

YOLO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting AGENDA

February 26, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS
625 COURT STREET, ROOM 206
WOODLAND, CA 95695

COMMISSIONERS

VACANT, CHAIR (City Member)
OSCAR VILLEGAS, VICE CHAIR (County Member)
LUCAS FRERICHS (County Member)
TANIA GARCIA-CADENA (CITY MEMBER)
PAMELA MILLER (Public Member)
GLORIA PARTIDA (City Member)

ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS

NORMA ALCALA (CITY MEMBER)
SHEILA ALLEN (COUNTY MEMBER)
ERIK VINK (PUBLIC MEMBER)

CHRISTINE CRAWFORD
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ERIC MAY
COMMISSION COUNSEL

Meetings of the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) are held in person in the Board of Supervisors chambers, located at 625 Court Street, Suite 206, Woodland, CA. LAFCo will, to the best of its ability, provide hybrid and remote options for LAFCo meeting participants and to the public; however, LAFCo cannot guarantee these options will be available due to technical limitations outside our control. For assurance of public comment, LAFCo encourages in-person and written public comments to be submitted. The Zoom link / phone number and instructions for participating in the meeting through Zoom are set forth in the "Public Participation Instructions" on the final page of this agenda.

NOTICE:

This agenda has been posted at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting in a location freely accessible to members of the public, in accordance with the Brown Act and the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The public may subscribe to receive emailed agendas, notices and other updates by contacting staff at lafco@yolocounty.org.

All persons are invited to testify and submit written comments to the Commission. If you challenge a LAFCo action in court, you may be limited to issues raised at the public hearing or submitted as written comments prior to the close of the public hearing. If you wish to submit written material at the hearing, please supply 8 copies.

FPPC - Notice to All Parties and Participants in LAFCo Proceedings

All parties and participants on a matter to be heard by the Commission that have made campaign contributions totaling more than \$500 to any Commissioner in the past 12 months must disclose this fact, either orally or in writing, for the official record as required by Government Code Section 84308.

Contributions and expenditures for political purposes related to any proposal or proceedings before LAFCo are subject to the reporting requirements of the Political Reform Act and the regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission, and must be disclosed to the Commission prior to the hearing.

AGENDA

PLEASE NOTE - The numerical order of items on this agenda is for convenience of reference. Items may be taken out of order upon request of the Chair or Commission members.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment: This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on subjects relating to LAFCo purview but not relative to items on this Agenda. The Commission reserves the right to impose a reasonable time limit on any topic or on any individual speaker.

OATH OF OFFICE

4. Tania Garcia-Cadena City Member and Norma Alcala City Member Alternate.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. Approve the Minutes of the January 29, 2026 Special Meeting
6. Review and file the Yolo LAFCo Financial Statement for Fiscal Year ending 2025
7. Correspondence

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Continued item regarding adopting updates to Yolo LAFCo Agricultural Conservation Policies addressing Strategic Work Plan item 6.4 "Consider updates to LAFCo's agricultural conservation policies, including adjusting the agricultural mitigation ratio"
9. Consider authorizing an increase to the Executive Officer salary range based on the salary survey performed by Yolo County Human Resources
10. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Feb. 1, 2026--Feb. 1, 2027)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

11. Executive Officer's Report: A report by the Executive Officer on recent events relevant to the Commission and an update of staff activity for the month.
 - a. Long Range Planning Calendar
 - b. CALAFCO Legislative Update

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

12. Action items and reports from members of the Commission, including announcements, questions to be referred to staff, future agenda items, and reports on meetings and information which would be of interest to the Commission or the public.

ADJOURNMENT

13. Adjourn to the next Regular LAFCo Meeting

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing agenda was posted by 5:00 p.m. Friday, February 19, 2026 at the following places:

- On the bulletin board outside the east entrance of the Erwin W. Meier County Administration Building, 625 Court Street, Woodland, CA;
- On the bulletin board outside the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 625 Court Street, Room 206, Woodland, CA: and,
- On the LAFCo website at: www.yololafco.org.

ATTEST:

Desirae Leverett, Clerk
Yolo LAFCO

A.D.A. NOTICE

If requested, this agenda can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Federal Rules and Regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Persons seeking an alternative format should contact the Commission Clerk for further information. In addition, a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in a public meeting should contact the Commission Clerk as soon as possible and at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The Commission Clerk may be reached at 530-666-8048 or at the following address: Yolo LAFCo, 625 Court Street, Suite 107, Woodland, CA 95695.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Meetings of the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) are held in person in the Board of Supervisors chambers, located at 625 Court Street, Room 206, Woodland, CA. If you cannot attend the LAFCo meeting in person but desire to follow the meeting remotely, make a public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so by:

- Joining through Zoom on your computer at <https://yolocounty.zoom.us/j/83450622345>, or participate by phone by calling 1-408-638-0968, Webinar ID: 834 5062 2345. Please note there is no participant code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you.
- If you are joining the meeting via Zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the "raise a hand" button. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press *9 to indicate a desire to make comment. The moderator will call you by name or phone number when it is your turn to comment. Press *6 to unmute. The Commission reserves the right to impose a reasonable limit on time afforded to any topic or to any individual speaker.
- If you wish to submit a written comment on a specific agenda item or on an item not on the agenda, please email the Commission Clerk at lafco@yolocounty.org or send to 625 Court Street, Suite 107, Woodland, CA 95695. Please include meeting date and item number. Please submit your comment by 2:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting, if possible, to provide the Commission a reasonable opportunity to review your comment in advance of the meeting. All written comments are distributed to the Commission, filed into the record, but will not be read aloud.

Please note that LAFCo cannot guarantee that hybrid and remote options will be available due to technical limitations outside our control. For assurance of public comment, LAFCo encourages in-person or written public comments to be submitted.

Consent 5.

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Approve the Minutes of the January 29, 2026 Special Meeting

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the Minutes of the January 29, 2026 Special Meeting.

Attachments

Att A - Minutes

Form Review

Inbox

Christine Crawford

Form Started By: Desirae Leverett

Final Approval Date: 02/18/2026

Reviewed By

Christine Crawford

Date

02/18/2026 10:54 AM

Started On: 02/17/2026 11:15 AM

YOLO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

January 29, 2026

The Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission met in Special Session on January 29, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. in the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 625 Court Street, Room 206, Woodland, California.

Voting members present were Chair and City Member Bill Biasi, Vice Chair and County Member Oscar Villegas, County Member Lucas Frerichs, City Member Gloria Partida, and Public Member Alternate Erik Vink (seated in place of Pamela Miller). Public Member Pamela Miller was absent.

Others present were Executive Officer Christine Crawford, Deputy Executive Officer JD Trebec, and Clerk Desirae Leverett.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Biasi called the Meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Item № 1 Pledge

Commissioner Vink led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item № 2 Roll Call

Present: Biasi, Villegas, Frerichs, Partida, Vink (Alternate for Miller)

Absent: Miller

Item № 3 Public Comments

There were no public comments.

CONSENT

Item № 4 Approve the LAFCo Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2025

Item № 5 Review and File the Fiscal Year 2025-26 First Quarter Financial Update

Item № 6 Review and File the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Second Quarter Financial Update

Item № 7 Review and File the 2025 Local Agency Website Transparency Scorecard

Item № 8 Designate the Yolo LAFCo Voting Delegate for the CALAFCO Business Meeting on February 23, 2026

Item № 9 Correspondence

Minute Order 2026-01: The recommended actions on the Consent Agenda were approved.

Motion: Frerichs **Second:** Partida

Ayes: Biasi, Villegas, Frerichs, Partida, Vink

Noes: None

Regular Agenda

Item № 10 Study Session to Discuss the Reorganization Plan for the Elkhorn Fire Protection District (No Action)

Staff provided an overview of the proposed reorganization plan for the Elkhorn Fire Protection District. The Commission discussed the item. A public comment was provided by William Maddows. No action was taken.

Item № 11 Executive Officer's Report

The Executive Officer provided a report on recent events relevant to the Commission and an update on staff activities, including the Long-Range Planning Calendar and the CALAFCO Legislative Update. No action was taken.

Item № 12 Commissioner Reports

The Commission acknowledged Chair Biasi in appreciation of his years of service to Yolo LAFCo. No motion was made.

Item № 13 Adjournment

Minute Order 2026-02: By order of the Chair, the Special Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

ATTEST:

Desirae Leverett
Clerk to the Commission

Consent 6.

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Review and file the Yolo LAFCo Financial Statement for Fiscal Year ending 2025

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Review and file the Yolo LAFCo Financial Statement for Fiscal Year ending 2025.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

Yolo LAFCo Administrative Policies and Procedures section 5.18 states, "LAFCo shall have financial audits performed on a three-year cycle (i.e. the auditor reviews the prior three fiscal years at one time). For those interim years when a formal audit has not yet been performed, staff from the County Department of Financial Services shall prepare a financial statement for Commission review following the close of the fiscal year." LAFCo's last audit cycle included fiscal years ending 2022, 2023, and 2024, and the next audit will be in 2027.

BACKGROUND

This item will be provided in a supplemental packet.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox

Christine Crawford
Form Started By: Desirae Leverett
Final Approval Date: 02/19/2026

Reviewed By

Christine Crawford

Date

02/19/2026 09:25 AM
Started On: 02/17/2026 11:15 AM

Consent 7.

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Correspondence

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive and file the following correspondence:

- a. City of Woodland GPA Policy 2.A.1 (Amendment to the City's Urban Limit Line to allow extended services to Bayer CropScience and Clark Pacific) Draft Supplemental EIR LAFCo Comment Letter
 - b. LAFCo 101 Virtual Session Flyer
-

Attachments

Att A - Woodland SEIR Comments
Att B - LAFCo 101 Flyer

Form Review

Inbox

Christine Crawford
Form Started By: Desirae Leverett
Final Approval Date: 02/18/2026

Reviewed By

Christine Crawford

Date

02/18/2026 11:35 AM
Started On: 02/17/2026 11:15 AM

YOLO
LOCAL
AGENCY
FORMATION
COMMISSION



COMMISSION
BILL BIASI
CHAIR
Councilmember
City of Winters

OSCAR VILLEGAS
VICE CHAIR
Supervisor - 1st District

LUCAS FRERICH
Supervisor - 2nd District

PAMELA MILLER
Public Member

GLORIA PARTIDA
Councilmember
City of Davis

ALTERNATES
SHEILA ALLEN
Supervisor - 4th District

TANIA GARCIA-CADENA
Councilmember
City of Woodland

ERIK VINK
Public Member

STAFF
CHRISTINE M. CRAWFORD, AICP
Executive Officer

JD TREBEC
Deputy Executive Officer

DESIRAE LEVERETT
Administrative Specialist I/Clerk

COUNSEL
ERIC MAY

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January 30, 2026

Erika Bumgardner, AICP
Deputy Community Development Director
City of Woodland
300 First Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Re: Notice of Availability for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the City of Woodland General Plan Amendment to Policy 2.A.1

Dear Ms. Bumgardner:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental Impact Report (SEIR) for the City of Woodland General Plan Amendment (GPA) to Policy 2.A.1.

As the SEIR notes, the Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) will be a Responsible Agency for this SEIR. If the project is approved by the City Council and voters, LAFCo will use this SEIR to consider any approvals required for extended City services outside its jurisdictional boundary.

LAFCo will review any future applications to extend services outside the City for impacts to agricultural land loss and ensure compliance with our policies. The SEIR notes that the project is required to comply with the City's General Plan policies and mitigation measures, which Yolo LAFCo reviewed previously to ensure our agency policies are in alignment.

Thank you again for consulting with Yolo LAFCo. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Christine M. Crawford, AICP

Join Us!

CALAFCO-U LAFCO 101 Webinar

Wednesday,
February 25, 2026
10:00-11:30 a.m.



Let us help streamline your onboarding process!

CALAFCO is launching its first CALAFCO-U session of 2026 with LAFCO 101, an accessible, practical introduction to LAFCO fundamentals. This webinar is ideal for commissioners starting their terms in January and new staff needing a solid foundation.

What Participants Will Learn

- ✓ Why LAFCO Exists
- ✓ LAFCO's Legal Foundations
- ✓ What Falls Under LAFCO Authority
- ✓ LAFCO's Planning Role
- ✓ The LAFCO Process in Plain Language
- ✓ Practical Tips

Instructors



Paula de Sousa — Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP. Paula is a statewide expert in LAFCO law, legal counsel for several LAFCOs and CALAFCO, and lead author of multiple CALAFCO white papers.



Joe Serrano — Executive Officer, Santa Cruz LAFCO & Deputy Executive Officer, CALAFCO. Joe brings 17 years of hands-on LAFCO experience across several counties.

COST

Free to CALAFCO
Members*

Non-members: \$125**

Registration

Sign-up through
www.calafco.org

Questions?

Contact CALAFCO at
info@calafco.org

California Association of
Local Agency Formation Commissions

CALAFCO

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY GROWTH

*CALAFCO Members include staff or commissioners of dues-paying LAFCOs.

**Registration for non-members is limited to California local and state agency representatives.

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Continued item regarding adopting updates to Yolo LAFCo Agricultural Conservation Policies addressing Strategic Work Plan item 6.4 "Consider updates to LAFCo's agricultural conservation policies, including adjusting the agricultural mitigation ratio"

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive the Yolo LAFCo Agricultural Policies Background Report, discuss and consider adopting the following policy updates:

1. Retain the existing language in Policy 4.9 that states conservation easements must be within Yolo County.
2. For city annexations, consider language requiring easements within a radius of the subject city where annexation is proposed, within four miles from the larger Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, and Woodland, and within two miles of the smaller City of Winters.
3. Add policy language encouraging acquiring conservation easements adjacent to identified agricultural easement clusters of over 1,000 acres.
3. Amend Yolo LAFCo agricultural conservation easements to allow a new mitigation option for use of in-lieu fees for Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency groundwater recharge projects to restore agricultural lands that have been fallowed or are threatened by declining groundwater levels.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

Yolo LAFCo's two-year Strategic Work Plan, adopted in April 2024, included four actions regarding the relationship between LAFCo's Agricultural Land Preservation Policy and other mandates such as housing requirements. At the September 25, 2025, meeting, the Commission discussed these items following a presentation and directed staff to provide further information and return for discussion of item 6.4 "Consider updates to Yolo LAFCO's Agricultural Conservation policies, including adjusting the agricultural mitigation ratio."

BACKGROUND

Please see the attached Follow-up Yolo LAFCo Agricultural Conservation Policy Report (Attachment A) and Proposed Policy Amendments Redline (Attachment B).

Attachments

- Att A - Follow-Up Staff Report
- Att B - Proposed Policy Amendments Redline

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Christine Crawford	Christine Crawford	02/18/2026 10:53 AM
Christine Crawford	Christine Crawford	02/19/2026 09:21 AM
Form Started By: JD Trebec		Started On: 02/12/2026 07:59 AM
Final Approval Date: 02/19/2026		

YOLO LAFCo AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION POLICIES FOLLOW-UP REPORT

At the September 2025 LAFCo meeting, staff presented a report on the current threat of farmland conversion, efforts to mitigate prime farmland loss, and potential updates to Yolo LAFCo's agricultural mitigation policy in response to Strategic Work Plan item 6.4- *Consider updates to LAFCo's ag conservation policies including adjusting the ag mitigation ratio*. Staff offered four recommendations to the Commission and received the following responses from the Commission:

1. Retain the existing 1:1 agricultural mitigation ratio, which creates a baseline for any development projects that require LAFCo action.
Commission consensus is to maintain the 1:1 mitigation ratio
2. Retain the existing language in Policy 4.9 that states conservation easements must be within Yolo County.
Commission directed staff to bring back more information
3. Consider language to encourage easements within 2 miles of cities or rural towns and easements adjacent to existing easements to create larger clusters of protected farmland.
Commission supported permitting mitigation adjacent to clusters of easements and directed staff to bring back more information on encouraging easements within two miles of cities and towns.
4. Direct staff to research and develop a framework to potentially create a mitigation alternative that could fund irrigation projects that revive fallowed agricultural land or increase productivity/growing season.
Commission directed staff to bring back more information

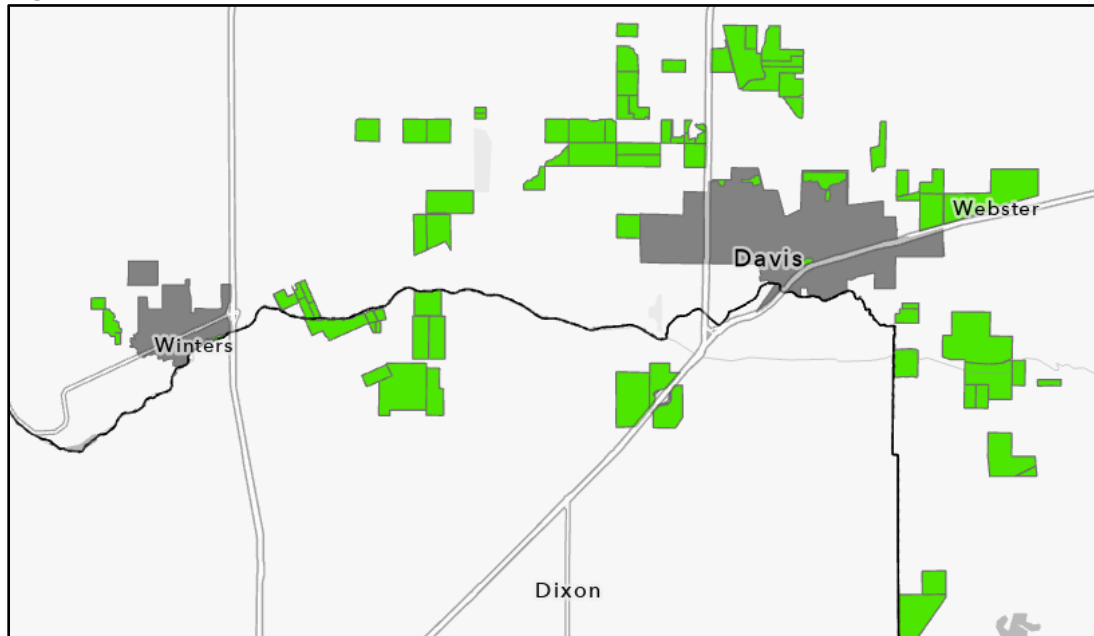
As directed, the following report provides additional information regarding where agricultural mitigation may be permitted and a framework for alternative mitigation for groundwater restoration.

Should Easements Be Allowed Outside Yolo County?

Currently, Yolo LAFCo Policy 4.9(a) requires agricultural conservation easements (ACEs) to be located within Yolo County. Some concern was expressed that cities on the county border, such as Davis and Winters, could be impacted by encroaching development to the south of Yolo County in Solano County. Staff believe that this is unlikely because land in Solano County south of Davis and Winters is zoned for agriculture with a 40-acre minimum parcel size which would preclude urban development and even if Solano County permitted non-agricultural development, city services could not be extended to the properties which would limit development pressure. Nearby farmland in Solano County is also being protected through various other means.

The City of Davis's Farmland Preservation Ordinance which addresses mitigation for agricultural land loss within the city boundary, permits mitigation in Solano County as well as Yolo County and the city has acquired conservation easements in Solano County. Davis staff have other funding sources to acquire easements in addition to agricultural mitigation requirements, including Measure O parcel tax revenue, Solano Land Trust, and Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) state grant funds. This is in pursuit of other community benefit interests that somewhat differ from Yolo LAFCo's mission and orientation. As shown in Figure 1 below, the Solano Land Trust holds several large easements in Solano County south of Davis and between Davis and Winters.

Figure 1. Easements around Davis and Winters



Since the Cities of Davis and Winters cannot extend infrastructure across county lines, agricultural land outside the county near these cities has less development pressure and therefore provides less value for protecting agricultural land than in Yolo County. In addition, Yolo LAFCo is accountable for protection of agricultural lands in Yolo County. Finally, cities may use other means to acquire conservation easements for the protection of nearby farmland beyond mitigation needs as the City of Davis has shown. Therefore, staff recommend retaining the policy that requires mitigation to occur within Yolo County.

Should LAFCo Restrict Location of ACEs within Yolo County?

Discussion of Yolo LAFCo’s Agricultural Preservation Policy in September included concerns that acquisition of ACEs should be directed to areas where prime farmland is at greater risk of development (i.e. within a certain radius of cities) and/or adjacent to easement clusters to increase efficiency and protection value.

Mitigation Buffers

Yolo County and the Cities of Davis and Woodland already have agricultural mitigation radius or proximity requirements in place and staff recommend these existing restrictions are sufficient.

The City of Woodland’s Agricultural Mitigation Ordinance (Woodland Municipal Code Sec. 15.33) allows 1:1 mitigation within four miles of its Urban Limit Line. The City of Davis’s Farmland Preservation Ordinance (Davis Code of Ordinances 40A.03) has a variety of requirements for mitigation including a portion that is required to be adjacent to the development and a remainder that is required to be within the “Davis Planning Area” which varies from 2 to 4 miles beyond the city’s sphere of influence including parts of Solano County. The City of West Sacramento does not have an agricultural mitigation ordinance, however due to its 200-year flood protection levies it’s unlikely the city will ever request LAFCo annexation. The City of Winters does not have an agricultural mitigation ordinance, and some growth is to be expected. Yolo County’s Agricultural Conservation and Mitigation Program (Yolo County Code of Ordinances Sec. 8-2.404) is the most complex mitigation ordinance of the three and uses priority areas to decrease the ratio of mitigation required. Generally, however, the county requires agricultural mitigation to occur within two miles

of the sphere of influence for Davis, West Sacramento, Winters, or Woodland or within two miles of the urban growth boundary of the town of Esparto. However, it would be extremely rare that Yolo County would be the Lead Agency per CEQA on a proposal before LAFCo; typically, the cities are the Lead Agency.

To make Davis's and Woodland's radius requirement more consistent across all four cities, staff recommend that Yolo LAFCo's agricultural mitigation policy allow easements only on areas of prime farmland (as already defined by our policy) within four miles of the larger cities of Davis, Woodland, and West Sacramento, and within two miles of the smaller City of Winters. The easement area would be limited to the radius of the subject city. Staff's rationale for having a smaller radius for Winters is commensurate with the size of the city, and thereby less development pressure. This would emphasize prime farmland under the highest threat of conversion and not conflict with existing city ordinance.

Any restriction of available areas for mitigation ought to be balanced with the concern that by restricting available areas for mitigation, the policy could make it overly difficult or costly to mitigate for development of farmland. Staff discussed this concern with Yolo Land Trust and were assured that there are plenty of farmers in these areas and beyond that are interested in participating in conservation easements so that the area identified does not appear to be reaching a level of scarcity that would overly constrain the ability to purchase new easements.

Figure 2 identifies the areas recommended for the Yolo LAFCo agricultural preservation policy. Staff recommend that mitigation for development of agricultural land must be within the buffer specific to the city where the loss is occurring.

Figure 2. Urban Buffers Recommended for Agricultural Mitigation

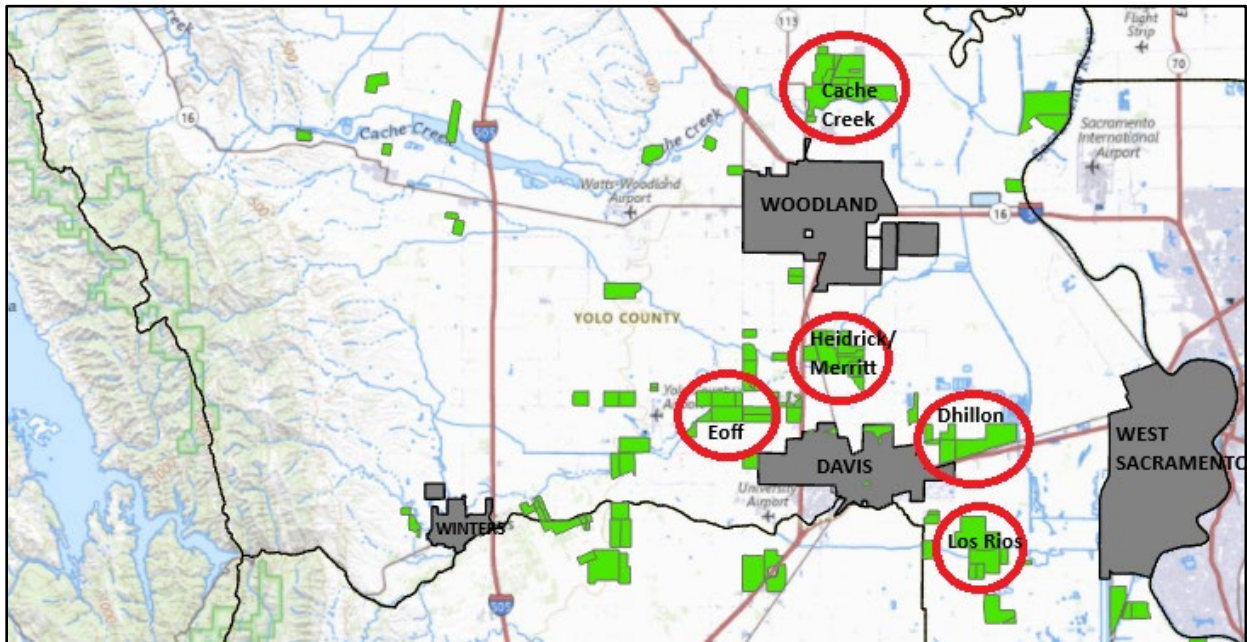


Agricultural Easement Clusters

Another strategy discussed was directing mitigation to clusters of agricultural conservation easements. Encouraging agricultural mitigation adjacent to the existing preserved areas provides additional benefits for the agricultural community in general. Large, aggregated areas of protected farmland could offer future benefits to farmers by offering stronger connections to ancillary vendors and services. Protected farms operating in proximity to each other can support local equipment, irrigation, chemical, and seed suppliers while the processors, handlers, and marketing entities will have a larger pool of growers to support their end-users.

To define an easement cluster, staff proposes a minimum of 1,000 contiguous acres of protected land. By that definition, there are five clusters within the two-mile urban buffer area described above: Cache Creek/Maples (2,121 acres), Dhillon Ranch (1,245 ac), Eoff Farms (1,128 ac), Heidrick/Merritt (1,380 ac), and Los Rios (1,423 ac). These areas are identified in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Agricultural Easement Clusters



Staff considered only allowing agricultural mitigation located adjacent to these clusters, however this would overly constrain the land available for mitigation and contradict city and county mitigation requirements. Since the identified clusters all fall within the proposed four-mile buffers of the larger cities however, the proposed policy only requires that mitigation occur within the identified city buffers but also encourages locating new agricultural easements adjacent to the clusters. Highlighting prime farmland proximal to these clusters within the urban buffers would provide the additional benefits mentioned above.

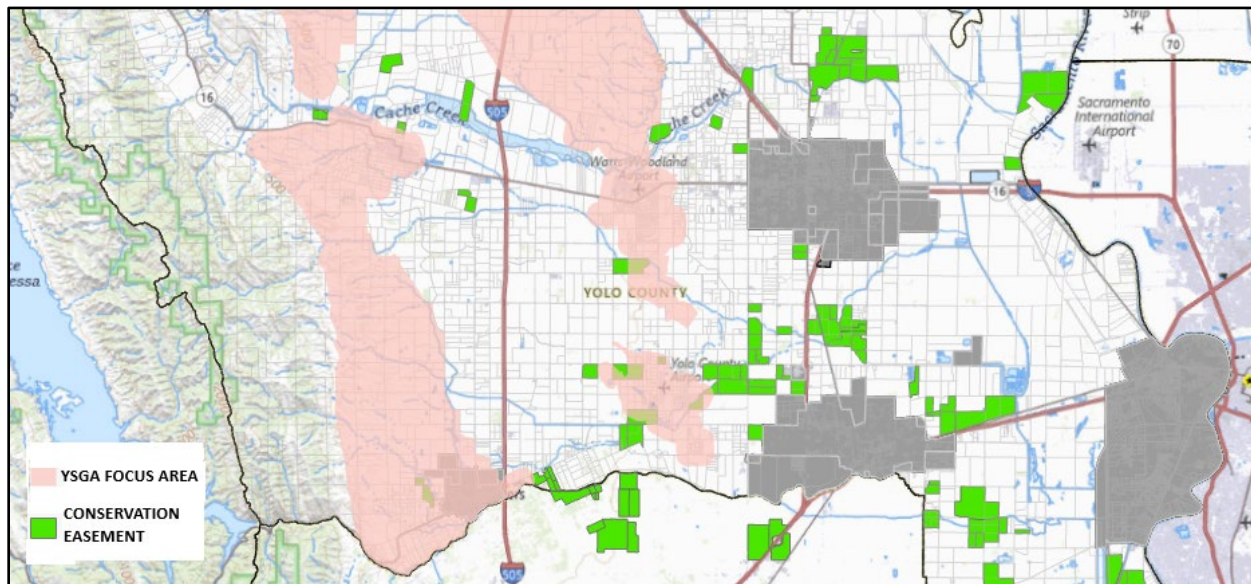
Mitigation Alternative for Groundwater Recharge

As discussed at the September meeting, although agricultural conservation easements have become an acceptable and popular means of mitigating for the loss of farmland, ACEs do not actually create new agricultural land to offset what would be lost. Additionally, though the land receives permanent protection from development with the easement, the productivity of the land is not permanently guaranteed with the increasing risk of droughts and flooding due to climate

change. Agricultural land without secure access to water might become fallow or less productive and no longer serve the intended protected use.

Following a series of executive orders by Governor Newsom in 2021, Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency identified specific “Focus Areas” where groundwater conditions are most uncertain and where groundwater pumping could lead to additional issues. These areas, as shown in Figure 4, have limited data on aquifer levels which makes it difficult to predict the impacts of long-term use on groundwater. An on-going well moratorium is currently in place which restricts an increase in groundwater use by agricultural wells within the focus areas.

Figure 4. YSGA Focus Areas and ACEs

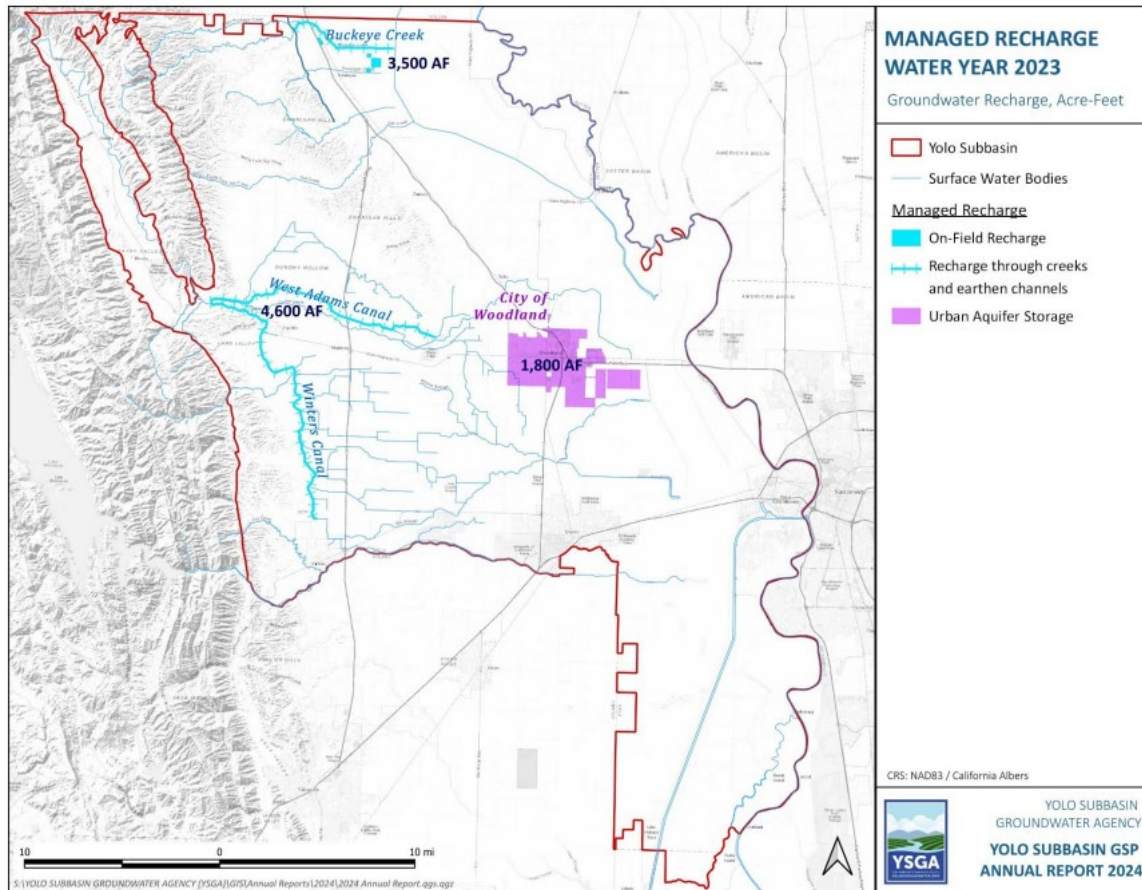


With the uncertainty about groundwater availability in the focus areas, the continued usefulness of some protected farmland may be threatened. A complementary way to mitigate the loss of farmland is to increase, restore, or ensure the long-term productivity of farmland by funding projects that provide better access to water during more frequent and prolonged times of drought. This could be through recharging groundwater where farms are currently fallowed or in danger of being fallowed due to diminishing groundwater supply.

Since 2016, Yolo Flood Control and Water Conservation District has used excess water from the winter rainy season to fill its unlined canals and slowly percolate into groundwater aquifers. In 2023, the District began a study to expand the program to include on-farm recharge by flooding fields to allow additional recharge capacity.

The Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) is still in the early stages of identifying more targeted projects to recharge groundwater. These projects are identified as Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Aquifer Recharge (AR) projects. Although ASR projects are oriented toward urban water use, AR projects are agriculturally focused, and a few have been initiated including the recent completion of a recharge basin for the Dunnigan Area’s Buckeye Creek Recharge Program. An overview of current projects is provided in Figure 5 below.

Figure 5. Current Groundwater Recharge Projects



Mitigation in-lieu funds could be directed to projects that recharge groundwater or otherwise support the water resources available for farming. A concern expressed at the last discussion of Yolo LAFCo’s Agricultural Conservation policy is that the cost of this type of mitigation is equivalent to the cost of acquiring an ACE. Yolo LAFCo’s Agricultural Conservation policy provides details on how to calculate in lieu fees which could be used to determine the amount of mitigation fees for this alternative, or another amount could be set. For example, LAFCo staff worked with Yolo Land Trust to estimate the average cost to purchase agricultural easements and arrived at approximately \$3,000 per acre.

For a 50-acre or 200-acre annexation, assuming the average cost per acre for an ACE used for agricultural mitigation for this scenario is \$3,000, this would result in \$150,000 or \$600,000 for an alternative mitigation project. These funds could be directed to YGSA for use on groundwater recharge projects that would ensure improved long-term water availability.

According to YGSA, this amount is unlikely to totally fund a project, which typically costs a few million dollars. For example, setting up a recent recharge project near Dunnigan cost \$1.18 million. However, these in-lieu fees could contribute to a YGSA groundwater recharge project with minor changes to LAFCo’s Agricultural Mitigation policy. Therefore, staff recommends this alternative mitigation be added to our policy as an option which can be reviewed and approved by LAFCo on a project-by-project basis.

Policy Amendments

Proposed amendments to Yolo LAFCo's project policy include revisions to two sections. Section 4.9 "Agricultural Mitigation" is amended for clarity and to allow for in-lieu fees to be used on groundwater recharge projects. Section 4.10 "Agricultural Easement Requirements" is amended to specify that mitigation shall occur within a specific radius of the city annexing agricultural lands: four miles for the larger cities and two miles for the smaller City of Winters. It also includes a new policy to encourage agricultural mitigation adjacent to easement clusters and simplifies existing language restricting stacking of easements and easements with a home or other non-agricultural improvements.

4.9 AGRICULTURAL MITIGATION

Except as expressly noted in sections 4.13 and 4.14 below, annexation of prime agricultural lands shall not be approved unless one of the following mitigations has been instituted, at not less than a 1:1 replacement ratio:

- a) The acquisition and dedication of farmland, development rights, and agricultural conservation easements to permanently protect ~~adjacent and other~~ agricultural lands within ~~the~~ Yolo County per the requirements in Policy 4.10.
- b) For mitigation less than 20 acres, the ~~The~~ payment of fees determined per Policy 4.15 that is sufficient to fully fund the acquisition and maintenance of such farmland, development rights, or easements. ~~The per acre fees shall be specified by a Fee Schedule or Methodology, noted in Section 4.15, which may be periodically updated at the discretion of the Commission.~~
- c) ~~Any such measures must preserve prime agricultural property of reasonably equivalent quality and character that would otherwise be threatened, in the reasonably foreseeable future, by development and/or other urban uses~~ Payment of in-lieu fees determined per Policy 4.15 to the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Authority towards groundwater recharge projects in its Central Management Area.

~~The loss of fewer than twenty (20) acres of prime agricultural land generally shall be mitigated by the payment of in lieu fees as mitigation rather than the dedication of agricultural conservation easements. The loss of twenty (20) acres or more of prime agricultural land generally may be mitigated either with the payment of in lieu fees or the dedication of agricultural conservation easements.~~ In all cases, the Commission reserves the right to review and adjust such mitigation on a case-by-case basis.

4.10 AGRICULTURAL EASEMENT REQUIREMENTS

If an applicant provides agricultural easements or other permanent restrictions to satisfy this requirement, the easements and restrictions must conform to the following characteristics:

- a) The land used to mitigate ~~the loss for a city annexation~~ of prime agricultural land must also be prime agricultural land as defined in this Policy and the CKH Act and be located such that at least a portion is within a radius from the subject City: a four-mile radius for the larger cities (i.e. Cities of Davis, West Sacramento, and Woodland) and a two-mile radius for the City of Winters.

- b) In addition, ~~it~~ the land used to mitigate must also be of reasonably equivalent quality and character as the mitigated annexed prime agricultural land as measured using both of the following methodologies:
- i. Average Storie Index – The USDA calculation methodology will be used to calculate the average Storie Index or Revised Storie Index score. The mitigating land's average Index score shall be no more than 10% less than the mitigated annexed land's average Index score. The decision of whether to use the Storie Index or Revised Storie Index is within LAFCo's sole discretion.
 - ii. Land Equivalency and Site Assessment ("LESA") Model – The LESA calculation shall be in accordance with the methodology adopted by this Commission (see appendices). The mitigating land's LESA score shall be no more than 10% below the mitigated annexed land's LESA score.
- c) ~~As a general rule, the~~ The Commission will not accept, as mitigation required by this Policy, an agricultural conservation easement or property that is "stacked" or otherwise combined with easements or property acquired for habitat conservation purposes, nor for any other purposes that are incompatible with the maintenance and preservation of economically sound and viable agricultural activities and operations. ~~The Commission retains the discretion to make exceptions on a case-by-case basis, based upon whether the applicant made a good faith effort to mitigate separately for the loss of habitat in accordance with the Yolo Natural Heritage Program process but such efforts were infeasible, and whether the proposed "stacked" mitigation for the loss of prime agricultural land and habitat involves one of the following, whichever results in the greatest acreage of preserved land:~~
- ~~i. Mitigation at a ratio of no less than 2:1 for the loss of prime agricultural soils; or~~
 - ~~ii. Mitigation at a ratio of no less than 1:1 for the loss of all agricultural lands in the proposal area; or~~
 - ~~iii. The property subject to the agricultural conservation easement is larger than the proposal area, meets the conditions specified in this Policy, and encompasses a complete field, legal parcel, or farm line.~~
- d) Easements that enlarge the existing agricultural clusters identified by the Yolo Land Trust as Cache Creek, Dhillon Ranch, Eoff Farms, Heidrick/Merritt, and Los Rios are encouraged. Please see Appendix 8.2.

- e) The presence of a home or other non-agricultural improvements on land that is subject to an agricultural conservation easement ~~is generally incompatible with the maintenance and preservation of economically sound and viable agricultural activities and operations on that land shall not be included in the easement area. The presence or introduction of a home may diminish the value of the agriculture conservation easement as mitigation for the loss of prime agricultural land. Consequently, an agricultural conservation easement will generally not be accepted as mitigation for the loss of prime agricultural land if the easement permits the presence of a home, except an existing home that has been present on the proposed easement for at least twenty-five (25) years, or construction of a comparable replacement for such a home. Exceptions to this section of the Policy may be granted by the Commission on a case-by-case basis if the home site is less than two acres and if the applicant can provide sufficient evidence that a home site on the agriculture conservation easement is necessary to further the goals of maintaining and preserving economically sound and viable agricultural activities and operations on that easement.~~

4.11 EASEMENT HOLDER

LAFCo favors the use of a local non-profit agricultural conservation entity or the regional branch of a nationally recognized non-profit agricultural conservation entity as the easement holder. The Commission will use the following criteria when approving the non-profit agricultural conservation entity for these purposes:

- a) Whether the entity is a non-profit organization that is either based locally or is a regional branch of a national non-profit organization whose principal purpose is holding and administering agricultural conservation easements for the purposes of conserving and maintaining lands in agricultural production;
- b) Whether the entity has a long-term proven and established record for holding and administering easements for the purposes of conserving and maintaining lands in agricultural production;
- c) Whether the entity has a history of holding and administering easements in Yolo County for the foregoing purposes;
- d) Whether the entity has adopted the Land Trust Alliance's "Standards and Practices" and is operating in compliance with those Standards; and
- e) Any other information that the Commission finds relevant under the circumstances.

A local public agency may be an easement co-holder if that agency was the lead agency during the environmental review process. LAFCo also favors that applicants transfer the easement

rights or in lieu fees directly to the recognized non-profit agricultural conservation entity in accordance with that entity's procedures. The Commission retains the discretion to determine whether the agricultural conservation entity identified by the applicant and the local lead agency has met the criteria delineated above.

4.12 AGRICULTURAL MITIGATION IMPOSED BY OTHER AGENCIES

The Commission prefers that mitigation measures consistent with this Policy be in place at the time that a proposal is filed with the Commission. The loss of prime agricultural land may be mitigated before Commission action by the annexing city, or the County of Yolo in the case of a district annexation, provided that such mitigation is consistent with this Policy. LAFCo will use the following criteria in evaluating such mitigation:

- a) Whether the loss of prime agricultural land was identified during the project's or proposal's review process, including but not necessarily limited to review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act;
- b) Whether the approval of the environmental documents included a legally binding and enforceable requirement that the applicant mitigate the loss of prime agricultural land in a manner consistent with this Policy; and
- c) Whether, as part of the LAFCo application, an adopted ordinance or resolution was submitted confirming that mitigation has occurred, or requiring the applicant to have the mitigation measure in place before the issuance of a grading permit, a building permit, or final map approval for the site.

4.13 MITIGATION FOR PUBLIC AGENCY PROJECTS

As noted in Section 4.2, the Commission has concluded that, in the case of proposals that are undertaken exclusively for the benefit of a public agency, the Commission should review the applicability of the mitigation requirements set forth in this Policy on a case-by-case basis to determine the appropriateness of requiring mitigation in any particular case. In making such a determination, the Commission will consider all relevant information that is brought to its attention, including but not limited to the following factors:

- a) Whether the public agency had any significant, practical option in locating its project, including locating the project on non-prime or less prime agricultural land;
- b) Whether the public agency is subject to or exempt from the land use regulations of another public agency;
- c) Whether the public agency identified the loss of agricultural land as an environmental impact during the project's review, including but not limited to California Environmental

Quality Act review, and, if so, whether it adopted a "Statement of Overriding Considerations" for that impact;

- d) When the public agency learned of the agricultural conservation mitigation requirements of the Commission's Policy or that of another public agency (whether or not it was subject to that agency's land use control);
- e) Whether the public agency could reasonably have allocated or obtained sufficient revenues to provide for some or all of the mitigation required by this Policy if it had learned of that requirement before submitting its proposal to this Commission;
- f) Whether the public good served by the public agency's proposal clearly outweighs the purposes served by this Policy and its mitigation requirements; and
- g) Whether the proposal is necessary to meet the immediate needs of the public agency.

If the Commission determines that it is not appropriate to require mitigation for the loss of agricultural land resulting from a public agency's proposal, or to require less mitigation than otherwise prescribed by this Policy, it shall adopt findings, and a statement of overriding considerations if applicable, supporting that determination.

4.14 LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT AGRICULTURAL LAND LOSS

Mitigation shall not be required for the annexation of less than five (5) acres of land if the Commission finds that the land:

- a) Scores in the fourth tier of LESA;
- b) Is "infill" as defined in this Policy; and
- c) Has not been used for active agriculture purposes in the previous 20 years.

4.15 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION POLICY PAYMENT IN LIEU FEE METHODOLOGY

In lieu of the dedication of agricultural conservation easements that would otherwise be required by the Agricultural Conservation Policy, the Commission may permit the payment of fees as set forth in this Schedule to fully fund the acquisition and maintenance of farmland, development rights or agricultural conservation easements.

No less than 35% of the average per acre price for full and unencumbered fee title price in the last five (5) unimproved land purchases plus a five percent (5%) endowment of the cost of the easement, and the payment of the estimated transaction costs associated with acquiring an

easement. The purchases must be within the general vicinity of the annexing entity and of a size equal to or greater than the total acreage of prime soils within the subject territory.

Payment of the In Lieu Fee is to be made directly to an agricultural conservation entity that meets the criteria set forth in Section 4.11 of this Policy. The agricultural conservation entity receiving these funds must present to the Commission a letter stating its intention to use these funds for the acquisition of farmland, development rights or agricultural conservation easements in Yolo County whose prime soils are reasonably equivalent to the proposal area's soils and that the location of the easements will be within the general vicinity of the annexing entity and in an area within the County of Yolo that would otherwise be threatened, in the reasonably foreseeable future, by development and/or other urban uses.

4.16 DEFINITIONS

Except where noted, the following definitions are not defined in the California Government Code Sections 56000 et seq.

AFFECTED LOCAL AGENCY - any local agency which contains, or would contain, or whose sphere of influence contains or would contain, any territory for which a change of organization is proposed or ordered, either singularly or as part of a reorganization or for which a study is to be reviewed by LAFCo (Government Code § 56014).

AGRICULTURAL LAND - areas within which the ~~primary zoning or~~ general plan designation is AG, AP, or AE, or any other agricultural zone.

FEASIBLE - capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, legal, social, and technological factors (Government Code § 56038.5).

INFILL ~~LAND~~ - property surrounded, or substantially surrounded, by urban uses or incorporated or special district boundaries.

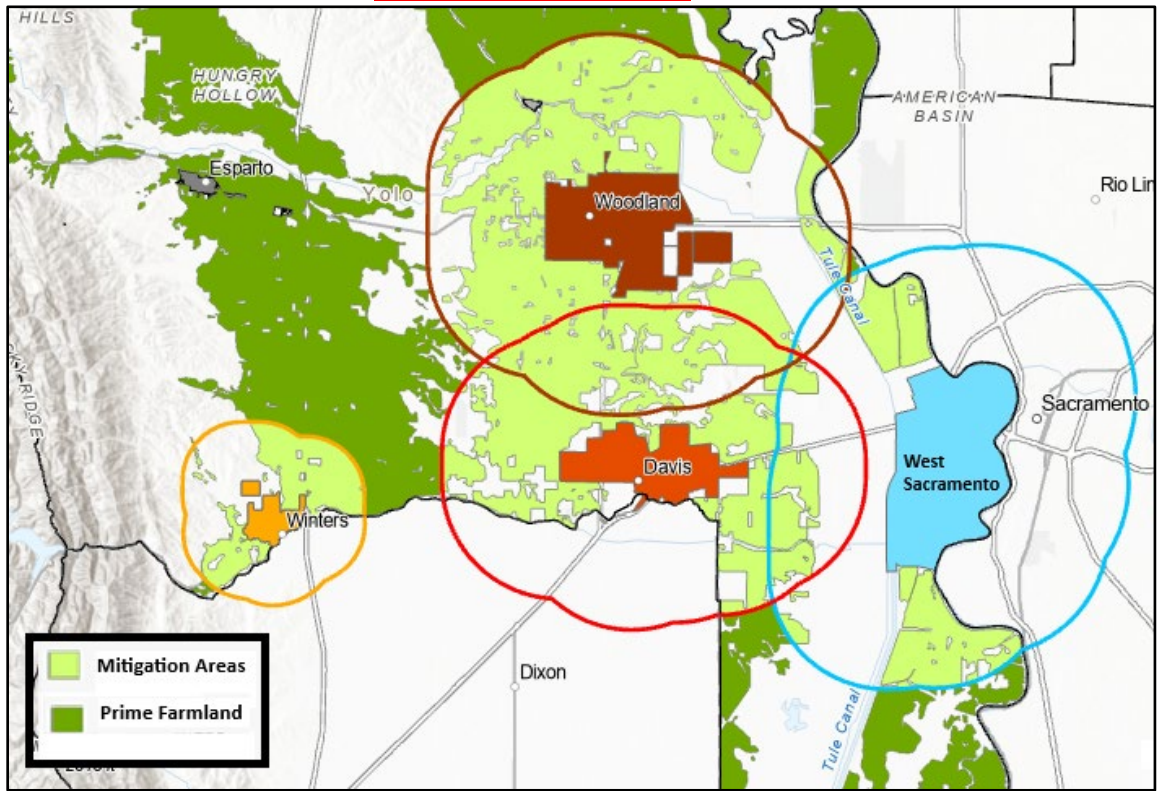
PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND - (Government Code § 56064) an area of land, whether a single parcel or contiguous parcels, that has not been developed for a use other than an agricultural use and which meets any of the following qualifications:

- a) Land that qualifies, if irrigated, for rating as Class I or Class II in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service land use capability classification, whether or not land is currently irrigated, provided that irrigation is feasible.
- b) Land that qualifies for rating 80 - 100 Storie Index rating.

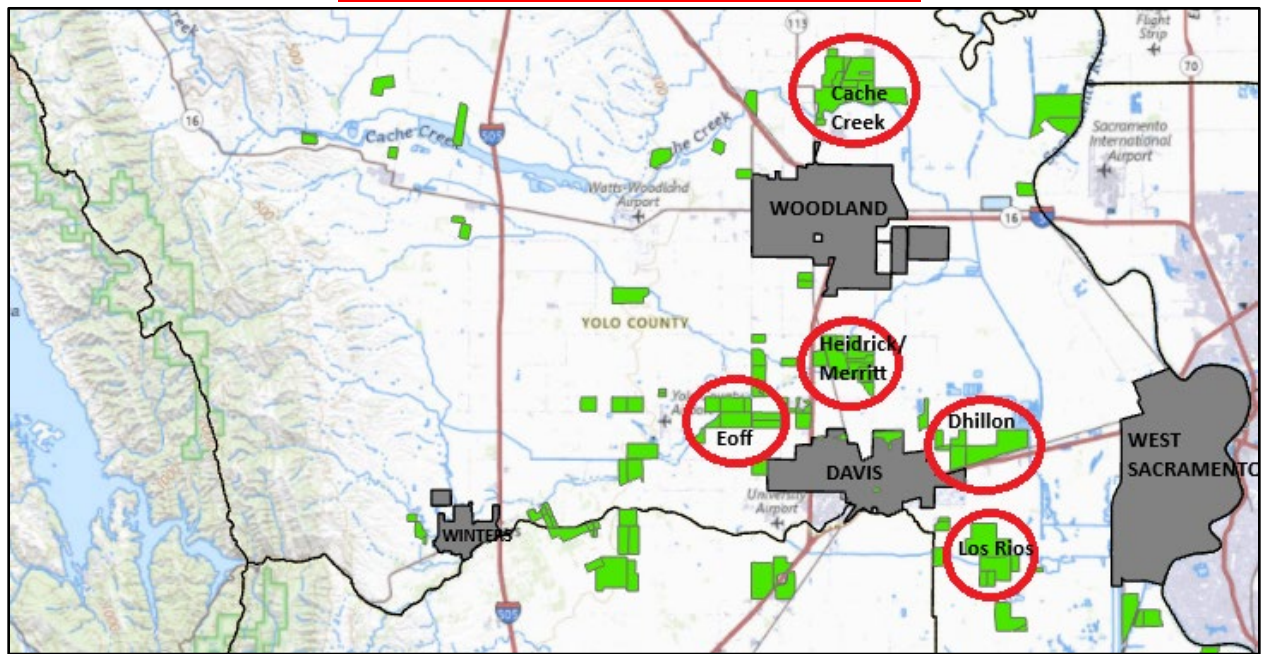
- c) Land that supports livestock used for the production of food and fiber and that has an annual carrying capacity equivalent to at least one animal unit per acre as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture in the National Range and Pasture Handbook, Revision 1, December 2003.
- d) Land planted with fruit or nut-bearing trees, vines, bushes, or crops that have a nonbearing period of less than five years and that will return during the commercial bearing period on an annual basis from the production of unprocessed agricultural plant production not less than four hundred dollars (\$400) per acre.
- e) Land that has returned from the production of unprocessed agricultural plant products an annual gross value of not less than four hundred (\$400) per acre for three of the previous five calendar years.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT - a change of organization that contemplates or is likely to lead to the conversion of land from agricultural use to a primarily nonagricultural related use, generally resulting in the need for services such as sewer, water, fire protection, schools, drainage systems, and police protection.

City Mitigation Radii



Agricultural Easement Clusters (2025)



LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Consider authorizing an increase to the Executive Officer salary range based on the salary survey performed by Yolo County Human Resources

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Commission consider one of the following approaches to the Executive Officer's compensation:

1. Maintain the current salary range.
2. Phased salary increase implementation: 4.5% effective 1/1/2026 and 4% effective 7/1/2026.
3. Phased salary increase implementation with retroactivity: 4.5% retroactive to 7/1/2025 and 4% effective 7/1/2026.
4. Full salary increase implementation effective 1/1/2026.
5. Full salary increase implementation fully retroactive to 7/1/2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

The options outlined above would result in a range of budget impacts. The most costly option listed (Option 5 - Full salary increase implementation retroactive to 7/1/2025) would cost an additional \$15,018 in total salary and benefits this fiscal year (at the EO's current 70% FTE).

After the first half of the fiscal year, LAFCo is 43.56% expended on its Salaries and Benefits budget, which is roughly \$35,000 under budget so far, mostly due to lower than expected employee benefit costs. These costs will continue to come in under budget during the second half of the fiscal year. Therefore, the budget for the current fiscal year can absorb any of the options outlined.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

As the Commission is aware, Yolo LAFCo staff are treated as County employees for human resources (HR) purposes. At the Executive Officer's employee evaluation in June 2025, the Commission requested a salary survey be performed. The salary survey provided by Yolo County HR dated September 3, 2025 (Att. A), determined that the Executive Officer salary range is 8.47% below the market average of the comparable counties used by Yolo County HR.

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Commission to consider whether to adjust the Executive Officer's salary compensation based on the findings of the salary survey. If the Commission decides an adjustment to the market average is warranted, then the Commission will need to decide how to implement the adjustment. The County often implements salary adjustments effective at the beginning of the fiscal year, or July 1, 2025. However, the Commission could also implement the change effective January 1, 2026, or phase the adjustment, as shown in the Recommended Action.

ATTACHMENTS

- Att. A: Yolo County Salary Survey dated September 3, 2025
- Att. B: Quarter 2 Budget Status Summary

BACKGROUND

See above.

Attachments

- Att A - EO Salary Survey
- Att B - Q2 Budget Status Summary

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Christine Crawford	Christine Crawford	02/17/2026 11:56 AM
Eric May	Eric May	02/17/2026 12:06 PM

Form Started By: Desirae Leverett
Final Approval Date: 02/18/2026

Started On: 01/20/2026 08:56 AM

LAFCO Executive Officer Salary Survey

August 27, 2025

Item 9 - Attachment A

Agency	Comparable Class Title	Annual Minimum	Annual Maximum
Butte LAFCO	Executive Officer	\$ 153,181.60	\$ 207,277.20
El Dorado LAFCO	Executive Officer	\$ 127,296.00	\$ 169,728.00
Napa County	LAFCO Executive Officer	\$ 160,326.40	\$ 194,521.60
Placer County	LAFCO Executive Officer - Range B	\$ 165,464.04	\$ 206,668.80
Sacramento LAFCO	Executive Officer	\$ 168,918.96	\$ 186,249.96
San Joaquin LAFCO	Executive Officer	\$ 122,158.00	\$ 149,344.00
Solano LAFCO ¹	Executive Officer		\$ 207,900.00
Sutter LAFCO ²	Executive Officer (contract out services)		
Yolo County	LAFCO Executive Officer	\$ 143,228.80	\$ 174,075.20
Number of Observations			7
Labor Market Mean			\$ 188,812.79
Difference (AV)			\$ (14,737.59)
% Above/Below Mean			-8.47%

Note:

¹single salary rate

²omitted data - agency contracts for staff services. The Executive Officer's charge-out rate is \$181.65/hr or \$377,832/year full-time.

Item 9 - Attachment B

LAFCO BUDGET - 2nd QUARTER BUDGET STATUS SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR 2025/26

Account #	Account Name	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year to Date	FY 25/26 Budget	% Budget
REVENUES								
403100	INVESTMENT EARNINGS-POOL	\$ -	\$ 5,485			\$ 5,485	\$ 3,000	182.82%
430020	OTHER GOVT AGENCY-COUNTY	\$ 276,117	\$ -			\$ 276,117	\$ 276,117	100%
430023	OTHER GOVT AGENCY-WEST SACRAMENTO	\$ 96,075	\$ -			\$ 96,075	\$ 96,075	100%
430025	OTHER GOVT AGENCY-WOODLAND	\$ 85,828	\$ -			\$ 85,828	\$ 85,828	100%
430027	OTHER GOVT AGENCY-WINTERS	\$ 8,970	\$ -			\$ 8,970	\$ 8,970	100%
430029	OTHER GOVT AGENCY-DAVIS	\$ 85,245	\$ -			\$ 85,245	\$ 85,245	100%
440520	OTH CHRG FR SVC-LAFCO FEES	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,031			\$ 2,481	\$ -	0.00%
470999	USE FUND BALANCE AVAILABLE-BUDGET ON	\$ 136,056				\$ 136,056	\$ 136,056	
	TOTAL AGENCY COST						\$ 552,235	
	TOTAL OTHER LISTED SOURCES						\$ 139,056	
	TOTAL FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 689,741	\$ 6,515	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 696,256	\$ 691,291	100.72%

LAFCO BUDGET - 2nd QUARTER BUDGET STATUS SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR 2025/26

Account #	Account Name	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year to Date	FY 25/26 Budget	% Budget
SALARIES AND BENEFITS								
500100	REGULAR EMPLOYEES	\$ 64,377	\$ 79,072			\$ 143,449	\$ 301,581	47.57%
500110	EXTRA HELP	\$ 5,126	\$ 1,013			\$ 6,140	\$ 15,000	40.93%
501100	RETIREMENT (CALPERS)	\$ 20,777	\$ 22,652			\$ 43,429	\$ 106,970	40.60%
501110	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX (OASDI)	\$ 4,127	\$ 5,331			\$ 9,459	\$ 23,758	39.81%
501120	MEDICARE TAX	\$ 965	\$ 1,247			\$ 2,212	\$ 5,420	40.81%
501130	HEALTH INSURANCE (Life Ins/EAP/in-lieu)	\$ 1,140	\$ 963			\$ 2,103	\$ 4,150	50.66%
501150	OPEB - RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE	\$ 3,258	\$ 3,552			\$ 6,811	\$ 15,381	44.28%
501170	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$ -	\$ 99			\$ 99	\$ 185	53.51%
501180	WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	\$ 538	\$ -			\$ 538	\$ 500	107.60%
501190	OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 8,288	\$ 13,167			\$ 21,455	\$ 68,152	31.48%
	TOTAL SALARY & BENEFITS	\$ 108,597	\$ 127,096	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,693	\$ 541,097	43.56%
SERVICES AND SUPPLIES								
510025	COMMUNICATIONS - INTERNAL CHARGE	\$ 522	\$ 522			\$ 1,044	\$ 2,025	51.56%
510030	FOOD	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
510051	INSURANCE-PUBLIC LIABILITY	\$ 613	\$ -			\$ 613	\$ 613	100.00%
510070	MAINTENANCE-EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 500	0.00%
510071	MAINTENANCE-BLDG IMPROVEMENT	\$ -	\$ 2,896			\$ 2,896	\$ 3,150	91.94%
510090	MEMBERSHIPS	\$ 4,912	\$ 1,398			\$ 6,310	\$ 7,200	87.64%
510110	OFFICE EXPENSE	\$ 87	\$ 269			\$ 356	\$ 750	47.42%
510111	OFFICE EXP-POSTAGE	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 500	0.00%
510120	IT SERVICE-DEPARTMENT SYSTEM MAINTENANCE	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 3,000	0.00%
510121	IT SERVICES-ERP (Enterprise/Resource/Planning)	\$ 1,175	\$ 1,175			\$ 2,350	\$ 4,758	49.39%
510122	IT SERVICES-CONNECTIVITY	\$ 1,444	\$ 1,444			\$ 2,888	\$ 5,740	50.31%
510150	COUNTY A-87 CHARGES	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 24,046	0.00%
510160	PUBLICATIONS AND LEGAL NOTICES	\$ 304	\$ -			\$ 304	\$ 1,500	20.25%
510170	RENTS AND LEASES - EQUIPMENT	\$ 11	\$ 12			\$ 23	\$ 100	23.38%
510173	RENTS INTERNAL CHARGE (Records Storage-Archiv)	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 1,650	0.00%
510180	TRAINING	\$ 2,100	\$ 825			\$ 2,925	\$ 5,000	58.50%
510190	MINOR EQUIPMENT (Computers)	\$ 1,775	\$ -			\$ 1,775	\$ 1,662	106.79%
510200	TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL	\$ 575	\$ 3,060			\$ 3,635	\$ 8,000	45.44%
510251	PROF & SPEC SVC AUDITING & ACCOUNTING	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
510252	PROF & SPEC SVC INFO TECH SERVICES	\$ 2,520	\$ 220			\$ 2,740	\$ 8,000	34.25%
510256	PROF & SPEC SVC LEGAL SERVICES	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 12,000	0.00%
510275	PROF & SPEC SVC OTHER	\$ 7,988	\$ -			\$ 7,988	\$ 30,000	26.63%
	TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES	\$ 24,025	\$ 11,821	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,846	\$ 120,194	29.82%
OTHER CHARGES								
526601	PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS					\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL OTHER CHARGES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
OTHER FINANCING USES								
590100	APPROP FOR CONTINGENCY					\$ -	\$ 25,000	0.00%
590999	CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND BALANCE					\$ -	\$ 5,000	0.00%
	TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	\$ -	\$ 11,821	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	0.00%
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 132,623	\$ 150,738	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 271,539	\$ 691,291	39.28%

Regular 10.

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Feb. 1, 2026--Feb. 1, 2027)

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Commission to serve one-year terms, beginning February 1, 2026, and ending February 1, 2027.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

Each year, the members of the Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve a one-year term as stated in the Yolo LAFCo Administrative Policies and Procedures and consistent with state law.

BACKGROUND

The Chair seat is vacant. The Vice Chair is County Member Oscar Villegas.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Christine Crawford	Christine Crawford	02/17/2026 11:58 AM
Form Started By: Desirae Leverett		Started On: 02/17/2026 11:15 AM
Final Approval Date: 02/18/2026		

LAFCO

Meeting Date: 02/26/2026

Information

SUBJECT

Executive Officer's Report: A report by the Executive Officer on recent events relevant to the Commission and an update of staff activity for the month.

- a. Long Range Planning Calendar
 - b. CALAFCO Legislative Update
-

Attachments

Att A - Long Range Planning Calendar
Att B - CALAFCO Legislative Update

Form Review

Inbox

Christine Crawford

Form Started By: Desirae Leverett

Final Approval Date: 02/18/2026

Reviewed By

Christine Crawford

Date

02/18/2026 12:28 PM

Started On: 02/18/2026 10:31 AM



Long Range Meeting Calendar – Tentative Items

February 26, 2026

Meeting Date	Tentative Agenda Items
Mar 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-Yr Strategic Planning Workshop (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)
Apr 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elkhorn FPD Reorganization Public Hearing (LAFCo 24-02) • LAFCo Work Plan for FY 2026/27 • Draft LAFCo Budget for FY 2026/27 • FY 25/26 Q3 Financial Update
May 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elkhorn FPD Reorganization Protest Hearing (LAFCo 24-02) • Rural Water and Sewer Services Governance Study Session (LAFCo 25-03) • Final LAFCo Budget for FY 2026/27
Jun 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Irrigation Services MSR (LAFCo 25-05)
Jul 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Water and Sewer Services MSR (LAFCo 25-03)
Aug 2026	No Meeting – Summer Recess

New Applications Received Since Last Meeting

Date Received	Application Name
Feb 18, 2026	WWTP Annexation to the Esparto CSD (LAFCo 26-01)



CALAFCO Legislative Summary

LAFCo Meeting February 26, 2026

CALAFCO is currently tracking 19 bills as of February 17, 2026. However, 10 of these bills were either chaptered or vetoed last year, and of the 9 bills carried over as two-year bills, 4 of those have died. The remaining 5 active bills as listed below.

The Legislative session began in January, so there’s not a lot showing up on CALAFCO’s tracking report yet. None of these bills pose a concern to Yolo LAFCo.

<p>1. AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.</p>	<p>The bill extends the sunset date of the alternative Brown Act meeting procedures established in AB 2449 from 1/1/2026 to 1/1/2030. Jul 17, 2025 – Failed deadline – 2-year bill CALAFCO Position: Watch</p>
<p>2. AB 356 (Patel D) Health care districts: County of San Diego.</p>	<p>Not applicable – Yolo County has no healthcare districts. Jul 17, 2025 – Failed deadline – 2-year bill CALAFCO Position: Support</p>
<p>3. AB 568 (Macedo R) Tule East Groundwater Sustainability Agency Act</p>	<p>This bill would create the Tule East Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would establish the agency’s initial boundaries. Gut and amended on 6/24 and amended again 7/18, this bill replaces AB 1044 which is flagged as a 2-year bill. Feb 17, 2026 – Assembly Concurrence in Senate Amendments CALAFCO Position: None at this time</p>
<p>4. AB 1156 (Wicks D) Solar-use easements: suspension of Williamson Act contracts: terms of easement</p>	<p>The bill revises the conditions under which the land subject to a Williamson Act contract may be subject to a solar-use easement. The bill revises authorization for the DOC to determine that a parcel is eligible for suspension upon the request of the landowner, instead of a request from a county or city, and would require the DOC to additionally make that determination in consultation with any applicable groundwater sustainability agency or services. The bill revises the eligibility criteria for a parcel to be deemed eligible under these provisions by (1) additionally authorizing land for which there are or will be insufficient surface water or groundwater to support commercially viable irrigated agricultural use; (2) deleting the requirement that the land not be located on lands designated as prime farmland, unique farmland, or farmland of statewide importance; and (3) additionally requiring that the land meet certain additional requirements relating to the land’s historical use as cropland and whether it is encumbered by a conservation easement or</p>

	<p>enrolled in a land conservation program, as specified. The bill also requires the DOC to issue its determination of eligibility within 120 days following submission of a completed application package, and would deem any application not rejected within this 120-day period to be approved.</p> <p>This bill removes the authority for a county or city to require mitigation measures on or beyond the land that is subject to a solar-use easement. The bill also removes the requirement that a landowner post a performance bond or other securities in relation to a term easement or self-renewing easement.</p> <p>Sep 11, 2025, Failed deadline – now a 2-year bill. CALAFCO Position: None at this time</p>
<p>5. SB 239 (Arreguín D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.</p>	<p>This bill adds a subsidiary body, as defined, to the list of entities authorized to use alternative telecom provisions including advisory bodies that are not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, grants, permits, or other entitlements.</p> <p>Jan 27, 2026 – Passed. In Assembly. Held at Desk. CALAFCO Position: None at this time</p>

