arts and entertainment district that offers enhanced shopping, dining, recreational, and cultural experiences and events for residents, families, and visitors. (Source: New Policy)

LU-3.4 Downtown Pedestrian Improvements. The City shall work with public agencies and private entities to create a safe, convenient, and pleasant pedestrian environment that supports the continued revitalization of the Downtown area. Improvements could include pedestrian-oriented amenities such as lighting, wider sidewalks, clearly marked pedestrian crossings, benches, landscaping, signage, sidewalk seating areas, and public art. (Source: New Policy)

LU-3.5 Downtown Parking. The City shall prepare and implement a Downtown parking plan that provides enough parking downtown to support area businesses while maintaining a pedestrian-friendly environment. (Source: New Policy)

Commercial

LU-4 To encourage the growth and development of retail, office, service, and entertainment uses in Ukiah to provide jobs, support City services, and make Ukiah an attractive place to live. (New Goal)

LU-4.1 High-Quality Building Design. The City shall encourage distinctive and high-quality commercial building design and site planning that respects the character of Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

LU-4.2 Commercial Center Design. The City shall require new commercial centers to incorporate standards of site design, construction, buffering, and screening when located adjacent to residential neighborhoods. (Source: New Policy)

LU-4.3 Clustering Commercial Uses. The City shall encourage new commercial uses to group into clustered areas or centers containing professional offices, retail sales and services. New commercial clusters shall be located at the intersections of major thoroughfares and exclude “strip” commercial. (Source: New Policy)

LU-4.4 Commercial Property Landscaping. The City shall require that landscaping on commercial properties be well maintained and encourage those commercial properties currently without landscaping to provide landscaping. (Source: Existing Program CD-17.2a, modified)

LU-4.5 Pedestrian Access to Commercial Uses. The City shall support convenient and direct pedestrian access to commercial uses that are located adjacent to residential areas. (Source: New Policy)

Industrial

LU-5 To encourage, facilitate, and support the development of new employment and industrial uses and retention of existing industry to ensure compatibility with existing surrounding uses and planned uses. (Source: New Goal)

LU-5.1 Industrial Park Development. The City shall encourage the development of well-designed industrial park areas to attract new light industrial development to Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

LU-5.2 Industrial Design standards. The City shall ensure that new industrial developments contribute to the overall attractiveness of the community through appropriate site design, architectural design, and landscaping. (Source: New Policy)

LU-5.3 Screening Industrial Areas. The City shall require the screening of loading areas and open storage areas so that they are not visible from major roads. (Source: New Policy)

Hillside Areas

LU-6 To preserve the natural character of hillside development areas. (Source: New Goal)

LU-6.1 Natural Features. The City shall require development to preserve outstanding natural physical features, such as the highest crest of a hill, natural rock outcroppings, major tree belts, and water features. (Source: New Policy)

LU-6.2 Hillside Development. The City shall require new development in hillside areas to minimize grading to retain a natural hillside setting. The City shall encourage clustered dwelling units in hillside areas and roadways to be designed to preserve the ecological and scenic character of the hillsides. (Source: New Policy)

LU-6.3 Open Space Access. The City shall encourage new hillside developments to provide public access (as appropriate) to adjacent greenways, open space corridors, trails, and parks if development is proposed adjacent to such facilities. (Source: New Policy)

Development Pattern

LU-7 To ensure the orderly and timely growth and expansion of the City. (Source: New Goal)

LU-7.1 Development Pattern. The City shall ensure an orderly, contiguous development pattern that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities. (Source: New Policy)

LU-7.2 Annexations. The City shall support property owners and applications that seek to annex adjoining unincorporated land within the City's Sphere of Influence where the City determines it to be in residents' interests to do so, to promote orderly development, to implement General Plan goals, and if the annexation would improve the fiscal health of the City, provide a more efficient delivery of municipal services to the area, and/or create a more logical City boundary. The City shall consider annexation of lands outside of the SOI but within the Planning Area if the City and all local agencies with relevant jurisdiction, arrive at an agreement ensuring adequately compensated

for the costs it will incur due to development in its Planning Area (Source: New Policy; City Staff; City Council Annexation Policies).

LU-7.3 Annexation Considerations. The City shall consider the following factors when reviewing annexation proposals:

- a. Availability of public services and facilities;
- b. Proximity to existing urban development;
- c. Existing agricultural uses;
- d. Fiscal impacts on City finances;
- e. Potential economic benefits;
- f. Regional housing needs; and
- g. Public health and safety. (Source: New Policy)

LU-7.4 Required Public Facilities and Services. The City will support annexation of land for new development only if public services and facilities meeting City standards are available or plans are in place demonstrating their availability in the near future. (Source: New Policy)

LU-7.5 Agriculture and Annexation. The City shall discourage urban development of unincorporated land in the City's Sphere of Influence until such lands are annexed by the City. The City shall support County land use regulations that require minimum lot sizes to protect the viability of local agriculture and to prevent the development of incompatible or undesirable land use patterns prior to eventual annexation and urbanization. (Source: New Policy)

LU-7.6 Fair Share Housing Needs Reduction. The City shall amend the Housing Element as a condition of annexation of residential lands from the County, to increase the City's housing fair share by the number of needed housing units the County is surrendering. (Source: Existing Program LU-4.1a, modified)

LU-7.7 County Housing Needs. The City shall give consideration to the County's regional "fair share" housing needs when reviewing applications for new development within the City's Planning Area. (Source: Existing Program LU-4.1b, modified)

LU-7.8 Legal Non-conforming Uses. The City shall allow the continued use of legally existing non-conforming land uses in conformance with approved permits. (Source: Existing Policy LU-1.1, modified)

Growth Management

LU-8 To promote growth and development practices that improve quality of life, protect open space, natural and historical resources, and reduce resource consumption. (Source: New Goal)

LU-8.1 Contiguous Development. The City shall strongly discourage new development that is not contiguous with existing urban development. (Source: New Policy)

LU-8.2 Protection of Agricultural Areas. The City shall support the long-term economic viability of agriculture and agri-tourism and encourage landowners with land in agricultural production to undertake succession planning or agricultural preservation, as appropriate. (Source: New Policy)

LU-8.3 Infill Development. The City shall encourage population and employment growth toward infill development sites within the city. (Source: New Policy)

LU-8.4 Reuse of Underutilized Property. The City shall encourage property owners to revitalize or redevelop abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties to accommodate growth. (Source: New Policy)

LU-8.5 Historic Preservation. The City shall strive to preserve residential and commercial structures of historic value to the community. (Source: New Policy).

LU-8.6 Historic Resource Maintenance. The City shall encourage property owners to maintain these structures in accordance with local, state and federal standards. (Source: New Policy).

Missing Middle Housing

LU-9 To provide opportunities for housing that can accommodate the needs, preferences, and financial capabilities of current and future residents in terms of different housing types, tenures, density, sizes, and costs. (Source: New Goal)

LU-9.1 Mixed Residential Neighborhoods. The City shall encourage creation of mixed residential neighborhoods through new and innovative housing types that meet the changing needs of Ukiah households and expand housing choices in all neighborhoods. These housing types include, but are not limited to, single dwelling units, multi-family dwelling units, accessory dwelling units, small and micro units, use of pre-fabricated homes, and clustered housing/cottage housing. (Source: New Policy)

LU-9.2 Housing Types and Designs. The City shall support housing types and designs that increase density while remaining consistent with the building scale and character present in existing neighborhoods. This includes multi-family units or clustered residential buildings that provide relatively smaller, less expensive units within existing neighborhoods. (Source: New Policy)

LU-9.3 Adaptation of Existing Residential Units. The City shall encourage the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family use. (Source: New Policy)

Special Planning Areas

LU-10 To assure coordination and consistency with special planning areas. (Source: New Goal)

LU-10.1 Downtown Zoning Code. The City shall update the Downtown Zoning Code to assure consistency with the General Plan goals, policies, and land use designations. (Source: New Policy)

LU-10.2 Ukiah Valley Community. The City shall recognize that the Ukiah Valley is one community and foster collaborative decision-making between the City, county, and other public agencies. (Source: UVAP Goal LU-7, modified)

LU-10.3 Ukiah Valley Area Plan. The City shall coordinate with Mendocino County to assure consistency with the Ukiah Valley Area Plan goals and policies. (Source: New Policy)

LU-10.4 Ukiah Airport Master Plan. The City shall periodically update the Ukiah Airport Master Plan to reflect changing airport needs, aircraft type and use, and new noise and safety standards. (Source: New Policy)

LU-10.5 Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The City shall require new development within each airport zone that conforms to the height, use and intensity specified in the land use compatibility table of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP). (Source: UVAP Policy LU2.1b, modified)

LU-10.6 Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission. As required within the UKIALUCP, the City shall refer new development projects in the Ukiah Airport area of influence to the Mendocino ALUC for review and comment. (Source: New Policy)

Community Character and Design

LU-11 To ensure high-quality site planning, landscaping, and architectural design for all new construction, renovation, or remodeling. (Source: New Goal)

LU-11.1 Commercial Character. The City shall update and maintain objective commercial design standards for all commercial land use designations, to enhance community character and encourage economic development. (Source: Existing Policy CD-1.1)

LU-11.2 Gateways. The City shall establish key gateways to Ukiah through landscape design, appropriately-scaled signage, and building form, and historic themes to create a unique sense of place. (New Policy)

LU-11.3 Neighborhood Character. The City shall ensure that Zoning Code standards and design guidelines are reflective of neighborhood character and land use intensity, complement views from US 101. (Source: Existing Programs CD-1.1a, -3.1a, and 5.3a, modified)

LU-11.4 Public Buildings and Spaces. The City shall ensure that all new public buildings and places are consistent with City design review guidelines and standards, designed to be attractive, safe, and serve the neighborhood needs, and conform to standards similar to those applied to private development. (Source: Existing Programs CD-16.1a, -16.1b, 16.2a, and 16.2b, modified)

LU-11.5 Public Street Furniture. The Public Works Department shall establish public design standards for street furniture and landscaping that enhance the streetscape and general fabric of the City. (Source: Existing Program CD-12.1a)

LU-11.6 Public Art. The City shall encourage the installation of public art and identify permanent funding mechanisms to support new installations and maintenance. (New Policy)

LU-11.7 Sign Regulations. The City shall update the Zoning Code sign provisions to incorporate a consistent program for new signs to simplify the signage process. (Source: Existing Program CD-13.1c, modified)

LU-11.8 Tree Preservation. The City shall encourage the preservation of trees on public and private property. Priority should be given to the preservation of trees considered significant due to their size, history, unusual species or unique quality. (Source: Existing Program CD-4.3b, modified)

LU-11.9 Historic Preservation and Restoration. The City shall encourage restorative maintenance to deteriorated buildings, particularly in Downtown, and restrict the demolition of historically and/or architecturally significant buildings to accommodate new development. The City shall encourage adaptive re-use of historic structures to maintain their historic character while supporting economic development. (Source: New Policy)

LU-11.10 Water Efficient Landscaping. The City shall ensure that Zoning Code landscape standards and design guidelines reflect the most current water efficient landscape standards that include native, adaptive, and drought resistant vegetation, as well as provisions for street canopies and streetscape enhancement. (Source: Existing Programs CD-4.2a and -4.3a)

Environmental Justice

LU-12 To ensure that land use decisions do not adversely impact disadvantaged individuals and groups differently than the population as a whole. (Source: New Goal)

LU-12.1 Fair Treatment and Meaningful Involvement. The City shall provide for the fair treatment and meaningful involvement in respect to the development and review of land use decision and policies for all people regardless of income, race, color, or national origin. (Source: New Policy)

LU-12.2 Disproportionate Land Use Impacts. The City shall evaluate and avoid, reduce, or mitigate disproportionate adverse health and safety impacts of land use decisions on identified disadvantaged communities. (Source: New Policy)

LU-12.3 Coordination on Siting of Utilities . The City shall coordinate with utility providers in the siting, site layout, and design of gas and electric facilities, including changes to existing facilities, to minimize environmental, and safety impacts on disadvantaged communities. (Source: New Policy)

LU-13 To ensure that all community members have equal access to healthy foods, education, green spaces, and medical services. (Source: New Goal)

LU-13.1 Access to Community Resources. The City shall identify and address gaps in access to residential, commercial, recreation, natural open spaces, and public resources, and ensure these community resources are accessible to all, regardless of income, race, color, or national origin. (Source: New Policy)

LU-13.2 Equitable Capital Improvements. The City shall promote equitable investment in capital improvements City-wide. (Source: New Policy) [

LU-13.3 Public Assistance Collaboration. The City shall support non-profit organizations and public agencies which provide assistance to the homeless and access to healthcare, rental assistance and food assistance, and other poverty alleviating programs and services. (Source: New Policy)

LU-14 To develop, implement, and enforce policies to ensure access to safe and sanitary housing throughout the community. (Source: New Goal)

LU-14.1 Code Enforcement. The City shall prioritize code enforcement for rental housing in disadvantaged communities to assure safe, sanitary housing. (Source: New Policy)

LU-14.2 Clean and Safe Drinking Water. The City shall ensure access to clean and safe drinking water for all community members. (Source: New Policy)

LU-15 To promote meaningful dialogue and collaboration between members of disadvantaged communities and decision-makers to advance social and economic equity. (Source: New Goal)

LU-15.1 Community Input. The City shall continue to facilitate opportunities for disadvantaged community residents and stakeholders to provide meaningful and effective input on proposed planning activities early on and continuously throughout the public review process. (Source: New Policy)

LU-15.2 Communication Channels. The City shall continue to improve communication channels and methods for meaningful dialogue between community members and decision-makers. The City shall also continue to share public information across a variety of media, technological, and traditional platforms, and languages based upon the demographics of the community. (Source: New Policy)

LU-15.3 Public Engagement. The City shall hold special meetings, workshops, and other public engagement opportunities at times and locations that make it convenient for disadvantaged community members to attend, particularly stakeholders who are the most likely to be directly affected by the outcome. (Source: New Policy)

LU-15.4 Translation Services. The City will continue to evaluate the need for the provision of translation services, to the extent feasible, in conveying important information to the community. (Source: New Policy)

General Plan Use and Maintenance

LU-16 Promote the effective use and implementation of the General Plan Land Use Map. (Source: New Goal)

LU-16.1 Land Use Map. The City shall maintain and implement a Land Use Map describing the types of allowed land uses by geographic location and the density of allowed uses within each designation. (Source: New Policy)

LU-16.2 Land Use Designations. The City shall apply the land use designation specific parcels of land as designated on the General Land Use Map (Figure 2-1), even if a parcel does not meet other criteria specified in the General Plan. (Source: New Policy)

LU-16.3 Zoning Designations. The City shall ensure that zoning designations are consistent with the General Land Use Map (Figure 2-1). (Source: New Policy)

LU-16.4 Five-year General Plan Review. The City shall conduct a technical review of the General Plan every five years and revise and update as necessary to assure compliance with State law and responsiveness to current City needs. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Downtown Pedestrian Improvements</p> <p>The City shall, in collaboration with interested public agencies and downtown businesses, prepare a study of potential sidewalk and streetscape improvements, including lighting, wider sidewalks, clearly marked pedestrian crossings, benches, landscaping, signage, sidewalk seating areas, and public art, to create a safe, convenient, and pleasant pedestrian environment Downtown.</p> <p>(Source: Existing Program CD-9.3a, modified)</p>	<p>LU– 3.4 LU– 7.7</p>	<p>Public Works</p> <p>—</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>B Downtown Parking Plan</p> <p>The City shall prepare and implement a Downtown parking plan that provides enough parking downtown to support area businesses while maintaining a pedestrian-friendly environment. The City will collaborate with other public agencies, Downtown businesses, and the Chamber of Commerce to identify parking deficiencies, consider alternatives, and prepare a comprehensive parking strategy.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>LU– 3.5</p>	<p>Public Works</p> <p>—</p> <p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>C Housing Element Amendments to Address Annexation-related RHNA Changes</p> <p>The City shall amend the Housing Element in conjunction upon the annexation of any County land designated for residential uses and identified in the Mendocino County Housing Element as satisfying a portion of the County’s RHNA. The City Housing element amendment will increase the City’s RHNA by a commensurate amount. The City shall coordinate any proposed amendment in advance with the Mendocino Council of Governments and the California Department of Housing and Community Development to assure the amendment is acceptable to both agencies.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	LU– 7.6	Community Development					■
<p>D City Gateway Design Standards</p> <p>The City shall prepare gateway design standards for all City gateways, The standards will address landscape design and materials, signage, building form, and historic themes that create a unique sense of place.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Policy)</p>	LU– 9.2	Community Development — Public Works	■				

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>E Zoning Code Amendments</p> <p>The City shall amend the Zoning Code to address the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown Zoning Code and Design Guidelines; • Commercial Design standards that address neighborhood character and compatibility, including materials, siting, scale, and landscaping; • Sign regulations; • Water efficient landscape standards; • Historic Structure Preservation; and • Zoning districts and map consistency with the 2040 Land Use Diagram. (Source: Existing Program CD4.1a, 4.2a, modified and expanded) 	<p>LU– 10.1 LU– 11 LU– 11.4 LU– 11.8</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>F Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan</p> <p>The City shall review every five years and update as necessary the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The review and potential update shall consider changing airport facility and aviation needs, new aircraft types, and new noise and safety standards. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>LU– 10.4 LU– 10.5 LU– 10.6</p>	<p>Airport</p>		<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>		<p>■</p>
<p>G Design Standards</p> <p>The City shall update the Commercial Design Guidelines to establish design standards for street furniture and streetscape landscaping. (Source: Existing Program CD4.3a)</p>	<p>LU– 11.6</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				



<p>H Five Year General Plan Review The City shall conduct a technical review of the General Plan every five years and revise and update as necessary to assure compliance with State law and responsiveness to current City needs. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>LU- 16.4</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>		
<p>I Annexation Guide. The City shall develop, maintain, and make publicly-available a City of Ukiah Annexation Guide that includes an annexation applicant’s responsibilities, the requirements for environmental review, requirements for development plans, and fees associated with applications for annexation. (Source: New Implementation Program; City Council Annexation Policies)</p>	<p>LU-7.2</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			

A.2 Economic Development Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

ED-1 To be a key partner with other agencies and organizations to achieve the City’s and the region’s economic goals. (Source: New Goal)

ED-1.1 Interagency Coordination. Coordinate with local agencies, jurisdictions, and tribes; and other groups and organizations working to promote Ukiah’s economic development. (Source: New Policy)

ED-1.2 Economic Initiatives. The City shall support regional economic initiatives and marketing activities by actively participating in economic development programs. (Source: New Policy)

ED-1.3 Public /Private Partnerships. The City shall support and encourage public/private partnerships and other efforts to implement key development projects that meet the City’s economic development goals. (Source: New Policy)

ED-1.4 Economic Development Strategy. The City shall prepare and periodically update an Economic Development Strategy, which shall be used as an operational guide to implement the economic development goals, policies, and programs of the General Plan. (Source: New Policy)

ED-2 To promote a strong local economy by improving critical infrastructure, including water, transportation, and renewable energy. (Source: New Goal)

ED-2.1 City Investment Priorities. During review and updates of public facility master plans and the Capital Improvement Program, the City shall prioritize investment in infrastructure, services, and other assets that are critical to future economic vitality, including public safety, water supply and quality, transportation, energy, and environmental resources, to support job growth and economic development. (Source: New Policy)

ED-2.2 Energy Infrastructure. The City shall work to improve energy infrastructure to increase availability, reliability, sustainability, and use of renewable energy sources. (Source: New Policy)

ED-3 To provide opportunities for expansion of businesses by ensuring the availability of suitable sites, appropriate zoning, and access to infrastructure and amenities. (Source: New Goal)

ED-3.1 Land Supply Inventory . The City shall maintain and/or annex an adequate land supply to meet projected commercial and industrial land demand. (Source: New Policy)

ED-3.2 Infill Sites. The City shall coordinate with interested developers and relevant public agencies to develop infill sites consistent with the Land Use Diagram. (Source: New Policy)

ED-3.3 Airport Industrial Park. The City shall develop adequate linkage from the Airport Industrial Park to the east side of the airport. (Source: New Policy)

ED-4 To attract visitors and provide them with the amenities and services to make their stay in Ukiah enjoyable. (Source: New Goal)

ED-4.1 Supporting Tourism. The City shall encourage and support the development of sustainable and innovative visitor-serving attractions that expand on the tourism market in Ukiah and Mendocino County and add to the quality of life for residents. (Source: New Policy)

ED-4.2 Downtown. The City shall reinforce the Downtown as the civic and cultural heart of Ukiah by supporting public arts, cultural and entertainment programs, restoration of aging structures, lodging, and a robust mix of residential, retail, and service uses. (Source: New Policy)

ED-4.3 Boutique Hotel. The City shall encourage and support the development of a boutique hotel in Downtown to provide an opportunity for overnight stays in the heart of Downtown and for visitors to enjoy and explore Ukiah's local business, restaurants, and nightlife. (Source: New Policy)

ED-4.4 Public Art. The City shall reduce barriers for private efforts that create art in public places (e.g., murals, sculptures), and support development of a Public Art Master Plan with appropriate funding mechanisms to support and maintain public art installations. (Source: New Policy)

ED-4.5 Tourism-Supporting Services. The City shall support the local dining, lodging, and retail sectors to ensure visitors enjoy Ukiah to the fullest. (Source: New Policy)

ED-5 To ensure Ukiah's long-term economic success and sustainability by diversifying and expanding tourist attractions. (Source: New Goal)

ED-5.1 Outdoor Recreation. The City shall maintain existing and promote new outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities at a high level to solidify Ukiah's position as a leader in outdoor recreation. (Source: New Policy)

ED-5.2 Bicycle Tourism. The City shall support efforts to promote and expand the local and regional bicycle trail network to attract visitors seeking a quality outdoor recreation experience. (Source: New Policy)

ED-5.3 Great Redwood Trail. The City shall continue to support the expansion of the Great Redwood Trail linking Marin, Sonoma, and Humboldt counties and enhancing trail access in Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

ED-5.4 Special Events. The City shall support special events that benefit local businesses and contribute to the City's overall economic success. (Source: New Policy)

ED-5.5 Agricultural Tourism. The City shall strive to attract tourism centered on the agriculture industry throughout the Mendocino County region, including wineries, cannabis farm tours, farm stays, tasting rooms, and beverage production tours. (Source: New Policy)

ED-6 To maintain a supportive business climate and a healthy economy that leads to the expansion of existing businesses and the attraction of new ones. (Source: New Goal)

ED-6.1 Regulatory Environment. The City shall promote business-friendliness in the regulatory and permitting process through collaboration, innovation, exchange of ideas and best practices, and the improvement in clarity and efficiency in the permitting process to take advantage of opportunities for streamlining in the development permit process. (Source: New Policy)

ED-7 To grow the local economy and employment base by supporting efforts to retain, expand and attract local businesses. (Source: New Goal)

ED-7.1 Attract Skilled Workers. The City shall support, maintain, and enhance the social and cultural amenities of the city (such as attractive public spaces, public art displays, museum(s), historic venues and sites, and recreational facilities and programs). (Source: New Policy)

ED-8 To cultivate a culture of entrepreneurship to encourage and support local business start-ups. (Source: New Goal)

ED-8.1 Business Incubators. The City shall encourage and support the establishment of local business incubators and programs designed to support the successful development of entrepreneurial companies through an array of business support resources and services. (Source: New Policy)

ED-8.2 Home-Based Businesses. The City shall support and expand the opportunities for establishment and operation of home-based businesses that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods. (Source: New Policy).

ED-9 To improve labor force preparedness by providing the local workforce with the skills needed to meet the requirements of evolving business needs. (Source: New Goal)

ED-9.1 Interagency Workforce Collaboration. The City shall work with Mendocino College, Ukiah Unified School District, and Mendocino County to support innovation and the development, retraining, and retention of a skilled workforce. (Source: New Policy)

ED-9.2 Local Graduate Retention. The City shall actively support efforts to keep local high school and college graduates in the local workforce. (Source: New Policy)

ED-9.3 City Hiring Practices. The City shall pursue best practices aimed at maximizing local hiring in coordination with education and training providers. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10 To foster a robust and diversified local economy that provides quality employment and attracts stable businesses. (Source: New Goal)

ED-10.1 Value-Added Agriculture. The City shall encourage and support the expansion of value-added agricultural products (e.g., processing, packaging, product development) with an emphasis on local distribution and consumption. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.2 Agricultural Support Services. The City shall encourage agricultural support services, such as vineyard and harvest management, to be based in Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.3 Airport-Related Businesses. The City shall encourage and promote the development of airport-related businesses at the Ukiah Municipal Airport. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.4 Local-Serving Retail. The City shall encourage the establishment and expansion of commercial businesses that increase local spending within Ukiah and provide needed goods and services to residents and businesses. (Source: New Policy)

ED-10.5 Culturally Diverse Businesses. The City shall review and amend its policies and procedures to ensure equity of opportunity to encourage and support a diverse business community. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11 To diversify the economic base of Ukiah through the development and expansion of environmental, creative, and innovative businesses, including the non-profit sector. (Source: New Goal)

ED-11.1 Creative Economy. The City shall encourage the expansion of the local creative economy, including arts businesses, creative and performing arts, and non-profit organizations, as well as professional service sectors built around the creative arts. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11.2 Green Economy. The City shall support the development and reduce local regulatory barriers for industries and businesses that promote and enhance environmental sustainability, greenhouse gas reductions, decarbonization, climate change adaptation, resiliency, and renewable energy generation, storage, and transmission, including solar power and other appropriate renewable sources. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11.3 Support Green Businesses. The County shall promote the efforts of existing businesses that meet green business criteria; job training in green building techniques and regenerative farming; and strive to build green technologies into and decarbonize existing public facilities. (Source: New Policy)

ED-11.4 Sustainable Business Development. The City shall encourage the development and expansion of businesses that advance social equity, environmental quality, and economic sustainability, as well as capitalize on key industry strengths. Economic sustainability includes planning and preparation for disaster response and long-term resiliency of businesses and economic assets in the city. (Source: New Policy)



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Economic Development Strategy</p> <p>The City shall prepare, adopt, and regularly update an Economic Development Strategy, which shall be used as an operational guide to implement the economic development goals and policies of the General Plan. The strategy should address business attraction, retention, and expansion, infrastructure priorities, tourism, intergovernmental coordination and cooperation, economic diversification, and workforce development. The Economic Development Strategy should be prepared in coordination with the local business community, Economic Development and Financing Corporation, Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce, West Business Development Center, Mendocino Private Industry Council, Mendocino County, and other groups and organizations working to promote Ukiah’s economic development. Following completion of the Economic Development Strategy, the City shall review and update the Strategy every five years.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ED– 1.4	City Manager — Community Development	■				

A.3 Mobility Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

MOB-1 To provide a citywide network of complete streets that meet the needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit, movers of commercial goods, children, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

(Source: New Goal)

MOB-1.1 Complete Streets. The City shall design streets holistically, using a complete streets approach, which considers pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and other modes together to adequately serve future land uses. (New Policy)

MOB-1.2 Multi-modal Access. The City shall require that all new development and redevelopment projects include provisions for multi-modal access provisions such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and vehicle and transit where relevant. (Existing Policy CT-3.1, modified)

MOB-1.3 Reallocate Space for Complete Streets. The City shall reallocate roadway space to allow complete streets improvements on streets with excess traffic capacity. (New Policy)

MOB-1.4 Block Length. The City shall limit block lengths to 600 feet wherever feasible to enhance multi-modal circulation and connectivity. (New Policy)

MOB-1.5 Balance Transportation Spending. The City will provide funding for transportation improvements for each of the key travel modes to support the long-term viability and safety of each mode, as well as required maintenance. (New Policy)

MOB-1.6 Roundabouts. The City shall consider the installation of roundabouts to enhance safety at intersections, and as a key component of Ukiah's sustainability strategy. (New Policy)

MOB-1.7 Land Use and Street Classification Compatibility. The City shall ensure that General Plan land use density and intensity standards are compatible with the classification of streets from which the land uses are accessed. (Source: Existing Program CT-1.1a, modified)

MOB-1.8 New Development and Complete Streets. The City shall require all new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and persons with disabilities, as well as facilities necessary to support the City's goal of maintaining a complete street network. (Source: Existing Program CT-1.1b, modified)

MOB-1.9 Bikeway Network . The City shall strive to complete the citywide bicycle network to create a full network of bicycle facilities throughout Ukiah, including bicycle lanes on all arterial and collector street segments where feasible. (New Policy)

MOB-1.10 Bicycle Parking Standards. The City shall maintain efficient and updated parking standards for bicycle parking to ensure development provides adequate bicycle parking, while reducing reliance on automobiles. (New Policy)

MOB-1.11 Pedestrian Barriers & Utility Relocation. The City shall support elimination of barriers to pedestrian travel on sidewalks and walking paths including requiring the relocation or undergrounding of utilities where appropriate. (New Policy)

Vehicle Miles Traveled

MOB-2 To reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to and from residences, jobs and commercial uses in Ukiah.

(Source: New Goal)

MOB-2.1 Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction. The City shall support development and transportation improvements that help reduce VMT below regional averages on a “residential per capita” and “per employee” basis. (New Policy)

MOB-2.2 Transportation Demand Management. The City shall support programs to reduce vehicle trips, including measures such as reduced parking requirements that aim to increase transit use, car-pooling, bicycling and walking. (New Policy)

MOB-2.3 Pedestrian Facilities . The City shall encourage new development and redevelopment that increases connectivity through direct and safe pedestrian connections to public amenities, neighborhoods, shopping and employment destinations throughout the City. (New Policy)

MOB-2.4 Transit Facility Design. The City shall require new development to include facilities designed to make public transportation convenient. (Source: Existing Policy CT-9.1, modified)

MOB-2.5 Transit Ridership. The City shall support funding and incentives to increase transit ridership opportunities. (Source: Existing Policy CT-9.2, modified)

MOB-2.6 Downtown Transit Center. The City shall support creation of a Transit Center. (Source: Existing Policy CT-10.5)

MOB-2.7 Bicycle Accessible Transit. The City shall encourage the MTA and other public transportation providers to make bus routes connecting Ukiah with other areas bicycle accessible. (Source: Existing Program CT-8.1e, modified)

Transportation Safety and Planning

MOB-3 To provide a safe transportation system that eliminates traffic-related fatalities and reduces non-fatal injury collisions. (Source: New Goal)

MOB-3.1 Safety Improvements. The City shall provide safety improvements along high-injury and fatality streets and intersections. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.2 Safe Routes to Schools . The City shall promote Safe Routes to Schools programs for all schools serving the City. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.3 Safety and Traffic Calming. The City shall use traffic calming methods within residential and mixed-use areas, where necessary, to create a pedestrian-friendly circulation system. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.4 Safety Considerations. The City shall ensure that planned non- transportation capital improvement projects, on or near a roadway, consider safety for all travel modes during construction and upon completion. (Source: New Policy) [SO]

MOB-3.5 Community Engagement . The City shall engage the community in promoting safe walking and bicycling through education and outreach. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.6 Emergency Access. The City shall work with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to address street design and the accessibility required for emergency vehicles. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.7 Video Enforcement. The City shall consider the use of video surveillance for traffic enforcement. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-3.8 Truck Traffic in Residential Areas. The City shall discourage truck traffic on local residential streets to increase safety and reduce noise (Source: New Policy)

Transportation and Mobility Needs

MOB-4 To maintain an ongoing periodic evaluation process to inventory transportation and mobility needs. (Source: Existing GP Goal CT-5)

MOB-4.1 Multi-modal Transportation Studies. The City shall conduct multi-modal transportation studies in association with required updates to the Regional Transportation Plan to update the General Plan and appropriately update and amend the Mobility Element. (Source: Existing Policy CT-5.1, modified)

MOB-4.2 Transportation Performance Measures .The City shall evaluate transportation performance holistically, taking into consideration multi-modal system performance measures that emphasize the efficient movement of people. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-4.3 Safety Monitoring . The City shall monitor high-priority corridors and intersections to better understand the potential for safety improvements. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-4.4 Level of Service. The City shall use peak-hour traffic level of service (LOS) to consider whether a street or intersection has adequate remaining capacity to service the traffic generated by a proposed project, except that meeting traffic LOS goals should not occur in a manner that would limit travel by other modes or result in increased VMT. (Source: New Policy)

MOB-4.5 Peak Hour Traffic LOS Goals. The City shall adopt the following intersection peak hour traffic Level of Service (LOS) goals to guide street network planning (but not to be used for assessing CEQA impacts):

- a) At intersections with signals, roundabouts or four-way stop signs: operation at LOS D, except where pedestrian volumes are high in which case LOS E may be acceptable.
- b) At intersections with stop signs on side streets only: operation at LOS E, except where side streets have very low traffic volumes, in which case LOS F conditions may be acceptable. (Source: Existing Program CT-16.4e, modified)

MOB-4.6 Alternate Access Routes. The City shall explore the feasibility of establishing alternate north/south and east/west access routes. (Source: Existing Goal CT-19, modified)

MOB-4.7 Meet Future Travel Demand. The City shall extend existing streets or construct new streets as needed to meet existing and future travel demands. (Source: Existing Policies CT-19.1, CT-19.2, modified)



Parking

MOB-5 To promote a balance of multi-modal options, to be reflected in flexible parking regulations. (Source: Existing GP Goal CT 14)

MOB-5.1. Incentives for Travel Alternatives. The City shall work with downtown businesses and employers reduce the need for and expenses of off-street parking by supporting and encouraging alternatives to single-occupant vehicles such as incentives and priority parking for carpools and vanpools, secure bicycle parking, and free bus passes. (Source: Existing Policy CT-14.2, modified)

MOB-5.2 Support for Charging Stations. The City shall support the provision of charging stations for electric vehicles, as well as other types of vehicles, as new technologies emerge. (Source: New Policy)

Aviation

MOB-6 To promote the Ukiah Municipal Airport for the Community's benefit and provide for the airport's long-term viability, including ensuring future development considered by the 2040 Ukiah General Plan is consistent with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP). (Source: combines Existing GP Goals AE 1 to AE-4)

MOB-6.1 Airport Promotion. The City shall ensure that the airport is a key part of the City's economic development strategy and promotional efforts. (Source: Existing Program AE-1.1a, modified)

MOB-6.2 Uniform Airport Area Development Regulations. The City shall coordinate with the County to develop a similar or duplicate implementing code for development in and around the airport. (Source: Existing Policy AE-3.1)

MOB-6.3 Infill Policy for Compatibility Zones. The City shall work collaboratively with the County to develop an In-fill Policy within the Municipal Airport Compatibility Zones. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(is)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Street Design Standards The City shall update street design standards and street classifications every five years to support provision of a citywide network of complete streets, based on the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) Urban Street Design Guide. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>MOB – 1.1 MOB – 1.3 MOB – 1.4 MOB – 1.6</p>	<p>Public Works</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>	<p>■</p>		

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(is)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>B Transportation Impact Fees</p> <p>The City shall reevaluate and update its transportation impact fees every five years to ensure fees are adequate and fairly apportion to new development. (Source: Existing Program CT-1.3a, modified)</p>	MOB – 1.5	Public Works — Community Development	■	■	■		
<p>C Right-of-Way Needs</p> <p>The City shall revise and update the projected street right-of-way needs for completion of the City’s future mobility network to ensure provision of complete streets and completion of the planned citywide bicycle and pedestrian networks. (Source: Existing Programs CT-5.1c and 5.2a, modified)</p>	MOB – 1.1 MOB – 1.3 MOB – 2.5 MOB – 3.6 MOB – 4.2	Public Works — Community Development	■				
<p>D Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Performance Measures</p> <p>The City shall adopt criteria for assessing significant transportation impacts based on vehicle miles traveled (VMT) consistent with State CEQA Guidelines, incorporating best practices including guidance provided by the Governor’s Office of Planning & Research (OPR). (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	MOB – 2.1 MOB – 2.2	Community Development — Public Works	■				
<p>E VMT Modeling</p> <p>The City shall develop a model for assessing VMT for new development consistent with new VMT performance measures. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	MOB – 2.1 MOB – 2.2	Community Development — Public Works	■				

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(is)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>F TDM Program The City shall, in coordination with Caltrans and the Mendocino Transit Authority, amend the Development Code to include a menu of options to facilitate and encourage alternate modes of travel and transportation. (Source: Existing Program CT-3.1a, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 2.2 MOB – 2.3 MOB – 2.5 MOB – 2.6</p>	<p>Community Development — Public Works</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>G Transit Center The City shall, in coordination with MTA and other agencies and organizations seek funding for and conduct a feasibility study to develop a downtown transit center, located as close to retail and services as feasible. (Source: Existing Program CT-10.5a, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 2.7</p>	<p>Public Works — Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>H Net Zero The City shall develop and implement a “net zero” strategy aimed at achieving zero fatalities due to collisions on Ukiah’s street network. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>MOB – 3.1 MOB – 3.2 MOB – 3.3 MOB – 3.4 MOB – 4.3</p>	<p>Public Works — Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			<p>■</p>

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(is)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>I Regional Transportation Plan Updates The city shall conduct transportation studies every five years in association with required updates to the Regional Transportation Plan. The transportation studies shall, at a minimum, assess the need to provide additional future mobility facilities based on the long-term projected traffic, transit, bicycle paths, and pedestrian access needs. (Source: Existing Programs CT-5.1a and CT-5.2b, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 4.1 MOB – 4.2</p>	<p>Public Works — Community Development</p>		■	■		■
<p>J Short-term Transportation Study The City shall complete a transportation study to make recommendations for the purpose of increasing the provision of multi-modal transportation facilities, enhancing safety, lowering the rate of collisions and reducing travel delays. (Source: Existing Program CT-2.1a, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 4.2</p>	<p>Public Works — Community Development</p>	■				
<p>K North/South and East/West Access Routes The City shall prepare a study to explore the feasibility of establishing alternate north/south and east/west access routes, as well as the extension of existing streets or construction new streets meet existing and future travel demands. (Source: Existing Goal CT-19, modified, Existing Policies CT-19.1, CT-19.2, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 4.6 MOB – 4.7</p>	<p>Public Works — Community Development</p>	■				



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(is)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>L Airport Parcels The City shall prepare a study to identify parcels on which new development could benefit the airport and supports annexation of those parcels. (Source: Existing Program AE-2.1a, modified)</p>	<p>MOB – 6.1 MOB – 6.2 MOB – 6.3</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				

A.4 Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

Water

PFS-1 To maintain a safe and adequate water system to meet the needs of existing and future development.
 (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-1, modified)

PFS-1.1 Water Service Annexation Impacts. The City shall ensure newly annexed areas within the city do not negatively affect water services to existing customers. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-1.2 Russian River Water Rights. The City shall protect and confirm all Russian River tributary water rights to which the Ukiah Valley and City may be entitled. (Source: Existing Policy CF-1.1, modified)

PFS-1.3 Consolidation of Water Districts . The City shall support the consolidation of water districts as part of future annexations to establish efficient services and ensure adequate water supply and delivery. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-1.4 Water Storage. The City shall encourage the protection and expansion of existing sources and methods of water storage for future development. (Source: Existing Policy CF-1.2. modified)

PFS-1.5 Recycled Water Project. The City shall explore the potential expansion of the Recycled Water Project to provide non-potable water to areas of large-scale urban irrigation, such as Todd Grove Park and the golf course. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-1.6 Reduce Reliance on the Russian River. The City shall continue to support the reduction on the reliance of surface water from the Russian River as a water source to serve the community. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-1.7 Groundwater Recharge. The City shall enhance groundwater supply by looking to expand its capacity to recharge by developing storm ponding and retention basins where feasible. In some areas these ponds or basins can be incorporated into a recreational area, used as wildlife habitat area, or may be required by new development to offset impacts associated with new nonpermeable surfaces. (Source: New Policy)

Wastewater

PFS-2 To maintain quality wastewater treatment and disposal services to meet the needs of existing and future development. (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-6, modified)

PFS-2.1 Level of Service. The City shall maintain an adequate level of service in the City's wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system to meet the needs of existing and projected development and all State and Federal regulations. (Source: Existing Policy CF-6.1)

PFS-2.2 Wastewater System Funding. The City shall ensure that the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system has adequate funds and programs for maintenance, upgrades when required, and day-to-day operations. (Source: Existing Program CF-6.1(a), modified)

PFS-2.3 Wastewater Service Coordination. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure ongoing wastewater treatment capacity within the wastewater treatment plant for future development. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-2.4 Ukiah Valley Sanitation District . The City should collaborate with Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure adequate wastewater collection and treatment is provided to properties within City limits and their jurisdictional boundaries. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-2.5 Out of Area Service Agreements. The City shall require out of service area agreements in rural areas where the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District cannot feasibly provide wastewater services. (Source: Existing Program CF-7.1(b), modified)

PFS-2.6 Wastewater Service Capacity. The City shall ensure there is adequate wastewater service capacity prior to annexation of additional land. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-2.7 Protect Groundwater Quality . The City shall preserve and protect groundwater quality through the implementation of best practices and innovative methods for modern wastewater disposal. (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-7, modified)

Solid Waste, Composting and Recycling

PFS-3 To ensure adequate solid waste, recycling, and composting services and maximize waste diversion from landfills. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-3.1 Solid Waste Diversion Targets. The City shall encourage increased community participation in recycling and composting programs and weekly collection of recyclables and organic waste to achieve 85 percent diversion for community waste and municipal operations by 2030. (Source: New Policy aligning with the Ukiah Climate Action Plan, Strategy/ Objective SW.1.2 which was not adopted.)

PFS-3.2 Waste Management Services. The City shall continue waste management service contracts to provide quality and cost-effective solid waste removal throughout the city and require all residents and businesses to comply with solid waste collection and recycling service requirements. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-3.3 Construction and Demolition Waste. The City shall require all new development to comply with the current CALGreen requirements for construction and demolition waste diversion. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-3.4 Recycling Receptacles and Biodegradable/ Recycled-Materials Products. The City shall require the availability of recycling and composting receptacles and use biodegradable or recycled-material products instead of single-use plastic products at all City facilities and City-sponsored events. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-3.5 Sustainable Purchasing Policy. The City shall prioritize purchasing products that are environmentally friendly; made with postconsumer recycled content; are recyclable, compostable, or reusable; are less toxic than conventional goods; are manufactured locally; and are fairly traded. (Source: New Policy based on the Ukiah Climate Action Plan, Action SW.1.2(C), which was not adopted)

PFS-3.6 Waste Reduction Education. The City shall collaborate and partner with local organizations to provide waste reduction education programs to residents and businesses. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-4 To enforce Citywide codes and ordinances, with special attention regarding private property maintenance, abandoned vehicles, rubbish/weeds, and public nuisances. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-4.1 Solid Waste Diversion Targets. The City shall provide adequate staffing to support code enforcement efforts to the extent financially feasible. (Source: New Policy aligning with the Ukiah Climate Action Plan, Strategy/Objective SW.1.2 which was not adopted.)

Stormwater Management

PFS-5 To maintain an adequate stormwater management system to accommodate runoff and improve environmental quality. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-5.1 Low Impact Development . The City shall require new developments to install green infrastructure consistent with Stormwater Low Impact Development Technical Design Manual and the sustainable objectives of the State and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to pervious pavement, infiltration basins, raingardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other types of low impact development (LID). (Source: New Policy)

PFS-5.2 Pollutants Discharge Reduction. The City shall provide non-point source pollution control programs to reduce and control the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system and Russian River. (Source: New Policy)

Utilities and Energy

PFS-6 Improve the efficiency and quality of utility services in the city. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-6.1 New Initiatives. The City shall support innovative, sustainable, and alternative practices and technologies for delivering energy and utility services to the community. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-6.2 Undergrounding Utilities . The City shall encourage the conversion of overhead transmission and distribution lines to underground as economically feasible. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-6.3 Energy Efficiency Education . The City shall support education for residents and businesses on the importance of energy efficiency. (Source: Existing GP Goal, EG-7, modified)

PFS-6.4 Energy Efficient Municipal Buildings. The City shall require municipal and public buildings to operate at the highest energy efficiency level economically and operationally feasible. (Source: Existing GP Policy, EG-6.2)

PFS-6.5 Privately-Owned Building Retrofits . The City shall promote retrofitting of privately-owned buildings to increase energy efficiency. (Source: Existing GP Policy, EG-6.3, modified)

PFS-6.6 Local Power Generation. The City shall support local power generation and production that is economically and operationally feasible. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-7 To ensure a safe and resilient utility and infrastructure system. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-7.1 Resilient Electric Grid. The City shall explore options for hardening the electric grid to continue to provide ongoing service to the community without disruption caused by natural (seismic events, flooding, wildfires, extreme wind events) or man-made hazards. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-7.2 Vegetation Clearance. The City shall require vegetation clearance and tree trimming adjacent to transmission and distribution lines and other critical electrical infrastructure. (Source: New Policy) [RDR]

PFS-7.3 Electric Infrastructure Upgrades. The City shall implement electrical infrastructure upgrades as outlined in the Ukiah Wildfire Mitigation Plan to reduce the risk of wildfires. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-8 To transition to sustainable and renewable energy. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-8.1 Utility Sustainability. The City shall continue to expand alternative, sustainable electric energy use. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-8.2 Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency . The City shall encourage the site planning and design of new buildings to maximize energy efficiency. (Source: Existing Policy EG-6.1, modified)

PFS-8.3 Solar Photovoltaic Use. The City shall encourage solar photovoltaic systems for existing residential uses to reduce the reliance on the energy grid. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-8.4 Residential Electric Appliances. The City shall encourage the use of electric appliances and utility hook-ups in all new residential development. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-8.5 LEED Certification. The City shall encourage new construction, including municipal building construction, to achieve third-party green building certifications, such as LEED rating system, or an equivalent. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-8.6 Incentivize Energy Efficiency . The City shall consider providing incentives, such as prioritizing plan review, permit processing, and field inspection services, for energy efficient building projects. (Source: New Policy)

Fire Protection and Emergency Response

PFS-9 To maintain effective, fast, and dependable fire protection and emergency medical response in Ukiah. (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-8, modified)

PFS-9.1 Emergency Medical Services. The City shall coordinate emergency medical services between agencies servicing the city. (Source: Existing Policy CF-8.1, modified)

PFS-9.2 Fire Prevention . The City shall require all new development to include provisions for onsite fire suppression measures and/or management of surrounding vegetation to provide minimum clearance between structures and vegetation. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-9.3 Interagency Coordination . The City shall coordinate with Cal Fire and the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority regarding the fire protection and wildfire safety standards. (Source: New Policy)

Law Enforcement

PFS-10 To provide high-quality public safety and crime reduction services to maintain a safe and secure community. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-10.1 Police Staffing. The City shall prioritize the maintenance of Police Department staffing levels in line with community needs. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-10.2 Interagency Coordination. The City shall coordinate with the Mendocino County Sherriff's Office on joint operations and services. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-10.3 Community Policing Strategies. The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds, economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques. (Source: New Policy) [MPSP]

PFS-10.4 School Safety. The City shall collaborate with the Ukiah Unified School District to enhance school security and student, teacher, and administrator safety. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-10.5 Public Safety Communications. The City shall use a variety of communication methods (e.g., social media, text messaging, television and radio alerts, website postings) to communicate and inform residents and businesses about crimes, investigations, and emergencies. (Source: New Policy)

Community Facilities

PFS-11 To ensure adequate community facilities. (Source: Existing GP Goal CF-10, modified) .

PFS-11.1 Adequate Community Facilities . The City shall develop or identify adequate and appropriate community facilities for public meetings and cultural activities. (Source: Existing Policy CF-10.1, modified) [SQ]

PFS-11.2 Joint-Use Facilities . The City shall partner with Mendocino County and the Ukiah Unified School District to provide joint-use facilities. (Source: Existing Policy CF-10.1, modified) [IGC]

Parks and Recreation

PFS-12 To provide parks, recreational facilities, and trails for residents and visitors. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-12.1 Connected Park System. The City shall provide an interconnected park system that creates an urban greenbelt and links all trail systems within the City. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.2 Expansion of Recreational Amenities and Programs. The City shall expand amenities and recreational programs in parks and recreational facilities that accommodate a variety of ages and address the needs of families. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.3 Equitable Access to Parks and Recreation Facilities . The City shall establish new parks and recreation facilities to ensure all residents have access within a one-mile radius of their place of residence regardless of socio-economic status. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.4 Access for Persons with Disabilities. The City shall design all parks and recreation facilities to have adequate access for those with accessibility issues. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.5 Park Visibility. The City shall assure that all parks are visible from the public right-of-way when possible and remain clear of visual obstructions that reduce visual connections for safety concerns. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.6 Park Safety. The City Police Department shall patrol and secure parks and recreational facilities from potential crime and misuse. (Source: Existing Policy PR-2.4, modified)

PFS-12.7 Great Redwood Trail – Ukiah. The City shall support the continued phased development of the Great Redwood Trail through and beyond the city limits, to connect adjoining regional trail networks. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-12.8 Collaborative Partnerships for Improved Services. The City shall work with Mendocino County, Ukiah schools, and other large land or facility owners to establish and maintain partnerships to improve access and maintenance to parks and recreation. (Source: New Policy)

Education

PFS-13 To ensure high-quality educational institutions for all community members that foster diversity and educational attainment. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-13.1 Consideration of Impacts. The City shall consider potential impacts on the Ukiah Unified School District during the review of new development projects. (Source: Existing Policy CF-11.2, modified)

PFS-13.2 Planning for Future Growth. The City shall collaborate with Ukiah Unified School District in its long-range planning efforts to ensure the adequacy of school facilities to serve new development. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-13.3 School Siting Coordination. The City shall coordinate with Ukiah Unified School District on the future location of schools in relation to transportation and land use plans and seek to avoid traffic impacts and facilitate joint use of community parks and other public facilities by schools. (Source: Existing GP Program CF-11.3(b), modified)

Lifelong Learning

PFS-14 To enhance the educational support system serving the City to the benefit of all residents, regardless of age and location within the community. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-14.1 Implementing Continuing Education. The City should encourage Mendocino College, local vocational schools, and technical training institutes to maintain and improve continuing education courses and certificate programs, including opportunities for on-line learning. (Source: New Policy)

Healthy Community

PFS-15 To ensure all residents have access to healthy lifestyle options. (Source: New Goal)

PFS-15.1 Alcohol and Tobacco Sales. The City shall shall study the feasibility of establishing zoning code provisions limiting the location and concentration of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.



PFS-15.2 Healthy Food Options. The City shall support programs that guide healthy food options in the community. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-15.3 Support Government-Issued Vouchers. The City shall support the acceptance of Government-issued food vouchers (such as WIC and Cal FRESH) via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card at food retailers and farmers markets. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-15.4 Vending Machine Options. The City shall support healthy food options for vending machines in City-owned and leased locations. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-15.5 Healthy Food at Government-sponsored Events. The City shall support the provision of healthy foods at City-sponsored meetings and events when food is provided. (Source: New Policy)

PFS-15.6 Healthy Homes. The City shall promote green building practices that support “healthy homes,” such as low VOC materials, environmental tobacco smoke control, and indoor air quality construction pollution prevention techniques. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Wastewater Annual Review The City shall annually review the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system to ensure the financing structure and viability of the system. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>PFS – 2.2 PFS – 2.3 PFS – 2.6</p>	<p>Public Works</p>				■	
<p>B Parks Gap Analysis The City shall prepare a parks gap analysis identifying areas of the city underserved by parks and recreation facilities access. The analysis shall, at a minimum, establish equitable access standards, including the minimum distance between parks every residence, and potential funding mechanisms. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>PFS – 12.1 PFS – 12.3</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	■				

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>C Park Maintenance and Security Program The City shall establish a comprehensive maintenance and security program for all recreational facilities, parks, and trails in the Ukiah area. (Source: Existing Policy PR-2.1)</p>	<p>PFS – 12.1 PFS – 12.5 PFS – 12.6</p>	<p>Community Services</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>D Alcohol and Tobacco Ordinance The City shall prepare a feasibility analysis is studying the establishment of establishing zoning code provisions related to the location and number of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>PFS- 15.1</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>E Solid Waste Reduction The City shall review existing programs, and study the feasibility of new or expanded programs related to waste reduction. These efforts should be coordinated with preparation of the City’s Climate Action Plan and incorporated where necessary (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>PFS-3.1 PFS-3.2 PFS-3.3 PFS-3.4 PFS-3.5 PFS-3.6</p>	<p>Public Works Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				

A.5 Environment and Sustainability Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

Open Space

ENV-1 Preserve open space land for the commercial agricultural and productive uses, the protection and use of natural resources, the enjoyment of scenic beauty and recreation, protection of tribal resources, and the protection from natural hazards. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-1.1 Landscaping Compatibility. The City shall require landscaping in new development to be compatible with preservation and restoration goals of open space management and native vegetation. (Source: Existing Policy OC-1.3, modified)

ENV-1.2 Open Space Management. The City shall manage and maintain City-owned open spaces to preserve the integrity of these public spaces. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-1.3 Open Space and Renewable Energy Production. The City shall seek, where feasible, to develop renewable energy production within City-owned open space. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-2 To maintain and enhance the urban forest to create a sense of urban space and cohesiveness with the surrounding natural environment. (Source: Existing GP Goal OC-29, modified)

ENV-2.1 Tree Preservation. The City shall update and maintain City tree inventories to support landmark trees preservation and urban biodiversity, including trees designated for streets and parking lots, and city facilities. The City shall also prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan, review its Tree Management Guidelines and study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance.

ENV-2.2 Protect Healthy Trees. The City shall review new construction and landscaping site plans to ensure that healthy trees are not removed unnecessarily. (Source: Existing Program OC-29.1b, 22-1a)

ENV-2.3 Accommodation of Trees along Roadways. The City shall ensure future roadway plans accommodate existing and new trees without compromising sidewalk accessibility. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-2.4 Tree Trimming for Fire Prevention. The City shall encourage private tree trimming as a fire hazard mitigation. (Source: New Policy).

Historic-Archeological

ENV-3 To preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-3.1 The City shall support the listing of eligible properties, sites, and structures as potential historic designations and their inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources and National Register of Historic Places. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-3.2 Archaeological Resource Impact Mitigation. The City shall ensure appropriate and feasible mitigation for new development that has the potential to impact sites likely to contain archaeological, paleontological, cultural, or tribal resources. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-3.3 Protect Archaeological Resources. The City shall require any construction, grading, or other site altering activities cease if cultural, archaeological, paleontological, or cultural resources are discovered during until a qualified professional has completed an evaluation of the site. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-3.4 Tribal Consultation. The City shall proactively engage local Native American tribes in the planning process, particularly when matters related to Native American culture, heritage, resources, or artifacts may be affected. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-3.5 Educational Outreach. The City shall coordinate with the museum to provide education to the public on how to protect sites and structures. (Source: Existing Policy HA-8.1, modified)

ENV-3.6 City-owned Historic Sites and Structures. The City shall maintain, preserve, and improve City-owned historic structures and sites in an architecturally and environmentally sensitive manner. (Source: Existing Policy HA-5.1, modified)

ENV-3.7 Adaptive Reuse. The City shall encourage appropriate adaptive reuse of historic resources. (Source: Existing Policy HA7.3)

Conservation

ENV-4 To conserve and protect the city's natural woodlands and water resources for future generations. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-4.1 Habitat Preservation. The City shall require new development to preserve and enhance natural areas that serve, or may potentially serve, as habitat for special-status species. Where preservation is not feasible, the City shall require appropriate mitigation. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-4.2 Trail Connectivity. The City shall identify appropriate areas for trails along the ridge line that can be connected to trails in the valley. (Source: Existing Policy OC-10.3)

ENV-4.3 Interconnected Greenways. The City shall encourage new development to incorporate and facilitate interconnected greenways that support wildlife conservation and recreational purposes. (Source: Existing Policy OC-11.2, modified)

ENV-4.4 River and Creek Preservation. The City shall work cooperatively with the County and private landowners to develop pedestrian access along creeks flowing through the City where safe and feasible to do so and where it will not cause adverse impacts. (Source: Existing Program OC-9.4a)

ENV-4.5 Recycled Water. The City shall support efforts to increase recycle water use. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-4.6 Groundwater Protection. The City shall require, for new development that could result in a significant reduction in groundwater recharge area or water quantity, an analysis, prepared by a licensed hydrologist, of the project impacts on groundwater recharge and quality. (Source: Existing Program OC-12.1a)

ENV-4.7 Water Capturing Permits. The City shall encourage and support residents to have an on-site water capturing system for landscaping and household use. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-4.8 Mitigate Water Resource Pollutants. The City shall protect water quality from adverse impacts of urban and agricultural runoff. (Source: Existing Policy CC-15.1, modified)

Biological Resources

ENV-5 To ensure the health and viability of the Russian River fisheries and tributaries. (Source: Existing GP Goals CC-7 and CC-26, modified)

ENV-5.1 Local Collaboratives. The City shall participate in local collaborative efforts to restore and preserve the health of the Russian River as a habitat for riparian species. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-5.2 Community Education. The City shall work with schools' education providers, and non-profit community groups, to organize educational trips, cleanup days, and similar activities that promote involvement with and knowledge of the Russian River habitat. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-5.3 Russian River Riparian Area. The City shall support the County in maintaining the Russian River as a natural riparian corridor. (Source: Existing Policy CC-7.5, modified)

ENV-6 To preserve and restore creeks, streams, riparian areas, and wetlands. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-6.1 Restoration Master Plans The City shall establish a Creek and Stream Restoration Master Plan for each creek flowing through the City limits. (Source: Existing Policy CC-9.1, modified)

ENV-6.2 Contamination and Sedimentation Prevention. The City shall require new development to use site preparation, grading, and construction techniques that prevent contamination and sedimentation of creeks and streams. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-6.3 Waterway Restoration. The City shall encourage and provide resources to landowners in the city to remove invasive species, plant native plant species, and prevent pollution from entering local creeks and waterways. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-6.4 Waterway Channelization. The City shall actively support the use of natural waterways within the city by avoiding any new waterway channelization within the city and collaborating with local and regional agencies to restore channelized waterways where feasible. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-6.5 Creek Protection. The City shall require new development located adjacent to stream corridors to include appropriate measures for creek bank stabilization, erosion and sedimentation prevention, and natural creek channel and riparian vegetation preservation. (Source: Existing Programs CC-7.5(a), CC-9.2d, CC-9.2e, modified)

ENV-6.6 Erosion Control Plans. The City shall require new development that requires significant grading near creeks, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas to prepare erosion control plans that address grading practices that prevent soil erosion, loss of topsoil, and drainageway scour, consistent with biological and aesthetic values. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-6.7 Public Open Space. The City shall work with Mendocino County and the Public Spaces Commission to identify and select appropriate locations along creek channels, hillsides, and ridgelines that would be appropriate for future acquisition and development as trails, pocket parks, wildlife preserves, or other public open space. (Source: Existing Programs CC-9.4b, -10.3a, -10.3b, -27.1a modified)

ENV-6.8 Research and Educational Access. The City shall work with public and private landowners adjacent to creeks to allow public access to creeks, streams, waterways, and riparian areas for educational and research programs. (Source: New Policy)

Air Quality

ENV-7 To improve air quality to the benefit of public health, welfare, and reduce air quality impacts with adverse effects on residents' health and wellbeing. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-7.1 Transit Oriented Development. The City shall encourage concentration of new development near areas served by transit access and reduce single-occupancy vehicle dependency. (Source: Existing Policy OC-31.1, modified)

ENV-7.2 Active Transportation. The City shall prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access, infrastructure, and education to encourage increased use of alternative modes of transportation as a means to reduce direct and indirect air contaminant emissions. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-7.3 Implement Clean Air Plan. The City shall cooperate with Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) to implement the Clean Air Plan required by the Clean Air Act, reduce non-attainment pollutants, including PM10, PM2.5, and ozone, and enforce air quality standards as required by State and Federal statutes. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-7.4 Public Outreach. The City shall cooperate with the MCAQMD and Mendocino County Public Health to create public awareness and education programs about air quality issues and safety measures during hazardous air events. (Source: Existing Policy OC-36.1, modified)

ENV-7.5 Construction and Operations. The City shall require that development projects incorporate feasible measures that reduce construction and operational emissions for reactive organic gases, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5). (Source: Existing Program OC-37.2b, modified)

ENV-7.6 Wood Burning Fireplace Replacement. The City shall promote the replacement of non-EPA certified fireplaces and woodstoves and encourage city residents to participate in MCAQMD and NSCAPCD programs, such as the Wood Stove Rebate Program. (Source: Existing Program OC-38.1a, OC-38.1e, modified)

ENV-7.7 City Vehicle and Equipment Fleet. The City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels as part of their fleet. When possible, the City will replace gas and hybrid vehicles with electric vehicles. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-7.8 Residential EV Charging Stations. The City shall encourage new development to install EV charging stations in homes to increase the potential for the public to use zero-emission vehicles, lessening the impacts to air quality through pollution. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-7.9 Public EV Charging Stations. The City shall install public charging stations in its commercial areas to provide additional charging options for city visitors. (Source: New Policy)

Climate Change and Sustainability

ENV-8 To achieve carbon neutrality by or before the year 2045. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-8.1 Carbon Neutrality Resolution. The City shall adopt a Carbon Neutrality Resolution that provides a foundation for all subsequent climate actions. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-8.2 Micro-grid and Small Battery Storage. The City shall encourage the development of small-scale battery storage and micro grid capacity for storing renewable power for nighttime energy use. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-8.3 Municipal Building Electrification Plan. The City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings to convert them to all electric using energy from carbon-free and renewable sources by 2035. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-8.4 Municipal Preference of Emissions-Reduced Equipment. The City shall contract only with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available and feasible for City construction projects or contract services. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-8.5 Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy. The City shall promote energy conservation in municipal facilities by seeking opportunities to install energy efficient fixtures and appliances, solar panels, solar battery storage, and other retrofits to new and existing structures. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-9 To become a zero-waste community through responsible procurement, waste diversion, and innovative strategies. (Source: New Goal)

ENV-9.1 Zero Waste. The City shall promote innovative activities that reduce waste and increase waste diversion, including sourcing products with reusable, recyclable, or compostable packaging; establishing food diversion programs; gasification, and promoting and educating on waste diversion and its importance. (Source: New Policy)

ENV-9.2 Household Waste Programs. The City shall provide convenient, easy-to-use bulky item and household hazardous waste programs that facilitate the reuse and recycling of materials. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Hillside Ordinance</p> <p>The City shall update its Hillside Ordinance periodically to provide regulations and provisions that balance hillside development and preservation. At a minimum the Hillside Ordinance shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect of natural terrain and hillside areas on the west side of Ukiah; • Promote habitat connectivity and scenic viewsheds; • Include development standards for grading, road and trail improvements, density, structure design and placement, clustering, erosion and sediment control, habitat preservation; and • Promote wildfire safety standards and site development regulations. <p>(Source: OC-11.2a, modified)</p>	<p>ENV– 1.1 ENV– 1.2</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				<p>■</p>
<p>B Landscaping Standards</p> <p>The City shall update the Zoning Code to include landscaping standards to require drought-resistant and native plants.</p> <p>(Source: Existing Program OC-23.1b, modified)</p>	<p>ENV– 1.1 ENV– 4.7</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>C Open Space Management</p> <p>Revise the Zoning Code to include standards for maintaining open space and green areas within new developments.</p> <p>(Source: Existing Program OC-2.1a)</p>	<p>ENV– 1.2</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	<p>■</p>				



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>D Updated Undeveloped Land Inventory The City shall annually update the undeveloped lands inventory. (Source: Existing Program OC-1.1a)</p>	ENV – 1.2	Community Development				■	
<p>E Prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan The City shall prepare an Urban Forest Master Plan that includes the types of trees appropriate for Ukiah and locations where the city would receive the greatest benefits of new trees. This plan should include trees within commercial and residential areas, as well as those at city parks and facilities. This plan shall be updated every five years. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ENV – 2.1	Community Development — Public Works Community Services			■		
<p>F Tree Protection Ordinance The City shall review its Tree Management Guidelines and study the feasibility of preparing a Tree Protection Ordinance. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ENV – 2.1 ENV – 2.2	Community Development			■		
<p>G Historic Structure Preservation Policy and Architectural Inventory The City shall update the Historic Structure Preservation policy and architectural resource inventory in collaboration with the Mendocino County Historical Society to focus on preservation of identified historic and architectural resources, while also streamlining development/demolition of older, non-resource structures. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ENV – 3.1	Community Development		■			

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>H Cultural and Historic Registry The City shall update the list of cultural and historic resources worthy of nomination to state or national preservation lists. (Source: Existing Program HA-2.1a)</p>	ENV – 3.1	Community Development	■				
<p>I Historic Preservation Ordinance The City shall adopt a Historic Archaeological Preservation Ordinance to review permanent changes to the exterior or setting of designated historic or impacts to Archaeological resources. Among other topics, the Ordinance should address the following: archaeological resource impact avoidance, new development in historically-sensitive neighborhood, compatibility of energy conservation retrofitting, design review standards for new structures replacing demolished historic structures, and requirements for preservation of records and artifacts from demolished historic structures. (Source: Existing Programs HA-2.2a, 5.1b, 6.1a, 7.2b, 7.4b, HA-7.4c)</p>	ENV – 3.1 ENV – 3.5 ENV – 3.6 ENV – 3.7	Community Development		■			
<p>J Water Conservation Guidelines The City shall prepare guidelines for drought period water conservation strategies for residential zones. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ENV – 4.5 ENV – 4.6 ENV – 4.7	Community Development — Public Works	■				



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>K Creek and Stream Protection Zone Establishment for New Development</p> <p>The City shall establish creek and stream protection zones for waterways that extend a minimum of 30 feet (measured from the top of a bank and a strip of land extending laterally outward from the top of each bank), with wider buffers where significant habitat areas or high potential wetlands exist. The City shall prohibit development within a creek and stream protection zones, except as part of greenway enhancement, including habitat conservation, bike and walking paths, wildlife habitat, and native plant landscaping). City approval is required for the following activities within the creek and stream protection zones.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction, alteration, or removal of any structure; 2. Excavation, filling, or grading; 3. Removal or planting of vegetation (except for removal of invasive plant species); or 4. Alteration of any embankment. <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	ENV – 6.1	Community Development — Public Works		■			

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>L Erosion Prevention Program</p> <p>The City shall revise the Zoning Code to include design standards for new development that require riparian habitat integration into project design as a means of avoiding potential impacts of river sedimentation and lessening the effects of erosion.</p> <p>(Source: Existing Program OC-7.5a, modified)</p>	<p>ENV– 6.1 ENV– 6.2 ENV– 6.4 ENV– 6.5 ENV– 6.6</p>	<p>Community Development</p>		■			
<p>M Adopt a Municipal Climate Action Plan (CAP)</p> <p>The City shall adopt a municipal Climate Action Plan to achieve carbon neutrality for all municipal operations and meet State and City GHG emission reduction goals.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>ENV– 8 ENV– 8.1 ENV– 8.3 ENV– 9.1</p>	<p>Community Development</p>	■				

A.6 Safety Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

Geologic and Seismic Hazards

SAF-1 Minimize risk to people and property resulting from geologic and seismic hazards through effective development regulation (Source: UVAP Policy HS1.1)

SAF-1.1 Building Code Requirements. The City shall mitigate the potential impact for harm associated with geologic hazards by adopting and implementing the requirements outlined within the California Building Code and State seismic design guidelines. (Source: New Policy).

SAF-1.2 Geotechnical Report. Where projects are proposed within designated risk zones, require professionally prepared geotechnical evaluations prior to site development. If a discretionary permit is required, the geotechnical report shall be submitted with the permit application. (Source: UVAP, HS1.1c)

SAF-1.3 Resilient Infrastructure – Gathering Places. Encourage privately owned critical facilities (e.g. churches, hotels, other gathering facilities) to evaluate the ability of the buildings to withstand earthquakes and to address any deficiencies identified. (Source: MJHMP, 2021)

SAF-1.4 Resilient Infrastructure – Unreinforced Masonry. Continue an outreach and education program for owners and tenants in downtown unreinforced masonry buildings to understand earthquake risks and precautions and, for owners, to understand retrofitting options and available funding mechanisms. (Source: MJHMP, 2021)

Climate Change Hazards

SAF-2 To create a more resilient community that is prepared for, responsive to, and recoverable from hazards created or made worse by climate change. (Source: CAVA).

SAF-2.1 Community Service Organization Coordination. The City shall collaborate with community service organizations to ensure that the information and services related to emergency preparedness are made available to persons with limited transportation, communication, and other lifeline resources and services (Source: New Policy)

SAF-2.2 Vulnerable Populations Coordination. The City shall coordinate with the Mendocino County Homeless Services Continuum of Care and other existing programs to ensure that emergency shelters are available during extreme heat events, severe weather and flooding events, and other highly hazardous conditions. (Source: New Policy)

Flood Hazards

SAF-3 Minimize adverse impacts related to flooding through flood mitigation components and ongoing flood management practices. (Source: New Goal)

SAF-3.1 Flood Control Regulation. The City shall coordinate with FEMA to ensure that the City's regulations related to flood control are in compliance with Federal, State, and local guidelines. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-3.2 Flood Plain Management Ordinance. The City shall maintain an updated Flood Plain Management Ordinance specifying proper construction methods in identified flood hazard areas. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-3.3 National Flood Insurance Program. The City shall maintain compliance with the provisions of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). (Source: New Policy)

Wildfire

SAF-4 To maintain adequate and effective fire protection services for Ukiah. (Source: New Goal)

SAF-4.1 Fire Service Rating. The City shall optimize the ISO ratings of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to Class 1 by prioritizing agency needs and balancing cost/ quality trade-offs. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-4.2 Fire Service Funding. The City shall explore opportunities for increased funding for the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority in order to expand services appropriately. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-4.3 Fire Protection Resources. The City shall foster cooperative working relationships with public fire agencies, including CAL FIRE, to optimize fire protection resources within Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-4.4 Mutual Aid Participation. The City shall participate in mutual aid systems and agreements to supplement the capacity of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-4.5 Regional Fire Protection Plans. The City shall coordinate with CAL FIRE and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council to implement and regularly update regional fire protection plans. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-4.6 Local Fire Protection Plans. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to continue developing local fire protection planning and programs particularly for new development in VHFHSZs. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5 To minimize wildland fire risk to protect life and property. (Source: Existing GP Goal SF-7, modified)

SAF-5.1 Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation. The City shall to the extent possible, ensure that future public facilities are not located in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or in an area lacking service. If facilities are located within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones the City shall reduce the hazard potential by requiring the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements. If facilities are proposed in areas lacking existing service, service shall be expanded to such areas to provide adequate fire protection. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.2 Vegetation and Fuel Management. The City shall require that structures located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity zone maintain the required hazardous vegetation and fuel management specified within the California Fire Code and Public Resources Code 4291. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.3 Evacuation Routes. The City shall identify and maintain adequate evacuation routes in the city to safeguard human life in the case of fire. Evacuation routes shall be analyzed for their capacity, safety, and viability under a range of emergency scenarios in accordance with Assembly Bill 747. Evacuation routes within VHFHSZs shall be developed in accordance with SRA Fire Safe Regulations (Title 14, Division 1.5), and residential development in VHFHSZs that do not have at least two emergency evacuation routes shall also be identified in accordance with Senate Bill 99. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.4 Roadway Vegetation Clearance. The City shall maintain an adequate vegetation clearance on public and private roads to mitigate wildfire hazards. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.5 Fuel Breaks. The City shall prioritize increasing funding for and the maintenance of appropriate fuel breaks, reductions, and pest management in high fire hazard areas to prevent the spread of fire and limit potential damages. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.6 Water Supply Infrastructure. The City shall regularly assess the integrity of for existing and proposed development to ensure adequate fire suppression needs are met. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.7 Local Fire Ordinance. The City shall adopt and maintain a local fire ordinance in compliance with the Statewide SRA Fire Safety Regulations, including but not limited to, Public Resources Code 4291. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.8 Site Design Standards for Fire Hazard Reduction. The City shall prioritize the maintenance and update of stringent site design standards (such as those contained within the Hillside Overlay District) to reduce potential fire hazard risk, particularly within VHFHSZs, and ensure that new development maintains adequate access (ingress, egress). New residential development with VHFHSZs should be minimized. (Source: New Policy).

SAF-5.9 Site Design Standards for Fire Hazard Reduction. The City shall prioritize the maintenance and update of stringent site design standards to reduce potential fire hazard risk. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.10 Adequate Water Supply Infrastructure. All new development shall have adequate fire protection resources. The City shall prioritize new development in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure. This shall include providing information to at-risk populations related to evacuation routes and wildfire evacuation events, defensible space, fire hazard impacts (such as structural damage, wildfire smoke, etc.), fire prevention measures, and structural hardening. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-5.11 Fire Safety Education Programs. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to inform property owners and residents of the most recent best practices in building and land management and fire safety measures to protect people and property from fire hazards. (Source: Existing Policy SF-10.1, modified)

SAF-6 To ensure that the City is adequately prepared for emergencies of any variety through effective planning measures. (Source: New Goal)

SAF-6.1 Evacuation Routes. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to review, update, and periodically exercise emergency access, protocols, and evacuation routes to assess their effectiveness. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-6.2 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City shall continue to participate in and implement the Mendocino County Hazard Mitigation Plan to ensure maximum preparedness for hazard events. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-6.3 Locally Focused Plans. The City shall maintain and implement locally focused plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan, to maintain consistency with State and Federal requirements. This shall include developing a plan for repopulation and redevelopment after large disaster events. (Source: New Policy)

Noise

SAF-7 To stabilize or reduce transportation noise impacts on residential uses. (Source: Existing GP Goal NZ-1)

SAF-7.1 Noise Inventory. The City shall inventory noise contours for major traffic corridors and the airport. (Source: Existing Policy NZ-1.1)

SAF-7.2 Sound Attenuation Strategies. The City shall require all new residential development located along major transportation corridors to incorporate sound attenuation strategies to mitigate noise levels to acceptable levels. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-7.3 Airport Noise Disclosure. The City shall require disclosure of potential airport noise impacts for property transactions located within the 55 to 65 decibel airport noise contours. (Source: Existing Policy NZ-1.5- Modified)

SAF-7.4 Airport Noise Attenuation. The City shall require the incorporation of sound reducing measures in all new construction in the airport compatibility zones, consistent with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-7.5 Roadway Expansion. The City shall require the use of accepted acoustic engineering features when designing for the expansion of existing roads examples include low landscaped berms, landscaping, below-grade

construction, and speed control - to minimize expansion of the existing Design to Cost (DTC). (Source: Existing Program NZ-1.2c, modified)

SAF-7.6 Noise Equipment. The City shall require that commercial passenger service aircraft comply with the best available noise equipment standards to reduce noise impacts on the ground. (Source: Existing Program NZ-1.4c)

SAF-8 To reduce noise impacts through the enforcement of appropriate building and land use codes. (Source: Existing GP Goal NZ-2- Modified)

SAF-8.1 Update Noise Attenuation Standards. The City shall review and update Article 6 of the City Municipal Code to ensure enforcement of best practices for noise attenuation standards. (Source: New Policy)




SAF-8.2 Noise Impact Analysis. The City shall ensure adequate analysis of noise impacts when reviewing project permits. (Source: Existing Policy NZ-2.2)

SAF-8.3 Noise Attenuation Requirements. The City shall require all new commercial and manufacturing uses that could produce excessive noise to incorporate applicable noise mitigation measures to reduce noise levels to acceptable levels. (Source: New Policy)

SAF-8.4 Acoustical Studies. The City shall require acoustical studies for all new development projects with potential to generate excessive noise to identify potential noise impacts and appropriate mitigation measures. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Building and Zoning Code The City shall review and update the building and zoning code upon amendments to the California Building Code, Alquist-Priolo Act, and all published regulations related to development and construction. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF– 1.1	Community Development					■

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>B Geotechnical Report The City shall update Municipal Code with provisions to require professionally prepared geotechnical evaluations prior to site development. If a discretionary permit is required, the geotechnical report shall be submitted with the permit application. (Source: UVAP, HS1.1c)</p>	SAF – 1.2	Community Development		■			
<p>C Resilient Infrastructure The City shall reach out to property owners of privately owned critical facilities (e.g., hospitals, emergency shelters) and coordinate building inspections to evaluate the ability of the buildings to withstand moderate to significant earthquakes and to address any deficiencies identified. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 1.3	Community Development					■
<p>D Resilient Infrastructure The City shall continue an outreach and education program for owners and tenants in downtown unreinforced masonry buildings and provide ongoing information regarding earthquake risks, precautions, retrofitting options, and available funding mechanisms. (Source: MJ HMP, 2021, modified)</p>	SAF – 1.4	Community Development					■

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>E Floodplain Development</p> <p>The City shall review and update the City Code to incorporate FEMA Flood Insurance Program standards and regulations for development within identified floodplains or areas subject to inundation by a one-hundred-year flood. The standards shall prohibit development within floodways except as permitted by Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Program. (Source: Existing Program SF-3.1a)</p>	<p>SAF– 3.1 SAF– 3.2 SAF– 3.3</p>	<p>Community Development</p>					
<p>F Resilient Communities</p> <p>The City shall coordinate and collaborate with community service organizations to ensure that the information and services related to emergency preparedness are made available through handouts, outreach meetings, and online resources to persons with limited transportation, communication, and other lifeline resources and services. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>SAF-2.1 SAF-2.2</p>	<p>City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority</p>					
<p>G Storm Drain Maintenance for Flood Control</p> <p>The City shall maintain and regularly assess the local storm drains for adequate operation to prevent flooding and debris flows. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>SAF– 3.1 SAF– 3.3</p>	<p>Public Works</p>					



Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
H	Fire Protection Rating Monitor the City’s fire protection rating and cooperate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to correct deficiencies. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 4.1	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority				■	
I	Insurance Services Officer (ISO) The City shall work with the County, special districts, and the State to implement ISO recommendations and take steps necessary to maintain or improve the areas’ ISO Rating. (Source: Existing Program SF-6.1a)	SAF – 4.1	City Manager — Community Development					■
J	Fire Service Funding The City shall explore opportunities such as state and federal grants and partnerships with other organizations for increased funding related to fire risk mitigation. Funding opportunities for private landowners will be promoted through City communications channels. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 4.2	Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					■
K	Fire Liaison Designate a Fire Safety Liaison to regularly coordinate with CAL FIRE and neighboring fire agencies on staffing, local programs, and key issues. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 4.3	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					■
L	Mutual Aid Participation The City shall participate in mutual aid systems and agreements to supplement the capacity of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 4.4	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					■

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>M Regional Fire Protection Plans The City shall coordinate with CAL FIRE and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council to implement and regularly update regional fire protection plans (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 4.5	City Manager — CAL FIRE Mendocino Mendocino County Fire Safe Council					■
<p>N Local Fire Protection Plans The City shall request quarterly meetings with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to develop and implement local fire protection planning and programs. If new residential subdivisions are proposed within the VHFHSZ a Fire Protection Plan with the following components shall be included in the proposal and reviewed by the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Analysis. • Fire Response Capabilities. • Fire Safety Requirements – Defensible Space, Infrastructure, and Building Ignition Resistance. • Mitigation Measures and Design Considerations for Non-Conforming Fuel Modification. • Wildfire Education Maintenance and Limitations <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 4.6	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority					■

Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
O	<p>Fire Safety Standards</p> <p>The City shall review the Ukiah City Code every five years to confirm compliance with all applicable State regulatory standards related to fire safety and update the Code as necessary. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5	Community Development	■	■	■		
P	<p>Fire Hazard Zone Update</p> <p>The City shall continue to update and adopt local fire hazard zones designations as changes to the state zoning designation occur. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5	Community Development					■
Q	<p>Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation</p> <p>The City shall require the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements for public facilities located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.1	Community Development					■
R	<p>Evacuation Route Standards</p> <p>The City shall establish minimum road widths and flammable vegetation clearances for evacuation routes in accordance with California regulatory standards. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.2 SAF – 5.3 SAF – 6.1	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority Community Development	■				

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>S Out of Compliance Roadways The City shall identify all road networks in VHFHSZs that do not meet State standards outlined in Title 14, Chapter 7 of the California Code of Regulations and prepare recommendations and a program for bringing the roadways into compliance with State standards. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.4	Public Works — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority		■			
<p>T Fuel Break Assessment The City shall develop a strategic Fuel Break Assessment to establish priorities for developing and maintaining fuel breaks within the city. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.5	Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority		■			
<p>U Cooperative Pest Management The City shall collaborate with state and federal land management agencies on pest and fuel management activities. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.5	Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority	■				
<p>V Community Chipper Program The City shall participate annually and expand the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council’s Community Chipper Program to provide a free service to chip and haul limbs and brush for residences defensible space. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.5	Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority Mendocino County Fire Safe Council				■	



Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
W	<p>Water Supply Infrastructure</p> <p>The City shall regularly assess the integrity of existing water supply infrastructure through water tests and inspections of water lines and prioritize developments in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.6 SAF – 5.9	Public Works				■	
X	<p>Hillside Development Standards</p> <p>The City shall review and update the Hillside Development Standards outlined within the Ukiah City Code by 2030 for consistency with new wildfire safety legislation. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.7 SAF – 5.8 SAF – 5.10	Community Development	■				
Y	<p>Site Design Standards</p> <p>The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to update site design standards in accordance with published State guidance and current conditions. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.8	Community Development — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority				■	
Z	<p>Public Information Program</p> <p>The City shall develop a comprehensive public information program related to fire safety to inform residents of present hazards and strategies for mitigation. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 5.10	City Manager — Ukiah Valley Fire Authority			■		

Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
AA	Communities at Risk The City shall identify and map existing multi-family housing, group homes, or other community housing located in VHHSZs and require the development of adequate evacuation or shelter in place plans. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 5.10	City Manager — Community Development Police Department Ukiah Valley Fire Authority	■				
BB	Fire Safety Education The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire District to schedule and host annual public meetings to review established wildfire prevention and protection measures as well as emergency response plans, especially evacuation plans and routes. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 5.10	City Manager — Police Department				■	
CC	Mendocino MJHMP The City shall update city plans, regulations, and standards to implement the 2020 Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 6.2	Police Department — Community Development	■				
DD	Mendocino County EOP The City shall update city plans, regulations, and standards every five years to assure compatibility with the Mendocino County Emergency Operations Plan. (Source: New Implementation Program)	SAF – 6.3	Police Department — City Manager Community Development	■	■	■		



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>EE Sound Attenuation Regulations</p> <p>The City shall require any new residential development located along a major transportation corridor to reduce any potential noise impacts to a less than significant level by using current best practices, including building materials, site design, barriers and berms, and other methods of noise reduction.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 7.2	Community Development	■				

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>FF Airport Disclosure</p> <p>The City shall prepare an ordinance requiring that the following statement be included in all property transactions or as a part of the issuance of use permits for property or projects within the airport's area of influence, both core and peripheral.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project/residence is in close proximity to the Ukiah Municipal Airport which is a major noise generating source. Development in this area will be subject to overflights of aircraft taking off from and landing at the airport. These aircraft include privately-owned corporate jets and firefighting air tankers from the California Department of Forestry. It is anticipated that the volume of traffic and resulting noise may increase in future years." (Source: Existing Program NZ-1.5a) 	SAF – 7.3	Planning Services Building Services	■				
<p>GG Airport Noise Attenuation</p> <p>The City shall update the Municipal Code to require the incorporation of sound reducing measures, as needed, in all new construction in the airport compatibility zones, consistent with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 7.4	Planning Services Building Services	■				



Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
HH	<p>Roadway Expansion</p> <p>The City shall require the use of accepted acoustic engineering features when designing for the expansion of existing roads where such expansion has the potential to result in a noise impact that can be feasibly mitigated. Examples include low landscaped berms, landscaping, below-grade construction, and speed control - to minimize expansion of the existing Design to Cost (DTC). (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 7.5	Public Work Department					■
II	<p>Noise Attenuation</p> <p>The City shall review and update Article 6 of the City Municipal Code to ensure enforcement of best practices for noise attenuation standards, and to include a requirement for all new commercial and manufacturing uses that could produce noise that exceeds the noise limit regulations listed in Article 6 to incorporate applicable noise mitigation measures to reduce noise levels to acceptable levels. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 8.1 SAF – 8.3	Planning Services — Building Services	■				■

Implementation Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
JJ	<p>Noise Impact Analysis</p> <p>Where noise analysis has been required as a condition of project approval, the City shall ensure adequate analysis of noise impacts when reviewing project permits by requiring noise details and specifications as part of the submittal packet.</p> <p>(Source: Existing Policy NZ-2.2)</p>	SAF – 8.2	<p>Planning Services</p> <p>—</p> <p>Building Services</p>					■
KK	<p>Acoustical Studies</p> <p>The City shall add provision to Municipal Code to require acoustical studies for all new development projects with potential to generate excessive noise to identify potential noise impacts and appropriate mitigation measures.</p> <p>(Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	SAF – 8.4	<p>Planning Services</p> <p>—</p> <p>Building Services</p>					■

A.7 Agriculture Element

GOALS AND POLICIES

AG-1 To preserve and strengthen agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that influence the regional economy. (Source: New Goal)

AG-1.1 Reduce Agricultural/Urban Conflict . The City shall reduce conflict between incompatible uses and agriculture within and adjacent to the City (Source: New Policy).

AG-1.2 Preserve Agricultural Lands. With the exception of presently proposed or approved subdivisions, the City shall discourage urban development on unincorporated land within its Sphere of Influence until annexed by the City. The City shall support County land use regulations that protect the viability of local agriculture in the Ukiah Valley. (Source: New Policy)

AG-1.3 Plan Together. The City shall identify and involve stakeholders, as well as advisors with knowledge and expertise, to create and implement a comprehensive planning framework that preserves and strengthens agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that inform and influence the regional economy. (Source: New Policy).

AG-2 To create a healthy, equitable and resilient local-food system that further integrates agriculture into the City's identity. (Source: New Goal)

AG-2.4 Backyard Food The City shall allow and encourage residents to undertake supplementary local agriculture, including backyard gardens, apiaries, poultry, and 'foodscaping'. Examples include community, school, backyard, and rooftop gardens with a purpose extending beyond home consumption and education. (Source: New Policy)

AG-2.5 Buy Local, Enjoy Local. The City shall encourage additional farmer and community markets, food trucks, and farm stands to support production, distribution, and sale of locally grown foods and continue to support community-based food production and local, nutritious food by working with local landowners for the creation of additional community gardens. (Source: New Policy)

AG-2.6 Support Gardeners. The City shall coordinate with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Mendocino County Master Gardener Program, to connect city residents with backyard gardening knowledge. (Source: Existing General Plan Policy OC-21.1)

AG-2.7 Farmer's Markets. In conjunction with the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association, the City shall research and identify additional ways to support the sale of local produce and goods at farmers markets within the City of Ukiah. (Source: New Policy)

AG-3 Help existing agricultural stakeholders move 'Beyond the Farm'. (Source: New Goal)

AG-3.1 Establish Infrastructure to Grow the Agricultural Economy. The City shall support existing agriculture operators by encouraging a diverse, vibrant, and innovative agriculture economy that creates new opportunities and products from regional producers. In conjunction with stakeholders, the City shall encourage the creation of agricultural business incubators, shared kitchens, and workforce development programs that create locations to strengthen agricultural operators within the region. (Source: New Policy)

AG-3.2 Agritourism. The City shall support expansion of the agricultural tourism industry by assessing utilization use of tourism facilities (e.g., hospitality, restaurants, etc.), as well as supporting efforts to plan and integrate the Great Redwood Trail into the agricultural economy. (Source: New Policy)

AG-3.3 University Research. The City shall encourage research, particularly at the University of California Cooperative Extension, pertinent to the Ukiah Valley to identify new potential uses and enhancement for existing agricultural industries, especially pomology, 'forestry, livestock, 'and viticulture. (Source: New Policy)

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>A Agricultural Buffer</p> <p>The City shall work with Mendocino County to establish setback or buffers for new non-agricultural development adjacent to agricultural lands to reduce hazardous exposures and conflict between incompatible land uses. (Source: OC-20.1(b))</p>	AG– 5.1	Community Development	■				
<p>B Right to Farm</p> <p>The City shall adopt a right-to-farm ordinance to ensure appropriate disclosure of agricultural activities both within and adjacent to the City of Ukiah. (Source: OC-17.3)</p>	AG– 5.1	Community Development	■				
<p>C Align Agricultural Standards</p> <p>The City shall revise agricultural standards and use terminology to be consistent with adjacent jurisdictions within the Ukiah Valley for the support of future annexation efforts. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.1	Community Development		■			
<p>D Williamson Act</p> <p>In coordination with the County Assessor, the City shall establish a Williamson Act program that aligns with ongoing efforts to preserve agricultural lands across Mendocino County. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.1	Community Development — City Manager	■				



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>E Reduce Regulation – Local Agriculture</p> <p>The City shall revise the Zoning code to allow low-intensity agricultural activities on residential parcels, including but not limited to back yard beehives, chickens and gardens. The revision will include objective use, development, and environments standards, and minimal permit fee requirements. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.4	Community Development — City Attorney	■				
<p>F Foodscaping</p> <p>The City shall revise the City’s objective development and design standards for multi-family housing projects to include the definition of and provisions for ‘foodscaping’. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.4	Community Development	■				
<p>G “No Mow May”</p> <p>To encourage additional pollinators, the City shall prepare a pilot program for a “No Mow May” to encourage more ecologically beneficial lawns within the City of Ukiah. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.4 AG– 5.5	Community Development — City Manager		■			
<p>H Urban Agricultural Definitions</p> <p>The City shall revise the City Zoning Code definitions, standards, and limitations for “Urban Agriculture”, including rooftop gardens, aquaculture, hydroponics, etc. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.5 AG– 5.8	Community Development		■			

Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>I Support Community Gardens</p> <p>The City shall revise the Zoning code to streamline the regulatory permitting process to support the creation of additional community gardens within the City. (Source: Existing Implementation Program OC-30.2(b))</p>	<p>AG– 5.5 AG– 5.6</p>	<p>Community Development — City Manager</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>J Urban Agricultural Incentive Zone</p> <p>The City shall research and consider implementation of an Urban Agricultural Incentive Zone (AB 551). “The Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act authorizes a city.. and a landowner to enter into a contract to restrict the use of vacant, unimproved, or otherwise blighted lands for small-scale production of agricultural crops and animal husbandry.” (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>AG– 5.5</p>	<p>Community Development — City Manager</p>		<p>■</p>			
<p>K Local Food: Food Trucks & Farm Stands</p> <p>The City shall revise the Zoning Code to support the distribution and sale of locally-grown food via Food Trucks, Farm Stands, and farmer/community markets. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>AG– 5.6</p>	<p>Community Development — Public Works</p>	<p>■</p>				
<p>L Farmers Markets</p> <p>In conjunction with the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association, the City shall research and identify additional ways to support the sale of local produce and goods at farmers markets within the City of Ukiah. (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	<p>AG– 5.6</p>	<p>Community Development — Public Works</p>					<p>■</p>



Implementation Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible — Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>M Local Purchasing</p> <p>The City shall research and prepare a local preference purchasing policy for future adoption to promote and support local preference purchasing policies for the City of Ukiah, local school districts and other institutions as a means to foster awareness and build relationships across the regional economy. In conjunction, (Source: New Implementation Program)</p>	AG– 5.6	Community Development — City Manager		■			

A.8 Housing Element (2019-2027)

GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal H-1 Conserve, rehabilitate, and improve the existing housing stock to provide adequate, safe, sustainable, and decent housing for all Ukiah residents.

Policy 1-1: Encourage the rehabilitation of existing residential units.

Policy 1-2: Promote the use of sustainable and/or renewable materials and energy technologies (such as solar and wind) in rehabilitated housing and new housing construction; and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Policy 1-3: Preserve at-risk housing units.

Policy 1-4: Promote increased awareness among property owners and residents of the importance of property maintenance to long-term housing quality.

Policy 1-5: Continue to implement effective crime prevention activities.

Goal H-2 Expand housing opportunities for all economic segments of the community, including special needs populations.

Policy 2-1: Continue to allow placement of manufactured housing units on permanent foundations in residential zoning districts.

Policy 2-2: Encourage the development of a variety of different types of housing.

Policy 2-3: Ensure that adequate residentially designated land is available to accommodate the City’s share of the Regional Housing Need. In order to mitigate the loss of affordable housing units, require new housing developments to replace all affordable housing units lost due to new development.

Policy 2-4: Pursue State and Federal funding for very low, low, and moderate income housing developments.

Policy 2-5: Facilitate the production of housing for all segments of the Ukiah population, including those with special needs.

Policy 2-6: Expand affordable housing opportunities for first time homebuyers.

Goal H-3 Remove governmental constraints to infill housing development.

Policy 3-1: Improve building and planning permit processing for residential construction.

Policy 3-2: Encourage the use of density bonuses and provide other regulatory concessions to facilitate housing development.

Policy 3-3: Encourage the development of mixed residential and commercial uses in the commercial zoning districts where the viability of the commercial activities would not be adversely affected.

Goal H-4 Promote well-planned and designed housing opportunities and projects for all persons, regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, or national origin.

Policy 4-1: Promote fair housing practices in the sale or rental of housing with regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, disability/medical conditions, sex, age, marital status, familial status, source of income, sexual orientation/gender identify, or any other arbitrary factors.

Policy 4-2: Promote and facilitate community awareness of the City of Ukiah's goals, tools, available resources and programs for lower income households.

Goal H-5 Provide support for future housing needs.

Policy 5-1: Pursue annexation efforts that lead to an orderly expansion of growth, where services are adequate for future residential development.

Policy 5-2: Continue to encourage and facilitate public participation in the formulation and review of the City's housing and development policies.

Policy 5-3: Assume a leadership role in the development of all types of housing in the community.



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>1a Implement a residential rehabilitation program.</p> <p>Emphasize rehabilitation of mobile homes, detached single-family dwelling units, and lower-income multifamily housing projects. Prioritize funding for health and safety repairs, energy efficiency improvements, and ADA accommodations. Assist in completing the rehabilitation of at least 25 lower income housing units in the planning period.</p> <p>Funding: CDBG, HOME, and/or other local, state or federal sources</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing, as funding is available</p>
<p>1b Continue the City's Energy Efficiency Public Benefits Fund and renewable energy and energy efficiency rebate programs.</p> <p>Funding: Energy efficiency and renewable energy rebate program funds</p>	<p>Electric Utility Department</p>	<p>Ongoing, as funding is available</p>
<p>1c Support funding or other applications that would preserve/ conserve existing mobile home parks. This might include programs such as the Mobile Home Park Rehabilitation and Resident Ownership Program.</p> <p>Funding: N/A– application support through technical assistance.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division.</p>	<p>Ongoing, as funding is available</p>
<p>1d Continue providing informational materials to the public through the Green Building Information Center and at the public counter.</p> <p>Provide updated information regarding sustainable and green building practices and materials and provide information on the maintenance of residential units.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Building Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing, as funding is available</p>

Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>1e Develop standards and design guidelines for residential development in the Medium Density Residential (R-2) and High Density Residential (R-3), Community Commercial (C-1) and Heavy Commercial (C-2) zoning districts.</p> <p>Given the significant increase in the City's RHNA over the next eight years, the City proposes to create development standards and design guidelines that would both facilitate development at the allowable densities and provide guidance and certainty in design standards to ensure quality housing is developed in the community.</p> <p>Funding: General Funds and/or other funding if available.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Establish development standards and design guidelines by the end of calendar year 2020.</p>
<p>1f Develop an At-Risk Units Program.</p> <p>Maintain an inventory of at-risk affordable housing units and work with property owners and non-profit affordable housing organizations to preserve these units by identifying and seeking funds from Federal, State, and local agencies to preserve the units.</p> <p>Funding: Ukiah Housing Trust Fund, CDBG, HOME, and/or other funding sources as available and as needed</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Develop At-Risk Program by the end of calendar year 2020.</p>
<p>1g Tenant Education and Assistance for Tenants of At-Risk Projects.</p> <p>Require property owners to give notice to tenants of their intent to opt out of low-income use restrictions. Provide tenants of at-risk units with education regarding tenant rights and conversion procedures.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Develop education program and notification procedures by June 30, 2020; implement program on an ongoing basis throughout the 2019-2027 planning period.</p>



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2a Update the inventory of vacant and underutilized parcels.</p> <p>Make copies of the inventory available on the City’s website and at the public counter for distribution.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Updated annually, by June 30 of each year; posted on the City’s website and at the public counter.</p>
<p>2b Monitor the rate of conversion of primary residences to short-term rental units.</p> <p>Research ordinances limiting short-term rentals and present report to City Council.</p> <p>Funding: General Funds.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division; City Council.</p>	<p>Develop monitoring program by June 30, 2020; annually track number of short-term rentals and present information along with annual progress report to City Council each year; short-term rental ordinance research report due June 30, 2025</p>
<p>2c Monitor the conversion of single-family residential homes to commercial uses.</p> <p>If conversions continue and the City’s vacancy rate for homeownership is greater than three percent citywide, the City will design an ordinance that restricts the conversion of single-family residences to commercial uses.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division.</p>	<p>Gather data and report findings to City Council by June 30, 2021.</p>

Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2d Pursue additional funding sources to augment the Ukiah Housing Trust Fund, creating a permanent source of funding for affordable housing.</p> <p>Utilize funding to develop and support affordable housing programs and projects, providing financial assistance to private developers and nonprofit agencies, principally for the benefit of extremely low-income, very low-income, and low-income households. Prepare and/or support the preparation of at least eight applications for additional funding within the 2019-2027 planning period.</p> <p>Funding: Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Asset Fund; other local, State, and Federal funding sources as they become available.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p>2e Continually engage with a variety of housing developers who specialize in providing housing to each economic segment of the community.</p> <p>This effort is designed to build long-term development partnerships and gain insight into specialized funding sources, particularly in identifying the range of local resources and assistance needed to facilitate the development of housing for extremely low-income (ELI) households and households with special needs, including persons with disabilities and persons with developmental disabilities. This policy is also designed to encourage the production of a variety of housing types, including multi-family supportive, single room occupancy, shared housing, and housing for the “missing middle.”</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division; City Manager’s Office-Economic Development Section</p>	<p>Ongoing community and stakeholder outreach, occurring at least on a quarterly basis and continuing throughout the 2019-2027 planning period.</p>



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2f Amend the zoning code as follows:</p> <p>Emergency Shelters. The City will amend the Zoning Code to redefine homeless facilities as emergency shelters, according to State Government Code.</p> <p>Transitional/Supportive Housing. Pursuant to SB 2, the City must explicitly allow both supportive and transitional housing in all zones that allow residential uses and supportive and transitional housing is to be only subject to those restrictions applicable to other residential dwellings of the same type in the same zone (note: this is not limited to residential zones). The City will amend the Zoning Code to specifically define transitional/ supportive housing as defined in Government Code.</p> <p>Single-Room Occupancy Housing. The City will amend the Zoning Code to allow Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) units in the medium density residential (R-2) and high density residential (R-3) zoning districts for the purpose of increasing the number of units affordable to extremely low, very low, and low-income persons.</p> <p>Manufactured/Factory-Built Homes. The City will amend the Zoning Code to define and allow manufactured and factory-built homes in the same manner and use as all other types of residential dwellings in all zoning districts.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Complete draft Zoning Code amendments by December 30, 2020; secure adoption by June 30, 2021.</p>
<p>2g Facilitate the consolidation of smaller, multi-family parcels by providing technical assistance to property owners and developers in support of lot consolidation.</p> <p>Research and present a report on possible lot consolidation incentives to the Planning Commission and City Council.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Present report to Planning Commission and City Council, with recommendations, by June 30, 2026.</p>

Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2h Ensure capacity of adequate sites for meeting RHNA. The City of Ukiah has been assigned a Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) of 239 units for the 2019-2027 Housing Element. To accomplish this mandate by the State, the City will:</p> <p>Update C1 and C2 Zones to allow by-right housing development, with objective design and development standards. Units allowed by-right will include multifamily, SRCs, duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes. 92 2019-2027 City of Ukiah Housing Element Adopted October 23, 2019</p> <p>Update the R-2 Zone to allow up to 15 dwelling units per acre instead of 14 dwelling units per acre.</p> <p>Update the C-N Zone to increase residential density and allow similar housing types as those allowed in R-2.</p> <p>By-right housing program for select parcels. Specific to APNs 00304077, 00304078, and 00304079, rezone these parcels at the default density of 15 du/ac. Also rezone these parcels to allow residential use by-right for developments with at least 20% of the units affordable to lower income households.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing, with annual reports to HCD and the City Council; develop and implement a project evaluation procedure pursuant to Government Code 65863, by June 30, 2021.</p>
<p>2i Monitor residential capacity (no net loss).</p> <p>Proactively monitor the consumption of residential acreage to ensure an adequate inventory is maintained for the City's RHNA obligations. Implement a project evaluation procedure pursuant to Government Code 65863. Should residential capacity fall below the remaining need for lower income housing, the City will identify and if necessary rezone sufficient sites to accommodate the shortfall and ensure "no net loss" in capacity to accommodate the RHNA.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing, with annual reports to HCD and the City Council; develop and implement a project evaluation procedure pursuant to Government Code 65863, by June 30, 2021.</p>



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2j First Time Homebuyer Assistance.</p> <p>The City of Ukiah offers assistance to eligible first-time homebuyers to purchase new or existing single-family or condominium units in the City. The program utilizes a combination of HOME, CalHome, CDBG, and/or other resources as they become available- through the Ukiah Housing Trust Fund. Restrictions apply and funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.</p> <p>Funding: CDBG, HOME, Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Assets Funds, CalHome, and/or other funding sources as available</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2k Collaborate with local service providers on addressing homelessness.</p> <p>Continue participation in the Mendocino County Continuum of Care.</p> <p>Funding: N/A</p>	<p>City Manager's Office</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>2l Review existing City processes for compliance with AB 2162.</p> <p>Revise zoning codes/processes to allow supportive housing by right in zones where multifamily and mixed uses are permitted, including nonresidential zones permitting multifamily uses.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Complete review of existing City processes by June 30, 2020; revise zoning codes/processes by December 31, 2020</p>
<p>2m Housing Units Replacement Program.</p> <p>The City will require replacement housing units subject to the requirements of Government Code, section 65915, subdivision (c)(3) on sites identified in the site inventory when any new development (residential, mixed-use or non-residential) occurs on a site that has been occupied by or restricted for the use of lower-income households at any time during the previous five years. This requirement applies to 1) non-vacant sites; and 2) vacant sites with previous residential uses that have been vacated or demolished.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>The replacement requirement will be implemented immediately and applied as applications on identified sites are received and processed.</p>

Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>2n Homeless Shelter Overlay District Evaluation.</p> <p>Evaluate the Homeless Shelter Overlay District to determine suitability for accommodating the identified number of homeless persons. At the minimum, this evaluation will include an analysis of environmental conditions, physical features, location, and capacity of the zone to accommodate the identified number of homeless persons. Depending on the results of this evaluation, the City will consider options including possible amendment of the District to maintain compliance with SB 2.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Complete evaluation of overlay district on a bi-annual basis, with the first report due to Planning Commission by June 30, 2020. Depending on results of evaluation(s), make recommendations to Planning Commission and/or City Council for options including possible amendment of the District within 6 months of the date the report is due.</p>
<p>3a Research, review and amend the development standards in the zoning code for opportunities to maximize housing development. Specific areas of research and amendments may include the following:</p> <p>Increasing maximum allowable height for new residential buildings.</p> <p>Increasing density.</p> <p>Reducing yard setbacks.</p> <p>Reducing minimum site area.</p> <p>Upzoning R-1 (Single-family Residential) and R-1-H (Single-family-Residential Hillside Combining) zoning districts to allow by-right and/or permit other residential building types and densities.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division; Planning Commission; City Council</p>	<p>Complete draft Zoning Code amendments by December 30, 2021; secure adoption by June 30, 2022</p>



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>3b Develop flexible parking policies for new residential development.</p> <p>The intent of this policy is to reduce parking requirements, especially in zoning districts that allow for lower-income housing developments.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget and other funding sources as available</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division; Planning Commission; City Council</p>	<p>Complete draft policy by June 30, 2020</p>
<p>3c Explore other policies and regulations that facilitate new infill housing development.</p> <p>Produce report with recommendations and present to Planning Commission and City Council. Possible areas of research include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <p>Temporary housing options.</p> <p>Low Impact Development offsite mitigation.</p> <p>Community benefit zoning.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division; Planning Commission; City Council</p>	<p>Complete draft report by June 30, 2026</p>
<p>3d Facilitate improvements to permit processing to streamline housing development.</p> <p>Continue to work on improving processing procedures and by June 30, 2021 develop a brochure to guide developers through City processes.</p> <p>Continue to offer a pre-application conference with project applicants to identify issues and concerns prior to application submittal.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental Funding</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division, Building Services Division</p>	<p>Pre-application conferences ongoing; City processing procedures brochure developed by June 30, 2021</p>

Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>3e Continue to apply the CEQA infill exemption to streamline environmental review.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>3f Review Site Development Permit and Use Permit Processes.</p> <p>Produce report for City Council analyzing processes and making recommendations for how to revise processes and/or Ukiah City Code such that project approval process is accelerated.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Report due to City Council by December 31, 2020; process and/or code improvements to be implemented immediately thereafter.</p>
<p>4a Continue to collaborate with the Ukiah Police Department and property owners and managers to keep housing safe.</p> <p>Support the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design standards through continued referral of residential new construction projects to the Ukiah Police Department.</p> <p>Funding: General Funds</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division, Building Services Division; and Ukiah Police Department</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>4b Continue to refer housing discrimination complaints to Legal Services of Northern California, State Fair Employment and Housing Commission, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>



Implementing Programs	Responsible Department(s)	Schedule
<p>4c Develop project referral procedural for referral of all proposed General Plan amendments to the appropriate military office for review and comment.</p> <p>Revise the planning permit application form to include this step of referral.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>	<p>Develop referral procedure and revise planning permit application form by December 31, 2019; implement on January 1, 2020.</p>
<p>5a Maintain a housing resources webpage.</p> <p>Included on the webpage are resources such as funding sources and programs, affordable housing developers, and a list of publicly assisted housing providers.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Housing Services Division</p>	<p>Updated regularly, as new and relevant information is available.</p>
<p>5b Complete the update of the 2020 Sphere of Influence, Municipal Service Review, and Ukiah 2040 General Plan. Include an annexation policy.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget, other funding as available</p>	<p>2020- Sphere of Influence and Municipal Service Review; 2021- Ukiah 2040 General Plan.</p>	<p>Community Development Department, Planning Services Division</p>
<p>5c Work collaboratively with stakeholder jurisdictions for opportunities to lessen or remove development constraints, and update the housing plan accordingly.</p> <p>Funding: Departmental budget, other funding as available</p>	<p>Community Development Department, in conjunction with stakeholder jurisdictions.</p>	<p>Ongoing, at least on an annual basis.</p>



Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update

Draft Environmental Impact Report

prepared by

City of Ukiah

City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482

Contact: Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development

prepared with the assistance of

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449 15th Street, Suite 303
Oakland, California 94612

October 2022



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
AB	Assembly Bill
AFY	acre-feet per year
amsl	above mean seal level
BMP	Best Management Practices
Cal Fire	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CalOES	California Office of Emergency Services
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CBC	California Building Code
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DOF	California Department of Finance
DOT	United States Department of Transportation
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
du/ac	dwelling units per acre
EAP	Energy Action plan
FAR	Floor Area Ratio
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone
GHG	greenhouse gas
LAFCo	Local Agency Formation Commission
LID	Low impact development
LRA	Local Responsibility Area
MCOG	Mendocino Council of Governments
MJHMP	Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
MMBtu	millions of British thermal units
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

City of Ukiah
Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update

MTA	Mendocino Transit Authority
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PG&E	Pacific Gas & Electric
PRC	Public Resource Code
RCRA	Resources Conservation and Recovery Act
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Boards
SB	Senate Bill
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SHMP	State Hazard Mitigation Plan
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SR	State Route
SRA	State Responsibility Area
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
UPD	Ukiah Police Department
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UUSD	Ukiah Unified School District
UVAP	Ukiah Valley Area Plan
UVBGS	Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
UVFA	Ukiah Valley Fire Authority
UVSD	Valley Sanitation District
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
WUI	Wildland-Urban Interface

Executive Summary

This document is a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analyzing the environmental effects of the proposed City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan, herein referred to as “Ukiah 2040” or “the project.” This section summarizes the characteristics of the project, alternatives to the project, and the environmental impacts and mitigation measures associated with the project.

Project Synopsis

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Project Description

This EIR has been prepared to examine the potential environmental effects of Ukiah 2040. The following is a summary of the full project description, which can be found in Chapter 2, *Project Description*.

Guiding Principles

The City of Ukiah developed guiding principles to expand on the main ideas contained in the vision statement. The following guiding principles express the key values and aspirations for Ukiah’s future and serve as guideposts for the goals, policies, and implementation programs contained in Ukiah 2040:

- Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically.
- Ensure development in all neighborhoods is compatible with the unique characteristics and land use patterns and fosters a sense of place.
- Promote resilient and sustainable facilities and infrastructure to ensure delivery of high-quality services.
- Promote a diverse, local, business-friendly economy that fosters new job growth and is adaptable to changes in consumer habits and market trends.

- Maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods.
- Preserve existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities.
- Manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations.
- Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters.
- Preserve Ukiah Municipal Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan and Mendocino County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
- Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

Ukiah 2040 Organization

The project is a comprehensive update of the City's current 1995 General Plan, which is made up of 13 chapters. To provide a contemporary plan that will guide the community through the year 2040, Ukiah 2040 has been reorganized and reformatted to addresses changes in the community, including new issues and opportunities, changes in state law, and new trends. Ukiah 2040 is comprised of seven elements, summarized as follows:

- **Land Use Element.** This element will consider current and proposed land use amendments.
- **Economic Development Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to promote and further economic development, job retention, and fiscal sustainability within Ukiah.
- **Agricultural Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to conserve agricultural resources within Ukiah.
- **Mobility Element.** This element will address existing and planned vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure across the City.
- **Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies related to public services, including but not limited to police, fire, airport, recreation, water/wastewater, and emergency services.
- **Environment and Sustainability Element.** This element will address the wide variety of parks, trails, and open spaces serving the diverse recreation needs of Ukiah residents, particularly youth, and emphasize the unique features of the City's natural environment. This element will also consider the effects of existing and planned development on natural resources located on public lands.
- **Hazards and Safety Element.** This element will cover seismic activity, other geologic hazards, fire hazards, hazardous materials, flooding, and other potential hazards, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(g). It will also address resiliency and risks from natural hazards in Ukiah, pursuant to SB 379. This element will also cover noise element requirements, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(f), including new existing noise contours as well as projected noise contours based on future traffic volumes projected to arise from improvements planned for in the Mobility Element.

Proposed Land Use Designations

The project would result in changes to the existing land use pattern in the City. Ukiah 2040 introduces new and expanded land use designations that provide a greater distinction between residential and commercial land use types and better align existing land uses with corresponding designations. Specifically, the project divides the existing Commercial land use designation into more detailed designations: Downtown Core, Highway Commercial, Community Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial. The project also introduces four new designations to the City's Land Use Map: Hillside Residential, Agriculture, Mixed Use: Brush Street Triangle, and Mixed Use: AIP-PD.

Planning Area

A general plan, pursuant to State law, must address all areas within the jurisdiction's Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the city. For Ukiah, the Planning Area is defined as the area that includes both the city limits and SOI, as well as the existing Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundary.

Proposed Sphere of Influence

The City of Ukiah's current sphere of influence (SOI) was adopted in 1984, Ukiah 2040 would result in an update to the City's SOI, and would include areas north, east, and south of city limits. The SOI update is intended to reduce the City's ultimate probable boundary. The decision to update the City's SOI is based upon direction provided by the Ukiah City Council in January 2020.

Proposed Annexation Areas

As part of the proposed project, the City of Ukiah is pursuing three separate annexation areas currently located in the County of Mendocino's jurisdictional boundaries, totaling approximately 1,617 acres. Annexation Area A consists of 16 City-owned properties located southeast, northeast, and west of the City, totaling approximately 437 acres. Annexation Area B is comprised of the Bush Street Triangle/Masonite area north of the City and contains 63 properties, totaling approximately 473 acres. Annexation Area C is concentrated in the hills west of Ukiah. This area contains approximately 752 acres and a portion of that area (707 acres) is being pursued as part of the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021.

Project Buildout

Ukiah 2040 designates land uses defining the type and amount of development that can occur throughout the City and proposed annexation areas through the planning horizon year of 2040 (over approximately 18 years). Ukiah 2040 also includes increased residential densities (number of units) and building intensities (floor area ratio [FAR]) for certain land use designations compared to the existing density and intensity thresholds. Development projections for the project were determined by analyzing vacant and underutilized parcels with the buildout capacity potential that is allowed under the applicable updated land use designations, the incorporation of annexation areas being pursued by the City of Ukiah, and the development of mixed-use designated areas anticipated under Ukiah 2040. Based on the potential land use changes, the project has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 square feet of non-residential use. This buildout is an estimate of maximum buildout and is used as a conservative assumption in the environmental analysis of this EIR. While Ukiah 2040 would facilitate development, the development of the various land uses associated with Ukiah 2040 would occur over an extended

period and would depend on factors such as local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. For example, a future developer may choose to develop a site at a density lower than what is allowed, or a vacant lot could remain vacant for several years until a development is identified for that property. For these reasons, the maximum buildout is an estimate and is not intended to predict the amount of development that will occur in the City in the future. Furthermore, this buildout is projected to occur specifically within the existing City limits and Annexation Areas. Overall, Ukiah 2040 would promote infill development; the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties; and the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family use. Future development within the remaining SOI and Planning Area will be analyzed under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on a project-level basis.

Alternatives

As required by CEQ, this EIR examines alternatives to the proposed project. Studied alternatives include the following two alternatives.

- Alternative 1: No Project Alternative
- Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density

Alternative 1

The CEQA Guidelines (Section 15126.6[e][2]) require that the alternatives discussion include an analysis of a No Project Alternative. Pursuant to CEQA, the No Project Alternative refers to the analysis of existing conditions and what would reasonably be expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project were not approved, based on current plans and consistent with available infrastructure and community services.

The No Project Alternative assumes there is no change in zoning or General Plan land use designations and analyzes the existing General Plan land use designations and densities for vacant land within the City. The No Project Alternative includes identified sites for annexation, as well as housing sites identified as part of the 2019-2027 Housing Element. As the No Project Alternative focuses on existing designations, Annexation Areas would have existing land use designations, in contrast to the proposed project, which apply City land use designations to these areas. Buildout under the No Project Alternative, assuming a maximum buildout scenario, would allow for 1,692 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses. However, the No Project Alternative would not accomplish project objectives to the extent that the proposed project would, as the No Project Alternative would provide reduced housing options and exclude multiple policies from Ukiah 2040 pertaining to community development, preservation of natural resources, sustainability, and improvement of Ukiah's circulation network.

Alternative 2

The Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) assumes increased residential densities (1,868 units total) allowed by each land use designation compared to the existing General Plan or No Project Alternative (1,692 units total) but decreased residential densities when compared to the proposed project (2,350 total units). For example, the existing General Plan allows High Density Residential development of up to 28 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) and the proposed project (as well as Alternative 2) would allow a density of up to 40 du/ac. Both the proposed project and Alternative 2 would apply new and/or existing General Plan land use designations to lands within the city limits and Annexation Areas. However, Alternative 2 would not add new land use designations intended to increase commercial land uses and would rely on existing General Plan

land use designations (and densities). Because Alternative 2 would maintain the same designations as the General Plans for non-residential spaces, the buildout of non-residential space would be the same as the No Project Alternative. In addition, Alternative 2 would not add some of the new land use designations identified for the proposed project, which explains why Alternative 2 would have less residential units than the proposed project.

Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, buildout under Alternative 2 would allow for 1,868 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses (refer to Table 5-1). Non-residential development would be the same as the No Project Alternative but would be less than the proposed project. Resulting residential density would be less than the proposed project and more than the No Project Alternative. However, Alternative 2 would not accomplish project objectives to the extent that the proposed project would, as Alternative 2 would provide reduced housing options.

Environmentally Superior Alternative

CEQA requires identification of the environmentally superior alternative among the alternatives to the proposed project. Identification of the environmentally superior alternative is an informational procedure and the alternative identified as the environmentally superior alternative may not be that which best meets the goals or needs of the proposed project.

The No Project Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative as it lessens the severity of most impacts of the proposed project. Because the No Project Alternative would reduce overall development (residential and non-residential) compared to the proposed project, the overall impacts from construction would also be reduced since there would be less construction. If the No Project Alternative is determined to avoid or reduce more impacts than any other alternative, CEQA requires that the EIR identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6[e]). Of the other alternatives evaluated in this EIR, the Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) would be the environmentally superior alternative. Alternative 2 would result in less construction impacts (air quality construction emissions, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, temporary noise, tribal cultural resources, and paleontological resources) than the proposed project because of a reduction in buildout. In addition, Alternative 2 would result in less operational impacts (aesthetics, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, public services, recreation, and utilities) due to the reduced buildout. Nonetheless, compared to the proposed project, Alternative 2 would not fulfill the project objectives as well. This is because the proposed project would offer more housing opportunities and a diversity of land uses for future Ukiah residents.

Pursuant to CEQA requirements, Alternative 2 would be considered the environmentally superior alternative; however, the proposed project would offer benefits that would not be achieved by Alternative 2, primarily housing opportunities and a diversity of land uses.

Areas of Known Controversy

The EIR scoping process did not identify areas of known controversy for Ukiah 2040. Responses to the Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR as well as public input received at the EIR scoping meeting held by the City are summarized in Chapter 1, *Introduction*.

Issues to be Resolved

There are no CEQA-related issues to be resolved at this time.

Issues Not Studied in Detail in the EIR

Section 4.16, *Effects Found Not to be Significant*, briefly analyzes issues from the environmental checklist that were determined to not have significant impacts. As discussed in Section 4.16, there is no substantial evidence that significant impacts would occur to Energy, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, and Mineral Resources.

Summary of Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Table ES-1 summarizes the environmental impacts, mitigation measures, and the residual impact (impact after application of mitigation, if required) associated with implementation of Ukiah 2040. Impacts are categorized as follows:

- **Significant and Unavoidable.** An impact that cannot be reduced to below the threshold level given reasonably available and feasible mitigation measures. Such an impact requires a Statement of Overriding Considerations to be issued if the project is approved pursuant to Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** An impact that can be reduced to below the threshold level given reasonably available and feasible mitigation measures. Such an impact requires findings under Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Less than Significant.** An impact that may be adverse but does not exceed the threshold levels and does not require mitigation measures.
- **No Impact.** The project would have no effect on environmental conditions or would reduce existing environmental problems or hazards.

Table ES-1 Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Residual Impacts

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Aesthetics		
Impact AES-1. Development facilitated by the project may impact scenic vistas; however, compliance with Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies, Ukiah City Code, and the City’s Design Guidelines would ensure that new development does not have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vistas. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact AES-2. The project would have no impact to scenic resources visible from a state scenic highway.	None required.	No Impact
Impact AES-3. Implementation of the project would facilitate development in previously undeveloped areas through rezoning and changes to land use. Scenic quality would be protected through adherence to City design guidelines, Ukiah city code, and implementation of Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies that address visual quality. Impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact AES-4. Development facilitated by the project would introduce new sources of light and glare. With adherence to existing ordinances that regulate light and glare for new development, impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Agricultural and Forestry Resources		
Impact AG-1. Development facilitated by the project is designed to encourage the continued operation of existing agriculture in and surrounding the city. Buildout of the project would result in a decrease of seven acres of designated agricultural land within the proposed annexation areas but with implementation of Ukiah 2040 goals and policies, impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact AG-2. The project would not conflict with existing zoning for forest land, timberland, or timberland production, nor result in the loss of forest land or convert forest land to non-forest uses. There would be no impact.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>
Air Quality		
<p>Impact AQ-1. The project would be consistent with MCAQMD’s 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and BAAQMD’s 2017 Clean Air Plan. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact AQ-2. Development facilitated by the project would result in the generation of air pollutants during construction, which could affect local air quality. Development facilitated by the project would also result in a net increase of criteria pollutants due to VMT. All feasible mitigation measures to reduce VMT are included as Policies in Ukiah 2040. Overall operational impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>AQ-1 Implement BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures</i></p> <p>To reduce fugitive dust emissions from the construction of individual projects, the City shall require that future projects implement the BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures. These include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times a day. ▪ All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered. ▪ All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited. ▪ All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour. ▪ All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used. ▪ Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California Airborne Toxics Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points. ▪ All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacture’s specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper conditions prior to operation. 	<p>Significant and Unavoidable</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District’s number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. <p><i>AQ-2 Implement Measures to Reduce Operational Emissions</i></p> <p>Prior to discretionary approval by the City of Ukiah for development projects subject to CEQA review (i.e., non-exempt projects), a screening assessment shall be performed by the City using the screening criteria from the 2017 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. If the project exceeds the screening size by land use type, the project applicant shall prepare and submit a technical assessment to the City for review and approval, which evaluates potential project-related operational air quality impacts. The evaluation shall be prepared in conformance with BAAQMD methodology in assessing air quality impacts. If operation-related air pollutants are determined to have the potential to exceed the BAAQMD-adopted thresholds of significance, the City shall require that applicants for new development projects incorporate mitigation measures to reduce air pollutant emissions during operational activities. The identified measures shall be included as part of the conditions of approval. Possible mitigation measures to reduce long-term emissions could include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For site-specific development that requires refrigerated vehicles, the planning documents shall demonstrate an adequate number of electrical service connections at loading docks for plug-in of the anticipated number of refrigerated trailers, to reduce idling time and emissions. ▪ Applicants for manufacturing and light industrial uses shall consider energy storage and combined heat and power in appropriate applications to optimize renewable energy generation systems and avoid peak energy use. ▪ Site-specific developments with truck delivery and loading areas and truck parking spaces shall include signage as a reminder to limit idling of vehicles while parked for loading/unloading in accordance with California Air Resources Board Rule 2845 (13 California Code of Regulations Chapter 10 Section 2485). ▪ Provide changing/shower facilities as specified in Section A5.106.4.3 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). ▪ Provide bicycle parking facilities pursuant to Section A4.106.9 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. ▪ Provide preferential parking spaces for low-emitting, fuel-efficient, and carpool/van vehicles per Section A5.106.5.1 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures). 	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide facilities to support electric charging stations pursuant to Section A5.106.5.3 (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures) and Section A5.106.8.2 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code. ▪ Applicant-provided appliances (e.g., dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) shall be Energy Star–certified appliances or appliances of equivalent energy efficiency. Installation of Energy Star–certified or equivalent appliances shall be verified by Building & Safety during plan check. ▪ Applicants for future development projects along existing and planned transit routes shall coordinate with the City and County to ensure that bus pad and shelter improvements are incorporated, as appropriate. 	
<p>Impact AQ-3. Construction activities for individual projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; however, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>AQ-3 Conduct Construction Health Risk Assessment</i></p> <p>For individual projects (excluding accessory dwelling units, single-family residences, and duplexes) where construction activities would occur within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors, would last longer than two months, and would not utilize Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment, the project applicant shall prepare a construction health risk assessment (HRA) prior to project approval. The HRA shall determine potential risk and compare the risk to the following BAAQMD thresholds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Non-compliance with Qualified Community Risk Reduction Plan; ▪ Increased cancer risk of > 10.0 in a million; ▪ Increased non-cancer risk of > 1.0 Hazard Index (Chronic or Acute); or ▪ Ambient PM_{2.5} increase of > 0.3 µg/m³ annual average <p>If risk exceeds the thresholds, measures such as requiring the use of Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment shall be incorporated to reduce the risk to appropriate levels.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact AQ-4. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would not create objectionable odors that could adversely affect a substantial number of people and impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Biological Resources</p>		
<p>Impact BIO-1. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to modify habitat that could affect special-status species during construction and operation. Implementation of federal, state, and local regulations and policies, as well as Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4 would ensure riparian</p>	<p><i>BIO-1: Recommended Policy for Biological Resource Assessment</i></p> <p>The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040:</p> <p>Policy ENV-4.9: Biological Resource Assessment. The City shall require that new development proposed in or adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas, to</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>habitat and wetlands are not significantly impacted. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p>complete a site-specific biological resource assessment prepared by a qualified biologist that establishes the existing resources present.</p> <p><i>BIO-2: Pre-Construction Bird Surveys, Avoidance, and Notification</i></p> <p>For construction activities initiated during the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 15), involving removal of vegetation, abandoned structures, man-made features, or other nesting bird habitat, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal. The nesting bird pre-construction survey shall be conducted on foot and shall include a buffer around the construction site at a distance determined by a qualified biologist. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the identification of avian species known to occur in the Mendocino Region. If nests are found, an avoidance buffer shall be determined by the biologist dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site. The buffer shall be demarcated by the biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to demarcate the boundary. All construction personnel shall be notified of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities shall occur within the buffer until the biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist on the basis that the encroachment will not be detrimental to an active nest. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey(s) shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and shall be submitted to the City prior to the commencement of construction activities.</p> <p>Project site plans shall include a statement acknowledging compliance with the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code that includes avoidance of active bird nests and identification of Best Management Practices to avoid impacts to active nests, including checking for nests prior to construction activities during February 1 to September 15, and what to do if an active nest is found so that the nest is not inadvertently impacted during grading or construction activities.</p> <p><i>BIO-3: Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance Prior to Removal</i></p> <p>Prior to tree and structure removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused survey of all trees and structures to be removed or impacted by construction activities to determine whether active roosts of special-status bats are present on site. Tree or structure removal shall be planned for either the spring or the fall, and timed to ensure both suitable conditions for the detection of bats and adequate time for tree and/or structure removal to occur during seasonal periods of bat</p>	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>activity exclusive of the breeding season, as described below. Trees and/or structures containing suitable potential bat roost habitat features shall be clearly marked or identified. If no bat roosts are found, the results of the survey will be documented and submitted to the City within 30 days of the survey, after which no further action will be required.</p> <p>If day roosts are present, the biologist shall prepare a site-specific roosting bat protection plan to be implemented by the contractor following the City’s approval. The plan shall incorporate the following guidance as appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When possible, removal of trees/structures identified as suitable roosting habitat shall be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between September 1 and about October 15, or before evening temperatures fall below 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. ▪ Between March 1 and April 15, or after evening temperatures rise above 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or no more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs. ▪ If a tree/structure must be removed during the breeding season and is identified as potentially containing a colonial maternity roost, then a qualified biologist shall conduct acoustic emergence surveys or implement other appropriate methods to further evaluate if the roost is an active maternity roost. Under the biologist’s guidance, the contractor shall implement measures similar to or exceeding the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If it is determined that the roost is not an active maternity roost, then the roost may be removed in accordance with the other requirements of this measure. ▪ If it is found that an active maternity roost of a colonial roosting species is present, the roost shall not be disturbed during the breeding season (April 15 to August 31). ▪ Tree removal procedures shall be implemented using a two-step tree removal process. This method is conducted over two consecutive days and works by creating noise and vibration by cutting non-habitat branches and limbs from habitat trees using chainsaws only (no excavators or other heavy machinery) on day one. The noise and vibration disturbance, together with the visible alteration of the tree, is very effective in causing bats that emerge nightly to feed to not return to the roost that night. The remainder of the tree is removed on day two. 	

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior to the demolition of vacant structures within the project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused habitat assessment of all structures to be demolished. The habitat assessment shall be conducted enough in advance to ensure the commencement of building demolition can be scheduled during seasonal periods of bat activity (see above), if required. If no signs of day roosting activity are observed, no further actions will be required. If bats or signs of day roosting by bats are observed, a qualified biologist will prepare specific recommendations such as partial dismantling to cause bats to abandon the roost, or humane eviction, both to be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, if required. <p>If the qualified biologist determines a roost is used by a large number of bats (large hibernaculum), bat boxes shall be installed near the project site. The number of bat boxes installed will depend on the size of the hibernaculum and shall be determined through consultation with CDFW. If a maternity colony has become established, all construction activities shall be postponed within a 500-foot buffer around the maternity colony until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have dispersed. Once it has been determined that the roost is clear of bats, the roost shall be removed immediately.</p> <p><i>BIO-4: Bird Safe Design</i></p> <p>Development shall incorporate bird-friendly building materials and design features, including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are no “see through” passageways or corners. ▪ Outside lighting is appropriately shielded and directed to minimize attraction to night migrating or nocturnal birds. ▪ Interior lighting is turned off at night if not in use and designed to minimize light escaping through windows during night operation. ▪ Landscaping is designed without features known to increase collisions. <p>The City shall review and approve the bird-friendly building materials and design features prior to project approval.</p>	
<p>Impact BIO-2. Development facilitated by the project could adversely impact riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities during construction and/or operation. Implementation of federal, state, and local regulations and policies, as well as Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would ensure riparian habitat and wetlands are</p>	<p>Mitigation Measure BIO-1</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
not significantly impacted. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.		
Impact BIO-3. Development facilitated by the project would avoid impacts to wildlife movement corridors by conserving natural areas, as directed by proposed policies and would minimize impacts to wildlife movement through implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.	Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4	Less than Significant with Mitigation
Impact BIO-4. Development facilitated by the project would conform with applicable local policies protecting biological resources and impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact BIO-5. Implementation of the project would not conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan. No impact would occur.	None required.	No Impact
Cultural Resources		
Impact CUL-1. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to impact historical resources. Existing Ukiah City Code and CEQA regulations, in addition to proposed Ukiah 2040 policies and mitigation would reduce impacts to historic resources. Nonetheless, impacts would be significant and unavoidable.	<p><i>CUL-1 Historical Resources Study Program</i></p> <p>The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to impact historical resources. For a project involving a property that contains buildings structures, objects, sites, landscape/site plans, or other features that are 50 years of age or older, a historical resources study shall be conducted to determine if the project would demolish or otherwise alter the characteristics that make a historical resource eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. The study shall, at a minimum, be conducted by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for architectural history (NPS 1983). The study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and background research including a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), building permit research, and/or research with the local historical society(ies). The subject property(ies) and/or structures shall be evaluated for federal (as applicable), and state significance on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms, included as an appendix to the study.</p> <p>If historical impacts are identified, the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on historical resources and the project sponsor shall</p>	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>implement the recommendations or conduct additional environmental review. Application of mitigation shall generally be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS, unless unnecessary in the circumstances (e.g., preservation in place). In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review.</p> <p>Efforts shall be made to the greatest extent practical to ensure that the relocation, rehabilitation, or alteration of the resource is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatments of Historic Properties (Standards). In accordance with CEQA, a project that has been determined to conform with the Standards generally would not cause a significant adverse direct or indirect impact to historical resources (14 CCR Section 15126.4(b)(1)). Application of the Standards shall be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS. In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.</p> <p>If significant historical resources are identified on a development site and compliance with the Standards and/or avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. Mitigation measures may include documentation of the historical resource in the form of a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) report. The report shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation and shall generally follow the HABS Level III requirements, including digital photographic recordation, detailed historic narrative report, and compilation of historic research. The documentation shall be completed by a qualified architectural historian or historian who meets the PQS and submitted to the implementing agency prior to issuance of any permits for demolition or alteration of the historical resource. Copies of the report shall be provided to a local library and/or other appropriate repositories.</p>	
<p>Impact CUL-2. Development facilitated by the project would have the potential to impact archaeological resources. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>CUL-2 Archaeological Resources Study Program</i></p> <p>The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to disturb archaeological resources. If preliminary reconnaissance suggests that cultural resources may exist, a Phase I cultural resources study shall be performed by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for archaeology (NPS 1983). A Phase I cultural resources study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>and sufficient background research and, as necessary, field sampling to determine whether archaeological resources may be present. Archival research shall include a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and coordination with Native American tribes listed by the NAHC. The Phase I technical report documenting the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on archaeological resources, such as establishing environmentally-sensitive areas excluded from project activities, archaeological and/or Native American monitoring, or redesign of the project to avoid known cultural resources. The project sponsor shall implement the recommendations prior to and during construction.</p>	
<p>Impact CUL-3. Ground-disturbing activities associated with development facilitated by the project could result in damage to or destruction of human burials. However, compliance with existing regulations on human remains would ensure less than significant impacts.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</p>		
<p>Impact GHG-1. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would make progress towards achieving State goals but would not necessarily meet State 2030 or 2045 goals. Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would result in implementation of CEQA GHG thresholds and a CAP update; however, development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would not meet the 2030 or 2045 goals until the CAP is updated and adopted. this impact would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>GHG-1 Adopt and Implement a CEQA GHG Emissions Threshold</i> The City shall include and implement a new 2040 General Plan policy under the Environment and Sustainability Element to prepare, adopt, and implement a CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance. The City shall adopt the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance by Fall 2024 for use in future CEQA GHG emissions analyses through 2030. In addition, upon completion of future CAP updates and as necessary, the City shall update the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance and Ukiah CEQA GHG Checklist to be consistent with each CAP update.</p> <p><i>GHG-2 Update Ukiah CAP to the State’s 2030 and 2045 GHG Emissions Goals</i> The City shall update the Ukiah CAP by Fall 2024 to outline how Ukiah will meet the State’s 2030 goal of 40 percent below 1990 emissions levels and 2045 goal of carbon neutrality. Implementation measures in the updated CAP to achieve the 2030 and 2045 goals may include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and adopt Zero Net Energy requirements for new and remodeled residential and non-residential development; ▪ Develop and adopt a building electrification ordinance for existing and proposed structures; ▪ Expand charging infrastructure and parking for electric vehicles; 	<p>Significant and Unavoidable</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement carbon sequestration by expanding the urban forest, participating in soil-based or compost application sequestration initiatives, supporting regional open space protection, and/or incentivizing rooftop gardens; and ▪ Implement policies and measures included in the California 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, such as mobile source strategies for increasing clean transit options and zero emissions vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging stations. 	
Land Use and Planning		
<p>Impact LU-1. Implementation of the project would maintain orderly development in the planning area and would not physically divide an established community. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact LU-2. Implementation of the project would be generally consistent with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted to avoid or mitigate environmental effects. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
Noise		
<p>Impact NOI-1. Construction of individual projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-sensitive land uses. Development facilitated by the project would introduce new on-site noise sources and would contribute to increases in traffic noise. The continued regulation of on-site noise, consistent with the Ukiah City Code and implementation of proposed Ukiah 2040 policies would minimize disturbance to adjacent land uses. However, construction noise and traffic noise may still exceed noise standards and impacts would be significant and unavoidable.</p>	<p><i>NOI-1 Construction Noise Reduction Measures</i></p> <p>The following measures to minimize exposure to construction noise shall be included as standard conditions of approval for applicable projects involving construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mufflers. During excavation and grading construction phases, all construction equipment, fixed or mobile, shall be operated with closed engine doors and shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers consistent with manufacturers' standards. ▪ Stationary Equipment. All stationary construction equipment shall be placed so that emitted noise is directed away from the nearest sensitive receivers. ▪ Equipment Staging Areas. Equipment staging shall be located in areas that will create the greatest distance feasible between construction-related noise sources and noise-sensitive receivers. ▪ Smart Back-up Alarms. Mobile construction equipment shall have smart back-up alarms that automatically adjust the sound level of the alarm in response to ambient noise levels. Alternatively, back-up alarms shall be disabled and 	Significant and Unavoidable

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
	<p>replaced with human spotters to ensure safety when mobile construction equipment is moving in the reverse direction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signage. For the duration of construction, the applicant or contractor shall post a sign in a construction zone that includes contact information for any individual who desires to file a noise complaint. ▪ Temporary Noise Barriers. Erect temporary noise barriers, where feasible, when construction noise is predicted to exceed the acceptable standards (e.g., 80 dBA Leq at residential receivers during the daytime) and when the anticipated construction duration is greater than is typical (e.g., two years or greater). Temporary noise barriers shall be constructed with solid materials (e.g., wood) with a density of at least 1.5 pounds per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier. If a sound blanket is used, barriers shall be constructed with solid material with a density of at least 1 pound per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier and be lined on the construction side with acoustical blanket, curtain or equivalent absorptive material rated sound transmission class (STC) 32 or higher. 	
<p>Impact NOI-2. Development facilitated by the project could temporarily generate groundborne vibration during construction, potentially affecting nearby land uses. Operation of future development would not result in substantial vibration or groundborne noise. Impacts would less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>NOI-2 Construction Vibration Control Plan</i></p> <p>Prior to issuance of a building permit for a project requiring pile driving during construction within 135 feet of fragile structures such as historical resources, 100 feet of non-engineered timber and masonry buildings (e.g., most residential buildings), or within 75 feet of engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster); or a vibratory roller within 25 feet of any structure, the project applicant shall prepare a noise and vibration analysis to assess and mitigate potential noise and vibration impacts related to these activities. This noise and vibration analysis shall be conducted by a qualified and experienced acoustical consultant or engineer. The vibration levels shall not exceed FTA architectural damage thresholds (e.g., 0.12 in/sec PPV for fragile or historical resources, 0.2 in/sec PPV for non-engineered timber and masonry buildings, and 0.3 in/sec PPV for engineered concrete and masonry). If vibration levels would exceed this threshold, alternative uses such as drilling piles as opposed to pile driving, and static rollers as opposed to vibratory rollers shall be used. If necessary, construction vibration monitoring shall be conducted to ensure vibration thresholds are not exceeded.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>
<p>Impact NOI-3. Development facilitated by the project would not result in significantly increased airport and airstrip activity, since the Ukiah Municipal Airport would not serve travelers or industry. The continued regulation of airport noise consistent with state and federal</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>regulations as well as the implementation of proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 and the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan would minimize disturbance to people residing or working within proximity of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>		
<p>Population and Housing</p>		
<p>Impact POP-1. Implementation of the project would facilitate the construction of new housing in Ukiah and would increase population growth. However, the project is intended to accommodate and plan for population growth and includes policies to manage growth and development. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact POP-2. Implementation of the project would not result in the displacement of substantial numbers of housing or people. The project would facilitate the development of new housing in accordance with state and local housing requirements, while preserving existing residential neighborhoods. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Public Services and Recreation</p>		
<p>Impact PSR-1. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to the city’s population. The estimated population increase would increase demand for fire and police protection services and potentially create the need for new or altered police, fire, or other service facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Ukiah 2040 policies would ensure that police and fire services staffing and facilities are maintained at a level which accommodates for sustained population growth. Therefore, impacts to police and fire services associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>Impact PSR-2. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase in population of school-aged children. Population increase would increase demand for school services and potentially create the need for new school facilities. Compliance with Ukiah 2040 policies would reduce impacts to school facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to schools associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact PSR-3. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to population, which could increase the use of existing parks and recreational facilities, and thus reduce the city’s parkland to population ratio. However, Ukiah 2040 policies would also result in additional recreational facilities. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to park facilities associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>
<p>Impact PSR-4. Development facilitated by the project would result in an increase to population, which could increase demand for existing public facilities such as libraries. The timing, intensity, and location of potential new facilities is unknown at this time, but new development would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. Therefore, impacts to libraries associated with Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	<p>None required.</p>	<p>Less than Significant</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Transportation		
Impact TRA-1. The project would not conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system and impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact TRA-2. The project would provide a diversity of land uses superior to countywide averages and would thus be anticipated to generate VMT at lower rates than countywide averages. The project would not conflict with or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines 15064.3(B) and impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact TRA-3. The project would not substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature and impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Impact TRA-4. The project would not result in inadequate emergency access and impacts would be less than significant.	None required.	Less than Significant
Tribal Cultural Resources		
Impact TCR-1. Development facilitated by the project may involve excavation, which has the potential to impact previously unidentified tribal cultural resources. However, with adherence to existing CEQA regulations and proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, impacts on tribal cultural resources would be less than significant with mitigation.	<p><i>TCR-1: Avoidance of Tribal Cultural Resources</i></p> <p>When feasible, development facilitated by the project shall be designed to avoid known tribal cultural resources. Any tribal cultural resource within 60 feet of planned construction activities shall be protected by establishing an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that would be fenced, or otherwise protected to ensure avoidance. The feasibility of avoidance of tribal cultural resources shall be determined by the City and applicants in consultation with local California Native American tribe(s).</p> <p><i>TCR-2: Unanticipated Discovery</i></p> <p>If previously unidentified tribal cultural resources are encountered during project implementation, altering the materials and their stratigraphic context shall be avoided and work shall halt immediately. Project personnel shall not collect, move, or disturb cultural resources. A representative from a locally-affiliated Native American Tribe shall be contacted to evaluate the resource and prepare a tribal cultural resources plan identifying methods necessary to protect the resource, in consultation with the City.</p>	Less than Significant with Mitigation

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Utilities and Services Systems		
<p>Impact U-1. Development facilitated by the project would increase demand for water, wastewater, electric power, natural gas, telecommunications, and stormwater drainage facilities. However, Adherence to Ukiah 2040 policies would facilitate efficient energy use, sustainable and renewable energy, and safe and resilient utility and infrastructure systems that would lessen the need for new or expanded facilities. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-2. Development facilitated by the project would increase water demand; however, the City has sufficient water supply to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-3. Development facilitated by the project would increase demand for wastewater treatment. The timing, intensity, and location of an expansion of wastewater treatment facilities is unknown at this time, but an expansion would require additional CEQA review and compliance with existing building and zoning codes. As such, impacts related to expansion of wastewater treatment facilities as a result of Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
<p>Impact U-4. Development facilitated by the project would increase the volume of solid waste generated in Ukiah. However, Ukiah 2040 contains policies to increase recycling and comply with federal, State, and local management reduction regulations. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.</p>	None required.	Less than Significant
Wildfire		
<p>Impact WFR-1. Buildout of the project could result in new development in Very High FHSZs. However, existing local and state regulations, and Ukiah 2040 proposed policies address emergency planning, management, access, and education; as well as enforce maintaining an</p>	None required.	Less than Significant

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
<p>emergency management plan. These regulations and proposed policies would address issues related to access and emergency response and the project would not impair an emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Impacts would be less than significant.</p>		
<p>Impact WFR-2. The project envisions potential future development on sites that are in or near moderate, high, and very high FHSZs. Development facilitated by the project would expose project occupants and structures to wildfire risks for sites located in or near SRAs or very high FHSZs. Wildfire risk would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>WFR-1 Construction Wildfire Risk Reduction</i></p> <p>The City shall require the following measures during project construction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction activities with potential to ignite wildfires shall be prohibited during red-flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service for the site. Example activities include welding and grinding outside of enclosed buildings. 2. Fire extinguishers shall be available onsite during project construction. Fire extinguishers shall be maintained to function according to manufacturer specifications. Construction personnel shall receive training on the proper methods of using a fire extinguisher. 3. Construction equipment powered by internal combustion engines shall be equipped with spark arresters. The spark arresters shall be maintained pursuant to manufacturer recommendations to ensure adequate performance. <p>At the City’s discretion, additional wildfire risk reduction requirements may be required during construction. The City shall review and approve the project-specific methods to be employed prior to building permit approval.</p> <p><i>WFR-2 Project Design Wildfire Risk Reduction</i></p> <p>Prior to finalizing site plans, proposed structure locations shall, to the extent feasible given site constraints, be located outside of known landslide-susceptible areas and located at least 50 feet from sloped hillsides. Project landscape plans shall be encouraged to include fire-resistant vegetation native to Mendocino County and/or the local microclimate of the site and prohibit the use of fire-prone species especially non-native, invasive species. Should the project meet the above criteria, no additional measures are necessary. Should the location be within a known landslide area or within 50 feet of a sloped hillside, structural engineering features shall be incorporated into the design of the structure to reduce the risk of damage to the structure from post-fire slope instability resulting in landslides or flooding. These features shall be recommended by a qualified engineer and approved by the City prior to the building permit approval.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

Impact	Mitigation Measure(s)	Residual Impact
Paleontological Resources		
<p>Impact PAL-1. Development facilitated by the project has the potential to impact paleontological resources. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.</p>	<p><i>PAL-1 Retention of Qualified Professional Paleontologist</i> The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040: Prior to initial ground disturbance in areas underlain by high sensitivity geologic units (i.e., Quaternary terrace deposits and Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks), the City shall require the project applicant retain a Qualified Professional Paleontologist, as defined by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (2010), to determine the project’s potential to significantly impact paleontological resources according to SVP (2010) standards. If necessary, the Qualified Professional Paleontologist shall recommend mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources to a less than significant level.</p>	<p>Less than Significant with Mitigation</p>

1 Introduction

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) examines the potential environmental effects of the proposed City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan, defined as the “project” or as “Ukiah 2040” for purposes of this environmental review. The environmental review process for the project, and legal basis for preparing an EIR, are described below.

1.1 Environmental Impact Report Background

This document is an EIR that evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of the Ukiah 2040. This section of the EIR:

1. Provides an overview of the project’s background
2. Summarizes the process involved in developing the project
3. Describes the purpose of and legal authority of the EIR
4. Summarizes the scope and content of the EIR
5. Lists lead, responsible, and trustee agencies for the EIR
6. Describes the intended uses of the EIR
7. Provides a synopsis of the environmental review process required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The contents of other EIR sections are as follows:

- Section 2, *Project Description*, provides a detailed discussion of the project
- Section 3, *Environmental Setting*, describes the general environmental setting for the City of Ukiah
- Section 4, *Environmental Impact Analysis*, describes the potential environmental effects associated with development facilitated by the project
- Section 5, *Alternatives*, discusses alternatives to the project, including the CEQA-required “no project” alternative
- Section 6, *Other CEQA Required Sections*, discusses issues such as growth inducement and significant irreversible environmental effects
- Section 7, *References and Report Preparers*, lists informational sources for the EIR and persons involved in the preparation of the document

In addition, this EIR also includes the following Appendices:

- Appendix A. Notice of Preparation and Scoping Comments Received
- Appendix B. Supporting Biological Resources Information
- Appendix C. Supporting Noise Information
- Appendix D. Supporting Transportation Information

1.2 Overview of Ukiah 2040

State law (Government Code Section 65300) requires that each city and county adopt a comprehensive general plan. The existing General Plan was adopted by the City Council on December 6, 1995. The 2040 General Plan Update is a comprehensive effort to update the existing 1995 General Plan and responds to current local and regional conditions, as well as changes in State law that may not have been in effect when the General Plan was last updated. Ukiah 2040 has been organized into eight elements: Land Use; Economic Development; Agricultural; Mobility; Public Facilities, Services and Infrastructure; Environmental and Sustainability; Hazards and Safety; and Housing. The Housing Element was last certified in December 2019, covering the period 2019-2027, and was subject to a separate environmental review process. Ukiah 2040 in its entirety includes the certified 2019 Housing Element. No substantive changes are being proposed to the Housing Element as part of its incorporation into Ukiah 2040.

Together these eight elements cover all the topics that are required to be included in a General Plan under State law, which are Land Use, Open Space, Conservation, Housing, Circulation, Safety, and Noise. The General Plan defines the policy framework by which the City's physical and economic resources are to be managed and used over the next 18 years. City decision-makers will use Ukiah 2040 as a blueprint for:

- Choices about the use of land
- Protection of environmental resources
- Conservation and development of housing
- Provision of supporting infrastructure and public and human services
- Protection of people and property from natural and man-made hazards

Ukiah 2040 clarifies and articulates the City's intentions with respect to the rights and expectations of various community stakeholders, including residents, property owners, and business owners. Through Ukiah 2040, the City informs these groups of its goals, policies, and standards, and thereby communicates expectations of the public and private sectors for meeting community objectives.

Since Ukiah 2040 serves as a constitution for future development in Ukiah, any decision by the City affecting land use and development must be consistent with Ukiah 2040. This includes development projects that may be proposed in the future. An action, program, or project would be considered consistent with Ukiah 2040 if, considering all its aspects, it will further the objectives and policies of Ukiah 2040 or not obstruct their attainment.

Ukiah 2040 contains goals, policies, and implementation programs to implement the City's overarching objectives. Goals are statements that provide direction and state the desired end condition. Policies establish basic courses of action to achieve these goals, and directly guide the response of elected and appointed officials to development proposals and related community actions. Implementation programs are specific actions, procedures, standards, or techniques that the City must take to help achieve a specified goal or implement an adopted policy.

1.3 Purpose and Legal Authority

This EIR has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15121(a) (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3), the purpose of an EIR is to:

Inform public agency decision-makers and the public generally of the significant environmental effects of a project, identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and describe reasonable alternatives to the project.

This EIR fulfills the requirements for a Program EIR. Although the legally required contents of a Program EIR are the same as those of a Project EIR, Program EIRs are by necessity more conceptual and may contain a more general discussion of impacts, alternatives, and mitigation measures than a Project EIR. As provided in CEQA Guidelines Section 15168, a Program EIR may be prepared on a series of actions that may be characterized as one large project. Use of a Program EIR provides the City (as Lead Agency) with the opportunity to consider broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures and provides the City with greater flexibility to address environmental issues and/or cumulative impacts on a comprehensive basis. Agencies generally prepare Program EIRs for programs or a series of related actions that are linked geographically, are logical parts of a chain of contemplated events, rules, regulations, or plans that govern the conduct of a continuing program, or are individual activities carried out under the same authority and having generally similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways. By its nature, a Program EIR considers the broad effects associated with implementing a program (such as a General Plan or Specific Plan) and does not, and is not intended to, examine the specific environmental effects associated with specific projects that may be accommodated by the provisions of General or Specific Plans.

Once a Program EIR has been prepared, subsequent activities within the program must be evaluated to determine what, if any, additional CEQA documentation needs to be prepared. If the Program EIR addresses the program's effects as specifically and comprehensively as possible, many subsequent activities could be found to be within the Program EIR scope and additional environmental documentation may not be required (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)). When a Lead agency relies on a Program EIR for a subsequent activity, it must incorporate applicable mitigation measures and alternatives developed in the Program EIR into the subsequent activities (CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(c)(3)). If a subsequent activity would have effects not contemplated or not within the scope of the Program EIR, the Lead Agency must prepare a new Initial Study leading to a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or a project level EIR. In this case, the Program EIR still serves a valuable purpose as the first-tier environmental analysis. CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(b) encourage the use of Program EIRs, citing five advantages:

- Provision of a more exhaustive consideration of impacts and alternatives than would be practical in an individual EIR.
- Focus on cumulative impacts that might be slighted in a case-by-case analysis.
- Avoidance of continual reconsideration of recurring policy issues.
- Consideration of broad policy alternatives and programmatic mitigation measures at an early stage when the agency has greater flexibility to deal with them.
- Reduction of paperwork by encouraging the reuse of data (through tiering).

As a wide-ranging environmental document, the Program EIR uses expansive thresholds as compared to the project-level thresholds that might be used for an EIR on a specific development project. It should not be assumed that impacts determined not to be significant at a program level would not be significant at a project level. In other words, determination that implementation of the project as a program would not have a significant environmental effect does not necessarily mean that an individual project would not have significant effects based on project-level CEQA thresholds, even if the project is consistent with Ukiah 2040.

This EIR has been prepared to analyze potentially significant environmental impacts associated with future development resulting from implementation of Ukiah 2040 and provides appropriate and feasible mitigation measures or project alternatives that would minimize or eliminate these impacts. Additionally, this EIR provides the primary source of environmental information for the City of Ukiah, which is the Lead Agency, to use when considering approval and implementation of Ukiah 2040.

This EIR is intended to provide decision-makers and the public with information that enables intelligent consideration of the environmental consequences of the project. This EIR identifies significant or potentially significant environmental effects, as well as ways in which those impacts could be reduced to less-than-significant levels, whether through the imposition of mitigation measures or through the implementation of specific alternatives to the project. In a practical sense, this document functions as a tool for fact-finding, allowing concerned citizens and agency staff an opportunity to collectively review and evaluate baseline conditions and project impacts through a process of full disclosure.

1.4 Scope and Content

In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines, a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft EIR was circulated to potentially interested parties from May 31, 2022 to June 30 2022. The NOP, included in Appendix A, indicated that all issues on the City's environmental checklist would be discussed in the EIR. These include:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services and Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

Since the publication of the NOP, the City has identified that an additional resource, paleontological resources, would be discussed in the EIR. Paleontological resources are addressed in Section 4.15, *Paleontological Resources*. This EIR evaluates potential impacts in each of these areas. The focus of this EIR is to:

- Provide information about Ukiah 2040 for consideration by the City Council in its selection of the project, an alternative to the project, or a combination of various elements from the project and its alternatives, for approval.
- Review and evaluate the potentially significant environmental impacts that could occur as a result of the growth and development envisioned in Ukiah 2040.
- Identify feasible mitigation measures that may be incorporated into Ukiah 2040 to reduce or eliminate potentially significant effects.
- Disclose any potential growth-inducing and/or cumulative impacts associated with the project.
- Examine a reasonable range of alternative growth scenarios (including growth according to the existing General Plan, reduced growth, and alternative locations within the City for growth) that

could feasibly attain the basic objectives of the project, while eliminating and/or reducing some or all of its potentially significant adverse environmental effects.

During circulation of the NOP for this EIR, the City of Ukiah received seven written responses. The City also held a public scoping meeting on June 15, 2022. The scoping meeting was held in-person at the City’s Civic Center Council Chamber, and participants were also able to join virtually via teleconference. Two verbal comments were received at the scoping meeting. The NOP and a summary of all comments received are included in Appendix A. The responses to the NOP comment letters are addressed, as appropriate, in the analysis contained in the various subsections of Section 4.0, Environmental Impact Analysis. Table 1-1 summarizes the comments received, by topic, in the comment letters. Where comments are not specifically related to CEQA, Table 1-1 summarizes where in Ukiah 2040 comments are addressed.

Table 1-1 NOP Comments and EIR Response

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
Agency Comments		
California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)	Recommends establishing a Citywide residential density in the range of 9.1 to 21.5 dwelling units per acre for the purposes of reducing transportation related GHG emissions.	Residential densities are provided in the Land Use Element of Ukiah 2040. Hillside Residential and Rural Residential have densities of 1 and 2 dwelling unit(s) per acre, respectively. The remaining residential land use designations have densities greater than 9.1 dwelling units per acre.
	Recommends establishing a greater mix of land uses to maximize the potential benefits of higher density residential developments for vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction goals.	See Section 4.11, <i>Transportation</i> for a discussion of VMT and the mix of land uses.
	Encourages the City to coordinate with Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) to plan, program, and implement Travel Demand Management (TDM) measures suitable for the City and the greater Ukiah Valley.	The City will continue coordinating with MCOG and for discussion of TDM, see Section 4.5 in the Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040.
	Suggests the City include a variety of recommendations to promote and prioritize high quality transit that aligns with the City of Ukiah’s land use, housing, and economic development policies.	See Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 (Section 4.5).
	Suggests a focus on creating better-connected and multi-modal local roadway networks.	See Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 (Section 4.7).
	Recommends that the City includes a discussion about traffic safety and traffic safety goals in the Transportation and Circulation Element of Ukiah 2040.	See Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 (Section 4.6).
	Requests to view the projected increase in population over the planning horizon in addition to the traffic volume projections at buildout.	See Section 4.11, <i>Transportation</i> .

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
	Suggests a focus on parking management.	See proposed goal MOB-5 and policies MOB-5.1 and MOB-5.2 in Ukiah 2040.
	States that the proposed sphere of influence continues to include Talmage Road/State Route 222 and offers to relinquish the entire route, or portions of it, to the City.	The City will continue to coordinate with Caltrans regarding this comment.
California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)	Recommends that the EIR address actions to be taken for any sites impacted by hazardous waste or hazardous materials within the project area.	Section 4.16, <i>Effects Found Not to be Significant</i> includes a Hazards and Hazardous Materials section, which identifies the regulations that future projects would be required to comply with. The various requirements identified by DTSC would be implemented according to required regulations.
Recommends consultation with other agencies that provide oversight to hazardous waste facilities.		
Recommends the EIR includes a discussion of the potential for the project to result in the release of hazardous wastes, and recommends additional studies be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of any release that has occurred historically.		
Recommends collecting soil samples to identify any ADL-contaminated soils prior to performing any intrusive activities.		
Recommends an investigation of mining wastes for discussion within the EIR.		
Recommends surveys be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk for any buildings or structures being demolished.		
Recommends contamination sampling be conducted for any imported soils.		
Recommends the EIR discuss required investigation for organochlorinated pesticides on any sites within the project area that have been used for agricultural, weed abatement, or related activities.		
Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo)	Recommends the proposed sphere of influence (SOI) be analyzed in the Draft EIR.	The proposed SOI is included in Chapter 2, <i>Project Description</i> . Information about the setting within the proposed SOI are provided for informational purposes but because Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations to the proposed SOI, development within these areas for the purpose of this analysis is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. See Chapter 4.0 for more information.

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
	States that NOP Figure 2 legend label should be clarified as “Proposed Sphere of Influence (1995).”	Figure 2 in the NOP showed the incorrect existing SOI. Figures have been revised in Chapter 2, <i>Project Description</i> to show the correct existing and proposed SOI (see Figure 2-4).
	Recommends the EIR clarify which SOI is being proposed and analyzed as part of the project.	See Chapter 2, <i>Project Description</i> .
	Recommends the EIR study area include all areas proposed for inclusion in the SOI for purposes of analysis, identification of potential impacts and mitigation measures.	The proposed SOI is included in Chapter 2, <i>Project Description</i> . Information about the setting within the proposed SOI are provided for informational purposes but because Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations to the proposed SOI, development within these areas for the purpose of this analysis is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. See Chapter 4.0 for more information.
	Recommends coordination with the County regarding the proposed SOI.	The City will continue to coordinate with the County and LAFCo regarding the proposed SOI.
	Recommends the EIR identifies and describes all service providers within the proposed SOI area, including special districts and private water companies.	Service providers are addressed in Section 4.13, <i>Utilities and Service Systems</i> .
	Recommends initiating agreements among jurisdictions that outline conditions for expanding SOI boundaries in order to support the City’s annexation plans and SOI update.	The City and other cities in Mendocino County are working with the County of Mendocino on a master tax sharing agreement. The City will continue to coordinate with other jurisdictions on regional issues of interest.
	Recommends the EIR include a discussion and analysis of impacts to agricultural lands, as defined in Government Code Sections 56016 and 56064.	Impacts to agricultural lands are addressed in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> .
	Recommends the EIR identifies, maps, analyzes, and describes all agricultural and open space lands within or adjacent to lands proposed for inclusion in the SOI, including analysis of any multiple land-based values such as agricultural, biodiversity, recreation, groundwater, and carbon sequestration, to identify areas of high natural resource value where development is best avoided.	See the mapping in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> and Section 4.4, <i>Biological Resources</i> . Information about the setting within the proposed SOI are provided for informational purposes but because Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations to the proposed SOI, development within these areas for the purpose of this analysis is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. See Chapter 4.0 for more information.
	Recommends the EIR identifies and analyzes impacts to Williamson Act lands proposed for inclusion in the SOI.	Lands subject to Williamson Act contracts are addressed in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> . The City does not propose any buildout within the proposed SOI; therefore, no impacts are anticipated in the proposed SOI.
	Recommends the EIR analyzes the impact on the physical and economic integrity of surrounding agricultural lands.	As noted in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> , Ukiah 2040 is not expected to impact surrounding agricultural lands. See Section 4.2 for more information. As such, further analysis of the suggested impacts to these resources are beyond

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
		the scope of CEQA and not analyzed in this EIR. Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> does show the agricultural resources within the Planning Area.
	Recommends the removal of excessive amounts of agricultural and open-space land from the SOI.	See the analysis in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> and Section 4.4, <i>Biological Resources</i> . Because buildout is not proposed within the SOI, and no impacts are anticipated, the removal of agricultural and open-space land from the SOI will not lessen environmental impacts.
	Recommends Ukiah 2040 includes policies that avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate impacts to agricultural lands.	See the Agriculture Element in Ukiah 2040.
	Recommends Ukiah 2040 includes long-term growth management strategies that provide for more efficient development to avoid the premature conversion of agricultural lands and to limit development pressure on agricultural lands.	See the Land Use Element in Ukiah 2040 (Section 2.3).
	Encourages Ukiah 2040 to include plans and policies for agricultural preservation in the Agriculture Element.	See proposed goal AG-1 and policies AG-1.1 through AG-1.3 in Ukiah 2040.
	Recommends mitigation measures to protect agricultural lands adjoining areas proposed for annexation and/or development to prevent premature conversion to non-agricultural uses and to minimize potential conflicts between proposed urban development and adjacent agricultural uses.	Ukiah 2040 is not expected to impact surrounding agricultural lands. As such, impacts to these resources are beyond the scope of CEQA and not analyzed in this EIR. See proposed goal AG-1 and policies AG-1.1. and AG-1.2.
	Recommends the EIR includes analysis of alternatives that do not result in conversion of agricultural lands.	Project alternatives are addressed in Section 5, <i>Alternatives</i> .
	Recommends the EIR demonstrates that infill or more efficient use of land is not possible prior to considering development, SOI expansion and/or annexation into agricultural lands.	See Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i> . The City does not propose any buildout within the proposed SOI; therefore, no impacts are anticipated in the proposed SOI. Ukiah 2040 is not expected to impact surrounding agricultural uses and no known development is proposed or anticipated within the SOI at this time; therefore, policies related to SOI expansion and/or annexation into agricultural lands will not lessen environmental impacts.
	Recommends the EIR evaluate the need for increased police, fire, parks and recreation staff, and services resulting from the growth related to Ukiah 2040.	Police, fire, and parks and recreation staff and services are addressed in Section 4.10, <i>Public Services and Recreation</i> .
	Recommends the EIR identify, locate, and describe all disadvantaged	See Section 2.7, <i>Environmental Justice</i> in the Land Use Element for Ukiah 2040.

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
	unincorporated communities within and contiguous to the proposed SOI.	
	Suggests the City consider pre-zoning the area within the proposed SOI to streamline future annexations submitted for LAFCo consideration.	The proposed SOI areas have not been pre-zoned because the proposed SOI has not yet been adopted by LAFCo.
	Requests the EIR include LAFCo as a Responsible Agency and indicate the required LAFCo approvals.	See Section 1.5, <i>Lead, Responsible, and Trustee Agencies</i> .
	Suggests that a section be included in the EIR identifying all Responsible Agencies and providing information on the types of approvals or permits required from each identified agency.	Section 1.5, <i>Lead, Responsible, and Trustee Agencies</i> identifies approvals and permits that would be required by other agencies.
	Suggests clarifying whether the City anticipates tiering from the Program EIR for potential projects that require LAFCo approval.	Section 1.6, <i>Intended Uses of the EIR</i> identifies how the City will use this EIR.
	Requests notification when the Draft General Plan and associated Draft EIR become available for public review.	All agencies and members of the public that commented on the NOP will be notified of the availability of the Draft EIR.
Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)	States that the project is subject to the requirements and provisions under both Senate Bill (SB) 18 and Assembly Bill (AB 52) for tribal cultural resources.	Tribal cultural resources are addressed in Section 4.12, <i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i> .
	Provides recommendations for conducting cultural resource assessments.	Mitigation Measures requiring cultural resource assessments are included in Section 4.5, <i>Cultural Resources</i> .
Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians	Requests that recorded site(s) or cultural resources that are affected during any ground disturbance work be included within Ukiah 2040 along with cultural resource protection measures on permit applications.	Comments from the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians are addressed in Section 4.12, <i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i> .
	Provides a reminder that the Section 106 guidelines must be followed, and the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) be contacted if cultural resources are found, disturbed, or threatened.	Comments from the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians are addressed in Section 4.12, <i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i> .
NorCal 4 Health ¹	Recommends the EIR discusses the availability of healthy housing or green housing, including housing that prioritizes healthy indoor air quality.	Housing is addressed in Section 4.9, <i>Population and Housing</i> .
	Recommends the EIR identifies the density of retailers that sell tobacco and other nicotine products and their proximity to homes, youth-sensitive areas, and hazardous materials.	Relevant impacts to hazards are addressed in Section 4.16, <i>Effects Found Not to be Significant</i> .

¹ In addition to the written comments, JoAnn Saccato on behalf of NorCal 4 Health gave a spoken comment at the June 15, 2022 scoping meeting. The comments within the written letter cover those at the given at scoping meeting.

Commenter	Comment/Request	How and Where It Was Addressed
	Recommends the EIR identifies the availability of healthy food vs. unhealthy food options in neighborhoods and identifies any healthy food deserts.	Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goal LU-13, to ensure that all community members have equal access to healthy foods.
	Recommends the EIR discusses the impact of waste on community spaces, watersheds, and land.	Ukiah 2040 includes policies to reduce waste, per proposed goal ENV-9 and policies ENV-9.1 and ENV-9.2.
	Recommends the EIR evaluates outdoor public spaces, including the availability of healthy smoke-free spaces.	Recreation is addressed in Section 4.10, <i>Public Services and Recreation</i> .
Public Comments		
Pinky Kushner	Requests an analysis of current light pollution and the projected light pollution at buildout.	Sources of substantial light or glare that could adversely affect daytime or nighttime views are addressed in Section 4.1, <i>Aesthetics</i> .
	Requests an analysis of current noise levels and projected noise levels at buildout.	Noise is addressed in Section 4.8, <i>Noise</i>
	Requests an analysis of current air quality and projected air quality at buildout.	Air quality is addressed in Section 4.2, <i>Air Quality</i> .
	Requests a discussion about how center urban decay will be avoided, including a discussion of the County vs City conflict in revenue sharing, with mitigations.	See the Economic Development Element in Ukiah 2040 for a thorough discussion of the City's goals and policies to guide fostering a business-friendly environment, encouraging additional local employment opportunities, cultivating economic diversification, and expanding the tourism industry.
	Requests a discussion of Ukiah's existing housing stock and how it contributes to the continued economic vitality of the community.	Housing is addressed in Section 4.9, <i>Population and Housing</i> .
Spoken Comments		
Robin Sunbeam	Requests a discussion of agricultural belts around populated areas to reduce the use of fossil fuels	Agricultural areas are discussed in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i>

1.5 Lead, Responsible, and Trustee Agencies

The City of Ukiah is the lead agency under CEQA for this EIR because it has primary discretionary authority to approve the project. CEQA Guidelines Section 15381 defines responsible agencies as other public agencies that are responsible for carrying out/implementing a specific component of a project or for approving a project (such as an annexation) that implements the goals and policies of a General Plan. There are no responsible agencies for the project. Although not responsible agencies under CEQA, several other agencies have review authority over aspects of the project or approval authority over projects that could potentially be implemented in accordance with various objectives and policies included in Ukiah 2040. These agencies and their roles are listed below.

- The State Geologist is responsible for the review of the City's program for minimizing exposure to geologic hazards and for regulating surface mining activities.

- The Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) has responsibility for approving any annexations to the City that might occur over the life of Ukiah 2040. LAFCo is also responsible for establishing, amending, and updating SOIs for the City of Ukiah. LAFCo can use this EIR to adopt the City’s proposed annexation efforts and proposed SOI.
- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has responsibility for approving future improvements to the state highway system, including Highway 101.
- The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has responsibility for issuing take permits and streambed alteration agreements for any projects with the potential to affect plant or animal species listed by the State of California as rare, threatened, or endangered; or that would disturb waters of the State.
- The Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) has the responsibility of reviewing Ukiah 2040 and future individual projects, as applicable, for consistency with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP).
- Any other public agencies which may own land within City boundaries.

Trustee agencies have jurisdiction over certain resources held in trust for the people of California but do not have a legal authority over approving or carrying out the project. CEQA Guidelines Section 15386 designates four agencies as trustee agencies: CDFW with regards to fish and wildlife, native plants designated as rare or endangered, game refuges, and ecological reserves; the State Lands Commission, with regard to state-owned “sovereign” lands, such as the beds of navigable waters and State school lands; the California Department of Parks and Recreation, with regard to units of the State park system; and, the University of California, with regard to sites within the Natural Land and Water Reserves System. The CDFW, due to the potential for rare or endangered species, is the only trustee agency for Ukiah 2040.

1.6 Intended Uses of the EIR

This EIR is an informational document for use in the City’s review and consideration of Ukiah 2040. This document is a Program EIR. CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(a) states that:

A Program EIR is an EIR which may be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are related either: (1) geographically; (2) as logical parts in a chain of contemplated actions; (3) in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria, to govern the conduct of a continuing program; or (4) as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways.

As a programmatic document, this EIR presents and discloses a region-wide assessment of the environmental impacts of Ukiah 2040. The information and analysis in this EIR will be used by the Ukiah Planning Commission and City Council, trustee agencies, and the general public.

Ukiah 2040 will guide subsequent actions taken by the City in its review of new development projects and the establishment of new and/or revised City-wide or area-specific programs. This program EIR serves as a first-tier environmental document under CEQA, supporting second-tier environmental documents for projects with detailed designs that have been developed for implementation within the City. Analysis of site-specific impacts of individual projects is not the intended use of a Program EIR. Many specific projects are not currently defined to the level that would allow for such an analysis at this time. Individual and specific environmental analysis of each

project will be undertaken as necessary in the future by the City prior to each project being considered for approval. Therefore, the City, acting as the Lead Agency, would be able to prepare subsequent environmental documents that incorporate by reference the appropriate information from this Program EIR regarding secondary effects, cumulative impacts, broad alternatives, and other relevant factors. If the City finds that implementation of a later activity would have no new effects and that no new mitigation measures would be required, that activity would require no additional CEQA review. Where subsequent environmental review is required, such review would focus on significant effects specific to the future project, or its site that have not been considered in this Program EIR.

1.7 Environmental Review Process

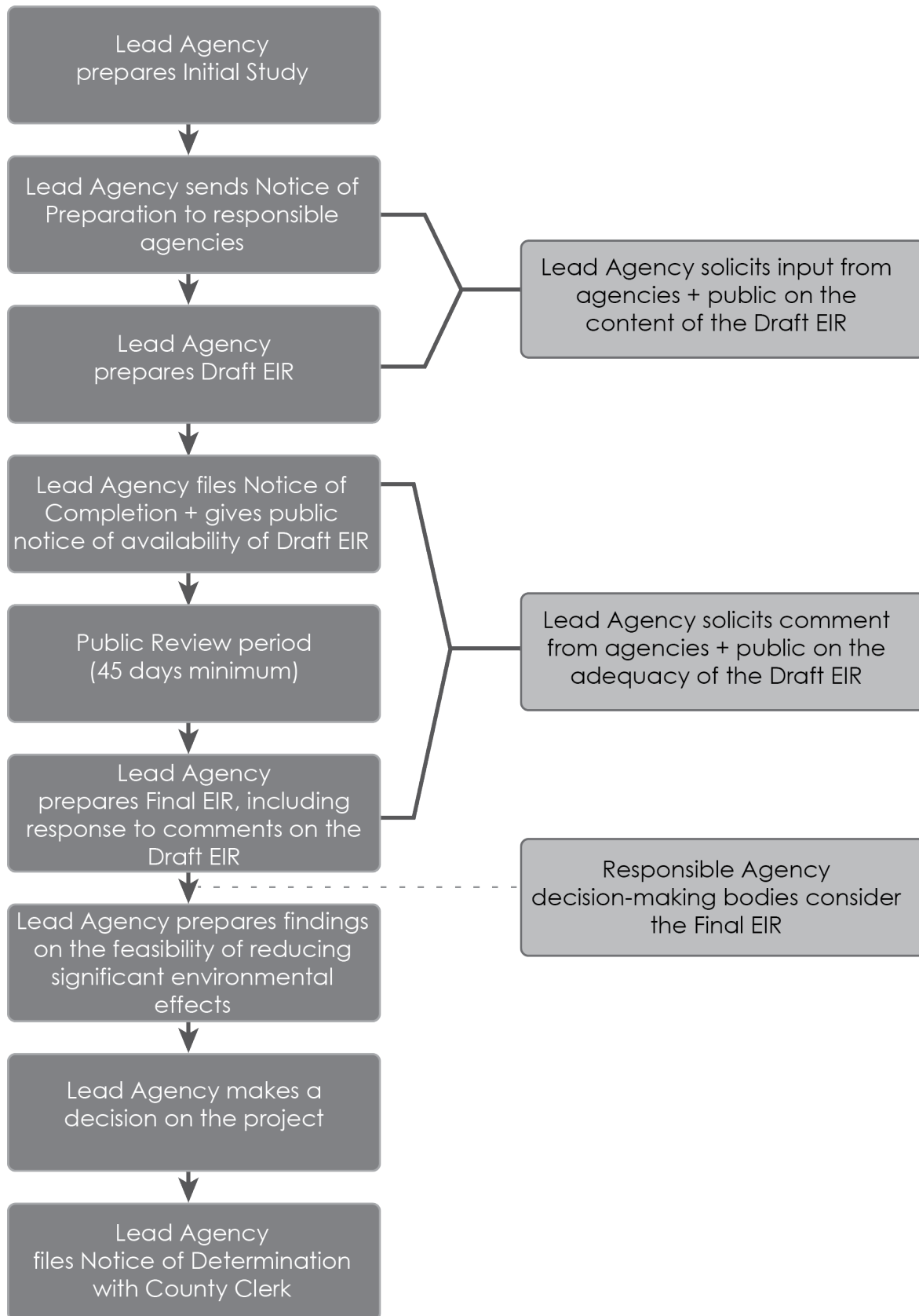
The environmental impact review process required under CEQA is summarized below and illustrated in Figure 1-1. The steps appear in sequential order.

1. **Notice of Preparation (NOP) Distributed.** Immediately after deciding that an EIR is required, the lead agency must file a NOP soliciting input on the EIR scope to "responsible," "trustee," and involved federal agencies; to the State Clearinghouse, if one or more state agencies is a responsible or trustee agency; and to parties previously requesting notice in writing. The NOP must be posted in the County Clerk's office for 30 days. A scoping meeting to solicit public input on the issues to be assessed in the EIR is not required but may be conducted by the lead agency. The NOP public comment period for the Ukiah 2040 EIR was from May 31 to June 30, 2022 and a scoping meeting was held on June 15, 2022. Public comments were received in response to the NOP and scoping process.
2. **Draft EIR Prepared.** The Draft EIR must contain: a) table of contents or index; b) summary; c) project description; d) environmental setting; e) significant impacts (direct, indirect, cumulative, growth-inducing and unavoidable impacts); f) alternatives; g) mitigation measures; and h) irreversible changes.
3. **Public Notice and Review.** A lead agency must prepare a Public Notice of Availability (NOA) of an EIR. The NOA must be placed in the County Clerk's office for 30 days (Public Resources Code Section 21092) and sent to anyone requesting it. Additionally, public notice of Draft EIR availability must be given through at least one of the following procedures: a) publication in a newspaper of general circulation; b) posting on and off the project site; and c) direct mailing to owners and occupants of contiguous properties. The lead agency must consult with and request comments on the Draft EIR from responsible and trustee agencies, and adjacent cities and counties. When a Draft EIR is sent to the State Clearinghouse for review, the public review period must be 45 days, unless a shorter period is approved by the Clearinghouse (Public Resources Code 21091). Distribution of the Draft EIR may be required through the State Clearinghouse. This EIR will be circulated for a 45-day public review and will be sent to the State Clearinghouse.
4. **Notice of Completion.** A lead agency must file a Notice of Completion (NOC) with the State Clearinghouse as soon as it completes a Draft EIR.
5. **Final EIR.** A Final EIR must include: a) any revisions to the Draft EIR; b) copies of comments received during public review; c) list of persons and entities commenting; and d) responses to comments.
6. **Certification of Final EIR.** The lead agency shall certify that: a) the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA; b) the Final EIR was presented to the decision-making body of the

lead agency; and c) the decision-making body reviewed and considered the information in the Final EIR prior to approving a project.

7. **Lead Agency Project Decision.** A lead agency may: a) disapprove a project because of its significant environmental effects; b) require changes to a project to reduce or avoid significant environmental effects; or c) approve a project despite its significant environmental effects, if the proper findings and statement of overriding considerations are adopted.
8. **Findings/Statement of Overriding Considerations.** For each significant impact of the project identified in the EIR, the lead or responsible agency must find, based on substantial evidence, that: a) the project has been changed to avoid or substantially reduce the magnitude of the impact; b) changes to the project are within another agency's jurisdiction and such changes have or should be adopted; or c) specific economic, social, or other considerations make the mitigation measures or project alternatives infeasible. If an agency approves a project with unavoidable significant environmental effects, it must prepare a written Statement of Overriding Considerations that set forth the specific social, economic, or other reasons supporting the agency's decision.
9. **Mitigation Monitoring/Reporting Program.** When an agency makes findings on significant effects identified in the EIR, it must adopt a reporting or monitoring program for mitigation measures that were adopted or made conditions of project approval to mitigate significant effects.
10. **Notice of Determination.** An agency must file a Notice of Determination after deciding to approve a project for which an EIR is prepared. A local agency must file the Notice with the County Clerk. The Notice must be posted for 30 days and sent to anyone previously requesting notice. Posting of the Notice starts a 30-day statute of limitations on CEQA challenges.

Figure 1-1 Environmental Review Process



2 Project Description

The project analyzed in this EIR is the proposed City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan, herein referred to as “Ukiah 2040” or “the project.” Major components of Ukiah 2040 include the following elements: Land Use; Economic Development; Agricultural; Mobility; Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure; Environment and Sustainability; and Hazards and Safety. This section of the EIR describes the key characteristics of the project, including the project proponent/lead agency, the geographic extent of the plan, project objectives, types and extent of development forecasted under Ukiah 2040, and required approvals.

2.1 Project Purpose

The project is a comprehensive update of the City’s current 1995 General Plan, which is made up of 13 chapters: Open Space & Conservation; Noise; Safety; Energy; Airport; Parks and Recreation; Historic & Archaeological Resources; Community Facilities & Services; Circulation & Transportation; Housing; Community Design; Economic Development; and Land Use. The project will serve as a long-term framework for future growth and development in the City by representing the community’s view of its future and contains the goals and policies upon which the City Council, Planning Commission, staff, and the entire community will base land use and resource decisions. To provide a contemporary plan that will guide the community through the year 2040, Ukiah 2040 has been reorganized and reformatted to addresses changes in the community, including new issues and opportunities, changes in state law, and new trends.

2.2 Project Proponent/Lead Agency

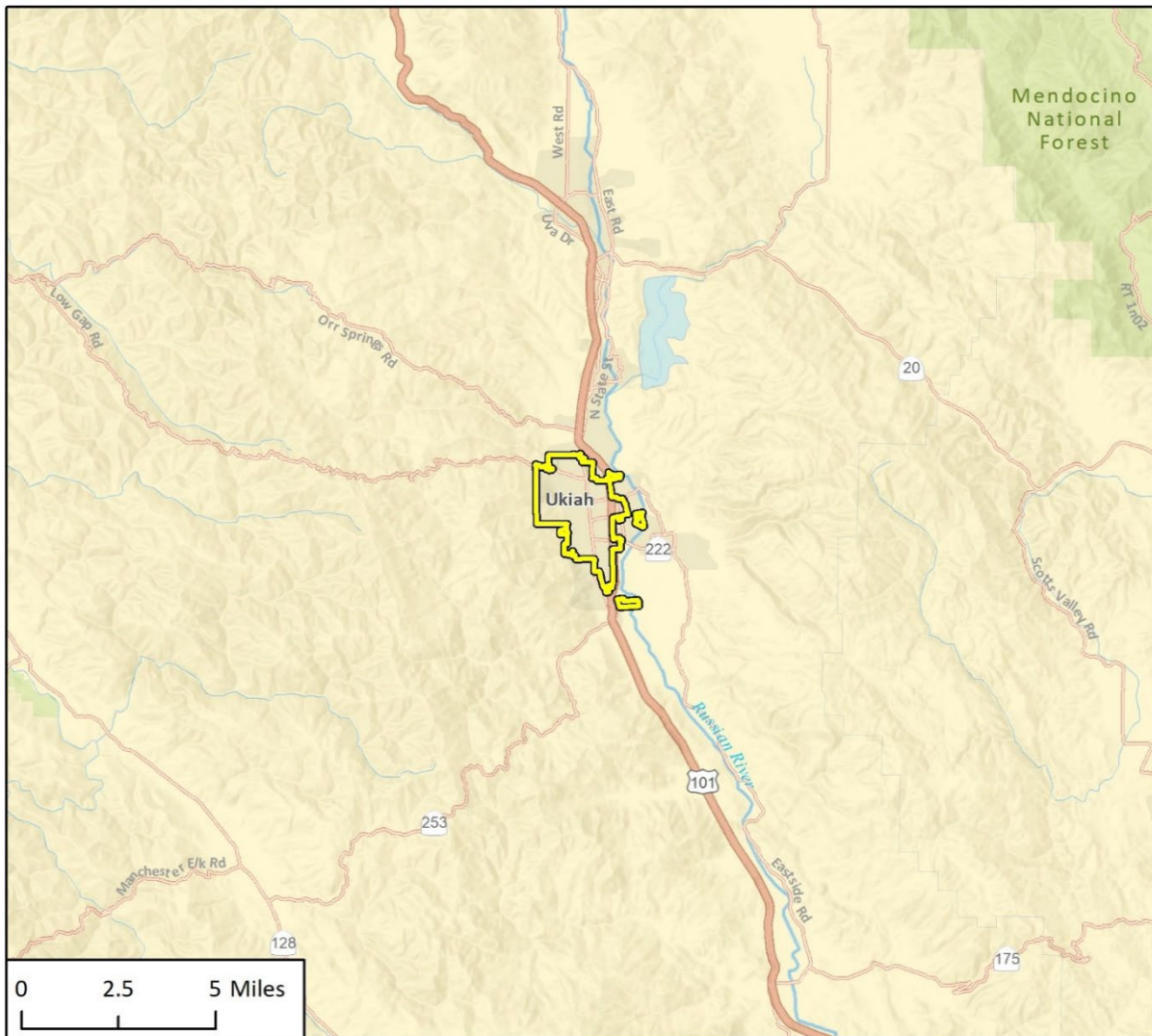
The City of Ukiah (City) is the project proponent and the lead agency for the proposed City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan. The City’s Community Development Department, located at 300 Seminary Avenue, prepared this EIR with the assistance of Rincon Consultants, Inc. and Mintier-Harnish.

2.3 Project Location

The City of Ukiah is located in the Northern Coast of California, approximately 45 miles north of Healdsburg and 155 miles south of Eureka. The City is regionally significant, serving as the seat of Mendocino County (County) and the largest of four incorporated cities in the County. The nearest major city to Ukiah is Santa Rosa, located approximately 60 miles south. The larger urban centers of San Francisco and Sacramento are located approximately 100 miles south and southeast of Ukiah, respectively. Figure 2-1 shows a regional map of the City’s location relative to nearby cities, communities, and the state highway system.

The City of Ukiah is regionally accessible from U.S. Highway 101, which crosses the City from north to south. State Route (SR-) 253 also provides regional access to the City by connecting Ukiah to the unincorporated community of Boonville, located along SR-128. The City is served by a surface street system that includes four-lane minor arterial roadways and two-lane collector streets. Ukiah also has a system of bike lanes and sidewalks throughout the City, which are particularly robust through the downtown and surrounding areas. The City is directly served by Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA), a commuter bus line that serves Mendocino County with connections to Sonoma County

Figure 2-1 Regional Location



Imagery provided by Esri and its licensors © 2022. Elledge Peak & Ukiah quadrangles. T15N R12W S08, 16-21, 28-30, 32, 33 & T15N R13W S13, 24.

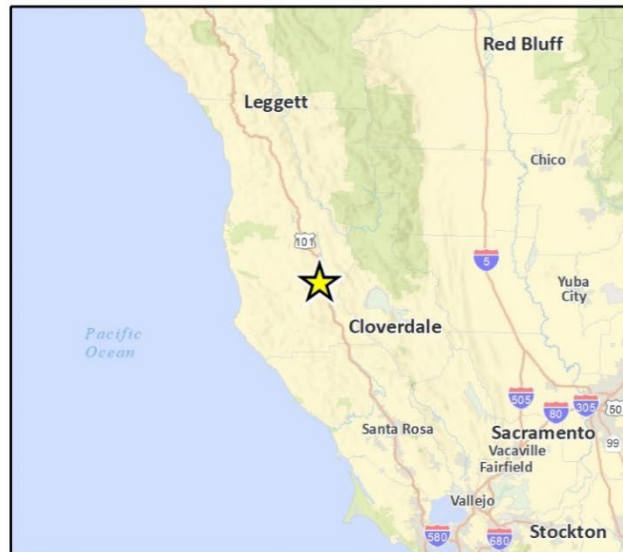


Fig 1 Regional Location

Transit, Golden Gate Transit, Lake Transit, and Santa Rosa CityBus (MTA 2022). The City of Ukiah also owns and operates the Ukiah Municipal Airport, located along U.S. Highway 101 in the southern portion of the City.

The City itself spans more than 3,000 acres (4.6 square miles) within the greater Ukiah Valley. The Ukiah Valley is comprised of more than 40,000 acres and runs 9 miles long, north to south, along U.S. Highway 101. Several small unincorporated communities lie closer to the City within the Ukiah Valley, including El Roble, Vichy Springs, The Forks, and Calpella. The Russian River follows the Ukiah Valley just east of the City limits, and the Redwood Valley neighbors the City to the north (City of Ukiah 2020).

The project applies to the extended planning area for the City of Ukiah, including all areas within the City limits and Sphere of Influence (SOI). The City's SOI designates the City's probable future boundary and service area. The City's current SOI was adopted in 1984 and is coterminous with the 2011 Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) boundary. As directed by the Ukiah City Council, the City intends to update its SOI as part of the project to the proposed SOI shown in Figure 2-2.

2.4 Regulatory Setting

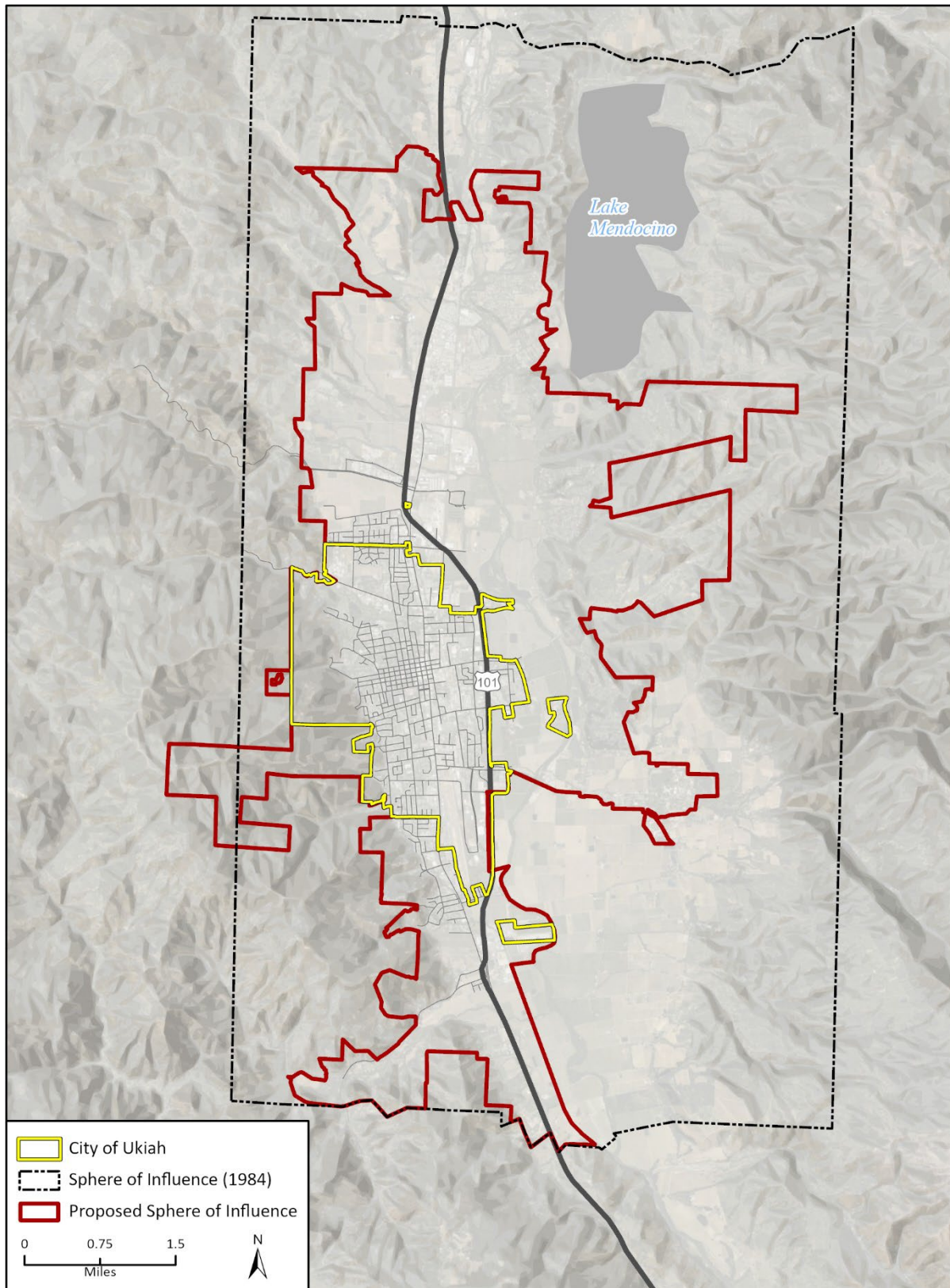
State law (Government Code Sections 65300 through 65303.4) sets forth the requirement for each municipality to adopt and periodically update its general plan, and sets the requirement that a general plan contain the following mandatory subject areas, or "elements," including Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Open Space, Conservation, Noise, Safety. State law also allows for optional elements that can be organized or combined at the City's discretion. Ukiah 2040 includes the required subjects/elements, as detailed in Section 2.7.3, *Ukiah 2040 Organization*. A Housing Element was adopted by the City in 2019, and the noise content required by State law is reflected within the Hazards and Safety Element.

Under State law, a property's zoning is required to be consistent with its general plan land use classification (Government Code Section 65860). Section 65860(c) of the Government Code requires that when a general plan is amended in a way that makes the zoning ordinance inconsistent with the general plan, "the zoning ordinance shall be amended within a reasonable time so that it is consistent with the general plan as amended."

2.5 Existing Land Use Pattern

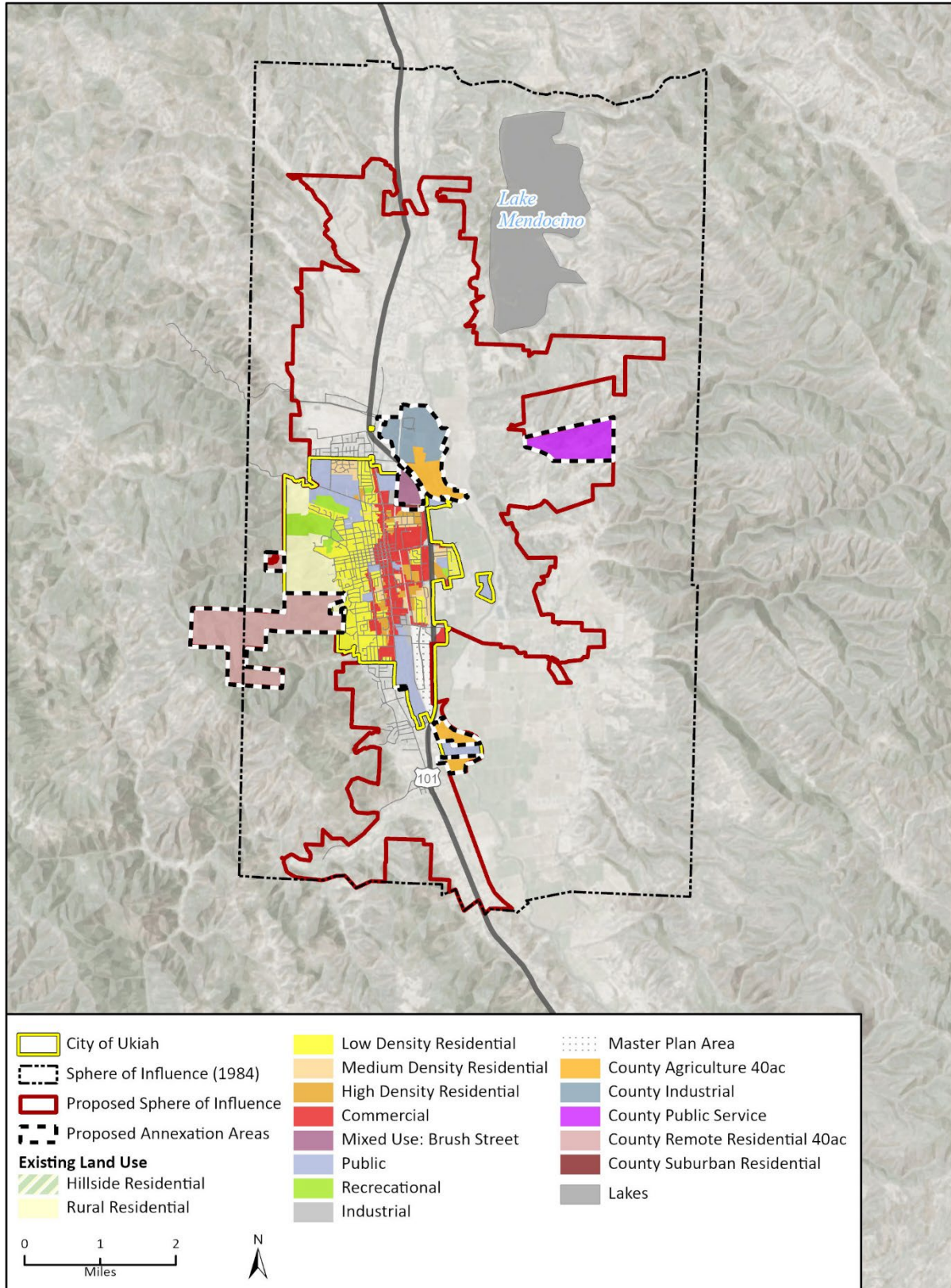
The City of Ukiah's existing land use pattern is shaped by the surrounding topography and circulation patterns. Primary land uses include residential (33.1 percent), public (18.7 percent), commercial (12.3 percent), and parks and open space (9.7 percent) (City of Ukiah 2020). Nearly 8 percent of parcels (approximately 120 acres) within the City limits are currently vacant and available for development, most of which are designated for residential development. The current 1995 General Plan specifies nine separate land use designations, including rural residential, low density residential, medium density residential, high density residential, commercial, public, recreational, master plan area, and open space. Figure 2-3 depicts the City's existing land use designations in addition to any relevant County land use designations within the three annexation areas being pursued by the City, as described further in Section 2.7.7, *Proposed Annexation Areas*. The existing land use classifications define the basic categories of land use allowed in the City and are the basis for the zoning districts established in the Zoning Code.

Figure 2-2 Existing and Proposed Sphere of Influence



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Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Figure 2-3 Existing Land Use Designations



(Division 9, Chapter 2 of the Ukiah City Code), which contain more specific regulations and standards governing development on individual properties.

2.6 Project Objectives

Ukiah 2040 is intended to function as a policy document to guide the City's long-term framework for future growth and resource management within the planning area through the year 2040. Based on community input and in recognition of the State's planning priorities, a vision and values supporting the vision for the community were developed. The vision and guiding principles of Ukiah 2040 are contained in the Introduction of Ukiah 2040 and are summarized below.

2.7 Project Characteristics

2.7.1 Community Vision

A vision statement is an aspirational description of what the community would like to be in the future. The vision provides the foundation for more specific goals, policies, and implementation programs to be developed later during the update process. The Ukiah City Council approved the following Vision Statement for Ukiah 2040 on March 3, 2021:

“The City of Ukiah is a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community connected to the beautiful, surrounding natural open space areas that give the community its unique sense of place. Ukiah is a safe and resilient community that is fiscally responsible, environmentally conscious, and inclusive. The city offers a great place for people of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities to live, work, and visit.”

2.7.2 Guiding Principles

The City of Ukiah developed guiding principles to expand on the main ideas contained in the vision statement. The following guiding principles express the key values and aspirations for Ukiah's future and serve as guideposts for the goals, policies, and implementation programs contained in Ukiah 2040:

- Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically.
- Ensure development in all neighborhoods is compatible with the unique characteristics and land use patterns and fosters a sense of place.
- Promote resilient and sustainable facilities and infrastructure to ensure delivery of high-quality services.
- Promote a diverse, local, business-friendly economy that fosters new job growth and is adaptable to changes in consumer habits and market trends.
- Maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods.
- Preserve existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities.

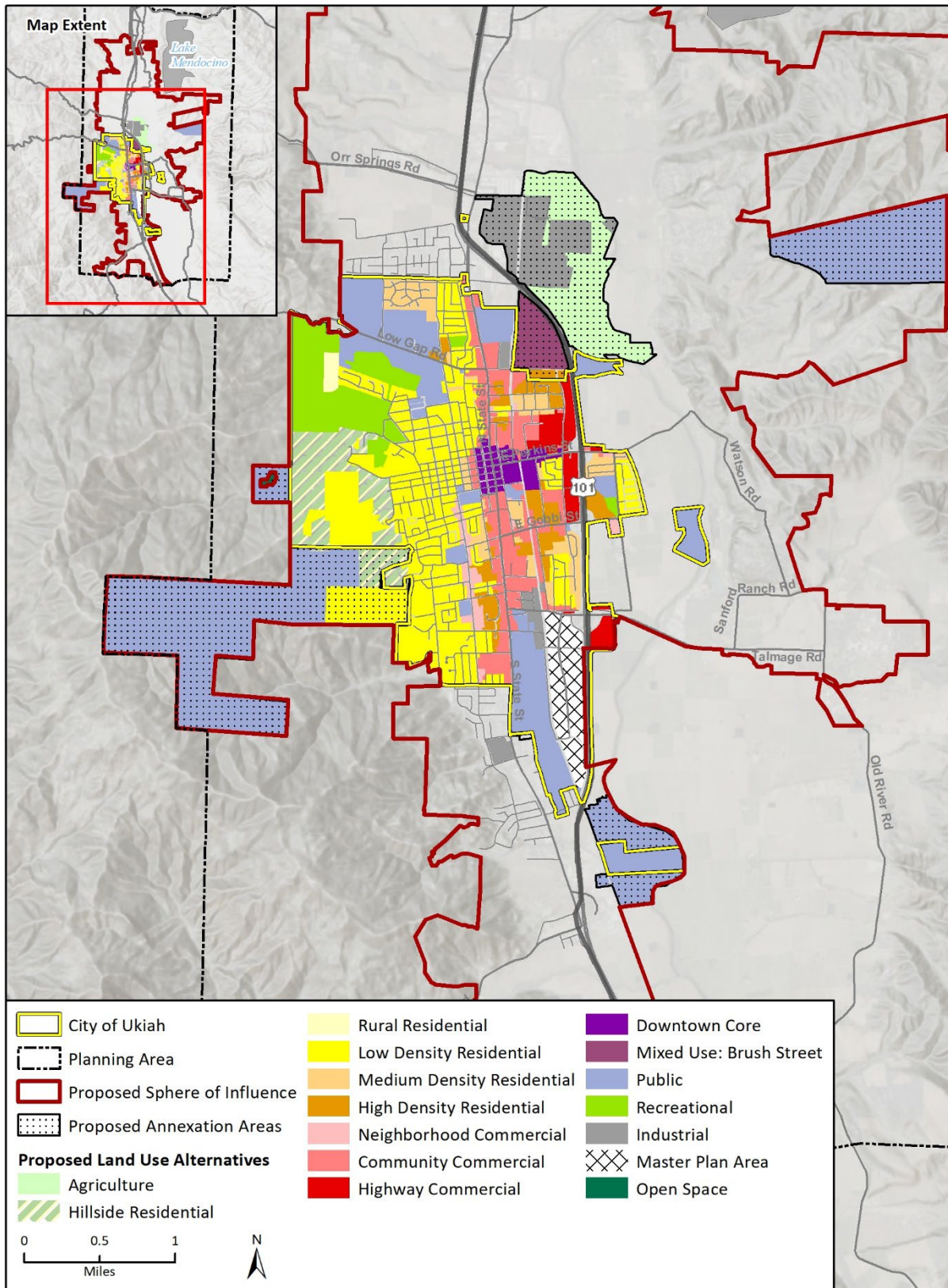
- Manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations.
- Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters.
- Preserve Ukiah Municipal Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan and Mendocino County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.
- Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

2.7.3 Ukiah 2040 Organization

Ukiah 2040 is comprised of seven elements, summarized as follows:

- **Land Use Element.** This element will consider current and proposed land use amendments, as depicted in Figure 2-4, below.
- **Economic Development Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to promote and further economic development, job retention, and fiscal sustainability within Ukiah.
- **Agricultural Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to conserve agricultural resources within Ukiah.
- **Mobility Element.** This element will address existing and planned vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure across the City.
- **Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies related to public services, including but not limited to police, fire, airport, recreation, water/wastewater, and emergency services.
- **Environment and Sustainability Element.** This element will address the wide variety of parks, trails, and open spaces serving the diverse recreation needs of Ukiah residents, particularly youth, and emphasize the unique features of the City's natural environment. This element will also consider the effects of existing and planned development on natural resources located on public lands.
- **Hazards and Safety Element.** This element will cover seismic activity, other geologic hazards, fire hazards, hazardous materials, flooding, and other potential hazards, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(g). It will also address resiliency and risks from natural hazards in Ukiah, pursuant to SB 379. This element will also cover noise element requirements, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(f), including new existing noise contours as well as projected noise contours based on future traffic volumes projected to arise from improvements planned for in the Mobility Element.

Figure 2-4 Proposed Land Use Designation Amendments



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 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Fig X Proposed LU Alternatives

2.7.4 Proposed Land Use Designations

The project would result in changes to the existing land use pattern in the City, as shown in Figure 2-4, below. Ukiah 2040 introduces new and expanded land use designations that provide a greater distinction between residential and commercial land use types and better align existing land uses with corresponding designations (City of Ukiah 2022). Specifically, the project divides the existing Commercial land use designation into more detailed designations: Downtown Core, Highway Commercial, Community Commercial, and Neighborhood Commercial. The project also introduces four new designations to the City's Land Use Map: Hillside Residential, Agriculture, Mixed Use: Brush Street Triangle, and Mixed Use: AIP-PD (City of Ukiah 2022). Table 2-1 provides a detailed description of each new land use designation included in Ukiah 2040. Overall, these land use designations define the basic categories of land uses allowed in the City but are implemented through the City's Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map, which are part of the City's Municipal Code and contain more specific regulations and standards governing development on individual properties.

2.7.5 Planning Area

A general plan, pursuant to State law, must address all areas within the jurisdiction's Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the city. For Ukiah, the Planning Area is defined as the area that includes both the city limits and SOI, as well as the existing Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundary.

2.7.6 Proposed Sphere of Influence

The SOI can be generally defined as a city's ultimate probable boundary. The City of Ukiah's current SOI was adopted in 1984, is coterminous with the 2011 UVAP boundary, and reflects the City's previous intention to annex certain territories into the City limits (Ukiah 2022). As described in Section 2.3, *Project Location*, and shown in Figure 2-2, above, Ukiah 2040 would result in an update to the City's SOI. The SOI update is intended to reduce the City's ultimate probable boundary. The decision to update the City's SOI is based upon direction provided by the Ukiah City Council in January 2020.

2.7.7 Proposed Annexation Areas

As part of the proposed project, the City of Ukiah is pursuing three separate annexation areas currently located in the County of Mendocino's jurisdictional boundaries, totaling approximately 1,617 acres. Such annexations would support future housing needs through the orderly expansion of growth to avoid sprawl; collaboration between the cities within the County on regional housing through annexations of contiguous lands; and the need for preservation of open space and agricultural lands. The annexations have been previously described in the 1984 Ukiah General Plan, the 1995 Ukiah General Plan, the 2009-14, 2014-19, and 2019-27 Ukiah Housing Elements, Mendocino County's 2019-2027 Housing Element, and the 2011 Ukiah Valley Area Plan.

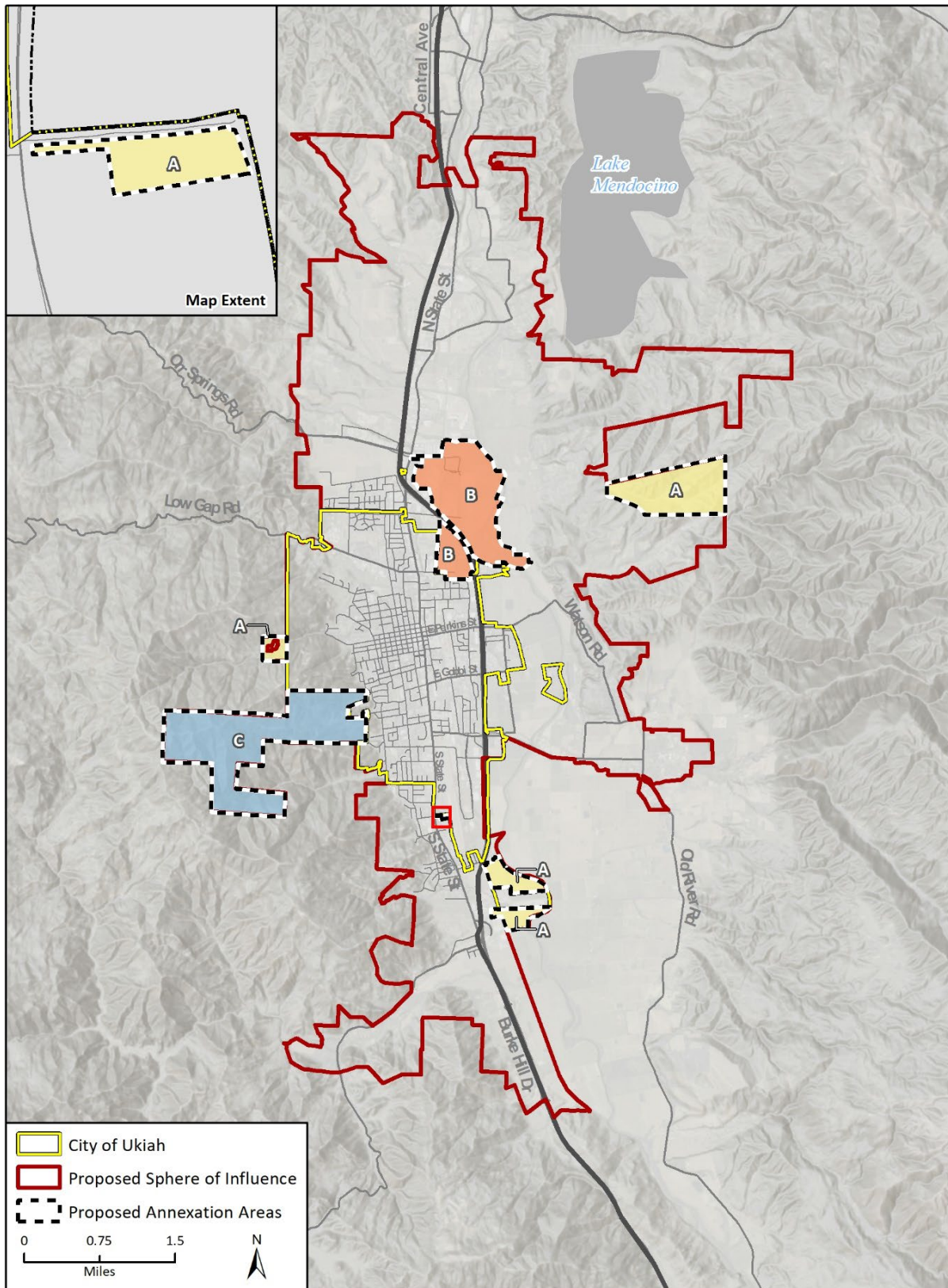
Furthermore, the Ukiah City Council adopted an Annexation Policy (Resolution No. 2020-06) in June 2020 that states that the City will pursue, apply for, and support the annexation of unincorporated areas to the City to avoid the negative consequences of continued urban sprawl and to ensure the efficient provision of municipal services to unincorporated areas without placing an undue financial burden on the City or its residents (City of Ukiah 2022). All annexation areas being pursued by the City are depicted in Figure 2-5, below.

Table 2-1 Description of Proposed Land Use Designations

Land Use Designation	Description
Downtown Core	Designates areas within the Downtown Zoning District.
Highway Commercial	Designates commercial areas adjacent to U.S. Route 101. The purpose of this designation is to focus development of more auto-oriented uses, visitor-serving uses, and large format retail that are typically associated with highway users adjacent to U.S. Route 101.
Community Commercial	Designates major corridors for small and large format retail, shopping centers, chain restaurants, and personal services that provide for the community as well as consumers outside the city.
Neighborhood Commercial	Designates areas adjacent to existing lower density neighborhoods for small format retail and personal services that serve the everyday needs of the immediate neighborhood.
Hillside Residential	This designation replaces existing Rural Residential areas and some Low Density Residential areas with steep slopes in the hillsides west of Highland Avenue and Park Boulevard. This designation decreases residential density from two to one dwelling unit per acre. This density reduction does not conflict with Housing Element sites, does not preclude accessory dwelling units (in areas with less than 50 percent slope), and aligns with the goal of reducing residential construction in High Fire Hazard Areas.
Agriculture	This designation includes potential annexation lands north of Ukiah and land south of Ukiah. The Agriculture designation assumes the same development and density standards as stated in the Mendocino County General Plan (one dwelling unit per legal parcel at a minimum 40 acres).
Mixed Use: Brush Street Triangle	This designation encompasses lands with the area known as the Brush Street triangle that the City is seeking to annex. This is a current County designation that will be adopted by the City. This designation assumes the same development and density standards as stated in the Mendocino County General Plan (up to 20 units per acre for multifamily and up to 1.0 FAR for nonresidential uses).
Mixed Use: AIP-PD	This designation replaces the Master Plan Area designation for the Airport Industrial Park Planned Development (AIP-PD) area in southern Ukiah along Highway 101. The AIP-PD was adopted in 2013 and lands within this area are governed by AIP-PD Ordinance No. 1213.4 Since adoption of the 1995 General Plan this area is almost completely built out with a variety of commercial, industrial, and mixed use development. Land Use within this area is further broken down into seven land use categories: Highway Commercial; Industrial; Industrial Auto; Commercial; Light Manufacturing Mixed Use; Open Space; Professional Office; and Retail Commercial (as shown on the AIP-PD land use designation map). Each designation contains a set of development standards (setbacks, height, design, land use, landscaping, etc.). While the AIP-PD notes that residential density is limited to 60 people per acre, and commercial development is subject to 40% maximum lot coverage, due to its proximity to the airport, the AIP-PD relies on density restrictions noted within the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP). Renaming the designation of this area would not change the land uses or development standards contained within the AIP-PD Ordinance.

Source: City of Ukiah 2022

Figure 2-5 Ukiah 2040 Proposed Annexation Areas



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Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Fig 2-5 Ukiah 2040 Annexation Areas

Annexation Area A consists of 16 City-owned properties located southeast, northeast, and west of the City, totaling approximately 437 acres. City-owned properties proposed for annexation include the landfill site on Vichy Springs Road, properties within the Ukiah Municipal Airport area along South State Street, properties within the vicinity of the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant along Norgard Lane, Taylor Drive and Plant Road, a property adjacent to the City's Solid Waste Transfer Station, and open space areas west of the terminus of Standley Street. Most of these properties currently host existing City operations. Once annexed, the Annexation Area A would continue to be used for agriculture, open space, or municipal uses. As such, these lands are proposed to be designated as Public and Open Space (City of Ukiah 2022). The City plans to expand their wastewater treatment facility; however, no plans have currently been developed and the exact location of the expansion is not currently known. Because the location of the expansion is not currently known, the environmental impacts of the expansion cannot be determined and future CEQA would be needed to determine the impacts of any future expansion.

Annexation Area B is comprised of the Bush Street Triangle/Masonite area north of the City and contains 63 properties, totaling approximately 473 acres. Development in this area includes some commercial, industrial, and manufacturing uses (both existing and decommissioned), as well as areas containing vacant and agricultural land. Once annexed, the Brush Street Triangle area would be designated as the new Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle designation, the Masonite area would be designated as Industrial, and the remaining area south of the Masonite site and north of Ford Road that is currently vacant and/or developed with agriculture uses would be designated as Agriculture (City of Ukiah 2022).

Annexation Area C is concentrated in the hills west of Ukiah. This area contains approximately 752 acres and a portion of that area (707 acres) is being pursued as part of the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021. Approximately 640 acres of this land is currently preserved for open space conservation and is pre-zoned as Public Facilities. Approximately 54 acres of this land would allow for residential development through the creation of seven "Development Parcels," beginning at the terminus of Redwood Avenue. Parcels eligible for residential uses feature a Single-Family Residential – Hillside Overlay, allowing for a maximum of 14 units total (seven-single family homes and seven accessory dwelling units) upon annexation. Additionally, 14 acres of privately owned property was included in the Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement for access to the project parcels. These parcels currently provide access to the project and are also proposed for annexation. Although these parcels are pre-zoned as Single-Family Residential – Hillside Overlay for consistency with surrounding zoning and land uses, they are not included in the Development Agreement and no further development is proposed or expected. However, these parcels could conceivably be developed with two residential units in the future, bringing the total potential buildout of Annexation Area C to 16 units. No new parcels would be created as a result of this annexation request. Finally, approximately 44 acres of private property are included in Annexation Area C to address existing LAFCo policies and known mapping errors, and to avoid the formation of an unincorporated island. The median size of these privately owned parcels is .94 acres, as the majority are unincorporated remnants of lots already developed within the City along Lookout Drive. Given the limited access and significant topographical constraints, development of these fragments and island parcels is unlikely, and there is no expectation that they can be feasibly developed. As these additional parcels are privately owned, the application of a Public Facilities zoning designation is inappropriate. Therefore, a Single-Family Residential - Hillside Overlay was applied to these fragment and island parcels for consistency.

2.7.8 Project Buildout

Ukiah 2040 designates land uses defining the type and amount of development that can occur throughout the City and proposed annexation areas through the planning horizon year of 2040 (over approximately 18 years). Ukiah 2040 also includes increased residential densities (number of units) and building intensities (floor area ratio [FAR]) for certain land use designations compared to the existing density and intensity thresholds. Development projections for the project were determined by analyzing vacant and underutilized parcels with the buildout capacity potential that is allowed under the applicable updated land use designations, the incorporation of annexation areas being pursued by the City of Ukiah, and the development of mixed-use designated areas anticipated under Ukiah 2040. Based on the potential land use changes, the project has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 non-residential square footage (City of Ukiah 2022). This buildout is an estimate of maximum buildout and is used as a conservative assumption in the environmental analysis of this EIR. While Ukiah 2040 would facilitate development, the development of the various land uses associated with Ukiah 2040 would occur over an extended period and would depend on factors such as local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. For example, a future developer may choose to develop a site at a density lower than what is allowed, or a vacant lot could remain vacant for several years until a development is identified for that property. For these reasons, the maximum buildout is an estimate and is not intended to predict the amount of development that will occur in the City in the future. Furthermore, this buildout is projected to occur specifically within the existing City limits and Annexation Areas. Overall, Ukiah 2040 would promote infill development; the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties; and the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family use. Future development within the remaining SOI and Planning Area will be analyzed under CEQA on a project-level basis.

2.8 Intended Use of this EIR

This EIR provides a programmatic environmental review of the implementation of Ukiah 2040. Subsequent activities falling under the project will utilize this EIR to focus the individual environmental review of such consequent activities and to determine their effects. If a new project is proposed that is not anticipated by Ukiah 2040, or that may result in project-level environmental effects not addressed in this program-level EIR, the future proposed project would be evaluated as required under CEQA. This EIR is not intended to prohibit consideration of future proposed projects or CEQA analysis of any future proposed projects.

2.9 Project Implementation

Following adoption of the project by the Ukiah City Council, all subsequent activities and any future development within the City would be guided by the goals and policies contained in Ukiah 2040. Therefore, Ukiah 2040 provides specific policy guidance for the implementation of plan concepts. The City of Ukiah would also be required to coordinate with Mendocino County and other public agencies to implement policies that affect their respective jurisdictions or the overall region. Implementing these policies in accordance with new development (residential, commercial, or industrial) would be subject to the City's established review and approval processes, with final review and approval by the appropriate departmental staff as well as the appointed and elected officials. The principal responsibilities that City officials and staff have for project implementation are briefly summarized below:

- Updating the City of Ukiah Zoning Ordinance to achieve consistency with the adopted Ukiah 2040;
- Rezoning properties, as dictated by future development proposals;
- Approving tentative maps, variances, conditional use permits, and other land use permits and entitlements;
- Approving development agreements and issuance of related permits and approvals consistent with the Ukiah 2040;
- Analyzing and planning for public infrastructure such as roadway improvements, other capital improvements, and natural/capital resource preservation and/or restoration; and,
- Conducting or considering further focused planning studies, as appropriate to future development in the City.
- Submitting applications for annexation to the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission.

2.10 Required Discretionary Approvals

Pursuant to recommendations from the Planning Commission, the Ukiah City Council will need to take the following discretionary actions in conjunction with the project:

- Certification of the Final EIR
- Approval and adoption of Ukiah 2040

In addition, the Mendocino County LAFCo will need to approve the City's annexations and SOI changes, and the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection will review the Safety Element and respond to the City with its findings regarding the uses of land and policies in State Responsibility Areas (SRAs) or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZs) that would protect life, property, and natural resources from unreasonable risks associated with wildfires, and the methods and strategies for wildfire risk reduction and prevention within SRAs or VHFHSZs. The Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) will also review Ukiah 2040 for consistency with the UKIALUCP.

3 Environmental Setting

This section provides a general overview of the environmental setting for the project. More detailed descriptions of the environmental setting for each environmental issue area can be found in Section 4, *Environmental Impact Analysis*.

3.1 Regional Setting

The City of Ukiah is located along U.S. Highway 101 in Mendocino County, which lies within the Northern Coast of California. Mendocino County spans the Coast Ranges, a group of northwest-southeast oriented mountain ranges with intervening canyons and valleys. Mendocino County's climate is characterized by annual temperatures averaging up to 58 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) and annual rainfall averaging up to 45 inches (County of Mendocino 2008).

Ukiah sits approximately 26 miles east of the Pacific Ocean, 45 miles north of Healdsburg and 35 miles south of Laytonville. The nearest major city to Ukiah is Santa Rosa, located approximately 60 miles south, while the larger urban centers of San Francisco and Sacramento are located approximately 100 miles south and southeast of Ukiah, respectively. The City is generally bounded by rolling hills to the west, the Russian River and rolling hills to the east, and the Redwood Valley to the north (City of Ukiah 2020). Figure 2-1 in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, shows the regional location of Ukiah.

3.2 Physical Setting

3.2.1 General Geographic Setting

The City of Ukiah encompasses approximately 4.6 square miles (3,071 acres) and is the largest of four incorporated cities in Mendocino County (City of Ukiah 2020). Several small unincorporated communities surround the City within the greater Ukiah Valley, including El Roble approximately 1.75 miles south, Vichy Springs approximately 1.5 miles east, The Forks approximately 1.5 miles north, and Calpella approximately 4.25 miles north. Mendocino College is also located approximately 1.5 miles north of Ukiah, and the tribal lands of the Guidiville Rancheria and Pinoleville Rancheria are located to the east and north of the City, respectively.

U.S. Highway 101 is a major north-south freeway in Mendocino County that traverses the eastern portion of the City, generally providing two travel lanes in each direction through Ukiah. U.S. Highway 101 provides regional access to major employment and residential centers in Mendocino County, Humboldt County to the north, and Sonoma County to the south. Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA) is a commuter bus line that serves Mendocino County through a variety of fixed routes along U.S. Highway 101, State Route (SR) 1, SR-12, SR-20, SR-128, and SR-253 between Santa Rosa and Fort Bragg. MTA provides connections to Sonoma County Transit, Golden Gate Transit, Lake Transit, and Santa Rosa CityBus (MTA 2022).

According to the City of Ukiah General Plan Update Existing Conditions Workbook and Trends (2020), approximately 33 percent of development within the City of Ukiah is considered residential and is comprised of single-family homes, multi-family developments, and mobile home parks. Public and Quasi-Public uses, including care facilities, churches, schools, shelters, and government-owned

property, make up approximately 19 percent of development within the City. Approximately 12 percent of development in the City is considered commercial uses, much of which is concentrated along Main and State Streets and near U.S. Highway 101, while approximately 10 percent of land uses are designated for parks and open spaces (City of Ukiah 2020).

3.2.2 Topography and Drainage

The City of Ukiah is located within the Ukiah Valley where the underlying geologic structure is primarily characterized by unconsolidated clay, silt, sand, and gravel (Caldwell 1965). The landscape of Ukiah is generally flat along its central portion, ranging from approximately 600 feet above mean seal level (amsl) at its southern extent to approximately 660 feet amsl at its northern extent. The hillsides flanking the City to the west can reach up to 2,650 feet amsl, while the hillsides flanking the City to the east can reach up to approximately 3,400 feet amsl. Ukiah is located within the Upper Russian River Valley watershed. Creeks and streams offer some drainage channels in the region, but the majority of surface runoff and waters washed from the hillside slopes generally enter the City's stormwater systems that ultimately drain into the Russian River, which then drains to the Pacific Ocean (Mendocino County 2011).

3.2.3 Climate

The City of Ukiah enjoys a temperate Mediterranean climate characterized by hot, dry summers and mild, moist winters. The hottest months in Ukiah span between June and August while the coolest months in Ukiah span between November and February. July is the hottest month of the year with an average temperature high of 91°F. December is the coldest month of the year with an average temperature low of 37°F. Ukiah receives most of its precipitation during the months of October through April, though rainfall is most heavily concentrated between December and February (US Climate Data 2022).

3.3 Demographics

The City of Ukiah was incorporated in 1876 and was designated as the seat of Mendocino County. The City was slow-growing and relatively isolated during its early history but became much more accessible to the region and to the country following a railroad extension in 1889. Nonetheless, Ukiah remained slow growing until the end of World War II. The rapid growth following the war has been attributed to the overall growth of the logging industry in California's northern coasts, as the redwood forests to the north of Ukiah became increasingly valuable for lumber. When the logging industry grew, it began supporting an increase in employment and growth in the region. Today, Ukiah remains designated as the county seat and is the largest city in Mendocino County (City of Ukiah 2020).

In more recent years, Ukiah's population has remained stable. The 2010 U.S. Census determined the population of Ukiah was 16,075 residents. In the years following, Ukiah's population decreased below 16,000 residents before growing to an estimated population of 16,296 in 2019. Between the years of 2010 and 2019, Ukiah's average growth rate was 0.15 percent annually (City of Ukiah 2020).

As detailed in the City of Ukiah General Plan Update Existing Conditions Workbook and Trends (2020), the median population age in the City was 34.8 years old in 2017. This median age is down from 35.9 in 2010. Such a change can be attributed to an increased percentage of young adults in the City, which indicates that young families are moving to Ukiah. Comparatively, the median age in the Mendocino County was 41.5 years old in 2010 and 42.4 years old in 2017. Ukiah also retains a

high percentage of working age residents between 25 and 54, which makes up nearly 42 percent of the population combined (City of Ukiah 2020).

The City of Ukiah consists of a mixed racial demographic. Approximately 57.3 percent of residents identify as White, while approximately 32.7 percent of residents identify as Hispanic or Latino. This, too, differs from Mendocino County, where approximately 24.5 percent of the population identifies as Hispanic or Latino. In addition, approximately 30 percent of Ukiah residents speak a primary language other than English, which is higher than the 22 percent of Mendocino County residents who speak a primary language other than English (City of Ukiah 2020). The median household income in the City was \$43,480 in 2017, which is slightly lower than the countywide median income of \$46,528 and significantly lower than the statewide median income of \$67,169 in the same year (City of Ukiah 2020).

As of 2022, household size in the City of Ukiah was 2.4 persons per household (DOF 2022). There were an estimated 6,955 housing units in Ukiah in 2022, consisting of 3,765 single detached units; 436 single attached units; 889 two to four unit homes; 1,405 five plus unit homes; and 460 mobile homes (DOF 2022).

3.4 Cumulative Development

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) defines cumulative impacts as two or more individual actions that, when considered together, are considerable or will compound other environmental impacts. Cumulative impacts are the changes in the environment that result from the incremental impact of development of the proposed project and other nearby projects. For example, traffic impacts of two nearby projects may be insignificant when analyzed separately but could have a significant impact when analyzed together. Cumulative impact analysis allows an EIR to provide a reasonable forecast of future environmental conditions and can more accurately gauge the effects of a series of projects.

Because the project is a general plan update, cumulative impacts are treated somewhat differently than would be the case for a project-specific development. *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15130 provides the following direction relative to cumulative impact analysis and states that the following elements are necessary for an adequate discussion of environmental impacts:

A summary of projections contained in an adopted local, regional or statewide plan, or related planning document, that describes or evaluates conditions contributing to the cumulative effect. Such plans may include: a general plan, regional transportation plan, or plans for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. A summary of projections may also be contained in an adopted or certified prior environmental document for such a plan. Such projections may be supplemented with additional information such as a regional modeling program. Any such document shall be referenced and made available to the public at a location specified by the lead agency.

By its nature, a general plan considers cumulative impacts insofar as it considers cumulative development that could occur within the City limits and Annexation Areas. For example, the transportation analysis considers the overall change in vehicle miles travelled (VMT) due to implementing several development projects that would add to the Ukiah 2040 buildout. As such, the analysis in this EIR considers the cumulative impacts in the City due to implementing Ukiah 2040. These cumulative VMT calculations are accounted for in the air quality, energy, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise analyses; therefore, these analyses would also be considered cumulative.

Other impacts, such as geology and soils and cultural resources, are site specific and would not result in an overall cumulative impact from growth outside of the City. Therefore, the analysis of project impacts in this EIR also constitutes the cumulative analysis.

4 Environmental Impact Analysis

This section discusses the possible environmental effects of Ukiah 2040 for the specific issue areas that were identified through the scoping process as having the potential to experience significant effects. A “significant effect” as defined by the *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15382:

means a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of the physical conditions within the area affected by the project including land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and objects of historic or aesthetic significance. An economic or social change by itself shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. A social or economic change related to a physical change may be considered in determining whether the physical change is significant.

The assessment of each issue area begins with a discussion of the environmental setting related to the issue, which is followed by the impact analysis. In the impact analysis, the first subsection, identifies the methodologies used and the “significance thresholds,” which are those criteria adopted by the City and other agencies, universally recognized, or developed specifically for this analysis to determine whether potential effects are significant. The next subsection describes each impact of the project, mitigation measures for significant impacts, and the level of significance after mitigation. Each effect under consideration for an issue area is separately listed in bold text with the discussion of the effect and its significance. Each bolded impact statement also contains a statement of the significance determination for the environmental impact as follows:

- **Significant and Unavoidable.** An impact that cannot be reduced to below the threshold level given reasonably available and feasible mitigation measures. Such an impact requires a Statement of Overriding Considerations to be issued if the project is approved per Section 15093 of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated.** An impact that can be reduced to below the threshold level given reasonably available and feasible mitigation measures. Such an impact requires findings under Section 15091 of the CEQA Guidelines.
- **Less than Significant.** An impact that may be adverse but does not exceed the threshold levels and does not require mitigation measures. However, mitigation measures that could further lessen the environmental effect may be suggested if readily available and easily achievable.
- **No Impact.** The project would have no effect on environmental conditions or would reduce existing environmental problems or hazards.

Following each environmental impact discussion is a list of mitigation measures (if required) and the residual effects or level of significance remaining after implementation of the measure(s). In cases where the mitigation measure for an impact could have a significant environmental impact in another issue area, this impact is discussed and evaluated as a secondary impact. The impact analysis concludes with a discussion of cumulative effects, which evaluates the impacts associated with the project in conjunction with other planned and pending developments in the area listed in Section 3, *Environmental Setting*. The Executive Summary of this EIR summarizes all impacts and mitigation measures that apply to the project.

Ukiah 2040 contains four geographic elements: the Planning Area, the proposed sphere of influence (SOI), the City limits, and the Annexation Areas. Ukiah 2040 proposes land use changes within the

City limits and Annexation Areas, which can result in buildout. As such, the analysis of environmental impacts in this EIR is focused in these areas.

Information about the setting within the Planning Area and proposed SOI are provided for informational purposes but because Ukiah 2040 does not include new or amended land use designations to the proposed SOI and Planning Area, development within these areas for the purpose of this analysis is assumed to be consistent with current development patterns and buildout opportunities. Therefore, impacts within the Planning Area and proposed SOI are not discussed further in this EIR. While specific project-level impacts to the SOI and Planning Area are not analyzed in detail throughout this EIR, impacts from future projects in accordance with existing zoning and land use regulations within these areas would likely be similar to those analyzed within this EIR. For example, ground disturbing activities discussed within Section 4.4, *Biological Resources* would also apply to projects of similar nature within the SOI and Planning Area. Projects within these areas may use this EIR for tiering and streamlining purposes if they are consistent with the impacts analyzed herein. However, if future projects within these areas propose land use or zoning changes, or development that is not consistent with current allowable development intensities as well as impacts analyzed within this EIR, additional CEQA, such as a Subsequent EIR may be required.

4.1 Aesthetics

This section analyzes the impacts to aesthetics, including impacts to scenic vistas, scenic resources visible from a state scenic highway, visual character and quality, and impacts arising from the possible introduction of new sources of light and glare due to the project.

4.1.1 Setting

a. Definitions

Most communities identify scenic resources as important visual assets that contribute to community identity. These resources can include landforms, trees, water features, and the built environment as far as they enhance and define the visual character of a landscape. Scenic resources include natural and open spaces, as well as the built environment, particularly if certain architecture is of historic or artistic value.

Visual quality is defined as the overall visual impression or attractiveness of an area based on the scenic resources, both natural and built. The attributes of visual quality include variety, vividness, coherence, uniqueness, harmony, and pattern. Viewshed is a term used to describe a range of resources and their context that relate to what people can see in the immediate environment in terms of foreground, middle ground, and background distances.

Impacts to visual quality are perceived by different viewer types and to different degrees, depending on the viewer exposure. Different land uses, such as open space or commercial districts, derive value from the quality of their settings and, for the purposes of this study, include regionally designated scenic highways, city gateways, and surrounding land features. Viewers driving in the city might be exposed to the dramatic hills on either side of Ukiah as they travel. Their exposure would vary based on proximity and ability to see the viewshed. The importance of scenic resources corresponds to viewer sensitivity. This sensitivity is determined by two measures: exposure and awareness. Exposure is the relative proximity of potential viewers to a given project implemented under Ukiah 2040 and awareness indicates the attention and focus viewers bring to the experience of the area. For example, tourists visiting the area to enjoy views of the hills are presumed to have a higher level of sensitivity to the visual quality than would commuters or workers driving equipment in the course of their daily work.

b. Existing Visual Conditions

Located in the Ukiah Valley, the City of Ukiah is the county seat and largest city in Mendocino County, known for strong retail and service industries, as well as a bustling tourism industry. The Ukiah Valley is approximately nine miles long and runs north to south, comprising more than 40,000 acres along U.S. Highway 101. The Russian River follows the Ukiah Valley, winding through agricultural lands just outside of Ukiah to the east. The valley is approximately 630 feet in elevation, with the hills of the Mendocino and Mayacamas ranges that flank the valley reaching up to 3,000 feet in elevation (City of Ukiah 2020).

The Ukiah Valley is well known for its natural and scenic beauty. Once called the “Gateway to the Redwoods,” Ukiah is a short drive from Montgomery Woods and Jackson State Forest, which contain some of the largest redwood forests in California. Redwood trees grow natively in the city, and on the hillsides above the Ukiah Valley (City of Ukiah 2020).

Views on the Valley floor within the City of Ukiah include those typical of existing residential and commercial development, as most of the land within the City limits is developed. The information below includes a discussion of the existing visual conditions at locations in the Planning Area with high visual quality.

Ridgelines

The Mayacamas Mountains form the eastern horizon of the city, and the Mendocino Range forms the western horizon, with Cleland Mountain (2,447-foot elevation) and Lookout Peak (2,726-foot elevation) to the west being the highest nearby peaks. These mountains and associated ridgelines and hillsides (collectively referred to as the “western hills”) are visible from streets, parks, open spaces, and public buildings throughout the existing City limits. For example, the ridgelines of the Mendocino Range form a prominent background from Todd Grove Park on Live Oak Avenue, looking west through the trees, as shown in Figure 4.1-1.

At the eastern edge of the Planning Area, travelers on U.S. Highway 101 have expansive views of nearby tree-dotted rolling hills, with the Mayacamas Mountains in the horizon, as shown in Figure 4.1-2. As travelers move south on U.S. Highway 101, views of agricultural land and vineyards become more predominant, as shown in Figure 4.1-3.

Figure 4.1-1 Example View of Ridgelines from Live Oak Avenue/Todd Grove Park looking West



Source: Google Earth 2022

Figure 4.1-2 Example View of Mayacamas Mountains from U.S 101 looking East



Source: Google Earth 2022

Figure 4.1-3 Example View of Vineyards and Ridgelines from U.S 101 looking East



Source: Google Earth 2022

Scenic Vistas

Views of scenic vistas are accessible from multiple points throughout the Planning Area. Mill Creek Park, located in a narrow canyon at the foot of Cow Mountain on the eastern side of Ukiah Valley, offers scenic vistas of wooded hills, wildflowers, and the Ukiah Valley, as shown in Figure 4.1-4. The Cow Mountain Recreation Area, located in the Mayacamas Mountains, offers recreational trails and scenic vistas of the Ukiah Valley, as shown in Figure 4.1-5. The City View Trail, an approximately 1.5-mile path that winds through Ukiah's western hills and leads to existing trails in Low Gap Park, also offers scenic vistas of the Ukiah Valley, as shown in Figure 4.1-6 (City of Ukiah 2020). Specific to resources within the City limits, one of the most notable scenic resources are the western hills, rising above the valley floor on the west side of Ukiah.

Figure 4.1-4 View from Mill Creek Park, looking West



Source: Google Earth 2022

Figure 4.1-5 View from Cow Mountain Recreation Area, looking West



Source: Google Earth 2016

Figure 4.1-6 View from City View Trail, looking East



Source: Google Earth 2021

c. Scenic Corridors

Scenic corridors provide an opportunity for the public to take advantage of the natural environment's aesthetic value. Scenic corridors typically pertain to roadways and visible lands outside the roadway right-of-way. California's Scenic Highway Program designates scenic highways with the intention of protecting their corridors from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent lands. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has designated the very northernmost portion of U.S. Highway 101 within the Planning Area as eligible for listing; however, there are no officially designated State scenic highways in the Planning Area (Caltrans 2019). Additionally, Ukiah has not designated any local roads as scenic corridors.

d. Light and Glare

Existing development and motor vehicles in Ukiah produce light and glare. Primary sources of light are streetlights, parking lot lighting, and automotive headlights. Glare refers to the discomfort or impairment of vision experienced when a person is exposed to a direct or reflected view of a light source, causing objectionable brightness that is greater than that to which the eyes are adapted. General sources of glare include reflected sunlight from the windows of buildings, from automobiles, and from glass building facades.

4.1.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

There are no federal regulations pertaining to aesthetics that are applicable to this analysis.

b. State Regulations

Caltrans manages the State Scenic Highway Program, providing guidance and assisting local government agencies, community organizations, and citizens with the process to officially designate scenic highways. The State Scenic Highway Program is intended to "protect and enhance the natural scenic beauty of California highways and adjacent corridors, through special conservation treatment" (Caltrans 2020). Caltrans defines a scenic highway as any freeway, highway, road, or other public right-of-way that traverses an area of exceptional scenic quality. Suitability for designation as a state scenic highway is based on vividness, intactness, and unity of the view, as described in *Visual and Aesthetics Review* (Caltrans 2022).

Vividness is the extent to which the landscape is memorable. This is associated with the distinctiveness, diversity, and contrast of visual elements. A vivid landscape makes an immediate and lasting impression on the viewer. Intactness refers to the integrity of visual order in the landscape and the extent to which the natural landscape is free from visual intrusions, such as buildings, structures, equipment, and grading. Unity describes the extent to which development is sensitive to and visually harmonious with the natural landscape.

No officially designated scenic highways occur in the Planning Area. A portion of U.S. Highway 101, in the very north of the Planning Area is eligible for designation.

c. Regional and Local Regulations

Design Guidelines

Design Guidelines for Commercial Projects within the Downtown Design District

In May 1992, the City of Ukiah adopted the Design Guidelines for Commercial Projects within the Downtown Design District, which generally encompasses the State Street frontage between Brush Street and Talmage Road, as well as Perkins and Gobbi street frontages between U.S. Highway 101 and the downtown area, and portions of School, Dora and Oak streets adjacent to City Hall. Under these guidelines, new buildings should be compatible with the character of the existing viewscape in terms of building height, massing, setbacks, and design character. Additionally, new development should contribute to the visual quality and cohesiveness of its setting but need not imitate or mimic adjacent development. Reconstruction, repairs, or alterations to existing structures should preserve as much of the original building's character as possible by using original materials (City of Ukiah 1992). Generally, these guidelines provide requirements for the following:

- Site planning, including parking, pedestrian orientation, and compatibility with existing development
- Roofs, facades, and store front openings
- Sign design
- Street and site furnishings
- Pedestrian circulation and lighting
- Landscape design, including plant species and parking lot landscaping

Design Guidelines for Commercial Projects outside the Downtown Design District

In 1996, the Design Guidelines for Commercial Projects within the Downtown Design District were augmented to apply to commercial development projects outside the existing Downtown Design District. This set of guidelines is intended to assist the City with implementation of the General Plan's Community Design Element, provide design guidance and criteria for commercial development, and provide unity and integrity in the commercial areas outside the Downtown core (City of Ukiah 1996). Generally, these guidelines provide requirements for the following:

- Site planning, including parking, pedestrian orientation, and compatibility with existing development
- Building design, including architecture, building colors and materials, and lighting
- Sign design
- Outdoor storage and service areas
- Landscaping, including parking lots, fences and walls, and screening

Airport Industrial Park Planned Development (AIP-PD) Development Standards

The Airport Industrial Park Planned Development (AIP-PD) was adopted in 2013 for the area in southern Ukiah along (west of) U.S. Highway 101. Lands within this area are governed by AIP-PD Ordinance No. 1213.4. Since adoption of the 1995 General Plan this area has become almost completely built out with a variety of commercial, industrial, and mixed-use development. Land Use within this area is further broken down into seven land use categories and each designation contains a set of development standards (setbacks, height, pedestrian facilities, circulation, design,

land use, landscaping, etc.). All development within the AIP-PD currently requires discretionary review.

Ukiah City Code

The Ukiah City Code contains ordinances that govern design and provide standards for new development and renovations in the city. Ukiah City Code Section 1169 states that the City's Design Review Board shall review proposed site development applications (as defined in Section 9261), and work with applicants to ensure design consistency with the Ukiah General Plan, Zoning Code, and Design Review Guidelines.

Downtown Zoning Code

In 2012, the Ukiah City Council adopted the Downtown Zoning Code, a form-based code for the downtown area (Ordinance 1139). One of the main purposes of the Downtown Zoning Code (contained within Article 18 of the City's Zoning Code) is to create an urban environment that implements and fulfills the objectives and strategies of the 1995 General Plan to facilitate the coexistence of a wide range of mixed uses in proximity within a downtown urban environment. It is also intended to manage the scale and general character of new development to emulate the best elements of Ukiah's heritage, such as shady downtown streets, diverse architecture, mixed-use shopfront buildings in the downtown, and the architecture of historic civic buildings. This is accomplished through several design and development standards (siting and design, density, architecture, tree preservation, historic structure preservation, landscaping, circulation, etc.) contained within the Downtown Zoning Code.

Objective Design and Development Standards for Ministerial Residential Development

In 2021, the Ukiah City Council adopted Objective Design and Development Standards for New Residential Construction (Ordinance 1212) which have been codified in Ukiah City Code Section 9055. Specifically, Ukiah City Code Section 9055.1 establishes objective development standards for new residential construction, including lighting, landscaping, orientation, and setback standards. Ukiah City Code Section 9055.2 establishes objective design standards for new residential construction, including color palette, screening, roof design, and structural massing standards. The purpose of these standards is to create a by-right, ministerial approval process for all new residential construction, excluding single-family homes. To do so, this article sets forth objective design and development standards that remove barriers to and reduce costs for new residential construction, excluding single-family homes, while still protecting the residential character of the City's neighborhoods.

4.1.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to aesthetics from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista;
2. Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway;

3. In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality; or
4. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area.

Aesthetics impacts assessments involve qualitative analysis that is subjective but informed by the basic guidelines provided above. Reactions to the same aesthetic conditions vary according to viewer taste and interests. The project is an update to the General Plan and not a specific development proposal. This analysis, therefore, focuses on a general discussion of the aesthetic impacts in Ukiah, in terms of the arrangement of built space to open space, the density and intensity of development, and how new development visually fits with the existing landscape characteristic of the area. The impacts on visual character or quality attributable to development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 were evaluated relative to visual conditions under buildout. Photographs of the City were reviewed in preparation of this analysis, along with Google Earth imagery.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation

Threshold 1: Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?
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Impact AES-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT MAY IMPACT SCENIC VISTAS; HOWEVER, COMPLIANCE WITH UKIAH 2040 PROPOSED GOALS AND POLICIES, UKIAH CITY CODE, AND THE CITY'S DESIGN GUIDELINES WOULD ENSURE THAT NEW DEVELOPMENT DOES NOT HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON SCENIC VISTAS. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

A scenic vista is a view from a public place (roadway, designated scenic viewing spot, etc.) that is expansive and considered important. It can be seen from an elevated position (such as from a public trail on the top of a hillside) or from a roadway with a longer-range view of the landscape. An adverse effect would occur if development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would block or otherwise damage the scenic vista. Examples of scenic vistas in Ukiah include viewsheds of the adjacent mountains and Ukiah Valley, as described in Section 4.1.1, *Setting*, and illustrated in Figure 4.1-4 to Figure 4.1-6. Views of the ridgelines and vineyards are also available to people traveling on U.S. Highway 101.

The project would introduce several new land use designations within the City and Annexation Areas, which would change the intensity of development and allow for taller buildings, potentially affecting scenic vistas enjoyed from viewpoints throughout Ukiah. However, it is anticipated that development from Ukiah 2040 would largely constitute infill development on underutilized parcels throughout the city.

Commercial development would be required to conform to the City's various design guidelines, which specify massing, scale, placement, orientation, setbacks, landscaping, and other design features that would reduce impacts to scenic vistas. Residential development would also be required to conform to the City's zoning and development standards (such as setbacks, height, and density) intended to reduce land use conflicts and visual impacts. Specific to development within the western hills, the City's Hillside Overlay district (-H) requires discretionary approval for all residential development. One of the intentions of the -H district is to preserve outstanding natural physical features, such as the highest crest of a hill, natural rock outcroppings, major tree belts, etc. As such, the -H district contains additional standards for residential development such as larger lot

sizes, lower densities, and minimum requirements for open, natural land to remain undeveloped. Development within the –H district also includes submittal of the following: soil and geological reports, subsurface investigations, grading plans, vegetation reports, grading plans, hydrology reports, and structure elevations. All the aforementioned requirements would aid in reducing potential impacts to scenic resources within the western hills.

Additionally, the annexation of three areas into Ukiah, and subsequent development in annexation areas could potentially change scenic vistas of ridgelines and open space surrounding Ukiah. However, new development would adhere to Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies that would further protect scenic vistas from the City, Annexation Areas, and at its edges where the ridgelines and opens spaces are most visible. Applicable proposed goals and policies are as follows:

Policy LU-6.2: Hillside Development. The City shall require new development in hillside areas to minimize grading to retain a natural hillside setting. The City shall encourage clustered dwelling units in hillside areas and roadways to be designed to preserve the ecological and scenic character of the hillsides.

Policy LU-7.1: Development Pattern. The City shall ensure an orderly, contiguous development pattern that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities.

Policy LU-11.8: Tree Preservation. The City shall encourage the preservation of trees on public and private property. Priority should be given to the preservation of trees considered significant due to their size, history, unusual species, or unique quality.

Goal ENV-1: Preserve open space land for the commercial agricultural and productive uses, the protection and use of natural resources, the enjoyment of scenic beauty and recreation, protection of tribal resources, and the protection from natural hazards.

Policy ENV-1.2: Open Space Management. The City shall manage and maintain City-owned open spaces to preserve the integrity of these public spaces.

Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would ensure that development would generally maintain views of hillsides, ridgelines, and open spaces; that development would not infringe upon the scenic character of hillsides; and that trees throughout the city would be preserved when possible. Compliance with the City’s design guidelines and zoning standards, as well as conformance with Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would ensure that development facilitated by the project would not substantially adversely affect scenic vistas within the City and Annexation Areas. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 2: Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Impact AES-2 THE PROJECT WOULD HAVE NO IMPACT TO SCENIC RESOURCES VISIBLE FROM A STATE SCENIC HIGHWAY.

Given there are no officially designated state scenic highways within the City or the Annexation Areas, the project would not substantially damage scenic resources, such as trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings, visible from a state scenic highway. There would be no impact.

Mitigation Measure

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 3: Would the project, in non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from a publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?

Impact AES-3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT IN PREVIOUSLY UNDEVELOPED AREAS THROUGH REZONING AND CHANGES TO LAND USE. SCENIC QUALITY WOULD BE PROTECTED THROUGH ADHERENCE TO CITY DESIGN GUIDELINES, UKIAH CITY CODE, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UKIAH 2040 PROPOSED GOALS AND POLICIES THAT ADDRESS VISUAL QUALITY. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

As described in Section 4.1.1, *Setting*, Ukiah is a visually attractive city with scenic resources such as redwood covered hillsides, the Russian River, and valley flatlands. Within the city, neighborhoods are characterized by tree-lined streets and include a mix of single-family homes, 2- to 4-attached homes, and multifamily condominiums. Residential uses are primarily located in the western portion of the City, within the hillsides. Commercial uses are predominantly located along U.S. Highway 101 and State Street. Visual character is moderate to high throughout the City and Annexation Areas, due to consistent architectural style, tree and vegetation coverage, and views of the Russian River and adjacent mountains and ridgelines.

The overall vision of Ukiah 2040 would largely preserve the visual character in the City and Annexation Areas by prioritizing new development on vacant and underutilized parcels. However, the project would also include increased residential densities and building intensities for certain land use designations compared to existing density and intensity thresholds, as well as annexation of three separate areas, which has the potential to degrade visual character or quality. The project would result in changes to the existing land use pattern through the introduction of new and expanded land use designations, which could potentially alter Ukiah's visual character. Although implementation of these new land use designations may alter Ukiah's existing visual character, these designations would provide a greater distinction between residential and commercial land use types and better align existing land uses with corresponding designations (City of Ukiah 2022). Additionally, these new land use designations would be implemented through the City's Zoning

Ordinance, which is part of the City's Code; therefore, development under Ukiah 2040 would remain consistent with applicable zoning regulations.

The project would annex three separate areas, which could potentially change the visual character of Ukiah. Annexation Area A consists of City-owned properties located southeast, northeast, and west of the City; once annexed, this area would continue to be used for agriculture, open space, or municipal uses. Annexation Area B consists of the Brush Street Triangle/Masonite area north of the City; once annexed, the Brush Street Triangle area would be designated as the new Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle designation, the Masonite area would be used for industrial uses, and the remaining vacant area would be used for agriculture. Annexation Area C is in the hills west of Ukiah and is currently used for open space conservation; once annexed, this area would be used for public facilities and single-family residential development. Development in all annexation areas would be subject to the following applicable Ukiah 2040 proposed policies that govern visual quality:

Policy LU-1.3: Neighborhood Infill. The City shall encourage objectively designed infill developments that enhance neighborhood quality and respond to community input in the planning and design of infill projects or non-residential, neighborhood-serving uses.

Policy LU-1.5: Existing Neighborhoods. The City shall encourage all new multi-family residential development to comply with objective design and development standards.

Policy LU-2.2: Compatibility with Adjacent Uses. The City shall require new mixed-use development to be compatible with adjacent land uses, particularly residential uses, through site and architectural design techniques that establish transitions between uses and minimize negative impacts.

Policy LU-3.2: New Downtown Development. The City shall ensure new development in the Downtown is compatible with existing uses and enhances the character of the area.

Policy LU-4.1: High-Quality Building Design. The City shall encourage distinctive and high-quality commercial building design and site planning that respects the character of Ukiah.

Policy LU-4.2: Commercial Center Design. The City shall require new commercial centers to incorporate standards of site design, construction, buffering, and screening that objective compatibility development standards when located adjacent to residential neighborhoods.

Policy LU-4.4: Commercial Property Landscaping. The City shall require that landscaping on commercial properties be well maintained and encourage those commercial properties currently without landscaping to provide landscaping.

Policy LU-5.2: Industrial Design Standards. The City shall ensure that new industrial developments contribute to the overall attractiveness of the community through appropriate site design, architectural design, and landscaping.

Policy LU-6.2: Hillside Development. The City shall require new development in hillside areas to minimize grading to retain a natural hillside setting. The City shall encourage clustered dwelling units in hillside areas and roadways to be designed to preserve the ecological and scenic character of the hillsides.

Policy LU-7.1: Development Pattern. The City shall ensure an orderly, contiguous development pattern that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities.

Policy LU-8.4: Reuse of Underutilized Property. The City shall encourage property owners to revitalize or redevelop abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties to accommodate growth.

Policy LU-9.2: Housing Types and Designs. The City shall support housing types and designs that increase density while remaining consistent with the building scale and character present in existing neighborhoods. This includes multi-family units or clustered residential buildings that provide relatively smaller, less expensive units within existing neighborhoods.

Policy LU-11.1: Commercial Character. The City shall update and maintain objective commercial design standards for all commercial land use designations, to enhance community character and encourage economic development.

Policy LU-11.3: Neighborhood Character. The City shall ensure that Zoning Code standards and design guidelines are reflective of neighborhood character and land use intensity, complement views from US 101.

Policy LU-11.4: Public Buildings and Spaces. The City shall ensure that all new public buildings and places are consistent with City design review guidelines and standards, designed to be attractive, safe, and serve the neighborhood needs, and conform to standards similar to those applied to private development.

Policy LU-11.5: Public Street Furniture. The Public Works Department shall establish public design standards for street furniture and landscaping that enhance the streetscape and general fabric of the City.

Policy LU-11.8: Tree Preservation. The City shall encourage the preservation of trees on public and private property. Priority should be given to the preservation of trees considered significant due to their size, history, unusual species, or unique quality.

Development in the City and Annexation Areas would be subject to Ukiah 2040 proposed policies, which would ensure development under Ukiah 2040 would be visually consistent with existing land uses and aesthetically pleasing. Development throughout the City would largely be infill projects on undeveloped or underutilized sites and would be subject to Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies intended to maintain and improve the visual character; specifically, policies LU-1.3, LU-7.1, and LU-8.4 would ensure that high-quality development occurs in infill areas. Development under Ukiah 2040 would adhere to these proposed policies as well as the City's Design Guidelines, further ensuring visual consistency.

The City's Design Guidelines and Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would encourage urban design that coheres with the character of existing neighborhoods and encourages high-quality design throughout the City and Annexation Areas. In addition, as described in Impact AES-1, the City has several requirements for development within the western hills, to reduce potential impacts to scenic resources within the western hills. Conformance with regulations would ensure that development and redevelopment under Ukiah 2040 would be visually compatible with the city's overall form and that development would improve underutilized parcels through excellent architectural and landscape design. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies and conformance with existing Design Guidelines and zoning regulations in the Ukiah City Code would ensure that development implemented due to the project would retain the high-quality visual character in the city. Therefore, development facilitated by the project would not substantially degrade visual quality, and impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 4: Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?

Impact AES-4 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INTRODUCE NEW SOURCES OF LIGHT AND GLARE. WITH ADHERENCE TO EXISTING ORDINANCES THAT REGULATE LIGHT AND GLARE FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

For purposes of this analysis, light refers to light emissions (brightness) generated by a source of light. Stationary sources of light include exterior parking lot and building security lighting; moving sources of light include the headlights of vehicles driving on roadways near the project site. Streetlights and other security lighting also serve as sources of light in the evening hours. Glare is defined as focused, intense light emanated directly from a source or indirectly when light reflects from a surface. Daytime glare is caused in large part by sunlight shining on highly reflective surfaces at or above eye level. Reflective surfaces area associated with buildings that have expanses of polished or glass surfaces, light-colored pavement, and the windshields of parked cars.

As described in Section 4.1.1, *Setting*, the City is a developed area with open space areas, agricultural areas and vineyards, and forested hills along the boundaries. The light levels in Ukiah are moderately high in the developed areas, with streetlights, exterior building lighting, and lighted signs contributing to the lighting levels. Development facilitated by the project would be subject to detailed City regulations that govern lighting, including Ukiah City Code Section 9225 (Site and Building Development Standards,) which requires lighting in all zones to be hooded or shielded so light or glare does not extend beyond the subject property, that glare is confined to the maximum extent feasible within the boundaries of the site, that nonessential lighting must be turned off after 11:00 p.m. (except as allowed by safety and security), and that light fixtures are directed downwards, away from adjoining properties and public right-of-way. Furthermore, development facilitated by the project would include the installation of street trees, as required by Ukiah City Code Section 9229, which would create shade and reduce the area in which parked cars would be subject to glare. Therefore, while the project would introduce new sources of light and glare to Ukiah compared to existing conditions, new exterior lighting associated with future projects would be regulated by the City's Code, and light and glare impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

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4.2 Agricultural and Forestry Resources

This section summarizes the setting for agricultural and forestry resources and analyzes the impacts related to agricultural and forestry resources due to the project.

4.2.1 Setting

a. Agricultural Resources Setting

California Agriculture

According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), over a third of the country's vegetables and two-thirds of the country's fruits and nuts are grown in California. In 2020, California's farms and ranches received \$49.1 billion in cash receipts for their output. This represents a 3.3 percent decrease in cash receipts compared to 2019. California agricultural exports totaled \$20.8 billion in 2020, a decrease of 2.8 percent from 2019. Top commodities for export included almonds, dairy and dairy products, pistachios, walnuts and wine (CDFA 2022).

Important Farmlands

The California Department of Conservation (DOC) develops Important Farmland Maps as part of its Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) and includes the following definitions for Important Farmland (DOC 2019):

Prime Farmland

Land which has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to current farming standards.

Farmland of Statewide Importance

Farmland of statewide importance is land similar to prime farmland, but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or with less ability to hold and store moisture. The land must have been used for the production of irrigated crops at some time during the two update cycles prior to the mapping date.

Unique Farmland

Land of lesser quality soils used for the production of specific high economic value crops. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high quality or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to current farming methods. It is usually irrigated but may include non-irrigated orchards or vineyards as found in some climatic zones in California. Examples of crops include oranges, olives, avocados, rice, grapes and cut flowers.

Regional Agriculture

Agriculture is an important part of the economy in Mendocino County. The total gross agricultural value for all commodities produced in 2019 was approximately \$272 million, which represents a 15.3 percent decrease compared to the 2018 value of approximately \$321 million (Mendocino County 2020). Formalized agriculture within the Ukiah Valley began in the 1850s. Today Ukiah Valley is home to several productive agricultural activities, including organically produced crops and notable vineyards. The Valley's land consists of prime, fertile soils and benchlands highly productive for grapes. Presently, agricultural land within the region is mostly comprised of vineyards and pear orchards but also includes row crops and pasturelands.

Agricultural production has been an important part of the regional economy for generations and will continue to be a foundational component for decades to come. In addition to the economic benefits, agricultural lands provide a pastoral quality that helps define the character of the Ukiah Valley. To preserve this agricultural identity, the City has historically limited agricultural land under its jurisdiction to non-urban, agricultural uses. As shown in Figure 4.2-1, the Planning Area contains Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide Importance. Most of this Important Farmland is located at the north and south end of the proposed Sphere of Influence (SOI). In addition to Important Farmland, the Planning Area has Williamson Act Lands as shown on Figure 4.2-2.

LAFCo and Farmland

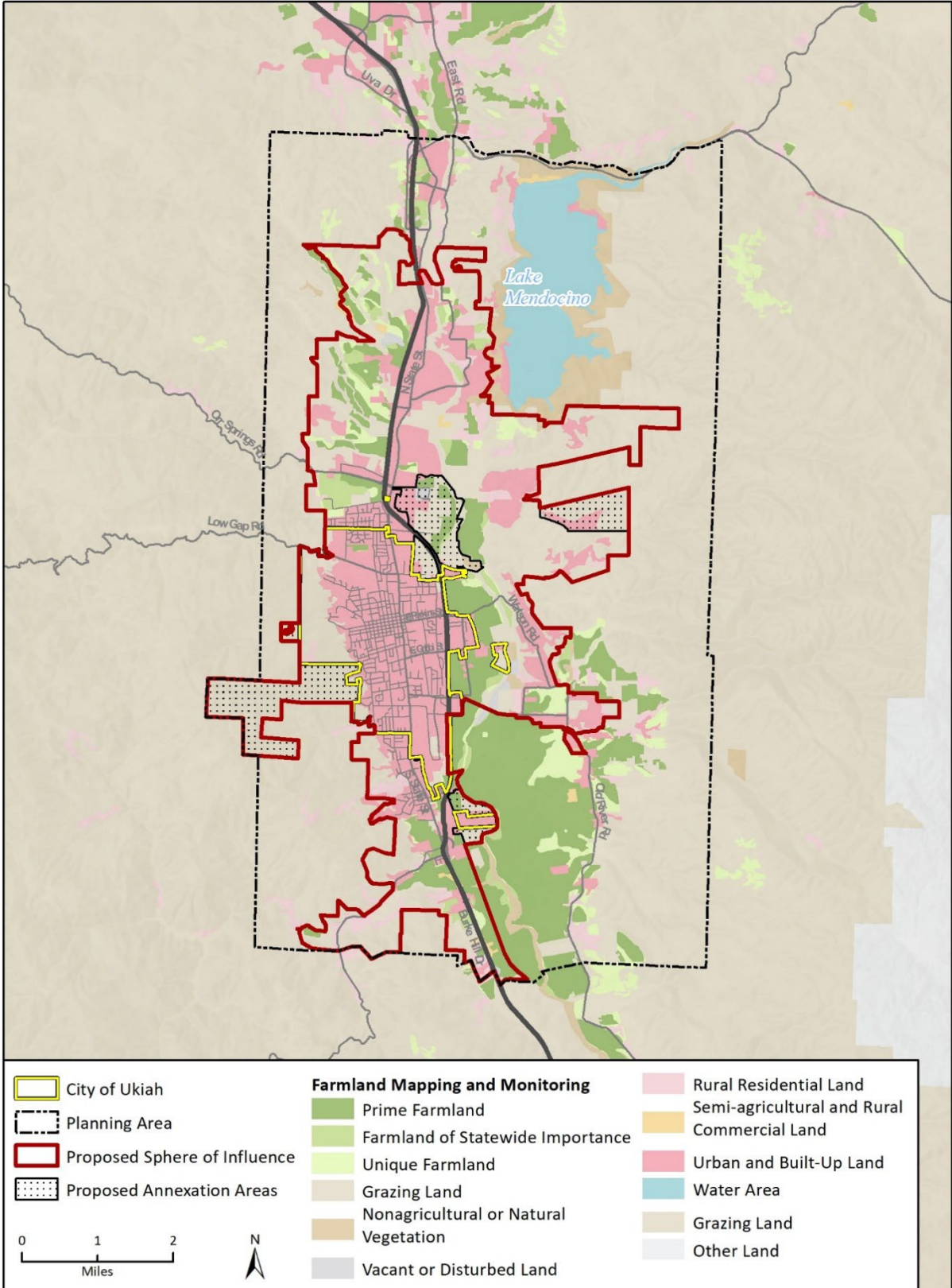
Preserving prime agricultural land is a key statutory mandate of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). As described in Section 1.5, *Lead, Responsible, and Trustee Agencies*, LAFCo is a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Federal, State, and local agencies, including Mendocino LAFCo, all operate under different laws and requirements, each setting out different definitions of prime farmland. The definition of agricultural lands and prime agricultural lands differ somewhat from the DOC definitions that are typically relied upon for CEQA analysis. Land that would not qualify as Prime under USDA or FMMP definitions of Prime, may qualify as Prime under the LAFCo definition. For example, grazing land meet the LAFCo definition of prime agricultural land. As shown on Figure 4.2-1, the Planning Area includes grazing lands.

Regional Farmland Trends

Conversion of farmlands is the loss of farmlands due to development or land use changes that do not support agricultural production. The FMMP, which is updated biennially, provides land use conversion information for decision makers to use in their planning for the present and future of California's agricultural land resources.

According to the DOC, irrigated farmland in California decreased by 11,165 net acres between 2014 and 2016. Prime Farmland, the highest quality farmland, decreased by 18,312 net acres, coupled with a Farmland of Statewide Importance decrease of 26,557 net acres. Partially offsetting these losses was the addition of 33,704 net acres of irrigated crops on lesser quality soils, mapped as Unique Farmland (DOC 2017). Although this farmland conversion was partially caused by urbanization, long-term land idling was the largest factor contributing to irrigated land decreases over this period. Land idling, where irrigated land was converted to non-irrigated land due to a lack of irrigation over time or conversion to dry farming, was responsible for 85 percent of this type of farmland.

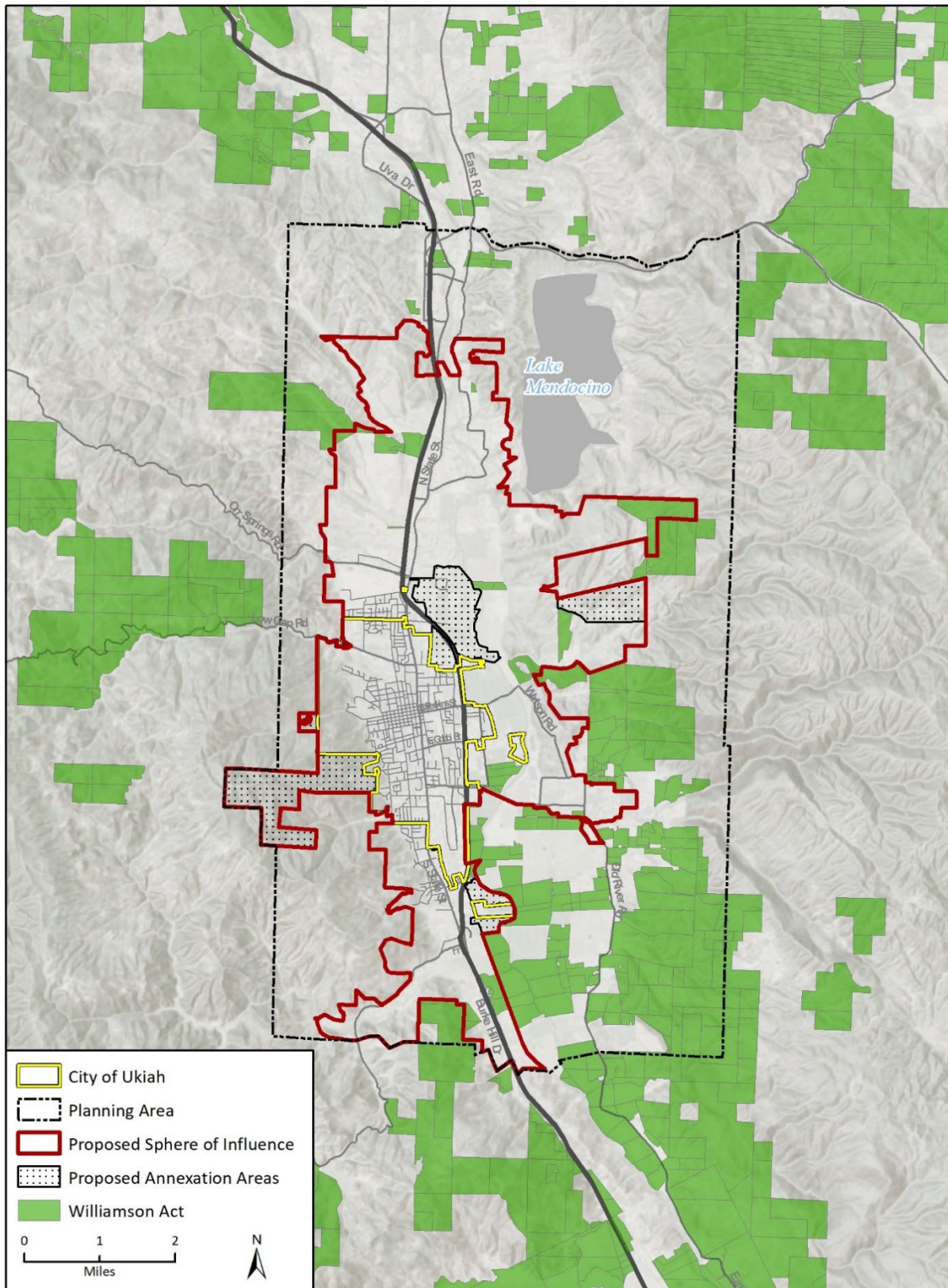
Figure 4.2-1 Farmland in the Planning Area



Imagery and basemap data provided by Esri and its licensors © 2022.
 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Fig 4.2-1 Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

Figure 4.2-2 Williamson Act Contract Lands in the Planning Area



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Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, Mendocino County 2022.

Fig 4.2-3 Williamson Act

conversion. Irrigated land conversions due to idling are often associated with water resource limitations, market conditions, and salinity-related land idling. Land was removed from irrigated categories at a rate 17 percent lower than compared with the prior update (153,766 acres in 2014 and 128,105 acres in 2016) (DOC 2017).

Table 4.2-1 shows the number of acres that have been converted in Mendocino County from 2014 to 2016, the most recent data available. As shown, the County lost 1,394 acres of agricultural land and gained 788 acres, resulting in a net decrease of 606 acres.

Table 4.2-1 Farmland Conversion in Mendocino County

Farmland Designation	Total Acreage Inventoried 2014	Total Acreage Inventoried 2016	Total Acreage Inventoried Acres Lost (-)	Total Acreage Inventoried Acres Gained (+)	Total Acreage Inventoried Total Acreage Changed	Total Acreage Inventoried Net Acreage Changed
Prime Farmland	19,208	18,130	1,166	88	1,254	-1,078
Farmland of Statewide Importance	1,227	1,289	70	132	202	62
Unique Farmland	7,215	7,625	158	568	726	410
Farmland of Local Importance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Important Farmland Subtotal	27,650	27,044	1,394	788	2,182	-606

Source: DOC 2019

b. Forestry Resources

Forest Land, Timberland, Timber Production Zones

The Planning Area does not have any areas that are zoned for Forest Land or Timber Production Zones. There are associated lumber processing and industrial activities within the existing and proposed SOI, but those are located on industrially zoned lots and would not be affected by the project. Forestry resources include forestland, timberland, and timberland production zones. Definitions used for forestland and timberland are those found in the California Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 12220(g) and 4789.2(g) and California Government Code (CGC) Section 51104(g). These codes define forestland, timberland, and timberland production zones as follows:

Forest Land

Forest land is land that can support, under natural conditions, 10 percent native tree cover of any species, including hardwoods, and that allows for the preservation or management of forest-related resources such as timber, aesthetic value, fish and wildlife, biodiversity, water quality, recreational facilities, and other public benefits (PRC Section 12220(g)).

Timberland

Timberland means land, other than land owned by the federal government and land designated by the board as experimental forest land, which is available for, and capable of, growing a crop of trees

of a commercial species used to produce lumber and other forest products, including Christmas trees. Commercial species are determined by the board on a district basis (PRC Section 4526(g)).

Timberland Production Zones

Timberland production zones or “TPZ” means an area which has been zoned pursuant to Section 51112 or 51113 and is devoted to and used for growing and harvesting timber, or for growing and harvesting timber and compatible uses, as defined in subdivision (h) (CGC Section 51104).

Regional Forestry Resources

Mendocino County ranked fourth in the state in timber volumes and produced roughly 8.5 percent of the state’s total timber harvest in 2019. Timber represents the second highest value commodity, with a gross “at mill” value of approximately \$110 million, a 17.3 percent decrease over a total of approximately \$133 million in 2018 (Mendocino County 2020). Slowing construction of new homes in 2018 lead to the 17.3 percent decrease in gross timber value over the previous year. As shown in Figure 4.2-3, there are no TPZs within the City or its existing or proposed SOI.

4.2.2 Regulatory Setting

Various policies and regulations are enforced at the federal, state, and local level to protect agriculture, forestry, and timberland resources, as outlined below.

a. Federal Regulations

Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)

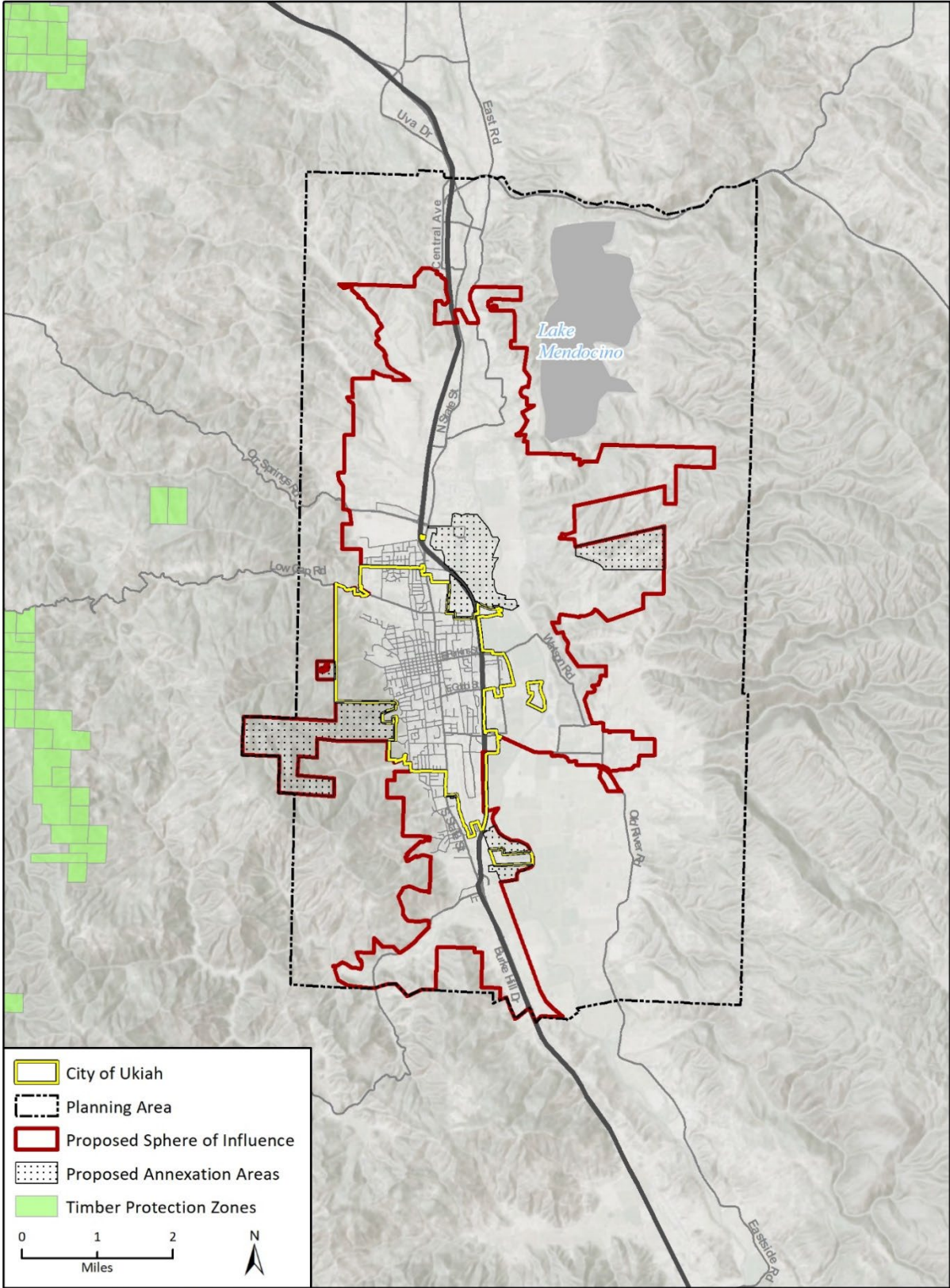
The FPPA is intended to minimize the impact Federal programs have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. It assures that to the extent possible federal programs are administered to be compatible with state, local units of government and private programs and policies to protect farmland. Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a Federal agency or with assistance from a Federal agency.

b. State Regulations

California Farmland Conservancy Program Act

The California Farmland Conservancy Program Act, also known as Senate Bill (SB) 1142, established the California Farmland Conservancy Program, which provides grants for agricultural conservation easements. An agricultural conservation easement aims to maintain agricultural land in active production by preventing development on the subject parcel and prohibiting practices that would damage or interfere with the agricultural use of the land. Because the easement is a restriction on the deed of the property, the easement remains in effect even when the land changes ownership. While other benefits may accrue because the land is not developed (scenic and habitat values, for example), the primary use of the land is agricultural. Easements funded by the California Farmland Conservancy Program must be of a size and nature suitable for viable commercial agriculture.

Figure 4.2-3 Timber Production Zones in the Planning Area



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Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, Mendocino County 2022.

Fig X Timber Protection Zones

California Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

The DOC, under the Division of Land Resource Protection, developed the FMMP to monitor the conversion of the state's farmland to and from agricultural use. Data is collected at the county level to produce a series of maps identifying eight land use classifications using a minimum mapping unit of 10 acres. The program also produces a biannual report on the amount of land converted from agricultural to non-agricultural use. The program maintains an inventory of state agricultural land and updates the "Important Farmland Series Maps" every two years (DOC 2016).

Right to Farm Act 1981

The Right to Farm Act (Civil Code Section 3482.5) is designed to protect commercial agricultural operations from nuisance complaints that may arise when an agricultural operation is conducting business in a "manner consistent with proper and accepted customs." The code specifies that established operations that have been in business for 3 or more years that were not nuisances at the time they began shall not be considered a nuisance as a result of new land use.

Williamson Act

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, Sections 51200 et seq. of the California Government Code, commonly referred to as the "Williamson Act," enables local governments to restrict the use of specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. Landowners enter into contracts with participating cities and counties and agree to restrict their land to agriculture or open space use for a minimum of ten years. In return, landowners receive property tax assessments that are much lower than normal because they are based upon farming and open space uses as opposed to full market (speculative) value.

Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model

The DOC also employs a land evaluation and site assessment model that incorporates that of the Federal model and adds factors to evaluate a given project's size, the soil resource quality at the project site, water resource availability, surrounding a soil resource quality, water resource availability, surrounding agricultural lands, and surrounding protected resource lands. These factors are rated, weighted, and combined into numeric score that provides the basis for determining a project's potential significance relative to agricultural land conversion.

c. Local Regulations

The City of Ukiah General Plan (1995)

The current Ukiah General Plan, adopted in 1995, does not include an Agriculture Element. The current General Plan contains policies related to agriculture, but they would be replaced by the proposed Ukiah 2040. The following goals, objectives and policies addressed in the Open Space and Conservation Element of the 1995 General Plan may be applicable to the project:

Goal OC-2. The City of Ukiah shall support the conservation of agricultural lands through formation of a land trust.

Policy OC-2.1. Support the formation of a non-profit private Land Conservation Trust.

Goal OC-10. Conserve the natural woodlands environment of the area hills.

Policy OC-10.2. Roads and structures shall be designed and sited to conserve or avoid damage to the natural hillside resources where feasible.

Goal OC-11. Conserve coastal oak woodlands in the hills.

Policy OC-11.1. Provide areas for development and areas for conservation in the hills.

Goal OC-17.1. Recognize agriculture as a basic industry in the Ukiah Valley.

Policy OC-17.1. The encroachment of incompatible uses into agricultural areas shall be avoided.

Policy OC-17.2. Utilize the Williamson Act as one means to promote conservation of agricultural lands.

Policy OC-17.3. Enact a right-to-farm ordinance consistent with the County's right-to-farm ordinance.

Goal OC-18. In concert with the County, preserve the economic viability of agricultural lands.

Policy OC-18.1. Investigate protective programs to conserve agricultural lands.

Goal OC-19. Maintain existing agricultural areas.

Policy OC-19.1. The large, contiguous areas presently classified for agriculture are to remain classified as agricultural land.

Goal OC-20. Allow agriculturally-compatible uses on non-viable agriculture lands.

Policy OC-20.1. Ensure that development parcels on which commercially-viable agriculture is not feasible is compatible with agricultural uses.

Goal OC-21. Support diversified farming for local benefits and food supply.

Policy OC-21.1. Organic farming shall be encouraged as an economic and knowledge resource, as well as to promote self-sufficiency of local food supply.

Goal GP-30. Protect existing agriculturally zoned lands in the City's Planning Area

Policy GP-30.1. Recognizing the irreversibility of conversion for agricultural to other uses, require within city limits and urge within the Planning Area that all such conversions be subject to a citizen review process.

Policy GP-30.2. Work cooperatively with citizens and organizations to ensure that the siting and design of schools, and local State and Federal facilities minimizes the use of, and impact on, agricultural lands.

4.2.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, impacts related to agricultural and forestry resources from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use
2. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract
3. Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))
4. Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use
5. Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use

Methodology

Agricultural and forestry impact assessments involved a review of data available through the Department of Conservation's FMMP maps, as well as County forest land and Williamson Act Land maps provided by the County of Mendocino. An adverse effect would occur if a proposed development would have an impact on existing, mapped agricultural or forest land.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1:	Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
Threshold 2:	Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?
Threshold 5:	Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Impact AG-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF EXISTING AGRICULTURE IN AND SURROUNDING THE CITY. BUILDOUT OF THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN A DECREASE OF SEVEN ACRES OF DESIGNATED AGRICULTURAL LAND WITHIN THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AREAS BUT WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF UKIAH 2040 GOALS AND POLICIES, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Important Farmland (i.e., Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, and Unique Farmland) is mapped within City limits, Annexation A, and Annexation B. Important Farmlands are

not mapped within Annexation C; therefore, Annexation Area C will not be further analyzed within this discussion. In addition, there are no Williamson Act lands located within City limits or any of the Annexation areas; therefore, the project would not result in any impacts to Williamson Act lands and this topic is not discussed further.

Prime Farmland is mapped in Annexation Area A. Under Ukiah 2040, the area mapped as Prime Farmland would be designated as Public. Agricultural uses would be an allowed use under the Public designation and no Important Farmland would be lost. As such, conversion to non-agricultural use is not expected on these lands.

Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance are mapped in Annexation Area B. Under Ukiah 2040, these areas would be designated as Agriculture. Ukiah 2040 identifies that “[l]ands within the AG classification with agricultural commodities, excluding cannabis, are protected from encroachment of incompatible uses by the "Right to Farm" provisions of the Agriculture Element.” As such, conversion to non-agricultural use is not expected on these lands.

Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland is mapped within City limits, in northern Ukiah. Under Ukiah 2040, this area would be designated as Public. Because agricultural uses would be an allowed use under the Public designation, no Important Farmland would be lost. In addition, Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland is mapped within City limits, on a lot owned by the City in southern Ukiah. Under Ukiah 2040, this area would be designated as Master Plan. No changes to the agricultural land use are expected from the application of this land designation.

In addition, grazing lands, which are considered agricultural lands by LAFCo are located throughout the City (mostly in the western portion of the City) and within Annexation Areas A, B, and C and within small portions of the City. For the annexation areas, the City’s new land use designations overall match the County’s land use designations and there would be no overall change between what is proposed by the City and what was designated by the County. Since there would be no overall change in land use designations, no loss of grazing lands is expected within the Annexation Areas. Within the City, grazing lands are expected to continue. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 is not expected to result in the conversion of grazing lands to non-grazing lands.

In summary, implementation of Ukiah 2040 is not expected to result in the conversion of agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses. In addition, the Agricultural Resources Element of Ukiah 2040 seeks to encourage the continued operation of agricultural lands in and around Ukiah. The goals and policies listed below from Ukiah 2040 address the preservation of agricultural lands:

Goal AG-1: To preserve and strengthen agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that influence the regional economy.

Policy AG-1.1: Reduce Agricultural/Urban Conflict. The City shall reduce conflict between incompatible uses and agriculture within and adjacent to the City.

Policy AG-1.2: Preserve Agricultural Lands. With the exception of presently proposed or approved subdivisions, the City shall discourage urban development on unincorporated land within its Sphere of Influence until annexed by the City. The City shall support County land use regulations that protect the viability of local agriculture in the Ukiah Valley.

Policy AG-1.3: Plan Together. The City shall identify and involve stakeholders, as well as advisors with knowledge and expertise, to create and implement a comprehensive planning framework that preserves and strengthens agricultural uses in and around Ukiah that inform and influence the regional economy.

The project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, nor conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract. In addition, development in accordance with the land use designations of Ukiah 2040 would reduce impacts on existing agricultural lands and the future preservation of agricultural lands within Ukiah. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

If a future project proposes to convert agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses, that future project would require additional CEQA review prior to the City's approval.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 3: Would the project conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)); timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526); or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?

Threshold 4: Would the project result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Impact AG-2 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH EXISTING ZONING FOR FOREST LAND, TIMBERLAND, OR TIMBERLAND PRODUCTION, NOR RESULT IN THE LOSS OF FOREST LAND OR CONVERT FOREST LAND TO NON-FOREST USES. THERE WOULD BE NO IMPACT.

As shown on Figure 4.2-3, there are no zoned TPZs or forest lands within the City limits or annexation areas. Most timber resources in the region are located west of the City. There are associated lumber processing and industrial activities within the City, but those are located on industrially zoned lots. The Ukiah 2040 land use pattern would not result in rezoning of any existing forest land or timberlands within the City or Annexation Areas. Because no forest land or timber areas are within the City or Annexation Areas, there would be no impact on conversion of forest land or conflicts with land zoned for forest land, timberland, or timberland production.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

4.3 Air Quality

This section summarizes the setting for air quality and analyzes the impacts related to air quality due to the project.

4.3.1 Setting

a. Regional Climate and Meteorology

Ukiah is located in Mendocino County, which is a subregion of the North Coast Air Basin (NCAB). The NCAB also includes the counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Trinity, along with the northern portion of Sonoma County. Mendocino County is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean; on the east by Tehama, Glenn, and Lake counties; on the south by Sonoma County; and on the north by Humboldt and Trinity counties.

Due to the proximity of the Pacific Ocean, the climate in Ukiah is Mediterranean, characterized by warm dry summers and cool moist winters. In summers, temperatures in Ukiah generally range from lows in the 50s and 60s to highs in the 90s (Fahrenheit). In winter, temperatures range from lows in the 30s to highs the 50s and 60s (Fahrenheit). The major large-scale weather feature controlling climate in the Ukiah region is a large high-pressure system located in the eastern Pacific Ocean, known as the Pacific High. During winter months, marine air trapped in the lower atmosphere is often condensed into fog by the cool Pacific Ocean. Stratus-type clouds usually form offshore and move into the area during the evening hours. During winter months, the Pacific High becomes weaker and shifts south, allowing weather systems associated with the polar jet stream to affect the region. Low pressure systems produce periods of cloudiness, strong shifting winds, and precipitation. Average rainfall in Ukiah is slightly less than 35 inches, with most precipitation falling during the winter (City of Ukiah 2021). Rainfall is often from brief, intense storms, which move in from the northwest. Virtually no rainfall occurs during the summer months. Winter cold-air inversions are common from November to February.

Prevailing winds are generally from the north. Prevailing strong summer winds come from the northwest; however, winds can come from the south and east under certain short-lived conditions. In early autumn, strong, dry offshore winds may occur for several days in a row, which may cause air pollution created in the Sacramento Valley, Santa Rosa Plain, or even San Francisco Bay Area to move into the Ukiah Valley (City of Ukiah 2021).

b. Pollutants

Primary criteria pollutants are emitted directly from a source (e.g., vehicle tailpipe, an exhaust stack). The federal and State Clean Air Acts (CAA) mandate the control and reduction of certain air pollutants. Under these laws, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have established the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and the California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for “criteria pollutants” and other pollutants. Some pollutants are emitted directly from a source (e.g., vehicle tailpipe, an exhaust stack of a factory, etc.) into the atmosphere, including carbon monoxide, volatile organic

compounds (VOC)/reactive organic gases (ROG),¹ nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particulate matter with diameters of up to ten microns (PM₁₀) and up to 2.5 microns (PM_{2.5}), sulfur dioxide, and lead. Other pollutants are created indirectly through chemical reactions in the atmosphere, such as ozone, which is created by atmospheric chemical and photochemical reactions primarily between ROG and NO_x. Secondary pollutants include oxidants, ozone, and sulfate and nitrate particulates (smog). The following subsections describe the characteristics, sources, and health and atmospheric effects of air pollutants of primary concern.

Ozone

Ozone is produced by a photochemical reaction (triggered by sunlight) between NO_x and ROG. ROG are composed of non-methane hydrocarbons (with some specific exclusions), and NO_x is composed of different chemical combinations of nitrogen and oxygen, mainly nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide. NO_x are formed during the combustion of fuels, while ROG are formed during combustion and evaporation of organic solvents. As a highly reactive molecule, ozone readily combines with many different components of the atmosphere. Consequently, high levels of ozone tend to exist only while high ROG and NO_x levels are present to sustain the ozone formation process. Once the precursors have been depleted, ozone levels rapidly decline. Because these reactions occur on a regional rather than local scale, ozone is considered a regional pollutant. In addition, because ozone requires sunlight to form, it mostly occurs in concentrations considered serious between the months of April and October. Ozone is a pungent, colorless, toxic gas with direct health effects on humans, including changes in breathing patterns, reduction of breathing capacity, increased susceptibility to infections, inflammation of lung tissue, and some immunological changes (Bay Area Air Quality Management District [BAAQMD] 2017). Groups most sensitive to ozone include children, the elderly, people with respiratory disorders, and people who exercise strenuously outdoors.

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is a localized pollutant that is found in high concentrations only near its source. The major source of carbon monoxide (a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas) is the incomplete combustion of petroleum fuels by automobile traffic. Elevated concentrations are usually only found near areas of high traffic volumes. Other sources of carbon monoxide include the incomplete combustion of petroleum fuels at power plants and fuel combustion from wood stoves and fireplaces during the winter. The health effects of carbon monoxide are related to its affinity for hemoglobin in the blood. Carbon monoxide causes several health problems, including aggravation of some heart diseases (e.g., angina), reduced tolerance for exercise, impaired mental function, and impaired fetal development. At high levels of exposure, carbon monoxide reduces the amount of oxygen in the blood, leading to mortality (BAAQMD 2017). Carbon monoxide tends to dissipate rapidly into the atmosphere; consequently, violations of the NAAQS and/or CAAQS for carbon monoxide are generally associated with localized carbon monoxide “hotspots” that can occur at major roadway intersections during heavy peak-hour traffic conditions.

Nitrogen Dioxide

Nitrogen dioxide is a by-product of fuel combustion; the primary sources are motor vehicles and industrial boilers and furnaces. The principal form of NO_x produced by combustion is nitric oxide,

¹ CARB defines VOC and ROG similarly as, “any compound of carbon excluding carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, carbonic acid, metallic carbides or carbonates, and ammonium carbonate,” with the exception that VOC are compounds that participate in atmospheric photochemical reactions. For the purposes of this analysis, ROG and VOC are considered comparable in terms of mass emissions, and the term ROG is used in this analysis.

but nitric oxide reacts rapidly to form nitrogen dioxide, creating the mixture of nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide commonly called NO_x. Nitrogen dioxide is an acute irritant that can aggravate respiratory illnesses and symptoms, particularly in sensitive groups (BAAQMD 2017). A relationship between nitrogen dioxide and chronic pulmonary fibrosis may exist, and an increase in bronchitis in young children at concentrations below 0.3 parts per million (ppm) may occur. Nitrogen dioxide absorbs blue light, gives a reddish-brown cast to the atmosphere, and reduces visibility (BAAQMD 2017). It can also contribute to the formation of PM₁₀ and acid rain.

Sulfur Dioxide

Sulfur dioxide is included in a group of highly reactive gases known as “oxides of sulfur.” The largest sources of sulfur dioxide emissions are from fossil fuel combustion at power plants (73 percent) and other industrial facilities (20 percent). Smaller sources of sulfur dioxide emissions include industrial processes such as extracting metal from ore and the burning of fuels with a high sulfur content by locomotives, large ships, and off-road equipment. Sulfur dioxide is linked to several adverse effects on the respiratory system, including aggravation of respiratory diseases, such as asthma and emphysema, and reduced lung function (BAAQMD 2017).

Particulate Matter

Suspended atmospheric PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} is comprised of finely divided solids and liquids such as dust, soot, aerosols, fumes, and mists. Both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are directly emitted into the atmosphere as by-products of fuel combustion, wildfire, and wind erosion of soil and unpaved roads. Particulate matter is also created in the atmosphere through chemical reactions. The characteristics, sources, and potential health effects associated with PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} can be very different. PM₁₀ is generally associated with dust mobilized by wind and vehicles while PM_{2.5} is generally associated with combustion processes as well as formation in the atmosphere as a secondary pollutant through chemical reactions. PM_{2.5} is more likely to penetrate deeply into the lungs and poses a health threat to all groups, but particularly to the elderly, children, and those with respiratory problems (CARB 2022a). More than half of PM_{2.5} that is inhaled into the lungs remains there. These materials can damage health by interfering with the body’s mechanisms for clearing the respiratory tract or by acting as carriers of an absorbed toxic substance. Suspended particulates can also reduce lung function, aggravate respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, increase mortality rates, and reduce lung function growth in children (BAAQMD 2017).

Lead

Lead is a metal found naturally in the environment, as well as in manufacturing products. The major sources of lead emissions historically have been mobile and industrial sources. However, as a result of the U.S. EPA’s regulatory efforts to remove lead from gasoline, atmospheric lead concentrations have declined substantially over the past several decades. The most dramatic reductions in lead emissions occurred prior to 1990 due to the removal of lead from gasoline sold for most highway vehicles. Lead emissions were further reduced substantially between 1990 and 2008, with reductions occurring in the metals industries at least in part because of national emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants (USEPA 2014). As a result of phasing out leaded gasoline, metal processing currently is the primary source of lead emissions. The highest level of lead in the air is generally found near lead smelters. Other stationary sources include waste incinerators, utilities, and lead-acid battery manufacturers. The health impacts of lead include behavioral and hearing disabilities in children and nervous system impairment (BAAQMD 2017).

Toxic Air Contaminants

Toxic air contaminants (TACs) are a diverse group of air pollutants that may cause or contribute to an increase in deaths or serious illness, or that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. TACs include both organic and inorganic chemical substances that may be emitted from a variety of common sources, including gasoline stations, motor vehicles, dry cleaners, industrial operations, painting operations, and research and teaching facilities. One of the main sources of TACs in California is diesel engine exhaust that contains solid material known as diesel particulate matter (DPM). More than 90 percent of DPM is less than one micron in diameter (about 1/70th the diameter of a human hair) and thus is a subset of PM_{2.5}. Because of their extremely small size, these particles can be inhaled and eventually trapped in the bronchial and alveolar regions of the lungs (CARB 2022b). DPM accounts for most of the cancer risk from air toxics in the region with mobile sources being one of the top contributors.

TACs are different than criteria pollutants because ambient air quality standards have not been established for TACs. TACs occurring at extremely low levels may still cause health effects and it is typically difficult to identify levels of exposure that do not produce adverse health effects. TAC impacts are described by carcinogenic risk and by chronic (i.e., long duration) and acute (i.e., severe but of short duration) adverse effects on human health.

c. Existing Air Quality

The Ukiah E. Gobbi Street Monitoring Station (within the City of Ukiah) was used for ozone air quality data, the Ukiah County Library Street Monitoring Station (within the City of Ukiah) was used for PM_{2.5} air quality data, and Cloverdale Monitoring Station (approximately 25 miles south of Ukiah) was used for PM₁₀ air quality data. Table 4.3-1 summarizes the representative annual air quality data for the Planning Area over the years 2018 through 2020 at the monitoring stations. As shown in Table 4.3-1, PM₁₀ measurements exceeded the CAAQS in 2018 and 2020, and exceeded the NAAQS in 2018. The PM_{2.5} measurements exceeded the federal threshold in 2018 and 2020. No other standards were exceeded in the years 2018, 2019, or 2020.

Table 4.3-1 Ambient Air Quality Data

Pollutant	2018	2019	2020
Ozone (ppm), Worst 1-Hour ¹	0.075	0.062	0.088
Number of days of State exceedances (>0.09 ppm)	0	0	0
Ozone (ppm), 8-Hour Average ¹	0.060	0.054	0.062
Number of days of State exceedances (>0.07 ppm)	0	0	0
Number of days of Federal exceedances (>0.07 ppm)	0	0	0
Particulate Matter <10 microns, µg/m ³ , Worst 24 Hours ²	271.6	45.5	10.2
Number of days above State standard (>50 µg/m ³)	13	0	17
Number of days above Federal standard (>150 µg/m ³)	2	0	0
Particulate Matter <2.5 microns, µg/m ³ , Worst 24 Hours ³	263.2	21	117.7
Number of days above Federal standard (>35 µg/m ³)	20	0	20

ppm = parts per million; µg/m³ = micrograms per cubic meter

* There was insufficient (or no) data available to determine the value.

¹ Measurements taken from the Ukiah E Gobbi Street Monitoring Station

² Measurements taken from the Cloverdale Monitoring Station

³ Measurements taken from the Ukiah County Library Monitoring Station

Source: CARB 2022c

d. Sensitive Receptors

Ambient air quality standards have been established to represent the levels of air quality considered sufficient, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect public health and welfare. They are designed to protect that segment of the public most susceptible to respiratory distress, such as children under 14, the elderly over 65, persons engaged in strenuous work or exercise, and people with cardiovascular and chronic respiratory diseases. Most sensitive receptor locations are therefore residences, schools, and hospitals.

4.3.2 Regulatory Setting

The Federal CAA governs air quality in the United States. In addition to being subject to federal requirements, air quality in California is also governed by more stringent regulations under the California CAA. At the federal level, the USEPA administers the CAA. The CAA is administered by the CARB at the state level and by the AQMDs at the regional and local levels. The Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) regulates air quality at the regional level.

a. Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards

The federal and state governments have authority under the federal and state CAAs to regulate emissions of airborne pollutants and have established NAAQS and CAAQS for the protection of public health. Federal and state standards have been established for six criteria pollutants, including ozone, CO, NO₂, SO₂, PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, and Pb.

Air quality monitoring stations measure pollutant ground-level concentrations (typically, ten feet above ground level). Depending on whether the standards are met or exceeded, the local air basin is classified as in “attainment” or “non-attainment.” Some areas are unclassified, which means no monitoring data are available. Unclassified areas are in attainment. Table 4.3-2 lists the current federal and state standards for each of these pollutants as well as the attainment status of the NCAB. California air quality standards are identical to or stricter than federal standards for all criteria pollutants.

Table 4.3-2 Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant	Averaging Time	California Standards		National Standards	
		Concentration	Attainment Status	Concentration	Attainment Status
Ozone	8 Hour	0.070 ppm	A	0.070 ppm	A
	1 Hour	0.09 ppm	A		
Carbon Monoxide	8 Hour	9 ppm	A	9 ppm	A
	1 Hour	20 ppm	A	35 ppm	A
Nitrogen Dioxide	1 Hour	0.18 ppm	A	0.100 ppm	U
	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.030 ppm		0.053 ppm	A
Sulfur Dioxide	24 Hour	0.04 ppm	A	0.14 ppm	A
	1 Hour	0.25 ppm	A	0.075 ppm	A
	Annual Arithmetic Mean			0.030 ppm	A
Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	Annual Arithmetic Mean	20 µg/m ³	N		
	24 Hour	50 µg/m ³	N	150 µg/m ³	U

Pollutant	Averaging Time	California Standards		National Standards	
		Concentration	Attainment Status	Concentration	Attainment Status
Particulate Matter - Fine (PM _{2.5})	Annual Arithmetic Mean	12 µg/m ³	A	12 µg/m ³	U/A
	24 Hour	35 µg/m ³	N		
Sulfates	24 Hour	25 µg/m ³	A		
Lead	Calendar Quarter			1.5 µg/m ³	A
	Rolling 3 Month Average			0.15 µg/m ³	
	30 Day Average	1.5 µg/m ³			A
Hydrogen Sulfide	1 Hour	0.03 ppm	U		
Vinyl Chloride (chloroethene)	24 Hour	0.010 ppm	No information available		
Visibility Reducing particles	8 Hour (10:00 to 18:00 PST)		U		

A=Attainment N=Nonattainment U=Unclassified; mg/m³=milligrams per cubic meter ppm=parts per million, µg/m³=micrograms per cubic meter
 Source: CARB 2020

Local control in air quality management is provided by CARB through county-level or regional (multi-county) air districts. CARB establishes statewide air quality standards and is responsible for control of mobile emission sources, while the local air districts are responsible for enforcing standards and regulating stationary sources. CARB has established 15 air basins statewide. The City of Ukiah is in the NCAB, the southern portion of which is under the jurisdiction of MCAQMD.

CARB and the USEPA established ambient air quality standards for major pollutants, including ozone, CO, NO₂, SO₂, Pb, and PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}. Standards have been set at levels intended to be protective of public health. California standards are more restrictive than federal standards for each of these pollutants except for lead and the eight-hour average for CO. The local air districts are required to monitor air pollutant levels to ensure that air quality standards are met and, if they are not met, to develop strategies to meet the standards. As the local air quality management agency, the MCAQMD is required to monitor air pollutant levels to ensure that state and federal air quality standards are met and, if they are not met, to develop strategies to meet the standards.

b. Federal Regulations

The USEPA is responsible for enforcing the federal CAA. The USEPA is also responsible for establishing the NAAQS. The NAAQS are required under the 1977 CAA and subsequent amendments. The EPA regulates emission sources that are under the exclusive authority of the federal government, such as aircraft, ships, and certain types of locomotives. The agency has jurisdiction over emission sources outside state waters (e.g., beyond the outer continental shelf) and establishes various emission standards, including those for vehicles sold in states other than California. Automobiles sold in California must meet the stricter emission standards established by the CARB.

c. State Regulations

In California, CARB, which became part of the California Environmental Protection Agency in 1991, is responsible for meeting the State requirements of the federal CAA, administering the California

CAA, and establishing the CAAQS. The California CAA, as amended in 1992, requires all air districts in the state to endeavor to achieve and maintain the CAAQS. The CAAQS are generally more stringent than the corresponding federal standards and incorporate additional standards for sulfates, hydrogen sulfide, vinyl chloride and visibility reducing particles. CARB regulates mobile air pollution sources, such as motor vehicles. The agency is responsible for setting emission standards for vehicles sold in California and for other emission sources, such as consumer products and certain off-road equipment. CARB established passenger vehicle fuel specifications, which became effective in March 1996. CARB oversees the functions of local Air Pollution Control Districts, which in turn administer air quality activities at the regional and county level.

d. Regional Regulations

Mendocino County Air Quality Management District – Particulate Matter Attainment Plan

The MCAQMD is responsible for assuring that the federal and state ambient air quality standards are attained and maintained in the southern NCAB. MCAQMD is also responsible for adopting and enforcing rules and regulations concerning air pollutant sources, issuing permits for stationary sources of air pollutants, inspecting stationary sources of air pollutants, responding to citizen complaints, monitoring ambient air quality and meteorological conditions, awarding grants to reduce motor vehicle emissions, conducting public education campaigns, as well as many other activities.

MCAQMD adopted the Particulate Matter Attainment Plan in January 2005 (MCAQMD 2005). The Particulate Matter Attainment Plan includes control measures that are intended to achieve the attainment goals. Control measures include encouraging the installation of EPA-certified woodstoves, development of an impact fee for large campground operators, supporting pavement of existing unpaved roads, and prohibiting outdoor burning. The Particulate Matter Attainment Plan also includes requiring permits for new construction that disturbs over one acre of land, along with enforcement of existing air quality regulations.

2017 Clean Air Plan

BAAQMD adopted the *2017 Clean Air Plan* on April 19, 2017, as an update to the 2010 Clean Air Plan. The 2017 Clean Air Plan, which focuses on protecting public health and the climate, defines an integrated, multi-pollutant control strategy that includes all feasible measures to reduce emissions of ozone precursors (including transport of ozone and its precursors to neighboring air basins), PM, and TAC. To protect public health, the control strategy will decrease population exposure to PM and TACs in communities that are most impacted by air pollution, with the goal of eliminating disparities in exposure to air pollution between communities (BAAQMD 2017). MCAQMD defers to BAAQMD guidelines for CEQA review of projects in Mendocino County (MCAQMD 2013).

4.3.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to air quality from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan;
2. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is nonattainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard;
3. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or
4. Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people.

Mendocino County Air Quality Management District Thresholds

MCAQMD defers to BAAQMD guidelines for CEQA review of projects in Mendocino County (MCAQMD 2013). Therefore, this analysis uses the BAAQMD's 2017 *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* to evaluate air quality. The plan-level thresholds specified in the 2017 BAAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* were used to determine whether the project impacts exceed the thresholds identified in Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*.

Construction Emissions Thresholds

BAAQMD's May 2017 *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* do not have plan-level significance thresholds for construction air pollutant emissions. However, they do include the individual project-level thresholds for temporary construction-related and long-term operational emissions of air pollutants. Future projects under the plan that are subject to CEQA review would be subject to the project-level construction thresholds or screening criteria. These thresholds represent the levels at which a project's individual emissions of criteria air pollutants or precursors would result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin's or NCAB's existing air quality conditions (BAAQMD 2017a). Therefore, construction emissions associated with plan implementation are discussed qualitatively to evaluate potential air quality impacts.

Operational Emissions Thresholds

BAAQMD's 2017 *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* contain specific operational plan-level significance thresholds for criteria air pollutants. Plans must show the following over the planning period:

- Consistency with current air quality plan control measures
- Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or vehicle trips increase is less than or equal to the plan's projected population increase

If a plan can demonstrate consistency with both criteria, then impacts are considered less than significant.

Methodology

Construction Emissions

Construction-related emissions are temporary but may still cause adverse air quality impacts. Construction of development associated with the project would generate temporary emissions from three primary sources: the operation of construction vehicles (e.g., scrapers, loaders, dump trucks, etc.); ground disturbance during site preparation and grading, which creates fugitive dust; and the application of asphalt, paint, or other oil-based substances. At this time, there is not sufficient detail to allow project-level analysis and thus it would be speculative to analyze project-level impacts.

Rather, construction impacts for the project are discussed qualitatively and emissions are not compared to project-level thresholds.

Operational Emissions

Based on plan-level guidance from the BAAQMD 2022 *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, long-term operational emissions associated with implementation of the project are discussed qualitatively by comparing the project to the 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and 2017 Clean Air Plan goals, policies, and control measures. In addition, comparing the rate of increase of plan VMT and population is recommended by BAAQMD for determining significance of criteria pollutants. If the project does not meet either criterion, then impacts would be potentially significant.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold: Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?
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Impact AQ-1 THE PROJECT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH MCAQMD'S 2005 PARTICULATE MATTER ATTAINMENT PLAN AND BAAQMD'S 2017 CLEAN AIR PLAN. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

The 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan contains several recommended control measures that would be implemented through MCAQMD regulations, to reduce emissions of particulate matter. The 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan includes measures that would regulate the use of woodstoves, specifically that new development shall not include a woodstove as its sole source of heat. This measure would be implemented in accordance with the Uniform Building Code. Furthermore, in compliance with the California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen) Section 4.503, installed woodstoves shall comply with USEPA's New Source Performance Standards emission limits. The 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan includes construction and grading measures that call for increased enforcement of existing air quality regulations and development of a regulation that requires permits for projects that disturb over one acre. Development facilitated by the project would be required to comply with these air quality regulations. Considering that all the measures in the 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan that are relevant to the project would be met during permitting and project design, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of this plan.

While the 2017 Clean Air Plan was not adopted to include NCAB, MCAQMD defers to BAAQMD methodology. As such, project consistency with the 2017 Clean Air Plan is analyzed. The 2017 Clean Air Plan does not include control measures that apply directly to individual development projects. Instead, the control strategy includes stationary-source control measures to be implemented through BAAQMD regulations; mobile-source control measures to be implemented through incentive programs and other activities; and transportation control measures to be implemented through transportation programs in cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, local governments, transit agencies, and others. Under BAAQMD's methodology, a determination of consistency with *CEQA Guidelines* thresholds should demonstrate that a project:

- Supports the primary goals of the 2017 Clean Air Plan;
- Includes applicable control measures from the 2017 Clean Air Plan; and
- Does not disrupt or hinder implementation of any 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures.

The 2017 Clean Air Plan contains 85 control strategies aimed at reducing air pollution and protecting the climate. For consistency with climate planning efforts at the State level, the control strategies in the 2017 Clean Air Plan are based on the same economic sector framework used by CARB, which encompass stationary sources, transportation, energy, buildings, agriculture, natural and working lands, waste management, water, and super-greenhouse gas pollutants. Table 4.3-3 identifies applicable control measures and the project’s consistency with these measures.

Table 4.3-3 Ukiah 2040 Consistency with 2017 Clean Air Plan Control Measures

Control Measures	Consistency
Transportation	
<p>TR2: Trip Reduction Programs. Implement the regional Commuter Benefits Program (Rule 14-1) that requires employers with 50 or more Bay Area employees to provide commuter benefits. Encourage trip reduction policies and programs in local plans, e.g., general and specific plans, while providing grants to support trip reduction efforts. Encourage local governments to require mitigation of vehicle travel as part of new development approval, to adopt transit benefits ordinances in order to reduce transit costs to employees, and to develop innovative ways to encourage rideshare, transit, cycling, and walking for work trips. Fund various employer-based trip reduction programs.</p>	<p>Consistent: Buildout of the project would promote compatible land uses, resulting in City residents living and working in closer proximity to each other. By placing employment and commercial opportunities closer to residences, fewer vehicles trips would be encouraged since residents may walk or bike to jobs and services. Additionally, one of the guiding principles of Ukiah 2040 is to maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods. In addition, Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would reduce vehicle trips in the City. Goals ENV-7 and related policies would reduce air quality impacts by creating transit-oriented development (Policy ENV-7.1) and encouraging active transportation use (Policy ENV-7.2). Goals MOB-1, MOB-2, and MOB-5, along with associated policies, aim to increase transit ridership and active transportation use, while reducing vehicle miles traveled.</p>
<p>TR3: Local and Regional Bus Service. Fund local and regional bus projects, including operations and maintenance.</p> <p>TR4: Local and Regional Rail Service. Fund local and regional rail service projects, including operations and maintenance.</p>	<p>Consistent. Policy ENV-7.1 calls for transit-oriented development, which would include local and regional bus projects. Goal MOB-1 aims to provide a citywide network of complete streets that includes transit through Policies MOB-1.1, MOB-1.2, and MOB-1.8, which call for complete streets that serves transit users. Goal MOB-2 aims to reduce VMT through transportation demand management that services transit use (Policy MOB-2.2), convenient public transit facilities (Policy MOB-2.4), incentives to increase transit ridership (Policy MOB-2.5), and creation of a downtown transit center (Policy MOB-2.6).</p>
<p>TR9: Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and Facilities. Encourage planning for bicycle and pedestrian facilities in local plans, e.g., general and specific plans, fund bike lanes, routes, paths and bicycle parking facilities.</p>	<p>Consistent: Policies in Ukiah 2040 support an efficient and safe bicycle and pedestrian system that would improve the connectivity and accessibility throughout the City. Policy ENV-7.2 prioritizes pedestrian and bicycle access, infrastructure, and education to increase active transportation use. Goal LU-2 encourages mixed-use development that creates walkable districts, through pedestrian orientation that creates a comfortable environment for walking (Policy LU-2.4). Policy LU-4.5 calls for pedestrian access to commercial uses from residential areas. Goals MOB-1, MOB-2, and MOB-5, along with associated policies, aim to create a more bikeable and walkable city. Namely, Policy MOB-1.2 strives for multi-modal access to new development projects; Policies MOB-1.9 and MOB-1.10 encourage a complete bikeway network with bicycle parking; Policy MOB-2.7 encourages public transportation to be bicycle accessible; and Policy MOB-5.1 calls for incentives for travel alternatives to single-occupant vehicles such as secure bicycle parking.</p>

Control Measures	Consistency
Energy	
<p>EN1: Decarbonize Electricity Production. Engage with PG&E, municipal electric utilities and CCEs to maximize the amount of renewable energy contributing to the production of electricity within the Bay Area as well as electricity imported into the region. Work with local governments to implement local renewable energy programs. Engage with stakeholders including dairy farms, forest managers, water treatment facilities, food processors, public works agencies and waste management to increase use of biomass in electricity production.</p>	<p>Consistent. Goal ENV-8 aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, which is supported by Policy ENV-8.3, which calls for adoption of an electrification plan to convert all municipal buildings to all electric using energy from carbon-free and renewable sources by 2035.</p>
<p>EN2: Decrease Electricity Demand. Work with local governments to adopt additional energy-efficiency policies and programs. Support local government energy efficiency program via best practices, model ordinances, and technical support. Work with partners to develop messaging to decrease electricity demand during peak times.</p>	<p>Consistent: Goal ENV-8 aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045, which is supported by Policy ENV-8.5, which promotes energy conservation by seeking opportunities to install energy efficient fixtures and appliances, solar panels, solar battery storage, and other retrofits to new and existing structures.</p>
Waste Management Control Measures	
<p>WA4: Recycling and Waste Reduction. Develop or identify and promote model ordinances on community-wide zero waste goals and recycling of construction and demolition materials in commercial and public construction projects</p>	<p>Consistent. Goal ENV-9 aims for a zero-waste community through adherence to Policy ENV-9.1, which promotes activities that reduce waste and increase waste diversion. Furthermore, Policy ENV-9.2 calls for a household waste program to facilitate the reuse and recycling of materials.</p>
Water Control Measures	
<p>WR2: Support Water Conservation. Develop a list of best practices that reduce water consumption and increase on-site water recycling in new and existing buildings; incorporate into local planning guidance.</p>	<p>Consistent: Policy ENV-4.5 supports efforts to increase recycled water use. Additionally, Policy ENV-4.7 encourages residential on-site water capturing systems for landscaping and household use.</p>

Table 4.3-3 demonstrates that the project would not disrupt or hinder implementation of the 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures. Buildout of the project would not preclude planned transit or bike pathways and would not otherwise disrupt regional planning efforts to reduce VMT and meet federal and State air quality standards. Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with applicable 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures because the project would implement similar measures through proposed goals and policies that would reduce criteria pollutant emissions. Therefore, the project would be consistent with the applicable control measures in the 2017 Clean Air Plan and would not hinder implementation of any 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold: Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

Impact AQ-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN THE GENERATION OF AIR POLLUTANTS DURING CONSTRUCTION, WHICH COULD AFFECT LOCAL AIR QUALITY. DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD ALSO RESULT IN A NET INCREASE OF CRITERIA POLLUTANTS DUE TO VMT. ALL FEASIBLE MITIGATION MEASURES TO REDUCE VMT ARE INCLUDED AS POLICIES IN UKIAH 2040. OVERALL OPERATIONAL IMPACTS WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE.

Construction

Construction activities associated with future development from Ukiah 2040 (including demolition, grading, construction worker travel, delivery and hauling of construction supplies and debris, and fuel combustion by on-site construction equipment) would generate pollutant emissions. These construction activities would create emissions of dust, fumes, equipment exhaust, and other air contaminants, particularly during site preparation and grading. The extent of daily emissions generated by construction equipment, particularly ROG_s and NO_x emissions, would depend on the quantity of equipment used and the hours of operation for each project. The extent of PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ emissions would depend upon the following factors:

- The amount of disturbed soils.
- The length of disturbance time.
- If existing structures are demolished.
- If excavation is involved.
- If transporting excavated materials offsite is necessary.

Dust emissions can lead to both nuisance and health impacts. According to the 2017 BAAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, PM_{2.5} is the greatest pollutant of concern during construction.

BAAQMD (as well as MCAQMD) have identified feasible fugitive dust control measures for construction activities. These Basic Construction Mitigation measures are recommended for all projects. In addition, BAAQMD and CARB have regulations that address the handling of hazardous air pollutants such as lead and asbestos, which could be aurally dispersed during demolition activities. BAAQMD rules and regulations address both the handling and transport of these contaminants. Construction of future development would temporarily increase air pollutant emissions, possibly creating localized areas of unhealthy air pollution concentrations or air quality nuisances.

To promote clean air quality to protect public health and safety and to mitigate adverse air quality impacts, Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed policies, which support implementation of feasible measures to reduce construction emissions associated with buildout of Ukiah 2040:

Policy ENV-7.3: Implement Clean Air Plan. The City shall cooperate with Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) to implement the Clean Air Plan required by the Clean

Air Act, reduce non-attainment pollutants, including PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and ozone, and enforce air quality standards as required by State and Federal statutes.

Policy ENV-7.5: Construction and Operations. The City shall require that development projects incorporate feasible measures that reduce construction and operational emissions for reactive organic gases, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}).

Policy ENV-8.4: Municipal Preference of Emissions-Reduced Equipment. The City shall contract only with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available and feasible for City construction projects or contract services.

These proposed policies would reduce construction emissions generated by future projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040. Nonetheless, a potentially significant impact could still occur due to fugitive dust emissions. Implementation of the BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures would be required by Mitigation Measures AQ-1. Mitigation Measures AQ-1 would reduce fugitive dust emissions from future construction activities. Actions include watering onsite and reducing vehicle speed on unpaved roads to limit the amount of soil and dust disturbed.

Operations

The greatest source of criteria pollutants in Ukiah is and would continue to be from transportation sources, specifically mobile emissions from roadway traffic. Ukiah 2040 emphasizes reducing VMT on area roadways through maintenance and advancement of a circulation network that encourages walkable and bikeable neighborhoods. The proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 that support VMT reduction or electric vehicle adoption, and thus a reduction in mobile criteria pollutants, are listed below:

Goal ENV-7: To improve air quality to the benefit of public health, welfare, and reduce air quality impacts with adverse effects on residents' health and wellbeing.

Policy ENV-7.1: Transit Oriented Development. The City shall concentrate new development near areas served by transit access and reduce single-occupancy vehicle dependency.

Policy ENV-7.2: Active Transportation. The City shall prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access, infrastructure, and education to encourage increased use of alternative modes of transportation as a means to reduce direct and indirect air contaminant emissions.

Policy ENV-7.7: City Vehicle and Equipment Fleet. The City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels as part of their fleet. When possible, the City will replace gas and hybrid vehicles with electric vehicles.

Policy ENV-7.8: Residential EV Charging Stations. The City shall encourage new development to install EV charging stations in homes to increase the potential for the public to use zero-emission vehicles, lessening the impacts to air quality through pollution.

Policy ENV-7.9: Public EV Charging Stations. The City shall install public charging stations in its commercial areas to provide additional charging options for city visitors.

Goal LU-1: To provide a variety of housing types that offer choices for Ukiah residents and create complete, livable neighborhoods.

Policy LU-1.2: Connectivity. The City shall encourage new residential development to incorporate design features that promote walking and connectivity between blocks.

Policy LU-1.4: High-Density Residential Uses. The City shall encourage new high-density residential development to locate in areas close to services and transit.

Goal LU-2: To encourage mixed-use development projects that create vibrant, walkable districts.

Policy LU-2.1: Downtown Mixed-Use. The City shall encourage mixed-use development to locate within the Downtown. Such developments include housing, retail commercial, offices, open space, and other compatible uses. This development pattern should create vibrant, walkable areas, in contrast to strip retail developments along corridors.

Policy LU-2.3: Mixed-Use Design. The City shall require new mixed-use development to limit the number of access driveways, minimize building setbacks, and provide public ground floor spaces adjacent to sidewalks.

Policy LU-2.4: Pedestrian Orientation. The City shall require new mixed-use and commercial developments with street or bike route frontage to include amenities that connect and create a comfortable environment for walking, sitting, and socializing.

Policy LU-2.5: Live/Work. The City shall encourage mixed-uses in appropriate non-residential or existing mixed-use areas, facilitate the adaptive reuse of otherwise obsolete structures, and promote the growth of the arts and small business ventures in the community by allowing combined workspace and living quarters in appropriate buildings in commercial or industrial zoning districts.

Goal LU-4: To encourage the growth and development of retail, office, service, and entertainment uses in Ukiah to provide jobs, support City services, and make Ukiah an attractive place to live.

Policy LU-4.5: Pedestrian Access to Commercial Uses. The City shall support convenient and direct pedestrian access to commercial uses that are located adjacent to residential areas.

Goal MOB-1: To provide a citywide network of complete streets that meet the needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit, movers of commercial goods, children, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

Policy MOB-1.1: Complete Streets. The City shall design streets holistically, using a complete streets approach, which considers pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and other modes together to adequately serve future land uses.

Policy MOB-1.2: Multi-modal Access. The City shall require that all new development and redevelopment projects include provisions for multi-modal access provisions such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and vehicle and transit where relevant.

Policy MOB-1.3: Reallocate Space for Complete Streets. The City shall reallocate roadway space to allow complete streets improvements on streets with excess traffic capacity.

Policy MOB-1.4: Block Length. The City shall limit block lengths to 600 feet wherever feasible to enhance multi-modal circulation and connectivity.

Policy MOB-1.8: New Development and Complete Streets. The City shall require all new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and persons with disabilities, as well as facilities necessary to support the City's goal of maintaining a complete street network.

Policy MOB-1.9: Bikeway Network. The City shall strive to complete the citywide bicycle network to create a full network of bicycle facilities throughout Ukiah, including bicycle lanes on all arterial and collector street segments where feasible.

Policy MOB-1.10: Bicycle Parking Standards. The City shall maintain efficient and updated parking standards for bicycle parking to ensure development provides adequate bicycle parking, while reducing reliance on automobiles.

Policy MOB-1.11: Pedestrian Barriers & Utility Relocation. The City shall support elimination of barriers to pedestrian travel on sidewalks and walking paths including requiring the relocation or undergrounding of utilities where appropriate.

Goal MOB-2: To reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to and from residences, jobs and commercial uses in Ukiah.

Policy MOB-2.1: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction. The City shall support development and transportation improvements that help reduce VMT below regional averages on a “residential per capita” and “per employee” basis.

Policy MOB-2.2: Transportation Demand Management. The City shall support programs to reduce vehicle trips, including measures such as reduced parking requirements that aim to increase transit use, car-pooling, bicycling and walking.

Policy MOB-2.3: Pedestrian Facilities. The City shall encourage new development and redevelopment that increases connectivity through direct and safe pedestrian connections to public amenities, neighborhoods, shopping and employment destinations throughout the City.

Policy MOB-2.4: Transit Facility Design. The City shall require new development to include facilities designed to make public transportation convenient.

Policy MOB-2.5: Transit Ridership. The City shall support funding and incentives to increase transit ridership opportunities.

Policy MOB-2.6: Downtown Transit Center. The City shall support creation of a Transit Center.

Policy MOB-2.7: Bicycle Accessible Transit. The City shall encourage the MTA and other public transportation providers to make bus routes connecting Ukiah with other areas bicycle accessible.

Goal MOB-5: To promote a balance of multi-modal options, to be reflected in flexible parking regulations.

Policy MOB-5.1: Incentives for Travel Alternatives. The City shall work with downtown businesses and employers reduce the need for and expenses of off-street parking by supporting and encouraging alternatives to single-occupant vehicles such as incentives and priority parking for carpools and vanpools, secure bicycle parking, and free bus passes.

Policy MOB-5.2: Support for Charging Stations. The City shall support the provision of charging stations for electric vehicles, as well as other types of vehicles, as new technologies emerge.

According to the BAAQMD 2017 *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines*, the threshold for criteria air pollutants and precursors requires comparison of the rate of increase of plan VMT and plan area population. As discussed in Section 4.11, *Transportation*, Ukiah 2040 is expected to have less land use diversity than existing conditions, due to the amount of non-residential development that could occur in the

maximum buildout scenario. Given the total size of non-residential development relative to residential growth in the maximum buildout scenario, there could be a net increase in the number of non-resident workers commuting to jobs in Ukiah. Nonetheless, the diversity score for Ukiah 2040 would remain below the existing countywide average and impacts from VMT per capita were found to be less than significant for the project.

Nonetheless, even though the VMT impact would be less than significant, overall VMT would increase due to the project. Therefore, while the Ukiah 2040 proposed policies listed above would have the effect of reducing mobile VMT per capita, and in turn operational criteria pollutants, overall VMT would increase compared with existing conditions. Mitigation Measures AQ-2 would be applied to future development project and would require implementation of measures to reduce air quality emissions during the operation phase of future projects. Nonetheless, ultimately vehicle emissions depend somewhat on individual transportation choices that the City would not have full control over. Therefore, Ukiah 2040 impacts from operational criteria pollutant emissions would be significant and unavoidable.

Mitigation Measure

AQ-1 Implement BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures

To reduce fugitive dust emissions from the construction of individual projects, the City shall require that future projects implement the BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures. These include, but are not limited to, the following: =

- All exposed surfaces (e.g., parking areas, staging areas, soil piles, graded areas, and unpaved access roads) shall be watered two times a day.
- All haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material off-site shall be covered.
- All visible mud or dirt track-out onto adjacent public roads shall be removed using wet power vacuum street sweepers at least once per day. The use of dry power sweeping is prohibited.
- All vehicle speeds on unpaved roads shall be limited to 15 miles per hour.
- All roadways, driveways, and sidewalks to be paved shall be completed as soon as possible. Building pads shall be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- Idling times shall be minimized either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the maximum idling time to five minutes (as required by the California Airborne Toxics Control Measure Title 13, Section 2485 of California Code of Regulations). Clear signage shall be provided for construction workers at all access points.
- All construction equipment shall be maintained and properly tuned in accordance with manufacture's specifications. All equipment shall be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper conditions prior to operation.
- Post a publicly visible sign with the telephone number and person to contact at the Lead Agency regarding dust complaints. This person shall respond and take corrective action within 48 hours. The Air District's number shall also be visible to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

AQ-2 Implement Measures to Reduce Operational Emissions

Prior to discretionary approval by the City of Ukiah for development projects subject to CEQA review (i.e., non-exempt projects), a screening assessment shall be performed by the City using the screening criteria from the 2017 BAAQMD CEQA Air Quality Guidelines. If the project exceeds the

screening size by land use type, the project applicant shall prepare and submit a technical assessment to the City for review and approval, which evaluates potential project-related operational air quality impacts. The evaluation shall be prepared in conformance with BAAQMD methodology in assessing air quality impacts. If operation-related air pollutants are determined to have the potential to exceed the BAAQMD-adopted thresholds of significance, the City shall require that applicants for new development projects incorporate mitigation measures to reduce air pollutant emissions during operational activities. The identified measures shall be included as part of the conditions of approval. Possible mitigation measures to reduce long-term emissions could include, but are not limited to the following:

- For site-specific development that requires refrigerated vehicles, the planning documents shall demonstrate an adequate number of electrical service connections at loading docks for plug-in of the anticipated number of refrigerated trailers, to reduce idling time and emissions.
- Applicants for manufacturing and light industrial uses shall consider energy storage and combined heat and power in appropriate applications to optimize renewable energy generation systems and avoid peak energy use.
- Site-specific developments with truck delivery and loading areas and truck parking spaces shall include signage as a reminder to limit idling of vehicles while parked for loading/unloading in accordance with California Air Resources Board Rule 2845 (13 California Code of Regulations Chapter 10 Section 2485).
- Provide changing/shower facilities as specified in Section A5.106.4.3 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures).
- Provide bicycle parking facilities pursuant to Section A4.106.9 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code.
- Provide preferential parking spaces for low-emitting, fuel-efficient, and carpool/van vehicles per Section A5.106.5.1 of the CalGreen Code (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures).
- Provide facilities to support electric charging stations pursuant to Section A5.106.5.3 (Nonresidential Voluntary Measures) and Section A5.106.8.2 (Residential Voluntary Measures) of the CalGreen Code.
- Applicant-provided appliances (e.g., dishwashers, refrigerators, clothes washers, and dryers) shall be Energy Star–certified appliances or appliances of equivalent energy efficiency. Installation of Energy Star–certified or equivalent appliances shall be verified by Building & Safety during plan check.
- Applicants for future development projects along existing and planned transit routes shall coordinate with the City and County to ensure that bus pad and shelter improvements are incorporated, as appropriate.

Significance After Mitigation

With adherence to proposed Ukiah 2040 policies and Mitigation Measure AQ-1, cumulative construction impacts associated with violating an air quality standard or contributing substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation in terms of criteria air pollutant emissions would be less than significant with mitigation. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 would result in an increase in development intensity and would result in an overall increase in VMT. Mitigation Measure AQ-2 would be applied to reduce air quality emissions during operation of future projects. Though the diversity score for Ukiah 2040 would remain below the existing countywide average and impacts from VMT per capita were found to be less than significant, implementation of the project could

result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of particulate matter for which the region is nonattainment, and operational impacts would be considered significant and unavoidable.

Threshold: Would the project expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Impact AQ-3 CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES FOR INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS FACILITATED BY UKIAH 2040 COULD EXPOSE SENSITIVE RECEPTORS TO SUBSTANTIAL POLLUTANT CONCENTRATIONS; HOWEVER, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

Construction

Although it is anticipated that most development would occur within infill areas, development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could result in DPM exhaust emissions from off-road, heavy-duty diesel equipment associated with site preparation (e.g., excavation, grading, clearing), building construction, and other construction activities. DPM was identified as a TAC by CARB in 1998. The potential cancer risk from the inhalation of DPM (as discussed below) outweighs the potential non-cancer² health impacts (CARB 2021).

Generation of DPM from construction typically occurs in a single area for a short period. Under the maximum build-out scenario, construction of development facilitated by the project could occur over approximately two decades, but use of diesel-powered construction equipment in any one area would likely occur for no more than a couple of years for an individual project and would cease when construction is completed. It is not possible to quantify risk without specific project details and locations, as impacts would vary based on location, intensity, construction methods, etc. For example, a project proposing construction of a small-scale commercial building on an infill site over a six-month construction period would generally have less impacts than a large-scale commercial development on an undeveloped site with a two-year construction period.

The primary factor used to determine health risk is the dose to which the receptors are exposed. Dose is a function of the concentration of a substance or substances in the environment and the extent of exposure that person has with the substance. Dose is positively correlated with time, meaning that a longer exposure period would result in a higher exposure level for the Maximally Exposed Individual. The risks estimated for a Maximally Exposed Individual are higher if a fixed exposure occurs over a longer period. According to the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), health risk assessments, which determine the exposure of sensitive receptors to toxic emissions, should be based on a 70-year exposure period; however, such assessments should be limited to the period/duration of activities associated with the development (OEHHA 2015). BAAQMD uses an exposure period of 30 years (BAAQMD 2016).

The maximum PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions would occur during demolition, site preparation, and grading activities, which would only occur for a portion of the overall estimated timeframe of approximately one to eight years for individual project construction. These activities would typically last for approximately two weeks to two years, depending on the extent of grading and excavation required (e.g., projects with subterranean parking structures or geological constraints require additional grading as compared to those without). PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} emissions would decrease for the remaining construction period because construction activities such as building construction and architectural coating would require less intensive construction equipment. While the maximum

² Non-cancer risks include premature death, hospitalizations and emergency department visits for exacerbated chronic heart and lung disease, including asthma, increased respiratory symptoms, and decreased lung function.

DPM emissions associated with demolition, site preparation, and grading activities would only occur for a portion of the overall construction period, these activities represent the worst-case condition for the total construction period. This would represent between 0.1 to 7 percent of the total 30-year exposure period for health risk calculation.

Ukiah 2040 contains proposed Policy ENV-7.5 (described in Impact AQ-2), which would have the effect of minimizing construction TACs from future projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040. Future projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would also be required to be consistent with the 2017 Clean Air Plan, 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan, BAAQMD and MCAQMD regulatory requirements and control strategies, and the CARB In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation, which are intended to reduce emissions from construction equipment and activities. Additionally, future development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would be required to comply with Mitigation Measure AQ-1 requiring implementation of construction emission measures which would reduce construction-related TACs.

According to the OEHHA, construction of individual projects lasting longer than two months or placed within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors could potentially expose nearby sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, and therefore could result in potentially significant risk impacts. These future projects could exceed BAAQMD's thresholds of an increased cancer risk of greater than 10.0 in a million and an increased non-cancer risk of greater than 1.0 Hazard Index (Chronic or Acute). Therefore, construction impacts from TAC emissions would be potentially significant. Implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-3 would require coordination with the City to determine if a construction Health Risk Assessment (HRA) would be needed for future projects with construction timelines greater than two months and within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors, to reduce potential risk exposure to nearby sensitive receptors.

Operations

The BAAQMD *CEQA Guidelines* include a methodology for jurisdictions wanting to evaluate the potential impacts from placing sensitive receptors proximate to major air pollutant sources. For assessing community risk and hazards for siting a new receptor, sources within a 1,000-foot radius of a project site are typically considered. Sources are defined as freeways or high-volume roadways with 10,000 vehicles or more per day and permitted sources (BAAQMD 2017).

Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could accommodate a net increase of approximately 2,350 residential units and 4,514,820 non-residential square footage. However, potential buildout of Ukiah 2040 in accordance with land use and zoning regulations would not site land uses that typically generate TAC, such as industrial land uses, in close proximity to residential land uses. Additionally, if commercial and retail uses site a new stationary TAC source, like an emergency generator, then that stationary source would be required to receive a permit from MCAQMD and the City's Building Division. The permitting process would ensure that the stationary source does not present a health risk to existing nearby sensitive receptors.

To minimize health risks to sensitive receptors near stationary sources and/or freeways and high-volume roadways, Ukiah 2040 contains proposed Policy ENV-7.5 (described in Impact AQ-2), which support implementation of feasible policies to reduce TAC emissions associated with buildout of Ukiah 2040.

In addition, the following environmental justice policies in Ukiah 2040, reinforce the need for compatible land uses to reduce exposure to environmental hazards.

Policy LU-12.2: Disproportionate Land Use Impacts. The City shall evaluate and avoid, reduce, or mitigate disproportionate adverse health and safety impacts of land use decisions on identified disadvantaged communities.

Policy LU-12.3: Coordination of Siting of Utilities. The City shall coordinate with utility providers in the siting, site layout, and design of gas and electric facilities, including changes to existing facilities, to minimize environmental, and safety impacts on disadvantaged communities.

As individual developments facilitated by Ukiah 2040 are evaluated on a future project-by-project basis, the proposed policies mentioned above would be implemented to reduce impacts and ensure that sensitive receptors would not be exposed to substantial pollutant concentrations due to location or design. Therefore, with adherence to these Ukiah 2040 policies, operational impacts related to TAC emissions would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measure

AQ-3 Conduct Construction Health Risk Assessment

For individual projects (excluding accessory dwelling units, single-family residences, and duplexes) where construction activities would occur within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors, would last longer than two months, and would not utilize Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment, the project applicant shall prepare a construction health risk assessment (HRA) prior to project approval. The HRA shall determine potential risk and compare the risk to the following BAAQMD thresholds:

- Non-compliance with Qualified Community Risk Reduction Plan;
- Increased cancer risk of > 10.0 in a million;
- Increased non-cancer risk of > 1.0 Hazard Index (Chronic or Acute); or
- Ambient PM_{2.5} increase of > 0.3 µg/m³ annual average

If risk exceeds the thresholds, measures such as requiring the use of Tier 4 and/or alternative fuel construction equipment shall be incorporated to reduce the risk to appropriate levels.

Significance After Mitigation

Construction related TACs exposure impacts would be less than significant with implementation of Mitigation Measure AQ-3.

Threshold: Would the project result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?
--

Impact AQ-4 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY UKIAH 2040 WOULD NOT CREATE OBJECTIONABLE ODORS THAT COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Implementation of Ukiah 2040 would generate oil and diesel fuel odors during construction from equipment use as well as odors related to asphalt paving. The odors would be limited to the construction period and would be temporary. Therefore, odors emitted from the construction of individual future projects under Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.

As stated in the BAAQMD *CEQA Guidelines*, land uses typically producing objectionable odors include agricultural uses, wastewater treatment plants, food manufacturing plants, chemical plants, composting, refineries, landfills, and confined animal facilities. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would include residential, office, and retail development within current City limits. These land uses typically do not produce objectionable odors. In addition, Ukiah 2040 would not add additional light industrial/office land uses that would have the potential to expose sensitive receptors, such as residences, to odors. Annexation Areas A and B would include agricultural uses; however, no additional land would be designated for agricultural use under Ukiah 2040; thus, no changes from existing conditions regarding odors would occur. Other odors from buildout of Ukiah 2040 include odor emissions that would be limited to odors associated with vehicle and engine exhaust and idling; however, odors from vehicles are not stationary and are dispersed throughout the roadway network. Therefore, operational odor impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

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4.4 Biological Resources

This section summarizes the biological resources in and near the Planning Area and analyzes the impacts, included direct and indirect impacts, related to biological resources due to the project.

4.4.1 Setting

The City of Ukiah is located along the Russian River, within the Ukiah Valley, between the Mendocino and Mayacamas mountain ranges. The Mayacamas and Mendocino mountain ranges habitat types and vegetation communities are shown in Figure 4.4-1. The City of Ukiah is largely developed with urban and suburban uses. The proposed sphere of influence (SOI) predominantly includes undeveloped and agricultural areas. The U.S. Highway 101 corridor runs north and south within the east side of Ukiah and several creeks run through the City. The aquatic resources and the undeveloped areas provide habitat for wildlife, including special status plant and animal species.

a. Natural Communities/Landcover

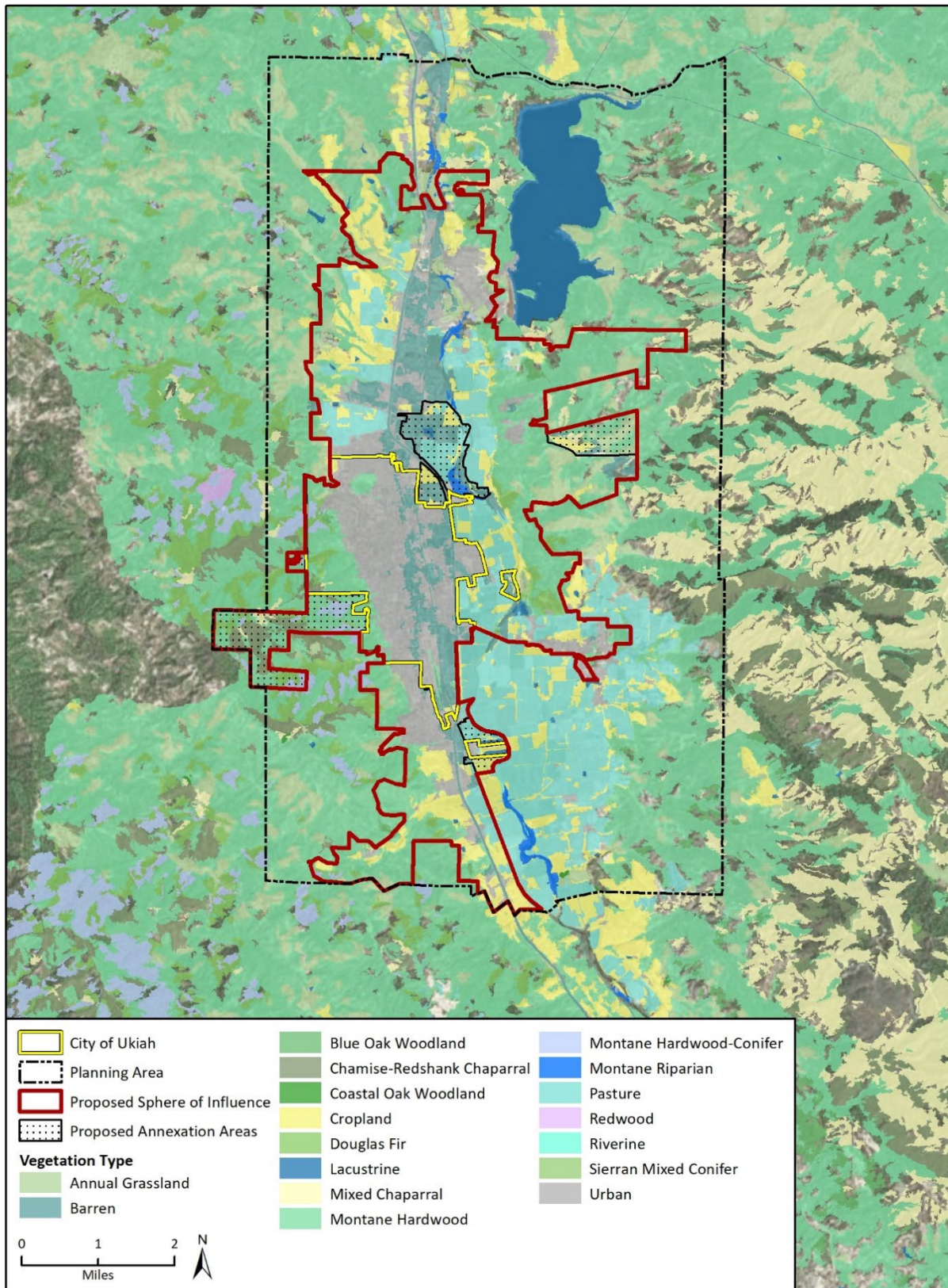
The natural community/ landcover descriptions listed below are based on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Wildlife Habitat Relationships classification scheme (CWHR) (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Figure 4.4-1 shows the habitat types/natural communities in the Planning Area. This information is based on data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service Calveg (USDA 2004). Vegetation alliances, characterizing vegetation commonly found together, used in the Ukiah vegetation map, in compliance with the United States (U.S.) National Vegetation Classification System were grouped in accordance with the CWHR classification scheme. The list below includes a discussion of natural communities/ landscapes in and adjacent to the Planning Area.

Annual Grassland

Annual grassland habitats are herbaceous communities composed primarily of annual grass and forb species. These vegetation communities exist throughout the Planning Area, where introduced annual grasses are the dominant plant species. These species include wild oats (*Avena* sp.), soft chess brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), ripgut brome (*B. diandrus*), red brome (*B. madritensis*), wild barley (*Hordeum murinum*), and foxtail fescue (*Festuca myuros*). Common forbs include broadleaf filaree (*Erodium botrys*), redstem filaree (*E. cicutarium*), turkey mullein (*Croton setiger*), true clovers (*Trifolium* spp.), bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), popcorn flowers (*Plagiobothrys* spp.), California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), and many others. Native perennial grasses, found in moist, lightly grazed, or relic prairie areas, are dominated by California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*), Pacific hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa holciformis*), and sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*).

Annual grassland communities and relic perennial grasslands within them occur in patches of various sizes throughout the State. Annual grassland habitat occurs mostly on flat plains to gently rolling foothills. Annual grasslands provide habitat for many wildlife species, including western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), western rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus oreganus*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), California ground squirrel (*Otospermophilus beecheyi*), and Botta's pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*).

Figure 4.4-1 Habitat Types and Vegetation Communities in the Planning Area



Imagery provided by Microsoft Bing and its licensors © 2022.
 CalVeg Classification Layer provided by USDA Forest Service Region 5. Source Imagery for this classification ranges from 2008 - 2015.

Fig. 4.4-1. Vegetation and Land Cover

Barren

Barren habitat is defined by the absence of vegetation. Any habitat with less than 2 percent total vegetation cover by herbaceous, desert, or non-wildland species and less than 10 percent cover by tree or shrub species is defined as barren. Structure and composition of the substrate is largely determined by the region of the state and surrounding environment. Along rivers, it includes vertical riverbanks and canyon walls. Desert habitats may be defined as barren when vegetation is widely spaced. Alpine barren habitat includes exposed parent rock, glacial moraines, talus slopes and any surface permanently covered with snow or ice. Urban settings covered in pavement and buildings may be classified as barren as long as vegetation, including non-native landscaping, does not reach the percentage cover thresholds for vegetated habitats (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Barren habitat occurs throughout the Planning Area, including within the City limits.

Blue Oak Woodland

Blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) woodlands occur in the Planning Area and vary in species composition. They have an overstory of scattered trees, although the canopy can be nearly closed. The canopy is dominated by broad-leaved trees 5 to 15 meters (16 to 50 feet) tall, commonly forming open savanna-like stands on dry ridges and gentle slopes. Blue oaks may reach 25 meters (82 feet) in height. Shrubs are often present but rarely extensive, often occurring on rock outcrops. A typical understory is composed of an extension of annual grassland vegetation. Blue oak woodlands provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species, including western gray squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*), eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), California scrub jays (*Aphelocoma californica*). Blue oak woodland occurs throughout the Planning Area, including within the City limits.

Coastal Oak Woodland

Coastal oak woodlands occur in the Planning Area and vary in species composition. The overstory consists of deciduous and evergreen hardwoods, mostly oaks (*Quercus* spp.) (15 to 70 feet tall) sometimes mixed with scattered conifers. In mesic sites, the trees are dense and form a closed canopy. In drier sites, the trees are widely spaced, forming an open woodland or savannah. The understory is equally variable. In some instances, it is composed of shrubs from adjacent chaparral or coastal scrub which forms a dense, almost impenetrable understory. More commonly, shrubs are scattered under and between trees. The soils and parent material on which coastal oak woodlands occur are extremely variable (CDFW 2014). Coastal oak woodlands provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species, including California quail (*Callipepla californica*), turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), western gray squirrel, eastern gray squirrel, and Columbian black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus columbianus*). Coastal oak woodlands is mapped in several locations within the Planning Area. No coastal oak woodland is mapped within the City limits.

Cropland

Vegetation in this habitat includes a variety of sizes, shapes, and growing patterns. Field corn can reach ten feet while strawberries are only a few inches high. Although most crops are planted in rows, alfalfa hay and small grains (rice, barley, and wheat) form dense stands with up to 100 percent canopy closure. Most croplands support annuals, planted in spring and harvested during summer or fall. In many areas, second crops are commonly planted after harvesting the first. Wheat is planted in fall and harvested in late spring or early summer. Cropland habitat is generally concentrated in the south, north and east of the Planning Area and proposed SOI, outside of the City limits.

Douglas Fir

Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) habitat forms a complex mosaic of forest expression due to the geologic, topographic, and successional variation typical within its range. Typical aggregations include a lower overstory of dense, sclerophyllous, broad-leaved evergreen trees (tanoak, Pacific madrone) up to 35 meters (114 feet) tall, with an irregular, often open, higher overstory of tall needle-leaved evergreen trees (Douglas-fir) up to 90 meters (295 feet). On wet sites, shrub layers are well developed, often with 100 percent cover. Cover of the herbaceous layer under the shrubs can be up to 10 percent. At higher elevations, the shrubs disappear and the herb layer is often 100 percent. Typical mesic habitats have a poorly developed or non-existent shrub and herb layer. Dry habitats have greater cover of shrubs and especially grasses (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Douglas fir habitat is generally concentrated in the western side of the Planning Area and proposed SOI, outside of City limits.

This habitat type supports high wildlife species abundance, particularly of bird species including the Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) and Hutton's vireo (*Vireo huttoni*), but also an abundance of salamander and reptile species whose distributions are generally coincident to that of the Douglas fir habitat. Typical mammals found in this habitat include Pacific fisher (*Pekania pennanti*), dusky-footed woodrat (*Neotoma fuscipes*), and deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*).

Mixed Chaparral

Mixed Chaparral is a structurally homogeneous brushland type dominated by shrubs with thick, stiff, heavily cutinized evergreen leaves. Shrub height and crown cover vary considerably with age since last burn, precipitation regime (cismontane vs. transmontane), aspect, and soil type. At maturity, cismontane Mixed Chaparral typically is a dense, nearly impenetrable thicket with greater than 80 percent absolute shrub cover. Canopy height ranges from 1 to 4 meters (3.3 to 13.1 feet), occasionally to 6 meters (19.6 feet). On poor sites, serpentine soils or transmontane slopes, shrub cover may be only 30 to 60 percent and shrubs may be shorter, 0.5 to 3 meters (1.6 to 9.8 feet). Considerable leaf litter and standing dead material may accumulate in stands that have not burned for several decades (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Mixed chaparral habitat is generally found in the foothills surrounding and within the eastern portion of the Planning Area (outside of City limits and outside most of the proposed SOI).

Montane Hardwood

Montane hardwood habitat is typically composed of a pronounced hardwood tree layer, with an infrequent and poorly developed shrub stratum, and a sparse herbaceous layer. The montane hardwood habitat ranges throughout California mostly west of the Cascade-Sierra Nevada crest. East of the crest, it is found in localized areas of Placer, El Dorado, Alpine and San Bernardino Counties. Elevations range from 300 feet near the Pacific Ocean to 9000 feet in southern California.

Bird and animal species characteristic of the montane hardwood habitat include disseminators of acorns such as California scrub jay and Steller's jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), acorn woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*), and western gray squirrel, plus those that utilize acorns as a major food source including wild turkey, band-tailed pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*), California ground squirrel, dusky-footed woodrat, and mule deer. Deer also use the foliage of hardwoods to a moderate extent. Many amphibians and reptiles are found on the forest floor in the Montane Hardwood habitat (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Montane hardwood habitat is generally concentrated in the

mountains in the east and west of the Planning Area, including within the City limits and proposed SOI.

Montane Hardwood-Conifer

Montane Hardwood-Conifer habitat includes both conifers and hardwoods. The habitat often occurs in a mosaic-like pattern with small pure stands of conifers interspersed with small stands of broad-leaved trees. This landcover consists of a broad spectrum of mixed conifer and hardwood species. Typically, conifers up to 200 feet in height form the upper canopy and broad-leaved trees 30 to 100 feet in height comprise the lower canopy. Relatively little understory occurs under the dense, canopy. However, considerable ground and shrub cover can occur in ecotones or following disturbance such as fire or logging. Like Montane Hardwood, this community provides habitat and food sources for a variety of wildlife species, and mature forests are particularly valuable for cavity nesting birds (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Montane Hardwood-Conifer habitat is scattered in the mountains to the west of the Planning Area, generally outside of City limits.

Montane Riparian

The vegetation of montane riparian zones is quite variable and often structurally diverse. Usually, the montane riparian zone occurs as a narrow, often dense grove of broad-leaved, winter deciduous trees up to 30 meters (98 feet) tall with a sparse understory. At high mountain elevations, the montane riparian habitat is usually less than 15 meters (49 feet) high with more shrubs in the understory. At high elevations, the montane riparian habitat may not be well developed or may occur in the shrub stage only. All riparian habitats have exceptionally high value for a wide variety of wildlife species (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Montane riparian habitat is found throughout the mountains surrounding the Planning Area, outside of City limits.

Pasture

Pasture vegetation is a mix of perennial grasses and legumes that normally provide 100 percent canopy closure. Height of vegetation varies, according to season and livestock stocking levels, from a few inches to two or more feet on fertile soils before grazing. Old or poorly drained pastures may have patches of weeds more than two feet in height. Pastures may be used by a variety of wildlife depending on the geographic area and types of adjacent habitats. These include ground-nesting birds as well as large mammals such as deer and elk, and wetland associated birds where flood irrigation is used or pastures are specifically flooded in fall and winter for waterfowl management (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Pasture habitat is generally located in the eastern and northern side of the Planning Area and proposed SOI, outside of City limits.

Redwood

Second growth redwood habitats are characterized by even-aged structure with an open parklike appearance. Typically, on disturbed sites the vegetation establishes very quickly (within one year). In time, the habitat is composed of dense, shrubby vegetation with overlapping canopies. Over time, trees become uniform in size and height, suppressing understory vegetation. In old-growth redwood forests, understory vegetation is usually very dense and composed of 3 to 4 meters (10 to 13 feet) tall shrubs. Open parklike old-growth stands seldom occur. Redwoods are vigorous sprouters, with sprouts eventually forming the dominant canopy. Redwood and associated conifers also reproduce well by seed. When suppressed by the dominant canopy, seedling heights are usually less than 10 meters (33 feet). Redwood forests provide food, cover, or special habitat elements for a wide

variety of species, most notably a variety of sensitive species including California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), fisher, and ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*) (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). Redwood habitat is generally located on the western side of the Planning Area, outside of City limits.

Sierran Mixed Conifer

The Sierran mixed conifer habitat is an assemblage of conifer and hardwood species that forms a multilayered forest. Historically, burning and logging have caused wide variability in stand structure, resulting in both even-aged and uneven-aged stands. Virgin old-growth stands where fire has been excluded are often two-storied, with the overstory comprised of mixed conifer and the understory white fir and incense-cedar. These multilayered canopies generally form with nearly 100 percent overlapping cover. When openings occur, a variety of shrubs are common. Closed canopy stand distribution can be both extensive and patchy, depending on scale, site, slope, soils, microclimate, and history. In the California Coast Ranges, populations of mixed conifer are typically disjunct (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988). The variety in plant species composition in this habitat provides diversity in food and cover, supporting a wide variety of wildlife species including some sensitive species such as northern spotted owl, fisher, and peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). Sierran mixed conifer habitat is predominantly located in the western portion of the Planning Area, outside of City limits.

Urban

This land cover type is completely anthropogenic and is composed of residential, commercial, and industrial developed areas. Plant species within urban areas are typically comprised of ornamental plants and non-native invasive plant species, with large, developed areas lacking vegetation. The urban landcover is predominantly located within the City; however, there are urban areas also within the proposed SOI and Planning Area, near U.S. Highway 101.

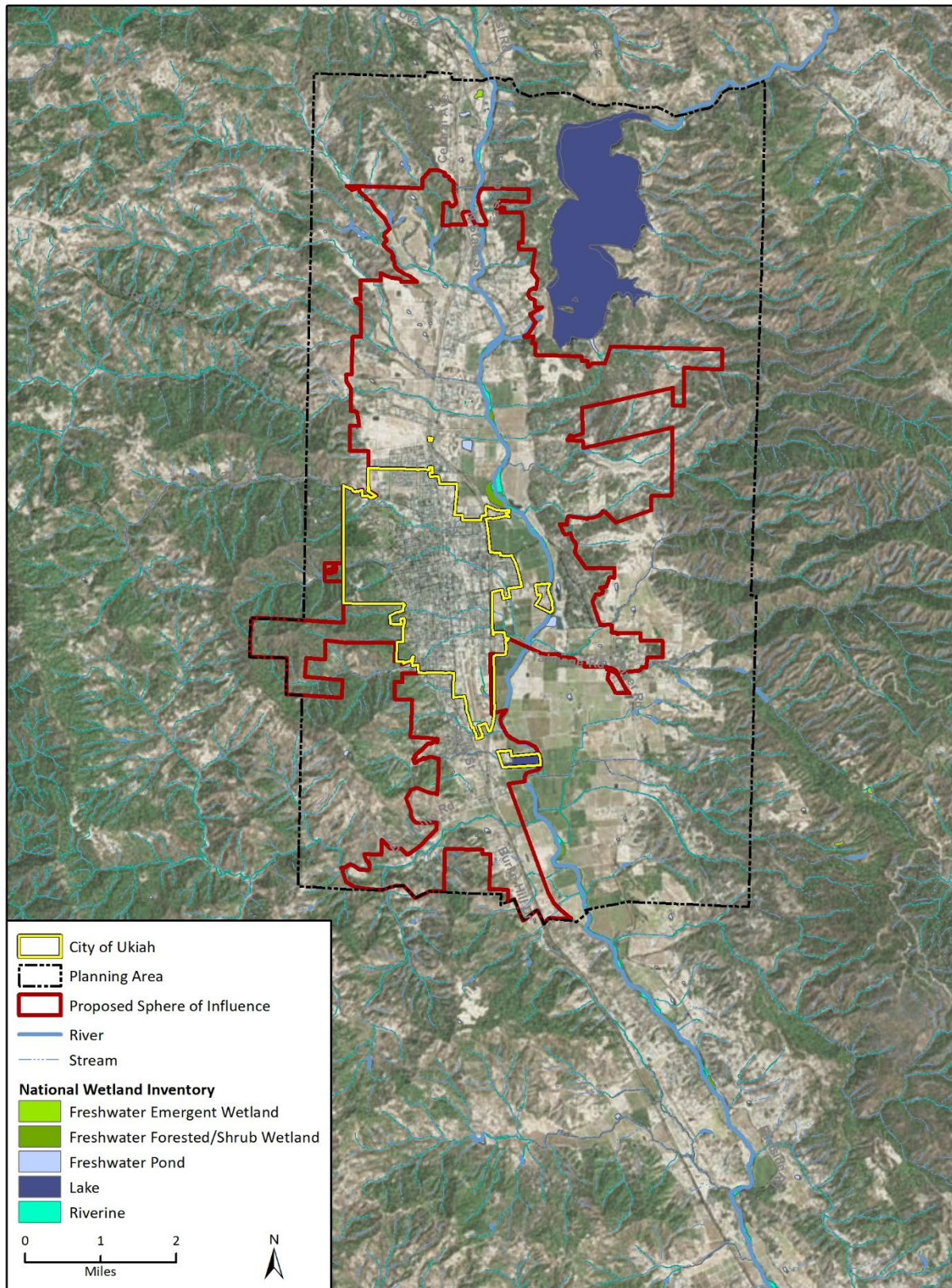
b. Wetlands and Water Features

Wetlands and water features include freshwater sloughs, marshes, vernal pools, wet meadows, springs and seeps, portions of lakes, ponds, rivers and streams, and all other areas that are periodically or permanently covered by shallow water, are dominated by hydrophytic vegetation, or have soils that are predominantly hydric in nature. The area within the City and the SOI contains wetlands and waters mapped by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) (2022). These include lacustrine and riverine features. Wetland and water features located in the Planning Area and surrounding area are shown in Figure 4.4-2.

Lacustrine

Lacustrine habitats are inland depressions or dammed riverine channels containing standing water. They may vary from small ponds less than one hectare to large areas covering several square kilometers. Depth can vary from a few centimeters to hundreds of meters. Typical lacustrine habitats include permanently flooded lakes and reservoirs (e.g., Lake Tahoe and Shasta Lake), intermittent lakes (e.g., playa lakes) and freshwater ponds (including vernal pools) so shallow that rooted plants can grow over the bottom. Most permanent lacustrine systems support fish life; intermittent types usually do not. Lacustrine features found within the Planning Area include lakes and ponds.

Figure 4.4-2 Wetlands and Waters



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Additional data provided by Mendocino County; FEMA 2021.

Fig 4.4-2 Wetlands and Waters

Riverine

Riverine habitat occurs within the Planning Area and features include intermittent or continually running water such as rivers and streams. A stream originates at an elevated source, such as a spring or lake, and flows downward at a rate relative to slope or gradient and the volume of surface runoff or discharge. Rivers and streams occur statewide, mostly between sea level and 8,000 feet. Riverine habitats can occur in association with many terrestrial habitats. Riparian habitats are found adjacent to many rivers and streams. Riverine habitats are also found contiguous to lacustrine and fresh emergent wetland habitats.

The open water zones of large rivers provide resting and escape cover for many species of waterfowl. Gulls (*Larus spp.*), terns (*Sterna spp.*), and osprey hunt in open water. Near-shore waters provide food for waterfowl, herons, shorebirds, belted-kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) and American dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*). Many species of insectivorous birds (swallows, swifts, flycatchers) hawk their prey over water. Some of the more common mammals found in riverine habitats include river otter (*Lontra canadensis*), mink (*Neovison vison*), and muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*).

c. Special-Status Species

Special-status species include those listed as rare, threatened, or endangered by CDFW or the USFWS; are candidates for either state or federal listing; have been designated as "fully protected" or "species of special concern" by USFWS and CDFW; or are other species that are tracked by the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) or California Native Plant Society (CNPS), but do not fall into any of the categories cited above. Information regarding the occurrences of special-status species in the vicinity of the Planning Area was obtained from searching the CDFW CNDDDB (CDFW 2022), USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) (February 2022), and CNPS's Electronic Inventory (CNPS 2022).¹ These databases contain records of reported occurrences of federal- or State-listed endangered, threatened, rare, or proposed endangered or threatened species, federal species of concern, State species of special concern, or otherwise sensitive species or habitat that may occur in the Planning Area. Lists from the USFWS and CDFW were also reviewed and tables of common and sensitive wildlife and plant species potentially occurring within the Planning Area were generated and are included in Appendix B. This search range encompasses a sufficient distance to accommodate for regional habitat diversity and to overcome the limitations of CNDDDB.² See Appendix B for detailed species lists.

Listed Species

Federal, State, and local authorities under a variety of legislative acts share regulatory authority over biological resources. The CDFW has direct jurisdiction under law for biological resources through the California Fish and Game Code and under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) also provides direct regulatory authority over special-status species and their habitats to the USFWS. These acts specifically regulate listed, candidate endangered species, and candidate threatened species, which are defined as follows:

- Endangered Species: any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

¹ This was done by searching for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Ukiah and Elledge Peak* along with the ten surrounding 7.5-minute quadrangles.

² CNDDDB is based on reports of actual occurrences and does not constitute an exhaustive inventory of every resource.

- **Threatened Species:** any species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant part of its range.

Special-Status Wildlife

Based on the CNDDDB search, invertebrate, fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal species of concern are known or possibly found in the Planning Area. Table 1 of Appendix B identifies animal species with the potential to occur in the Planning Area based on a search of the CNDDDB and USFWS IPaC, and presence of suitable habitat within or adjacent to the Planning Area. Two of these species have both federal, State listing status, and include the following:

- **Federally Threatened and State Threatened**
 - Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*)
- **Federally Threatened and State Endangered**
 - western yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*)

Five wildlife species with the potential to occur in the Planning Area have either federal or State protection status and include the following:

- **Federally Threatened**
 - Northern California coast distinct population segment of steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus*, pop. 16)
- **State Endangered**
 - Foothill yellow-legged frog (*Rana boylei*)
 - Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)
- **Candidate State Endangered**
 - Western bumblebee (*Bombus occidentalis*)
- **State Threatened**
 - Tricolored blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*)

State or federally listed species are accorded the highest protection status. In summary, seven special-status species have the potential to occur in the Planning Area.

Special-Status Plant Species

Special-status plant species are defined as endangered or threatened under FESA or CESA, rare under the California Native Plant Protection Act, or considered to be rare (but not formally listed) by resource agencies and the scientific community. CDFW and local governmental agencies may also recognize special-status listings developed by focal groups (i.e., Audubon Society Blue List, CNPS Rare and Endangered Plants, U.S. Forest Service regional lists). Table 2 of Appendix B shows 30 special-status plant species with the potential to occur in the Planning Area, seven of which have State and/or federal listing status (CNPS 2022). These include the following:

- **Federally Endangered and Candidate State Endangered**
 - Sonoma sunshine (*Blennosperma bakeri*)
 - Burke's goldfields (*Lasthenia burkei*)

- **Federally Endangered**
 - Contra Costa goldfields (*Lasthenia conjugens*)
- **State Endangered**
 - Roderick's fritillary (*Fritillaria roderickii*)
 - Boggs Lake hedge-hyssop (*Gratiola heterosepala*)
- **State Threatened**
 - North Coast semaphore grass (*Pleuropogon hooverianus*)
- **State Rare**
 - Baker's meadowfoam (*Limnanthes bakeri*)

d. Special-Status Habitats

Special-status habitats are vegetation communities, associations, or sub-associations that support concentrations of special-status plant and/or wildlife species, are of relatively limited distribution, or are of particular value to wildlife. Although special-status habitats are not afforded legal protection unless they support special-status species, potential impacts on them may increase concerns and trigger the prescription of mitigation measures by resource agencies for those habitats.

Sensitive habitats are special-status plant communities considered sensitive by federal, State, and local agencies due to their rarity or value in providing habitat for vegetation, fish, and wildlife. Sensitive habitats within five miles of the Planning Area include Northern Interior Cypress Forest and Serpentine Bunchgrass; however, neither of these habitats are found within the Planning Area. Because the Planning Area contains some natural or semi-natural drainages and other natural, undeveloped areas, the following special-status habitats may be present:

- Drainages, wetlands, and associated riparian vegetation under the jurisdiction of CDFW or the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) as waters of the State, or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as waters of the U.S.
- Wildlife linkages and corridors

e. Critical Habitat

Critical habitat is defined in the FESA as a specific geographic area(s) that contains features essential for the conservation of a threatened or endangered species and that may require special management and protection. Critical habitat may include an area that is not currently occupied by the species but that will be needed for its recovery. An area is designated as "critical habitat" after USFWS publishes a proposed federal regulation in the Federal Register and then receives and considers public comments on that proposal. The final boundaries of a critical habitat area, once identified, are published in the Federal Register. Critical habitat for northern spotted owl is within five miles of the Planning Area; however, no critical habitats are within the Planning Area.

f. Wildlife Movement Corridors

Wildlife movement corridors, or habitat linkages, are generally defined as connections between habitat patches that allow for physical and genetic exchange between otherwise isolated animal populations. Such linkages may serve a local purpose, such as providing a linkage between foraging and denning areas, or they may be regional in nature. Some habitat linkages may serve as migration

corridors, wherein animals periodically move away from an area and then subsequently return. Others may be important as dispersal corridors for young animals. A group of habitat linkages in an area can form a wildlife corridor network.

The California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project: A Strategy for Conserving Connected California (Spencer et al. 2010) evaluates critical wildlife movement corridors throughout California. Essential Connectivity Areas (ECA) represent the most critical wildlife movement areas for long-term conservation of California's special-status wildlife species. While ECAs do not occur in the Planning Area, the Gube Mountain – Snow Mountain ECA is approximately 1.75 miles southwest of the Planning Area, going north to south crossing the southern end of the Ukiah Valley.

Local wildlife movement corridors may be formed by creeks and drainages, uninterrupted riparian corridors, seasonal wetlands, and other natural areas, and can be used by a range of wildlife. These smaller local movement corridors may provide for access to foraging areas, localized movement associated with breeding, annual dispersal among isolated populations, and local migrations.

4.4.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (FESA) and subsequent amendments provide for the conservation of endangered and threatened species, and the ecosystems upon which they depend. FESA is intended to prevent the unlawful "take" of listed fish, wildlife, and plant species. Section 9(a)(1)(B) specifically states take of species listed as threatened or endangered is unlawful. Take is defined as any action that would harass, harm, pursue, hunt, wound, shoot, kill, trap, capture, or collect any threatened or endangered species. Section 10 of the FESA allows the USFWS to issue incidental take permits if take of a listed species may occur during otherwise lawful activities. Section 10(a)(1)(B) requires a Habitat Conservation Plan for an incidental take permit on non-federal lands. Section 7 of the FESA requires federal agencies to aid in the conservation of listed species, and to ensure that the activities of federal agencies will not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. The USFWS and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are responsible for administration of the FESA and have regulatory authority over federally listed species.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) makes it unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, or kill migratory birds, and prohibits the removal of nests occupied by migratory birds. The USFWS has regulatory authority for the MBTA.

Clean Water Act

The USACE, under provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and USACE implementing regulations, has jurisdiction over the placement of dredged or fill material into "waters of the United States." Congress enacted the CWA "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." In practice, the boundaries of certain waters subject to USACE jurisdiction under Section 404 have not been fully defined. Previous regulations codified in 1986 defined "waters of the United States" as traditional navigable waters, interstate waters, all

other waters that could affect interstate or foreign commerce, impoundments of waters of the United States, tributaries, the territorial seas, and adjacent wetlands.

On April 21, 2020, the USACE and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) published the Navigable Waters Protection Rule to define “Waters of the United States.” This rule, effective on June 22, 2020, defines four categories of jurisdictional waters, documents certain types of waters that are excluded from jurisdiction, and clarifies some regulatory terms. Under the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, “waters of the United States” include:

1. Territorial seas and traditional navigable waters;
2. Perennial and intermittent tributaries that contribute surface flow to those waters;
3. Certain Lakes and ponds, and impoundments of jurisdictional waters, and;
4. Wetlands adjacent to jurisdictional waters.

Tributaries are defined as “a river, stream, or similar naturally occurring surface water channel that contributes surface water flow to the territorial seas or traditional navigable waters in a typical year either directly or through one or more tributaries, jurisdictional lakes, ponds, and impoundments of jurisdictional waters, or adjacent wetlands.” The tributary category also includes a ditch that “either relocates a tributary, is constructed in a tributary, or is constructed in an adjacent wetland as long as the ditch is perennial or intermittent and contributes surface water flow to a traditional navigable water or territorial sea in a typical year.”

Adjacent wetlands are defined as wetlands that:

1. Abut, meaning to touch at least at one point or side of, a defined Water of the U.S.;
2. Are inundated by flooding from a defined Water of the U.S. in a typical year;
3. Are physically separated from a defined Water of the U.S. by a natural berm, bank, dune, or similar natural features or by artificial dike, barrier or similar artificial structures as long as direct hydrological surface connection to defined Waters of the U.S. are allowed; or,
4. Are impounded of Waters of the U.S. in a typical year through a culvert, flood or tide gate, pump or similar artificial structure.

The Navigable Waters Protection Rule states that the following areas not considered to be jurisdictional waters even where they otherwise meet the definitions described above:

1. Groundwater, including groundwater drained through subsurface drainage systems;
2. Ephemeral features that flow only in direct response to precipitation including ephemeral streams, swales, gullies, rills and pools;
3. Diffuse stormwater runoff and directional sheet flow over uplands;
4. Ditches that are not defined Waters of the U.S. and not constructed in adjacent wetlands subject to certain limitations;
5. Prior converted cropland;
6. Artificially irrigated areas that would revert to upland if artificial irrigation ceases;
7. Artificial lakes and ponds that are not jurisdictional impoundments and that are constructed or excavated in upland or non-jurisdictional waters;
8. Water-filled depressions constructed or excavated in upland or in non-jurisdictional waters for the purpose of obtaining fill, sand, or gravel;

9. Stormwater control features constructed or excavated in uplands or in non-jurisdictional water to convey, treat, infiltrate, or stormwater run-off;
10. Groundwater recharge, water reuse, and wastewater recycling structures constructed or excavated in upland or in non-jurisdictional waters; and,
11. Waste treatment systems.

USACE jurisdictional limits are typically identified by the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) or the landward edge of adjacent wetlands (where present). The OHWM is the “line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding area” (33 CFR 328.3).

The USACE defines wetlands as “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” (33 CFR 328.3). The USACE’s delineation procedures identify wetlands in the field based on indicators of three wetland parameters: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology.

b. State Regulations

California Endangered Species Act

The CDFW is responsible for administration of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). For projects that may affect both a State and federal listed species, compliance with the FESA will satisfy the CESA, provided the CDFW determines that the federal incidental take authorization is consistent with the CESA.

Take is defined in CFGC Section 86 as “hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill.” The CESA allows for take incidental to otherwise lawful activities under CFGC Section 2081. Project proponents wishing to obtain incidental take permits are able to do so through a permitting process outlined in California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 783. Additionally, some sensitive mammals and birds are protected by the state as Fully Protected Mammals or Fully Protected Birds, as described in the CFGC, Sections 4700 and 3511, respectively.

Projects that may result in a take of a California listed species require a take permit under the CESA. The federal and State acts lend protection to species considered rare enough by the scientific community and trustee agencies to warrant special consideration, particularly with regard to protection of isolated populations, nesting or den locations, communal roosts, and other essential habitat. Unlike the FESA, the CESA prohibits the take of not just listed endangered or threatened species, but also candidate species (species petitioned for listing).

The CESA defines an endangered species as:

...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant which is in serious danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion, of its range due to one or more causes, including loss of habitat, change in habitat, overexploitation, predation, competition, or disease.

A threatened species is defined as:

...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that, although not presently threatened with extinction, is likely to become an endangered species in the foreseeable future in the absence of the special protection and management efforts required by this chapter. Any animal determined by the commission as rare on or before January 1, 1985 is a threatened species.

Candidate species are defined as:

...a native species or subspecies of a bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, or plant that the commission has formally noticed as being under review by the department for addition to either the list of endangered species or the list of threatened species, or a species for which the commission has published a notice of proposed regulation to add the species to either list.

Candidate species may be afforded temporary protection as though they were already listed as threatened or endangered at the discretion of the Fish and Game Commission. Unlike the FESA, CESA does not include listing provisions for invertebrate species. Article 3, Sections 2080 through 2085, of the CESA addresses the taking of threatened or endangered species by stating:

...no person shall import into this State, export out of this State, or take, possess, purchase, or sell within this State, any species, or any part or product thereof, that the commission determines to be an endangered species or a threatened species, or attempt any of those acts, except as otherwise provided.

California Fish and Game Code – Nesting Bird Protection

According to CFGC Section 3503, it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird [except English sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) and European starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*)]. Sections 3503 and 3513 prohibit the taking of specific birds, their nests, eggs, or any portion thereof during the nesting season. Section 3503.5 specifically protects birds in the orders Falconiformes and Strigiformes (birds-of-prey). Section 3513 essentially overlaps with the federal MBTA, prohibiting the take or possession of any migratory nongame bird.

California Native Plant Protection Act

The California Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) was enacted in 1977 and allows the California Fish and Wildlife Commission to designate plants as rare or endangered. Currently, 64 species, subspecies, and varieties of plants are protected as rare under the NPPA. The NPPA prohibits take of endangered or rare native plants but includes some exceptions for agricultural and nursery operations; emergencies; and after properly notifying CDFW for vegetation removal from canals, roads, and other sites, changes in land use, and in certain other situations. Effective in 2015, CDFW promulgated regulations (14 CCR 786.9) under the authority of the NPPA, establishing that the CESA permitting procedures (CFG Code Section 2081) would be applied to plants listed under the NPPA as "Rare." With this change, there is little practical difference between regulations and protocols for plants listed under CESA and those listed under the NPPA.

Clean Water Act Section 401, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) have jurisdiction over "waters of the State," which are defined as any surface water or

groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state (California Water Code sec. 13050(e)). These agencies also have responsibilities for administering Section 401 of the CWA. In addition, where Federal jurisdiction is not asserted (for example, due to a lack of connectivity to a Relatively Permanent Waters [RPW] and Traditional Navigable Waters [TNW]), RWQCB assert jurisdiction over “waters of the State” pursuant to Section 13263 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, which are defined as any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the State. In this event, the SWRCB may issue general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) regarding discharges to “isolated” waters of the State if limiting criteria are not exceeded (Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ, Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredged or Fill Discharges to Waters Deemed by the USACE to be Outside of Federal Jurisdiction) or project-specific WDRs.

The SWRCB and RWQCBs have not established regulations for field determinations of waters of the state except for wetlands currently. In many cases the RWQCBs interpret the limits of waters of the State to be bounded by the OHWM unless isolated conditions or ephemeral waters are present. However, in the absence of statewide guidance each RWQCB may interpret jurisdictional boundaries within their region and the SWRCB has encouraged applicants to confirm jurisdictional limits with their RWQCB before submitting applications. As determined by the RWQCB, waters of the State may include riparian areas or other locations outside the OHWM, leading to a larger jurisdictional area over a given water body compared to the USACE.

Procedures for defining wetland waters of the State pursuant to the SWRCB’s *State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State* went into effect May 28, 2020. The SWRCB defines an area as wetland if, under normal circumstances:

- (i) the area has continuous or recurrent saturation of the upper substrate caused by groundwater, or shallow surface water, or both; the duration of such saturation is sufficient to cause anaerobic conditions in the upper substrate; and the area’s vegetation is dominated by hydrophytes or the area lacks vegetation.

The SWRCB’s *Implementation Guidance for the Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredge and Fill Material to Waters of the State* (2020), states that waters of the U.S. and waters of the State should be delineated using the standard USACE delineation procedures, taking into consideration that the methods shall be modified only to allow for the fact that a lack of vegetation does not preclude an area from meeting the definition of a wetland.

California Fish and Game Code Section 1600 et seq.

Pursuant to CFGC Section 1600, CDFW has authority over all perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral rivers, streams, and lakes in the state, and requires any person, state or local governmental agency, or public utility to notify the CDFW before beginning any activity that would “substantially divert or obstruct the natural flow of, or substantially change or use any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or deposit or dispose of debris, waste, or other material containing crumbled, flaked, or ground pavement where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake” that supports fish or wildlife resources.

A stream is defined as a “body of water that flows at least periodically or intermittently through a bed or channel having banks and supports fish or other aquatic life. This includes watercourses having a surface or subsurface flow that supports or has supported riparian vegetation” (California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Section 1.72). A Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement may be required for any proposed project that would result in an adverse impact to a river, stream, or lake.

CDFW jurisdiction typically extends to the top of the bank and out to the outer edge of adjacent riparian vegetation if present. However, CDFW can take jurisdiction over a body of flowing water and the landform that conveys it, including water sources and adjoining landscape elements that are byproducts of and affected by interactions with flowing water without regard to size, duration, or the timing of flow (Brady and Vyverberg 2013).

CDFW Special Animals List

Special-status wildlife species are those species included on the CDFW “Special Animals” list (CDFW 2020). “Special Animal” is a general term that refers to all of the taxa the CNDDDB is interested in tracking, regardless of their legal or protection status. The CDFW considers the taxa on this list to be those of greatest conservation need. The species on this list generally fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Officially listed or proposed for listing under the CESA and/or FESA
- State or Federal candidate for possible listing
- Taxa that meet the criteria for listing, even if not currently included on any list, as described in
- CEQA Guidelines Section 15380
- Taxa considered by the Department to be a Species of Special Concern
- Taxa that are biologically rare, very restricted in distribution, declining throughout their range, or have a critical vulnerable stage in their life cycle that warrants monitoring
- Populations in California that may be on the periphery of a taxon’s range but are threatened with extirpation in California

c. Local

Creek Maintenance Policies and Procedures

The City of Ukiah former Paths, Open Space, and Creeks Commission (POSCC) prepared the *Creek Maintenance Policies and Procedures* document at the direction of City Council. The document establishes policies and procedures for City crews and other agencies and organization to follow when performing creek maintenance activities, including vegetation management, culvert and bridge maintenance, and garbage and rubbish removal. Pertinent policies from the *Creek Maintenance Policies and Procedures* document are included below.

Creek Maintenance

The following creek maintenance policies are intended to address and fulfill the General Plan vision for the preservation of creeks and streams, and to guide City initiated creek maintenance activities.

Policy 1: Creek maintenance activities shall not discharge pollutants or deposit new material into the creeks.

Policy 2: Creek maintenance activities shall not result in modifications to the natural flow of water or result in a reduction of the water carrying capacity of the creek.

Policy 3: Creek maintenance activities shall not result in increased flooding.

Policy 4: Creek maintenance activities shall not adversely affect the Riparian Corridor, including Riparian Vegetation, animal wildlife or degrade its visual appearance.

Policy 5: Creek maintenance activities shall not degrade the visual quality & natural appearance of the riparian corridor.

Policy 6: Creek maintenance activities shall not endanger public or private property.

Policy 7: Creek maintenance activities shall not directly or indirectly threaten the public's health or safety.

Policy 8: Creek maintenance activities shall not conflict with any Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations for floodway or floodplain management.

Policy 9: The Director of Public Works, Director of Planning and Community Development, and Public Works Staff Crew Supervisor shall meet annually with the Paths, Open Space, and Creeks Commission and any interested group, organization, or citizen to discuss issues and problems, and to sound-board solutions.

Policy 10: Residents within 100 feet of planned work in a creek or on a creek bank shall receive 72 hours advance notice of the work when feasible.

Vegetation Management Procedures

The following vegetation management procedures are established for City Public Works crews or contract providers performing vegetation management in the creeks:

1. Prior to the start of the rainy season, perform creek reconnaissance to identify obstructions to storm water flow, and document accordingly.
2. The City shall apply for and secure all required permits from the State Department of Fish and Game and any other permitting agency prior to commencing work.
3. City Public Works Staff Supervisor shall meet with City crew or contract provider to discuss the required creek maintenance policies and procedures. Ensure that crew supervisors understand the policies and procedures and how they apply to the specific job being undertaken.
4. The City shall provide direct supervision to all City crew and any contract providers to ensure that the creek maintenance policies are not violated. Copies of the Policies and Procedures shall be provided and explained to all workers.
5. Every effort shall be made to preserve all native riparian trees. No tree shall be removed unless it creates an obvious and significant obstruction to storm water runoff, is in imminent danger of falling and obstructing future storm water flows, or significantly reduces the carrying capacity of the creek. The City Engineer shall have final authority to determine whether an obstruction is obvious and significant.
6. Before any tree is removed, the City Staff Supervisor shall consider the necessity of removal, and whether or not its removal will negatively impact the health of the creek.
7. The pruning of trees shall be limited to branches that create an obvious and significant obstruction to storm water runoff.
8. City Staff Supervisor shall perform routine monitoring of City crew staff or contract providers during the work days to ensure that the creek maintenance policies are not violated.
9. Vegetation removal shall emphasize non-native species such as periwinkle (*Vinca major*), Himalayan blackberry, pampas grass, English ivy, giant reed (*Arundo donax*) and other species. Removal techniques shall be performed by tarping, mowing, root removal, use of hand tools and small machinery and equipment. The use of herbicides shall not be permitted within 25-feet

of the riparian corridor unless it is determined to be the least damaging technique to remove exotic plants.

Culvert and Bridge Maintenance Procedures

The following procedures are established for culvert and bridge maintenance:

1. Prior to the rainy season, perform creek reconnaissance to identify obstructions to storm water flow, and document accordingly.
2. The City shall apply for and secure all required permits from the State Department of Fish and Game and any other permitting agency prior to commencing work.
3. The City Staff Supervisor shall meet with City crew staff to discuss the City creek maintenance policies and culvert and bridge maintenance procedures. Ensure that crew supervisors understand the policies and procedures.
4. Remove all logs and debris that are blocking culverts, lodged against bridges, or causing a significant obstruction to the flow of storm water.
5. Gravel shall be removed from culverts and redistributed in the stream channel pursuant to the techniques and procedures established by the State Department of Fish and Game.
6. Routinely monitor all culverts and bridges during storm events and remove logs and debris that are obstructing the flow of storm water.

Garbage and Rubbish Removal Procedures

The following procedures are established for the removal of garbage and rubbish from creeks:

1. City crews shall perform annual creek clean-ups to remove the identified obstructions before the start of the rainy season. The City shall encourage and support volunteer creek clean-up efforts.
2. Identifiable items such as shopping carts shall be reported to the City Code Compliance Coordinator who shall contact the owners and notify them of possible violations of the Ukiah City Code.
3. Support the efforts of community groups, schools, and others who organize volunteer creek clean-up activities.

Ukiah City Code (Section 1978 Molesting Wild Animals And Birds)

Section 1978 of the Ukiah City Code identifies that it shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally molest, harm, frighten, kill, trap, chase, tease, shoot or throw projectiles at any animal, reptile or bird, or remove or have in his possession the young of any wild animal, or the eggs or nest or young of any reptile or bird.

4.4.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

Based on Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* a project may be deemed to have a significant impact on biological resources if it would:

1. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
2. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service;
3. Have a substantial adverse effect on State or Federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means;
4. Interfere substantially (i.e., direct/indirect reduction) with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites;
5. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance; or
6. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Preservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or State habitat conservation plan.

Methodology

The impact analysis is based on available literature regarding the existing biological resources within the Planning Area. Impacts to biological resources were assessed using significance criteria from federal, State, and local regulations. Impacts to flora and fauna may be determined to be significant even if they do not directly affect rare, threatened, or endangered species because development projected by the project may result in indirect impacts to species.

CEQA Statute Section 21001 (c) states that it is the policy of the State of California to “prevent the elimination of fish and wildlife species due to man’s activities, ensure that fish and wildlife populations do not drop below self-perpetuating levels, and preserve for future generations representations of all plant and animal communities.” Impacts on biological resources may be assessed using impact significance criteria encompassing *CEQA Guidelines* and federal, State, and local plans, regulations, and ordinances.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Impact BIO-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO MODIFY HABITAT THAT COULD AFFECT SPECIAL-STATUS SPECIES DURING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION. IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS AND POLICIES, AS WELL AS MITIGATION MEASURES BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, AND BIO-4 WOULD ENSURE RIPARIAN HABITAT AND WETLANDS ARE NOT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

As discussed, in Section 4.4.1, *Setting*, the Planning Area, including the City and Annexation Areas contain habitat for several special-status species. The City and Annexation Areas contain streams, grasslands, riparian woodland and forests, which could be habitat for special status plants and animals, which are identified in Appendix B and include species, such as western pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*), foothill yellow-legged frog, Northern spotted owl, special-status birds, Roderick's fritillary (*Fritillaria roderickii*), nesting birds, and roosting bats.

The proposed goals and policies of Ukiah 2040 support growth and development within the City and Annexation Areas. Therefore, development facilitated under the project could have significant impacts to special-status species. However, one of the guiding principles of the project is to manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations. All development under the project would be subject to the provisions of the various federal and State natural resources regulations (discussed in Section 4.4.2, *Regulatory Setting*) and their respective permitting processes. These include identification of potential jurisdictional waters and consultation with applicable regulatory agencies. The goals and policies in Ukiah 2040 that would encourage the conservation and protection of public open space and natural resources include the following:

Goal ENV-1: Preserve open space land for the commercial agricultural and productive uses, the protection and use of natural resources, the enjoyment of scenic beauty and recreation, protection of tribal resources, and the protection from natural hazards.

Policy ENV-1.1: Landscaping Compatibility. The City shall require landscaping in new development to be compatible with preservation and restoration goals of open space management and native vegetation.

Policy ENV-1.2: Open Space Management. The City shall manage and maintain City-owned open spaces to preserve the integrity of these public spaces.

Goal ENV-4: To conserve and protect the city's natural woodlands and water resources for future generations.

Policy ENV-4.1: Habitat Preservation. The City shall require new development to preserve and enhance natural areas that serve, or may potentially serve, as habitat for special-status species. Where preservation is not feasible, the City shall require appropriate mitigation.

Policy ENV-4.3: Interconnected Greenways. The City shall require new development to incorporate and facilitate interconnected greenways that support wildlife conservation and recreational purposes.

Policy ENV-4.4: River and Creek Preservation. The City shall work cooperatively with the County and private landowners to develop pedestrian access along creeks flowing through the City where safe and feasible to do so and where it will not cause adverse impacts.

Goal ENV-5: To ensure the health and viability of the Russian River fisheries and tributaries.

Policy ENV-5.1: Local Collaboratives. The City shall participate in local collaborative efforts to restore and preserve the health of the Russian River as a habitat for riparian species.

Policy ENV-5.2: Community Education. The City shall work with schools' education providers, and non-profit community groups, to organize educational trips, cleanup days, and similar activities that promote involvement with and knowledge of the Russian River habitat.

Policy ENV-5.3: Russian River Riparian Area. The City shall support the County in maintaining the Russian River as a natural riparian corridor.

Goal ENV-6: To preserve and restore creeks, streams, riparian areas, and wetlands.

Policy ENV-6.1: Restoration Master Plans. The City shall establish a Creek and Stream Restoration Master Plan for each creek flowing through the City limits.

Policy ENV-6.2: Contamination and Sedimentation Prevention. The City shall require new development to use site preparation, grading, and construction techniques that prevent contamination and sedimentation of creeks and streams.

Policy ENV-6.3: Waterway Restoration. The City shall encourage and provide resources to landowners in the city to remove invasive species, plant native plant species, and prevent pollution from entering local creeks and waterways.

Policy ENV-6.4: Waterway Channelization. The City shall actively support the use of natural waterways within the city by avoiding any new waterway channelization within the city and collaborating with local and regional agencies to restore channelized waterways where feasible.

Policy ENV-6.5: Creek Protection. The City shall require new development located adjacent to stream corridors to include appropriate measures for creek bank stabilization, erosion and sedimentation prevention, and natural creek channel and riparian vegetation preservation.

Policy ENV-6.6: Erosion Control Plans. The City shall require new development that requires significant grading near creeks, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas to prepare erosion control plans that address grading practices that prevent soil erosion, loss of topsoil, and drainageway scour, consistent with biological and aesthetic values.

Policy ENV-6.7: Public Open Space. The City shall work with Mendocino County and the Public Spaces Commission to identify and select appropriate locations along creek channels, hillsides, and ridgelines that would be appropriate for future acquisition and development as trails, pocket parks, wildlife preserves, or other public open space.

Policy ENV-6.8: Research and Educational Access. The City shall work with public and private landowners adjacent to creeks to allow public access to creeks, streams, waterways, and riparian areas for educational and research programs.

Implementation of these goals and policies would help reduce direct and indirect impacts to habitat for special-status species. However, without a site-specific biological resource assessment, it cannot be determined what impacts a project would have to habitat for special-status species. Therefore,

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would be implemented, which would require the addition of a policy into Ukiah 2040, requiring the preparation of a Biological Resource Assessment for future projects. In addition, the proposed goals and polices generally aim at protecting sensitive and protected species, if vegetation and trees are to be trimmed or removed during project construction or if construction would occur proximate to trees and vegetation, nesting birds, roosting bats, or other special-status species could be impacted. Therefore, impacts would be potentially significant and Mitigation Measures BIO-2 and BIO-3 would be required for projects with the potential to impact biological resources. Development facilitated by the project would introduce new buildings which may increase the risk of bird strikes. Therefore, this impact would be potentially significant and Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would be required for new buildings that could result in avian collisions.

Mitigation Measures

BIO-1 Recommended Policy for Biological Resource Assessment

The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040:

Policy ENV-4.9: Biological Resource Assessment. The City shall require that new development proposed in or adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas, to complete a site-specific biological resource assessment prepared by a qualified biologist that establishes the existing resources present.

BIO-2 Pre-Construction Bird Surveys, Avoidance, and Notification

For construction activities initiated during the bird nesting season (February 1 – September 15), involving removal of vegetation, abandoned structures, man-made features, or other nesting bird habitat, a pre-construction nesting bird survey shall be conducted no more than 14 days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal. The nesting bird pre-construction survey shall be conducted on foot and shall include a buffer around the construction site at a distance determined by a qualified biologist. The survey shall be conducted by a qualified biologist familiar with the identification of avian species known to occur in the Mendocino Region. If nests are found, an avoidance buffer shall be determined by the biologist dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site. The buffer shall be demarcated by the biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to demarcate the boundary. All construction personnel shall be notified of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities shall occur within the buffer until the biologist has confirmed that breeding/nesting is completed and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer shall occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist on the basis that the encroachment will not be detrimental to an active nest. A report summarizing the pre-construction survey(s) shall be prepared by a qualified biologist and shall be submitted to the City prior to the commencement of construction activities.

Project site plans shall include a statement acknowledging compliance with the federal MBTA and California Fish and Game Code that includes avoidance of active bird nests and identification of Best Management Practices to avoid impacts to active nests, including checking for nests prior to construction activities during February 1 to September 15, and what to do if an active nest is found so that the nest is not inadvertently impacted during grading or construction activities.

BIO-3 Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance Prior to Removal

Prior to tree and structure removal, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused survey of all trees and structures to be removed or impacted by construction activities to determine whether active roosts of special-status bats are present on site. Tree or structure removal shall be planned for either the spring or the fall, and timed to ensure both suitable conditions for the detection of bats and adequate time for tree and/or structure removal to occur during seasonal periods of bat activity exclusive of the breeding season, as described below. Trees and/or structures containing suitable potential bat roost habitat features shall be clearly marked or identified. If no bat roosts are found, the results of the survey will be documented and submitted to the City within 30 days of the survey, after which no further action will be required.

If day roosts are present, the biologist shall prepare a site-specific roosting bat protection plan to be implemented by the contractor following the City's approval. The plan shall incorporate the following guidance as appropriate:

- When possible, removal of trees/structures identified as suitable roosting habitat shall be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, including the following:
 - Between September 1 and about October 15, or before evening temperatures fall below 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs.
 - Between March 1 and April 15, or after evening temperatures rise above 45 degrees Fahrenheit and/or no more than 0.5 inch of rainfall within 24 hours occurs.
- If a tree/structure must be removed during the breeding season and is identified as potentially containing a colonial maternity roost, then a qualified biologist shall conduct acoustic emergence surveys or implement other appropriate methods to further evaluate if the roost is an active maternity roost. Under the biologist's guidance, the contractor shall implement measures similar to or exceeding the following:
 - If it is determined that the roost is not an active maternity roost, then the roost may be removed in accordance with the other requirements of this measure.
 - If it is found that an active maternity roost of a colonial roosting species is present, the roost shall not be disturbed during the breeding season (April 15 to August 31).
- Tree removal procedures shall be implemented using a two-step tree removal process. This method is conducted over two consecutive days and works by creating noise and vibration by cutting non-habitat branches and limbs from habitat trees using chainsaws only (no excavators or other heavy machinery) on day one. The noise and vibration disturbance, together with the visible alteration of the tree, is very effective in causing bats that emerge nightly to feed to not return to the roost that night. The remainder of the tree is removed on day two.
- Prior to the demolition of vacant structures within the project site, a qualified biologist shall conduct a focused habitat assessment of all structures to be demolished. The habitat assessment shall be conducted enough in advance to ensure the commencement of building demolition can be scheduled during seasonal periods of bat activity (see above), if required. If no signs of day roosting activity are observed, no further actions will be required. If bats or signs of day roosting by bats are observed, a qualified biologist will prepare specific recommendations such as partial dismantling to cause bats to abandon the roost, or humane eviction, both to be conducted during seasonal periods of bat activity, if required.

If the qualified biologist determines a roost is used by a large number of bats (large hibernaculum), bat boxes shall be installed near the project site. The number of bat boxes installed will depend on the size of the hibernaculum and shall be determined through consultation with CDFW. If a maternity colony has become established, all construction activities shall be postponed within a 500-foot buffer around the maternity colony until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have dispersed. Once it has been determined that the roost is clear of bats, the roost shall be removed immediately.

BIO-4 Bird Safe Design

Development shall incorporate bird-friendly building materials and design features, including but not limited to the following:

- There are no “see through” passageways or corners.
- Outside lighting is appropriately shielded and directed to minimize attraction to night migrating or nocturnal birds.
- Interior lighting is turned off at night if not in use and designed to minimize light escaping through windows during night operation.
- Landscaping is designed without features known to increase collisions.

The City shall review and approve the bird-friendly building materials and design features prior to project approval.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3 would reduce potential impacts to special-status species, including nesting bird and roosting bats from development facilitated by the project to less than significant levels by requiring pre-construction surveys and avoidance of nesting birds and roosting bats. In addition, implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would reduce potential bird collision impacts to a less than significant level through the incorporation of bird friendly building and design features on future buildings. As such, impacts to special-status species would be less than significant after mitigation.

<p>Threshold 2: Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?</p>
<p>Threshold 3: Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?</p>

Impact BIO-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT COULD ADVERSELY IMPACT RIPARIAN HABITAT OR OTHER SENSITIVE NATURAL COMMUNITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION AND/OR OPERATION. IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS AND POLICIES, AS WELL AS MITIGATION MEASURE BIO-1 WOULD ENSURE RIPARIAN HABITAT AND WETLANDS ARE NOT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

As stated in Section 4.4.1 *Setting*, riparian habitats and other sensitive natural communities have been recorded in and around the Planning Area, including within the City and Annexation Areas. According to the National Wetlands Inventory database (see Figure 4.4-2), Gibson Creek, Doolin Creek, and Orrs Creek are in the City and Annexation Areas and are designated as Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (USFWS 2022). Development near or bisected by sensitive natural communities, waterways and other tributaries and drainages would potentially be subject to USACE, CDFW, and RWQCB permitting requirements.

Development facilitated by the project within or adjacent to sensitive habitats could result in potential direct impacts through removal of vegetation, filling of wetland habitat, compaction of soils, and/or indirect impacts through dust and vegetation thinning. The issuance of a grading permit by the City Engineer for projects requires obtaining other State or federal permits. These include but are not limited to streambed alteration permits from the CDFW and permits for grading in the vicinity of wetlands and certain watercourses from the USACE. These permit clearances may also be required as conditions of approval for grading work to commence. Approval of permits also requires findings that the proposed grading will not result in erosion, stream sediment, or other adverse off-site effects to riparian habitat.

During construction on sites one acre or larger, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan Best Management Practices would be required by the NPDES construction general permit and would reduce the potential for eroded soil and contaminants to contaminate a waterbody following a storm event. Additionally, Ukiah City Code Section 9703 provides design standards to address erosion and sedimentation. Development facilitated by the project would employ low impact development techniques and stormwater control measures as outlined in the Ukiah City Code (Section 4, Chapter 8). Impacts related to drainage and pollution are further discussed in Section 4.9, *Hydrology and Water Quality*.

Ukiah 2040 contains proposed goals and policies that would further reduce impacts to riparian and wetland habitats, along with other sensitive natural communities. Goal ENV-4, Policies ENV-4.1 through ENV-4.3, Goal ENV-6, and Policies ENV-6.1 through ENV-6.8 (shown in Impact BIO-1) address development in or near riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities.

Implementation of these proposed goals and policies would reduce direct and indirect modifications to sensitive natural communities, creeks, embankments, and other waterways. If jurisdictional waters occur on any future development facilitated by the project, jurisdictional delineations and RWQCB permits would be required and would address potential impacts to those waters. In

addition, sensitive natural communities may be impacted by future development, resulting in a potentially significant impact. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would recommend that a policy be added in Ukiah 2040, to require a Biological Resources Assessment for future projects. The Biological Resources Assessment would identify any sensitive natural communities that might be impacted by future development.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure BIO-1 (see Impact BIO-1)

Significance After Mitigation

If sensitive natural communities are identified during the planning stages as required under Mitigation Measure BIO-1, consultation with federal, state, and local regulatory agencies along with their respective permits would be required. Adherence to state and federal regulations, the Ukiah City Code, Mitigation Measure BIO-1, and implementation of proposed goals and policies would reduce impacts on sensitive natural communities from future development to a less than significant level. Impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

Threshold 4: Would the project interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

Impact BIO-3 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD AVOID IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE MOVEMENT CORRIDORS BY CONSERVING NATURAL AREAS, AS DIRECTED BY PROPOSED POLICIES AND WOULD MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE MOVEMENT THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF MITIGATION MEASURE BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, AND BIO-4. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

Much of the City is developed and urbanized; however riparian corridors and other undeveloped areas in the SOI may provide corridors for wildlife movement, including migratory birds, northern spotted owl, and foothill yellow-legged frog. Ukiah 2040 contains proposed goals and policies that would reduce impacts to wildlife movement. Goal ENV-4, Policies ENV-4.1 through ENV-4.3, Goal ENV-6, and Policies ENV-6.1 through ENV-6.8 (shown in Impact BIO-1) address development in or near wildlife corridors, including riparian habitat and other sensitive natural communities.

Goal ENV-4 and its associated policies identifies that habitat preservation and endangered species protection is a priority for the City. In addition, riparian corridors, which provide corridors for resident and migratory species through the City and Annexation Areas would be protected by Goal ENV-6. Nonetheless, future construction could occur during migration periods or within/near habitat and breeding habitat, and impacts would be potentially significant. Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would be required for projects with the potential to affect wildlife movement. In addition, Mitigation Measures BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4 would be implemented to minimize impacts related to migratory birds and bats.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, and BIO-4 (see Impact BIO-1)

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measure BIO-1 would require the addition of a policy in Ukiah 2040, to require a Biological Resources Assessment for future projects. The Biological Resources Assessment would identify the potential for migratory species to occur on development sites during the migration season and would include appropriate measures to reduce impacts to migrating species, such as the northern spotted owl and foothill yellow-legged frog. In addition, Mitigation Measures BIO-2 and BIO-3 would require measures to protect migratory birds and bats. Mitigation Measure BIO-4 would require the implementation of design features to reduce bird collisions, which would help protect migratory birds. Implementation of Mitigation Measures BIO-1, BIO-2, BIO-3, BIO-4, and proposed goals and policies in Ukiah 2040 would reduce impacts to migratory species to less than significant.

Threshold 5: Would the project conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Impact BIO-4 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD CONFORM WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL POLICIES PROTECTING BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Development facilitated by the project would be required to comply with the Ukiah City Code Section 9229 – Tree Preservation and Planting Requirements and Ukiah City Code Section 1978. The Tree Preservation and Protection ordinance provides standards for a tree removal permit and replacement plantings for any protected tree that would be removed during construction. In addition to requiring tree removal permits, the Ordinance requires measures to protect existing trees during construction. The Tree Preservation and Planting Requirements states the importance of trees’ preservation and proper maintenance to the health, safety, and welfare of Ukiah citizens. The Ordinance further defines which street trees are permitted and the process of tree planting, alteration, removal, or relocation of trees in public spaces. In addition to the Ukiah City Code Section 1978, the following Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies establish guidance protecting biological resources.

Goal ENV-2: To maintain and enhance the urban forest to create a sense of urban space and cohesiveness with the surrounding natural environment.

Policy ENV-2.1: City Tree Inventories. The City shall update and maintain City tree inventories to support landmark trees preservation and urban biodiversity, including trees designated for streets and parking lots.

Policy ENV-2.2: Protect Healthy Trees. The City shall review new construction and landscaping site plans to ensure that healthy trees are not removed unnecessarily.

Policy ENV-2.3: Accommodation of Trees along Roadways. The City shall ensure future roadway plans accommodate existing and new trees without compromising sidewalk accessibility.

Implementation of proposed Ukiah 2040 goals and policies would require protection of native and heritage trees consistent with the Ukiah City Code along with habitat, and sensitive natural communities. The project would be consistent with local policies and ordinances. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 6: Would the project conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

Impact BIO-5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF AN ADOPTED HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN, NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLAN, OR OTHER APPROVED LOCAL, REGIONAL, OR STATE HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN. NO IMPACT WOULD OCCUR.

There are no habitat conservation plans or natural community conservation plans adopted in the Planning Area, including the City and the Annexation Areas. Therefore, the project and any associated development facilitated by the project would not conflict with any such plans. No impact would occur.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

4.5 Cultural Resources

This section analyzes the impacts to cultural resources, including potential impacts to archaeological and historic resources in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 due to the project. Potential impacts to tribal cultural resources are addressed in Section 4.12, *Tribal Cultural Resources*. Potential impacts to paleontological resources are addressed in Section 4.15, *Paleontological Resources*.

4.5.1 Setting

a. Precontact Setting

During the twentieth century, many archaeologists developed chronological sequences to explain precontact cultural changes within portions of northern California (Moratto 1984; Jones and Klar 2007). The city of Ukiah lies within the Northwest California archaeological region. The following chronology for the region is based on work by Hildebrandt (2007) and Fredrickson (1984) and can be generally divided into four periods: the Pleistocene- Holocene transition (11,500 to 8,000 Before Common Era [B.C.]), the Early Holocene (8,000 to 5,000 B.C.), the Middle Holocene (5,000 to 2,000 B.C.), and the Late Holocene (Post 2,000 B.C.). Archaeologists have identified certain cultural patterns that coincide with the time periods in this chronology.

Pleistocene-Holocene Transition (ca. 11,500 to 8,000 B.C.)

Although little is known about this period in the Northwest region, the cultural pattern that coincides with this period is referred to as the Post Pattern. Material culture of the Post Pattern includes flaked stone crescents and fluted projectile points. Archaeological sites representative of the Pleistocene-Holocene transition have been found in the Northwest California region near Clear Lake and near Cache Creek in Lake County. Isolated finds dating to this period have been found in Mendocino County and at Bodega Head (Fredrickson 1984; Hildebrandt 2007).

Early Holocene (8,000 to 5,000 B.C.)

The Early Holocene in Northwest California is primarily categorized by the Borax Lake Pattern, a cultural pattern archaeologists noted throughout the interior of Northwest California that suggests early people were foragers who moved seasonally to find food and supplies (Hildebrandt 2007). This pattern is categorized by large, wide-stemmed projectile points, flake tools, handstones, and millingslabs and is found in a variety of contexts; however, only one Borax Lake Pattern site has been identified near the ocean: HUM-513/H. Site HUM-513/H is a hunting camp located approximately two kilometers from the coast that appears to have focused on hunting Roosevelt elk (Fredrickson 1984; Hildebrandt 2007). Around 6,500 B.C., archaeologists noted another cultural pattern, the Berkeley Pattern, early representations of which appear around the Clear Lake area. The Berkeley Pattern is characterized by stable, long-term settlements, formal burial patterns, the use of a pestle to process acorns, and a separation of daily living areas and burial sites (Hildebrandt 2007).

Middle Holocene (5,000 to 2,000 B.C.)

The Middle Holocene is poorly represented in the Northwest California archaeological record, particularly the early part of the period (Hildebrandt 2007). North of Cape Mendocino, no evidence

of humans has been identified until after 3,000 B.C., when the Mendocino Pattern begins. Artifacts representing this cultural pattern include various projectile points, handstones and millingslabs, and several types of flake tools. Most Mendocino Pattern sites appear to be temporary camps or short-term residential bases where people lived seasonally, gathering food and other resources from nearby.

Late Holocene (Post 2,000 B.C.)

The Late Holocene in the North Coast region of Northwest California exhibits a continuation of the Mendocino Pattern of the Middle Holocene, though by A.D. 500 it does not spread north of Central Mendocino County. After A.D. 500, archaeologists note a significant change in the archaeological record represented by the emergence of the Gunther Pattern in the north and the Augustine Pattern in the south. The Gunther Pattern, which spans from the Sonoma-Mendocino County line to the California-Oregon border, is represented by Gunther barbed projectile points and concave-based points used on harpoons, ground and polished stone artifacts, and artistic items. Archaeologists interpret this pattern as evidence of specialized riverine and coastal adaptation by indigenous groups. Gunther Pattern sites have defined living spaces, cemeteries, storage spaces, and midden areas for discarding refuse. South of the Sonoma-Mendocino county line, the Augustine Pattern is not as tightly defined. Some sites appear to have been visited seasonally (SON-458, SON-250/H, and SON-670/H) while others seem to have been lived in year-round, like sites that have characteristics of the Berkeley Pattern (SON-159 and SON-348/H). Common aspects of the Augustine Pattern include the presence of Olivella and clamshell disk beads and Haliotis ornaments, and partial or full cremations of deceased individuals (Hildebrandt 2007).

b. Ethnographic Background

The City of Ukiah is in the traditional ancestral lands of the Northern Pomo, which early ethnographers described as spanning along the coast from Fort Bragg to the Navarro River and stretching eastward to Clear Lake. Ethnographers referred to the people in this indigenous group as the Northern Pomo because they spoke of one of the seven Pomo language dialects that ethnographers distinguished based on geographic location (McLendon and Oswalt 1978; Golla 2007). Thus, the Northern Pomo lands were bordered to the south by the Central Pomo and to the east by Eastern Pomo. Ethnographers noted Yukian groups living to the north (Welch 2013).

The ethnographic Pomo lived in a series of independent groups of several hundred to 1,000 people that ethnographers referred to as tribelets. Most tribelet groups were named after the geographical area where they lived. Ethnographers also described smaller Pomo village communities with fewer people, who moved between different territories as the seasons changed and existed with a variety of land and resources including coastal areas, forests, riversides, and valleys. They built dome-shaped winter shelters with sunken floors covered in thick grass, and summer shelters from brush and light grasses. Pomo villages usually had a sweat house and meeting house (Barrett 1908).

Ethnographic Pomo villages were governed by councilmen or captains called *tca ka-li* who largely acted as advisors and had limited authority. Ethnographers classified two types of captains in Northern Pomo villages, the Lesser Captain and the Big Captain. The Lesser Captain was charged with considering the general community welfare of the larger family units, while the Big Captain served to assist with more overarching decisions, such as settling feuds and disputes (Barrett 1908).

Obtaining food and other resources were part of the overall lifeways for the ethnographic Pomo, and typically involved hunting, gathering, and fishing. Acorns were a primary staple, and they were gathered in the fall and stored for winter (Bean and Theodoratus 1978). Other important plants

included Buckeye nuts, berries, and seeds from at least 15 types of grasses, roots, and bulbs. Big game included deer, elk, and antelope. Pomo material goods included obsidian and chert tools, intricate basketry, and other tools, games, and other implements made from bone and shell (Bean and Theodoratus 1978).

c. Historic Setting

Post-Contact history for the state of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1822), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish Period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican Period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican-American War, signals the beginning of the American Period when California became a territory of the United States.

Spanish Period (1769 – 1822)

Spanish explorers made sailing expeditions along the coast of California between the mid-1500s and mid-1700s. In 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo led the first European expedition to observe what was known by the Spanish as Alta (upper) California. For more than 200 years, Cabrillo and other European explorers sailed the Alta California coast and made limited inland expeditions, never establishing permanent settlements (Bean 1968; Rolle 2003). In 1769, the Spanish crown laid claim to Alta California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Sebastian Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885; Gumprecht 1999).

By the 18th century, Spain developed a three-pronged approach to secure its hold on the territory and counter against other foreign explorers with the institution of military forts known as presidios, missions (churches), and pueblos (towns) throughout Alta California. The missions and presidios were constructed to integrate the Native American populations into Christianity and communal enterprise, as well as to establish settlements for Spanish settlers. In 1769, Captain Gaspar de Portola led overland expeditions of California, establishing Spanish settlements along the way. At the same time, Franciscan Father Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of the 21 missions established in Alta California between 1769 and 1823. The closest mission to the City of Ukiah was Mission San Francisco Solano founded in 1823 in Sonoma, California as the 21st California Mission (California Missions 2022). The mission is approximately 70 miles south of Ukiah.

Spain began issuing land grants for vast swaths of land known as ranchos in 1784. The ranchos were typically granted to retiring soldiers. The grantees were only permitted to inhabit and work the land as the land titles technically remained property of the Spanish king (Livingston 1914). Alta California was eventually referred to as the colony of New Spain by the Spanish.

Mexican Period (1822 – 1848)

Several factors kept growth within New Spain to a minimum, including the threat of foreign invasion, political dissatisfaction, and unrest among the indigenous population. After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts.

American Period (1848 – Present)

The United States went to war with Mexico in 1846. The war ended in 1848 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ushering California into its American Period (Kyle 2002). California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. territories (Waugh 2003). Horticulture and livestock, based primarily on cattle as the currency and staple of the rancho system, continued to dominate the California economy through 1850s. The discovery of gold in the northern part of the state led to the Gold Rush beginning in 1848, and with the influx of people seeking gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides but also as a source of meat and other goods.

A severe drought in the 1860s decimated cattle herds and drastically affected rancheros' source of income. In addition, property boundaries that were loosely established during the Mexican era led to disputes with new incoming settlers, problems with squatters, and lawsuits. Rancheros often were encumbered by debt and the cost of legal fees to defend their property. As a result, much of the rancho lands were sold or otherwise acquired by Americans. Most of these ranchos were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns (Dumke 1944).

Local History

The area surrounding Ukiah was historically part of the Yokayo Rancho, granted in 1845 by Governor Pío Pico to Cayetano Juarez. Juarez, captain of a militia, was already in possession of the land grant for Rancho Tocolay, located in present-day Napa County. The City of Ukiah was within the Yokayo land grant boundary and the city derived its name phonetically from Yokayo in the 1850s. Sam Lowery is the first individual of record to have established a settlement in the area by 1856, which he sold to A.T. Perkins within a year (Kyle 2002). One of the earliest establishments in the area was the Vichy Hot Springs, east of Ukiah. The hot springs were originally used by the Pomo tribes but were taken over by settlers who established a resort in 1854, which is still in operation today (Kyle 2002). The resort made Ukiah into a popular stopping point and was visited by several notable people, including Jack London, Mark Twain, and Presidents Grant and Harrison (Bergere 2009).

Mendocino County was formed with the creation of California in 1850, and Sonoma County officials administered the affairs of both counties until 1859 when Ukiah was selected as the county seat. At the time only 100 people were living in the Russian River Valley (Kyle 2002). By 1860 the town was surveyed and mapped, and it was incorporated in 1876. The rich river-bottom soils of the Ukiah Valley made the area well-suited for farming; therefore, Ukiah's early economy was largely based on agriculture. The Johnson, Cunningham, and Thomas families established the earliest farms and pear orchards in the valley (Bergere 2009). As the area was also rich in dense forests, lumber was also a dominant economic driver in the area (Bergere 2009). The arrival of the railroad in 1889 led to increased residential and commercial development (ACHP 2022). Expanding beyond the original town settlement along State Street, Ukiah now extended west to Thompson Street and north to Todd Street (ProQuest 2022).

Into the late 1800s and early 1900s, Ukiah continued to grow as a city. The Ukiah Latitude Observatory was established in 1899 as part of a worldwide network located on the 39th parallel to measure variation in latitude, because of the wobble of the earth's axis. By 1911, the city had

expanded north to Low Gap Road and west to South Highland Avenue (ProQuest 2022). With special excursion-rate train tickets and, in the 1920s, the promotion of the Redwood Highway (U.S. Highway 101), tourism took hold. Several wineries opened in the area in the 1930s including the Parducci Winery in 1931, which was the northern-most winery in California for several years (Kyle 2002). Along with tourism, wineries became a viable economic source for the city up to the present. After World War II, the lumber boom of the late 1940s supported a large part of Ukiah's early population, as the logging of redwoods was a major industry at that time (ACHP 2022). To support the expanding population, post-war Federal Housing Administration housing tracts were constructed south, east, and north of downtown, but their development was limited compared to other cities in California (UCSB 2022). Development was limited until the 1980s when U.S. Highway 101 was expanded and former agricultural fields around the highway were developed with housing and commercial uses (NETR Online 2022).

d. Previously Identified Cultural Resources

A review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) shows that Ukiah contains five historic properties listed on the NRHP, two resources listed as California State Landmarks, and no resources listed as California Points of Historical Interest. Resources listed on the NRHP are automatically listed on the CRHR, and no additional resources are listed on the CRHR.

- **NRHP and CRHR Listed Resources**

- Held-Poage House
- Charles Hofman House
- Palace Hotel
- Sun House
- Ukiah Main Post Office

- **California State Landmarks**

- Sun House
- Ukiah Vichy Springs Resort

A review of the State Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD) shows approximately 250 built environment resources have been surveyed within the City of Ukiah and each have been given one or more of the following status codes:

- 1S: "Individual property listed in NR [National Register] by the Keeper. Listed in the CR [California Register]."
- 3S: "Appears eligible for NR as an individual property through survey evaluation."
- 5S2: "Individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation."
- 6Y: "Determined ineligible for NR by consensus through Section 106 process – Not evaluated for CR or Local Listing."
- 7N: "Needs to be reevaluated (Formerly NR Status Code 4)".

Though resources have been recommended eligible for local listing, the City of Ukiah does not have a local preservation ordinance or adopted register, as further discussed below.

Local Inventory of Historic Resources

The City of Ukiah’s 1985 “Historic Resources Survey” (prepared by Historic Environmental Consultants), which was updated in 1999 by the “City of Ukiah Architectural Survey” (prepared by P.S. Preservation Services) identified 23 properties (both residential and commercial) with local historic importance within the City limits. Although the survey was updated in 1999, it was never adopted by the City Council.

Ukiah 2040 (Environment and Sustainability Element, Section 6.2) lists four historic-period properties in the Planning Area: the City of 10,000 Buddhas, two miles east of Ukiah; the Vichy Springs Resort, a California Historical Landmark; and the former Finnish colony in Calpella; and the Palace Hotel.

A records search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) was conducted in August 2022. The search identified a total of 216 cultural resources within the Planning Area. These resources can be divided into the following categories:

- Nine of these resources are archaeological sites (three precontact sites, three historic-era sites, and three multicomponent sites with both historic and precontact elements).
- One resource (Leslie Street) is a stand-alone structure.
- One resource (the Northwestern Pacific Railroad) is a structure, object, and a contributing element to a district.
- Five historic districts are listed as resources within the Planning Area, with three located within the City: The Ukiah Vichy Springs Mineral Resort, the Bench and Bar Historic District, The Albertmun School Historic District (City), The Ukiah Cemetery Historic District (City), and the Todd Grove Municipal Park Historic District (City). The Ukiah Vichy Springs Mineral Resort district has an archaeological component. The McGarvey Park Cemetery (City) is itself also listed as a resource.
- The remaining 199 resources are buildings, eight of which are contributing elements to one of the five historic districts.

4.5.2 Regulatory Setting

Cultural resources, including built environment and archaeological resources, may be designated as significant by National, State, or local authorities. In order for a resource to qualify for listing in the NRHP and the CRHR, it must meet one or more identified criteria of significance. The resource must also retain sufficient historic integrity, defined in *National Register Bulletin 15* as the “ability of a property to convey its significance” (National Park Service [NPS] 1990).

a. Federal Regulations

National Register of Historic Places

Although the project does not have a federal nexus, properties which are listed in or have been formally determined eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR. The following is therefore presented to provide applicable regulatory context. The NRHP was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as “an authoritative guide to be used by Federal, state, and local governments, private groups and citizens to identify the Nation’s cultural resources and to indicate what properties should be considered for protection from destruction or

impairment” (36 Code of Federal Regulations 60.2). The NRHP recognizes properties that are significant at the national, state, and local levels. To be eligible for listing in the NRHP, a resource must be significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of potential significance must also possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. A property is eligible for the NRHP if it meets any one of the following criteria:

- **Criterion A:** Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- **Criterion B:** Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- **Criterion C:** Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of installation, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- **Criterion D:** Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition to meeting at least one of the above designation criteria, resources must also retain integrity. The National Park Service recognizes seven aspects or qualities that, considered together, define historic integrity. To retain integrity, a property must possess several, if not all, of these seven qualities, defined in the following manner:

- **Location:** The place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
- **Design:** The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.
- **Setting:** The physical environment of a historic property.
- **Materials:** Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
- **Workmanship:** The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.
- **Feeling:** A property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- **Association:** The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

b. State Regulations

California Register of Historical Resources

The California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) is a guide to cultural resources that must be considered when a government agency undertakes a discretionary action subject to CEQA. The CRHR helps government agencies identify, evaluate, and protect California’s historical resources, and indicates which properties are to be protected from substantial adverse change (Public Resources Code, Section 5024.1(a)). The CRHR is administered through the State Historic Preservation Office that is part of the California State Parks system.

A cultural resource is evaluated under four CRHR criteria to determine its historical significance. A resource must be significant at the local, state, or national level in accordance with one or more of the following criteria set forth in the *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5(a)(3):

1. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of California's history and cultural heritage;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the CRHR requires that sufficient time must have passed to allow a "scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource." Fifty years is used as a general estimate of the time needed to understand the historical importance of a resource according to SHPO publications. The CRHR also requires a resource to possess integrity, which is defined as "the authenticity of a historical resource's physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource's period of significance. Integrity is evaluated with regard to the retention of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association." Archaeological resources can also qualify as "historical resources" (*CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15064.5(c)(1)).

According to CEQA, all buildings constructed over 50 years ago and that possess architectural or historical significance may be considered potential historical resources. Most resources must meet the 50-year threshold for historic significance; however, resources less than 50 years in age may be eligible for listing on the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand their historical importance.

In addition, if a project can be demonstrated to cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts to permit any or all these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

PRC, Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information; or
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Two other programs are administered by the state: California Historical Landmarks and California "Points of Historical Interest." California Historical Landmarks are buildings, sites, features, or events that are of statewide significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific or technical, religious, experimental, or other historical value. California Points of Historical Interest are buildings, sites, features, or events that are of local (city or county) significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific or technical, religious, experimental, or other historical value.

Impacts to significant cultural resources that affect the characteristics of any resource that qualify it for the NRHP or adversely alter the significance of a resource listed in or eligible for listing in the CRHR are considered a significant effect on the environment. These impacts could result from

physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings, such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 [b][1], 2000). Material impairment is defined as demolition or alteration in an adverse manner [of] those characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the California Register... (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[b][2][A]).

Codes Governing Human Remains

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 also assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. The disposition of human remains is governed by Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and PRC Sections 5097.94 and 5097.98, and falls within the jurisdiction of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). If human remains are discovered, the County Coroner must be notified within 48 hours and there should be no further disturbance to the site where the remains were found. If the remains are determined by the coroner to be Native American, the coroner is responsible for contacting the NAHC within 24 hours. The NAHC, pursuant to PRC Section 5097.98, will immediately notify those persons it believes to be most likely descended from the deceased Native Americans so they can inspect the burial site and make recommendations for treatment or disposal.

Senate Bill 18

Enacted on March 1, 2005, Senate Bill 18 (SB 18) (California Government Code Sections 65352.3 and 65352.4) requires cities and counties to notify and consult with California Native American tribal groups and individuals regarding proposed local land use planning decisions for the purpose of protecting traditional tribal cultural places (sacred sites), prior to adopting or amending a General Plan or designating land as open space. Tribal groups or individuals have 90 days to request consultation following the initial contact. SB 18 is further discussed in Section 4.15, *Tribal Cultural Resources*.

Assembly Bill 52

As of July 1, 2015, California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) was enacted and expands CEQA by defining a new resource category, "tribal cultural resources." Assembly Bill 52 establishes that "A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC Section 21084.2). It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3). PRC Section 21074 (a)(1)(A) and (B) defines tribal cultural resources as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe" and meets either of the following criteria:

- a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes regarding those resources. The consultation process must be completed before a CEQA document can be certified. AB 52 requires that lead agencies consult with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project if the tribe has requested notice of projects proposed within the jurisdiction of the lead agency. AB 52 is further discussed in Section 4.15, *Tribal Cultural Resources*.

Ukiah City Code

The Downtown Zoning Code (Ukiah City Code Section 9227.1) contains development standards and regulations pertaining to demolition, rehabilitation, conversion, and alteration of buildings located on the City's local historical inventory and for buildings over the age of 50 years old within the Downtown Zoning Code district(s). All proposed modifications to buildings listed on the City's inventory must comply with these standards, and demolition requires review in accordance with Ukiah City Code 3016, as described below.

Pursuant to Ukiah City Code Section 3016(b), buildings over 50 years old proposed for demolition that do not meet the exemption criteria of being either an immediate safety hazard, or an accessory building that is not listed on the local historic inventory, shall be reviewed for their historic or architectural significance. Specifically, the City's Demolition Review Committee shall review the proposal and make a recommendation to the Ukiah City Council. Per Ukiah City Code Section 3016(e), which stated the following:

In reviewing proposed permits, and formulating recommendations to the city council, the demolition review committee shall consider any information provided during the meeting, and shall use the following criteria. The structure:

- 1. Has a special or particular quality such as oldest, best example, largest, or last surviving example of its kind; or
- 2. Exemplifies or reflects special elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, or architectural history; or
- 3. Is strongly identified with persons or events significant in local, state, or national history.

Per Ukiah City Code Section 3016(f), if the Demolition Review Committee finds that any of the criteria listed in subsection (e) apply to the building proposed for demolition, it shall recommend denial of the permit to the City Council. This section of the Ukiah City Code also describes procedures for review by the City Council.

4.5.3 Impact Analysis

c. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to cultural resources from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5;

2. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5; or
3. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.

Methodology

The significance of a cultural resource and subsequently the significance of an impact to a resource is determined by consideration of whether that resource can increase our knowledge of the past and the importance of that resource to cultural groups, among other things. The determining factors are site content and degree of preservation. A finding of archaeological significance follows the criteria established in the *CEQA Guidelines*. *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 (Determining the Significance of Impacts to Archaeological Resources) states the following:

- (3) [...] Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be “historically significant” if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Public Resources Code, Section 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852).
 - (4) The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, not included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code Sections 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.
- (b) A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment.

Historical resources are “significantly” affected if there is demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its surroundings. Generally, impacts to historical resources can be mitigated to below a level of significance by following the *Secretary of the Interior’s Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* or the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings* [Guidelines Section 15064.6(b)]. Documentation of a historical resource by way of historic narrative photographs or architectural drawings will not mitigate the impact of demolition below the level of significance [Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(2)]. Preservation in place is the preferred form of mitigation for archaeological resources, as it retains the relationship between artifact and context, and may avoid conflicts with groups associated with the site [Guidelines Section 15126.4 (b)(3)(A)]. If an archaeological resource does not meet either the historical resource or the more specific “unique archaeological resource” definition, impacts do not need to be mitigated [Guidelines Section 15064.5(e)]. Where the significance of a site is unknown, it is presumed to be significant for the purpose of this EIR investigation.

Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?

Impact CUL-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT HISTORICAL RESOURCES. EXISTING UKIAH CITY CODE AND CEQA REGULATIONS, IN ADDITION TO PROPOSED UKIAH 2040 POLICIES AND MITIGATION WOULD REDUCE IMPACTS TO HISTORIC RESOURCES. NONETHELESS, IMPACTS WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE.

Based on *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5, development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would have a significant impact on historical resources if it would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

In the Planning Area, there are five historic districts with three located within the City, 199 historic-era buildings, two structures identified by the CHRIS records search, and an additional 51 buildings identified by the BERD. Because these districts and properties contain buildings and/or structures 50 years or older, they have the potential to qualify as historical resources. Future development projects could potentially impact historical resources throughout the City. Other buildings may reach 50 or more years of age over the lifetime of Ukiah 2040. As such, future studies may identify properties eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR and would qualify as historical resources pursuant to CEQA.

The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed goals and policies related to historical resources:

Goals ENV-3: To preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah.

Policy ENV-3.1: Historic Designations. The City shall support the listing of eligible properties, sites, and structures as potential historic designations and their inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources and National Register of Historic Places.

Policy ENV-3.5: Educational Outreach. The City shall coordinate with the museum to provide education to the public on how to protect sites and structures.

Policy ENV-3.6: City-Owned Historic Sites and Structures. The City shall maintain, preserve, and improve City-owned historic structures and sites in an architecturally and environmentally sensitive manner.

Policy ENV-3.7: Adaptive Reuse. The City shall encourage appropriate adaptive reuse of historic resources.

These proposed goals and policies are intended to support designation and protection of cultural resources. Impacts on built environment historical resources can only be determined once a specific project has been proposed. This is because the effects are highly dependent on both the individual resource and the characteristics of the proposed activity. As such, impacts would be potentially significant. Adherence to the Ukiah City Code (Sections 3016 and 9227.1) ensures that buildings listed on the City's local inventory are reviewed and protected for their historic significance. Specifically, Section 9227.1 contains development standards and regulations pertaining to demolition, rehabilitation, conversion and alteration of buildings located on the City's local inventory and for buildings over the age of 50 years old within the Downtown Zoning Code district(s), where many of the City's locally-historic buildings are located. Ukiah City Code Section

3016 requires review by both the Demolition Review Committee and City Council for demolition or significant alteration of a building over the age of 50 years old or those listed on the City's local inventory. Lastly, Mitigation Measure CUL-1 would require a historical resources study for built environment resources and specific measures to reduce impacts to the maximum extent feasible. Archaeological resources that may be considered historical resources are addressed in Impact CUL-2.

Mitigation Measures

CUL-1 Historical Resources Study Program

The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to impact historical resources. For a project involving a property that contains buildings structures, objects, sites, landscape/site plans, or other features that are 50 years of age or older, a historical resources study shall be conducted to determine if the project would demolish or otherwise alter the characteristics that make a historical resource eligible for inclusion in the CRHR. The study shall, at a minimum, be conducted by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for architectural history (NPS 1983). The study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and background research including a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), building permit research, and/or research with the local historical society(ies). The subject property(ies) and/or structures shall be evaluated for federal (as applicable), and state significance on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms, included as an appendix to the study.

If historical impacts are identified, the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on historical resources and the project sponsor shall implement the recommendations or conduct additional environmental review. Application of mitigation shall generally be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS, unless unnecessary in the circumstances (e.g., preservation in place). In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review.

Efforts shall be made to the greatest extent practical to ensure that the relocation, rehabilitation, or alteration of the resource is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatments of Historic Properties (Standards). In accordance with CEQA, a project that has been determined to conform with the Standards generally would not cause a significant adverse direct or indirect impact to historical resources (14 CCR Section 15126.4(b)(1)). Application of the Standards shall be overseen by a qualified architectural historian or historic architect meeting the PQS. In conjunction with any development application that may affect the historical resource, a report identifying and specifying the treatment of character-defining features and construction activities shall be provided to the implementing agency for review and concurrence.

If significant historical resources are identified on a development site and compliance with the Standards and/or avoidance is not possible, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures shall be established and undertaken. Mitigation measures may include documentation of the historical resource in the form of a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) report. The report shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Architectural and Engineering Documentation and shall generally follow the HABS Level III requirements, including digital photographic recordation, detailed historic narrative report, and compilation of historic research. The documentation shall be

completed by a qualified architectural historian or historian who meets the PQS and submitted to the implementing agency prior to issuance of any permits for demolition or alteration of the historical resource. Copies of the report shall be provided to a local library and/or other appropriate repositories.

Significance After Mitigation

Development facilitated by the Ukiah 2040 would have the potential to impact historical resources. Existing Ukiah City Code and CEQA regulations, in addition to proposed Ukiah 2040 policies and Mitigation Measure CUL-1 would minimize site specific impacts to historic structures. However, redevelopment or demolition that may be required to implement projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 may result in the permanent loss or damage to historic structures. Although implementation of Mitigation Measure CUL-1 would reduce impacts to the extent feasible, some project-specific impacts could result in the demolition or other impairments of a historical resource's historical significance. Therefore, impacts would be significant and unavoidable.

Threshold 2: Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

Impact CUL-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

As discussed in the Section 4.5.1, *Setting (Previously Identified Cultural Resources)*, the CHRIS records search identified nine archaeological sites within the City, which include both precontact and historic-era archaeological components. Additionally, the Ukiah Vichy Springs Mineral Resort also includes an archaeological component. The Northern Pomo, Spanish, Mexican, and American settlers historically inhabited the Planning Area, including the areas within City limits and Annexation Areas; therefore, in addition to known resources, remnants of these past cultures could be buried or obscured in undeveloped portions of the City and Annexation Areas, or in areas that were developed before environmental regulations and cultural resource protection laws were passed. Implementation of the project therefore has potential to impact known and unknown archaeological resources. Effects on archaeological resources can only be determined once a specific project has been proposed. This is because the effects are highly dependent on both the individual project site conditions and the characteristics of the proposed ground-disturbing activity. Ground-disturbing activities have the potential to damage or destroy previously-unknown historic or precontact archaeological resources, particularly in areas that have not been previously developed with urban uses or studied in a cultural resources investigation, or when excavation depths exceed those from past projects. Consequently, damage to or destruction of previously unknown sub-surface cultural resources could occur because of Ukiah 2040.

The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed goals and policies related to reducing impacts on archaeological resources.

Goals ENV-3: To preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah.

Policy ENV-3.2: Archaeological Resource Impact Mitigation. The City shall ensure appropriate and feasible mitigation for new development that has the potential to impact sites likely to contain archaeological, paleontological, cultural, or tribal resources.

Policy ENV-3.3: Protect Archaeological Resources. The City shall require any construction, grading, or other site altering activities cease if cultural, archaeological, paleontological, or cultural resources are discovered until a qualified professional has completed an evaluation of the site.

Policy ENV-3.4: Tribal Consultation. The City shall proactively engage local Native American tribes in the planning process, particularly when matters related to Native American culture, heritage, resources, or artifacts may be affected.

Development associated with Ukiah 2040 would largely be infill projects on undeveloped or underutilized sites that have previously been disturbed. The proposed goals and policies ENV-3.2, ENV-3.3, and ENV-3.4 would protect important cultural and archaeological resources. Nonetheless, impacts on archaeological resources can only be determined once a specific project has been proposed. Therefore, impacts on archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources would be potentially significant and Mitigation Measure CUL-2 would be implemented, requiring preparation of cultural resource studies.

Mitigation Measures

CUL-2 Archaeological Resources Study Program

The City shall require project applicants for discretionary projects to investigate the potential to disturb archaeological resources. If preliminary reconnaissance suggests that cultural resources may exist, a Phase I cultural resources study shall be performed by a qualified professional meeting the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualifications Standard (PQS) for archaeology (NPS 1983). A Phase I cultural resources study shall include a pedestrian survey of the project site and sufficient background research and, as necessary, field sampling to determine whether archaeological resources may be present. Archival research shall include a records search at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) and a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and coordination with Native American tribes listed by the NAHC. The Phase I technical report documenting the study shall include recommendations to avoid or reduce impacts on archaeological resources, such as establishing environmentally-sensitive areas excluded from project activities, archaeological and/or Native American monitoring, or redesign of the project to avoid known cultural resources. The project sponsor shall implement the recommendations prior to and during construction.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measure CUL-2 would reduce impacts on archaeological resources by requiring archaeological resource studies for projects within the City, and the implementation of further requirements to avoid or reduce impacts on those resources, on a project-by-project basis. With the required project-level review, it is expected that impacts on archaeological resources would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated.

Threshold 3: Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Impact CUL-3 GROUND-DISTURBING ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO OR DESTRUCTION OF HUMAN BURIALS. HOWEVER, COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING REGULATIONS ON HUMAN REMAINS WOULD ENSURE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS.

Human burials outside of formal cemeteries often occur in precontact archeological contexts. Although much of the City is built out, the potential still exists for human burials to be present. Excavation during construction activities would have the potential to disturb these resources, including Native American burials.

Human burials, in addition to potentially being associated with archaeological resources, have specific provisions for treatment in Section 5097 of the California Public Resources Code. The California Health and Safety Code (Sections 7050.5, 7051, and 7054) has specific provisions for the protection of human burial remains. Existing regulations address the illegality of interfering with human burial remains; protects them from disturbance, vandalism, or destruction; and established procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered. Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 also addresses the disposition of Native American burials, protects such remains, and gives responsibility to the NAHC to resolve any related disputes.

Development facilitated by the project would be required to adhere to existing regulations regarding the treatment of human remains. Therefore, impacts related to disturbing human remains due to Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

4.6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

This section summarizes the setting for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate change and analyzes the impacts related to GHG emissions and climate change due to the project.

4.6.1 Setting

a. Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change

Gases that absorb and re-emit infrared radiation in the atmosphere are called GHGs. The gases that are widely seen as the principal contributors to human-induced climate change include carbon dioxide (CO₂); methane (CH₄); nitrous oxides (N₂O); fluorinated gases such as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorocarbons (PFCs); and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆). Water vapor is excluded from the list of GHGs because it is short-lived in the atmosphere and its atmospheric concentrations are largely determined by natural processes, such as oceanic evaporation.

Different types of GHGs have varying global warming potentials (GWP). The GWP of a GHG is the potential of a gas or aerosol to trap heat in the atmosphere over a specified timescale (generally, 100 years). Because GHGs absorb different amounts of heat, a common reference gas (CO₂) is used to relate the amount of heat absorbed to the amount of the gas emitted, referred to as “carbon dioxide equivalent” (CO₂e), which is the amount of GHG emitted multiplied by its GWP. Carbon dioxide has a 100-year GWP of one. By contrast, methane has a 100-year GWP of 30, meaning its global warming effect is 30 times greater than CO₂ on a molecule per molecule basis (United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC] 2021).¹

GHGs are emitted by natural processes and human activities. Of these gases, CO₂ and CH₄ are emitted in the greatest quantities from human activities. Emissions of CO₂ are usually by-products of fossil fuel combustion, and CH₄ results from off-gassing associated with agricultural practices and landfills. Human-made GHGs, many of which have greater heat-absorption potential than CO₂, include fluorinated gases and SF₆ (United States Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA] 2021a).

Climate change is the observed increase in the average temperature of the Earth’s atmosphere and oceans along with other substantial changes in climate (such as wind patterns, precipitation, and storms) over an extended period. The term “climate change” is often used interchangeably with the term “global warming,” but climate change is preferred because it conveys that other changes are happening in addition to rising temperatures. The baseline against which these changes are measured originates in historical records that identify temperature changes that occurred in the past, such as during previous ice ages. The global climate is changing continuously, as evidenced in the geologic record which indicates repeated episodes of substantial warming and cooling. The rate of change has typically been incremental, with warming or cooling trends occurring over the course of thousands of years. The past 10,000 years have been marked by a period of incremental warming, as glaciers have steadily retreated across the globe. However, scientists have observed acceleration in the rate of warming over the past 150 years. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) expressed in their Sixth Assessment Report that the rise and continued growth of atmospheric CO₂ concentrations is unequivocally due to human activities (IPCC 2021). Human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean, and land, which has led the climate to

¹ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (2021) *Sixth Assessment Report* determined that methane has a GWP of 30. However, the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan published by the California Air Resources Board uses a GWP of 25 for methane, consistent with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (2007) *Fourth Assessment Report*. Therefore, this analysis utilizes a GWP of 25.

warm at an unprecedented rate in the last 2,000 years. It is estimated that between the period of 1850 through 2019, that a total of 2,390 gigatons of anthropogenic CO₂ was emitted. It is likely that anthropogenic activities have increased the global surface temperature by approximately 1.07 degrees Celsius between the years 2010 through 2019 (IPCC 2021). Furthermore, since the late 1700s, estimated concentrations of CO₂, methane, and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere have increased by over 43 percent, 156 percent, and 17 percent, respectively, primarily due to human activity (USEPA 2021a). Emissions resulting from human activities are thereby contributing to an average increase in Earth's temperature

The accumulation of GHGs in the atmosphere regulates the earth's temperature. Without the natural heat-trapping effect of GHGs, the earth's surface would be about 33 degrees Celsius (°C) cooler (World Meteorological Organization 2020). However, since 1750, estimated concentrations of CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O in the atmosphere have increased by 47 percent, 156 percent, and 23 percent, respectively, primarily due to human activity (IPCC 2021). GHG emissions from human activities, particularly the consumption of fossil fuels for electricity production and transportation, are believed to have elevated the concentration of these gases in the atmosphere beyond the level of concentrations that occur naturally.

b. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Global Emissions Inventory

In 2015, worldwide anthropogenic GHG emissions totaled 47,000 million metric tons (MT) of CO₂e, which is a 43 percent increase from 1990 GHG levels (USEPA 2021b). Specifically, 34,522 million metric tons (MMT) of CO₂e of CO₂, 8,241 MMT of CO₂e of CH₄, 2,997 MMT of CO₂e of N₂O, and 1,001 MMT of CO₂e of fluorinated gases were emitted in 2015. The largest source of GHG emissions were energy production and use (includes fuels used by vehicles and buildings), which accounted for 75 percent of the global GHG emissions. Agriculture uses and industrial processes contributed 12 percent and six percent, respectively. Waste sources contributed for three percent and two percent was due to international transportation sources. These sources account for approximately 98 percent because there was a net sink of two percent from land-use change and forestry. (USEPA 2021b).

United States Emissions Inventory

Total U.S. GHG emissions were 6,558 MMT of CO₂e in 2019. Emissions decreased by 1.7 percent from 2018 to 2019; since 1990, total U.S. emissions have increased by an average annual rate of 0.06 percent for a total increase of 1.8 percent between 1990 and 2019. The decrease from 2018 to 2019 reflects the combined influences of several long-term trends, including population changes, economic growth, energy market shifts, technological changes such as improvements in energy efficiency, and decrease carbon intensity of energy fuel choices. In 2019, the industrial and transportation end-use sectors accounted for 30 percent and 29 percent, respectively, of nationwide GHG emissions while the commercial and residential end-use sectors accounted for 16 percent and 15 percent of nationwide GHG emissions, respectively, with electricity emissions distributed among the various sectors (USEPA 2021c).

California Emissions Inventory

Based on the California Air Resources Board (CARB) California Greenhouse Gas Inventory for 2000-2019, California produced 418.2 MMT of CO₂e in 2019, which is 7.2 MMT of CO₂e lower than 2018 levels. The major source of GHG emissions in California is the transportation sector, which comprises 40 percent of the state's total GHG emissions. The industrial sector is the second largest source, comprising 21 percent of the state's GHG emissions, while electric power accounts for approximately 14 percent (CARB 2021a). The magnitude of California's total GHG emissions is due in part to its large size and large population compared to other states. However, its relatively mild climate is a factor that reduces California's per capita fuel use and GHG emissions as compared to other states. In 2016, the State of California achieved its 2020 GHG emission reduction target of reducing emissions to 1990 levels as emissions fell below 431 MMT of CO₂e (CARB 2021a). The annual 2030 statewide target emissions level is 260 MMT of CO₂e (CARB 2017).

Local Emissions Inventory

Based on the City of Ukiah's Draft 2014 Climate Action Plan, the City generated around 144,625 MT of CO₂e in 2010 (City of Ukiah 2014). On-road transportation was the major source accounting for 51.1 percent of the total, largely due to passenger vehicles, but also commercial trips and buses. The City landfill was the second biggest source of emissions at 21.1 percent. Residential natural gas usage and commercial natural gas usage represented 10 percent and 6.4 percent respectively, while residential electricity usage and commercial electricity usage represented 1.2 percent and 2.2 percent. Solid waste accounted for 1.8 percent of the total emissions. Agricultural equipment accounted for 2.9 percent. Off-road transportation accounted for 3 percent. The remaining 0.3 percent is primarily from wastewater treatment. Water conveyance and stationary sources represent about 0.1 percent of the total emissions (City of Ukiah 2014).

c. Potential Effects of Climate Change

Globally, climate change has the potential to affect numerous environmental resources though potential impacts related to future air temperatures and precipitation patterns. Scientific modeling predicts that continued GHG emissions at or above current rates would induce more extreme climate changes during the 21st century than were observed during the 20th century. Each of the past three decades has been warmer than all the previous decades in the instrumental record, and the decade from 2000 through 2010 has been the warmest. The observed global mean surface temperature from 2015 to 2017 was approximately 1.0°C higher than the average global mean surface temperature over the period from 1880 to 1900 (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2020). Furthermore, several independently analyzed data records of global and regional Land-Surface Air Temperature obtained from station observations jointly indicate that Land-Surface Air Temperature and sea surface temperatures have increased.

According to *California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment*, statewide temperatures from 1986 to 2016 were approximately 0.6 to 1.1°C higher than those recorded from 1901 to 1960. Potential impacts of climate change in California may include reduced water supply from snowpack, sea level rise, more extreme heat days per year, more large forest fires, and more drought years (State of California 2018). In addition to statewide projections, *California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment* includes regional reports that summarize climate impacts and adaptation solutions for nine regions of the state and regionally specific climate change case studies (State of California 2018). However, while there is growing scientific consensus about the possible effects of climate change at a global and statewide level, current scientific modeling tools are unable to predict what

local impacts may occur with a similar degree of accuracy. A summary follows of some of the potential effects that could be experienced in California as a result of climate change.

Air Quality

Scientists project that the annual average maximum daily temperatures in California could rise by 2.4 to 3.2°C in the next 50 years and by 3.1 to 4.9°C in the next century (State of California 2018). Higher temperatures are conducive to air pollution formation, and rising temperatures could therefore result in worsened air quality in California. As a result, climate change may increase the concentration of ground-level ozone. The magnitude of the effect of the increased concentration of ground-level ozone, and therefore its indirect effects, are uncertain. In addition, as temperatures have increased in recent years, the area burned by wildfires throughout the state has increased, and wildfires have occurred at higher elevations in the Sierra Nevada Mountains (State of California 2018). If higher temperatures continue to be accompanied by an increase in the incidence and extent of large wildfires, air quality could worsen. Severe heat accompanied by drier conditions and poor air quality could increase the number of heat-related deaths, illnesses, and asthma attacks throughout the state. However, if higher temperatures are accompanied by wetter, rather than drier conditions, the rains could tend to temporarily clear the air of particulate pollution, which would effectively reduce the number of large wildfires and thereby ameliorate the pollution associated with them (California Natural Resources Agency 2009).

Water Supply

Analysis of paleoclimatic data (such as tree-ring reconstructions of stream flow and precipitation) indicates a history of naturally and widely varying hydrologic conditions in California and the west, including a pattern of recurring and extended droughts. Uncertainty remains with respect to the overall impact of climate change on future precipitation trends and water supplies in California. Year-to-year variability in statewide precipitation levels has increased since 1980, meaning that wet and dry precipitation extremes have become more common (California Department of Water Resources 2018). This uncertainty regarding future precipitation trends complicates the analysis of future water demand, especially where the relationship between climate change and its potential effect on water demand is not well understood. The average early spring snowpack in the western U.S., including the Sierra Nevada Mountains, decreased by about 10 percent during the last century. During the same period, sea level rose over 0.15 meter along the central and southern California coasts (State of California 2018). The Sierra snowpack provides most of California's water supply as snow that accumulates during wet winters is released slowly during the dry months of spring and summer. A warmer climate is predicted to reduce the fraction of precipitation that falls as snow and the amount of snowfall at lower elevations, thereby reducing the total snowpack (State of California 2018). Projections indicate that average spring snowpack in the Sierra Nevada and other mountain catchments in central and northern California will decline by approximately 66 percent from its historical average by 2050 (State of California 2018).

Hydrology and Sea Level Rise

Climate change could affect the intensity and frequency of storms and flooding (State of California 2018). Furthermore, climate change could induce substantial sea level rise in the coming century. Rising sea level increases the likelihood of and risk from flooding. The rate of increase of global mean sea levels between 1993 to 2022, observed by satellites, is approximately 3.5 millimeters per year, double the twentieth century trend of 1.6 millimeters per year (World Meteorological

Organization 2013; National Aeronautics and Space Administration 2022). Sea levels are rising faster now than in the previous two millennia, and the rise will probably accelerate, even with robust GHG emission control measures. While the City is no close to the Pacific coast, sea level rise may jeopardize California's water supply due to saltwater intrusion and induce groundwater flooding and/or exposure of buried infrastructure (State of California 2018).

Agriculture

California has an over \$50 billion annual agricultural industry that produces over a third of the country's vegetables and two-thirds of the country's fruits and nuts (California Department of Food and Agriculture 2020). Higher CO₂ levels can stimulate plant production and increase plant water-use efficiency. However, if temperatures rise and drier conditions prevail, certain regions of agricultural production could experience water shortages of up to 16 percent, which would increase water demand as hotter conditions lead to the loss of soil moisture. In addition, crop yield could be threatened by water-induced stress and extreme heat waves, and plants may be susceptible to new and changing pest and disease outbreaks (State of California 2018). Temperature increases could also change the time of year certain crops, such as wine grapes, bloom or ripen, and thereby affect their quality (California Climate Change Center 2006).

Ecosystems

Climate change and the potential resultant changes in weather patterns could have ecological effects on the global and local scales. Soil moisture is likely to decline in many regions because of higher temperatures, and intense rainstorms are likely to become more frequent. Rising temperatures could have four major impacts on plants and animals: timing of ecological events; geographic distribution and range of species; species composition and the incidence of nonnative species within communities; and ecosystem processes, such as carbon cycling and storage (Parmesan 2006; State of California 2018).

d. Local Effects of Climate Change

While the above discussion identifies the possible effects of climate change at a global and potentially statewide level, regional and local predictions are often based on downscaling statewide models. Observable effects of climate change have already been witnessed on the environment. The City of Ukiah has specific vulnerabilities due to the changing climate that create the need for local adaptation measures (City of Ukiah 2014). In particular, the main concerns include the following:

- **Reduced snowpack.** In the eastern, higher-elevation portion of the North Coast region, March snow levels will drop to almost zero by the 2090s, a decrease of two to ten inches from 2010 levels. In areas with currently little snow (less than three inches), such as Ukiah, the snowpack is projected to be near zero by 2050.
- **Increased wildfires.** The North Coast region is projected to experience substantial increase in fire risk. By 2050, the region will experience modest increases in area burned. By 2100, the projected wildfire frequency increases dramatically, eight times greater in parts of Mendocino County. Northern Mendocino County is projected to have up to 2.5 times greater wildfire frequency.
- **Temperature increases.** January temperatures are predicted to increase by about 2 degrees Fahrenheit by 2050 and up to 5 degrees Fahrenheit by the year 2100 within the North Coast region. July increases in average temperatures are anticipated to be 3 degrees Fahrenheit and 6 degrees Fahrenheit by the year 2100.

- **Reduced precipitation.** The North Coast region is expected to experience a subtle decrease in precipitation in most areas throughout the century. The City of Ukiah is projected to see a decrease of around three to 4 inches by 2050, and 6 inches of precipitation by 2100. Reduced precipitation will adversely impact the water supply of the City, region, and State.
- **Public health and heat.** Ukiah is not projected to see a large increase in the number of heat waves, defined regionally as five consecutive days with temperatures as high as 93°F. Little change is expected by 2050 with possibly one to three more heat waves projected in region. By 2100, projected heat waves are more variable, with predictions of between two and eight more heat waves per year. However, when heat waves do occur, vulnerable populations in Ukiah may be severely affected because of a historic lack of adaptive capacity having to do with historically milder temperatures. Frequent heat waves can have the greatest impact on the elderly and children less than five years of age. Mendocino County is one of the state's counties with the highest proportion of elderly living alone.

4.6.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

Federal Clean Air Act

The U.S. Supreme Court determined in *Massachusetts et al. v. Environmental Protection Agency et al.* ([2007] 549 U.S. 05-1120) that the USEPA has the authority to regulate motor vehicle GHG emissions under the federal Clean Air Act. The USEPA issued a Final Rule for mandatory reporting of GHG emissions in October 2009. This Final Rule applies to fossil fuel suppliers, industrial gas suppliers, direct GHG emitters, and manufacturers of heavy-duty and off-road vehicles and vehicle engines and requires annual reporting of emissions. In 2012, the USEPA issued a Final Rule that established the GHG permitting thresholds that determine when Clean Air Act permits under the New Source Review Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Operating Permit programs are required for new and existing industrial facilities.

In *Utility Air Regulatory Group v. Environmental Protection Agency* (134 Supreme Court 2427 [2014]), the U.S. Supreme Court held the USEPA may not treat GHGs as an air pollutant for purposes of determining whether a source can be considered a major source required to obtain a Prevention of Significant Deterioration or Title V permit. The Court also held that Prevention of Significant Deterioration permits otherwise required based on emissions of other pollutants may continue to require limitations on GHG emissions based on the application of Best Available Control Technology.

Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule

On September 27, 2019, the USEPA and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration published the Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule Part One: One National Program. The SAFE Rule Part One revokes California's authority to set its own GHG emissions standards and to adopt its own zero-emission vehicle mandates. On April 30, 2020, the USEPA and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration published Part Two of the SAFE Vehicles Rule, which revised corporate average fuel economy and CO₂ emissions standards for passenger cars and trucks of model years 2021-2026 such that the standards increase by approximately 1.5 percent each year through model year 2026, as compared to the approximately 5 percent annual increase required under the 2012 standards (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration 2022). To account for the

effects of the SAFE Vehicles Rule, CARB released off-model adjustment factors on June 26, 2020, to adjust GHG emissions outputs from the EMFAC model (CARB 2020).

b. State Regulations

CARB is responsible for the coordination and oversight of State and local air pollution control programs in California. There are numerous regulations aimed at reducing the state's GHG emissions. These initiatives are summarized below.

California Advanced Clean Cars Program

Assembly Bill (AB) 1493 (2002), California's Advanced Clean Cars program (referred to as "Pavley"), requires CARB to develop and adopt regulations to achieve "the maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction of GHG emissions from motor vehicles." On June 30, 2009, the USEPA granted the waiver of Clean Air Act preemption to California for its GHG emission standards for motor vehicles, beginning with the 2009 model year, which allows California to implement more stringent vehicle emission standards than those promulgated by the USEPA. Pavley I regulates model years from 2009 to 2016 and Pavley II, now referred to as "LEV (Low Emission Vehicle) III GHG," regulates model years from 2017 to 2025. The Advanced Clean Cars program coordinates the goals of the LEV, Zero Emissions Vehicles (ZEV), and Clean Fuels Outlet programs and would provide major reductions in GHG emissions. By 2025, the rules will be fully implemented, and new automobiles will emit 34 percent fewer GHGs and 75 percent fewer smog-forming emissions from their model year 2016 levels (CARB 2011).

California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 32)

The "California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006," (AB 32), outlines California's major legislative initiative for reducing GHG emissions. AB 32 codifies the statewide goal of reducing GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and requires CARB to prepare a Scoping Plan that outlines the main state strategies for reducing GHG emissions to meet the 2020 deadline. In addition, AB 32 requires CARB to adopt regulations to require reporting and verification of statewide GHG emissions. Based on this guidance, CARB approved a 1990 statewide GHG level and 2020 target of 431 MMT of CO₂e, which was achieved in 2016. CARB approved the Scoping Plan on December 11, 2008, which included GHG emission reduction strategies related to energy efficiency, water use, and recycling and solid waste, among others (CARB 2008). Many of the GHG reduction measures included in the Scoping Plan (e.g., Low Carbon Fuel Standard, Advanced Clean Car standards, and Cap-and-Trade) have been adopted since the Scoping Plan's approval.

The CARB approved the 2013 Scoping Plan update in May 2014. The update defined the CARB's climate change priorities for the next five years, set the groundwork to reach post-2020 statewide goals, and highlighted California's progress toward meeting the "near-term" 2020 GHG emission reduction goals defined in the original Scoping Plan. It also evaluated how to align the state's longer term GHG reduction strategies with other state policy priorities, including those for water, waste, natural resources, clean energy, transportation, and land use (CARB 2014).

On September 8, 2016, the governor signed Senate Bill (SB) 32 into law, extending the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 by requiring the state to further reduce GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 (the other provisions of AB 32 remain unchanged). On December 14, 2017, the CARB adopted the 2017 Scoping Plan, which provides a framework for achieving the

2030 target. The 2017 Scoping Plan relies on the continuation and expansion of existing policies and regulations, such as the Cap-and-Trade Program, and implementation of recently adopted policies and legislation, such as SB 1383 and SB 100 (discussed below). The 2017 Scoping Plan also puts an increased emphasis on innovation, adoption of existing technology, and strategic investment to support its strategies. As with the 2013 Scoping Plan update, the 2017 Scoping Plan does not provide project-level thresholds for land use development. Instead, it recommends that local governments adopt policies and locally appropriate quantitative thresholds consistent with statewide per capita goals of 6 MT of CO₂e by 2030 and 2 MT of CO₂e by 2050 (CARB 2017). As stated in the 2017 Scoping Plan, these goals may be appropriate for plan-level analyses (city, county, sub-regional, or regional level), but not for specific individual projects because they include all emissions sectors in the state (CARB 2017).

Senate Bill 375

The Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375), signed in August 2008, enhances the state’s ability to reach AB 32 goals by directing the CARB to develop regional GHG emission reduction targets to be achieved from passenger vehicles by 2020 and 2035. SB 375 aligns regional transportation planning efforts, regional GHG reduction targets, and affordable housing allocations. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to adopt a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), which allocates land uses in the MPO’s Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Qualified projects consistent with an approved SCS or Alternative Planning Strategy (categorized as “transit priority projects”) can receive incentives to streamline CEQA processing.

The City of Ukiah is within the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), which is a non-MPO Rural Regional Transportation Planning Area (RTPA). Non-MPO Rural RTPAs are not required to prepare CARB-certified SCS. MCOG’s most recent RTP was adopted in February 2018 and includes policies that support achieving targets established by SB 375, which are discussed under *Regional and Local Regulations* (MCOG 2018).

California Integrated Waste Management Act (Assembly Bill 341)

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, as modified by AB 341 in 2011, requires each jurisdiction’s source reduction and recycling element to include an implementation schedule that shows: (1) diversion of 25 percent of all solid waste by January 1, 1995, through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities and (2) diversion of 50 percent of all solid waste on and after January 1, 2000.

Senate Bill 1383

Adopted in September 2016, SB 1383 (Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016) requires CARB to approve and begin implementing a comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants. SB 1383 requires the strategy to achieve the following reduction targets by 2030:

- Methane – 40 percent below 2013 levels
- Hydrofluorocarbons – 40 percent below 2013 levels
- Anthropogenic black carbon – 50 percent below 2013 levels

SB 1383 also requires the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), in consultation with the CARB, to adopt regulations that achieve specified targets for reducing organic waste in landfills.

Senate Bill 100

Adopted on September 10, 2018, SB 100 supports the reduction of GHG emissions from the electricity sector by accelerating the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program, which was last updated by SB 350 in 2015. SB 100 requires electricity providers to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources to 33 percent of total retail sales by 2020, 60 percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2045. The 2020 goal was met, with approximately 36 percent of electricity coming from renewable sources in March 2021 (CARB 2021b).

Executive Order B-55-18

On September 10, 2018, the former Governor Brown issued Executive Order (EO) B-55-18, which established a new statewide goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2045 and maintaining net negative emissions thereafter. This goal is in addition to the existing statewide GHG reduction targets established by SB 375, SB 32, SB 1383, and SB 100.

California Building Standards Code

The California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 24 is referred to as the California Building Standards Code. It consists of a compilation of several distinct standards and codes related to building construction, including plumbing, electrical, interior acoustics, energy efficiency, and handicap accessibility for persons with physical and sensory disabilities. The current iteration is the 2019 Title 24 standards. The California Building Standards Code's energy-efficiency and green building standards are outlined below.

Part 6 – Building Energy Efficiency Standards/Energy Code

CCR Title 24, Part 6 is the Building Energy Efficiency Standards or California Energy Code. This code, originally enacted in 1978, establishes energy-efficiency standards for residential and non-residential buildings to reduce California's energy demand. New construction and major renovations must demonstrate their compliance with the current Energy Code through submittal and approval of a Title 24 Compliance Report to the local building permit review authority and the California Energy Commission (CEC). The 2019 Title 24 standards are the applicable building energy efficiency standards for the project because they became effective on January 1, 2020 (2018).

Part 11 – California Green Building Standards

The California Green Building Standards Code, referred to as CalGreen, was added to Title 24 as Part 11, first in 2009 as a voluntary code, which then became mandatory effective January 1, 2011 (as part of the 2010 California Building Standards Code). Current CalGreen includes mandatory minimum environmental performance standards for all ground-up new construction of residential and non-residential structures. It also includes voluntary tiers (Tiers I and II) with stricter environmental performance standards for these same categories of residential and non-residential buildings. Local jurisdictions must enforce the minimum mandatory CalGreen standards and may adopt additional amendments for stricter requirements.

The mandatory standards require:

- 20 percent reduction in indoor water use relative to specified baseline levels;²
- 65 percent construction/demolition waste diverted from landfills;
- Inspections of energy systems to ensure optimal working efficiency;
- Low-pollutant emitting exterior and interior finish materials such as paints, carpets, vinyl flooring, and particleboards;
- Dedicated circuitry to facilitate installation of electric vehicle charging stations in newly constructed attached garages for single-family and duplex dwellings; and
- Installation of electric vehicle charging stations at least three percent of the parking spaces for all new multi-family developments with 17 or more units.

The voluntary standards require:

- Tier I: stricter energy efficiency requirements, stricter water conservation requirements for specific fixtures, 65 percent reduction in construction waste with third-party verification, 10 percent recycled content for building materials, 20 percent permeable paving, 20 percent cement reduction, and cool/solar reflective roof; and
- Tier II: stricter energy efficiency requirements, stricter water conservation requirements for specific fixtures, 75 percent reduction in construction waste with third-party verification, 15 percent recycled content for building materials, 30 percent permeable paving, 25 percent cement reduction, and cool/solar reflective roof.

c. Regional and Local Regulations

Mendocino County Air Quality Management District

The Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) is responsible for assuring that the federal and state ambient air quality standards are attained and maintained in the southern North Coast Air Basin. MCAQMD is also responsible for adopting and enforcing rules and regulations concerning air pollutant sources, issuing permits for stationary sources of air pollutants, inspecting stationary sources of air pollutants, responding to citizen complaints, monitoring ambient air quality and meteorological conditions, awarding grants to reduce motor vehicle emissions, conducting public education campaigns, and many other activities.

Mendocino Council of Governments

The 2017 Mendocino RTP is a long-range planning effort, undertaken by MCOG, that involves federal, State, regional, local and tribal governments; public and private organizations; and individuals working together to plan how future regional transportation needs can be met. The RTP Guidelines require that the issue of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions be addressed during the RTP process. While predominately rural areas such as Mendocino County are not subject to the same requirements as urban regions, discussion of the issue in the RTP provides the opportunity to identify existing and future efforts that will contribute to the emission reduction targets. Strategies to reduce GHG generation entail expanded transit use, improving streets/roads

² Similar to the compliance reporting procedure for demonstrating Energy Code compliance in new buildings and major renovations, compliance with the CalGreen water-reduction requirements must be demonstrated through completion of water use reporting forms. Buildings must demonstrate a 20 percent reduction in indoor water use by either showing a 20 percent reduction in the overall baseline water use as identified in CalGreen or a reduced per-plumbing-fixture water use rate.

efficiency, and expanding non-motorized travel opportunities. These strategies have been and will continue to be employed in Mendocino County throughout the time frame of the 2017 RTP, which is 2017 to 2030. The RTP includes the objective to “invest in transportation projects and participate in regional planning efforts that will help Mendocino County residents to proportionately contribute to the California greenhouse gas reduction targets established by Assembly Bill 32 and SB 375” (MCOG 2018). Policies to support that objective include the following:

- Evaluate transportation projects based on their ability to reduce Mendocino County’s transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.
- Prioritize transportation projects which lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
- Monitor new technologies and opportunities to implement energy efficient and nonpolluting transportation infrastructure.
- Continue to consider bicycle transportation, pedestrian, and transit projects for funding in the State Transportation Improvement program.
- Continue administrative, planning, and funding support for the Region’s transit agency, Mendocino Transit Authority.
- Encourage private and public investment in a countywide electric vehicle charging station network and seek funding to fill gaps in the network.

City of Ukiah Climate Action Plan

The City of Ukiah Draft 2014 Climate Action Plan (CAP) outlines strategies, goals, and actions for reducing municipal and community-wide GHG emissions. The Draft CAP was completed in 2014 but never adopted by the City. The CAP is designed to ensure that Ukiah does its part to contribute to the goals of AB 32, while remaining consistent with the Ukiah General Plan vision for future growth. The CAP includes emissions reduction goals, strategies, and actions for 2020 and considers the years beyond 2020 as deeper reductions in GHG emissions are necessary. The measures in the CAP address energy consumption and generation, transportation and land use, solid waste disposal, and water use.

4.6.3 Impact Analysis

Significance Thresholds

Based on Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to GHG emissions from the proposed project would be significant if the project would:

1. Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment; or
2. Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases.

Most individual projects do not generate sufficient GHG emissions to create a project-specific impact through a direct influence on climate change. However, physical changes caused by a project can contribute incrementally to cumulative effects that are significant, even if individual changes resulting from a project are limited. The issue of climate change typically involves an analysis of whether a project’s contribution towards an impact is cumulatively considerable. “Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of an individual project are significant when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future

projects (*CEQA Guidelines*, Section 15064[h][1]). MCAQMD defers to Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) guidelines for projects in Mendocino County (MCAQMD 2013). The 2022 BAAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Guidelines* provides two plan level thresholds for determining the significance of GHGs. The two approaches are as follows:

1. Consistency with a qualified GHG reduction plan
2. Meets the State’s goals to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045

The City of Ukiah’s CAP is not a qualified GHG reduction plan, since it contains targets only for 2020 and was never adopted by the City; therefore, the first approach is not feasible. As such, the City uses the second approach to determine the significance of GHGs for development facilitated by Ukiah 2040.

Methodology

The focus of this analysis of GHG emissions are limited to only those potential emissions that would result from net buildout of the project. While emissions generated in the City and the region, such as those emissions generated by businesses or individual operations, may contribute to GHG emissions globally, only those emissions that may change compared to existing conditions under project implementation are included in this EIR. Emissions not directly resulting from development facilitated by the project are considered outside the scope of this CEQA analysis because it would be speculative to analyze impacts not directly related to the project.

Based on plan-level guidance from the 2022 BAAQMD *CEQA Thresholds for Evaluating the Significance of Climate Impacts From Land Use Projects and Plans*, GHG emissions associated with project implementation is discussed qualitatively by comparing Ukiah 2040 to the 2022 BAAQMD GHG thresholds, namely whether policies work towards carbon neutrality by 2045. In addition, the plans are qualitatively compared to other applicable plans, policies, and regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs.

- Threshold 1:** Would the project generate GHG emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?
- Threshold 2:** Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Impact GHG-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY UKIAH 2040 WOULD MAKE PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING STATE GOALS BUT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY MEET STATE 2030 OR 2045 GOALS. MITIGATION MEASURES GHG-1 AND GHG-2 WOULD RESULT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF CEQA GHG THRESHOLDS AND A CAP UPDATE; HOWEVER, DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY UKIAH 2040 WOULD NOT MEET THE 2030 OR 2045 GOALS UNTIL THE CAP IS UPDATED AND ADOPTED. THIS IMPACT WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE.

Construction Emissions

Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would result in GHG emissions during construction, primarily from fuel consumption associated with heavy equipment, light-duty vehicles, machinery, and generators for lighting. Temporary grid power may also be provided to construction trailers or electric construction equipment that may result in indirect GHG emissions from the energy generation. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would utilize construction contractors that would be required to comply with applicable CARB regulations such as accelerated retrofitting,

repowering, or replacement of heavy-duty diesel on-road and off-road equipment. Construction contractors are required to comply with the provisions of CCR Title 13, sections 2449 and 2485, and CARB regulations prohibiting diesel-fueled commercial and off-road vehicles from idling for more than five minutes, minimizing unnecessary GHG emissions. Construction equipment would be subject to the USEPA Construction Equipment Fuel Efficiency Standard, which would minimize inefficient fuel consumption and thus GHG emissions. These construction equipment standards (i.e., Tier 4 efficiency requirements) are contained in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1039, 1065, and 1068. Pursuant to applicable regulatory requirements of CALGreen, development facilitated by the 2040 General Plan would comply with construction waste management practices to divert construction and demolition debris from landfills. These practices would result in efficient use of energy by construction facilitated by the project and therefore would minimize unnecessary GHG emissions. Furthermore, in the interest of cost efficiency, construction contractors would not utilize fuel in a manner that is wasteful or unnecessary, which would also have the effect of minimizing GHG emissions.

Pursuant to the 2022 BAAQMD *CEQA Thresholds for Evaluating the Significance of Climate Impacts From Land Use Projects and Plans*, BAAQMD does not recommend a construction-related climate impact threshold. According to BAAQMD, GHG emissions from construction represent a very small portion of a project's lifetime GHG emissions. The proposed thresholds for land use projects are designed to address operational GHG emissions that represent the vast majority of project GHG emissions. Therefore, the evaluation of GHG emissions impacts associated with project implementation is focused on operational emissions, discussed below.

Nonetheless, the Ukiah 2040 Environment and Sustainability Element includes policies to reduce the impact of GHG emissions generated with construction activities. The relevant policies include the following:

Policy ENV-7.3: Implement Clean Air Plan. The City shall cooperate with Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) to implement the Clean Air Plan required by the Clean Air Act, reduce non-attainment pollutants, including PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, and ozone, and enforce air quality standards as required by State and Federal statutes.

Policy ENV-7.5: Construction and Operations. The City shall require that development projects incorporate feasible measures that reduce construction and operational emissions for reactive organic gases, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}).

Implementation of Policy ENV-7.3 does not directly address construction GHG emissions, but implementation of a Clean Air Plan and subsequent reduction of significant air quality impacts from construction would reduce construction GHG emissions. Policy ENV-7.5 would reduce construction GHG emissions since measures to reduce reactive organic gases, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter would indirectly reduce construction GHG emissions. Measures to reduce air quality impacts from construction activities could include using equipment equipped with a cleaner engine, using alternative powered equipment (e.g., electric equipment), or reducing the hours equipment can operate on site. These factors would reduce both air quality and GHG construction emissions.

Operational Emissions

Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would result in GHG emissions during operation. GHG emissions would result primarily from building energy usage and fuel consumption associated with light-duty vehicles. Ukiah 2040 contains policies that aim to reduce operational GHG emissions in accordance with State 2030 GHG emissions reductions goals and provide substantial progress to the

State's goal of carbon neutrality by 2045. Proposed Ukiah 2040 policies related to GHG emissions reductions include:

Goal ENV-7: To improve air quality to the benefit of public health, welfare, and reduce air quality impacts with adverse effects on residents' health and wellbeing.

Policy ENV-7.1: Transit Oriented Development. The City shall concentrate new development near areas served by transit access and reduce single-occupancy vehicle dependency.

Policy ENV-7.2: Active Transportation. The City shall prioritize pedestrian and bicycle access, infrastructure, and education to encourage increased use of alternative modes of transportation as a means to reduce direct and indirect air contaminant emissions.

Policy ENV-7.5: Construction and Operations. The City shall require that development projects incorporate feasible measures that reduce construction and operational emissions for reactive organic gases, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}).

Policy ENV-7.6: Wood Burning Fireplace Replacement. The City shall promote the replacement of non-EPA certified fireplaces and woodstoves and encourage city residents to participate in MCAQMD and NSCAPCD programs, such as the Wood Stove Rebate Program.

Policy ENV-7.7: City Vehicle and Equipment Fleet. The City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels as part of their fleet. When possible, the City will replace gas and hybrid vehicles with electric vehicles.

Policy ENV-7.8: Residential EV Charging Stations. The City shall encourage new development to install EV charging stations in homes to increase the potential for the public to use zero-emission vehicles, lessening the impacts to air quality through pollution.

Policy ENV-7.9: Public EV Charging Stations. The City shall install public charging stations in its commercial areas to provide additional charging options for city visitors.

Goal ENV-8: To achieve carbon neutrality by or before the year 2045.

Policy ENV-8.1: Carbon Neutrality Resolution. The City shall adopt a Carbon Neutrality Resolution that provides a foundation for all subsequent climate actions.

Policy ENV-8.2: Micro-grid and Small Battery Storage. The City shall encourage the development of small-scale battery storage and micro grid capacity for storing renewable power for nighttime energy use.

Policy ENV-8.3: Municipal Building Electrification Plan. The City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings to convert them to all electric using energy from carbon-free and renewable sources by 2035.

Policy ENV-8.4: Municipal Preference of Emissions-Reduced Equipment. The City shall contract only with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available and feasible for City construction projects or contract services.

Policy ENV-8.5: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy. The City shall promote energy conservation in municipal facilities by seeking opportunities to install energy efficient fixtures and appliances, solar panels, solar battery storage, and other retrofits to new and existing structures.

Goal LU-1: To provide a variety of housing types that offer choices for Ukiah residents and create complete, livable neighborhoods.

Policy LU-1.2: Connectivity. The City shall encourage new residential development to incorporate design features that promote walking and connectivity between blocks.

Policy LU-1.4: High-Density Residential Uses. The City shall encourage new high-density residential development to locate in areas close to services and transit.

Goal LU-2: To encourage mixed-use development projects that create vibrant, walkable districts.

Policy LU-2.1: Downtown Mixed-Use. The City shall encourage mixed-use development to locate within the Downtown. Such developments include housing, retail commercial, offices, open space, and other compatible uses. This development pattern should create vibrant, walkable areas, in contrast to strip retail developments along corridors.

Policy LU-2.3: Mixed-Use Design. The City shall require new mixed-use development to limit the number of access driveways, minimize building setbacks, and provide public ground floor spaces adjacent to sidewalks.

Policy LU-2.4: Pedestrian Orientation. The City shall require new mixed-use and commercial developments with street or bike route frontage to include amenities that connect and create a comfortable environment for walking, sitting, and socializing.

Policy LU-2.5: Live/Work. The City shall encourage mixed-uses in appropriate non-residential or existing mixed-use areas, facilitate the adaptive reuse of otherwise obsolete structures, and promote the growth of the arts and small business ventures in the community by allowing combined workspace and living quarters in appropriate buildings in commercial or industrial zoning districts.

Goal LU-4: To encourage the growth and development of retail, office, service, and entertainment uses in Ukiah to provide jobs, support City services, and make Ukiah an attractive place to live.

Policy LU-4.5: Pedestrian Access to Commercial Uses. The City shall support convenient and direct pedestrian access to commercial uses that are located adjacent to residential areas.

Goal MOB-1: To provide a citywide network of complete streets that meet the needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit, movers of commercial goods, children, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

Policy MOB-1.1: Complete Streets. The City shall design streets holistically, using a complete streets approach, which considers pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and other modes together to adequately serve future land uses.

Policy MOB-1.2: Multi-modal Access. The City shall require that all new development and redevelopment projects include provisions for multi-modal access provisions such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and vehicle and transit where relevant.

Policy MOB-1.3: Reallocate Space for Complete Streets. The City shall reallocate roadway space to allow complete streets improvements on streets with excess traffic capacity.

Policy MOB-1.4: Block Length. The City shall limit block lengths to 600 feet wherever feasible to enhance multi-modal circulation and connectivity.

Policy MOB-1.8: New Development and Complete Streets. The City shall require all new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and persons with disabilities, as well as facilities necessary to support the City’s goal of maintaining a complete street network.

Policy MOB-1.9: Bikeway Network. The City shall strive to complete the citywide bicycle network to create a full network of bicycle facilities throughout Ukiah, including bicycle lanes on all arterial and collector street segments where feasible.

Policy MOB-1.10: Bicycle Parking Standards. The City shall maintain efficient and updated parking standards for bicycle parking to ensure development provides adequate bicycle parking, while reducing reliance on automobiles.

Policy MOB-1.11: Pedestrian Barriers & Utility Relocation. The City shall support elimination of barriers to pedestrian travel on sidewalks and walking paths including requiring the relocation or undergrounding of utilities where appropriate.

Goal MOB-2: To reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to and from residences, jobs and commercial uses in Ukiah.

Policy MOB-2.1: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction. The City shall support development and transportation improvements that help reduce VMT below regional averages on a “residential per capita” and “per employee” basis.

Policy MOB-2.2: Transportation Demand Management. The City shall support programs to reduce vehicle trips, including measures such as reduced parking requirements that aim to increase transit use, car-pooling, bicycling and walking.

Policy MOB-2.3: Pedestrian Facilities. The City shall encourage new development and redevelopment that increases connectivity through direct and safe pedestrian connections to public amenities, neighborhoods, shopping and employment destinations throughout the City.

Policy MOB-2.4: Transit Facility Design. The City shall require new development to include facilities designed to make public transportation convenient.

Policy MOB-2.5: Transit Ridership. The City shall support funding and incentives to increase transit ridership opportunities.

Policy MOB-2.6: Downtown Transit Center. The City shall support creation of a Transit Center.

Policy MOB-2.7: Bicycle Accessible Transit. The City shall encourage the MTA and other public transportation providers to make bus routes connecting Ukiah with other areas bicycle accessible.

Goal MOB-5: To promote a balance of multi-modal options, to be reflected in flexible parking regulations.

Policy MOB-5.1: Incentives for Travel Alternatives. The City shall work with downtown businesses and employers reduce the need for and expenses of off-street parking by supporting and encouraging alternatives to single-occupant vehicles such as incentives and priority parking for carpools and vanpools, secure bicycle parking, and free bus passes.

Policy MOB-5.2: Support for Charging Stations. The City shall support the provision of charging stations for electric vehicles, as well as other types of vehicles, as new technologies emerge.

Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would assist in reducing emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and reaching carbon neutrality by 2045, but as explained further below would not necessarily achieve either goal. Goal ENV-7 and associated policies would reduce air quality pollutants, which would also reduce GHG emissions through encouragement of transit use and active transportation, measures to reduce construction and operational emissions, replacement of wood burning fireplaces, and electric vehicle uses. Goal ENV-8 and associated policies directly aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Specifically, Policy ENV-8.1 calls for the adoption of a Carbon Neutrality Resolution to guide future CAPs. Policies ENV-8.2 through ENV-8.5 encourage use of electric-powered equipment, energy conservation, and renewable energy use, which would reduce GHG emissions associated with non-renewable energy sources. Goals LU-1 and LU-2 and associated policies call for land use to be designed to accommodate pedestrian use, which would reduce reliance on personal vehicles and subsequent GHG emissions. Goals MOB-1, MOB-2, and MOB-5, along with associated policies aim to increase transit ridership and active transportation use, while reducing vehicle miles traveled, which would reduce GHG emissions associated with personal vehicles.

Ukiah 2040 is a policy-level document that guides land use and development throughout the City. The CARB 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan outlines a pathway to achieving the 2030 reduction targets set under SB 32, which are considered interim targets toward meeting the long-term 2045 carbon neutrality goal established by California Executive Order B-55-18. While Ukiah 2040 would facilitate additional development within the City, building energy consumption and VMT (and thus GHG emissions), water consumption, and solid waste generation per capita would be reduced under the project's buildout compared to existing conditions, given the above discussed policies. However, Ukiah 2040 does not outline how the City would meet the goals to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045. Ukiah 2040 would therefore not be consistent with the California Executive Order B-55-18 goal of carbon neutrality by 2045, nor does it have a qualified GHG reduction plan to guide progress towards State goals. Therefore, impacts related to generation of GHG emissions and consistency with State GHG reduction plans due to Ukiah 2040 would be potentially significant.

Implementation of Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would require that the City implement CEQA GHG emissions thresholds and update the Ukiah CAP to establish a Citywide GHG reduction target and provide an outline of how Ukiah will meet the State goal of carbon neutrality by 2045.

Mitigation Measures

GHG-1 Adopt and Implement a CEQA GHG Emissions Threshold

The City shall include and implement a new 2040 General Plan policy under the Environment and Sustainability Element to prepare, adopt, and implement a CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance. The City shall adopt the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance by Fall 2024 for use in future CEQA GHG emissions analyses through 2030. In addition, upon completion of future CAP updates and as necessary, the City shall update the CEQA GHG Emissions threshold of significance and Ukiah CEQA GHG Checklist to be consistent with each CAP update.

GHG-2 Update Ukiah CAP to the State's 2030 and 2045 GHG Emissions Goals

The City shall update the Ukiah CAP by Fall 2024 to outline how Ukiah will meet the State's 2030 goal of 40 percent below 1990 emissions levels and 2045 goal of carbon neutrality. Implementation

measures in the updated CAP to achieve the 2030 and 2045 goals may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Develop and adopt Zero Net Energy requirements for new and remodeled residential and non-residential development;
- Develop and adopt a building electrification ordinance for existing and proposed structures;
- Expand charging infrastructure and parking for electric vehicles;
- Implement carbon sequestration by expanding the urban forest, participating in soil-based or compost application sequestration initiatives, supporting regional open space protection, and/or incentivizing rooftop gardens; and
- Implement policies and measures included in the California 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, such as mobile source strategies for increasing clean transit options and zero emissions vehicles by providing electric vehicle charging stations.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measures GHG-1 and GHG-2 would ensure that development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 after Fall 2024 would be consistent with State emissions goals. However, individual projects that may occur prior to Fall 2024 would not be guaranteed to be consistent with State emissions goals, nor are exact emissions reductions known at the time of adoption of the 2040 General Plan. Until the CEQA GHG thresholds are adopted and the CAP is updated, implementation of Ukiah 2040 would not be consistent with BAAQMD GHG thresholds nor would it be consistent with State GHG reduction plans. Therefore, the project's impacts related to GHG emissions would be significant and unavoidable.

4.7 Land Use and Planning

This section summarizes the City’s land use characteristics, including the overall land use pattern and major land use type, and analyzes the impacts related to land use and planning due to the project.

4.7.1 Setting

Existing land use and Ukiah 2040 land uses are described with the following terms:

- **City Limits.** The political boundary that defines land that has been incorporated into a city. Ukiah has land use authority over all land within its city limits.
- **Sphere of Influence.** The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) establishes the Sphere of Influence (SOI), which defines the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency. An SOI typically includes both incorporated and unincorporated areas within which the City will have primary responsibility for the provision of public facilities and services.
- **Planning Area.** A general plan, pursuant to State law, must address all areas within the jurisdiction’s Planning Area. The Planning Area encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a physical relationship to the long-term planning of the city. For Ukiah, the Planning Area is defined as the area that includes both the city limits and SOI, as well as the existing Ukiah Valley Area Plan boundary.

a. Existing Setting

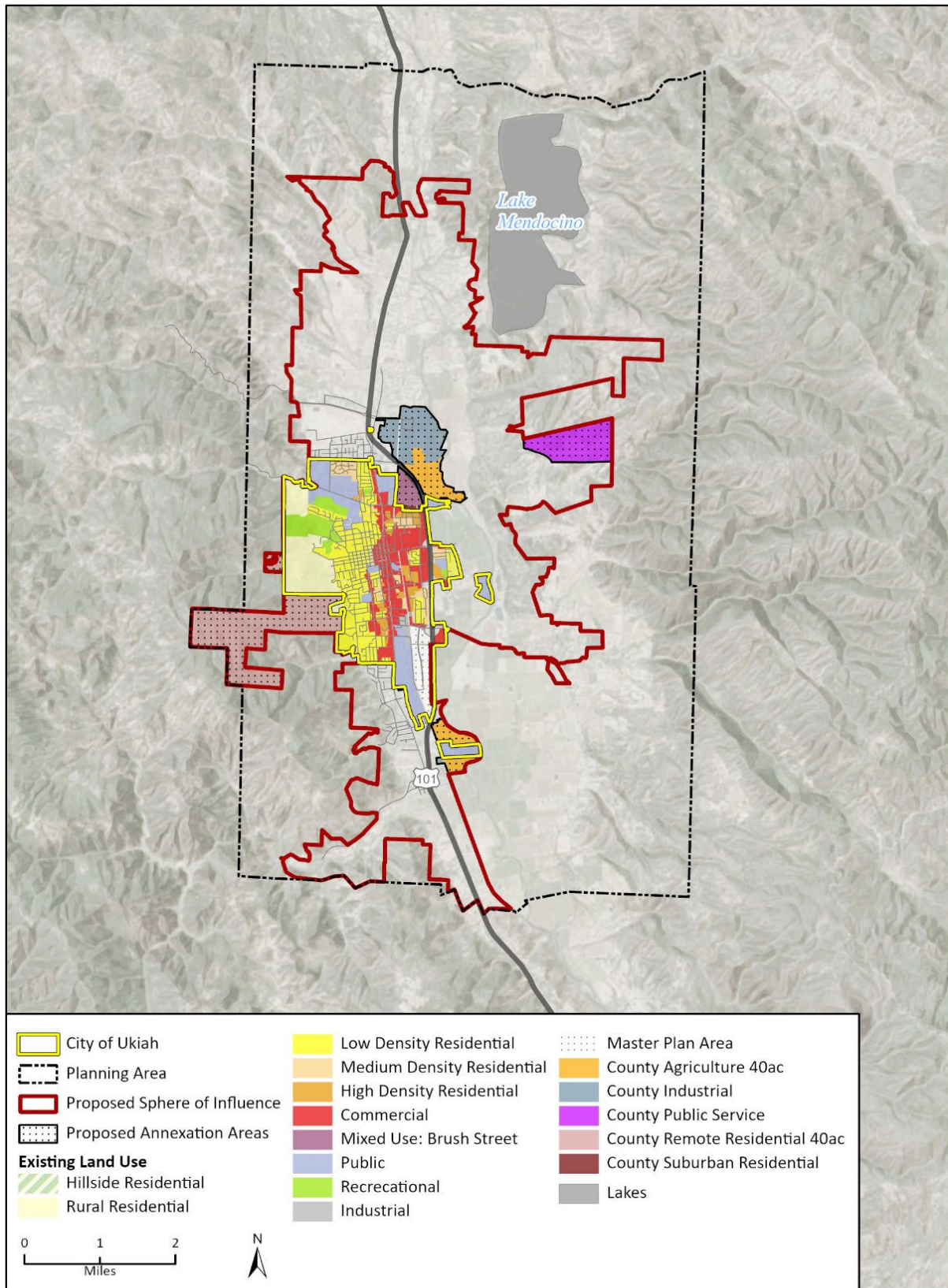
The City of Ukiah encompasses 3,071 acres, approximately one third of which is comprised of residential development. As described in Section 2, *Project Description*, the City’s existing land use pattern is shaped by the surrounding topography and circulation patterns. The adopted 1995 General Plan assigns a particular use to each parcel in the City and establishes development policies for each land use category. The 1995 General Plan includes nine land use designations, described below in Table 4.7-1. Existing land use designations in the City of Ukiah are shown in Figure 4.7-1.

Table 4.7-1 Existing (1995) General Plan Land Use Designations

Designation	Land Use
Rural Residential	Residential uses up to one dwelling unit per acre.
Low Density Residential	Residential uses up to six dwelling units per acre.
Medium Density Residential	Residential uses up to 14 dwelling units per acre.
High Density Residential	Residential uses up to 28 dwelling units per acre.
Commercial	Retail and service businesses, as well as residential uses up to 28 dwelling units per acre.
Industrial	Manufacturing and major employment uses.
Recreational	Parks and other recreational uses in the city.
Public	Public uses, including all land owned by public agencies, such as schools, public utility facilities, and civic centers.
Master Planned Area	The Master Plan Area land use classification is to be applied to the parcels contained within a Master Plan or a Specific Plan at the time of adoption by the City or County.

Source: City of Ukiah 2020

Figure 4.7-1 Existing Land Use Designations (1995 General Plan)



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 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

b. Existing Zoning

The City of Ukiah's Zoning Ordinance established pursuant to Ukiah City Code (UCC) Division 9, Chapter 2, consists of a set of zoning districts that specify uses that are permitted, conditionally permitted, or prohibited within each district. The City has fourteen zoning districts, organized as follows:

- R1, R2, and R3 are residential zones ranging from low density hillside single-family to higher density multifamily. The Hillside Overlay district (-H) is applied to R1 lands within the western hills. Combined, these residential zones account for more than 49 percent of the area within city limits and the majority of the west side.
- Industrial and commercial zones are Manufacturing (M), Community Commercial (C1), Heavy Commercial (C2), and Neighborhood Commercial (CN). Commercial zones are generally situated immediately west of U.S. Highway 101 and along North and South State Street, and account for approximately 15 percent of city.
- The Public Facilities zone (PF) includes City facilities, parks, and public land. PF is the largest zone in the city, containing approximately 24 percent of the city, including the Ukiah Municipal Airport.
- Planned Development (PD) zones exist within the city, one for residential and one for commercial. Planned Development zones are intended to encourage development by providing more flexibility than is possible through the strict application of the Zoning Code requirements and allowing flexibility of design and the application of new techniques in land development.

In 2012, the City adopted its Downtown Zoning Code which established three downtown-specific zoning districts. These districts are located along the East Perkins Street Corridor east of U.S. Interstate 101, and are categorized as follows:

- General Urban (GU) zone allows for mixed-use and urban residential uses in a wide range of building types, from single use and single-family to a mix of uses and multifamily. GU zone allows for residential densities between 10 and 28 dwelling units per acre (du/ac).
- Urban Center (UC) zone allows for higher-density residential and mixed-use buildings that may accommodate retail, office, services, local and regional civic uses, and residential uses. This zone has a tight network of streets with wide sidewalks, regularly spaced street tree planting, and buildings set close to lot frontages. The UC zones allows for residential densities between 15 and 28 du/ac.

Downtown Core (DC) zone allows the highest density and intensity of development by allowing a wide variety of commercial and residential uses located in mixed-use buildings. This zone has small, walkable blocks with regularly spaced street trees and buildings set at the frontage line. The DC zone allows for residential densities between 15 and 28 du/ac.

Table 4.7-2 below describes the distribution of existing zones in Ukiah.

Table 4.7-2 Existing Zoning Districts

Zone	Acres	Percent of City Area
Public Facilities - PF	638.3	24.2%
Single-Family Residential - R1	626	23.7%
Single Family Residential, Hillside - R1H	489.4	18.6%
Community Commercial - C1	203.5	7.7%
Heavy Commercial - C2	138.4	5.2%
Planned Development, Commercial - PDC	128.5	4.9%
High-Density Residential - R3	108.4	4.1%
Planned Development, Residential - PDR	91.5	3.5%
Medium-Density Residential - R2	75.1	2.8%
Neighborhood Commercial - CN	49.6	1.9%
Urban Core - UC	37.7	1.4%
Manufacturing - M	28.5	1.1%
General Urban - GU	14.7	0.6%
Downtown Core - DC	5.2	0.2%
Right-of-Way	2.4	0.1%
Total	2,637.2	100.0%

Source: City of Ukiah 2020

c. Existing Plans

City of Ukiah Design Guidelines

Ukiah established design guidelines in two steps, starting in 1992, when the City adopted Design Guidelines for Commercial Structures within the Downtown District. This effort was followed by adoption of Design Guidelines for Commercial Structures Outside the Downtown District in 1996. These design guidelines provide recommendations on the form, rather than use, of structures in the City. The Downtown Design Guidelines generally encompasses the State Street frontage between Brush Street and Talmage Road, as well as Perkins and Gobbi street frontages between U.S. Highway 101 and the downtown area, and portions of School, Dora and Oak streets adjacent to City Hall. The Design Guidelines for Commercial Structures Outside the Downtown District encompasses the commercial areas outside the Downtown core.

City of Ukiah Design and Development Standards for Ministerial Residential Development

In 2021, the Ukiah City Council adopted Objective Design and Development Standards for New Residential Construction (Ordinance 1212) which have been codified in Ukiah City Code Section 9055. Specifically, Ukiah Municipal Code Section 9055.1 establishes objective development standards for new residential construction, including lighting, landscaping, orientation, and setback standards. Ukiah Municipal Code Section 9055.2 establishes objective design standards for new residential construction, including color palette, screening, roof design, and structural massing standards. The purpose of these standards is to create a by-right, ministerial approval process for all new residential construction, excluding single-family homes. To do so, this article sets forth objective design and development standards that remove barriers to and reduce costs for new

residential construction, excluding single-family homes, while still protecting the residential character of the City's neighborhoods.

Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan

The Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan (Airport Master Plan), adopted by the City in 1996, serves as a framework within which individual airport projects can be implemented. The Airport Master Plan summarizes airport inventory, role and activity, and financial plan, and establish standards for airfield design and building area development. In January 2016, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved Ukiah Municipal Airport's Airport Layout Plan, illustrating proposed alterations to the airfield system.

Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

Adopted in 2021 by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) and City of Ukiah, the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP) replaces the compatibility plan for Ukiah Municipal Airport adopted by the ALUC in 1996 as part of the countywide Mendocino County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (MCACLUP). The UKIALUCP is wholly self-contained and does not rely upon any policies or other content contained in the MCALUCP. The MCALUCP remains in effect for other airports in Mendocino County.

The basic function of the UKIALUCP is to promote compatibility between the airport and surrounding land uses. As adopted by the ALUC, the plan serves as a tool for use by the Commission in fulfilling its duty to review certain airport and adjacent land use proposals. Additionally, the plan sets compatibility criteria applicable to local agencies in their preparation or amendment of land use plans and ordinances and to landowners in their design of new development.

Ukiah Valley Area Plan

The Ukiah Valley Area Plan, adopted by Mendocino County in 2011, governs land use and planning of the unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley. Although the document does not cover the city of Ukiah, it does establish land use designations and development standards within the City of Ukiah Planning Area (City of Ukiah 2020). Section 3 of the Ukiah Valley Area Plan shows that land uses immediately within the Planning Area include Remote Residential (RMR40) west of City limits, Rural Residential and Commercial to the south, agricultural to the east, and Rural Residential, Commercial, and Industrial to the north (County of Mendocino 2011).

4.7.2 Regulatory Setting

a. State Regulations

California Government Code

California Government Code Section 65300 regulates the substantive and topical requirements of general plans. State law requires each city and county to adopt a general plan "for the physical development of the county or city, and any land outside its boundaries which bears relation to its planning." The California Supreme Court has called the general plan the "constitution for future development." The general plan expresses the community's development goals and embodies public policy relative to the distribution of future land uses, both public and private.

California Government Code Section 65301 requires a general plan to address the geographic territory of the local jurisdiction and any other territory outside its boundaries that bears relation to

the planning of the jurisdiction. The jurisdiction may exercise their own judgment in determining what areas outside of its boundaries to include in the Planning Area. The State of California General Plan Guidelines state that the Planning Area for a city should include (at minimum) all land within the city limits and all land within the city's Sphere of Influence.

Cortese Knox Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000

The Cortese Knox Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act (CKH Act) is the most significant reform to local government reorganization law since the 1963 statute that created a LAFCo in each county. The law established procedures for local government changes of organization, including city incorporation, annexation to a city or special district, and consolidation of cities or special districts (California Government Code Section 56000, et seq.). LAFCOs have numerous powers under the CKH Act, but those of prime concern are the power to act on local agency boundary changes and to adopt spheres of influence for local agencies. The law also states that in order to update a Sphere of Influence, LAFCOs are required to first conduct a review of the municipal services provided in the county.

While LAFCo does not have any direct land use authority, the CKH Act assigns LAFCOs a significant role in planning issues by requiring them to consider a wide range of land use and growth factors when they consider proposals. California Government Code Section 56001 specifically states that "the logical formation and determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor in promoting orderly development and in balancing that development with sometimes competing State interests of discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open space and prime agricultural lands, [and] efficiently extending government services."

The CKH Act also requires LAFCOs to update spheres of influence for every city and special district every five years. The original deadline was January 2006, five years following the CKH Act becoming State law. That deadline was extended two years to January 2008. Every SOI update must be accompanied by an update of the municipal services review. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56430, Mendocino LAFCo conducts municipal service reviews for each agency under its jurisdiction. The municipal service reviews provide an in-depth look at provider service needs, use of resources, and possibilities for partnership with other agencies; and contain determinations that serve as guidelines to inform and support the LAFCo's decisions about Spheres of Influence. LAFCo and the City of Ukiah are currently in the process of updating the Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence for the City. These processes are occurring concurrently with preparation of this EIR; LAFCo can use this EIR to adopt the proposed SOI.

b. Regional Regulations

2017 Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan

The Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), adopted in February 2018, is a plan outlining the Mendocino County Council of Governments' strategies for operating, managing, maintaining, and financing the region's transportation system in a way to advance the long-term goals of the communities within Mendocino County and the state of California. The RTP emphasizes a strategy of investing transportation funds and coordinating land use planning efforts to bring greater mobility and access to services for Mendocino County residents. Goals and policies within the RTP include coordinating land use and public investments in a way that improves accessibility to services, employment, and housing, and encouraging local entities to direct private development to priority urbanized areas where services can best be provided at lowest public cost and least environmental consequences (Mendocino County Council of Governments 2018).

c. Local Regulations

Zoning

Zoning is the primary tool used to implement a community's general plan. A major difference between a general plan and zoning ordinance is that the general plan provides general guidance on the location, type, and density of new growth and development over the long term, while the zoning ordinance provides detailed development and use standards for each parcel of land. The zoning ordinance divides the community into zoning districts and specifies the uses that are permitted, conditionally permitted, and in some instances, which uses are specifically prohibited within each district.

Typically, a zoning ordinance consists of text and a map delineating districts for such basic land uses as residential, commercial, and industrial, and establishing special regulations for historic preservation, floodplains, hillside development and other specific concerns. For each of the basic land uses, the zoning ordinance text typically includes an explanation of the purpose of the zoning district; a list of principals permitted and conditionally permitted uses; and standards for minimum lot size, density, height, lot coverage, setback, and parking. The zoning ordinance also typically describes procedures for processing discretionary approvals.

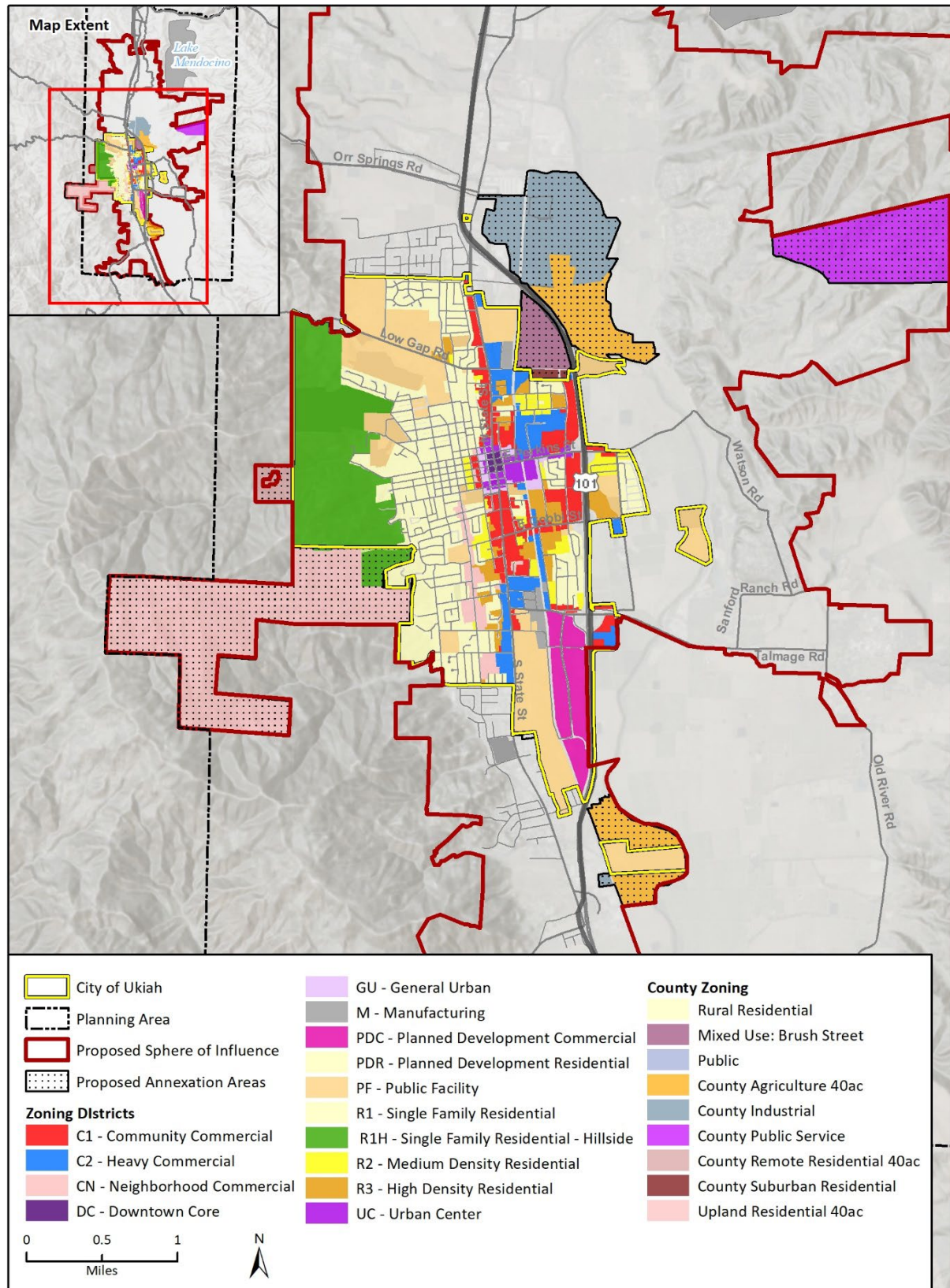
Ukiah Zoning Districts

The City of Ukiah Zoning Ordinance (UCC Division 9, Chapter 2) contains 14 zoning districts (including two combining/overlay districts), as shown on Figure 4.7-2. Each zoning district has developed standards that are designed to protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the community and to implement the policies of the General Plan. The zoning districts only apply to land within the City limits and the standards serve to preserve the character and integrity of existing neighborhoods. Within a typical district there are regulations related to land use, lot size, coverage, setbacks, building heights, parking, and landscaping.

The 14 zoning districts established by the Ukiah Zoning Ordinance are:

- **Residential Districts**
 - Low Density Residential (R-1)
 - Medium Density Residential (R-2)
 - High Density Residential (R-3)
- **Commercial Districts**
 - Neighborhood Commercial (C-N)
 - Community Commercial (C-1)
 - Heavy Commercial (C-2)
- **Industrial Districts**
 - Manufacturing (M)
- **Agricultural Districts**
 - Agricultural Exclusive (A-E)
- **Public Districts**
 - Public Facilities (PF)

Figure 4.7-2 Existing Zoning Districts



- **Downtown Zoning Districts**
 - General Urban (GU)
 - Urban Center (UC)
 - Downtown Core (DC)
- **Combining/Overlay Districts**
 - Agricultural (-A)
 - Hillside (-H)

Mendocino County Air Quality Management District Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and 2017 Clean Air Plan

For a discussion of the 2005 Mendocino County Air Quality Management District Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and the 2017 Clean Air Plan, please refer to Section 4.3, *Air Quality*.

4.7.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

Based on Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines a project may be deemed to have a significant impact on land use and planning if it would:

1. Physically divide an established community; or
2. Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect.

Methodology

The analysis in this section focuses on the compatibility of land uses identified in Ukiah 2040 with applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating environmental impacts. This section also analyzes whether development facilitated by the project, or its proposed policies would physically divide communities.

b. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project physically divide an established community?

Impact LU-1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD MAINTAIN ORDERLY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PLANNING AREA AND WOULD NOT PHYSICALLY DIVIDE AN ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Most of the land in the Planning Area is currently developed. Vacant parcels comprise approximately 7.8 percent of land within the City, with most vacant parcels located within planned development areas. Residential uses make up approximately 49.2 percent of the City. As described in Section 2, *Project Description*, the project has a maximum buildout potential of an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 non-residential square footage (City of Ukiah 2022). This buildout is projected to occur specifically within the existing City limits and Annexation Areas. Under this maximum build-out scenario, the additional housing and non-residential uses could lead

to an increase of approximately 5,640 residents in the city from 2022 to 2040. Development facilitated by the project could intensify some of the existing employment-generating land uses, which would increase the number of jobs in the Planning Area.

Ukiah 2040 would involve implementation of proposed policies and land use designations that identify the type and intensity of uses permissible in the Planning Area, as shown in Figure 4.7-3 . Intensity and density standards are established for each land use classification. The intent of the land use designations is to adequately classify and distinguish the various land uses needed within the Planning Area. The project also aims to direct growth within the City's sphere of influence and already developed areas to allow for the preservation of agricultural, rural, and open space lands.

Specifically, Ukiah 2040 would promote infill development; the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties; and the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family use. Furthermore, the project contains goals and policies which relate to the physical structure, management, and appearance of the built environment.

The Land Use Element of Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed goals and policies, which would maintain existing communities within the City of Ukiah and would ensure that established communities would not be divided by development facilitated by the project:

Goal LU-7: To ensure the orderly and timely growth and expansion of the City.

Policy LU-7.1: Development Pattern. The City shall ensure an orderly, contiguous development pattern that prioritizes infill development, phases new development, encourages compactness and efficiency, preserves surrounding open space and agricultural resources, and avoids land use incompatibilities.

Goal LU-8: To promote growth and development practices that improve quality of life, protect open space, natural and historical resources, and reduce resource consumption.

Policy LU-8.1: Contiguous Development. The City shall strongly discourage new development that is not contiguous with existing urban development.

Policy LU-8.2: Protection of Agricultural Areas. The City shall support the long-term economic viability of agriculture and agri-tourism and encourage landowners with land in agricultural production to undertake succession planning or agricultural preservation, as appropriate.

Policy LU-8.3: Infill Development. The City shall encourage population and employment growth toward infill development sites within the city.

Policy LU-8.4: Reuse of Underutilized Property. The City shall encourage property owners to revitalize or redevelop abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties to accommodate growth.

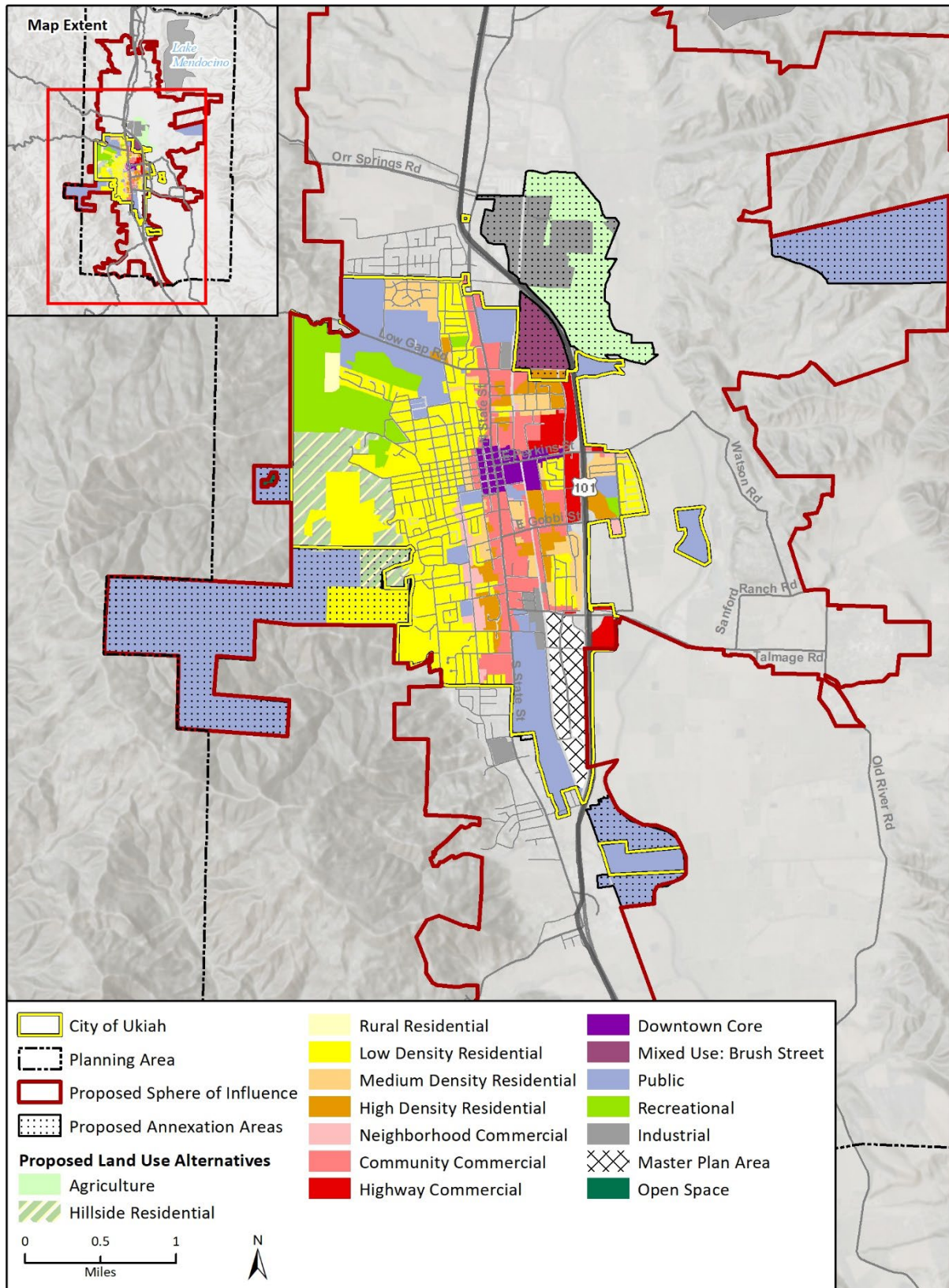
Goal LU-10: To assure coordination and consistency with special planning areas.

Policy LU-10.1: Downtown Zoning Code. The City shall update the Downtown Zoning Code to assure consistency with the General Plan goals, policies, and land use designations.

Policy LU-10.2: Ukiah Valley Community. The City shall recognize that the Ukiah Valley is one community and foster collaborative decision-making between the City, county, and other public agencies.

Policy LU-10.3: Ukiah Valley Area Plan. The City shall coordinate with Mendocino County to assure consistency with the Ukiah Valley Area Plan goals and policies.

Figure 4.7-3 Proposed Land Use Designation Amendments



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 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Fig X Proposed LU Alternatives

These policies would maintain existing communities in the City of Ukiah and would ensure that established communities would not be divided. Policy LU-7.1 would ensure orderly, contiguous development and would avoid land use incompatibilities, which would prevent division of existing communities. Policies LU-8.3 and LU-8.4 would encourage infill development and development of underutilized property, which facilitate development of vacant or underutilized properties to be consistent with their surrounding land uses. Additionally, Goal LU-10 and Policies LU-10.1 through LU-10.3 would ensure land use compatibility and consistency with special planning areas, including the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, which would avoid the division of existing communities. Furthermore, the project does not include proposed circulation changes, such as major roads or other facilities that would physically divide an established community. Therefore, the project would not physically divide the City of Ukiah or its established communities. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 2: Would the project cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Impact LU-2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD BE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH APPLICABLE LAND USE PLANS, POLICIES, OR REGULATIONS ADOPTED TO AVOID OR MITIGATE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Several regionally and locally adopted land use plans, policies, and regulations apply to the project. These include the Mendocino County RTP, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan (see Section 4.3, *Air Quality*), and the 2017 Clean Air Plan (see Section 4.3, *Air Quality*). Consistency of the project with the 2005 Particulate Matter Attainment Plan and the 2017 Clean Air Plan is discussed in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*. Consistency of Ukiah 2040 with applicable goals and policies of the Mendocino County RTP, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, and the Mendocino County Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan are identified below in Table 4.7-3, Table 4.7-4, and Table 4.7-5, respectively.

Table 4.7-3 Project Consistency with Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan

Objective/Policy	Consistency
Encourage local entities to direct private development to priority urbanized areas where services can best be provided at lowest public cost and least environmental consequences.	Consistent. The Land Use Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy LU-8.3, Infill Development, and Policy LU-8.4, Reuse of Underutilized Property, which encourage development to occur in infill development sites or within abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties. These policies will encourage development in already urbanized areas. The Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 also includes proposed Policy MOB-1.8, New Development and Complete Streets, which enables the City to require new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users, which will further facilitate the provision of transit services.
Provide a non-motorized transportation network that offers a feasible alternative to vehicular travel.	Consistent. The Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 contains several proposed goals and policies related to alternative modes of transit. Policies include but are not limited to Policy MOB-1.2, Multi-Modal Access, which enables the City to require new development to include provisions for multi-modal access; Policy MOB-1.8, New Development and Complete Streets, which enables the City to require new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit users; and Policy MOB-2.1, which states that the City shall support transportation projects that help reduce vehicle miles traveled below regional averages.

Source: Mendocino County Council of Governments 2018

Table 4.7-4 Project Consistency with Ukiah Valley Area Plan

Goal/Policy	Consistency
WM4.1e: Streambank protection. Develop, adopt, and oversee Best Management Practices for bank stabilization and erosion control to prevent erosion and siltation in drainage swales and streams.	Consistent. The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy ENV-6.5, Creek Protection, which enables the City to require new development located adjacent to stream corridors to include appropriate measures for creek bank stabilization, erosion and sedimentation prevention, and natural creek channel preservation.
EA1.1e: Renewable resources. Preserve opportunities for development of renewable energy resources. Promote renewable energy.	Consistent. The Economic Development Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy ED-2.2, Energy Infrastructure, which encourages the improvement of infrastructure to increase availability, reliability, sustainability, and use of renewable energy. This Element also includes proposed Policy ED-11.2, Green Economy, which states the City shall support the development of renewable energy generation. Further, the Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policies ENV-1.3, ENV-8.3, and ENV-8.5, which promote electrification and energy efficiency within City-owned buildings and facilities.
EA1.1g: Green building standards. New construction shall comply with the California Green Building Code. Adopt and integrate green building standards into the development review and building permit process. Offer incentives to encourage green building practices.	Consistent. Development facilitated by the project would be required to comply with the California Green Building Code. The Economic Development Element also includes proposed Policy ED-11.2, Green Economy, which states the City shall support the development of renewable energy generation and industries and businesses that promote and enhance environmental sustainability, decarbonization, climate change adaptation, and resiliency.
OC 1.1: Protect the [Russian] river corridor and riparian habitat while accommodating responsible development.	Consistent. The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy ENV-5.3, Russian River Riparian Area, which states the City shall support the County in maintaining the Russian River as a natural riparian corridor.

Goal/Policy	Consistency
<p>OC1.2: Protect and maintain the Russian River Corridor channel elevation and banks.</p>	<p>Consistent. The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy ENV-5.3, Russian River Riparian Area, and Policy ENV-6.5, Creek Protection, which would facilitate protection and maintenance of the Russian River.</p>
<p>OC2.3d: Zoning code: hillsides. Revise the zoning code to include standards for locating hillside roads and structures to minimize damage to natural hillside resources. Clearings for roads, buildings and fire protection purposes should be sited in the least visible and least ecologically damaging locations and screened with native vegetation where feasible. Encourage development to design and locate projects to minimize impacts on views of the hills from the Valley. New development should be subordinate to the natural setting and minimize the use of reflective surfaces. Buildings and building groups shall be sited, when feasible, near the toe of a slope and below a ridge.</p>	<p>Consistent. The Land Use Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy LU-8.3, Infill Development, and Policy LU-8.4, Reuse of Underutilized Property, which encourage development to occur in infill development sites or within abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties. These policies will encourage development in already urbanized areas. This Element also includes proposed Goal LU-6, which aims to preserve the natural character of hillside development areas, and proposed Policy LU-6.2, Hillside Development, which enables the City to require new development in hillside areas to minimize grading, maintain a natural hillside setting, and be designed to preserve the ecological and scenic character of the hillsides.</p>
<p>OC3.1b: Agricultural Land Conversion Criteria. Proposals to convert Agricultural Lands to non-agricultural classification will be considered only after satisfying the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project shall not result in a need for premature expansion of infrastructure in conflict with other Area Plan policies. ▪ The project shall not have a significant adverse effect on agricultural uses in the area. ▪ The project site is substantially unusable for agricultural purposes due to encroaching adjacent nonagricultural uses. ▪ The proposal must achieve the long-range goals of the General Plan and Area Plan for the area as it exists prior to the proposal. 	<p>Consistent. The Land Use Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy LU-7.1, Development Pattern, which promotes orderly, contiguous development that preserves agricultural resources, among other resources. This Element also includes proposed Policy LU-8.2, Protection of Agricultural Areas, which states the City’s support for the long-term economic viability of agriculture and agricultural preservation. Further, as discussed in Section 4.2, <i>Agricultural and Forestry Resources</i>, the project would not result in the conversion of designated agricultural land within the city or proposed annexation areas.</p>

Goal/Policy	Consistency
HA2.1: protect known cultural and archaeological sites.	Consistent. The Environment and Sustainability Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Goal ENV-3, which intends to preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah, and several related policies. This Element includes proposed Policy ENV-3.2, Archaeological Resource Impact Mitigation, which states the City shall ensure appropriate and feasible mitigation for new development that has potential to impact sites likely to contain archaeological, paleontological, cultural, or tribal resources. Furthermore, as discussed in Sections 4.5, <i>Cultural Resources</i> , and 4.12, <i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i> , the project would involve implementation of Mitigation Measures CR-1, CR-2, TCR-1, and TCR-2, which would reduce impacts to cultural and tribal cultural resources.

Source: County of Mendocino 2011

Table 4.7-5 Project Consistency with Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

Goal/Policy	Consistency
3.1.1. Statutory requirement. State law requires each Local Agency having territory within an Airport Influence Area to modify its general plan and any applicable specific plan to be consistent with the airport land use compatibility plan for the particular airport unless it takes the steps required to Overrule the ALUC. In order for a general plan to be considered consistent with this UKIALUCP, the following must be accomplished: [see Policy 3.1.2, below].	Consistent. The City of Ukiah would comply with Section 21676(b) of the Public Utilities Code, which states that the adoption or approval of any amendment to a general or specific plan affecting the property within an airport's planning area shall be referred to the Airport Land Commission for determination of consistency prior to approval of Ukiah 2040.
3.1.2. Elimination of Conflicts. No direct conflicts can exist between the two plans. (a) Direct conflicts primarily involve general plan land use designations that do not meet the Density or Intensity criteria specified in Table 3A, Basic Compatibility [see UKIALUCP]. In addition, conflicts with regard to other policies—height limitations in particular—may exist. (1) However, a general plan cannot be found inconsistent with the UKIALUCP because of land use designations that reflect Existing Land Uses even if those designations conflict with the compatibility criteria of this UKIALUCP. General plan land use	Consistent. As shown in Figure 2-3 of Section 2, <i>Project Description</i> , existing land use designations in the vicinity of Ukiah Municipal Airport include Commercial, Industrial, Master Plan Areas, and Low to Medium Density Residential. As shown in Figure 2-4 of Section 2, <i>Project Description</i> , proposed lands uses in the vicinity of the airport include Community Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, Industrial, Master Plan Areas, and Low to Medium Residential. Therefore, the project would not substantially convert existing land uses to other uses. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 would include several policies, including proposed Policies LU-10.4 through LU-10.6, which state that the City shall periodically update the Ukiah Airport Master Plan to reflect current airport needs; require new development within airport zones to conform to height, use, and intensity specified in the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan; and refer new development projects near the Ukiah Airport to the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission for review and comment. Additionally, the project would also include proposed Policies SAF-7.3 and SAF-7.4, which states that the City shall require disclosure of potential airport noise impacts for properties located within the noise contours of the airport and require incorporation of sound reducing measures in new development in the airport compatibility zones. Therefore, the project would not convert existing land uses near the airport and would include policies that would ensure land use consistency in the vicinity of the airport. The project would be consistent with this policy.

Goal/Policy	Consistency
<p>designations that merely echo the Existing Land Uses are exempt from requirements for general plan consistency with the UKIALUCP.</p> <p>(2) On the other hand, proposed Redevelopment or other changes to Existing Land Uses are not exempt from compliance with this UKIALUCP and are subject to ALUC review in accordance with Policies 1.5.3(d) and 1.4.5(b)(9). To ensure that Nonconforming Uses do not become more nonconforming, general plans or implementing documents must include policies setting limitations on expansion and Reconstruction of Nonconforming Uses located within the Airport Influence Area consistent with Policies 3.3.1 and 3.3.4.</p> <p>(b) To be consistent with the UKIALUCP, a general plan and/or implementing ordinance also must include provisions ensuring long-term compliance with the compatibility criteria. For example, future reuse of a building must not result in a usage Intensity that exceeds the applicable standard or other limit approved by the ALUC.</p>	

Source: Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission 2021

As demonstrated above, goals and policies of Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with goals, policies, and strategies of the Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, and the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

Ukiah 2040 itself is a land use plan that contains policies that will be adopted, in part, for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. In the future, projects consistent with Ukiah 2040 will be able to use this EIR for a streamlined environmental review process. State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 allows for a streamlined environmental review process for projects that are consistent with the densities established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan

policies for which an EIR was certified. To be eligible for streamlined review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15183, the following findings must be made based on an initial study or other analysis:

- The project is consistent with the development density established by existing zoning, community plan, or general plan policies for which an EIR was certified.
- There are no project-specific effects that are peculiar to the project or its site.
- There are no project-specific impacts that the prior EIR failed to analyze as significant effects.
- There are no potentially significant offsite and/or cumulative impacts that the prior EIR failed to evaluate.
- There is no substantial new information that results in more severe impacts than anticipated by the prior EIR.

Overall, Ukiah 2040 contains four geographic elements: the Planning Area, the proposed sphere of influence (SOI), the City limits, and the Annexation Areas. The City has identified updated and new land uses within the City limits and the Annexation Areas. No new or amended land uses have been identified for the remaining areas within the proposed SOI or Planning Area, and the City would not change existing zoning within these areas. Future projects within the Planning Area, proposed SOI, City limits, and Annexations Areas may qualify for streamlined environmental review under CEQA Guidelines Section 15183. See Section 1.6, *Intended Uses of the EIR*, for more information.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures for land use are planning would be required beyond those identified throughout this EIR, including Mitigation Measures CR-1, CR-2, TCR-1, and TCR-2.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation, beyond those identified throughout this EIR.

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4.8 Noise

This section analyzes noise-related impacts associated with development facilitated by the project, including temporary noise impacts from construction activity and long-term noise impacts from operation.

4.8.1 Setting

a. Overview of Noise and Vibration

Noise

Sound is a vibratory disturbance created by a moving or vibrating source, which is capable of being detected by the hearing organs. Noise is defined as sound that is loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or undesired and may therefore be classified as a more specific group of sounds. The effects of noise on people can include general annoyance, interference with speech communication, sleep disturbance, and in the extreme, hearing impairment (California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] 2013).

Human Perception of Sound

Noise levels are commonly measured in decibels (dB) using the A-weighted sound pressure level (dBA). The A-weighting scale is an adjustment to the actual sound pressure levels so that they are consistent with the human hearing response. Decibels are measured on a logarithmic scale that quantifies sound intensity in a manner similar to the Richter scale used to measure earthquake magnitudes. A doubling of the energy of a noise source, such as doubling of traffic volume, would increase the noise level by 3 dBA; dividing the energy in half would result in a 3 dBA decrease (Caltrans 2013).

Human perception of noise has no simple correlation with sound energy: the perception of sound is not linear in terms of dBA or in terms of sound energy. Two sources do not “sound twice as loud” as one source. It is widely accepted that the average healthy ear can barely perceive changes of 3 dBA, increase or decrease (i.e., twice the sound energy); that a change of 5 dBA is readily perceptible (8 times the sound energy); and that an increase (or decrease) of 10 dBA sounds twice (half) as loud (10.5 times the sound energy) (Caltrans 2013).

Sound Propagation and Shielding

Sound changes in both level and frequency spectrum as it travels from the source to the receiver. The most obvious change is the decrease in the noise level as the distance from the source increases. The manner by which noise reduces with distance depends on factors such as the type of sources (e.g., point or line), the path the sound will travel, site conditions, and obstructions.

Sound levels are described as either a “sound power level” or a “sound pressure level,” which are two distinct characteristics of sound. Both share the same unit of measurement, the dBA. However, sound power is the energy converted into sound by the source. As sound energy travels through the air, it creates a sound wave that exerts pressure on receivers, such as an eardrum or microphone, which is the sound pressure level. Sound measurement instruments only measure sound pressure, and noise level limits are typically expressed as sound pressure levels.

Noise levels from a point source (e.g., construction, industrial machinery, air conditioning units) typically attenuate, or drop off, at a rate of 6 dBA per doubling of distance. Noise from a line source (e.g., roadway, pipeline, railroad) typically attenuates at about 3 dBA per doubling of distance (Caltrans 2013). Noise levels may also be reduced by intervening structures; the amount of attenuation provided by this “shielding” depends on the size of the object and the frequencies of the noise levels. Natural terrain features, such as hills and dense woods, and man-made features, such as buildings and walls, can significantly alter noise levels. Generally, any large structure blocking the line of sight will provide at least a 5 dBA reduction in source noise levels at the receiver. Structures can substantially reduce exposure to noise as well. Modern building construction generally provides an exterior-to-interior noise level reduction of 15 dBA with open windows and an exterior-to-interior noise level reduction of 20 to 35 dBA with closed windows.

Noise Descriptors

The impact of noise is not a function of loudness alone. The time of day when noise occurs and the duration of the noise are also important factors of project noise impact. Most noise that lasts for more than a few seconds is variable in its intensity. Consequently, a variety of noise descriptors have been developed. The noise descriptors used for this study are the equivalent noise level (L_{eq}), and the Day-Night Average Level (DNL; may also be symbolized as L_{dn}).

L_{eq} is one of the most frequently used noise metrics; it considers both duration and sound power level. The L_{eq} is defined as the single steady-state A-weighted sound level equal to the average sound energy over a period. When no period is specified, a 1-hour period is assumed. The L_{max} is the highest noise level within the sampling period, and the L_{min} is the lowest noise level within the measuring period. Normal conversational levels are in the 60 to 65-dBA L_{eq} range; ambient noise levels greater than 65 dBA L_{eq} can interrupt conversations (Federal Transit Administration [FTA] 2018).

Noise that occurs at night tends to be more disturbing than that occurring during the day. Community noise is usually measured using Day-Night Average Level (DNL or L_{dn}), which is the 24-hour average noise level with a +10 dBA penalty for noise occurring during nighttime hours (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.).¹ The relationship between the peak-hour L_{eq} value and the L_{dn} depends on the distribution of noise during the day, evening, and night. Quiet suburban areas typically have L_{dn} noise levels in the range of 40 to 50 dBA, while areas near arterial streets are in the 50 to 60+ dBA L_{dn} range (FTA 2018).

Groundborne Vibration

Groundborne vibration of concern in environmental analysis consists of the oscillatory waves that move from a source through the ground to adjacent structures. The number of cycles per second of oscillation makes up the vibration frequency, described in terms of Hertz. The frequency of a vibrating object describes how rapidly it oscillates. The normal frequency range of most groundborne vibration that can be felt by the human body is from a low of less than 1 Hertz up to a high of about 200 Hertz (Crocker 2007). Typically, groundborne vibration generated by human activities attenuates rapidly with distance from the source of the vibration.

While people have varying sensitivities to vibrations at different frequencies, in general they are most sensitive to low-frequency vibration. Vibration in buildings, such as from nearby construction

¹ Because DNL is typically used to assess human exposure to noise, the use of A-weighted sound pressure level (dBA) is implicit. Therefore, when expressing noise levels in terms of DNL, the dBA unit is not included.

activities, may cause windows, items on shelves, and pictures on walls to rattle. Vibration of building components can also take the form of an audible low-frequency rumbling noise, referred to as groundborne noise. Groundborne noise is usually only a problem when the originating vibration spectrum is dominated by frequencies in the upper end of the range (60 to 200 Hertz), or when foundations or utilities, such as sewer and water pipes, physically connect the structure and the vibration source (FTA 2018). Although groundborne vibration is sometimes noticeable in outdoor environments, it is almost never annoying to people who are outdoors. The primary concern from vibration is that it can be intrusive and annoying to building occupants and vibration-sensitive land uses.

Vibration energy spreads out as it travels through the ground, causing the vibration level to diminish with distance away from the source. High-frequency vibrations diminish much more rapidly than low frequencies, so low frequencies tend to dominate the spectrum at large distances from the source. Discontinuities in the soil strata can also cause diffractions or channeling effects that affect the propagation of vibration over long distances (Caltrans 2020a). When a building is impacted by vibration, a ground-to-foundation coupling loss will usually reduce the overall vibration level. However, under rare circumstances, the ground-to-foundation coupling may amplify the vibration level due to structural resonances of the floors and walls.

Vibration amplitudes are usually expressed in peak particle velocity (PPV) or root mean square (RMS) vibration velocity. The PPV is normally described in inches per second (in/sec) and RMS is normally described in vibration decibels (VdB). PPV is defined as the maximum instantaneous positive or negative peak of a vibration signal. PPV is often used in monitoring of blasting vibration and other construction activity because it is related to the stresses that are experienced by buildings (Caltrans 2020a). Table 4.8-1 summarizes the vibration damage criteria recommended by the FTA for evaluating the potential for architectural damage to buildings.

Table 4.8-1 Criteria for Vibration Damage Potential

Building Category	PPV (in/sec)
I. Reinforced concrete, steel, or timber (no plaster)	0.5
II. Engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster)	0.3
III. Nonengineered timber and masonry buildings	0.2
IV. Buildings extremely susceptible to vibration damage	0.12

in/sec = inches per second; PPV = peak particle velocity

Source: FTA 2018

In addition to the potential for building damage, the human body responds to vibration signals. However, unlike buildings, which are rigid, it takes some time for the human body to respond to vibration. In a sense, a building responds to the instantaneous movement while the human body responds to average vibration amplitude, which is measured as RMS. The averaging of the particle generally results in the RMS conservatively being equivalent to 71 percent of the PPV. Thus, human annoyance usually results in a more restrictive vibration limit than structural damage limits.

b. Local Noise Setting

Noise In Ukiah

Significant noise sources in the City include traffic on major roadways and highways, the Ukiah Municipal Airport, and industrial activities. U.S. Highway 101, North and South State Street, East Perkins Street, East Gobbi Street, and Talmage Road are the primary roadways that contribute to ambient noise. Ukiah contains fixed industrial noise sources in the northeastern portion of the City. Furthermore, although there are railroad tracks located in the City, the railroad is not operational and does not contribute noise in Ukiah. As such, there would be no noise impacts from railroads, and railroad noise is not discussed further in this EIR.

The Ukiah Municipal Airport is in the southern portion of the City. The Ukiah Municipal Airport is comprised of one 4,400 foot runway over 160 acres, and has 87 aircraft based on site. The Ukiah Municipal Airport is not a commercial airport, but provides aircraft repair, rental, and maintenance services and emergency fire and medical services (City of Ukiah 2022). Existing land uses near the airport are low-to-moderate-density urban to the north and west as well as immediately to the east between the airport and U.S. Highway 101. An Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for the Ukiah Municipal Airport was adopted by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) in May 2021 (Mendocino County 2021). Airport noise contours are shown in Figure 4.8-1.

Stationary sources of noise within Ukiah include noise generated by residential activity and machinery or processes at commercial uses. A primary source of stationary noise at these uses is the use of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units.

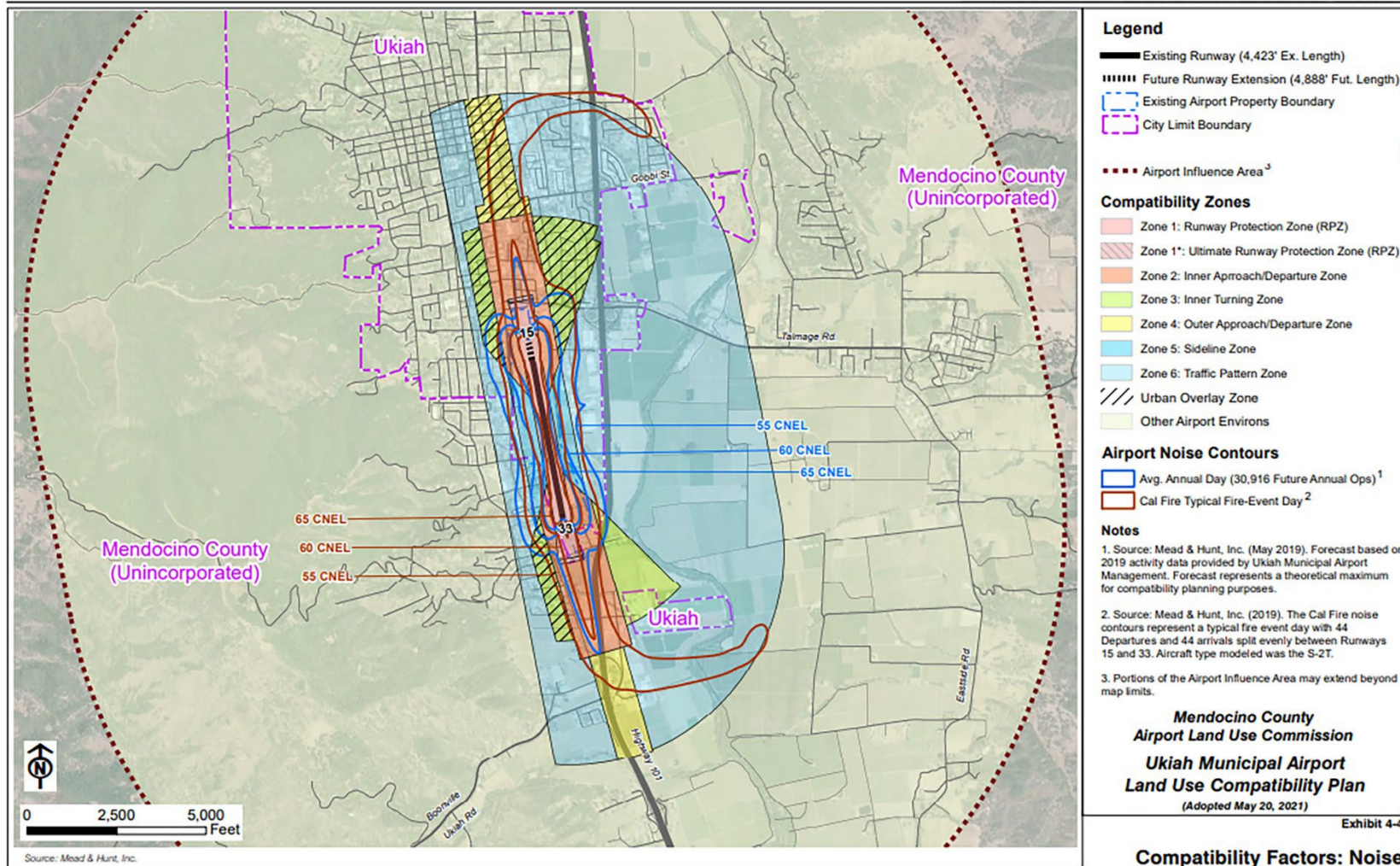
Sources of vibration in the City arise from vehicular traffic. Like vehicle noise, vehicular vibration can affect receivers along roadways and depends on pavement, and the type and weight of the vehicle. Vibration may also be generated by construction equipment (e.g., earth-moving equipment and pile driving); however, these sources are temporary and vary on a project-by-project basis. In addition, existing commercial or industrial activities may generate vibration from the use of heavy equipment.

Sensitive Receivers

Noise exposure goals for various types of land uses reflect the varying noise sensitivities associated with those uses. Noise-sensitive land uses are those that may be subject to stress and/or interference from excessive noise. Noise-sensitive land uses include residential uses, schools, childcare centers, hospitals, nursing homes, parks and recreational areas, and institutional uses such as churches, libraries, and museums. Vibration sensitive receivers are like noise-sensitive receivers and also include historical, fragile buildings. Potential sensitive receivers which may be impacted by development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would primarily be residential uses, schools, and churches.

Figure 4.8-1 Ukiah Municipal Airport Compatibility Zones and Noise Contours

BACKGROUND DATA: UKIAH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AND ENVIRONS CHAPTER 4



4.8.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

Department of Housing and Urban Development

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sets environmental criteria and standards in Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 51. New construction proposed in areas that exceed 65 dBA L_{dn} must incorporate noise attenuation features to maintain interior noise levels at 45 dBA L_{dn} . Development in areas exceeding 65 dBA L_{dn} requires further attenuation features. In general, the HUD regulations match the California state regulations discussed below.

Federal Transit Administration

The FTA provides reasonable criteria for assessing construction noise impacts based on the potential for adverse community reaction in their *Transit and Noise Vibration Impact Assessment Manual* (FTA 2018). For residential uses, the daytime noise threshold is 80 dBA L_{eq} for an 8-hour period.

Occupational Health and Safety Administration

The federal government regulates occupational noise exposure common in the workplace through the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) under the EPA. Noise limitations would apply to the operation of construction equipment and could also apply to any proposed industrial land uses. Noise exposure of this type is dependent on work conditions and is addressed through a facility's Health and Safety Plan, as required under OSHA, and is not addressed further in this analysis.

Federal Aviation Administration

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) enforces Title 14, Part 150 of the CFR, which governs airport noise compatibility programs and identifies land uses that are normally compatible with various levels of noise exposure. The FAA has determined that sound levels up to 45 dB CNEL are acceptable within residential buildings. As discussed in Section 4.8.1, *Setting*, parts of Ukiah are located within noise contours from the Ukiah Municipal Airport and would require implementation of the FAA standards.

b. State Regulations

California General Plan Guidelines

State law requires general plans to include a Noise Element under Government Code Section 65302(f). The California General Plan Guidelines, published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, indicate acceptable, specific land use types in areas with specific noise exposure. The guidelines also offer adjustment factors that may be used to arrive at noise acceptability standards that reflect the noise control goals of the community, the community's sensitivity to noise, and the community's assessment of the relative importance of noise pollution. These guidelines are advisory, and local jurisdictions have the authority to set specific noise standards based on local conditions.

California Building Code

California Code of Regulations Title 24, Building Standards Administrative Code, Part 2, Chapter 12, and the California Building Code codify the State noise insulation standards. These noise standards apply to new construction in California to control interior noise levels as they are affected by exterior noise sources and interior noise sources from separate areas. The regulations specify that interior noise levels shall not exceed 45 dB CNEL/ L_{dn} in any habitable room, as well as specifying sound transmission class requirements for walls, floors, and ceilings around sleeping units.

California Green Building Code

California Green Building Standards Code 2019 (CALGreen) Section 5.507.4, Acoustical Control, regulates construction of non-residential uses within the 65 dBA CNEL/ L_{dn} contour of an airport, freeway, expressway, railroad, industrial noise source, or other fixed source. According to Section 5.507.4.1.1 “buildings exposed to a noise level of 65 dB $L_{eq}(1-hr)$ during any hour of operation shall employ sound-resistant assemblies as determined by a prescriptive method (CALGreen Section 5.507.4.1) or performance method (CALGreen Section 5.507.4.2).

Projects may demonstrate compliance through the prescriptive method if wall and roof-ceiling assemblies exposed to the noise source meet a composite sound transmission class (STC) rating of at least 50 or a composite outdoor/indoor transmission class (OITC) rating of no less than 40, with exterior windows of a minimum STC of 40 or OITC of 30. Projects may demonstrate compliance through the performance method if wall and roof-ceiling assemblies exposed to the noise source are constructed to provide an interior noise environment that does not exceed 50 dB L_{eq-1Hr} in occupied areas during hours of operations.

California Airport Noise Standards

California Code of Regulations Title 21, Subchapter 6, Airport Noise Standards, establishes 65 dBA CNEL as the acceptable level of aircraft noise for persons living in the vicinity of airports. Noise-sensitive land uses are generally incompatible in locations where the aircraft exterior noise level exceeds 65 dBA CNEL. This standard remains unless an aviation easement for aircraft noise has been acquired by the airport proprietor, or the residence is a high-rise with an interior CNEL of 45 dBA or less in all habitable rooms. Assembly Bill (AB) 2776 requires any person who intends to sell or lease residential properties in an airport influence area to disclose that fact to the person buying the property.

c. Local Regulations

Ukiah City Code

Section 6048 of the Ukiah Municipal Code includes a noise ordinance (Division 7, Chapter 1, Article 6), which establishes exterior noise level standards from stationary sources for specific zoning districts, as shown in Table 4.8-2.

Table 4.8-2 Ambient Base Noise Level Standards

Zone	Time	Noise Level Standards (dBA)
R1 & R2	10 pm to 7 am	40
R1 & R2	7 pm to 10 pm	45
R1 & R2	7 am to 7 pm	50
R3	10 pm to 7 am	45
R3	7 am to 10 pm	50
Commercial	10 pm to 7 am	60
Commercial	7 am to 10 pm	65
Industrial (M)	Anytime	70

Notes: Where the ambient noise level is less than designated in Section 6048, the respective noise level in this Section 6048 shall govern.

It should be noted that these base noise level standards were last updated in 1983 and may not reflect the current ambient base levels within the City.

Source: Ukiah Municipal Code Division 7, Chapter 1, Article 6

Section 6053 of the Ukiah City Code establishes that it is unlawful for any machinery, equipment, pump, fan, air conditioning, or similar mechanical device to create noise at any property line in exceedance of the ambient base noise level, by more than five decibels during nighttime hours (7 p.m. to 7 a.m.). Section 6054 of the Ukiah City Code establishes that it is unlawful for construction within 500 feet of a residential zone to occur during nighttime hours (7 p.m. to 7 a.m.) in such a manner that a reasonable person would be discomforted or annoyed, unless a permit is acquired by the Director of Public Works.

Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

The operation of the Ukiah Municipal Airport, located in southwest Ukiah, affects development in a significant portion of the city through the enforcement of the six Airport Land Use Compatibility Zones, with the addition of an overlay zone to two of the zones, which functionally creates restrictions on development within the vicinity of the airport based on proximity to the airport and flight path. Specifically, Chapter 3 of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP) lists restrictions for each land use within each Compatibility Zone related to height, density (both residential and non-residential), land use, noise, and open land (see UKIALUCP Table 3A for a summary of restrictions and development standards). These standards are intended to promote compatibility between the Ukiah Municipal Airport and surrounding land uses and were applied to each of the land use designations.

Additionally, per UKIALUCP Policy 3.2.8(b), recording of an Overflight Notification is required as a condition for approval of new residential or nonresidential projects in Compatibility Zone 6 and an Avigation Easement Dedication is required for projects within zoned 1 through 5.

Lastly, per UKIALUCP Policy 1.4.5, certain major land use projects and projects that question compatibility with the UKIALUCP require formal review by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).

4.8.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, impacts related to noise and vibration from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies;
2. Generate excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels; or
3. For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels.

Specific thresholds of significance for construction, operation, and vibration are as follows.

Construction Noise

New development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could have a significant impact if temporary construction noise during permitted daytime hours exposed noise-sensitive receivers to significantly adverse noise levels, or if construction noise occurred outside the hours detailed in Ukiah City Code Section 6054. As the City does not define a quantitative construction noise threshold, for purposes of analyzing impacts from the project, the City has determined that the FTA construction criteria are applicable to the project. The FTA provides reasonable criteria for assessing construction noise impacts based on the potential for adverse community reaction in their *Transit and Noise Vibration Impact Assessment Manual* (FTA 2018). For residential uses, the daytime noise threshold is 80 dBA $L_{eq(8hr)}$ for an 8-hour period. Construction noise would be significant if it exceeds this threshold.

Operational Noise

A project normally has a significant effect on the environment related to noise if it substantially increases the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas. Most people can detect changes in sound levels of approximately 3 dBA under normal, quiet conditions. Changes of 1 to 3 dBA are detectable under quiet, controlled conditions. Changes of less than 1 dBA are usually indiscernible. A change of 5 dBA is readily discernible to most people in an exterior environment. Based on this, the following thresholds of significance are used to assess traffic noise impacts at sensitive receiver locations:

- Greater than 1.5 dBA increase for ambient noise environments of 65 dBA CNEL and higher
- Greater than 3 dBA increase for ambient noise environments of 60-64 CNEL
- Greater than 5 dBA increase for ambient noise environments of less than 60 dBA CNEL

Vibration

The City has not adopted a significance threshold to assess vibration impacts during construction and operation. Therefore, criteria from the FTA are used to evaluate potential construction vibration impacts related to potential building damage from construction (FTA 2018). Construction vibration

impacts from development would be significant if vibration levels exceed the FTA criteria shown in Table 4.8-1.

Methodology

Construction Noise

Construction equipment can be considered to operate in two modes: stationary and mobile. Stationary equipment operates in a single location for one or more days at a time, with either fixed-power operation (e.g., pumps, generators, and compressors) or variable-power operation (e.g., pile drivers, rock drills, and pavement breakers). Mobile equipment moves around a construction site with power applied in cyclic fashion, such as bulldozers, graders, and loaders (FTA 2018). Each phase of construction has its own noise characteristics due to specific equipment mixes. Some have higher continuous noise levels than others and some may have high-impact intermittent noise levels (FTA 2018). Construction noise levels may fluctuate depending on the type of equipment being used, construction phase, or equipment location. In typical construction projects on vacant sites, grading activities typically generate the highest noise levels because grading involves the largest equipment and covers the greatest area.

Variation in power imposes difficulty in characterizing the noise source level from construction equipment. Power variation is accounted for by describing the noise at a reference distance from the equipment operating at full power and adjusting it based on the duty cycle of the activity to determine the L_{eq} of operating the equipment (FHWA [Federal Highway Administration] 2018). It is common for programmatic environmental analysis to utilize a conservative standard reference distance of 50 feet. Project-level noise analyses for future development due to Ukiah 2040 will use site specific conditions and the estimated distances between proposed pieces of equipment and phases to the nearest off-site sensitive receiver, which may be further than 50 feet.

Heavy construction equipment during grading and site preparation for future development would typically include bulldozers, excavators, front-end loaders, dump trucks, and graders. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that diesel engines would power all construction equipment. Construction equipment would not all operate at the same time or location due to the different tasks performed by each piece of equipment. In addition, construction equipment would not be in constant use during the 8-hour operating day.

Impact devices such as pile drivers could be used for construction of future development. Although use of pile drivers is uncommon during construction for the type of development facilitated by Ukiah 2040, pile driving could be required for some ground types or subterranean parking facilities. As such, this analysis considers the potential for use of this equipment as a conservative analysis. A pile driver is used to drive foundation piles into the ground. These devices would typically operate separately from other equipment. Typical noise levels associated with the types of heavy equipment most likely to be utilized during development associated with the project are shown in Table 4.8-3.

Table 4.8-3 Construction Equipment Noise Levels

Equipment	Typical Noise Level (dBA) at 50 Feet from Source
Concrete Mixer	85
Dozer	85
Grader	85
Jackhammer	88
Loader	80
Paver	85
Pile-driver (Impact)	101
Pile-driver (Sonic)	95
Truck	84

Sources: FTA 2018

On-Site Operational Noise

The primary on-site noise sources associated with operation of residential units, and those discussed in this analysis, would include noise from stationary HVAC equipment, on-site vehicle movement (e.g., trash hauling), and outdoor activities.

Traffic Noise

Traffic noise levels for existing and project conditions were estimated using the FHWA traffic noise prediction model methodology. Traffic noise impacts are analyzed based on average daily traffic (ADT) roadway volume for existing conditions (2020) and Ukiah 2040 conditions, as well as speeds, and number of lanes data. The FHWA model predicts noise levels through a series of adjustments to a reference sound level. These adjustments account for distances from the roadway, traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, car/truck mix, number of lanes, and road width.

Groundborne Vibration

Construction activities have the greatest potential to generate ground-borne vibration affecting nearby receivers, especially during grading and excavation. The greatest vibratory source during construction activities is anticipated to be a vibratory roller; however, an impact pile driver may be used during specific construction phases and could generate higher vibration than vibratory roller. Table 4.8-4 shows typical vibration levels for various pieces of construction equipment used in the assessment of construction vibration (FTA 2018).

Table 4.8-4 Typical Vibration Levels for Construction Equipment

Equipment	PPV (Inches/Second) at 25 Feet
Pile Driver (Impact – upper range)	1.518
Pile Driver (Sonic – upper range)	0.734
Vibratory Roller	0.210
Hoe Ram	0.089
Large Bulldozer	0.089
Loaded Truck	0.076
Jackhammer	0.035
Small Bulldozer	0.003

Sources: FTA 2018.

Because groundborne vibration could cause physical damage to structures and is measured in an instantaneous period, vibration impacts are typically modeled based on the distance from the location of vibration-intensive construction activities, which is conservatively assumed to be edge of a project site, to the edge of the nearest off-site structures. For assessment purposes, potential vibration impacts from construction activities were modeled at a reference distance of 25 feet due to setback distances between equipment and off-site structures.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project result in generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Impact NOI-1 CONSTRUCTION OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS FACILITATED BY UKIAH 2040 WOULD TEMPORARILY INCREASE NOISE LEVELS, POTENTIALLY AFFECTING NEARBY NOISE-SENSITIVE LAND USES. DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INTRODUCE NEW ON-SITE NOISE SOURCES AND WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASES IN TRAFFIC NOISE. THE CONTINUED REGULATION OF ON-SITE NOISE, CONSISTENT WITH THE UKIAH CITY CODE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED UKIAH 2040 POLICIES WOULD MINIMIZE DISTURBANCE TO ADJACENT LAND USES. HOWEVER, CONSTRUCTION NOISE AND TRAFFIC NOISE MAY STILL EXCEED NOISE STANDARDS AND IMPACTS WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT AND UNAVOIDABLE.

Construction Noise

Noise from construction of future development projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could temporarily increase ambient noise levels at adjacent property lines. Since there are no specific plans or time scales for future projects, it is not possible to determine exact noise levels or time periods for construction of such projects.

Nonetheless, Table 4.8-3 illustrates typical noise levels of construction equipment at 50 feet. Noise would typically drop by approximately 6 dBA per doubling of distance. As such, noise levels would be approximately 6 dBA lower than shown in Table 4.8-3 at 100 feet from the noise source and 12 dBA lower at 200 feet from the noise source. Construction from Ukiah 2040 may involve the operation of pile drivers. Pile foundations are generally used under two situations: 1) when there is a layer of weak soil at the ground surface that cannot support the weight of a building; or 2) when a

building or structure has very heavy, concentrated loads, such as in a high-rise structure, bridge, or water tank.

As shown in Table 4.8-3, noise levels at 50 feet from construction activities could approach 88 dBA L_{max} with typical heavy-duty construction equipment such as a jackhammer, and up to 101 dBA L_{max} with more intensive equipment such as an impact pile driver. Both scenarios could exceed the daytime FTA construction noise thresholds of 80 dBA L_{eq} , for an 8-hour period for residential uses. Construction noise could, therefore, increase ambient noise levels and may temporarily disturb people at neighboring properties. Compliance with Ukiah City Code Section 6054, which limits construction to certain hours and days, would minimize construction noise impacts. However, it cannot be guaranteed that construction noise would not result in a substantial increase over ambient noise levels or that nighttime construction noise may sometimes be necessary (i.e., if pumps need to run continuously or for concrete pours). The construction noise threshold of 80 dBA L_{eq} daytime at residential uses could be exceeded during future development under the project, resulting in a potentially significant impact. Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would be required to minimize noise during construction.

Operations

Noise from On-Site Stationary Equipment

Noise generated by on-site stationary equipment for new development would be subject to the City's noise limits (pursuant to Ukiah City Code Section 6048), shown in Table 4.8-2. For large buildings, HVAC units are typically located on the roof, where operational noise is greatly reduced by distance and the intervening building itself; however, for smaller buildings (including smaller multi-family residential units), HVAC units are often placed at ground level on a concrete pad adjacent to the building. Existing noise sensitive receivers could be affected by operational noise occurring on-site at future development sites.

Ukiah City Code Section 6053 limits noise from permanent stationary mechanical equipment, such as HVAC units, to 5 dBA above maximum ambient noise levels that are listed in Section 6048, during nighttime hours. Adherence to Ukiah City Code noise limits for HVAC and other stationary noise sources associated with future development would ensure that operational stationary noise is less than significant. Industrial development in annexation areas would not be adjacent to sensitive receivers. Furthermore, implementation of the following proposed Ukiah 2040 goals and polices would ensure that development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would undergo adequate review and mitigation to maintain noise levels at appropriate levels.

Goal SAF-8: To reduce noise impacts through the enforcement of appropriate building and land use codes.

Policy SAF-8.2: Noise Impact Analysis. The City shall ensure adequate analysis of noise impacts when reviewing project permits.

Policy SAF-8.3: Noise Attenuation Requirements. The City shall require all new commercial and manufacturing uses that could produce excessive noise to incorporate applicable noise mitigation measures to reduce noise levels to acceptable levels.

Policy SAF-8.4: Acoustical Studies. The City shall require acoustical studies for all new development projects with potential to generate excessive noise to identify potential noise impacts and appropriate mitigation measures.

Proposed Policies SAF-8.2 and SAF-8.4 would ensure that noise impacts from development facilitated by the project would be analyzed prior to permitting. Additionally, Policy SAF-8.3 would ensure that appropriate mitigation would be incorporated when necessary. Therefore, noise impacts from operational use of residential-scale HVAC units, industrial equipment, and other stationary noise sources would be reduced by proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, and impacts would be less than significant.

Traffic Noise

Implementation of Ukiah 2040 could result in additional buildout, which would generate new vehicle trips that could incrementally increase the exposure of land uses along roadways to traffic noise. Figure 4.8-2 and Figure 4.8-3 illustrate the modeled roadways and the contours for 60 dBA CNEL, 65 dBA CNEL, and 70 dBA CNEL for the existing and 2040 scenario. The complete distances to the 70, 65, and 60 dBA CNEL noise contours for roadway segments are included in Appendix C. Table 4.8-5 shows the estimated traffic noise increase along study roadway segments. The traffic noise increase is the difference between the projected future noise level and the existing noise level.

Figure 4.8-2 Existing Traffic Noise Contours

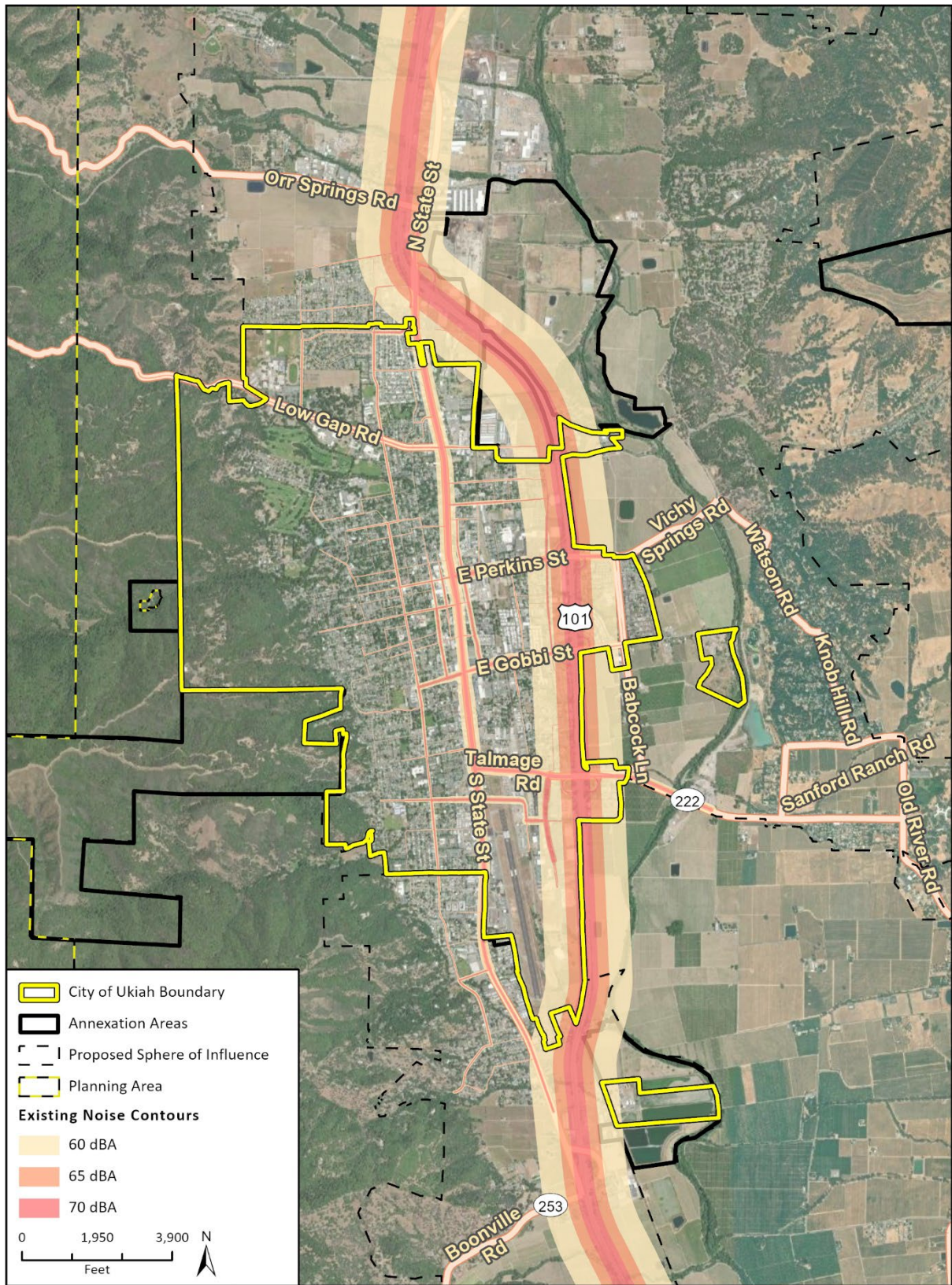
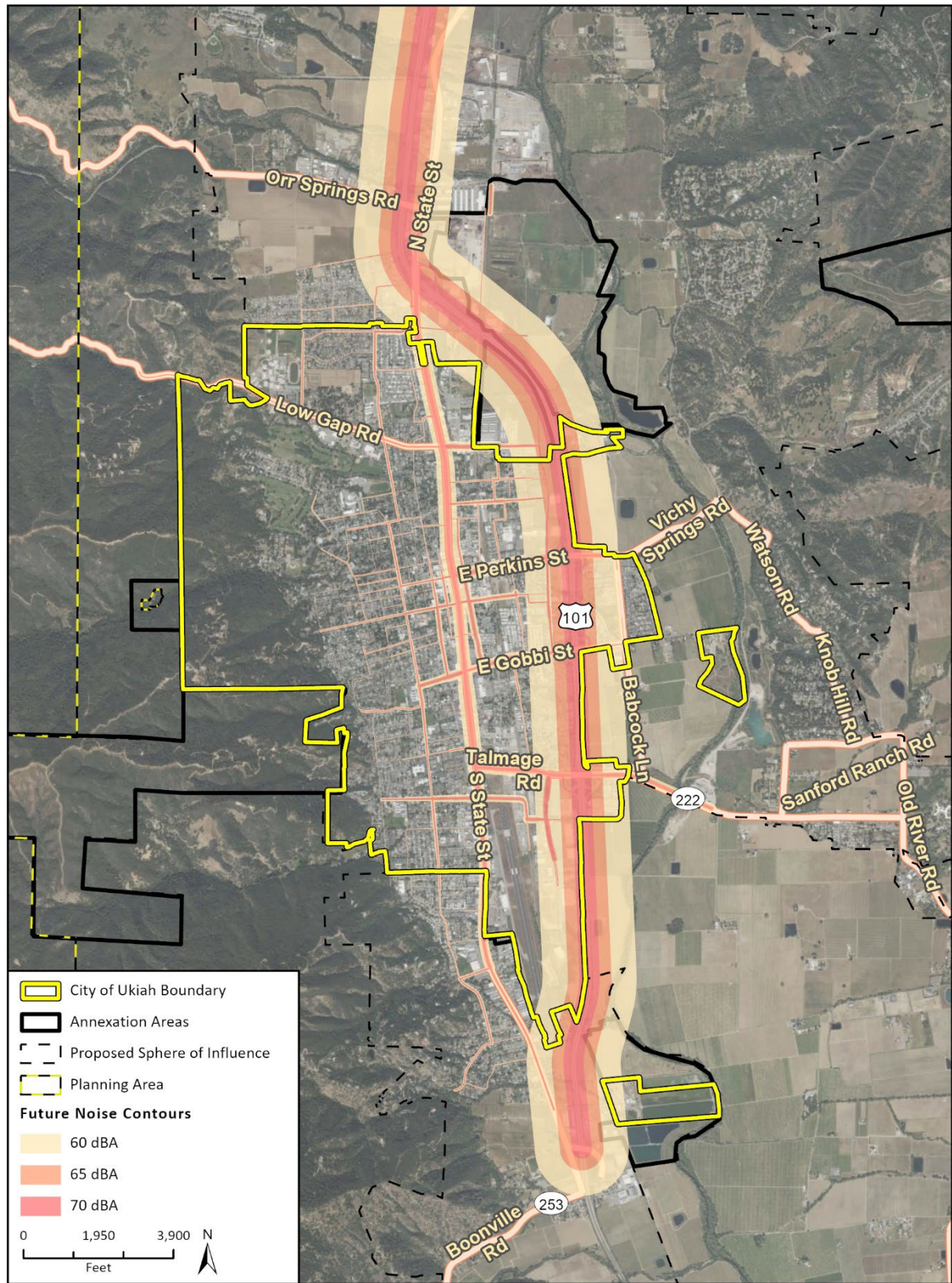


Figure 4.8-3 2040 Traffic Noise Contours



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Noise Contours
 2040 Noise Contours Overview Map

Table 4.8-5 Traffic Noise Increase Along Study Roadway Segments

Roadway Segment	Existing ADT	Ukiah 2040 ADT	Existing Traffic Noise Level at 50 feet (dBA CNEL)	2040 Traffic Noise Level at 50 feet (dBA CNEL)	Traffic Noise Increase (dBA CNEL)	Significant? Y/N
State St – N of Low Gap Rd	15,709	18,721	68.9	69.7	0.8	N
State St – Low Gap Rd to Perkins St	18,526	21,334	69.7	70.3	0.6	N
State St – Perkins St to Gobbi St	11,422	13,740	67.6	68.4	0.8	N
State St – Gobbi St to Talmage Rd	17,648	18,537	69.4	69.7	0.2	N
State St – S of Talmage Rd	10,363	10,050	67.1	66.9	-0.1	N
Low Gap Rd – W of State St	3,414	3,882	60.8	61.4	0.6	N
Brush St – E of State St	1,160	8,282	57.6	66.2	8.5	Y
Perkins St – W of State St	2,183	2,338	58.9	59.2	0.3	N
Perkins St – E of State St	14,081	13,730	68.3	68.2	-0.1	N
Gobbi St – W of State St	4,697	5,979	63.6	64.6	1.0	N
Gobbi St – E of State St	10,549	9,861	67.1	66.8	-0.3	N
Talmage Rd – E of State St	10,498	12,125	67.1	67.7	0.6	N

ADT = average daily traffic.

Bold = significant increase

Source: GHD 2022

As shown in Table 4.8-5, significant traffic noise increases are estimated along Brush Street east of State Street, which would impact approximately two single family residences. Along all other roadway study segments, traffic noise increases would be less than significant. Along several roadway segments, a decrease in traffic noise levels is anticipated from implementation of Ukiah 2040. In addition, the following Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and polices would limit the impact of traffic on noise impacts.

Goal SAF-7: To stabilize or reduce transportation noise impacts on residential uses.

Policy SAF-7.1: Noise Inventory. The City shall inventory noise contours for major traffic corridors and the airport.

Policy SAF-7.2: Sound Attenuation Strategies. The City shall require all new residential development located along major transportation corridors to incorporate sound attenuation strategies to mitigate noise levels to acceptable levels.

Policy SAF-7.5: Roadway Expansion. The City shall require the use of accepted acoustic engineering features when designing for the expansion of existing roads examples include low landscaped berms, landscaping, below-grade construction, and speed control - to minimize expansion of the existing Design to Cost (DTC).

The City considered several mitigation measures to reduce future traffic noise along Brush Street. However, none would be feasible and the traffic noise increase on Brush Street east of State Street, shown in bold in Table 4.8-5, would remain significant and unavoidable.

Mitigation Measure

NOI-1 Construction Noise Reduction Measures

The following measures to minimize exposure to construction noise shall be included as standard conditions of approval for applicable projects involving construction:

1. **Mufflers.** During excavation and grading construction phases, all construction equipment, fixed or mobile, shall be operated with closed engine doors and shall be equipped with properly operating and maintained mufflers consistent with manufacturers' standards.
2. **Stationary Equipment.** All stationary construction equipment shall be placed so that emitted noise is directed away from the nearest sensitive receivers.
3. **Equipment Staging Areas.** Equipment staging shall be located in areas that will create the greatest distance feasible between construction-related noise sources and noise-sensitive receivers.
4. **Smart Back-up Alarms.** Mobile construction equipment shall have smart back-up alarms that automatically adjust the sound level of the alarm in response to ambient noise levels. Alternatively, back-up alarms shall be disabled and replaced with human spotters to ensure safety when mobile construction equipment is moving in the reverse direction.
5. **Signage.** For the duration of construction, the applicant or contractor shall post a sign in a construction zone that includes contact information for any individual who desires to file a noise complaint.
6. **Temporary Noise Barriers.** Erect temporary noise barriers, where feasible, when construction noise is predicted to exceed the acceptable standards (e.g., 80 dBA L_{eq} at residential receivers during the daytime) and when the anticipated construction duration is greater than is typical

(e.g., two years or greater). Temporary noise barriers shall be constructed with solid materials (e.g., wood) with a density of at least 1.5 pounds per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier. If a sound blanket is used, barriers shall be constructed with solid material with a density of at least 1 pound per square foot with no gaps from the ground to the top of the barrier and be lined on the construction side with acoustical blanket, curtain or equivalent absorptive material rated sound transmission class (STC) 32 or higher.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Ukiah City Code requirements and Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would reduce construction noise. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would not ensure that construction noise impacts would be reduced to below the significance threshold of 80 dBA L_{eq} during the daytime at residential uses. In addition, due to construction projects that could occur simultaneously in the same area and the potential duration of construction activities, construction impacts would conservatively remain significant and unavoidable. It should be noted that the identification of this program-level impact does not preclude the finding of less-than-significant impacts for subsequent projects analyzed at the project level. In addition, operational traffic noise impacts would be significant and unavoidable.

Threshold 2: Would the project result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?
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IMPACT NOI-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT COULD TEMPORARILY GENERATE GROUNDBORNE VIBRATION DURING CONSTRUCTION, POTENTIALLY AFFECTING NEARBY LAND USES. OPERATION OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT WOULD NOT RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL VIBRATION OR GROUNDBORNE NOISE. IMPACTS WOULD LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

Construction activities for future development would result in varying degrees of groundborne vibration depending on the equipment and methods employed. As shown in Table 4.8-4, the greatest likely source of vibration during general construction activities would be caused by vibratory rollers, which would create approximately 0.21 in/sec PPV at a distance of 25 feet (FTA 2018). Additionally, as discussed under Impacts NOI-1, it is possible that pile drivers could be used for construction, which would generate approximately 1.518 in/sec PPV at a distance of 25 feet (FTA 2018). The threshold for historic structures is 0.12 in/sec; the threshold is higher for residential buildings at 0.2 in/sec.

Pile driving may be necessary for future development. The use of pile driving equipment is dictated by site soils and the need for secure or deep foundational pilings based on building height or design, and thus cannot be predicted with reasonable certainty at a program-level analysis. As detailed in Section 4.5, *Cultural Resources* historic or cultural resources exist within the City, including buildings that are older than 45 years. These resources would be susceptible to vibration impacts from potential construction activities that involve pile-driving. At distances of 135 feet from fragile structures such as historical resources, 100 feet from non-engineered timber and masonry buildings (e.g., most residential buildings), or 75 feet from engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster), vibration impacts from pile drivers would be potentially significant. Mitigation Measure NOI-2 would be required for future projects that propose using pile driving or a vibratory roller near sensitive receivers, and would require implementation of measures to reduce vibration impacts during construction.

Residential and commercial development facilitated by the project would not involve substantial operational vibration sources because those uses are not significant sources of vibration. However, industrial development in annexation areas may result in increased vibration from stationary sources. Given the distance of the annexation areas from existing or future residential uses, vibration emanating from stationary sources related to industrial uses is not anticipated to generate significant vibration levels at sensitive receivers.

Mitigation Measure

NOI-2 Construction Vibration Control Plan

Prior to issuance of a building permit for a project requiring pile driving during construction within 135 feet of fragile structures such as historical resources, 100 feet of non-engineered timber and masonry buildings (e.g., most residential buildings), or within 75 feet of engineered concrete and masonry (no plaster); or a vibratory roller within 25 feet of any structure, the project applicant shall prepare a noise and vibration analysis to assess and mitigate potential noise and vibration impacts related to these activities. This noise and vibration analysis shall be conducted by a qualified and experienced acoustical consultant or engineer. The vibration levels shall not exceed FTA architectural damage thresholds (e.g., 0.12 in/sec PPV for fragile or historical resources, 0.2 in/sec PPV for non-engineered timber and masonry buildings, and 0.3 in/sec PPV for engineered concrete and masonry). If vibration levels would exceed this threshold, alternative uses such as drilling piles as opposed to pile driving, and static rollers as opposed to vibratory rollers shall be used. If necessary, construction vibration monitoring shall be conducted to ensure vibration thresholds are not exceeded.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts associated with vibration from construction would be reduced to the greatest extent feasible, including avoidance of damaging an historic resource, through implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-2. Therefore, impacts related to vibration would be reduced to less than significant levels with mitigation.

Threshold 3: For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

Impact NOI-3 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD NOT RESULT IN SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED AIRPORT AND AIRSTRIP ACTIVITY, SINCE THE UKIAH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT WOULD NOT SERVE TRAVELERS OR INDUSTRY. THE CONTINUED REGULATION OF AIRPORT NOISE CONSISTENT WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS AS WELL AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED POLICIES IN UKIAH 2040 AND THE UKIAH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN WOULD MINIMIZE DISTURBANCE TO PEOPLE RESIDING OR WORKING WITHIN PROXIMITY OF THE UKIAH MUNICIPAL AIRPORT. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Residents and businesses facilitated by the project would not be served by the Ukiah Municipal Airport, except for emergency medical and fire services. As such, implementation of Ukiah 2040 would not increase airport activities or airport noise. Existing requirements for airports would reduce the noise impacts of airport activity on residents and workers. Title 21 of the California Code of Regulations establishes noise standards for airports and the responsibilities of the regional

Airport Land Use Commissions, which prepare land use compatibility plans with thorough evaluations of airport noise, as described above in Section 4.8.2, *Regulatory Setting*. Additionally, the Federal Aviation Administrative Regulation Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Program is designed to reduce the effect of airport noise on the surrounding communities as airports expand.

Further, individual projects as a result of implementation of Ukiah 2040 would be subject to all development standards for each compatibility zone, and other policies contained within the UKIALUCP intended to reduce land use conflicts with airport operations, as described in the Ukiah Municipal Airport Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. Such measures are required for the Ukiah Municipal Airport, which are outlined in Section 4.8.2, *Regulatory Setting*.

Lastly, the following proposed Ukiah 2040 policies would reduce noise from Ukiah Municipal Airport through disclosure, attenuation, and studies.

Policy LU-10.5: Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The City shall require new development within each airport zone that conforms to the height, use and intensity specified in the land use compatibility table of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP).

Policy LU-10.6: Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission As required within the UKIALUCP, the City shall refer new development projects in the Ukiah Airport area of influence to the Mendocino ALUC for review and comment.

Implementation Program F. Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The City shall review every five years and update as necessary the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan. The review and potential update shall consider changing airport facility and aviation needs, new aircraft types, and new noise and safety standards.

Policy SAF-7.1: Noise Inventory. The City shall inventory noise contours for major traffic corridors and the airport.

Policy SAF-7.3: Airport Noise Disclosure. The City shall require disclosure of potential airport noise impacts for property transactions located within the 55 to 65 decibel airport noise contours.

Policy SAF-7.4: Airport Noise Attenuation. The City shall require the incorporation of sound reducing measures in all new construction in the airport compatibility zones, consistent with the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan.

Policy SAF7.6: Noise Equipment. The City shall require that commercial passenger service aircraft comply with the best available noise equipment standards to reduce noise impacts on the ground.

With the aforementioned requirements in place and implementation of proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, airport activity would not expose residents and workers to excessive noise levels, and impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

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4.9 Population and Housing

This section summarizes existing and projected population and housing in the City and analyzes the impacts on population and housing due to the project.

4.9.1 Setting

a. Population

The City of Ukiah was incorporated in 1876 but remained relatively small and slow growing until the 1920s. Following the end of World War II, the city grew rapidly (City of Ukiah 2020). Ukiah experienced approximately 19 percent growth from 1970-1980 and 20 percent growth from 1980-1990 (California Department of Finance [DOF] 2022a; DOF 2022b). In the 1990s, the City's population growth slowed to approximately 6 percent (DOF 2022c), and in the 2000s, the growth rate decreased to approximately 4 percent (DOF 2022d). The City then experienced an approximately 1 percent population decrease from 2010 to 2020 (DOF 2022e). From 2020 to 2022, the City's population continued to decrease from 16,604 residents in 2020 to 16,080 residents in 2022, representing a 3 percent decline (DOF 2022f).

b. Households and Dwelling Units

A household is defined by the DOF and the United States Bureau of the Census (US Census) as a group of people who occupy a housing unit. A household differs from a dwelling unit because the number of dwelling units includes both occupied and vacant dwelling units. Not all the population lives in households; a portion live in group quarters, such as board and care facilities and others are unhoused.

Small households, consisting of one to two persons per household, traditionally reside in units with zero to two bedrooms; family households of three to four persons normally reside in units with three to four bedrooms. Large households of five or more persons typically reside in units with four or more bedrooms. However, the number of units in relation to the household size may also reflect preference and economics. Many small households obtain larger units, and some large households live in small units for economic reasons.

The DOF estimates that approximately 55 percent of Ukiah's housing stock is single-family detached homes, 19 percent is multifamily homes (including apartments and condominiums), 13 percent is two to four unit attached homes, 7 percent is mobile homes, and 6 percent is single-family attached homes (City of Ukiah 2020). Over 90 percent of all housing in Ukiah was built before 1989 or earlier, with 0.3 percent of housing being built during or after 2010. 1970 to 1979 saw the highest increase in Ukiah's housing stock, with approximately 20.8 percent of the City's existing housing constructed during that decade (City of Ukiah 2020). As of 2022, household size in Ukiah is 2.4 persons per household and the City has an estimated 3,765 single detached units; 436 single attached units; 889 two to four unit homes; 1,405 five plus unit homes; and 460 mobile homes; for a total of 6,955 housing units (DOF 2022g).

c. Jobs-Housing Ratio

Information on the jobs-housing ratio is provided for informational purposes only. The jobs-household ratio in a jurisdiction is an overall indicator of jobs availability within the area. A balance of jobs and housing can give residents an opportunity to work locally and avoid employment

commutes to other places in the region. Ukiah has an estimated 6,708 jobs and a ratio of 0.96 jobs per dwelling unit (City of Ukiah 2022).¹ That amounts to less than one job per household, which means that workers must travel to other communities to find employment. Most households have more than one worker; therefore, a ratio of jobs to housing should be above 1:1 to have a balance of jobs to households.

d. Projections

Although population growth projections specific to Ukiah are unavailable, the DOF estimates that Mendocino County will grow by 6 percent by 2040, or an average rate of 0.3 percent annually. Between 2010 and 2019, Ukiah grew at a rate of 0.15 percent annually. If the city were to continue to grow at this rate, it would see about just over three percent growth by 2040 (City of Ukiah 2020). Ukiah currently has a population of 16,080. Assuming a 3 percent growth rate to 2040, Ukiah would gain 482 residents for a total population of 16,562 by 2040.

4.9.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

There are no federal regulations applicable to population and housing in Ukiah.

b. State Regulations

State Housing Element Law

State housing element statutes (Government Code Sections 65580-65589.9) mandate that local governments adequately plan to meet the existing and projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community. The law recognizes that for the private market to adequately address housing needs and demand, local governments must adopt land use plans and regulatory systems that provide opportunities for, and do not unduly constrain, housing development. As a result, State housing policy rests largely upon the effective implementation of local general plans and in particular, housing elements.

Section 65583 of the California Government Code requires cities and counties to prepare a housing element, as one of the state-mandated elements of the General Plan, with specific direction on its content. Pursuant to Section 65583(c)(7), the Housing Element must develop a plan that incentivizes and promotes the creation of accessory dwelling units that can be offered at affordable rent, as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65583.2(g)(3), the Housing Element is required to include a program to impose housing replacement requirements on certain sites identified in the inventory of sites. Under these requirements, the replacement of units affordable to the same or lower income level, consistent with those requirements set forth in State Density Bonus Law (Government Code Section 65915(c)(3)), would be required.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65584(a)(1), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is responsible for determining the regional housing needs assessment (segmented by income levels) for each region's planning body known as a "council of governments" (COG), the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) being the COG serving the

¹ 6,708 jobs / 6.955 dwelling units = 0.96 jobs per dwelling unit

Ukiah Valley region. HCD prepares an initial housing needs assessment and then coordinates with each COG to arrive at the final regional housing needs assessment. To date, there have been five previous housing element update “cycles.” California is now in its sixth “housing-element update cycle.” The MCOG RHNA and the City’s General Plan Housing Element are discussed further below. Additionally, Government Code Section 65588 dictates that housing elements must be updated at least once every five years.

AB 1763

AB 1763, effective January 1, 2020, amends the State Density Bonus Law (Section 65915) to allow for taller and denser 100 percent affordable housing developments, especially those near transit, through the creation of an enhanced affordable housing density bonus.

c. Regional and Local Regulations

Regional Housing Needs Assessment

California’s Housing Element law requires that each county and city develop local housing programs to meet their “fair share” of future housing growth needs for all income groups, as determined by the DOF. The regional COGs are then tasked with distributing the State-projected housing growth need for their region among their city and county jurisdictions by income category. This fair share allocation is referred to as the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process. The RHNA represents the minimum number of housing units each community is required to plan for through a combination of: 1) zoning “adequate sites” at suitable densities to provide affordability; and 2) housing programs to support production of below-market rate units. Table 4.9-1 shows Ukiah’s allocation from the 2019-2027 RHNA distributed among the five income categories.

Table 4.9-1 Regional Housing Needs Assessment 2019-2027

Income Group	RHNA Allocation (units)¹
Very Low: up to 50 percent of area median income	86
Low: between 51 and 80 percent of area median income	72
Moderate: between 81 and 120 percent of area median income	49
Above Moderate	32
Total	239

¹Source: MCOG 2018a

Mendocino Council of Governments

Ukiah is located within the MCOG planning area. MCOG functions as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Mendocino County and is responsible for implementing the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). MCOG’s current RTP was adopted in 2018 and serves as a long-range integrated transportation and land-use/housing strategy for Mendocino County (MCOG 2018b). MCOG is currently developing the latest RTP/SCS, called Move 2030, which aims to inform transportation and land use decisions through 2050.

Ukiah Housing Element

The Housing Element is one of the seven required elements of the General Plan. The purpose of the Housing Element is to identify and analyze existing and projected housing needs to preserve, improve, and develop housing for all economic segments of the community, consistent with the RHNA regulations described above. The City adopted its current Housing Element in 2019 as part of the 2019-2027 planning cycle. This Housing Element was submitted to the HCD for review and comment, and the City received certification of the Housing Element from HCD in 2019. Pertinent goals and policies from the city's 2019-2027 Housing Element include the following:

Goal H-1: Conserve, rehabilitate, and improve the existing housing stock to provide adequate, safe, sustainable, and decent housing for all Ukiah residents.

Goal H-2: Expand housing opportunities for all economic segments of the community, including special needs populations.

Policy H-2.2: Encourage the development of a variety of different types of housing.

Policy H-2.3: Ensure that adequate residentially designated land is available to accommodate the City's share of the Regional Housing Need. In order to mitigate the loss of affordable housing units, require new housing developments to replace all affordable housing units lost due to new development.

Policy H-2.5: Facilitate the production of housing for all segments of the Ukiah population, including those with special needs.

Policy H-2.6: Expand affordable housing opportunities for first time homebuyers.

Goal H-3: Remove governmental constraints to infill housing development.

Goal H-4: Promote well-planned and designed housing opportunities and projects for all persons, regardless of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, marital status, or national origin.

Goal H-5: Provide support for future housing needs.

Policy H-5.1: Pursue annexation efforts that lead to an orderly expansion of growth, where services are adequate for future residential development.

4.9.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

Based on Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines* a project may be deemed to have a significant impact on population and housing if it would:

1. Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area either directly or indirectly; or
2. Displace substantial number of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere.

For purposes of this analysis, substantial population growth is defined as growth exceeding MCOG or Mendocino County Air Quality Management District population forecasts for Ukiah. Substantial

displacement would occur if implementation of the project would displace more residences than would be accommodated through growth accommodated by Ukiah 2040.

Methodology

Population and housing trends in the City were evaluated by reviewing the most current data available from the US Census Bureau, the California DOF, the current Ukiah General Plan, MCOG, and the 2019 RHNA. Impacts related to population are generally social or economic in nature. Under CEQA, a social or economic change generally is not considered a significant effect on the environment unless the changes are directly linked to a physical change.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly?

Impact POP-1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW HOUSING IN UKIAH AND WOULD INCREASE POPULATION GROWTH. HOWEVER, THE PROJECT IS INTENDED TO ACCOMMODATE AND PLAN FOR POPULATION GROWTH AND INCLUDES POLICIES TO MANAGE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. THEREFORE, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of population growth is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. Development of the project in the maximum buildout scenario is estimated to result in approximately 2,350 additional residential units in the city by the year 2040 (see Section 2, *Project Description*). Assuming 2.4 persons per household, the 2,350 additional residential units could generate approximately 5,640 residents. As described in Section 4.9.1, *Setting*, the City of Ukiah grew at a rate of 0.15 percent annually between 2010 and 2019. Assuming the same growth rate, the City of Ukiah would be expected to gain 482 residents by 2040. Thus, the additional population growth associated with Ukiah 2040 would be approximately 12 times greater than previous population growth trends.

Nonetheless, the population growth associated with the project would not be considered unplanned for several reasons. The State requires that all local governments adequately plan to meet the housing needs of their communities. Given that the State is currently in an ongoing housing crisis due to an insufficient housing supply, the additional units under the project would further assist in addressing the existing crisis and meeting the housing needs of the City's communities.

The increase in affordable housing units would provide housing opportunities in proximity to jobs for those employed in Ukiah that meet these household income categories. Considering the City's low jobs-housing ratio, the provision of affordable housing units would provide opportunities for a better balance of jobs and housing in the region. Goals and policies from the City's 2019-2027 Housing Element, as shown in Section 4.9.2, *Regulatory Setting*, would support equitable housing opportunities.

Furthermore, as discussed in Section 4.9.1, *Setting*, Ukiah has a current jobs-housing ratio of 0.96, which means that workers must travel to other communities to find employment. Growth from Ukiah 2040 would result in a more balanced jobs-housing ratio in 2040 by increasing jobs available

in Ukiah, especially with the new commercial land use designations and incorporation and development of three annexation areas. Therefore, such growth would not result in substantial adverse effects associated with an increased imbalance of jobs and housing in the city.

Finally, one purpose of Ukiah 2040 is to direct future development in such a way to minimize the impacts of growth by emphasizing the intensification and reuse of already developed areas and redevelopment to infill areas, thus minimizing pressure to develop the remaining open space in the city and directing growth. Therefore, because Ukiah 2040 is designed for planned and orderly growth, as mandated by the State, development in accordance with Ukiah 2040 would not indirectly induce growth in the City and Annexation Areas. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 2: Would the project displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

Impact POP-2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT WOULD NOT RESULT IN THE DISPLACEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF HOUSING OR PEOPLE. THE PROJECT WOULD FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW HOUSING IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL HOUSING REQUIREMENTS, WHILE PRESERVING EXISTING RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

“Substantial” displacement would occur if allowed land uses would displace more residences than would be accommodated through growth facilitated by the project. The project would accommodate new development because of the increased residential densities and building intensities that would be allowed for the land use designations in Ukiah 2040.

This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. In the maximum buildout scenario, the project could result in an additional 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 non-residential square footage. Ukiah 2040 would enable the development of a combination of housing at low, medium, and high densities. Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed policies:

Policy LU-8.3: Infill Development, The City shall encourage population and employment growth toward infill development sites within the city.

Policy LU-8.4: Reuse of Underutilized Property, The City shall encourage property owners to revitalize or redevelop abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties to accommodate growth.

Policy LU-9.3: Adaptation of Existing Residential Units, The City shall encourage the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family use.

Overall, Ukiah 2040 would promote infill development; the redevelopment of abandoned, obsolete, or underutilized properties; and the adaptation of existing residential units to support multi-family

use. These development patterns would minimize displacement. Overall, Ukiah 2040 would provide greater housing options for residents in Ukiah. The additional 2,350 housing units that could be built because of Ukiah 2040 would provide additional housing opportunities for residents, if any are displaced during buildout of the project. Therefore, the project is not anticipated to result in the net loss or displacement of housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere. Impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

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4.10 Public Services and Recreation

This section summarizes the public services, including fire and police protection, public schools, and public facilities including parks that serve the Planning Area and analyzes the impacts on public services and recreation due to the project.

4.10.1 Setting

a. Fire Services

The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA) provides fire protection and emergency medical response services to approximately 90 square miles in and around Ukiah containing a population of approximately 30,000. UVFA service area contains historic downtown buildings, county governmental buildings, Mendocino Community College, Dharma Realm Buddhist University, a regional hospital, and all residential and commercial developments within Ukiah. UVFA is also responsible for the lower half of Lake Mendocino, including the Coyote Dam, expansive wildland urban interface areas, the Ukiah Municipal Airport, US 101, and State Route 253.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) is responsible for fire protection of the forested areas in the hills west of the city. Cal Fire's Mendocino Unit is stationed in Ukiah at 2690 North State Street (Ukiah 2020).

Staffing, Facilities and Equipment

UVFA is staffed by 19 full-time safety employees (Fire Chief, 3 Division Chiefs, 6 Captains, 6 Engineers and 3 Firefighters), one full-time administrative-clerical employee, and up to 25 dedicated volunteer firefighters, including a Volunteer Division Chief (Ukiah 2020). UVFA maintains four fire stations. Each station is staffed daily with at least two crews consisting of two or more personnel. Available equipment includes Type I Engines that are best suited for structural fires and Type II/III Engines that are best suited for the Wildland Interface.

b. Police Services

The City of Ukiah Police Department (UPD) provides law enforcement and dispatch services from a single station located at 300 Seminary Avenue. In 2020, UPD authorized 34 sworn personnel (Ukiah 2020). In 2018, UPD made 945 misdemeanor arrests, 427 felony arrests, 125 Driving Under the Influence arrests, and issued 875 traffic citations. In general, UPD handled over 70 calls for service per day. Except for vehicle theft and arson, crimes have been in decline from 2016 to 2018 (Ukiah 2020).

c. Schools

Both the City of Ukiah and Ukiah Planning Area are served by the Ukiah Unified School District (UUSD), which operates all public schools in the area, including the following:

- Four preschools, three in the city and one in the Planning Area
- Six elementary schools, four in the city and two in the Planning Area
- Two middle schools, one in the city and one in the Planning Area

- Two high schools (Ukiah High School and South Valley High), both in the city
- One adult school (Ukiah Adult School), in the city

In addition to the UUSD schools, there are four private preschools, four charter schools, and a private religious school in the city. There are two higher education institutions in the Planning Area:

- Mendocino College, a community college is north of the city.
- Dharma Realm Buddhist University, which is part of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, is in neighboring Talmage.

Prior to March 2020 (beginning of COVID-19 pandemic), UUSD was projecting a slight increase in enrollment for the 2020-21 school year at approximately 6,040 students from preschool to 12th grade. However, actual 2020-21 enrollment was lower, at only 5,938 students, with mostly in the primary grades containing fewer students than budgeted. UUSD projects a decrease of approximately 58 students for the 2021-22 school year resulting in an estimated enrollment of 5,938 students across the entire district (Ukiah Unified School District 2021). As of the 2018-19 school year, the student to teacher ratio within for UUSD is roughly 18 students for every one teacher (Education Data Partnership 2022).

d. Parks and Recreation

According to the California Department of Finance (DOF) Ukiah has a population of 16,080 people (DOF 2021). The City of Ukiah operates approximately 260 acres of parkland, recreational areas, and city facilities that function as community gathering places. Additionally, Mendocino County operates an 80-acre open space park in the city. Considering the parks operated by both the City of Ukiah and Mendocino County, residents of Ukiah have a service ratio of approximately 16.2 acres per 1,000 residents (DOF 2021, Ukiah 2020). A summary of park and recreation areas in Ukiah is provided in Table 4.10-1.

Table 4.10-1 Parks and Recreation Facilities

Name	Description
Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center	The 14-acre Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center includes a meeting room available to the public and a gymnasium
Alex R. Thomas Plaza	Alex R. Thomas Plaza is a 0.8-acre gathering space with benches, public restrooms, a pavilion, and amphitheater. Facilities are available to rent for the public.
Gardner Park	Gardner Park is a 0.2-acre park with picnic tables.
Giorno Park/Anton Stadium/Lions Field	Giorno Park/Anton Stadium/Lions Field is a 12-acre complex with softball/baseball diamonds and public restrooms.
Rail Trail	Rail Trail provides two miles of easily accessible and safe alternate modes of transportation for bicycle and pedestrian traffic through downtown Ukiah.
Grace Hudson Park "Wild Gardens"	Grace Hudson Park "Wild Gardens" is located just north of the Grace Hudson Museum & Sun House and recently underwent a transformation into an outdoor art and education space. The wild Gardens feature native plant gardens with exhibits and art that educates about the local environment and how Pomo Indians managed this landscape.
Low Gap Park	Low Gap Park is an 80-acre open space park located in the western hills of Ukiah. The park includes a one-acre off-leash dog park, a picnic area with tables and barbecues, tennis courts, an archery range, horseshoe pits, a disc golf course, and public restrooms. Low Gap Park is operated by Mendocino County.

Name	Description
McGarvey Park	McGarvey Park is approximately one acre and features benches.
Oak Manor Park	Oak Manor Park is a four-acre park with playground equipment, picnic tables, barbecues, reservable group areas, and tennis courts.
Oak Street Pocket Park	Oak Street Pocket Park is home of the Veteran's Garden that provides veterans a space to heal and find camaraderie among other veterans along with healthy food. The park is located on the 900 block of Oak Street between Cypress Avenue and Low Gap Road. A walking trail connects pedestrians between Oak and Bush Streets.
Observatory Park	Observatory Park was opened to the public in March 2014. The 2.5-acre park features a historical observatory, walking labyrinth, and Petanque courts. Events within the observatory encourage children and adults to explore space and learn about the solar system. Family- friendly events include Bounce to the Stars, docent tours, and Open Skies for the amateur astronomer to explore the night sky.
Orchard Park	Orchard Park is a 0.25-acre park with playground equipment and picnic tables.
Riverside Park	Riverside Park is a 38-acre open space park featuring open grass areas, picnic tables, benches, walking access to the Russian River, and birding opportunities.
Todd Grove Park	Todd Grove Park is a 16-acre park with playground equipment, picnic tables, barbecues, reservable group areas, and volleyball courts. Located in Todd Grove Park, the Ukiah Municipal Swimming Pools include diving board, concessions, public restrooms, changing rooms, showers, benches, and picnic tables. Swimming facilities are open to the public from early June through mid-August each year.
The Ukiah Civic Center	The Ukiah Civic Center is a 2.5-acre complex with an open space park for recreation or picnicking, benches, and shade areas.
The Ukiah Municipal Golf Course	The Ukiah Municipal Golf Course is a city-owned 152-acre facility with an 18-hole course, pro shop, and snack bar.
The Ukiah Skate Park	The Ukiah Skate Park is a 0.6-acre skate park with public restrooms and benches.
The Ukiah Sports Complex	The Ukiah Sports Complex is a 10-acre site featuring playground equipment, picnic tables, softball/baseball diamonds, public restrooms, and stands. The Sports Complex also hosts youth soccer, ultimate frisbee, and rugby.
The Ukiah Valley Conference Center	The Ukiah Valley Conference Center is a city-owned facility that features meeting rooms, public restrooms, and shops
Vinewood Park	Vinewood Park is a 4.7-acre park featuring playground equipment, picnic tables, barbecues, reservable group areas, and a basketball court.

Source: City of Ukiah 2020

The City also offers several recreation programs. The City of Ukiah Community Services Department (Parks and Recreation divisions) seeks to involve all ages and interests. The Department offers a variety of classes under topics such as pet training, dance, music, art, and health and fitness. In 2019, Ukiah Parks and Recreation Department offered sports leagues for ping pong, tennis, soccer, baseball, softball, and pickleball. Additionally, the Department takes suggestions from residents and holds specialized classes based on public input. These classes include topics such as Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training, babysitting training for teens, life coaching, and women's groups (Ukiah 2020).

e. Library Services

Ukiah’s library services are provided by Mendocino County. The Ukiah Branch Library, located at 105 North Main Street, provides public computers, free Wi-Fi, curbside book pickup, printing and copy services, special events, and video game and board games to the residents of Ukiah. In 2021, Mendocino County Library was primarily funded through sale and other taxes (Mendocino County 2021).

4.10.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

There are no federal regulations pertaining to public services that are applicable to this analysis. Applicable State and local regulations are described below.

b. State Regulations

California Fire and Building Code

The State of California provides minimum standards for building design through the California Building Code (CBC), which is in Part 2 of Title 24, California Building Standards Code, of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The CBC is based on the International Building Code but has been amended for California conditions. It is generally adopted on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis, subject to further modification based on local conditions. Commercial and residential buildings are plan-checked by local building officials for compliance with the CBC. Typical fire safety requirements of the CBC include: the installation of sprinklers in all high-rise buildings; the establishment of fire resistance standards for fire doors, building materials, and particular types of construction; and the clearance of debris and vegetation within a prescribed distance from occupied structures in wildfire hazard areas.

California Code of Regulations

The CCR, Title 5 Education Code, governs all aspects of education within the State. California State Assembly Bill (AB) 2926 – School Facilities Act of 1986 – was enacted by the State of California in 1986 and added to the California Government Code (Section 65995). It authorizes school districts to collect development fees, based on demonstrated need, and generate revenue for school districts for capital acquisitions and improvements. It also established that the maximum fees which may be collected under this, and any other school fee authorization are \$1.50 per square foot (\$1.50/ft²) for residential development and \$0.25/ft² for commercial and industrial development. AB 2926 was expanded and revised in 1987 through the passage of AB 1600, which added Section 66000 et seq. of the Government code. Under this statute, payment of statutory fees by developers serves as total mitigation under CEQA to satisfy the impact of development on school facilities. However, subsequent legislative actions have alternatively expanded and contracted the limits placed on school fees by AB 2926.

California Senate Bill 50

As part of the further refinement of the legislation enacted under AB 2926, the passage of SB 50 in 1998 defined the Needs Analysis process in government Code Sections 65995.5-65998. Under the provisions of SB 50, school districts may collect fees to offset the costs associated with increasing

school capacity because of development. SB 50 generally provides for a 50/50 State and local school facilities match. SB 50 also provides for three levels of statutory impact fees. The application level depends on whether State funding is available; whether the school district is eligible for State funding; and whether the school district meets certain additional criteria involving bonding capacity, year-round schools, and the percentage of moveable classrooms in use.

California Government Code sections 65995-65998 sets forth provisions to implement SB 50. Specifically, in accordance with section 65995(h), the payment of statutory fees is “deemed to be full and complete mitigation of the impacts of any legislative or adjudicative act, or both, involving, but not limited to, the planning, use, or development of real property, or any change in governmental organization or reorganization...on the provision of adequate school facilities.” The school district is responsible for implementing the specific methods for mitigating school impacts under the Government Code.

Pursuant to Government Code section 65995(i), “A State or local agency may not deny or refuse to approve a legislative or adjudicative act, or both, involving, but not limited to, the planning, use, or development of real property, or any change in governmental organization or reorganization as defined in section 56021 or 56073 on the basis of a person's refusal to provide school facilities mitigation that exceeds the amounts authorized pursuant to this section or pursuant to section 65995.5 or 65995.7, as applicable.”

California Education Code section 17620(a)(1) states that the governing board of any school district is authorized to levy a fee, charge, dedication, or other requirement against any construction within the boundaries of the district, for the purpose of funding the construction or reconstruction of school facilities.

State Public Park Preservation Act (California Public Resource Code Section 5400 – 5409)

The State Public Park Preservation Act is the primary instrument for protecting and preserving parkland in California. Under the Act, cities and counties may not acquire any real property that is in use as a public park for any non-park use unless compensation or land, or both, are provided to replace the parkland acquired. This ensures a no net loss of parkland and facilities.

Quimby Act (California Government Code Section 66477)

The Quimby Act allows cities and counties to adopt park dedication standards/ordinances requiring developers to set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees towards parkland when property is subdivided.

c. Local Regulations

The City does not currently have certain public services goals, such as a parks to person ratio goal or response time goals for the UVFA and the UPD.

Ukiah City Code

Ukiah City Code Sections 1965 through 2002 identifies parks within the City limits and contains regulations for City parks pertaining to hours of use, camping, fires, parking, trash and refuse, animals, alcohol consumption, music, special events, prohibited uses, etc.

Chapter 1 section 8403 and section 8404 of Ukiah’s City Code outlines the city’s formula to calculate required park land designation for new residential subdivision development and the payment of a development fee in lieu of park land designation, respectively. Any money collected in lieu of park land designation is used for the purpose of providing park or recreational facilities reasonably related to serving the subdivision by way of the purchase of necessary land or, if the City Council deems that there is sufficient land available for the subdivision, for improving such land for park and recreational purposes.

4.10.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to public services and recreation from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other objectives for any of the public services:
 - a. Fire protection;
 - b. Police protection;
 - c. Schools;
 - d. Parks; or
 - e. Other public facilities;
2. Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; or
3. Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

In terms of Threshold 1e regarding impacts on “other public facilities,” such facilities include libraries and other public utility infrastructure. Impacts related to libraries are discussed in this section under Impact PS-4. Impacts related to public stormwater facilities are addressed in Section 4.16.4, *Hydrology and Water Quality*, and impacts related to public wastewater, water, and solid waste facilities are discussed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1a:	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered fire protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered fire protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?
Threshold 1b:	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered police protection facilities, or the need for new or physically altered police protection facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?

Impact PSR-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN AN INCREASE TO THE CITY'S POPULATION. THE ESTIMATED POPULATION INCREASE WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES AND POTENTIALLY CREATE THE NEED FOR NEW OR ALTERED POLICE, FIRE, OR OTHER SERVICE FACILITIES. THE TIMING, INTENSITY, AND LOCATION OF POTENTIAL NEW FACILITIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME, BUT NEW DEVELOPMENT WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CEQA REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND ZONING CODES. UKIAH 2040 POLICIES WOULD ENSURE THAT POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES STAFFING AND FACILITIES ARE MAINTAINED AT A LEVEL WHICH ACCOMMODATES FOR SUSTAINED POPULATION GROWTH. THEREFORE, IMPACTS TO POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH UKIAH 2040 WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

As a result of annexation, Ukiah 2040 would physically expand the service area of both the UVFA and UPD. Additionally, implementation of the project would result in additional growth. This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of population growth is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. The development of approximately 2,350 additional residential units, which is based on the maximum buildout scenario could add approximately 5,640 residents by the year 2040 (see Section 4.9, *Population and Housing*). The UVFA has a current service ratio of 1.2 personnel to 1,000 residents. With the addition of 5,640 residents the service ratio of the UVFA would fall to 0.87 personnel to 1,000 residents. The UPD currently employs 34 authorized sworn personnel and has a current service ratio 2.1 officers to 1,000 residents. With the addition of 5,640 residents the service ratio of the UPD would fall to 1.5 officers to 1,000 residents.

The UPD will continue to coordinate with Mendocino County Sherriff's Office on joint operations and services according to proposed Policy PFS 9.3 of Ukiah 2040, as seen below. Furthermore, the incremental contribution to demand for increased UVFA protection services from implementation of the project would be offset by payment of proportionate property taxes and sales taxes to the City of Ukiah by developers and the addition of new residents. Taxes to the City's General Fund would support the City's budget for protection services. The addition of staffing or purchase of additional equipment would not result in a physical impact on the environment; however, buildout and annexation of the project could result in the need for new or expanded facilities for both the UVFA and UPD.

The following goals and policies from Ukiah 2040 would reduce impacts to police and fire protection:

Goal PFS-9: To maintain effective, fast, and dependable fire protection and emergency medical response in Ukiah.

Policy PFS 9.1: Emergency Medical Services. The City shall coordinate emergency medical services between agencies servicing the city.

Policy PFS 9.2: Fire Prevention. The City shall require all new development to include provisions for onsite fire suppression measures and/or management of surrounding vegetation to provide minimum clearance between structures and vegetation.

Policy PFS 9.3: Interagency Coordination. The City shall coordinate with Cal Fire and the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority regarding the fire protection and wildfire safety standards.

Goal PFS-10: To provide high-quality public safety and crime reduction services to maintain a safe and secure community.

Policy PFS-10.1: Police Staffing. The City shall prioritize the maintenance of Police Department staffing levels in line with community needs.

Policy PFS-10.2: Interagency Coordination. The City shall coordinate with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office on joint operations and services.

Policy PFS-10.3: Community Policing Strategies. The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

Policy PFS-10.4: School Safety. The City shall collaborate with the Ukiah Unified School District to enhance school security and student, teacher, and administrator safety.

Policy PFS-10.5: Public Safety Communications. The City shall use a variety of communication methods (e.g., social media, text messaging, television and radio alerts, website postings) to communicate and inform residents and businesses about crimes, investigations, and emergencies.

The proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, shown above, would ensure that police and fire services staffing and facilities are maintained at a level which accommodates for sustained population growth. Specifically, proposed Policies PSF-10.1 through PSF-10.2 would ensure that the city will prioritize maintaining Police Department staffing levels in line with community needs as the UPD's service area grows as well as promoting coordination with Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. Proposed Policies PFS-9.1 through PFS-9.3 would require on-site fire suppression measures and coordination of emergency services, including Cal Fire to maintain effective, fast, and dependable fire protection and emergency medical response in Ukiah.

Nonetheless, Ukiah 2040 could potentially result in the need for new or expanded facilities for both the UVFA and UPD. Because the scope of this analysis is limited to the existing City limits and Annexation Areas where buildout is anticipated to occur, it is expected that new facilities would be located within infill or previously developed areas. As discussed in Section 4.9, *Population and Housing*, one purpose of Ukiah 2040 is to direct future development in such a way to minimize the impacts of growth by emphasizing the intensification and reuse of already developed areas and redevelopment to infill areas, thus minimizing pressure to develop the remaining open space in the city and directing growth.

Future fire and police facilities could be located within the City’s proposed sphere of influence (SOI) or larger Planning Area but would require adherence to all applicable building and zoning codes and additional CEQA review to analyze project and location specific impacts. Overall, it is anticipated that many of the impacts identified in this EIR related to construction of new facilities (e.g., impacts on cultural and biological resources) would also apply to development of new future fire and police facilities. However, it is not possible to identify the specific nature, extent, and significance of physical impacts on the environment that could result from the construction and operation of future fire and police facilities without knowing the size and nature of the facility, or its location. For example, new future fire and police facilities could feasibly be housed in an existing building, which would have much less of a physical impact on the environment than the construction of a new facility. As such, impacts associated with implementation of Ukiah 2040 to police and fire services would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIR would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

Threshold 1c: Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered schools, or the need for new or physically altered schools, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?

Impact PSR-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN POPULATION OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN. POPULATION INCREASE WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR SCHOOL SERVICES AND POTENTIALLY CREATE THE NEED FOR NEW SCHOOL FACILITIES. COMPLIANCE WITH UKIAH 2040 POLICIES WOULD REDUCE IMPACTS TO SCHOOL FACILITIES. THE TIMING, INTENSITY, AND LOCATION OF POTENTIAL NEW FACILITIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME, BUT NEW DEVELOPMENT WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CEQA REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND ZONING CODES. THEREFORE, IMPACTS TO SCHOOLS ASSOCIATED WITH UKIAH 2040 WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

A student generation rate is not available for the UUSD. However, for the purpose of this analysis, a student generation rate was estimated based on the number of existing school-aged children and the number of existing housing units. The current number of students in Ukiah is 5,909 and there are 6,955 housing units in the city. Therefore, a reasonable student generation rate for the City is 0.85 students per housing unit.¹ This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth would be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of additional residences is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. The project could facilitate the development of approximately 2,350 residential units in the maximum buildout scenario. Therefore, assuming full project buildout, the project could add approximately 2,000 new students to Ukiah.² These additional students would increase enrollment in schools in the

¹ Calculation: 5,909 students / 6,955 housing units = 0.85 students per housing unit

² Calculation: 0.85 students per housing unit * 2,350 new housing units = 1,997 students or approximately 2,000 new students

City of Ukiah and Annexation Areas potentially requiring the construction of new or expansion of existing school facilities.

The Public Facilities and Services Element of the Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goals and policies specific to education and providing school facilities for the City. Relevant goals and policies are listed below.

Goal PFS-13: To ensure high-quality educational institutions for all community members that foster diversity and educational attainment.

Policy PFS-13.1: Consideration of Impacts. The City shall consider potential impacts on the Ukiah Unified School District during the review of new development projects.

Policy PFS-13.2: Planning for Future Growth. The City shall collaborate with Ukiah Unified School District in its long-range planning efforts to ensure the adequacy of school facilities to serve new development.

Policy PFS-13.3: School Siting Coordination. The City shall coordinate with Ukiah Unified School District on the future location of schools in relation to transportation and land use plans and seek to avoid traffic impacts and facilitate joint use of community parks and other public facilities by schools.

As discussed in Section 4.9, *Population and Housing*, one purpose of Ukiah 2040 is to direct future development in such a way to minimize the impacts of growth by emphasizing the intensification and reuse of already developed areas and redevelopment to infill areas, thus minimizing pressure to develop the remaining open space in the city and directing growth.

Like the discussion regarding police and fire services facilities described above, future new school facilities could be located within the City's proposed SOI or larger Planning Area. However, it is not possible to identify the specific nature, extent, and significance of physical impacts on the environment that could result from the construction and operation of future school facilities without knowing the size and nature of the facility, or its location. It is anticipated that construction of new facilities would result in similar physical impacts discussed throughout this EIR, but impacts could also be reduced depending on location and intensity. For example, schools could be expanded, which would have much less of a physical impact on the environment than the construction of a new facility. New facilities would require adherence to all applicable building and zoning codes, and additional CEQA review to analyze project and location specific impacts. Lastly, proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 would ensure that the City and UUSD coordinate on long range planning efforts for future growth. As such, impacts to school facilities from implementation of Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIR would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

<p>Threshold 1d: Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered parks, need for new or physically altered parks, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios or other performance objectives?</p>
<p>Threshold 2: Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?</p>
<p>Threshold 3: Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?</p>

Impact PSR-3 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN AN INCREASE TO POPULATION, WHICH COULD INCREASE THE USE OF EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AND THUS REDUCE THE CITY'S PARKLAND TO POPULATION RATIO. HOWEVER, UKIAH 2040 POLICIES WOULD ALSO RESULT IN ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. THE TIMING, INTENSITY, AND LOCATION OF POTENTIAL NEW FACILITIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME, BUT NEW DEVELOPMENT WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CEQA REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND ZONING CODES. THEREFORE, IMPACTS TO PARK FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH UKIAH 2040 WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

The City of Ukiah has a ratio of 16.2 acres of parks per 1,000 residents (DOF 2019, Ukiah 2020). This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of population growth is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. The project could add up to 5,640 persons to Ukiah's population in the maximum buildout scenario. With implementation of the project, the City of Ukiah would have a ratio of approximately 12 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. However, Ukiah 2040 would also result in additional recreation opportunities for residents in and around Ukiah.

As described in section 2, *Project Description*, a guiding principle for Ukiah 2040 is the preservation of existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities. The Environment and Sustainability Element and the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goals and policies specific to maintaining park and recreational facilities. Relevant goals and policies are listed below.

Goal PFS-11: To ensure adequate community facilities.

Policy PFS- 11.1: Adequate Community Facilities. The City shall develop or identify adequate and appropriate community facilities for public meetings and cultural activities.

Policy PFS- 11.2: Joint-Use Facilities. The City shall partner with Mendocino County and the Ukiah Unified School District to provide joint-use facilities.

Goal PFS-12: To provide parks, recreational facilities, and trails for residents and visitors.

Policy PFS-12.1: Connected Park System. The City shall provide an interconnected park system that creates an urban greenbelt and links all trail systems within the City.

Policy PFS-12.2: Expansion of Recreational Amenities and Programs. The City shall expand amenities and recreational programs in parks and recreational facilities that accommodate a variety of ages and address the needs of families.

Policy PFS-12.3: Equitable Access to Parks and Recreation Facilities. The City shall establish new parks and recreation facilities to ensure all residents have access within a one-mile radius of their place of residence regardless of socio-economic status.

Policy PFS-12.4: Access for Persons with Disabilities. The City shall design all parks and recreation facilities to have adequate access for those with accessibility issues.

Policy PFS-12.5: Park Visibility. The City shall assure that all parks are visible from the public right-of-way when possible and remain clear of visual obstructions that reduce visual connections for safety concerns.

Policy PFS-12.6: Park Safety. The City Police Department shall patrol and secure parks and recreational facilities from potential crime and misuse.

Policy PFS-12.7: Great Redwood Trail – Ukiah. The City shall support the continued phased development of the Great Redwood Trail through and beyond the city limits, to connect adjoining regional trail networks.

Policy PFS-12.8: Collaborative Partnerships for Improved Services. The City shall work with Mendocino County, Ukiah schools, and other large land or facility owners to establish and maintain partnerships to improve access and maintenance to parks and recreation.

Goal ENV-1: Preserve open space land for the commercial agricultural and productive uses, the protection and use of natural resources, the enjoyment of scenic beauty and recreation, protection of tribal resources, and the protection from natural hazards. (Source: New Goal)

Policy ENV- 1.1: Landscaping Compatibility. The City shall require landscaping in new development to be compatible with preservation and restoration goals of open space management and native vegetation.

Policy ENV-1.2: Open Space Management. The City shall manage and maintain City-owned open spaces to preserve the integrity of these public spaces.

Goal ENV-4: To conserve and protect the city's natural woodlands and water resources for future generations.

Policy ENV- 4.1: Habitat Preservation. The City shall require new development to preserve and enhance natural areas that serve, or may potentially serve, as habitat for special-status species. Where preservation is not feasible, the City shall require appropriate mitigation

Policy ENV- 4.2: Trail Connectivity. The City shall identify appropriate areas for trails along the ridge line that can be connected to trails in the valley.

Policy ENV- 4.3: Interconnected Greenways. The City shall require new development to incorporate and facilitate interconnected greenways that support wildlife conservation and recreational purposes.

Policy ENV- 4.4: River and Creek Preservation. The City shall work cooperatively with the County and private landowners to develop pedestrian access along creeks flowing through the City where safe and feasible to do so and where it will not cause adverse impacts.

Implementation of Ukiah 2040 would result in an increase in population, which could increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks, in addition to the need for new facilities. Users of existing facilities would be required to adhere to all rules and regulations associated with parks, as regulated in Ukiah City Code Sections 1965 through 2002.

Compliance with proposed goals and policies in Ukiah 2040 would potentially result in development of new recreational opportunities including parks. Future new park facilities could be located within the City limits, proposed SOI, or larger Planning Area. However, it is not possible to identify the specific nature, extent, and significance of physical impacts on the environment that could result from the construction and operation of future park facilities without knowing the size and nature of the facility, or its location. New park facilities would require adherence to all applicable building and zoning codes, and additional CEQA review to analyze project and location specific impacts. In addition, the Ukiah City Code regulates provision of parkland concurrently with new development of residential subdivisions, which would reduce impacts. For the aforementioned reasons, impacts to park and recreation facilities as a result of implementation of Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIR would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

Threshold 1e: Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered public facilities, or the need for new or physically altered public facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives?

Impact PSR-4 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD RESULT IN AN INCREASE TO POPULATION, WHICH COULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR EXISTING PUBLIC FACILITIES SUCH AS LIBRARIES. THE TIMING, INTENSITY, AND LOCATION OF POTENTIAL NEW FACILITIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME, BUT NEW DEVELOPMENT WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CEQA REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND ZONING CODES. THEREFORE, IMPACTS TO LIBRARIES ASSOCIATED WITH UKIAH 2040 WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Population increases from the project could result in increased demand for public services such as libraries. The additional demand could require the construction of new library facilities or expansion of existing library facilities. Consistent with the discussion of impacts on police fire and school facilities above, because future library facilities would be located within City limits, the City's proposed SOI, or Planning Area, many of the impacts identified in this EIR would also apply to future library facilities. Generally, library facilities would be allowed or permitted in areas containing Public land use designations. However, it is not possible to identify the specific nature, extent, and significance of physical impacts on the environment that could result from the construction and operation of a future library facility without knowing the size and nature of the facility, or its location. Regardless, new library facilities would require adherence to all applicable building and zoning codes, and additional CEQA review to analyze project and location specific impacts. Impacts to libraries from implementation of Ukiah 2040 would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No additional mitigation measures beyond those identified in the EIR would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant.

4.11 Transportation

This section summarizes the transportation network that serves the Planning Area and analyzes the transportation impacts due to the project.

4.11.1 Setting

a. Streets and Highways

The transportation network serving the Planning Area includes a network of city and county-maintained streets and state highways. There are approximately 55 miles of streets owned and maintained by the City of Ukiah. U.S. Highway 101 is a major state highway serving Ukiah that provides regional and statewide connections. The Northwestern Pacific Railroad (NWP) right-of-way and Highway 101 run parallel to the Russian River throughout the Ukiah Valley. Ukiah is a relatively old California city, and early development occurred in a typical grid pattern in the center. The connections between these roadway systems play an integral role in connecting the City of Ukiah to unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley, the greater Mendocino County region, and additional regional destinations outside of Ukiah and Mendocino County.

Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project

Phase 1 of the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project was completed by the City's Department of Public Works and its contractors in August 2021. Phase I included a "road diet" and streetscape improvements in Downtown Ukiah. The intent of the project is to transform Downtown Ukiah into a more pedestrian-oriented environment and an active location for business, recreation, and shopping while also enhancing the Downtown area for all users, including motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The project includes a road diet between Henry Street and Mill Street, and it transformed the previously existing four-lane cross section into a three-lane cross section with one travel lane in each direction and a two way left-turn lane in the center, with on-street parking. In addition to the road diet, signal modifications were made at each of the three signalized intersections (Standley Street, Perkins Street, and Mill Street) to provide vehicle detection, improve coordination, and re-orient the signal equipment to support the road diet alignment. Streetscape improvements on State Street, Perkins Street, and Standley Street included sidewalk widening, curb ramps and bulb outs, street lights, street furniture, and tree planting (City of Ukiah 2022a). Phase 2 is currently being designed for portions of South State Street (Mill Street to Gobbi Street and Henry Street to Norton Street).

b. Existing Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

Ukiah has an extensive sidewalk network, specifically through the Downtown and surrounding areas, which provide an environment that encourages walking. However, historically, barriers to walking trips exist, including wide crossing distances, a lack of adequate pedestrian facilities on intermittent sections of State Street, and various gaps in sidewalks throughout the City.

However, as noted above, Phase 1 of the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project included widening sidewalks along State Street in the Downtown area to allow for better pedestrian access, improved handicap accessibility, and more outdoor dining and street furniture. Additionally, the project included bulbouts and enhanced crosswalks intended to make it easier and safer for

pedestrians to get across State Street by lessening the distance and time required to cross and improving pedestrian visibility. Phase 2 is currently being designed for portion of South State Street.

Additionally, the City of Ukiah has constructed three segments of the “Great Redwood Trail,” a 320-mile multi-use trail in a former railroad right-of-way that will eventually connect San Francisco and Humboldt bays. The trail runs north to south through central Ukiah for approximately 0.8 miles and provides bike and pedestrian access along three segments or “phases” for its users (City of Ukiah 2022b). Phase 1 spans the center of Ukiah. Phase 2 extended the trail from Gobbi Street south to Commerce Drive and includes a bridge crossing of Doolin Creek. Phase 3 extended the trail from Clara Avenue north to Brush Street and includes a bridge crossing over Orr Creek. Funding is being sought for an additional phase to complete the trail to the south boundary of the city limits.

Dedicated bicycle facilities in Ukiah include approximately 2 miles of shared-use paths and approximately 8 miles of on-street bicycle lanes, including segments of Bush, Dora, Orchard and Gobi Streets. However, many areas of the City have no designated bicycle facilities since most street segments lack bicycle lanes or bicycle treatments. The bicycling community, ranging from experienced club riders to school children, has developed their own system of streets and routes which provide connectivity and safety for their purposes. For example, bicyclists ride on east-west streets such as Washington Avenue, Mill Street, and Empire Drive despite the absence of bicycle lanes.

c. Transit Services

Public transportation in Ukiah is provided by the Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA). MTA jurisdiction is sanctioned by a 1976 Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement between the County of Mendocino and its four incorporated cities: Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Willits, and Ukiah. MTA’s service area covers 2,800 square miles and provides local fixed-route and dial-a-ride services as well as long distance and commute-oriented programs. MTA primarily operates different fixed routes connecting the Mendocino Coast, as well as inland valleys, towns, and communities to Ukiah. Routes 65 and 95 are the two largest routes serving the MTA service area. These routes connect to the coast; operate every day of the year, including most holidays; and provide continuous service for both inland valley and coastal residents.

d. Aviation

Ukiah Municipal Airport is a public use General Aviation facility that serves the Ukiah Valley. The City has owned and operated the airport since the 1930s. In 1942, the airport was established as an auxiliary military landing strip. The airport runway was lengthened to 4,423 feet in 1954. In 1968, the runway was relocated 585 feet south, at its current location.

4.11.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 provides comprehensive rights and protections to individuals with disabilities. The goal of the ADA is to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for people with disabilities. To implement this goal, the United States Access Board, an independent Federal agency created in 1973 to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities, has created accessibility guidelines for

public rights-of-way. While these guidelines have not been formally adopted, they have been widely followed by jurisdictions and agencies nationwide in the last decade. The guidelines, last revised in July 2011, address various issues, including roadway design practices, slope and terrain issues, pedestrian access to streets, sidewalks, curb ramps, street furnishings, pedestrian signals, parking, and other components of public rights-of-way. The guidelines apply to all proposed roadways in the Planning Area.

Federal Highway Administration

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) responsible for the federally funded roadway system, including the interstate highway network and portions of the primary state highway network. FHWA funding is provided through the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). MAP-21 can be used to fund local transportation improvement projects, such as projects to improve the efficiency of existing roadways, traffic signal coordination, bikeways, and transit system upgrades.

b. State Regulations

Circulation Element

California law mandates the development of a Circulation Element as part of General Plans (often titled as the “Transportation Element” or “Mobility Element”). The Circulation Element must contain the “general location and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, transportation routes, terminals, any military airports and ports, and other local public utilities and facilities,” all correlated with the land use element of the General Plan per Government Code Section 65302 (b). In addition, the General Plan must incorporate “Complete Streets” policies, as described below.

Caltrans

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is responsible for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining all state highways. The jurisdictional interest of Caltrans includes state highways and facilities, and extends to improvements to roadways at the interchange ramps serving area freeways. Any federally funded transportation improvements would be subject to review by Caltrans staff and the California Transportation Commission.

Capital Improvement Programs

California Government Code Section 65401 specifies that public works projects must be in conformity with the General Plan. In practice, this requires that the City, during each adoption of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), make findings that the proposed City of Ukiah Five-Year CIP is in conformance with the General Plan, including the Mobility Element.

Complete Streets Act

The California Complete Streets Act (AB 1358) adopted in 2008, requires that cities and other public agencies incorporate “Complete Street” policies when updating their General Plan Circulation Element. The term “Complete Streets” refers to a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of streets -- including bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, public transportation, and seniors. A “Complete Street” is one that provides safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the local context. Complete Streets make travel safe for all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians,

motorists, transit vehicles, and people of all ages and abilities. Each street does not need to provide dedicated space to all users, but the network must accommodate the needs of all users.

Senate Bill 743

California Senate Bill 743 (SB 743), passed in 2013, addresses a range of topics and aims to better promote statewide policies that (a) combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and particulates; (b) encourage infill development and a diversity of uses instead of sprawl; and (c) promote multi-modal transportation networks, providing clean, efficient access to destinations and improving public health through active transportation.

SB 743 changed the way transportation impact analyses are conducted as part of CEQA compliance. These changes eliminated automobile delay, level of service (LOS), and other similar measures of vehicular capacity or traffic congestion as a basis for determining significant impacts under CEQA. Prior rules treated automobile delay and congestion as an environmental impact. SB 743 required the *CEQA Guidelines* to prescribe an analysis that better accounts for transit and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In December 2018, Office of Planning and Research (OPR) released the final update to *CEQA Guidelines* consistent with SB 743 that went into effect statewide on July 1, 2020, which state that vehicle miles traveled (VMT) is “generally” the most appropriate metric of transportation impacts to align local environmental review under CEQA with California’s long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals. At the same time as the release of the updated *CEQA Guidelines*, OPR also released a non-binding *Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA*, which outlines potential VMT analysis methodologies and thresholds of significance for use by agencies in California based on substantial evidence developed by OPR related to achievement of the State’s greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets (OPR 2018).

Although OPR provides recommendations for adopting new impact analysis guidelines, lead agencies have the final say in designing their methodology, provided that the selected analysis methodology aligns with the SB 743 goals to promote infill development, reduce greenhouse gases, and reduce VMT. The City’s approved methodology and thresholds for transportation impacts consistent with SB 743 are described in Section 4.11.3, *Impact Analysis*.

c. Local Regulations

Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan & Active Transportation Plan

The Regional Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan (RTP/ATP) is a transportation planning document prepared by the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG). MCOG adopted the current RTP/ATP in February 2022 (MCOG 2022). The RTP/ATP plan area consists of all of Mendocino County, including the four incorporated cities (Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Willits, and Point Arena), as well as the unincorporated areas of the County. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated a total population of 86,749 for Mendocino County in 2019 (MCOG 2022).

MCOG was first established as a joint powers agency in 1972, as mandated by the Transportation Development Act. The Council primarily serves as the regional transportation planning agency (RTPA) for the region, and consists of seven members—two county supervisors, a countywide representative appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and one council member from each of the four incorporated cities (Ukiah, Willits, Fort Bragg and Point Arena). To be eligible for federal and state funding, transportation projects must be consistent with the adopted RTP. In preparing the RTP/ATP, MCOG coordinated with the public and staff from Caltrans, the Mendocino County Department of Transportation, the Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building

Services, the City of Ukiah, City of Willits, City of Fort Bragg, and City of Point Arena. Other agencies such as the Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA), North Coast Railroad Authority, Mendocino Railway, the Noyo Harbor District, Air Quality Management District, several airports that serve the region, and Walk & Bike Mendocino were also contacted in preparation of the RTP/ATP.

The RTP/ATP provides an overview of both short- and long-term transportation goals, objectives and policies for the region, as well as a list of potential projects intended for implementation. The RTP/ATP considers all modes of transportation including automobile, trucking, bicycle, pedestrian, air, public transit, rail, maritime, and any related facilities needed for an effective transportation system. The Plan also assesses current and long-range transportation issues, identifies needs and deficiencies, considers funding options and suggests actions to address these items, in an effort to improve the overall transportation system in the region. While it is intended to guide transportation decision making over a 20-year planning horizon, it does not necessarily require that projects recommended in the document become implemented. Such decisions are instead made by jurisdictional authorities with discretionary control over subject facilities such as Caltrans, local streets and roads departments, or regional tribal leaders. Decisions are based on a variety of factors specific to local or regional needs (e.g., budgetary constraints, local priorities, environmental considerations, etc.).

As noted in the RTP/ATP, the present status of non-motorized transportation facilities in Mendocino County is piece-meal and incomplete. Local agencies are currently working together to develop projects that encourage the use of alternative routes and facilities that provide safe access for bicyclists and pedestrians throughout the region. The RTP/ATP states that bikeways, pedestrian paths, and multi-modal trails are valuable tools to encourage the use of alternative transportation to improve air quality, relieve localized traffic congestion, reduce VMT, and enhance the role of tourism in the regional economy. As noted above in Section 4.11.1, *Setting*, the City has implemented Phase 1 of the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project and completed three sections of the Great Redwood Trail to increase pedestrian safety and multi-modal opportunities, and is currently pursuing additional opportunities to expand pedestrian-related facilities.

In 2019-2020, MCOG completed a Fire Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Evacuation Preparedness Plan for the County to better prepare for wildfire emergencies that are likely to continue because of climate change. The RTP/ATP stated that additional assessments may be needed to adequately assess the vulnerability of local transportation systems and identify adaptation measures.

The RTP/ATP emphasizes a strategy of investing transportation funds to bring greater mobility and access to services for all residents – including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit passengers of all ages and abilities, as well as drivers and passengers in trucks, buses, and automobiles. Among other things, this strategy aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and household expenses by reducing VMT. Key policies contained in the RTP/ATP include the following:

- Policy CCE 2.1. Evaluate transportation projects based on their ability to reduce Mendocino County’s transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce vehicle miles traveled.
- Policy CCE 2.2. Prioritize transportation projects which lead to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and reduced vehicle miles traveled, and prioritize projects that can mitigate for VMT increasing projects.

The RTP/ATP also provides a forecast of Year 2030 home-based VMT per resident by jurisdiction within Mendocino County, as summarized on Table 4.11-1. As shown, Ukiah’s rate of home-based

VMT per resident is 10.2 miles per resident, less than half of the regional average of 21.6 miles for Mendocino County. Ukiah’s lower rate of home-based VMT per resident reflects the greater proximity of Ukiah residents to adjacent jobs in Ukiah, which reduces daily travel.

Table 4.11-1 MCOG 2030 Forecast of Home-based VMT per Resident

Subregion	Residents	Jobs	Home-based VMT	Home-based VMT per Resident
Ukiah	16,063	12,863	163,574	10.2
Ukiah adjacent	19,429	10,040	334,851	17.2
Willits	5,771	4,359	50,712	8.8
Willits adjacent	6,925	265	255,908	37.0
Fort Bragg	8,424	6,000	56,078	6.7
Fort Bragg adjacent	8,187	1,666	134,935	16.5
Point Arena	501	330	10,553	21.0
Other coastal	9,066	3,431	291,321	32.1
Other US 101 corridor	12,084	2,295	368,455	30.5
Other unincorporated	13,360	2,855	486,502	36.4
Regional total (MCOG model area)	99,810	44,103	2,152,888	21.6

¹ VMT per service population or resident is expressed as a generation rate and not a ratio. For example, VMT per resident is how much VMT is generated by the residents of a location. It does not include VMT on the model roadway network that is generated by other sources such as external trips that do not stop in the County.

Source: MCOG 2022 (Page 12, Table 2)

Ukiah Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

The City of Ukiah Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (BPMP) was most recently updated in 2015. The goal of the BPMP is to improve bicycling and walking in Ukiah as a comfortable and convenient transportation and recreation option. The BPMP identifies a proposed bikeway network that would include approximately 9.25 miles of additional bikeways, including Class I bicycle paths, Class II bicycle lanes (including buffered bike lane segments), and Class III bicycle routes. The BPMP also recommends the provision of additional bicycle parking by the City and private developers. The BPMP identifies the following pedestrian network improvement types:

- The BPMP Pedestrian Corridor Network identifies a corridor network intended to provide a distinguished pedestrian friendly network.
- Major Infrastructure Improvements identify locations for sidewalk installation, paths, curb reconstruction, and pedestrian scale lighting.
- Intersection and Crossing Improvements identify specific locations for focused improvements including curb ramps, curb extensions, crosswalks, and other pedestrian related improvements.
- Studies identify potential improvements for consideration and further analysis.

Great Redwood Trail-Ukiah Linear Park Master Plan

In June 2020, what previously had been known as “The Rail Trail” was officially designated a park by the Ukiah City Council and renamed The Great Redwood Trail – Ukiah (GRT-Ukiah). The Great Redwood Trail – Ukiah (GRT- Ukiah) is a unique 1.8-mile-long linear park, roughly 40 to 100 feet wide. With the new designation in place, the City of Ukiah, working with Walk & Bike Mendocino,

began the process of developing a Master Plan for the GRT- Ukiah. The Master Plan serves as a guiding document for the park and help determine the current and future needs of the GRT- Ukiah. As funding becomes available, the Master Plan will also help determine what facilities and ancillary amenities are added as the park develops (City of Ukiah 2020).

Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

The Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP) was adopted by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission on May 20, 2021. On July 7, 2021, the Ukiah City Council adopted Ordinance 1215, requiring all future land use plans, zoning, and districting plans to comply with the UKIALUCP, including Ukiah 2040. The UKIALUCP includes protection for a future 5,000-foot runway to accommodate operations by California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Lockheed C-130 fire attack aircraft, and was based on a 20-year forecast of 30,916 annual operations, representative of the airport's current condition and potential growth.

4.11.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to transportation from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities;
2. Conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b);
3. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment); or
4. Result in inadequate emergency access

Methodology

The methodology for assessing impacts under thresholds 1, 3 and 4 is qualitative in nature and considers the existing regulations in place that would minimize potential impacts related to transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities; geometric design features; and emergency access.

Impact TRA-2 evaluates whether the project would conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b), which describes specific considerations for analyzing transportation impacts as amended on July 1, 2020 pursuant to SB 375, which aims to better promote statewide policies that (a) combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and particulates; (b) encourage infill development and a diversity of uses instead of sprawl; and (c) promote multi-modal transportation networks, providing clean, efficient access to destinations and improving public health through active transportation. Section 15064.3(b) states that VMT is "generally" the most appropriate measure of transportation impacts. No particular methodology or metric is mandated by section 15064.3(b) and the methodology or metric is left to the lead agency, bearing in mind the criteria the legislature had in mind for determining the significance of transportation impacts in SB-743. These were expressed in Public Resource Code section 21099(b)(1), which states: "[t]hose criteria shall promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses."

The methodology used in this analysis was presented to the Ukiah City Council on September 21, 2022 and is based on the Sacramento Blueprint Project, which studied how smart growth policies could lead to reductions in VMT. The Sacramento Blueprint Project changed how transportation impacts were analyzed, because it demonstrated that conventional travel demand models have inherent biases that make them insensitive to the effects of residential and employment density, neighborhood design, and a diversity of land uses near one another (the 3 Ds). It went a step further and developed procedures external to a traffic model to forecast the effects of the 3 Ds on travel behavior.

The methodology consists of determining the land use characteristics of each study area (neighborhood, city, county, etc.) and then assessing the potential for interacting with complementary land uses through non-auto trips. Data shows that when housing is near retail and services, people will walk or bike to those uses at least some of the time, and if they drive, the trips will be short (i.e., low VMT trips). Similarly, the likelihood of people walking or biking to work, rather than driving, depends on the distance between their homes and workplaces. Measures of proximity are also measures of the potential for VMT reduction.

The methodology establishes an impact threshold that aims to achieve a rate of VMT per capita for the City, that is at least four percent lower than existing regional averages for Mendocino County. Using the land use diversity methodology described above impacts are considered less than significant provided the local diversity index for the project study area is at least four percent more diverse than the existing Countywide diversity index. For purposes of evaluating Ukiah 2040, the local diversity index is based on the citywide diversity index.

The methodology for assessing transportation impacts in Ukiah is memorialized in a Technical Memorandum dated September 15, 2022, which was included as an attachment to the City Council meeting agenda on September 21, 2022 (Appendix D). This methodology was approved by City Council on October 5, 2022.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?
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Impact TRA-1 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH A PROGRAM, PLAN, ORDINANCE OR POLICY ADDRESSING THE CIRCULATION SYSTEM AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with the California Complete Streets Act (AB 1358), which requires that cities and other public agencies incorporate “Complete Street” policies when updating their General Plan Circulation Element. Complete Streets make travel safe for all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, transit vehicles, and people of all ages and abilities. Ukiah 2040 would incorporate the recommended improvements described in the Ukiah BPMP.

Ukiah 2040 includes policies consistent with the RTP/ATP and SB 743, particularly by emphasizing the provision of multi-modal transportation facilities and reducing VMT, which supports key RTP/ATP policies that aim to reduce VMT and greenhouse gas emissions. The project would lead to overall improvements to the transportation system with individual projects enhancing different aspects of the system including highways, local streets and roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and public transit. As noted above in Section 4.11.1, *Setting*, the City has implemented the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project and completed three sections of the Great Redwood Trail to increase pedestrian safety and multi-modal opportunities, and is currently seeking additional

opportunities to expand such facilities. Ukiah 2040 is intended to further improve safety for automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic upon implementation, such as reallocating roadway space to allow complete streets improvements on streets with excess capacity and considering the installation of roundabouts.

In addition, the project would support the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (UKIALUCP) that was adopted by the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission on May 20, 2021. One of the guiding principles identified in Ukiah 2040 is to “Preserve Ukiah Regional Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan.”

The Mobility Element of Ukiah 2040 focuses on enhancing transportation options for Ukiah residents, workers, and visitors and improving mobility through increased connectivity and efficient management of existing infrastructure. Ukiah 2040 would place an increased emphasis on providing multi-modal street facilities that meet the needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit, movers of commercial goods, children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. The Mobility Element includes the following key proposed policies:

Policy MOB-1.1: Complete Streets. The City shall design streets holistically, using a complete streets approach, which considers pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and other modes together to adequately serve future land uses.

Policy MOB-1.2: Multi-Modal Access. The City shall require that all new development and redevelopment projects include provisions for multi-modal access provisions such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and vehicle and transit where relevant.

Policy MOB-1.3: Reallocate Space for Complete Streets. The City shall reallocate roadway space to allow complete streets improvements on streets with excess traffic capacity.

Policy MOB-1.4: Block Length. The City shall limit block lengths to 600 feet wherever feasible to enhance multi-modal circulation and connectivity.

Policy MOB-1.5: Balance Transportation Spending. The City will provide funding for transportation improvements for each of the key travel modes to support the long-term viability and safety of each mode, as well as required maintenance.

Policy MOB-1.6: Roundabouts. The City shall consider the installation of roundabouts to enhance safety at intersections, and as a key component of Ukiah’s sustainability strategy

Policy MOB-1.7: Land Use and Street Classification Compatibility. The City shall ensure that General Plan land use density and intensity standards are compatible with the classification of streets from which the land uses are accessed.

Policy MOB-1.8: New Development and Complete Streets. The City shall require all new development to provide adequate access for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and persons with disabilities, as well as facilities necessary to support the City’s goal of maintaining a complete street network.

Policy MOB-1.9: Bikeway Network. The City shall strive to complete the citywide bicycle network to create a full network of bicycle facilities throughout Ukiah, including bicycle lanes on all arterial and collector street segments where feasible.

Policy MOB-1.10: Bicycle Parking Standards. The City shall maintain efficient and updated parking standards for bicycle parking to ensure development provides adequate bicycle parking, while reducing reliance on automobiles.

Policy MOB-1.11: Pedestrian Barriers & Utility Relocation. The City shall support elimination of barriers to pedestrian travel on sidewalks and walking paths including requiring the relocation or undergrounding of utilities where appropriate.

Policy MOB-2.1: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction. The City shall support development and transportation improvements that help reduce VMT below regional averages on a “residential per capita” and “per employee” basis.

Policy MOB-2.2: Transportation Demand Management. The City shall support programs to reduce vehicle trips, including measures such as reduced parking requirements that aim to increase transit use, car-pooling, bicycling and walking.

Policy MOB-2.3: Pedestrian Facilities. The City shall encourage new development and redevelopment that increases connectivity through direct and safe pedestrian connections to public amenities, neighborhoods, shopping and employment destinations throughout the City.

Policy MOB-2.4: Transit Facility Design. The City shall require new development to include facilities designed to make public transportation convenient.

Policy MOB-2.5: Transit Ridership. The City shall support funding and incentives to increase transit ridership opportunities.

Policy MOB-2.6: Downtown Transit Center. The City shall support creation of a Transit Center.

Policy MOB-2.7: Bicycle Accessible Transit. The City shall encourage the MTA and other public transportation providers to make bus routes connecting Ukiah with other areas bicycle accessible.

Policy MOB-3.1: Safety Improvements. The City shall provide safety improvements along high-injury and fatality streets and intersections.

Policy MOB-3.2: Safe Routes to Schools. The City shall promote Safe Routes to Schools programs for all schools serving the City.

Policy MOB-3.3: Safety and Traffic Calming. The City shall use traffic calming methods within residential and mixed-use areas, where necessary, to create a pedestrian-friendly circulation system.

Policy MOB-3.4: Safety Considerations. The City shall ensure that planned non- transportation capital improvement projects, on or near a roadway, consider safety for all travel modes during construction and upon completion.

Policy MOB-3.5: Community Engagement. The City shall engage the community in promoting safe walking and bicycling through education and outreach.

Policy MOB-3.6: Emergency Access. The City shall work with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to address street design and the accessibility required for emergency vehicles.

Policy MOB-3.7: Video Enforcement. The City shall consider the use of video surveillance for traffic enforcement.

Policy MOB-3.8: Truck Traffic in Residential Areas. The City shall discourage truck traffic on local residential streets to increase safety and reduce noise.

Policy MOB-4.1: Multi-modal Transportation Studies. The City shall conduct multi-modal transportation studies in association with required updates to the Regional Transportation Plan to update the General Plan and appropriately update and amend the Mobility Element.

Policy MOB-4.2: Transportation Performance Measures. The City shall evaluate transportation performance holistically, taking into consideration multi-modal system performance measures that emphasize the efficient movement of people.

Policy MOB-4.3: Safety Monitoring. The City shall monitor high-priority corridors and intersections to better understand the potential for safety improvements.

Policy MOB-4.4: Level of Service. The City shall use peak-hour traffic level of service (LOS) to consider whether a street or intersection has adequate remaining capacity to service the traffic generated by a proposed project, except that meeting traffic LOS goals should not occur in a manner that would limit travel by other modes or result in increased VMT.

Policy MOB-4.5: Peak Hour Traffic LOS Goals. The City shall adopt the following intersection peak hour traffic Level of Service (LOS) goals to guide street network planning (but not to be used for assessing CEQA impacts):

- a) At intersections with signals, roundabouts or four-way stop signs: operation at LOS D, except where pedestrian volumes are high in which case LOS E may be acceptable.
- b) At intersections with stop signs on side streets only: operation at LOS E, except where side streets have very low traffic volumes, in which case LOS F conditions may be acceptable.

Policy MOB-4.6: Alternate Access Routes. The City shall explore the feasibility of establishing alternate north/south and east/west access routes.

Policy MOB-4.7: Meet Future Travel Demand. The City shall extend existing streets or construct new streets as needed to meet existing and future travel demands.

Policy MOB-5.1: Incentives for Travel Alternatives. The City shall work with downtown businesses and employers reduce the need for and expenses of off-street parking by supporting and encouraging alternatives to single-occupant vehicles such as incentives and priority parking for carpools and vanpools, secure bicycle parking, and free bus passes.

Policy MOB-5.2: Support Provisions for EV Charging. The City shall support the provision of charging stations for electric vehicles.

Policy MOB-6.1: Airport Promotion. The City shall ensure that the airport is a key part of the City's economic development strategy and promotional efforts.

Policy MOB-6.2: Uniform Airport Area Development Regulations. The City shall coordinate with the County to develop a similar or duplicate implementing code for development in and around the airport, and to develop an in-fill policy within the Municipal Airport Compatibility Zones.

With implementation of the proposed goals and policies noted above, Ukiah's circulation system would provide enhanced facilities for multi-modal travel, which would result in improved quality of service for users of existing and proposed facilities, improved access, and improved safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. Implementation of the project would not result in conflicts with adopted

policies, plans, ordinances or programs for Ukiah’s circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities. As such, impacts would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 2: Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b)?

Impact TRA-2 THE PROJECT WOULD PROVIDE A DIVERSITY OF LAND USES SUPERIOR TO COUNTYWIDE AVERAGES AND WOULD THUS BE ANTICIPATED TO GENERATE VMT AT LOWER RATES THAN COUNTYWIDE AVERAGES. THE PROJECT WOULD NOT CONFLICT WITH OR BE INCONSISTENT WITH CEQA GUIDELINES 15064.3(B) AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

As described in the Methodology subsection of Section 4.11.3, *Impact Analysis*, transportation impacts due to Ukiah 2040 [relevant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b)] are analyzed by comparing the City’s land use diversity score with implementation of Ukiah 2040 to the existing countywide land use diversity score average.

Figure 4.11-1, Figure 4.11-2, and Figure 4.11-3 show the existing distribution of households, retail jobs, and non-retail jobs by zones in Ukiah, respectively. Figure 4.11-4 shows the existing distribution of total trips. Figure 4.11-5 through Figure 4.11-7 show the three diversity scores for existing land uses within the City and proposed Annexation Areas. Figure 4.11-8 shows the total diversity score and total trips for each zone. These figures show the following:

- Much of the City core scores well on jobs/housing diversity (see Figure 4.11-5). This indicates people in Ukiah live close to where they work.
- The edges of the City do not score as well on jobs/housing diversity (see Figure 4.11-5). However, this does not lower the City’s overall score as much as Figure 4.11-5 might imply. This is because there are relatively few jobs and residences in those areas (see Figure 4.11-2, Figure 4.11-3, and Figure 4.11-4).
- The City is over-retailed in relation to its population because it serves as the main retail destination for a large surrounding area (see Figure 4.11-6).
- Figure 4.11-7 shows that, except for the City core, retail and non-retail jobs tend to be concentrated in different parts of the City. The distance between the retail and non-retail uses tends to discourage walking or bicycling between the uses and requires longer trips; therefore, this limits the potential for interaction that does not involve driving.

Figure 4.11-9, Figure 4.11-10, and Figure 4.11-11 show the anticipated distribution of households, retail jobs, and non-retail jobs with development anticipated under Ukiah 2040. Figure 4.11-12 shows the anticipated total trips by zone. Figure 4.11-13 through Figure 4.11-15 show the updated diversity scores for the anticipated land uses in 2040. Figure 4.11-16 shows the total diversity score and total trips for each zone under Ukiah 2040.

The results of the analysis are summarized in Table 4.11-2. The diversity score ranges from 0.00 to 1.00, with lower scores (close to 0.00) representing diverse conditions, and higher scores (closer to

1.00) representing less diverse conditions. Under existing conditions, the Countywide diversity index is 0.50. Impacts resulting from Ukiah 2040 would be considered potentially significant if the Citywide diversity score is 0.48 or higher.

As shown in Table 4.11-2, the citywide diversity score would be reduced from 0.30 under existing conditions to 0.42 under Ukiah 2040. Based on this analysis, development under Ukiah 2040 would result in a diversity of land uses that would be less diverse than existing conditions in Ukiah. This is due to the amount of non-residential development that could occur in the maximum buildout scenario. Given the total size of non-residential development relative to residential growth in the maximum buildout scenario, there could be a net increase in the number of non-resident workers commuting to jobs in Ukiah. Nonetheless, the diversity score for Ukiah 2040 would remain below the existing countywide average of 0.50, and below the impact threshold of 0.48. The diversity of land uses in Ukiah would therefore be expected to generate VMT at lower rates than countywide averages. Based on this analysis, transportation impacts relevant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3(b) would be less than significant.

In addition, the City has identified screening thresholds to identify the types of projects that would be expected to result in a less than significant transportation impact. The screening thresholds are included in Appendix D of this EIR. The City has identified that the following projects are expected to result in less than significant impacts: small projects that meet existing categorical CEQA exemptions, residential uses, employment uses in areas with a diverse mix of land uses, local-serving retail, projects in proximity to a major transit stop, and transportation projects. Specifically, as described in the methodology provided in Appendix D, all residential projects in Ukiah are expected to result in less than significant transportation impacts relevant to VMT and SB-743 because (1) residences located in Ukiah generate low rates of home-based VMT per capita compared to the rest of Mendocino County (roughly half the Countywide average based on the MCOG travel demand model), given greater proximity to jobs and services; and (2) Ukiah has a jobs/housing imbalance, with an excess of jobs relative to the number of households that results in most Ukiah jobs being filled by non-resident commuters. Therefore, the provision of housing in Ukiah would increase the likelihood that that a larger portion of workers employed in Ukiah may also reside in Ukiah, thus reducing VMT given shorter commute lengths. The screening threshold for employment uses would be applicable to proposed commercial land uses in which most daily trips would be generated by employees (not customers), such as proposed office projects. Lastly, neighborhood shopping centers of up to 125,000 square feet [as defined by the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) U.S. Shopping Center Classification and Characteristics] provide 30,000 to 125,000 square feet of gross leasable area, typically anchored by a supermarket and/or large drugstore with a trade area of 3 miles or less and would be screened out as having less than significant impacts. Future projects would be screened by City staff using the methodology identified in Appendix D.

Table 4.11-2 Land Use Diversity Assessment

	Existing Conditions	Ukiah 2040 Buildout
Citywide Diversity Score	0.30	0.42
Countywide Diversity Score	0.50	
Impact Threshold	0.48 or higher	
Impact Finding	Less than Significant	

Note: lower scores represent diverse land use patterns anticipated to generate lower rates of VMT, while higher scores represent less-diverse land use patterns anticipated to result in higher rates of VMT. Source: Appendix D.

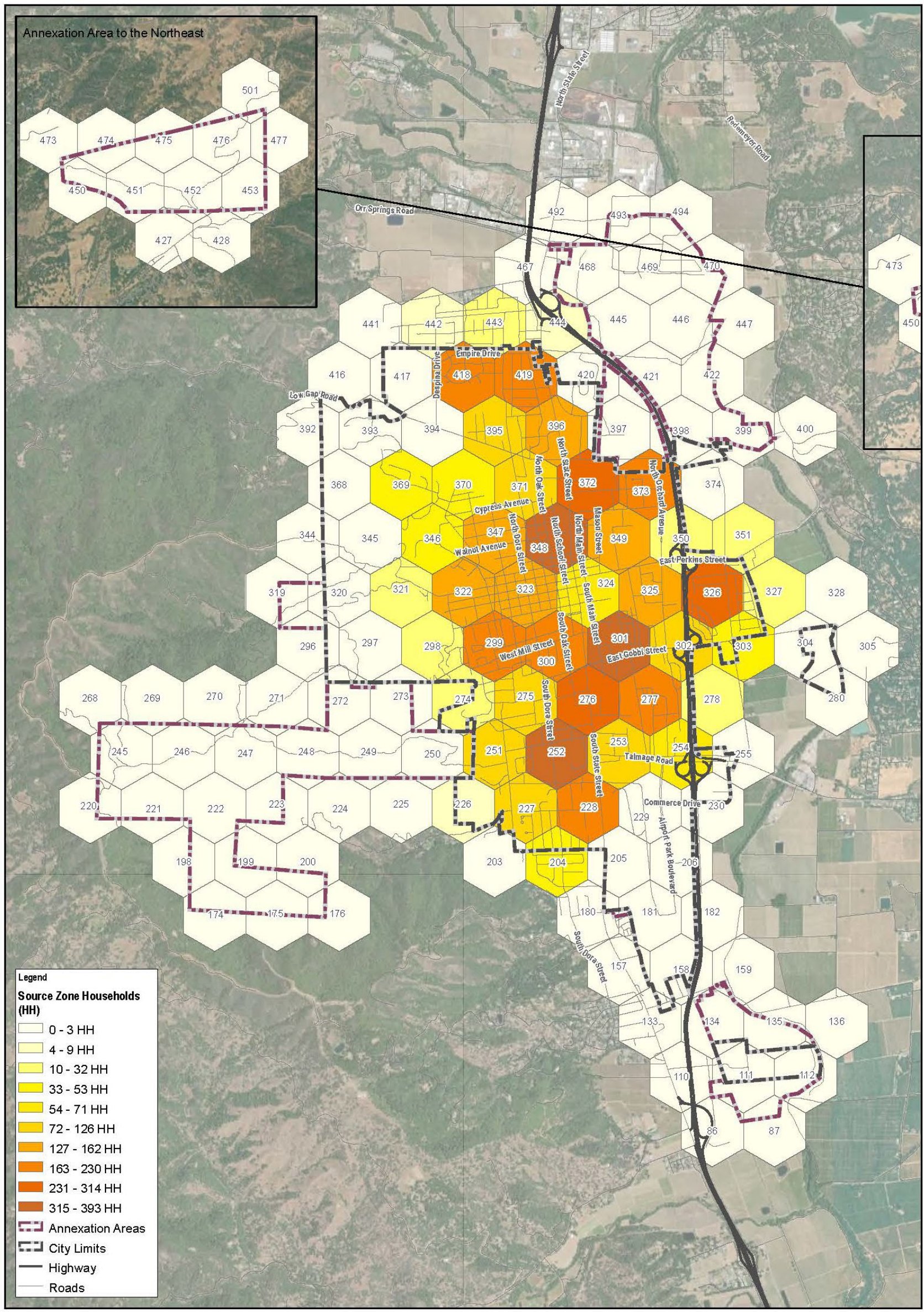
Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Figure 4.11-1 Existing Distribution of Households



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040

**EXISTING
 DISTRIBUTION OF
 HOUSEHOLDS**

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/01/2022

FIGURE 4.11-1

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 Print date: 01 Sep 2022 - 14:56

Data Source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Highway, Roads: Mirko Hartwig, 2022. World Imagery: Maxar/created by: jpb/mh

Figure 4.11-2 Existing Distribution of Retail Jobs

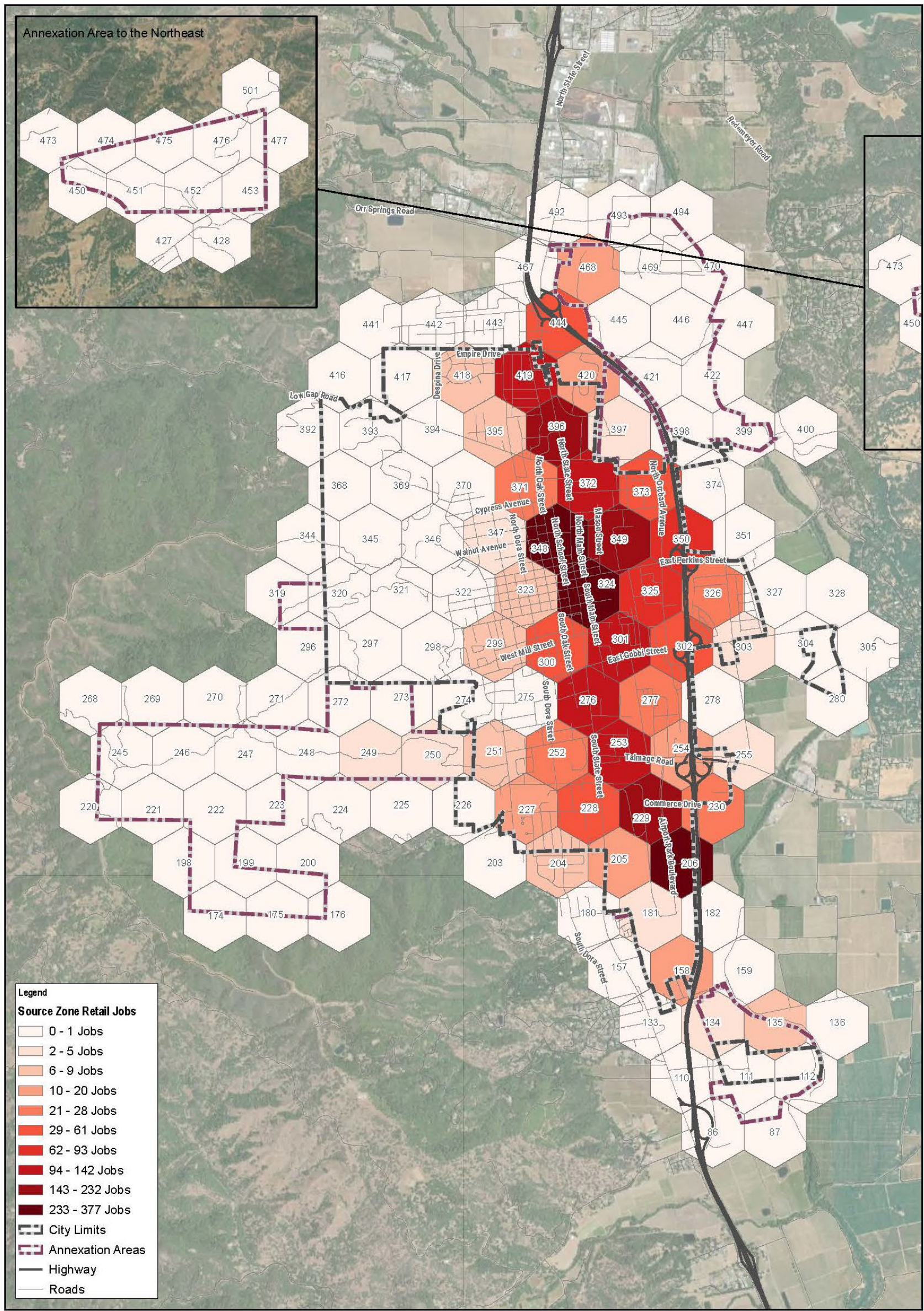
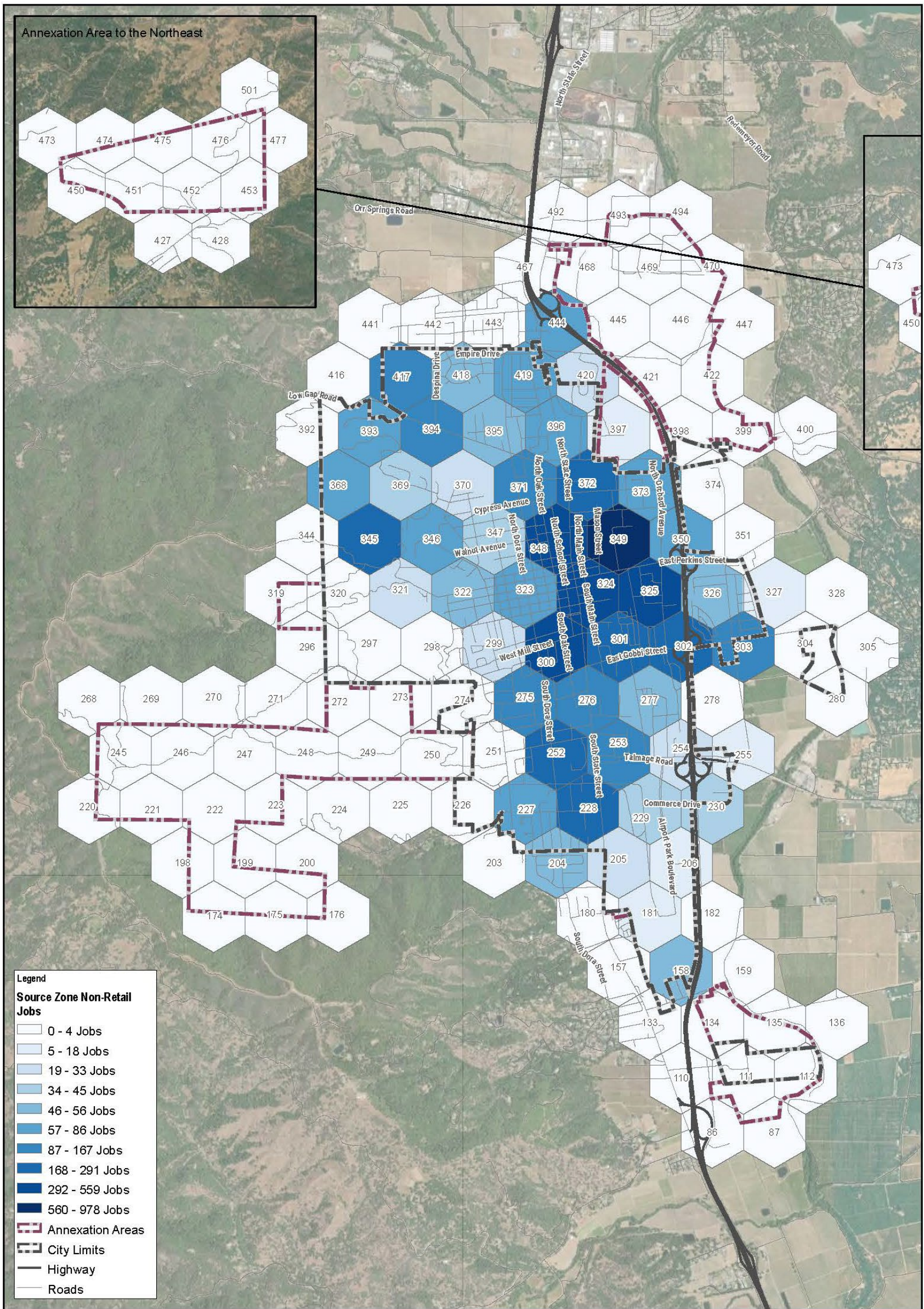


Figure 4.11-3 Existing Distribution of Non-Retail Jobs



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040

**EXISTING
 DISTRIBUTION OF
 NON-RETAIL JOBS**

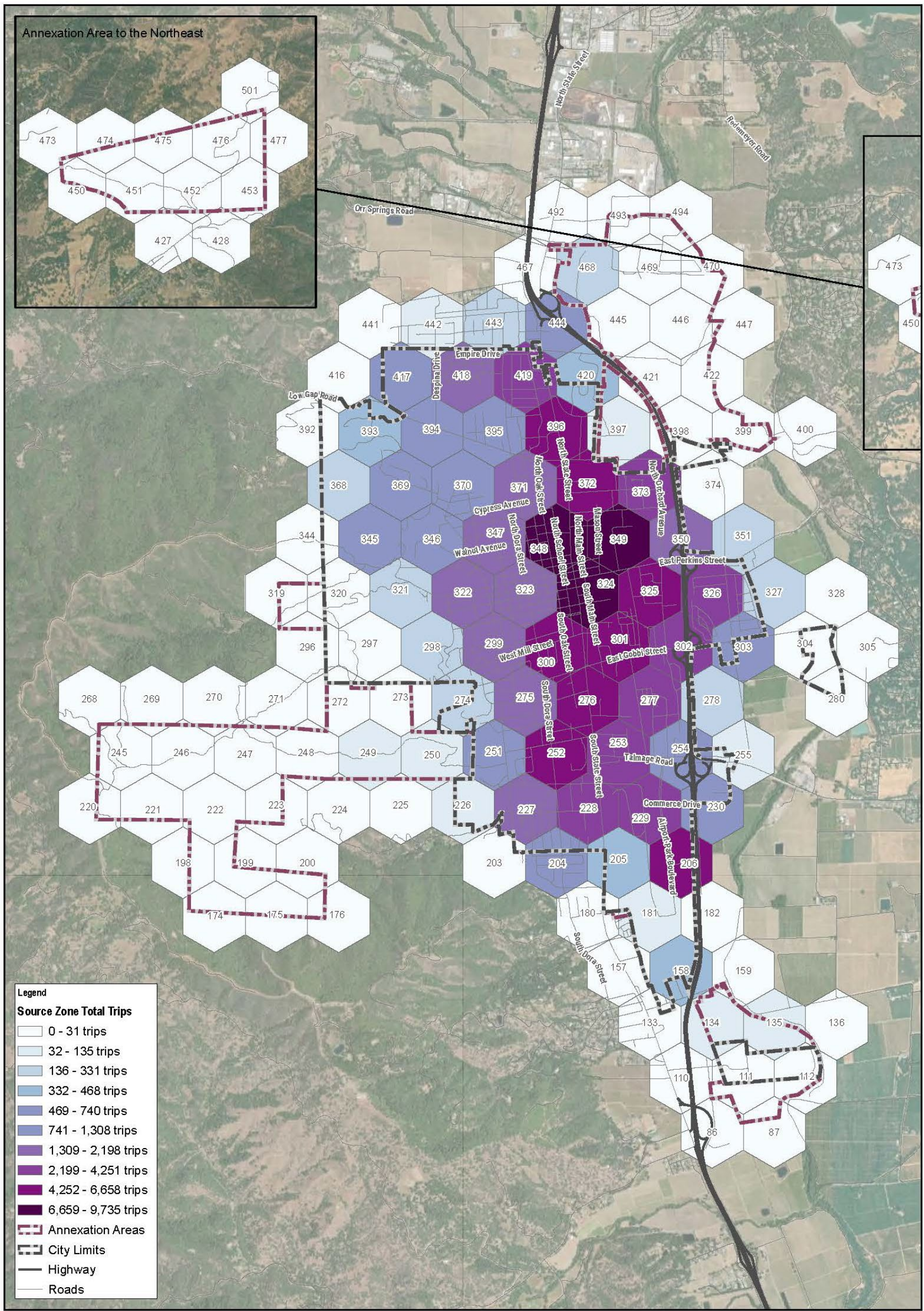
Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/01/2022

FIGURE 4.11-3

Light: g:\projects\2022\09\11\196303\Map\Working\1196303_01_MIT_Op\01_2_Analysis_2022\09\11\196303_01_MIT_Op\01_2_Analysis.aprx
 Print date: 01 Sep 2022 - 14:28

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Highway, Roads; Mable Harmon, 2022. World Imagery: Maxar/Contributed by: pbrunton

Figure 4.11-4 Existing Distribution of Total Trips



Legend

Source Zone Total Trips

- 0 - 31 trips
- 32 - 135 trips
- 136 - 331 trips
- 332 - 468 trips
- 469 - 740 trips
- 741 - 1,308 trips
- 1,309 - 2,198 trips
- 2,199 - 4,251 trips
- 4,252 - 6,658 trips
- 6,659 - 9,735 trips

Annexation Areas

City Limits

Highway

Roads

Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 1402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

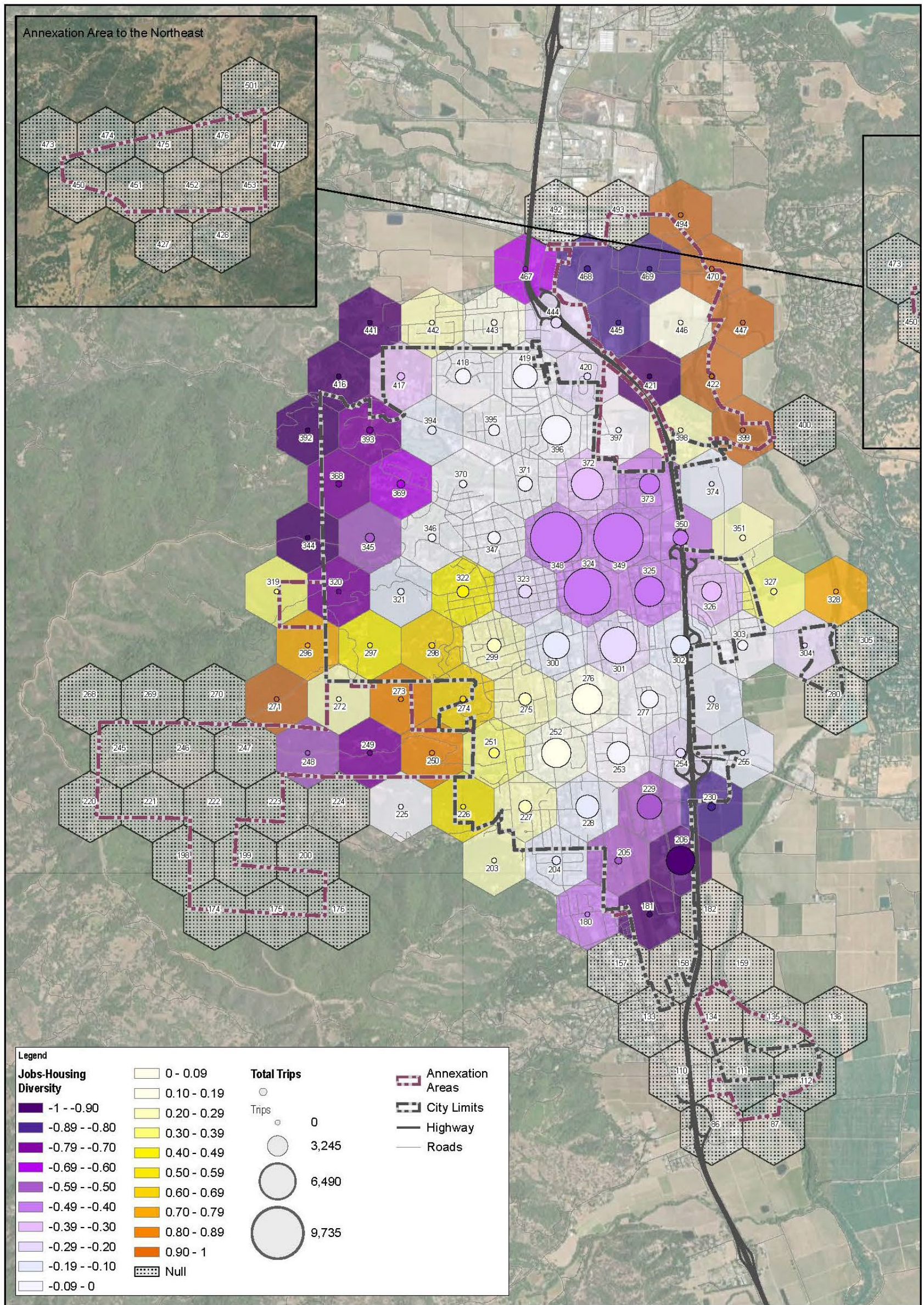
**EXISTING
 DISTRIBUTION OF
 TOTAL TRIPS**

FIGURE 4.11-4

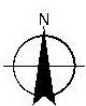
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 Print Date: 11 Sep 2022 - 11:29

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Highway, Road; Mirkel/Hartley, 2022; World Imagery; Maxar/Chirix by jhm/mtm

Figure 4.11-5 Existing Jobs/Housing Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
JOBS/HOUSING DIVERSITY & TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE (EXISTING)

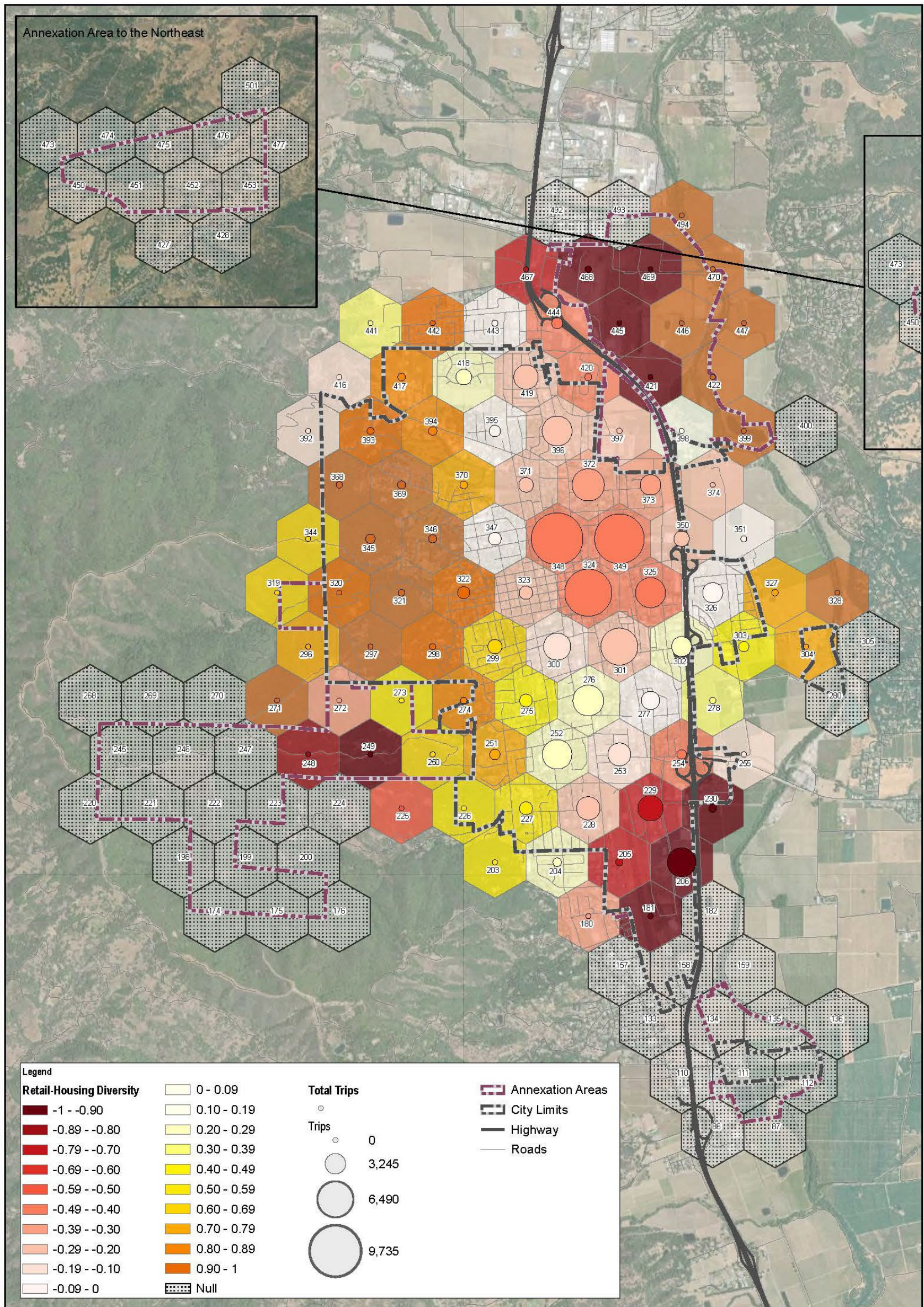
Project No. 11196303
Revision No. -
Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 4.11-5

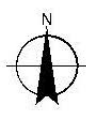
Lightnet\gtd\SW\osm\Proj\4.11-5\1196303\GIS\Map\1196303_VMT_Cycle 2_Analysis_2022\9911196303_VMT_Cycle 2_Analysis.aprx
Print date: 15 Sep 2022 - 14:97

Data source: City Bureau, Annexation Area: Milder Hamish, 2022. World Imagery: Earthstar/GeographicCC created by: jpbombin

Figure 4.11-6 Existing Retail/Housing Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

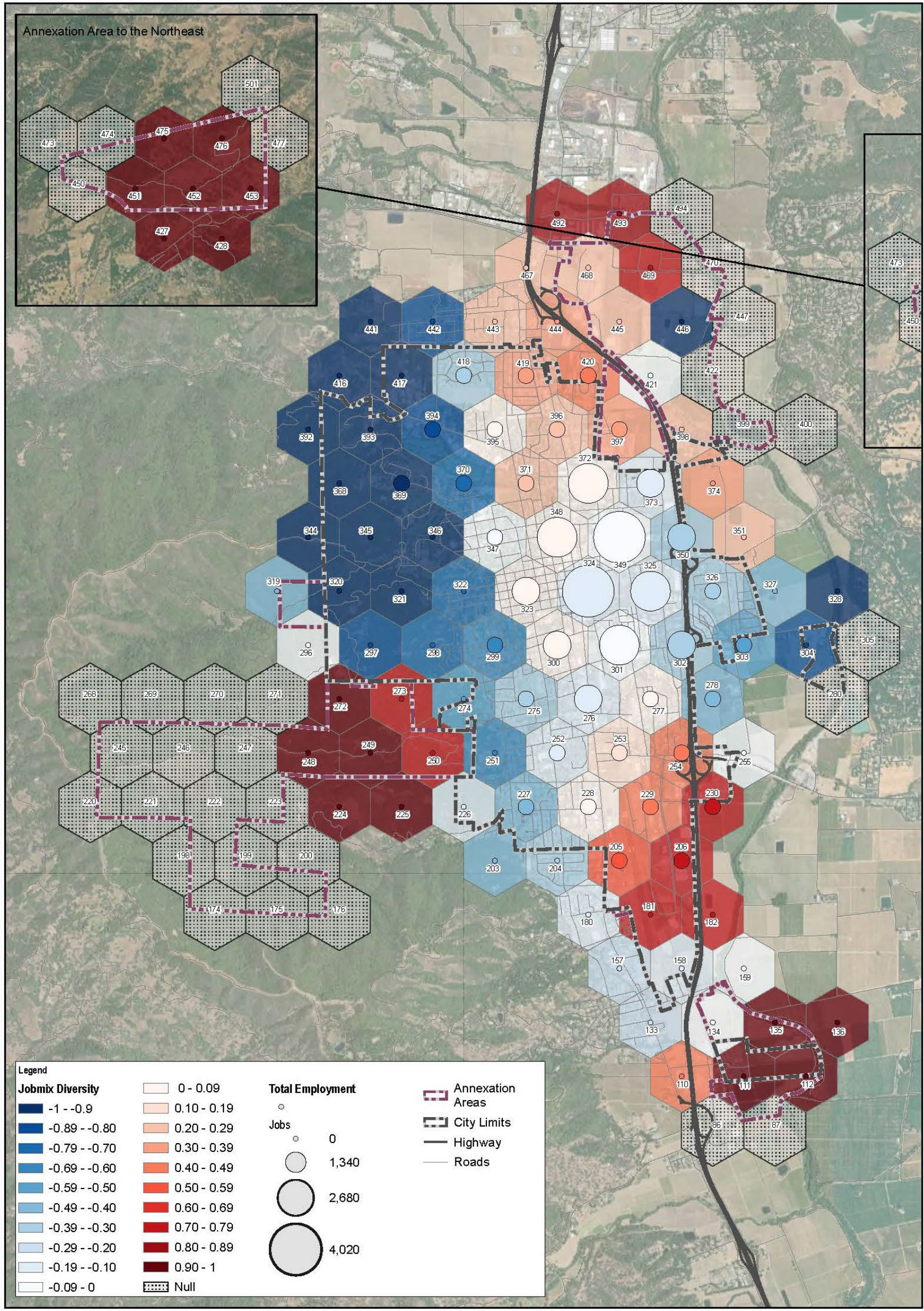
CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
**RETAIL/HOUSING DIVERSITY &
 TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
 (EXISTING)**

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

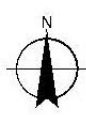
FIGURE 4.11-6

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 Print date: 13 Sep 2022 - 14:15
 Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, MNTN Harris, 2022. World Imagery, Maxar/GeoEye/Planet Labs

Figure 4.11-7 Existing JobMix Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
**JOBMIX DIVERSITY &
 TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
 BY HEX ZONE (EXISTING)**

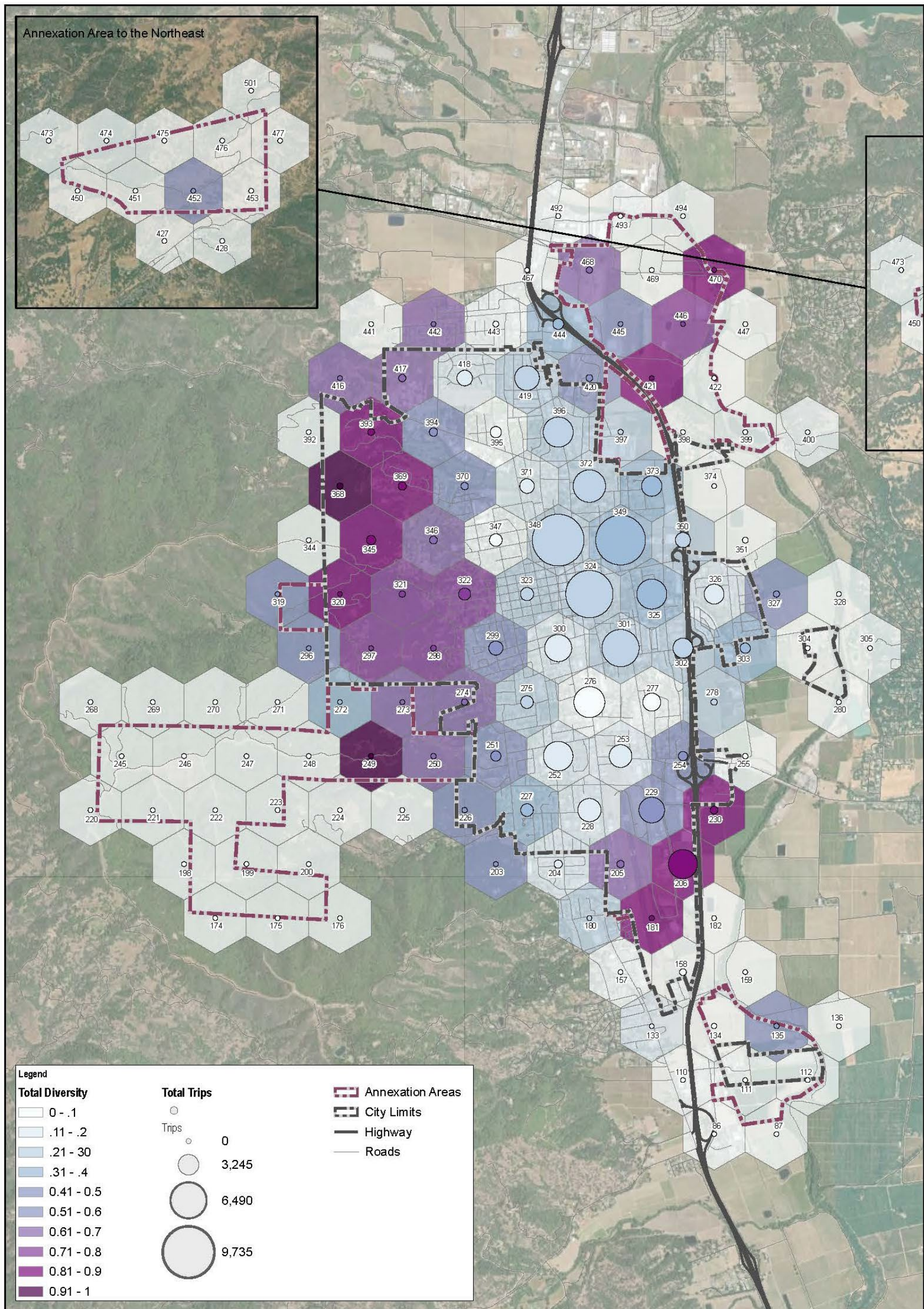
Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 4.11-7

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 Print date: 11/5/2022 14:19

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Minter Harris, 2022, World Imagery: EarthStar Geographic/KSCreated by: jpmvmm

Figure 4.11-8 Existing Total Diversity & Total Trips by Zone



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 4002 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
TOTAL DIVERSITY & TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE (EXISTING)

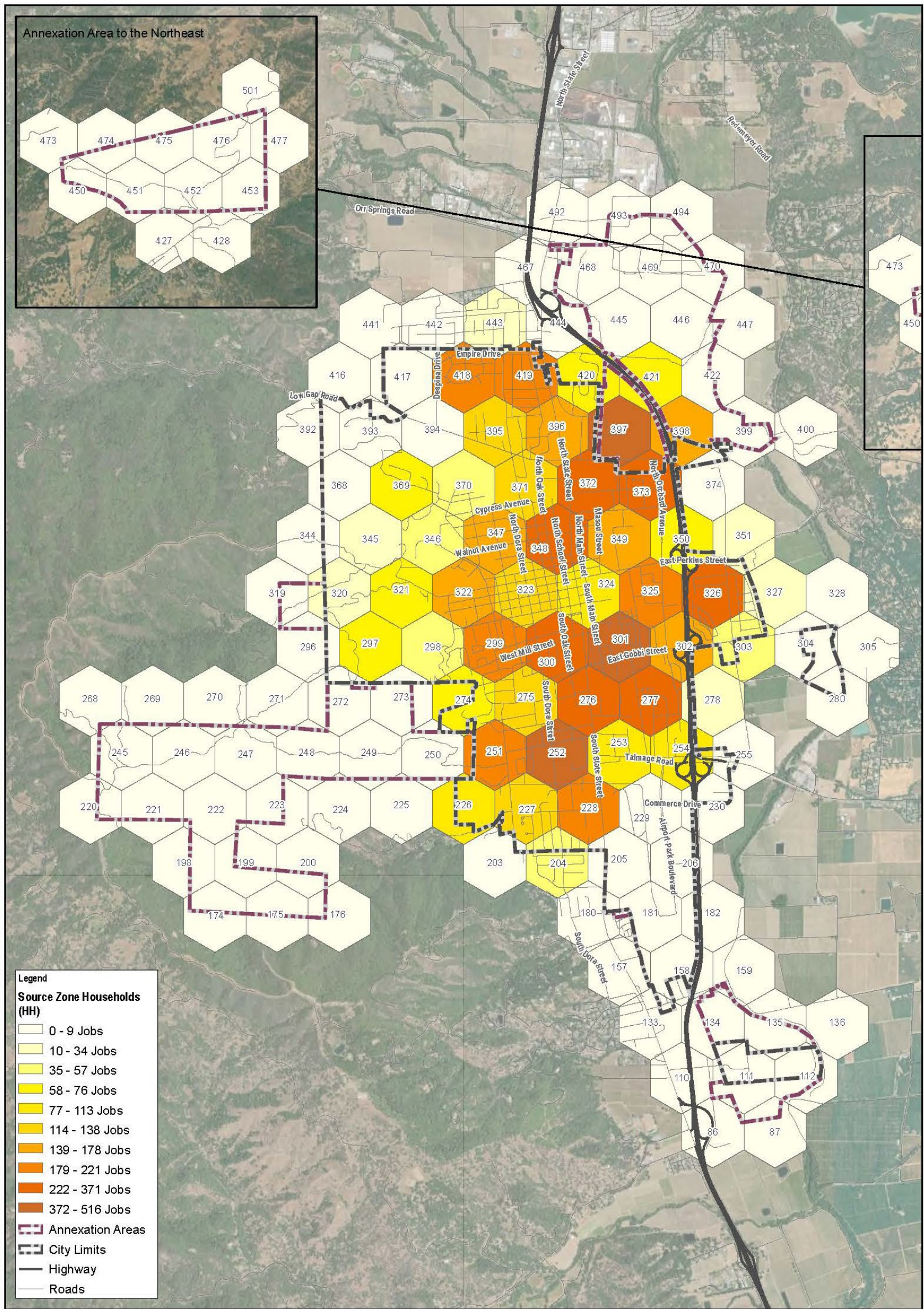
Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/19/2022

FIGURE 4.11-8

lightnet\g\U\SW\es\es\Proj\4256119196303\GIS\Map\11196303_VMT_Op\01_2_Analytic_2022\091119196303_VMT_Op\01_2_Analytic.aprx
 Print date: 19 Sep 2022 - 11:43

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area: Milder Hamilt, 2022. World Imagery: Earthstar Geographica created by: phomlin

Figure 4.11-9 Ukiah 2040 Project: Distribution of Households



Legend

Source Zone Households (HH)

- 0 - 9 Jobs
- 10 - 34 Jobs
- 35 - 57 Jobs
- 58 - 76 Jobs
- 77 - 113 Jobs
- 114 - 138 Jobs
- 139 - 178 Jobs
- 179 - 221 Jobs
- 222 - 371 Jobs
- 372 - 516 Jobs

Annexation Areas

City Limits

Highway

Roads

Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 4002 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
**DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS
 (2040 GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT)**

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/01/2022

FIGURE 4.11-9

Lightnet\gprj\511\51196303\GIS\Map\Working\11196303_MMT\Option 2_Analysis_2_Analysis_2_Analysis.aprx
 Print date: 01 Sep 2022 - 14:55

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Highway, Roads: MNTM/Harris, 2022. World Imagery: Maxar/Created by: jpbenton

Figure 4.11-11 Ukiah 2040 Project: Distribution of Non-Retail Jobs

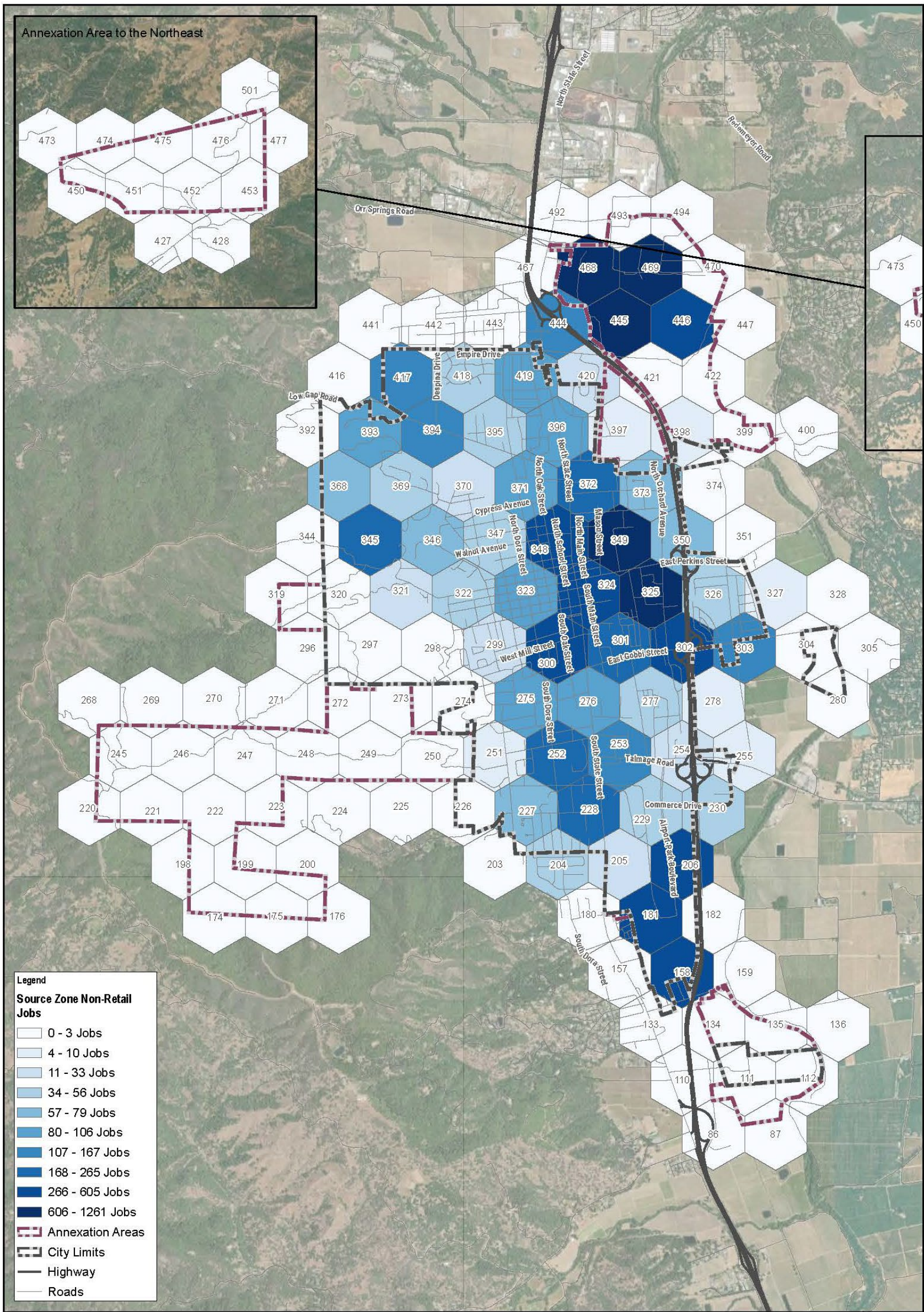


Figure 4.11-12 Ukiah 2040 Project: Distribution of Total Trips

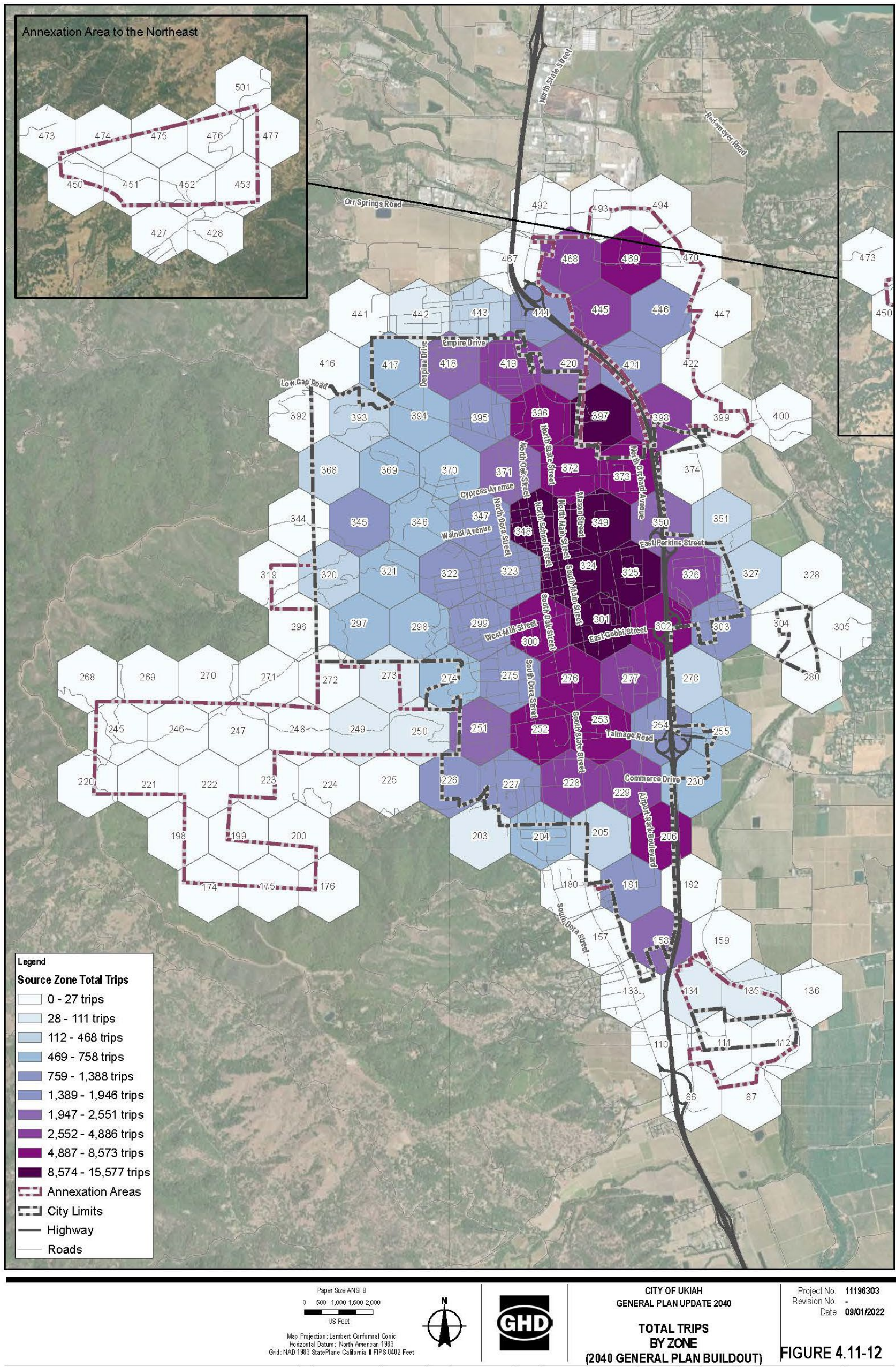
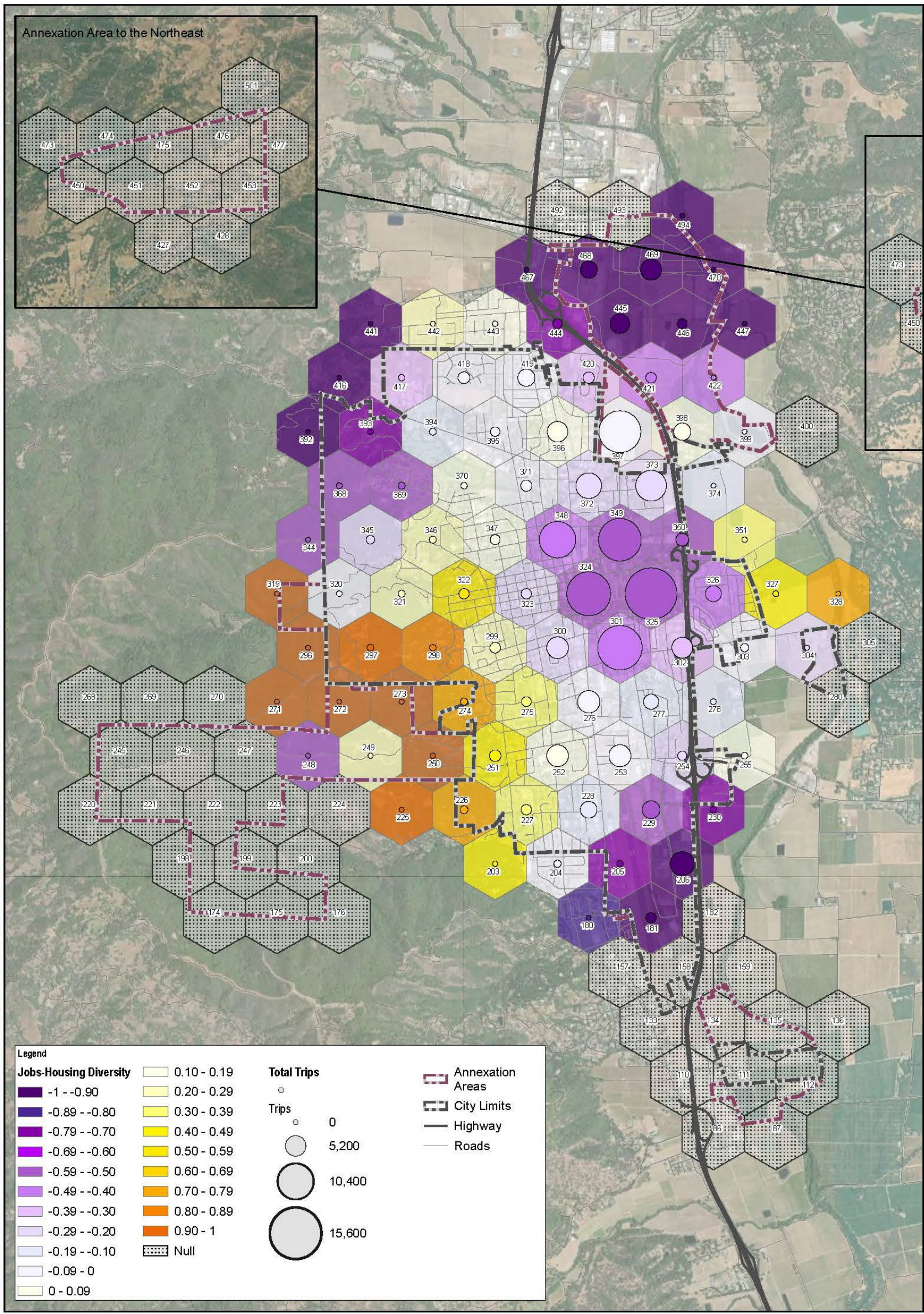
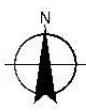


Figure 4.11-13 Ukiah 2040 Project: Jobs/Housing Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
**JOBS/HOUSING DIVERSITY &
TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
(2040 GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT)**

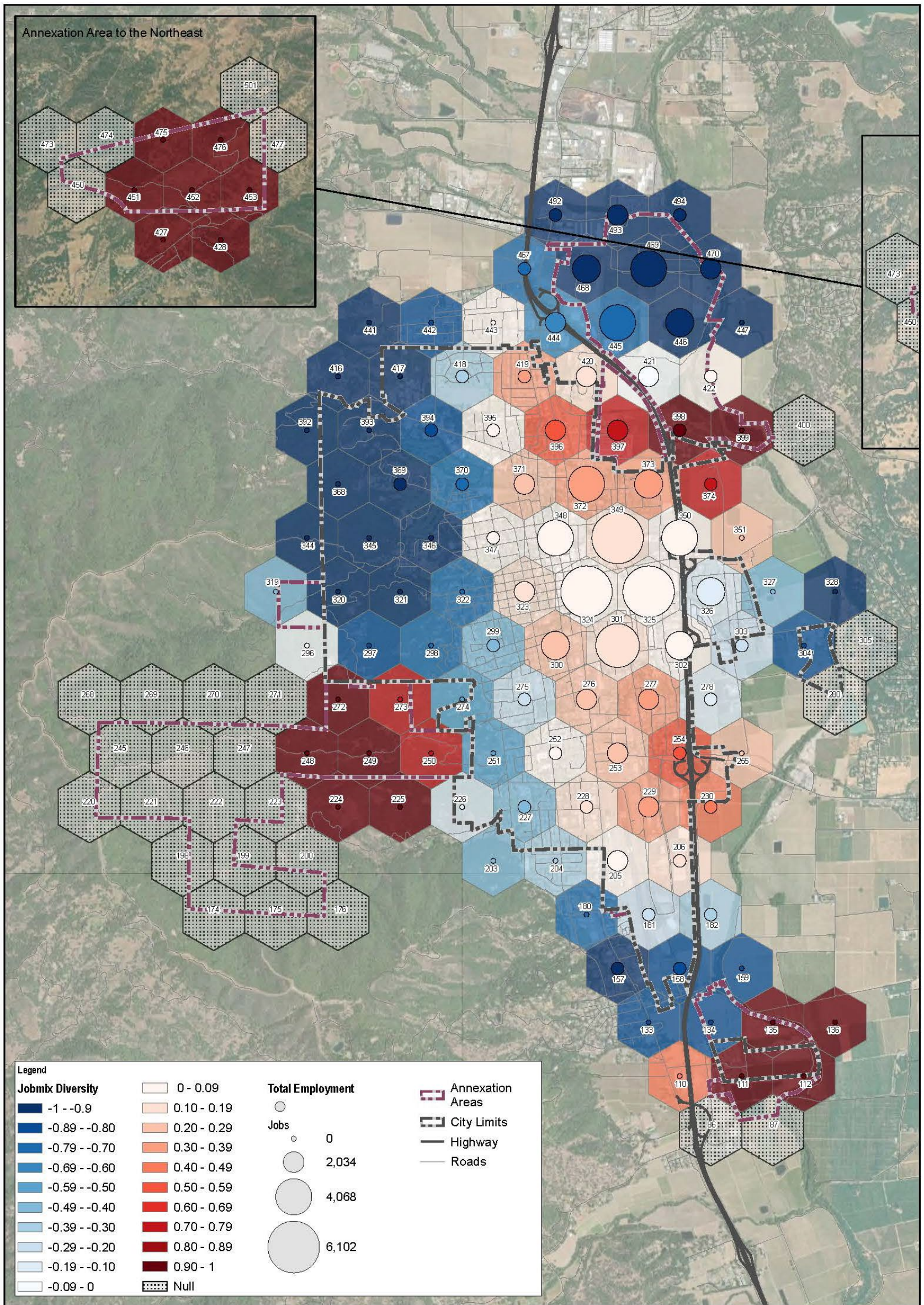
Project No. 11196303
Revision No. -
Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 4.11-13

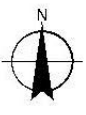
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Print Date: 11 Sep 2022 - 14:35

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Minter Hamlin, 2022, World Imagery: Earthstar Geographic Created by: jpm/mtm

Figure 4.11-14 Ukiah 2040 Project: Retail/Housing Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
**JOBMIX DIVERSITY & TOTAL
 EMPLOYMENT BY HEX ZONE
 (2040 GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT)**

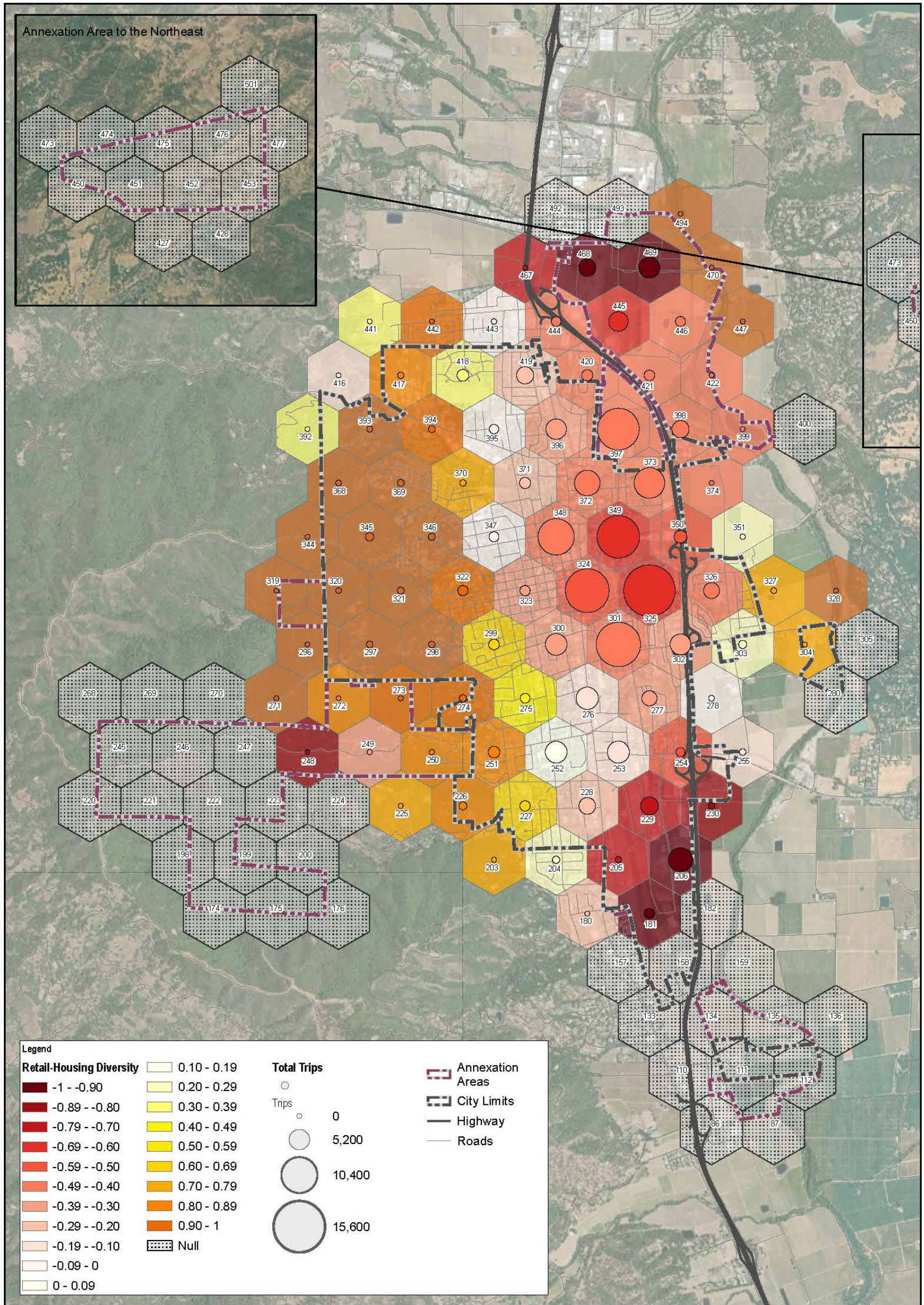
Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 4.11-14

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 Print date: 15 Jul 2022 - 14:11

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Miller Harris, 2022. World Imagery: Maxar/Context by: jrbomb

Figure 4.11-15 Ukiah 2040 Project: JobMix Diversity



Paper Size ANSI B
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
US Feet



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040

RETAIL/HOUSING DIVERSITY &
TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
(2040 GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT)

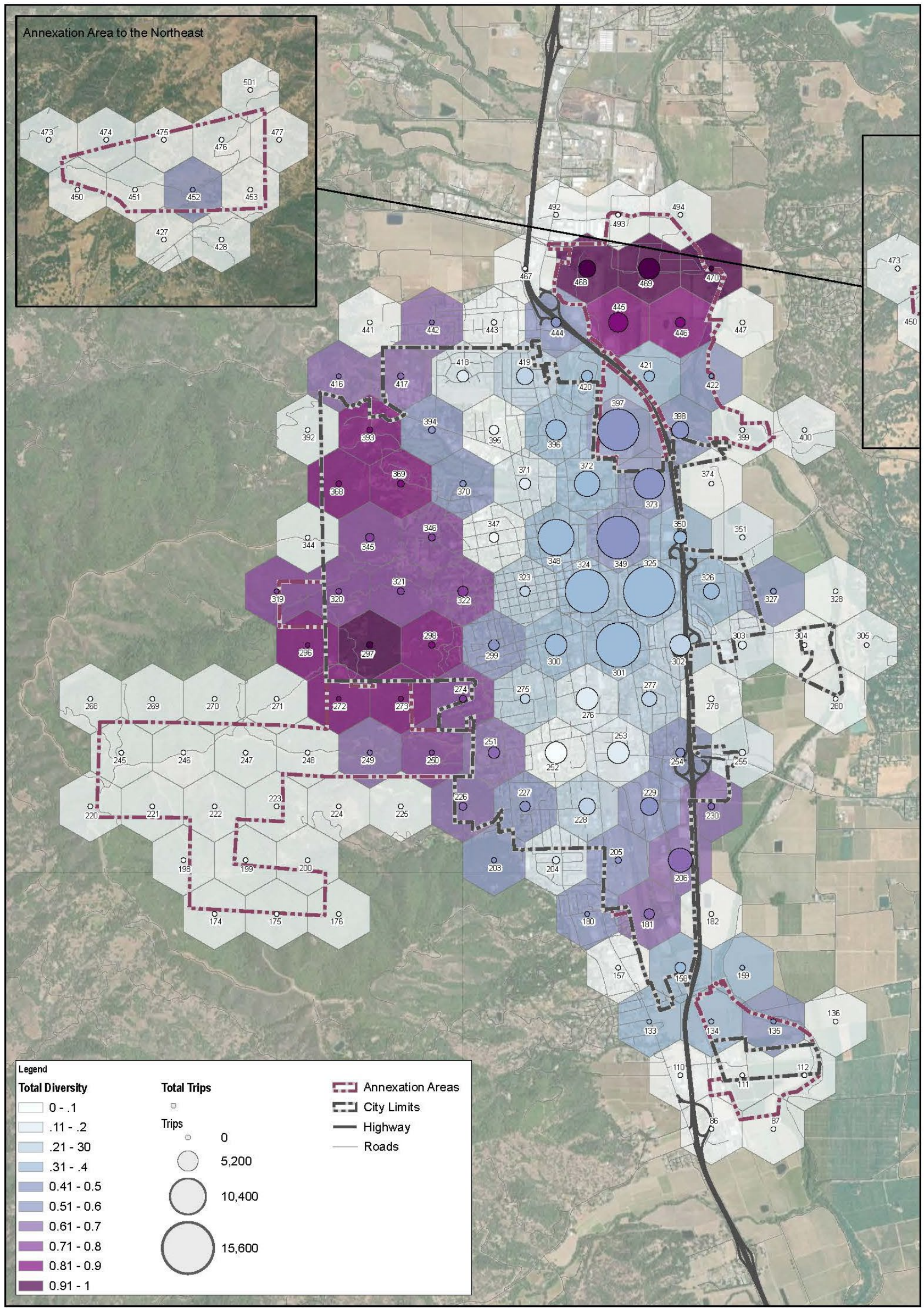
Project No. 11196303
Revision No. -
Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 4.11-15

\\gbdnet\gbd\GIS\Projects\11196303\GIS\Map\11196303_VMT_Cyber_2_Analysis_20220919\11196303_VMT_Cyber_2_Analysis.aprx
Print date: 13 Sep 2022 - 14:19

Data source: City Boundary, Annexation Area, Minter Hamill, 2022. World Imagery: EarthStar Geographica/Created by: pthornton

Figure 4.11-16 Ukiah 2040 Project: Total Diversity & Total Trips by Zone



Paper Size ANSI B 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 US Feet Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic Horizontal Datum: North American 1983 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 8402 Feet			CITY OF UKIAH GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040 TOTAL DIVERSITY & TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE (2040 GENERAL PLAN BUILDOUT)	Project No. 11196303 Revision No. - Date 09/19/2022 FIGURE 4.11-16
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Threshold 3: Would the project substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible use (e.g., farm equipment)?

Impact TRA-3 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE HAZARDS DUE TO A GEOMETRIC DESIGN FEATURE AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Ukiah 2040 is a program-level planning effort which does not directly address geometric design features. Ukiah 2040 includes proposed policies that would ensure efficient circulation and adequate access are provided in the city including Policies MOB-1.1, MOB-1.2, MOB-1.6, MOB-1.8, MOB-1.9, MOB-1.10, MOB-1.11, MOB-2.3, MOB-2.4, MOB-3.1 through MOB-3.6, MOB-3.8, MOB-4.1, and MOB-4.3 (see Impact TRA-1), which are relevant to minimizing hazards. Future development under Ukiah 2040 would also be required to comply with street design standards, Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) requirements, fire code requirements and zoning regulations, ensuring that the adoption of Ukiah 2040 would result in less-than- significant impacts with respect to design hazards.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 4: Would the project result in inadequate emergency access?

Impact TRA-4 THE PROJECT WOULD NOT RESULT IN INADEQUATE EMERGENCY ACCESS AND IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Implementation of Ukiah 2040 would result in increased development and facilitate population growth, which would increase the number of users on the City's transportation system. The existing street and highway system has sufficient capacity to ensure adequate emergency access provisions to accommodate increased population and growth. In addition, Ukiah 2040 includes a guiding principle to "Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters." In addition, Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policies MOB-3.6 and MOB-4.6 (see Impact TRA-1), relevant to ensuring adequate emergency access. Future development under Ukiah 2040 would be required to comply with existing regulations, including fire code, building code, street design standards, and zoning regulations that address site-specific provisions related to emergency access. This will further ensure that the adoption of Ukiah 2040 would result in less-than-significant impacts with respect to emergency access.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

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4.12 Tribal Cultural Resources

This section analyzes the potential effects on tribal cultural resources related to implementation of the project.

4.12.1 Setting

The project lies within an area traditionally occupied by the Northern Pomo Tribe. A full discussion of the precontact and ethnographic setting of the region is presented in Section 4.5, *Cultural Resources*.

4.12.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

There are no federal regulations pertaining to tribal cultural resources that are applicable to this analysis.

b. State Regulations

Assembly Bill 52

As of July 1, 2015, California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) was enacted and expands the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by defining a new resource category, “tribal cultural resources.” Assembly Bill 52 establishes that “A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC Section 21084.2). It further states that the lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3). PRC Section 21074 (a)(1)(A) and (B) defines tribal cultural resources as “sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe” and meets either of the following criteria:

- Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes regarding those resources. The consultation process must be completed before a CEQA document can be certified. AB 52 requires that lead agencies “begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project.” Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects proposed within the jurisdiction of the lead agency.

If a lead agency determines that a project may cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource, AB 52 requires the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the consultation

process required under PRC Section 21080.3.2. If consultation fails to identify specific mitigation, PRC Section 21084.3(b) lists the following measures that may be considered, where feasible, to avoid or minimize the impacts:

- Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to: planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context, or planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.
- Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource.
 - Protecting the traditional use of the resource.
 - Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.
 - Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.
 - Protecting the resource.

Senate Bill 18

California Government Code Section 65352.3 (adopted pursuant to the requirements of Senate Bill [SB] 18) requires local governments to contact, refer plans to, and consult with tribal organizations prior to deciding to adopt or amend a general or specific plan. The tribal organizations eligible to consult have traditional lands in a local government’s jurisdiction, and are identified, upon request, by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). As noted in the California Office of Planning and Research’s Tribal Consultation Guidelines (2005), “The intent of SB 18 is to provide California Native American tribes an opportunity to participate in local land use decisions at an early planning stage, for the purpose of protecting, or mitigating impacts to, cultural places.”

c. AB 52 and SB 18 Process for Ukiah 2040

On April 7, 2022, a letter was sent to the NAHC requesting a current SB 18 and AB52 Native American Contact List for the project vicinity. On June 9, 2022, the NAHC provided a list of 15 tribal contacts with tribal connections to the Planning Area. In accordance with AB 52 and SB 18, the City of Ukiah notified the following 15 tribes of the project and invited them to participate in consultation:

- Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria
- Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Guidiville Indian Rancheria
- Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
- Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
- Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria
- Cahto Tribe
- Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria
- Noyo River Indian Community
- Potter Valley Tribe

- Redwood Valley or Little River Band of Pomo Indians
- Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians
- Round Valley Reservation/Covelo Indian Community
- Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo
- Yokayo Tribe

The City prepared and mailed letters on June 21, 2022, informing all 15 tribes listed above of the General Plan update (Ukiah 2040), in accordance with SB 18 and AB 52. On June 29, 2022, the Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of Northern California (Sherwood Valley) responded, requesting that Ukiah 2040 consider recorded sites and/or cultural resources that are affected during any ground disturbance work, cultural resource protection measures on permit applications, and that the Most Likely Descendent be contacted if cultural resources are found, disturbed, or threatened. The City of Ukiah responded to the Tribe’s letter on July 6, 2022, and shared the policies in Ukiah 2040 that would protect cultural and tribal cultural resources. For additional information about the policies in Ukiah 2040 that would protect cultural and tribal cultural resources, please refer to Impact TCR-1 below. Sherwood Valley did not provide any further comments.

On July 13, 2022, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake (Habematolel Pomo) responded via email and stated that the area of Ukiah 2040 is outside of the aboriginal territories of the Habematolel Pomo and deferred correspondence to the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, Redwood Valley, and Guidiville Indian Rancheria. The City of Ukiah responded via email on July 26, 2022 notifying the Habematolel Pomo that letters had been sent to the all three tribes the Habematolel Pomo had suggested. Habematolel Pomo did not have any further comments.

A full schedule of AB 52 and SB 18 consultation between the City and consulted tribes is shown in Table 4.12-1 below.

Table 4.12-1 Summary of AB 52/SB 18 Correspondence

Activity Date	Activity	Materials Provided/Agenda Topics
Ukiah 2040 Consultation		
June 22, 2022	AB 52 and SB 18 notice	Both the AB52 and SB18 notices were mailed and e-mailed to tribes
June 29, 2022	E-mail from Sherwood Valley Rancheria to City	Response letter to AB52 and SB18 notice requesting specific measures be included within Ukiah 2040
July 6, 2022	E-mail from City to Sherwood Valley Rancheria	Response letter including proposed Ukiah 2040 policies protecting cultural and tribal cultural resources
July 13, 2022	E-mail from Habematolel Pomo Upper Lake to City	Response letter stating Ukiah 2040 area is outside of aboriginal territories and suggesting three tribes for the City to contact
July 26, 2022	E-mail from City to Habematolel Pomo Upper Lake with attachments	Notified the tribe that letters had been sent to the three tribes suggested in their letter during the initial notifications

Source: City of Ukiah 2022

4.12.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to tribal cultural resources from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:
 - a. Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
 - b. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Methodology

The presence and significance of a potential tribal cultural resource is determined through consultation between lead agencies and local California Native Americans. Impacts to tribal cultural resources are highly dependent on the nature of the resource but, in general, could occur if there is destruction or alteration of the resource and its surroundings, access restrictions to the resource, or other disturbances.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1a: Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k)?

Threshold 1b: Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 that is determined by the lead agency to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code section 5024.1?

Impact TCR-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT MAY INVOLVE EXCAVATION, WHICH HAS THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT PREVIOUSLY UNIDENTIFIED TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES. HOWEVER, WITH ADHERENCE TO EXISTING CEQA REGULATIONS AND PROPOSED UKIAH 2040 POLICIES, IMPACTS ON TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

Because the effects on tribal cultural resources are highly dependent on the individual project site conditions and characteristics of the proposed activity, including the level of ground disturbance, effects on tribal cultural resources can only be known once a specific project has been proposed. As

described in Section 4.12.2, *Regulatory Setting*, the City sent letters to Native American tribes provided by the NAHC, per SB 18 and AB 52 requirements and to date, no tribes have responded requesting consultation under AB 52 or SB 18, although Sherwood Valley did respond requesting Ukiah 2040 include consideration of resources that are affected during ground disturbance work, cultural protection measures on permit applications, and to have the Most Likely Descendant contacted if cultural resources are found, disturbed, or threatened.

Although the current AB 52 and SB 18 outreach did not result in the identification of any tribal cultural resources (TCRs) within the City, TCRs may be identified during implementation of future projects facilitated by Ukiah 2040. As specific projects are proposed, consultation with tribes under AB 52 would occur to determine if any TCRs may be impacted by specific projects. If TCRs are identified during AB 52 consultation, compliance with AB 52 on a project-by-project basis, as required, would ensure that development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 does not have a detrimental effect on TCRs.

In addition, the following proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 would require future projects to comply with Tribal Consultation and consult with the City if any TCRs are identified:

Policy ENV-3.2: Archaeological Resource Impact Mitigation. The City shall ensure appropriate and feasible mitigation for new development that has the potential to impact sites likely to contain archaeological, paleontological, cultural, or tribal resources.

Policy ENV-3.3: Protect Archaeological Resources. The City shall require any construction, grading, or other site altering activities cease if cultural, archaeological, paleontological, or cultural resources are discovered until a qualified professional has completed an evaluation of the site.

Policy ENV-3.4: Tribal Consultation. The City shall proactively engage local Native American tribes in the planning process, particularly when matters related to Native American culture, heritage, resources, or artifacts may be affected.

The proposed policies aim at protecting TCRs; however, future projects may encounter undiscovered TCRs, which could result in a potentially significant impact. Although development associated with implementation of Ukiah 2040 would likely occur within infill or previously developed sites, Mitigation Measure CR-2 in Section 4.5, *Cultural Resources*, would require archaeological resource studies for future projects within potentially sensitive areas, and implementation of further requirements to avoid or reduce impacts on those resources on a project-by-project basis. These measures, in tandem with current laws and CEQA regulations that outline measures and procedures for accidental discovery and require AB 52 consultation on a project-by-project basis, take into consideration the suggestions by Sherwood Valley. The project would not increase the likelihood for development that could affect TCRs, and all individual projects would adhere to federal, State, and local regulations. In addition, the City would implement Mitigation Measures TCR-1 and TCR-2 to avoid and properly treat TCRs with local Native American involvement.

Mitigation Measures

Mitigation Measure CR-2 (see Section 4.5, *Cultural Resources*).

TCR-1 Avoidance of Tribal Cultural Resources

When feasible, development facilitated by the project shall be designed to avoid known tribal cultural resources. Any tribal cultural resource within 60 feet of planned construction activities shall

be protected by establishing an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) that would be fenced, or otherwise protected to ensure avoidance. The feasibility of avoidance of tribal cultural resources shall be determined by the City and applicants in consultation with local California Native American tribe(s).

TCR-2 Unanticipated Discovery

If previously unidentified tribal cultural resources are encountered during project implementation, altering the materials and their stratigraphic context shall be avoided and work shall halt immediately. Project personnel shall not collect, move, or disturb cultural resources. A representative from a locally-affiliated Native American Tribe shall be contacted to evaluate the resource and prepare a tribal cultural resources plan identifying methods necessary to protect the resource, in consultation with the City.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measures CR-2, TCR-1, and TCR-2 would reduce potential impacts to TCRs from development facilitated by the project to less than significant levels by requiring avoidance and proper treatment of resources if found during unanticipated discovery.

4.13 Utilities and Service Systems

This section summarizes the setting for utilities and service systems, including electricity, natural gas, telecommunication facilities, water, wastewater, storm drain facilities, and solid waste systems and analyzes the impacts related to utilities and service systems due to the project.

4.13.1 Setting

a. Water Supply

The City of Ukiah's Department of Public Works provides water (primarily sourced from wells) to much of the City. The City of Ukiah draws its water from the Russian River and four active groundwater wells that draw water from the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin (City of Ukiah 2020a, City of Ukiah 2020b). Groundwater wells account for approximately 55 percent of the City's potable water.

According to annual water quality testing report, the City of Ukiah's water quality is safe and reliable (City of Ukiah 2020a). The City's water service area comprises nearly 100 percent of the population residing within the City limits, with a small amount (less than 1 percent) of City residents being served by other water providers (City of Ukiah 2020b). Millview County Water District provides water to north Ukiah and an unincorporated area bordering the city to the north. Willow County Water District provides water to south Ukiah and an unincorporated area bordering the city to the south. Calpella County Water District provides water to the community of Calpella. All four agencies are expected to adequately meet existing and future demands for water, including in the event of a dry year or multiple dry years (City of Ukiah 2020b). During dry years, the City of Ukiah can purchase water from neighboring water systems: Millview County Water District and Willow County Water District.

The City's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) identifies the projected capacity and demand in 2040 (City of Ukiah 2020b). The City's water supply in 2040 is projected to be 21,184 acre-feet (AF) per year during normal conditions and 11,534 AF during single-dry year and multiple-dry year conditions (City of Ukiah 2020b).¹ In addition, the 2020 UWMP identifies that the City consumed a total of 3,030 AF of water in the year 2020 (City of Ukiah 2020b).²

b. Wastewater

Ukiah's Department of Public Works provides wastewater collection and treatment for approximately two-thirds of the City and operates its own wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). A separate agency, the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) serves the remaining portions of Ukiah, as well as communities in the existing SOI. Operated by the City, one WWTP serves both the City and UVSD. The City's 2020 UWMP identifies that the WWTP has a dry-weather capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (mgd) and that in 2020, the WWTP collected a total of 2,671 acre-feet per year (AFY), which is equivalent to 2.4 mgd.

¹ Tables 7.1, 7.2, and 7.6 in the City's 2020 UWMP summarize this information.

² Table 6.3 in the City's 2020 UWMP summarize this information.

c. Stormwater Drainage

Stormwater discharges consist of surface water runoff generated from various land uses. The quality of these discharges varies and is affected by geology, land use, season, hydrology, and sequence and duration of hydrologic events. The Ukiah Department of Public Works manages the storm drainage system within the City. According to the 2012 Municipal Services Review, the capacity of the stormwater drainage system is unknown (Ukiah 2020a). Much of the city’s stormwater is conveyed by surface flow along curbs and gutters. There are intermittent storm drains throughout the City; however, there is no central trunk line for all the storm drains to collect and convey stormwater to the Russian River.

d. Electricity

Ukiah has its own Electric Utility Department that provides service to residents in the City. The City’s Electric Utility Department is a municipally owned utility that maintains its own power-generating capabilities, such as the 3.5 Megawatt Lake Mendocino Hydroelectric Plant, which is one of the City’s major sources of electricity (Ukiah 2020a).

e. Natural Gas

The city is within Pacific Gas & Electric’s (PG&E) natural gas service area (City of Ukiah 2020a). In 2020, PG&E customers consumed approximately 4.5 billion therms of natural gas. Nearly 45 percent of the natural gas burned in California was used for electricity generation, and much of the remainder consumed in the residential (21 percent), industrial (25 percent), and commercial (9 percent) sectors (California Energy Commission [CEC] 2022a, CEC 2022b). In Mendocino County residential users accounted for approximately 52 percent of PG&E’s natural gas consumption (CEC 2022a). As shown in Table 4.13-1, Mendocino County (the smallest scale at which natural gas consumption data is readily available) consumed approximately 582 million US therms in 2022, which was approximately 13 percent of natural gas consumption by PG&E customers and 4.7 percent of statewide natural gas consumption (CEC 2022b, 2022c). In comparison, the population of Mendocino County is approximately 0.2 percent of California’s population (DOF 2021).

Table 4.13-1 2020 Natural Gas Consumption

Energy Type	Mendocino County (millions of US therms)	PG&E (millions of US therms)	California (millions of US therms)	Proportion of PG&E Consumption ¹	Proportion of Statewide Consumption ¹
Natural Gas	582	4,508	12,332	13%	4.7%

¹ For reference, the population of Mendocino County (approximately 87,110 persons) is approximately 0.2 percent of California’s population (39,466,855 persons) (DOF 2021).

Source: CEC 2022a, 2022b, DOF 2021

f. Telecommunications

In California, approximately 98 percent of households have access to telecommunication infrastructure, including telephone and cable access (California Cable & Telecommunications Association 2022). Broadband and cellular services are provided to residents and businesses from a variety of private companies, including national retailers Comcast, AT&T, Verizon, and Sprint (Ukiah 2020a).

g. Solid Waste and Recycling

Ukiah contracts its solid waste, recycling, and composting to the private company C&S Waste Solutions. Solid waste is transported to the Ukiah Valley Transfer Station, located at 3151 Taylor Drive in Ukiah. Unincorporated areas are served by Waste Management. According to California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) the maximum permitted capacity for the Ukiah Transfer Station is 400 tons per day (CalRecycle 2022b). CalRecycle does not report an estimated capacity closing date for the facility. As of 2020 the facility receives an average of 120 to 130 tons per day (City of Ukiah 2020b).

4.13.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

Clean Water Act

The federal Clean Water Act, enacted by Congress in 1972 and amended several times since, is the primary federal law regulating water quality in the United States and forms the basis for several State and local laws throughout the country. The Act established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States. The Clean Water Act gave the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) the authority to implement federal pollution control programs, such as setting water quality standards for contaminants in surface water, establishing wastewater and effluent discharge limits for various industry contaminants in surface water, establishing wastewater and effluent discharge limits for various industry categories, and imposing requirements for controlling nonpoint-source pollution. At the federal level, the Clean Water Act is administered by the USEPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. At the State and regional levels in California, the act is administered and enforced by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB).

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act requires that all construction sites on an acre or greater of land, as well as municipal, industrial and commercial facilities discharging wastewater or stormwater directly from a point source, such as a pipe, ditch, or channel, into a surface water of the United States must obtain permission under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. All NPDES permits are written to ensure that the surface water receiving discharges will achieve specified water quality standards.

Safe Drinking Water Act

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) regulates public water systems that supply drinking water. The principal objective of the federal SDWA is to ensure that water from the tap is potable (safe and satisfactory for drinking, cooking, and hygiene). The main components of the federal SDWA are to:

1. Ensure that water from the tap is potable.
2. Prevent contamination of groundwater aquifers that are the main source of drinking water for a community.
3. Regulate the discharge of wastes into underground injection wells pursuant to the Underground Injection Control program (see 40 Code of Federal Regulations Section 144).
4. Regulate distribution systems.

Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations

Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 258 (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle D) contains regulations for municipal solid waste landfills and requires states to implement their own permitting programs incorporating the federal landfill criteria. The federal regulations address the location, operation, design, groundwater monitoring, and closure of landfills.

Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 set energy efficiency standards for lighting (specifically light bulbs) and appliances.

Energy Star Program

Energy Star is a voluntary labeling program introduced by the USEPA to identify and promote energy-efficient products to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program applies to major household appliances, lighting, computers, and building components such as windows, doors, roofs, and heating and cooling systems. Under this program, appliances that meet specifications for maximum energy use established under the program are certified to display the Energy Star label. In 1996, the USEPA joined with the Energy Department to expand the program, which now also includes certifying commercial and industrial buildings as well as homes (USEPA 2022).

Telecommunications Act

In 1996, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) passed the Telecommunications Act, allowing any communications business to compete in any market against any other business. This act affects telephone service, cable programming, and other video services, including broadcast services and services provided to schools (FCC 2022).

b. State Regulations

Water and Wastewater

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

In September 2014, the governor signed legislation requiring that California's critical groundwater resources be sustainably managed by local agencies. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act gives local agencies the power to sustainably manage groundwater and requires groundwater sustainability plans to be developed for medium- and high-priority groundwater basins, as defined by the California Department of Water Resources.

California Department of Water Resources

The California Department of Water Resources is responsible for preparing and updating the California Water Plan, which is a policy document that guides the development and management of State water resources. The plan is updated every five years to reflect changes in resources and urban, agricultural, and environmental water demands. The California Water Plan suggests ways of managing demand and augmenting supply to balance water supply with demand.

Urban Water Management Planning Act

In 1983 the California Legislature enacted the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code Section 10610–10656). The Act states that every urban water supplier that provides water to 3,000 or more customers, or that provides over 3,000 acre-feet annually, should make every effort to ensure the appropriate level of reliability in its water service sufficient to meet the needs of its various categories of customers during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. The Act requires that urban water suppliers adopt an UWMP at least once every five years and submit them to the California Department of Water Resources. Noncompliant urban water suppliers are ineligible to receive funding pursuant to Division 24, commencing with Section 78500, or Division 26, commencing with Section 79000, or receive drought assistance from the State until the UWMP is submitted and deemed complete pursuant to the Urban Water Management Planning Act.

Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code)

The State of California is authorized to administer Federal or State laws regulating water pollution within the State. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Water Code Section 13000, *et seq.*) includes provisions to address requirements of the Clean Water Act. These provisions include NPDES permitting, dredge and fill programs, and civil and administrative penalties. The Porter-Cologne Act is broad in scope and addresses issues relating to the conservation, control, and utilization of the water resources of the State. Additionally, the Porter-Cologne Act states that the quality of all the waters of the State, including groundwater and surface water, must be protected for the use and enjoyment by the people of the State.

In California, the NPDES program is administered by the SWRCB through the RWQCB and requires municipalities to obtain permits that outline programs and activities to control wastewater and stormwater pollution. The federal Clean Water Act prohibits discharges of stormwater from construction projects unless the discharge is in compliance with an NPDES permit. The SWRCB is the permitting authority in California, and adopted an NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities, otherwise known as the Construction General Permit (Order 2009-0009, as amended by Orders 2010-0014-DWQ and 2012-006-DWQ). The Order applies to construction sites that include one or more acre of soil disturbance. Construction activities include clearing, grading, grubbing, excavation, stockpiling, and reconstruction of existing facilities involving removal or replacement. The Construction General Permit requires that the landowner and/or contractor file permit registration documents prior to commencing construction and then pay a fee annually through the duration of construction. These documents include a notice of intent, risk assessment, site map, stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), and signed certification statement. The SWPPP must include measures to ensure that: all pollutants and their sources are controlled; non-stormwater discharges are identified and eliminated, controlled, or treated; site Best Management Practices (BMP) are effective and result in the reduction or elimination of pollutants in stormwater discharges and authorized non-stormwater discharges; and BMPs installed to reduce or eliminate pollutants after construction are completed and maintained. The Construction General Permit specifies minimum BMP requirements for stormwater control based on the risk level of the site. The Permit also specifies minimum qualifications for a qualified SWPPP developer and qualified SWPPP practitioner.

Title 22 of California Code of Regulations

Title 22 regulates the use of reclaimed wastewater. In most cases only disinfected tertiary water may be used on food crops where the recycled water would come into contact with the edible

portion of the crop. Disinfected secondary treatment may be used for food crops where the edible portion is produced below ground and will not come into contact with the secondary effluent. Lesser levels of treatment are required for other types of crops, such as orchards, vineyards, and fiber crops.

The California Department of Public Health sets specific requirements for treated effluent reuse, or recycled water, through Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. These requirements are primarily set to protect public health. The California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, Sections 60301 through 60355 are used to regulate recycled wastewater and are administered jointly by the California Department of Public Health and the RWQCBs. Title 22 contains effluent requirements for four levels of wastewater treatment, from un-disinfected secondary recycled water to disinfected tertiary recycled water. Higher levels of treatment have higher effluent standards, allowing for a greater number of uses under Title 22, including irrigation of freeway landscaping, pasture for milk animals, parks and playgrounds, and vineyards and orchards for disinfected tertiary recycled water.

Electricity and Natural Gas

California Energy Commission

As the State's primary energy policy and planning agency, the CEC collaborates with State and federal agencies, utilities, and other stakeholders to develop and implement State energy policies. Since 1975, the CEC has been responsible for reducing the State's electricity and natural gas demand, primarily by adopting new Building and Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards that have contributed to keeping California's per capita electricity consumption relatively low. The CEC is also responsible for the certification and compliance of thermal power plants 50 megawatts and larger, including all project-related facilities in California (CEC 2022c).

California Public Utilities Commission

The CPUC regulates investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities operating in California. The energy work responsibilities of the CPUC are derived from the California State Constitution, specifically Article XII, Section 3 and other sections more generally, numerous State legislative enactments and various Federal statutory and administrative requirements. The CPUC regulates natural gas utility service for approximately 10.8 million customers that receive natural gas from PG&E and other natural gas utilities across California (CPUC 2022).

Senate Bill 350

The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (SB 350) requires a doubling of the energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas for retail customers through energy efficiency and conservation by December 31, 2030.

Solid Waste

California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) oversees, manages, and monitors waste generated in California. CalRecycle provides limited grants and loans to help California cities, counties, businesses, and organizations meet the State waste reduction, reuse, and recycling goals. It also provides funds to clean up solid waste disposal sites and co-disposal sites,

including facilities that accept hazardous waste substances and non-hazardous waste. CalRecycle develops, manages, and enforces waste disposal and recycling regulations, including Assembly Bill (AB) 939 and SB 1016, both of which are described below.

Assembly Bill 939

AB 939 (Public Resources Code 41780) requires cities and counties to prepare integrated waste management plans and to divert 50 percent of solid waste from landfills beginning in calendar year 2000 and each year thereafter. AB 939 also requires cities and counties to prepare Source Reduction and Recycling Elements as part of the integrated waste management plans. These elements are designed to develop recycling services to achieve diversion goals, stimulate local recycling in manufacturing and stimulate the purchase of recycled products.

Senate Bill 1016

SB 1016 requires that the 50 percent solid waste diversion requirement established by AB 939 be expressed in pounds per person per day. SB 1016 changed the CalRecycle review process for each municipality's integrated waste management plan. After an initial determination of diversion requirements in 2006 and establishing diversion rates for subsequent calendar years, the Board reviews a jurisdiction's diversion rate compliance in accordance with a specified schedule. The Board is required to review a jurisdiction's source reduction and recycling element and hazardous waste element once every two years.

Assembly Bill 341 – Mandatory Commercial Recycling

The purpose of AB 341 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts and to expand the opportunity for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California. AB 341 required all businesses that generate four or more cubic yards of garbage per week and multi-family dwellings with five or more units to recycle by July 1, 2012. AB 341 also sets a statewide goal of 75 percent waste diversion.

c. Local Regulations

Municipal Stormwater Permitting Program

RWQCBs issue stormwater discharge permits. The Phase I Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) (Order R1-2015-0030) is applicable to the City of Ukiah in the North Coast Region RWQCB (RWQCB 2022). The MS4 programs implement and enforce BMPs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal separate storm sewer systems. The MS4 requires the City to establish monitoring programs for outfalls, receiving water, and chronic toxicity.

Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

In 2017, the City came together with the County of Mendocino and other Ukiah Valley agencies to form the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGS). The UVBGS was created by a Joint Powers Agreement to serve as the official Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Ukiah Valley Basin required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA) Act of 2014.

4.13.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

Significance Thresholds

In accordance with Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, a significant utilities impact would occur if new development facilitated by the proposed project would:

1. Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects;
2. Have insufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years;
3. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments;
4. Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals; or
5. Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste.

Methodology

This analysis considers the existing capacity of utilities serving the City, estimates qualitatively and quantitatively the potential additional demand on utilities, and identifies whether the existing system can serve the demand of the existing demand plus the project's estimated demand.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Impact U-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR WATER, WASTEWATER, ELECTRIC POWER, NATURAL GAS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE FACILITIES. HOWEVER, ADHERENCE TO UKIAH 2040 POLICIES WOULD FACILITATE EFFICIENT ENERGY USE, SUSTAINABLE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY, AND SAFE AND RESILIENT UTILITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS THAT WOULD LESSEN THE NEED FOR NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITIES. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Development facilitated by the project would create additional demand for water, wastewater, electricity, natural gas, telecommunication and stormwater drainage facilities.

Impact U-2 and U-3 consider the potential environmental effects related to water and wastewater infrastructure, pertaining to water supplies and WWTP capacity. In addition to water supply and WWTP capacity infrastructure, development facilitated by the project could require water and wastewater connections, such as pipes to the existing infrastructure. Similarly, development facilitated by the project could require stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or

telecommunications facilities connections, such as pipes or lines the existing infrastructure. As discussed in Section 4.9, *Population and Housing*, one purpose of Ukiah 2040 is to direct future development in such a way to minimize the impacts of growth by emphasizing the intensification and reuse of already developed areas and redevelopment to infill areas. As such, by focusing growth within already built-out areas, development would occur in areas where they could connect to existing utilities, thereby minimizing potential environmental impacts.

In addition, as described in Section 2.7.7 in Chapter 2, *Project Description*, the City is proposing three separate annexation areas currently located in the County of Mendocino's jurisdictional boundaries. Once annexed, the Annexation Area A would continue to be used for agriculture, open space, or municipal uses. The potential for expansion of the WWTP in Annexation Area A is discussed in Impact U-3 below. Because Annexation Area A would continue to be used for agriculture, open space, or municipal uses, and no development is proposed, there would be no additional significant environmental effects from new or relocated utilities. Once annexed, Annexation Area B would be designated as Industrial and Agriculture, similar to existing County designations.

Annexation Area B is located adjacent to the City limits and within an area that has previously been developed and/or planned for development under the Ukiah Valley Area Plan. As such, any future utilities would connect to existing utilities, thereby minimizing potential environmental impacts. If new or expanded facilities are required in the future, additional CEQA would be performed on a project-level basis at that time.

Annexation Area C includes areas designated as Public, Low Density Residential, and Single-Family Residential - Hillside Overlay. Utilities would not be expanded or added to the areas designated as Public. Expansion of utilities to the 54-acre "Development Parcels" area designated for Single-Family Residential and Hillside Overlay District (-H) associated with the Ukiah Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement Project were analyzed in an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration in 2021 (City of Ukiah 2021). Although not anticipated for the purpose of this analysis, if the remaining areas designated for Low Density Residential and Single-Family Residential – Hillside within Annexation Area C are proposed for development of single-family residences, utilities would need to be expanded to these areas. However, all construction in Hillside Overlay District would require discretionary review, even for development that would normally be ministerial, such as single-family homes, and project-level impacts would be analyzed at that time. Ukiah 2040 policies and mitigation measures identified throughout this EIR would apply to minimize impacts to the environment.

Regarding demands on energy utilities and as discussed in Section 4.16, *Effects Found Not to Be Significant*, proposed Ukiah 2040 policies include energy conservation and energy efficiency strategies. As described in Section 4.16, *Effects Found Not to Be Significant*, development facilitated by the project would not result in inefficient or wasteful use of energy. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed policies that would improve energy efficiency and energy sustainability, thereby reducing impacts on the environment.

Goal PFS-6: Improve the efficiency and quality of utility services in the city.

Policy PFS-6.1: New Initiatives. The City shall support innovative, sustainable, and alternative practices and technologies for delivering energy and utility services to the community.

Policy PFS-6.2: Undergrounding Utilities. The City shall encourage the conversion of overhead transmission and distribution lines to underground as economically feasible.

Policy PFS-6.3: Energy Efficiency Education. The City shall support education for residents and businesses on the importance of energy efficiency.

Policy PFS-6.4: Energy Efficient Municipal Buildings. The City shall require municipal and public buildings to operate at the highest energy efficiency level economically and operationally feasible.

Policy PFS-6.5: Privately-Owned Building Retrofits. The City shall promote retrofitting of privately-owned buildings to increase energy efficiency.

Policy PFS-6.6: Local Power Generation. The City shall support local power generation and production that is economically and operationally feasible.

Goal PFS-7: To ensure a safe and resilient utility and infrastructure system.

Policy PFS 7.1: Resilient Electric Grid. The City shall explore options for hardening the electric grid to continue to provide ongoing service to the community without disruption caused by natural (seismic events, flooding, wildfires, extreme wind events) or man-made hazards.

Policy PFS 7.2: Vegetation Clearance. The City shall require vegetation clearance and tree trimming adjacent to transmission and distribution lines and other critical electrical infrastructure.

Policy PFS 7.3: Electric Infrastructure Upgrades. The City shall implement electrical infrastructure upgrades as outlined in the Ukiah Wildfire Mitigation Plan to reduce the risk of wildfires.

Goal PFS-8: To transition to sustainable and renewable energy.

Policy PFS 8.1: Utility Sustainability. The City shall continue to expand alternative, sustainable electric energy use.

Policy PFS 8.2: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The City shall encourage the site planning and design of new buildings to maximize energy efficiency.

Policy PFS 8.3: Solar Photovoltaic Use. The City shall encourage solar photovoltaic systems for existing residential uses to reduce the reliance on the energy grid.

Policy PFS 8.4: Residential Electric Appliances. The City shall encourage the use of electric appliances and utility hook-ups in all new residential development.

Policy PFS 8.5: LEED Certification. The City shall encourage new construction, including municipal building construction, to achieve third-party green building certifications, such as LEED rating system, or an equivalent.

Policy PFS 8.6: Incentivize Energy Efficiency. The City shall consider providing incentives, such as prioritizing plan review, permit processing, and field inspection services, for energy efficient building projects.

In addition, Section 4.16.4 in Section 4.16, *Effects Found Not to Be Significant* identifies that the various regulations and proposed policies in Ukiah 2040 that would be required for future projects would ensure that drainage patterns are not substantially altered. Specifically, future projects under Ukiah 2040 would be required to implement low impact development (pursuant to proposed Policy PFS-5.1), which would minimize runoff and reduce the demand for additional stormwater infrastructure.

Overall, due to the location where future development would occur and with compliance with existing regulations and proposed Ukiah 2040 policies, impacts from water, wastewater treatment or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 2: Would the project have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?

Impact U-2 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INCREASE WATER DEMAND; HOWEVER, THE CITY HAS SUFFICIENT WATER SUPPLY TO SERVE THE PROJECT AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT DURING NORMAL, DRY AND MULTIPLE DRY YEARS.

Future growth and development facilitated by the project would create additional demand for water in Ukiah, as well as within the Annexation Areas. The water demand for the project was estimated using water demand rates for land use types developed by the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod). Each development type has its own associated water use factor by unit, which were used to calculate projected water demand volumes for each type of new development. In addition, the additional demand was based on the maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. As such, the projected water demand identified in Table 4.13-2 is a conservative assumption and water demand from Ukiah 2040 is expected to be lower than what is shown in that table.

Table 4.13-2 Projected Total Water Demand by Development Type

Development Type	Proposed Project Growth Forecast	Water Use Rate (MGY per unit) ¹	Projected Water Demand (MGY)	Projected Water Demand (gpd)	Projected Water Demand (AFY)
Non-residential	4,514,820 sf	0.29	1,309	3,586,301	4,017
Residential	2,350 units	0.11	259	709,589	795
Total			1,568	4,295,890	4,812

MGY = million gallons per year; gpd = gallons per day; AFY = acre-feet per year; sf = square feet

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Water use rates from CalEEMod. Indoor and outdoor water uses are combined. Rates for non-residential are based on the CalEEMod general office rate. Rates for non-residential are per 1,000 square feet.

With implementation of the project, water demand in 2040 would be the sum of the City's existing water demand and the projected water demand from the additional buildout associated with Ukiah 2040. As such, water demand in 2040, under the maximum buildout scenario, is conservatively estimated to be 7,842 AF.³ As described in Section 4.13.1, the City's projected water supply would be 21,184 AF during normal years and 11,534 during a single-dry year and multiple-dry years. Therefore, sufficient water supplies would be available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry, and multiple dry years. Impacts from the project would be less than significant.

In addition, Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed goals and policies to reduce impacts on water supplies and encourage the conservation of water:

Goal PFS-1: To maintain a safe and adequate water system to meet the needs of existing and future development.

Policy PFS-1.1: Water Service Annexation Impacts. The City shall ensure newly annexed areas within the city do not negatively affect water services to existing customers.

Policy PFS-1.2: Russian River Water Rights. The City shall protect and confirm all Russian River tributary water rights to which the Ukiah Valley and City may be entitled.

Policy PFS-1.3: Consolidation of Water Districts. The City shall support the consolidation of water districts as part of future annexations to establish efficient services and ensure adequate water supply and delivery

Policy PFS-1.4: Water Storage. The City shall encourage the protection and expansion of existing sources and methods of water storage for future development.

Policy PFS-1.5: Recycled Water Project. The City shall explore the potential expansion of the Recycled Water Project to provide non-potable water to areas of large-scale urban irrigation, such as Todd Grove Park and the golf course.

Policy PFS-1.6: Reduce Reliance on the Russian River. The City shall continue to support the reduction on the reliance of surface water from the Russian River as a water source to serve the community.

Policy PFS-1.7: Groundwater Recharge. The City shall enhance groundwater supply by looking to expand its capacity to recharge by developing storm ponding and retention basins where feasible. In some areas these ponds or basins can be incorporated into a recreational area, used as wildlife habitat area, or may be required by new development to offset impacts associated with new nonpermeable surfaces.

Goal PFS-2: To maintain quality wastewater treatment and disposal services to meet the needs of existing and future development.

Policy PFS-2.7: Protect Groundwater Quality. The City shall preserve and protect groundwater quality through the implementation of best practices and innovative methods for modern wastewater disposal.

³ 7,842 AF = 3,030 AF (water demand in 2020) + 4,812 (water demand from Ukiah 2040)

These proposed goals and policies in Ukiah 2040 would assist the City in maintaining their water supply and water service for future use and development. These proposed goals and policies would help ensure a less than significant impact on the City's water supply.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 3: Would the project result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

Impact U-3 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT. THE TIMING, INTENSITY, AND LOCATION OF AN EXPANSION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME, BUT AN EXPANSION WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CEQA REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING BUILDING AND ZONING CODES. AS SUCH, IMPACTS RELATED TO EXPANSION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES AS A RESULT OF UKIAH 2040 WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

The wastewater generation calculations for the development facilitated by the project are based on the estimated water demand described above under Impact U-2. Water demand is assumed to be 120 percent of wastewater generation, due to evaporation and system losses. As explained in Impact U-2, the water demand that was calculated for this project in this analysis is a conservative estimate based on a maximum buildout scenario. The wastewater generation calculation is based on this conservative estimate. As such, the estimated wastewater calculation is also a conservative estimate and wastewater generations from Ukiah 2040 is expected to be lower than what is described in this analysis.

The projected wastewater is conservatively estimated to be 4,010 AFY under the maximum buildout scenario.⁴ This is equivalent to approximately 3.6 mgd.⁵ In 2020, the City had an existing wastewater demand of approximately 2.4 mgd.⁶ The total wastewater demand due to the project could be approximately, 6.0 mgd in 2040 in the maximum buildout scenario. The WWTP has a dry-weather capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (Ukiah 2020b). As such, there is not currently sufficient capacity in the WWTP to accommodate the additional demand from the maximum buildout scenario in Ukiah 2040.

Nonetheless, Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed goals and policies related to wastewater. Proposed Policy PFS-2.1 identifies that City will maintain an adequate level of service in the City's wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system.

⁴ 4010 = 4812 / 1.2

⁵ 3.6 mgd = (4,010 AFY * 892.7 gallons per day) / 1,000,000 gallons

⁶ 2.4 mgd = (2,671 AFY * 892.7 gallons per day) / 1,000,000 gallons

Goal PFS-2: To maintain quality wastewater treatment and disposal services to meet the needs of existing and future development.

Policy PFS-2.1: Level of Service. The City shall maintain an adequate level of service in the City's wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system to meet the needs of existing and projected development and all State and Federal regulations.

Policy PFS-2.2: Wastewater System Funding. The City shall ensure that the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system has adequate funds and programs for maintenance, upgrades when required, and day-to-day operations.

Policy PFS-2.3: Wastewater Service Coordination. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure ongoing wastewater treatment capacity within the wastewater treatment plant for future development.

Policy PFS-2.4: Ukiah Valley Sanitation District. The City should collaborate with Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure adequate wastewater collection and treatment is provided to properties within City limits and their jurisdictional boundaries.

Policy PFS-2.5: Out of Area Service Agreements. The City shall require out of service area agreements in rural areas where the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District cannot feasibly provide wastewater services.

Policy PFS-2.6: Wastewater Service Capacity. The City shall ensure there is adequate wastewater service capacity prior to annexation of additional land.

The City has identified that additional wastewater treatment infrastructure is required to accommodate additional growth from Ukiah 2040 and the City plans to provide additional wastewater treatment capacity as described in Chapter 2, *Project Description*. Generally, wastewater treatment facilities would be allowed or permitted in areas containing Public land use designations. However, there are no new facilities proposed at this time. Generally, it is anticipated that construction of new facilities would result in similar physical impacts discussed throughout this EIR (i.e., impacts to biological resources, water quality and hydrology, air quality, agriculture, etc.), but impacts could also be reduced depending on location and intensity. As such, it is not possible to identify the specific nature, extent, and significance of physical impacts on the environment that could result from the construction and operation of an expanded WWTP without knowing the size and nature of the facility, or its location. Regardless, new facilities would require adherence to all applicable building and zoning codes, and additional CEQA review to analyze project and location specific impacts. The expansion of the WWTP would be subject to CEQA and CEQA review would be conducted when the WWTP expansion is advanced. As such, impacts from Ukiah 2040 related to wastewater facilities would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

Threshold 4: Would the project generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?

Threshold 5: Would the project comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

Impact U-4 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD INCREASE THE VOLUME OF SOLID WASTE GENERATED IN UKIAH. HOWEVER, UKIAH 2040 CONTAINS POLICIES TO INCREASE RECYCLING AND COMPLY WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL MANAGEMENT REDUCTION REGULATIONS. THEREFORE, IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Implementation of the project would generate additional solid waste. Construction of development facilitated by the project would create construction debris, such as scrap lumber and flooring materials. Operation of development facilitated by the project would create typical household wastes associated with residential, office, and commercial uses. Industrial development facilitated by the project would also generate solid waste.

As described in Section 4.13.1, *Setting*, the maximum permitted capacity for the Ukiah Transfer Station is 400 tons per day and as of 2020 the facility receives an average of 120 to 130 tons per day. Overall, the Ukiah Transfer Station has approximately between 270 and 280 tons per day of remaining capacity. Furthermore, CalRecycle estimates that the City of Ukiah generates approximately 5 pound of solid waste per day per person (CalRecycle 2022a).

This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The maximum estimated population growth is 5,640 people (see Section 4.9, *Population and Housing*). Based on the average per capita solid waste disposal rate for the City, a total of approximately 28,200 pounds per day could be generated under the maximum buildout scenario in Ukiah 2040. This is equivalent to 14.1 tons per day. As such, there is sufficient capacity to serve the additional solid waste that would be generated in the maximum buildout scenario of Ukiah 2040.

In addition, Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed goals and policies that focus on reducing solid waste generation and increasing recycling and composting, through the provision of adequate facilities:

Goal PFS-3: To ensure adequate solid waste, recycling, and composing services and maximize waste diversion from landfills.

Policy PFS-3.1: Solid Waste Diversion Targets. The City shall encourage increased community participation in recycling and composting programs and weekly collection of recyclables and organic waste to achieve 85 percent diversion for community waste and municipal operations by 2030.

Policy PFS-3.2: Waste Management Services. The City shall continue waste management service contracts to provide quality and cost-effective solid waste removal throughout the city and require all residents and businesses to comply with solid waste collection and recycling service requirements

Policy PFS-3.3: Construction and Demolition Waste. The City shall require all new development to comply with the current CALGreen requirements for construction and demolition waste diversion.

Policy PFS-3.4: Recycling Receptacles and Biodegradable/Recycled-Materials Products. The City shall require the availability of recycling and composting receptacles and use biodegradable or recycled-material products instead of single-use plastic products at all City facilities and City-sponsored events.

Policy PFS-3.5: Sustainable Purchasing Policy. The City shall prioritize purchasing products that are environmentally friendly; made with postconsumer recycled content; are recyclable, compostable, or reusable; are less toxic than conventional goods; are manufactured locally; and are fairly traded.

Policy PFS-3.6: Waste Reduction Education. The City shall collaborate and partner with local organizations to provide waste reduction education programs to residents and businesses.

Goal ENV-9: To become a zero-waste community through responsible procurement, waste diversion, and innovative strategies.

Policy ENV-9.1: Zero Waste. The City shall promote innovative activities that reduce waste and increase waste diversion, including sourcing products with reusable, recyclable, or compostable packaging; establishing food diversion programs; gasification, and promoting and educating on waste diversion and its importance.

Policy ENV-9.2: Household Waste Programs. The City shall provide convenient, easy-to-use bulky item and household hazardous waste programs that facilitate the reuse and recycling of materials.

These proposed goals and policies would require the reduction of solid waste generation and increase recycling efforts. Specifically, the policies under proposed Goal PFS-3 would ensure adequate solid waste services by requiring all new development to comply with the current CALGreen requirements for construction and demolition waste diversion and requiring the availability of recycling and composting receptacles and the provision of waste reduction education programs. Additionally, the policies under proposed Goal ENV-9 would encourage increased community participation in recycling and composting programs to achieve Ukiah's goal of becoming a zero-waste community. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 does not contain any proposed policies that would encourage or allow non-compliance with any federal, state, or local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste. With adherence to these policies, impacts related to solid waste would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

4.14 Wildfire

This section summarizes the wildfire risks in and near the Planning Area and analyzes the impacts related to wildfire risks due to the project.

4.14.1 Environmental Setting

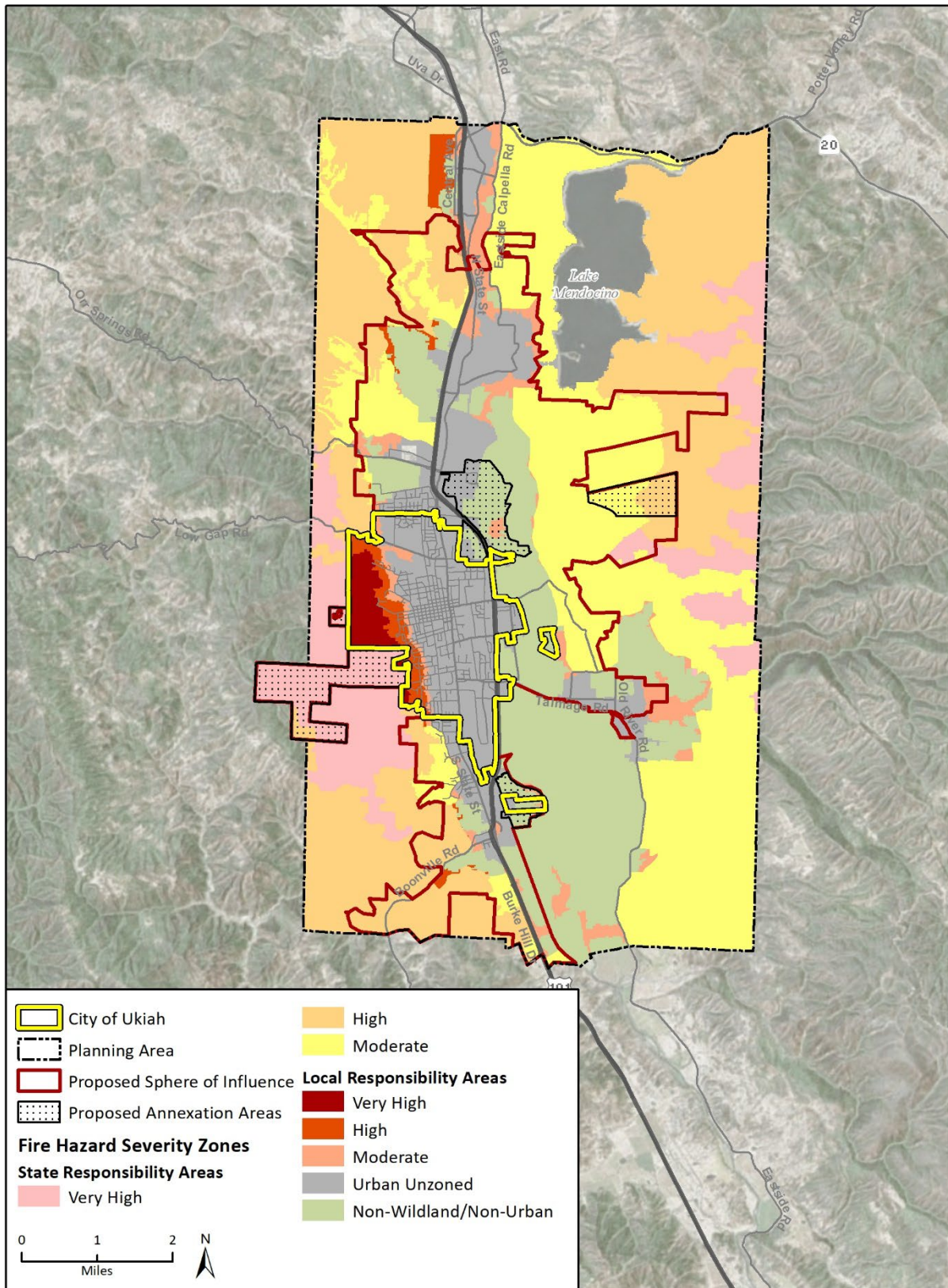
a. Overview of Wildfire

A wildfire is an uncontrolled fire in an extensive area of combustible vegetation. Wildfires differ from other fires in that they take place in areas of grassland, woodlands, brushland, scrubland, peatland, and other wooded areas that act as a source of fuel, or combustible material. Buildings may become involved if a wildfire spreads to adjacent communities. The primary factors that increase an area's susceptibility to wildfire include slope and topography, vegetation type and condition, and weather and atmospheric conditions. The Office of Planning and Research has recognized that although high-density structure-to-structure loss can occur, structures in areas with low- to intermediate-density housing were most likely to burn, potentially due to intermingling with wildland vegetation or difficulty of firefighter access. Fire frequency also tends to be highest at low to intermediate housing density, at least in regions where humans are the primary cause of ignitions (California Natural Resources Agency 2018).

The indirect effects of wildfires can be catastrophic. In addition to stripping the land of vegetation and destroying forest resources, large, intense fires can harm the soil, waterways, and the land itself. Soil exposed to intense heat may lose its capability to absorb moisture and support life. Exposed soils erode quickly and enhance siltation of rivers and streams, thereby enhancing flood potential, harming aquatic life, and degrading water quality. Lands stripped of vegetation are also subject to increased debris flow hazards.

Previous large fires in the surrounding area have impacted Ukiah, including the 2018 Mendocino Complex Fire (Ranch Fire) which burned a total of 410,203 acres throughout Mendocino, Lake, Colusa, and Glenn Counties. The Ranch Fire started near Potter Valley, approximately 12 miles northeast of the Planning Area. Approximately 387 acres within Ukiah city limits is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) in a Local Responsibility Area, and approximately 1,348 of Ukiah's existing Sphere of Influence (SOI) is within a Very High FHSZ in a State Responsibility Area, as established by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). Cal Fire has identified much of the region west of the Planning Area as moderate to high fire hazard severity zones, and areas to the north, east, and south as moderate fire hazard severity zones. The City boundary, existing and proposed sphere of influence (SOI), and Cal Fire severity zones are shown in Figure 4.14-1.

Figure 4.14-1 Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the Planning Area



Imagery and basemap data provided by Esri and its licensors © 2022.
 Additional data provided by Mendocino County and Cal Dept of Conservation, 2015; CAL FIRE, 2007.

FigX Wildfire 20220624

Slope and Aspect

According to Cal Fire, sloping land increases susceptibility to wildfire because fire typically burns faster up steep slopes (Cal Fire 2000). Additionally, steep slopes may hinder firefighting efforts. Following severe wildfires, sloping land is also more susceptible to landslide or flooding from increased runoff during substantial precipitation events. Aspect is the direction that a slope faces, and it determines how much radiated heat the slope will receive from the sun. Slopes facing south to southwest will receive the most solar radiation. As a result, this slope is warmer and the vegetation drier than on slopes facing a northerly to northeasterly direction, increasing the potential for wildfire ignition and spread (Cal Fire 2000).

Generally, the urbanized area of Ukiah is located primarily to the east of Highway 101, with some urbanized area, mostly outside of city limits, to the west. Topography in Ukiah is generally flat (USGS 2015). Because Ukiah is primarily flat and not sloping, it has no distinguishable aspect. However, east and west of the city limits within the proposed SOI, there is steep sloping topography. While there are various sub-ridges and slopes in the hillside area outside of the City, the overall aspect is to the north or south.

Vegetation

Vegetation is fuel to a wildfire and it changes over time with seasonal growth and die-back. The relationship between vegetation and wildfire is complex, but generally some vegetation is naturally fire resistant, while other vegetation is extremely flammable. It is worth noting that some plant types in California landscapes are fire resistant, while others are fire dependent for their seed germination cycles. Wildfire behavior depends on the type of fuels present, such as ladder fuels, surface fuels, and aerial fuels. Ladder fuels provide a path for a surface fire to climb upward into the crowns of trees; surface fuels include grasses, logs, and stumps low to the ground; and aerial fuels include limbs, foliage, and branches not in contact with the ground (Cal Fire 2022). Weather and climate conditions, including drought cycles, can lead to dry vegetation with low moisture content, increasing its flammability.

Vegetation cover within Ukiah, excluding landscaped lawns, includes a diverse range of plant species within terrestrial and aquatic habitat types, including riparian woodlands along the Russian River on the eastern edge of city limits, and oak woodlands to the west of the city. Vegetation cover in the City is described in Section 4.4, *Biological Resources*. Some of the vegetation in these habitats may present an increased risk to wildfires, including dry grasses on hillsides adjacent to the City. Dry grasslands and dead or diseased trees in the hillside area are highly susceptible to wildfire.

Weather and Atmospheric Conditions

Wind, temperature, and relative humidity are the most influential weather elements in fire behavior and susceptibility (National Parks Service 2022). Fire moves faster under hot, dry, and windy conditions. Wind may also blow embers ahead of a fire, causing its spread. Drought conditions lead to extended periods of excessively dry vegetation, increasing the fuel load and ignition potential.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), most precipitation within the state is received from November through March, with an average annual rainfall of approximately 18 inches (NOAA 2022). May through September is the driest time of the year and coincides with what has traditionally been considered the fire season in California. However, increasingly persistent drought and climatic changes in California have resulted in drier winters, and fires during the autumn, winter, and spring months are becoming more common. Prevailing winds

in Ukiah vary, but generally travel north to south in the winter and west to east in the summer (WeatherSpark 2022).

b. Wildfire Hazards

In California, responsibility for wildfire prevention and suppression is shared by federal, state, and local agencies. Federal agencies are responsible for federal lands in Federal Responsibility Areas. The State of California has determined that some non-federal lands in unincorporated areas with watershed value are of statewide interest and have classified those lands as State Responsibility Areas (SRA), which are managed by Cal Fire. All incorporated areas and other unincorporated lands are classified as Local Responsibility Areas (LRA).

While nearly all of California is subject to some degree of wildfire hazard, there are specific features that make certain areas more hazardous. Cal Fire is required by law to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather and other relevant factors (Public Resources Code [PRC] 4201-4204 and California Government Code 51175-89). As described above, the primary factors that increase an area's susceptibility to fire hazards include slope, vegetation type and condition, and atmospheric conditions. Cal Fire maps fire hazards based on zones, referred to as FHSZs. Cal Fire maps three zones on SRA: 1) Moderate FHSZs; 2) High FHSZs; and 3) Very High FHSZs. Only the Very High FHSZs are mapped for LRA. Each of the zones influence how people construct buildings and protect property to reduce risk associated with wildland fires. Under state regulations, areas within Very High FHSZ must comply with specific building and vegetation management requirements intended to reduce property damage and loss of life within these areas.

The City of Ukiah contains approximately 387 acres of Very High FHSZs in an LRA along the western city limits, and is bounded by a Very High FHSZ in an SRA to the west. The proposed SOI as part of Ukiah 2040 would contain Very High FHSZ in an SRA, as shown in Figure 4.14-1.

In 2003, Cal Fire constructed a shaded fuel break (north to south) along the base of the western hills along the entire length of the city to reduce fuel loads and protect the community from wildfire risk (Mendocino County Fire Safe Council 2022). A shaded fuel break is a forest management strategy used for mitigating the threat of wildfire leading to a dangerous buildup of combustible vegetation. The goal of a shaded fuel break is to thin the surface vegetation, conduct selective thinning, remove dead and down woody material, and remove ladder fuels to prevent a catastrophic fire and prevent the loss of structures. Maintenance was performed on the 100-foot wide, 2.6-mile fuel break in late 2018 and early 2019, with ongoing annual maintenance performed by the property owners and the City.

4.14.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires a state-level mitigation plan as a condition of disaster assistance. There are two different levels of state disaster plans: "Standard" and "Enhanced." States that develop an approved Enhanced State Plan can increase the amount of funding available through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The Act also established new requirements for local mitigation plans.

National Fire Plan

The National Fire Plan was developed in August 2000, following a historic wildfire season. Its intent is to establish plans for active response to severe wildfires and their impacts to communities while ensuring sufficient firefighting capacity. The plan addresses firefighting, rehabilitation, hazardous fuels reduction, community assistance, and accountability.

b. State Regulations

California Board of Forestry

The Board of Forestry maintains fire safe road regulations as part of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). This includes requirements for road width, surface treatments, grade, radius, turnarounds, turnouts, structures, driveways, and gate entrances with SRAs. These regulations are intended to ensure safe access for emergency wildland fire equipment and civilian evacuation.

California Fire and Building Codes (2019)

The California Fire Code is Chapter 9 of CCR Title 24. It establishes the minimum requirements consistent with nationally-recognized good practices to safeguard public health, safety, and general welfare from the hazards of fire, explosion, or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structure, and premises, and to provide safety and assistance to firefighters and emergency responders during emergency operations. It is the primary means for authorizing and enforcing procedures and mechanisms to ensure the safe handling and storage of substances that may pose a threat to public health and safety. The California Fire Code regulates the use, handling and storage requirements for hazardous materials at fixed facilities. The California Fire Code and the California Building Code (CBC) use a hazard classification system to determine what protective measures are required to protect fire and life safety. These measures may include construction standards, separations from property lines and specialized equipment. To ensure that these safety measures are met, the California Fire Code employs a permit system based on hazard classification. The provisions of this Code apply to the construction, alteration, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, maintenance, removal, and demolition of every building or structure or appurtenances connected or attached to such building structures throughout California.

More specifically, the Fire Code is included in Title 24 of the CCR. Title 24, part 9, Chapter 7 addresses fire-resistances-rated construction; CBC (Part 2), Chapter 7A addresses materials and construction methods for exterior wildfire exposure; Fire Code Chapter 8 addresses fire related Interior finishes; Fire Code Chapter 9 addresses fire protection systems; and Fire Code Chapter 10 addresses fire related means of egress, including fire apparatus access road width requirements. Fire Code Section 4906 also contains existing regulations for vegetation and fuel management to maintain clearances around structures. These requirements establish minimum standards to protect buildings located in FHSZs within SRAs and Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Areas. This code includes provisions for ignition-resistant construction standards for new buildings.

Wildland-Urban Interface Building Standards

On September 20, 2007, the Building Standards Commission approved the Office of the State Fire Marshal's emergency regulations amending the CCR Title 24, Part 2, known as the 2007 CBC. These codes include provisions for ignition-resistant construction standards in the WUI.

Interface zones are areas with dense housing adjacent to vegetation that can burn and meeting the following criteria:

1. Housing density class 2 (one house per 20 acres to one house per 5 acres), 3 (more than one house per 5 acres to one house per acre), or 4 (more than one house per acre)
2. In Moderate, High, or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
3. Not dominated by wildland vegetation (i.e., lifeform not herbaceous, hardwood, conifer, or shrub)
4. Spatially contiguous groups of 30-meter cells¹ that are 10 acres and larger

Intermix zones are housing development interspersed in an area dominated by wildland vegetation and must meet the following criteria:

1. Not interface
2. Housing density class 2
3. Housing density class 3 or 4, dominated by wildland vegetation
4. In moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone
5. Improved parcels only
6. Spatially contiguous groups of 30-meter cells 25 acres and larger

Influence zones have wildfire-susceptible vegetation up to 1.5 miles from an interface zone or intermix zone.

The California Fire Plan

The Strategic Fire Plan for California is the State’s road map for reducing the risk of wildfire. The most recent version of the Plan was adopted in January 2019 and directs each Cal Fire Unit to revise and update its locally-specific Fire Management Plan (Cal Fire 2018). These plans assess the fire situation within each of the 21 Cal Fire units and six contract counties. These plans address wildfire protection areas, initial attack success, assets and infrastructure at risk, pre-fire management strategies, and accountability within their geographical boundaries.

California Office of Emergency Services

The California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) prepares the State of California Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The SHMP identifies hazard risks and includes a vulnerability analysis and a hazard mitigation strategy. The SHMP is federally required under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 for the State to receive Federal funding. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires a State mitigation plan as a condition of disaster assistance.

State Emergency Plan

The foundation of California’s emergency planning and response is a statewide mutual aid system which is designed to ensure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support is provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation.

The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (California Government Code Sections 8555–8561) requires signatories to the agreement to prepare operational plans to

¹ Note that “30-meter cells” refers to raster data, and indicates data is presented as 30-meter by 30-meter squares.

use within their jurisdiction, and outside their area. These plans include fire and non-fire emergencies related to natural, technological, and war contingencies. The State of California, all State agencies, all political subdivisions, and all fire districts signed this agreement in 1950.

Section 8568 of the California Government Code, the “California Emergency Services Act,” states that “the State Emergency Plan shall be in effect in each political subdivision of the state, and the governing body of each political subdivision shall take such action as may be necessary to carry out the provisions thereof.” The Act provides the basic authorities for conducting emergency operations following the proclamations of emergencies by the Governor or appropriate local authority, such as a City Manager. The provisions of the act are further reflected and expanded on by appropriate local emergency ordinances. The Act further describes the function and operations of government at all levels during extraordinary emergencies, including war.

All local emergency plans are extensions of the State of California Emergency Plan. The State Emergency Plan conforms to the requirements of California’s Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which is the system required by Government Code 8607(a) for managing emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies (CalOES 2022). The SEMS incorporates the functions and principles of the Incident Command System, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, existing mutual aid systems, the operational area concept, and multi-agency or inter-agency coordination. Local governments must use SEMS to be eligible for funding of their response-related personnel costs under state disaster assistance programs. The SEMS consists of five organizational levels that are activated as necessary, including: field response, local government, operational area, regional, and state. CalOES divides the state into several mutual aid regions. The Planning Area is located in Mutual Aid Region II, which includes Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Marin, Solano, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey Counties (CalOES 2019).

Government Code Sections 65302 and 65302.5, Senate Bill 1241 (Kehoe) of 2012

Senate Bill (SB) 1241 requires cities and counties to address fire risk in SRAs and Very High FHSZs in the safety element of their general plans. The bill also directed amendments to the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G environmental checklist to include questions related to fire hazard impacts for projects located in or near lands classified as SRAs and Very High FHSZs.

California Public Utilities Commission General Order 166

General Order 166 Standard 1.E requires that investor-owned utilities develop a Fire Prevention Plan which describes measures that the electric utility will implement to mitigate the threat of power-line fires generally. Additionally, this standard requires that investor-owned utilities outline a plan to mitigate power line fires when wind conditions exceed the structural design standards of the line during a Red Flag Warning in a high fire threat area. Fire Prevention Plans created by investor-owned utilities are required to identify specific parts of the utility’s service territory where the conditions described above may occur simultaneously. Standard 11 requires that utilities report annually to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regarding compliance with General Order 166 (CPUC 2017). In compliance with Standard 1.E of this General Order, Pacific Gas and Electric Company adopted a Fire Prevention Plan dated October 31, 2018.

c. Regional and Local Regulations

Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP), adopted by the City of Ukiah in 2021, identifies effective and feasible actions to reduce the risks posed by potential hazards in Mendocino County and the jurisdictions within the county, including the City of Ukiah. The City of Ukiah Jurisdictional Annex within the MJHMP assesses various risks from hazards such as climate change, drought, flooding, earthquakes and geologic hazards, extreme weather, pandemic diseases, and wildfire; lists mitigation actions; and describes the process of implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the plan. Wildfire is considered a high-priority, countywide threat (County of Mendocino 2021).

City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan

The City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan, adopted in May 2021, is designed to ensure continuity of essential services operations during an emergency or disaster. The plan specifies the policies, roles, resources, and actions necessary to managing a local emergency, including those related to wildfire events. The plan is consistent with federal and state laws governing emergency response planning and adopts the National Incident Management System (City of Ukiah 2021).

Ukiah City Code

Ukiah City Code Section 3000 adopts the 2019 California Building Standards Code, Title 24, Part 9, California Fire Code. The California Fire Code contains regulations consistent with nationally-recognized and accepted practices for safeguarding life and property from hazards of fire and explosion; dangerous conditions arising from the storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials; and hazardous conditions in the use or occupancy of buildings. Additionally, although properties within the City limits are not located within an SRA, the City of Ukiah (Ukiah City Code Section 5200) has adopted the SRA regulations for lands within the City limits located in High or Very High FHSZs. This includes development standards contained within Public Resources Code Sections 4290 and 4291, which are designed to provide defensible space and fire protection for new construction and ensure adequate emergency access: increased property line setbacks for all applicable construction; on-site water storage for fire protection, driveway/roadway types and specifications based on designated usage; all weather driveway/roadway surfaces being engineered for 75,000 pound vehicles; maximum slope of 16 percent; turnout requirements; gate requirements and setbacks, parking standards, fuels reduction regulations, etc.

Additionally, the Hillside Overlay District (which also generally overlaps with Very High FHSZs) includes strict development standards for residential development relating to fire hazards, including increased setbacks, the restriction of using combustible roof materials, water and fire hydrant requirements, slope requirements, etc. All construction in this district also requires discretionary review, even for development that would normally be ministerial, such as single-family homes.

4.14.3 Impact Analysis

a. Thresholds and Methodology

The following thresholds of significance are based on Appendix G to the CEQA Guidelines. For purposes of this EIR, since the Planning Area is within two miles of an SRA, implementation of the project may have a significant adverse impact if it would do any of the following:

1. Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan;
2. Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire;
3. Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment;
4. Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes; or
5. Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires.

The assessment of impacts related to wildfire hazards and risks were evaluated using FHSZ mapping, aerial imagery, and topographic mapping. Weather patterns related to prevailing winds and precipitation trends were evaluated as they relate to the spread and magnitude of wildfire. CEQA does not generally require an agency to consider the effects of existing environmental conditions on a project's future users or residents. Consequently, impacts under the thresholds identified below would only be considered significant if the project risks exacerbating those existing environmental conditions.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Impact WFR-1 BUILDOUT OF THE PROJECT COULD RESULT IN NEW DEVELOPMENT IN VERY HIGH FHSZs. HOWEVER, EXISTING LOCAL AND STATE REGULATIONS, AND UKIAH 2040 PROPOSED POLICIES ADDRESS EMERGENCY PLANNING, MANAGEMENT, ACCESS, AND EDUCATION; AS WELL AS ENFORCE MAINTAINING AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN. THESE REGULATIONS AND PROPOSED POLICIES WOULD ADDRESS ISSUES RELATED TO ACCESS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND THE PROJECT WOULD NOT IMPAIR AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN OR EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT.

Development facilitated by the project could introduce new residents or employees who would require emergency response evacuation in the case of a wildfire. The Safety Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goals and policies to ensure safe and efficient evacuation and emergency response. Applicable goals and policies are as follows:

Goal SAF-4: To maintain adequate and effective fire protection services for Ukiah.

Policy SAF-4.1: Fire Service Rating. The City shall optimize the [Insurance Services Officer] ISO ratings of the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to Class 1 by prioritizing agency needs and balancing cost/quality trade-offs.

Goal SAF-5: To minimize wildland fire risk to project life and property.

Policy SAF-5.3: Evacuation Routes. The City shall identify and maintain adequate evacuation routes in the city to safeguard human life in the case of fire.

Policy SAF-5.4: Roadway Vegetation Clearance. The City shall maintain an adequate vegetation clearance on public and private roads to mitigate wildfire hazards.

Policy SAF-5.10: Fire Safety Education Programs. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to inform property owners and residents of the most recent best practices in building and land management and fire safety measures to protect people and property from fire hazards.

Goal SAF-6: To ensure that the City is adequately prepared for emergencies of any variety through effective planning measures.

Policy SAF-6.1: Evacuation Routes. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to review, update, and periodically exercise emergency access, protocols, and evacuation routes to assess their effectiveness.

Policy SAF-6.2: Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City shall continue to participate in and implement the Mendocino County Hazard Mitigation Plan to ensure maximum preparedness for hazard events.

Policy SAF-6.3: Locally Focused Plans. The City shall maintain and implement locally focused plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan, to maintain consistency with State and Federal requirements.

Policies listed above direct the City to ensure effective and coordinated response to disasters, which would include events warranting evacuation. Ukiah 2040 also includes proposed policies that support improved preparation and response through public education and ensuring adequate access in reference to wildfires through Policies SAF-4.1 and SAF-5.10. These proposed goals and related policies in the Safety Element of Ukiah 2040 would ensure adequate emergency response and evacuation.

The City of Ukiah Jurisdictional Annex of the MJHMP includes several mitigation actions related to maintaining emergency response and evacuation plans. Mitigation Action DF-MCOE-256 encourages development of a disaster warning system to disseminate warnings and information across Mendocino County. Further, Mitigation Action EQ-MCOE-254 encourages the Mendocino County Office of Education to draft and adopt an emergency operations plan to identify alternative transportation routes in case of a natural disaster. These mitigation actions would ensure that residents are prepared to react to a wildfire emergency and would have advance notice to evacuate. The project would be consistent with these actions by supporting them with Ukiah 2040 goals and policies.

The City of Ukiah Emergency Operation Plan outlines emergency response priorities for a variety of emergency situations, including wildfire. In the event of a wildland/urban interface fire, the plan guides the City in determining the nature and extent of the fire, assessing and activating evacuation

orders, and establishing communication with impacted areas. The project would be consistent with this plan by supporting it with the Ukiah 2040 goals and policies listed above.

In addition, the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority reviews and approves development projects to ensure that emergency access standards are met, and therefore development facilitated by the project would be reviewed to ensure that it does not hinder emergency access or evacuation.

Specific to residential construction within Very High FHSZs, future residential construction within the proposed Hillside Overlay District would require discretionary review. Specifically, residential units would not be developed until an applicant submits a project-specific site plan with a Use Permit application and receives Planning Commission approval for development of their residence, in accordance with the Hillside Overlay District regulations. The Hillside Overlay District includes strict development standards relating to fire hazards including increased setbacks, the restriction of using combustible roof materials, water and fire hydrant requirements, slope requirements, etc. The Use Permit process for construction within the Hillside Overlay District would provide another layer of review for safety standards related to wildfire that would otherwise not be required for by-right housing within the western hills.

Lastly, implementation of Ukiah 2040 policies and actions associated with emergency planning and response, in addition to adherence to MJHMP Mitigation Actions and fire department review, would ensure that potential impacts from implementation of the project on emergency response and evacuation would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures would be required.

Significance After Mitigation

Impacts would be less than significant without mitigation.

- Threshold 2:** If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?
- Threshold 3:** If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?
- Threshold 4:** If located in or near State responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslopes or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?
- Threshold 5:** Would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

Impact WFR-2 THE PROJECT ENVISIONS POTENTIAL FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ON SITES THAT ARE IN OR NEAR MODERATE, HIGH, AND VERY HIGH FHSZs. DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT WOULD EXPOSE PROJECT OCCUPANTS AND STRUCTURES TO WILDFIRE RISKS FOR SITES LOCATED IN OR NEAR SRAS OR VERY HIGH FHSZs. WILDFIRE RISK WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

There are approximately 387 acres of Very High FHSZ within the city limits of Ukiah, and approximately 2,670 acres of Very High FHSZ within the city's existing SOI. The proposed SOI and annexation areas would add approximately 880 acres of Very High FHSZ to city limits and its SOI. As shown in Figure 4.14-1, the Very High FHSZ would be primarily located in the hills west of the city, west of the existing Very High FHSZ within city limits.

Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would include increased residential densities and building intensities for certain land use designations, compared to existing density and intensity. This EIR identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of growth is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. Development of the project in the maximum buildout scenario is estimated to result in approximately 2,350 housing units and an additional 4,514,820 square feet of commercial areas.

As noted in Impact WFR-1 above, new development within or near High or Very High FHSZs would be limited to the areas in the western hills of the City where the Hillside Residential and Low Density Residential land use designation would be applied. The Hillside Overlay district (-H) is applied to these lands within the western hills and there would be density restrictions in these areas to address fire concerns. As such, any future development would be limited to a low density (generally 1 dwelling unit per acre). In addition, any future development would be required to adhere to the Ukiah City Code, which has adopted the SRA regulations for lands within the City limits located in High or Very High FHSZs, as described in the *Ukiah City Code* subsection in Section 4.14.2, *Regulatory Setting*.

The proposed annexation areas would add additional Very High FHSZ areas to the city. As described in Section 2, *Project Description*, the project proposes to include Annexation Areas A, B and C. Most

of Annexation Area A and all of Annexation Area C would be located in a High or Very High FHSZ; however, most of these Annexations Areas are associated with a Public land use designation and no buildout is expected in these areas. A portion of Annexation Area C is designated as Hillside Residential and could potentially result in development of residences at a low density and would be required to adhere to the same regulations described above. Annexation Area B is not within a FHSZ.

Growth facilitated by the project would occur primarily as infill and redevelopment within the urbanized areas of Ukiah. Therefore, most roads and utility infrastructure required for growth facilitated by the project would be existing or would occur in currently developed areas. However, a small amount of low density development facilitated by the project could occur in FHSZs, and the installation or maintenance of roads and utility lines may exacerbate existing fire risks in the city or its SOI.

The Safety Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goals and policies to related to prevention, minimization, and mitigation of wildfire risks. Applicable goals and policies include the following as well as Policies SAF-5.3, SAF-5.4, and SAF-5.5 identified in Impact WFR-1:

Goal SAF-5: To minimize wildland fire risk to project life and property.

Policy SAF-5.1: Public Facilities Hazard Mitigation. The City shall reduce hazard potential for public facilities located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone by requiring the incorporation of hazard mitigation measures during planned improvements.

Policy SAF-5.2: Vegetation and Fuel Management. The City shall require that structures located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity zone maintain the required hazardous vegetation and fuel management specified within the California Fire Code.

Policy SAF-5.5: Fuel Breaks. The City shall prioritize increasing funding for and the maintenance of appropriate fuel breaks, reductions, and pest management in high fire hazard areas to prevent the spread of fire and limit potential damages.

Policy SAF-5.6: Water Supply Infrastructure. The City shall regularly assess the integrity of existing water supply infrastructure and prioritize required system.

Policy SAF-5.7: Fire Code Compliance. The City shall require that all new or significantly renovated structures and facilities within Ukiah comply with local, State, and Federal regulatory standards including the California Building and Fire Codes as well as other applicable fire safety standards.

Policy SAF-5.8: Site Design Standards for Fire Hazard Reduction. The City shall prioritize the maintenance and update of stringent site design standards to reduce potential fire hazard risk.

Policy SAF-5.9: Adequate Water Supply Infrastructure. The City shall prioritize new development in areas with adequate water supply infrastructure.

Proposed goals and policies of the Safety Element would reduce the risk of loss of life, injury, and property loss from wildfires. New construction would also be subject to the California Fire Code, which includes safety measures to minimize the threat of fire, including ignition-resistant construction with exterior walls of noncombustible or ignition resistant material from the surface of the ground to the roof system and sealing any gaps around doors, windows, eaves, and vents to prevent intrusion by flame or embers. Fire sprinklers would be required in residential developments (with some exceptions) pursuant to Ukiah City Code. Construction would also be required to meet

CBC requirements, including CCR Title 24, Part 2, which includes specific requirements related to exterior wildfire exposure. The Board of Forestry, via CCR Title 14, sets forth the minimum development standards for emergency access, fuel modification, setback, signage, and water supply, which help prevent loss of structures or life by reducing wildfire hazards. The codes and regulations would reduce the risk of loss, injury, or death from wildfire for new residential developments facilitated by the project, but not entirely.

Existing codes and regulations and Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies cannot fully prevent wildfires from damaging structures or occupants. The project would increase the exposure of new residential development to risk of loss or damage from wildfire, which would be a significant impact. Therefore, Mitigation Measure WFR-1 would be required to reduce the risk of wildfire during project construction for development facilitated by the project. Mitigation Measure WFR-2, which includes development siting considerations, would apply to development facilitated by the project.

Mitigation Measures

WFR-1 Construction Wildfire Risk Reduction

The City shall require the following measures during project construction:

1. Construction activities with potential to ignite wildfires shall be prohibited during red-flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service for the site. Example activities include welding and grinding outside of enclosed buildings.
2. Fire extinguishers shall be available onsite during project construction. Fire extinguishers shall be maintained to function according to manufacturer specifications. Construction personnel shall receive training on the proper methods of using a fire extinguisher.
3. Construction equipment powered by internal combustion engines shall be equipped with spark arresters. The spark arresters shall be maintained pursuant to manufacturer recommendations to ensure adequate performance.

At the City's discretion, additional wildfire risk reduction requirements may be required during construction. The City shall review and approve the project-specific methods to be employed prior to building permit approval.

WFR-2 Project Design Wildfire Risk Reduction

Prior to finalizing site plans, proposed structure locations shall, to the extent feasible given site constraints, be located outside of known landslide-susceptible areas and located at least 50 feet from sloped hillsides. Project landscape plans shall be encouraged to include fire-resistant vegetation native to Mendocino County and/or the local microclimate of the site and prohibit the use of fire-prone species especially non-native, invasive species. Should the project meet the above criteria, no additional measures are necessary. Should the location be within a known landslide area or within 50 feet of a sloped hillside, structural engineering features shall be incorporated into the design of the structure to reduce the risk of damage to the structure from post-fire slope instability resulting in landslides or flooding. These features shall be recommended by a qualified engineer and approved by the City prior to the building permit approval.

Significance After Mitigation

The development that could be facilitated by Ukiah 2040 and located within High or Very High FHSZs would be limited to low density residential. In addition, any of this future development would be required to adhere to the Ukiah City Code, which has adopted the SRA regulations for lands within the City limits located in High or Very High FHSZs, as described in the *Ukiah City Code* subsection in Section 4.14.2, *Regulatory Setting*. Furthermore, with implementation of mitigation measures WFR-1 and WFR-2, the risk of loss of structures and the risk of injury or death due to wildfires would be reduced. These measures would make structures more fire resistant and less vulnerable to loss in the event of a wildfire. These measures would also reduce the potential for construction to inadvertently ignite a wildfire. Considering that future development within high or Very High FHSZs would be limited to low density residential; that the City has adopted the SRA regulations; that future projects in these areas would require discretionary review; and that Mitigation Measures WFR-1 and WFR-2 would be implemented, it is expected that impacts related to wildfire would be less than significant with mitigation.

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4.15 Paleontological Resources

This section summarizes the potential to encounter paleontological resources in the City and Annexation Areas and analyzes the impacts on paleontological resources due to the project.

4.15.1 Setting

a. Regional Setting

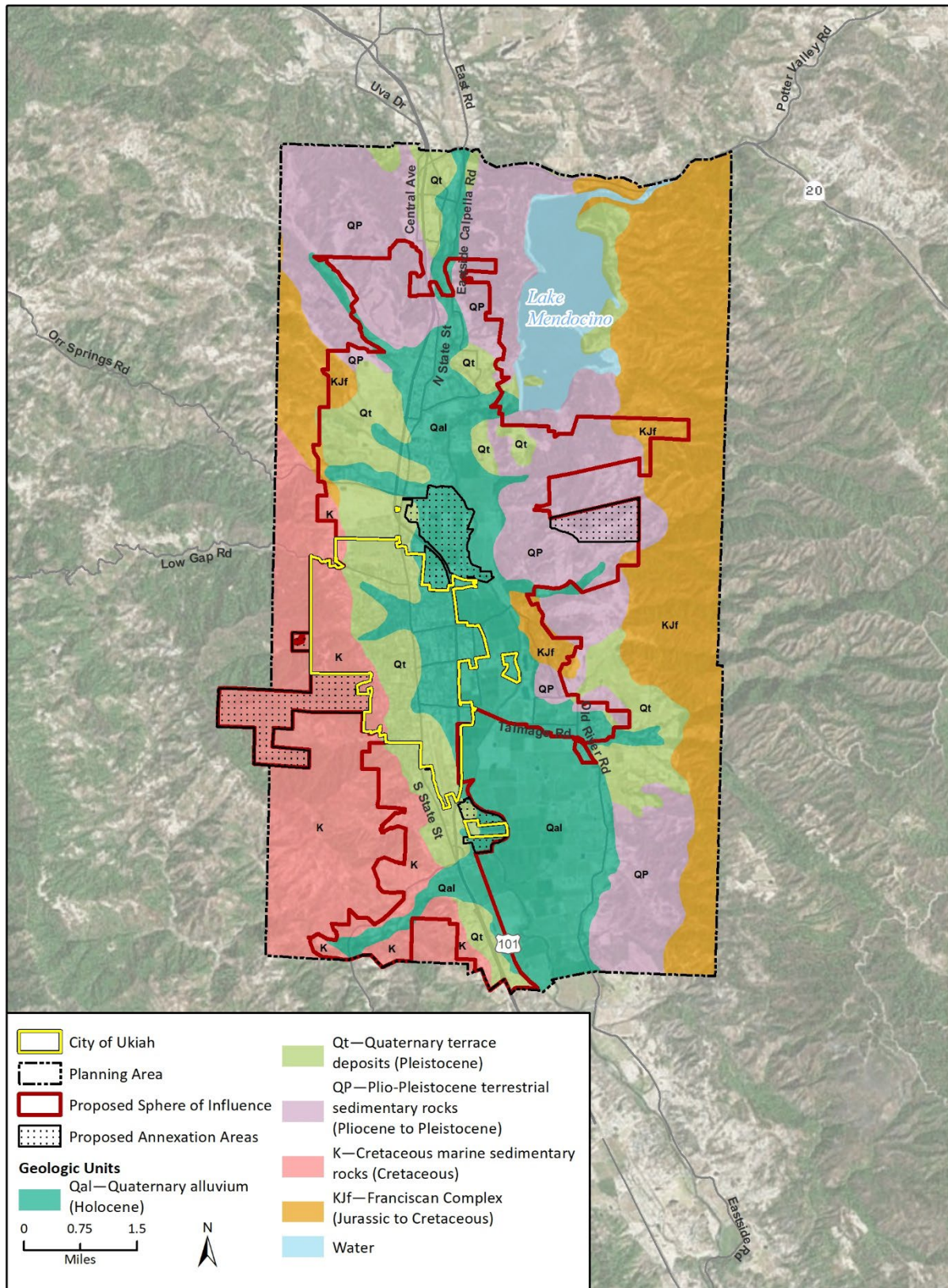
Paleontological resources, or fossils, are the evidence of once-living organisms preserved in the rock record. They include both the fossilized remains of ancient plants and animals and their traces (e.g., trackways, imprints, burrows, etc.). Paleontological resources are not found in “soil” but are contained within the geologic deposits or bedrock that underlies the soil layer. Typically, fossils are greater than 5,000 years old (i.e., older than middle Holocene in age) and are typically preserved in sedimentary rocks. Although rare, fossils can also be preserved in volcanic rocks and low-grade metamorphic rocks under certain conditions (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology [SVP] 2010). Fossils occur in a non-continuous and often unpredictable distribution within some sedimentary units, and the potential for fossils to occur within sedimentary units depends on several factors. It is possible to evaluate the potential for geologic units to contain scientifically important paleontological resources, and therefore evaluate the potential for impacts to those resources and provide mitigation for paleontological resources if they are discovered during construction of a development project.

The City of Ukiah is in the Coast Ranges geomorphic province, one of the eleven geomorphic provinces of California (California Geological Survey 2002). The Coast Ranges extend along the majority of California’s coast from the California-Oregon border to Point Arguello in Santa Barbara County in the south and consist of northwest-trending mountain ranges and valleys. The Coast Ranges are composed of Mesozoic and Cenozoic sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic strata. The eastern side is characterized by strike-ridges and valleys in the Upper Mesozoic strata. The Coast Ranges province runs parallel to and overlaps the San Andreas Fault in some areas of California Geological Survey 2002).

b. Local Setting

Locally, the City of Ukiah lies within the Ukiah Valley, along the Russian River in Mendocino County. The regional geology was mapped at a scale of 1:250,000 by Jennings and Strand (1960), who identified five geologic units underlying the City, Annexation Area, and proposed sphere of influence (SOI): Quaternary alluvium, Quaternary terrace deposits, Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks, Cretaceous marine sedimentary rocks, and the Franciscan Complex (Figure 4.15-1). Part of area was mapped at a scale of 1:24,000 by Delattre and Rubin (2020), who provided names and subdivisions of some of the geologic units mapped by Jennings and Strand (1960). The interpretations of Delattre and Rubin (2020) are used to aid the assessment of the paleontological sensitivity when applicable.

Figure 4.15-1 Geologic Map of the Planning Area



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 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022 and Jennings and Strand, 1960.

Fig. X Geologic Map

Quaternary Alluvium

Quaternary alluvium underlies the majority of the Planning Area, including the City and proposed SOI, in the low-lying areas along the Russian River and its tributary creeks (Figure 4.15-1). Per Delattre and Rubin (2020), Quaternary alluvium includes various Holocene-aged deposits including floodplain deposits, active stream channel deposits, alluvial fan deposits, and artificial fill. These various sediment types generally consist of loose to moderately consolidated, gravel, sand, and silt (Jennings and Strand 1960; Delattre and Rubin 2020). Due to its Holocene age, Quaternary alluvium is generally considered too young (i.e., less than 5,000 years old) to preserve paleontological resources (SVP 2010). Therefore, Quaternary alluvium has low paleontological sensitivity.

Quaternary Terrace Deposits

Quaternary terrace deposits underlie portions of the Planning Area, including the City and the proposed SOI (Figure 4.15-1). Areas mapped as Quaternary terrace deposits by Jennings and Strand (1960), are divided by Delattre and Rubin (2020) into older alluvial fan deposits, older alluvial deposits, and very old alluvial terrace deposits. Older alluvial fan deposits consist of grayish brown, consolidated, poorly sorted, gravel, sand, and silt, and are early Holocene to late Pleistocene in age. Older alluvial deposits consist of slightly consolidated gravelly sand and silt representing stream and floodplain deposits that are early Holocene to late Pleistocene in age. Very old alluvial terrace deposits consist of moderately to well-cemented, poorly sorted, silty or clayey sand and gravel that are Pleistocene in age. All these sediment types represent early Holocene to Pleistocene alluvial deposits, so their paleontological potential can be assessed together. No significant fossil localities are known from Pleistocene alluvial deposits in Mendocino County, but similar sediments in nearby Lake and Sonoma Counties have produced fossils such as mastodon (*Mammut*), ground sloth (*Nothrotheriops*, *Paramylodon*), horse (*Equus*), bison (*Bison*), camel, deer, and plants (Jefferson 2010; Paleobiology Database [PBDB] 2022; University of California Museum of Paleontology [UCMP] 2022). Given the fossil-producing history of similar sediments in this region of California, Quaternary terrace deposits have high paleontological sensitivity.

Plio-Pleistocene Sedimentary Rocks

Plio-Pleistocene rocks underlie portions of the Planning Area, including the proposed SOI (Figure 4.15-1). Areas mapped as Quaternary terrace deposits by Jennings and Strand (1960), are divided by Delattre and Rubin (2020) into older alluvial fan deposits, very old alluvial terrace deposits, and the Ukiah Formation. Older alluvial fan deposits consist of grayish brown, consolidated, poorly sorted, gravel, sand, and silt, and are early Holocene to late Pleistocene in age. Very old alluvial terrace deposits consist of moderately to well-cemented, poorly sorted, silty or clayey sand and gravel that are Pleistocene in age. No significant fossil localities are known from Pleistocene alluvial deposits in Mendocino County, but similar sediments in nearby Lake and Sonoma Counties have produced fossils such as mastodon (*Mammut*), ground sloth (*Nothrotheriops*, *Paramylodon*), horse (*Equus*), bison (*Bison*), camel, deer, and plants (Jefferson 2010; PBDB 2022; UCMP 2022). The Ukiah Formation consists of bluish gray (when fresh) or yellowish brown (when oxidized), well-consolidated, moderately bedded, pebble to cobble conglomerate composed of subrounded to rounded clasts with interbedded sandstone and siltstone that is early Pleistocene to Pliocene in age. No fossil localities have been reported from the Ukiah Formation (PBDB 2022; UCMP 2022), and the coarse-grained nature of the Ukiah Formation is likely not conducive to fossil preservation. However, given that the areas mapped as Plio-Pleistocene

sedimentary rocks include geologic units with a history of producing significant paleontological resources, Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks are assigned high paleontological sensitivity.

Cretaceous Marine Sedimentary Rocks and Franciscan Complex

Cretaceous marine sedimentary rocks underlie the western area of Planning Area, including the western areas of the City and proposed SOI. The Franciscan Complex underlies the eastern edge of the Planning Area, including the proposed SOI (Figure 4.15-1). Per Delattre and Rubin (2020), both of these geologic units represent rocks of the Franciscan Complex. The Franciscan Complex is a Jurassic to Cretaceous-aged assemblage primarily comprised of marine sedimentary, metamorphic, and volcanic rocks (Delattre and Rubin 2020; Jennings and Strand 1960). Within the proposed SOI, Franciscan Complex rocks mostly consist of sandstone, conglomerate, chert, and mélange. Invertebrate fossils (mollusks and echinoderms) are known from the sedimentary rocks of the Franciscan Complex, but vertebrate fossils are rare (Camp 1942; PBDB 2022; UCMP 2022). Due to the rarity of scientifically significant fossils in the Franciscan Complex, Cretaceous marine sedimentary rocks and the Franciscan Complex have low paleontological sensitivity.

c. Geologic Units in the City and Annexation Areas

The City and Annexation Areas contain four geologic units per Jennings and Strand (1960) (Figure 4.15-1). Two of these geologic units, Quaternary terrace deposits and Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks have high paleontological sensitivity (see Table 4.15-1).

Table 4.15-1 Geologic Units in the City and Annexation Areas and Paleontological Sensitivity

Geologic Unit (per Jennings and Strand 1960)	Age	Paleontological Sensitivity
Quaternary alluvium (Qal)	Holocene	Low
Quaternary terrace deposits (Qt)	Pleistocene	High
Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks (QP)	Pliocene to Pleistocene	High
Cretaceous marine sedimentary rocks (K)	Cretaceous	Low

4.15.2 Regulatory Setting

a. Federal Regulations

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as amended, directs federal agencies to “Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage” (Section 101(b) (4)). The current interpretation of this language has included scientifically important paleontological resources among those resources that may require preservation.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470)

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) applies to paleontological resources that are found in culturally-related contexts; such related materials qualify as cultural resources. Consequently, recovery and treatment protocols included in the Project-specific Cultural Resources Management Plan should be followed for discoveries of paleontological resources in culturally-related contexts.

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009 (PRPA)

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (PRPA) is part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (PL 111-011 Subtitle D). This act directs the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture to manage and protect paleontological resources on federal land and to develop plans for inventorying, monitoring, and deriving the scientific and educational use of such resources. It prohibits the removal of paleontological resources from federal land without a permit issued under this act, establishes penalties for violation of this act, and creates a program to increase public awareness about these resources. A paleontological resource use permit is required to collect paleontological resources of scientific interest. The act requires that paleontological resources collected under a permit remain United States property, preserved for the public in an approved repository, and available for scientific research and public education. The act also requires that the nature and location of paleontological resources on public lands remain confidential as a means of protecting the resources from theft and vandalism. Section 6301 of the PRPA and Departmental Proposed Rule at 43 CFR Part 49 define a paleontological resource as:

Any fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of organisms, preserved in or on the earth's crust, that are of paleontological interest and that provide information about the history of life on earth, except that the term does not include— (A) any materials associated with an archaeological resource... (B) any cultural item... (3) Resources determined in writing by the authorized officer to lack paleontological interest or not provide information about the history of life on earth, based on scientific and other management considerations.

Consistent with the definition of a paleontological resource under the PRPA, those paleontological resources that lack scientific interest (e.g., resources that are ubiquitous or do not provide information about the history of life on earth) are considered scientifically non-significant fossils.

b. State Regulations

California Public Resources Code

Section 5097.5 of the Public Resources Code states the following:

No person shall knowingly and willfully excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure or deface any historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, archaeological or vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints, inscriptions made by human agency, or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with the express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over such lands. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

The term "public lands" means those owned by, or under the jurisdiction of, the state or any city, county, district, authority, or public corporation, or any agency thereof. Consequently, public agencies are required to comply with Public Resources Code Section 5097.5 for their own activities, including construction and maintenance, and for permit actions (e.g., encroachment permits) undertaken by others.

4.15.3 Impact Analysis

a. Significance Thresholds and Methodology

According to Appendix G of the *CEQA Guidelines*, impacts related to paleontological resources from implementation of the project would be significant if it would:

1. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The paleontological sensitivity of the geologic units that underlie the City and Annexation Areas were evaluated to assess Ukiah 2040's potential for significant impacts to scientifically important paleontological resources. The analysis was based on the review of existing information in the scientific literature regarding known fossils within geologic units mapped in the City and Annexation Areas. According to the SVP (2010) classification system, geologic units can be assigned a high, low, undetermined, or no potential for containing scientifically significant nonrenewable paleontological resources. Following the literature review, a paleontological sensitivity classification was assigned to each geologic unit mapped within the City and Annexation Areas. This criterion is based on rock units within which vertebrate or significant invertebrate fossils have been determined by previous studies to be present or likely to be present. The potential for impacts to significant paleontological resources is based on the potential for ground disturbance to directly impact paleontologically sensitive geologic units.

b. Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Threshold 1: Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

IMPACT PAL-1 DEVELOPMENT FACILITATED BY THE PROJECT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES. IMPACTS WOULD BE LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT WITH MITIGATION.

As shown in Table 4.15-1, the City and Annexation areas are underlain by four geologic units: Quaternary alluvium (low sensitivity); Quaternary terrace deposits (high sensitivity); Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks (high sensitivity); and Cretaceous marine sedimentary rocks (low sensitivity).

Ground disturbance in previously undisturbed portions of the City and Annexation areas underlain by geologic units with high paleontological sensitivity may result in potentially significant impacts to paleontological resources. Ukiah 2040 contains the following proposed goal and policies related to reducing impacts to paleontological resources.

Goals ENV-3: To preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah.

Policy ENV-3.2: Archaeological Resource Impact Mitigation. The City shall ensure appropriate and feasible mitigation for new development that has the potential to impact sites likely to contain archaeological, paleontological, cultural, or tribal resources.

Policy ENV-3.3: Protect Archaeological Resources. The City shall require any construction, grading, or other site altering activities cease if cultural, archaeological, paleontological, or cultural resources are discovered until a qualified professional has completed an evaluation of the site.

Although these proposed goal and policies would reduce impacts, potentially significant impacts to paleontological resources can only be determined once a specific project has been proposed. The potential effects of a project on paleontological resources are highly dependent on both the individual project site conditions (e.g., presence and depth of disturbed sediments or artificial fill) and the characteristics of the proposed ground-disturbing activity (i.e., depth of ground disturbance and construction activity). Therefore, ground disturbing construction activities in disturbed or developed areas may impact paleontological resources if previously undisturbed, high-sensitivity sediments are encountered below the surface.

Ground disturbing activities associated with construction facilitated by Ukiah 2040 have the potential to damage or destroy paleontological resources that may be present on or below the ground surface in areas of high paleontological sensitivity. Consequently, damage to or destruction of fossils could occur due to development from Ukiah 2040. Impacts would be potentially significant. Mitigation Measure PAL-1 would require the City to implement a new policy in Ukiah 2040, requiring that future projects be assessed for its potential to significantly impact paleontological resources.

Mitigation Measures

PAL-1 Retention of Qualified Professional Paleontologist

The City shall implement the following policy into Ukiah 2040:

Prior to initial ground disturbance in areas underlain by high sensitivity geologic units (i.e., Quaternary terrace deposits and Plio-Pleistocene sedimentary rocks), the City shall require the project applicant retain a Qualified Professional Paleontologist, as defined by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) (2010), to determine the project's potential to significantly impact paleontological resources according to SVP (2010) standards. If necessary, the Qualified Professional Paleontologist shall recommend mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts to paleontological resources to a less than significant level.

Significance After Mitigation

Implementation of Mitigation Measure PAL-1 would reduce adverse effects to paleontological resources and impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

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4.16 Effects Found Not to be Significant

During evaluation of the project, certain impact areas included in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Appendix G checklist were found to have a less than significant impact or no impact. As allowed under CEQA Guidelines Section 15128, this section discusses why impacts to these environmental topics were determined to have a less than significant impact or no impact and therefore are not discussed in detail in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as individual sections.

4.16.1 Energy

Would the project:

- Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?
- Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

Construction and demolition activities associated with the project would require energy resources in the form of fuel consumption to operate heavy equipment, light-duty vehicles, machinery, and generators. Energy use during construction would be temporary in nature and construction equipment would be like equipment used for construction projects in the region. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would utilize construction contractors that would be required to comply with applicable California Air Resource Board (CARB) regulations such as accelerated retrofitting, repowering, or replacement of heavy-duty diesel on-road and off-road equipment. Construction contractors are required to comply with the provisions of CCR Title 13, sections 2449 and 2485, and CARB regulations prohibiting diesel-fueled commercial and off-road vehicles from idling for more than five minutes, minimizing unnecessary fuel consumption. Construction equipment would be subject to the USEPA Construction Equipment Fuel Efficiency Standard, which would minimize inefficient fuel consumption. These construction equipment standards (i.e., Tier 4 efficiency requirements) are contained in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1039, 1065, and 1068. Electrical power would be consumed during construction activities, and the demand, to the extent required, would be supplied from existing electrical infrastructure in the region. Overall, construction activities would not have a substantial adverse impact on available electricity supplies or infrastructure. Operational energy demand from future development would include fuel consumed by passenger vehicles and electricity consumed by residential and non-residential buildings including, but not limited to lighting, water conveyance, and air conditioning. Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed goals and policies that would ensure that wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources would not occur from future development facilitated by Ukiah 2040:

Goal ENV-7: To improve air quality to the benefit of public health, welfare, and reduce air quality impacts with adverse effects on residents' health and wellbeing.

Policy ENV-7.7: City Vehicle and Equipment Fleet. The City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels as part of their fleet. When possible, the City will replace gas and hybrid vehicles with electric vehicles.

Policy ENV-7.8: Residential EV Charging Stations. The City shall encourage new development to install EV charging stations in homes to increase the potential for the public to use zero-emission vehicles, lessening the impacts to air quality through pollution.

Policy ENV-7.9: Public EV Charging Stations. The City shall install public charging stations in its commercial areas to provide additional charging options for city visitors.

Goal ENV-8: To achieve carbon neutrality by or before the year 2045.

Policy ENV-8.1: Carbon Neutrality Resolution. The City shall adopt a Carbon Neutrality Resolution that provides a foundation for all subsequent climate actions.

Policy ENV-8.2: Micro-grid and Small Battery Storage. The City shall encourage the development of small-scale battery storage and micro grid capacity for storing renewable power for nighttime energy use.

Policy ENV-8.3: Municipal Building Electrification Plan. The City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings to convert them to all electric using energy from carbon-free and renewable sources by 2035.

Policy ENV-8.4: Municipal Preference of Emissions-Reduced Equipment. The City shall contract only with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available and feasible for City construction projects or contract services.

Policy ENV-8.5: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy. The City shall promote energy conservation in municipal facilities by seeking opportunities to install energy efficient fixtures and appliances, solar panels, solar battery storage, and other retrofits to new and existing structures.

Goal MOB-2: To reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to and from residences, jobs, and commercial uses in Ukiah.

Policy MOB-2.1: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction. The City shall support development and transportation improvements that help reduce VMT below regional averages on a “residential per capita” and “per employee” basis.

Policy MOB-2.2: Transportation Demand Management. The City shall support programs to reduce vehicle trips, including measures such as reduced parking requirements that aim to increase transit use, car-pooling, bicycling and walking.

Implementation of proposed Goals ENV-7, ENV-8, MOB-2, and their associated policies would lower reliance on petroleum for transportation, reduce vehicle transportation overall, and reduce energy impacts related to the operation of residences, businesses, and municipal buildings. Goal ENV-8, which would aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 would reduce consumption of non-renewable energy sources and would ensure that development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

While the City of Ukiah has not adopted a local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency, there are several state plans that include energy conservation and energy efficiency strategies intended to enable the State and the City to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and energy conservation goals. A full discussion of the project’s consistency with GHG reduction plans is included in Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions*. As shown in Table 4.16-1, the project would be consistent with State renewable energy regulations and energy efficiency plans.

Table 4.16-1 Consistency with State Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Plans

Renewable Energy or Energy Efficiency Plan	Project Consistency
<p>California Energy Plan. The plan identifies several strategies, including assistance to public agencies and fleet operators in implementing incentive programs for zero-emission vehicles and addressing their infrastructure needs, as well as encouragement of urban designs that reduce VMT and accommodate pedestrian and bicycle access.</p>	<p>Consistent. As described above, Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Goal ENV-7, ENV-8, MOB-2, and their associated policies. Policy ENV-7.7 states that the City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels in their municipal fleet, and Policies ENV-8.3 and ENV-8.4 state that the City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings and contract with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policies MOB-2.1 and MOB-2.2, which state that the City shall support development and programs that help reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and vehicle trips. Therefore, the project would be consistent with the California Energy Plan.</p>
<p>Assembly Bill 2076: Reducing Dependence on Petroleum. Pursuant to AB 2076, the CEC and CARB prepared and adopted a joint-agency report, <i>Reducing California's Petroleum Dependence</i>, in 2003. Included in this report are recommendations to increase the use of alternative fuels to 20 percent of on-road transportation fuel use by 2020 and 30 percent by 2030, significantly increase the efficiency of motor vehicles, and reduce per capita VMT. One of the performance-based goals of AB 2076 is to reduce petroleum demand to 15 percent below 2003 demand.</p>	<p>Consistent. Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policy ENV-7.7, which states that the City shall continue to purchase low-emission vehicles and use clean alternative fuels in their municipal fleet. Ukiah 2040 also includes proposed Policies ENV-8.3 and ENV-8.4, which state that the City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings and contract with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policies MOB-2.1 and MOB-2.2, which state that the City shall support development and programs that help reduce VMT and vehicle trips. Therefore, the project would be consistent with Assembly Bill 2076.</p>
<p>2018 Integrated Energy Policy Report. Volume I highlights the implementation of California's innovative policies and the role they have played in establishing a clean energy economy. Volume II provides more detail on several key energy policies, including decarbonizing buildings, increasing energy efficiency savings, and integrating more renewable energy into the electricity system.</p>	<p>Consistent. The project would include several components that promote the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency in new buildings. Proposed Goal ENV-8 of Ukiah 2040 establishes a goal of carbon neutrality by 2045, and proposed Policy ENV-8.1 states that the City shall adopt a resolution to support subsequent climate actions. Ukiah 2040 also includes proposed Policies ENV-8.3 and ENV-8.4, which state that the City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings and contract with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available. Therefore, Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with the 2018 Integrated Energy Policy Report.</p>
<p>California Renewable Portfolio Standard. California's Renewable Portfolio Standard obligates investor-owned utilities, energy service providers, and community choice aggregators to procure 33 percent total retail sales of electricity from renewable energy sources by 2020, 60 percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2045.</p>	<p>Consistent. Electricity in the City of Ukiah is maintained and provided by the City's Electric Department and procured through the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA). NCPA is required to generate electricity that would increase renewable energy resources to 60 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2045. NCPA's energy generation portfolio is currently approximately 55 percent emission-free (NCPA 2022). NCPA reached California's goal of 50 percent Renewables Portfolio Standard by 2020 and is on track to meet the new 60 percent Renewables Portfolio Standard by 2030. Because NCPA would provide electricity service to the City and its Annexation Areas, development facilitated by the project would not conflict with or</p>

Renewable Energy or Energy Efficiency Plan	Project Consistency
<p>AB 1493: Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. AB 1493 requires CARB to develop and adopt regulations that achieve maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction of GHG emissions from passenger vehicles, light-duty trucks, and other vehicles used for noncommercial personal transportation in California.</p>	<p>obstruct implementation of the California Renewable Portfolio Standard.</p> <p>Consistent. Vehicles used by future residents, employees, visitors, and patrons facilitated by the project would be subject to the regulations adopted by CARB pursuant to AB 1493. Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of AB 1493.</p>
<p>Energy Action Plan (EAP). In October 2005, the CEC and CPUC updated their energy policy vision by adding some important dimensions to the policy areas included in the original EAP, such as the emerging importance of climate change, transportation-related energy issues, and research and development activities. The CEC adopted an update to the EAP in February 2008 that supplements the earlier EAPs and examines the state’s ongoing actions in the context of global climate change. The nine major action areas in the EAP include energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy, electricity adequacy/reliability/infrastructure, electricity market structure, natural gas supply/demand/infrastructure, transportation fuels supply/demand/infrastructure, research/development/demonstration, and climate change.</p>	<p>Consistent. Ukiah 2040 includes several proposed policies and goals that promote the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency in new buildings. Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Policies ENV-8.3 and ENV-8.4, which state that the City shall adopt an electrification plan for all municipal buildings and contract with providers who use electric-powered equipment where available. Furthermore, proposed Goal ENV-8 establishes a goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 and proposed Policy ENV-8.1 states that the City shall adopt a resolution to support subsequent climate actions. In addition, development facilitated by the project would be required to comply with Ukiah City Code Section 3000, which mandates the implementation of Title 24 of the California Building Code. Compliance would include rooftop solar on all residential building types that are three stories or less in height. Electricity would be provided by NCPA, which sources approximately 55 percent of their power from renewable sources (NCPA 2022). With adherence to these regulations and construction of these features, the project would facilitate implementation of the nine major action areas in the Energy Action Plan. Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Energy Action Plan.</p>
<p>AB 1007: State Alternative Fuels Plans. The State Alternative Fuels Plan assessed various alternative fuels and developed fuel portfolios to meet California’s goals to reduce petroleum consumption, increase alternative fuels use, reduce GHG emissions, and increase in-state production of biofuels without causing a significant degradation of public health and environmental quality.</p>	<p>Consistent. Ukiah 2040 includes proposed Goal ENV-8, which establishes a goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 and proposed Policy ENV-8.1, which states that the City shall adopt a resolution to support subsequent climate actions. The project also includes proposed Policies ENV-7.8 and ENV-7.9, which state that the City shall install public EV charging stations and encourage new development to install EV charging stations. Therefore, the vehicle charging stations would facilitate the use of alternative fuels and the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of AB 1007.</p>

Renewable Energy or Energy Efficiency Plan	Project Consistency
<p>Title 24, California Code of Regulations – Part 6 (Building Energy Efficiency Standards) and Part 11 (CALGreen).</p> <p>The 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards move toward cutting energy use in new homes by more than 50 percent and will require installation of solar photovoltaic systems for single-family homes and multi-family buildings of three stories and less.</p> <p>The CALGreen Standards establish green building criteria for residential and nonresidential projects. Updates to the 2016 Standards include the following: increasing the number of parking spaces that must be prewired for electric vehicle chargers in residential development; requiring all residential development to adhere to the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance; and requiring more appropriate sizing of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) ducts.</p>	<p>Consistent. Development facilitated by the project would be required to comply with Ukiah City Code Section 3000, which mandates the implementation of Title 24 of the California Building Code. Therefore, the project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of the Title 24 standards.</p>

As demonstrated above in Table 4.16-1, Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with state energy conservation and efficiency plans and strategies. Furthermore, construction and operation of future projects would be required to comply with relevant provisions of CALGreen and Title 24 of the California Energy Code. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

4.16.2 Geology and Soils

Would the project:

- Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
 - Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.
 - Strong seismic ground shaking?
 - Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?
 - Landslides?
- Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?
- Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?
- Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?
- Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

The City of Ukiah is bordered by the Maacama Fault, which runs generally north to south alongside the Russian River in the foothills east of Watson Road, Vichy Springs Road, and Redemeyer Road (DOC 2018). The Maacama Fault does not lie within city limits; however, the Maacama Fault is located within a portion of the current and proposed SOI. Ukiah 2040 would not facilitate development on the Maacama Fault. Due to the proximity of the Maacama Fault to the City, future development could be subject to strong seismic ground shaking. The Planning Area is not highly susceptible to liquefaction (when soils collapse as seismic waves pass through them); however, there may be moderate risk of liquefaction along creeks and rivers (City of Ukiah 2020). Accordingly, future development near creeks and rivers could be subject to seismic related ground failure. Additionally, landslides have occurred in the Ukiah Valley over the years, and geologic studies have revealed evidence of large, ancient landslides in the valley (City of Ukiah 2020). Furthermore, the DOC has identified landslide deposits in the western hills of Ukiah (DOC 2019).

Development within the City's Hillside District, which typically contains steep slopes, requires discretionary and environmental review for new construction and grading activities in order to analyze impacts related to geology and soils. Specifically, any parcel of land or subdivision having an average ground gradient across any portion of the property in excess of fifteen percent requires a Use Permit issuable by the Planning Commission with a right of appeal to the City Council. To ensure development is being properly designed, development in this district also requires submittal of Geotechnical Reports, Grading Plans, Hydrology Reports, etc. These reports and plans will include a set of site/project specific recommended Best Management Practices and mitigation measures (if needed) to avoid impacts to geology and soils.

Additionally, all future development would be subject to the California Building Code (CBC) engineering design and construction measures. Development designed in accordance with the CBC would be able to: 1) resist minor earthquakes without damage; 2) resist moderate earthquakes without structural damage, but with some non-structural damage; and 3) resist major earthquakes without collapse, but with some structural, as well as non-structural, damage. Compliance with the CBC would minimize potential structural damage and the exposure of people to the risk of injury or death from structural failure. Foundations and other structures for features would be designed to resist and absorb damaging forces from strong ground shaking and liquefaction, in accordance with CBC requirements. Specifically, Section 1613 of the CBC requires every structure and portion thereof (including nonstructural components that are permanently attached to structures and their supports and attachments) to be designed and constructed to resist the effects of earthquake motions. Additionally, Ukiah 2040 would facilitate development on infill sites, which would in many cases replace older buildings with newer structures built to current seismic standards that could better withstand the adverse effects of strong ground shaking. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 includes the following proposed goals and policies related to minimizing the risks associated with seismic and geologic hazards to protect public health and safety, property, and the environment:

Goal SAF-1: Minimize risk to people and property resulting from geologic and seismic hazards through effective development regulation.

Policy SAF-1.1: Building Code Requirements. The City shall mitigate the potential impact for harm associated with geologic hazards by adopting and implementing the requirements outlined within the California Building Code and State seismic design guidelines.

Policy SAF-1.2: Geotechnical Report. Where projects are proposed within designated risk zones, require professionally prepared geotechnical evaluations prior to site development. If a discretionary permit is required, the geotechnical report shall be submitted with the permit application.

Policy SAF-1.3: Resilient Infrastructure – Gathering Places. Encourage privately owned critical facilities (e.g., churches, hotels, other gathering facilities) to evaluate the ability of the buildings to withstand earthquakes and to address any deficiencies identified.

Policy SAF-1.4: Resilient Infrastructure – Unreinforced Masonry. Continue an outreach and education program for owners and tenants in downtown unreinforced masonry buildings to understand earthquake risks and precautions and, for owners, to understand retrofitting options and available funding mechanisms.

Adherence to the proposed policies above would reduce impacts related to seismic and geologic hazards. Policies SAF-1.1 and SAF-1.2 would ensure that future projects would be reviewed for seismic and geologic hazards prior to development. Geotechnical reports and subsequent recommendations would also identify and minimize site-specific seismic and geologic hazards to the extent feasible. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies, in addition to compliance with the CBC and relevant Ukiah City Code sections, would reduce impacts related to rupture of a known earthquake fault, seismic ground shaking, seismic ground failure or liquefaction, or landslides to less than significant levels.

Future development would involve construction activities such as stockpiling, grading, excavation, paving, and other earth-disturbing activities. Loose and disturbed soils are more prone to erosion and loss of topsoil by wind and water. Construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land surface are subject to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction and Land Disturbance Activities (Order No. 2012-0006-DWQ) issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Compliance with the permit requires each qualifying development project to file a Notice of Intent with the SWRCB. Permit conditions require development of a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), which must describe the site, the facility, erosion and sediment controls, runoff water quality monitoring, means of waste disposal, implementation of approved local plans, control of construction sediment and erosion control measures, maintenance responsibilities, and non-storm water management controls. Inspection of construction sites before and after storms is also required to identify storm water discharge from the construction activity and to identify and implement erosion controls where necessary. Ukiah City Code (Division 9, Chapter 7) details the City's Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance which regulates grading on public and private property to control erosion and sedimentation. Section 9703 details required design standards, including soil stabilization measures and materials management. Section 9704 states that all construction projects must comply with erosion and sediment control measures within an issued grading permit. Compliance with the requirements of the Ukiah City Code and NPDES requirements would reduce the potential for construction and soil disturbance to cause erosion or the loss of topsoil, by ensuring proper management of loose and disturbed soil. Impacts related to erosion and loss of topsoil would be less than significant.

Future development may result in the construction of structures on expansive or unstable soils.¹ Structures located on expansive or unstable soils could experience structural damage due to fluctuations or settlement of the soil. Implementation of proposed Policy SAF-1.1, in addition to Ukiah City Code Section 3000, would ensure that development facilitated by the project would comply with the CBC and other applicable building regulations. Implementation of proposed Policy SAF-1.2 and preparation of geotechnical reports would identify site-specific expansive or unstable soils and provide recommendations to minimize associated risks. Furthermore, Ukiah City Code

¹ Expansive soils are soils that experience a shrink-swell effect depending on its moisture content

Section 8141 requires that if a preliminary soil report indicates the presence of critically expansive soils that would lead the structural defects, the City Building Inspector shall require a soil investigation that shall recommend corrective action to prevent structural damage. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 proposed policies and compliance with the CBC and Ukiah City Code would ensure that impacts related to expansive or unstable soils would be less than significant.

Development facilitated by the project would occur within developed areas containing existing sanitary sewer systems, and it is not anticipated that development would require the installation of septic tanks or alternative sewer systems. Impacts would be less than significant.

CEQA Guidelines Appendix G includes the following question under Geology and Soils: directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? This question is discussed in Section 4.5, *Cultural Resources*.

4.16.3 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:

- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?
- Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?
- Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?
- Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?
- For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?
- Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Construction of future development would require the temporary transport, storage, use, or disposal of potentially hazardous materials including but not limited to fuels, lubricating fluids, cleaners, and/or solvents. If spilled, these substances could pose a risk to the environment and to human health. However, the transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials is subject to various federal, state, and local regulations designed to reduce risks associated with hazardous materials, including potential risks associated with upset or accident conditions. Hazardous materials would be required to be transported under U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations (U.S. DOT Hazardous Materials Transport Act, 49 Code of Federal Regulations), which stipulate the types of containers, labeling, and other restrictions to be used in the movement of such material on interstate highways. In addition, the use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials are regulated through the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for implementing the RCRA program, as well as California's hazardous waste laws. DTSC regulates hazardous waste, cleans up existing contamination, and looks for ways to control and reduce the hazardous waste produced in California. DTSC does this primarily under the authority of RCRA and in accordance with the

California Hazardous Waste Control Law (California H&SC Division 20, Chapter 6.5) and the Hazardous Waste Control Regulations (Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Divisions 4 and 4.5). DTSC also oversees permitting, inspection, compliance, and corrective action programs to ensure that hazardous waste managers follow federal and state requirements and other laws that affect hazardous waste specific to handling, storage, transportation, disposal, treatment, reduction, cleanup, and emergency planning. Compliance with existing regulations would reduce the risk of potential release of hazardous materials from spills and transport during construction. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 would encourage additional residential and non-residential (i.e., commercial and mixed-use) uses. Residences do not typically store or use large quantities of hazardous materials. Non-residential uses may involve the transport, use, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials and would be subject to applicable hazardous materials regulations and manufacturer guidelines. Therefore, the project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, disposal, or release of hazardous materials, and impacts would be less than significant.

Residential and office uses typically do not emit hazardous materials or substances. Since the project does not include specific development projects, the quantity of hazardous materials proposed for use by future commercial and industrial developments within the City is currently unknown. However, the commercial or industrial development facilitated by the project could include uses that generate and emit hazardous materials or substances, such as gas stations, dry cleaners, and auto-body shops. Accidental release or combustion of hazardous materials at new commercial and industrial developments within 0.25 mile of a school could endanger residents or students in the surrounding community. As discussed above, construction could involve the handling, use, transport, and storage of hazardous materials, which would be governed by federal, state, and local regulations described above, and would follow applicable project-specific requirements. Furthermore, development facilitated by the project would be reviewed by the City to ensure land use compatibility, which would reduce the risk of hazardous materials emissions near schools. Impacts would be less than significant.

Existing sites in the Planning Area that use or have historically used hazardous materials, or that may contain contaminants in soils or groundwater include uses such as gas stations and industrial uses. The Planning Area contains nine historically hazardous materials sites included on a list of sites prepared by Government Code Section 65962.5, only one of which is active (California Department of Toxic Substances Control 2022). Furthermore, there are no Superfund or other State Responsibility sites in the Planning Area. Nonetheless, development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 could expose construction workers and future occupants to hazardous materials. These properties can be released for reuse, with restrictions to prevent inappropriate land uses. Development of identified hazard sites would be preceded by investigation, remediation, and cleanup under the supervision of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Mendocino County Environmental Health, or DTSC before construction activities could begin as currently required by federal, State, and local regulations. The agency responsible for oversight would determine the types of remediation and cleanup required and could include excavation and off-haul of contaminated soils, installation of vapor barriers beneath habitable structures, continuous monitoring wells onsite with annual reporting requirements, or other mechanisms to ensure the site does not pose a health risk to workers or future occupants. Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations would apply to development. Because the project would not increase the likelihood for development of identified hazard sites, impacts would be less than significant.

Ukiah 2040 would introduce new residents or employees that would require emergency response evacuation. The Safety Element of Ukiah 2040 includes proposed goals and policies to ensure safe and efficient evacuation and emergency response. Applicable goals and policies are as follows:

Goal SAF-6: To ensure that the City is adequately prepared for emergencies of any variety through effective planning measures.

Policy SAF-6.1: Evacuation Routes. The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority to review, update, and periodically exercise emergency access, protocols, and evacuation routes to assess their effectiveness.

Policy SAF-6.2: Hazard Mitigation Plan. The City shall continue to participate in and implement the Mendocino County Hazard Mitigation Plan to ensure maximum preparedness for hazard events.

Policy SAF-6.3: Locally Focused Plans. The City shall maintain and implement locally focused plans, including an Emergency Operations Plan, to maintain consistency with State and Federal requirements.

Policies listed above direct the City to ensure effective and coordinated response to disasters, which would include events warranting evacuation. These proposed goals and related policies in the Safety Element of Ukiah 2040 would ensure adequate emergency response and evacuation. Furthermore, future development would not block or reconfigure major roadways that are critical to emergency response or evacuation routes. Therefore, the project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan, and impacts would be less than significant.

CEQA Guidelines Appendix G includes the following question under Hazards and Hazardous Materials: would the project expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires? This question is discussed in Section 4.14, *Wildfire*.

4.16.4 Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:

- Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality?
- Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?
- Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:
 - Result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;
 - Substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;
 - Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or
 - Impede or redirect flood flows?

- In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?
- Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?

Construction activities associated with future development could result in soil erosion during earth-moving activities, including excavation, grading, soil compaction and moving, and soil stockpiling. Future development project would be required to comply with State and local water quality regulations designed to control erosion and protect water quality during construction. This includes compliance with the requirements of the SWRCB's NPDES Construction General Permit, which requires preparation and implementation of a SWPPP for projects that disturb one acre or more of land. The SWPPP must include erosion and sediment control BMPs that would meet or exceed measures required by the NPDES Construction General Permit. BMPs may include measures such as the installation of silt fences to trap sediments, slope stabilization, and regular sweeping of construction sites to control dust. This would also ensure that future projects comply with stormwater control measures outlined in Ukiah City Code (Division 9, Chapter 7), which requires BMPs that reduce the discharge of sediment and other particulate matter into the City's groundwater system. Post-construction stormwater performance standards established by the North Coast RWQCB are also required to specifically address water quality and channel protection events. Implementation of the required SWPPP during construction activities would reduce the potential for eroded soil and any contaminants attached to that soil to contaminate a waterbody following a storm event. Therefore, construction of specific developments facilitated by the project would not violate any water quality standards or otherwise substantially degrade water quality, and water quality impacts from construction would be less than significant.

In addition, the City of Ukiah is a permittee for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) issued by the North Coast RWQCB (Order No. R1-2015-0030), which also serves as a NPDES permit under the Federal Clean Water Act (NPDES No. CA0025054). Future projects would be required to adhere to all requirements under this permit, which include but are not limited to implementation of stormwater treatment measures that minimize the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff, non-stormwater discharge, and increases in runoff flows during the life of the project. Low impact design principles would also be required under this permit, which limit the amount of impermeable surface and include integrated management practices that help infiltrate, store, or evaporate stormwater during and immediately after storm events. Furthermore, the following Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would apply to stormwater management:

Goal PFS-5: To maintain an adequate stormwater management system to accommodate runoff and improve environmental quality.

Policy PFS-5.1: Low Impact Development. The City shall require new developments to install green infrastructure consistent with the sustainable objectives of the State and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to pervious pavement, infiltration basins, raingardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other types of low impact development (LID).

Policy PFS-5.2: Pollutants Discharge Reduction. The City shall provide non-point source pollution control programs to reduce and control the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system and Russian River.

Compliance with federal, State, and local regulations; permit requirements and Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would minimize impacts related to water quality and ensure that

operation of future development would not cause or contribute to the degradation of water quality in receiving waters. Therefore, operation of specific developments facilitated by the project would not violate any water quality standards or otherwise substantially degrade water quality, and water quality impacts would be less than significant.

Although Ukiah 2040 would facilitate infill development and reuse of underutilized sites, Ukiah 2040 has the potential to increase the total area of impervious surface, which could interfere with groundwater recharge. However, as individual future projects are proposed, those disturbing more than one acre would be required to comply with the NPDES program by obtaining project-specific coverage under the State's Construction General Permit. This would require development and implementation of a project-specific SWPPP, which would include BMPs for appropriate dewatering practices, as applicable. Operational uses of water, including those that would be accessed from groundwater sources, is addressed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*. In addition, Ukiah 2040 contains several proposed goals and policies that would encourage groundwater infiltration and water conservation, as follows:

Goal PFS-1: To maintain a safe and adequate water system to meet the needs of existing and future development.

Policy PFS-1.1: Water Service Annexation Impacts. The City shall ensure newly annexed areas within the city do not negatively affect water services to existing customers.

Policy PFS-1.2: Russian River Water Rights. The City shall protect and confirm all Russian River tributary water rights to which the Ukiah Valley and City may be entitled.

Policy PFS-1.3: Consolidation of Water Districts. The City shall support the consolidation of water districts as part of future annexations to establish efficient services and ensure adequate water supply and delivery.

Policy PFS-1.4: Water Storage. The City shall encourage the protection and expansion of existing sources and methods of water storage for future development.

Policy PFS-1.5: Recycled Water Project. The City shall explore the potential expansion of the Recycled Water Project to provide non-potable water to areas of large-scale urban irrigation, such as Todd Grove Park and the golf course.

Policy PFS-1.6: Reduce Reliance on the Russian River. The City shall continue to support the reduction on the reliance of surface water from the Russian River as a water source to serve the community.

Policy PFS-1.7: Groundwater Recharge. The City shall enhance groundwater supply by looking to expand its capacity to recharge by developing storm ponding and retention basins where feasible. In some areas these ponds or basins can be incorporated into a recreational area, used as wildlife habitat area, or may be required by new development to offset impacts associated with new nonpermeable surfaces.

The implementation of these goals and policies would require implementation of low impact design and BMPs, which would increase groundwater infiltration through permeable surfaces and would contribute beneficially to groundwater recharge. With adherence to Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies and conformance with the requirements of the NPDES that address dewatering and groundwater discharge, future development would not substantially decrease groundwater supply or interfere with groundwater recharge and Ukiah 2040 would not impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin. Impacts would be less than significant.

Implementation of Ukiah 2040 could alter the existing drainage patterns on individual project sites due to grading and changes in topography. Project designs would be reviewed by the City to ensure that grading plans and development configurations would not impinge upon protected creeks, in accordance with Ukiah 2040 proposed Policy ENV-6.5 (shown below). Furthermore, future development would be subject to provisions that reduce flooding hazards, require effective stormwater management, and address streambed alterations as part of the permitting process for that specific project. Implementation of proposed Goal PFS-5 and Policy PFS-5.1 (shown above) and proposed Goal ENV-6 and Policy ENV-6.6 (shown below), during design of future project, would ensure proper stormwater system management, maintain appropriate development setbacks from creeks, and minimize the potential for erosion and siltation:

Goal ENV-6: To preserve and restore creeks, streams, riparian areas, and wetlands.

Policy ENV-6.5: Creek Protection. The City shall require new development located adjacent to stream corridors to include appropriate measures for creek bank stabilization, erosion and sedimentation prevention, and natural creek channel and riparian vegetation preservation.

Policy ENV-6.6: Erosion Control Plan. The City shall require new development that requires significant grading near creeks, streams, wetlands, and riparian areas to prepare erosion control plans that address grading practices that prevent soil erosion, loss of topsoil, and drainageway scour, consistent with biological and aesthetic values.

The Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies listed throughout this section would reduce potential impacts to drainage patterns by ensuring that protection from flood hazards and preservation of creeks and streams are a priority when approving future development projects. Furthermore, Ukiah City Code provides regulations that ensure specific projects conform to the requirements of the NPDES and SWPPP BMPs. Therefore, Ukiah 2040 would not substantially alter the existing drainage patterns or contribute runoff water in a manner which would result in substantial erosion, siltation, or flooding, nor would it exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems. Impacts would be less than significant.

According to flood hazard maps prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), several areas throughout the Planning Area would be located within a regulatory floodway, a 1 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone, or a 0.2 percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone (FEMA 2011). Areas within flood hazard zones are located along the Russian River and its tributaries throughout the city. Development facilitated by Ukiah 2040, located within a flood hazard zone, would be subject to requirements of the CBC, which establishes design requirements for development located in floodplains. Furthermore, future development would also be required to comply with all regulations and requirements set forth by FEMA that prohibit or restrict development in flood hazard zones as part of the flood zone management plan implemented by the City. The following Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would apply to the reduction of the potential for projects to be inundated by flood hazards:

Goal SAF-3: Minimize adverse impacts related to flooding through flood mitigation components and ongoing flood management practices.

Policy SAF-3.1: Flood Control Regulation. The City shall coordinate with FEMA to ensure that the City's regulations related to flood control are in compliance with Federal, State, and local guidelines.

Policy SAF-3.2: Flood Plain Management Ordinance. The City shall maintain an updated Flood Plain Management Ordinance specifying proper construction methods in identified flood hazard areas.

Policy SAF-3.3: National Flood Insurance Program. The City shall maintain compliance with the provisions of FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Implementation of these policies would ensure that future development would comply with applicable City regulations and FEMA provisions, which would reduce the risk of release of hazardous materials due to inundation. Finally, the City of Ukiah is not located near an ocean that could experience a tsunami and is not located near a large body of water that could experience a seiche. Therefore, the risk of pollutant release due to project inundation is less than significant.

The City of Ukiah is underlain by the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Basin, which is managed by the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA). The UVBGSA was created to serve as the state-mandated Groundwater Sustainability Agency as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014. In December 2021, the UVBGSA adopted its Groundwater Sustainability Plan which establishes goals for maintaining groundwater elevations above their historically measured range, maintaining groundwater quality, and preventing adverse effects such as land subsidence or streamflow depletions due to groundwater pumping (UVBGSA 2021). As discussed above, Ukiah 2040 would include proposed Goal PFS-1 and Policies PFS-1.1 through PFS-1.7, which would increase groundwater infiltration through permeable surfaces and would contribute beneficially to groundwater recharge. These proposed goals and policies would be consistent with the goals of the UVBGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Implementation of Ukiah 2040 goals and policies would assist the City in ensuring that development facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would be consistent with Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Impacts would be less than significant.

4.16.5 Mineral Resources

Would the project:

- Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?
- Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

There are no mineral resources, existing mines, major mineral deposits, or critical minerals within the Planning Area (USGS 2020). The City’s existing 1995 General Plan identifies that the Russian River, which crosses the Planning Area north to south, can yield gravel and aggregate resources when its drainages become accessible due to historic course changes following major floods (City of Ukiah 1995). However, there are no active mineral extraction operations in the Planning Area, and according to the DOC, Mendocino County is not known to contain significant mineral resources (DOC 2020). Therefore, no impacts to mineral resources would occur.

5 Alternatives

As required by *CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.6, this chapter examines a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project that would attain most of the basic project objectives and avoid or substantially lessen significant adverse impacts. As discussed in Section 2, *Project Description*, the guiding principles of Ukiah 2040, which are considered the basic project objectives, are as follows:

- Guide land uses and development that meet the needs of the community, are environmentally conscious, and maintain Ukiah as a diverse, family-oriented, and friendly community, where people from all racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds thrive socially, economically, academically, and physically.
- Ensure development in all neighborhoods is compatible with the unique characteristics and land use patterns and fosters a sense of place.
- Promote resilient and sustainable facilities and infrastructure to ensure delivery of high-quality services.
- Promote a diverse, local, business-friendly economy that fosters new job growth and is adaptable to changes in consumer habits and market trends.
- Maintain and advance a well interconnected circulation network that accommodates and encourages alternative modes of transportation that reduce congestion and encourage walkable and bikeable neighborhoods.
- Preserve existing open space resources while enhancing accessibility to parks and recreational amenities; and manage, conserve, and preserve the existing natural environment to ensure sustainable longevity for present and future generations.
- Provide for a safe community through resilient infrastructure, community-wide education and preparation, and hazard planning that is responsive to potential climate-related, natural, and human-caused disasters.
- Preserve Ukiah Regional Airport as a vital economic driver and transportation system and maintain consistency with the criteria and policies of the Ukiah Municipal Airport Master Plan.
- Foster an inclusive community through conditions that allow for and stimulate a diversity of housing options for community members of all ages, incomes, and ethnicities.

This analysis presents two alternatives, including the CEQA-required “no project” alternative, that involve changes to the project that may reduce the project-related environmental impacts identified in this EIR. These Alternatives have been developed to provide a reasonable range of options that would help decision-makers and the public understand the general implications of revising or eliminating certain components of the proposed project. The following alternatives are evaluated in this EIR:

1. Alternative 1: No Project
2. Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density

Table 5-1 provides a summary comparison of the proposed project and each of the alternatives considered. Detailed descriptions of the alternatives are included in the impact analysis for each alternative. The potential environmental impacts of each alternative are analyzed in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.

Table 5-1 Comparison of Project Alternatives' Buildout Characteristics

	Proposed Project	Alternative 1: No Project	Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density
Total Allowable Dwelling Units Under ¹ Alternative	2,350	1,692	1,868
Change in Total Maximum Dwelling Units Compared to Proposed Project	N/A	-658 du	-482 du
Total Additional Residents Under Alternative ¹	5,640 persons	4,061 persons	4,483 persons
Change in Population Potential Compared to Proposed Project (Number of Residents)	N/A	- 1,579 persons	-1,157 persons
Total Additional Non-Residential Square Footage Under Alternative ¹	4,514,820 sf	3,831,300 sf	3,831,300 sf ²
Change in Total Additional Non-Residential Square Footage Compared to Proposed Project	N/A	-683,520 sf	-683,520 sf

du = dwelling units, sf = square feet

¹ The estimates for additional dwelling units, residences, and non-residential square footage are a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. These numbers are not meant to be a predictor of future growth.

² Non-residential square footage in Alternative 2 was assumed to be the same as the existing General Plan and only residential densities were changed.

5.1 Alternative 1: No Project Alternative

The *CEQA Guidelines* (Section 15126.6[e][2]) require that the alternatives discussion include an analysis of a No Project Alternative. Pursuant to CEQA, the No Project Alternative refers to the analysis of existing conditions and what would reasonably be expected to occur in the foreseeable future if the project were not approved, based on current plans and consistent with available infrastructure and community services. The No Project Alternative typically will proceed along one of two lines: (1) when a project is a revision of an existing regulatory plan or policy, the No Project Alternative will be continuation of the existing plan or policy; or (2) if a project is a development project on identifiable property, the No Project Alternative is the circumstance under which the project does not proceed. In this case, the No Project Alternative represents the continuation of existing zoning and General Plan designations within the City's Sphere of Influence and full buildout under those existing designations is assumed to occur under this alternative. Typical development assumptions are included in the analysis of this alternative below, including compliance with applicable regulations or typical City-required measures.

5.1.1 Description

The No Project Alternative assumes there is no change in zoning or General Plan land use designations and analyzes the existing General Plan land use designations and densities for vacant land within the City. The No Project Alternative includes identified sites for annexation, as well as housing sites identified as part of the 2019-2027 Housing Element. As the No Project Alternative focuses on existing designations, Annexation Areas would have existing land use designations, in contrast to the proposed project, which apply City land use designations to these areas. Buildout under the No Project Alternative, assuming a maximum buildout scenario, would allow for 1,692 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses. However, the No Project Alternative would not accomplish project objectives to the extent that the proposed project would, as the No Project Alternative would provide reduced housing options and

exclude multiple policies from Ukiah 2040 pertaining to community development, preservation of natural resources, sustainability, and improvement of Ukiah's circulation network.

5.1.2 Impact Analysis

a. Aesthetics

Development under the No Project Alternative would continue the land use pattern that currently exists in Ukiah. Impacts to scenic vistas and light and glare under this alternative would be reduced when compared to the proposed project, as this alternative would involve less development. Nonetheless, development under the No Project Alternative could affect aesthetics and would be required to comply with the same Ukiah City Code regulations as the proposed project. Both the No Project Alternative and the proposed project would have less than significant impacts on aesthetics; however, the severity of the impact for the No Project Alternative would be slightly less than for the proposed project. This is because the No Project Alternative would have less development than the proposed project.

b. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Development under the No Project Alternative would continue the agricultural land use pattern currently in Ukiah. Impacts to Farmland, land under Williamson Act contract, or regarding the conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural use would be the same as the proposed project because the proposed project does not include the conversion of such lands. However, the No Project Alternative would not include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to encourage the continued operation of agricultural lands in Ukiah. There are no zoned Timber Production Zones or forest lands within City limits or proposed annexation areas. Thus, the No Project Alternative would have no impact to forest land and would not result in the conversion of forest land to non-forest use, like the proposed project.

c. Air Quality

Like the proposed project, buildout under the No Project Alternative would not preclude planned transit or bike pathways and would not disrupt regional planning efforts to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and meet federal and State air quality standards. The No Project Alternative would be consistent with applicable 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures, although not to the extent as the proposed project, as the No Project Alternative would not include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to reduce criteria pollutant emissions. Impacts regarding conflict with applicable air quality plans would be less than significant, albeit greater than the proposed project.

Buildout under the existing General Plan land use and zoning designations would accommodate approximately 658 fewer housing units than under the proposed project. Short-term construction emissions that would occur from construction of the 658 housing units would be avoided under the No Project Alternative. Similarly, non-residential development would be reduced under this alternative, resulting in reduced construction-related emissions as compared to the proposed project. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to comply with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) and the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District's (MCAQMD) current recommended basic control measures. The No Project Alternative would have fewer overall construction-related impacts to air quality due to the reduced buildout.

As stated in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*, the greatest source of criteria pollutants in Ukiah is from transportation sources, specifically mobile emissions from roadway traffic. Considering 658 fewer residential units would be constructed in Ukiah under the No Project Alternative, the long-term on-site emissions from vehicle use would be reduced when compared to the proposed project. An overall reduction in total VMT would result in less operational emissions associated with mobile sources. However, the No Project Alternative would not include proposed Ukiah 2040 policies that support VMT reduction or electric vehicle adoption. These policies would ultimately reduce VMT per capita. Overall, operational air quality impacts for the No Project Alternative would also be significant and unavoidable. However, impacts from the No Project Alternative would be less than impacts from the proposed project, due to the reduction in overall VMT from reduced buildout.

Overall, the No Project Alternative would result in less infill development, leading to lower density development near stationary sources, freeways, and high-volume roadways. Therefore, the No Project Alternative would result in lower toxic air contaminants (TAC) near sensitive receptors when compared to the proposed project. However, as described in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*, the proposed project includes Ukiah 2040 goals and policies designed to promote clean air quality, protect public health and safety, and mitigate adverse air quality impacts. The No Project Alternative would not implement these policies. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to prepare a construction health risk assessment. The No Project Alternative would have fewer overall construction-related TAC impacts to air quality due to the reduced buildout.

Like the proposed project, construction activities under the No Project Alternative would generate odors, which would be temporary and limited to the constructed period. Similar to the proposed project, the No Project Alternative would have a less than significant impact regarding creation of objectionable odors.

Overall, the significance conclusions for the No Project Alternative would be the same as the proposed project; however, the severity of the impact would be less for the No Project Alternative due to the reduced buildout.

d. Biological Resources

As described in Section 4.4, *Biological Resources*, potential habitat suitable for special-status species occurs in streams, grasslands, riparian woodland, and forests within the Planning Area. The No Project Alternative would result in overall reduced development when compared to the proposed project; however, development under the No Project Alternative may potentially impact special-status species or their habitat, including riparian habitat and wildlife corridors. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to prepare a biological resources assessment, conduct pre-construction bird-surveys, roosting bird surveys, and apply bird-safe design. Impacts from the No Project Alternative would be slightly less, compared to the proposed project due to the reduction in buildout.

e. Cultural Resources

The No Project Alternative would have the potential to impact historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah through development of individual projects. Under the No Project Alternative, residential and nonresidential buildout would be less than for the proposed project; therefore, the No Project Alternative would have reduced, but still potentially significant impacts to historic and archaeological resources. Furthermore, in contrast to the proposed project, the No Project Alternative would not include updated General Plan goals and policies designed to preserve and

protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah. However, similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to require a historic and archaeological resources study. Nevertheless, as development under the No Project Alternative may result in the permanent loss or damage to historic structures, impacts under this alternative would be significant and unavoidable, like the proposed project.

f. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Under the No Project Alternative, less development would occur, consistent with allowed existing zoning. Temporary construction-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that result from grading and construction of new housing and non-residential development, as well as long-term impacts resulting from building operation (such as energy use, maintenance, and traffic) would be reduced when compared to the proposed project, as the No Project Alternative would involve decreased residential and non-residential buildout. However, the No Project Alternative would not include policies ENV-7.3 (Implement Clean Air Plan) and ENV-7.5 (Construction and Operations) within the Ukiah 2040 Environment and Sustainability Element, which are designed to reduce the impact of GHG emissions generated with construction activities.

Under existing conditions, Ukiah's General Plan does not outline how the City would meet State-mandated goals to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045. Therefore, the No Project Alternative would not be consistent with the California Executive Order B-55-18 goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 and would not include a qualified GHG reduction plan to guide progress towards State goals. Consequently, impacts related to generation of GHG emissions and consistency with State GHG reduction plans under the No Project Alternative would be potentially significant. Under the No Project Alternative, the CEQA GHG emissions threshold of significance and updated Climate Action Plan would not be implemented. As such, while the No Project Alternative would have less GHG emissions than the proposed project (due to the reduced buildout), the No Project Alternative would actually result in greater impacts on GHG emissions compared to the proposed project, because CEQA GHG emissions threshold of significance and an updated Climate Action Plan would not be implemented.

g. Land Use and Planning

Under the No Project Alternative, vacant/underutilized sites and annexation sites would retain their existing zoning, allowing future buildout in accordance with that zoning. The No Project Alternative would not alter connectivity with adjacent areas or divide established communities. Like the proposed project, future development under existing zoning would be required to comply with regulatory goals and policies, including the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, and Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan, as discussed in Impact LU-2 in Section 4.7, *Land Use and Planning*. The No Project Alternative would result in less intensive future development, as it does not include new land use designations that would change the development density/intensity of residential and non-residential buildings. Consequently, the No Project Alternative would provide 658 fewer housing units than the proposed project and would not meet the project objectives to the extent that the proposed project would. Impacts regarding land use and planning would be less than significant, like the proposed project.

h. Noise

Buildout under the No Project Alternative would result in reduced development compared to the proposed project. Therefore, less construction and associated construction noise and vibration

would occur under the No Project Alternative as compared to the proposed project. Like the proposed project, construction noise under the No Project Alternative could temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-sensitive land uses and leading to a significant and unavoidable impact. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to implement construction noise reduction measures. However, construction noise could still exceed the significance threshold of 80 dBA L_{eq} during the daytime at residential uses. Furthermore, due to construction projects that could occur simultaneously in the same area and the potential duration of construction activities, construction impacts would remain significant and unavoidable, like the proposed project.

Noise generated by on-site stationary equipment for new development would be subject to the City's noise limits, like the proposed project. Adherence to Ukiah Municipal Code noise limits for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units and other stationary noise sources associated with future development would ensure that operational stationary noise under the No Project Alternative is less than significant. However, the No Project Alternative would not include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to reduce operational noise impacts, and consequently, the No Project Alternative would have a greater impact to operational noise than the proposed project.

Implementation of the No Project Alternative could result in buildout, which would generate new vehicle trips that could incrementally increase the exposure of land uses along roadways to traffic noise. Although the No Project Alternative would result in reduced overall VMT, there would still be an increase in VMT compared to existing conditions and it is anticipated that a significant and unavoidable traffic noise impact would occur.

Development facilitated under the No Project Alternative could temporarily generate groundborne vibration during construction, potentially affecting nearby land uses. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to prepare a construction vibration control plan. Operation of future development under the No Project Alternative would not involve substantial vibration or groundborne noise. Thus, impacts involving groundborne vibration and noise would be similar to the impacts of the proposed project.

Residents and businesses facilitated by the No Project Alternative would not be served by the Ukiah Municipal Airport, except for emergency medical and fire services. Thus, development facilitated under this alternative would not result in significantly increased airport or airstrip activity. Continued regulation of airport noise consistent with State and federal regulations would minimize disturbance to people residing or working within proximity of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Impacts would be less than significant, like the proposed project. However, since the No Project Alternative does not include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to reduce noise from the Ukiah Municipal Airport through disclosure, attenuation, and studies, impacts would be greater under this alternative than for the proposed project.

i. Population and Housing

Under the No Project Alternative, existing land use designations and zoning would continue to define the type of development that occurs throughout Ukiah. Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, implementation of the No Project Alternative would accommodate approximately 1,579 fewer residents and 658 fewer housing units than would be accommodated by implementation of the proposed project (refer to Table 5-1). Thus, compared to the proposed project, the No Project Alternative would result in less population growth, and would not induce substantial unplanned population growth. The current General Plan provides for orderly development and growth. The displacement of people or housing units under the No Project Alternative would be minimal, as

development in Ukiah would continue in accordance with the existing General Plan. Impacts would be less than significant. When compared to the proposed project, the No Project Alternative would have reduced impacts to population and housing.

j. Public Services and Recreation

Development allowed by existing land use and zoning regulations would occur under the No Project Alternative, which would result in an increase to emergency calls in the area, as well as an increase in additional demand for schools, parks, libraries, recreational facilities, or other public services. Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, the No Project Alternative would add approximately 4,061 new residents to Ukiah, which is 1,579 fewer residents than the proposed project's 5,640 new residents. Thus, the increase in demand for public services under the No Project Alternative would be smaller than the proposed project's increase in demand. Impacts to public services and recreation would be less than the proposed project. Nonetheless, both would result in a less than significant impact.

k. Transportation

The No Project Alternative would result in development that follows the existing land use and zoning regulations. Goals and policies within the existing General Plan would apply under this alternative. Given the compliance with existing General Plan goals and policies that pertain to provision of "complete streets," increased connectivity, adequate emergency access, and safety design, the No Project Alternative would have a less than significant impact regarding conflict with circulation programs, plans, ordinances, or policies. The No Project Alternative would also have a less than significant impact regarding substantially increased transportation hazards and inadequate emergency access.

Development under the No Project Alternative would follow existing General Plan land use designations. However, the No Project Alternative would not include proposed Ukiah 2040 policies that support VMT reduction, which would ultimately reduce VMT per capita. The No Project Alternative could result in an increase to non-residential area (3,831,300 square feet) and residential units (1,692 units), relative to existing conditions. This buildout would add jobs and dwelling units to the City; however, compared to the proposed project, the ratio of jobs per dwelling units for the No Project Alternative would be greater than the proposed project. As such, the No Project Alternative would have a reduced land use diversity index compared to the proposed project. Overall, the No Project Alternative would result in greater VMT per capita impacts than the proposed project.

l. Tribal Cultural Resources

As discussed in Section 4.12, *Tribal Cultural Resources*, tribal cultural resource (TCR) impacts are highly dependent on the individual project site conditions and the characteristics of the proposed activity, including level of ground disturbance. Under the No Project Alternative, existing land use designations and zoning would continue to define the type of development that occurs throughout Ukiah. Like the proposed project, development facilitated under the No Project Alternative may involve excavation, which could potentially impact previously unidentified TCRs. The No Project Alternative would not include updated General Plan policies designed to preserve and protect TCRs; however, similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to avoid TCRs and follow protocols in the case of an unanticipated discovery.

Overall because the No Project Alternative would result in less development, the severity of impacts would be slightly less than the proposed project.

m. Utilities and Service Systems

Development facilitated under the No Project Alternative would create additional demand for water, wastewater, electricity, natural gas, telecommunication, and stormwater drainage facilities. Any utility expansion within City limits or the Annexation Areas would be subject to existing Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) and General Plan policies, which are intended to reduce potential impacts of utility expansion. In addition, similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to minimize impacts on the physical environment due to the installation of utilities. Although the No Project Alternative would not include Ukiah 2040 policies that require implementation of low impact development, energy conservation, and energy efficiency strategies, there are existing regulations that would require similar measures. Impacts involving utility expansion under the No Project Alternative would be less than significant, but slightly less than the proposed project because the No Project Alternative would have less development and, therefore, fewer utility connections.

As discussed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*, the City's Public Works Department would have adequate water supply to service the City's anticipated growth under the proposed project. Considering that development under the No Project Alternative would result in 1,579 fewer residents (assuming a maximum buildout scenario) than the proposed project, growth under the No Project Alternative would also be accommodated by the City's existing water system. Although development under the No Project Alternative would increase water demand, the City would continue to have sufficient water supply during normal, dry, and multiple dry years, and impacts to water supply would be less than significant.

Development facilitated under the No Project Alternative would increase demand for wastewater treatment. Like the proposed project, the timing, intensity, and location of an expansion of wastewater treatment facilities is unknown at this time. Like the proposed project, wastewater expansion for the No Project Alternative would require additional CEQA review, would be advanced when the wastewater expansion is advanced, and impacts would be less than significant. Considering the No Project Alternative would add 1,579 fewer residents to Ukiah (assuming a maximum buildout scenario), demand for wastewater and overall wastewater impacts would be less under the No Project Alternative than for the proposed project.

Implementation of the No Project Alternative would generate solid waste from construction and operation of development (including typical residential, commercial, and office solid waste). As discussed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*, the Ukiah Transfer Station would have adequate capacity to serve the population growth under the proposed project. Considering the No Project Alternative would result in 1,579 fewer people than the proposed project (assuming a maximum buildout scenario), the Ukiah Transfer Station would also accommodate population growth under this alternative. However, the No Project Alternative would not include Ukiah 2040 policies that focus on reducing solid waste generation and increasing recycling and composting. Like the proposed project, impacts involving solid waste under the No Project Alternative would be less than significant.

n. Wildfire

Under the No Project Alternative, development under existing general plan and zoning regulations would be allowed on sites that are mapped within or near State Responsibility Areas and fire hazard

severity zones (FHSZ). There are approximately 387 acres of Very High FHSZ within the city limits of Ukiah, and approximately 2,670 acres of Very High FHSZ within the city's existing Sphere of Influence, as discussed in Section 4.14, *Wildfire*. Under the No Project Alternative, development could still occur within a FHSZ and the No Project Alternative would be subject to the same regulations as described for the proposed project, including the Ukiah City Code, which adopted State Responsibility Area (SRA) regulations for land within the City limits located in High or Very High FHSZs. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to reduce construction and design wildfire risk. Overall, the No Project Alternative would have a similar impact on wildfire than the proposed project.

o. Paleontological Resources

As discussed in Section 4.15, *Paleontological Resources*, a portion of the City overlays the Quaternary terrace geologic unit, which has high paleontological sensitivity. Under the No Project Alternative, ground disturbance associated with buildout of existing General Plan land use designations, as well as development in Annexation Areas, may result in potentially significant impacts to paleontological resources. Similar to the proposed project, mitigation may be applied to individual projects that require CEQA review to minimize impacts on paleontological resources. However, the No Project Alternative would involve less overall development than the proposed project, and thus would be less likely to impact paleontological resources.

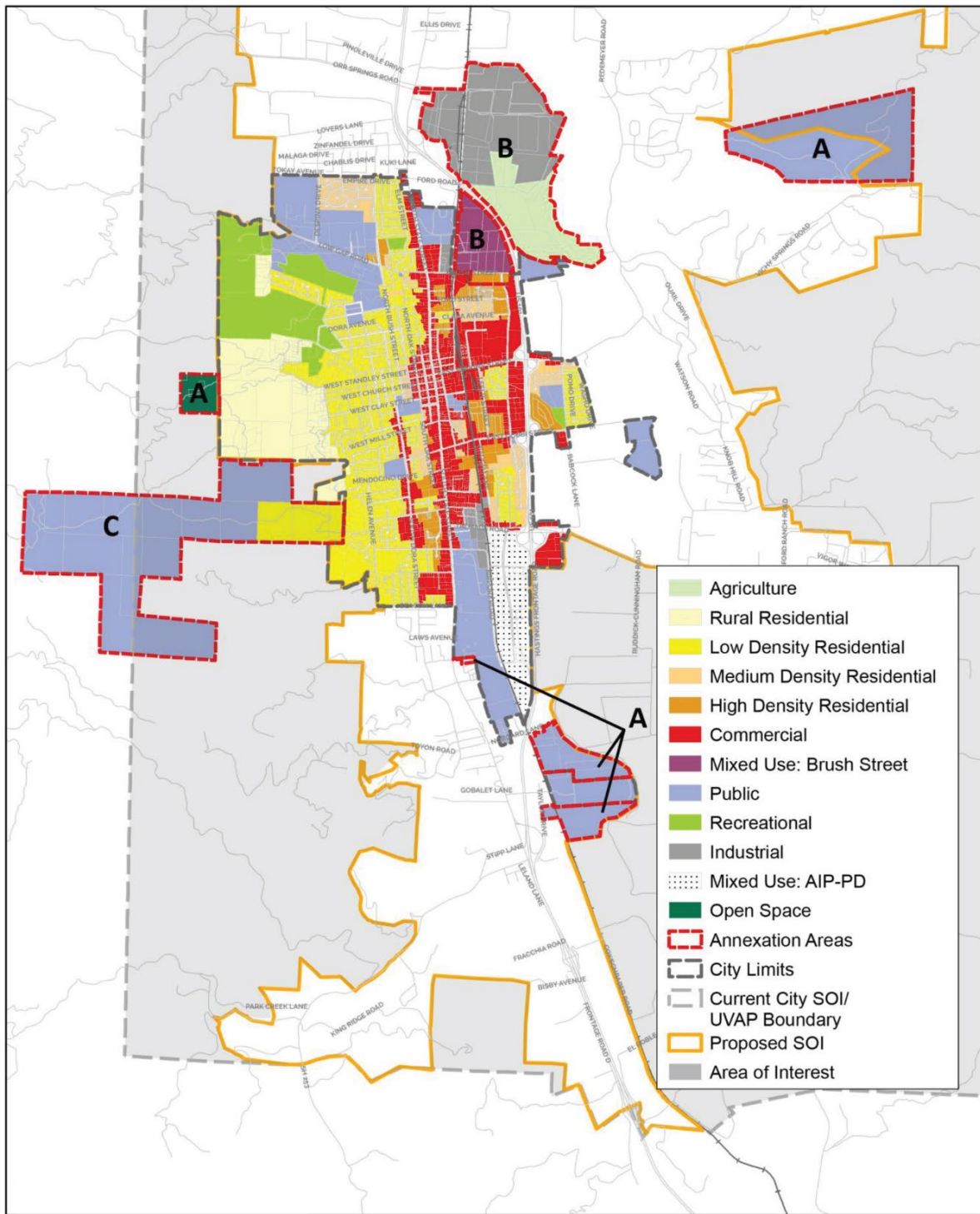
5.2 Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density

5.2.1 Description

The Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) assumes increased residential densities (1,868 units total) allowed by each land use designation compared to the existing General Plan or No Project Alternative (1,692 units total) but decreased residential densities when compared to the proposed project (2,350 total units). For example, the existing General Plan allows High Density Residential development of up to 28 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) and the proposed project (as well as Alternative 2) would allow a density of up to 40 du/ac. Both the proposed project and Alternative 2 would apply new and/or existing General Plan land use designations to lands within the city limits and Annexation Areas. However, Alternative 2 would not add new land use designations intended to increase commercial land uses and would rely on existing General Plan land use designations (and densities). Because Alternative 2 would maintain the same designations as the General Plans for non-residential spaces, the buildout of non-residential space would be the same as the No Project Alternative. In addition, Alternative 2 would not add some of the new land use designations identified for the proposed project, which explains why Alternative 2 would have less residential units than the proposed project. Figure 5-1 shows the land use designations for Alternative 2.

Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, buildout under Alternative 2 would allow for 1,868 housing units and approximately 3,831,300 square feet of additional non-residential land uses (refer to Table 5-1). Non-residential development would be the same as the No Project Alternative but would be less than the proposed project. Resulting residential density would be less than the proposed project and more than the No Project Alternative. However, Alternative 2 would not accomplish project objectives to the extent that the proposed project would, as Alternative 2 would provide reduced housing options.

Figure 5-1 Alternative 2 Land Use Designations



Source: City of Ukiah, 2/2/2022; City of Ukiah, 2021; Mendocino County, 2011; Mendocino County, 2019.

5.2.2 Impact Analysis

a. Aesthetics

Development under Alternative 2 would introduce a new land use pattern that would encourage increased residential density relative to the existing General Plan but less than the proposed project. Annexation areas would be given City land use designations and would potentially change the visual character of both the annexation areas as well as the overall City of Ukiah. However, impacts to visual character would be reduced when compared to the proposed project, as Alternative 2 would entail less overall residential and non-residential development. Similarly, impacts to scenic vistas and light and glare would be reduced under Alternative 2 when compared to the proposed project, as this alternative would involve less dense infill development. Nonetheless, development under Alternative 2 could affect aesthetics and would be required to comply with the same Ukiah City Code regulations as the proposed project. Both Alternative 2 and the proposed project would have less than significant impacts on aesthetics; however, the severity of the impact for Alternative 2 would be slightly less than for the proposed project. This is because the Alternative 2 would have less development than the proposed project.

b. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Development under Alternative 2 would continue the agricultural land use pattern currently in Ukiah, as no new agricultural land use designations would be introduced. Impacts to Farmland, land under Williamson Act contract, or regarding the conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural use would be the same as the proposed project. There are no zoned Timber Production Zones or forest lands within City limits or proposed annexation areas. Thus, Alternative 2 would have no impact to forest land and would not result in the conversion of forest land to non-forest use, like the proposed project.

c. Air Quality

Like the proposed project, buildout under Alternative 2 would not preclude planned transit or bike pathways and would not disrupt regional planning efforts to reduce VMT and meet federal and State air quality standards. Alternative 2 would be consistent with applicable 2017 Clean Air Plan control measures. Impacts regarding conflict with applicable air quality plans would be less than significant, the same as the proposed project.

Buildout from Alternative 2 would accommodate approximately 482 fewer housing units than under the proposed project. Short-term emissions that would occur from construction of the 482 housing units would be avoided under Alternative 2. Similarly, non-residential development would be reduced under this alternative, resulting in reduced construction-related emissions as compared to the proposed project. Additionally, Alternative 2 would implement Mitigation Measure AQ-1, (Implement BAAQMD and MCAQMD Basic Construction Mitigation Measures), which would further reduce construction impacts to air quality. Alternative 2 would have fewer overall construction-related impacts to air quality. Like the proposed project, air quality impacts from construction of Alternative 2 would be less than significant with mitigation; however, Alternative 2 would have fewer overall construction-related impacts to air quality due to the reduced buildout.

As stated in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*, the greatest source of criteria pollutants in Ukiah is from transportation sources, specifically mobile emissions from roadway traffic. Considering 482 fewer residential units would be constructed in Ukiah under this alternative, the long-term on-site

emissions from vehicle use would be reduced when compared to the proposed project. An overall reduction in VMT would result in less operational emissions associated with mobile sources. Like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would implement Mitigation Measure AQ-2, (Implement Measures to Reduce Operational Emissions), which would reduce operational impacts to air quality. Nonetheless, operational air quality impacts for Alternative 2 would also be significant and unavoidable.

Overall, Alternative 2 would result in less infill development than the proposed project, leading to lower density development near stationary sources, freeways, and high-volume roadways. Therefore, Alternative 2 would result in lower TAC near sensitive receptors when compared to the proposed project. However, as described in Section 4.3, *Air Quality*, the proposed project includes Ukiah 2040 goals and policies designed to promote clean air quality, protect public health and safety, and mitigate adverse air quality impacts. Alternative 2 would implement these policies and would also require Mitigation Measure AQ-2 (Conduct Construction Health Risk Assessment) to reduce impacts to a less than significant level.

Like the proposed project, construction activities under Alternative 2 would generate odors, which would be temporary and limited to the constructed period. Similar to the proposed project, Alternative 2 would have a less than significant impact regarding creation of objectionable odors.

Overall, the significance conclusions for Alternative 2 would be the same as the proposed project.

d. Biological Resources

As described in Section 4.4, *Biological Resources*, potential habitat suitable for special-status species occurs in streams, grasslands, riparian woodland, and forests within the Planning Area. Alternative 2 would result in overall reduced development when compared to the proposed project; however, development under Alternative 2 may potentially impact special-status species or their habitat, including riparian habitat and wildlife corridors. Mitigation Measures BIO-1 (Biological Resource Assessment), BIO-2 (Pre-Construction Bird Surveys, Avoidance, and Notification), BIO-3 (Roosting Bat Surveys and Avoidance Prior to Removal) and BIO-4 (Bird Safe Design) would be implemented for Alternative 2 and would help reduce associated biological resource impacts, similar to the proposed project. Overall, impacts to biological resources under Alternative 2 would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated, like the proposed project. Impacts from Alternative 2 would be slightly less, compared to the proposed project due to the reduction in buildout.

e. Cultural Resources

Under Alternative 2, less residential and nonresidential development than under the proposed project would occur; however, individual projects would have the potential to impact historic and archaeological resources. Alternative 2 would have reduced, but still potentially significant impacts to historic and archaeological resources. Like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would include Mitigation Measures CUL-1 (Historic Resources Study Program) and CUL-2 (Archaeological Resources Study Program), which require project applicants to investigate the potential to disturb historic or archaeological resources. Like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would include updated General Plan goals and policies designed to preserve and protect historic and archaeological resources in Ukiah. Development under Alternative 2 may result in the permanent loss or damage to historic structures, impacts under this alternative would be significant and unavoidable, like the proposed project.

f. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Less development would occur under Alternative 2 and temporary construction-related GHG emissions that result from grading and construction of new housing and non-residential development, as well as long-term impacts resulting from building operation (such as energy use, maintenance, and traffic) would be reduced when compared to the proposed project. Alternative 2 would include Policies ENV-7.3 (Implement Clean Air Plan) and ENV-7.5 (Construction and Operations) within the Ukiah 2040 Environment and Sustainability Element, which are designed to reduce the impact of GHG emissions generated with construction activities.

Under existing conditions, Ukiah's General Plan does not outline how the City would meet State-mandated goals to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045. Therefore, Alternative 2 would not be consistent with the California Executive Order B-55-18 goal of carbon neutrality by 2045 and would not include a qualified GHG reduction plan to guide progress towards State goals. Consequently, impacts related to generation of GHG emissions and consistency with State GHG reduction plans under Alternative 2 would be potentially significant. Like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would implement Mitigation Measure GHG-1, through which the City would add a new General Plan policy to prepare, adopt, and implement a CEQA GHG emissions threshold of significance; and Mitigation Measure GHG-2, which would require the City to update Ukiah's Climate Action Plan to meet State goals of 40 percent below 1990 emissions levels and 2045 goal of carbon neutrality. Implementation of these mitigation measures would ensure development under Alternative 2 would be consistent with State emissions goals; however, individual projects that occur prior to adoption of the Climate Action Plan under MM GHG-2 may not be consistent. While overall GHG emissions impacts under Alternative 2 would be reduced when compared to the proposed project, such impacts would remain significant and unavoidable.

g. Land Use and Planning

While Alternative 2 would increase the intensity of development for residential land uses compared to the No Project Alternative (but decrease residential land uses when compared to the proposed project), such uses would be consistent with updated residential land use designations and would not conflict with Ukiah's General Plan or Zoning Ordinance. Overall, Alternative 2 would result in less intensive future development, as it does not include new land use designations that would change the development intensity of non-residential buildings and would provide 482 fewer housing units than the proposed project. Alternative 2 would not alter connectivity with adjacent areas or divide established communities. Like the proposed project, future development under existing zoning would be required to comply with regulatory goals and policies, including the Ukiah Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility, the Ukiah Valley Area Plan, and Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan, as discussed in Impact LU-2 within Section 4.7, *Land Use and Planning*. Impacts regarding land use and planning would be less than significant, like the proposed project.

h. Noise

Buildout under Alternative 2 would result in reduced development compared to the proposed project. Therefore, less construction and associated construction noise and vibration would occur under Alternative 2 as compared to the proposed project. Like the proposed project, construction noise under Alternative 2 could temporarily increase noise levels, potentially affecting nearby noise-sensitive land uses and leading to a significant and unavoidable impact. Alternative 2 would implement Mitigation Measure NOI-1 (Construction Noise Reduction Measures), which would help reduce construction noise. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure NOI-1 would not

ensure that construction noise impacts would be reduced to below the significance threshold of 80 dBA Leq during the daytime at residential uses. Furthermore, due to construction projects that could occur simultaneously in the same area and the potential duration of construction activities, construction impacts would remain significant and unavoidable under Alternative 2, like the proposed project.

Noise generated by on-site stationary equipment for new development would be subject to the City's noise limits, like the proposed project. Adherence to Ukiah Municipal Code noise limits for HVAC units and other stationary noise sources associated with future development would ensure that operational stationary noise under Alternative 2 is less than significant.

Implementation of Alternative 2 could result in buildout, which would generate new vehicle trips that could incrementally increase the exposure of land uses along roadways to traffic noise. Although Alternative 2 would result in reduced overall VMT, there would still be an increase in VMT compared to existing conditions and a significant and unavoidable traffic noise impact would occur.

Development facilitated under Alternative 2 could temporarily generate groundborne vibration during construction, potentially affecting nearby land uses. Mitigation Measure NOI-2 (Construction Vibration Control Plan) would require implementation of measures to reduce vibration impacts during construction. Operation of future development under Alternative 2 would not involve substantial vibration or groundborne noise. Thus, impacts involving groundborne vibration and noise would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated, like the proposed project.

The redesignation of three parcels in the far northwestern corner of the community, which are currently designated Rural Residential, would not result in significant noise impacts, as these parcels would have a Recreational designation and are currently developed with recreation uses.

Residents and businesses facilitated by Alternative 2 would not be served by the Ukiah Municipal Airport, except for emergency medical and fire services. Thus, development facilitated under this alternative would not result in significantly increased airport or airstrip activity. Continued regulation of airport noise consistent with State and federal regulations would minimize disturbance to people residing or working within proximity of the Ukiah Municipal Airport. Impacts would be less than significant, like the proposed project. In addition, Alternative 2 would include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to reduce noise from the Ukiah Municipal Airport through disclosure, attenuation, and studies; therefore, impacts would be the same under this alternative than the proposed project.

i. Population and Housing

Under Alternative 2, land use designations within Ukiah would allow for increased residential density when compared to the No Project Alternative; however, the existing General Plan land use designations would continue to define Ukiah's development pattern. Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, implementation of Alternative 2 would accommodate approximately 1,157 fewer residents and 482 fewer housing units than would be accommodated by implementation of the proposed project (refer to Table 5-1). Thus, compared to the proposed project, Alternative 2 would result in less population growth, and would not induce substantial unplanned population growth.

The current General Plan provides for orderly development and growth. The displacement of people or housing units under Alternative 2 would be minimal, as development in Ukiah would continue in accordance with the General Plan. Impacts would be less than significant. When compared to the proposed project, Alternative 2 would have reduced impacts to population and housing.

j. Public Services and Recreation

When compared to the No Project Alternative, increased buildout from Alternative 2 would result in an increase to emergency calls in the area, as well as an increase in additional demand for schools, parks, libraries, recreational facilities, or other public services. Assuming a maximum buildout scenario, Alternative 2 would add approximately 4,483 new residents to Ukiah when compared to the No Project Alternative; however, this is 1,157 fewer residents than the proposed project's 5,640 new residents. Thus, the increase in demand for public services under Alternative 2 would be smaller than the proposed project's increase in demand. Impacts to public services and recreation would be less than the proposed project. Nonetheless, both would result in a less than significant impact.

k. Transportation

For the same reasons as the proposed project, Alternative 2 would have a less than significant impact regarding conflict with circulation programs, plans, ordinances, or policies; substantially increased transportation hazards and inadequate emergency access. Development under Alternative 2 would primarily follow existing General Plan land use designations, along with increased residential density. Alternative 2 could result in an increase to non-residential area (3,831,300 square feet) and residential units (1,868 units), relative to existing conditions. This buildout would add jobs and dwelling units to the City; however, compared to the proposed project, the ratio of jobs per dwelling units for Alternative 2 would be greater than the proposed project. As such, Alternative 2 would have a reduced land use diversity index compared to the proposed project. Overall, Alternative 2 would result in greater VMT per capita impacts than the proposed project.

l. Tribal Cultural Resources

Like the No Project Alternative and proposed project, development facilitated under Alternative 2 may involve excavation, which could potentially impact previously unidentified TCRs. Alternative 2 would include Mitigation Measures TCR-1 (Avoidance of Tribal Cultural Resources) and TCR-2 (Unanticipated Discovery). Implementation of these mitigation measures would reduce potential impacts to TCRs from development facilitated by this alternative to less than significant levels by requiring avoidance and monitoring in areas identified as sensitive for TCRs. As Alternative 2 would include the same mitigation as the proposed project, impacts to TCRs would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated. Overall because Alternative 2 would result in less development than the proposed project, the severity of impacts would be slightly less than the proposed project.

m. Utilities and Service Systems

Development facilitated under Alternative 2 would create additional demand for water, wastewater, electricity, natural gas, telecommunication, and stormwater drainage facilities compared to the No Project Alternative. Any utility expansion within City limits or the Annexation Areas would be subject to proposed Ukiah 2040 policies and mitigation measures identified throughout the Alternative 2 analysis, which would reduce potential impacts of utility expansion. Thus, impacts involving utility expansion under Alternative 2 would be less than significant, same as the proposed project and No Project Alternative.

As discussed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*, the City's Public Works Department would have adequate water supply to service the City's anticipated growth under the proposed

project. Alternative 2 would add approximately 4,483 new residents to Ukiah when compared to the No Project Alternative; however, this is 1,157 fewer residents than the proposed project's 5,640 new residents. As such, growth under Alternative 2 would also be accommodated by the City's existing water system. Although development under Alternative 2 would increase water demand, the City would continue to have sufficient water supply during normal, dry, and multiple dry years, and impacts to water supply would be less than significant.

Development facilitated under Alternative 2 would increase demand for wastewater treatment. Like the proposed project and No Project Alternative, the timing, intensity, and location of an expansion of wastewater treatment facilities is unknown at this time. Like the proposed project and No Project Alternative, wastewater expansion for Alternative 2 would require additional CEQA review, would be advanced when the wastewater expansion is advanced, and impacts would be less than significant. However, considering Alternative 2 would add approximately 4,483 new residents to Ukiah when compared to the No Project Alternative but 1,157 fewer residents to Ukiah when compared to the proposed project, demand for wastewater and overall wastewater impacts would be less under Alternative 2 than for the proposed project.

Implementation of Alternative 2 would generate solid waste from construction and operation of development (including typical residential, commercial, and office solid waste). As discussed in Section 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*, the Ukiah Transfer Station would have adequate capacity to serve the population growth under the proposed project. Considering Alternative 2 would add approximately 4,483 new residents to Ukiah when compared to the No Project Alternative but 1,157 fewer people than the proposed project, the Ukiah Transfer Station would also accommodate population growth under this alternative. Impacts involving solid waste would be less than significant, like the proposed project and No Project Alternative.

n. Wildfire

Development facilitated under Alternative 2 would occur primarily as infill and redevelopment within the urbanized areas of Ukiah. However, Alternative 2 would increase residential land use densities when compared to the No Project Alternative, and consequently may result in increased residential exposure to wildfire or risks involving wildfires, especially in the western area of the City, where residential development overlaps with High and Very High FHSZ. However, like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would implement Mitigation Measure WFR-1, which would require wildfire risk reduction during project construction, as well as Mitigation Measure WFR-2, which outlines project design wildfire risk reduction criteria. In addition, any new development within or near a High or Very High FHSZ would be required to the SRA regulations pursuant to the Ukiah City Code, as described in Section 4.14, *Wildfire*. As such, like the proposed project, impacts would be less than significant with mitigation.

o. Paleontological Resources

As discussed in Section 4.15, *Paleontological Resources*, the City overlay the Quaternary terrace geologic unit, which has high paleontological sensitivity. Like the No Project Alternative and the proposed project, ground disturbance associated with Alternative 2 may result in potentially significant impacts to paleontological resources. However, Alternative 2 would involve less overall development than the proposed project and thus would be less likely to impact paleontological resources. Like the proposed project, implementation of Mitigation Measure PAL-1 (Retention of Qualified Professional Paleontologist) would reduce adverse impacts associated with construction activities. Like the proposed project, Alternative 2 would include Ukiah 2040 policies designed to

protect archaeological resources, including paleontological resources. Impacts to paleontological resources under Alternative 2 would be less than significant with mitigation incorporated, and less than the proposed project.

5.3 Alternatives Considered but Rejected

The following summarizes those alternatives considered, but ultimately rejected for inclusion in the analysis as they would not meet most of the project objectives, would not substantially reduce impacts compared to the proposed project, or were determined to be infeasible.

The City considered an alternative that would require an update to the zoning code to include requiring noise barriers to reduce construction noise for development on project sites. Noise barriers would reduce on-site noise by about 10 to 20 dBA depending on construction materials and barrier height, since noise barriers are traditionally constructed of material with a minimum weight of 2 pounds per square foot with no gaps or perforations. Noise barriers may be constructed of, but are not limited to, 5/8-inch plywood, 5/8-inch oriented strand board, or hay bales. This alternative, which would require noise barriers that would reduce construction noise, could reduce the significant construction noise impact, but would not reduce the significant and unavoidable operational noise impact. Additionally, construction of noise barriers could result in increased impacts associated with ground disturbance (such as those related to biological resources, geology and soils, air quality, etc.) and visual impacts. Lastly, this alternative would meet project objectives to provide housing, but fewer housing units would likely be built, because development on certain sites would be infeasible due to construction cost constraints.

5.4 Environmentally Superior Alternative

CEQA requires identification of the environmentally superior alternative among the alternatives to the proposed project. The environmentally superior alternative must be an alternative that reduces some of the project's environmental impacts, regardless of the financial costs associated. Identification of the environmentally superior alternative is an informational procedure and the alternative identified as the environmentally superior alternative may not be that which best meets the goals or needs of the proposed project. Table 5-2 indicates whether each alternative's environmental impact is greater than, less than, or equal to the proposed project for each of the issue areas studied.

Overall, none of the alternatives identified in this analysis changed the impact conclusions that were identified for the proposed project. However, some of the alternatives did reduce the severity of the impact; thus, this analysis considers the severity of the impact to identify the environmentally superior alternative. Based on the analysis of alternatives in this section, the No Project Alternative is the environmentally superior alternative as it lessens the severity of most impacts of the proposed project. Because the No Project Alternative would reduce overall development (residential and non-residential) compared to the proposed project, the overall impacts from construction would also be reduced since there would be less construction. For example, potential impacts on air quality construction emissions, biological resources, cultural resources, temporary noise, tribal cultural resources, and paleontological resources would be reduced due to less area being affected (i.e., excavated, graded, etc.) and due to less use of construction equipment. In addition, operationally there would be reduced aesthetic impacts because there would be fewer buildings; less air quality emissions because there would be less overall VMT; less operational noise

because there would be less traffic and fewer HVAC units; and less demand for public services, recreation, and utilities. The No Project Alternative, however, would introduce less diversity of land uses than the proposed project and would result in greater transportation impacts than the proposed project. Furthermore, the No Project Alternative would have greater GHG impacts because CEQA GHG emissions threshold of significance and an updated Climate Action Plan would not be implemented for the No Project Alternative. In addition, this alternative would not meet the project objectives, as it would have reduced housing options and exclude all policies from Ukiah 2040.

If the No Project Alternative is determined to avoid or reduce more impacts than any other alternative, CEQA requires that the EIR identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6[e]). Of the other alternatives evaluated in this EIR, the Decreased Residential Density Alternative (Alternative 2) would be the environmentally superior alternative. Like the No Project Alternative, Alternative 2 would result in less construction impacts (air quality construction emissions, biological resources, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, temporary noise, tribal cultural resources, and paleontological resources) than the proposed project because of a reduction in buildout. In addition, Alternative 2 would result in less operational impacts (aesthetics, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, public services, recreation, and utilities) due to the reduced buildout. Nonetheless, compared to the proposed project, Alternative 2 would not fulfill the project objectives as well. This is because the proposed project would offer more housing opportunities and a diversity of land uses for future Ukiah residents.

Pursuant to CEQA requirements, Alternative 2 would be considered the environmentally superior alternative; however, the proposed project would offer benefits that would not be achieved by Alternative 2, primarily housing opportunities and a diversity of land uses.

Table 5-2 Impact Comparison of Alternatives

Issue	Proposed Project Impact Classification	Alternative 1: No Project	Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density
Aesthetics	Less than Significant	+	+
Agriculture and Forestry Resources	Less than Significant	=	=
Air Quality	Significant and Unavoidable	+	+
Biological Resources	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	+	+
Cultural Resources	Significant and Unavoidable	+	+
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Significant and Unavoidable	-	+
Land Use and Planning	Less than Significant	=	=
Noise	Significant and Unavoidable	+	+
Population and Housing	Less than Significant	+	+
Public Services and Recreation	Less than Significant	+	+
Transportation	Less than Significant	-	-
Tribal Cultural Resources	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	+	+
Utilities and Service Systems	Less than Significant	+	+

Issue	Proposed Project Impact Classification	Alternative 1: No Project	Alternative 2: Decreased Residential Density
Wildfire	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	=	=
Paleontological Resources	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	+	+
<p>+ Superior to the proposed project (reduced level of impact)</p> <p>- Inferior to the proposed project (increased level of impact)</p> <p>= Similar level of impact to the proposed project</p>			

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6 Other CEQA Required Discussions

This section discusses other issues for which the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires analysis in addition to the specific issue areas discussed in Section 4, *Environmental Impact Analysis*. These additional issues include the project's potential to induce growth and create significant and irreversible impacts on the environment.

6.1 Growth Inducement

CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.2(d) requires a discussion of a project's potential to foster economic or population growth, including ways in which a project could remove an obstacle to growth. Growth does not necessarily create significant physical changes to the environment. However, depending upon the type, magnitude, and location of growth, it can result in significant adverse environmental effects. A project's growth inducing potential is therefore considered significant if project-induced growth could result in significant physical effects in one or more environmental issue areas.

6.1.1 Population and Economic Growth

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) identifies a maximum buildout for Ukiah 2040, which is a conservative assumption developed for this analysis and is not meant to be a predictor of future growth. Overall, maximum growth will be dependent on multiple factors, including local economic conditions, market demand, and other financing considerations. The following estimate of population growth is a conservative estimate based on the maximum buildout scenario. As discussed in EIR Section 2, *Project Description*, buildout of the project in the maximum buildout could accommodate an estimated 2,350 additional housing units and 5,640 additional residents in the City. The land use plan and policies in Ukiah 2040 prioritize infill development, reuse of underutilized parcels, contiguous development, high-density and mixed-use design, compactness, and consistency with existing uses within City boundaries to support growth in areas already well-served by existing public facilities and services.

Under the maximum buildout scenario, Ukiah 2040 could result in an increase of approximately 4,514,80 square feet of nonresidential development that would generate permanent employment opportunities in the City for residents. Additionally, Ukiah 2040 would generate temporary employment opportunities during construction of future residential and nonresidential projects. As construction workers would be expected to be drawn from the existing regional work force, construction of future development projects would not be considered growth-inducing.

As discussed in Section 2, *Project Description*, the City contains approximately 120 acres of vacant parcels, with the rest of the City occupied by development or open space. Due to the availability of developable areas, any economic expansion induced by the project is not anticipated to result in direct physical environmental effects beyond those described throughout Section 4, *Environmental Impact Analysis*. Specifically, buildout is projected to occur within the existing City limits and Annexation Areas. Future development within the remaining sphere of influence (SOI) and Planning Area will be analyzed under CEQA on a project-level basis.

6.1.2 Removal of Obstacles to Growth

The land use plan and policies in Ukiah 2040 prioritize infill development, reuse of underutilized parcels, contiguous development, high-density and mixed-use design, compactness, and consistency with existing uses within City boundaries to support growth in areas already well-served by existing public facilities and services. New development would occur primarily where existing roads, water, and sewer and other utilities are in place and in a manner that minimizes the impact of development on existing infrastructure and services. Despite the anticipated change in land use designations, the project would generally preserve the existing pattern of land uses in the City.

As described in Section 2.7.6, *Proposed Annexation Areas*, the City of Ukiah is pursuing approximately 1,617 acres of County-owned land for annexation. The annexation areas are split into three distinct categories. The first, Annexation Area A, consists of 16 City-owned properties that currently host City operations, such as landfill, airport, and wastewater treatment uses. Once annexed, Annexation Area A would continue to be utilized as agriculture, open space, or municipal uses and the lands would be designated as Public and Open Space. Annexation Area B consists of 63 properties containing commercial, industrial, and manufacturing uses (both existing and decommissioned), as well as areas containing vacant and agricultural lands. Once annexed, most of Annexation Area B would be designated by the City as a new land use category proposed under Ukiah 2040, Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle, which is consistent with its existing designation under the UVAP. Other portions of Annexation Area B would be designated as Industrial, while the lands currently vacant or developed with agriculture uses would be designated as Agriculture. Annexation Area C is being pursued as part of the Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement Project, most of which is pre-zoned as Public Facilities and would be preserved for open space conservation. The remaining portions of Annexation Area C are pre-zoned as Rural Residential with a Single-Family Residential-Hillside Overlay designation. However, development on these parcels would be restricted to a maximum number of 14 units total (seven-single family homes and seven accessory dwelling units) due to the existing Development Agreement with the current property owner.

By maintaining the current land uses associated with Annexation Areas A and B, limiting residential development on Annexation Area C, and focusing most of the development in the City within already urbanized areas, implementation of Ukiah 2040 would reduce the growth pressure in undeveloped areas along the periphery of the City. This constrained growth pressure would reduce the potential for impacts as compared to development on lands beyond urban limits. Furthermore, Ukiah 2040 does not include development within the proposed SOI or the larger Planning Area. Any future uses developed within the proposed SOI would be subject to annexation to the City of Ukiah in compliance with procedures identified by the Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission. Future land use designations within the SOI or Planning Area are not specifically defined or included within the buildout assumptions of Ukiah 2040. Because Ukiah 2040 does not include any future development, utilities, or transportation improvements in the proposed SOI or Planning Area, the project would not result in the removal of an obstacle to growth.

6.2 Irreversible Environmental Effects

When an EIR evaluates a project that would amend public plans, ordinances, or policies, the *CEQA Guidelines* require a discussion of significant irreversible environmental changes. CEQA also requires decision-makers to balance the benefits of a proposed project against its unavoidable environmental risks in determining whether to approve a project. This section addresses

nonrenewable resources, the commitment of future generations to the proposed uses, and irreversible impacts associated with the development that would be facilitated by implementation of Ukiah 2040.

Construction activities associated with future development that would be accommodated under Ukiah 2040 would require the use of building materials and energy, some of which are nonrenewable resources. Consumption of these resources would occur with any development in the region and are not unique to Ukiah or Ukiah 2040.

Growth facilitated by Ukiah 2040 would require an irreversible commitment of law enforcement, fire protection, water supply, wastewater treatment, and solid waste disposal services. As discussed in Sections 4.10, *Public Services and Recreation*, and 4.13, *Utilities and Service Systems*, potential impacts to public services and utilities would be less than significant following implementation of policies included in Ukiah 2040, as well as future environmental review that would be required for any future facilities needed to accommodate Ukiah 2040.

The anticipated increase in vehicle trips associated with buildout of Ukiah 2040 would incrementally contribute to local traffic, air quality emissions, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise. As described in Section 4.11, *Transportation*, impacts on transportation were found to be less than significant through adherence to the proposed goals and policies in Ukiah 2040 and because the City's diversity score with Ukiah 2040 would remain below the existing countywide average. Impacts related to air quality were determined to be less than significant with mitigation, except for the impacts related to criteria air pollutants due to operational emissions from traffic. As discussed in Section 4.3, *Air Quality* of this EIR, overall VMT would increase, and operational emission impacts would be significant and unavoidable even after the application of mitigation to reduce air quality emissions during the operation phase of future projects. Impacts related to greenhouse gas emissions were found to be significant and unavoidable. As discussed in Section 4.6, *Greenhouse Gas Emissions* of this EIR, although Ukiah 2040 proposed goals and policies would assist in reducing emissions and although mitigation measures would require that the City implement CEQA greenhouse gas emissions thresholds and update the Ukiah Climate Action Plan to establish a Citywide greenhouse gas reduction target, the project's impacts related to greenhouse gas emissions would remain significant and unavoidable until the CEQA greenhouse gas thresholds are adopted and the Climate Action Plan is updated. Impacts related to construction and operational traffic noise were found to be significant and unavoidable. As discussed in Section 4.8, *Noise* of this EIR, although mitigation and policies would be implemented to minimize construction noise, it cannot be ensured that construction noise would be reduced below noise thresholds and impacts would conservatively remain significant and unavoidable. In addition, as discussed in Section 4.8, *Noise* of this EIR, noise along Brush Street due to increases in traffic was found to be significant and unavoidable.

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7.2 List of Preparers

This EIR was prepared by the City of Ukiah, with the assistance of Rincon Consultants, Inc. Consultants, and GHD. Consultant staff involved in the preparation of the EIR are listed below.

RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

Darcy Kremin, Director-in-Charge
Leo Mena, Senior Environmental Planner, Project Manager
Gianna Meschi, Environmental Planner, Assistant Project Manager
Josh Carman, Director
Christian Knowlton, Biologist
Kristin Asmus, Senior Biologist and Senior Project Manager
Theadora Fuerstenberg, Senior Project Manager
Rachel Perzel, Senior Architectural Historian
Andrew Rodriguez, Assistant Architectural Historian
Nicholas Carter, Environmental Planner
Taylor Freeman, Environmental Planner
Rachel Irvine, Environmental Planner
Kayleigh Limbach, Environmental Planner
Jesse Voremberg, Environmental Planner
Max Antono, GIS Analyst
Kat Castanon, GIS Analyst
Gina Gerlich, GIS Analyst
Chris Jackson-Jordan, GIS Analyst
Isabelle Radis, GIS Analyst
Allysen Valencia, GIS Analyst

GHD

Colin Burgett, Senior Project Manager
Donald Hubbard, Technical Director
Todd Tregenza, Senior Transportation Project Manager

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Appendix A

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Comments Received



NOTICE OF PREPARATION

City of Ukiah General Plan Update

Date: May 31, 2022

To: Reviewing Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the City of Ukiah General Plan Update

The City of Ukiah (City) is preparing an update to the City's General Plan. The City has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be necessary to evaluate environmental impacts of the General Plan Update pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In compliance with CEQA, the City will be the Lead Agency and will prepare the EIR. The City is requesting comments and guidance on the scope and content of the EIR from responsible and trustee agencies, interested public agencies, organizations, and the general public (CEQA Guidelines Section 15082).

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) provides a summary of the General Plan Update; includes the City's preliminary identification of the potential environmental issues to be analyzed in the EIR; and provides information on how to comment on the scope of the EIR.

Notice of Preparation Public Review Period: May 31 to June 30, 2022

The City requests your careful review and consideration of this notice, and it invites any and all input and comments from interested agencies, persons, and organizations regarding the preparation of the EIR. Comments and responses to this notice must be in writing and submitted to the Lead Agency Contact through June 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. If applicable, please indicate a contact person for your agency or organization. If your agency is a responsible agency as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15381, your agency may use the environmental documents prepared by the City when considering permits or approvals for action regarding the project.

Lead Agency Contact:

Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development
City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482
cschlatter@cityofukiah.com

Written Comments: Please submit written comments within 30 days of the date of this notice to any of the below by 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2022:

- Email: cschlatter@cityofukiah.com
- Regular Mail: Craig Schlatter, Community Development Department, City of Ukiah, 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, California 95482

Public Scoping Meeting: The City will hold a virtual scoping meeting to provide an opportunity for agency staff and interested members of the public to submit written and oral comments on the scope of the environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR. The scoping meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 6:15 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as can be heard.

The scoping meeting will be held in a hybrid format, with the option of attending in person at the Civic Center Council Chamber, 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah, CA 95482 or via teleconference. Agenda details, including the teleconference link and call-in information will be included on the agenda posted to the City website, <http://www.cityofukiah.com/meetings/> and at the Civic Center Agenda Board no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

To view the meeting without participating or to watch a recorded version of the scoping presentation once it is available to view after June 16, 2022, visit <http://www.cityofukiah.com/meetings/>.

Project Background: The City must update its General Plan to ensure it is internally consistent and maintains a balance of land uses; maintains and supports quality-of-life, community satisfaction, and safety for all residents; and meets new State requirements. A Regional Location map is included as Figure 1.

Project Location: The General Plan Update will encompass the City of Ukiah city limits and its Sphere of Influence (Figure 2).

Proposed Project: The Ukiah General Plan update will serve as a long-term framework for future growth and development. The General Plan represents the community's view of its future and contains the goals and polices upon which the City Council, Planning Commission, staff, and the entire community will base land use and resource decisions. To provide a contemporary plan that will guide the community through the year 2040, the General Plan update will reflect recent development decisions and changes in State law. Major components of the Ukiah General Plan Update will include the following elements:

- **Land Use Element.** This element will consider current and proposed land use amendments as depicted in Figure 3.
- **Economic Development Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to promote and further economic development, job retention, and fiscal sustainability within Ukiah.
- **Agricultural Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies to conserve agricultural resources within Ukiah.
- **Mobility Element.** This element will address existing and planned vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure across the City.
- **Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.** This element will focus on goals and policies related to public services, including but not limited to police, fire, airport, recreation, water/wastewater, and emergency services.

- **Environment and Sustainability Element.** This element will address the wide variety of parks, trails, and open spaces serving the diverse recreation needs of Ukiah residents, particularly youth, and emphasize the unique features of the City’s natural environment. This element will also consider the effects of existing and planned development on natural resources located on public lands.
- **Hazards and Safety Element.** This element will cover seismic activity, other geologic hazards, fire hazards, hazardous materials, flooding, and other potential hazards, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(g). It will also address resiliency and risks from natural hazards in Ukiah, pursuant to SB 379. This element will also cover noise element requirements, consistent with Government Code Section 65302(f), including new existing noise contours as well as projected noise contours based on future traffic volumes projected to arise from improvements planned for in the Mobility Element.

Project Alternatives: The EIR will evaluate a reasonable range of project alternatives that, consistent with CEQA, meet most of the project objectives and reduce or avoid potential environmental effects, including a required No Project Alternative.

Potential Environmental Effect Areas: The EIR will describe the reasonably foreseeable and potentially significant adverse effects of the proposed project (both direct and indirect). The EIR also will evaluate the cumulative impacts of the project when considered in conjunction with other related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The City preliminarily anticipates that the proposed project could result in potentially significant environmental impacts in the following topic areas, which will be further evaluated in the EIR.

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services and Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire
- Cumulative Effects
- Effects Found Not to be Significant

When the Draft EIR is completed, it will be available for review at the City’s offices located at 300 Seminary Ave, Ukiah, California 95482 and online at: <https://ukiah2040.com/documents.html>. The City will issue a Notice of Availability of a Draft EIR at that time to inform the public and interested agencies, groups, and individuals of how to access the Draft EIR and provide comments.

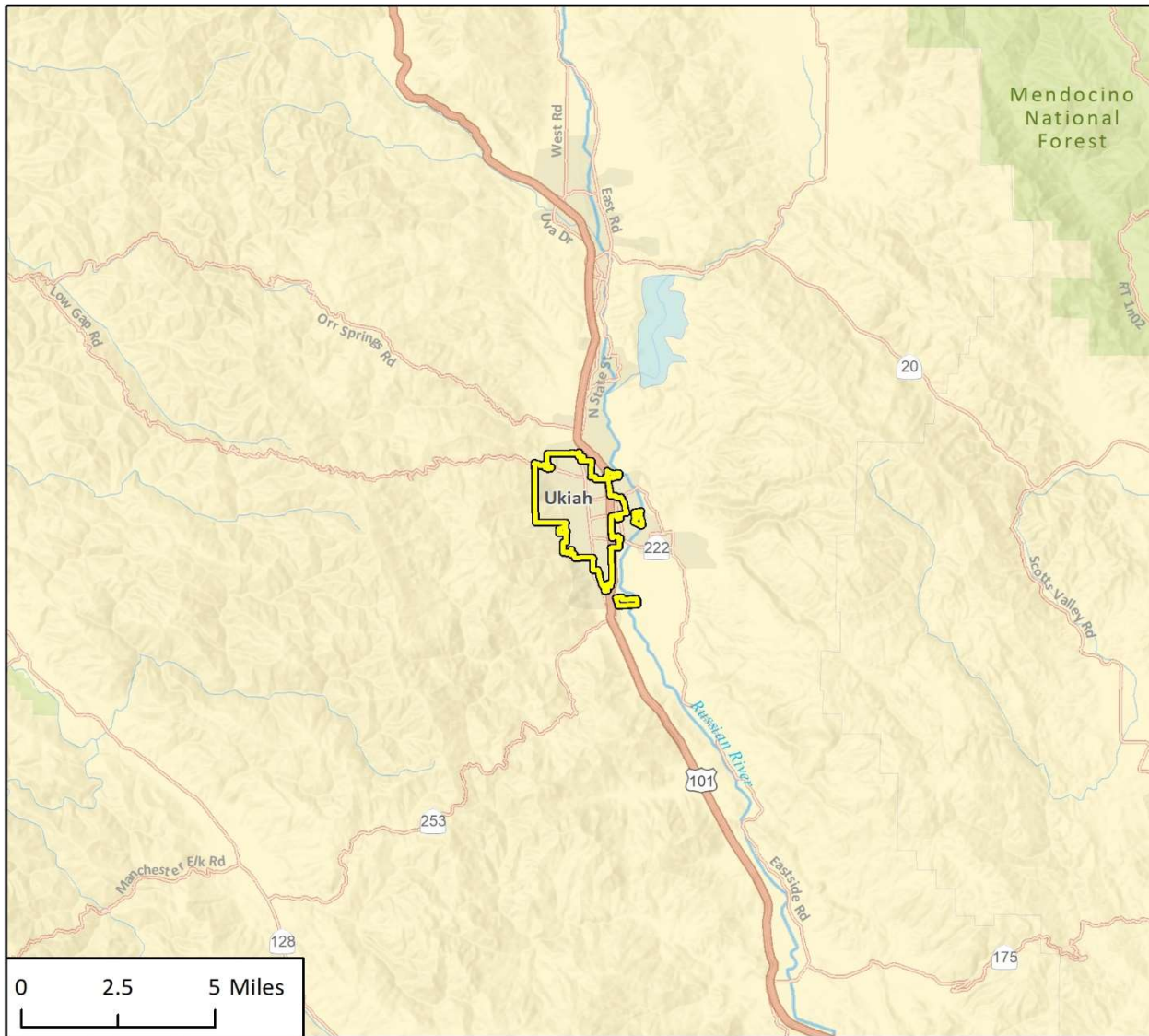
If you have questions regarding this NOP or the scoping meeting, please contact Craig Schlatter at (707) 463-6219 or via email at cschlatter@cityofukiah.com




Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development

05/31/2022
Date

Figure 1 Regional Location



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 City of Ukiah

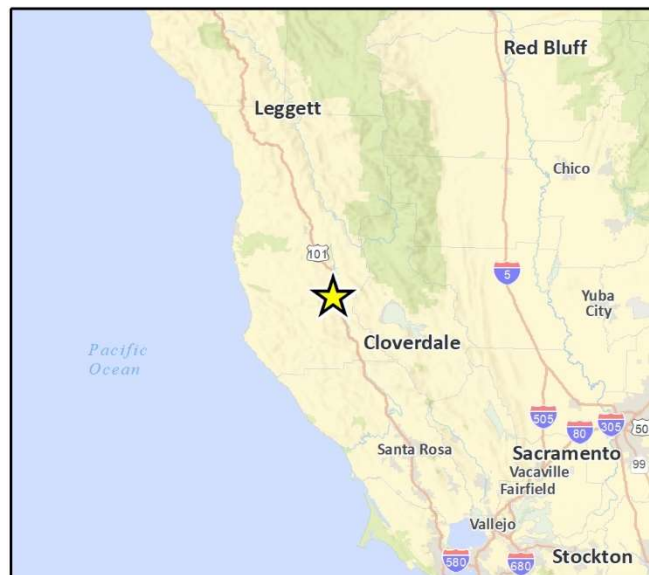


Fig. 1 Regional Location

Figure 2 Project Location and Current Land Use Designations

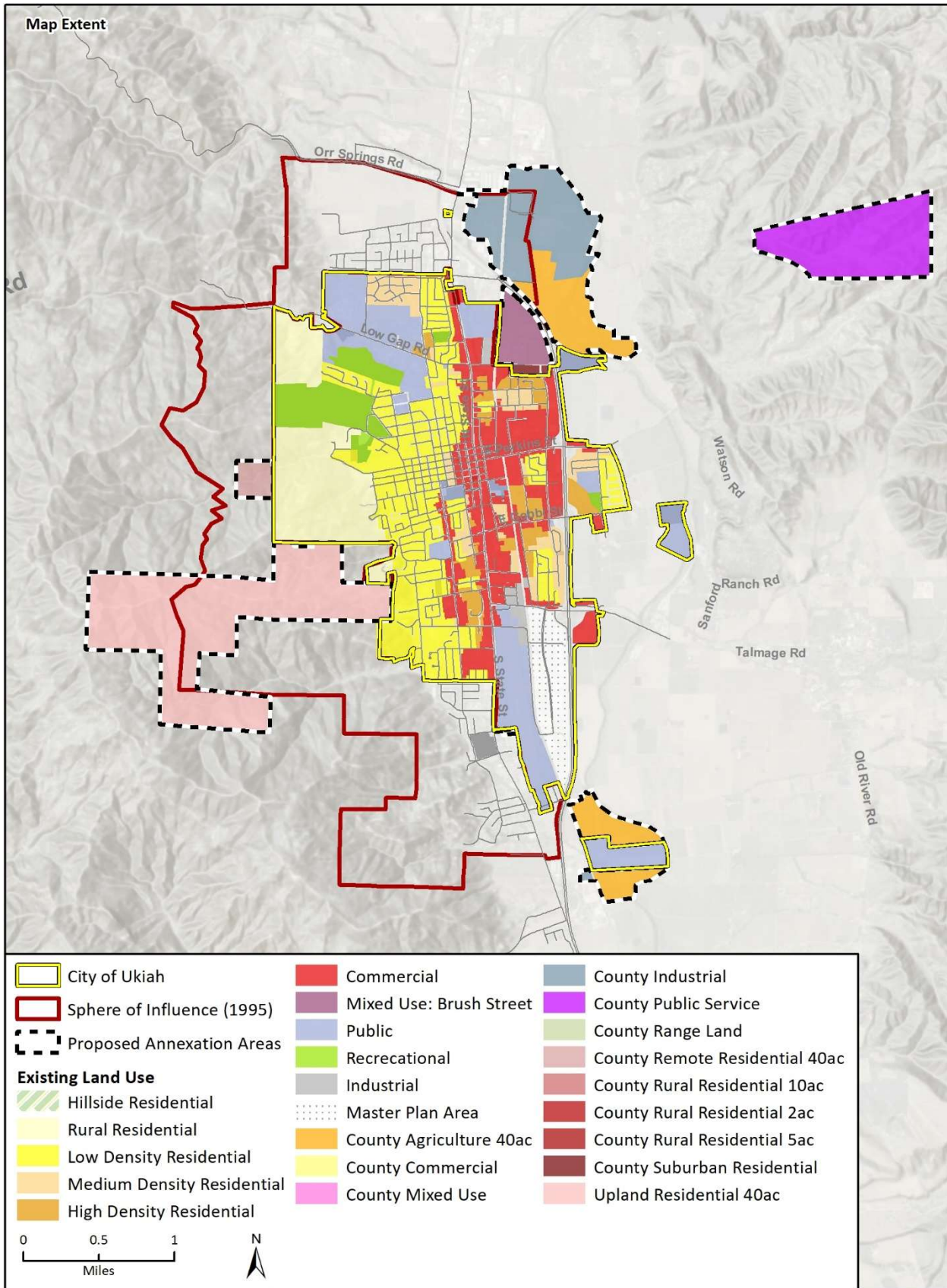
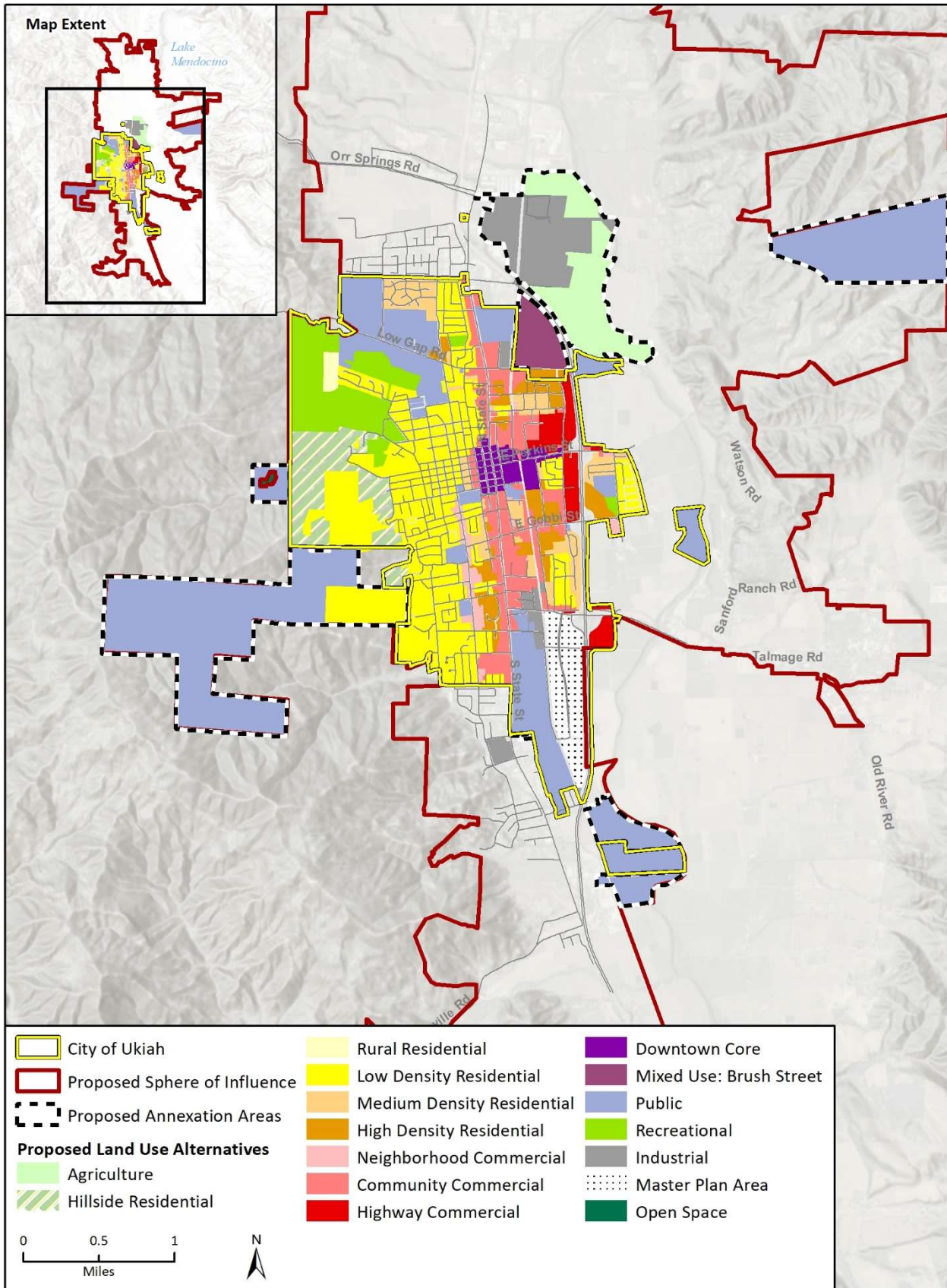


Figure 3 Proposed Land Use Element Amendments



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 Additional data provided by City of Ukiah, 2022.

Fig X Proposed LU Alternatives

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 1
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June 23, 2022

Ukiah Citywide
General Plan Update 2040
SCH# 2022050556

Ms. Michelle Irace
Department of Community Development
City of Ukiah
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482

Dear Ms. Irace:

Thank you for giving Caltrans the opportunity to review and comment on the Notice of Preparation for the Ukiah General Plan Update Environmental Impact Report. The planning horizon is approximately twenty years, during which time City decision makers will rely on the General Plan as the basis for making decisions on matters such as land use, transportation, open space and conservation, provision of public services, and environmental quality and safety. The following comments suggest strategies and policy considerations that are both consistent with goals and objectives of the State and designed to create a more livable and sustainable city for Ukiah residents:

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Reduction

The Caltrans Strategic Plan for 2020-2024 calls for the Department to enhance and connect the multimodal transportation network and to lead in Climate Action. Caltrans has a responsibility to help meet the State's climate goals. One of the ways in which Caltrans can help California reduce and achieve a carbon-neutral future by the year 2045 is through finding ways to reduce the amount of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) on California streets and highways. To meet the State's targets to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption, we must work with our local partners to plan for a more sustainable transportation system.

Emissions from the transportation sector make up the largest contribution of GHG emissions in the State. According to California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), five of the ten most effective and efficient greenhouse gas reduction strategies have to do with the transportation system and are within the control of local governments. The following strategies are recommended as initial points of focus for future local government General Plan policies and Climate Action Plan development and include:

- 1) Promotion of smart growth, jobs/housing balance, transit-oriented development, and infill development through land use designations, zoning, and public-private partnerships.

- 2) Support for and funding of transit, bicycle, and pedestrian connections through transit and trail planning and regional cooperation.
- 4) Promotion of green procurement and alternative fuel vehicle use through municipal mandates and voluntary bid incentives.
- 5) Support for alternative fuel facilities and infrastructure through land use designations, zoning, and public-private partnerships.
- 10) Regional cooperation to find cross-regional efficiencies in GHG reduction investments and to plan for regional transit, energy generation, and waste recovery facilities.

Neighborhoods with compact housing have been shown to result in lower VMT per household when compared to areas with less dense housing. Similarly, affordable housing produces less VMT when compared to market-rate housing. To the extent that future projects contribute to the local supply of affordable and/or compact housing, new residential developments could contribute towards VMT reduction goals and standards and avoid costly mitigation measures in comparison to business-as-usual housing. Once a land use has been established or built, its ability to be adapted to address climate goals becomes far more limited.

Factors Influencing VMT:

- Density of housing relative to typical or existing
- Affordability of new housing
- The level of contribution committed by project mitigation
- Location of the housing project

Ways to measure VMT Reduction:

CAPCOA's "Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures" publication has analyzed the effects of various mitigation measures on GHG emissions. While CAPCOA notes that the measures quantified are project-level in nature, many of the measures are good examples of the kinds of policies, guidelines, and actions that could be promoted in a General Plan or a Climate Action Plan.

For housing projects that result in higher densities, CAPCOA estimates a -0.22 reduction in household VMT for every percentage increase in density. To qualify as a VMT reducer, density must be higher than typical densities. CAPCOA sets the starting point at 9.1 dwelling units per acre. New developments with a density less than 9.1 dwelling units per acre would not be able to claim a reduction in VMT. CAPCOA gives an upper limit on density for VMT reduction benefits, which is 21.5 units/acre. At the upper limit for residential density, the VMT reduction benefits would begin to taper off at a 30 percent reduction in household VMT.

For the purposes of reducing transportation-related GHG emissions and reducing VMT that result from less-efficient land uses, we recommend establishing a Citywide residential density in the range of 9.1 to 21.5 dwelling units per acre.

Mixed Use/Employment Densities

To maximize the potential benefits of higher density residential developments for VMT reduction goals, trip lengths can also be shortened by establishing a greater mix of land uses. Locating higher density housing in close proximity to commercial uses where goods, services and employment are abundant can help to further reduce trip length and the amount of energy consumed for transportation. CAPCOA sets 145 jobs/acre as a floor for realizing VMT benefits, which can amount to a maximum VMT reduction of 30 percent. This method must be applied to typical commute VMT for the development, a number determined through the regional travel demand model or other sources of local travel data. If typical commute VMT is not available, it could be calculated by referring to the Institute of Transportation Engineers' (ITE) Trip Generation Manual and multiply the trips by trip lengths from a big-data tool.

Travel Demand Management (TDM)

Travel demand management can complement transportation infrastructure by influencing the travel mode that people choose when traveling to work, school, the grocery store, etc. Travel modes that help to reduce VMT include transit, ridesharing, walking, biking, and telework. TDM programs can help make the most of our transportation and physical infrastructure so that options to driving are naturally encouraged and our systems are better balanced. TDM measures that may help to reduce VMT include transit and micro-mobility (i.e., bike share and electric scooters) pass discounts, carpool matching services and incentives, parking pricing, bike facilities at workplaces, vanpools, guaranteed-ride-home service for employees that do not drive, education, and information on travel options other than the single-occupancy-vehicle (SOV). "Modernizing Mitigation" (2018) from the State Smart Transportation Initiative, describes VMT-focused TDM in more detail: <<https://ssti.us/modernizing-mitigation/>>.

Factors to consider:

Senate Bill (SB) 743-relevant TDM measures should be designed to replace car trips with other modes or by increasing vehicle occupancy in existing motor vehicle trips (e.g., carpooling). TDM should be considered supplemental to employment and residential densities that reduce distances traveled.

We encourage the City to coordinate with the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG), the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Mendocino County, to plan, program, and implement TDM measures that are suitable for the Ukiah and Ukiah Valley context. Other collaborators could include local governments, employers, college and school campuses, transit systems (e.g. with free or discounted transit passes), and residential landlords (e.g. with priced parking).

Public Transportation/Mass Transit

The transportation element will benefit from a clear definition of sustainability in the context of local transit service and conditions. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) defines sustainable transit as enhancing the quality of life, meeting ambient air quality standards, reducing the need for more road construction, lower contribution to stormwater run-off, reducing fuel use and providing critical services for all members of society. Ultimately, sustainable transportation means designing public transit services that are attractive to the people who want to use them.

Useful links: <<https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/environmental-programs/transit-and-sustainability>>, <<https://www.kittelson.com/ideas/3-ways-to-improve-public-transportation-sustainability/>>, <<https://www.transportation.gov/mission/health/Expand-Public-Transportation-Systems-and-Offer-Incentives>>, <<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/07/upshot/transportation-emerges-as-crucial-to-escaping-poverty.html>>.

To promote and prioritize high quality transit that aligns with the City of Ukiah's land use, housing, and economic development policies, we suggest that the City General Plan Update include the following:

- Consider zoning changes to increase density around existing transit corridors.
- Establish an inventory of transit supportive infrastructure/assets on the State Highway System.
 - Coordinate transit stops, transit centers and routes with bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to create first and last mile connections.
 - Locations may include conventional highways and freeway interchange transit stops, connections to intermodal transit stations, mobility hubs, park and ride lots, regional and interregional transfer points,
- Assemble a toolbox of best practices, common standards, and types of infrastructure to consider on projects for the State Highway System. Consider a Complete Streets Elements Toolbox.
 - Potentially to include transit accessibility improvements, bus boarding islands with bikeways, highway crossing needs at transit stops, queue jump lanes, transit signal prioritization, bus shelters and other bus stop infrastructure improvements.
- A prioritization methodology for transit supportive infrastructure improvements at specific locations with potential funding opportunities.
- Integration with Statewide and Regional documents and plans, including the California Intercity Bus Study, Caltrans Race and Equity Action Plan...
 - Involve transit providers early in General Plan processes to ensure their alignment with community priorities.
 - Incorporate California planning priorities such as VMT reduction, GHG reduction, active transportation, equity and complete streets goals in City transportation and

transit planning. This is accomplished by offering residents viable non-automobile travel choices (bike, ped and transit).

- Recommendations for transit performance objectives for City, regional, and interregional service.
- Aim to increase transit ridership by involving developer/residential and employer programs through general plan visions and goals that incentivize and reward public transit usage. This could be in the form of reduced rent, subsidies, reimbursements, or pre-tax payroll reductions.

Ways to measure impacts:

Determining the VMT effect from increased transit service can be done with two calculations:

- Ridership. Where service was established through applications for New Starts, Small Starts or state capital funding, the original ridership estimates may already be available in the form of passenger-miles-traveled. If none of these applications are available, the transit provider would need to help make an estimate.
- VMT. Converting transit ridership into VMT is thoroughly discussed in "An Update on Public Transportation's Impacts on Greenhouse Gas Emissions" (TCRP, 2021): <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/26103/an-update-on-public-transportations-impacts-on-greenhouse-gas-emissions>.

High quality public transportation can make communities more equitable by increasing access to critical destinations such as employment, healthcare, and vital social services for low-income individuals and communities.

Local road networks/connectivity

Though highways were originally conceived as intercity or rural-serving facilities, today, in most places, they facilitate mostly local and intraregional travel. The large volume of short-distance traffic is both a problem – it undercuts highways' original purpose, for example by delaying intercity or farm-to-market freight in traffic – and an opportunity. In many cases local travelers use the State Highway System (SHS) for short trips because local networks are incomplete or disconnected. Creating better-connected, multimodal networks off the SHS offers options for travelers to make more direct trips, sometimes by non-auto modes, reducing not only VMT but pressures to add expensive highway capacity. The planning literature cites "intersection density" as a measure of connectivity, and one that contributes to lower VMT. An assessment of and focus on local road networks could improve local, multi-modal circulation and reduce the need for new, high-cost highway capacity improvements and mitigation.

Factors to consider:

- Origins and destinations of travelers in a corridor or on a facility.
- Gaps and other identified needs in the local modal networks.

Ways to measure impacts:

- Local circulation needs and gaps can be demonstrated through the use of big data, to examine origins and destinations of travelers, and circuitry of routing. Where travelers are diverting significantly from direct routes, or where they are nearly all driving despite origins and destination that are close by, improvements in the auto and active transportation networks are worth considering.
- Accessibility tools can measure gaps in the multimodal systems as well, comparing existing accessibility to ideal accessibility where origins and destinations are linked directly.
- Local network improvements could help to reduce the need for capacity increasing improvements on the SHS and are more likely to be screened out of an analysis for induced VMT.

Traffic Operations and Transportation Safety

Caltrans has a vision to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries on California's roadways by 2050 and provide safer outcomes for all communities. We encourage the City to help realize this vision by committing to the following:

- Adopt a safety-first mindset that prioritizes road safety.
- Prioritize the elimination of fatal and serious injury crashes through existing safety improvement programs along with development and implementation of new programs to enhance the safe use of our roadways.
- Eliminating race-, age-, ability- and mode-based disparities in road safety outcomes.

We recommend that the City include a discussion about traffic safety and traffic safety goals in the Transportation and Circulation Element of the General Plan/Project. If the City is not already actively engaged in monitoring progress toward zero deaths, we recommend including an examination of Actual Collision Rates to Average Collision Rates where data is available to help establish priorities for addressing safety.

We encourage the City to include a section in the Transportation and Circulation Element that identifies any future planned, programmed, or potential projects that may benefit traffic safety or related traffic operation improvements.

We request to view the projected increase in population over the time frame of the plan update, and we request to review the City's traffic volume projections at buildout.

We suggest including a section in the Transportation and Circulation Element that examines signal warrants for any locations expected to be impacted with a significant increase in travel demand. The need for any capital projects, including new intersection traffic control measures, are likely of interest to the Region and the State especially when discretionary funding will be pursued.

Parking Management

Parking management is considered to have a significant influence on Vehicle Miles Traveled. Parking management may be most effective when integrated with multifamily

Ms. Michelle Irace, Planning Manager

6/23/2022

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residential or employment land uses, in the form of parking permits, fees or capacity limitations. When coupled with higher density housing or employment, it may be possible to achieve VMT benefits from parking management outside of specific land uses, though trying to quantify the benefits or results can get complicated.

Factors to consider:

- Standard parking-demand rates (assuming unlimited free parking).
- Type and degree of parking management (extent of capacity limitation, amount of fees).

Ways to measure impacts:

- CAPCOA promotes the use of the "ITE Parking Generation Manual" to reduce VMT by as much as 13.7 percent for limiting free parking for residential land uses if abundant free parking is not otherwise available in the vicinity.
- The use of parking fees or charges at residential land uses can help to reduce VMT by as much as 15.7 percent.

CAPCOA's "Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures" and "Model Policies for Greenhouse Gases in General Plans" can be found online:

<<http://www.capcoa.org/documents/>>.

State Route 222

We note that the proposed sphere of influence has been reduced from the boundaries considered during the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) planning process. The City's sphere of influence continues to include Talmage Road/State Route 222. Should the City consider annexing lands adjacent to SR 222, we would welcome and facilitate relinquishing the entire Route, or portions of it, to the City. Feel free to contact me, should the City wish to pursue relinquishment of SR 222.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with Ukiah to plan and to build a safe, efficient, and sustainable transportation system for city residents. Please contact me with questions or for further assistance at: (707) 684-6879 or by email at: <jesse.robertson@dot.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,

Jesse G. Robertson

Jesse Robertson
Transportation Planning
Caltrans District 1

c: State Clearinghouse
Nephele Barrett, Director, Mendocino Council of Governments
Jacob King, Executive Director, Mendocino Transit Authority



Jared Blumenfeld
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 30, 2022

Mr. Craig Schlatter
Director of Community Development
City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482
CSchlatter@cityofukiah.com

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR
THE CITY OF UKIAH GENERAL PLAN UPDATE – DATED MAY 2022
(STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: 2022050556)

Dear Mr. Schlatter:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the City of Ukiah General Plan Update (Project). The Lead Agency is receiving this notice from DTSC because the Project includes one or more of the following: groundbreaking activities, work in close proximity to a roadway, work in close proximity to mining or suspected mining or former mining activities, presence of site buildings that may require demolition or modifications, importation of backfill soil, and/or work on or in close proximity to an agricultural or former agricultural site.

DTSC recommends that the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section of the DEIR address actions to be taken for any sites impacted by hazardous waste or hazardous materials within the Project area, not just those found on the Cortese List. Not all sites impacted by hazardous waste or hazardous materials will be found on the Cortese List. DTSC recommends consulting with other agencies that may provide oversight to hazardous waste facilities and sites in order to determine a comprehensive listing of all sites impacted by hazardous waste or hazardous materials within the Project area. DTSC hazardous waste facilities and sites with known or suspected contamination issues can be found on DTSC's [EnviroStor](#) data management system. The [EnviroStor Map](#) feature can be used to locate hazardous waste facilities and sites for a county, city,

or a specific address. A search within EnviroStor indicates that numerous hazardous waste facilities and sites are present within the Project's region.

DTSC recommends that the following issues be evaluated in the Hazards and Hazardous Materials section of the DEIR:

1. The DEIR should acknowledge the potential for historic or future activities on or near the Project site to result in the release of hazardous wastes/substances on the Project site. In instances in which releases have occurred or may occur, further studies should be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination, and the potential threat to public health and/or the environment should be evaluated. The DEIR should also identify the mechanism(s) to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation and the government agency who will be responsible for providing appropriate regulatory oversight.
2. Refiners in the United States started adding lead compounds to gasoline in the 1920s in order to boost octane levels and improve engine performance. This practice did not officially end until 1992 when lead was banned as a fuel additive in California. Tailpipe emissions from automobiles using leaded gasoline contained lead and resulted in aerially deposited lead (ADL) being deposited in and along roadways throughout the state. ADL-contaminated soils still exist along roadsides and medians and can also be found underneath some existing road surfaces due to past construction activities. Due to the potential for ADL-contaminated soil, DTSC recommends collecting soil samples for lead analysis prior to performing any intrusive activities for the Project described in the DEIR.
3. If any sites within the Project area or sites located within the vicinity of the Project have been used or are suspected of having been used for mining activities, proper investigation for mine waste should be discussed in the DEIR. DTSC recommends that any Project sites with current and/or former mining operations onsite or in the Project site area should be evaluated for mine waste according to DTSC's 1998 [Abandoned Mine Land Mines Preliminary Assessment Handbook](#).
4. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on any project sites included in the proposed project, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling near current and/or former buildings should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006

[Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers.](#)

5. If any projects initiated as part of the proposed Project require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to [DTSC's 2001 Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material.](#)
6. If any sites included as part of the proposed Project have been used for agricultural, weed abatement or related activities, proper investigation for organochlorinated pesticides should be discussed in the DEIR. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 [Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties \(Third Revision\).](#)

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please visit DTSC's [Site Mitigation and Restoration Program](#) page to apply for lead agency oversight. Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at [DTSC's Brownfield website.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3582 or via email at Brian.McAloon@dtsc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Brian McAloon
Project Manager
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

Governor's Office of Planning
and Research
State Clearinghouse
State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Mr. Dave Kereazis
Office of Planning & Environmental Analysis
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Dave.Kereazis@dtsc.ca.gov

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

Ukiah Valley Conference Center | 200 South School Street | Ukiah, California 95482
Telephone: (707) 463-4470 | E-mail: eo@mendolafco.org | Web: www.mendolafco.org

June 28, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Craig Schlatter, Director of Community Development
City of Ukiah Community Development Department
300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, California 95482
cschlatter@cityofukiah.com

RE: LAFCo Comments – Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the City of Ukiah
2040 General Plan Update

Dear Mr. Schlatter,

Mendocino LAFCo appreciates the opportunity to comment on a Notice of Preparation (NOP) dated May 31, 2022, for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update. Mendocino LAFCo will use both final documents in fulfilling its regulatory and planning responsibilities under the authority of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH). These duties include, but are not limited to, adopting spheres of influence, regulating governmental boundary changes through annexations or detachments, and forming, consolidating, or dissolving special districts. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), LAFCo is a Responsible Agency for this project and it is in this role that Mendocino LAFCo is commenting on this NOP.

Sphere of Influence

Typically, an update of a city's sphere of influence (SOI) is processed following or concurrent with its general plan update, either through LAFCo initiation or by city application. An SOI is defined as "a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Commission" (Government Code (GC) Section 56076). More detailed requirements for what to include in a SOI review or update are contained in GC Section 56425(e), which essentially includes: identification of existing and planned land uses including agricultural land, the need for public facilities and services in the area and an evaluation of the present capacity and adequacy of these services (such as sewer and water supply), the existence of any social or economic communities of interest (which could include existing service providers or special needs communities), and the presence of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the sphere.

In order for annexations to be considered by the Commission the area must be within an agency's SOI. Additionally, any need for extensions of service outside an agency's boundary absent an annexation must also be within an agency's SOI to be considered by the Commission (GC 56133), the exception being a documented health and safety condition (GC 56133(e)).

The City of Ukiah's SOI has not been updated since the initial sphere establishment that was part of a County-wide adoption of spheres for all agencies as recommended in LAFCo's 1984 Zion Study. A municipal service review (MSR) for the City was prepared and adopted by the Commission in 2012; however, a subsequent application by the City to update the SOI was not completed.

The City is currently assisting LAFCo with a comprehensive update of the 2012 MSR and a concurrent update to the SOI. The updates are tracking with the City's General Plan Update and it is strongly recommended that the proposed SOI be analyzed in the Draft EIR for comprehensive planning and analysis, and for efficiency of costs, effort and time.

Please note that the NOP includes two figures identifying differing proposed SOI boundaries (Figures 2 and 3). Figure 2 of the NOP identifies an SOI that was proposed by the City in 1995; however, it was never processed through LAFCo or adopted by the Commission and is therefore not a valid SOI. It is assumed that Figure 3 portrays the SOI boundary as currently proposed by the City; however, this map differs from the proposed SOI map provided to LAFCo for the MSR/SOI Update.

- 1. LAFCo is currently coordinating with the City to prepare an MSR and an update of its SOI. Sphere of Influence updates are subject to CEQA and should be included in the General Plan update process and evaluated in the Draft EIR.**
- 2. The Figure 2 legend label should be clarified: "Proposed Sphere of Influence (1995)."**
- 3. Clarify which SOI is being proposed and analyzed in the Draft EIR (i.e., Figure 2 or 3).**
- 4. The EIR Study Area should include all areas proposed for inclusion in the SOI for purposes of analysis, identification of potential impacts and mitigation measures.**

City-County Consultation

A procedural step in the processing of an SOI update by LAFCo is compliance with Government Code Section 56425(b). In summary, the GC requires that prior to a city submitting an application to LAFCo to update their SOI, representatives from the city shall meet with the county to discuss the new sphere boundaries, and methods to reach agreement on development standards within the sphere that reflect the concerns of the affected city and that promotes logical and orderly development. If an agreement is reached, LAFCo "...shall give great weight to the agreement to the extent that it is consistent with the commission policies in its final determination of the city sphere."

In this case the SOI update is being prepared as a LAFCo-initiated process concurrent with the General Plan update and with the intent that the SOI update be included in the Draft EIR project description and analysis. However, LAFCo strongly recommends coordination with the County regarding the proposed sphere, particularly as County staff have expressed their intent to implement the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP), which applies to the area around the City and within the proposed SOI.

In addition to the County, a number of single-service special districts exist and provide services immediately surrounding and overlapping portions of the City of Ukiah. The SOI indicates the future growth boundary of the City and as the City grows it will encroach on territories of the surrounding special districts. Additionally, in reviewing applications for annexations, LAFCo must consider the financial and operational impacts on adjacent service providers and whether the change of organization will impact those agencies' ability to adequately provide services to their remaining customers.

Ultimately, it is LAFCo's role to decide the best provider of services to an area through its consideration of agency SOIs and associated applications for annexation, detachment, activation of powers, etc. It is preferable that planning for the future provision of services be made amongst the service providers themselves and efforts between City and special district staff are focusing on development of agreements regarding the growth of the City, which will ultimately be highly beneficial to all the agencies and affected customers.

5. **Identify and describe the other service providers within the proposed SOI area, including special districts and private water companies (i.e., Mendocino County, Ukiah Valley Sanitation District, Millview County Water District, Willow County Water District, Calpella County Water District, Rogina Water Company, etc.).**
6. **To support the City's annexation plans and SOI update, LAFCo encourages agreements among jurisdictions that outline conditions for expanding boundaries (i.e., Mendocino County, Ukiah Valley Sanitation District, Millview County Water District, Willow County Water District, Calpella County Water District, etc.). Agreements can be recognized by LAFCo.**

Agricultural and Open Space Lands

The NOP identifies agriculture and forestry resources as a topic area for evaluation of potentially significant environmental impacts and indicates the General Plan will include an Agriculture Element.

Preserving prime agricultural land is a key statutory mandate of LAFCo and inclusion of an Agriculture Element is encouraging. Measuring and understanding the importance of California's remaining prime agricultural land can be a challenge because federal, state, and local agencies, including LAFCos, all operate under different laws and requirements, each setting out different definitions of prime farmland.

The definition of agricultural lands and prime agricultural lands differ somewhat from the Department of Conservation definitions that are typically relied upon for CEQA analysis. Land that would not qualify as Prime under USDA or FMMP definitions of Prime, may qualify as Prime under the LAFCo definition; for example, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Statewide Importance, and grazing land can still meet the LAFCo definition of prime agricultural land.

CALAFCO's White Paper [State of the Art on Agricultural Preservation](#) includes discussion of the differences in definitions of prime agricultural land and potential mitigation measures for agricultural preservation as it relates to LAFCo's guiding principles and goals specified in the CKH.

Preserving prime agricultural lands and open space is a key statutory mandate of LAFCos and the CKH Act provides direction to LAFCos on certain policies, priorities, and information that LAFCos should, and/or must consider when analyzing boundary change proposals that could potentially impact agricultural lands. The CKH Act includes policies specific to agricultural preservation, including:

- Development or use of land for other than open-space uses shall be guided away from existing prime agricultural lands in open-space use toward areas containing non-prime agricultural lands, unless the action would not promote the planned, orderly, efficient development of an area. (Gov. Code §56377(a).)
- Development of existing vacant or nonprime agricultural lands for urban uses within the existing jurisdiction of a local agency or within the sphere of influence of a local agency should be encouraged before any proposal is approved which would allow for or lead to the development of existing open-space lands for non-open-space uses which are outside of the existing jurisdiction of the local agency or outside of the existing sphere of influence of the local agency. (Gov. Code §56377(b).)
- Factors to be considered [by the Commission] in the review of a proposal shall include the effect of the proposal on maintaining the physical and economic integrity of agricultural lands, as defined by Section 56016. (Gov. Code § 56668(e).)

Further, to equip individual LAFCos with the ability to respond to local conditions and circumstances, the CKH Act calls for a LAFCo to establish written policies and procedures and exercise its powers to "encourage and provide planned, well-ordered, efficient urban development patterns with appropriate consideration of

preserving open-space and agricultural lands within those patterns” (Gov. Code §56300(a)). [Mendocino LAFCo Policy 9.13](#) contains the local policies applied by the Commission.

Large areas within the proposed SOI (Figure 3) are currently designated and used for agricultural purposes. Government Code Section 56425(e)(1), requires identification of agricultural and open space lands. Further, Government Code Section 56426.69 encourages the exclusion of lands under Williamson Act from a SOI and specifies the conditions upon which Williamson Act lands may be included.

Additionally, in reviewing and approving or disapproving proposals which could reasonably be expected to induce, facilitate, or lead to the conversion of existing open-space lands to uses other than open-space uses, the commission shall consider all of the policies and priorities identified in GC 56377, which should also be applied to the SOI.

7. **Include discussion and analysis of impacts to agricultural lands as defined in GC 56016 and 56064.**
8. **Identify, map, analyze, and describe all agricultural and open space lands within or adjacent to lands proposed for inclusion in the SOI, including analysis of any multiple land-based values such as agricultural, biodiversity, recreation, groundwater, and carbon sequestration, to identify areas of high natural resource value where development is best avoided.**
9. **Identify and analyze impacts to Williamson Act lands proposed for inclusion in the SOI.**
10. **Analyze the impact on the physical and economic integrity of impacted and surrounding agricultural lands.**
11. **Consider removal of excessive amounts of agricultural and open-space land from the SOI (i.e., where SOI is much larger than what is needed over a long-range development horizon).**
12. **Develop policies that avoid, minimize and/or mitigate impacts to agricultural lands. See the CALAFCO White Paper [State of the Art on Agricultural Preservation](#) and the Mendocino County [Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program](#) for information on policies and programs for example avoidance, minimization and mitigation methods.**
13. **Include long-term growth management strategies that provide for more efficient development so as to avoid the premature conversion of agricultural lands and to limit development pressure on agricultural lands.**
14. **The City is encouraged to include plans and policies for agricultural preservation in its Agriculture Element.**
15. **Identify mitigation measures to protect agricultural lands adjoining areas proposed for annexation and/or development, both to prevent premature conversion to non-agricultural uses and to minimize potential conflicts between proposed urban development and adjacent agricultural uses. Examples of feasible mitigation measures include: right-to-farm deed restrictions, setbacks and buffers, and conservation easements on a 1:1, 2:1 or 3:1 ratio.**
16. **Includes analysis of alternatives that do not result in conversion of agricultural lands as defined in the CKH. Examples of potential project alternatives to reduce impacts to agricultural lands include, among others: reduced footprint, clustered density, setbacks and buffers.**
17. **The Draft EIR should demonstrate that infill or more efficient use of land is not possible prior to considering development, SOI expansion and/or annexation into agricultural lands.**

Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure

LAFCo is concerned with the potential impact of planned growth on public services and infrastructure, including the topic areas of hydrology and water quality, public services, parks and recreation, utilities and service systems. Typically, master plans are prepared for sewer, water and stormwater utilities, and the EIR should evaluate the need for increased police, fire, parks and recreation staff, and services resulting from the growth contemplated in the General Plan.

- 18. The Draft EIR should evaluate the need for increased police, fire, parks and recreation staff, and services resulting from the growth contemplated in the General Plan.**

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

For an update of a SOI of a city that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs) within the SOI (GC 56425(e)(5)). DUCs are defined in GC 56033.5.

- 19. Identify, locate and describe all disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs) within and contiguous to the proposed SOI (GC 56430(a)(2 and 3)).**

Prezoning within Proposed SOI

In reviewing proposals for annexation, the CKH requires the commission to include a condition that a city prezone the territory to be annexed or present evidence satisfactory to the commission that the existing development entitlements on the territory are vested or are already at build-out, and are consistent with the city's general plan (GC 56375(a)(4)(A)(7)). Areas proposed for annexation must be located within an agency's SOI.

- 20. The City should consider pre zoning the area within the proposed SOI to streamline future annexations submitted for commission consideration. In doing so at the General Plan stage, the pre zoning may be analyzed in the Draft EIR.**

General CEQA Considerations

LAFCo is in the process of updating the City's Sphere of Influence (SOI), which is a project subject to CEQA. Including the SOI Update analysis in the City's General Plan Draft EIR will be essential so as to avoid piecemealing as well as additional expense associated with a preparation of a separate CEQA document. With the SOI Update included in the General Plan Draft EIR, LAFCo will be a Responsible Agency for purposes of CEQA.

- 21. Clarify that LAFCO is a Responsible Agency as it relates to the General Plan EIR and indicate the types of LAFCo approvals that the City anticipates seeking. We also suggest that a section be included in the Draft EIR briefly identifying all Responsible Agencies for the Program EIR and providing brief information on the types of approvals or permits that the City anticipates seeking from the identified agencies.**
- 22. Clarify whether the City anticipates tiering from the Program EIR for potential projects that require LAFCo approval.**
- 23. CKH, California Government Code, Section 56377: In reviewing and approving or disapproving proposals which could reasonably be expected to induce, facilitate, or lead to the conversion of existing open-space lands to uses other than open-space uses, the commission shall consider...(a) Development or use of land for other than open-space uses shall be guided away from existing prime agricultural lands in open-space use toward areas containing nonprime agricultural lands, unless that action would not promote the planned, orderly, efficient development of an area.**
- 24. CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, California Code Regulations, Section 15041: The responsible agency may require changes in a project to lessen or avoid only the effects, either direct or indirect, of that part of the project which the agency will be called on to carry out or approve.**
- 25. CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, California Code Regulations, Section 15096(g)(2): When an EIR has been prepared for a project, the Responsible Agency shall not approve the project as proposed if the agency finds any feasible alternative or feasible mitigation measures within its powers that would**

substantially lessen or avoid any significant effect the project would have on the environment. With respect to a project which includes housing development, the Responsible Agency shall not reduce the proposed number of housing units as a mitigation measure if it determines that there is another feasible specific mitigation measure available that will provide a comparable level of mitigation.

Lastly, please notify us when the City's Draft General Plan and associated Draft EIR become available for public review. We look forward to reviewing both documents and providing comments, as necessary. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Uma Hinman at (916) 813-0818 or eo@mendolafco.org.

Thank you again for providing us with the opportunity to comment on this important project.

Sincerely,



Uma Hinman
Executive Officer

Cc: Commissioners



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

RECEIVED

May 27, 2022

JUN 02 2022

Craig Schlatter
City of Ukiah
300 Seminary Ave
Ukiah, CA 95482

CITY OF UKIAH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

Re: 2022050556, City of Ukiah General Plan Update Project, Mendocino County

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

Dear Mr. Schlatter:

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Altebery
Karuk

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has received the Notice of Preparation (NOP), Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) or Early Consultation for the project referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code §21000 et seq.), specifically Public Resources Code §21084.1, states that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code § 21084.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit.14, §15064.5 (b) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b))). If there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before a lead agency, that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) shall be prepared. (Pub. Resources Code §21080 (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 5064 subd.(a)(1) (CEQA Guidelines §15064 (a)(1))). In order to determine whether a project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, a lead agency will need to determine whether there are historical resources within the area of potential effect (APE).

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

CEQA was amended significantly in 2014. Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) (AB 52) amended CEQA to create a separate category of cultural resources, "tribal cultural resources" (Pub. Resources Code §21074) and provides that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.2). Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)). **AB 52 applies to any project for which a notice of preparation, a notice of negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration is filed on or after July 1, 2015.** If your project involves the adoption of or amendment to a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation or proposed designation of open space, on or after March 1, 2005, it may also be subject to Senate Bill 18 (Burton, Chapter 905, Statutes of 2004) (SB 18). **Both SB 18 and AB 52 have tribal consultation requirements.** If your project is also subject to the federal National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) (NEPA), the tribal consultation requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (154 U.S.C. 300101, 36 C.F.R. §800 et seq.) may also apply.

COMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

The NAHC recommends consultation with California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of your proposed project as early as possible in order to avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains and best protect tribal cultural resources. Below is a brief summary of portions of AB 52 and SB 18 as well as the NAHC's recommendations for conducting cultural resources assessments.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok/Nisenan

Consult your legal counsel about compliance with AB 52 and SB 18 as well as compliance with any other applicable laws.

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

AB 52

AB 52 has added to CEQA the additional requirements listed below, along with many other requirements:

- 1. Fourteen Day Period to Provide Notice of Completion of an Application/Decision to Undertake a Project:** Within fourteen (14) days of determining that an application for a project is complete or of a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, a lead agency shall provide formal notification to a designated contact of, or tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, to be accomplished by at least one written notice that includes:

 - a. A brief description of the project.
 - b. The lead agency contact information.
 - c. Notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d)).
 - d. A "California Native American tribe" is defined as a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC for the purposes of Chapter 905 of Statutes of 2004 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21073).
- 2. Begin Consultation Within 30 Days of Receiving a Tribe's Request for Consultation and Before Releasing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Environmental Impact Report:** A lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a request for consultation from a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1, subds. (d) and (e)) and prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration or Environmental Impact Report. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1(b)).

 - a. For purposes of AB 52, "consultation shall have the same meaning as provided in Gov. Code §65352.4 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).
- 3. Mandatory Topics of Consultation If Requested by a Tribe:** The following topics of consultation, if a tribe requests to discuss them, are mandatory topics of consultation:

 - a. Alternatives to the project.
 - b. Recommended mitigation measures.
 - c. Significant effects. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).
- 4. Discretionary Topics of Consultation:** The following topics are discretionary topics of consultation:

 - a. Type of environmental review necessary.
 - b. Significance of the tribal cultural resources.
 - c. Significance of the project's impacts on tribal cultural resources.
 - d. If necessary, project alternatives or appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation that the tribe may recommend to the lead agency. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).
- 5. Confidentiality of Information Submitted by a Tribe During the Environmental Review Process:** With some exceptions, any information, including but not limited to, the location, description, and use of tribal cultural resources submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process shall not be included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, consistent with Government Code §6254 (r) and §6254.10. Any information submitted by a California Native American tribe during the consultation or environmental review process shall be published in a confidential appendix to the environmental document unless the tribe that provided the information consents, in writing, to the disclosure of some or all of the information to the public. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (c)(1)).
- 6. Discussion of Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources in the Environmental Document:** If a project may have a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency's environmental document shall discuss both of the following:

 - a. Whether the proposed project has a significant impact on an identified tribal cultural resource.
 - b. Whether feasible alternatives or mitigation measures, including those measures that may be agreed to pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (a), avoid or substantially lessen the impact on the identified tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (b)).

- 7. Conclusion of Consultation:** Consultation with a tribe shall be considered concluded when either of the following occurs:
- a. The parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a tribal cultural resource; or
 - b. A party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (b)).
- 8. Recommending Mitigation Measures Agreed Upon in Consultation in the Environmental Document:** Any mitigation measures agreed upon in the consultation conducted pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2 shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document and in an adopted mitigation monitoring and reporting program, if determined to avoid or lessen the impact pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (b), paragraph 2, and shall be fully enforceable. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (a)).
- 9. Required Consideration of Feasible Mitigation:** If mitigation measures recommended by the staff of the lead agency as a result of the consultation process are not included in the environmental document or if there are no agreed upon mitigation measures at the conclusion of consultation, or if consultation does not occur, and if substantial evidence demonstrates that a project will cause a significant effect to a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency shall consider feasible mitigation pursuant to Public Resources Code §21084.3 (b). (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (e)).
- 10. Examples of Mitigation Measures That, If Feasible, May Be Considered to Avoid or Minimize Significant Adverse Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources:**
- a. Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context.
 - ii. Planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.
 - b. Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource.
 - ii. Protecting the traditional use of the resource.
 - iii. Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.
 - c. Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.
 - d. Protecting the resource. (Pub. Resource Code §21084.3 (b)).
 - e. Please note that a federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC to protect a California prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place may acquire and hold conservation easements if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. (Civ. Code §815.3 (c)).
 - f. Please note that it is the policy of the state that Native American remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated. (Pub. Resources Code §5097.991).
- 11. Prerequisites for Certifying an Environmental Impact Report or Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration with a Significant Impact on an Identified Tribal Cultural Resource:** An Environmental Impact Report may not be certified, nor may a mitigated negative declaration or a negative declaration be adopted unless one of the following occurs:
- a. The consultation process between the tribes and the lead agency has occurred as provided in Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2 and concluded pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2.
 - b. The tribe that requested consultation failed to provide comments to the lead agency or otherwise failed to engage in the consultation process.
 - c. The lead agency provided notice of the project to the tribe in compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d) and the tribe failed to request consultation within 30 days. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (d)).

The NAHC's PowerPoint presentation titled, "Tribal Consultation Under AB 52: Requirements and Best Practices" may be found online at: http://nahc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AB52TribalConsultation_CalEPAPDF.pdf

SB 18

SB 18 applies to local governments and requires local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with tribes prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation of open space. (Gov. Code §65352.3). Local governments should consult the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's "Tribal Consultation Guidelines," which can be found online at: https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09_14_05_Updated_Guidelines_922.pdf.

Some of SB 18's provisions include:

1. **Tribal Consultation:** If a local government considers a proposal to adopt or amend a general plan or a specific plan, or to designate open space it is required to contact the appropriate tribes identified by the NAHC by requesting a "Tribal Consultation List." If a tribe, once contacted, requests consultation the local government must consult with the tribe on the plan proposal. **A tribe has 90 days from the date of receipt of notification to request consultation unless a shorter timeframe has been agreed to by the tribe.** (Gov. Code §65352.3 (a)(2)).
2. **No Statutory Time Limit on SB 18 Tribal Consultation.** There is no statutory time limit on SB 18 tribal consultation.
3. **Confidentiality:** Consistent with the guidelines developed and adopted by the Office of Planning and Research pursuant to Gov. Code §65040.2, the city or county shall protect the confidentiality of the information concerning the specific identity, location, character, and use of places, features and objects described in Public Resources Code §5097.9 and §5097.993 that are within the city's or county's jurisdiction. (Gov. Code §65352.3 (b)).
4. **Conclusion of SB 18 Tribal Consultation:** Consultation should be concluded at the point in which:
 - a. The parties to the consultation come to a mutual agreement concerning the appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation; or
 - b. Either the local government or the tribe, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached concerning the appropriate measures of preservation or mitigation. (Tribal Consultation Guidelines, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (2005) at p. 18).

Agencies should be aware that neither AB 52 nor SB 18 precludes agencies from initiating tribal consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with their jurisdictions before the timeframes provided in AB 52 and SB 18. For that reason, we urge you to continue to request Native American Tribal Contact Lists and "Sacred Lands File" searches from the NAHC. The request forms can be found online at: <http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/forms/>.

NAHC Recommendations for Cultural Resources Assessments

To adequately assess the existence and significance of tribal cultural resources and plan for avoidance, preservation in place, or barring both, mitigation of project-related impacts to tribal cultural resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

1. Contact the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) Center (https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30331) for an archaeological records search. The records search will determine:
 - a. If part or all of the APE has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - b. If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
 - c. If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - d. If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
2. If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - a. The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - b. The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional CHRIS center.

3. Contact the NAHC for:
 - a. A Sacred Lands File search. Remember that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the Sacred Lands File, nor are they required to do so. A Sacred Lands File search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project's APE.
 - b. A Native American Tribal Consultation List of appropriate tribes for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in planning for avoidance, preservation in place, or, failing both, mitigation measures.

4. Remember that the lack of surface evidence of archaeological resources (including tribal cultural resources) does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - a. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of inadvertently discovered archaeological resources per Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064.5(f) (CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5(f)). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American with knowledge of cultural resources should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - b. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
 - c. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the treatment and disposition of inadvertently discovered Native American human remains. Health and Safety Code § 7050.5, Public Resources Code § 5097.98, and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064.5, subdivisions (d) and (e) (CEQA Guidelines § 15064.5, subs. (d) and (e)) address the processes to be followed in the event of an inadvertent discovery of any Native American human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address:
Cameron.Vela@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cameron Vela

Cameron Vela
Cultural Resources Analyst

cc: State Clearinghouse



June 29, 2022

Mayor Brown, Council Members and Staff,

NorCal 4 Health is most appreciative to be part of the EIR Scoping process. We would like to offer a few areas of opportunity to consider during the EIR phase that may potentially help elevate the health and economic success of Ukiah residents and businesses, which we know will contribute to the guiding principles of Ukiah 2040 GP, (specifically, that it maintains and supports quality of life, community satisfaction, and safety for all residents).

Tobacco and emerging nicotine products create numerous health challenges and economic burdens for communities, particularly for smaller, under-resourced communities. How and where these products are procured and disposed of, the impacts on health, addiction (especially for youth), and the cost of treating tobacco-related illnesses can be overwhelming.

Further, used cigarette butts are known to leach toxic amounts of nicotine, pesticides, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, arsenic, and heavy metals such as lead and cadmium, potentially for years after use. Even unsmoked cigarette butts are toxic to animals, plants, and aquatic life. Recent research also shows that smoked butts create localized air pollution long after use.¹

Then there is the impact of the emerging electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) products (commonly known as vapes) to consider. In 2019, the FDA proposed adding an additional 19 chemicals or chemical compounds (to the already 93 harmful and potentially harmful constituents (HPHC) in tobacco products) due to the introduction of these products. Most are carcinogenic and about 1/3 are respiratory toxicants.² Both federal and California laws list nicotine as hazardous waste under a commercial chemical waste listing.³ These products can also contain electronic ignition and burning systems that include batteries. There may be added dangers if vape batteries catch fire or explode, as is known to happen, near flammable gases or liquids, such as oxygen, propane, or gasoline.

Additionally, NorCal 4 Health wholly supports mixed-use development, as it can provide housing for all and better access to daily needs. We are concerned, though, that this may create an increase of access to dangerous and unhealthy items like tobacco and other nicotine products, alcohol, and sugary drinks, as more retail opportunities in neighborhoods open up.

¹ <https://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/Tobacco-Product-Waste-CA-FAQ.pdf>

² <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/fda-brief/fda-brief-fda-seeks-comment-proposed-additions-list-harmful-and-potentially-harmful-constituents>

³ <https://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/Tobacco-Product-Waste-CA-FAQ.pdf>

In light of these circumstances, we offer the following for consideration for study in the EIR:

- The availability of healthy housing or green housing, including housing that prioritizes healthy indoor air quality (e.g., free of radon, toxins, secondhand, and thirdhand smoke, etc.)
- The density of retailers that sell tobacco and other nicotine products and their proximity to homes; youth-sensitive areas, like schools, parks, and community centers; and hazardous materials, such as flammable gases or liquids like oxygen, propane, or gasoline.
- The availability of healthy food vs. unhealthy food options in neighborhoods (e.g., are more retailers that sell healthy food available than retailers who primarily sell convenience food, tobacco products, and alcohol?) and identification of any healthy food deserts that need to be addressed.
- The impact of waste on community spaces, watersheds, and land, including tobacco and nicotine product waste.
- Evaluate outdoor public spaces, including outdoor worksites, dining areas, sidewalks, parks and recreation spaces, parking lots, etc., for healthy policies to support our community, including availability of healthy smoke-free spaces.

Our project can help provide resources for some of the data and further relevant information if the Council and/or staff desire.

Thank you, again, for this opportunity to participate in this valuable community process. We hope it helps our community become all it envisions.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Saccato, MA
Community Engagement Coordinator
Lake & Mendocino
NorCal 4 Health project
California Health Collaborative

Phone: 707 530-5171
[www. NorCal4Health.org](http://www.NorCal4Health.org)



CALIFORNIA HEALTH
COLLABORATIVE



From: Pinky Kushner <pinkkushner@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2022 1:34 PM
To: rick@mintierharnish.com
Subject: Scoping comments for Ukiah's 2040 General Plan

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit scoping comments. The General Plan 2040 is an opportunity to help keep Ukiah beautiful, livable, and fun. I understand that the deadline for these comments is June 30, 2022.

Scoping comments:

LIGHTS: the City of Ukiah has historically been committed to the principles of dark skies. Along with a renewed statement of this commitment, include an analysis of current light pollution and the projected light pollution when the 20/25 year program is built out. [For further information, see: <https://www.darksky.org/light-pollution/measuring-light-pollution/>]

NOISE: Noise is a serious environmental concern. Provide analyses of current noise levels and projected noise levels at build-out.

AIR QUALITY: Provide an analysis of current air quality with a projection at build out.

ECONOMIC BLIGHT, Parts I and 2: While seemingly unnecessary, the economic blight analysis is critical.

Part 1: MITIGATIONS TO AVOID A CENTER COLLAPSE. As urban centers build out from the center, the urban center itself often collapses. Discuss how center urban decay will be avoided and the center remain vibrant should Ukiah build outwards. Include in this analysis a thorough presentation of the County vs City conflict in revenue sharing, with mitigations.

Part 2: RESPECT FOR HISTORY AND TRADITION. Many urban problems come about from a lack of respect for history and tradition. Ukiah is blessed with a solid housing, ranging from very historic to moderately historic. Examples of 'very historic' are in the 'downtown' core and within its immediate historic blocks, e.g., the Wagensellers Neighborhood, but also scattered widely in individual dwellings and other buildings. 'Moderately historic' is exemplified by the Garden section of housing, a collection of modest houses built on the flat-roofed style of the 50's and early 60's, reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's Usonian House (The State of California considers a structure older than 50 years as possibly historic.) The EIR should go into some detail describing Ukiah's existing housing stock and how it contributes to the continuity economic vitality of the community.

Sincerely,

Pinky Kushner
504 N. Oak St. #4
Ukiah, CA 95482

510 459-8289 mobile

PS This includes comments I made at the General Plan 2040 on line. pk

Appendix B

Supporting Biological Resources Information

Table 1 Special-Status Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Ukiah Park Vicinity

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitat Requirements
Reptiles			
Western pond turtle	<i>Emys marmorata</i>	-/-/SSC	A thoroughly aquatic turtle of ponds, marshes, rivers, streams and irrigation ditches, usually with aquatic vegetation, below 6000 ft elevation. Needs basking sites and suitable (sandy banks or grassy open fields) upland habitat up to 0.5 km from water for egg-laying.
Amphibians			
California giant salamander	<i>Dicamptodon ensatus</i>	-/-/SSC	Known from wet coastal forests near streams and seeps from Mendocino County south to Monterey County, and east to Napa County. Aquatic larvae found in cold, clear streams, occasionally in lakes and ponds. Adults known from wet forests under rocks and logs near streams and lakes.
foothill yellow-legged frog	<i>Rana boylei</i>	-/SE/SSC	Partly-shaded, shallow streams and riffles with a rocky substrate in a variety of habitats. Needs at least some cobble-sized substrate for egg-laying. Needs at least 15 weeks to attain metamorphosis.
red-bellied newt	<i>Taricha rivularis</i>	-/-/SSC	Coastal drainages from Humboldt County south to Sonoma County, inland to Lake County. Isolated population of uncertain origin in Santa Clara County. Lives in terrestrial habitats, juveniles generally underground, adults active at surface in moist environments. Will migrate over 1 km to breed, typically in streams with moderate flow and clean, rocky substrate.
Invertebrates			
obscure bumble bee	<i>Bombus caliginosus</i>	-/-/-	Coastal areas from Santa Barbara County to north to Washington state. Food plant genera include Baccharis, Cirsium, Lupinus, Lotus, Grindelia and Phacelia.
western bumble bee	<i>Bombus occidentalis</i>	-/-/-	Once common and widespread, species has declined precipitously from central CA to southern B.C., perhaps from disease.
Fish			
Clear Lake tule perch	<i>Hysterocarpus traskii lagunae</i>	-/-/SSC	This subspecies is confined to Clear Lake and to Upper and Lower Blue lakes
Steelhead-central California coast	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>	FT/-/-	Inhabits fresh water, fast flowing, highly oxygenated, clear, cool stream where riffles tend to predominate pools; small streams with high elevation headwaters close to the ocean that have no impassible barriers; spawning: high elevation headwaters.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitat Requirements
Birds			
northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	-/-/SSC	Within, and in vicinity of, coniferous forest. Uses old nests, and maintains alternate sites. Usually nests on north slopes, near water. Red fir, lodgepole pine, Jeffrey pine, and aspens are typical nest trees.
Tricolored blackbird	<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	-/ST/SSC	Highly colonial species, most numerous in Central Valley and vicinity. Largely endemic to California. Requires open water, protected nesting substrate, and foraging area with insect prey within a few km of the colony.
Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	-/-/SSC	Dense grasslands on rolling hills, lowland plains, in valleys and on hillsides on lower mountain slopes. Favors native grasslands with a mix of grasses, forbs and scattered shrubs. Loosely colonial when nesting.
Western yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	FT/SE/SSC	Riparian forest nester, along the broad, lower flood-bottoms of larger river systems.
bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	FD/SE/FP	Ocean shore, lake margins, and rivers for both nesting and wintering. Most nests within 1 mile of water. Nests in large, old-growth, or dominant live tree with open branches, especially ponderosa pine. Roosts communally in winter.
northern spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>	FT/ST/SSC	Old-growth forests or mixed stands of old-growth and mature trees. Occasionally in younger forests with patches of big trees.
Mammals			
pallid bat	<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>	-/-/SSC	Found in a variety of habitats including deserts, grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and forests. Most common in open, dry habitats with rocky areas for roosting. Roosts in crevices of rock outcrops, caves, mine tunnels, buildings, bridges, and hollows of live and dead trees which must protect bats from high temperatures. Very sensitive to disturbance of roosting sites.
Sonoma tree vole	<i>Arborimus pomo</i>	-/-/SSC	Occurs in the North coast fog belt from Oregon border to Sonoma County. Habitats include Douglas-fir, redwood and montane hardwood-conifer forests. Feeds almost exclusively on Douglas-fir needles. Will occasionally take needles of grand fir, hemlock, or spruce. Nests in trees and may use old nests of birds, squirrels, or woodrats.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ Other)	Habitat Requirements
Townsend's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	-/-/SSC	Occurs throughout California in a wide variety of habitats. Most common in mesic sites, typically coniferous or deciduous forests. Roosts in the open, hanging from walls & ceilings in caves, lava tubes, bridges, and buildings. This species is extremely sensitive to human disturbance.
Fisher	<i>Pekania pennanti</i>	-/-/SSC	Intermediate to large-tree stages of coniferous forests and deciduous-riparian areas with high percent canopy closure. Uses cavities, snags, logs and rocky areas for cover and denning. Needs large areas of mature, dense forest.

FE=Federally Endangered

SE=State Endangered

FP = CDFW fully protected

FT=Federally Threatened

ST=State Threatened

SSC = CDFW species of special concern

FC=Federal Candidate

CFP=California Fully Protected

Rare = Rare species, State ranking as rare

DL=Federal Delisted

CSC=California Species of Concern

MMPA=Marine Mammal Protection Act

Source: California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (USGS 7.5-minute Novato and eight surrounding quadrangles), April 2018

Table 2 Special-Status Plants with the Potential to Occur in the Ukiah Vicinity

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitat Requirements
Raiche's manzanita	<i>Arctostaphylos stanfordiana ssp. raichei</i>	-/-/1B.1	Perennial evergreen shrub. Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest. Rocky, serpentinite (often). Elevations: 1475-3395ft. (450-1035m.) Blooms Feb-Apr.
Sonoma sunshine	<i>Blennosperma bakeri</i>	FE/SE/1B.1	Annual herb. Valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Vernal pools and swales. Elevations: 35-360ft. (10-110m.) Blooms Mar-May.
Watershield	<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	-/-/2B.3	Perennial rhizomatous herb (aquatic). Marshes and swamps. Aquatic known from water bodies both natural and artificial in California. 1-. Elevations: 0-7220ft. (0-2200m.) Blooms Jun-Sep.
bristly sedge	<i>Carex comosa</i>	-/-/2B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Coastal prairie, marshes and swamps, valley and foothill grassland. Lake margins, wet places; site below sea level is on a Delta island. Elevations: 0-2050ft. (0-625m.) Blooms May-Sep.
Rincon Ridge ceanothus	<i>Ceanothus confusus</i>	-/-/1B.1	Perennial evergreen shrub. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, closed-cone coniferous forest. Serpentinite (sometimes), volcanic (sometimes). Elevations: 245-3495ft. (75-1065m.) Blooms Feb-Jun.

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Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitat Requirements
serpentine cryptantha	<i>Cryptantha dissita</i>	-/-/1B.2	Annual herb. Chaparral. Serpentine outcrops. Elevations: 1295-1905ft. (395-580m.) Blooms Apr-Jun.
Koch's cord moss	<i>Entosthodon kochii</i>	-/-/1B.3	Moss. Cismontane woodland. Moss growing on soil on river banks. Elevations: 590-3280ft. (180-1000m.)
Roderick's fritillary	<i>Fritillaria roderickii</i>	-/SE/1B.1	Perennial bulbiferous herb. Coastal bluff scrub, coastal prairie, valley and foothill grassland. Grassy slopes, mesas. Elevations: 50-1310ft. (15-400m.) Blooms Mar-May.
Boggs Lake hedge- hyssop	<i>Gratiola heterosepala</i>	-/SE/1B.2	Annual herb. Marshes and swamps, vernal pools. Clay soils; usually in vernal pools, sometimes on lake margins. Elevations: 35-7790ft. (10-2375m.) Blooms Apr-Aug.
Toren's grimmia	<i>Grimmia torenii</i>	-/-/1B.3	Moss. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest. Openings, rocky, boulder and rock walls, serpentine, volcanic. Elevations: 1065-3805ft. (325-1160m.)
Guggolz's harmonia	<i>Harmonia guggolziorum</i>	-/-/1B.1	Annual herb. Chaparral. Open areas on serpentine. Elevations: 525-640ft. (160-195m.) Blooms Apr-May.
glandular western flax	<i>Hesperolinon adenophyllum</i>	-/-/1B.1	Annual herb. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Serpentine soils; generally found in serpentine chaparral. Elevations: 490-4315ft. (150-1315m.) Blooms May-Aug.
Bolander's horkelia	<i>Horkelia bolanderi</i>	-/-/1B.2	Perennial herb. Chaparral, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland. Grassy margins of vernal pools and meadows. Elevations: 1475-3610ft. (450-1100m.) Blooms (May)Jun-Aug.
small groundcone	<i>Kopsiopsis hookeri</i>	-/-/2B.3	Perennial rhizomatous herb (parasitic). North coast coniferous forest. Open woods, shrubby places, generally on Gaultheria shallon. Elevations: 295-2905ft. (90-885m.) Blooms Apr-Aug.
Burke's goldfields	<i>Pleuropogon Lasthenia burkei</i>	FE/SE/1B.1	Annual herb. Meadows and seeps, vernal pools. Most often in vernal pools and swales. Elevations: 50-1970ft. (15-600m.) Blooms Apr-Jun.
Contra Costa goldfields	<i>Lasthenia conjugens</i>	FE-/1B.1	Annual herb. Cismontane woodland, playas, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Vernal pools, swales, low depressions, in open grassy areas. Elevations: 0-1540ft. (0-470m.) Blooms Mar-Jun.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitat Requirements
Colusa layia	<i>Layia septentrionalis</i>	-/-/1B.1	Annual herb. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Scattered colonies in fields and grassy slopes in sandy or serpentine soil. Elevations: 330-3595ft. (100-1095m.) Blooms Apr-May.
Baker's meadowfoam	<i>Limnanthes bakeri</i>	-/SR/1B.1	Annual herb. Marshes and swamps, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Seasonally moist or saturated sites within grassland; also in swales, roadside ditches and margins of freshwater marshy areas. Elevations: 575-2985ft. (175-910m.) Blooms Apr-May.
Baker's navarretia	<i>Navarretia leucocephala</i> <i>ssp. bakeri</i>	-/-/1B.1	Annual herb. Cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest, meadows and seeps, valley and foothill grassland, vernal pools. Vernal pools and swales; adobe or alkaline soils. Elevations: 15-5710ft. (5-1740m.) Blooms Apr-Jul.
white-flowered rein orchid	<i>Piperia candida</i>	-/-/1B.2	Perennial herb. Broadleafed upland forest, lower montane coniferous forest, north coast coniferous forest. Sometimes on serpentine. Forest duff, mossy banks, rock outcrops, and muskeg. Elevations: 100-4300ft. (30-1310m.) Blooms (Mar)May-Sep.
North Coast semaphore grass	<i>Pleuropogon hooverianus</i>	-/ST/1B.1	Perennial rhizomatous herb. Broadleafed upland forest, meadows and seeps, north coast coniferous forest. Wet grassy, usually shady areas, sometimes freshwater marsh; associated with forest environments. Elevations: 35-2200ft. (10-671m.) Blooms Apr-Jun.
angel's hair lichen"	<i>Ramalina thrausta</i>	-/-/2B.1	Fruticose lichen (epiphytic). North coast coniferous forest. On dead twigs and other lichens. Elevations: 245-1410ft. (75-430m.)
Bolander's catchfly	<i>Silene bolanderi</i>	-/-/1B.1	Perennial herb. Chaparral, Cismontane woodland, Lower montane coniferous forest, Meadows and seeps, North Coast coniferous forest. Openings (usually), Roadsides (sometimes), Rocky (sometimes), Serpentinite (sometimes). Elevations: 420-1150m (1380-775ft). Blooms May-Jun.
Hoffman's bristly jewelflower	<i>Streptanthus glandulosus</i> ssp. <i>hoffmanii</i>	-/-/1B.3	Annual herb. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Moist, steep rocky banks, in serpentine and non-serpentine soil. Elevations: 395-1560ft. (120-475m.) Blooms Mar-Jul.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Agency Status (Federal/State/ CRPR/Other)	Habitat Requirements
beaked tracyina	<i>Tracyina rostrata</i>	-/-/1B.2	Annual herb. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, valley and foothill grassland. Open grassy meadows usually within oak woodland and grassland habitats. Elevations: 295-4165ft. (90-1270m.) Blooms May-Jun.
Santa Cruz clover	<i>Trifolium buckwestiorum</i>	-/-/1B.1	Annual herb. Broadleafed upland forest, cismontane woodland, coastal prairie. Moist grassland. Gravelly margins. Elevations: 345-2000ft. (105-610m.) Blooms Apr-Oct.
oval-leaved viburnum	<i>Viburnum ellipticum</i>	-/-/2B.3	Perennial deciduous shrub. Chaparral, cismontane woodland, lower montane coniferous forest. Elevations: 705-4595ft. (215-1400m.) Blooms May-Jun.

FE = Federally Endangered
 FT = Federal Threatened
 SE = California State Endangered
 ST = California State Threatened

California Native Plant Society (CNPS)

- 1A: Plants presumed extinct in California
- 1B: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere
- 2: Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere.
- 3: Plants about which we need more information.
- 4: Plants of limited distribution, a watch list.

California Rare Plant Rank (CRPR)

- 0.1 – Seriously endangered in California (over 80% of occurrences threatened / high degree and immediacy of threat)
- 0.2 – Fairly endangered in California (20-80% occurrences threatened)
- 0.3 – Not very endangered in California (<20% of occurrences threatened or no current threats known)

Sources: California Native Plant Society (CNPS) (USGS 7.5-minute Novato and eight surrounding quadrangles), October 2016 California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) (USGS 7.5-minute Novato and eight surrounding quadrangles), November 2016

Appendix C

Supporting Noise Information

Traffic Noise Calculator: FHWA 77-108		Project Title: 19-07409 Ukiah General Plan Update		Output Existing Traffic		Inputs Existing Traffic		Auto Inputs		Vehicles per Hour		Reference Level		Distance Adjustments		Calculation Area		Flow: Daytime		Flow: Evening		Flow: Night		Totals: Daytime		Totals: Evening		Totals: Night		Time of Day Averages																												
ID	L _{eq,24hr}	L _{dn}	CNEL	70 dBA	65 dBA	60 dBA	ADT	Posted Speed Limit	Grade	% Autos	% Med Trucks	% Heavy Trucks	% Daytime	% Evening	% Night	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Lane Distance	Daytime Autos	Daytime Med Truck	Daytime Heavy	Evening Autos	Evening Med Truck	Evening Heavy	Night Autos	Night Med Truck	Night Heavy	Autos	Med Trucks	Heavy Trucks	Equipped Lane	Distance Ref	Distance Propag	Heavy Truck Grade	Autos	Med Truck	Heavy Truck	Autos	Med Truck	Heavy Truck	Autos	Med Truck	Heavy Truck	Autos	Med Truck	Heavy Truck	Autos	Med Truck	Heavy Truck	Day Leq	Evening Leq	Night Leq				
1328	41.1	44.8	45.2	1	2	5	BEACON LANE	131	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	7.9	0.1	0.2	4.2	0.0	0.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-20.3	-40.2	-37.1	-23.0	-42.9	-39.9	-26.0	-45.9	-42.9	39.1	30.9	40.0	36.4	28.1	37.3	33.3	25.1	34.3	42.9	40.1	37.1
1325	19.9	23.6	24.0	0	0	0	CRESTA DRIVE	1	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-41.5	-61.3	-58.3	-44.2	-64.1	-61.0	-47.2	-67.1	-64.1	17.9	9.7	18.9	15.2	7.0	16.1	12.2	3.9	13.1	21.7	19.0	16.0
1324	59.8	63.5	63.9	20	42	91	WASHINGTON AVENUE	5056	35	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	306.5	3.2	6.3	163.5	1.7	3.4	81.7	0.8	1.7	65.1	74.8	80.0	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-5.9	-25.7	-22.7	-8.6	-28.5	-25.5	-11.6	-31.5	-28.5	59.2	49.0	57.2	56.4	46.3	54.5	53.4	43.3	51.5	61.6	58.8	55.8
1320	45.1	48.8	49.2	2	4	10	LAWS AVENUE	328	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	19.9	0.2	0.4	10.6	0.1	0.2	5.3	0.1	0.1	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-16.3	-36.2	-33.2	-19.0	-38.9	-35.9	-22.0	-41.9	-38.9	43.1	34.8	44.0	40.3	32.1	41.3	37.3	29.1	38.3	46.9	44.1	41.1
1319	51.3	55.0	55.4	5	11	25	SOUTH DORA STREET	969	30	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	58.7	0.6	1.2	31.3	0.3	0.6	15.7	0.2	0.3	62.5	73.1	78.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-12.4	-32.3	-29.2	-15.1	-35.0	-32.0	-18.1	-38.0	-35.0	50.1	40.8	49.4	47.3	38.1	46.7	44.3	35.0	43.7	53.0	50.3	47.3
1307	67.8	71.5	71.9	67	145	311	US 101	11515	55	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	698.1	7.2	14.4	372.3	3.8	7.7	186.2	1.9	3.8	72.7	79.9	83.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-4.3	-24.1	-21.1	-7.0	-26.9	-23.9	-10.0	-29.9	-26.9	68.4	55.6	62.6	65.7	52.9	59.9	62.6	49.9	56.9	69.6	66.9	63.8
1306	69.1	72.8	73.2	81	176	378	US 101	15416	55	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	934.6	9.6	19.3	498.5	5.1	10.3	249.2	2.6	5.1	72.7	79.9	83.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-3.0	-22.9	-19.9	-5.7	-25.6	-22.6	-8.7	-28.6	-25.6	69.7	56.9	63.9	66.9	54.2	61.2	63.9	51.2	58.1	70.9	68.1	65.1
1305	60.2	63.9	64.3	21	45	97	RAMP	4227	40	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	1	Soft	50	0.5	6	256.3	2.6	5.3	136.7	1.4	2.8	68.3	0.7	1.4	67.4	76.3	81.2	100.0	-4.6	4.5	0	-7.2	-27.1	-24.1	-10.0	-29.8	-26.8	-13.0	-32.8	-29.8	60.0	49.1	57.0	57.3	46.4	54.2	54.3	43.4	51.2	62.0	59.3	56.3
410	59.4	63.1	63.5	18	40	85	SOBBI STREET	4601	35	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	278.9	2.9	5.8	148.8	1.5	3.1	74.4	0.8	1.5	65.1	74.8	80.0	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-6.3	-26.2	-23.1	-9.0	-28.9	-25.9	-12.0	-31.9	-28.9	58.7	48.6	56.8	56.0	45.9	54.1	53.0	42.9	51.1	61.1	58.4	55.4
408	54.8	58.5	58.8	9	19	42	DORA STREET	2160	30	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	131.0	1.4	2.7	69.8	0.7	1.4	34.5	0.4	0.7	62.5	73.1	78.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-8.9	-28.8	-25.8	-11.6	-31.5	-28.5	-14.6	-34.5	-31.5	53.5	44.3	52.9	50.8	41.5	50.2	47.8	38.5	47.2	56.5	53.8	50.8
407	48.2	51.9	52.3	3	7	15	MILL STREET	673	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	40.8	0.4	0.8	21.8	0.2	0.4	10.9	0.1	0.2	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-13.2	-33.0	-30.0	-15.9	-35.8	-32.8	-18.9	-38.8	-35.8	46.2	38.0	47.1	43.5	35.2	44.4	40.4	32.2	41.4	50.0	47.2	44.2
405	56.2	59.9	60.3	11	24	52	DORA STREET	3015	30	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	182.8	1.9	3.8	97.5	1.0	2.0	48.7	0.5	1.0	62.5	73.1	78.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-7.5	-27.3	-24.3	-10.2	-30.1	-27.0	-13.2	-33.1	-30.1	55.0	45.7	54.4	52.3	43.0	51.6	49.2	40.0	48.6	58.0	55.2	52.2
404	54.4	58.1	58.5	9	18	40	DORA STREET	1989	30	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	120.6	1.2	2.5	64.3	0.7	1.3	32.2	0.3	0.7	62.5	73.1	78.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-9.3	-29.1	-26.1	-12.0	-31.9	-28.9	-15.0	-34.9	-31.9	53.2	43.9	52.6	50.4	41.2	49.8	47.4	38.2	46.8	56.2	53.4	50.4
403	48.2	51.9	52.3	3	7	15	MILL STREET	673	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	40.8	0.4	0.8	21.8	0.2	0.4	10.9	0.1	0.2	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-13.2	-33.0	-30.0	-15.9	-35.8	-32.8	-18.9	-38.8	-35.8	46.2	38.0	47.1	43.5	35.2	44.4	40.4	32.2	41.4	50.0	47.2	44.2
402	57.4	61.1	61.5	14	29	63	DAK STREET	2928	35	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	177.5	1.9	3.7	94.7	1.0	2.0	47.2	0.5	1.0	65.1	74.8	80.0	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-8.3	-28.1	-25.1	-11.0	-30.9	-27.8	-14.0	-33.9	-30.9	56.8	46.6	54.9	54.1	42.9	52.1	51.0	40.9	49.1	59.2	56.5	53.4
400	59.5	63.2	63.6	19	40	87	SOBBI STREET	4697	35	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	284.8	2.9	5.9	151.9	1.6	3.1	75.9	0.8	1.6	65.1	74.8	80.0	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-6.2	-26.1	-23.1	-8.9	-28.8	-25.8	-11.9	-31.8	-28.8	58.8	48.7	56.9	56.1	46.0	54.2	53.1	42.9	51.2	61.2	58.5	55.5
399	53.8	57.5	57.9	8	17	36	DORA STREET	1733	30	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	105.1	1.1	2.2	56.0	0.6	1.2	28.0	0.3	0.6	62.5	73.1	78.8	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-9.9	-29.7	-26.7	-12.6	-32.5	-29.4	-15.6	-35.5	-32.5	52.6	43.3	52.0	49.8	40.6	49.2	46.8	37.6	46.2	55.6	52.8	49.8
398	35.0	38.7	39.1	0	1	2	HORTENSE STREET	32	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-26.4	-46.3	-43.3	-29.1	-49.0	-46.0	-32.1	-52.0	-49.0	33.0	24.7	33.9	30.2	22.0	31.2	27.2	19.0	28.2	36.8	34.0	31.0
397	45.5	49.2	49.6	2	5	10	STEPHENSON STREET	361	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	21.9	0.2	0.5	11.7	0.1	0.2	5.8	0.1	0.1	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-15.9	-35.8	-32.7	-18.6	-38.5	-35.5	-21.6	-41.5	-38.5	43.5	35.3	44.4	40.8	32.5	41.7	37.7	29.5	38.7	47.3	44.5	41.5
396	44.6	48.3	48.7	2	4	9	CHURCH STREET	290	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	17.6	0.2	0.4	9.4	0.1	0.2	4.7	0.0	0.1	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-16.8	-36.7	-33.7	-19.6	-39.4	-36.4	-22.6	-42.4	-39.4	42.5	34.3	43.5	39.8	31.6	40.7	36.8	28.6	37.7	46.3	43.6	40.6
395	34.4	38.1	38.5	0	1	2	HORTENSE STREET	28	25	0.0%	97.0%	1.0%	2.0%	75.0%	10.0%	15.0%	2	Soft	50	0.5	20	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	59.4	71.1	77.2	99.5	-4.6	4.5	0	-27.0	-46.9	-43.8	-29.7	-49.6	-46.6	-32.7	-52.6													

Inputs										Vehicle Emissions										Calculation Area																																						
Site Data			Roadway Data			Traffic Data				Site Data		Ground		Line		Daytime		Evening		Night		Heavy		Medium		Light		Heavy		Medium		Light		Heavy		Medium		Light		Day		Night																
ID	Site ID	Site Name	ADT	Speed	Grade	% Autos	% Heavy Trucks	% Light Trucks	% Buses	Number of Lanes	Site Condition	Distance to Receiver	Ground Absorption	Line Distance	Daytime Autos	Daytime Heavy	Daytime Light	Evening Autos	Evening Heavy	Evening Light	Night Autos	Night Heavy	Night Light	Heavy Autos	Heavy Heavy	Heavy Light	Medium Autos	Medium Heavy	Medium Light	Light Autos	Light Heavy	Light Light	Heavy Autos	Heavy Heavy	Heavy Light	Medium Autos	Medium Heavy	Medium Light	Light Autos	Light Heavy	Light Light	Day	Night															
1	76.2	75.9	80.3	243	5.24	11.28	May 101 20.20	18.732	81	0.0%	80.9%	14.9%	4.1%	71.0%	10.0%	15.0%	4	Soft	50	0.5	44	1705.8	154.1	80.4	508.6	167.3	46.1	454.8	83.8	23.1	75.5	81.7	85.2	81.5	-4.5	-4.5	0	-1.1	-8.5	-14.1	-8.8	-11.2	-8.8	-6.9	-14.2	-18.8	74.5	71.3	71.2	71.8	70.6	68.5	68.7	67.6	65.5	78.0	75.2	72.2
2	76.2	80.4	80.8	303	5.67	12.22	May 101 20.40	18.834	85	0.0%	80.9%	14.9%	4.2%	71.0%	10.0%	15.0%	4	Soft	50	0.5	44	1813.1	164.2	87.5	1025.7	188.8	52.0	512.8	94.0	34.0	75.5	81.7	85.2	81.5	-4.5	-4.5	0	-0.8	-7.9	-13.5	-3.3	-10.7	-10.3	-6.3	-13.7	-18.3	75.0	71.8	71.7	72.3	71.1	69.0	69.3	68.1	66.0	78.0	75.2	72.2

Appendix D

Supporting Transportation Information



Technical Memorandum

September 15, 2022

To	Craig Schlatter, City of Ukiah	Contact No.	(707) 463-6219
Copy to	Jim Harnish, Mintier Harnish	Email	cschlatter@cityofukiah.com
From	Don Hubbard, TE, AICP	Project No.	11196303
Project Name	City of Ukiah General Plan Update		
Subject	SB-743 Methodology		

1. Introduction

This memorandum describes the proposed methodology for assessing transportation impacts in Ukiah consistent with SB-743 and current CEQA Guidelines. SB-743 addresses a range of topics and aims to better promote statewide policies that (a) combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and particulates; (b) encourage infill development and a diversity of uses instead of sprawl; and (c) promote multi-modal transportation networks, providing clean, efficient access to destinations and improving public health through active transportation. As part of implementing SB 743, revisions to CEQA Section 15064.3 that describes specific considerations for evaluating a project’s transportation impacts went into effect statewide on July 1, 2020.

CEQA gives lead agencies broad discretion over analytical methodologies. CEQA Guidelines §15064.3(b)(4), which is new with SB-743, reads:

“Methodology. A lead agency has discretion to choose the most appropriate methodology to evaluate a project’s vehicle miles traveled, including whether to express the change in absolute terms, per capita, per household or in any other measure. A lead agency may use models to estimate a project’s vehicle miles traveled, and may revise those estimates to reflect professional judgment based on substantial evidence. Any assumptions used to estimate vehicle miles traveled and any revisions to model outputs should be documented and explained in the environmental document prepared for the project. The standard of adequacy in Section 15151 shall apply to the analysis described in this section.”

No particular methodology or metric is mandated; the choice is left to the lead agency. In making this choice, an agency should bear in mind what sort of criteria the legislature had in mind for determining the significance of transportation impacts goals of SB-743. These were expressed in PRC §21099(b)(1), *“Those criteria shall promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses.”*

The methodology described in this memo is based on the one developed for the Sacramento Blueprint Project, the groundbreaking study of how smart growth policies could lead to reductions in vehicle-miles traveled (VMT). The Blueprint Project represented a sea change in how transportation impacts were analyzed, because it demonstrated that conventional travel demand models have inherent blind spots that make them insensitive to the effects of residential and employment density, neighborhood design, and a diversity of land uses in close proximity to one another (the 3 D’s). It went a step further and developed procedures external to a traffic model to forecast the effects of the 3 Ds on travel behavior. This work won a host of awards including US-EPA’s National Award for Smart Growth Achievement, FHWA’s Transportation Planning Excellence Award, the American Institute of Architects’ Presidential Citation, and AMPO’s National Award for Outstanding Achievement in Metropolitan Transportation Planning.

2. Description of the Methodology

The methodology consists of determining the land use characteristics of each neighborhood and then assessing the potential for interacting with complementary land uses through non-auto trips. Data shows that when housing is in close proximity to retail and services uses people will walk or bike to those uses at least some of the time, and even if they drive the trips will be short (i.e. low VMT trips). Similarly, the likelihood of people walking or biking to work, rather than driving, depends on the distance between their homes and workplaces. So measures of proximity are also measures of the potential for VMT reduction.

The steps in the methodology are shown in Figure 1. These are:

Inputting Land Use Data

- 1) The study area, the city of Ukiah and its vicinity, were divided into in hexagons. The size of the hexagons was based on survey data of typical distances for walking trips by Americans. The idea being that land uses in a given hexagon would be within comfortable walking distance of complementary land uses in the six adjacent hexagons.
- 2) The existing land uses in each hexagon were then grouped into three categories as follows:
 - Residential, measured in households
 - Retail, measured in jobs. This category includes services such as banking and beauty salons that typically attract more trips by customers than commute trips by employees
 - Non-retail, also measured in jobs. This includes office, industrial, and agricultural jobs where the majority of trips are made by employees rather than customers.

Figure 2, Figure 3, and Figure 4 show the existing distribution of households, retail jobs, and non-retail jobs in Ukiah, respectively.

Computing Diversity Indicators

- 3) The land uses in each hexagon are then combined with the land uses in the six adjacent hexes to represent the diversity of land uses available within walking distance to people in the hexagon.
- 4) The potential for interaction with complementary land uses was then estimated using three diversity indices, each representing a different type of transaction:
 - Jobs/Housing Diversity, which represents a person's ability to walk to their place of employment. In traffic forecasting this type of trip is termed a home-based work (HBW) trip.
 - Retail/Housing Diversity, which represents a person's ability to walk for shopping trips. In traffic forecasting this type of trip is termed a home-based other (HBO) trip.
 - Job/Mix Diversity, which represents the interaction between retail and non-retail uses. For example, office workers walking to nearby restaurants or coffee shops. In traffic forecasting this type of trip is termed a non-home-based work (NHB) trip.

The formulas for these indices are as follows:

$$\text{Jobs/Housing Diversity} = 1 - [(b * \text{HHs} - \text{EMP}) / (b * \text{HHs} + \text{EMP})]$$

$$\text{Jobmix Diversity} = 1 - [(c * \text{REMP} - \text{NEMP}) / (c * \text{REMP} + \text{NEMP})]$$

$$\text{Retail/Housing Diversity} = 1 - [(b * \text{HHs} - \text{REMP}) / (b * \text{HHs} + \text{REMP})]$$

Where:

HH = Number of households

REMP = Number of Retail and Service Jobs

NEMP = Number of Non-Retail Jobs

EMP = Total number of jobs (i.e. REMP + NEMP)

b = total regional employment / total regional households

c = total regional non-retail jobs / total regional retail jobs

d = total regional retail/service employment / total regional households

These formulas produce scores for individual hexagons that range from -1 to 1, with a score of 0 indicating an ideal mix of land uses and scores of -1 and 1 indicating that only one of the land uses is present.

The ideal mix of land uses, found in the formulas as “a”, “b”, and “c”, was determined from the county-wide mix of the three land uses types. The rationale for this is the fact that land uses tend to balance when viewed over a large area. For example, government jobs may be concentrated in one area and industrial jobs in another, while residences and shops are distributed among various other communities, but when taken as a whole the housing, retail, and non-retail uses in a region tend to occur in the correct proportions for that particular type of region.

- 5) The scores for the three types of diversity were then mapped out. These maps can be used by City staff to identify which parts of the city have a good balance of land uses and which might benefit from zoning that would promote a better mixing of land uses.

Computing City-Wide Score

- 6) For some purposes, such as evaluating general plan alternatives, it is useful to be able to compute a combined diversity score for the study area as a whole. The first step in doing this is to convert the diversity scores from the -1 to 1 range used in the scores for individual hexagons into their absolute values, with 0 again indicating a perfect mix of uses and 1 indicating no mix at all (i.e. a single land use type). If this were not done, then the scores of, say, over-retailed and under-retailed neighborhoods in different parts of the city would cancel each other out, when in fact both have a poor land use balance.
- 7) The three types of diversity are not equally important for every hexagon because the number of HBW, HBO, and NHB trips depends on the land uses in the hex. The table below shows the number of trips of each type generated by each of the three land use categories:

Trip Purpose	Trip Generation Rate		
	Household	Retail Job	Non-Retail Job
Home-Based Work	2.2	1.2	1.7
Non-Home-Based	1.0	8.1	1.9
Home-Based Other	5.9	8.2	0.8
Total	9.0	17.5	4.4

- 8) The land uses for each hex are then multiplied by the trip generation rates and used to compute the percentage of total trips in each trip category. Figure 5 shows the total trips generated by hex zone.
- 9) The three individual scores for each hexagon are then combined into an individual score for each hexagon using the trip types as weighting.
- 10) The scores for the individual hexagons are then combined using the number of trips generated by the hex to weight their contribution to the city-wide score. Note that this means that the inclusion of vacant hexagons outside of the city will have no effect on the outcome; they generate no trips and so their scores will be weighted at zero.

3. Results

Figure 6, Figure 7, and Figure 8 show the three diversity scores for existing land uses. Figure 9 shows the total diversity by zone for existing land uses. These figures show several things:

- Much of the city core scores quite well, between -0.30 and 0.30, on jobs/housing diversity (see Figure 6). This indicates the success that Ukiah has achieved in enabling people to live and work in close proximity.
- The edges of the city do not score as well on jobs/housing diversity (see Figure 6). However, this does not hurt the city's overall score as much as Figure 6 might imply, because there are relatively few jobs and residences in those areas. This is indicated by the small size of the circles in the hexagons in Figure 6.
- The city as a whole is over-retailed in relation to its population, due to the fact that it serves as the main retail destination for a large surrounding area (see Figure 7). This has implications both for sales tax revenues (good) and VMT (bad).
- Figure 8 shows that, with the exception of the city core (the light-colored hexagons), retail and non-retail jobs tend to be concentrated in different parts of the city (the red and blue hexagons in the figure). This limits their potential for interaction that does not involve driving.

4. Advantages of the Methodology

This methodology offers a number of practical advantages:

- a) **Ease of Use:** It does not require expensive software and special training to use, as is the case with most traffic models. City staff can evaluate projects using the Excel program already found on their computers.
- b) **Nuanced, Informative Results:** Unlike other methodologies, whose output is a just a number saying the VMT is high or low, this methodology provides a clear indication of the underlying causes of high or low auto use. For example, it might show the analyst that a proposed housing project is in a location that lacks local shopping opportunities and might be improved with the addition of locally-serving retail.
- c) **Appropriate Scale:** While this methodology cannot substitute for a convention traffic model for forecasting over large geographic areas (entire counties), it is likely to provide a more accurate representation of travel behavior in a small town than is possible with a conventional model. This is because traffic models incorporate certain necessary simplifications, such as centroid connectors and frictionless intersections, that are inconsequential when forecasting long trips but are highly distorting when forecasting trip-making over small areas. With a total area of less than 5 square miles, Ukiah is the sort of compact, walkable city better suited to a proximity-based model than a trip-based model.

5. Thresholds

CEQA analyses performed under SB-743 require the use of thresholds, as was the case for the LOS-based analyses they replaced. We recommend that the City establish three types of thresholds, namely:

- 1) **Thresholds for Screening by Size:** CEQA offers categorical exemptions for very small projects from having to do EIRs, both because of the negligible impact they are likely to have and because the expense of performing an EIR might make small projects unviable. We recommend that the City use the Class 1, for small expansions of existing uses, and Class 3, for new small projects, exactly as they are written in CEQA Guidelines §15301 and §15303. Some jurisdictions are experimenting with converting the thresholds in the CEQA guidelines, which as measure in square

feet, into some sort of equivalent in vehicle trips per day. We do not recommend this, because it involves a series of assumptions that may prove difficult to defend and in any case offers no significant advantages for Ukiah over the sections as written.

- 2) **Thresholds for Land Development Projects:** The methodology described in this memo is intended for use in analyzing land use projects. As with other aspects of SB-743, there is a lot of uncertainty regarding how the thresholds should be set. OPR's Technical Advisory suggested using a threshold requiring a 15% reduction in VMT over existing conditions. The 15% number originated in CARB's *California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan*, where it was computed as the average reduction needed to achieve the State's GHG reduction goals. However, this state-wide average may not be appropriate for all jurisdictions, and CARB has more recently set higher targets in some MPO areas and lower targets in others. For example, CARB's latest plan calls for a 19% reduction in VMT for the four largest MPOs¹ down to less than 10% for some of the smaller MPOs. Since Ukiah is not in an MPO region, we suggest using the targets for Shasta RTA, since it is both the geographically closest MPO and demographically most similar MPO to Ukiah. CARB set the target for Shasta RTA at a 4% reduction in average per-capita VMT.
- 3) **Thresholds for Transportation Projects:** As stated earlier, it is the intent of SB-743 that lead agencies use, criteria that "... shall promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the development of multimodal transportation networks, and a diversity of land uses." (PRC §21099(b)(1)). We recommend setting a threshold that explicitly focuses on balancing transportation modes within the city. An example would be:

"A project's impacts shall be deemed significant if it results in a percentage increase in road capacity higher than the percentage increase in bicycle or multi-use capacity."

Note that this threshold would make all active transportation projects presumptively less-than-significant. It would not preclude the City from undertaking road expansion projects, but it would mean that such projects would need to include expansion of the bicycle facility system as well. As written, it would require a 1%-to-1% expansion of the two systems, but it could easily be tweaked to require a 1%-to-2% or 3% expansion of bike facilities to help that system catch up with the facilities offered to cars.

6. Using the Methodology for Individual Projects

To use this methodology for an individual land use project is similar to that used for evaluating the General Plan, except that instead of computing a score for the entire city, you would only compute the score for the hex where the proposed project will be constructed. This score will reflect the proposed project's interactions with all the other land uses² within typical walking distances. The idea is to see whether or not the project moves the neighborhood it is in towards the "Goldilocks" spot where the three main types of land uses are in perfect balance.

The Goldilocks framing is best illustrated with a hypothetical example of a developer proposing to build a residential project in a hexagon that, with its neighboring six hexagons, currently has 500 dwelling units, 500 retail jobs, and 500 non-retail jobs. The developer would like to build 2,000 additional dwelling units, but their EIR will include a reduced-impact alternative with only 500 additional dwelling units.

City staff would note the diversity indices for existing conditions, then add 2,000 households and note the results. They would repeat the procedure for 500 households. When they tabulate the results, they would get a table like the one shown below.

¹ SCAG, MTC, SANDAG, and SACOG

² This should include both existing and already-approved land uses

Project Alternative	Jobs/ Housing Diversity	Jobmix Diversity	Retail/ Housing Diversity	Total Diversity Score	% Improvement in Diversity
Existing City Average	0.27	0.24	0.35	0.30	
Existing Project Hexagon	-0.32	0.33	-0.49	0.40	
+500 DUs	0.02	0.33	-0.18	0.20	51%
+2,000 DUs	0.44	0.33	0.27	0.32	22%

The right-most column in the table shows that this project would improve the land use balance in the neighborhood, and that the reduced-impact alternative would be superior to the developer's preference in terms of land use diversity. The analyst could stop there, and conclude that under either alternative the project would have less-than-significant impacts on the area. However, if they took the analysis one step further and input a range of project sizes into the spreadsheet, they could get a more nuanced feel of the interactions at work in this location.

Figure 10 shows the Jobs/Housing diversity for different numbers of households, given that 500 retail and 500 non-retail jobs are within walking distance. The black dot shows existing conditions. With 500 households, this area has fewer DUs than would be optimal for this amount of employment. However, the reduced-impact alternative (blue dot) would result in a nearly ideal mix of jobs and households. The developer's preferred alternative of adding 2,000 DUs (red dot) would over-shoot the ideal; the area would go from having too few DUs to having too many for the number of jobs nearby.

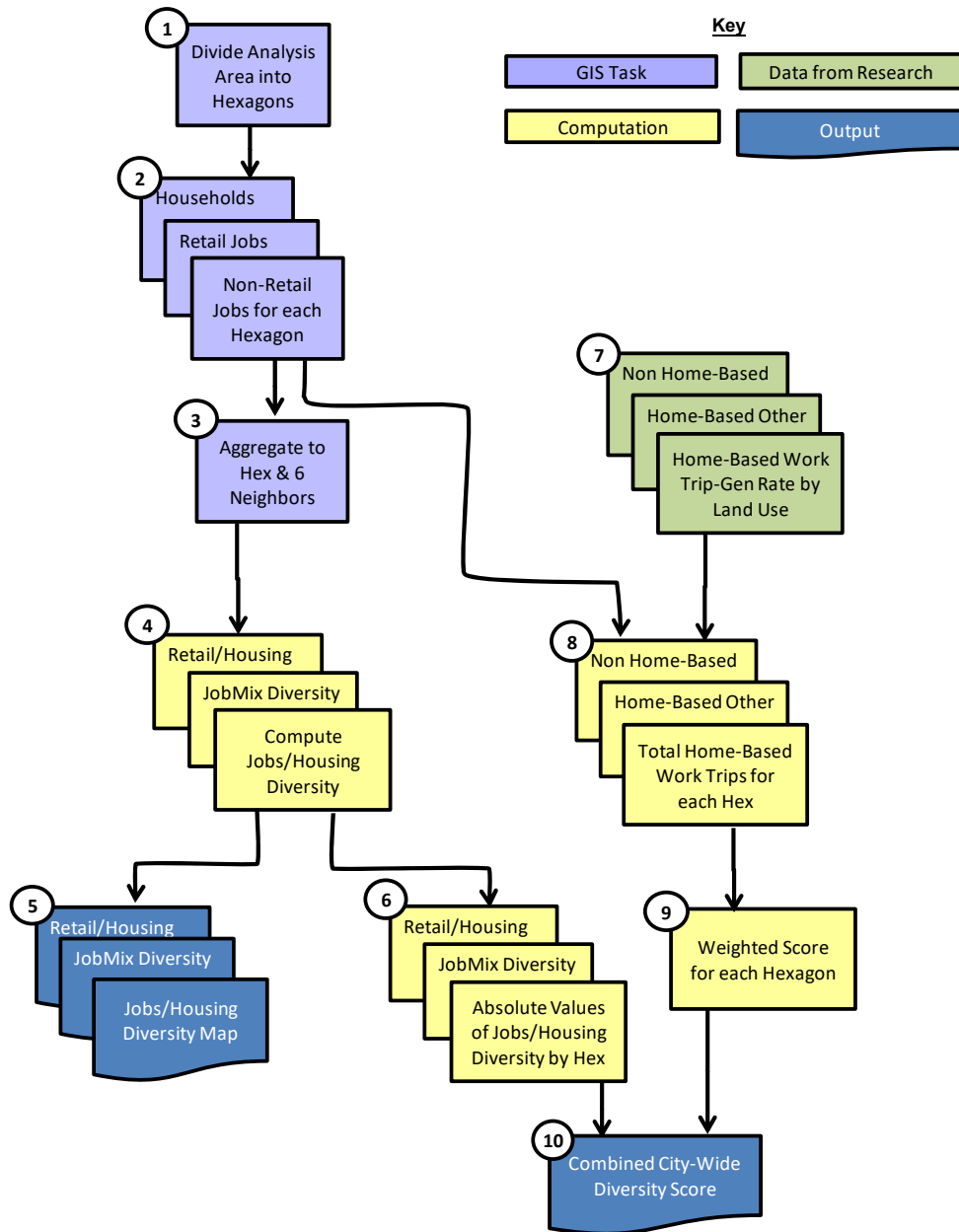
Figure 11 repeats the range analysis, but this time for Retail/Housing Diversity. The black dot shows that the area is over-retailed in proportion to the number of nearby homes. The blue dot shows that the reduced impact alternative pushes the balance in the right direction, but the area would remain over-retailed. The red dot shows that the area would go from having too little retail for the area it serves to having too little. Nevertheless, it would be closer to the ideal mix than existing conditions.

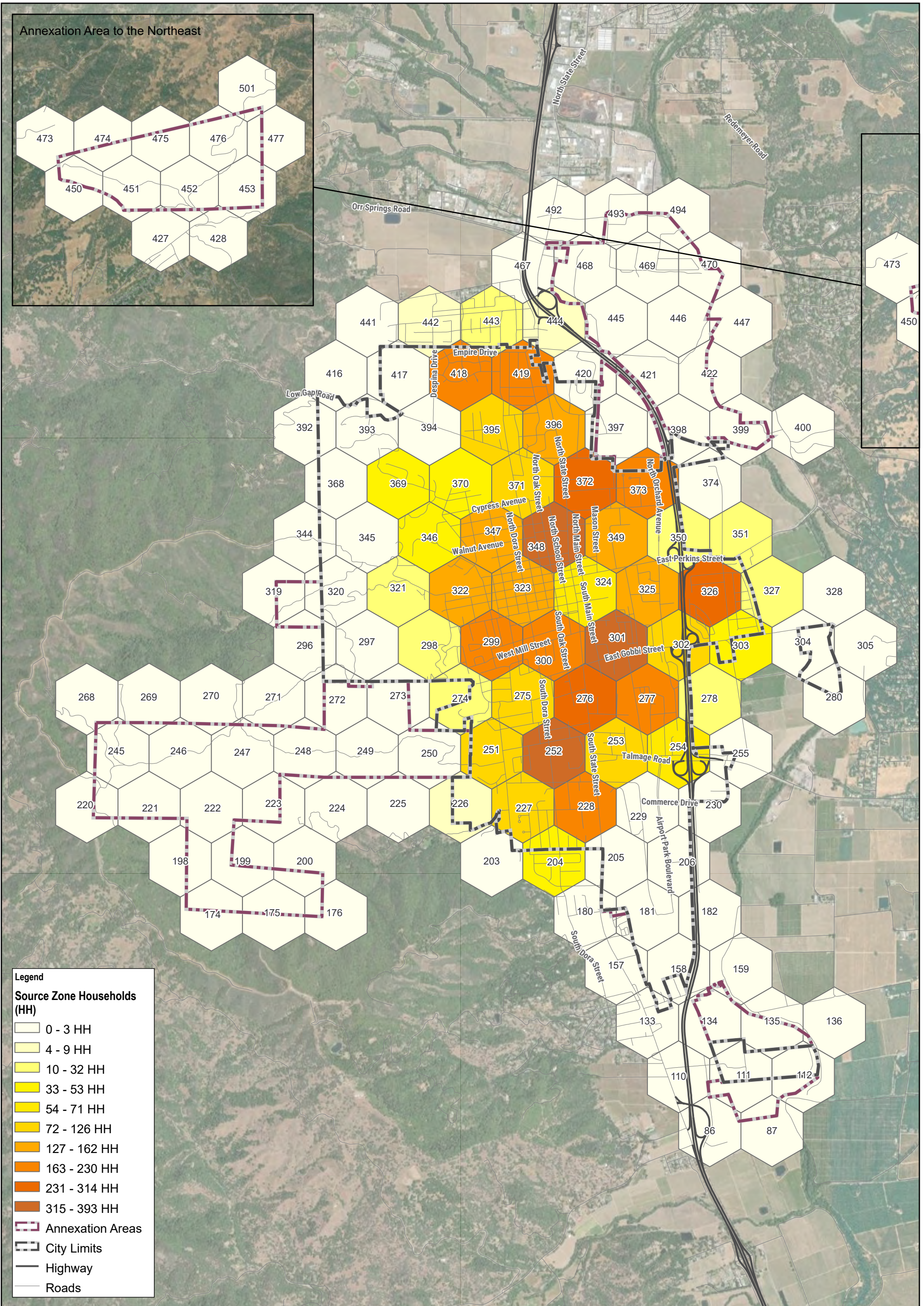
Figure 12 completes the analysis by showing the combined score for a range of project sizes. The shape changes because the combined score uses absolute values, with zero indicating a perfect mix. The most interesting thing about this figure is that it shows that the Goldilocks project size would be about 900 additional DUs (so 1,400 DUs in total if you include the existing 500). This would result in the optimal amount of residential development for an area with 500 retail and 500 non-retail jobs.

Someone may wonder why the score in Figure 12 does not go down to zero for the optimal residential amount. The reason is that the interaction between the retail and non-retail jobs, the JobMix Diversity, is not affected by the number of households nearby. Since the proportions of retail and non-retail jobs is in this case not ideal, an ideal score cannot be achieved in this location; at least not without tinkering with the amount of employment.

This example illustrates the key advantages of this methodology. In just an hour or two, using just a spreadsheet, a City staff person could evaluate a proposed project's effects on land use balance and opportunities for non-auto trips, and thus its effects on VMT. The analysis would not only reveal how the project would alter the land use balance but also points towards ways to optimize the project.

Figure 1: Methodology Flowchart





Legend

Source Zone Households (HH)

Lightest Yellow	0 - 3 HH
Light Yellow	4 - 9 HH
Yellow	10 - 32 HH
Light Orange	33 - 53 HH
Yellow-Orange	54 - 71 HH
Orange	72 - 126 HH
Dark Orange	127 - 162 HH
Red-Orange	163 - 230 HH
Dark Red-Orange	231 - 314 HH
Dark Orange	315 - 393 HH

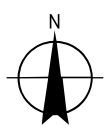
Annexation Areas (Dashed Purple Line)

City Limits (Dashed Black Line)

Highway (Solid Black Line)

Roads (Thin Solid Black Line)

Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet

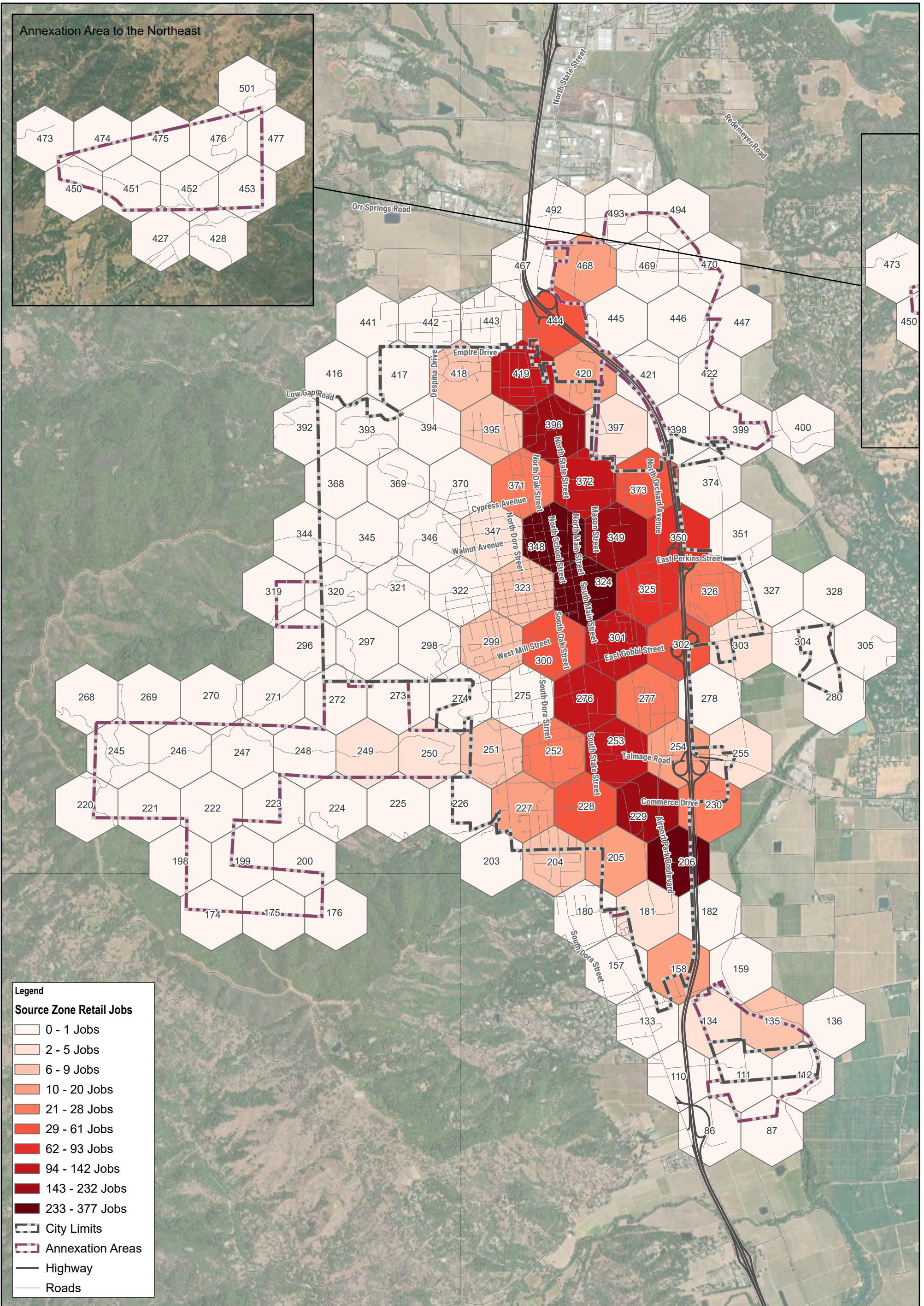


Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
HOUSEHOLDS
(EXISTING)

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/01/2022

FIGURE 2



Legend

Source Zone Retail Jobs

0 - 1 Jobs
2 - 5 Jobs
6 - 9 Jobs
10 - 20 Jobs
21 - 28 Jobs
29 - 61 Jobs
62 - 93 Jobs
94 - 142 Jobs
143 - 232 Jobs
233 - 377 Jobs

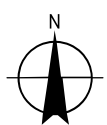
City Limits

Annexation Areas

Highway

Roads

Paper Size ANSI B
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 US Feet



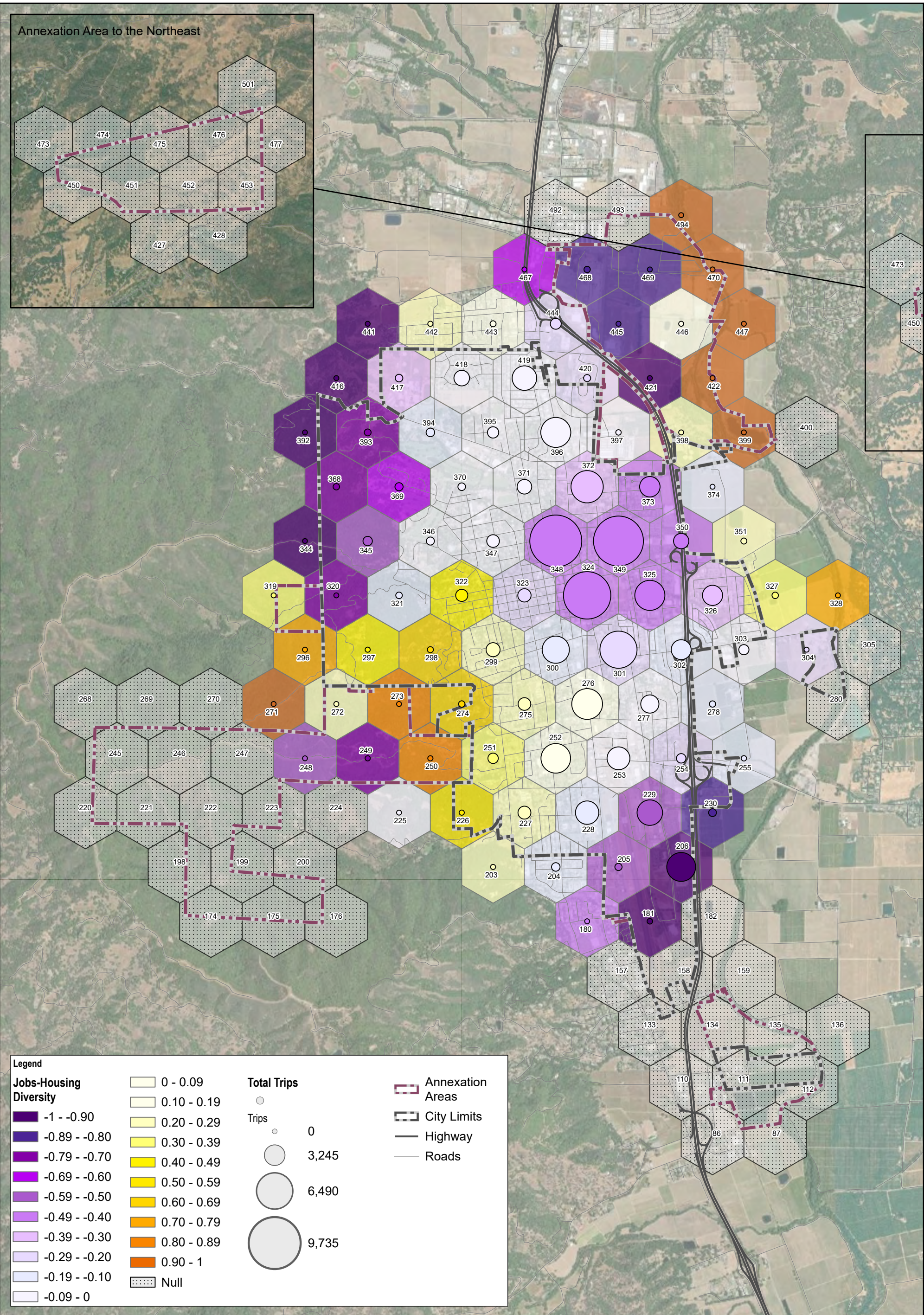
Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040

RETAIL JOBS
 (EXISTING)

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/01/2022

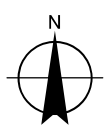
FIGURE 3



Legend

Jobs-Housing Diversity	0 - 0.09	Total Trips	Annexation Areas City Limits Highway Roads	
	-1 - -0.90			Trips
	-0.89 - -0.80			0
	-0.79 - -0.70			3,245
	-0.69 - -0.60	6,490		
	-0.59 - -0.50	9,735		
	-0.49 - -0.40			
	-0.39 - -0.30			
	-0.29 - -0.20			
	-0.19 - -0.10			
-0.09 - 0				
	Null			

Paper Size ANSI B
 0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000
 US Feet



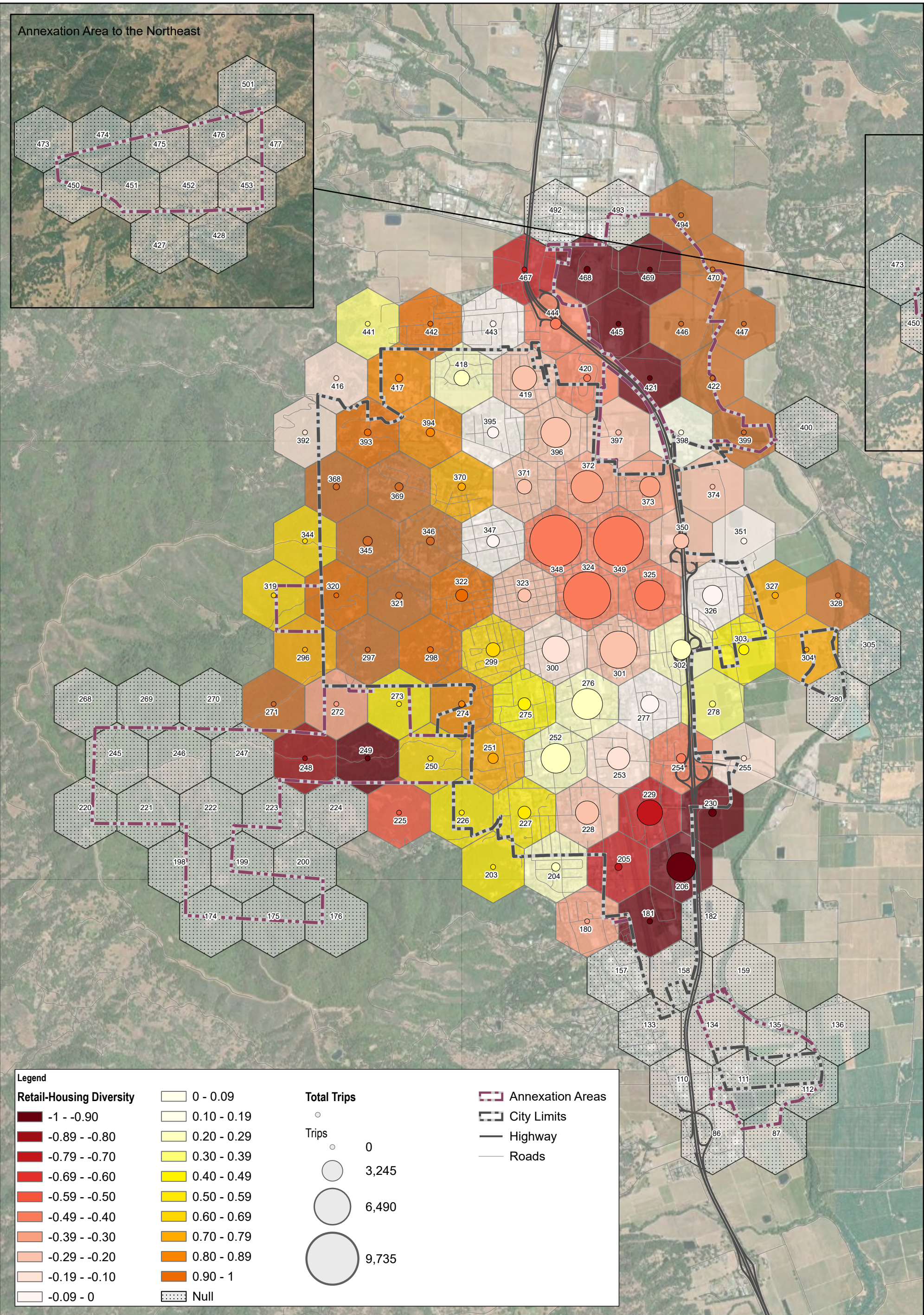
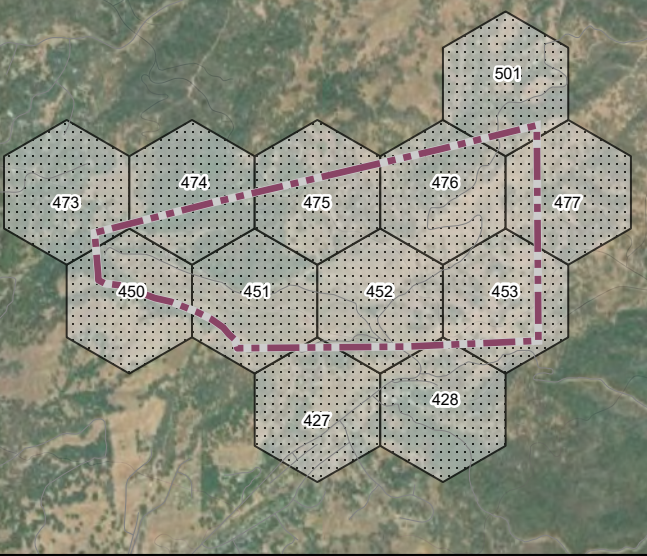
Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
 Horizontal Datum: North American 1983
 Grid: NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
JOBS/HOUSING DIVERSITY &
TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
(EXISTING)

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

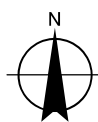
FIGURE 6

Annexation Area to the Northeast



Legend		Total Trips		Annexation Areas	
Retail-Housing Diversity	0 - 0.09	○	0		Annexation Areas
	-1 - -0.90	○	3,245		City Limits
	-0.89 - -0.80	○	6,490		Highway
	-0.79 - -0.70	○	9,735		Roads
	-0.69 - -0.60				
	-0.59 - -0.50				
	-0.49 - -0.40				
	-0.39 - -0.30				
	-0.29 - -0.20				
	-0.19 - -0.10				
	-0.09 - 0				
	0.10 - 0.19				
	0.20 - 0.29				
	0.30 - 0.39				
	0.40 - 0.49				
	0.50 - 0.59				
	0.60 - 0.69				
	0.70 - 0.79				
	0.80 - 0.89				
	0.90 - 1				
	Null				

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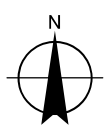
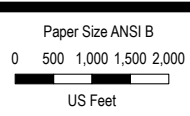
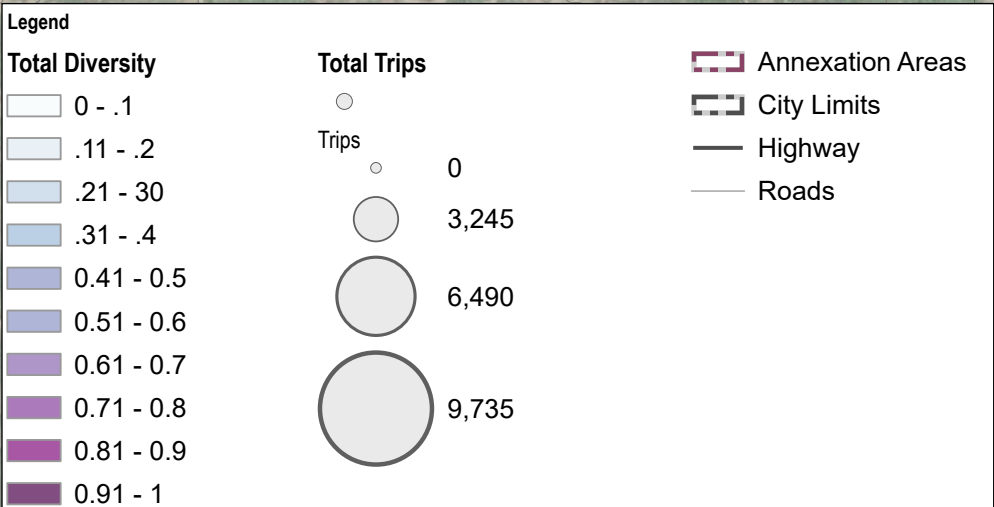
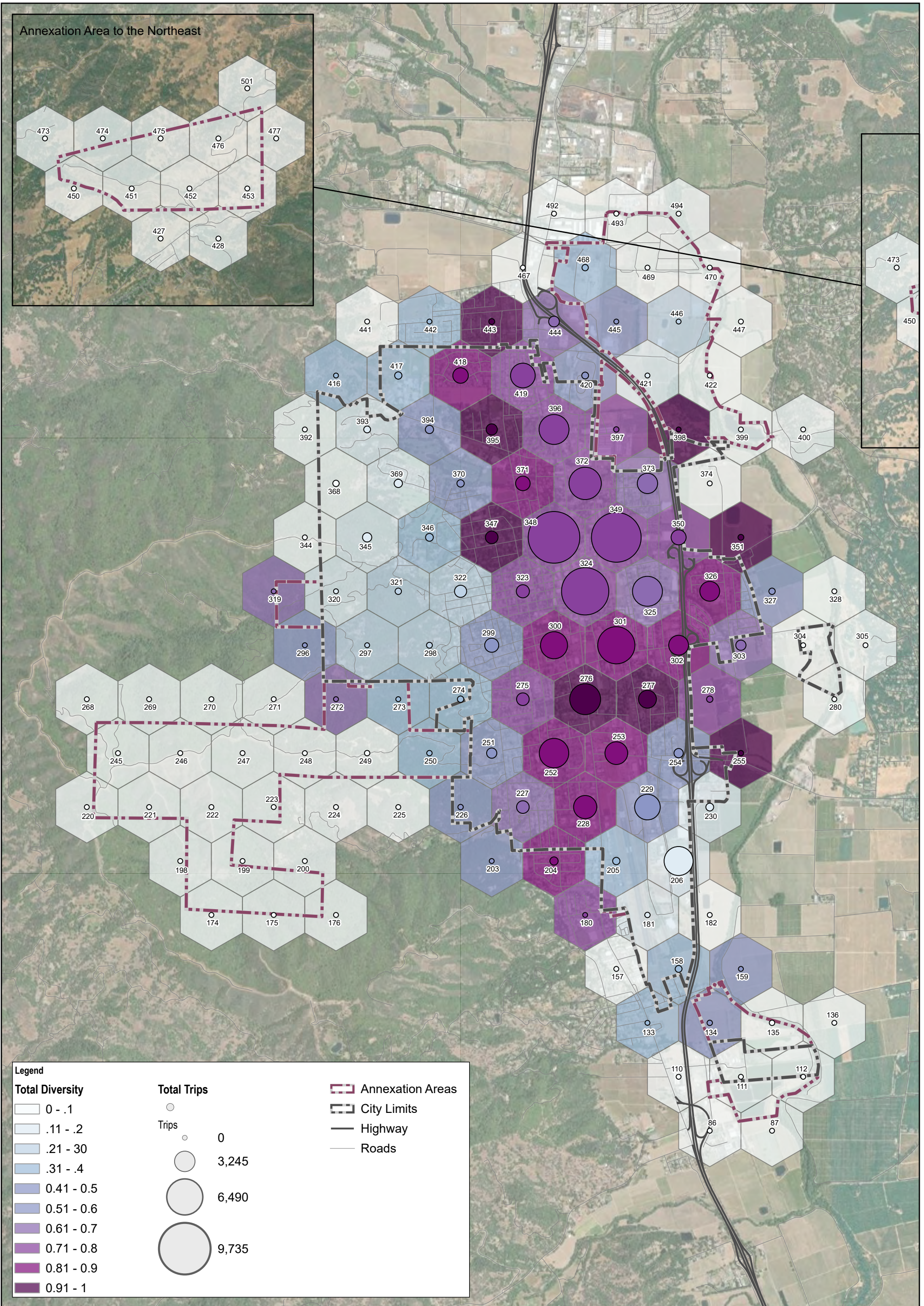


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CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
RETAIL/HOUSING DIVERSITY &
TOTAL TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
(EXISTING)

Project No. 11196303
Revision No. -
Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 7



Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
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CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
TOTAL DIVERSITY & TOTAL
TRIPS BY HEX ZONE
(EXISTING)

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/12/2022

FIGURE 9

Figure 10: Jobs/Housing Diversity for Hypothetical Project

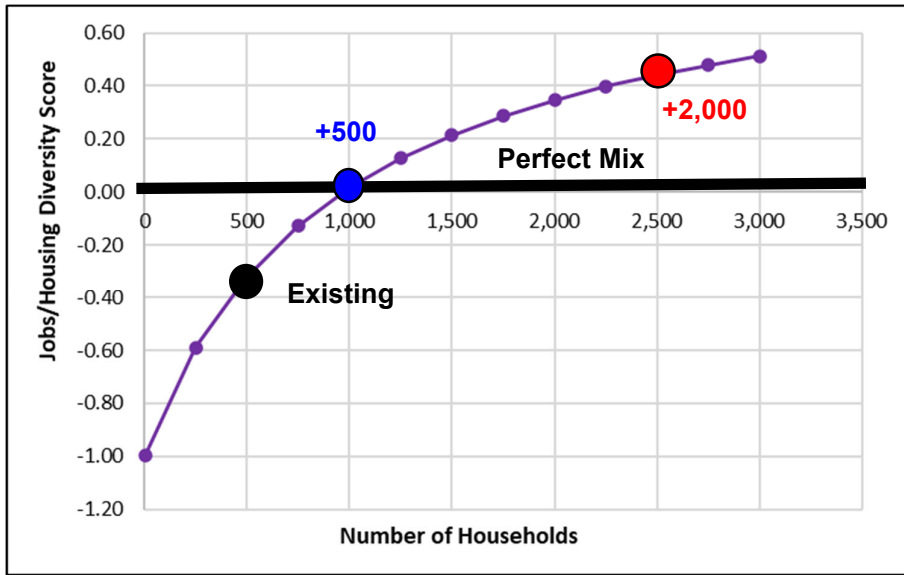


Figure 11: Retail/Housing Diversity for Hypothetical Project

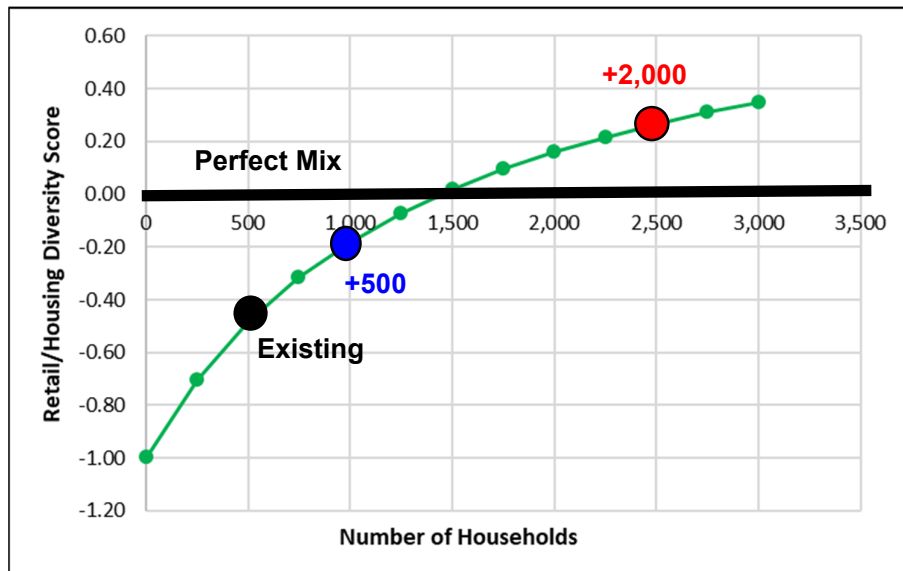
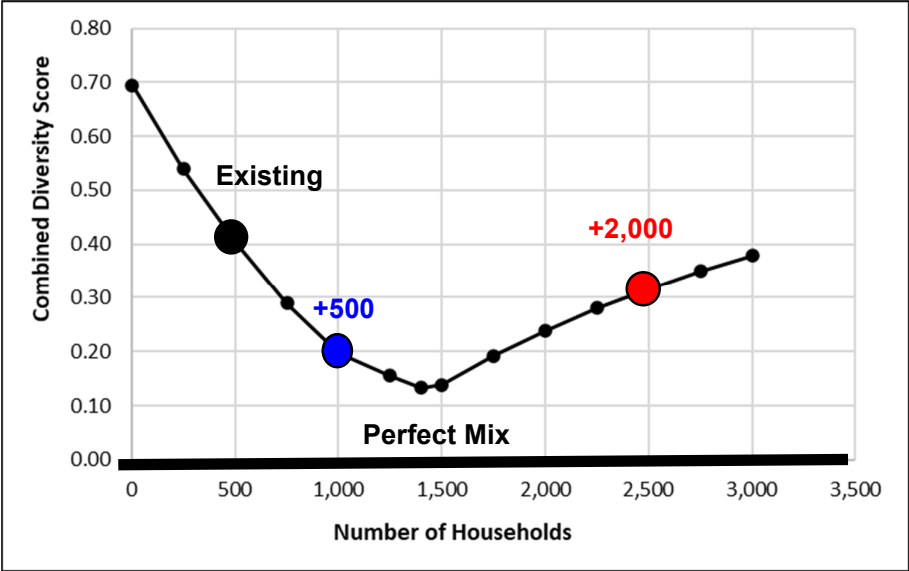


Figure 12 : Jobs/Retail Diversity for Hypothetical Project





Technical Memorandum

October 3, 2022

To	Craig Schlatter, City of Ukiah	Contact No.	(707) 463-6219
Copy to	Jim Harnish, Mintier Harnish	Email	cschlatter@cityofukiah.com
From	Colin Burgett	Project No.	11196303
Project Name	City of Ukiah General Plan Update		
Subject	SB-743 Methodology		

This memorandum augments the prior memorandum provided by GHD (dated September 15, 2022) concerning the proposed SB-743 methodology with the following additional information relevant to upcoming discussions concerning the proposed SB-743 methodology:

- Comparison of the citywide land use diversity score with the regional rate for Mendocino County;
- Screening threshold recommendations by type of project; and
- Example application of the proposed diversity index methodology to hypothetical projects on the edges of Ukiah.

1. Comparison with Countywide Land Use Diversity

Table 1 provides a comparison of the existing citywide and countywide land use diversity scores, based on the distribution and proximity of households, retail and non-retails. The diversity score ranges from 0.00 to 1.00, with lower scores (close to 0.00) representing diverse conditions, and higher scores (closer to 1.00) representing less diverse conditions.

As shown, under existing conditions, the Countywide diversity index is 0.50, while the City of Ukiah score is 0.30, indicating that the diversity of land uses in Ukiah that is superior to the Countywide average. This reflects the fact that a large portion of Ukiah residents live relatively close to work and/or local services, generating lower rates of vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

Table 1: Land Use Diversity Score (City & County)

Area	Existing Total Land Use Diversity Score
City of Ukiah	0.30
Mendocino County	0.50

Note: The diversity score ranges from 0.00 to 1.00, with lower scores (close to 0.00) representing diverse conditions, and higher scores (closer to 1.00) representing less diverse conditions.

2. Screening Recommendations

Local agencies may identify screening thresholds to quickly identify when a project should be expected to cause a less-than-significant impact without conducting a detailed study. The screening thresholds may be based on characteristics including project size, location, transit availability or provision of affordable housing, consistent with guidance provided by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR).

Table 2 summarizes recommended screening thresholds by project type. Taking into account the unique travel characteristics of Ukiah, all residential projects in Ukiah could be screened from further analysis as recommended below, because (1) residences located in Ukiah generate low rates of home-based VMT per Capita compared to the rest of Mendocino County (roughly half the Countywide average based on the Mendocino COG travel demand model) given greater proximity to jobs and services; and (2) Ukiah has a jobs/housing imbalance, with an excess of jobs relative to the number of households, that results in most Ukiah jobs being filled by non-resident commuters; therefore the provision of housing projects in Ukiah would increase the likelihood that that a larger portion of workers employed in Ukiah may also reside in Ukiah, thus reducing VMT given shorter commute lengths.

Table 2: Screening Recommendations

Type of Project	Recommended Screening Thresholds for City of Ukiah
Small Projects	Projects that meet the existing CEQA categorical exemptions: Class 1 exemption, for small expansions of existing uses, and Class 3, for new small projects, as specified in CEQA Guidelines §15301 and §15303
Residential Uses	Residential ¹ projects.
Employment Uses ² in Areas with a Diverse Mix of Land Uses	Proposed employment uses in zones with a total diversity score at least 4% better than the Countywide average.
Local-serving Retail	Neighborhood shopping centers ³ with a total gross leasable area of up to 125,000 square feet, with multiple tenants typically anchored by a supermarket or drugstore; and single tenant local-serving retail projects of 50,000 sq. ft. or less.
Projects in Proximity to Major Transit Stops	Projects within one-half (0.5) mile of a transit stop with 15 minute or less headways, unless the project has a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of less than 0.75, reduces the supply of affordable housing, or includes more parking than required under the zoning code.
Transportation Projects	Roadway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects that do not lead to a measurable increase in vehicle travel.

¹ All residential projects in Ukiah may be expected to result in less than significant transportation impacts relevant to VMT and SB-743, because (1) residences located in Ukiah generate low rates of home-based VMT per Capita compared to the rest of Mendocino County (roughly half the Countywide average based on the Mendocino COG travel demand model) given greater proximity to jobs and services; and (2) Ukiah has a jobs/housing imbalance, with an excess of jobs relative to the number of households that results in most Ukiah jobs being filled by non-resident commuters; therefore the provision of housing in Ukiah would increase the likelihood that that a larger portion of workers employed in Ukiah may also reside in Ukiah, thus reducing VMT given shorter commute lengths.

² The screening threshold for employment uses would be applicable to proposed commercial land uses in which most daily trips would be generated by employees (not customers), such as proposed office projects.

³ Neighborhood shopping centers of up to 125,000 square feet as defined by the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) U.S. Shopping Center Classification and Characteristics, provide 30,000 to 125,000 square feet of gross leasable area, typically anchored by a supermarket and/or large drugstore with a trade area of 3 miles or less.

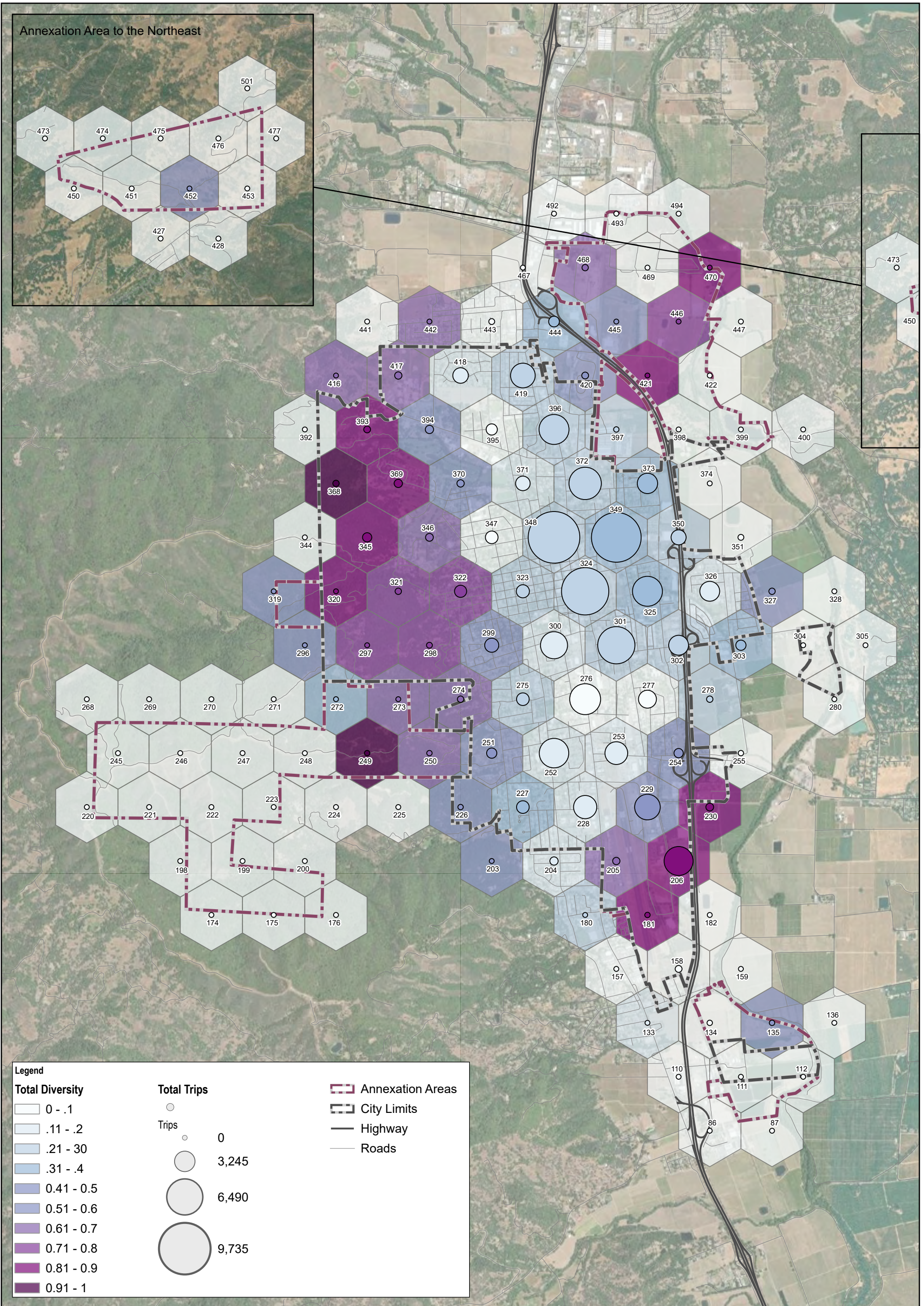
3. Hypothetical Projects at Edge Locations

In response to questions about the likely impacts for potential projects at “edge locations” near the City limits, in areas that are currently undeveloped, several hypothetical projects were considered as examples for upcoming discussion. Table 3 summarizes the potential impact findings, based on the comparing the diversity score for the Project area (Hex Zone) with the Countywide average. The diversity score for individual Hex zones takes into account the land use diversity of adjacent Hex zones. The methodology for assessing interconnectivity between adjacent Hex zones may also be refined for Ukiah to further incorporate multi-modal characteristics and travel amenities. Figure 1 shows the Hex Zone locations.

Table 3: Hypothetical Projects at Edge Locations

No	Hypothetical Project	Location (Hex Zone)	Total Diversity Score for Project Zone		Potential Impact Finding based on Comparison with Countywide average ⁴
			Existing	Existing plus Project	
1	Industrial near North edge of Ukiah	492	N/A (undeveloped)	0.23	Less than significant
2	Retail >150,000 sq ft near South edge of Ukiah	181	0.87	0.93	Significant requiring mitigation(s). For projects requiring mitigations: mitigation options specific to the City of Ukiah could be identified as this analysis methodology is refined further. Potential mitigations could include provision of multi-modal improvements (such as potential connections to a planned bicycle/pedestrian path along Airport Road that will connect the South edge of Ukiah with downtown).

⁴ Project impacts would be considered less than significant if the total diversity score for the project zone under Existing plus Project conditions would be at least 4% lower than the Countywide average of 0.50



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Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
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CITY OF UKIAH
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE 2040
HEX ZONE LOCATIONS

Project No. 11196303
 Revision No. -
 Date 09/19/2022

FIGURE 1

**Resolution No. 2022-23-06
of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission**

**Approving Adoption of the
City of Ukiah
Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update and Certifying that
the Commission has Considered the Environmental Effects Identified in the
Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2022050556) for the Project; Adopting
Environmental Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality
Act; and Adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations**

WHEREAS, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, is authorized to conduct municipal service reviews and establish, amend, and update spheres of influence for local governmental agencies whose jurisdictions are within Mendocino County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a municipal service review to evaluate the City of Ukiah, hereinafter referred to as the “City”, pursuant to California Government Code Section 56430; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a sphere of influence update for the City pursuant to California Government Code Section 56425; and

WHEREAS, the Commission held two public workshops on September 12, 2022 and November 7, 2022 to hear public and agency comments and provide direction on revisions to the City’s draft MSR/SOI update study; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer gave sufficient notice of a public hearing to be conducted by the Commission in the form and manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer’s report and recommendations on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update were presented to the Commission in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the testimony and evidence presented at a public hearing held on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update on December 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered all the factors required under California Government Code Sections 56430 and 56425; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to PRC §21069 of CEQA, CEQA Guidelines §15381, and the Commission’s Local CEQA Guidelines; the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission is a CEQA Responsible Agency for the proposed Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission does hereby RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER as follows:

1. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the municipal service review is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of

the California Code of Regulations §15306 (Class 6 Exemption). This finding is based on the use of the municipal service review as a data collection and service evaluation study. There are no land use changes or environmental impacts created or recommended by the MSR. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.

2. The City of Ukiah, as Lead Agency for the sphere of influence update, certified an Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2022050556), adopted Findings of Fact pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) §21081 and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15091, adopted a Statement of Overriding Considerations in accordance with PRC §21081(B) and CEQA Guidelines §15093, and approved a Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program in connection with the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan (Ukiah 2040), including analysis for the City of Ukiah sphere of influence update, on December 7, 2022 per City Resolution No. 2022-78. The Commission, as a Responsible Agency, makes the following findings related to the Lead Agency's CEQA determination in connection with the recommended City of Ukiah sphere of influence update:
 - a. The Commission has independently reviewed and analyzed the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) in connection with consideration of the recommended City of Ukiah sphere of influence update.
 - b. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15090, the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report reflects the Lead Agency's independent judgement and analysis, and the Commission has considered the FEIR and deems it adequate for the purposes of making a decision on the merits of the sphere of influence update.
 - c. The City of Ukiah found, based upon substantial evidence discussed throughout the FEIR, that the Project's impacts would be: (1) less than significant for Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Land Use and Planning, Population and Housing, Public Services, Transportation, Utilities and Services Systems, Energy, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, and Mineral Resources; (2) Less than significant with mitigation for Biological Resources, Wildfire, and Paleontological Resources; and (3) Significant and unavoidable for Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Noise.
 - d. The Commission makes a specific finding that there have been no changes in physical circumstances nor could have been changes in physical circumstances since the City of Ukiah certified the Environmental Impact Report for its General Plan on December 7, 2022. The Commission hereby affirms in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15096 the Lead Agency's certified Environmental Impact Report.
 - e. The Commission hereby affirms, adopts, and incorporates by reference the City's Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program included in City Resolution No. 2022-78.
3. This municipal service review and sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short-term designation: "City of Ukiah MSR/SOI Update 2022".
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56430(a), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the municipal service review, hereby incorporated by reference.
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(e), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the sphere of influence update, hereby incorporated by reference.
6. The Executive Officer shall update the official records of the Commission to reflect this sphere of influence update for the City of Ukiah, which supersedes all previous records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Ukiah MSR/SOI Update 2022 is hereby approved and incorporated herein by reference and that the City's 2040 General Plan (Ukiah 2040)

sphere of influence boundary is adopted and an Area of Interest is designated for the Ukiah 2040 Planning Area boundary as depicted in Exhibit "A", attached hereto.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Mendocino County this 19th day of December 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

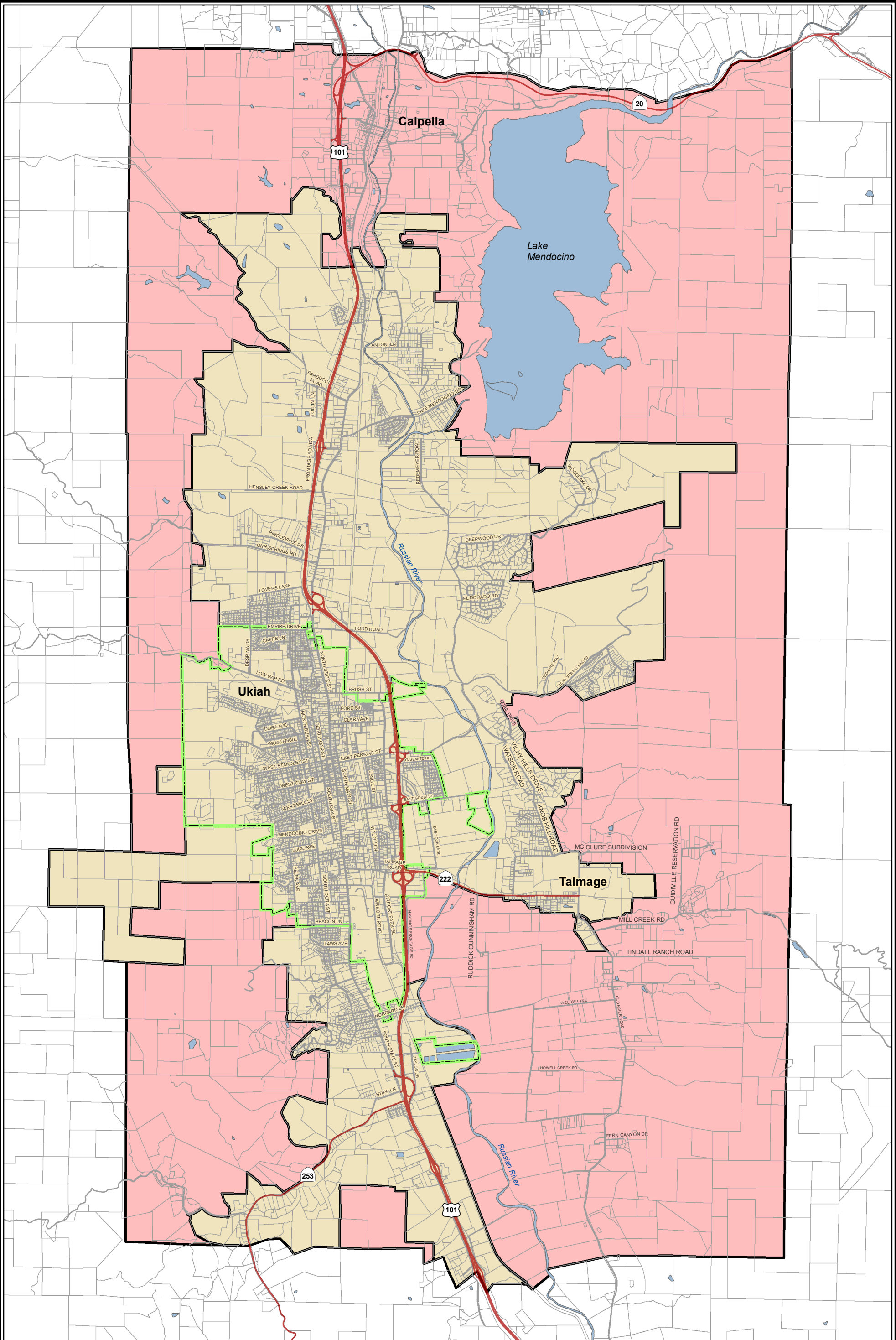
ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Commission Chair

ATTEST:

UMA HINMAN, Executive Officer



City of Ukiah Area of Interest

Source: This map was created by the Mendocino County Information Services GIS Program, November 30, 2022.
 Note: This map is not a survey product and should not be used to determine legal boundaries.

- Area of Interest
- Sphere of Influence
- City of Ukiah
- Parcels
- Highways
- Roads

MENDOCINO

Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Report

MEETING December 19, 2022
TO Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT **PUBLIC HEARING Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and Finding of Exemption Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act**

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Find the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption), and find the UVSD Sphere of Influence Update is exempt from CEQA pursuant to 14 CCR §15061(b)(3) (General Rule), and approve the Notice of Exemption for filing; and
- 2) Adopt LAFCo Resolution 2022-23-07, approving the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update Study and adopting the proposed sphere of influence and areas of interest.

BACKGROUND

This is a Public Hearing to consider public testimony and proposed adoption of the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Study.

The Commission held two public workshops on the UVSD draft MSR/SOI Update Study on [September 12, 2022](#) and [November 7, 2022](#) to hear public/agency comments and request revisions. Video recordings of the meetings are available [online](#) and the recent summary minutes are included in this agenda packet.

Revisions List

Below is a brief list of significant study revisions made since the November workshop.

- a. [Section 2.1.3](#): Added the ESSSU definition earlier in the document, in addition to Section 2.4.
- b. [Section 2.2.4](#): Removed a statement that the District website does not post current Board members.
- c. [Section 2.6.1](#): Added a definition for Fringe Community.
- d. [Section 2.6.1](#): Clarified that the CALAFCO mapping of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUC) has been further refined by the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan DUC mapping.
- e. [Section 4.1.2.3](#): Removed reference to APNs 003-190-09 and 157-070-02, which created more confusion that added value.
- f. [Figure 4-2](#): Added an Area of Interest map.

Sphere of Influence

This is the first SOI Update for the District. In 1984, based on recommendations contained in a report known as the Zion Study, SOIs were adopted for nearly all of the special districts and cities in Mendocino County, including the District. However, historical records are incomplete and the 1984 SOI boundary for the District is unclear. This SOI Update will determine the official SOI boundary for the District in moving forward.

The interrelated nature of the District and City of Ukiah (City) sewer collection, treatment and disposal systems support the ultimate merging of these two agencies. The agencies have developed a strategy and agreement for the interim provision of wastewater services to areas around the City seeking to develop and ultimately the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region (Interim Service Agreement).

The Interim Service Agreement conditions a delay in detaching overlap areas until minimum thresholds are met, after which the UVSD would cease to be independent and separate from the City, through a LAFCo application process. The thresholds identified in the Interim Service Agreement are summarized as follows:

- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.

As the City expands in accordance with the annexation plan developed for and in conjunction with its 2040 General Plan, areas served by the District will become incorporated. Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.10 specifies that agencies providing the same type of service should not have overlapping spheres in order to avoid unnecessary and inefficient duplication of services or facilities.

Recognizing the large area of District and City overlap, the Interim Service Agreement established between the District and City represents a significant evolution in the relationship between the agencies. In recognition and support of those efforts and results, a coterminous sphere (the same as the existing jurisdictional boundary) is recommended for the District, thus maintaining/expanding the overlap structure in an effort to sustain the UVSD financial viability and ability to serve their customers in the interim period.

Area of Interest

The District's MSR/SOI Update Study recommends that the Commission designate an Area of Interest (AOI) for the Overlap Area with City of Ukiah, the Brush Street/Ford Road/Masonite Area, and the Western Hills City Annexation Area Study Areas to further emphasize and support the continued coordination and long-term service strategies that have been collaboratively developed by the District and the City of Ukiah.

CEQA Compliance

The District's MSR is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR) §15306 (Class 6 Exemption). This is based on the use of the municipal service review as a data collection and service evaluation study. There are no land use changes or environmental impacts created or recommended by the MSR. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.

The District's SOI Update is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations §15061(b)(3) (General Rule). This is based on a determination with certainty that the sphere of influence update will have no possibility of significantly effecting the environment given that this update does not grant new municipal service powers or areas and no physical changes to the environment are anticipated, planned, or reasonably foreseeable as a result of the SOI Update.

Refer to the prepared Notice of Exemption (NOE) for further information (Attachment 3)

Public Notice

The 21-day Notice for this Public Hearing was properly published, posted, and distributed by Monday November 28, 2022. The newspapers Proof of Publication is included as Attachment 2.

Public Comments

No public comments have been received to date.

- Attachments:** (1) UVSD MSR/SOI Update 2022
(2) Proof of Publication
(3) Notice of Exemption
(4) LAFCo Resolution No. 2022-23-07



Photo credit: Jendi Coursey

Ukiah Valley Sanitation District

2022 – Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update

Prepared For:

Mendocino LAFCo

200 South School Street

Ukiah, California 95482

<http://www.mendolafco.org/>

Workshop: September 12, 2022

Workshop: November 7, 2022

Public Hearing: December 19, 2022

Adopted: [Publish Date]

LAFCo Resolution No: XXXX-XX-XX

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Local Agency Formation Commission

Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo) are quasi-legislative, independent local agencies that were established by State legislation in 1963 to oversee the logical and orderly formation and development of local government agencies including cities and special districts. There is one LAFCo for each county in California.

LAFCo is responsible for implementing the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg (CKH) Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (California Government Code Section 56000 et. seq.) in order to promote orderly growth, prevent urban sprawl, preserve agricultural and open space lands, and oversee efficient provision of municipal services.

LAFCo has the authority to establish and reorganize cities and special districts, change their boundaries and authorized services, allow the extension of public services, perform municipal service reviews, and establish spheres of influence. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating boundary changes through annexations or detachments and forming, consolidating, or dissolving local agencies.

1.2 Mendocino LAFCo

The CKH Act provides for flexibility in addressing State regulations to allow for adaptation to local needs. Mendocino LAFCo has adopted policies, procedures and principles that guide its operations. These policies and procedures can be found on Mendocino LAFCo's website at the following location: <http://www.mendolafco.org/policies.html>.

Mendocino LAFCo has a public Commission with seven regular Commissioners and four alternate Commissioners. The Commission is composed of two members of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, two City Council members, two Special District Board of Directors members, and one Public Member-At-Large. The Commission also includes one alternate member for each represented category.

1.3 Municipal Service Review

The CKH Act (GC §56430) requires LAFCo to prepare a Municipal Service Review (MSR) for all local agencies within its jurisdiction. MSRs are required prior to or in conjunction with the establishment or update of a Sphere of Influence (SOI).

An MSR is a comprehensive analysis of the services provided by a local government agency to evaluate the capabilities of that agency to meet the public service needs of their current and future service area. An MSR must address the following seven factors:

1. Growth and population projections for the affected area.
2. The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.
3. Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.
4. Financial ability of agencies to provide services.
5. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities.

6. Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.
7. Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

MSRs include written statements or determinations with respect to each of the seven mandated areas of evaluation outlined above. These determinations provide the basis for LAFCo to consider the appropriateness of a service provider's existing and future service area boundary.

1.4 Sphere Of Influence

The CKH Act requires LAFCo to adopt a Sphere of Influence (SOI) for all local agencies within its jurisdiction. A SOI is "a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency or municipality as determined by the Commission" (GC §56076).

When reviewing an SOI for a municipal service provider, under GC §56425(e), LAFCo will consider the following five factors:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.
5. For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, that occurs pursuant to GC §56425(g) on or after July 1, 2012, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

Sphere of Influence Updates include written statements or determinations with respect to each of the five mandated areas of evaluation outlined above. These determinations provide the basis for LAFCo to consider the appropriateness of establishing or modifying a service provider's SOI or probable future boundary.

1.5 Mendocino LAFCo Policies

In addition to making the necessary determinations for establishing or modifying a SOI consistent with the CKH Act, the appropriateness of an agency's SOI is also based on an evaluation of consistency with local LAFCo policies.

The following Sphere of Influence policies are from the Mendocino LAFCo Policies and Procedures Manual, adopted November 5, 2018.

10.1.1 Legislative Authority and Intent

A sphere of influence is the probable 20-year growth boundary for a jurisdiction's physical development. The Commission shall use spheres of influence to:

- a) promote orderly growth and development within and adjacent to communities;

- b) promote cooperative planning efforts among cities, the County, and special districts to address concerns regarding land use and development standards, premature conversion of agriculture and open space lands, and efficient provision of public services;
- c) guide future local government reorganization that encourages efficiency, economy, and orderly changes in local government; and
- d) assist property owners in anticipating the availability of public services in planning for the use of their property.

10.1.2 Definitions

The Commission incorporates the following definitions:

- a) an “establishment” refers to the initial development and determination of a sphere of influence by the Commission;
- b) an “amendment” refers to a limited change to an established sphere of influence typically initiated by a landowner, resident, or agency; and
- c) an “update” refers to a comprehensive change to an established sphere of influence typically initiated by the Commission.

10.1.3 Sphere Updates

In updating spheres of influence, the Commission’s general policies are as follows:

- a) The Commission will review all spheres of influences every five years for each governmental agency providing municipal services. Municipal services include water, wastewater, police, and fire protection services.
- b) Sphere of influence changes initiated by any agency providing a municipal service shall generally require either an updated or new service review unless LAFCo determines that a prior service review is adequate.
- c) Spheres of influence of districts not providing municipal services including, but not limited to, ambulance, recreation, hospital, resource conservation, cemetery, and pest control shall be updated as necessary.

10.1.4 Reduced Spheres

The Commission shall endeavor to maintain and expand, as needed, spheres of influence to accommodate planned and orderly urban development. The Commission shall, however, consider removal of land from an agency’s sphere of influence if either of the following two conditions apply:

- a) the land is outside the affected agency’s jurisdictional boundary but has been within the sphere of influence for 10 or more years; or
- b) the land is inside the affected agency’s jurisdictional boundary but is not expected to be developed for urban uses or require urban-type services within the next 10 years.

10.1.5 Zero Spheres

LAFCo may adopt a “zero” sphere of influence encompassing no territory for an agency. This occurs if LAFCo determines that the public service functions of the agency are either nonexistent, no longer needed, or should be reallocated to some other agency (e.g., mergers, consolidations). The local agency which has been assigned a zero sphere should ultimately be dissolved.

10.1.6 Service Specific Spheres

If territory within the proposed sphere boundary of a local agency does not need all of the services of the agency, a “service specific” sphere of influence may be designated.

10.1.7 Agriculture and Open Space Lands

Territory not in need of urban services, including open space, agriculture, recreational, rural lands, or residential rural areas shall not be assigned to an agency’s sphere of influence unless the area’s exclusion would impede the planned, orderly and efficient development of the area. In addition, LAFCo may adopt a sphere of influence that excludes territory currently within that agency’s boundaries. This may occur when LAFCo determines that the territory consists of agricultural lands, open space lands, or agricultural preserves whose preservation would be jeopardized by inclusion within an agency’s sphere. Exclusion of these areas from an agency’s sphere of influence indicates that detachment is appropriate.

10.1.8 Annexations Are Not Mandatory

Before territory can be annexed to a city or district, it must be within the agency’s sphere of influence (G.G. §56375.5). However, territory within an agency’s sphere will not necessarily be annexed. A sphere is only one of several factors that are considered by LAFCo when evaluating changes of organization or reorganization.

10.1.9 Islands or Corridors

Sphere of influence boundaries shall not create islands or corridors unless it can be demonstrated that the irregular boundaries represent the most logical and orderly service area of an agency.

10.1.10 Overlapping Spheres

LAFCo encourages the reduction of overlapping spheres of influence to avoid unnecessary and inefficient duplication of services or facilities. In deciding which of two or more equally capable agencies shall include an area within its sphere of influence, LAFCo shall consider the agencies’ service and financial capabilities, social and economic interdependencies, topographic factors, and the effect that eventual service extension will have on adjacent agencies. Where an area could be assigned to the sphere of influence of more than one agency, the following hierarchy typically applies:

- a) Inclusion within a city’s sphere
- b) Inclusion within a multi-purpose district’s sphere
- c) Inclusion within a single-purpose district’s sphere

Territory placed within a city’s sphere indicates that the city is the most logical provider of urban services. LAFCo encourages annexation of developing territory (i.e., area not currently receiving services) that is currently within a city’s sphere to that city rather than to one or more single-purpose special districts. LAFCo discourages the formation of special districts within a city’s sphere. To promote efficient and

coordinated planning among the county's various agencies, districts that provide the same type of service shall not have overlapping spheres.

10.1.11 Memorandum of Agreements (For City Sphere Amendments and Updates)

Prior to submitting an application to LAFCo for a new city sphere of influence or a city sphere of influence update, the city shall meet with the County to discuss the proposed new boundaries of the sphere and explore methods to reach agreement on development standards and planning and zoning requirements as contained in GC §56425. If an agreement is reached between the city and County the agreement shall be forwarded to LAFCo. The Commission shall consider and adopt a sphere of influence for the city consistent with the policies adopted by LAFCo and the County, and LAFCo shall give great weight to the agreement to the extent that it is consistent with LAFCo policies in its final determination of the city sphere.

10.1.12 Areas of Interest

LAFCo may, at its discretion, designate a geographic area beyond the sphere of influence as an Area of Interest to any local agency. (Resolution No. 2018-19-01)

- a) An Area of Interest is a geographic area beyond the sphere of influence in which land use decisions or other governmental actions of one local agency (the "Acting Agency") impact directly or indirectly upon another local agency (the "Interested Agency"). For example, approval of a housing project developed to urban densities on septic tanks outside the city limits of a city and its sphere of influence may result in the city being forced subsequently to extend sewer services to the area to deal with septic failures and improve city roads that provide access to the development. The city in such a situation would be the Interested Agency with appropriate reason to request special consideration from the Acting Agency in considering projects adjacent to the city.
- b) When LAFCo receives notice of a proposal from another agency relating to the Area of Concern, LAFCo will notify the Interested Agency and will consider its comments.
- c) LAFCo will encourage Acting and Interested Agencies to establish Joint Powers Agreements or other commitments as appropriate.

(LAFCo, 2018)

1.6 [Senate Bill 215](#)

Senate Bill 215 (Wiggins) requires LAFCo to consider regional transportation plans and sustainable community strategies developed pursuant to SB 375 before making boundary decisions. Senate Bill 375 (Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act) requires each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) to address regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets for passenger vehicles in their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) by integrating planning for transportation, land-use, and housing in a sustainable communities strategy.

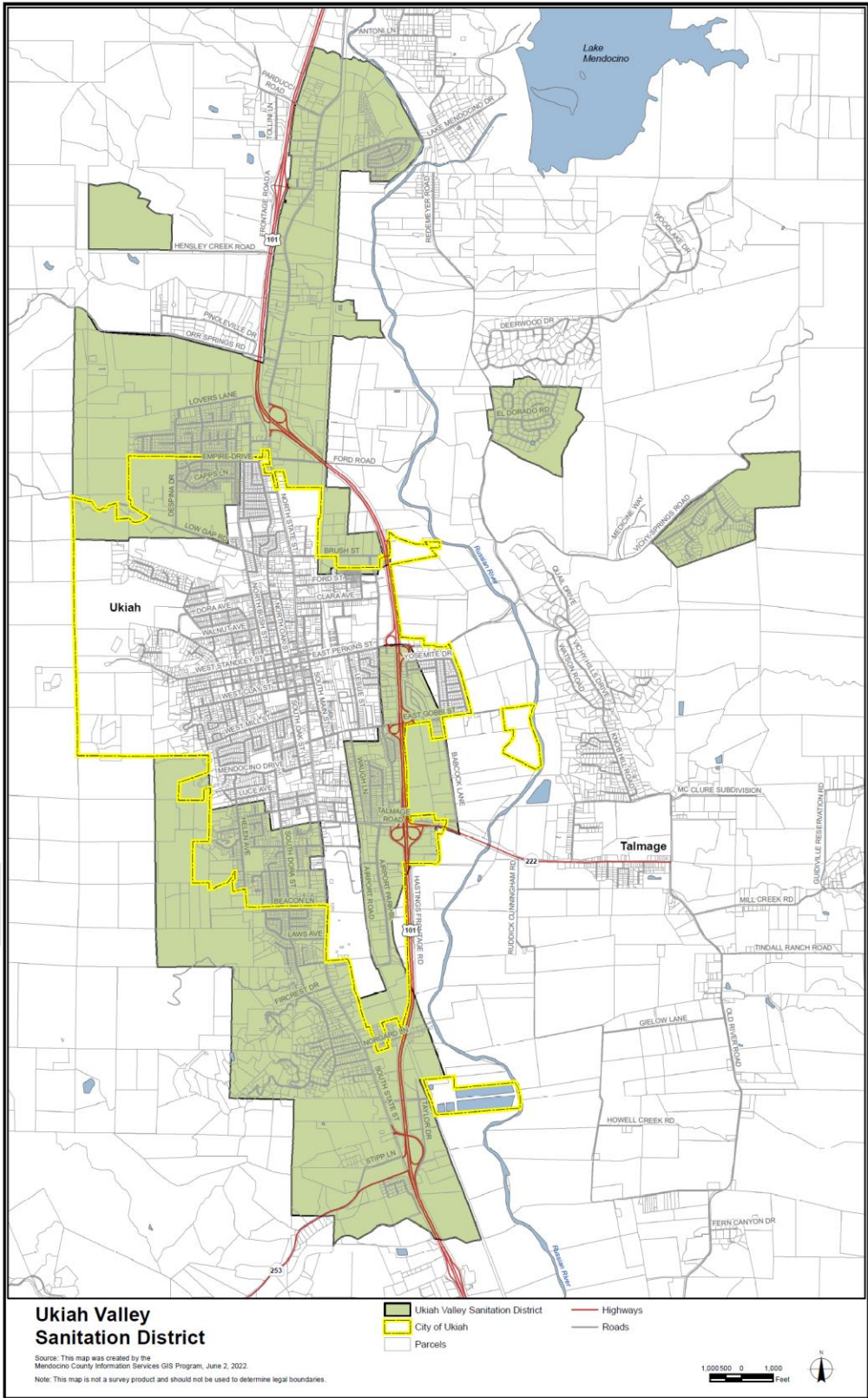
Mendocino County is not located within an MPO boundary and therefore is not subject to the provisions of SB 375. However, the Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) supports and coordinates the local planning efforts of Mendocino County and the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits to address regional housing and transportation needs and helps provide a framework for sustainable regional growth patterns through the 2018 Mendocino County Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RNHA) Plan and Vision Mendocino 2030 Blueprint Plan. MCOG is also responsible for allocating regional

transportation funding to transportation improvement projects consistent with the 2017 RTP for Mendocino County.

Mendocino County and the Cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits are the local agencies primarily responsible for planning regional growth patterns through adoption and implementation of general plan and zoning regulations. While Mendocino County is not subject to the provisions of SB 375, LAFCo will review applicable regional transportation and growth plans when considering a change of organization or reorganization application.

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Figure 1-1 Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Jurisdictional Boundaries



2 AGENCY OVERVIEW

Table 2.1 UVSD Profile	
Agency Name:	Ukiah Valley Sanitation District
Office Location:	151 Laws Avenue, Suite B, Ukiah, CA 95482
Mailing Address:	Same as above
Phone Number:	707-462-4429
Website:	https://www.uvsd.org/
General Email:	aa@uvsd.org
Date of Formation:	July 6, 1954
Agency Type:	Independent Special District, Single-Service Provider
Enabling Legislation	County Sanitation District Act: Health and Safety Code §4700 et seq.
Board Meeting Schedule:	Regular meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

2.1 [History](#)

2.1.1 Formation

Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (District/UVSD) was formed on July 6, 1954, as a dependent district, by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (BOS Resolution No. 1267) to provide sewer service to unincorporated areas adjacent to the City of Ukiah (City) and the greater Ukiah Valley Area.

The District transitioned to an independent sanitation district with five board members, elected at-large, on April 3, 2008 ([UVSD Resolution No. 08-04](#)).

2.1.2 Boundary

The UVSD is located in the southern and inland portion of Mendocino County and is situated around the City of Ukiah and serves areas both west and east of Highway 101. The District encompasses approximately 6.62 square miles (4,240 acres) and includes portions of the City of Ukiah and unincorporated areas within the greater Ukiah Valley area (see Figure 1-1).

The Ukiah Valley is a south-west trending valley located in the upper Russian River watershed and is approximately nine miles in length by three miles in width. The Valley represents the largest population center in Mendocino County and includes the City of Ukiah, which is the County seat, and the unincorporated communities of Calpella, The Forks, and Talmage (including the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas).

The District boundaries include areas of urban density and commercial development surrounding the City and also includes high density areas within the northern and southern portions of the City boundaries. Additionally, the District includes two non-contiguous islands consisting of residential subdivisions in the eastern hills, east of the Russian River: El Dorado Estates and Vichy Springs Estates. The District also serves the non-contiguous Mendocino Community College campus.

The District boundaries include the Pinoleville Pomo Nation (a Federally recognized Tribe) Tribal lands located north of the City of Ukiah and the Guidiville Rancheria in the Vichy Springs area.

2.1.2.1.1 Boundary Change History

Since its formation in 1954, the District has undergone 16 boundary changes adding a total of approximately 1,305 acres (see Table 2.2).

Table 2.2 History of Jurisdictional Changes			
Year	File Name	Acreage	LAFCo Resolution No.
1968	Talmage/Hastings Road Annexation	1.6	67-11
1978	Parducci/El Dorado Estates Annexation	139	77-2
1980	Johnson Lewis Road Annexation	8	--
1980	Johnson Annexation	2.27	80-05
1983	Vichy Springs Annexation	192	83-3
1988	Georgia Pacific Resin Annexation	12	87-3
1987	El Dorado Parcel Annexation	3	87-8
1989	Forrester Properties Inc. Annexation	7.27	89-3
1989	Vincent Annexation	2.32	89-2
1989	Forrester Annexation	2.32	89-3
1989	Cox/Mayfield Annexation	??	89-10
1990	Carousel Carpet Mills Annexation	570	89-11
1997	Agwood Annexation	13.6	L97-01
1998	Guidiville Indian Rancheria	42	L97-02
2005	Nicoll Subdivision Annexation	6.8	2005-01
2006	Westfork Annexation	32.73	L98-01

In some cases, City of Ukiah annexations were processed without concurrent District detachments, which has resulted in areas of overlap between the agencies in the north, east and south of the City. These areas are unofficially referred to as the “overlap areas”.

In 2014, the City of Ukiah made application to LAFCo to detach 1,304 parcels (approximately 992.5 acres) of overlapping territory from the District (Figure 1-1). The area proposed for detachment represents roughly half of the District’s customers and approximately 23.4 percent of the total jurisdictional area of the District. LAFCo deemed the application incomplete in 2014 and at the City’s request placed the application on hold. The application was re-initiated in 2020 and again deemed incomplete and placed on hold by the City pending the completion of its Sphere of Influence (SOI) update.

The agencies are currently working together to address the areas of overlap, other areas of common interest surrounding the City, and ultimately a plan for a more consolidated provision of sewer services in the Ukiah Valley (UVSD, 2022).

2.1.3 Services

The UVSD maintains various agreements with the City of Ukiah to cooperatively provide wastewater collection and treatment services to the City and the surrounding area through a combined sewer system consisting of multiple interconnecting components.

Both the District and the City separately own sewage collection systems that ultimately drain into a common Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that is jointly funded but owned and operated by the City. The UVSD owns a system for the collection and transmission of wastewater within the District, including approximately 46 miles of sewer mains, laterals, Trunk Line and related facilities. The Trunk Line is the main sewer line into which all sewer mains flow and transports wastewater to the City WWTP.

Treatment of the combined wastewater is through the City's WWTP, which is operated and managed under an agreement with the City of Ukiah and is jointly funded by the two agencies (City/UVSD, 2020).

Since its formation, the District and the City have entered into various agreements and amendments for the allocation of costs associated with the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of the sewer collection system and WWTP. On July 19, 1995 (amended on March 24, 1999 and again on December 15, 2004), the District and City entered into a Participation Agreement whereby the City operates the combined City/UVSD sewer system as one system with the combined treatment and collection costs apportioned between the City and UVSD based on the ratio of City to UVSD Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSSUs) for a period of thirty years (City/UVSD, 2004). The City also provides the effluent disposal services.

The District and the City entered into a new Operating Agreement in 2018. The Agreement identifies the methodology for allocation of the sewer collection and treatment services within the respective service areas and how costs will be fairly shared and allocated between the two entities based on ESSSUs (City/UVSD, 2018b). Not to be confused with ESSUs, an ESSSU is defined as the average winter water usage of a residential dwelling unit at residential strength (City/UVSD, 2020b).

Under the 2018 Operating Agreement, the City provides the following services:

- 1) Billing/collection of sewer service and connection fees, and disbursement of funds collected on behalf of the District for payment to the City for District's allocated share of certain sewer system operations, maintenance, capital improvement and financing costs, and accounting;
- 2) Operations and maintenance of the City and District wastewater collection facilities, including the Trunk Line; and
- 3) Operations and maintenance of the City's WWTP.

However, in 2021, following the 2018 Settlement Agreement, the UVSD entered into a contract with Willow County Water District to provide the billing/collection services listed under item 1 above (UVSD, 2021b). The City retains the services identified under items 2 and 3 above.

2.1.3.1 ACTIVE AND LATENT POWERS

Latent powers are those services, functions or powers authorized by the principal act under which the District is formed, but that are not being exercised or authorized by LAFCo. The county sanitation district act (Government Code (GC) §4700-4859) identifies the following potential powers: sewer, solid waste, and water.

The UVSD is a single service provider delivering sewer collection services.

2.2 Government Structure

2.2.1 Governing Body

The Board of Directors is the legislative body for the District and is responsible for establishing policy, adopting and amending the annual budget, enacting ordinances, adopting resolutions, and appointing committees. In 2008, the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) transitioned to a five-member elected board (BOS Resolution No. 08-03). Prior to that, the District was represented by an appointed three-member board of directors chosen from the City Council (1 member) and Board of Supervisors (2 members). (Mendocino County, 2011)

Board directors are elected at-large to serve staggered four-year terms. In 2018, the County of Mendocino Board and Elections Office District approved the District’s request to consolidate elections, which were moved to align with the General Election cycle, and automatically extending the current terms of sitting Directors by one year ([UVSD Resolution 2018-01](#)). Board elections will now be held in even numbered years starting in 2024.

The District maintains public notices regarding Board Director vacancies at its office and its website. In order to be elected to the Board, candidates must be registered voters residing within the District boundaries. If there are insufficient candidates for election of Board vacancies, or if the number of filed candidates is equal to the number of Board vacancies, then District Board members may be appointed in lieu of election by the County Board of Supervisors per Elections Code §10515. (County of Mendocino, 2019)

Government Code §1780-1782 governs the process for appointment of Board of Director seats vacated prior to the scheduled term expiration date. The District Board of Directors has 60 days to appoint an interested and qualified individual to a vacant seat if proper notice requirements have been met. If the District cannot fill the seat within the 60-day period, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors may appoint a director to the District Board during a 30-day period following the initial 60-day period. If the vacant seat is not filled during the total 90-day period, the vacant seat remains empty until the next election. The District has not had difficulty filling board vacancies in recent years.

The District Board of Directors elects officers annually at the last meeting in December and for one year appointments. Officers include a Chair and Vice-Chair elected and served by Board members.

The current District Board of Directors is shown in Table 2.3 below. Three of the five Director terms expire this year; two seated Directors (*) ran unopposed and have been reappointed in advance of the election, and one Director did not run and no other candidates filed for this election, so this seat remains vacant.

Table 2.3 UVSD Board of Directors				
Name	Office/Position	First Year of Service	Term Expiration	Serving Consecutive Terms
Ernie Wipf	Chair	2017	*2022	Yes
Julie Bawcom	Vice-Chair	2017	2022	No
Theresa McNerlin	Director	2004	2024	Yes
Darwin Dick	Director	2021	2024	No
Candace Horsely	Director	2019	*2022	Yes

2.2.2 Public Meetings

Regularly scheduled meetings for the Board of Directors are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the District Board Room located at 151 Laws Avenue in Ukiah. During the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings have been held via Zoom for Board members and the public; staff and the board continue to meet via a hybrid model with the Board attending in-person and a remote option for public participation in accordance with current health order protocols.

In accordance with the Brown Act, all District Board meetings are open to the public and are publicly posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to regular meetings, or a minimum of 24 hours prior to special meetings. Meeting notices are posted outside the District office and the UVSD website: <https://www.uvzd.org/agendas.html>. Agendas are also distributed by email upon request.

The City's website is a communication vehicle for board meeting agendas, meeting minutes, and information on the District's services and programs. Minutes are kept for all public Board meetings and are adopted at a subsequent meeting. Older meetings are recorded and posted on YouTube; links are available on the UVSD website: <https://www.uvzd.org/recordings.html>. Current meetings are not posted.

2.2.3 Standing Committees

The District Board Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) identifies three standing committees of two members each: the Finance Committee, the Governance Committee, and the Planning and Technical Committee. However, the Board voted to disband all committees and adding a provision for the future establishment of standing committees by amendment to the policy.

The board establishes ad hoc committees as needed, such as budget development and financial planning.

2.2.4 Public Outreach

The District's website (www.uvzd.org) is a useful communication tool to enhance government transparency and accountability. The website contains contact information and agendas and minutes from District Board meetings from October 2017 to current.

2.2.5 Complaints

The public can submit written or provide verbal comments or complaints via the District email; in person or by phone at the District office during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; or at the District Board of Directors meetings during the general public comment period. The District occasionally receives questions and complaints regarding specific service connections, which are immediately relayed to the City of Ukiah, which manages operations of the Combined Sewer System. The District is not aware of any outstanding complaints as of the writing of this document.

2.2.6 Transparency and Accountability

The District maintains adopted Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), which includes policies related to general, personnel, operations, board of directors, board meetings, and financial matters. Included are policies addressing the Board of Directors officers, meeting conduct, conflicts of interest, decisions, rules of order, and responsibilities. This is in addition to general operating policies and procedures for the District, financial policies, and personnel policies that define the obligations, rights, privileges, benefits, and prohibitions placed upon all District employees.

The Political Reform Act requires all state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate a Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to GC §81000 et seq. The Political Reform Act also requires persons who hold office to disclose their investments, interests in real property, and incomes by filing a Statement of Economic Interests (Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700) each year pursuant to GC §87203. The District complies with the above requirements and adopted an updated Conflict of Interest Code in 1998 and again in 2008 to include the General Manager (UVSD, 2019).

According to Assembly Bill (AB) 1234, if a local agency provides compensation or reimbursement of expenses to local government officials, then all local officials are required to receive two hours of training on public service ethics laws and principles at least once every two years and establish a written policy on reimbursements pursuant to GC §53235. The District provides a stipend to Board members for meeting attendance, and its directors and staff attend Brown Act/Ethics trainings regularly (UVSD, 2019).

Refer to Appendix A for a brief list of educational resources regarding open government laws and Appendix B for a website compliance handout.

Senate Bill (SB) 929 requires all special districts to establish and maintain a website with specific information and accessibility requirements; a website compliance handout is provided in Appendix B.

2.3 Operational Efficiency

2.3.1 Management and Staffing

The District has no part-time or full-time employees of its own. All management, administrative support, and maintenance and operations staffing is provided via contracts for professional services.

In May 2020, the District entered into a Master Service Agreement with Willow County Water District to provide administrative services, including billing and collection functions to the UVSD office (UVSD, 2021b).

Further, on October 1, 2020, the UVSD entered into an Agreement for Professional Services with [Urban Futures, Inc.](#), for Interim District Manager and Financial Consulting Services (UVSD, 2020). The role of the District Manager is to oversee the daily operations of the District to ensure that the Board's policies, programs, and priorities are implemented. The District Manager is the Executive Director of the District and for the Board of Directors. The responsibilities and specific duties of the District Manager include the following:

- Management and control of operations and works of the District, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Attendance at meetings of the District's Board and other meetings as the Board determines necessary.
- Maintain cordial relations with all persons entitled to the services of the District, and attempts to resolve public complaints.
- Implement the expressed policies of the Board of Directors.
- Prepare and manage the District's budget, conduct studies, and make oral and written presentations to the Board of Directors.

(UVSD, 2019)

General government services provided under the direction of the District Manager include administration, finance, and planning. Financial activities include accounting, collections, and assisting with the annual audit process. Administrative activities include preparing for public meetings, providing customer service and other outreach opportunities, and maintaining the District's official records such as meeting minutes, ordinances, resolutions, legal documents, and legal opinions.

In addition, the District contracts with auditors, accountants, financial consultants, and legal counsel on an annual basis. The District contracts with Clifton Larson Allen LLP (CLA) to provide accounting services and contracts with Hildebrand Consulting to annually perform 3rd party calculations for the District-City allocation of joint sewer system expenses and debt service true up. Additionally, the District contracts with a professional to provide financial and operational support to the District. For financial audits, the District currently contracts with Van Lant & Fankhanel, LLP. For General Counsel services, the District contracts with Best Best & Krieger, LLP and for IT services, the District contracts with Respectech.

As needed, the District also enters into contracts with engineers, construction contractors, construction monitors, and others. (UVSD, 2019)

The District has a contract with a professional to provide technical staff services, including capacity to serve letters, maintaining current tracking of Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSSU) availability (see Section 2.4 for description), and other technical operating aspects of the sewer system. (Fox, 2022)

2.3.2 Agency Performance

A component of monitoring agency performance is routinely evaluating staff productivity; however, the District contracts with other entities to provide all of its staffing. The District's accountants, general counsel, and contracted Interim District Manager routinely monitor and evaluate agency operations. (UVSD, 2019)

All contracts are reviewed by the Board and/or management staff annually or as may be appropriate. The contract with Willow County Water District is reviewed annually and, if any increase in fees is proposed, the contract is considered by the Board for approval. The contract with Urban Futures, Inc. (UFI) may be terminated at any time with a 30-day notice clause.

During the annual budget development process, the board reviews goals and objectives from the prior fiscal year and establishes goals and objectives for the upcoming fiscal year. Review and adoption of annual budgets and audits are held during open public meetings.

In the regular performance of duty, the Interim District Manager identifies areas of improvement and takes corrective action when feasible and appropriate or informs the board when further direction is needed.

District contract staff also learns about new opportunities to achieve operational efficiencies by attending regional and service-specific meetings and communicating with colleagues regarding industry standards, best management practices, changing regulations, and service delivery models implemented by other local agencies.

The District monitors and evaluates agency operations through Interim General Manager reports at regular Board Meetings, regulatory reporting and review of District databases and records.

2.3.3 Shared Service Delivery and Collaboration

2.3.3.1 REGIONAL AND SERVICE-SPECIFIC PARTICIPATION

The District participates in the following regional and service-specific associations and organizations:

- [Upper Russian River Water Agency](#)
- [California Special Districts Association](#)
- [Special District Risk Management Authority](#)

2.3.3.2 INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

The District maintains a number of agreements with the City of Ukiah for the joint operation and funding of wastewater collection, treatment and disposal through the City-owned and operated WWTP (Table 2.X). Additionally, the District contracts with the Willow County Water District (WCWD) for administrative and billing/collections services, as well as use of offices and board room.

See Table 2.4 for a summary of interagency agreements the District maintains.

Year	Agreement Name	Participating Agencies
2022	Master Services Agreement Amendment 3	Willow County Water District
2021	Budget Approval Agreement	City of Ukiah
2021	Master Services Agreement Amendment 2	Willow County Water District
2020	City-District 2020 Refinancing Agreement	City of Ukiah
2020	Master Services Agreement Amendment 1	Willow County Water District
2019	Master Services Agreement	Willow County Water District
2018	Settlement Agreement	City of Ukiah
2018	Operating Agreement	City of Ukiah
2006	Financing Agreement	City of Ukiah
2004	Participation Agreement Amendment 2	City of Ukiah
1999	Participation Agreement Amendment 1	City of Ukiah
1995	Participation Agreement	City of Ukiah

The current Participation Agreement with the City of Ukiah was finalized in July of 1995. In March of 1999, an amendment was agreed to by both agencies (Amendment No. 1) and following that in December of 2004, Amendment No. 2 was adopted by both agencies. Collectively, the 1995 Agreement and Amendments 1 & 2 contain the entire Agreement between the City and the District concerning the City-owned WWTP and the City's operation of the sewer system on behalf of both agencies. The term of the Agreement was for thirty years allowing either agency to cancel upon five years notice.

The Participation Agreement specifies that the annual costs of the entire sewer system (WWTP and collection system) be apportioned between the City and the District each year according to the ratio of Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs) utilized between the two entities. Shared costs include treatment, maintenance, operation, repair and replacement, expansion, upgrading, debt service, insurance, and certain indirect costs for the system. The District and City each pay their own administration costs.

Under this Agreement, the District is required to establish rules and regulations necessary for the orderly administration of the District's collection system. These rules and regulations are to include the use of the

sewers, the installation of sewer laterals and mains and the discharge of wastewater into the collection system. The District is also required to establish fees and charges for use of the system to include connection fees and service fees. Additionally, the District is required to establish fees for permits and inspection sufficient to reimburse the City for its actual performance of these services.

The District also participates in the Special District Risk Management Association (SDRMA) for the purpose of pooled insurance for providing liability, workers compensation for its facilities, operations, and board members.

2.3.3.3 CONTRACT OR JPA SERVICES

The District has no staff of its own and maintains contracts for management, administrative and billing/collections services, and financial services, which are described in detail in Section 2.3.1.

Additionally, in October 2020, the UVSD became a member of the Upper Russian River Water Agency (URRWA) Joint Powers Authority (JPA) ([UVSD Resolution No. 2020-05](#)). The purpose of the URRWA JPA is to provide economies of scale, provide a method of jointly addressing sewer and water issues, and foster coordination on these issues. The intent of the JPA is to work towards the consolidation of Ukiah Valley's water, which was expanded to consider the regional consolidation of water and wastewater service providers with the inclusion of the UVSD. The board now consists of a single board member from Willow County Water District (CWD), Calpella CWD, Redwood Valley CWD, Millview CWD, and the UVSD. The JPA is a collaboration of member agencies formed with the purpose of working together for the voluntary consolidation of Ukiah Valley's water and wastewater service providers. While the City of Ukiah is not a member of the JPA, the water districts within URRWA, similar to UVSD, have recently been communicating with the City to discuss the regional provision of water services in the Ukiah Valley.

2.3.3.4 ADJACENT PROVIDERS

Two other agencies in the Ukiah Valley provide sewer services: the City of Ukiah and the Calpella County Water District.

As discussed above, the UVSD and City wastewater system is interconnected: while both provide collection services, the City's WWTP is the sole point of treatment and disposal for the combined wastewater system.

The Calpella CWD is the only other provider of wastewater services in the Ukiah Valley and operates its own collection system and WWTP north of the District boundaries. The Calpella CWD currently provides wastewater services to approximately 103 customers, all of which are in Calpella CWD boundaries. The Calpella wastewater system was upgraded in 2004 and has additional treatment capacity that can accommodate up to 1,000 residents, approximately 300 more than the current population. All staffing and administrative services of the Calpella CWD have been provided by Willow CWD under contract since 1993. (LAFCo, 2016)

2.3.3.5 SHARED SERVICES AND FACILITIES

The District has leveraged opportunities to produce economies of scale and/or improve buying power in order to reduce costs to the ratepayers. The District currently has contracts in place to facilitate these types of opportunities, most notably, consolidating administrative functions with Willow CWD. (UVSD, 2019). At this time, the District believes that District-only operating costs are well managed and opportunities to achieve economies of scale and reduce costs have been realized. Given that the majority

of the District's costs are related to the shared sewer operating and capital costs with the City of Ukiah, the District has turned its focus on working in partnership with the City to develop a jointly agreed upon path to further improve the efficiency of sewer service delivery in Ukiah Valley.

2.3.4 Governmental Structure and Community Needs

2.3.4.1 ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY OPTIONS

The County of Mendocino provides law enforcement, code enforcement, transportation, and stormwater collection services within the District. Firefighting and prevention services are provided by the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority (UVFA), a JPA between the Ukiah Valley Fire District and City of Ukiah, and the Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire Protection District north of the District. Water services in the Ukiah Valley are provided by the City of Ukiah, Willow CWD, Calpella CWD, Millview CWD, and the privately-held Rogina Water Company. Ambulance service in the Ukiah Valley area is provided by Medstar Ambulance and the UVFA.

Additional opportunities for the District to achieve organizational or operational efficiencies are primarily related to consolidation of services with the City of Ukiah. The interconnected systems and contracts with other agencies and consultants for management, staffing and operations suggest efficiencies could be gained by reorganization with the City.

2.3.4.2 GOVERNMENT RESTRUCTURE OPTIONS

Government restructure options should be pursued if there are potential benefits in terms of reduced costs, greater efficiency, better accountability or representation, or other advantages to the public.

There is a substantial area of jurisdictional overlap between the District and City of Ukiah that equates to approximately 50% of the District's customers and 23% of its geographical area. The existing City limits is substantially built-out, and future proposals for City annexation or expansion have the potential to extend into areas already served by special districts and the County, or within the jurisdictional boundary of these agencies for undeveloped properties.

Significant wastewater service efficiencies have already been realized through the partnership agreement between the District and the City and associated functional consolidation for wastewater services. It is likely that further efficiencies or cost savings for wastewater service in the Ukiah Valley could only be accomplished upon a future reorganization effort between these agencies.

The City and the Sanitation District have been working through an ad hoc committee assigned for the purpose to develop an interim agreement for service provision in the areas adjacent to the City, and ultimately, the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region. The *Agreement between the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District and City of Ukiah Regarding the Provision of Interim Services and Out of Area Service Agreements* (Interim Service Agreement) identifies the applicant and future annexation thresholds for reorganization of the UVSD into either a subsidiary district or merger with the City, among other things.

The mutually developed points of the Interim Service Agreement are roughly as follows (paraphrased):

- The City will be the applicant for any Out of Area Service Agreement for properties connecting to District sewer lines, and the District will bear the costs for the application process to LAFCo.

- The City will not pursue detachment of District territory from the City now or in the future and will not pursue piecemeal annexations.
- The District will support City annexations and will work cooperatively with the City on General Plan and SOI Updates.
- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.
(City/UVSD, 2022)

As the City of Ukiah expands in accordance with the annexation plan developed for and in conjunction with its 2040 General Plan Update, the area served by the District will concurrently decrease. The interrelated nature of the sewer collection, treatment and disposal systems support a merger or reorganization of the District. This concept has gathered momentum as a result of the substantial groundwork of the City/UVSD ad hoc committee established for the purpose of the collaborative development of a long-term plan for the interim and long-term provision of sewer services in the Ukiah Valley.

2.4 Finances

The District provides wastewater collection services and receives wastewater treatment and disposal services from the City of Ukiah (City) via participation and operating agreements (refer to Section 2.1.3 for more information).

The District and the City have a longstanding joint venture for shared operation of the City-owned WWTP that treats the combined sewage from the District and City sewer collection systems, based on the number of Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSSUs). There are several agreements between the agencies that constitute the arrangement regarding the allocation of cost for the combined sewer system operation, as briefly listed below (see also Table 2.4).

- 1995 Participation Agreement
- 2018 Operating Agreement
- 2018 Settlement Agreement
- 2020 Refinance Agreement

- Annual Budget Approval Agreement

The UVSD Board of Directors and Ukiah City Council adopt an annual Wastewater Enterprise Joint Budget for the combined City/District sewer system operation, including shared expenses and capital projects. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, a total budgeted estimate of \$5,166,465 for the Wastewater Enterprise was projected to be shared at a rate of 49.48% District and 50.52% City, and included \$4,524,050 in direct operating budgeted costs, defined as costs of Personnel and Operations, and an Operating Indirect Rate (OIR) on such costs of 14.20% (\$642,415). The joint budget also included total direct costs of \$2,730,000 for Capital Outlay funded at the same share of cost of 49.48% District and 50.52% City, and a Capital Indirect Rate (CIR) of 9% for costs less than \$200,000, and a negotiated rate for projects over \$200,000 based on an estimate of required indirect costs to complete the capital project.

The District and the City have retained Hildebrand Consulting, LLC to provide consulting services related to the share of cost between the agencies for the combined City/District sewer system operation. Since wastewater flow meters are not in place, the share of cost is allocated based on each agency's proportionate share of winter water usage (monthly average of January through March) from multiple water providers in the valley from the prior fiscal year, and the relative strength of sewage discharge to the wastewater treatment plant, based on the relative number of Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSSUs). Not to be confused with ESSUs, an ESSSU is defined as the average winter water usage of a residential dwelling unit at residential strength (City/UVSD, 2020b). The term ESSU was established in the Operating Agreement for the purpose of defining the number Capacity Project units available or used by each service provider ((City/UVSD, 2020b).

The relative number of ESSSUs varies slightly every year due to the ever-changing volume of water usage and number of customers in the overall service area but remains close to a 50-50 share of cost. The water usage data needed to determine the ESSSU percentages for the share of cost becomes available after the annual joint budget is adopted. Therefore, often an Annual ESSSU Reconciliation Memo is prepared by the consultant resulting in amendments to the annual joint budget and re-adoption by the agencies, if material.

Additional components of the Wastewater Enterprise Joint Budget are as follows.

- The District and City are each responsible for the administrative and other overhead costs allocated directly to the wastewater activities of their respective agencies.
- The District makes fixed monthly payments to the City of 1/12th of the District's share of the agreed upon operating budget (Personnel, Operations, and Indirect Rate) by the 1st of every month.
- The budgeted share of cost (operating, capital, and debt service) between the agencies can change based on updated ESSSU percentages and result in true-up payments after the fact.
- Every quarter, the City and District review the actual costs incurred and reconcile differences between actual costs incurred, budget costs, and over/under payments made by either agency within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year.
- Prior to the refunding, the share of debt service between the City and District was based on two components. A constant calculation for the "Capacity" portion of 25.8414% of the existing debt was allocated 65% to the District and 35% to the City. Secondly, a variable calculation for the "Upgrade/Rehabilitation" portion of the remaining 74.1586% of the existing debt was allocated based on the ESSSU percentages or split. After the 2020 refunding, debt service is no longer shared; and the City and District are each responsible to pay their respective debt service. However, a calculation according to the methodology described above is made by Mark Hildebrand each year; and true-up payments are made between the two parties if needed. So far, any true up payments have been nominal.
- The agencies negotiate the rate of City indirect administrative and overhead costs for joint or District-only projects (e.g. a main line replacement of a District asset) performed by the City or City contractor on the District's behalf.
- Any portion of capital projects paid by the District over \$5,000 is generally capitalized on its books as intangible assets and depreciated.

(City/UVSD, 2021) (Fox, 2022)

The financial arrangement between the agencies for the combined sewer system operation is based on terms and conditions contained in multiple legal agreements. This complex structure represents the historically complicated nature of the relationship between the agencies involved and emphasizes the need for a more simplified service delivery structure for public wastewater in the Ukiah Valley area. It is recommended that the District and City prepare a summary of the key points of agreement between the agencies related to finances in a single document to improve broad-based understanding and overall public transparency.

2.4.1 Current Fiscal Health

2.4.1.1 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This section includes District financial information for FYs 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 and long-term financial considerations.

The District maintains a single Waste Water Fund (V&F, 2021). The District prepares and adopts an annual District Expense Budget prior to the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1), which serves as a financial planning tool and an expense control system. Expenses cannot materially exceed the authorized budgeted amounts unless the budget is amended by the Board of Directors by resolution during the fiscal year. The District also has annually audited financial statements prepared by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) which serves as financial assurance for the use of public funds.

Proprietary or Enterprise funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenue of proprietary funds are charges to customers for services. Operating expenses for proprietary funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses. (V&F, 2021)

Year-end revenue over expenses (net income) is an important measure of an agency's financial performance during a fiscal year. When an agency operates at a net surplus, annual revenue exceeds annual expenses producing a surplus. When an agency operates at a net deficit, annual expenses exceed annual revenue producing a deficit. When an agency operates at a net neutral, annual revenue equals annual expenses producing a balance.

When year-end revenue over expenses for multiple years is compared, it shows the financial planning and policy of an agency, such as structural surplus/deficit budgeting practices or a balanced budget. Under normal operating circumstances, the financial approach of prior years can be useful in projecting the long-term financial standing of an agency. This comparison may serve as a valuable indicator for upcoming decision-points, such as whether there is sufficient annual revenue generated to continue the current level of service or whether a rate increase is necessary to maintain or expand the level of service.

The following table (Table 2.5) provides year-end audit (not budget) financial information for the District. This table summarizes the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position prepared by Van Lant & Frankhanel, LLP, a firm of CPAs that the City also contracts with for independent audited financial statements. The table below represents the short-term financial standing of the District based on reporting annual income, expenses, and profits/losses using the full accrual basis of accounting, which

is an accounting method where revenue or expenses are recorded when a transaction occurs rather than when payment is received or made.

The financial information in the table below also includes depreciation expense, which is a method of spreading the cost of a capital asset over its estimated useful life, as opposed to recognizing the full cost of a capital asset as an expenditure at the date of acquisition. The District’s annual financial report defines capital assets, including collection lines and nonstructural improvements, as assets with a cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life of more than two years. (V&F, 2021)

Figure 2-4 shows the most recent Statement of Net Position, which represents the long-term financial standing, or net position, of the District based on reporting the difference between the District’s assets and liabilities.

Table 2.5 UVSD Financial Summary					
	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Beginning Net Position	\$11,214,561	\$10,330,481	\$9,536,155	\$13,928,342	\$15,104,346
Prior Period Adjustments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ending Net Position	\$10,330,481	\$9,536,155	\$13,928,342	\$15,104,346	\$17,354,693
Operating Revenues					
Charges for Services	\$5,443,828	\$5,477,965	\$5,242,705	\$5,595,914	\$5,282,116
Connection Fees	\$131,221	\$1,272,087	\$186,898	\$1,521,579	\$760,817
<u>Total Operating Revenues</u>	\$5,575,049	\$6,750,052	\$5,429,603	\$7,117,493	\$6,042,933
Operating Expenses					
Salaries and Benefits	\$87,825	\$34,950	\$30,972	\$35,714	\$0
Services and Supplies	\$172,413	\$487,110	\$171,343	\$379,903	\$377,947
Operating Expense Allocation (City)	\$4,109,145	\$4,340,467	\$4,082,822	\$4,225,298	\$2,190,756
Legal Expenses	\$1,497,036	\$2,016,316	\$1,095,162	\$290,240	\$0 ¹
Depreciation and Amortization	\$333,529	\$333,529	\$333,529	\$488,018	\$787,162
<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	\$6,199,948	\$7,212,372	\$5,713,828	\$5,419,173	\$3,355,865
Operating Income (Loss)	(\$624,899)	(\$462,320)	(\$284,225)	\$1,698,320	\$2,687,068
Nonoperating Revenue (Expenses)					
Taxes and Assessments	\$53,122	\$46,396	\$57,734	\$59,373	\$56,618
Interest Income	\$45,894	\$54,822	\$88,760	\$210,256	\$102,642
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$3,300	\$8,250	\$5,390	\$360	\$0
Other Revenue (Expenses)	\$114,057	\$20,441	\$24,182	\$0	(\$5,207)
Settlement Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$4,984,310	\$0	\$0
Interest Expense	(\$475,554)	(\$461,915)	(\$483,964)	(\$500,407)	\$0
Bond Issuance Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$291,898)	\$0
Interest Expense and Bond Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$590,774) ²

Table 2.5 UVSD Financial Summary

	FY 16-17	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
<u>Total Nonoperating Revenue (Expenses)</u>	(\$259,181)	(\$332,006)	\$4,676,412	(\$522,316)	(\$436,721)
Change In Net Position from Prior FY	(\$884,080)	(\$794,326)	\$4,392,187	\$1,176,004	\$2,250,347

Notes:

¹ In FY 2020-21 the District discontinued breaking out the legal expenses as a separate line item. From this point forward, they are included in Services and Supplies.

² The Interest Expense and Bond Expense line item is almost entirely interest. The only other expense included is an annual trustee fee of \$1,200 for the bonds.

Source: V&F, 2019a; 2019b; 2020a; 2020b; 2021.

2.4.1.2 AUDIT COMPARISON

According to the audited financial information in the table above, the District operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, in FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18, and operated at a net income, or revenue gain, in FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, and FY 2020-21. Over the five fiscal years studied, the District has experienced an overall increase in net position, which signals a strengthening in financial position. The District has transitioned from a deficit to a surplus budget model in this time period. The District has adequate finances to meet current and future demands for public services within the next five years.

Net income is a key measure of fiscal health and indicates that an agency does not need to utilize reserve funds to balance the budget or meet current operating costs. Net income or revenue gain also indicates that an agency maintains a sufficient fund balance to protect against unexpected costs and/or build reserves to fund capital improvements and equipment maintenance.

The District’s financial performance was not consistent during the five years studied for multiple reasons, as described further below.

The changes in Legal Expenses (FY 2016-17 through FY 2019-20) and Settlement Revenue (FY 2018-19) were related to a multi-year lawsuit between the District and City that was settled in October 2018. The District initiated the lawsuit against the City in October 2013 alleging the City overcharged the District for services provided in accordance with the operating agreement and amendments beginning in 1967 (V&F, 2019b). A Settlement Agreement was entered into, effective October 1, 2018, whereby the City agreed to transfer funds and pay to the District a monetary sum in combination totaling \$7,500,000. A portion of the total settlement amount was used to pay down the District’s share of outstanding debt service and the remaining was recorded in the District’s audited financial statements in FY 2018-19, although the actual receipt of a portion of the settlement revenue has been transferred from the City to the District over time. Additionally, the District and the City contemporaneously executed the *Operating Agreement for the Combined Sewer System Serving the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District and the City of Ukiah* (“Operating Agreement”).

During the lawsuit, the District experienced fiscal years where a deficit occurred due to extraordinary legal costs (legal expenses totaled over \$5.6 million in FY 2015-16 through FY 2018-19, and the District had substantial cash reserves to handle these deficits). Since then, legal expenses have dropped significantly (\$290,240 in FY 2019-20, \$40,727 in FY 2020-21, and estimated \$31,741 in FY 2021-22).

The change in Operating Expense Allocation (City) between FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 from \$4,225,298 to \$2,190,756 was related to the prepayment of the City of Ukiah’s 2006 Installment Sale Agreement, of which the District was apportioned an allocable share of payments. The 2006 Installment Sale Agreement financed upgrades and rehabilitation of the WWTP. As set forth in the Operating Agreement, 25.84% of bond proceeds was apportioned to upgrades (“Capacity Component”), and 74.16% was apportioned to rehabilitation (“Rehabilitation Component”).

The City and District agreed that the debt service related to the Capacity Component would be split 65% to the District and 35% to the City (with the assumption that development would more likely occur in the District rather than the City). The Rehabilitation Component would be allocated to the District and City according to an Allocation Methodology each year, as described in the Operating Agreement—the same methodology used to determine the allocation of Operating Expenses each year (i.e., calculating each party’s estimated volume and strength of wastewater from an average residential dwelling). When allocating expenses to the District each year, the Rehabilitation Component was passed on as Operating Expenses while the Capacity Component was accounted for as a long-term liability on the District’s financial statements (see footnotes in the District’s financial statements over the last five years). In 2020, the District and City each issued bonds to pay off its allocated share of debt service of the 2006 Installment Sale Agreement. The refinancing bonds issued by the District are now fully accounted for as a long-term liability, therefore reducing the Rehabilitation Component of Operating Expenses.

Through the refinancing process, the District internally discussed the fact that it was paying for capital improvements to the WWTP but had no ownership in the WWTP asset. However, the District does own a Right to Use the WWTP, and the District determined that it should capture that right as an intangible asset on its financial statements. The change in depreciation and amortization between FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 from \$488,018 to \$787,162 was related to the Right to Use asset (the WWTP) that was placed into service on the District’s audited financial statements on February 28, 2020 to be amortized over 40 years. Assuming no new significant assets to be added, depreciation and amortization expenses are expected to be consistent going forward. (Fox, 2022)

The addition of Bond Expense for FY 2019-20 of \$291,898 was related to refinancing of the City’s 2006 Bonds as further described in Section 2.4.2.2.

In regard to capital assets of the City/District combined sewer system, the City retains title, management, and control of the WWTP, including any additions or changes made to it (V&F, 2021). The District pays a portion towards the WWTP facility and owns capacity, which is an intangible asset that depreciates or amortizes over time (Fox, 2022). In conjunction with the issuance of the District’s 2020 Bonds, the District recorded an intangible asset in the amount of \$17,571,680 for its right to use a portion of the City’s WWTP Upgrade/Rehabilitation Project (V&F, 2020b).

The change in Connection Fees is highly variable from year to year and based on the number and type of new sewer system connections in a given year.

2.4.1.3 ENTERPRISE ACTIVITIES

The Wastewater Enterprise is accounted for and reported as Proprietary Funds, or business-type activities, instead of governmental activities. Enterprise or proprietary services are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is for the costs (including depreciation)

to provide the public service are recovered through service rates or supported by user charges paid by customers based on the amount of the service used.

The District has two fees for wastewater service, including Connection Fees and Monthly Usage Fees. Connection Fees were established by the District Board on July 21, 2011 through adoption of Ordinance No. 35. Sewer Service Charges or Monthly Usage Fees were established by the District Board on June 30, 2011 through adoption of Ordinance No. 36.

The connection fee helps to offset the expansion/capacity costs of the sewer system. Once paid the landowner has a commitment from the District (“will serve”) that it will provide sewer services to the landowner’s property. One unit of capacity, known as an Equivalent Sewer Service Unit (ESSU), is equal to the expected usage demand that a two-bedroom house will provide on the system. At present, the purchase price of one ESSU is \$12,240.00. A larger house with more bedrooms will pay a multiple of that price, for example the connection fee for a 3-bedroom house will be 1.10 times \$12,240, a four bedroom 1.20 times \$12,240.00. Commercial and industrial connections may pay many multiples of one ESSU; certain kinds of operations will pay millions of dollars for the right to connect. Purchase of the necessary ESSU’s provides the property owner the right to connect to the system for the indicated.

Once connected, the property owner is additionally obligated to pay a monthly usage fee which includes a fixed minimum amount (presently \$53.47/month), which includes an allotment of 3.4 units (2,543 gallons) of wastewater flow into the sewer for residential customers. In Fiscal Year 2012-13, an additional charge of \$4.45 per unit (748 gallons) was assessed for usage exceeding that amount. In Fiscal Year 2013-14, the unit fee increased to \$5.50 per unit. The wastewater flow into the collection system is estimated by examining the property's water bill and determining the average water consumption for the months of January, February, and March. The variable portion of the monthly fee is computed based on this average and applied for each month of the year. The fee pays for the operations and maintenance of the sewer system, including payments for loans for building or upgrading the system. Figure 2-2 below shows the District’s current Usage Fee Rate Schedule.

Figure 2-1 UVSD Current Usage Fee Rate Schedule

Use	Current	Effective Dates for Sewer Rates			
		7/1/2011	7/1/2012	7/1/2013	7/1/2014
Residential Dwelling Units Including Multi-family units of Apartment Complexes and Mobile-home Parks					
Fixed Minimum Charge for each Dwelling Unit: includes up to 3.4 units of water consumption	\$47.18	\$53.47	\$53.47	\$53.47	\$53.47
Consumption Rate per One Unit of Water 1 unit = 100 cubic feet = 748 gallons. Applies when water consumption is greater than 3.4 units	\$1.85	\$3.40	\$4.45	\$5.50	\$6.60
Commercial and Industrial Rates: Based on consumption, but in no case will the sewer bill be lower than the fixed minimum charge for Residential Dwellings. No credit for the first 3.4 units of water use is provided.					
Commercial Low Strength	\$7.40	\$7.91	\$8.46	\$9.06	\$9.69
Commercial Moderate Strength	\$7.91	\$8.46	\$9.05	\$9.68	\$10.36
Commercial Medium Strength	\$13.99	\$14.96	\$16.00	\$17.12	\$18.32
Commercial High Strength	\$18.02	\$19.26	\$20.61	\$22.05	\$23.60
Commercial Special Circumstances	Determined on a case-by-case basis considering all aspects of the impact on the system and all other information deemed pertinent				
Industrial	Determined on a case-by-case basis considering all aspects of the impact on the system and all other information deemed pertinent				

Source: UVSD, 2021c.

As a requirement of the 2020 loan refinance process, the District and the City collaborated in contracting with Hildebrand Consulting, LLC and The Reed Group, Inc. to prepare the 2020 Joint Sewer Rate Study completed on April 24, 2020. The rate increase proposed by the joint rate study has not been considered by the District Board through a Proposition 218 Public Hearing process to date due to financial hardships on customers from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, it was determined by the District that since the District has sufficient reserves and projected sufficient Net Revenues to meet the Rate Covenant of its 2020 Refunding Bonds, it would not be necessary to increase rates in the near term. The Interim District Manager recommends the District commission another rate study in FY 2022-23 or FY 2023-24.

2.4.1.4 TAXES

The District receives a portion of Mendocino County property taxes. The total amount of taxes and assessments received by the District between FY 2016-17 and FY 2020-21 ranged from a high of \$59,373 and a low of \$46,396. The taxes are levied as of July 1, and installments are collected in December and April. The District also receives unsecured, SB 813, supplemental, prior years and HOPTR taxes which are allocated at various times throughout each year. Mendocino County collects and administers the taxes. The District records these amounts as non-operating revenues at the time of the levy. (V&F, 2021)

2.4.1.5 GANN LIMIT

Local agencies that receive taxes are subject to certain spending limits (Gann Limit or Proposition 4). Annual appropriations that are subject to spending limits may not exceed an appropriations limit based on a calculated limit for fiscal year 1978-1979, adjusted annually for population and cost of living increases. On or before July 1st of each year the board is required to adopt its appropriation limit and

make other necessary determinations for the following fiscal year pursuant to Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Government Code Section 7900 et seq. [61113(b)].

Not all appropriations are subject to this limit. The limit only applies to tax revenues. The limit does not apply to proceeds from user charges, user fees or other such assessments provided that these revenue sources do not exceed the costs reasonably borne in providing the product or service for which the fee or assessment is imposed. The limit does not apply to a district which existed on January 1, 1978 and which did not as of 1977-1978 fiscal year levy an ad valorem tax on property in excess of 12½ cents per hundred dollars of assessed value.

No Gann Limit is identified for the District. (Mendocino, 2022)

2.4.2 Long Term Financial Considerations

2.4.2.1 RESERVES

As part of the refinancing process, the District established a Debt Service Reserve Fund for the 2006 Refunding Bonds of approximately \$502,000, or 25% of maximum annual debt service. This is reflected as Restricted Cash on the District's financial statements. Additionally, the District established a Rate Stabilization Fund, within the meaning of the Indenture, which is funded with cash in an amount equal to one year's debt service, or approximately \$2 million, and is accounted for as part of the District's Cash and Investments. The District does not currently have a formal reserve policy, but is planning on adopting one in Fiscal Year 2022-23.

2.4.2.2 OUTSTANDING DEBT

On March 2, 2006, the District and City entered into a financing agreement related to the City's 2006 Water and Wastewater Revenue Bonds, Series A (City's 2006 Bonds), issued in the original principal amount of \$75,060,000, for the dual purpose of performing an Upgrade/Rehabilitation Project and an increased Capacity Project for the City's WWTP. Under the financing agreement, the District was required to pay for 65% of the portion of the bonds related to the Capacity Project, which was 25.8414% of the bonds in the amount of \$12,607,761. (V&F, 2020b)

On February 24, 2020, the District and City entered into a Refinancing Agreement to facilitate refunding of the City's 2006 Bonds. As a result of this agreement, the District and City simultaneously and individually refinanced their respective portions of the City's 2006 Bonds. The District issued its Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Wastewater Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2020 (District's 2020 Bonds) in the amount of \$25,005,000 through a loan from BBVA, a Private Placement Bank, which will result in net savings to the District over the life of the loan of \$4,308,902. The proceeds of the District's 2020 Bonds, combined with a \$2.5 million cash contribution from the District, were used to fully prepay the District's allocable share of the City's 2006 Bonds. (V&F, 2020b) (UVSD, 2019)

The District's 2020 Refunding Bonds carry an interest rate of 2.42%. The semiannual payments began on September 1, 2020, with principal payments ranging from \$689,000 to \$986,000, and will mature on March 1, 2035. The District is required to have Adjusted Net Revenues for the specified period equal to at least 120% of the debt service. The District has no other outstanding loans or debt obligations.

Figure 2-3 shows the District's long-term debt activity and schedule of bond payment requirements to maturity as of FY 2021-22 under the District's 2020 Refunding Bonds. The District will be obligated through 2035 for =debt payments.

Figure 2-2 Long-term Debt Activity for FY 2021-22

<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Bonds Payable</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2022	\$ 1,430,000	\$ 563,074	\$ 1,993,074
2023	1,466,000	528,250	1,994,250
2024	1,504,000	492,543	1,996,543
2025	1,541,000	455,928	1,996,928
2026	1,580,000	418,406	1,998,406
2027-2031	8,504,000	1,495,572	9,999,572
2032-2035	7,600,000	419,447	8,019,447
Total	<u>\$ 23,625,000</u>	<u>\$ 4,373,220</u>	<u>\$ 27,998,220</u>

Source: V&F, 2021

2.4.2.3 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The District is responsible for prioritizing and budgeting for long-term District-only capital needs in addition to ongoing operations and maintenance costs for District-only facilities and infrastructure. The District does not have a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The District defines capital improvement priorities on an as-needed basis and in the annual District budget process.

For Fiscal Year 2022-23, the District identified a capital project need known as Connect Sewer North State Street, which is intended to make the sewer system more available and efficient. There is currently no known deferred maintenance in the District collection system. (Fox, 2022)

The City is responsible for maintaining and furnishing personnel for the operation of the sewer treatment plant and provides inspection services and maintenance for the sewer trunk and collection lines in the combined sewer system. (V&F, 2021)

The District and City work together annually to review capital project needs according to the Operating Agreement and through the Joint Budget Agreement process for purposes of shared funding. The District has adequate funds to finance its share of planned capital improvements and equipment purchases for the combined sewer system. (UVSD, 2019)

Figure 2-3 FY 2020-21 Statement of Net Position

ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash and Investments	\$ 8,818,741
Accounts Receivable	867,203
Interest Receivable	50,898
Restricted Cash	502,015
Due from City of Ukiah	1,000,000
Prepaid Expenses	3,210
Total Current Assets	<u>11,242,067</u>
Noncurrent Assets:	
Due from City of Ukiah	1,000,000
Capital Assets:	
Depreciable, Net	28,991,201
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>29,991,201</u>
Total Assets	<u>41,233,268</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	43,100
Accrued Interest	190,575
Customer Deposits Payable	19,900
Bonds Payable - Due in One Year	1,430,000
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,683,575</u>
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Bonds Payable - Due in More Than One Year	22,195,000
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>22,195,000</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>23,878,575</u>
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	5,366,201
Unrestricted	11,988,492
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 17,354,693</u>

Source: V&F, 2021.

2.5 Growth

2.5.1 Present and Planned Land Use and Development

The Ukiah Valley is located approximately 30 miles east and inland from the Pacific Ocean. The Valley runs north to south for approximately nine miles, with a maximum width of about three miles. With an average elevation of approximately 630 feet, the hills surrounding the Valley range up to about 3,000 feet. The Russian River enters the Valley at the north end and runs south along the eastern Valley floor. Soils are composed of fertile alluvium, and many pear orchards and vineyards flourish along the east side of the river. Residential and commercial land uses predominate on the west side of the river. The railroad right-of-way and Highway 101 also parallel the river through the Valley. Existing land uses in the Ukiah Valley include residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural uses. Unincorporated communities include Calpella, The Forks, Vichy Springs and Talmage, while the City of Ukiah is the sole incorporated community in the Valley.

The UVSD boundaries include an unincorporated community known as The Forks in the northern part of the District. Additionally, the District includes three non-contiguous residential areas and Vichy Springs as an island east of the contiguous boundaries. Calpella is located north of the existing boundaries. (See Figure 1-1.) The Forks and Vichy Springs are unincorporated and are governed by Mendocino's land use authority, while the City of Ukiah represents its own jurisdictional land use authority. The UVSD boundaries include an area of approximately 6.62-square miles, and the resident population is approximately 9,400.

Development in the vicinity of The Forks is of a mixed nature, including commercial uses on North State Street near the intersection with Lake Mendocino Drive, residential uses (single-family homes and mobile homes), and light industrial activities. The North State Street corridor south of The Forks has historically been developed with heavier industrial uses interspersed with commercial uses; however, the area may be entering a period of transition with shifts away from timber related uses. Mendocino Community College, Pinoleville Indian Reservation, and urban residential uses are located west of US 101.

Southeast of Ukiah is the community of Talmage. Situated around the intersection of Talmage Road (State Route 222) and Eastside Road, the area has slowly developed with urban uses (mostly commercial activities and rural residential lots) replacing historical agricultural uses. Talmage is also home to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, which encompasses the site originally occupied by the State Hospital.

(PMC, 2008; Mendocino, 2011)

The District boundaries include an area of overlap with the City of Ukiah's jurisdictional limits consisting of 1,304 parcels and an estimated population of 3,500. The City of Ukiah is the Mendocino County seat and the largest incorporated city in Mendocino County. Ukiah serves as the economic hub for Mendocino County and much of neighboring Lake County due to its accessible location on the US Route 101 corridor. (USCB, 2021; Ukiah, 2019)

Development patterns in the Ukiah Valley are anticipated to generally follow historical zoning and development patterns, maintaining a north-south pattern following the major transportation corridors. The area within the City limits is approaching build-out and a relatively significant level of urban development has occurred north and south of the City limits, areas that are within the UVSD boundaries. The Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) adopted by Mendocino County in 2011 for the unincorporated areas generally maintains the development patterns of the Valley, allowing expansion of The Forks Rural

Community, and along the U.S. 101 corridor, as well as limited growth in the eastern hills. (Mendocino, 2011)

Relevant Ukiah Valley Area Plan policies pertaining to growth and land use development are identified in Appendix C.

The policies reflect a compelling desire on the part of the community for strong collaboration between the City and County in land use planning and government operations in the Ukiah Valley, both for community continuity and cost sharing purposes. These policies also promote development in already-impacted areas such as the main transportation corridors as well as a mix of uses with strong supporting infrastructure for those uses.

2.5.1.1 LAND USE

The Ukiah Valley contains the unincorporated communities of Calpella, The Forks, Talmage, as well as the City of Ukiah. Existing land uses include residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural uses.

The 1995 City of Ukiah General Plan, although serving as the City's municipal general plan, was designed as an early area plan for the Ukiah Valley. This effort established a large Planning Area, as well as goals, policies and programs that reflected an area-wide approach. (Ukiah, 2020b; pg 24) The City has initiated an update to refine the Plan, address emerging trends and recent State laws, consider new issues, and remove completed implementation measures. The City General Plan Update is being developed by City staff with direction from the City Council and input from the Planning Commission and the community. Completion is expected by 2023.

In 2011, Mendocino County adopted the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP), a comprehensive and long range inter-jurisdictional planning document that defines how the Ukiah Valley will develop in the future. (Ukiah, 2020b; pg 24)

In the UVAP, the County supplements its General Plan inland land use classifications, adding several special land use classifications associated with specific parcels within the UVAP planning area. The following new land use classifications are specific to the UVAP planning area:

- Mixed Use North State Street (MUNS)
- Mixed Use Brush Street Triangle (MUBST)
- Mixed Use General (MU-2)

Generally, mixed use and compact development patterns allows greater efficiency and economy in providing public services, conserves agriculture and resource lands, preserves the rural character desired by many of the County's residents, and can provide more affordable housing. Within the UVAP, Land Use policies encourage higher population, building and land use density and intensity along appropriately classified roads with existing capacity.

(Ukiah, 2020b)

The following land use classifications established in the County General Plan also apply without modification to lands in the Ukiah Valley Area Plan:

- SR – Suburban Residential (all densities)
- RC – Rural Community
- RR – Rural Residential (all densities)

- RMR – Remote Residential (all densities)
- C – Commercial
- AG – Agricultural
- RL – Range Lands
- I – Industrial
- PS – Public Services
- PL – Public Lands
- OS – Open Space
- MU – Mixed Use MUNS – Mixed Use North State Street
- MUBST – Mixed Use Brush Street Triangle
- MU-2 – Mixed Use General

See Figure 2-5 for the County’s land use map of the Ukiah Valley.

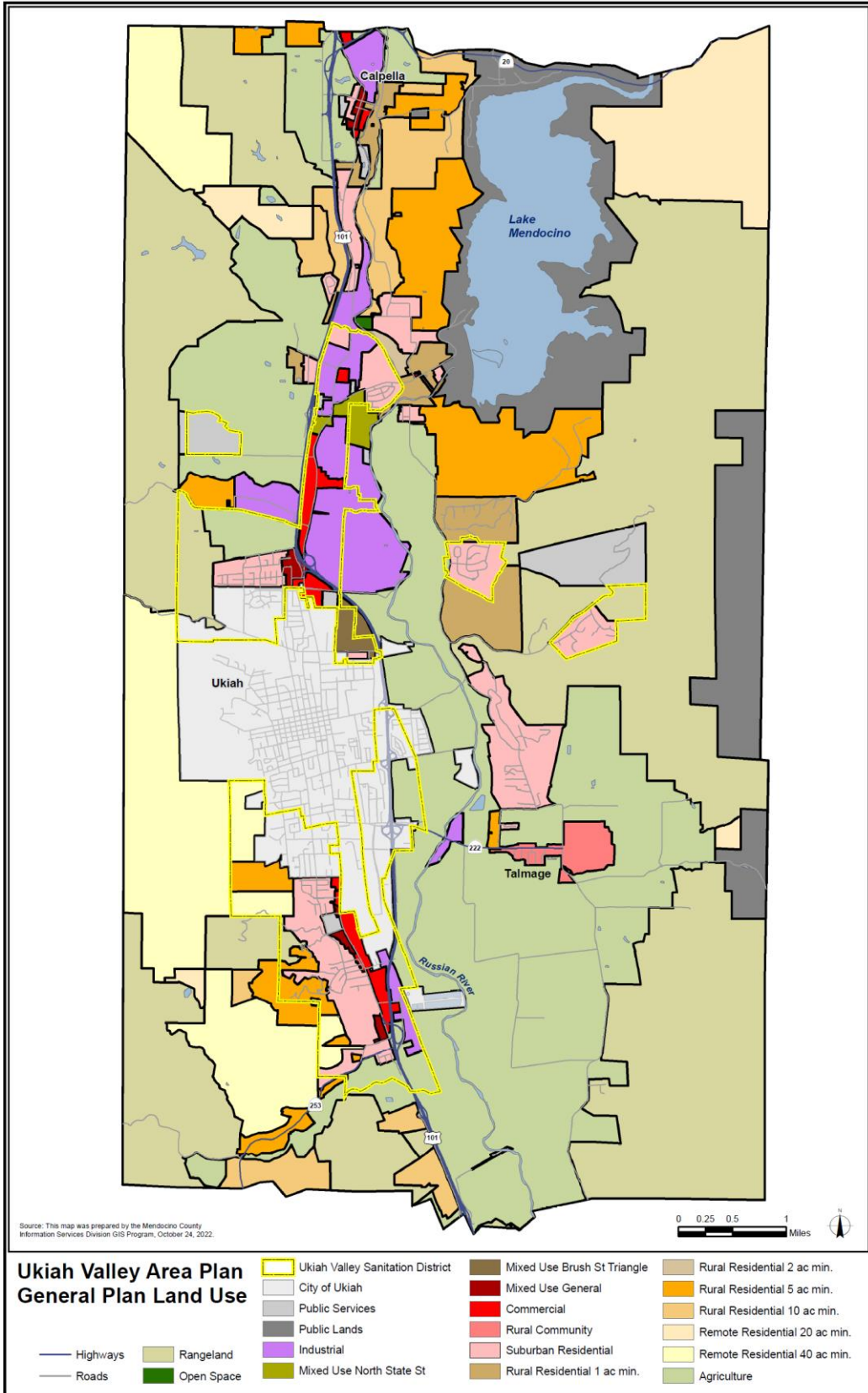
The UVAP goals and policies direct that higher density residential uses be located within the City of Ukiah’s sphere of influence, areas designated Rural Communities, and within the City itself, in order to concentrate development in areas with adequate services and access and limit impacts to resource lands. Development potential can be maximized through comprehensive and coordinated planning of areas which are currently undeveloped or underdeveloped.

Mendocino County has identified housing, mixed-use development, and agriculture as especially important to the area. The UVAP supports affordable worker housing by designating more properties for mixed uses and allowing for higher density development in more locations and configurations, with much of the density around community areas and the City of Ukiah for multiple family and mixed uses. The UVAP also provides for mixed use development patterns to allow greater efficiency and economy in providing public services, conserves agriculture and resource lands, preserves the rural character desired by many of the County’s residents, and adds more affordable housing.

The UVAP also protects agriculture, which is a major part of Mendocino County’s economy. Many types of agriculture exist in the Ukiah Valley, including vineyards, orchards, forage crops, specialty crops, and livestock. Farms are both full time and part time operations. Agricultural production in some areas is threatened both by pressures of urban development and by creation of small residential lots in the midst of agricultural lands.

(Mendocino, 2011)

Figure 2-4 UVAP Land Use Map



2.5.1.2 DEVELOPMENT

Because the District boundaries include areas within both the City of Ukiah and unincorporated areas of the County, land use jurisdiction is a combination of the two agencies.

The Mendocino County General Plan Development Element allows for higher density development on parcels that receive water and/or sewer services.

Existing development in Ukiah Valley consists of a mixture of uses, including agricultural, residential, commercial, and light industrial. Within the UVSD boundaries are high density residential communities, county governmental buildings including a county courthouse and jail, Mendocino Community College, Dharma Realm Buddhist University, industrial and commercial complexes, hotels, multi-family residential complexes, multiple mobile home parks, Ukiah Municipal Airport, US 101 and State Route 253.

The availability of municipal wastewater and water services are constraints to future development in the Valley, complicated by legal, environmental, political and socioeconomic issues. Challenges include inadequate percolation rates in low-lying areas near the Russian River, development at densities not suitable for on-site septic systems, and industrial and large-scale commercial development requiring municipal treatment of wastewater.

Non-environmental constraints to development include a limited amount of developable land and regulatory requirements mandated by state government. While neither factor prevents development, it does increase time and cost of land use projects.

(Mendocino, 2011)

2.5.1.2.1 City of Ukiah Proposed Annexations

Annexation efforts for the City of Ukiah have been discussed over the last three decades and addressed in multiple planning documents. Themes within these documents include collaboration between cities on regional housing and the need for preservation of open space and agricultural lands. Consistent with direction received from Council, an adopted Annexation Policy, and relevant City and County planning documents, the City of Ukiah intends to pursue annexation of land within the next 10-20 years. The areas currently proposed by the City for annexation (Table 2.6) are nearly all located within the District boundaries as well as some overlap of the boundaries of Willow County Water District and Millview County Water District.

Table 2.6 City of Ukiah Annexation Proposals			
Annexation Area	LAFCo File No.	Approx. Acreage	Status
City-Owned Properties	A-2021-01	437	Submitted 2020
Western Hills Area	A-2022-02	707	Submitted 2022
Brush Street/Masonite Area	P-2020-02	473	Tentatively proposed for 2023
Total		1,617	

Source: LAFCo, 2022

In considering reorganization proposals, applicable statutes and local LAFCo policies require the commission to consider the impacts to impacted agencies, particularly their ability to remain viable and continue to provide adequate services to their remaining customers.

The mosaic of special districts in the Ukiah Valley presents a unique challenge; as the City naturally grows and requires additional space for housing and commercial development, resulting expansion will impact adjacent wastewater and water service providers. The City and UVSD established an ad hoc committee to develop the Interim Service Agreement that describes the coordinated provision of wastewater services as the City expands. Further, recent discussions between the City and water districts in the Ukiah Valley are a positive step towards planning for the efficient provision of services and logical expansion of the City to serve future population growth.

2.5.2 Existing Population and Projected Growth

The UVSD boundaries include small portions of seven census tracts that have a combined population estimated at 32,947 in the 2020 census (USCB, 2021). Table 2.7 shows the population estimates of the identified census tracts in comparison to the population of the City of Ukiah and Mendocino County to portray the estimated population of the Ukiah Valley and surrounding foothills. However, because the census tracts are so much larger than the UVSD boundaries, it is not an accurate reflection the District’s population.

Table 2.7 Population Estimates for the Ukiah Valley and Surrounding Areas	
Area	2020 Population Estimates
Census Tract 109	4,983
Census Tract 113	6,010
Census Tract 114	4,434
Census Tract 115.01	3,390
Census Tract 115.02	3,596
Census Tract 116	6,298
Census Tract 117	4,236
Combined Census Tract Population	32,947
City of Ukiah	16,607
City Overlap Area (estimated)	4,566
Mendocino County (estimated)	91,601

Sources: USCB, 2021; DOF, 2021.

Similarly, population growth projections specific to Ukiah are unavailable. As of January 1, 2022, the US Census estimates a population for the City of Ukiah was 16,607. (DOF, 2022)

Another means to estimate population within an area not specifically limited to a single census tract is through the number of service connections or similar measure of service provision. Approximately 64% of the UVSD customers are residential while 36% are commercial customers. Equivalent Sewer Service Units (ESSUs) are utilized as a measure of flow volume and treatment capacity. One ESSU is equivalent to a two-bedroom dwelling unit.

The population of the UVSD can be estimated by the number of service units. Since approximately half the ESSUs are within the Ukiah City limits, the persons per household data taken from the 2020 census can be used to estimate the population. Table 2.8 shows the estimated population and persons per household for Ukiah and (2.67) for the unincorporated area of the County (2.48). Based on the current number of ESSUs (5,688), 64% of which are residential representing an estimated 3,640 households, and

half of which are located within the City limits, and using the current values for persons per household in Table 2.8, the estimated population of the UVSD is 9,400 ($[3,640/2 = 1,820]$, $[1,820 \times 2.67 = 4,860]$, $[1,820 \times 2.48 = 4,514]$, $[4,860 + 4,514 = 9,374]$). (City/UVSD, 2020b)

Table 2.8 Population, Housing and Persons Per Household Estimates—2020			
Jurisdiction	Total Population	Total Households	Persons Per Household
Ukiah	16,607	5,698	2.67
Remaining County	74,994	28,466	2.48
County Total	91,601	34,164	

Source: USCB, 2021

The California Department of Finance estimates that Mendocino County as a whole will grow by 6% by 2040, or an average rate of 0.3% annually (Ukiah, 2020b). As of January, 2022, similar to the State of California, a slight population decline was noted for the City of Ukiah (-0.9%) and the County of Mendocino (-0.7%).

Population growth rate estimates vary depending on the source. Based on Department of Finance population projections, Mendocino County will increase by approximately 486 people by 2030, and then begin to decline, as shown in the table below.

Table 2.9 Mendocino County Population Projections						
Area	2022	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Mendocino County	88,353	88,746	89,232	89,106	88,205	86,956

Source: DOF, 2021.

Overall, Ukiah has a population that is decreasing in age. The median age, based on 2017 American Community Survey estimates, is 34.8 years old, down from 35.9 in 2010. Much of this change is due to an increased percentage of young adults between 25 and 35 in the City, indicating that young families are moving to Ukiah. This is a substantial divergence from Countywide trends, which suggest, on average, an older and increasingly aging population. In 2010, the median age in the County was 41.5 years old, which increased to 42.4 years old in 2017. Ukiah also has a high percentage of working age residents between 25 and 54, which combine to make up nearly 42% of the population.

Assuming a District service population of approximately 9,400, based on this growth rate the District can expect a population increase of around 150 people by 2030. However, according to the DOF data, after the year 2030, the population will begin declining at a very slow rate.

2.6 Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

Senate Bill (SB) 244, which became effective in January 2012, requires LAFCo to evaluate any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs), including the location and characteristics of any such communities, when preparing an MSR that addresses agencies that provide water, wastewater, or structural fire protection services. A DUC is an unincorporated geographic area with 12 or more registered voters with a median household income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the State MHI of \$80,440 or \$64,000

(USCB, 2019c). This State legislation is intended to ensure that the needs of these communities are met when considering service extensions and/or annexations in unincorporated areas.

2.6.1 CALAFCO DUC Mapping

Four DUCs are identified per the [CALAFCO Statewide DUC Mapping Tool](#), which is based on the American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2015-2019) and updated March 2022. The mapping parameters meet the definition of DUCs per SB244 and utilizes a threshold of 50 registered voters to identify communities. The following DUCs are located within the UVSD service area (Figure 2-6) (CALAFCO, 2022).

- DUC #1: Ukiah SXSU
- DUC #2: Norgard/Airport South
- DUC #3: Empire Gardens

Additionally, further refined General Plan DUC studies prepared by the City of Ukiah and County of Mendocino identified five distinct DUCs in the area surrounding the City, including the three noted above.

- Ukiah SXSU
- Norgard/Airport South
- Empire Gardens
- Talmage
- The Forks

These five areas are located in the City's proposed SOI and DUCS 1-4 are located within the UVSD boundaries. In DUCs 1-3, the District currently provides wastewater services to the areas. DUC 4 is within the District boundaries but is not currently provided wastewater service. DUC 5 is in the community of Talmage, which is located east of the District boundaries, and is also considered underserved for wastewater services.

Following is a description of the DUCs located in and around the City of Ukiah and District boundaries:

Ukiah SXSU (DUC #1): The Ukiah SXSU DUC is located adjacent to the southwestern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County. This area spans from Beacon Lane to Gobalet Lane and includes ±586 parcels totaling ±286 acres with a mixture of single-family, mobile-home and multi-family residential units. This area is considered a 'Fringe Community', which means any inhabited and unincorporated territory that is within a city's sphere of influence, and was first identified by the City of Ukiah in 2019.

The DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those further refined by the City. The City has updated the boundaries to remove parcels not contiguous to City limits or the DUC itself. The community is associated with Block Group 2, Census Tract 113, which has a MHI of approximately \$44,229.

The UVSD provides wastewater service to this community. Based on the most recent data available from the District, there does not appear to be wastewater deficiencies in this community.

Norgard/Airport South (DUC #2): The Norgard/Airport South DUC is located adjacent to the southern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County to the north of Norgard Lane. This area is considered a 'Fringe Community'. Approximately half of this DUC was identified by the City of Ukiah in 2019. Presently, this area includes 36 parcels totaling nearly 15 acres. It is adjacent to the Ukiah Municipal Airport, and is bifurcated by U.S. Route 101 (US 101).

The DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those further refined by the City. The City has modified this boundary to include similar residential development to the east of the US 101. The community on the eastern side of the US 101 is within a different Census Block Group, which is a potential reason why it was not included with the previous analysis.

The community is primarily associated with Block Group 3, Census Tract 116, which has a MHI of approximately \$31,344. Again, a portion of the community also exists in Block Group 2, which is substantially wealthier.

This DUC is located within the UVSD boundaries, and no wastewater service deficiencies are noted for this area.

Empire Gardens (DUC #3): This Empire Gardens DUC is adjacent to the northern boundary of the City of Ukiah in unincorporated Mendocino County. This area is considered a 'Fringe Community', and was identified as a DUC by the City of Ukiah in 2019. This area includes 295 parcels spanning approximately 66 acres that feature a mixture of single-family, duplexes and multifamily residential.

The DUC boundaries identified by CALAFCO are slightly different than those further refined by the City. The City has modified the boundaries, as previous iterations included a gap between the City boundary and the identified DUC. Additionally, the DUC as identified by CALAFCO included portions of active agricultural land, as well as tribal properties.

The community is associated with Block Group 1, Census Tract 113, which has a MHI of approximately \$47,833

This DUC is located within the UVSD boundaries, and no wastewater service deficiencies are noted for this area.

The Forks (DUC #4): The Forks DUC is located due north of Ukiah and one mile west of Lake Mendocino. It was originally identified by the County of Mendocino and the City of Ukiah in their respective 6th Cycle Housing Elements. This area is considered a 'Fringe Community'. The Forks DUC was not identified by the CALAFCO Statewide DUC Mapping Tool, but is included to ensure consistency with the County of Mendocino's Housing Element.

The existing residential land uses located in The Forks DUC consist of approximately 75 housing units on approximately 85 acres. The current Mendocino County zoning is primarily Suburban Residential (SR), although there are some agricultural parcels as well. Surrounding land uses consist mainly of low-density residential uses, but the DUC itself includes the mobile-home park communities of "Happiness Is" and 'Lake Mendocino Mobile Home Estates'. The West Fork Estates subdivision was not included or identified as part of this DUC. Per the County of Mendocino's Housing Element, The Forks DUC has a median household income of \$53,735 or lower.

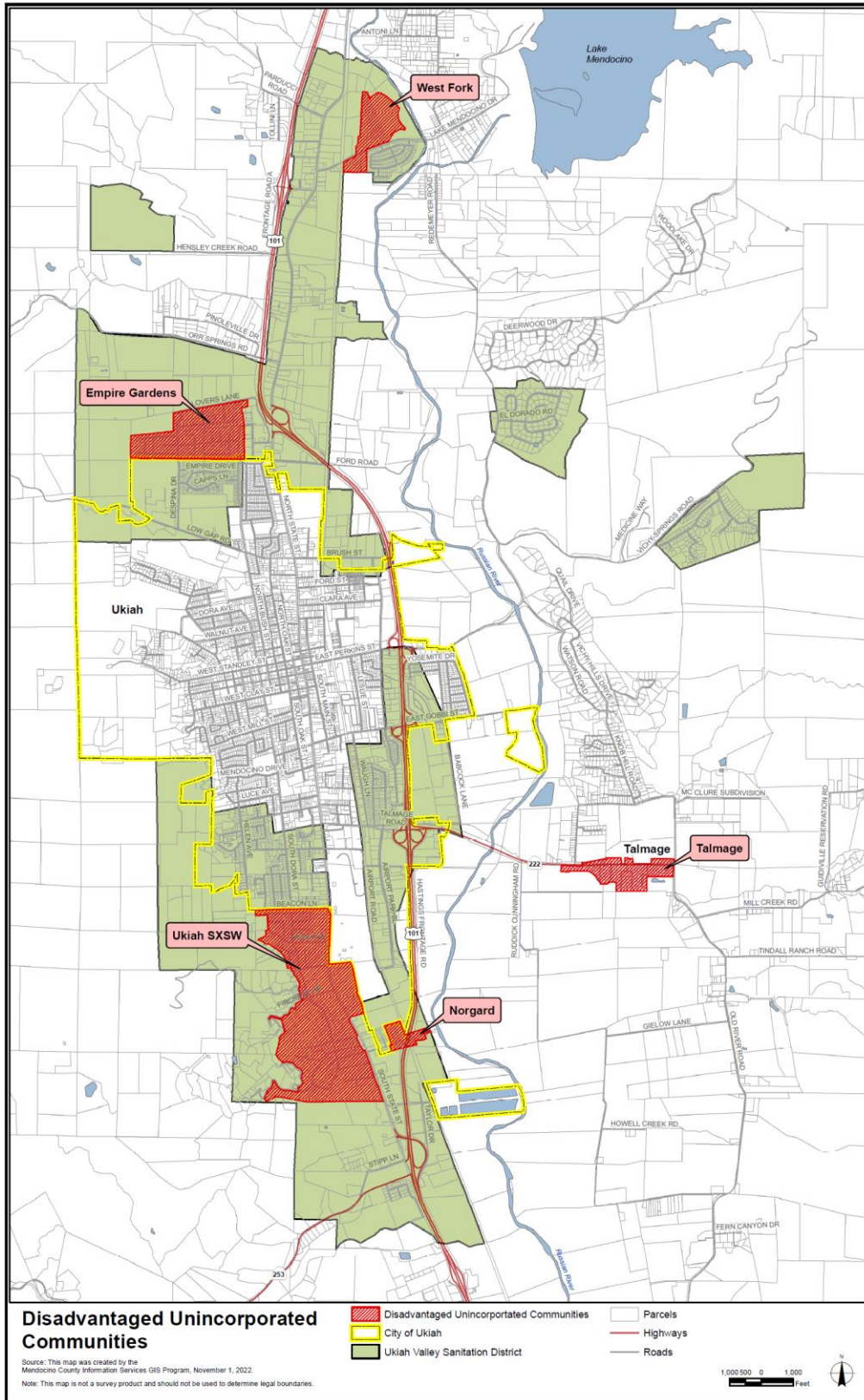
The Forks region is within the UVSD boundaries. However, given the extent of area covered by the UVSD and the pace of development in those areas since 2012, it is unknown if there are sufficient ESSUs available to serve the area. The County of Mendocino has identified the Forks DUC as underserved for wastewater.

Talmage (DUC #5): The Talmage DUC is located one mile southwest of Ukiah along Talmage Road and bounded by Mill Creek to the south. Existing residential land uses located in Talmage DUC consist of approximately 136 housing units within an area of 49 acres, leading to an average density of 2.8 dwelling

units per acre. The current Mendocino County zoning in Talmage DUC is Suburban Residential (SR), Multi-Family Residential (R3), and Inland Limited Commercial (C1). Surrounding land uses consist mainly of agricultural and low-density residential uses. The Census tract where Talmage DUC is located contains median household incomes of \$53,735 or lower.

Talmage is located well east of the UVSD boundaries. Wastewater disposal in Talmage DUC is addressed by private septic systems; there is currently no wastewater service provider available to the community. Due to high production wells in the area, sensitivity to potential groundwater contamination from private septic leach fields and minimal lot sizes, the area was identified by the County as undeserved for wastewater.

Figure 2-5 Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities



3 MUNICIPAL SERVICES

A Municipal Service Review (MSR) is a comprehensive analysis of the services provided by a local government agency to evaluate the capabilities of that agency to meet the public service needs of their current and future service area. The MSR determinations inform the SOI Update process and assist LAFCo in considering the appropriateness of a public service provider's existing and future service area boundary. The information and analysis presented in Chapters 2 and 3 of this document form the basis for the MSR determinations provided under Section 3.7.

3.1 Service Overview

3.1.1 Services

The Ukiah Valley Sanitation District is a single-service provider, providing wastewater collection services to its customers.

The District maintains a Participation Agreement and Operating Agreement with the City of Ukiah for the provision of wastewater operations and maintenance, including operations and maintenance of the District's collection system and the City's WWTP at which District sewerage is treated and disposed. The Participation Agreement provides that the annual costs of the entire sewer system (the WWTP and collection systems) are apportioned between the City and District according to the ratio of Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units (ESSUs) each entity uses during the year. Annual costs include operating and capital costs for the system.

The Operating Agreement was entered into on October 3, 2018 as a result of a Settlement Agreement between the City and District to amend the terms of the Participation Agreement. Where they conflict, the Operating Agreement controls. (City/UVSD, 2018b)

Other municipal services are provided to District residents by other public agencies or non-profit organizations through agreements and Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and by private businesses through service contracts. This MSR only reviews services provided by the District, including commonalities with the City of Ukiah due the interconnectedness of the agencies' provision of wastewater services.

3.1.2 Service Areas

The District's jurisdictional boundaries cover 6.62 square miles, or approximately 4,240 acres, in and surrounding the City of Ukiah (see Figure 1-1). The District boundaries encompass areas both within the City of Ukiah and within the surrounding unincorporated Mendocino County. Carousel Lane represents the approximate northern limit of the service area just west of Lake Mendocino, and Robinson Creek bounds the southern end. The District service area trends north to south generally oriented along the railroad tracks, but also includes some non-contiguous territory in the unincorporated communities of Vichy Springs, El Dorado Road, Hensley Creek Road, The Forks, Guidiville Rancheria, and Mendocino Community College.

A common area between the City of Ukiah and the District service areas, known as the "overlap area", represents roughly half of the District's customers and one-third of City residents. The overlap area is a result of City annexations without concurrent detachment from the District. In 2014, the City applied to LAFCo to detach the overlap area from the District boundaries. The application has been on hold pending completion of the City's SOI Update. (UVSD, 2019)

3.1.3 Out of Agency Services

The District also provides a number of services to parcels outside its jurisdictional boundaries. Out of Agency Services are provided to seven parcels in the East Gobbi Street area, a residential parcel on Ford Road and the City's Landfill off Vichy Springs Road.

3.2 Wastewater

3.2.1 Service Overview

The District's facilities consist of a sewer collection system (Trunk Line, laterals, mains, and related facilities) that is part of a combined sewer system operating in conjunction with the City of Ukiah's sewer collection and treatment facilities (as shown in Figure 3-1). The Operating Agreement with the City of Ukiah designates the City as the responsible entity to operate and maintain the combined public collection system, treatment plant, and disposal system (City/UVSD, 2018b).

The District is responsible for general management and administrative functions within District boundaries, which is achieved through contracts. All administrative services and management functions are contracted, the District has no staff of its own. See Section 2.3 for more information about management and staffing.

Although all system maintenance and operations are managed by the City, the District helps fund and develop the capital improvement plan (CIP) through the annual City of Ukiah and UVSD Budget Agreement process (City/UVSD, 2021). The City maintains a CIP for all public infrastructure in the City limits, including the sewer system (see 2022 City of Ukiah MSR/SOI for more information).

3.2.2 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Services

Under the terms of the Operating Agreement with the City of Ukiah, all wastewater treatment and disposal for the combined sewer collection system is provided by the City at its WWTP on Plant Road near the southern end of the District boundaries. Through the Participation Agreement, the District has Right to Use capacity (ESSUs) within the WWTP, which was jointly funded by the two agencies.

The City of Ukiah owns the WWTP that treats the combined sewage from the City's and District's sewer collection systems. The WWTP complex of approximately 60 acres is located on the south end of the Ukiah Valley, east of Highway 101, approximately 2500 feet south of the Ukiah Airport; sited on the west bank of the Russian River. It is largely surrounded by agricultural land to the north, south and east across the River. Immediately west of the WWTP are a variety of commercial and industrial land uses between the Northwest Pacific Railroad lines and State Street. Access to the WWTP is from State Street via Plant Road.

The WWTP became operational in 1958 after being constructed for the then-population of 9,000. Since that time, the population has grown to approximately 22,500 residents within both the City and District service areas. An extensive upgrade of the WWTP in 2009 was jointly funded by the City and District, with the District receiving Right to Use capacity at the facility. The \$56.5 million improvement project brought the WWTP into compliance with permit requirements and is sized to meet future growth demand. The City and UVSD entered into a Financing Agreement to share costs of the upgrades (City/UVSD, 2020a). See Financial Section 2.4.2 for discussion of service bonds, etc.

The WWTP has a dry weather capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD), and a peak wet-weather capacity of 24.5 MGD (Ukiah, 2021). Wastewater is processed through a tertiary treatment system, with primary treatment removing floating material, oils and greases, sand and silt and organic solids heavy

enough to settle in water; secondary treatment biologically removing most of the suspended and dissolved organic material, and tertiary treatment including final clarification through sludge digestion, disinfection, and dichlorination (Ukiah, 2022b). Effluent is then discharged to the percolation ponds. Roughly 2.7 million gallons (MG) of wastewater each day is treated through the WWTP (Ukiah, 2021).

See the *2022 City of Ukiah Municipal Service Review* for more detailed information about the WWTP. (LAFCo, 2022)

3.2.3 Collection System

The District owns a portion of the overall sewer collection system, which consists of approximately 46 miles of sewer collection pipelines and two pump stations: El Dorado Estates and Vichy Springs Estates. The City has approximately 44 miles of sewer collection pipelines and one pump station within its corporate limits. The pipelines vary in size from 6- to 42-inches. (Winzler & Kelly, 2009)

Both jurisdictions deliver collected wastewater to the WWTP located in the southern part of Ukiah. Figure ES-2 shows an overview of the City and District collection systems, including the WWTP. The District's facilities are generally satellite facilities to the City's collection system. The City, through the Participation and Operating Agreements, maintains all collection system facilities using maintenance staff from its Public Works Department. (Winzler & Kelly, 2009)

3.2.4 System Capacity

The District’s sewer capacity is a measurement of the ESSUs determined through the 2018 Settlement Agreement to be its share of the City’s WWTP (City/UVSD, 2018a). Per the Agreement, the District and City agreed that the 2009 Capacity Project increased the capacity of the WWTP by 2,400 ESSUs (one ESSU is equivalent to a two-bedroom dwelling unit). In so doing, the agencies agreed that the pre-Capacity Project capacity of the WWTP had already been utilized by the agencies and the increased capacity was the measure of the remaining available ESSUs of the facility. (UVSD, 2019).

Of this capacity, the District has approximately 942 ESSUs of reserved capacity at the WWTP. As noted above, the WWTP has a dry weather capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD), and a peak wet-weather capacity of 24.5 MGD (Ukiah, 2021).

Area	UVSD	City of Ukiah	Totals
Current Usage (May 2022)	5,688	6,833	12,521
Percent of Total ESSUs	45.43%	54.57%	49.84%
New WWTP Agreement	65%	35%	100%
New WWTP Capacity	1,560	840	2,400
New WWTP ESSU’s Used	618	406	1,024
New WWTP ESSU’s Percent Used	39.63%	48.33%	42.68%
New WWTP ESSUs Remaining	942	434	1,376

Source: City/UVSD, 2020b

3.2.5 Facilities and Assets

The District owns approximately 46 miles of sewer lines, including the main trunk line, laterals, and mains within the District boundaries, as well as two pump stations and approximately 942 ESSUs of reserved capacity at the WWTP. Other assets identified in the annual financial audits are intangible assets for purposes of depreciation, and are a calculated depreciation of the District’s share of WWTP capacity (see Section 2.4.1 for more information). The City owns the balance of the collection system, the WWTP and other facilities and equipment needed to maintain the system.

3.2.6 Sewer System Management Plan

The most recent Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) for the combined sewer system was updated and adopted in 2021. The City is responsible for all sewer system management for both agencies and prepares and maintains the plan on behalf of the two agencies. One of the provisions of the SSMP is a requirement that operators of sanitary sewer systems reduce Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) and report all SSO’s to the Regional Water Quality Control Board electronically. Another provision of the permit calls for a five-year audit and the recertification of the document itself. The City of Ukiah staff update the SSMP annually according to the progress being made on various components within the plan. On February 3, 2021, the Ukiah City Council recertified the plan and the District Board followed with its recertification on February 10, 2021.

3.2.7 Operation and Maintenance Program

In accordance with the Participation Agreement, the City provides all operation and maintenance of the sewer collection systems and WWTP for the UVSD, and UVSD shares the costs based on their respective number of ESSUs. Development of the annual Budget Approval Agreement includes the breakdown of

operating costs for personnel and operations for the year and is based on the number of ESSUs utilized by each agency, which are tracked by the City and a District consultant. The FY 2022-23 Budget Approval Agreement, dated July 1, 2022, directs operating costs (personnel and operations) are to be shared 50.09% District and 49.91% percent City (City/UVSD, 2022).

Standard operating procedures (SOP) are memorialized in District policies. Operations SOP consist primarily of easement acceptance and abandonment policies, illness and injury policies and an expense reimbursement policy.

As the agency responsible for maintenance of the joint sewer system, the City notifies the District of any recommended or required maintenance of District-owned assets.

3.3 Determinations

This section presents the required MSR determinations pursuant to California Government Code §56430(a) for the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District.

3.3.1 MSR Review Factors

3.3.1.1 GROWTH

Growth and population projections for the affected area

1. The District boundaries include areas immediately surrounding the City and 1,304 parcels within the City limits (approximately half of the District’s customers). The District boundaries also include three non-contiguous areas, two of which are residential subdivisions, and the third is Mendocino College. The estimated population of the District is approximately 9,400 residents.
2. The UVSD usage is 5,688 ESSUs, of which 64% is residential (3,640 ESSUs) and 36% is commercial (2,048 ESSUs).
3. Population growth is expected to increase at an annual rate of approximately 0.3% for the Ukiah Valley area. Based on the current growth rate, the District could reach full buildout in the next 20 years.
4. Mendocino County has land use authority over privately-owned lands within the District boundary and makes land-use decisions based on the County’s Inland General Plan and Zoning Regulations.
5. The City of Ukiah has land use authority over the “overlap area” within the District boundary and makes land-use decisions based on the City’s General Plan, which is currently being updated.

3.3.1.2 DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

6. Four of the DUCs identified in and surrounding the UVSD qualify as disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUC) with less than 80% of the States Median Household Income (MHI). DUC #2 is classified as a severe disadvantaged community (SDAC) with less than 60% of the State’s MHI. Special consideration will be given to any DUCs affected by future annexation proposals consistent with GC §56375(8)(A) and LAFCo Policy.
 - o DUC #1: Ukiah SXS
 - o DUC #2: Norgard/Airport South
 - o DUC #3: Empire Gardens
 - o DUC #4: The Forks
 - o DUC #5: Talmage

7. Five DUCs have been identified within the UVSD jurisdictional boundaries and immediately adjacent. DUCs 1-4 are located within the District boundaries, and DUC 5 is located east of District boundaries. The District currently serves DUCs 1-3; wastewater deficiencies have been identified within DUCs 4 and 5.

3.3.1.3 CAPACITY OF FACILITIES AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

8. The District provides wastewater services within its boundaries with no distinct service areas.
9. The District provides service to several out-of-agency parcels.
10. The District provides wastewater services totaling 5,668 ESSUs.
11. The District shares wastewater capacity at the City of Ukiah's WWTP and has approximately 942 ESSUs of reserved capacity remaining.
12. The District's wastewater system facilities and infrastructure includes a portion of the reserved capacity at the WWTP as well the trunk line shared between the District and the City, and the lateral lines within the District boundary.
13. The City's WWTP has a current treatment capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD) of dry weather flow and 23.5 MGD of peak wet weather flow.
14. There are currently no wastewater capacity issues or infrastructure needs for the District that need to be addressed within the timeframe of this MSR.
15. The City maintains and implements a SSMP on behalf of both the City and District. The SSMP was last updated in 2021 and was adopted by both agencies (UVSD Resolution No. 2009-04).
16. The District indicates it has Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping of the District. GIS maps are a useful tool for management of the wastewater system and may include manhole, sewer line, and lift station layers, as well as an attribute table with manhole and sewer line information georeferenced to each manhole and sewer line, which lists the line type, line material and the pipe diameter. Accurate and comprehensive mapping of the District's facilities provides many benefits for managing, planning and transparency.

3.3.1.4 FINANCIAL ABILITY OF AGENCY

Financial ability of agencies to provide services

17. The District prepares an annual budget agreement with the City of Ukiah, an annual budget for the District, and has annual independent financial audits prepared by qualified Certified Public Accountants. Financial documents are posted on their website.
18. According to the audited financial information from Fiscal Years 2016-17 through 2020-21, the District operated at a net loss, or revenue shortfall, in FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18 due to legal expenses associated with a lawsuit with the City of Ukiah, and operated at a net income, or revenue gain, in FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, and FY 2020-21. Over the five fiscal years studied, the District has experienced an overall increase in net position, which signals a strengthening in financial position. The District has transitioned from a deficit to a surplus budget model in this time period. The District has adequate finances to meet current and future demands for public services within the next five years.

19. A Capital Improvement Plan is considered annually in the Budget Agreement process with the City of Ukiah for purposes of shared funding. The City performs the maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrades of both City and District systems. Additionally, the District may have District-only capital projects and can choose to ask the City to bid them out on its behalf.

3.3.1.5 SHARED SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities

20. The District provides wastewater services through an interconnected system of collection and shared WWTP capacity that is operated and maintained under agreements with the City of Ukiah.
21. There is a common area between the City of Ukiah’s service area and the District’s service area, known as the “overlap” area, which was created over the years when the City incorporated areas without concurrent detachment from the District. The City has applied to LAFCo for detachment of the overlap area from the District’s service boundaries, which is on hold in accordance to the Interim Services Agreement between the City and the District.
22. The District is a part of the Upper Russian River Water Agency Joint Powers Agreement, which was amended on October 15, 2020 to include the UVSD. The purpose of the JPA is to provide economies of scale, provide a method of jointly addressing sewer and water issues, and fostering coordination on these issues.
23. The District contracts for billing, collections, and other administrative functions with the Willow County Water District, with which the District has a Master Services Agreement.

3.3.1.6 ACCOUNTABILITY, STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

24. The District is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of five seats and elected to serve staggered 4-year terms. Three of the five Director terms expire in 2022; two seated Directors ran unopposed and have been reappointed in advance of the election, and one Director did not run and no other candidates filed for this election, so this seat remains vacant.
25. Regularly scheduled meetings for the District Board of Directors are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the District’s Board Room located at 151 Laws Avenue in Ukiah. All meetings are open to the public and are publicly posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act. Meetings are currently being held via a hybrid model with the Board attending in-person and virtual option for public participation.
26. The District Board of Directors conducts business and takes action by approving motions and adopting resolutions and ordinances by a majority vote of a sufficient quorum. The District Board of Directors has adopted policies and procedures related to elected officials including conflict of interest and reimbursement, finances, and personnel. The District Board members file a Statement of Economic Interests (Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700) each year pursuant to Government Code §87203 of the Political Reform Act and receive two hours of training on public service ethics laws and principles at least once every two years pursuant to AB 1234. The District Board of Directors considers proposed increases to rates and fees at a properly noticed public hearing and subject to mailing a notice of hearing for protests to all property owners pursuant to Proposition 218. The District complies with local government ethics laws and regulations and operates with accountability and transparency.

27. With the passage of Senate Bill 929 in 2018, all special districts are required to maintain a website that includes contact information and all other requirements by January 2020. The District has a website at <https://www.uvzd.org>, which contains the District’s contact information and agendas and minutes from District Board meetings from 2017 to the present. The website is well organized and presented and contains agreements, older Board meeting recordings (current meetings are not posted online), bond refinance information, annual budgets from 2010 to the present, audited financial statements from 2014 to the present, system maps, ordinances, notices, and resolutions.
28. The District’s website would be enhanced by posting the current Board members and their contact information.
29. The District has no employees but contracts for administrative functions such as collections and billing with the Willow County Water District, and financial consulting services and district management with UFI. In addition, the District contracts with a Certified Public Accountant and legal counsel on an annual basis.
30. The public can submit written or provide verbal comments or complaints in person or by phone at the District office during business hours, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or at the District Board of Directors meetings during the general public comment period. Additionally, they may be emailed via the contact page at the UVSD website.
31. The interconnected sewer collection systems and shared WWTP capacity, and contracts with other agencies for management, staffing and maintenance, suggest efficiencies could be gained by either merger or reorganization with the City of Ukiah.

3.3.1.7 OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY MATTERS

Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy

32. There are no other matters related to service delivery required by Mendocino LAFCo Policy.

4 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

LAFCo prepares a Municipal Service Review (MSR) prior to or in conjunction with the Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update process. An SOI Update considers whether a change to the SOI, or probable future boundary, of a local government agency is warranted to plan the logical and orderly development of that agency in a manner that supports CKH Law and the Policies of the Commission. The MSR and required determinations are presented in Chapters 2 and 3 of this document and form the basis of information and analysis for this SOI Update. This chapter presents the SOI Update and required determinations pursuant to California Government Code §5642(e).

4.1 SOI Update

4.1.1 Existing Sphere of Influence

This is the first SOI Update for the UVSD. In 1984, based on recommendations contained in a report known as the Zion Study, SOIs were adopted for nearly all of the special districts and cities in Mendocino County, including the District. However, historical records are incomplete and the 1984 SOI boundary for the District is unclear. This SOI Update will determine the official SOI boundary for the District in moving forward.

4.1.2 Study Areas

Study areas are unique to a specific agency and are used to define the extent of one or more locations for SOI analysis purposes. Study areas may be created at different levels of scope and/or specificity based on the circumstances involved. The following descriptions demonstrate the array of scenarios that may be captured by a SOI study area.

- An area with clear geographic boundaries and scope of service needs based on years of interagency collaboration or public engagement and a project ready for grant funding or implementation.
- An area involving broader community regions or existing residential subdivisions with a large or long-term vision in need of fostering and/or establishing interagency partnerships.
- An area in early stages of conception that is not currently geographically well-defined and generally involves one or more ideas identified by agency or community leaders needing further definition.
- An area geographically defined by a gap between the boundaries of existing public service providers.
- An area adjacent to an existing agency's boundary slated for development needing urban services.

Study areas can result in a proposed SOI or sphere expansion area or the designation of an Area of Interest to earmark areas for enhanced interagency coordination or for future SOI consideration.

4.1.2.1 OVERLAP AREA WITH CITY OF UKIAH

The City of Ukiah has proposed (LAFCo Application No. D-2021-02) to detach an overlap area that lies within both the City and the UVSD boundaries and consists of approximately 1,304 parcels. The detachment area represents approximately half of the District's customers.

The overlap area was created over the years as parcels were annexed into the City without concurrent detachment from the UVSD. If the area is detached, wastewater service for the parcels would be transferred to the City, in addition to transfer of ownership, operation, maintenance and repair of the District's collection system related to those parcels.

The District has a number of concerns with the detachment. Of greatest concern is the District's financial viability should the overlap areas be detached from the District, since the loss of revenue in the affected area could negatively impact the District's ability to serve their remaining customers outside the City limits and pay for debt service

The original 2014 and proposed 2020 reactivation of the City's detachment application remains on hold. The two agencies have developed a strategy and agreement for the interim provision of wastewater services to areas around the City seeking to develop and ultimately the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region (Interim Service Agreement). The Interim Service Agreement also conditions a delay in detaching overlap areas until minimum thresholds are met, after which the District would cease to be independent and separate from the City, through a LAFCo application process. The thresholds identified in the Interim Service Agreement are summarized as follows:

- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.

4.1.2.2 BRUSH STREET/FORD ROAD/MASONITE AREA

The UVSD serves a portion of the Brush Street Triangle and Masonite area and has received will-serve requests from landowners in the area to extend service into the adjacent unserved portions of these areas for development.

Additionally, the City has filed a Pre-Application Review request with LAFCo indicating their intent to annex these areas. Consistent with the annexation plan being developed for the 2040 City General Plan Update, the City proposes to annex 63 properties totaling approximately 473 acres north of the City limits, within areas locally known as the "Masonite" and "Brush Street Triangle" along Kunzler Ranch Road, Ford Road, Masonite Road, Brush Street, Brunner Street, and Orchard Avenue. Development in this area includes some commercial, industrial and manufacturing uses (both existing and decommissioned), as well as areas containing vacant and agricultural land. For the Brush Street Triangle, development assumptions were analyzed by using the current Ukiah Valley Area Plan Mixed-Use: Brush Street Triangle designation. For the Masonite area, the existing Industrial designation was used. For the remaining area south of the Masonite site and north of Ford Road that is currently vacant and/or developed with agriculture uses, the Agriculture designation is proposed to remain. (Ukiah, 2020)

The Interim Service Agreement describes the intended coordinated provision of services in the areas adjacent to the City, and ultimately, the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region. The Interim Service Agreement identifies the applicant and potential future annexation thresholds for reorganization of the UVSD into either a subsidiary district or merger with the City, among other things.

The mutually developed points of the Interim Service Agreement are roughly as follows (paraphrased):

- The City will be the applicant for any Out of Area Service Agreement; and for properties that would connect to District lines, the City would subcontract with the District to provide the interim sewer services. Additionally, the District will bear the costs for the application process to LAFCo.
- The City will not pursue detachment of District territory from the City now or in the future.

- The District will support City annexations and will work cooperatively with the City on General Plan and SOI Updates.
- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City’s pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.
(City/UVSD, 2022)

4.1.2.3 WESTERN HILLS CITY ANNEXATION AREA

The City’s proposed annexation efforts include annexation of the “Western Hills Area” associated with the Ukiah Western Hills Open Land Acquisition and Limited Development Agreement Project, approved by City Council on September 15, 2021. The project includes acquisition and annexation of approximately 707 acres total within the Ukiah Western Hills; all of the land is currently located within the City’s adopted Sphere of Influence (SOI), with the exception of approximately 296 acres. 640 acres of land is preserved as open space conservation; this land is rezoned as Public Facilities and would not be developed with commercial or residential development. In addition, the project includes a Development Agreement with the current property owner to restrict residential development on the 54 easternmost acres (beginning at the terminus of Redwood Avenue). Although these parcels are rezoned Single-Family Residential-Hillside Overlay (with a Rural Residential designation), which may allow more units, development is restricted to a maximum number of 14 units total (seven-single family homes and seven accessory dwelling units).

In the absence of an agreement as discussed in the previous section, annexation of these parcels into the City would normally require the concurrent detachment of several parcels from the UVSD.

4.1.3 Area of Interest Designation

LAFCo’s Area of Interest Policy, per Section 10.1.12, provides for the designation or identification of unincorporated areas located near to, but outside the jurisdictional boundary and established SOI of a city or district, in which land use decisions or other governmental actions of another local agency directly or indirectly impact the subject local agency.

An Area of Interest (AOI) designation serves as a compromise approach that recognizes situations involving challenging boundary or municipal service delivery considerations, or for which urbanization may be anticipated in the intermediate or long-range planning horizons. It is a tool intended to enhance communication and coordination between local agencies.

An AOI designation is most helpful when the county and city or district can reach agreement that development plans related to LAFCo designated AOI will be treated the same as if these areas were within the city or district SOI boundary, particularly regarding notification to and consideration of input from the city or district.

The three SOI Study Areas described above have been designated as an AOI (refer to Figure 4-2) to further emphasize and support the continued coordination and long-term service strategies that have been collaboratively developed by the District and City.

4.1.4 Proposed SOI Changes

As the City of Ukiah expands in accordance with the annexation plan developed for and in conjunction with its 2040 General Plan Update, areas served by the District will be incorporated. As previously noted, both agencies have signed an Interim Service Agreement that describes the intended coordinated provision of services in the areas adjacent to the City, and ultimately, the long-term plan for the provision of wastewater services in the region. The interrelated nature of the sewer collection, treatment and disposal systems support the ultimate merging of the two agencies. The Interim Service Agreement also identifies the applicant and potential future annexation thresholds for reorganization of the UVSD into either a subsidiary district or merger with the City, among other things (see Section 4.1.2.2 for more detail). In recognition and support of those efforts and results, Figure 4-1 identifies a coterminous sphere recommended for the District.

Figure 4-1 UVSD Sphere of Influence Map

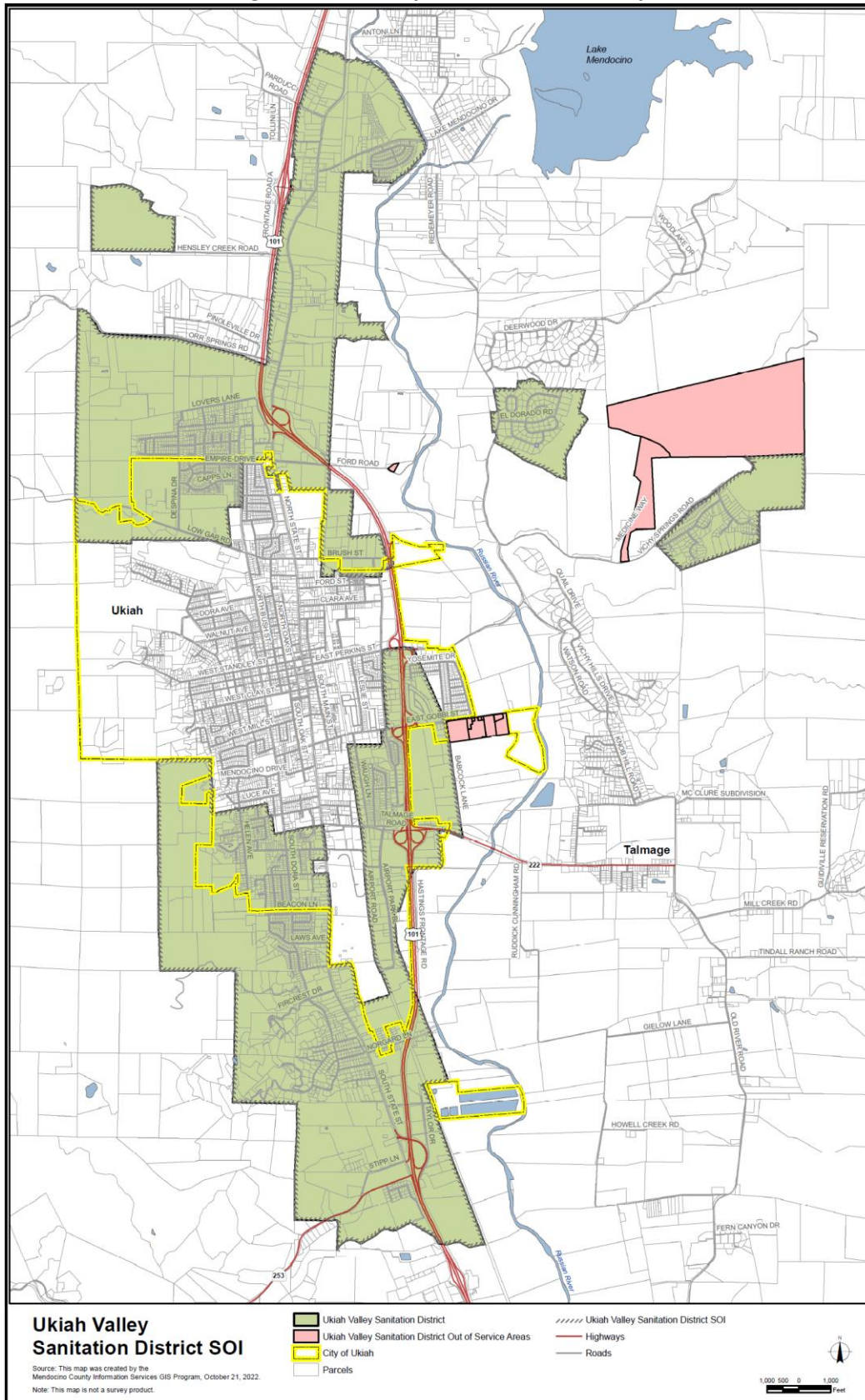
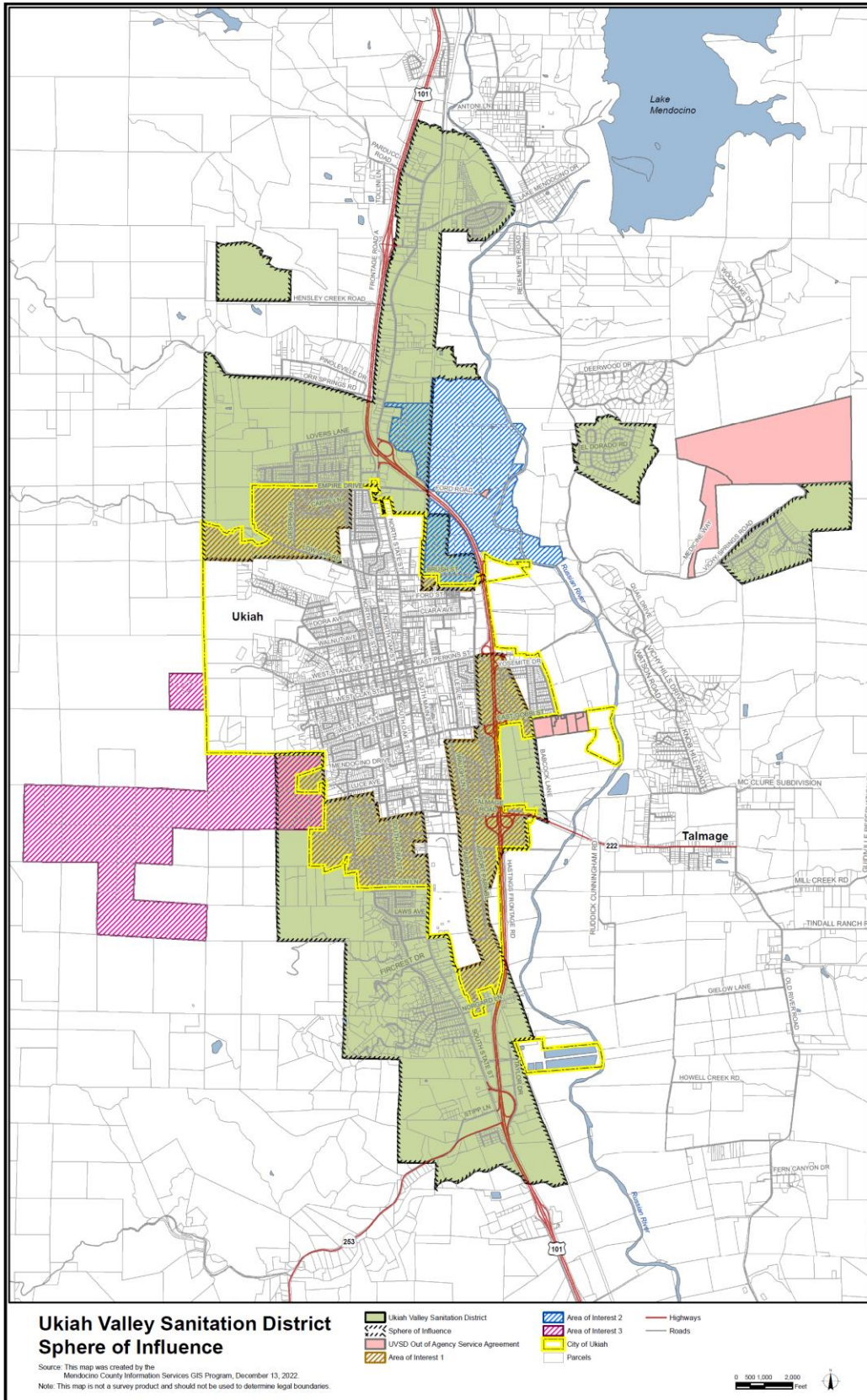


Figure 4-2 UVSD Area of Interest Map



4.1.5 Consistency with LAFCo Policies

Mendocino LAFCo has established policies to help meet its Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act mandates. This section identifies potential inconsistencies between the proposed SOI and local LAFCo policies.

Exhibit 4-1 shows two areas labeled as out-of-agency services. One area corresponds to the closed City of Ukiah landfill near Vichy Springs; District services to the area consist of leachate disposal. The second area receiving District services is along East Gobbi Street; however, the services were provided prior to 2001 and are exempt from LAFCo approval per GC 56133(e)(4).

The District is comprised primarily of unincorporated areas surrounding the City of Ukiah and consists of residential, commercial, and public facility (school) uses. The District does include some areas of overlap that are a result of the City annexing areas in the past without concurrent detachment from the District. The overlap areas represent approximately one-third of the District's geographic area and one-half of its customers.

Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.10 specifies that agencies providing the same type of service should not have overlapping spheres in order to avoid unnecessary and inefficient duplication of services or facilities. Recognizing that there are existing areas of overlap within the City of Ukiah, the Interim Service Agreement established between the City and District represents a significant evolution in the relationship between the agencies and sets forth the general framework for the collaborative provision of sewer services to the areas surrounding the City. The Interim Service Agreement also sets forth the eventual intent to combine services upon specific thresholds and that would result in consolidation or merger of the agencies. The thresholds identified in the Interim Service Agreement are summarized as follows:

- Consistent with statutes, the District will support merger or reorganizing as a subsidiary district of the City upon reaching the threshold of 70% or more of District registered voters and 70% of District area is annexed into the City.
- The District will support the City's pursuit of legislation to eliminate the statutory threshold for 70% of area of land.

Excluding the overlap area from the District SOI would clearly state the Commission's intent to reduce overlapping services areas through detachment from the District, consistent with Policy 10.1.10. However, Mendocino LAFCo Policy 9.8 requires the Commission to consider whether a proposal will have significant potential to diminish the level of service in an agency's jurisdiction. Given that the overlap area represents approximately half of the District's customers, detachment of this area from the District would likely conflict with Policy 9.8, and the agencies have established the Interim Service Agreement that states their intent to combine agencies once certain thresholds are met, staff supports a SOI that is coterminous with the District boundaries. It should be noted, however, that in the absence of the Interim Service Agreement, or another effectively similar arrangement, the District's SOI should be reviewed again for appropriateness and policy consistency.

4.1.6 Determinations

It is recommended that the Commission adopt a SOI for the UVSD that is coterminous with the District boundary (Figure 4-1). Should the stipulations under "Mutual Cooperation" in the Interim Service Agreement, as it relates to detachments, annexations and consolidation of the agencies, not come to fruition, the Commission will re-evaluate the District's coterminous SOI related to overlapping spheres

per Mendocino LAFCo Policy 10.1.10. The following statements have been prepared in support of this recommendation.

4.1.6.1 LAND USES

The District covers areas both within and outside the City of Ukiah. Land uses within the City of Ukiah are governed by the City of Ukiah General Plan, which is currently undergoing a comprehensive update. District areas within the unincorporated areas surrounding the City fall under the County's land use authority and are governed by the County of Mendocino General Plan and the guiding principles within the Ukiah Valley Area Plan.

The Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) was adopted in August of 2011 providing a comprehensive land use plan for the area from just south of Ukiah and north to Calpella (Figure 2-4). Development of the UVAP included substantial community input and describes the vision for development in the valley.

UVAP identifies much of the area within the UVSD as rural residential or suburban residential, areas which are likely to require sewer service to reach maximum development potential. There are also some industrial areas on the north side of Orr Springs Road.

Although substantial development is likely to occur within the District boundaries, the annexation plan for the City of Ukiah will result in competing interests for sewer services in the same areas. The Interim Service Agreement between the UVSD and City of Ukiah supports the eventual merger or reorganization of the District based on thresholds and milestones.

4.1.6.2 NEED FOR FACILITIES AND SERVICES

The District provides wastewater collection and shares expenses with the City of Ukiah to operate and maintain the City's WWTP. The District is estimated to serve a population of approximately 9,400. Population growth is expected to increase at an annual rate of 0.5 percent for Mendocino County. Based on the growth rate, the District can expect a small population increase of approximately 150 by 2030. It is anticipated that growth will continue to be approximately 0.5 percent for the planning period of this document.

As discussed in the MSR, the District collection system and combined City/District wastewater collection/treatment system are functionally interconnected and, in some areas, overlapping. The District is dependent on the City's WWTP and disposal services as it has no treatment facilities of its own.

Wastewater services are critical for public health and safety in the District's service area. The residents and visitors currently receiving wastewater services from the District will continue to need this public service. The District has adequate finances to meet current and future demands for public services within the next five to ten years.

The nearest other sewer service providers are the Calpella County Water District to the north and Hopland Public Utilities District to the south of the District. Both agencies have small, independent wastewater systems that serve approximately 100 customers each.

Except as noted above, sewer services in the area surrounding the District are not presently available. The areas are primarily rural residential with a large amount of existing development as well as agricultural lands under production. All adjacent development has occurred utilizing on-site septic systems.

As noted in the previous sections, low-lying areas between the District boundaries and the Russian River are known to be unsuitable to all but highly engineered septic systems, and septic systems are not ideal in floodplain areas. These areas, including the Masonite properties and Ford Road area, are some of the only industrially zoned lands in the Ukiah Valley and will require sewer connection for full buildout potential. These areas have been identified by the City of Ukiah for annexation in their 2040 General Plan Update and a pre-application annexation review request has been filed with LAFCo.

The two agencies have developed an interim agreement for service provision in the areas adjacent to the City, and ultimately, the long-term provision of wastewater services in the region. The mutual agreement identifies the applicant and future annexation thresholds for reorganization of the UVSD into either a subsidiary district or merger with the City. Fully integrating the systems, governance, and rates will create efficiencies of services and costs.

4.1.6.3 CAPACITY OF FACILITIES AND ADEQUACY OF SERVICES

Expansion of the wastewater system is limited by the capacity of the WWTP. Upgrades to the WWTP were completed in 2010. The upgrades added 2,400 ESSUs, of which 65 percent are allocated to the UVSD. As of May 2022, the UVSD has 942 ESSUs remaining of its 1,560 ESSU share.

4.1.6.4 COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Generally speaking, communities of interest are typically located adjacent to an agency's boundary or a proposed sphere. Except for the area to the west centered around Gibson Creek, the UVSD's present boundaries surround the City of Ukiah.

Unincorporated communities in the region include The Forks and Calpella to the north and Talmage to the east. Calpella is served by the Calpella County Water District that provides both water and sewer services; Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire Protection District provides fire suppression services to the northern end of the Ukiah Valley. Talmage is designated a rural community in the Ukiah Valley Area Plan and has been identified by the County as a DUC per SB 244.

No social or economic communities of interest have been identified that should be included in the District boundary or SOI. There are three SOI Study Areas identified as an Area of Interest (AOI), including the City overlap area, the Brush Street Triangle/Masonite/Ford Road Area, and the Western Hills Properties. These areas have been identified to recognize the intended coordinated interim provision of wastewater services until such time as the District and City consolidate.

4.1.6.5 DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

Several communities within the UVSD have been identified as DUCs (see Section 2.6). Of the DUCs identified within the District boundaries, only The Forks remains underserved by the District. The unincorporated community of Talmage is located east of the District boundaries and has been identified as a DUC and underserved with sewer services.

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6 ACRONYMS

AF	Acre-feet
CDP	Census Designated Place
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
CIR	Capital Indirect Rate
CKH	Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000
CPA	Certified Public Accountant
CSD	Community Services District
CWD	County Water District
DUC	Disadvantaged Community
ESSU	Equivalent Sewer Service Units
ESSSU	Equivalent Sewer Service Strength Units
FY	Fiscal Year
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GPM	gallons per minute
I&I	Infiltration and inflow
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
LAFCo	Local Agency Formation Commission
MG	Million gallons
MGD	Million gallons per day
MHI	Median Household Income
MSR	Municipal Service Review
OIR	Operating Indirect Rate
RRFC	Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Watershed Improvement District
SB	Senate Bill
SDAC	Severely Disadvantaged Community
SDRMA	Special District Risk Management Association
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SSMP	Sewer System Management Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SSMP	Sewer System Management Plan
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflows
URRWA	Upper Russian River Water Agency
UVFA	Ukiah Valley Fire Authority
UVFD	Ukiah Valley Fire District
UVSD	Ukiah Valley Sanitation District
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 Report Preparation

This Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update was prepared by Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc., contracted staff for Mendocino LAFCo.

Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
Larkyn Feiler, Analyst
Kristen Meadows, Commission Clerk

Additionally, technical writing support was provided by Jessica Hankins, an independent contractor to Hinman & Associates Consulting, Inc.

7.2 Assistance and Support

This Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update could not have been completed without the assistance and support from the following organizations and individuals.

Ukiah Valley Sanitation District	Wing-See Fox, Interim District Manager (Urban Futures, Inc.) Ernie Wipf, Board Chair Mark DeMeulenaere, Contractor
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8 APPENDICES

8.1 Appendix A – Open Government Resources

The purpose of this appendix is to provide a brief list of some educational resources for local agencies interested in learning more about the broad scope of public interest laws geared towards government transparency and accountability. This appendix is not intended to be a comprehensive reference list or to substitute legal advice from a qualified attorney. Feel free to contact the Mendocino LAFCo office at (707) 463-4470 to make suggestions of additional resources that could be added to this appendix.

The websites listed below provide information regarding the following open government laws: (1) **Public Records Act** (Government Code §6250 et seq.), (2) **Political Reform Act** – Conflict-of-Interest regulations (Government Code §81000 et seq.), (3) **Ethics Principles and Training** (AB 1234 and Government Code §53235), (4) **Brown Act** – Open Meeting regulations (Government Code §54950 et seq.), and (5) **Online Compliance** regulations (Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act and Government Code §11135).

- Refer to the State of California Attorney General website for information regarding public access to governmental information and processes at the following link: <https://oag.ca.gov/government>.
- Refer to the State of California Attorney General website for information regarding Ethics Training Courses required pursuant to AB 1234 at the following link: <https://oag.ca.gov/ethics>.
- The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing the Political Reform Act. The website for the Fair Political Practices Commission is available at the following link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/>.
- Refer to the California Department of Rehabilitation website for information regarding Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act and other laws that address digital accessibility at the following link: <http://www.dor.ca.gov/DisabilityAccessInfo/What-are-the-Laws-that-Cover-Digital-Accessibility.html>.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website to download the Good Governance Checklist form at the following link: www.ca-ilg.org/post/good-governance-checklist-good-and-better-practices.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website to download the Ethics Law Principles for Public Servants pamphlet at the following link: www.ca-ilg.org/node/3369.
- Refer to the Institute for Local Government (ILG) website for information regarding Ethics Training Courses required pursuant to AB 1234 at the following link: <http://www.ca-ilg.org/ethics-education-ab-1234-training>.
- Refer to the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) website for information regarding online and website compliance webinars at the following link: <http://www.csda.net/tag/webinars/>.

8.2 Appendix B – Website Compliance Handout

8.3 Appendix C – Applicable Policies

County of Mendocino 2009 General Plan

Chapter 6: Community – Specific Policies: Ukiah Valley Goals and Policies

The following goals, policies, and actions are specific to the Ukiah Valley, and supplement the countywide goals and policies elsewhere in this General Plan.

Ukiah Valley Goals

Ukiah Valley Area Policies

The following goals, policies, and action items from the Mendocino General Plan Development Element could apply to public services and wastewater in particular in the Ukiah Valley. (Mendocino County, 2021)

Ukiah Valley Area Plan

The following Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) policies are applicable to sewer service provision in the Ukiah Valley (Mendocino County, 2011):

WM4.2a

Limited Sewer Extensions

Confine new sewers and sewer extensions to urban and suburban areas. Alternate sewage treatment systems, rather than sewers, should be used to solve existing water quality problems outside the urban and suburban areas.

WM4.2b

Water Quality

Reduce impacts to water quality from community sewage systems and on-site septic systems.

WM4.2c

Sewer Treatment Facilities

Support increased sewage treatment facility capacity to serve the future needs of the Ukiah Valley

WM4.2d

Cost of New Development

Ensure that the cost of providing sewer and water service to new development proposed outside existing service areas should be borne solely by those proposing the development, thus eliminating any financial burden to existing customers for any required expansion of the sewer and water system network to serve such development.

Additional UVAP Guidelines for the Brush Street Triangle and North State Street areas include connection to public water supply and sewers, when available, is required for new development (Mendocino County, 2011).

Goal DE-7 (Infrastructure)

Basic infrastructure – roadways, water and sewer services, schools, libraries, internet access, etc. – sufficient to support existing and future development, in place when needed, and fully funded both initially and on an ongoing basis.

Goal DE-16 (Water/Sewer)

Efficient and adequate public water and sewer services.

Chapter 3 Development Element: Water Supply and Sewer (Wastewater Treatment) Services Policies

Policy DE-192 Coordinate community water and sewer services with General Plan land use densities and intensities.

Policy DE-193 The County supports efficient and adequate public water and sewer services through combined service agencies, shared facilities, or other inter-agency agreements.

Action Item DE-193.1 Work aggressively with water and sewer service providers to overcome the current and projected system and supply deficiencies necessary to serve planned community growth and emergency response needs.

Action Item DE-193.2 Support funding applications to improve and expand water and sewer service capabilities in areas planned for future growth or resolve existing deficiencies.

Action Item DE-193.3 Work with communities and public water and sewer service entities to monitor, manage and/or maintain community-wide or decentralized water or sewer systems.

Policy DE-194 Encourage water and sewer service providers to incorporate water conservation, reclamation, and reuse.

- Encourage the development and use of innovative systems and technologies that promote water conservation, reclamation, and reuse.
- Encourage the development of systems that capture and use methane emissions from their operation.
- Encourage the development and use of innovative systems and technologies for the treatment of wastewater.

Policy DE-195 Oppose extension of water or sewer services to rural non-community areas when such extensions are inconsistent with the General Plan's land use and resource objectives, except where the extension is needed to address a clear public health hazard.

Policy DE-196 Development of residential, commercial, or industrial uses shall be supported by water supply and wastewater treatment systems adequate to serve the long-term needs of the intended density, intensity, and use.

Policy DE-197 Land use plans and development shall minimize impacts to the quality or quantity of drinking water supplies.

Policy DE-198 The County shall coordinate with water and sewer system providers to ensure that water and wastewater treatment facilities are protected from flooding and erosion hazards.

Chapter 3 Development Element: Infrastructure (Facilities and Services) Policies

Policy DE-117: Deliver programs and services to communities in an integrated, coordinated and equitable manner, reflective of local conditions.

Policy DE-118: The County shall discourage the extension of sewer and water service outside of areas designated by this General Plan or any city's General Plan for urban uses.

Action Item DE-118.1: Work with the Local Agency Formation Commission and service providers to coordinate service capabilities with this General Plan's land use designations.

Policy DE-119: Consider infrastructure capabilities, spheres of influence and master service elements adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission, and city rezoning when adopting or revising General Plan elements.

Policy DE-120: General Plan changes to increase density or intensity should not be granted when basic infrastructure deficiencies are identified unless there is a program in place for timely resolution of the problem.

Policy DE-121: New discretionary development will be required to demonstrate that basic infrastructure is available and has adequate capacity to serve the project without degrading existing level of service standards.

Policy DE-122: When committing to serve new development, the County will encourage service providers to grant priority to allocation of available and future water resources to lower income housing developments that help meet the regional housing need.

Policy DE-123: Plans for completion of basic infrastructure should be made concurrent with discretionary development entitlement actions.

Policy DE-124: Plan for the expansion of commercial and industrial uses and sites for affordable housing when planning and designing community spaces and infrastructure.

Policy DE-125: The County supports the extension of affordable broadband internet access to all areas of the county, particularly rural areas which currently (2009) do not have broadband access.

Section 3: Development Element Land Use and Community Policies

GOAL LU1 Create compact, mixed-use, and well-balanced communities that can achieve this plan's principles of sustainability.

Policy LU 1.1: Promote development and building practices that support healthy communities.

Policy LU 1.2: Utilize planning tools and incentives to guide the development process towards creating a compact, mixed use community achieving a balance among social, economic, and environmental systems.

Policy LU1.3: Promote suitably located housing and services for a range of ages and incomes within the Ukiah Valley

Policy LU 1.4: Continue to allow growth in High Intensity Development Corridors.

GOAL LU2 Promote compatible land uses adjacent to important transportation facilities and protect against incompatible ones.

GOAL LU4 Manage future growth to ensure that essential support infrastructure is in place prior to development.

Policy LU 4.1: Apply growth management strategies when reviewing discretionary projects.

Policy LU 4.2: Promote balanced development to improve the community's ability to support and fund facilities and services.

Goal LU 7 Recognize that the Ukiah Valley is one community, and foster collaborative decision-making between County and City Agencies.

Policy LU 7.1: Collaborate with the City of Ukiah to fund programs and evaluate planning issues in the Valley.

LU 7.1a: Tax-Sharing Agreements: Continue to collaborate with the City of Ukiah to create and implement a tax-sharing agreement that will help fund services in both the County and the City.

LU7.1b: Sphere of Influence: Work with the City of Ukiah to revise the City’s Sphere of Influence (SOI), and continue to collaborate on planning decisions that regulate land in the SOI.

Chapter 3 Development Element: LAFCo Policies

Policy DE-37: Work with LAFCO and other agencies to reduce suburban sprawl, promote efficient service delivery, and protect agricultural, timber and open space areas from unintended conversion to urban uses.

Policy DE-118: The County shall discourage the extension of sewer and water service outside of areas designated by this General Plan or any city’s General Plan for urban uses.

Action Item DE-118.1: Work with the Local Agency Formation Commission and service providers to coordinate service capabilities with this General Plan’s land use designations.

Policy DE-119: Consider infrastructure capabilities, spheres of influence and master service elements adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission, and city rezoning when adopting or revising General Plan elements.

Section 8: Health and Safety

GOAL HS1 Consider natural and human-made hazards when planning development and minimize potential conflicts.

Policy HS1.2: Minimize impacts from flooding through flood mitigation components and ongoing flood management practices including implementation of the “No Adverse Impacts” (NAI), as recommended by the Association of Flood Plain Managers.

Policy HS1.2.c: Russian River floodway development standards and restrictions Prohibit development within the floodway except as permitted by Federal Emergency Management Agency regulations. Maintain site development standards to ensure that new development within the floodway is kept to the absolute minimum.

Ukiah Daily Journal

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2117504

MENDOCINO COUNTY LAFCO
200 SOUTH SCHOOL ST
UKIAH, CA 95482

PROOF OF PUBLICATION (2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Ukiah Daily Journal, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published daily in the City of Ukiah, County of Mendocino and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Mendocino, State of California, under the date of September 22, 1952, Case Number 9267; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than non-pareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

11/26/2022

I certify (or declare) under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Ukiah, California,
November 29th, 2022



Molly E. Lane, LEGAL CLERK

Legal No. **0006715310**

6676-22

11-26/22

Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 9:00 AM (or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard) in a hybrid meeting format with in-person participation in the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California, and remote participation pursuant to State Executive Order N-29-20 and AB 361 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic via video or telephone as described in the Instructions for Remote Participation Option in the agenda to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, and livestreamed at www.youtube.com/MendocinoCountyVideo, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) will hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the following: City of Ukiah (City) and Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update Studies. The MSR Studies for the City and UVSD are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 CCR §15306. The City, as Lead Agency, prepared an Environmental Impact Report for the City of Ukiah 2040 General Plan Update (<https://ukiah2040.com/>), which includes analysis for the City SOI Update. The UVSD SOI Update is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Title 14 CCR §15061(b)(3). Copies of all related documents may be reviewed once available at the LAFCo website (www.mendolafco.org) or at the LAFCo office. If you cannot attend the Public Hearing described in this notice, you may submit written comments prior to the hearing. Please direct comments, questions, and requests to review documents to LAFCo, 200 South School Street, Ukiah, CA 95482; e-mail: eo@mendolafco.org; phone: (707) 463-4470. All interested persons are invited to attend, be heard, and participate in the hearings. BY ORDER OF THE MENDOCINO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION. UMA HINMAN, Executive Officer.

Notice of Exemption*(Exempt from fees per GOV Section 27383)***Appendix E**

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk

County of: Mendocino

From: (Public Agency): Mendocino LAFCo

200 South School Street

Ukiah, California 95482

(Address)

Project Title: UVSD MSR/SOI Update 2022

Project Applicant: N/A

Project Location - Specific:

A portion of the City of Ukiah incorporated area and adjacent unincorporated areas of the Ukiah Valley.

Project Location - City: City of Ukiah & environs Project Location - County: Mendocino

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This is a LAFCo initiated Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update for the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) prepared in accordance with California Government Code §56430 and §56425.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission

Exempt Status: **(check one):**

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: §15306 (Class 6 Exemption)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

§15306 (Information Collection): the MSR is a data collection and service evaluation study, does not make land use changes, and any future actions will be subject to additional environmental review. §15061(b)(3) (General Rule): the SOI Update does not grant new municipal service powers or areas and no physical changes to the environment are anticipated, planned, or reasonably foreseeable as a result of the SOI Update.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Uma Hinman, Executive Officer Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (707) 463-4470

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: _____ Date: 12/19/2022 Title: Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

**Resolution No. 2022-23-07
of the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission**

**Approving Adoption of the
Ukiah Valley Sanitation District
Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update**

WHEREAS, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, is authorized to conduct municipal service reviews and establish, amend, and update spheres of influence for local governmental agencies whose jurisdictions are within Mendocino County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a municipal service review to evaluate the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District, hereinafter referred to as the “UVSD or District”, pursuant to California Government Code Section 56430; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a sphere of influence update for the District pursuant to California Government Code Section 56425; and

WHEREAS, the Commission held two public workshops on September 12, 2022 and November 7, 2022 to hear public and agency comments and provide direction on revisions to the District’s draft MSR/SOI update study; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer gave sufficient notice of a public hearing to be conducted by the Commission in the form and manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer’s report and recommendations on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update were presented to the Commission in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the testimony and evidence presented at a public hearing held on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update on December 19, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered all the factors required under California Government Code Sections 56430 and 56425.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission does hereby RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER as follows:

1. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the municipal service review is categorically exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations §15306 (Class 6 Exemption). This finding is based on the use of the municipal service review as a data collection and service evaluation study. There are no land use changes or environmental impacts created or recommended by the MSR. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.
2. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the sphere of influence update is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations §15061(b)(3) (General Rule). This finding is based on the Commission determining with certainty that the sphere of influence update will have no possibility of

significantly effecting the environment given that this update does not grant new municipal service powers or areas and no physical changes to the environment are anticipated, planned, or reasonably foreseeable as a result of the SOI Update.

3. This municipal service review and sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short-term designation: “UVSD MSR/SOI Update 2022”.
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56430(a), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the municipal service review, hereby incorporated by reference.
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(e), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the sphere of influence update, hereby incorporated by reference.
6. The Executive Officer shall update the official records of the Commission to reflect this sphere of influence update for the UVSD, which supersedes all previous records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UVSD MSR/SOI Update 2022 is hereby approved and incorporated herein by reference and a coterminous sphere is adopted for the District and three Areas of Interest are designated for the Overlap Area with City of Ukiah, the Brush Street/Ford Road/Masonite Area, and the Western Hills City Annexation Area as depicted in Exhibit “A”, attached hereto.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Local Agency Formation Commission of Mendocino County this 19th day of December 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

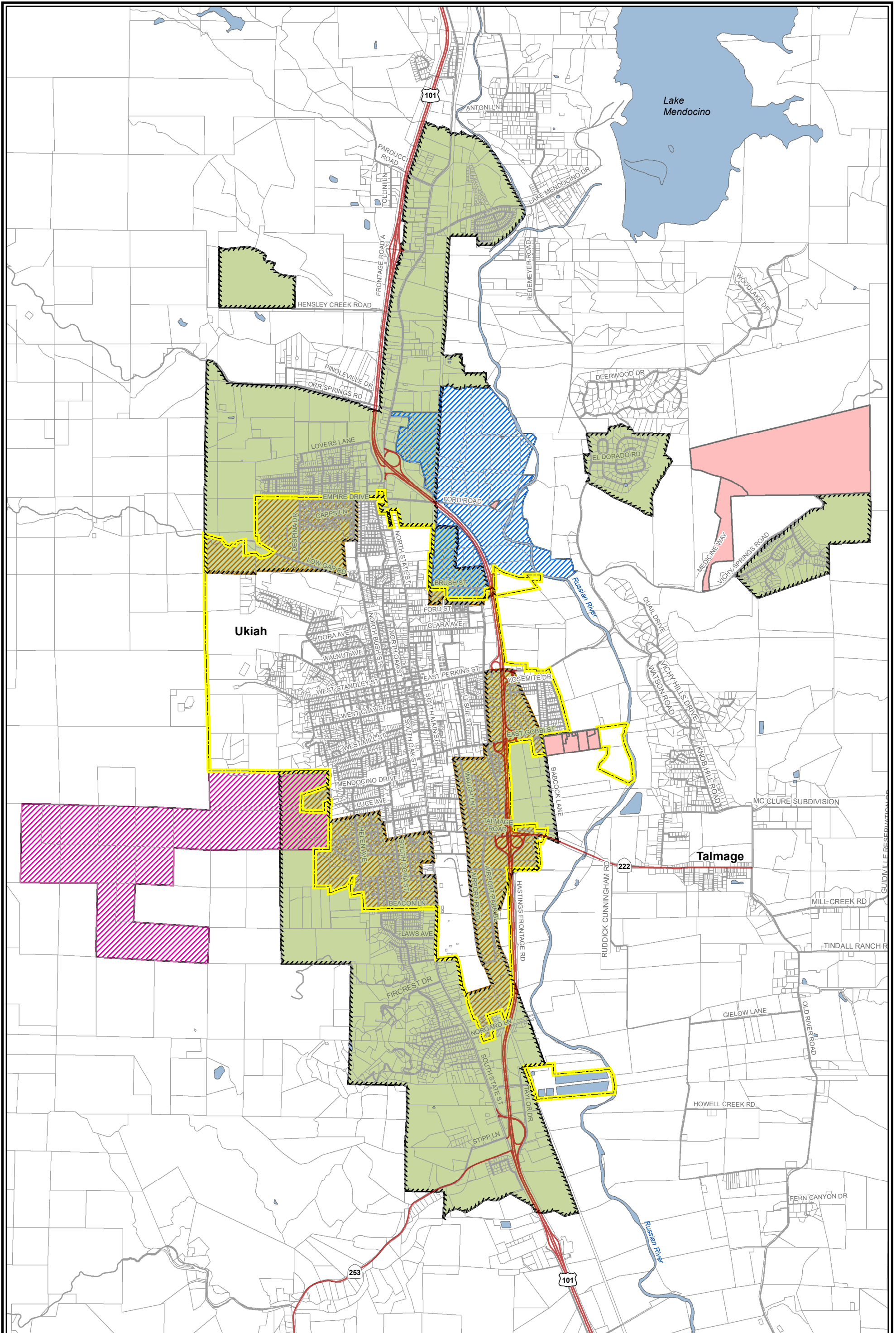
ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Commission Chair

ATTEST:

UMA HINMAN, Executive Officer



Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Sphere of Influence

Source: This map was created by the Mendocino County Information Services GIS Program, December 13, 2022.
 Note: This map is not a survey product and should not be used to determine legal boundaries.

- Ukiah Valley Sanitation District
- Sphere of Influence
- UVSD Out of Agency Service Agreement
- Area of Interest 1
- Area of Interest 2
- Area of Interest 3
- City of Ukiah
- Parcels
- Highways
- Roads

MENDOCINO Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Report

MEETING December 19, 2022
 TO Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
 FROM Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
 SUBJECT **Commissioner Terms, Recruitments and Elections**

RECOMMENDATION

Receive informational report regarding status of Commissioner terms, recruitments and elections.

BACKGROUND

Commissioners serve four-year terms, running from January 1 through December 31. However, a number of other factors influence commissioner terms including board seat rotations, timing of selection committee meetings, and delays in special district elections. Pursuant to GOV 56334, provided the sitting Commissioner is a sitting board/council member, they may continue until a replacement is appointed.

As a result of the general election, resignations, and LAFCo election extensions, there are a number of vacancies on the Commission (highlighted in green below).

Commissioner	Seat	Year Started	Term Expiration
County			
Glenn McGourty	Regular	2021	2024
Maureen Mulheren	Regular	2021	2022
John Haschak	Alternate	2020	2023
City			
Vacant <i>(previously held by Scott Ignacio)</i>	Regular <i>As a result of resignation from City Council effective December 13, 2022</i>	2017	2022
Mari Rodin	Regular (Ukiah)	2021	2025
Gerardo Gonzalez	Alternate (Willits)	2017	2025
Special District			
Vacant <i>(previously held by Matthew Froneberger)</i>	Regular <i>As a result of the election, board seat transitioned December 2, 2022</i>	2020	2022
Vacant <i>(previously held by Tony Orth)</i>	Regular <i>As a result of the election, board seat transitioned December 2, 2022</i>	2016	2024
Vacant	Alternate	2019	2022
Public			
Gerald Ward	Public	2000	2022
Richard Weinkle	Alternate	2020	2023

The following summarizes the current status of the representing agencies and status updates.

County Members

County members are appointed to the Commission annually by the Board of Supervisors. While LAFCo policies and the CKH specify that commissioners are appointed to four-year terms, the Board of Supervisors makes their own appointments, typically in January.

City Members

City members are appointed by the City Selection Committee, which meets annually in January or February.

At the December 13, 2022 Point Arena City Council meeting, Mayor Ignacio resigned from the City Council effective immediately. No longer an active council member, he is also no longer eligible for the Commission. His LAFCo term was through the end of December 2022.

Special District Members

Special district board terms take effect the first Friday in December. With Commissioners Orth and Froneberger rotating off their boards effective December 2nd, they are no longer eligible for LAFCo and their seats are vacant until the special district election processes are complete.

- A quorum of votes was not received by the November 11th deadline for the in-progress election for Commissioner Froneberger's seat; the ballot deadline has been extended to January 16th. The seat will remain vacant until the election is completed.
- The Alternate Special District Member nominee, Francois Christen, will be sworn in at the January 2023 meeting and will be immediately seated as a regular member until the election(s) are completed.
- We will begin the election process for the remainder of Commissioner Orth's term (2021-2024) in the coming weeks.

Public Member Term

As reported at the November 11th meeting, Commissioner Ward submitted the sole application for the public member term 2023-2026. The CKH requires appointment of the public member be made by a majority vote of the Commission, with at least one yes vote from each of the member categories (county, city, special district). The Commission typically considers the public member appointment at its December meeting. However, as there are no special district members on the Commission this month, we will move consideration of the public member appointment to the January meeting when Mr. Christen may be seated.

See also the [September 12, 2022 Staff Report Commissioner Terms, Recruitments and Elections](#) for more information (Agenda Packet pgs 261-262).

Attachment: None

MENDOCINO Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Report

MEETING December 19, 2022
TO Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM Uma Hinman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT **Applications and Work Load**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission receive and file this report.

BACKGROUND

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 delegates Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCo) with regulatory and planning duties to coordinate the logical formation and development of local government agencies. This includes approving or disapproving proposals for reorganizations (i.e., annexations, detachments, dissolutions, etc.), activation of latent powers, sphere of influence amendments, and outside service agreements.

LAFCo proceedings for jurisdictional changes are generally initiated by outside applicants through petitions (landowners or voters) and resolutions (local agencies). LAFCos may also initiate jurisdictional changes to form, consolidate, or dissolve special districts if consistent with the recommendations of approved municipal service reviews.

The following is a status report on the active proposals currently on file with the Commission as well as anticipated filings based on ongoing discussions with proponents. Also included is a summary of progress on the Work Plan scheduled for the current fiscal year. The item is for information and satisfies LAFCo's reporting requirement for current and future applications.

ACTIVE PROPOSALS

This item provides the Commission its regular update on active proposals on file as well as identifies future proposals staff anticipates being filed with LAFCo in the near term based on discussions with local agencies and proponents. All active and future proposals are also summarized in Attachment 1.

City of Ukiah/Ukiah Valley Sanitation District Out of Agency Service Agreement for Wastewater Services (File No. O-2022-03)

On November 18, 2022, the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) submitted a joint application to extend wastewater services to areas outside both the City of Ukiah and the UVSD boundaries and within the City of Ukiah's proposed Sphere of Influence. The proposed service areas include several parcels in the Masonite/Ford Road area and a parcel in The Forks area. The proposal is submitted with an *Agreement Between the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District and the City of Ukiah Regarding Provision of Interim Sewer Services and Out of Area Service Agreements*, which specifies the interim service provider for the parcels to be the UVSD until the area is annexed into the City of Ukiah.

City of Ukiah Annexation of Western Hills (Hull Properties) (File No. A-2022-02)

On June 8, 2022, the City of Ukiah submitted an application to annex approximately 707 acres in the Western Hills for open space preservation, while allowing the potential for future low density residential up to 14 dwelling units on the 55 easternmost acres. The application is incomplete pending submittal of additional materials.

Elk Community Services District Activation of Latent Powers for Wastewater Services (File No. L-2022-01)

On April 8, 2022, the ECSD submitted an application proposing to activate latent powers for the provision of wastewater services. The District will be assuming ownership and operation of a community leach field within the community of Elk. The application has been referred to affected agencies and a Notice of Filing sent to the County Assessor and Auditor-Controller to initiate the tax share negotiation process in accordance with Revenue & Tax Code Section 99. A change in project description required a revised Notice of Filing be distributed, which was completed in mid-October. The application is incomplete.

City of Ukiah Annexation of City-Owned Properties (File No. A-2021-01)

On February 22, 2021, LAFCo received an application from the City of Ukiah proposing to annex City-owned parcels that are used for government purposes and consisting of approximately 446 acres in total. Parcels include the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant, solid waste transfer station, a portion of the municipal airport and open space. A revised application was submitted to LAFCo on February 25, 2022 and was referred to affected agencies and County Auditor and Assessor. LAFCo and City staff have established regularly scheduled coordination meetings for the proposal. The application is incomplete pending a tax share agreement.

Millview County Water District Pre-Application: Annexation of Masonite Properties (File No. P-2020-04)

Pre-Application request for consultation on process and draft documents associated with the MCWD's proposal to annex the Masonite area properties. LAFCo staff have participated in several conference calls with the District and its consultants regarding the proposal. LAFCo, as a Responsible Agency, submitted comments on the District's Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration on December 6, 2021.

City of Ukiah Pre-Application: Annexation of Areas North of the City (File No. P-2020-02)

Pre-Application request for consultation on the process and potential issues regarding the City's proposal to annex the Brush Street Triangle and Masonite area properties. The proposal remains a topic during regularly scheduled coordinating meetings between LAFCo and City staff.

City of Ukiah Detachment of UVSD Served Areas (File No. D-2020-01)

In April 2020, the City of Ukiah submitted a request to restart a 2014 application for detachment of Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD) served areas from the City that had been deemed incomplete and placed on-hold by the City in 2015. The application was put on hold by the City of Ukiah, pending the update of its SOI. Recently, an Interim Services Agreement between the City of Ukiah and the UVSD specifies that the City will not seek detachment of UVSD areas until specific thresholds are met.

POTENTIAL FUTURE PROPOSALS

LAFCo staff has been made aware of the following potential future proposals that may come before the Commission for consideration. Also see Attachment 1 Summary Table – Application Activity and Potential Future Proposals.

Anderson Valley Community Services District Annexation of Sphere of Influence

The Anderson Valley Community Services District (AVCSD) is coordinating with LAFCo staff on application requirements for annexation of the District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) for fire services.

County Services Area 3 Activation of Latent Powers

County and LAFCo staff coordinated on the proposed services to be offered through CSA 3, which is anticipated to be processed concurrently with the MSR/SOI Study for the district. The initial proposal is expected to be the Sherwood Road Pilot Project, a secondary access for the community of Brooktrails.

WORK PLAN

Local policy directs the Commission to annually adopt a Work Plan for purposes of providing a comprehensive overview of municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates over the course of the fiscal year. This report provides an update on progress made in terms of accomplishing the activities scheduled in the Work Plan. This report also serves to inform the Commission of any changes in circumstances or priorities. See Attachment 2 Summary Table – Work Plan Tracking and Status.

Attachments

1. Summary Table – Application Activity and Potential Future Proposals
2. Summary Table – Work Plan Tracking and Status

Attachment 1. Summary Table – Application Activity and Potential Future Proposals

APPLICATION ACTIVITY								
<i>Project status as of December 12, 2022</i>								
LAFCo File No.¹	Applicant	Project Name	Date Application Received	Certificate of Filing	LAFCo Hearing Date	Certificate of Completion	BOE Submittal Date	Additional Comments
O-2022-03	Ukiah/ UVSD	Out of Agency Service Agreement for Wastewater Services	11/18/2022					Application under review
A-2022-02	Ukiah	City of Ukiah Annexation of Western Hills (Hull Properties)	6/8/2022					Application under review; incomplete letter sent
L-2022-01	ECSD	Elk Community Services District Activation of Latent Powers for Wastewater Services	4/8/2022					Application under review; revised Notice of Filing distributed 10/2022
A-2021-01	Ukiah	City of Ukiah Annexation of City-Owned Properties	3/1/2021 2/25/2022					Application under review; incomplete letter sent
P-2020-04	MCWD	Millview County Water District Pre-Application for Annexation of Masonite Properties	10/23/2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Comments on Draft IS/MND submitted December 6, 2021; no activity in 10 months
P-2020-02	Ukiah	City of Ukiah Pre-Application for Annexation of Areas North of Ukiah	8/12/2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Incomplete; no activity in 19 months
D-2020-01	Ukiah	City of Ukiah Detachment of UVSD Served Areas	4/29/2020					On hold and incomplete; no activity in 17 months
Potential Future Proposals								
N/A	AVCSD	Annexation of SOI for Fire Services						Coordination on application needs
N/A	CSA 3	Activation of Latent Powers (Sherwood Rd Pilot)						Coordination meetings held

¹Key: A – Annexation
C – Consolidation
D – Detachment
F – Formation

L – Activation of Latent Powers
O – Out of Agency Service Agreement
P – Pre-application Review Request
R – Reorganization

Attachment 2. Summary Table – Work Plan Tracking and Status

FY 2021-22 ESTIMATED WORK PLAN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE AND STATUS						
<i>Work Plan status as of December 12, 2022</i>						
Subject to Change: The estimated schedule and costs for the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Work Plan are subject to change based on agency responsiveness, timely provision of requested information, complexity of issues, level of public and affected agency controversy, and changing needs and priorities.						
CEQA: Based on LAFCo practice, the work plan assumes minimal costs for CEQA compliance related to preparing a Notice of Exemption, unless an agency proposes a non-coterminous SOI and pays for any necessary studies and preparation of a Negative Declaration or Environmental Impact Report.						
Rolling Work Plan: It is difficult to completely contain staff activities in a single fiscal year; therefore, completion of a study may roll over to the next fiscal year. This estimated work plan implementation schedule is intended to enhance communication and transparency.						
Agency	Request for Information	Admin Draft	Public Workshop	Public Hearing	Final Study	Status/Notes
County Service Area 3	Complete	Complete	4/4/22	6/7/22 7/11/22	7/31/22	Study Complete
Ukiah Valley Sanitation District	Ongoing	In progress	9/12/22 11/7/22	12/19/22	TBD	LAFCo and District staff meet regularly regarding development of the MSR/SOI Update. A joint public workshop on the MSR portion of the study was held in September. A second joint workshop on the SOI portion of the study was held in November.
City of Ukiah	Ongoing	In progress	9/12/22 11/7/22	12/19/22	TBD	LAFCo and City staff meet regularly regarding development of the MSR/SOI Update. A joint public workshop on the MSR portion of the study was held in September. A second joint workshop on the SOI portion of the study was held in November. The MSR/SOI Update is paralleling the City’s General Plan Update EIR process, which is scheduled for City Council consideration in December.
Coastal Water Districts	Pending	Pending				
Inland Water Districts	Pending	Pending				



2023 Events Calendar

JANUARY

- 13 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 18-20 League New Mayor & Council Academy
- 25-27 CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Winter Conference (Palm Springs)

FEBRUARY

- 16 CALAFCO Board of Directors Strategic Planning (Sacto.)
- 17 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacto.)
- 23 CALAFCO U Webinar
- 24 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacto.)

MARCH

- 14-17 Fire District Assn. Annual Meeting (Napa)
- 31 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

APRIL

- 20-21 CA State Assn. of Counties Leg Days (Sacto.)
- 21 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 26-28 CALAFCO Staff Workshop (Murphys)

MAY

- 3-5 Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Sacto.)
- 5 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 16-17 CA Special Districts Assn. Leg Days (Sacto.)

JUNE

- 16 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (San Diego)

JULY

- 14 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 28 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

AUGUST

- 9-11 CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Annual Conference (San Diego)
- 25 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 28-31 CA Special Districts Assn. Conference (Monterey)

SEPTEMBER

- 20-22 Regional Council of Rural Counties Annual Meeting (Monterey)
- 20-23 League Annual Conference (Sacto.)

OCTOBER

- 18-20 CALAFCO Annual Conference (Monterey)
- 19 CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting (Monterey)
- 20 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Monterey)

NOVEMBER

- 3 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
- 13-17 CA State Assn. of Counties Annual Conference (Alameda)
- 28-30 Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Indian Wells)

DECEMBER

- 1 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- 8 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacto.)

2023

