

City of Salinas

200 Lincoln Ave., Salinas, CA 93901

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Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

6:00 PM

Community Development Department- Permit Center
Conference Room

General Plan Steering Committee

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jose Luis Barajas
Alejandro Chavez
Jonathan De Anda
Dennis Donohue

Natalie Flores
Rosa Gonzalez
Xago Juarez
Vicente Lara

Robin Lee
Alexis Mendez
Salvador Muñoz
Alexis Mendez

Omar Perez
Micheal Talavera

*Visión Salinas 2040 is about our community's future, goals
and priorities, and above all, our people.*

*Lisa Brinton, Community Development Director
Monica Gurmilan, Senior Planner, Steering Committee
Executive Secretary*

monicag@ci.salinas.ca.us, (831) 758-7409

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL****PUBLIC COMMENT TIME RESTRICTIONS**

Public comments generally are limited to two minutes per speaker; the Chair may further limit the time for public comments depending on the agenda schedule.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Receive public communications from the audience on items that are not on the agenda and that are in the City of Salinas' subject matter jurisdiction. Comments on Consent or Consideration items should be held until the items are reached. The public may request that the committee consider adding an item for consideration on a future agenda. The public may comment on scheduled agenda items as they are considered. In order to be respectful of all speakers' views and to avoid disruption of the meeting, the audience shall refrain from applauding or jeering speakers who have been recognized by the Chair.

CONSENT[ID#23-694](#)**Minutes**

Recommendation: Recommendation: Approve minutes of October 25, 2023

Attachments: [Steering Committee Minutes 10 25 23](#)

DISCUSSION ITEMS[ID#23-696](#)**Circulation and Conservation and Environmental Safety Element Goals, Policies and Actions**

Recommendation: Steering Committee review continues with the Circulation Element and Conservation and Environmental Safety Element goals, policies and actions.

Attachments: [Draft Conservation and Environmental Safety Policy Scan](#)

[Draft Circulation Policy Scan](#)

[Recurring Themes - Conservation](#)

[Recurring Themes - Circulation](#)

[ID#23-704](#)**Housing Element**

Recommendation: Housing Element update

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

*Additional Policy Scans
Climate Action Plan*

ADJOURNMENT

Monica Gurmilan, Senior Planner**AGENDA MATERIAL / ADDENDUM**

Any addendums will be posted within 72 hours of regular meetings or 24 hours of special meetings and in accordance with Californian Government Code Section 54954.2 and 54956. City Commission/Board/Committee agenda reports and other writings distributed to the legislative body may be viewed at the Salinas City Clerk's Office, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, and are posted on the City's website at www.cityofsalinas.org in accordance with California Government Code section 54597.5. The Commission/Board/Committee may take action that is different than the proposed action reflected on the agenda.

Disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be requested by any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting. Language interpretation may be requested as soon as possible but by no later than 5 p.m. of the last business day prior to the meeting. Requests should be referred to the City Clerk's Office At 200 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, 758-7381, as soon as possible but by no later than 5 p.m. of the last business day prior to the meeting. Hearing impaired or TTY/TDD text telephone users may contact the city by dialing 711 for the California Relay Service (CRS) or by telephoning any other service providers' CRS telephone number.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

This agenda was posted on November 9, 2023 in the Salinas Rotunda and City's website.

MINUTES
OF THE
VISION SALINAS 2040 STEERING COMMITTEE
GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
October 25, 2023

WELCOME AND STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

PRESENT: Jose Luis Barajas, Alejandro Chavez, Jonathan De Anda, Dennis Donoue, Natalie Flores, Rosa Gonzalez, Xago Juarez, Vicente Lara, Alexis Mendez, Omar Perez, Michael Talavera, Salvador Muñoz

ABSENT: Alejandro Chavez, Robin Lee, David Mack, Devon McCauley, Carissa Purnell

STAFF: Lisa Brinton (Community Development Director), Grant Leonard (Planning Manager), Monica Gurmilan (Senior Planner), Jonathan Moore (Senior Planner), Donovan Arteaga (Community Outreach Assistant)

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- I. Finalize Review of Socioeconomic Pillar, Public Safety Element
- II. Review Land Use and Infrastructure, and Community Design Elements

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Alexis Mendez called the meeting into order. Roll call was taken. Jose Luis Barajas motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Jonathan De Anda seconded the motion. The motion passed. Monica Gurmilan shifted the conversation to be led by Jonathan Moore.

Review Land Use and Infrastructure Element

Jon began the conversation regarding Land Use and Infrastructure by reviewing the Economic Development Target Maps and Draft Place Types Maps. Sal Muñoz asked where in the General Plan historical districts would be addressed. Jon began to go over the Land Use and Infrastructure Policies with the group. Rosa Gonzalez asked if there was an equity rubric that the

group was using to analyze the policies. Rosa asked how the goals will align with community goals and include those who have been traditionally excluded. Jose Luis asked about if the use of “innovative” in Action-1.6.5 is also referring to emerging industries. Jose Luis suggested an equity piece be included in Goal-3. Lisa Brinton suggested we compare the Economic Development and Land Use Elements to ensure there’s a balance between housing and job opportunities. Dennis Donohue commented that land use should be open to industry and allow for conversations to happen, meaning allow for maximum flexibility. Sal mentioned we should project our surrounding agriculture land and grow the city vertically. Michael Talavera where the three goals of the element came from and why only three goals. Jon mentioned they stem from previous plans and outreach. Sal asked about sewage and stormwater infrastructure. Rosa asked if green-water infrastructure could be explicitly mentioned.

Review Community Design Element

Jon then transitioned the conversation over to the Community Design Element. Monica suggested we encourage green infrastructure in the entry points of the city. Rosa asked if codes regarding color of comes could be removed (to allow for more freedom in color choice). Jose Luis asked how Action-1.2.1 will affect existing businesses. Xago asked if the goals are geared towards local investment rather than outside investment.

Review Public Safety Element

Monica then transitioned the conversation over to the Public Safety Element. She began by going over a summary of the outreach details and reviewing the goals/policies/actions. Michael mentioned working with schools for crime prevention. He also mentioned that a larger police presence may help deter crime. Jose Luis seconded the sentiment. Alexis raised some concern. Xago wanted to make sure we weren’t encouraging a larger police presence in schools.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on November 15 and will take place in the Community Room at the Salinas Police Department.

FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Draft goals/policies/actions for other elements
- II. Circulation maps and Street Types

ADJOURNMENT

Alexis adjourned the meeting.

Conservation

Recurring Themes:

- Maintain/repair libraries and recreation centers
- Maintain/repair parks
- Clean waterways/drains to prevent flooding
- Green infrastructure throughout the city
- Combat pollution near open spaces
- Water conservation (turf, aquifer recharge, limit depletion of ground water reserves, gathering rainwater)
- Sustainability needs to be a priority
- Protect agricultural land from development
- Combat pollution from agriculture (pesticides and fertilizers into soil, water)
- Limit CO2 emissions by improving built environment
- More trees throughout the city
- Need cleaner air
- More respect for nature (marshlands, natural streams, ecosystems)
- Percolation
- Motivate community to maintain yards that don't require much maintenance
- Protecting natural resources from blighted conditions (due to homeless, industry, etc.)

Draft Conservation & Environmental Safety

Goal COES-1: Increase the adaptability and resiliency of Salinas to the effects of Climate Change

Policy COES 1.1: Protect climate vulnerable populations.

Action COES-1.1.1: Establish locations for cooling centers in Salinas that are open and welcoming for all residents and create and communicate clear benchmarks for when they will be open.

Action COES-1.1.2: Explore options and resources for protecting outdoor laborers (farmworkers, construction workers, etc.) from the dangers and potential wage loss from extreme heat and flooding events.

Action COES-1.1.3: Provide multilingual guidance and resources on how to prepare for emergencies and disasters through social media and at libraries, community centers, and other community facilities.

Action COES-1.1.4: Make resilience resources available throughout the community. Support implementation of the Monterey County Community Resilience Plan and similar efforts.

Action COES-1.1.5: Establish or support outreach programs to conduct wellness checks and help distribute resources in preparation for or in the aftermath of a disaster.

Policy COES 1.2: Prepare the built and natural environments for a different climate and more severe natural events.

Action COES-1.2.1: Identify critical infrastructure vulnerable to climate change and means of increasing protection and resiliency, such as installing back-up power generators or flood prevention.

Action COES-1.2.2: Encourage resilient landscaping and plant selection for a warmer climate through municipal codes, plans, and public resources.

Action COES-1.2.3: Incorporate wildfire protections into the East Area Specific Plan to mitigate risk along its Old Stage Road boundary and adjacent fire hazard zones to the northeast.

	<p>Action COES-1.2.4: Expand weatherization programs and assistance, particularly to residents in older structures and mobile home parks.</p> <p>Action COES-1.2.5: Invest in expanding Salinas' urban tree canopy, particularly in under-resourced neighborhoods.</p>
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Goal COES-2: Ensure a safe and adequate water supply for the community.

<p>Policy COES-2.1: Encourage the conservation of water resources.</p>	<p>Action COES-2.1.1: Work with water providers to institute conservation programs to address water supply problems caused by groundwater overdrafting.</p> <p>Action COES-2.1.2: Continue to participate in and support regional programs and projects that target the improvement and conservation of the region's groundwater and surface water supply. This includes active participation in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and liaison with the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Monterey One Water, and other organizations to explore regional solutions for water reuse, conservation and supply.</p> <p>Action COES-2.1.3: Promote responsible and sustainable water usage education for City residents, businesses, and surrounding agricultural producers.</p> <p>Action COES-2.1.4: Enforce the City's Water Conservation Ordinance and apply standards that promote water conservation in agricultural, residential, and non-residential uses.</p>
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<p>Policy COES-2.2: Ensure that adequate supplies of water are available to meet existing and future demand.</p>	<p>Action COES-2.2.1: Cooperate with local, regional, and state water agencies to develop or expand new water sources.</p> <p>Action COES-2.2.2: Work with water suppliers, distributors, and agencies to sustain and improve quality water supply, treatment, and recycling capacity to meet community needs.</p>
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	<p>Action COES-2.2.3: Maintain and restore natural watersheds and support stormwater capture/reuse to recharge the aquifers and ensure the viability of the ground water resources.</p>
<p>Policy COES-2.3: Protect and enhance water quality.</p>	<p>Action COES-2.3.1: Cooperate with the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to implement programs that address the causes of poor water quality in the planning area, including saltwater intrusion, nitrate contamination, and other sources of pollution.</p> <p>Action COES-2.3.2: Enforce national (NPDES) requirements and participate in regional efforts to protect and enhance water quality.</p> <p>Action COES-2.3.3: Work with partners to enhance Carr Lake as a reclamation/flood control facility in addition to its other functions in addressing water quality, enhancing traffic/circulation, and creating recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Action COES-2.3.4: Promote public and private development that creates green infrastructure that captures and infiltrates water.</p>
<p>Goal COES-3: Encourage energy conservation.</p>	
<p>Policy COES-3.1: Apply standards and develop programs that promote energy conservation and a community-wide shift towards renewable energy.</p>	<p>Action COES-3.1.1: Enforce State Title 24 building construction requirements.</p> <p>Action COES-3.1.2: Encourage land use arrangements and densities that facilitate the use of energy efficient public transit and locate or retain neighborhood-level services (e.g., family medical offices, dry cleaners, grocery stores, drug stores) throughout the City to reduce energy consumption through automobile use.</p> <p>Action COES-3.1.3: Participate in programs that promote energy conservation.</p> <p>Action COES-3.1.4: Work with energy suppliers and distributors (Central Coast Community Energy and Pacific Gas and Electric) to implement energy</p>

	<p>conservation programs and help inform the public of these programs.</p> <p>Action COES-3.1.5: Encourage buildings that are energy efficient and support sustainability and occupant health using green construction and design techniques, including passive house design, heat pumps, appliance electrification, solar energy, and other technologies, techniques and materials.</p> <p>Action COES-3.1.6: Support initiatives for equity in electrification and making electrification possible for all residents.</p>
<p>Goal COES-4: Protect and enhance significant ecological and biological resources in the planning area.</p>	
<p>Policy COES-4.1: Identify, protect, and enhance creek corridors, river corridors, the reclamation ditch, sloughs, wetlands, hillsides, and other potentially significant biological resources for their value in providing visual amenity, flood protection, habitat for wildlife and recreational opportunities.</p>	<p>Action COES-4.1.1: Identify significant ecological and biological resources.</p> <p>Action COES-4.1.2: Locate and design water retention areas and preserve important urban wildlife habitat areas to contribute to the visual quality of the city's open space system.</p> <p>Action COES-4.1.3: Explore with Monterey County the potential for creation of a Gabilan Creek Regional Park extending along the creek from the urban edge to the headwaters in the Gabilan Mountains.</p> <p>Action COES-4.1.4: Actively maintain creek corridors to ensure flood protection, water quality, and regulatory compliance with maintenance permits.</p>
<p>Policy COES-4.2: Identify, preserve, and protect the significant agricultural resources within and surrounding Salinas, while minimizing conflicts between agricultural and urban uses.</p>	<p>Action COES-4.2.1: Participate in programs that protect important agricultural resources and mitigate the conversion of lands designated outside City boundaries to nonagricultural uses.</p> <p>Action COES-4.2.2: Support public relations and education sessions between the agricultural industry, nonagricultural businesses, developers, and residents.</p>

	<p>Action COES-4.2.3: Minimize conflicts between agricultural and urban uses through the use of buffer zones, roads, and other physical boundaries.</p> <p>Action COES-4.2.4: Work with agricultural stakeholders to manage the impact of agriculture-related activities on local infrastructure.</p>
<p>Goal COES-5: Reduce the risk to the community from flooding, wildfire, seismic activity, geologic conditions, and other natural hazards.</p>	
<p>Policy COES-5.1: Encourage policies, programs, and measures to reduce the risk to the community from potential flooding, wildfire, and seismic activity.</p>	<p>Action COES-5.1.1: Locate development outside flood-prone areas unless flood risk is mitigated without decreasing retention capacity.</p> <p>Action COES-5.1.2: Design flood control systems in new development areas to avoid increasing flood hazard elsewhere.</p> <p>Action COES-5.1.3: Maintain open areas needed to retain stormwater and prevent flooding of urban or agricultural land.</p> <p>Action COES-5.1.4: Provide stormwater retention capacity consistent with Reclamation Ditch capacity to avoid damage to urban development as a result of a 100-year flood.</p> <p>Action COES- 5.1.5: Increase the number of staff trained to work at the County's Emergency Operations Center in the event of a flood or other natural disaster.</p> <p>Action COES-5.1.6: Ensure that all new development and reuse/revitalization projects are developed in accordance with the most recent Uniform Fire Code requirements.</p> <p>Action COES-5.1.7: Increase fire prevention education.</p>

	Action COES-5.1.8: Seek funding for and implement seismic upgrades to critical infrastructure.
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Recurring Themes – Circulation

- Need road improvements throughout the city—potholes, repaving, lane restriping, lighting
- Traffic calming around schools, parks, public facilities
- Be careful of traffic calming hurting circulation around city
- Boronda Rd needs more attention—high traffic volumes, poor conditions
- Roundabouts to improve traffic flow
- Many abandoned streets disturb traffic flow/street cleaning/create blight
- Need better maintenance/cleaning of roads/sidewalks/trails
- Improve pedestrian network throughout City—flashing crosswalks, sidewalks (many ruined by trees), trails, lighting, safety, tree canopy
- Improve bike network—safety, convenience, protected/separated facilities
- In new developments/road expansions: focus on improving conditions for Active Transportation
- Currently gaps in bike/pedestrian network
- Encourage alternative modes of transit: bike share network, land-use decisions
- Need more safety/enforcement on streets: accidents, high traffic volumes, high speeds
- Pedestrians/bikers don't feel safe (crime, violence, homeless) on trails especially at night
- Train connection to Bay Area
- Improve transit connections with local cities
- Is there still a Transportation Committee?
- Free public transit
- Trail network throughout City using creeks/Carr Lake
- Better connection for bikes/pedestrians over Highway 101
- Ensure necessary services (health, jobs, stores, resources) are walking/biking distance for residents
- Ensure safety for all ages/abilities

Draft Circulation

Goal C-1: Provide and maintain a safe and integrated circulation system that meets the current and future needs of the community for all modes of travel.

Policy C-1.1: Design and maintain safe streets.

Action C-1.1.1: Use traffic calming methods within residential areas where necessary to create a pedestrian-friendly circulation system.

Action C-1.1.2: Continue to enforce traffic laws, including those addressing bicycle and pedestrian traffic, to ensure a circulation system that is safe for motorized, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic.

Action C-1.1.3: Strive to maintain traffic Level of Service (LOS) D or better for all intersections and roadways.

Action C-1.1.4: Implement Vision Zero Plan recommendations.

Policy C-1.2: Improve regional and intra city road, rail, and air logistics and connections.

Action C-1.2.1: Work with other local jurisdictions and regional agencies to develop, implement, and improve regional transit projects and transportation systems including:

- *A regional jobs-housing balance to reduce vehicle miles traveled and congestion on the regional circulation system.

- *A countywide approach to Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and Transportation Systems Management (TSM) to reduce peak-hour vehicle trips and congestion at major employment centers.

- *Continue efforts to reduce adverse impacts of truck traffic and parking in non-industrial areas while recognizing and accepting the community's economic dependence on trucking.

- *Coordinated funding, planning, and/or implementation for critical transportation infrastructure and facility needs throughout the Salinas Valley.

Action C-1.2.2: Improve connectivity and access within the City through efforts to implement the Downtown Vibrancy Plan and improve broader access to downtown with the rail station, Chinatown, Alisal Market Place, and Carr Lake.

<p>Policy C-1.3: Promote proper capacity and traffic flow on City streets.</p>	<p>Action C-1.3.1: Utilize roundabouts, where feasible, to promote improved traffic operations and to enrich the driving experience. Utilize the center of the roundabouts for public art and landscaping.</p> <p>Action C-1.3.2: Design roadway capacities to adequately serve planned land uses. Discourage diversion of traffic to local streets by providing capacity on arterial streets and locating high traffic-generating uses on or near arterial frontages.</p> <p>Action C-1.3.3: Reduce the number of existing driveways on arterial streets whenever possible for reuse/revitalization projects to improve traffic flow.</p> <p>Action C-1.3.4: Continue to require new development to contribute to the financing of street improvements, including formation of roadway maintenance assessment districts, required to meet the demand generated by the project.</p> <p>Action C-1.3.5: Encourage removal of “back out” parking on major roads from non-residential uses.</p>
<p>Goal C-2: Create and support sustainable and healthy transportation options that encourage a reduction in single-occupancy vehicle commuting and overall Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).</p>	
<p>Policy C-2.1: Provide and maintain safe routes to school, work, shopping, and recreation for pedestrians.</p>	<p>Action C-2.1.1: Improve the walking environment by increasing the availability of safe, attractive, and well-maintained sidewalks, cut-throughs, landscaping, use of traffic-calming devices on local streets, adequate pedestrian separation from automobile traffic and the inclusion of pedestrian-scaled amenities such as lighted crosswalks and increased lighting along sidewalks in all areas of the City.</p> <p>Action C-2.1.2: Ensure that all pedestrian route improvements meet with ADA standards for accessibility.</p> <p>Action C-2.1.3: Encourage parking lot designs that promote pedestrian access and safety.</p>
<p>Policy C-2.2: Provide and maintain an extensive public bicycle network with</p>	<p>Action C-2.2.1: Continue to develop a safe and attractive network of on- and off-street bicycle routes</p>

<p>safe and equitable on-street and off-street facilities.</p>	<p>to encourage and facilitate the use of bicycles for commuting, recreation, and other trips. Eliminate gaps and provide connections between existing bicycle routes.</p> <p>Action C-2.2.2: Ensure that all pedestrian and bicycle route improvements meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for accessibility, and Caltrans standards for design.</p> <p>Action C-2.2.3: Increase availability of facilities by encouraging existing businesses and requiring new construction to provide on-premise facilities, such as safe short-term and long-term bicycle parking.</p>
<p>Policy C-2.3: Promote and maintain an efficient, reliable, and equitable public transportation network, that provides a feasible alternative to driving.</p>	<p>Action C-2.3.1: Support continued maintenance and expanded use of the Intermodal Transportation Center</p> <p>Action C-2.3.2: Support Monterey-Salinas Transit initiatives to provide adequate and improved (e.g., more frequent availability and use of Intelligent Transportation System measures where appropriate) public transportation service.</p> <p>Action C-2.3.3: Promote public transportation that is bike- and pedestrian-friendly by encouraging buses with bicycle racks at public transportation stations and for all new or modified bus stops to take pedestrian access into consideration.</p> <p>Action C-2.3.4: Design development and reuse/revitalization projects to be transit-oriented to promote the use of alternative modes of transit and support higher levels of transit service.</p> <p>Action C-2.3.5: Continue providing support to TAMC to provide commuter rail service to the Silicon Valley and other major destinations to provide alternatives to automobile use.</p>