



County of Santa Cruz

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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May 28, 2002

Agenda: June 11, 2002

Board of Supervisors
County Of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California

2001-2002 Environmental Principles and Policies Progress Report

Members of the Board:

On November 14, 2000, your Board adopted Environmental Principles and Policies to Guide County Government (Chapter 16.92), formerly known as Measure C. Chapter 16.92 of the County Code directs County government to work toward accomplishing the following:

To provide efficient use of renewable energy and recycled resources;

To protect biological diversity and human health, through the protection and restoration of the environment;

To encourage agricultural practices which are protective of the natural environment and human health;

To promote and encourage economic development strategies in Santa Cruz County which are consistent with both environmental protection and restoration, and which will help create a local economy based on the use of renewable resources;

To take local actions which can help reverse, reduce, and eliminate practices which are contributing to global environmental crises.

This chapter also established a series of twelve principles and policies to guide local government efforts related to: offshore oil drilling; global warming and renewable energy resources; protection of the ozone layer; forest protection and restoration; greenbelt protection and preservation; recycling; toxic and radioactive materials; endangered species and biological

diversity; development of a sustainable local economy; future growth and development; transportation; and education and outreach. As per your Board's direction, this chapter contains greater emphasis on toxic compounds and transportation.

This Chapter requires that an annual report be submitted to your Board to outline and review the progress made each year in the implementation of these environmental principles and policies. The purpose of this letter is to transmit this year's annual progress report. The report has been developed through a cooperative effort of all participating departments with the lead role provided by the Planning Department.

As with prior reports, this annual progress report includes two sections. The first section (Attachment 1) provides a narrative description of the status of the current year's programs. It should be noted that this first section of the report only discusses those ongoing programs where there is new information to be present. The second section (Attachment 2) provides reference tables which briefly summarize the status of all recommended programs under the former Measure C.

As indicated in previous annual reports, County departments are to be commended on their efforts to initiate these Environmental Principles and Policies to Guide County Government and the former Measure C activities in spite of difficult fiscal challenges. Many departments have absorbed these programs within existing staff and funding resources so as to ensure their continuation into the future. Departments also continue to aggressively pursue grants to further expand or add programs.

It is therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board accept and file the attached 2002-2003 Annual Environmental Progress Report.

Sincerely,



SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

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cc: Each Department Head
Each CAO Analyst
ACTION- Santa Cruz County
Environmental Council
Sierra Club

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2001-2002 ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORTINTRODUCTION

This is the 2001-2002 annual progress report on the implementation of the Principals and Policies to Guide County Government contained in County Code Chapter 16.92. This ordinance is a successor to Measure C (Chapter 16.90 - Environmental Principals And Policies to Guide County Government During the Decade of the 90's). As such, Chapter 16.92 has incorporated the majority of the principals and policies of the former ordinance and has added new language to address transportation issues and revised language regarding Toxic and Radioactive Materials. Descriptions of a majority of the original program proposals and recommendations from the Measure C Implementation Plan are attached. These proposals and recommendations serve as the basis for progress report presented herein.

This report outlines the status and accomplishments of the numerous programs currently being conducted by Santa Cruz County (hereinafter "County"). This document describes the programs which either have variable results from year-to-year, or which are newly implemented since the final Measure C report. The responsible County departments are indicated at the end of each program's description, with the lead department underlined. The tables included at the end of this report include the implementation status and brief description of all of the programs.

1. OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING

- 1a. ***Improved Oil Spill Contingency Planning:*** *Staff has recently drafted language for the Central Coast OCS Regional Studies Program Coordinators' scope of work. During fiscal year 1991-92 the consultant will develop model county oil spill emergency response and resource damage assessment plans for the central coast counties involved in the program. This work is being funded through a previously received OCS Block Grant. Planning Department staff will begin to customize these reports based on specific resources and conditions found within Santa Cruz County during the coming fiscal year. Initiation of this work will be dependent on the extension of the existing limited-term Resource Planner position within the Planning Department. (Emergency Services and Planning Departments)*

The Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) awarded, for the ninth year in a row, a \$5,000 grant to Santa Cruz County for continued involvement in the U.S. Coast Guard's ongoing Area Planning process. Active participation ensures that important emergency response and environmental concerns of the County are addressed in federal and state oil spill contingency plans.

Currently, each of the six California Area Committees are providing input to the use of dispersants in federal waters offshore California. Dispersants are used as a method of minimizing the impacts of an oil spill. Timely dispersal of an oil spill may greatly reduce the possibility and extent of shoreline impact, as well as greater environmental damage. Each Area Committee is identifying, within their area of responsibility, the conditions for designating areas as "Pre-approved for dispersant use" or "Pre-approved with consultation". The regional knowledge and expertise of the Area Committee members and other

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local experts regarding natural resources at risk is being assembled for use in determining whether or not to use dispersants in a particular area.

The Area Committee continues to update and fine-tune the Area Oil Spill Contingency Plan by examining case studies of recent spills and other marine incidents at their bi-monthly meetings.

- lb. *Marine Resource Atlas: Train staff in the use of the recently acquired Computer Aided Mapping and Resource Information System (CAMRIS) to improve our ability to assess the possible impacts of offshore oil development and provide resource-related information to emergency personnel in the event of an oil spill. (Planning Department)*

This program was completed. Information from this program has been incorporated into the GIS system used by the County and various other agencies to track the effects of oil spills and to provide base information to emergency personnel.

- lc. *Marine Resource Atlas Update Clearing House: Develop a working agreement with a local educational institution or other interested agency to update CAMRIS as new data on local marine resources become available. On March 6, 1991 the OCS Regional Studies Program Board of Control adopted a proposal to retain a consultant for the purpose of updating the Marine Resource Atlas. The \$10,000 allocated for this work was drawn from the programs' interest earned account and will not require a contribution from any of the participating counties during the 1991-92 fiscal year. (Planning Department)*

Originally, it was envisioned that a working agreement would be developed with a local educational institution or other interested agency to update CAMRIS as new data on local marine resources became available. However, the unforeseen rapid technological advancements in personal computing quickly brought about the obsolescence of the CAMRIS software and hardware.

Regardless, documentation of the County's local marine resources will continue. The Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and UCSC continue to conduct surveys to document marine mammal and seabird populations.

- ld. Inter-Agency Monterey Bay Sanctuary Task Force: this program was added in 1994.

Implementation of the Sanctuary Inter-Agency Task Force's Action Plan continues. The Action Plan, approved by the Board of Supervisors in May 1997 outlines strategies and activities that are designed to maximize the positive economic and educational opportunities that the designation of a National Marine Sanctuary brings to the Santa Cruz, area. Strategies include the development of: 1) a Sanctuary Scenic Trail; 2) a Sanctuary Education Program, and 3) a Sanctuary-Oriented Visitors Center.

- 1) Sanctuary Scenic Trail:

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The County Administrative Office, in collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Public Works Department, and on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Inter-Agency Task Force, has received a Transportation Enhancement Act (TEA) grant to complete the final design process. The final design project will include a field survey of probable sign and exhibit locations, an archaeological survey of proposed major interpretive exhibit sites, which is required by federal regulations, final design schematics, detailed cost and fabrication estimates, and a Standards Manual to ensure design consistency. Once the final design phase is complete, it will be presented to each jurisdiction's governing body for conceptual approval, and the final phase, which is the construction of the wayfinding and interpretive elements, will occur through a collaborative effort by the participating jurisdictions and agencies, as funds become available.

Prospective funding sources include state and federal grant funds, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (NOAA) education and interpretive funds, local projects that occur along the Scenic Trail route (such as the East Cliff Drive stabilization and pedestrian pathway project) and private foundation funds. NOAA grant funds in the amount of \$100,000 have been received to construct eight minor Sanctuary interpretive exhibits at various locations throughout the County.

Congressman Farr is extremely supportive of the completion of a Sanctuary scenic trail around the Monterey Bay, and plans to develop and introduce federal legislation to provide federal support for local efforts to complete such a trail. The likely legislative strategy will include an introduction of a bill during 2002-03 to provide a place marker for including authorization language in the re-authorization of the federal Surface Transportation Act.

2) Sanctuary Education Program

In response to a need expressed by local businesses to define the Sanctuary to their customers in a way that people could really understand, and to advise residents and visitors on how to engage the Sanctuary and encourage people to "get their feet wet", a "50 Ways to Get Your Feet Wet" brochure was developed which included: a) general information about the MBNMS with specific suggestions for citizens interested in helping with coastal conservation; b) a comprehensive directory of the many marine-related educational facilities in Santa Cruz County, and c) a schedule of annual events and regularly-scheduled activities in Santa Cruz County which promote marine education and/or recreation.

Each year 30,000 copies of a "50 Ways to Get Your Feet Wet" brochure will be distributed throughout the County, and to major visitor markets. Funds to offset the costs of the brochure production are solicited annually from a variety of public and private sources.

3) Sanctuary-Oriented Visitors Center

The Task Force received funding to conduct a feasibility study for a Sanctuary-oriented visitors center. The study recommended that a Center be established somewhere in the mid-county area, and that it act

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as a visitor's welcome center directing people to other areas of interest related to the Sanctuary. The Task Force continues to work with various agencies, including representatives of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the Santa Cruz Division of State Parks to identify potential locations and funding for a Sanctuary-oriented Visitors Center. The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is currently conducting a feasibility analysis of three possible sites for a Visitors Center: two are in Santa Cruz County; one possible site is in Monterey.

- 1e. ***Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program: this program was added in 1995.***

The Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) is a partnership effort to enhance and protect the physical, chemical and biological conditions in the Sanctuary and its adjacent watersheds. As water passes over the watershed, it can pick up a variety of potential pollutants such as sediments, oils and grease, nutrients, pesticides and pathogens which can be transported to the region's rivers, wetlands, harbors and nearshore waters. The WQPP implements a key element of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by eight federal, state and local agencies during Sanctuary designation in 1992. Twenty-seven federal, state and local agencies, public groups and private organizations have worked together to develop and implement a comprehensive water quality management plan that addresses the issues of regional monitoring and data sharing, urban and agricultural runoff, marinas and boating activities, wetlands/riparian degradation and point sources of pollution.

Activities during 2001 centered on finding the funding to implement the identified water quality improvement programs. The Coalition of Central Coast County Farm Bureaus is presently forming working groups of agricultural operators to begin documenting, individually, what is already being done and to identify other ways of improving their operations. Ideally, a proactive, voluntary approach to improving water quality, can prevent or reduce any future regulatory burdens on Central Coast producers. A pilot project of this effort has been started in the Watsonville Sloughs watershed and is distributing water quality monitoring kits for measuring nutrient levels in water

2. GLOBAL WARMING AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

- 2a. ***Jobs/Housing/Transportation Analysis: A regionwide jobs/housing/transportation balance analysis would improve the ability to coordinate transportation planning and land use planning in Santa Cruz County. Such an analysis would be useful for the County General Plan Update. The SCCRTC's 1990 Regional Transportation Plan recommends that a regionwide job/housing/transportation analysis be done for the 1992 RTP. (SCCRTC and Planning Department)***

A regional housing/jobs/transportation balance analysis was completed by AMBAG in 1998.

- 2b. ***Fixed Guideway Development: The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission***

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(SCCRTC) is coordinating efforts to reach a consensus on fixed guideway implementation in Santa Cruz County. The County will participate in a joint study session scheduled for spring of 1991. Funding from local jurisdictions, including the County, would be needed if the next phase of study is pursued. The General Plan update will address fixed guideway development, if it is pursued. (SCCRTC and Planning Department)

In 2000, the Commission entered into an agreement with Denise Duffy and Associates to conduct environmental review for acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line. In September 2001, Union Pacific Railroad granted a right of entry agreement to the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line for purposes of conducting federal and state environmental review. In October 2001, after discussions with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Caltrans issued a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion for the project to satisfy NEPA requirements. For CEQA purposes, Denise Duffy & Associates produced a Draft Initial Study, which showed that acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line would not have any impacts on the environment. In April 2002 the Regional Transportation Commission adopted the Initial Study for the acquisition of the Santa Cruz Branch Rail Line and issued a Negative Declaration for the project.

- 2c. ***Improve the County's Bicycle Facilities:*** *Develop and implement short and long-term strategies to improve the County bikeway network including increased funding. This will be an ongoing program. (Planning and Public Works Departments)*

The County Public Works Department, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation, is finalizing the construction of the Wilder Ranch Bike Path. This 1.25 mile path will be incorporated into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Scenic Trails network. The County is also pursuing a feasibility study for possible bike trails within the San Lorenzo River watershed linking the San Lorenzo Valley with the city of Santa Cruz. In addition, the County is applying for grant funds from the Bicycle Transportation Account to construct the first phase of a three phase bike lane project on La Madrona Drive and El Rancho Drive linking the cities of Scotts Valley and Santa Cruz. Recently completed bike projects on major roadways include Holohan Road, Capitola Road, and Cabrillo College Drive.

- 2d. ***Improve Bus Transit:*** *Develop transit services which attract choice riders and bus pullouts and shelters on transit routes. Consider sources such as Redevelopment Funds and developer fees for this ongoing program. (SCMTD)*

The Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District continues to upgrade shelters and turnouts in conjunction with planned roadway improvement projects. The process to develop a central maintenance facility for the district continues.

- 2e. ***Improve Pedestrian Facilities:*** *One of the primary goals of the Redevelopment Agency is to increase the safety of pedestrians by implementing the primary pedestrian plan system of*

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sidewalks on all main arterial and collector streets as well as to and from schools, parks, and commercial areas. Agency efforts are also geared to improving the convenience of foot traffic through such projects as the pedestrian bicycle bridge which crosses Soquel Creek at the East Walnut and Main Street intersection. The bridge provides a second access to Soquel Elementary School as well as a connection between neighborhoods to the east of Soquel Creek and Soquel Village. (Redevelopment Agency, Planning and Public Works Departments)

The County Public Works Department and the Redevelopment Agency continue to plan, design, and construct ADA compliant pedestrian facilities throughout the County either as a separate project, or as part of an overall road improvement project. Examples of recently completed sidewalk projects include the following: Soquel Drive and the realignment of Cabrillo College Drive at Cabrillo College; the entire length of Capitola Road; 30th Avenue near East Cliff Drive; and, Soquel Drive in Soquel Village. Project contracts soon to be awarded which include sidewalk construction are Brommer Street, Alice Street/Corcoran Avenue, Seascape Boulevard, Soquel Drive in Aptos, and the 2002 Sidewalk Access Ramp project consisting of 74 new ADA access ramps in the Live Oak, Aptos, and Pajaro Valley planning areas. Additional projects currently in the design phase include Calabasas Road, Lake Avenue/Fifth Avenue, Seventh Avenue, and upper 4th Avenue. Pedestrian safety is a top priority near schools, parks, main beaches, and commercial areas.

Providing safe routes for our children and encouraging pedestrian traffic to stores and parks, especially in the busy corridors, is a major concern not just of the Redevelopment Agency, but of the entire community. This year almost 1200 lineal feet of sidewalk were installed by the Agency during work on the Avenues Drainage Project that encompasses 30th and 32nd Avenues, as well as Calla and Hawes Streets

- 2f. ***Improve Park and Ride Lot Facilities:*** *The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission is currently identifying park and ride lot needs around the county. Limited funding to improve publicly owned lands is available from Caltrans, but more funding is needed. The County will cooperate with the Regional Transportation Commission's efforts, especially by designating park and ride lot sites in the General Plan. (SCCRTC, County, Cities, Caltrans)*

Identifying additional park-and-ride lot locations is an ongoing task. The Regional Transportation Commission has also been working to add high security bicycle parking at park-and-ride lots.

- 2g. ***Transportation Control Measures (TCM):*** *Recent State legislation requires Air Districts in non-attainment areas to control vehicle emissions via Transportation Control Measures (TCM). State legislation for Congestion Management Plan (CMP) development mandates a trip reduction element. It will be necessary to coordinate evolving local CMP and air quality requirements into a cohesive and effective countywide traffic management program. The County's cooperation in the development and implementation of TCMs and CMP measures is also necessary. The County will be cooperating with the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution*

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Control District during the 1991-92 fiscal year in the implementation of the TCMs to meet State air quality regulations, and with the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission in the implementation of transportation demand measures to meet state CMP requirements. Significant staff resources will be required. (SCCRTC, MBUAPCD, County, Cities)

The County and the cities have opted out of the Congestion Management Program requirement as allowed under state statutes. Trip Reduction Ordinance implementation continues on a voluntary basis.

The Commission continues to review environmental documents and draft development plans countywide for consistency with programs and policies in the Regional Transportation Plan and also intends to be involved in the upcoming updates of the County and City General Plans.

See Section 11 for more information.

- 2h. ***Project Permit Conditions to Mitigate Transportation Impacts:*** *Include as project conditions for major developments, funding, right-of-way reservation and/or development of facilities, services or programs for alternative transportation modes to mitigate all of the project's transportation impacts. Expand the use of transportation fees and assessment districts to fund needed transportation improvements and programs for alternative transportation modes. Incorporation of this program into the current permit process will require a one time commitment of extra staff resources. (Planning and Public Works Departments)*

The County Public Works Department reviews all commercial and residential projects throughout the County to verify that all transportation issues are considered and reviewed with respect to on-site and off-site circulation of vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, and transit buses. New roads are recommended to be built to County design criteria standards in order to accommodate multi-modal uses. Additional rights-of-way are reserved to best accommodate future projects and expansion based upon general plan densities. Larger development projects are required to build off-site improvements to mitigate negative impacts to the roadway network. In order to mitigate cumulative traffic impacts, new projects are also required to contribute funds to transportation improvement areas for construction of capital improvement projects in relation to the volume of new trips expected to be generated.

- 2i. ***County Commute Alternative Program/TRiP:*** *It is recommended that the County's existing program be expanded significantly to promote alternative transportation modes to reduce use of single occupant vehicles by County employees. This program could include a policy promoting flextime, a telecommuting program, enhancement of the free bus pass program, improvements to bike parking, and parking management strategies including fees for parking and free designated carpool parking spaces. This program will involve a long-term commitment for staffing and interdepartmental coordination with an extra need for staffwork in the program development and initiation stages over the next two years. A proposal to expand the County's existing Trip Reduction Program (TriP) to promote alternative*

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transportation modes to reduce the use of single occupant vehicles by County employees is under development. Implementation of this program will require augmentation of existing resources, and has been obtained through the 1991-92 budget request. (CAO, General Services and Personnel Departments)

General Services implemented and continues to coordinate the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vanpool rider program for County staff residing in the south county area that work at the Government Center and Emeline campus.

- 2j. ***Tune-ups and Inspections:*** *Conduct smog inspections and tune-ups for fleet vehicles biennially rather than on an annual basis. Such an effort could be mounted immediately, but will require additional staff resources. (General Services)*

Current preventative maintenance inspections cover all factory recommended routine service, as well as biennial smog inspections. The Fleet Management System has helped to expand the preventative maintenance programs which includes and emphasizes fuel and emission economy.

- 2k. ***Tire Pressure Maintenance:*** *Maintenance of proper tire pressure has been shown to improve mileage by one to two percent. Provide tire gauges at the gas pump island with tire pressure instructions mounted on the dashboard of each vehicle to encourage proper inflation. This action could be taken immediately. (General Services)*

The installation of tire pressure recommendation decals and tire gauges in all General Services vehicles since the inception of Measure C. Each decal instructs drivers to check for proper tire pressure on a weekly basis.

- 2l. ***County Employee Driving Habits:*** *The Personnel Department will incorporate a driver training component on fuel conservation techniques in the new employee orientation process. It is estimated that such a program will cost approximately \$7.00 per employee for printed training materials. These costs will be included in the 1991-92 fiscal year budget requests. (Personnel Department)*

A two-hour driving training program for new employees was instituted in 1992 and is continuing.

- 2m. ***Mileage Standards and Vehicle Retirement:*** *Develop minimum mileage standards for the bid specifications used to purchase new County vehicles and increase the mileage threshold used to retire older vehicles. These actions could improve environmental conditions, but may also result in increased capital and maintenance costs. A report on this issue will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on or before their first meeting in January, 1992. (General Services)*

Vehicle emissions and fuel economy continue to be a criteria for the purchase of all new vehicles.

- 2n. ***Alternative Fuels:*** *Continue to experiment with and evaluate alternative fuel use in the County*

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vehicles. Upon completion of this analysis, recommended purchase of alternative fuel vehicles to the Board of Supervisors. This evaluation may require a one or two year period to complete. (General Services, DPW)

The Department of Public Works and Brown Vence and Associates of San Francisco have created a partnership for development of a landfill gas electrical generation facility at the County's Buena Vista Landfill. Methane gas resulting from decomposition of refuse in the Buena Vista Landfill will be utilized to fuel the proposed facility. Development of this project is completed, but on hold pending securing power sales and financing arrangements. Once completed the facility is expected to produce 2 to 3 megawatts of electricity for sale in California. The electricity produced could conceivably power up to 2,000 to 3,000 homes.

General Services has established a vendor contract for MTBE-free fuel to be used for County vehicles.

20. ***Energy Management System:*** *Re-establish the original efficiency of the Ocean and Emeline Street facilities Energy Management Systems (EMS) by reverting to the control hours in place during the time of system installation and expand use of the EMS to other County facilities. This action would require a significant staff effort to accomplish. (General Services)*

The Energy Management Systems for the Governmental Center and 1400 Emeline Avenue continue to optimize energy usage in these facilities.

- 2p. ***Lighting and Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems Conversions:*** *Replace lights in County owned or operated facilities with high efficiency tubes and ballasts. In addition, replace older, inefficient HVAC systems in County facilities with more energy efficient equipment. These actions would require a significant commitment of staff and financial resources to complete. (General Services)*

General Services complete the installation of motion detectors in maintenance and plant site closets, as well as the retrofit of all emergency exiting to conserve electricity. In view of the statewide energy crisis, General Services adjusted all automated systems to their optimal available settings. Retrofit of lighting within each Emeline campus facility is underway and scheduled for completion in 2002/03.

- 2q. ***Employee Bicycle Pool:*** *this program was added in 1992.*

General Services coordinated the annual Ride to Work program and Employee Bicycle Pool.

- 2r. ***Street Tree Program:*** *this program was added in 1993.*

It has been ten years since the Redevelopment Agency developed the County Urban Forestry Master Plan. Since that time its road projects have included the planting of appropriate street trees wherever possible. The effect is a better, more livable community for everyone. This year 242 trees were planted along Capitola Road in Live Oak and another six in connection with the Soquel Village Bridge replacement project.

Attachment 12s. ***Reduction in Emissions: this program was added in 1995***

Public Works continues to implement the emission control modifications to the County's heavy equipment fleet at the landfill. County Planning has implemented one Clean Air grant that partially funded the opening of the North County Planning office, thereby reducing the number of trips from the San Lorenzo Valley to Santa Cruz for Planning services. Another Clean Air grant is partially funding the opening of the South County Planning Center, to serve the southern areas of the County and reduce trips to Santa Cruz from Aptos, La Selva and Watsonville areas.

3. PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER

3a. ***Fire Extinguishers: Replace County owned fire extinguishers with models which do not use ozone depleting compounds. This action could be taken with existing staff resources but would require an additional commitment of funds to accomplish. (General Services)***

This program was deferred due to budgetary constraints.

3b. ***Heating and Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems: Replace existing HVAC systems in County facilities with those using non-ozone depleting compounds. This effort would require an additional commitment of funds to accomplish. (General Services)***

General Services managed the replacement of HVAC systems at two south county facilities. Design planning is underway for replacement of the Government Center HVAC system to a more energy efficient model.

3c. ***Freon Recovery: this program was added in 1992***

Freon extraction program continues at the County landfill, funded by landfill tipping fees. The program currently collects and decommissions approximately 3000-3500 freon-containing appliances (refrigerators and air conditioners) a year.

4. FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

4a. ***Forest Practice Study: Conduct a study to determine whether the silvicultural practices allowed under the State Forest Practice Rules result in management practices which are sustainable in perpetuity. This effort will likely require three or more years, including procurement of an outside source of funding, to accomplish. (Planning Department)***

This Study has not been completed due to budgetary constraints.

4b. ***Old Growth Timber: Sponsor special forest practice rules or legislation to protect old growth***

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timber remaining on private lands within Santa Cruz County. Such legislation or regulatory changes will require two or more years to develop and support through the approval process. (Planning Department)

The County sponsored two amendments to the Forest Practice Rules that attempted to define and protect “Old Growth Timber” resources. These amendments were considered by the Board of Forestry in 1999 and 2000 and were not approved.

- 4c. **Ordinance Enforcement:** *Carry out the tasks included in the grant application submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board to strengthen the enforcement of County environmental protection ordinances. Work to be performed will include preparation of an enforcement procedures manual, creation of a computer tracking system, enforcement of the aforementioned ordinances, evaluation of the need for ordinance amendments, and initiation of a public outreach campaign. (Planning Department)*

The program initiated under the State Water Resources Control Board grant have been completed. The computer tracking system for code enforcement activities has been expanded by IS/Planning staffs from that which was developed under the grant. Staff resources for enforcement activities have been increased as has utilization of other departments such as the District Attorney’s office.

- 4d. **Significant Tree Ordinance:** *Expand the Significant Tree Ordinance, which currently applies solely to the Coastal Zone, to cover the entire County. Such an expansion, which will require one year to implement, will increase the overall level of protection afforded to selected tree species within the County. (Planning Department)*

Although amendments to the Significant Tree Removal ordinance to expand its coverage have been denied by the Planning Commission in the past, amendments to the existing Significant Tree Removal Ordinance (again, to expand its coverage to include areas outside the coastal zone) will be considered as a part of the next General Plan update.

- 4e. **Stream Care Guide Yearly Mailing:** *The Stream Care Guide list will continue to be updated to include new owners of streamside property, the guide booklet will continue to be mailed on a yearly basis. This effort will require minimal staff effort. (Planning Department)*

The Planning Department has received a grant from the California Department of Fish and Game to revise and distribute the County’s Stream Care Guide to all 8,850 stream-side residents and property owners. The focus will be on creating an accessible, easy-to-read booklet targeting property owners who may know little about how their actions can impact riparian and stream ecology. Some more in-depth information will be included such as how to plant willow-stakes, basic steelhead and coho salmon ecology, riparian water rights information, local watershed groups and local native nurseries.

To extend the continuity of the Stream Care Guide, a system will be established to send out the

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guide to new property owners. This will be done as a pilot project for two years to better understand the time and expense involved in this effort. On a quarterly basis new owners of stream-side property will be sent a copy of the Stream Care Guide.

- 4f. ***Adopt-A-Stream Program:*** *Develop an Adopt-A-Stream Program on a trial basis and determine its potential to protect, enhance and restore stream resources within the County. Development and implementation of an Adopt-A-Stream Program will require a significant outreach and coordination effort over a period of several years. (Planning Department)*

The County has not developed or implemented a formal Adopt-A-Stream program. However, the County, including Planning, Public Works and Environmental Health Services staff, are actively involved in current efforts to develop steelhead enhancement, watershed and resource assessments in Soquel, Aptos, Pajaro and Watsonville Sloughs watersheds. In addition, the County has spearheaded the effort to update the San Lorenzo River Watershed Management Plan, originally produced in 1979.

- 4g. ***Public Education:*** *Improve the educational and outreach programs for all County environmental policies and ordinances through the use of school materials, pamphlet mailings and, if significant funding is available, video. Such improvements would be anticipated to occur over a two year period. (Planning Department,)*

Due to budget cuts in the early 1990's, the County has not established a comprehensive educational and outreach program for all County environmental policies and ordinances. However, each year Planning Staff give a presentation on County ordinances at a Soil Conservation Class offered through Cabrillo College. Planning staff have also given numerous presentations at local workshops sponsored by the Resource Conservation District and the Coastal Watershed Council.

- 4h. ***Work with the Resource Conservation District to Implement the Policy Directives of Measure C:*** *The Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District (RCD) provides a variety of services to local residents. During a recent meeting with RCD representatives, it was determined that this agency could play a positive role in Measure C implementation in the area of public education. Staff discussed the concept of holding a workshop for contractors and public agencies involved with construction projects located in or adjacent to streams. The workshop would present information on local, state, and federal regulations pertaining to the protection of stream resources, on the need for clear bid document language regarding stream protective measures to be adjacent to a waterway. The RCD has agreed to hold such a workshop during the spring of 1992. (Planning Department and Resource Conservation District)*

Over the past several years, the County and the RCD have worked closely on a number of educational and resource assessment projects. The RCD and the County are working closely on

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related projects in the Watsonville Sloughs watershed. Planning and Public Works staff are actively participating in RCD-initiated watershed assessments in Arana Gulch, Soquel Creek and Lower Pajaro Watersheds. County staff have participated in many RCD workshops, including Roads Management Training, Erosion Control Best Management Practices, and Biotechnical Streambank Stabilization.

4. GREENBELT PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

- 5a. ***Urban Services Line:** Reinforce the Urban Services Line through the General Plan update process except in specific cases where it can be demonstrated that revising the line would lead to a measurable benefit to the community. This objective may be accomplished with the long-range planning staff resources required to perform the General Plan update. Assistance may be required during the second year of the process. (Planning Department)*

As indicated in past Measure C reports, this has been completed as a part of the 1994 General Plan update. The Urban Services Line will be reviewed again as a part of the next General Plan update.

- 5b. ***Agricultural and Open Space Easement:** Expand the use of Agricultural and Open Space Easements to provide increased permanent protection for open space resources within the County. Through the Agricultural Conservation Easement (ACE) program funded by the State, the Planning Departments' Resources Section staff have developed ranking criteria, the institutional framework, and public outreach information necessary to initiate the purchase of conservation easements from interested agricultural landowners. Additional acquisitions beyond those allowed under the current grant budget would require outside funds to accomplish. Staff will pursue additional funding for this purpose as it becomes available. (Planning Department)*

Staff continues to seek funding to purchase additional agricultural conservation easements. Ordinance amendments relating to the processing of Open Space Easements and easement amendments are proposed as a part of the next General Plan update.

- 5c. ***Septic System Requirements:** Consider amending the General Plan and Sewage Ordinance to require a one acre minimum lot size for new septic systems on existing lots of record in order to lower development densities, thereby protecting greenbelt areas and reducing the potential for impacts to ground and surface waters from on-site sewage disposal. These changes could be accomplished with existing staff resources. (Environmental Health and Planning Department)*

The current General Plan and implementing Environmental Health Services regulations require a minimum parcel size of 1 acre for the creation of all new parcels to be served by septic systems. Development on parcels less than 1 acre is limited to specific residential areas on existing lots of record and to existing commercial properties. Water quality monitoring in the San Lorenzo River

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indicates a decrease in nitrates, usually associated with high density septic systems.

- 5d. **Open Space District:** *The majority of development-related impacts in rural areas occur from activity on existing lots of record. These impacts are difficult to control, even though the application of County's ordinances designed to protect environmental resources. It is therefore recommended that the County study use of an Open Space District or similar vehicle to preserve a limited number of the remaining undeveloped parcels within the County. This program would be particularly effective if coordinated with the local land trust and neighboring counties. Such a program would be long-term and require additional staff and financial resources to develop and implement. (Planning Department)*

This program has been deferred due to budgetary constraints.

- 5e. **Transfer of Development Credits:** *Study the potential for a Transfer of Development Credits Program to preserve parcels which contain unique resources or which are located in areas where open space amenities would be of particular benefit to the community. The conditions described above in the discussion regarding the development of an Open Space District would apply to the need for establishing a Transfer of Development Credits Program as well. This program would be ongoing and would require additional staff resources to develop and implement. (Planning Department)*

This program has been deferred due to budgetary constraints.

- 5f. **Natural Resource Protection County Service Area:** *During the 1990-91 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors directed Planning staff to return during 1991-92 budget hearings with recommendations to augment the funding source utilized by Zone 4 of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District to conduct its resource enhancement and restoration work. Because of the relevance of this work to the Measure C effort, it is recommended that the County establish a Natural Resource Protection County Service Area to augment Zone 4 funds. A recommended source of additional funds to support or expand these services may include the creation of a Natural Resource Protection County Service Area. Creation of such a County Service Area (CSA) can be carried out with existing staff resources. (Planning Department)*

This program has been deferred due to budgetary constraints.

- 5g. **Park Planning:** *Update the Rural and Urban Park Master Plan for the purpose of identifying specific park and open space sites within the County for potential future acquisition. Identifying specific park and open space sites has been and continues to be an ongoing process within the County Park Planning Division of POSCS. The rural and urban Park Master Plan update was included in the 1990-91 fiscal year. (Parks Department)*

The Department of **Parks**, Open Space and Cultural Services in its ongoing mission to provide safe,

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well designed and maintained parks with a wide variety of recreational programs and cultural activities, has carried out its mission while at the same time protecting the green belt and preservation areas within the County of Santa Cruz. Since the last Annual Environmental Principles and Policies Progress Report, the Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services has completed the construction of the Pinto Lake little league field and restroom renovation, made improvements to the Seascape Park Playground and Coffee Lane Park Playgrounds, Completed the installation of perimeter bollards at the Polo Grounds County Park, painted the interior walls and refinished the floor of the Santa Cruz Veterans Building Auditorium, completed the construction of a new restroom, accessible overlook, and post and cable fencing at Greyhound Rock Coastal Access, and is nearing the completion of the Scott Creek Beach Access and Dune Restoration Project.

Design work for rebuilding the 26th Avenue Stairway is complete. The project is in final review by the County Planning Department for the issuance of the Coastal Development Permit. The next step will be to obtain the Coastal Development Permit from the Coastal Commission. Contract negotiations have been completed for the design of a new coastal access stairway at Seascape Park. The parks Department anticipates approval from the Board of Supervisors in late May to proceed with the design.

The Highlands Park Master Plan was amended to include a skate park element. The construction drawings have been completed for the skate park element and the project is out to bid with construction scheduled for this summer. The master plan for the 183 acre Pinto Lake County Park was approved "in concept" by the Board of Supervisors. This project will layout the framework for future development and management of the parks resources. The next step will be to select a consultant to produce an environmental feasibility report on the "back-40" access road schemes in preparation for the CEQA review process. The Moran Lake Monarch Butterfly Habitat Management Plan has been approved by the Board of Supervisors "in concept" The next step in the process will be to submit the plan for CEQA review. The Hestwood Park Construction Drawings are complete and all permits have been obtained. The project is scheduled for bidding in April/May with the award of contract in June 2002. The Parks Department is also out to bid for the replacement of the Brommer Park Playground and access ramp. The master planning process has begun on the Felt Street and Mesa Village Park Sites.

6. RECYCLING

- 6a. ***County Parks Recycling:*** Place and service recycling receptacles at all County Parks. Large recycling dumpsters have been placed at three County Park sites as part of a pilot project to encourage recycling at public facilities. POSCS has recently submitted a grant application to the State Department of Conservation to provide funds for additional containers, as well as a truck to handle recycled materials. (Parks Department).

The Department no longer participates in the recycling program in the parks, due to the passage of Proposition 218, the defeat of Measure A, and the repeal of the County's Utility Tax.

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- 6b. **Road Maintenance Program:** *Concrete and asphalt rubble is currently used for road maintenance purposes in slope protection, and at the landfills as road sub-base for winter operation. Any material that is not used for these purposes is stockpiled at the Buena Vista Landfill. Under contract, Granite Construction will utilize portable crushing equipment to crush the concrete. This material will be used by Granite in their operations and a royalty paid to the County. (Public Works Department)*

The Public Works Department has an aggressive pavement overlay, chip seal, and slurry seal program that improves and protects the existing roadway infrastructure, and includes drainage and erosion control measures. The Pavement Management Program (PMP) is utilized to identify and prioritize roadways and the necessary improvements required to maintain an acceptable level of performance. Properly maintained and resurfaced roadways contribute to reducing fossil fuel consumption and traffic safety. As a result of the repeal of the County utility tax (Measure L), we do not expect to resurface as many miles of roadway as the PMP had initially proposed.

- 6c. **Source Reduction:** *The Solid Waste Management Planning program, administered by Resource Section of the Planning Department and funded through the Department of Public Works refuse budget, has included a source reduction component during the 1991-92 fiscal year. The commercial recycling specialist, recently hired by the Planning Department, will be working with General Services to amend the County procurement specifications, where appropriate, to reduce local governments' overall resource consumption. This staff person will also make presentations to large scale waste generating local businesses concerning ways to reduce waste. A broader public education effort is also envisioned for the future, and will be dependent on the receipt of additional staff or capital resources. (Public Works Department, General Services and potentially other departments)*

The Department of Public Works is responsible for solid waste source reduction programs within the County. Home composting promotion continues to be a primary focus of the program. Home composting is promoted through Ecology Action and the County's franchised refuse and recycling collector, Waste Management, under contract with the County. To date, over 205 home composting workshops have been given and over 7,000 worm and home compost bins distributed to the general public through Ecology Action sales events or Waste Management's bin distribution through their customer accounts.

Public Works continues to provide ongoing public information on source reduction through a variety of educational programs including newspaper ads and television commercials outlining the County's solid waste and recycling programs, public presentations to schools and service organizations, provision of funding to the Public Schools Resource Conservation Program, maintenance of a 24-hour hotline with a wide variety of recycling and waste reduction information, development of an Internet web page, commercial recycling assistance through our Commercial Waste Audit Program run by

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Ecology Action, distribution of recycling information at the solid waste facilities and through Waste Management. In 1998, Public Works hired a full time Public Education Coordinator to assist with expansion and implementation of a more aggressive public education program aimed at improving recycling efforts and reducing waste generation through education. In 2001, a full time Commercial Waste Reduction Coordinator was hired to assist businesses and multi-family residences with recycling and waste reduction activities

- 6d. **Residential Recycling:** *Expand existing and create new residential recycling programs to maximize resource recovery of materials from this source. These efforts should include expansion of curbside collection to all urban areas, expansion of buyback and drop off services in rural areas, universal collection of separated wet and dry materials, rate incentives for source separation, possible mandatory refuse collection and source separation. Curbside service to all urban areas and possible modification of collection methods may require 4 to 6 years to accomplish. An expansion of the Curbside Recycling Program is proposed for the 1991-92 fiscal year, adding approximately 4,000 new residences. This expansion will result in an increase in program costs for the County, which is proposed to be funded through the refuse budget. Future expansion will require additional financing. In addition, the Planning Department has applied for \$100,000 in grant funds from the State Department of Conservation to improve recycling opportunities in the San Lorenzo Valley. While the Department is hopeful that its request will be approved, the status of the application is uncertain at this time. (Public Works Department)*

The County's curbside recycling program provides universal collection service within in the entire unincorporated county. The service is available in several formats to residents in both single and multi-family residential housing. The program serves approximately 36,000 households, and over 26,000 tons of recyclable material, including yard waste, is collected monthly. Approximately 65 percent of the households within the unincorporated county participate in the curbside recycling program.

The Franchise Refuse, Recycling and Yardwaste Collection and Processing Agreement not only expanded the service area, but the number and types of recyclable materials collected including: a separate collection for yardwaste, and collection of added materials such as mixed waste paper, cereal boxes, aerosol cans, household batteries and all types of plastic (#1-7).

Two local non-profit recyclers, the Grey Bears and the Valley Women's Club, operate public drop off centers at the Buena Vista Landfill and Ben Lomond Transfer Station Recycling Centers. These two organizations also provide the same expanded recycling opportunities for self-haul residential and commercial customers, consistent with the expanded curbside collection program, in addition to the hard-to-recycle commodities such as white goods, scrap metal, auto batteries, anti-freeze, oil filters and waste motor oil.

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In addition to the recycling drop off operations at the County facilities, the County also sponsors other drop off operations such as the Valley Women's Club facilities in Felton and Boulder Creek and the Grey Bears recycling center on Chanticleer Avenue. New public recycling facilities for under-served areas of the County are also being considered and Waste Reduction Grant funding is also being provided for a wide variety of smaller scale public recycling programs. All these public drop off facilities are essential to meet the recycling needs of those county residents who elect not to utilize Waste Management's refuse and recycling collection services.

- 6e. **Commercial Recycling:** *At present, the County does not serve the local business community with any comprehensive recycling program. A solid waste consultant, under the direction of the Department of Public Works, Planning Department and CAO staff, is currently developing a preliminary design for a local Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The MRF is a key component in the County's ability to expand both residential and commercial recycling. This facility will provide a means to recycle materials from both the residential and commercial sectors and is currently scheduled for construction in 1994. As part of the 1991-92 work program, the commercial recycling specialist in the Planning Department will assist private businesses to establish internal systems for the separation of recyclables from other refuse and will develop other programs, such as adjustments to collection routes and methods to maximize the efficiency for the MRF in the area of commercial recycling. As indicated on the schedule of implementation, work in this area will be ongoing, with a significant future funding requirement for MRF construction and operation. (Public Works Department, CAO)*

Large scale commercial recycling in the unincorporated area is dependent on local materials processing capabilities, which are currently provided by several small private and non-profit organizations. Future processing capabilities will need to be added to accommodate materials not currently being collected. The new refuse and recycling collection franchise provides a minimal baseline recycling service to commercial operations and provides larger scale single source materials collection and processing services on a competitive basis. The California Grey Bears successfully took over commercial cardboard collection services transferred from Waste Management. They are now the primary cardboard collector for the unincorporated county.

In 2001, a full time Commercial Waste Reduction Coordinator was hired to assist businesses and multi-family residences with recycling and waste reduction activities. The activities of this position have significantly increased commercial recycling and overall awareness of the many waste diversion programs available in our county.

Public Works staff has also continued implementing a grant program approved by the Board of Supervisors to encourage recycling activities in the business community. Grant money is available through the County's solid waste program and grants are based on diversion effectiveness, innovative recycling approaches dealing with currently non-recycled waste streams, source reduction activities, and start-up businesses focusing on utilization of recycled materials. As an example, since inception

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of this program in December 1995, 50 grants for a total of \$750,000 have been approved by your Board for a wide variety of commercial and residential recycling related programs such as expanded school recycling programs, multi-family home composting facilities, commercial food waste diversion, bilingual public outreach and several other public education related programs. As a result of this program, it is estimated that over 10,000 tons of material have been diverted from the landfill over the past seven years.

- 6f. **Composting:** *Compostable materials comprise a significant portion of the County's waste stream. As mentioned in recommendation 6e above, the MRF is currently being designed for the purpose of diverting much of the material currently being deposited in local landfills. The design concept includes a provision for composting. While large scale composting operations will not begin until the MRF is constructed, it should be noted that woody debris at the County's Buena Vista landfill is currently sold to a wood-fired power generation facility located near Soledad or other sites. (Public Works Department, CAO)*

Under the new franchise agreement with Waste Management, Public Works is continuing to operate a yard waste/wood waste diversion program at the Buena Vista Landfill and Ben Lomond Transfer Station. Wood waste collected at the sites is ground into chips by a subcontractor to Waste Management (Vision Recycling of San Mateo) and either sold for agricultural/landscaping uses, compost feedstock, or transferred to biomass co-generation plants as fuel. In addition to this program the franchise agreement with Waste Management includes a curbside yard waste collection component that has increased diversion of this waste stream over 35 percent. Current trends indicate diversion of yard waste through the curbside program is continuing to increase as more customers sign up for service and existing customers take better advantage of this service component.

The Department of Public Works has previously provided funding for a series of pilot on-farm composting and agricultural/landscaping use projects aimed at developing the needed technical information to further the market opportunities within the farming community locally. The demonstration program was successfully completed in 1997 and has resulted in greatly improved market conditions for materials produced by our yard waste/wood waste diversion programs. Last year over 32,000 tons of yard waste and wood waste (16 percent of the landfill waste stream) was diverted from landfilling through these programs.

- 6g **Public Education:** *Develop and implement solid waste public education programs to increase awareness of available programs, and provide information on proper methods of participation, modification of disposal practices and information on consumer alternatives. These programs will be most effective if done on a countywide, inter-jurisdictional, cooperative basis, and should be viewed as ongoing in nature. The Department of Public Works has proposed to initiate a program of solid waste management education aimed at the elementary school level. This proposal will be reviewed by the Interdepartmental Solid Waste Task Force and*

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incorporated into the comprehensive plan for solid waste-related education work currently being developed through creation of the Source Reduction and Recycling Element. These programs will require additional staff resources to accomplish. (Public Works Department, Planning)

The purpose of the County Solid Waste Public Awareness Program is to raise the level of public awareness surrounding the solid waste management crisis and its solutions, both statewide and countywide. The Public Works Solid Waste and Recycling section has a full time Public Education Coordinator to facilitate expansion and implementation of a more aggressive educational program aimed at increasing waste diversion and recycling through knowledge. The major focus of the Public Education Program is the ongoing dissemination of public information on waste reduction and recycling opportunities through a variety of educational programs, the media and public access systems including newspaper ads and television commercials, public presentations to schools and service organizations, countywide distribution of semi-annual residential and business newsletters relating to recycling and waste reduction activities, funding the Public Schools Resource Conservation Program, maintenance of a 24-hour hotline with a wide variety of recycling and waste reduction information, development of an Internet web page, commercial recycling assistance through our Commercial Waste Audit Program run by Ecology Action, distribution of recycling information at the solid waste facilities and through Waste Management, Waste Management, under terms of their Franchise Agreement, also provides a wide variety of public educational information aimed at waste reduction in the residential and commercial communities.

- 6h. ***Economic Development:*** *Establish a program to ensure that markets or other end-uses, local, regional, state, national or international, are available for the supply of secondary materials generated by resource recovery programs. This is envisioned to be a long-term, ongoing project. (Planning and Public Works Departments)*

The County of Santa Cruz is a member of the Central Coast Recycling Market Development Zone (CCRMDZ). Central Coast businesses have received over \$1,000,000 in low interest recycling market development zone loans issued through this partnership between local jurisdictions and the state Integrated Waste Management Board. Mixed waste paper, compostable materials, construction and demolition waste, mixed plastic and agricultural film plastic are current Zone priority materials. The CCRMDZ has surveyed 1300+ manufacturers located in the Central Coast region to identify interest in manufacturing with recycled feedstock; results are being used to target potential end users and new recycled material markets.

- 6i. ***National Materials Policy Development:*** *Attempts to change current material economic policies which provide incentives for the private sector to use virgin rather than secondary materials as feedstock for manufactured goods would require a concerted effort on the part of the County, in coordination with other local and state governments. The long-term*

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sustainability of recycling and the full realization of its larger benefits of energy and natural resource conservation will not be achieved until, nationally, the manufacturing sector is grounded in secondary resource feedstock, rather than virgin resource consumption. The Planning Department's Solid Waste Management Program staff will work with the Interdepartmental Task Force during fiscal year 1991-92 to devise a strategy to advocate the development of a National Materials Policy. This effort will culminate in the presentation of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for possible action. (Planning Department)

Public Works has periodically sought Board support for a variety of recycling market related bills moving through the State Legislature that are intended to increase the markets for recyclable materials

- 6j. **Public Works Engineering Liaison Position:** *The departments of Public Works and Planning are responsible for a number of programs which have overlapping areas of concern. For example, Public Works funds the solid waste planning function performed within the Planning Department. Similarly, Public Works designs and constructs improvements in and around streams which may affect the ability of those watercourses to convey flood waters, while flood control responsibilities reside within the Planning Department. It is, therefore, recommended that these two departments continue to improve coordination of these and other work program areas by designating an engineering position within the Department of Public Works to act as a liaison with the Planning Department on issues of mutual concern and responsibility. (Public Works with Planning Assistance)*

This program has been modified to place a Resource Planner IV from the Planning Department with DPW. This position's assignment is to coordinate the erosion control and habitat restoration activities of the various branches of Public Works.

- 6k. **Develop a Program for Recycling Household Batteries:** *During the summer of 1990, the Resources Section of the Planning Department sponsored a graduate student intern to investigate the feasibility of recycling household batteries. The results of this study, published in the April issue of Resource Recovery magazine, indicate that there is only one company in the United States which processes household batteries for reuse. Unfortunately, the recovery methods employed by this company have led to a series of major and, as yet, unresolved environmental problems in the vicinity of the processing plant. Consequently, there is currently no environmentally sound method for recycling household batteries. Staff does feel, however, that the proposal under discussion has merit and will continue to monitor the availability of a market for this product. (Environmental Health and Planning Department)*

Household batteries are currently collected through the Recycling Drop-off Centers at the Buena Vista Landfill and Ben Lomond Transfer Station in conjunction with the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. Collection of household batteries is also provided under the franchise agreement with Waste Management in conjunction with the curbside recycling program. Household batteries are

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also collected inter-office through a program sponsored by Public Works. Household batteries are now being reclaimed and recycled through Philips Environmental Services, the hazardous waste contractor serving the County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

61. ***Provide Recycling Containers at all County Facilities:*** *Through the Santa Cruz Office Recycling (SCOR) program, staff is experimenting with the placement of recycling containers at two public areas within the County Governmental Center. The SCOR program is scheduled to be expanded to the County's Emeline Complex in the near future and it is anticipated that recycling containers for the public can be incorporated into the program at that facility. This need will also be taken into account during future program expansions to other County facilities. (Public Works Department)*

The Santa Cruz County Office Recycling Program (SCOR), coordinated by Public Works staff, continues to function throughout the County offices by utilizing a network of volunteer Recycling Advocates. Information on the value of source reduction, re-use and recycling practices in the office as well as techniques to implement the practices is distributed periodically to the Recycling Advocates via E-mail and newsletters. A materials exchange program is also in effect allowing departments within the County to list materials and furniture that may have a re-use option in other departments. Approximately 400 tons of recyclable materials are collected annually through this program resulting in savings of over \$1,000 in disposal fees. The County's new employee orientations now include a presentation by Public Works staff on the SCOR program. The SCOR program is now being used as a model for use in other office settings. Public Works has recently begun outreach to commercial offices to implement the SCOR program in the private sector.

Public Works is currently working with Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services and Waste Management to finish placement of recycling carts in all the County parks. All major County parks now have recycling carts supplied by Waste Management. Funding for permanent recycling enclosures was included in the 2001/2002 CSA-9C budget and the first delivery of enclosures should arrive by June 2002. Waste Management is providing the collection service at no additional cost to the County.

7. TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

- 7a. ***Regulations Regarding Disposal of Medical Waste:*** *Recently adopted State legislation revises and expands the regulation of medical wastes, including the creation of a ban on disposal of untreated medical wastes in landfills. In February, 1991, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance for local enforcement of the State Medical Waste Management Act. Approval of fees to finance the local program and hire a half-time staff person to implement the ordinance were submitted as part of the Environmental Health Services budget for fiscal year 1991-92. (Environmental Health)*

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Program continues.

- 7b. **Toxics Education Program:** *Establish an education and outreach program for both businesses and the general public regarding the safe use, recycling and disposal of toxic materials and acceptable substitutes for these substances. This is envisioned as an ongoing program which would require an augmentation of staff resources to accomplish. (Environmental Health)*

Promotion of the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Education program is conducted by Public Works staff as a component of the Public Education Program outlined in item 6g above. The program includes maintenance of a 24-hour information hotline, numerous school and service organization presentations, distribution of point-of-purchase information on HHW disposal, newspaper and recycling newsletter advertisements and safety tips, development of hazardous materials alternative information, booth sponsorship at a variety of community functions, placement of HHW displays in public libraries and other public venues, and promotion of the Waste Exchange Program for household products and paints.

- 7c. **Hazardous Materials Compliance Officer:** *Create a Hazardous Materials Compliance Officer position within the County governmental structure. This individual would identify alternatives to toxic substances used by County departments, would establish storage and disposal procedures, and would oversee training and record keeping efforts. Creation of a permanent position will require identification of an appropriate funding source. A request for funding this function has been included in the fiscal year 1991-92 budget. (Personnel, Environmental Health, Public Works, Risk Management)*

The Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Personnel Department oversees the County's Hazardous Materials Management Program and management of the County's asbestos abatement in County facilities.

- 7d. **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program:** *this program was added in 1992.*

The County operated Household Hazardous Waste Collection (HHW) Program continues to provide a much-needed service to both the public and the solid waste facility operations. In 2001, the program removed over 1,300,000 pounds of hazardous waste (a 3 percent increase from previous year) from the residential waste stream, reducing the potential environmental and public health risks for both the solid waste collectors and the landfill operation. Most of the hazardous waste removed was treated, recycled, consolidated for use as a supplemental fuel or given back to the public through the County Waste Exchange Program at the Buena Vista Landfill. Latex paint made up the majority of the recycled materials and was given away to charitable organizations and graffiti clean-up groups. Used motor oil is also collected at the Buena Vista Landfill and Ben Lomond Transfer Station recycling centers, and through the residential curbside recycling program. Used motor oil, oil filters and antifreeze are sent for reprocessing back into motor oil.

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Public Works also completed construction of a Waste Exchange facility at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station to serve the San Lorenzo Valley and Scotts Valley residents. The Waste Exchange facility at the Buena Vista Landfill has been a huge success and resulted in the annual diversion of over 328,000 pounds of hazardous waste from disposal or treatment, at an estimated savings to the County of \$240,000. The recently completed waste exchange at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station is expected to divert up to 40,000 pounds of hazardous materials from disposal or treatment, at an estimated savings of \$30,000. In addition to the savings, this facility provides the community with a free source of commonly used household products and reclaimed latex paint.

Public Works has also recently opened a third satellite HHW collection facility at the City of Santa Cruz' Landfill on Dimeo Lane just north of the city. Construction of this new facility was funded through a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). Public Works staff operates this program under contract with the City and is responsible for collection, management, transportation and disposal of collected HHW. This new facility serves city of Santa Cruz residents and north coast county residents and is open every Saturday from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

The Department of Public Works in conjunction with the CIWMB is also sponsoring and administering a used oil recycling grant program aimed at increasing the recycling opportunities for used motor oil and filters across the entire county. Grant money is made available through the CIWMB and distributed to applicants by Public Works. In exchange for the grant funds for setting up collection stations at retail outlets and automotive service centers, these certified collection stations are advertised as available to all members of the public. All participants are reimbursed with grant funds by the County for expenses incurred for advertising, collection, transportation and recycling used motor oil and filters.

The County was also successful in securing a Regional Oil Grant in the amount of \$650,000 from the CIWMB in 2000. Public Works is the acting administrator for this grant which benefits Santa Cruz County, San Benito County and Monterey County and all the incorporated cities therein. This grant is being used to improved educational outreach to migrant and other rural neighborhoods, set up pilot multi-family oil collection programs in the tri-county area, develop and air commercials regarding regional oil recycling opportunities, and promote the use of re-refined motor oil to residents, commercial fleet operations and the agricultural community.

8. ENDANGERED SPECIES AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

- 8a. *Sensitive Habitats Protection Ordinance: Clarify the protective measures contained in the Sensitive Habitats Protection Ordinance and establish development standards for application, particularly within the sandparklands habitat. This task would require from one to two years to accomplish with appropriate staff allocations. (Planning Department)*

On May 1, 2001, the Board of Supervisors heard a presentation on findings and recommendations from the FishNet 4C Program Director. At that meeting, staff was directed to prepare an implementation plan for the fifteen FishNet 4C Goals for County Policies, Planning and

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Management Practices. On October 16, 2001, the Board received a number of public comment letters regarding the County of Santa Cruz Implementation Plan for FishNet 4C Goals for County Policies, Planning and Management Plan, Final Draft dated October 5, 2001. The Planning Department considered these public comments and incorporated them into a final Implementation Plan on November 20, 2001.

This Implementation Plan proposes implementation actions that build on years of effort by the County to address the protection and enhancement of salmonid habitat. For example, among the six FishNet 4C counties, County of Santa Cruz stands out as having several excellent environmental protection ordinances including the Grading, Erosion Control and Riparian Protection ordinances. In the past few years, Public Works has received several grants, including funds to develop written standards for Road Maintenance, provide training for erosion control, and conduct road inventories in the San Lorenzo and Soquel watersheds. Many of the proposed implementation actions came from staff to improve existing policies and programs. Implementation of the approved recommendations will involve a significant allocation of staff resources for several years.

- 8b. ***Biotic Resources Maps:*** *Update the information contained on the Biotic Resources Maps to accurately reflect current field conditions and incorporate this information into the EMIS and ALUIS computer systems. Such a task would require funding and a multi-year effort to accomplish initially and would then become an ongoing effort as new information becomes available. (Planning Department, Information Services)*

The GIS biotic layer has been updated to include areas underlain by Zayante soils, which support a number of State and federally listed species.

- 8c. ***Salamander Protection (SP) Combining Zone District:*** *Document the habitat boundaries of the newly discovered Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander population and expand the SP Combining Zone District to encompass this area. This work would require a multi-year effort. (California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Planning Department)*

This program refers to the discovery of a new breeding population of salamanders located in Larkin Valley. Due, in part, to County efforts, the property containing the breeding pond is in the process of being purchased by U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the California Department of Fish and Game. The standards which apply in the SP Combining Zone District were developed within the context of the small lots of record which predominate in the vicinity of the breeding ponds known to exist at that time. These standards would need to be significantly revised in order to fit with the land uses and parcel sizes around the new breeding site. Such a revision would require additional staff resources to complete.

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- 8d. ***Feral Pig Eradication:*** *In response to concerns regarding environmental damage caused by a growing local feral pig population, the Feral Pig Advisory Committee, in collaboration with the Agricultural Commissioner, submitted a legislative proposal to the Board of Supervisors for broader County authority to manage this species. The Board of Supervisors has endorsed the proposal, which has been forwarded to Senator Mello along with a request for his sponsorship and assistance in passage of the bill. (Agricultural Commissioner)*

The state legislature adopted new regulations regarding the control of feral pigs in 1997. The California Department of Fish and Game has developed guidelines for the implementation of this regulation change.

- 8e. ***Utilization of University of California Faculty, Staff, and Student Expertise:*** *Develop a close working relationship with U.C. Santa Cruz for the purpose of utilizing faculty, staff, and student expertise in the area of resource protection, enhancement and restoration. Initial discussions with several faculty members regarding a pilot project have been promising. This is anticipated to be an ongoing effort requiring limited additional staff commitment. (Planning Department)*

The Planning Department continues to utilize interns from UCSC to assist in the development of ordinances and policies and to conduct specific research.

- 8f. ***Restoration of Native Vegetation:*** *Establish a program to control or eradicate invasive, non-native plant species and re-establish native vegetation, on County owned or managed land and other lands. This effort would be ongoing and would require the commitment of a significant amount of staff and financial resources. (Parks and Public Works Departments)*

The Department of Public Works completed final closure of the old Ben Lomond Landfill in 1995. A portion of the old landfill site is part of the rare Zayante Sand Hills biotic community and had been disturbed as a result of 40 years of landfill operations. Public Works has been funding the ongoing restoration of this habitat with funds designated for landfill post-closure maintenance. Work is continuing on this project and with the exception of some vandalism, the restoration work is progressing well. The completed project was designed to closely resemble the adjacent undisturbed biotic community and should reach a mature, sustainable level in 3 to 4 more years. As a component of this restoration work, Public Works has been contracting with the Community Action Board to perform invasive weed eradication on the adjacent closed landfill site. The purpose of the weed eradication effort is to eliminate competitive weeds such as French broom and star thistle which are detrimental to the native habitat restoration project. All weed eradication work is being done by hand with no herbicides.

Public Works Road and Drainage Maintenance staff are also targeting the control or removal of various invasive, non-native species (i.e., pampas grass, French broom, and German ivy) in their vegetation control efforts along the County's roadways and drainage channels.

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The Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services has active participation in both protection of endangered species and monitoring the re-establishment of fragile biotic communities. The Department oversees the snowy plover protection program for the North Coast on an ongoing basis and works closely with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory on monitoring the nesting habitat. The dune restoration project at Scott Creek Beach is complete, with an on-going monitoring program. The project was tailored to improve the nesting habitat for the snowy plover and to remove non-native plant material and restore the native vegetation. In addition, the Department monitors native re-vegetation at Davenport Landing Beach, Bonny Doon Beach and oversees the re-establishment of the California Bottle Grass at the Polo Grounds County Park.

- 8g. ***Unique Habitat Protection:*** *Develop a program to protect unique habitat areas including encouraging the recordation of Open Space Easement contracts to protect identified sites. This is envisioned as an ongoing program which could require significant staff and financial resources to accomplish. (Planning Department)*

The Planning Department is involved, along with the Department of Public Works, the City of Scotts Valley, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Fish and Game, the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, and CALTRANS, in evaluating the Geyer Quarry property for possible use as a mitigation bank to be used by individuals involved in development activities in the Zayante sandhill areas of the San Lorenzo Valley and Bonny Doon. In addition, portions of the property may be appropriate for use as a fill disposal site to be used by the Department of Public Works, the City of Scotts Valley, and CALTRANS.

Staff is working with local land trusts and other interest groups to develop a specific type of conservation easement program directed towards the preservation of timberland and riparian corridors. Funding for the acquisition of these easements is available from Proposition 40 funds.

- 8h. ***Public Education:*** *Produce a series of videos covering a variety of resource protection-related topics for public education purposes. Such video production would likely require the commitment of significant staff and financial resources. (Planning Department)*

This program to prepare resource protection videos was deferred due to budgetary/staff constraints. The Planning Department has, however, prepared a series of informational pamphlets on various resource topics that are available at the Planning Department's lobby and on the Department's website.

- 8i. ***In-Stream Flow Studies:*** *Request that the California Department of Fish and Game conduct in-stream flow studies of various major streams in the County as has recently been done for Soquel Creek. The Water Advisory Commission will evaluate the decline in the flows of major streams within the county. A list of water courses for which in-stream flow studies would be useful, by priority ranking, will be developed for submission to the Department of Fish and Game following the concurrence of the Board of Supervisors. (Planning Department)*

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In-stream flow studies are being completed in the San Lorenzo River as part of the San Lorenzo River Watershed Management Plan update. In-stream flow studies are also being addressed in both work programs and in specific watershed assessments for Soquel Creek and Aptos Creek. A drilling program to investigate groundwater/surface water interaction was completed along the lower four miles of Soquel Creek in FY 01-02. Monitoring the interaction is ongoing and results will be evaluated in FY 02-03. This effort was initiated to evaluate perceived declines in the baseflow of Soquel Creek. Other parameters monitored in the in-stream flow studies include temperature, stream discharges, habitat typing, and an inventory of anadromous fish.

Evaluating the reduction in the contribution of groundwater to stream baseflow is an increasing new environmental concern. Most people associate streamflow with rainfall and surface runoff. It is understood by water resource professionals that groundwater contributes to streams in most physiographic and climatic settings. Groundwater systems deliver water from the source of recharge to the source of discharge. In fact, in this manner, groundwater contributes to the volume and duration of streamflow during the dry season. It is this contribution that is commonly referred to as "stream baseflow", the study of which takes up an increasing allocation of staff resources.

- 8j. ***Field Analysis of Impacts from Rural Development:*** *Conduct an intensive, field oriented analysis of the impacts to resources from existing development in the rural areas of the County and develop protective policies and regulations, if appropriate. This is meant to augment the statistical-type Rural Resources Study completed in 1991. A study of this magnitude would require significant staff and financial resources to accomplish. (Planning Department)*

This program has been deferred due to budgetary constraints.

- 8k. ***Prepare a Wildlife Element of the General Plan:*** *Work on the General Plan update is currently focused on the unincorporated urbanized areas of the County. While a Wildlife Element would pertain more to the rural portions of the county, the present work does include an assessment of the stream environments within the urban services line and an evaluation of the adequacy of the County's environmental ordinances to protect these resources. In addition, Planning Department staff is in contact with a UCSC student whose undergraduate thesis deals with the preservation of biodiversity and contains recommendations which could be of interest to the County. These recommendations, as well as other issues pertaining to the protection of local wildlife, will be dealt with during fiscal year 1992-93 as part of the General Plan update process. (Planning Department)*

This program has been deferred due to budgetary constraints.

- 8l. ***Installation of Fish Passage Structures:*** *this program was added in 1992.*

The Public Work Department continues to implement improvements to culverts on fish-bearing streams that include natural bottom design and capacity increases. Examples of recently funded

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projects include culverts on Bonny Doon Road, Kings Creek and Vine Hill Road.

9. DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE LOCAL ECONOMY

- 9a. ***Local Business Retention:*** Retain and expand existing local businesses through the Village Plan preparation process. This task may be accomplished through the staff resources required to conduct the village Plan preparation and General Plan update process. For example, part of the emphasis of the Boulder Creek Town Plan will be to present policies to facilitate local business retention and expansion. Planning staff will also continue to participate in the Village Coordinator process, run by the Village Coordinator. (CAO, and Planning Department)

Two village plans are underway in Corralitos and Aptos. Another plan, Seacliff, was approved by the Board of Supervisors and is pending Coastal Commission review.. The goals of these plans is to create a regulatory framework to allow local businesses and residences to continue, and to promote appropriate levels of design review and public improvements to facilitate economic growth in the community.

- 9b. ***Local Resource Use:*** Promote industries which are reclaimed resources from the Materials Recovery Facility for producing products to be used locally (glassphalt paving, cellulose insulation, etc.). This is envisioned as an ongoing effort which can be carried out with existing staff resources. (CAO and Planning Department)

Public Works continues to sponsor programs aimed at development of local reuse programs for recyclable materials collected locally.

- 9c. ***Economic Development Strategy:*** this program was added in 1994.

Implementation of the approved county-wide economic development strategy continues.

10. FUTURE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- 10a. ***General Plan Update:*** As the General Plan Update continues, Long-Range Planning staff and consultants are seriously considering the directives of Measure C as land use alternatives and policy recommendations are developed. This activity will continue as the Update proceeds. (Planning Department)

The principals of Measure C were incorporated into the 1994 County General Plan. The next General Plan update, scheduled for the next 3-4 years, will continue to incorporate the principals and policies of this Chapter.

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- 10b. **Water Conservation:** Resources Planning staff is developing a Water Conservation Ordinance and proposals to amend existing regulations for the purpose of conserving, to the maximum extent feasible, local water resources. Some of the proposals may require drought tolerant landscaping, ultra low flow toilet installation accompanying septic system repair permits, and low flow water fixture retrofit standards. The Water Advisory Commission will be approached for their input on these proposals, which will ultimately be brought before the Board of Supervisors for consideration. This effort will require interdepartmental coordination and a significant allocation of staff resources. (Planning Department with direction from the Water Advisory Commission, Environmental Health)

Planning staff in the water resources management section are reviewing and amending water conservation ordinances, largely in conjunction with staff from the City of Santa Cruz and other large purveyors. Proposed or revised ordinances are intended to amend existing regulations for the purpose of conserving local water resources to the maximum extent feasible, and to reduce demands associated with future water supply development efforts. Proposals in FY 01-02 will require ultra low flow toilet installation accompanying septic system repair permits, and upon re-sale of houses with older plumbing equipment. Staff also coordinated a year long media campaign promoting various aspects of water awareness and water conservation. The combined effort continues to require interdepartmental coordination and coordination with the larger purveyors, ultimately involving a significant allocation of staff resources. The Department of General Services are testing waterless and ultra low water using facilities in advance of retrofitting older plumbing fixtures in County owned building.

- 10c. **County Water Master Plan:** Update the 1985 North County Water Master Plan with the objective of creating a more specific, useable tool for analyzing land use decisions affecting water resources. Include an investigation of the potential for groundwater recharge and off stream winter storage projects in the County as part of this update. This undertaking would require the commitment of additional financial resources. (Planning Department)

All the County's larger water districts, with the exception of Central Water District, would acknowledge water shortages and the need to develop additional supply for present and future needs. The County Water Resources Manager is working to promote a vision of regional shared conjunctive use of surface and groundwater resources in the lower San Lorenzo Valley. The conjunctive use proposal relies on utilizing existing sand quarries to bank water in existing aquifers. The proposal, as envisioned, would provide both direct and indirect benefits to stream baseflow. County water resources staff is gathering the technical information to help promote understanding of hydrological and hydrogeological issues associated with the conceptual proposal for conjunctive water use. Grant funding to study the feasibility of the proposal will be solicited. Developing and disseminating technical information continues to involve a significant allocation of staff resources.

General Services continues to include plumbing upgrades for water and energy conservation as a continuing program element within the Facilities Maintenance division work plan

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- 10d. ***Agricultural Conservation Easements:** As indicated under recommendation number 5b, "Agricultural and Open Space Easements," Planning Department staff is actively monitoring potential sources of funding for continuation of the existing Agricultural Conservation Easement program. This is anticipated to be an ongoing effort and as such will be included in future years' work programs. (Planning Department)*

The Agricultural Conservation Easement (ACE) Program was developed as a tool to utilize grant funds from the California Wildlife, Coastal and Park Land Conservation Act (Proposition 70) for the acquisition of conservation easement on commercially viable agricultural lands. All funds were utilized for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements on a portion of the Coast Dairies and Land Company property and on a parcel in Watsonville.

Grant funds for future acquisitions of agricultural conservation easement are available through the Department of Conservation's California Farmland Conservancy Program and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Farmland Protection Program.

11. Transportation

Because transportation is a primary concern of Santa Cruz County residents, it shall be the policy of Santa Cruz County government to use its powers and resources to continually improve the County's transportation system in a manner which reduces traffic congestion and preserves the environmental quality of Santa Cruz County. It shall be the policy of Santa Cruz County to support transportation programs, such as transportation demand management, various types of transportation, emissions controls, proper road maintenance, and other programs which may address the transportation needs of county residents.

Transportation and the upkeep of our roads is a primary concern of the residents of Santa Cruz County. Proper road maintenance, therefore, is an important part of Redevelopment policy. This year, with Redevelopment Agency financing, a number of roadways will be improved through the Public Works Department's Pavement Management Program to help enhance the quality of County streets.

See programs 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, and 2h above.

The Public Works Department is actively working on a habitat restoration and erosion control program that will provide guidelines for our road, bridge, drainage, and sanitation improvement projects. Training workshops will then be given to help implement the new standards.

Heavier traffic loads throughout the County have led to extensive degrading of the road system. Improvement of the streets with overlays while installing drains, curbs, and gutters is a natural

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extension of the Redevelopment Agency's drainage projects and complies with the County's Pavement Management policy. The Avenues Drainage Project, covering 30th and 32nd Avenues, as well as Calla and Hawes Streets, afforded the opportunity to improve the quality of over 1900 lineal feet of roadway.

Drainage - This year has seen the incorporation of a new drainage device in the Redevelopment Agency's road and drainage projects. The "CDS Units", which have become the new standard, are part of a storm water pollution prevention program established to provide cleaner run-off of storm water into the Monterey Bay, thereby affecting the National Marine Sanctuary. Two of these units were installed during the Capitola Road Improvement Project and another two with the Avenues Drainage Project that encompasses 30th, 32nd and 33rd Avenues and the surrounding area.

The Regional Transportation Commission promotes the use of alternatives to driving alone such as carpooling, vanpooling, bicycling, walking, telecommuting, and transit use through its Commute Solutions program, and various promotions. The Commission has implemented a Rideshare Week promotion for 18 years, organized a showcase of alternatively fueled vehicles through a Clean Air Transportation Fair, and has been coordinating an on-going program to provide financial incentives to vanpoolers. The Commission also sponsors Bike-to-Work events and coordinates with local jurisdictions on alternative transportation public education efforts.

The Commission conducted another round of the Bikes Secure program to subsidize high quality bike parking throughout the County. The program was also changed to a year round program so applications may be submitted at any time. In FY 2001/2002, the Commission assisted local jurisdictions in updating their bicycle plans to maintain eligibility for state bicycle project funding. The Commission's ongoing bike hazard reporting program continued to identify and eliminate problems for bicyclists. The Commission's Bicycle Committee continues to work with Caltrans and local jurisdictions to improve bike facilities throughout the County.

The Commission completed the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in 2001. The Commission approved a list of policies and projects which include roadway capacity enhancements, transit improvements, bike and pedestrian facilities and regional planning programs which improve air quality and reduce congestion on the local transportation network. The 2001 Regional Transportation Plan was released in December 2001.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 - 2002 SUMMARY**

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments - 2002
1. OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING			
Improved Oil Spill Contingency Planning			
1a	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Continue involvement in Coast Guard Planning Process Emergency Response. OSPR funds granted for 9th year.
Marine Resources Atlas			
1b	Completed in 1992	Implemented in FY 1991-92	No longer accurate or in-use. County GIS system now in use for same purpose.
Marine Resources Atlas Update/Clearinghouse			
1c	Completed/Out-of-date	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Program's software and hardware no longer functioning due to technological advances. Documentation continues by Moss Landing and UCSC Longs Marine Laboratories Marine Lab
Inter-Agency Monterey Bay Sanctuary Task Force			
1d	Initiated FY 1993-94	Plan adopted 5/6/97	Ongoing projects include the Sanctuary Scenic Trail, Sanctuary Education Program and the Sanctuary Oriented Visitors Center
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program			
1e	Ongoing	Initiated in FY 1995-96	Purpose is to cooperatively formulate and carry out strategies for addressing a range of water quality and watershed issues. WOPP members have formed a coalition of Farm Bureaus to develop proactive approach to reducing water quality problems; a pilot project, initiated in the Watsonville Slough area, continues.
2. GLOBAL WARMING AND RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES			
Jobs/Housing/Transportation Analysis			
2a	Completed	Completed	Analysis completed in 1998.
Fixed Guideway Development			
2b	Ongoing	1) MTIS completed; 2) Date for branch line improvements/acquisition uncertain	Purchase of rail ROW for future train service and bike/pedestrian accessway in process.
Improve Bicycle Facilities			
2c	Ongoing	Additional projects completed each year	Bike facilities improvements continue consistent with County's Bike Plan. DPW and RDA projects include completion of the Wilder Ranch Bike Path, a feasibility study for a SC to SLV bike corridor, and a SC to SV bikeway, and numerous improvements to local roads to enhance bicycling opportunities

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 – 2002 SUMMARY

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
Improve Bus Transit			
2d	Initiated in FY 1993-94	Consolidated maintenance, operations & administration facility expected in 2004	Ridership remains high.
Improve Pedestrian Facilities			
2e	Ongoing	Additional facilities constructed each fiscal year	Sidewalk and road improvements made in a variety of locations. DPW and RDA projects include numerous improvements to local roads to enhance pedestrian opportunities. Additional projects in CIP.
Improve Park and Ride Lot Facilities			
2f	Ongoing	Ongoing	Future lots are under evaluation. New issue, bicycle safety at park and ride lots.
Transportation Control Measures			
2g	Ongoing	Ongoing	County and cities opt out of CMP requirements. Region complies with all air quality standards. TRO implementation continues as a voluntary program.
Permit Conditions to Mitigate Transportation Impacts			
2h	Ongoing	Continuous	All projects are conditioned to require the installation of improvements along property frontages and to require the payment of appropriate impact fees relating the need for roadside and transportation system improvements in the community. Alternative transportation funding has not been factored into the impact fees.
County Commute Alternative Program			
2i	Ongoing	Implementation continuing	Two CNG powered vans purchased for use as vanpool vehicles for County employees residing in south County area.
Tune-ups and Inspections			
2j	Ongoing	Fleet Management System in FY 1999/00	Fleet Management System stresses preventative maintenance and includes biennial smog inspections and factory recommended service.
Tire Pressure Maintenance			
2k	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Decals installed in all fleet vehicles with reminders for tire pressure checks.
County Employee Driving Habits			
2l	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Two hour driving training program for new employees continues
Mileage Standards and Vehicle Retirement			
2m	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1994-95	Older vehicles being retired.
Alternative Fuels			
2n	Ongoing	Development process	Landfill methane study completed; power generating facility to be constructed by

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 – 2002 SUMMARY

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
		implemented in FY 1991-92. Landfill gas electrical facility constructed in Fall 1999.	2002 capable of generating 2 – 3 megawatts. Two natural gas vehicle fuel dispenser sites completed. Completion pending financial and other resources.
Energy Management System			
2o	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1992-93, continuous	Significant cost savings and energy conservation rebates have been realized at County facilities.
Lighting and HVAC Systems Conversions			
2p	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1992-93	Lighting retrofits at Gov't Center complete. Large HVAC system retrofit in future plans. Emeline facility retrofits underway.
Employee Bicycle Pool			
2q	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Bicycles and helmets continue to be available to County employees for local work trips. GSD coordinated Bike-to-Work day
Street Tree Program			
2r	Ongoing	Approved for implementation in FY 1992-93. Additional planting completed yearly.	Projects completed in FY 2001 include tree plantings Capitola Road in Soquel Village at bridge.
Reduction in Emissions			
2s	Completed	Completed in 2001-2002	County Planning has expanded operations at the North County Planning Office and has opened the South County Planning Office in Aptos. Both offices were partially funded by Clean Air Act grants to reduce emissions by reducing the driving distance for Planning customers.
3. PROTECTION OF THE OZONE LAYER			
Fire Extinguishers			
3a	Deferred		Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
HVAC Systems			
3b	Completed	1993-94	Completed
Freon Recovery			
3c	Ongoing		Freon continues to be removed from appliances recycled at Buena Vista Landfill.
4. FOREST PROTECTION AND RESTORATION			
Forest Practice Study			
4a	Deferred	See comments	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 – 2002 SUMMARY**

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
Old Growth Timber			
4b	Completed	N/a	Forest Practice Rule amendment pending to define and protect old growth.
Ordinance Enforcement			
4c	Grant completed; program ongoing	Grant work completed in 1994	Enhancement of enforcement work resulted from the grant. This work is ongoing. District Attorney continues to prosecute violators.
Significant Tree Ordinance			
4d	Ongoing	General Plan update	Amendments to be considered as a part of next General Plan update.
Stream Care Guide Yearly Mailing			
4e	In Process	Ongoing	Grant received from CA Dept of Fish and Game to revise and distribute County's Stream Care Guide to all 8,850 streamside residents, and to extend program to mail to new residents on quarterly basis.
Adopt-a-Stream Program			
4f	Partially Deferred; ongoing	Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required to create formal program, however, staff participates in and supports the creation of community/watershed based Coordinated Resource Management and Planning groups in local watersheds (Soquel Creek, Corralitos Creek, San Lorenzo River, Arana Gulch)
Public Education			
4g	Partially Deferred; ongoing	Implementation date uncertain	Formal education and outreach program has not been developed due to budget constraints, however, staff is active in providing public education at RCD workshops and other local training activities
Work with Resource Conservation District			
4h	Ongoing	Ongoing	County staff continues to work with RCD staff on watershed assessments of Soquel Creek, Arana Gulch and the lower Pajaro watersheds, as well as the Watsonville Slough complex.
5. GREENBELT PROTECTION AND RESTORATION			
Urban Services Line			
5a	Completed	Initiated in FY 1991-92; Completed in FY 1994-95;	No changes since correction in 1996. Any new changes would not occur until the next General Plan update.
Agricultural and Open Space Easements			
5b	Ongoing	Grant program completed; OSE program ongoing	ACE funds expended to purchase the Ag. Conservation Easements on two properties; additional funding is being sought for additional Ag Conservation Easements; OSE

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 – 2002 SUMMARY

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
			contract amendment procedures subject to amendment by BOS in future.
Septic Systems Requirements			
5c	Completed	Completed	Lot sizes for new lots = 1 acre+. Development on existing lots less than 1 acre acceptable under specific circumstances.
Open Space District			
5d	Uncertain	Comprehensive cost/benefit analysis required. Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
Transfer of Development Credits			
5e	Uncertain	Comprehensive cost/benefit analysis required. Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
Natural Resource Protection County Service Area			
5f	Deferred	Comprehensive cost/benefit analysis required. Implementation date uncertain	Options continue to be evaluated.
Park Planning			
5g	Ongoing	Ongoing	Numerous projects underway or completed throughout County (see narrative)
6. RECYCLING			
County Parks Recycling			
6a	Deferred	FY 2001-2002	Program has been deferred due to funding constraints.
Road Maintenance Program			
6b	Ongoing	Ongoing	Pavement Management Program proceeding.
Source Reduction			
6c	Ongoing	Ongoing	Promotion of home composting, 7000 worm and home compost bins distributed. Over 205 home composting workshops given. Hired a full time public education coordinator to facilitate public information program and the continuing community-wide education/outreach program
Residential Recycling			
6d	Ongoing	Ongoing	New curbside recycling program provides universal service.
Commercial Recycling			
6e	Ongoing	Ongoing	Since 1995, 50 grants of \$750,000 have been approved for recycling related programs.

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2001 – 2002 SUMMARY**

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
Composting			
6f	Ongoing	Ongoing.	Yardwaste/woodwaste diversion program operating; 16% of landfill waste stream diverted by program
Public Education			
6g	Ongoing	Ongoing	Public Education Coordinator hired. Ongoing efforts include publishing of newspaper ads, creation of a 24-hour phone hotline, and presentations to schools and organizations.
Economic Development			
6h	Ongoing	Ongoing	Businesses have received Recycling Market Development Zone loans totaling more than \$1,000,000; surveys being used to target end-market users.
National Materials Policy Development			
6i	Ongoing	Ongoing	Support for legislation regarding recycling market bills.
Public Works Engineering Liaison			
6j	Ongoing	Ongoing	Resource Planner assigned to DPW as specialist in erosion control and habitat restoration program implementation.
Recycling Household Batteries			
6k	Ongoing	Ongoing	Household batteries collected at landfill and curbside recycling; contract with Phillips Environmental Services for recycling/reclamation.
Recycling Containers at County Facilities			
6l	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92; ongoing	400 tons of recyclable materials collected annually; savings of over \$11,000 in disposal fees.
7. TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS			
Regulations Regarding Medical Waste Disposal			
7a	Ongoing	Implemented in 1991-92	Medical waste program fully assimilated into routine workload of Environmental Health staff. DA's office investigating underground storage tanks.
Toxics Education Program			
7b	Ongoing	Initiated in FY 1995-96	24-Hour phone hotline activated; additional programs described in Program 6i.
Hazardous Materials Compliance Officer			
7c	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Program analyst provides oversight in County's Hazardous Materials Management program and in the County's asbestos abatement in County facilities.
Household Hazardous Waste Collection			
7d	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92.	Collection of household hazardous waste at Ben Lomond and Buena Vista landfill. In

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
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Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
			2001, 1,300,000 lbs. of hazardous waste removed. New facility opened at the Santa Cruz City landfill. See narrative for further update on other programs.
Wellhead Protection			
7e			
8. ENDANGERED SPECIES AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY			
Sensitive Habitats Protection Ordinance			
8a	Ongoing	Ongoing	List of consultants for Habitat Conservation Plans prepared. Sensitive Habitats Ordinance to be updated as a part of future General Plan updates. Zayante soils layer added to biotic mapping for sand hills habitat.
Biotic Resources Map			
8b	Ongoing	Ongoing	Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB) maps are purchased annually. Information from biotic reports to be included in computer mapping system.
Salamander Protection			
8c	Deferred	Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
Feral Pig Eradication			
8d	Ongoing	Implemented in FY 1991-92	Fish and Game adopted changes to the depredation permit to ease property destruction. Trapping advice given to interested property owners. Wild pig brochure distributed. SB 329 signed into law.
Utilization of University of California			
8e	Ongoing	Initiated in FY 1991-92	Interns used by Planning Department on resource related tasks
Restoration of Native Vegetation			
8f	Ongoing	Ongoing	Parks, Public Works, Ag. Commissioner, Ag. Extension and District Attorney's office have current programs.
Unique Habitat Protection			
8g	Ongoing	2001-2002	Multi-jurisdictional effort regarding the establishment of a land banking program in the Zayante sand hills habitat of the San Lorenzo Valley and Bonny Doon areas. OES coordinating grant for HCP relating to fire safety. Conservation easements for riparian corridors and timberland under Proposition 40 being explored.
Public Education			
8h	Deferred	Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required. Brochures available.
In-Stream Flow Studies			
8i	Ongoing	Ongoing	In-stream flow studies being done as a part of San Lorenzo River Watershed

**ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
2001 – 2002 SUMMARY**

Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
			Management Plan update and on Soquel and Aptos Creeks. Groundwater/surface water interaction study in progress on Soquel Creek. Strategic plan for additional studies being developed.
Analysis of Rural Development Impacts			
8j	Deferred	Comprehensive cost/benefit analysis required. Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
General Plan Wildlife Element			
8k	Deferred	Comprehensive cost/benefit analysis required. Implementation date uncertain	Major commitment of additional staff/capital resources required.
Installation of Fish Passage Structures			
8l	Ongoing	Ongoing Implementation	Public Works continuing to implement fish ladders where practicable as determined by Fish and Game.
9. DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE LOCAL ECONOMY			
Local Business Retention			
9a	Ongoing	Ongoing	Village plan in Seaciff completed, pending Coastal Commission review. Corralitos Community Plan underway. Aptos Village Plan update program pending BOS review.
Local Resource Use			
9b	Ongoing	Full implementation will occur at an undetermined future date.	Second printing of Santa Cruz County Buy Recycled Guide distributed.
Economic Development Strategy			
9c	Ongoing	Strategy adopted in FY 1994-95	Strategy focuses on economics as one of the community's values, within the context of protecting and enhancing the community's quality of life.
10. FUTURE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT			
General Plan Update			
10a	Ongoing	Work schedule pending	Principles incorporated into 1994 General Plan update. Future updates will continue this practice.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES TO GUIDE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
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Ordinance Recommendation	Status	Implementation Schedule	Comments – 2002
Water Conservation			
10b	Ongoing	Ongoing	Water conservation ordinance development in process, in conjunction with large water purveyors (see narrative for more details).
County Water Master Plan			
10c	Deferred	Implementation date uncertain	Staff continues to work with water purveyors to define extent of water demands and sources of new water.
Agricultural Conservation Easements			
10d	Completed	Completed	In 1998, Board approved use of grant funds for ag. conservation easements for Coast Dairies and the Cardoza Ranch.
11. TRANSPORTATION			
	Ongoing	Ongoing	Numerous programs are in existence and being developed to address the issues of transportation in the County. These programs include pavement management; road, bridge, culvert, drainage and sanitation facilities improvement; transportation alternatives; updating the Regional transportation Plan and reducing congestion in local parks.