

Chapter 10
Glossary

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100-Year (or Base) Flood - A flood event that statistically has a 1 out of 100 (or one percent) chance of being equaled or exceeded on a specific watercourse in any given year. A flood event of this magnitude is often used to determine if flood insurance is either advisable or required on a property.

Acre-foot - Amount of water it takes to cover an acre of land to a depth of one foot; about 326,000 gallons. An acre-foot can supply the annual needs of between one and two average California households.

Acres, Gross - The entire acreage of a site. Most communities calculate gross acreage to the centerline of proposed bounding streets and to the edge of the right-of-way of existing or dedicated streets.

Acres, Net - The portion of a site that can actually be built upon. The following generally are not included in the net acreage of a site: public or private road rights-of-way, public open space, and flood ways.

Active fault - As defined by the California Division of Mines and Geology, a fault that has shown displace within Holocene time (last 11,000 years). For planning purposes, such faults can be expected to move within the next hundred years.

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act.

Adverse Impact - A negative consequence for the physical, social, or economic environment resulting from an action or project.

Affordability Requirements - Provisions established by a public agency to require that a specific percentage of housing units in a project or development remain affordable to very low- and low- income households for a specified period.

Affordable Housing - Housing capable of being purchased or rented by a household with very low, low, or moderate income, based on a household's ability to make monthly payments necessary to obtain housing. Housing is considered affordable when a household pays less than 30 percent of its gross monthly income (GMI) for housing including utilities.

Agency - The governmental entity, department, office, or administrative unit responsible for carrying out regulations.

Agricultural Preserve - Land designated for agriculture or conservation. (See "Williamson Act.")

Agriculture - Use of land for the production of food and fiber, including the growing of crops and/or the grazing of animals on natural prime or improved pasture land.

AIM - Advanced Infrastructure Mitigation.

Air Pollution - Concentrations of substances found in the atmosphere that exceed naturally occurring quantities and are undesirable or harmful in some way.

Alluvial - Pertaining to or composed of alluvium, or deposited by a stream or running water.

Alluvial deposit - Alluvium, clay, silt, sand, gravel, or cobble deposited by rivers and streams over long periods of time.

Alluvium - A general term for clay, silt, sand, gravel or similar unconsolidated detrital material deposited during comparatively recent geologic time by a stream or other body of running water as a sort or semi-sorted sediment in the bed of the stream or on its flood plain or delta, or as a cone or fan at the base of the mountain.

ALS - Advanced Life Support.

Annex, v. - To incorporate a land area into an existing district or municipality, with a resulting change in the boundaries of the annexing jurisdiction.

ANSI - American National Standards Institute.

Aquifer - Geologic formation that is water bearing and permeable and yields economically significant amounts of water to wells or springs.

Aquifer system - Regional set of interbedded geologic formations within a groundwater basin.

Archaeology - The study of historic or prehistoric people and their cultures by analysis of their artifacts, inscriptions, monuments, and other remains.

Area of Interest - That area having a direct physical and social influence on a city's planning area but not appropriate for annexation.

Assessed Valuation - A valuation set upon real estate or other real property by a government as a basis for levying property taxes.

Assisted Housing - Generally multi-family rental housing, but sometimes single-family ownership units, whose construction, financing, sales prices, or rents have been subsidized by federal, State, or local housing programs including, but not limited to Federal Section 8 (new construction, substantial rehabilitation, and loan management set-asides), Federal Sections 213, 236, and 202, Federal Section 221(d)(3) (below-market interest rate program), Federal Section 101 (rent supplement assistance), CDBG, FmHA Section 515, multi-family mortgage revenue bond programs, local redevelopment and in lieu fee programs, and units developed pursuant to local inclusionary housing and density bonus programs. By January 1, 1992, all California Housing Elements are required to address the preservation or replacement of assisted housing that is eligible to change to market rate housing by 2002.

Average Dry Weather Flow - The average amount of water flowing through a system (often wastewater treatment) during dry weather.

Backfill - The placement of fill material within a specified depression, hole or excavation pit below the surrounding adjacent ground level, as a means of improving flood water conveyance, or to restore the land to the natural contours existing prior to excavation.

BART - San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District.

Base Flood - A flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Base Flood Elevation (BFE) - The elevation shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map for Zones AE, AH, A1-A30, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/A1-A30, AR/AH, AR/AO, V1-V30, and VE that indicates the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a one percent chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year.

Blight - A condition of a site, structure, or area that may cause nearby buildings and/or areas to decline in attractiveness and/or utility. The Community Redevelopment Law (Health and Safety Code, Sections 33031 and 33032) contains a definition of blight used to determine eligibility of proposed redevelopment project areas.

BLS - Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Blueprint Project – An interactive community based transportation and land use study prepared by SACOG to help the greater Sacramento Region identify growth trends and develop solutions on how to grow, where to grow, how to manage travel and traffic circulation, and how growth will affect our environment.

BMP - Best management practice policy, rule, or regulation that results in greater efficiency or benefits.

Board of Supervisors - A county's legislative body. Board members are elected by popular vote and are responsible for enacting ordinances, imposing taxes, making appropriations, and establishing county policy. The board adopts the general plan, zoning, and subdivision regulations.

BOD - Biological Oxygen Demand.

Buildout; Build-out - Development of land to its full potential or theoretical capacity as permitted under current or proposed planning or zoning designations. (See "Carrying Capacity.")

CalWORKS - California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids.

Capacity - The number of students a school can accommodate. May include the use of portable school buildings.

Capital Project - A specific undertaking involving procurement, construction or installation of facilities or related equipment which improves, preserves, enhances or modernizes the City's provision of municipal services, has a useful life of at least five years and which costs in excess of \$10,000.

CARB - California Air Resources Board.

Catch Basin - A chamber or well, usually built at the curb line of a street, for the admission of surface water to a storm sewer or sub-drain.

CBD-The traditional business core of the community, often characterized by a high concentration of business activity relative to residential uses.

CCJPA - Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority.

CCR - California Code of Regulations.

CCSCE - Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy.

CCTSP - Central City Transportation Strategic Plan.

Census - The official decennial enumeration of the population conducted by the federal government.

Central Basin - Common name for the central area of the groundwater basin in Sacramento County.

Central Business District (CBD) - The major commercial downtown center of a community. General guidelines for delineating a downtown area are defined by the U.S. Census of Retail Trade, with specific boundaries being set by the local municipality.

CEQA - California Environmental Quality Act.

CERT - Community Emergency Response Team.

CES - Current Employment Statistics.

CFS - The measuring unit of cubic feet per second (cfs), which is used to quantify the amount of flow in a wash. A cubic foot is equivalent to 7.5 gallons of water. Thus, one cfs is 7.5 gallons of water passing by you every second.

Channel - An open conveyance of surface stormwater having a bottom and sides in a linear configuration. Channels can be natural or man-made. Channels have levees or dikes along their sides to build up their depth. Constructed channels can be plain earth, landscaped, or lined with concrete, stone, or any other hard surface to resist erosion and scour.

CIP - Capital Improvement Program.

City - City of Sacramento.

City - City with a capital "C" generally refers to the government or administration of a city. City with a lower case "c" may mean any city or may refer to the geographical area of a city (e.g., the city bikeway system).

City Council - A city's legislative body. The popularly elected city council is responsible for enacting ordinances, imposing taxes, making appropriations, establishing policy, and hiring some city officials. The council adopts the local general plan, zoning, and subdivision ordinance.

City water – Water diverted pursuant to the City's water rights and entitlements.

Citywide/Regional Parks - Larger sites developed with a wide range of improvements usually not found in local neighborhood or community facilities to meet the needs of the entire City population.

CMISP – The County Medically Indigent Services Program is designed to meet the healthcare needs of individuals in the community who are not otherwise eligible for healthcare programs such as Medi-Cal, Medicare, or private health insurance, and who meet the County’s “last resort” socioeconomic eligibility standards.

CMP - Sacramento Coordinated Water Quality Monitoring Program.

CNEL - Community Noise Exposure Level. This is essentially equivalent to L_{dn} .

CO - Carbon monoxide.

Commercial - A land use classification that permits facilities for the buying and selling of commodities and services.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - A grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on a formula basis for entitlement communities, and by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for non-entitled jurisdictions. This grant allots money to cities and counties for housing rehabilitation and community development, including public facilities and economic development.

Community Park - Land with full public access intended to provide recreation opportunities beyond those supplied by neighborhood parks. Community parks are larger in scale than neighborhood parks but smaller than regional parks.

Community Parks - Generally 10 to 60 acres in size and have a service area of two to three miles, which encompasses several neighborhoods and meets the requirements of a large portion of the City.

Community Plan -- A portion of the local general plan that focuses on a particular area or community within the city or county. Community plans supplement the policies of the general plan.

Community Service Area - A geographic subarea of a city or county used for the planning and delivery of parks, recreation, and other human services based on an assessment of the service needs of the population in that subarea.

Compatible - Capable of existing together without conflict or ill effects.

Cone of depression - A depression of the water table surface in the shape of an inverted cone. Localized cones of depression develop around a well or wells that are being pumped. Regional cones of depression occur from long-term pumping in a groundwater basin.

Confined aquifer - Has a confining layer at the top, causing the groundwater to be under pressure.

Consistency, Consistent With - Free from significant variation or contradiction. The various diagrams, text, goals, policies, and programs in the general plan must be consistent with each other, not contradictory or preferential. The term "consistent with" is used interchangeably with "conformity with." The courts have held that the phrase "consistent with" means "agreement with; harmonious with." Webster defines "conformity with" as meaning harmony, agreement when used with "with." The term "conformity"

means in harmony therewith or agreeable to (Sec 58 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 21, 25 [1975]). California State law also requires that a general plan be internally consistent and also requires consistency between a general plan and implementation measures such as the zoning ordinance.

Consolidated material - Soil or rocks that have become firm as a result of compaction.

Consolidated rock - Mineral particles of different sizes and shapes that have been welded together into a solid mass by heat and pressure or chemical reactions. Examples of rocks important for groundwater include limestone, dolomite, shale, siltstone, sandstone, and conglomerate.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) - A statistical measure of change, over time, in the prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups typically purchased by urban consumers, such as food, housing, apparel, transportation, and health and recreation. Essentially, it measures the purchasing powers of consumers' dollars by comparing what a sample "market basket" of goods and services costs today with what it cost at an earlier date.

Contaminant plume - An elongated body of groundwater containing contaminants that originate and migrate from a source within subsurface soils, rocks, or unconsolidated deposits.

Contamination (water) - The addition to water of any substance or property preventing the use or reducing the usability of the water.

Council of Governments - There are 25 COGs in California made up of elected officials from member cities and counties. COGs are regional agencies concerned primarily with transportation planning and housing; they do not directly regulate land use.

County - County with a capital "C" generally refers to the government or administration of a county. County with a lower case "c" may mean any county or may refer to the geographical area of a county (e.g., the county road system).

Craftsman Bungalow Style – Housing style characterized by low-pitched gabled roof, shed or gabled dormers, multi-pane sash over large pane window, square column bases and porches, either full or partial-width.

CRHR - California Register of Historical Resources.

CSCGF - Central Sacramento County Groundwater Forum Group of stakeholders formed under the aegis of the Water Forum Successor Effort to develop recommendations for Central Basin groundwater.

CSS - The combined sewer system transports both wastewater and drainage flows.

CTP – California Transportation Plan.

CVRWQCB - Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

CWTP - Combined Wastewater Treatment Plant.

dB - decibel.

dba - A-weighted decibels.

Decon - De-contamination Team.

Deep percolation - The percolation of surface water through the ground and beyond the lower limit of the root zone of plants into a groundwater basin or aquifer.

Delineation - Defining the physical boundaries of a stream, floodplain, jurisdictional wash, etc.

Demographics - Physical characteristics of a population, including age, sex, income, geographic location.

Density, Residential - The number of permanent residential dwelling units per acre of land. Densities specified in the General Plan may be expressed in units per gross acre or per net developable acre. (See "Acres, Gross," and "Developable Acres, Net").

Deposit - Something dropped or left behind by moving water, as sand or mud.

Design Discharge - The n^{th} -year storm for which it is expected that the structure or facility is designed to accommodate.

Detention Basin - A basin or reservoir where water is stored for regulating a flood. It has outlets for releasing the flows during the floods.

Developable Acres, Net - The portion of a site that can be used for density calculations. Some communities calculate density based on gross acreage. Public or private road rights-of-way are not included in the net developable acreage of a site.

Development - A man-made change to property, such as buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation, or drilling operations.

Discharge - The amount of water that passes a specific point on a watercourse over a given period of time. Rates of discharge are usually measured in cubic feet per second (cfs).

DOC - Dissolved Organic Carbon.

DOF - Department of Finance.

DOT - Division of Training.

DPP – Domestic Preparedness Program.

Drainage Basin - A geographical area which contributes surface water runoff to a particular point. The terms "drainage basin," "tributary area," and "watershed" can be used interchangeably.

Drainage Clearance - The approval by the Maricopa County Drainage Administrator of a grading and drainage plan to develop a site. This plan may be a site plan or an engineered grading and drainage plan.

DRD – Design Review District.

Dwelling Unit - A room or group of rooms (including sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation facilities, but not more than one kitchen), which constitutes an independent housekeeping unit, occupied or intended for occupancy by one household on a long-term basis.

DWR - California Department of Water Resources; State agency responsible for managing the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies to benefit California residents and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments.

Earthquake - Perceptible trembling to violent shanking of the ground, produced by sudden displacement of rock below and at the earth's surface.

Economic Base - Economic Base theory essentially holds that the structure of the economy is made up of two broad classes of productive effort, basic activities that produce and distribute goods and services for export to firms and individuals outside a defined localized economic area, and nonbasic activities whose goods and services are consumed at home within the boundaries of the local economic area. Viewed another way, basic activity exports goods and services and brings new dollars into the area; non-basic activity recirculates dollars within the area. This distinction holds that the reason for the growth of a particular region is its capacity to provide the means of payment for raw materials, food, and services that the region cannot produce itself and also support the nonbasic activities that are principally local in productive scope and market area. (See "Industry, Basic" and "Industry, Non-basic").

EDD - Employment Development Department.

ELI - Electric Lightwave, Inc.

Embankment - A man-made earth structure constructed for the purpose of impounding water.

Emergency Spillway - An outflow from a detention/retention facility that provides for the safe overflow of floodwaters for large storms that exceed the design capacity of the outlet or in the event of a malfunction. The emergency spillway prevents the water from overtopping the facility.

Employment Center - A North Natomas land use designation and zone that encourages a mixture of land uses consisting primarily of employment generators (office uses), with limited secondary uses such as support retail, industrial, and multifamily residential. Employment Center land uses vary in intensity from 30 to 80 employees per net acre with the most intense Employment Center designations located near future light rail stations.

EMS - Emergency Medical Services.

EMT - Emergency Medical Technician.

Encroachment - The result of placing a building, fence, berm or other structure in a floodplain in a manner that obstructs or increases the depth (or velocity) of flow on a watercourse.

Endemic - Plant or wildlife species that only occur in a certain area, or in a certain habitat.

EOC - Emergency Operating Center.

EPA - Environmental Protection Agency.

Epicenter - An area of the surface of the earth directly above the focus (true center of an earthquake, within which the strain energy is first converted to elastic wave energy of an earthquake.

Erosion - Movement of material (such as soil) from one place to another on the earth's surface. Agents of movement include water, ice, wind, and gravity.

Erosion - The collapse, undermining, or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water. Erosion is a covered peril if it is caused by waves or currents of water exceeding their cyclical levels which result in flooding.

Ethnology - The study of cultures, specifically pertaining to historical development and the origin, distribution, and distinguishing characteristics of the races of humankind.

Expansion (shrink-swell) potential - The relative volume change in a soil with a gain in moisture. Expansive soils are those that greatly increase in volume when they absorb water and shrink when they dry out.

Expenditure - Use of an appropriation to purchase goods and services (including service of employees) necessary to carry out the responsibilities of a department of organization.

Extrapolation - Estimating a future value based on historical trends. An extrapolation extends the trend of past values.

FAA - Federal Aviation Administration.

Facultative - Facultative plants are those species equally likely to occur in wetlands or uplands.

Farmland - Refers to eight classifications of land mapped by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. The five agricultural classifications defined below - except Grazing Land - do not include publicly owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use.

Farmland of Local Importance - Farmland of Local Importance (as defined by the Department of Conservation) is land of importance to the local agricultural economy as determined by each county's board of supervisors and a local advisory committee.

Farmland of Statewide Importance - Farmland of Statewide Importance (as defined by the Department of Conservation) is similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

Farmland, Prime - Land which has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to current farming methods. Prime Farmland must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the last three years.

Farmland, Unique - Land which does not meet the criteria for Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance, that is currently used for the production of specific high economic value crops. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high quality or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to current farming methods. Examples of such crops may include oranges, olives, avocados, rice, grapes, and cut flowers.

Fault - A fracture in the earth's crust accompanied by a displacement of one side with respect to the other and in a direction parallel to the fracture.

Fault system - Two or more interconnecting fault sets.

Fault trace - The intersection of a fault with the earth's surface.

Fault zone - A zone in which surface disruption or rock fracture has occurred due to movement along a fault. A fault zone may be expressed as an area with numerous small fractures, breccia (essentially, fractured rock) as a fault gouge. A fault zone may be anywhere from a few meters or yards) to two or more kilometers (1 mile or more) wide.

FCO - Federal Coordinating Officer.

Federally-Mapped Floodplain - A floodprone area that has been mapped and accepted by FEMA as the result of a flood insurance study (FIS) for a watercourse and surrounding areas. Mapped floodplains are used for flood insurance needs and for other regulatory purposes.

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) - An independent federal agency established to respond to major emergencies that state and local agencies cannot. The federal agency under which the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is administered. FEMA seeks to reduce the loss of life and protect property against all types of hazards through a comprehensive, risk-based emergency management program. In March 2003, FEMA became part of the newly created U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration.

FHWA-RD-77-108 - Federal Highway Administration Highway Noise Prediction Model.

Fill Material - any material used for the primary purpose of replacing an aquatic area with dry land or for changing the bottom elevation of a waterbody. This includes both natural materials (silt, sand, gravel, rock, and wood) and manufactured materials (concrete, plastic, steel, treated wood).

Fiscal Year - July 1 through June 30.

Flood - A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of two or more acres of normally dry land area or of two or more properties (at least one of which is the policyholder's property) from:

- Overflow of inland or tidal waters; or
- Unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source;
- Mudflow; or
- Collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or similar body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels that result in a flood as defined above.

Flood Control - Various activities and regulations that help reduce or prevent damages caused by flooding. Typical flood control activities include: structural flood control works (such as bank stabilization, levees, and drainage channels), acquisition of floodprone land, flood insurance programs and studies, river and basin management plans, public education programs, and flood warning and emergency preparedness activities.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) - Issued by FEMA, these maps show special hazard areas, including the 100-year floodplain. They also show flood insurance risk zones and other flood-related information applicable to a community.

Flood Insurance Study (FIS) - Hydrologic and Hydraulic studies that identify a flood hazard area, flood insurance risk zones and other flood data such as flood depths and velocities.

Flood Proofing - Any combination of changes to a structure or property using berms, flood walls, closures or sealants, which reduces or eliminates flood damage to buildings or property.

Flood/Flooding - A temporary condition caused by the accumulation of runoff from any source, which exceeds the capacity of a natural or man-made drainage system and results in inundation of normally dry land areas.

Floodplain - The area adjoining a watercourse that may be covered by floodwater during a flood. Storm runoff and flood events may cause alterations in the floodplain in certain areas.

Floodplain Management - A program that uses corrective and preventative measures to reduce flood and erosion damage and preserve natural habitat and wildlife resources in floodprone areas. Some of these measures include: adopting and administering floodplain regulations, resolving drainage complaints, protecting riparian habitat communities, and assuring effective maintenance and operation of flood control works.

Floodplain Regulations - Adopted policies, codes, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to the use and development of lands that lie within a regulatory floodplain.

FRA - Federal Railroad Administration.

Freeboard - An additional amount of height above the Base Flood Elevation used as a factor of safety (e.g., two feet above the Base Flood) in determining the level at which a

structure's lowest floor must be elevated or floodproofed to be in accordance with State or community floodplain management regulations.

FRO - First Responder Operational.

FTA - Federal Transit Administration.

FTE - Full Time Equivalent.

Fuel - Fuel is the material that feeds a fire and is a key factor in wildfire behavior.

Fuel Load - Fuel load, or build up, depends on the time available between successive burns, and the rainfall over this period. If the time between burns is short (i.e. fire frequency is high), less fuel is able to accumulate, particularly woody fuel, and the accumulated material will be comprised primarily of herbaceous plant material and leaf litter. As the time between burns is extended, the component of larger twigs and branches will increase.

General Plan - A compendium of city or county policies regarding its long-term development, in the form of maps and accompanying text. The General Plan is a legal document required of each local agency by the State of California Government Code Section 65301 and adopted by the City Council or Board of Supervisors. In California, the General Plan has seven mandatory elements (Circulation, Conservation, Housing, Land Use, Noise, Open Space, Safety and Seismic Safety) and may include any number of optional elements (such as Air Quality, Economic Development, Hazardous Waste, and Parks and Recreation). The General Plan may also be called a "City Plan," "Comprehensive Plan," or "Master Plan."

Geologic formation - Set of consolidated rocks or unconsolidated deposits that forms a unit and may be dominated by a certain type of deposit or rock, or may have some other common feature.

GPU - General Plan Update

Grading - Disturbance of existing land contours.

Grazing Land - Grazing Land (as defined by the Department of Conservation) is land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock. This category was developed in cooperation with the California Cattlemen's Association, University of California Cooperative Extension, and other groups interested in the extent of grazing activities. The minimum mapping unit is 40 acres.

Ground failure - Mudslide, landslide, liquefaction, of the seismic compaction of soils.

Ground shaking - When movement occurs along a fault, the energy generated is released as waves, which cause groundshaking. Groundshaking intensity varies with the magnitude of the earthquake, the distance from the epicenter, and the type of rock or sediment through which the seismic waves move. The strongest ground motion, or groundshaking, typically occurs near the epicenter of the earthquake and attenuates (diminishes) as the seismic waves move away from the epicenter. In general, loose or soft saturated sediments amplify groundshaking more than dense or stiff soils or bedrock materials.

Groundwater - Water within the earth that supplies wells and springs; water in the zone of saturation where all openings in rocks and soil are filled, the upper surface of which forms the water table.

Groundwater basin - Flow system that has a surface and a subsurface area with defined boundaries, and materials (rocks or unconsolidated deposits) that can store water.

Hazardous Material - As defined by the California Health and Safety Code, a material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical characteristics poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment. "Hazardous materials" include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances, hazardous waste, and any material which a handler or the administering agency has a reasonable basis for believing that it would be injurious to the health and safety of persons or harmful to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment.

Hazardous Waste - As defined by the California Health and Safety Code, a waste or combination of wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may either: (a) cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating irreversible, illness, or (b) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed of, or otherwise managed.

HCH - Health Care for the Homeless.

HCM - Highway Capacity Manual.

Historic Preservation - The preservation of historically significant structures and neighborhoods until such time as, and in order to facilitate, restoration and rehabilitation of the building(s) to a former condition.

Historic; Historical - An historic building or site is one that is noteworthy for its significance in local, state, or national history or culture, its architecture or design, or its works of art, memorabilia, or artifacts.

HIV - Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

HMRT - Hazardous Materials Response Teams.

Holocene - a period of geologic time since the last ice age in North America, approximately 11,000 years.

Housing Element - One of the seven State-mandated elements of a local general plan, it assesses the existing and projected housing needs of all economic segments of the community, identifies potential sites adequate to provide the amount and kind of housing needed, and contains adopted goals, policies, and implementation programs for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing. Under State law, Housing Elements must be updated every five years.

HOV - High Occupancy Vehicle.

HR - Human Resources.

Hydraulic connection - When surface water and groundwater are connected (allows groundwater to be recharged). Also refers to a connection between two aquifer zones.

Hydraulic Structures - The facilities used to impound, accommodate, convey, or control the flow of water, such as dams, intakes, culverts, channels, and bridges.

Hydraulics - A field of study dealing with the flow pattern and rate of water movement based on the principles of fluid mechanics.

Hydrogeology - Science that deals with subsurface waters and related geologic aspects of surface waters.

Hydrology - A field of study concerned with the distribution and circulation of surface water, as well as water dynamics below the ground and in the atmosphere.

ICS - Incident Command System.

Implementation - Actions, procedures, programs, or techniques that carry out policies.

Inactive fault - A fault which shows no evidence of movement in recent geologic time and no potential for movement in the relatively near future.

Incorporation - Creation of a new city.

Industrial flex space - A relatively new type of commercial building that can change the proportion of office to warehouse space to meet an individual tenant's needs. It is usually characterized by high-end amenities such as professional landscaping and quality architecture.

Infill Development - Development of vacant land (usually individual lots or left-over properties) within areas that are already largely developed.

Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) – Infiltration is the occurrence of unwanted groundwater and storm water getting into sewer system. Mostly occurs through joint leakage and structurally damaged pipes, inflow mainly occurs from surface flooding of manholes.

Infrastructure - Public services and facilities, such as sewage-disposal systems, water-supply systems, other utility systems, and roads.

Intensity (of an earthquake) - A measure of the effects of earthquake waves on people, structures, and earth's surface at a particular place. The intensity at a specific point depends not only upon the strength of the earthquake, or the earthquake magnitude, but also upon the distance from the point to the epicenter and the local geology. Intensity may be contrasted with magnitude, which is a measure of the total energy released by an earthquake.

Interbedded - Beds lying between or alternating with others of a different type.

ISO - Independent System Operator.

ISO – Insurance Service Office.

IT - Information Technology.

Italianate Style – Housing style characterized by low-pitched roof, widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets, tall and narrow windows turned columns, and horizontal wood siding.

Joint Powers Authority (JPA) - A legal arrangement that enables two or more units of government to share authority in order to plan and carry out a specific program or set of programs that serves both units.

Land Use - The occupation or use of land or water area for any human activity or any purpose defined in the General Plan.

Land Use Classification - A system for classifying and designating the appropriate use of properties.

Land Use Element - A required element of the General Plan that uses text and maps to designate the future use or reuse of land within a given jurisdiction's planning area. The land use element serves as a guide to the structuring of zoning and subdivision controls, urban renewal and capital improvements programs, and to official decisions regarding the distribution and intensity of development and the location of public facilities and open space. (See "Mandatory Element").

Land Use Regulation - A term encompassing the regulation of land in general and often used to mean those regulations incorporated in the General Plan, as distinct from zoning regulations (which are more specific).

Landslide - A general term for relatively rapid mass movement, such as slump, rock slide, debris slide, mudflow, and earthflow.

L_{dn} - the Day Night Average Level, is a 24-hour average L_{eq} with a 10 dBA “weighting” added to noise during the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. to account for noise sensitivity in the nighttime.

L_{eq} - the equivalent energy noise level, is the average acoustic energy content of noise for a stated period of time.

Levee - A man-made structure, usually an earthen embankment often reinforced with soil cement, that is designed to contain or divert the flow of water.

Light Rail Transit (LRT) - "Street cars" or "trolley cars" that typically operate entirely or substantially in mixed traffic and in non-exclusive, at-grade rights-of-way. Passengers typically board vehicles from the street level (as opposed to a platform that is level with the train) and the driver may collect fares. Vehicles are each electrically self-propelled and usually operate in one or two-car trains.

Liquefaction - A process whereby soil is temporarily transformed to a fluid form during intense and prolonged ground shaking or because of a sudden shock or strain.

L_{min} - the minimum noise level experienced during a given period of time.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) - A five- or seven-member commission within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of

special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county's LAFCO is empowered to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve such proposals. The five LAFCO members generally include two county supervisors, two city council members, and one member representing the general public. Some LAFCOs include two representatives of special districts.

LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment) - An official amendment of a current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) accepted by FEMA for a property or a structure. The LOMA verifies that the structure or portions of the property have been removed from a designated-floodplain area.

LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) - An official revision of a current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) accepted by FEMA, which reflects changes in mapped areas for flood zones, floodplain areas, floodways and flood elevations.

LOS - Level of Service.

M&I (land use) - Municipal and industrial urban or industrial development.

Magnitude (earthquake) - A measure of the strength of an earthquake or the strain energy released by it, as determined by seismographic observations and mathematical calculations.

Mediterranean/Spanish Eclectic Style – Housing style characterized by red tile roof covering, deep inset casement windows, stucco wall surface, vertical heavy wooden doors, and arches above doors, principle windows, or beneath porch roofs.

Metro Fire - Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District.

mgd - million gallons per day.

Midden - The layer of soil which contains the byproducts of human activity as the result of the accumulation of these materials on their living surface. For prehistoric sites, a layer of soil that was stained to a dark color by the decomposition of organic refuse which also contained food bones, fragments of stone tools, charcoal, pieces of pottery, or other discarded materials. For historic sites, a similar layer of soil but with appropriate historic material remains often in a much thinner deposit.

Mineral Resource Zone - Areas classified by the State on the basis of geologic factors, without regard to existing land use and land ownership. The areas are categorized into four mineral resource zones (MRZ).

Missionization - The process of converting Natives to Christianity and assimilating them to European beliefs/ways of life.

Mixed-use - Properties on which various uses, such as office, commercial, institutional, and residential, are combined in a single building or on a single site in an integrated development project with significant functional interrelationships and a coherent physical design. A "single site" may include contiguous properties.

MTIP – Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

MTP – Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Multiple Family Building (Multi-family) - A detached building designed and used exclusively as a dwelling by three or more families occupying separate suites.

Municipal Services - Services traditionally provided by local government, including water and sewer, roads, parks, schools, and police and fire protection.

National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 - An Act passed by Congress that established the National Flood Insurance Program as a means of mitigating flood damages. The Act makes flood insurance available to communities that adopt and enforce measures to reduce flood losses. Prior to the Act, property owners in floodprone areas typically were not able to obtain this coverage through private insurance companies.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) - A federal program that allows property owners to purchase insurance protection against losses due to flooding. In order to participate in this program, local communities must agree to implement and enforce measures that reduce future flood risks in special flood hazard areas.

NBC - nuclear, biological or chemical.

NDMA - N-nitrosodimethylamine; a chemical used in the production of 1,1-dimethylhydrazine for liquid rocket fuel, and for a variety of other industrial uses.

Neighborhood Parks - Generally five to ten acres in size and are intended to be used primarily by residents whom live within a half-mile radius.

NOAA - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Noise - unwanted sound.

Non-farm employment - Employment figures that exclude farm and other agricultural workers.

NOx - Nitrogen oxide.

NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

NRHP - National Register of Historic Places.

NTMP - Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

O₃ - Ozone.

OES - Office of Emergency Services.

Open Space/Parkways - Natural areas that are set aside primarily to enhance the City's environmental amenities. Open space areas and parkways have limited recreational uses and are primarily used as corridors for pedestrians and bicyclists. Parkways are typically linear and narrow.

Ordinance - A law or regulation set forth and adopted by a governmental authority, usually a city or county.

Other Land - Other Land (as defined by the Department of Conservation) is land not included in any other mapping category. Common examples include low density rural developments; brush, timber, wetland, and riparian areas not suitable for livestock grazing; confined livestock, poultry or aquaculture facilities; strip mines, borrow pits; and water bodies smaller than forty acres. Vacant and nonagricultural land surrounded on all sides by urban development and greater than 40 acres is mapped as Other Land.

Overdraft - Over a period of years, withdrawing from an aquifer (on purpose or inadvertently) more water than the amount of water recharging the basin.

Overlay - A land use designation on the Land Use Map, or a zoning designation on a zoning map, that modifies the basic underlying designation in some specific manner.

Paleontology - The study of forms of life existing in former geologic periods, through analysis of their fossils.

PCE - Perchloroethene; a colorless, odorless, nonflammable organic compound often used as a solvent and for dry cleaning and removing grease from metals.

Peak Flow - The maximum rate of flow through a watercourse for a given storm.

Peak Shaving - Reducing the amount of stormwater outflow from the CSS during storm events by providing storage capacity within the system. Peak shaving is typically achieved by constructing portions of the piping system with oversized pipes in order to obtain this capacity.

Perchlorate - Primary ingredient in solid propellant for rockets and missiles, and is a common contaminant found in groundwater supplies in and around aerospace and military facilities.

Percolation - Movement of water through small openings (pore space) within a porous material.

Permeability (groundwater) - Ability of a rock or unconsolidated deposit to transmit water through spaces that connect between grains. The size and shape of the spaces controls how well water transmits, or “flows.”

PF - Protection Factor.

PG&E - Pacific Gas and Electric.

PHN - Public Health Nurse.

PIO - Public Information Officer.

Planning Area - The area directly addressed by the general plan. A city's planning area typically encompasses the City Limits and potentially annexable land within its sphere of influence.

Pleistocene - The early half of the Quarternary Period, beginning about two million years ago and ending 10,000 years ago, characterized by widespread glacial ice and the advent of modern humans.

PM₁₀ - Respirable particulate matter ten microns or less in diameter.

PM_{2.5} - Respirable particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in diameter.

Point Source of Pollution - Discrete conveyances, such as pipes or man made ditches that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. This includes not only discharges from municipal sewage plants and industrial facilities, but also collected storm drainage from larger urban areas, certain animal feedlots and fish farms, some types of ships, tank trucks, offshore oil platforms, and collected runoff from many construction sites.

Policy - A specific statement of principle or of guiding actions that implies clear commitment but is not mandatory. A general direction that a governmental agency sets to follow, in order to meet its goals and objectives before undertaking an action program. (See "Program").

Porosity - Volume of open pore space between particles of clay, silt, sand, gravel, or cobble in a geologic formation, usually expressed as a percentage.

Potentially active fault - As defined by the California Division of Mines and Geology, a fault that has shown displacement during Quaternary time (last 1.6 million years).

POTW - Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) [40 CFR 403.3(o)] - A treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the CWA, which is owned by the state or municipality (as defined by Section 502(4) of the Act). This definition includes any devices or systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling, and reclamation of municipal sewage or industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes sewers, pipes or other conveyances only if they convey wastewater to a POTW treatment plant. The term also means the municipality as defined in Section 502(4) of the CWA, which has jurisdiction over the indirect discharges to and the discharges from such a treatment works.

Prehistory - Human history in the period before recorded history, known mainly through archaeological discoveries, study, research, etc.

Prime Agricultural Land - (1) Land used actively in the production of food, fiber, or livestock. (2) All land which qualifies for rating as Class I or Class II in the Soil Conservation Service land use compatibility classifications. (3) Land which qualifies for rating 80 through 100 in the Storie Index Rating. (See "Prime Farmland" and "Storie Index").

Prime Farmland - Land which has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. Prime Farmland must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the last three years. Prime Farmland does not include publicly-owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use. (See "Prime Agricultural Land.")

Prime Farmland - Prime Farmland (as defined by the Department of Conservation) has the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term agricultural production. This land has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

Public and Quasi-public Facilities - Institutional, academic, governmental and community service uses, either owned publicly or operated by non-profit organizations, including private hospitals and cemeteries. (See "Institutional Uses").

Quaternary - a period of geologic time from 1.6 million years to the present.

Queen Anne Style - Housing style characterized by round or angled turrets, steeply pitched roof of irregular shape, partial or full-width asymmetrical porch, and mixes of decorative siding and ornamentation.

RCCC - Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center.

Reach - A term used to describe a specific length of a stream or watercourse. For example, the term can be used to describe a section of a stream or watercourse between two bridges.

Recharge (groundwater) - Water reaching the saturated zone of an aquifer where it is available for extraction.

Redevelopment Plan – A plan that is agreed to by the local redevelopment authority for a closing or realigning installation, and that provides for the reuse or redevelopment of the real property and personal property of the installation that is available for such reuse and redevelopment as a result of the closure or realignment.

Regional Housing Needs Plan - A quantification by a COG or by HCD of existing and projected housing need, by household income group, for all localities within a region.

Regional Water Quality Control Board - State of California agency that is set up to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources.

Regulatory - Subject to the control of or required to follow rules set forth by a governmental agency. With respect to washes or streams it refers to those areas where the federal government restricts the use or development of areas it has deemed to be "Waters of the U.S." These regulations are part of the Clean Water Act.

Regulatory Flood Elevation - The elevation which is one foot above the base flood elevation for a watercourse. Where a floodway has been delineated, the base flood elevation is the higher of either the natural or encroached water surface elevation of the 100-year flow.

Regulatory Floodplain - A portion of the geologic floodplain that may be inundated by the base flood where the peak discharge is 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) or greater. Regulatory floodplains also include areas which are subject to sheet flooding, or areas on existing recorded subdivision plats mapped as being floodprone.

Remediation (groundwater) - "Cleanup" of contaminated groundwater by a variety of methods.

REOC - Regional Emergency Operations Center.

Retail Sales Tax - A tax levied on the sale of goods or services to the consumer.

Retention Basin - A basin or reservoir where water is stored for regulating a flood. Unlike a detention basin, it does not have outlets for releasing the flows, the water must be disposed by draining into the soil, evaporation, or pumping systems.

Revenue - Amounts received from seven categories of revenue.

- **Taxes.** Revenue including sales tax, property tax, utility user tax, tec., collected to fund general operating City programs.
- **Charges for fees and services.** Fees charged to the user of any specific service provided by the City not supported by the General Fund. The fee cannot exceed the cost of providing the service.
- **Licenses and permits.** Revenues collected for construction, maintenance and/or operation of designated equipment, businesses, buildings, and private property including animals.
- **Use of money and property.** Interest earned on City investments or County held funds.
- **Intergovernmental.** Revenue disbursements from other agencies such as State Motor Vehicle in Lieu Tax & State Homeowners Property Tax Relief - and - revenue reimbursement for services provided to other agencies.
- **Fines, forfeitures, and penalties.** Revenues collected for violations of city ordinances, late payments, etc.
- **Miscellaneous revenues.** Unanticipated revenues.

In the Enterprise activities, revenues can also be classified as operating or non-operating. Operating revenues are those revenues directly related to the fund's primary service activity and consist primarily of user fees and charges. Non-operating revenues are incidental to, or by-products of the enterprise's primary service such as interest income or the Transient Occupancy Tax for the Community Center Fund.

Riparian Zone - A stream and all the vegetation on its banks.

ROG - Reactive organic gas.

RT - Sacramento Regional Transit District

Runoff - The portion of precipitation on land that ultimately reaches streams, especially water from rain or melted snow that flows over ground surface.

SACOG – Sacramento Area Council of Governments.

Sacramenities - The City of Sacramento's Department of Convention, Culture, and Leisure amenities program.

Sacramento Register - City of Sacramento Register of Historic Structures.

Saturated zone - An aquifer zone with only water in the interconnected spaces.

SCO - State Coordinating Officer.

SCUSD - Sacramento Unified School District.

SCWA - Sacramento County Water Agency County agency responsible for water supply planning.

Sediment - Soil particles, sand, and minerals washed from the land into aquatic systems as a result of natural and human activities.

Sedimentation - A large scale water treatment process where heavy solids settle out to the bottom of the treatment tank after flocculation.

Seiche - A standing wave (periodic oscillation) produced in a body of water such as a reservoir, lake, or harbor, by wind, atmospheric changes, or earthquakes.

Seismic - Pertaining to earthquake or earth vibration, including those that are artificially induced.

Semiconfined aquifer - Confined by upper layers having permeability that varies from low to moderate. Thus, groundwater moves through these confining layers, but moves slowly.

Semipermeable (groundwater) - In a formation, having small preferential flow paths through mostly impermeable material.

SEMS - Standardized Emergency Management System.

Setback - The minimum distance required between a man-made structure and a watercourse. This distance is measured from the top edge of the highest channel bank or the edge of the 100-year flood water surface elevation.

SFD - Sacramento Fire Department.

SGA - Sacramento Groundwater Authority. The groundwater management element of the Water Forum Agreement led to creation of the Sacramento North Area Groundwater Management Authority, which was later renamed the SGA. This agency is responsible for managing groundwater in the north area subbasin of Sacramento County.

Sheet Flooding - A condition where stormwater runoff forms a sheet of water to a depth of six inches or more. Sheet flooding is often found in areas where there are no clearly defined channels.

Sheet Flow - Very shallow overland discharge.

Shift Shares - A percentage measure that isolates the individual effect of three factors - the state economy, the performance of particular industries, and the regional economy - on overall regional job growth. For example, if job growth in construction grew by ten percent in 2004, a shift-share analysis will figure how much of that growth was due to state economic growth, the growth in the construction industry, and the regional economy. The ten-percent figure could be because the state economy growth contributed four percent, the construction industry growth contributed eight percent, and local economic sluggishness subtracted two percent.

SHRA - Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency.

SIP - State Implementation Plan.

SMAQMD - Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

SMUD - Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

SO₂ - Sulfur dioxide.

Soil Erosion - The processes by which soil is removed from one place by forces such as wind, water, waves, glaciers, and construction activity and eventually deposited at some new place.

SOP - Standing Operating Procedures.

SPD - City of Sacramento Police Department.

SPD – Special Planning District.

Specialization - a ratio that describes the Region's relative concentration of employment compared to the State's concentration of employment in any given industry. For example, if 10 percent of the State's employment is in Construction, while 25 percent of the Region's employment is in Construction, the Region's level of specialization would be 2.5 (25 percent divided by 10 percent). This ratio indicates a highly-specialized industry - the Region is 2.5 times more concentrated in Construction employment compared to the State. Generally, numbers above 1.25 indicate high specialization, numbers between 0.75 and 1.25 indicate equal specialization, and numbers below 0.75 indicate an under-specialization.

Specific Plan - A legal tool authorized by Article 8 of the Government Code (Section 65450 et seq.) for the systematic implementation of the general plan for a defined portion of a community's planning area. A specific plan must specify in detail the land uses, public and private facilities needed to support the land uses, phasing of development, standards for the conservation, development, and use of natural resources, and a program of implementation measures, including financing measures.

SPL - Sacramento Public Library

SRCSA - Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District Agency is responsible for large conveyance and treatment of wastewater within the urbanized area of Sacramento County.

SRFECC - Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center.

STAA - Service Transportation Assistance Act.

STI - Strategic Technologies, Inc.

Storm Drainage System - A drainage system for collecting runoff of stormwater on highways and removing it to appropriate outlets. The system includes inlets, catch basins, storm sewers, drains, reservoirs, pump stations, and detention basins.

Stormwater - Precipitation from rain or snow that accumulates in a natural or man-made watercourse or conveyance system.

Strategic Plan – A document used by an organization to align its organization and budget structure with organizational priorities, missions, and objectives. According to requirements of Government Performance and Results Act (1993), a strategic plan

should include a mission statement, a description of the agency's long-term goals and objectives, and strategies or means the agency plans to use to achieve these general goals and objectives. The strategic plan may also identify external factors that could affect achievement of long-term goals.

Subsidence - Gradual settling or sinking of the earth's surface with little or no horizontal motion, usually as the result of the withdrawal of oil, natural gas, or groundwater, or hydrocompaction.

Surcharge - When pipes are inundated with sewage flow due to insufficient capacity.

Surface Rupture - An observable break in the ground surface and associated deformation resulting from movement along a fault.

Surface Water - Water that flows in streams and rivers and in natural lakes, in wetlands, and in reservoirs constructed by humans.

Surface water recharge - Recharge from rainfall that percolates down to aquifers, and from rivers and streams that may not be connected to the water table. Surface water is always recharging groundwater. One result of this continuous recharge is that groundwater can be contaminated from land use practices at the surface.

Sustainability - Community use of natural resources in a way that does not jeopardize the ability of future generations to live and prosper.

Sustainable Development - Development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Source: Minnesota State Legislature.)

SVAB - Sacramento Valley Air Basin.

Synclinorium - A mountain range owing its origin to the progress of a geosynclinal, and ending in a catastrophe of displacement and upturning.

TACs - Toxic air contaminants.

TCE - Trichlorethene; a nonflammable organic compound used as a solvent and for dry cleaning and removing grease from metal.

Title 22 - Section of the California Code of Regulations that regulates water quality for a variety of uses.

TMP - Transportation Management Plans.

TOC - Total Organic Carbon.

TPG - Transportation Programming Guide.

Transit-oriented Development (TOD) - A mixed-use community within an average 2,000-foot walking distance of a transit stop and core commercial area. TODs mix residential, retail, office, and public uses in a walkable environment, making it convenient for residents and employees to travel by transit, bicycle, foot, or car.

Triblet - The political structure of the Plains Miwok. A tribelet typically contained 300 to 500 people.

Tributary - A stream that contributes its water to another stream or body of water.

Trunk Shed - Area served by a particular trunk system.

Trunk System - All sewers 12 inches and larger in diameter and used to convey sewage to the interceptor system.

TSM - Transportation System Management.

TSS - Total Suspended Solids.

Unconsolidated deposit - Material consisting of particles of rocks or minerals ranging in size from clay to boulders. Examples of unconsolidated deposits important for groundwater are clay, silt, sand, gravel, and cobble (in order of increasing grain size).

Unsaturated zone - An aquifer zone that lies just below the land surface and contains both air and water.

Urban - Of, relating to, characteristic of, or constituting a city. Urban areas are generally characterized by moderate and higher density residential development (i.e., three or more dwelling units per acre), commercial development, and industrial development, and the availability of public services required for that development, specifically central water and sewer, an extensive road network, public transit, and other such services (e.g., safety and emergency response). Development not providing such services may be "non-urban" or "rural." (See "Urban Land Use").

Urban and Built Up Land - Urban and Built Up Land (as defined by the Department of Conservation) is occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. Common examples include residential, industrial, commercial, institutional facilities, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, and water control structures.

Urban Plazas/Pocket Parks - Neighborhood-serving parks which tend to be less than five acres in size, more appropriate for mixed-use development.

Urban Sprawl - Haphazard growth or outward extension of a city resulting from uncontrolled or poorly managed development.

Vacant - Lands or buildings that are not actively used for any purpose.

Victorian Delta Style – Housing style characterized by single front gabled roof form, horizontal siding, square posts and rails, and tall narrow windows with little or no window decoration.

Volatile organic compounds - Any carbon-based compound that volatilizes at atmospheric conditions.

Water Forum - A community collaboration process involving stakeholder organizations and commitment to the coequal objectives of providing a reliable and safe water supply for the region's economic health and planned development through the year 2030 and

preserving the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the Lower American River.

Water table - Level in the saturated zone of an aquifer where the pressure from the air and the pressure from the water are equal. In an unconfined aquifer, the water table is the top of the saturated zone and the bottom of the unsaturated zone.

Watercourse - Any minor or major lake, river, creek, stream, wash, arroyo, channel or other topographic feature on or over which waters flow at least periodically. Watercourse includes specifically designated areas in which substantial flood damage may occur.

Watershed - An area from which water drains into a lake, stream or other body of water. A watershed is also often referred to as a basin, with the basin boundary defined by a high ridge or divide, and with a lake or river located at a lower point.

Watershed Region - A region that is drained by, or contributes to, streams, lakes, rivers, or other bodies of water.

WCC - Well Child Clinic.

Wet lab space - Office or industrial space equipped to handle the laboratory needs of biotechnology, pharmaceutical, and life sciences companies.

Wet years - Years with greater than average precipitation that results in more surface water in streams and rivers and more deep percolation of water into groundwater basins.

WIC - Women, Infants, and Children.

Wildland/urban Interface - Heavily vegetated areas where wildlands meet urban development.

Williamson Act - Known formally as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, it was designed as an incentive to retain prime agricultural land and open space in agricultural use, thereby slowing its conversion to urban and suburban development. The program entails a 10-year contract between the City or County and an owner of land whereby the land is taxed on the basis of its agricultural use rather than the market value. The land becomes subject to certain enforceable restrictions, and certain conditions need to be met prior to approval of an agreement.

WPE - Woods & Poole Economics.

Zone - A geographical area shown on a Flood Hazard Boundary Map or a Flood Insurance Rate Map that reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.

Zoning - Local codes regulating the use and development of property. The zoning ordinance divides the city or county into land use districts or "zones", represented on zoning maps, and specifies the allowable uses within each of those zones. It establishes development standards for each zone, such as minimum lot size, maximum height of structures, building setbacks, and yard size.