

# General Plan Update 2035

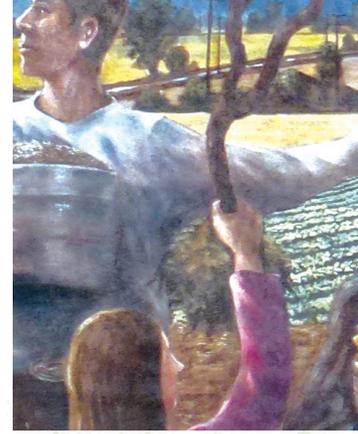


CITY OF WOODLAND

## Visioning Statement and Guiding Principles



# Planning for the Future

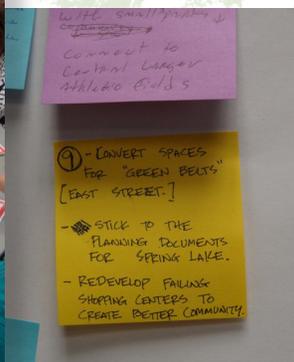


## The General Plan

The General Plan represents Woodland's shared vision of the future and defines a path to lead the community toward its desired future in 2035 and beyond. The General Plan is the City's primary tool for guiding future development.

The vision statement is an aspirational description of what the community would like to be in the future, looking forward to 2035, and represents a compilation of input from the community through the General Plan public process. The Guiding Principles provide a foundation for the goals, policies and implementation programs in the Plan.

Each day the City must make decisions about growth, services, and where and how to focus resources. The General Plan provides the guidance for these decisions by establishing long-term goals for the City's future, policies to inform day-to-day decisions, and implementation programs to realize that vision. The General Plan is the foundation for the City's regulatory and community and economic based documents. The General Plan provides for orderly growth and conveys the community's values and expectations into the future. It sets the tone for evaluation of future development projects, planning of future public facilities and services, defining and maintaining economic sustainability, meeting mobility needs and protecting historic and natural resources.





# Vision Statement

In 2035 Woodland is a highly desirable community to live, learn, work and recreate. It has maintained its small-town feel while maturing into an attractive, vibrant, and sustainable city that celebrates its architectural heritage and cultural diversity. Woodland is a healthy community with livable neighborhoods, a thriving downtown, well maintained infrastructure, excellent schools and recreational amenities connected by a seamless network of trails and paths.

The city is the region's center of agricultural technology and food production and is recognized globally as a leader in sustainable agriculture. The community is prosperous and fiscally sound, offering abundant employment opportunities to its diverse and creative workforce.

Woodland has become a destination for visitors seeking to experience its unique agricultural, historical, recreational, cultural and entertainment amenities.



# Guiding Principles

## **Quality and Character: Retain and enhance Woodland's quality of life, its distinctive identity and small town characteristics.**

Preserve Woodland's unique small town charm and quality of life by maintaining the city's distinct urban edge and surrounding agricultural open space, promoting the Downtown and historic resources, and developing a variety of recreational, community and cultural facilities. Preserve and enhance the best qualities of Woodland's existing neighborhoods and promote the development of new neighborhoods with similar qualities while fostering healthy and attractive commercial and employment centers.

Promote development that strengthens the physical form of the City, enhances livability, incorporates sustainable design practices and continues to enhance Woodland's unique sense of place. High quality design and pleasing physical form promotes Woodland as offering a high quality of life and a desirable place to live, learn, work and recreate.

## **Orderly Development: Promote new growth while achieving an orderly pattern of community development, consistent with economic, social, fiscal and environmental needs.**

Provide for urban development and expansion of associated services on a logical and incremental basis to accommodate projected population and employment growth. Growth will be managed to ensure adequate infrastructure, public services, and amenities that the City can sustain, provide and maintain. New growth areas will be carefully planned to enhance and not detract from existing neighborhoods and commercial centers. Infill and adaptive reuse of underutilized and vacant buildings is promoted.

## **Historic Downtown: Strengthen the historic downtown district as the City's center of shopping, dining, entertainment and employment.**

Promote Downtown as the civic, cultural, and entertainment center of Woodland. The General Plan promotes a broad mix of uses, including increased dining, retail, and entertainment destinations with an array of urban housing and professional office/technology companies. Provide support to new business ventures and private reinvestment with policies and actions to assist revitalization and re-use of historically significant structures.



## **Economic Development: Foster economic growth and diversification with a range of employment opportunities for all residents.**

The General Plan promotes a diversified economic base and seeks to capitalize on Woodland's location and assets access to 1-5, Sacramento International Airport, rail service, prime farmland, and UC Davis-by supporting and assisting business development and mitigating constraints to economic investment. The Plan provides sites in a variety of infill and new growth locations to attract hotel, office, industrial, and research and development uses, which in turn will provide jobs and help the City achieve fiscal sustainability. The General Plan seeks partnerships in higher education, seed research, agricultural technology, food production, and other locally appropriate sectors. It supports linkages with Woodland's strong historical and cultural resources and promotes tourism.

## **Mobility Options: Coordinate land use and transportation planning to provide a range of attractive and viable transportation options such as bicycle, pedestrian and transit.**

Support development choices and transportation improvements that allow and encourage more residents, workers and visitors to walk, bike or use transit. Promote the development of "complete streets" to safely and effectively serve the needs of all modes of travel. Promote and seek opportunities to develop a seamless network of trails and paths to support a healthy and active lifestyle, livable neighborhoods and access to schools and amenities.



## **Housing Choice: Provide a variety of housing types to meet the needs for all generations and income levels.**

Encourage and enable a mix of housing types and densities that will provide Woodland residents with access to a full range of housing opportunities, and enable the City to meet its fair share of the region's housing need. Housing types facilitated by the General Plan range from larger lot to small lot single-family homes, townhomes, apartment buildings and lofts in a variety of locations and settings. Infill development in the Downtown and along mixed-use corridors is encouraged. Promote design practices that support high quality design and neighborhood development.





**Agricultural Heritage: Preserve prime agricultural land and uses within and surrounding the community.**

Woodland’s surrounding agriculture is an important part of the community’s heritage, plays a major role in the city’s economy, and endows Woodland with a unique sense of place. To help maintain this important resource, the General Plan maintains the voter-approved Urban Limit Line within which urban development will be contained. Development will occur in an orderly, contiguous manner to preserve agricultural use of land as long as possible. Outside the current city limits, the City will encourage and support continued agricultural use of land.

**Safety: Ensure that Woodland remains a safe place to live, protected from natural and manmade hazards.**

Protect community livelihood and investment through requirements for structures to withstand seismic activity, provide fire protection and minimize flood risk. Ensure a sense of personal and public safety as essential in developing a high quality of life. The General Plan supports appropriate levels of prevention and response.

**Environmental Stewardship: Foster a sustainable community for the next generation and protect and improve the quality of the natural environment.**

Encourage the preservation of the area’s natural resources and continue to support regional efforts. Promote land use patterns that improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize vehicle mile’s traveled, and encourage conservation. Support proactive solutions to protect areas at risk of flooding.



## Public Services: Provide realistic supportable and appropriate levels of public services that are sustainable and fiscally sound.

Balance the fiscal realities of providing sustainable public services with community desires for high quality amenities and facilities to ensure that meeting today's needs does not compromise the community's fiscal future. Require new development to pay for itself, including new facilities and on-going operations. Support the continuing maintenance and expansion of existing public facilities as the most efficient and effective means of living within the community's means. The City will continue to strive to improve the efficiency and quality of its public facilities and services.

## Health and Recreation: Provide all residents with opportunities to live an active, healthy, and green life style.

Promote healthy lifestyles by enhancing opportunities for physical activity, healthy eating and sustainable living. The General Plan ensures that adequate parks and recreational amenities are well integrated in new neighborhoods. The Plan promotes creation of a recreational greenbelt and expansion of walking and biking paths to enable residents to use active transportation options to connect to work, schools, grocery stores, and variety of open spaces.



## Quality Education: Foster quality educational and enrichment opportunities.

The General Plan underscores the importance of high quality educational opportunities-including K-12 education, higher education, workforce training, and general community enrichment — to Woodland's quality of life. The City recognizes the link between education, safety, and opportunities for economic advancement in the community for youth, their families, and all Woodland residents. To this end, the Plan supports continued partnership with the Woodland Joint Unified School District, the County Office of Education, and Woodland Community College in planning, facility sharing, extracurricular activities and recreation, and promoting academic achievement, as well as linkages between Woodland's growing cluster of agricultural technology and research establishments and higher education.



For more information visit:  
[http://cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/cd/woodland\\_general\\_plan\\_2035/default.asp](http://cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/cd/woodland_general_plan_2035/default.asp)

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