



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-2123

AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday December 5, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 520 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

- A. **OPENING**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** August 1, 2018
- C. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**
Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's area of responsibility, but not on today's agenda.
- D. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**
Opportunity for Commissioners to report on matters that are not on today's agenda.
- E. **STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for discussion**
1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues
2. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues
3. Water Conservation Efforts, Countywide
4. Update on County Water Resource Management Efforts
5. Mid-County Water Issues
6. County Commission on the Environment
7. Update on Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Recharge Efforts
8. Karst protection zone proposal
9. Environmental Code Compliance
10. Water Supply Planning
11. County-wide Drought Response
12. **Water Advisory Commission Work Program***
13. **Soquel Creek Adjudication***

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Update of General Plan policies related to water*
2. Agenda streamlining*

H. INFORMATION AGENDA

I. CORRESPONDENCE

J. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN RICKER, (831) 454-2750, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The meeting room is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you will require special assistance in order to participate, please contact Teresa Lautenschlager at 454-2022 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, to make arrangements. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.



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MINUTES

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday October 3, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

Fifth Floor Conference Room, Room 520 - County Governmental Center
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order: 4:00 PM

2. Roll Call:

Present: Hamilton-Monkerud, Wilson, Berry, Sharp, Edgemon
Absent: Gregorio
Staff: Mark Strudley, Public Works: John Ricker, Environmental Health

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 1, 2018

Motion: Moved by Hamilton-Monkerud, seconded by Sharp, approved unanimously.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Becky Steinbruner indicated that she believed the recent updates to the County Code regarding the Water Advisory Commission reduced the Commission's authority.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Discussed but No Action

It was mentioned that a notice regarding preparation of an environmental impact report regarding modifications to the City of Santa Cruz Water Rights is forthcoming.

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussed but No Action

Staff mentioned that the County's strategic Planning process is proceeding and will be expanding on the focus area of "Sustainable Environment", including water resources.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *indicates items for discussion

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|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 2. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues | <i>Discussed but No Action</i> |
| 3. Water Conservation Efforts, Countywide | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 4. Update on County Water Resource Management Efforts | <i>Discussed but no Action</i> |
| 5. Mid-County Water Issues | <i>Discussed but No Action</i> |
| 6. County Commission on the Environment | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 7. Update on Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Recharge Efforts | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 8. Karst protection zone proposal | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 9. Environmental Code Compliance | <i>No Discussion</i> |

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| 10. Water Supply Planning | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 11. County-wide Drought Response | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 12. <u>Water Advisory Commission Role and Work Program*</u> | <i>Discussed,</i> |
| <i>Commissioners to review Commission role for each work item, including general plan update</i> | |
| 13. Cannabis Cultivation | <i>No Discussion</i> |
| 14. Update to County Code Chapter 2.96, Water Advisory Commission | <i>Discussed but No Action</i> |
| 15. Potential Watermaster to Enforce Soquel Creek Adjudication | <i>Discussed, item</i> |
| <i>will be brought back in February after there is more staff time to investigate.</i> | |
| 16. Updates to County Septic System Ordinance and Management Program | <i>No Discussion</i> |

G. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Consideration of Implications Court Case Regarding Public Trust Impacts of Groundwater Extraction:** <https://www.sacbee.com/news/state/california/water-and-drought/article218300410.html> Discussed, but No Action

H. INFORMATION AGENDA

I. CORRESPONDENCE

J. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER

August 28, 2018, # 44 – DOC-2018-735 : Authorize annual cost shares in the amount of \$119,042 to Mid-County Groundwater Agency, and \$64,724 to Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency for Fiscal Year 2018-19; approve agreement with Balance Hydrologics Inc., in the amount of \$67,000, for groundwater and streamflow monitoring, and take related actions, as recommended by the Interim Director of Health Services

September 18, 2018, #6 – DOC-2018-788 : Public hearing to consider report on the Year 2019 Growth Goal, refer the matter to the Planning Commission for consideration and recommendation to the Board, and continue the public hearing to establish the Year 2019 Growth Goal to December 11, 2018, as recommended by the Planning Director

September 18, 2018, #27 – DOC-2018-770 : Adopt resolution in support of Proposition 3, the Water Infrastructure and Watershed Conservation Bond Initiative, and direct the Clerk of the Board to distribute the resolution as indicated, as recommended by Supervisor McPherson and Supervisor Friend

September 18, 2018, #33 – DOC-2018-776 : Authorize fixed asset purchase of replacement mechanical water quality analysis system for Environmental Health Water Quality Laboratory; and approve transfer of budget appropriations in the amount of \$20,000, as recommended by the Interim Director of Health Services

September 25, 2018, #6 – DOC-2018-819 : Consider ordinance amending Chapters 1.01, 1.06, 1.08, 2.02, 2.03, 2.04, 2.06, 2.10, 2.12, 2.18, 2.24, 2.40, 2.42, 2.45, 2.54, 2.56, 2.58, 2.60, 2.64, 2.70, 2.78, 2.80, 2.90, 2.92, 2.96, 2.117, 2.121, 2.122, and 2.124 of the Santa Cruz County Code, to address miscellaneous code provisions, correct typographical errors, and update agency titles and statutory references; to return on the next available agenda for final adoption, as outlined in the memorandum of County Counsel

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT: at 6:00 pm

Minutes Prepared by: John Ricker, EH Staff

Chapter 5: Conservation and Open Space

WATER RESOURCES

This section is closely linked to the Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Element sections on water supply, wastewater treatment and disposal and drainage. The policies and programs here are meant to reinforce and compliment those in the Public Facilities section. This section is organized as follows: surface water policies including water supply; water quality and in-stream flows; and groundwater policies including groundwater supply, recharge and quality.

SURFACE WATER

Objective 5.5a Watershed Protection

(LCP) To protect and manage the watersheds of existing and future surface water supplies to preserve the quality and quantity of water produced and stored in these areas to meet the needs of County residents, local industry, agriculture, and the natural environment.

Objective 5.5b San Lorenzo River Watershed Management

(LCP) To restore, manage, and protect the San Lorenzo River Watershed to maximize the quality and quantity of water resources in that basin.

Objective 5.5c Least Disturbed Watershed

(LCP) To protect the Least Disturbed Watershed areas that support the remaining clear running streams to preserve their water supply, recreation, and wildlife support values.

Policies

5.5.1 Watershed Designation

(LCP) Designate on the General Plan and LCP Resources Maps those Water Supply Watersheds listed in Figure 5-1.

Figure 5-1 (page 1 of 2) goes here

Figure 5-1 (page 2 of 2) goes here

5.5.2 Least Disturbed Watershed Designations

(LCP) Designate the following watershed areas as Least Disturbed Watersheds:

Waddell Creek Watershed, including Blooms Creek
Scott Creek and Big Creek Watershed above their confluence, and
Scott Creek tributaries below Swanton Road
Jamison Creek Watershed
Clear Creek Watershed
Fall Creek Watershed
Eagle Creek Watershed
Greenoaks Creek
Ano Nuevo Creek
Molino Creek
Baldwin Creek and Peasley Creek: above Highway 1
Wilder Creek: above Highway 1
Laguna Creek and Majors Creek, designated corridors between
Highway 1 and the City of Santa Cruz water diversions.

5.5.3 Water Quality Constraint Area Designation

(LCP) Designate the following areas located within one mile upstream of intakes used for public water supply as Water Quality Constraint areas:

- (a) City of Santa Cruz intakes on Reggiardo, Laguna and Majors Creek, and Liddell Spring;
- (b) Bonnymede Mutual intake on Reggiardo Creek; and
- (c) Davenport water system intakes on Mill and San Vicente Creek.

5.5.4 Minimum Size for Existing Parcels in Water Quality Constraint Areas

(LCP) Require 2½ net acre minimum parcel sizes for development of anything other than one accessory dwelling unit where a single-family home already exists on existing lots of record within Water Quality Constraint Areas. Allow exceptions to the 2½ net acre minimum parcel size only where consistent with the existing Sewage Disposal ordinance. *(Revised by Resolution 30-2017)*

5.5.5 Minimum Size for Developing Existing Parcels of Record in Water Supply Watersheds

(LCP) Require one acre minimum parcel sizes for development of existing lots of record in water supply watersheds in the Coastal Zone and in the North Coast and Bonny Doon Planning Areas, and in the San Lorenzo Water Supply Watershed, in accordance with the existing Sewage Disposal ordinance and incorporate as General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan requirements the provisions of the existing Sewage Disposal ordinance with respect to Kristen Park and Water Quality Constraint Areas. Allow an exception to the one acre minimum parcel size for the creation of one accessory dwelling unit on parcels already developed with a single-family residence or for an existing parcel of record that meets all of the following criteria:

- the parcel has a designation of Community Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, Office, or Service Commercial. in the General Plan that was adopted on May 24, 1994,
- it is to be developed for commercial use,
- it is within the Rural Services Line,
- the proposed sewage disposal system will meet all technical standards of the Sewage Disposal Ordinance, and will utilize an enhanced treatment system in accordance with the Sewage Disposal Ordinance *(Revised by Resolutions 309-2000, 30-2017)*

5.5.6 Land Division and Density Requirements in Water Supply Watersheds

(LCP) Outside the Coastal Zone, require new parcel sizes to be an average of at least 10 gross acres in existing or proposed Water Supply Watersheds and allow a maximum average residential density of one dwelling unit per 10 gross acres for parcels which are not divided. Inside the Coastal Zone, require new parcel sizes to be an average of at least 20 gross acres in existing and proposed Water Supply Watersheds and within the North Coast and Bonny Doon Water Supply Watersheds extending outside the Coastal Zone, and allow a maximum average residential density of one dwelling unit per 20 gross acres for parcels which are not divided. These restrictions do not apply in the San Lorenzo River Watershed on lands:

- (a) designated Urban Residential or Suburban Residential, or
- (b) designated Rural Residential areas where the average parcel size within ¼ mile of the subject parcel boundary is less than 1 gross acre. (See policy 5.5.5.)

5.5.7 Land Division and Density Requirements in Least Disturbed Watersheds

(LCP) Maintain Least Disturbed Watersheds in open space densities by requiring an average 40 gross acre minimum parcel size for new parcels within Least Disturbed Watersheds and permit land divisions only where consistent with open space protection and where beneficial to the public, such as parcels for public facilities including public well sites, fire stations and utility rights-of-way. Allow a maximum average residential density of one dwelling unit per 40 gross acres for parcels which are not divided.

5.5.8 Allowed Uses in Water Supply and Least Disturbed Watersheds

Require uses in Water Supply Watershed and Least Disturbed areas to be compatible with watershed protection policies and limited to open space uses or recreational and residential uses at the specified Watershed densities, unless otherwise exempted.

5.5.9 Development Activities Within Water Supply and Least Disturbed Watersheds

Require all grading, building, and timber harvesting in Water Supply and Least Disturbed Watersheds to meet strict standards for erosion control and protection of water quality as outlined in the Erosion Hazard and Drainage Facilities sections of this Plan and as identified in the San Lorenzo River Watershed Management Plan.

5.5.10 Retaining Undeveloped Lands in Watersheds

Encourage property owners in designated watershed areas to sign Open Space Easement contracts or pursue other mechanisms to retain undeveloped lands within Water Supply Watersheds.

5.5.11 Timber Harvest Review Process in Watersheds

Utilize the timber harvest review process to condition applications in Water Supply and Least Disturbed Watersheds so that sustained yield programs are required to comply with restrictions or regulations on winter operations and other conditions to protect the watersheds.

5.5.12 Drainage Design in Water Supply Watersheds

(LCP) Require retention of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces for all new development in Water Supply Watersheds through on-site percolation methods where feasible, so that runoff will not exceed predevelopment runoff levels. Utilize on-site detention methods where percolation methods are not feasible. Either system should conform to the minimum design storm as determined by the County Design Criteria.

5.5.13 Proposed Water Supply Reservoir Site Designation

Designate on the General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan Resources Maps the following areas as proposed water supply reservoir sites: Glenwood Reservoir on the west branch of Soquel Creek, Upper Soquel Reservoir on Soquel Creek, College Lake on Salsipuedes Creek and Pescadero Reservoir on Pescadero Creek.

5.5.14 Development Activities Within Proposed Reservoir Protection Areas

Prohibit development activities, including land divisions within reservoir protection areas, unless such activities promote reservoir protection or facilitate reservoir development. Allow one single-family dwelling unit per existing parcel of record within a reservoir protection area after providing the water supply agency proposing the reservoir with notice of the filing of the application and providing the agency with a reasonable opportunity to acquire the parcel. Reservoir protection areas consist of the proposed water supply reservoir sites and areas within 1,250 feet from the high water elevation of reservoirs, as shown on the General Plan and LCP Resources and Constraints maps.

5.5.15 Septic Constraint Area Designation

Designate those areas having high groundwater conditions, poor soil conditions, known septic system problems or are primary groundwater recharge areas as shown on maps on file with the Director of Environmental Health as Septic Constraint Areas.

5.5.16 Minimum Lot Size In Septic Constraint Areas

(LCP) Require a 15,000 net square foot minimum lot size for existing lots of record in Septic Constraint Areas unless constraint area designation is removed in accordance with the provisions of the Sewage Disposal ordinance. For parcels already developed with a single-family residence, allow the creation of one accessory dwelling unit per parcel, in conformance with the requirements of the County Code. *(Revised by Resolution 30-2017)*

5.5.17 Sewage Disposal Ordinance

(LCP) Continue to enforce the standards of the County’s Sewage Disposal ordinance based on the following:

- (a) Do not allow variances to sewage disposal regulations that would permit lots of less than 15,000 net square feet to obtain septic permits when a public water supply is not available.
- (b) Permit installation of individual sewage disposal systems within an easement on another lot only to allow repairs of existing systems.

5.5.18 Sewage Disposal for Publicly Owned Facilities outside the Coastal Zone

(LCP) On parcels outside the Coastal Zone, permit installation of sewage disposal systems within an easement on another lot to serve a publicly owned facility where technical or minimum parcel size standards cannot be met for sewage disposal at the site of the facility. *(Added by Resolution 144-2016)*

5.5.19 Sewage Disposal for Publicly Owned Facilities inside the Coastal Zone

(LCP) On parcels inside the Coastal Zone, permit installation of sewage disposal systems within an easement on another lot to serve a publicly owned facility where technical or minimum parcel size standards cannot be met for sewage disposal at the site of the facility. *(Added by Resolution 144-2016)*

Programs

- a. Implement the San Lorenzo River Watershed Management Plan to protect and restore the water resources of the San Lorenzo River Watershed. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP)** b. Continue to monitor surface water quantity and quality to locate and identify water quality problems arising from point and non-point sources of pollution affecting public health and the environment. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4, Public Works, Water Purveyors, Environmental Health)
- c. Continue to implement a wastewater management program for septic system inspection and maintenance for the San Lorenzo Watershed. Consider expanding this program to other Water Supply Watersheds and areas adjacent to rivers, lakes and lagoons and other areas where there are known septic problems. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors)
- d. Continue to notify affected water purveyors and provide opportunity to comment on any

development project or Timber Harvest Permit proposed to be located in a Water Supply Watershed. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

- e. Periodically review, in connection with review of the General Plan, designated reservoir sites to eliminate sites not currently proposed for actual reservoir use in the future. Periodically review the list of Water Supply Watersheds for proposed additions and deletions. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, Water Purveyors, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP) f. Encourage, support, and seek funding for the preparation of watershed management plans for other watersheds. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4, Water Management Agencies)

Objective 5.6 Maintaining Adequate Streamflows

To protect and restore in-stream flows to ensure a full range of beneficial uses including recreation, fish and wildlife habitat and visual amenities as part of an ecosystem-based approach to watershed management.

Policies

5.6.1 Minimum Stream Flows for Anadromous Fish Runs

- (LCP) Pending a determination based on a biologic assessment, preserve perennial stream flows at 95% of normal levels during summer months, and at 70% of the normal winter baseflow levels. Oppose new water rights applications and time extensions, change petitions, or transfer of existing water rights which would individually diminish or cumulatively contribute to the diminishment of the instream flows necessary to maintain anadromous fish runs and riparian vegetation below the 95%/70% standard.

5.6.2 Designation of Critical Water Supply Streams

- (LCP) Designate the following streams, currently utilized at full capacity, as Critical Water Supply Streams: Laguna, Majors, Liddell, San Vicente, Mill and Reggiardo Creeks; San Lorenzo River and its tributaries above the City of Santa Cruz; Soquel Creek and its tributaries; Corralitos Creek and Browns Valley Creek and their tributaries upstream of the City of Watsonville diversion points. Oppose or prohibit as legal authority allows, new or expanded water diversion from Critical Water Supply Streams. Prohibit new riparian or off stream development, or increases in the intensity of use, which require an increase in water diversions from Critical Water Supply Streams. Seek to restore in-stream flows where full allocation may harm the full range of beneficial uses.

5.6.3 New Major Water Supply Projects

- (LCP) Ensure the development of new major water supply projects are adequately conditioned to protect beneficial in-stream uses and riparian habitat. For new major water supply projects located in the Coastal Zone, ensure that no development proceeds unless such projects are adequately conditioned to protect beneficial in-stream uses and riparian habitat with minimal reliance on technology-based mitigation measures (e.g., relying on hatchery-raised fish instead of maintaining spawning grounds).

5.6.4 On-stream Storage Reservoirs

- (LCP) Prohibit the designation of Scott Creek, Waddell Creek, San Lorenzo River and its tributaries, and Aptos Creek as on-stream storage reservoirs.

Programs

- a. Monitor existing and proposed, public and private, stream diversions and applications for water rights. Work with water users to minimize existing impacts where possible and to protect adequate in-stream flows based on the following considerations:
 - (1) Normal summer and fall streamflows should be preserved and enhanced, where feasible;
 - (2) Adequate winter and spring baseflows should be preserved for fish migration and spawning;
 - (3) Stream flows should be maintained at adequate levels for sediment transport to preserve or enhance downstream habitat, to maintain County beaches, and to allow for natural, seasonal lagoon sand berm breaching.
 - (4) Groundwater recharge areas should be protected.(Responsibility: State Water Resources Board, Department of Fish and Game)

- b. Protest water right applications that are inconsistent with policies for streamflow protection. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4, Board of Supervisors)

- (LCP)** c. Develop a monitoring program to ensure that Statements of Diversion and Water Use are filed by all water users as required by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4, Environmental Health)

- d. Develop a program to enforce the terms and conditions of the Soquel Creek adjudication decree and any other stream adjudications which may occur. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4)

- e. Investigate stream conditions during low flow periods to ensure perennial flow throughout Soquel Creek and the San Lorenzo River. (Responsibility: Planning Department)

- f. Request the intervention of the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Department of Fish and Game, and other interested agencies to evaluate and act on unauthorized surface water diversions and underflow extractions. (Responsibility: County Fish and Game Commission, Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4, Board of Supervisors)

- (LCP)** g. Develop more detailed information on streamflow characteristics, water use, sediment transport, plant and soil moisture requirements, and habitat needs of Critical Water Supply Streams and streams located in the Coastal Zone. Use this information to formulate a more detailed strategy for maintenance and enhancement of streamflows on Critical Water Supply Streams and to better understand the role of streamflows in watershed ecosystems and provide a basis for cooperative management of watershed ecosystems. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4)

- (LCP)** h. Coordinate with Environmental Health on the issuance of water well permits in stream sediments to avoid adverse impacts on in-stream flows. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control Zone 4, Environmental Health)

- i. Coordinate with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency to carry out projects that enhance or restore to the maximum extent possible in-stream flows on Corralitos and Browns Creeks. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Board of Supervisors, Flood Control Zone 4)

Objective 5.7 Maintaining Surface Water Quality

(LCP) To protect and enhance surface water quality in the County’s streams, coastal lagoons and marshes by establishing best management practices on adjacent land uses.

Policies

5.7.1 Impacts From New Development On Water Quality

(LCP) Prohibit new development adjacent to marshes, streams and bodies of water if such development would cause adverse impacts on water quality which cannot be fully mitigated.

5.7.2 Minimum Septiic System Setback From Natural Waterways

(LCP) Prohibit installation of septic tanks or leach fields within 100 feet of all natural waterways including perennial or intermittent streams, seasonal water channels and natural bodies of standing water. An exception may be made for the repair of existing systems, if the 100 foot setback cannot be maintained, and adequate provisions are made for water quality protection.

5.7.3 Erosion Control For Stream and Lagoon Protection

(LCP) For all new and existing development and land disturbances, require the installation and maintenance of sediment basins, and/or other strict erosion control measures, as needed to prevent siltation of streams and coastal lagoons. (Also see Erosion policies in section 6.3.)

5.7.4 Coastal Surface Runoff

(LCP) New development shall minimize the discharge of pollutants into surface water drainage by providing the following improvements or similar methods which provide equal or greater runoff control:

- (a) include curbs and gutters on arterials, collectors and locals consistent with adopted urban street designs; and
- (b) oil, grease and silt traps for parking lots, land divisions or commercial and industrial development.

5.7.5 Protecting Riparian Corridors and Coastal Lagoons

(LCP) Require drainage facilities, including curbs and gutters in urban areas, as needed to protect water quality for all new development within 1000 feet of riparian corridors or coastal lagoons.

5.7.6 Maintaining Saltwater Inflow to Coastal Lagoon

(LCP) Prohibit new development, site alteration or road projects adjacent to coastal lagoons unless it can be demonstrated that such projects will not restrict, impound or otherwise interfere with the natural drainage patterns and tidal circulation.

5.7.7 Stormwater Discharge Permit Requirements

(LCP) Once the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards promulgate new stormwater discharge permit requirements for municipal and industrial stormwater systems, obtain appropriate permits for all existing storm drainage systems and proposed drainage facilities and adhere to best management practices.

5.7.8 Animal Keeping

Require all stables and other animal keeping operations to be managed to prevent discharge of sediment, nutrients and contaminants to surface and groundwater.

Programs

- (LCP) a. In coordination with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, identify and control point and non-point sources of water quality contamination. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4, Environmental Health, Public Works)
- (LCP) b. Continue to conduct a comprehensive monitoring program to assess long-term trends in surface and groundwater quality and to identify water quality problems arising from point and non-point sources of pollution affecting public health and the environment. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4, Environmental Health, Public Works, Regional Water Quality Control Board, PVWMA)
- (LCP) c. Monitor urban runoff water quality from residential, commercial and industrial sources that may contribute to the pollution in urban areas. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4)
- (LCP) d. Establish design standards for new drainage facilities discharging into local streams to reduce non-point source pollution. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Public Works, Redevelopment Agency)
- (LCP) e. Develop a program for control of non-point source pollution from agricultural activities. (Responsibility: Agricultural Commissioner, Agricultural Policy Advisory Commission, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP) f. Expand educational programs regarding application and handling of fertilizers and pesticides which encourage lower fertilizer use rates and emphasize protection of water quality. (Responsibility: Agricultural Commissioner)
- (LCP) g. Establish a program to provide curbs and gutters on selected major roads in urban areas where development already exists or as new development is approved. (Responsibility: Redevelopment Agency, Planning Department, Public Works, Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP) h. Establish a program for street sweeping of selected major roads in the urban areas, with highest priority given those roads that drain into coastal lagoons. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP) i. Work cooperatively with the State Parks Department, California Department of Fish and Game, the University of California and other relevant agencies to initiate water quality restoration programs for coastal lagoons which will restore and improve natural drainage and saltwater balances, protect the natural habitat, and mitigate public health hazards. (Responsibility: POSCS, Public Works, Planning Department)
- (LCP) j. Monitor water and sediment quality of coastal lagoons and sloughs to determine the severity of eutrophication and to quantify levels of contaminants and pesticides present. Identify sources of contamination and seek funding to implement control measures. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4, Environmental Health)
- (LCP) k. Work with the State Parks Department to develop and subsequently implement the recommended actions of the Water Quality Management Plan for Schwan Lake. (Responsibility: Flood Control, Public Works, POSCS, Planning Department)
- l. Implement a periodic program of water quality analysis for wetlands to document trends in water pollution. (Responsibility: Flood Control Zone 4)

- (LCP)** m. Monitor surface and groundwater near the County’s Buena Vista Landfill and the Watsonville City Landfill as part of the County’s water quality monitoring program and cooperate with the City in addressing water quality problems. Pursue studies and implement corrective measures to eliminate or reduce leachates entering Gallighan Slough. (Responsibility: Public Works, Flood Control Zone 4, Regional Water Quality Control Board, City of Watsonville, California Integrated Waste Management Board)
- n. Participate in the development and implementation of a regional stormwater management plan being prepared by AMBAG. Seek funds to implement stormwater management plans when required by federal law. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)
- o. Provide training to engineering and planning staff who review project plans in design and maintenance of stormwater contaminant removal systems (non-point source pollutants) and other Best Management Practices (BMPs). (Responsibility: Public Works, Planning Department)

Objective 5.8a Groundwater Protection

- (LCP) To protect the quantity and quality of the County’s groundwater resources through an integrated program of land use regulation and runoff management in groundwater recharge areas, careful water quality monitoring and management of extractions consistent with long-term sustainable water supply yields.

Objective 5.8b Overdrafted Groundwater Basins

- (LCP) To act directly and coordinate and work with relevant water purveyors and agencies to eliminate long-term groundwater overdraft in all water basins where overdraft has been documented.

Policies

5.8.1 Primary Groundwater Recharge Area Designation

- (LCP) Designate on the General Plan Resource Maps those areas where local soil conditions and underlying geologic formations allow for infiltration and percolation of rainfall and runoff into groundwater basins.

5.8.2 Land Division and Density Requirements in Primary Groundwater Recharge Areas

- (LCP) Require new parcel sizes to be an average of at least 10 gross acres for parcels with building sites located in primary groundwater recharge areas and allow a maximum average residential density of one dwelling unit per 10 gross acres for parcels which are not divided. Allow exceptions only where the development is:
- (a) located within the Rural Services Line or within the Urban Services Line; and
 - (b) served by a sewage disposal system operated by a County Service Area or public services district which provides at least secondary treatment with nitrogen removal or which disposes of effluent outside the primary groundwater recharge area.

5.8.3 Uses In Primary Groundwater Recharge Areas

- (LCP) Prohibit any land use in a Primary Groundwater Recharge Area which would allow the percolation of pollutants into the groundwater system.

5.8.4 Drainage Design in Primary Groundwater Recharge Areas

- (LCP) Require retention of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces for all new development in Primary Groundwater Recharge Areas through on-site percolation methods so as not to exceed predevelopment runoff levels. Utilize on-site detention methods where percolation methods are not feasible; either system should be designed for a minimum design storm as determined by the County Design Criteria.

5.8.5 Developing Groundwater Resources

- (LCP) Allow development of groundwater resources when consistent with sustainable yield, protection of streamflows, and maintenance of groundwater quality. Require water systems serving new development to meet applicable standards for yield to ensure a reliable water supply is provided to its users.

5.8.6 Well Construction Standards

(LCP) Require new and rehabilitated wells to comply with State and local construction standards as specified in the County well ordinance to prevent contamination of groundwater supplies.

5.8.7 Pajaro Groundwater Protection Zone Designation

(LCP) Designate the area west of San Andreas Road from the Pajaro River to Manresa State Beach as the Pajaro groundwater protection zone. Apply special testing and construction standards to identify strata containing poor quality water and to prevent the movement of such water into other aquifers.

5.8.8 Wells With Poor Water Quality

(LCP) Require all new wells found to be of unsuitable quality to be promptly sealed according to State standards and inspected by Environmental Health unless mitigating measures can be found to make the water potable and not adversely affect underlying groundwater quality.

5.8.9 Development Densities With Poor Groundwater Availability

Limit new development densities through the use of a Rural Density Matrix in areas identified as having poor groundwater availability based on the best available data for the area and the site. (See 2.3.3, Rural Density Matrix.)

Programs

- a. Cooperate with the State in addressing groundwater basin overdraft problems and seek any available state or federal assistance to support local groundwater management programs. (Responsibility: Public Works, Water Purveyors, Board of Supervisors, Flood Control, Environmental Health, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency – PVWMA)
- (LCP)** b. Review and evaluate proposals by water agencies to develop supplemental sources of water supply (such as wastewater reclamation, water importation or surface water development), water conservation, or other means to reverse overdraft seawater intrusion and other basin problems that are occurring in some areas of the County. (Responsibility: Public Works, PVWMA, Water Purveyors and Water Management Agencies, Board of Supervisors, Flood Control Zone 4)
- (LCP)** c. Work with water purveyors and water management agencies to augment natural groundwater recharge where it is environmentally and fiscally acceptable. (Responsibility: Flood Control, Water Purveyors, PVWMA)
- (LCP)** d. Continue to evaluate the groundwater recharge areas in the County to determine appropriate densities and uses considering both existing levels of development and new information on geology of the recharge area. (Responsibility: Flood Control, Planning Department, Environmental Health, PVWMA, Water Purveyors, USGS)
- (LCP)** e. Utilize the County’s computerized mapping system to update and further delineate groundwater recharge areas throughout the County as more detailed information becomes available. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control, Water Purveyors, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)

- f. Institute monitoring programs to study streambed percolation in Corralitos Creek, Coward Creek, Soquel Creek, Bean Creek, Carbonera Creek and other streams which percolate water into critical groundwater basins. (Responsibility: Flood Control, Water Purveyors, PVWMA)
- g. Continue to work with the City of Watsonville on its Water Use Reduction Program for new and existing urban development within the Pajaro Valley. (Responsibility: Planning Department, PVWMA, City of Watsonville)
- (LCP)** h. Continue to work with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency to eliminate overdraft and salt water intrusion through implementation of their Basin Management Plan. (Responsibility: Planning Department, PVWMA, Water Advisory Commission, Flood Control Zone 4, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP)** i. Continue to work with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, the Farm Bureau and land owners to ensure maximum water efficiency on agricultural lands in the Pajaro Valley. (Responsibility: Flood Control, PVWMA, Farm Bureau, Agricultural Commissioner)
- j. Work with the appropriate water purveyors and agencies to fully implement a groundwater Basin Management Plan for the Santa Margarita aquifer system in the San Lorenzo Valley and the Scotts Valley area. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Flood Control, Water Purveyors, Water Advisory Commission)
- (LCP)** k. Review applications for well water permits for conformance with County well ordinance. Periodically review well construction standards and requirements for the destruction of inactive or abandoned wells. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, PVWMA, Water Advisory Commission, Board of Supervisors)
- l. Assist in development of additional water supply, additional recharge, or offsetting amounts of water conservation for the Pajaro Valley basin to serve the anticipated population increase. (Responsibility: PVWMA, Water Advisory Commission, Planning Department, Water Purveyors)

Chapter 7: Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities

WATER SUPPLY

Objective 7.18a Domestic Water Supply

(LCP) To ensure a dependable supply of high quality domestic water to meet the needs of communities that obtain water service from municipal water systems, County water districts and small water systems.

Objective 7.18b Water Supply Limitations

(LCP) To ensure that the level of development permitted is supportable within the limits of the County’s available water supplies and within the constraints of community-wide goals for environmental quality.

Objective 7.18c Water Conservation

(LCP) To maximize the County’s water conservation potential through a coordinated program with water purveyors and water management agencies involving public education, financial incentives to conserve, voluntary and mandatory conservation measures, retrofit programs, run-off management and water waste regulations and enforcement.

Policies

7.18.1 Linking Growth to Water Supplies

(LCP) Coordinate with all water purveyors and water management agencies to ensure that land use and growth management decisions are linked directly to the availability of adequate, sustainable public and private water supplies.

7.18.2 Written Commitments Confirming Water Service Required for Permits

(LCP) Concurrent with project application, require a written commitment from the water purveyor that verifies the capability of the system to serve the proposed development. Projects shall not be approved in areas that do not have a proven, adequate water supply. A written commitment is a letter from the purveyor guaranteeing that the required level of service for the project will be available prior to the issuance of building permits, or in the case of a subdivision, prior to filing the Final Map or Parcel Map. The County decision making body shall not approve any development project unless it determines that such project has adequate water supply available.

7.18.3 Impacts of New Development on Water Purveyors

(LCP) Review all new development proposals to assess impacts on municipal water systems, County water districts, or small water systems. Require that either adequate service is available or that the proposed development provide for

mitigation of its impacts as a condition of project approval.

7.18.4 Improvement of Water Systems

(LCP) Support water system improvement programs for storage, treatment and distribution facilities to meet necessary water supply and fire suppression requirements.

7.18.5 Groundwater Management

(LCP) Promote water management in the Pajaro Valley and Santa Margarita groundwater basins and the Soquel-Aptos area to protect the long-term security of water supplies and to safeguard groundwater quality and maintain stream baseflows.

7.18.6 Water Conservation Requirements

(LCP) Utilize the best available methods for water conservation in new developments. Work with all water purveyors to implement demand management programs and water conservation measures. In areas where shortage or groundwater overdraft has been substantiated by the water purveyor, require water conservation measures for new and existing uses. Require the use of water-saving devices such as ultra low-flow fixtures and native drought-resistant planting in new development projects to promote ongoing water conservation.

7.18.7 Water Reuse

(LCP) Encourage the reuse and recycling of water where feasible and where reuse will not have a negative impact on public health or the environment, including the use of greywater systems, and recycling of irrigation water for irrigation purposes as acceptable to Environmental Health Services, State Department of Health Services and Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Programs

(LCP) a. In accordance with state law, develop and implement a Landscape Water Conservation or similar ordinance to maximize the efficiency of outdoor water use in specified development. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning Commission, Water Advisory Commission, Board of Supervisors)

b. Establish and maintain an active program of public education and other measures for water conservation. (Responsibility: Water Advisory Commission, Water Purveyors, Planning Department, PVWMA)

(LCP) c. Continue to monitor the adequacy of available water supplies to support projected development and review and amend the County General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan periodically to ensure available water supply to serve projected levels of development without adverse impacts to groundwater resources or streams. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Planning

Commission, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors, Water Purveyors)

- d. Participate in the development of surface and groundwater management programs to ensure the availability of an adequate quantity and quality of domestic water supplies for urban and suburban areas. (Responsibility: Planning Department, Water Purveyors, PVWMA, Public Works)
- e. Administer standards for water supply distribution and storage and for urban levels of fire protection in accordance with the County Design Criteria. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Fire Agencies, Public Works, Planning Department)
- f. Administer standards for safe and adequate water supplies for public and individual water systems under County jurisdiction, and coordinate water system and land use approvals. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Planning Department)
- g. Consider amending the County’s well ordinance to require extraction reporting for all medium and large water wells. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, PVWMA, Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP)** h. Administer state and local standards for greywater systems for domestic use. (Responsibility: Environmental Health)
- (LCP)** i. Evaluate the impacts of allowing additional wells in aquifers where overdraft is occurring. Develop criteria to regulate new well development, if necessary. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors, Water Management Agencies, Water Purveyors, PVWMA, Flood Control and Water Conservation District)
- (LCP)** j. Review and evaluate proposals by water agencies to develop supplemental sources of water supply (such as wastewater reclamation, water conservation, north coast groundwater, or surface water development) to reverse overdraft, seawater intrusion and other basin problems wherever they are occurring. The development and use of these sources must be consistent with General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan resource protection and development policies. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Board of Supervisors, Flood Control, PVWMA)
- (LCP)** k. Continue to monitor seawater intrusion in the Pajaro Valley, Soquel area and along the North Coast. (Responsibility: PVWMA, Water Purveyors, Flood Control)
- (LCP)** l. Work cooperatively with the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency and affected jurisdictions to implement the Basin Management Plan to alleviate

overdraft conditions in the Pajaro Valley. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control Zone 4, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)

- m. Work cooperatively with the appropriate water purveyors and agencies to fully implement a groundwater Basing Management Plan for the Santa Margarita aquifer system in the San Lorenzo Valley and the Scotts Valley area, or seek other appropriate ways to achieve responsible groundwater management. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Planning Department, Flood Control, Water Advisory Commission, Board of Supervisors)
- (LCP)** n. Cooperate with state and federal agencies in addressing groundwater basin overdraft problems and seek any available state or federal assistance to support local groundwater management programs. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control, PVWMA, Board of Supervisors)
- o. Coordinate monitoring efforts with water purveyors to provide comprehensive information on the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Flood Control, PVWMA)
- (LCP)** p. Provide public education regarding the need for groundwater resource management. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, PVWMA)
- (LCP)** q. Seek supplemental funding for the Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to update the County Water Master Plan, or undertake a similar comprehensive water planning process to address the following issues:
 - (1) A specific implementation plan designating agencies responsible for key actions and a timeline for implementation.
 - (2) Reduction of withdrawals from overdrafted aquifers by reduced pumping, water conservation and other appropriate means to eliminate the long-term overdraft of groundwater aquifers.
 - (3) Actions to protect against seawater intrusion and other water quality problems, including investigating the feasibility of relocating wells near to the coast to sites farther inland.
 - (4) Aquifer recharge possibilities such as recharge area protection, spreading basins in recharge areas, and/or injection wells. Inventory potential sources of contamination.
 - (5) An updated assessment of proposed project yields based on adequate protection of instream flows and other environmental factors.
 - (6) A timetable showing when new water supply developments could be on-line, which level of development could be supported by the projected yield of the project, and the projected life of the project compared to its cost.
 - (7) Methods of financing new water source development to include assessment of all beneficiaries.

- (8) Reservation of a portion of existing and new water supply capacity in order to assure the potential for development of priority uses in the Coastal Zone.
 - (9) Potential for water conservation and means of effectively implementing a water conservation and demand management program.
 - (10) Development of countywide interties and options for conjunctive management of surface and groundwater supplies.
 - (11) Effects of a planned reduction of the buildout level of development where water availability is limited.
(Responsibility: Planning Department, Water Purveyors, Flood Control Zone 4, PVWMA)
- r. Assist the water purveyors to develop additional water supplies with sufficient capacity to serve General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan buildout population without creating overdraft of groundwater basins.
(Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Public Works, Planning Department)
- s. Assist in the development of additional water supplies, additional recharge, or offsetting amounts of water conservation for the Pajaro Valley basin with sufficient capacity to serve the anticipated population increase at General Plan and LCP Land Use Plan buildout. (Responsibility: Water Purveyors, Public Works, Planning Department)

WASTEWATER

Objective 7.19 Sanitation Facilities Within the Urban Services Line

(LCP) To provide necessary and adequate sanitation services to areas of urban development within the Urban Services Line based on a trunk-line sewage collection, treatment and disposal system.

Policies

7.19.1 Sewer Service to New Development

(LCP) Concurrent with project application, require a written commitment from the service district. A written commitment is a letter, with appropriate conditions, from the service district guaranteeing that the required level of service for the project will be available prior to issuance of building permits, or in the case of a subdivision, prior to filing the Final Map or Parcel Map. The County decision making body shall not approve any development project unless it determines that such project has adequate sewage treatment plant capacity.

7.19.2 Development Linkage to Downstream Sewer System Improvements

Require new development to pay its full fair share of downstream sewer system improvements needed. In areas where cumulative sewer capacity is a problem, as indicated by the Department of Public Works, require all development to

make required downstream improvements or be appropriately limited until downstream improvements are made.

7.19.3 Sizing Sewer Facilities

Require developers, including public agencies, to locate and size new collection systems to best serve all areas inside the Urban Services Line.

7.19.4 Sewer System Connections in Carbonera

Prohibit any additional connections to the existing package sewage treatment plant and collector system within County Service Area No. 10 (Rolling Woods) until a trunk line connection is made to the Scotts Valley sanitation system.

7.19.5 Sydney Avenue Sewer Bypass

Expand the capacity of the Sydney Avenue sewer bypass to serve existing development and to accommodate increased wastewater flows, consistent with General Plan and LCP Land Use designations.

Programs

- a. Implement a phased program to upgrade sewer lines and treatment facilities within the Urban Services Line to serve existing and planned populations. (Responsibility: Santa Cruz County Sanitation District, Freedom Sanitation District, City of Santa Cruz and Watsonville Public Works Departments, County Public Works, Local Agency Formation Commission)
- b. Consider all lands within the sphere of influence when sizing downstream sewer lines for the Freedom County Sanitation District. (Responsibility: Freedom County Sanitation District Board of Directors)
- c. Prepare and implement a detailed-sewer improvement plan for the timely provision of public sewer services to the Buena Vista Road area, west of the Watsonville Airport. (Responsibility: Freedom County Sanitation District, Board of Supervisors)
- d. Continue to monitor urban sanitation facilities and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems. (Responsibility: Sanitation Districts, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.20 Sanitation Facilities Within the Rural Services Line

(LCP) To provide for adequate sewage collection, treatment, and disposal on a community basis for areas within the Rural Services Line.

Policies

7.20.1 Community Sewage Disposal Systems, Within the Rural Services Line

(LCP) Allow new development to occur at designated urban densities within the Rural Services Line (RSL) where served by a community sewage disposal system and where operated by a public agency or an operator under contract to a public agency. Community sewage disposal systems should be built in such a way as to allow potential tertiary treatment and reclamation for irrigation, and shall be sized to serve only the buildout densities for lands within the Rural Services Line.

7.20.2 Rural Services Line Areas Without Community Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Require new development within the Rural Services Line to meet individual sewage disposal system standards set forth in the Sewage Disposal ordinance unless served by a community sewage disposal system as described in 7.20.1. Densities shall be calculated using suburban land use designation standards until a community sewage disposal system is provided.

Programs

- a. Evaluate the feasibility of newly evolving technology to provide small community sewage disposal systems in a manner more environmentally and economically acceptable and more easily maintained than available systems. (Responsibility: Public Works, Planning Department, Environmental Health)
- b. Utilize County Service Area 12 and other financing mechanisms as appropriate to determine the feasibility of community sewage disposal systems in designated Rural Services Line areas of the San Lorenzo Valley to serve existing and projected levels of development so as to prevent environmental degradation. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors, Environmental Health)
- c. Continue to monitor community sewage disposal systems outside the Urban Services Line and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems. (Responsibility: Public Works, Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors)

North Coast :

(LCP) d. Maintain the Davenport sanitation facilities to meet state and federal discharge requirements. (Responsibility: Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

Objective 7.21 Sanitation Facilities in Rural Areas

(LCP) To ensure adequate maintenance and operation of rural sanitation facilities based on individual sewage disposal systems to prevent environmental degradation from development not served by public sewage disposal systems.

Policies

7.21.1 Rural Development on Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

Plan for intensities of use and density of development to be limited to those levels supportable by individual sewage disposal systems where public sanitary sewer systems are not available.

7.21.2 Minimum Parcel Sizes and Maximum Densities With Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Where individual sewage disposal systems are used, require a minimum parcel size to be based on the Rural Density Matrix for the land use designation, but in no case smaller than one net acre for parcels created from new land divisions. Allow a maximum density based on the Rural Density Matrix and not to exceed one dwelling unit per net acre for such parcels.

7.21.3 Maximum Slopes for Individual Sewage Disposal Systems

Prohibit the placement of individual sewage disposal systems on sites with slopes greater than 30 percent (except system repairs on slopes up to 50%) to prevent downhill surfacing of effluent from sewage disposal drainage fields.

7.21.4 Alternative Sewage Disposal Systems

(LCP) Allow alternative individual sewage disposal systems, which provide an environmentally acceptable level of treatment, as an alternative to conventional individual sewage disposal systems in rural areas. Such alternative systems must be approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the County Environmental Health Services.

7.21.5 Community Sewage Disposal Systems Outside the Urban Service Line and Rural Services Line

(LCP) Prohibit the use of community sewage disposal systems (including package sewer plants) outside the Urban Services Line and Rural Services Line except as follows:

- (a) Allow the continued operation of existing systems; and
- (a) Allow new systems in developed areas to correct existing disposal problems where individual sewage disposal systems are not suitable; and
- (c) Allow new systems to serve 100% affordable housing projects and public facility/institutional uses such as schools.

Allow systems under conditions (a), (b) and (c) only where approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, LAFCO, Public Works, Environmental Health Services; and where operated by a public agency or private contractor to a public agency.

7.21.6 Sanitary Service Connections Outside Urban Services Line and Rural Services Line

(LCP) Allow sewer service connections from community sewage disposal systems to areas outside the Urban Services Line or Rural Services Line and size line

extensions only to serve the following:

- (a) existing public facilities/institutional uses such as schools, or
- (b) existing development which conforms to the General Plan land use designation, and which have failing septic systems not able to be repaired, or
- (c) one existing dwelling unit per existing parcel of record which has a failing septic system not able to be repaired.

In no case shall such connections allow for additional density.

Programs

- a. Maintain the Sewage Disposal ordinance and operate County Service Area 12 to oversee and promote septic system inspection, maintenance and improvement to prevent environmental degradation. Give first priority to those areas of failing septic systems or high concentration of older development in stream valleys or where lots sizes are predominantly small. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors) (See section 5.5, Watershed Protection, program c.)
- b. Consider the use of small-scale community facilities and/or on-site wastewater disposal zone improvement districts as methods to deal with the soil and water table conditions which severely hamper the functioning of septic systems in the Amesti Road area. (Responsibility: Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors)
- c. Continue to monitor community sewage disposal systems outside the Urban Services Line and make needed corrections to minimize odor problems.

Objective 7.22 Wastewater Reclamation and Energy Conservation

(LCP) To maximize the energy efficiency and potential for energy conversion and resource recovery of sewage treatment in Santa Cruz County.

Policies

7.22.1 Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse Projects

Promote the reclamation and reuse of energy, water and nutrients in wastewater management, and give funding priority to reclamation and reuse projects in capital expenditures for wastewater management.

7.22.2 Wastewater Reclamation for Agricultural Use

Support the concept of building and upgrading sewage treatment facilities capable of producing reusable water, and the transporting of wastewater south for reclamation and agricultural use within the Pajaro Valley, when financially feasible, in order to reserve the limited groundwater primarily for domestic purposes.

7.22.3 Use of Low Energy Gravity Transfer Systems

(LCP) Where feasible, encourage sewage disposal systems in new development to utilize natural gravity flows to the maximum extent, reducing the energy costs associated with pumping.

7.22.4 Industrial Wastewater

Encourage private business and industry to initiate reuse of industrial waste water, require separation of heavy metals and/or toxic pollutants from wastewater before discharge into sewage lines in order to facilitate sewage conversion for energy, nutrients, and water reclamation.

Programs

- a. Develop criteria to facilitate selection of the most energy-efficient and cost-effective sewage treatment systems, including consideration of potential cost-offsets for water supply, soil improvement, and environmental pollution. (Responsibility: Energy Commission, Public Works, Board of Supervisors)

- b. Develop and implement resource recovery and energy conversion programs where environmentally safe, energy-efficient and cost-effective for existing sewage treatment facilities, or for remodeling and/or expansion of existing treatment facilities, including consideration of such processes as:
 - (1) Biological (e.g., aquacells) or hybrid treatment;
 - (2) Methane gas recovery for on-site use and/or external markets;
 - (3) Nutrient recovery for fertilizer;
 - (4) Water reclamation for groundwater recharge, irrigation, or industrial processes;
 - (5) Sludge reclamation by vermiculture.(Responsibility: Energy Commission, State Department of Health Services, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Public Works)