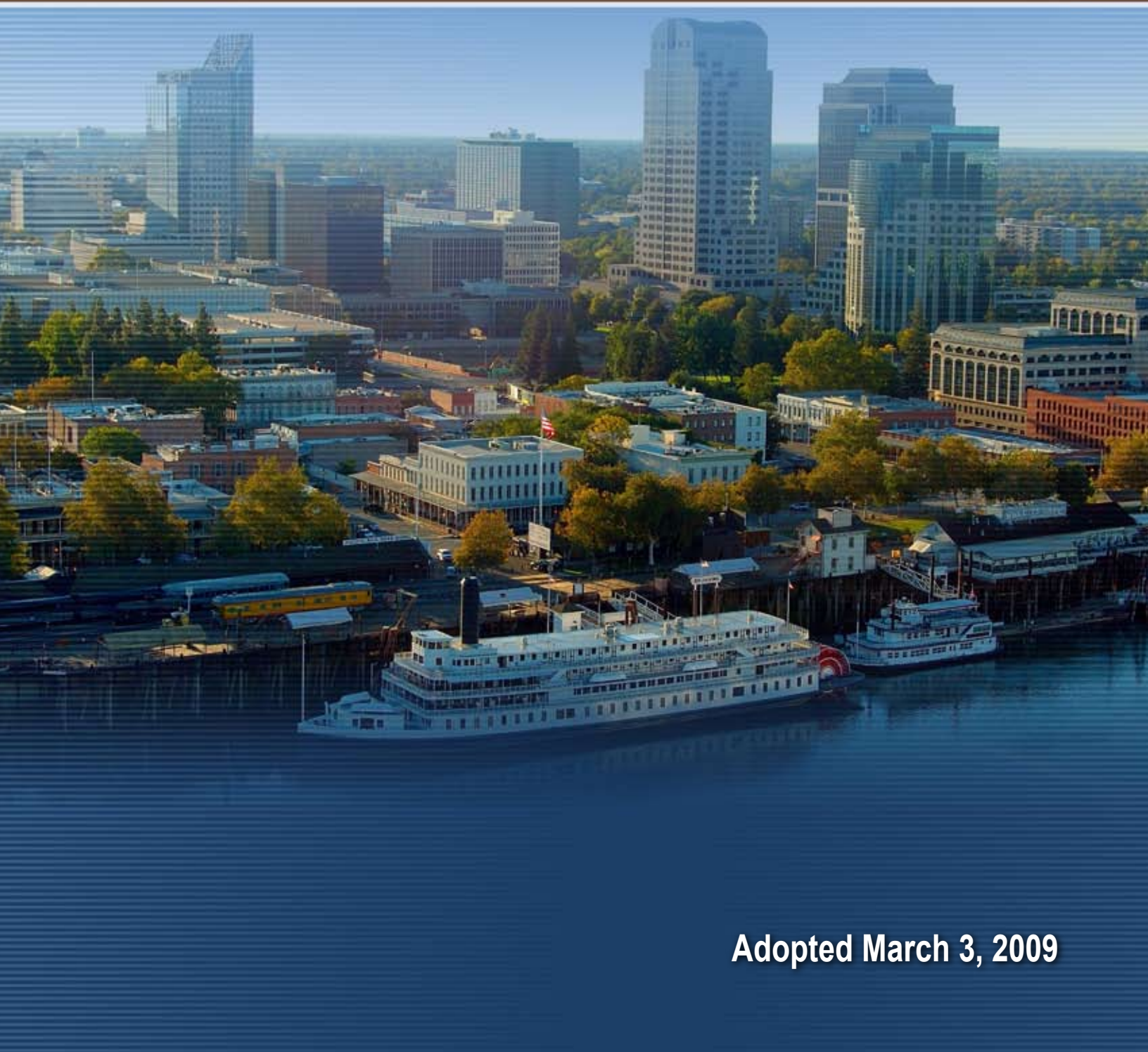


# SACRAMENTO 2030 GENERAL PLAN



Adopted March 3, 2009



# SACRAMENTO

## 2030 GENERAL PLAN

**Adopted March 3, 2009**

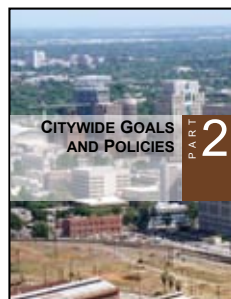
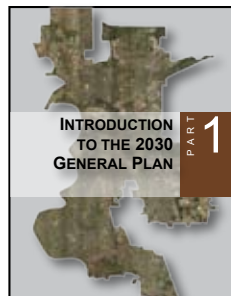
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**CirclePoint/MMC Communications**  
**Valley Vision**  
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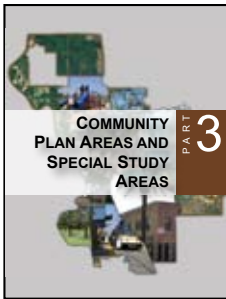




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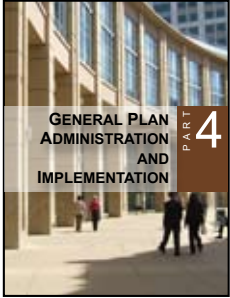
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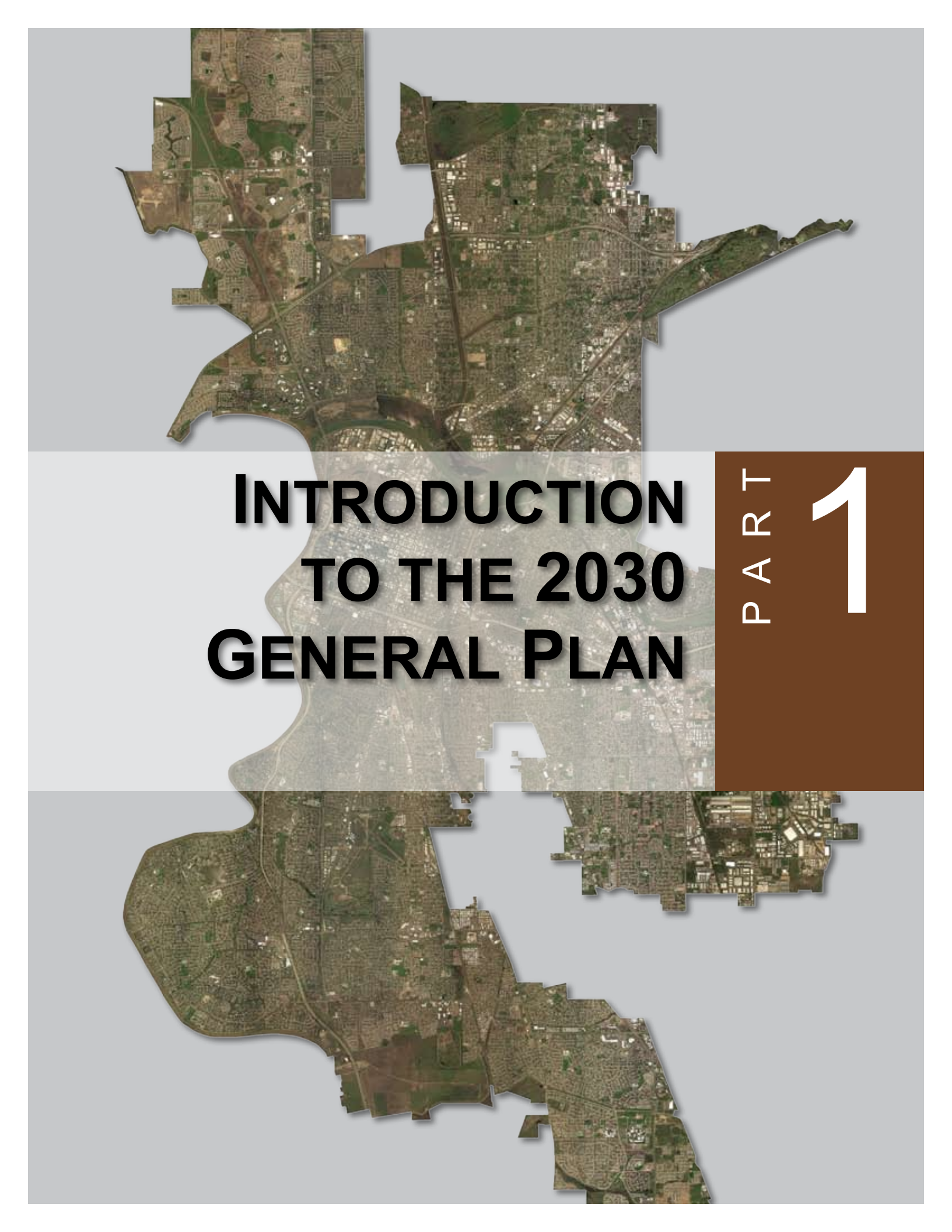
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An aerial photograph of a city, likely San Antonio, Texas, showing a grid of streets, green spaces, and a river. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the title text. To the right of the title box is a dark brown vertical bar containing the text 'PART 1'.

# **INTRODUCTION TO THE 2030 GENERAL PLAN**

PART

1

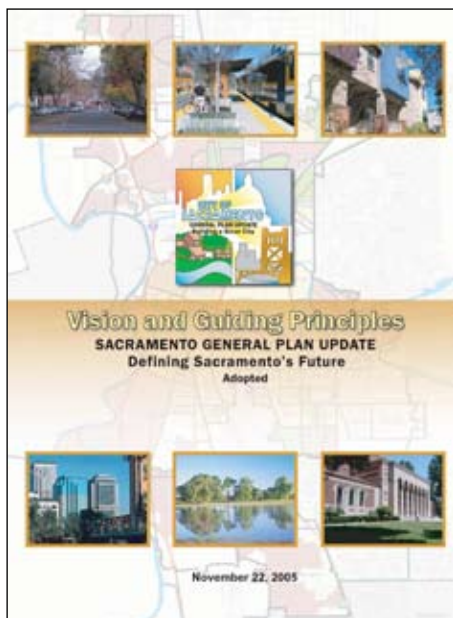
The City of Sacramento’s 2030 General Plan sets a new direction for the future of Sacramento. The development of the General Plan began in 2004 based on the foundation of the city’s Smart Growth Principles. In 2005, the City Council adopted Vision and Guiding Principles, creating the framework for the new General Plan. The 2030 General Plan was shaped over a four-year period by an extensive outreach process that engaged residents, businesses, developers, and decision-makers. The Introduction to the 2030 General Plan presents the Vision and Guiding Principles; describes overarching General Plan themes, including the City’s response to climate change; provides General Plan organization; presents a profile of Sacramento, including the city’s history; explains the purpose of a General Plan and the legal requirements; reviews how to use the General Plan; and lastly, recounts how the General Plan was prepared.

## Vision

The guiding vision of the General Plan is that ...

*Sacramento will be the most livable city in America*

- As California’s capital, Sacramento will continue to play its traditional role in the region as the primary center of government, employment, and culture.
- Downtown Sacramento will be vibrant with arts, culture, entertainment, and a 24-hour population.
- The city’s economy will continue to strengthen, diversify, and play a larger role in the global economy. Building on the skills of our workforce, Sacramento’s economy will provide a broad range of jobs in all industry sectors, including those related to small and local businesses.
- Every neighborhood will be a desirable place to live because of its walkable streets, extensive tree canopy, range of housing choices, mixed use neighborhood centers, great schools, parks and recreation facilities, and easy access to Downtown and jobs.
- Sacramento will be linked to the rest of the region by an extensive, efficient, and safe network of roadways, bridges, mass transit, bikeways, pedestrian trails, and sidewalks. It will be linked to the rest of California and the world by an international airport, conventional and high-speed passenger rail, interstate highways, and high-speed communication systems.
- Sacramento will continue to celebrate its cultural and ethnic diversity and ensure the equitable treatment of all neighborhoods and groups.
- Sacramento will protect its historic and cultural resources and its natural environment and will increase access to its riverfront and open spaces for the enjoyment of its growing population.



## VISION AND THEMES

- Sacramento will promote the health and well-being of the community and will plan for the long-term safety of its citizens.
- Finally, to help address the causes of climate change and the urban heat island effect, Sacramento will be a model of sustainable development in its planning, its use of urban heat island reduction measures, and its conservation of energy, water, and other natural resources.

In conjunction with the Vision Statement, the City Council adopted Guiding Principles for land use, urban design, housing, mobility, economic development, public safety, environmental resources, parks and recreation, and services and facilities. See Appendix A for the full text of the Vision and Guiding Principles.

# Themes

The 2030 General Plan's goals, policies, and implementation programs define a roadmap to achieving Sacramento's vision to be the most livable city in America. Underlying the vision and connecting it to the roadmap is a set of six themes that thread throughout the General Plan.

- Making Great Places
- Growing Smarter
- Maintaining a Vibrant Economy
- Creating a Healthy City
- Living Lightly-Reducing Our "Carbon Footprint"
- Developing a Sustainable Future

## Making Great Places

A great city must have wonderful places to live, work, congregate, and experience social, recreational, educational, and cultural enrichment. Sacramento is distinguished by its location at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers, diverse residential neighborhoods, extensive tree canopy, role as the center of California's governance, and place in California's settlement history. These assets, and others that are emerging as the city grows and matures, contribute to the quality of life for residents while providing the opportunity for shaping development, conserving resources, and structuring the economy.



## Growing Smarter



The 2030 General Plan favors developing inward over expanding outward into “greenfields” on the edge of the city. The city’s growth pattern will be more compact, include the “infill” and reuse of underutilized properties, intensify development near transit and mixed-use activity centers, and locate jobs closer to housing, which will lead to increased walking and reduced automobile use. Gasoline consumption, air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and personal commute times will be reduced, which will facilitate and increase the time working parents have to spend with their children and families. Strategic improvements to infrastructure will facilitate infill and support new mixed-use and residential neighborhoods. When additional studies are complete and issues resolved, “study areas” on the edges outside of the city will be considered for development. A cooperative agreement between the City and the County will determine how these areas are developed, how flood and habitat protection is provided, how the need for a permanent one-mile open space buffer is achieved, and what other benefits will be realized to justify expansion of the urban area.



## Maintaining a Vibrant Economy

The ability of the City to provide services that meet the diverse needs of existing and future populations is dependent on a vigorous and healthy economy. The 2030 General Plan contains strategies to accommodate a diversity of businesses, employment, housing, and entertainment opportunities for Sacramento’s residents, while focusing on the retention of existing and attraction of new businesses offering high-paying jobs. Strategies include: achieving a high level of education and training for Sacramento’s residents; maintaining and expanding recreational, arts, and cultural amenities; creating safe neighborhoods and employment centers; and establishing necessary infrastructure.



## Creating a Healthy City

The 2030 General Plan endorses land use patterns and densities that foster pedestrian and bicycle use and recreation through expanded parklands, sports and athletic programming, and open spaces. The General Plan supports incentives for the use of organic foods through public or commercial markets and in public facilities, as well as supporting controls on the use of toxic materials. Land use and development strategies, public awareness, and policing programs are promoted to protect residents from the risks of crime. Strategies are also defined for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist act.

## Living Lightly-Reducing Our “Carbon Footprint”

The General Plan takes several steps to reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change. Mixed-use development that encourages walking and biking, use of public transit, “green building” practices, use of solar energy systems, architectural design to reduce heat gain, recycled construction materials, and water conservation measures, are some of the strategies included in the 2030 General Plan.







## Developing a Sustainable Future

Planning and developing a truly sustainable future depends on a healthy environment, strong economy, and the social well-being of Sacramento residents. Factors that contribute to achieving this goal are as follows.

- Environment: conserving air, water, land, soils, minerals, natural habitat, energy, and protecting aesthetic resources.
- Economy: creating good jobs, income, and financial resources.
- Equity and Social Well-Being: providing good education, income, health, safety, arts, and cultural attainment for all.

Without a successful economy, financial resources will not be available to manage growth and protect resources. Without a healthy and well-educated population, resource sustainability will not be valued and advances in technology to protect resources will be hindered.

# Climate Change



The issue of global climate change has received greater attention from governments around the world in recent years. Global climate change refers to the change in the average weather of the earth that may be measured by changes in wind patterns, storms, precipitation, and temperature.

Human activities associated primarily with the use of carbon-based fossil fuels have led to changes in the composition of the atmosphere. The combustion of carbon-based fossil fuels creates greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), which has caused the earth's atmosphere to absorb more heat from the sun. The concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has significantly increased as a result of combustion of fossil fuels primarily associated with automobile use and energy production. Scientists have already observed some of the negative effects of climate change, and expect more changes in the future. Governments, organizations, and private citizens all over the world are looking for ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to create a better future.



In 2006, the California State Legislature took a proactive role in addressing the challenges of climate change with the adoption of the *California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006*, Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32). AB 32 focuses on reducing GHG emissions in California. AB 32 requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the state agency charged with regulating state-wide air quality, to adopt rules and regulations that would achieve GHG emissions equivalent to 1990 state-wide levels by 2020.

A key theme of the City of Sacramento's 2030 General Plan is to "Live Lightly" as a means to reduce the carbon footprint. The General Plan takes steps to address the challenging issue of climate change by reducing GHG emissions, improving energy efficiency, reducing the urban heat island effect, recycling, and managing water use. The General Plan will reduce GHG emissions primarily through land use patterns that support public transit, increased opportunities for pedestrians and bicycle use and encouraging "green building" practices and alternative energy systems. Policies also address adaptation to climate change, such as reducing the impacts from the urban heat island effect, managing water use, and increasing flood protection.

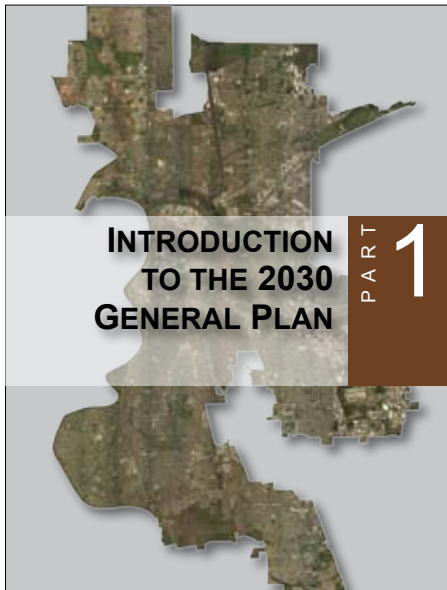


The sources, impacts, and solutions to climate change are complex. Climate change and GHG emissions reduction are addressed by policies and programs throughout the General Plan, rather than in a single section. Appendix B, 2030 General Plan: Addressing Climate Change, includes a table that summarizes, by element, 2030 General Plan goals, policies, and implementation programs that address climate change.

# General Plan Organization

The 2030 General Plan contains four parts and appendices as follows:

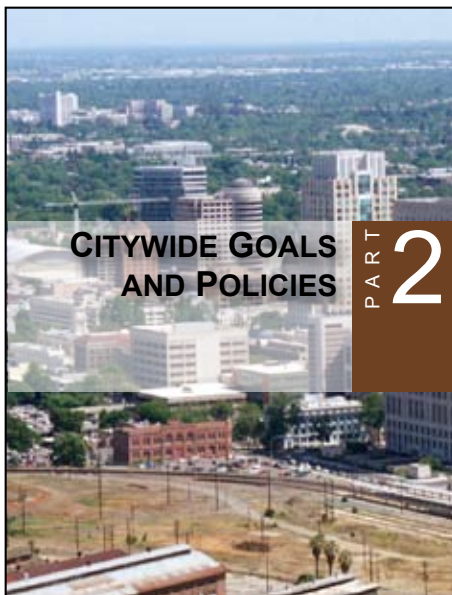
## Part 1: Introduction to the 2030 General Plan



The Introduction to the 2030 General Plan lays out the General Plan vision, themes, and organization; explains what the General Plan is and how to use the Plan; and reviews the process that was used to develop the General Plan. This part is organized as follows:

- Vision
- Themes
- Climate Change
- General Plan Organization
- Sacramento Profile
- What is a General Plan?
- How to Use the General Plan
- How the General Plan was Prepared

## Part 2: Citywide Goals and Policies



The ten topical elements of the General Plan set out the citywide goals and policies, as follows:

- Land Use and Urban Design
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Economic Development
- Housing (Located in a Separately Bound Document)
- Mobility
- Utilities
- Education, Recreation, and Culture
- Public Health and Safety
- Environmental Resources
- Environmental Constraints

## Part 3: Community Plans and Special Study Areas

Part 3 of the General Plan provides policy direction for ten Community Plan Areas and five Special Study Areas. This part of the General Plan contains policies and procedures for maintaining the Community Plans in a manner consistent with the citywide goals and policies. The introduction to Part 3 is organized as follows:

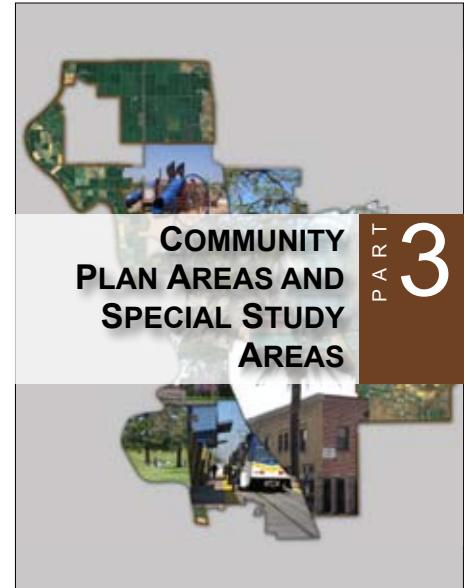
- Community Plans Overview
- Community Plan Organizing Goal and Policies
- Special Study Areas

The ten Community Plans are as follows:

- Arden Arcade
- Central City
- East Sacramento
- Fruitridge Broadway
- Land Park
- North Natomas
- North Sacramento
- Pocket
- South Area
- South Natomas

The five Special Study Areas are as follows:

- Arden Arcade Study Area
- East Study Area
- Fruitridge Florin Study Area
- Natomas Joint Vision Study Area
- Town of Freeport Study Area





## Part 4: Administration and Implementation

The Administration and Implementation part of the General Plan contains procedures for maintaining and carrying out the General Plan in a systematic and consistent manner. The Administration and Implementation part of the General Plan is organized as follows:

- Introduction
- Priority Implementation Programs
- General Plan Maintenance and Monitoring
- General Plan Amendments
- General Plan Consistency in Implementation
- Categories of Implementation Actions/Tools
- Specific Implementation Programs



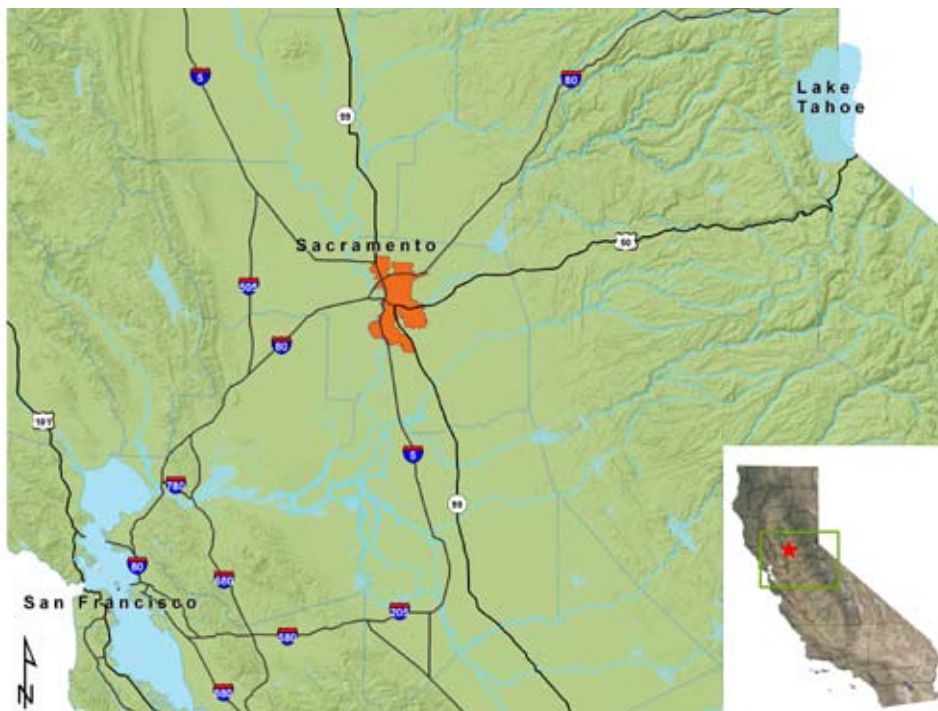
## Appendices

The following information is contained in Appendices A–F:

- Vision & Guiding Principles
- 2030 General Plan: Addressing Climate Change
- Flood Insurance Rate Map
- Noise Contours
- Glossary & Acronyms
- Photograph/Illustration Credits

# Sacramento Profile

The City of Sacramento is located in the heart of California’s Central Valley at the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers. Sacramento is the cultural and economic center of its six-county metropolitan area (El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties) and the largest city in the Central Valley. The greater Sacramento area has been cited as one of the five “most livable” regions in America,<sup>1</sup> and the city has been touted as one of America’s most diverse cities.<sup>2</sup>



The regional location of Sacramento, as shown on the map above, is roughly halfway between San Francisco to the west and Lake Tahoe to the east. Sacramento covers a total area of approximately 99 square miles and is the seventh most populous city in California with a 2007 estimated population of 467,343.<sup>3</sup> Sacramento has a Mediterranean climate that is characterized by mild winters and dry, hot summers. Rain typically falls between November and March, with the rainy season tapering off almost completely by the end of April. Average daily high temperatures range from the 50s in December and January to the 90s in July (with many days of over 100).



<sup>(1)</sup> *Partners for Livable Communities. America’s Most Livable Communities, 2004, <http://www.mostlivable.org/most-livable-program-2004.html>.*  
<sup>(2)</sup> *Stodghill, Roger and Amanda Bower. Welcome to America’s Most Diverse City. TIME Magazine. Sunday, Aug. 25, 2002.*  
<sup>(3)</sup> *California Department of Finance, 2007.*

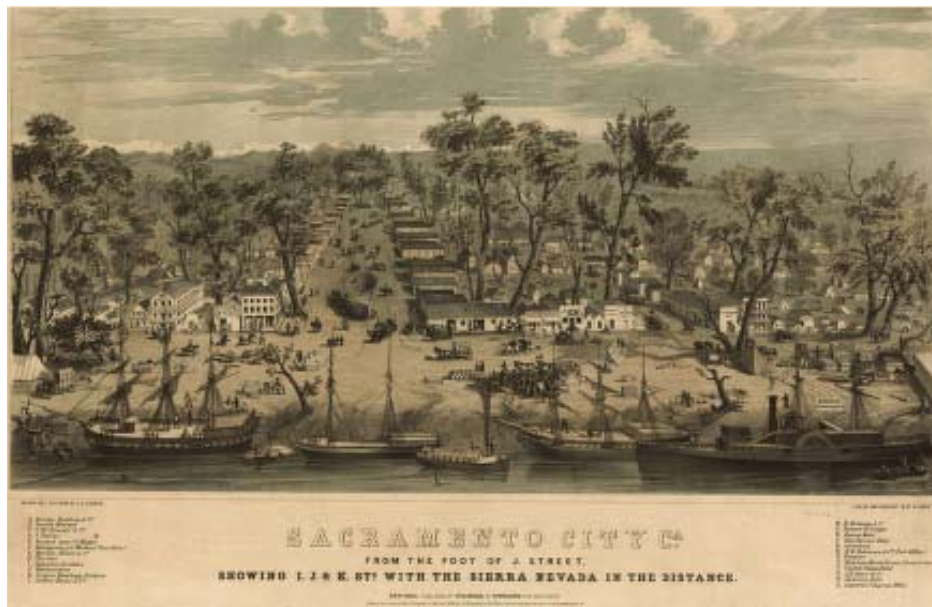
Sacramento is accessible from Interstate 80 and U.S. Highway 50 (running east/west) and Interstate 5 and U.S. Highway 99 (running north/south). Amtrak serves Sacramento’s passenger rail needs, while Sacramento International Airport (SMF) provides domestic and international flights through most major airlines. Within the city and surrounding region, Sacramento Regional Transit provides bus and light rail service.

As headquarters of state government, Sacramento is widely regarded as the center of policy-making in the state. Sacramento is currently (2009) one of the fastest growing metropolitan regions in the country. Construction of new high-rise buildings in the Central Business District, retention and expansion of new employment centers in business parks, and the revitalization of older commercial corridors highlight the changes Sacramento is making to become a true urban environment.

Sacramento is the regional cultural and recreational destination, with an orchestra, professional opera and ballet companies, numerous performing arts venues, a lively museum community including the oldest art museum west of the Mississippi River, professional sports, and endless opportunities for sporting and recreational activities.

## History

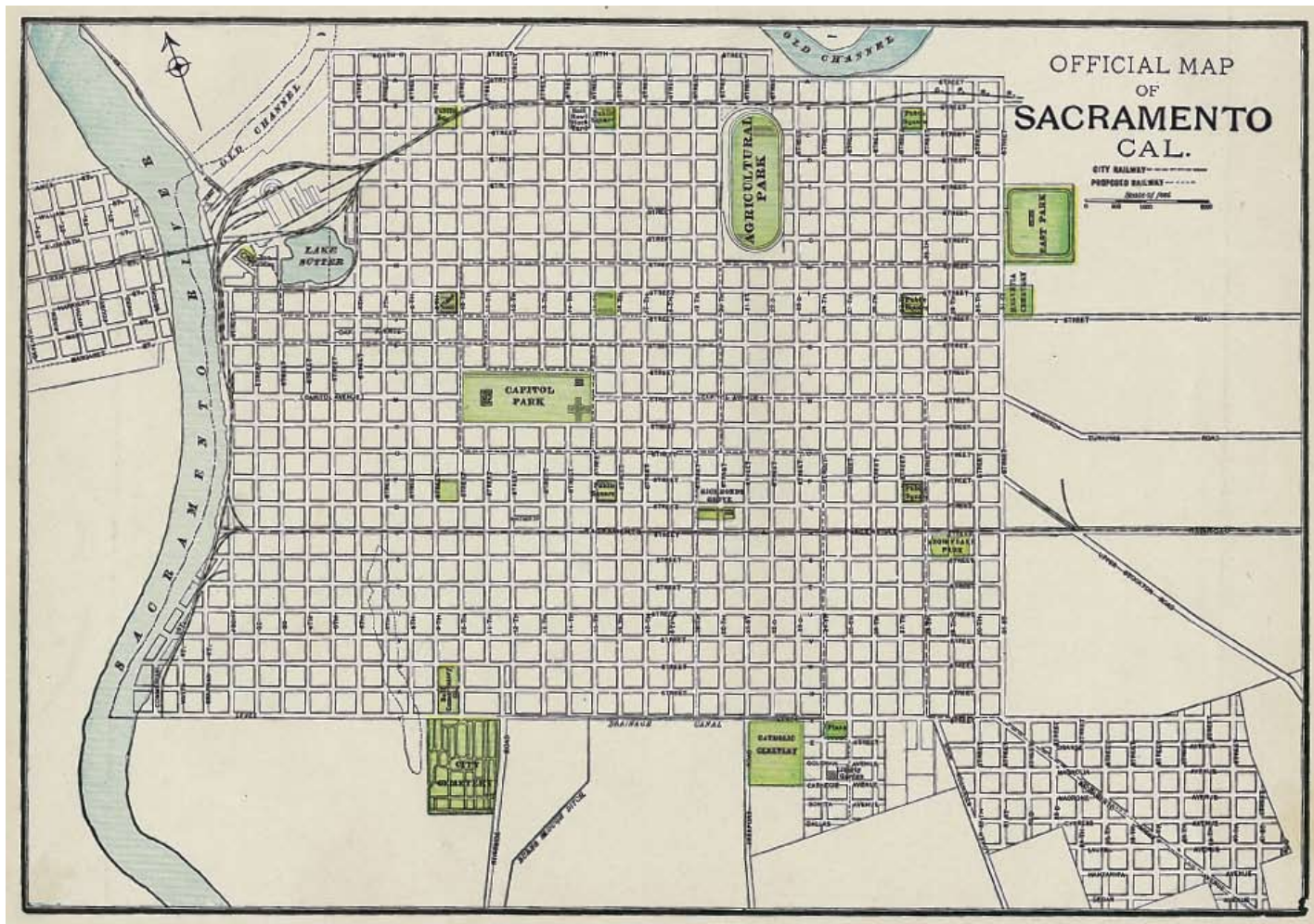
Prior to European settlement, Nisenan (Southern Maidu) and Plains Miwok Indians lived in the area. In the early 1800s, the Spanish explorer Gabriel Moraga “discovered” and named the Sacramento Valley and the Sacramento River after the Spanish term for “sacrament.” Sacramento was founded during the California Gold Rush and grew quickly due to the protection of Sutter’s Fort, which was established by John Sutter in 1839.



*Sacramento, 1850.*

## SACRAMENTO PROFILE

The citizens of Sacramento adopted a city charter in 1849 and became the first incorporated city in California on February 27, 1850. During the California Gold Rush and through the 1800s, Sacramento became a major distribution point, a commercial and agricultural center, a terminus for wagon trains, stagecoaches, riverboats, the telegraph, the Pony Express, and the First Transcontinental Railroad, and in 1854 the state capital of California.



*Sacramento, 1901.*

The city's current charter was adopted by voters in 1920, establishing a city council-and-manager form of government, still used today. The city expanded continuously over the years in the first half of the 1900s and in 1964 merged with the city of North Sacramento, just north of the American River. Large annexations of the Pocket area on the south and Natomas area on the north eventually led to significant population growth throughout the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s.

Sacramento experienced a massive growth in population in the 1990s and early 2000s. Primary sources of population growth are migration from the San Francisco Bay Area due to lower housing costs, as well as immigration from Asia, Central America, Mexico, Ukraine, and the rest of the former Soviet Union. From 1990 to 2000, the city's population grew by over 14 percent.



# What is a General Plan?

The 2030 General Plan was adopted in compliance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 65300 et seq. The General Plan is a legal document and much of its content is established by statutory requirements relating to background data, analysis, maps, and exhibits. The legal adequacy of the General Plan is critical, since many City actions and programs are required to be consistent with the General Plan.

State law requires each city and county to prepare and adopt a comprehensive and long-range general plan for its physical development (California Government Code Section 65300). A comprehensive general plan provides a jurisdiction with a consistent framework for land use decision-making. The general plan has been called the “constitution” for land use development to emphasize its importance to land use decisions. The general plan and its maps, diagrams, and development policies form the basis for the city’s zoning, subdivision, and public works actions. Under California law, no specific plan, area plan, community plan, zoning, subdivision map, nor public works project may be approved unless the City finds that it is consistent with the adopted general plan. The State General Plan Guidelines recommend that general plans be updated every five to ten years to ensure that they remain relevant. This is important not only to reflect local physical and demographic changes, but also broader changes in culture and technology.












## WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN

State Law requires that general plans address the seven topics (referred to as “elements”) of land use, circulation, housing, open space, conservation, safety, and noise (California Government Code Section 65302), to the extent that the topics are locally relevant. A general plan may also include other topics of local interest, as chosen by the local jurisdiction (California Government Code Section 65303).

A local jurisdiction may adopt a general plan in the format that best fits its unique circumstances (California Government Code Section 65300.5). In doing so, the jurisdiction must ensure that the general plan and its component parts comprise an integrated, internally consistent, and compatible statement of development policies. The City of Sacramento has chosen to adopt a general plan that consolidates some of the mandatory elements and includes several optional elements targeted at addressing the unique planning needs of the city. In addition to the mandatory elements described above, the Sacramento General Plan addresses three additional topics: urban design, economic development, and historic and cultural resources. Under state statute, these elements carry the same weight of law as those that are legally mandated. Correspondence between the Sacramento 2030 General Plan elements and the legally-required general plan topics are shown in the matrix on the following page.

Finally, the California Government Code states that the general plan must cover the entire area within the city limits and any land outside its boundaries that “bears relation to its planning.” This provides cities with an opportunity to indicate their concerns for nearby unincorporated areas, particularly areas that may someday be annexed. In Sacramento, the General Plan covers about 99 square miles within the city limits and provides City guidance to areas adjacent to the city in Sacramento County.

		General Plan Elements Required by State Law							
		Land Use	Circulation	Housing	Conservation	Open Space	Noise	Safety	Additional Elements
Sacramento 2030 General Plan Elements	 Land Use and Urban Design	●			●	●			●
	 Historic and Cultural Resources								●
	 Economic Development	●							●
	 Housing <i>Located in a Separately Bound Document</i>			●					
	 Mobility		●						
	 Utilities		●						
	 Education, Recreation, and Culture					●			
	 Public Health and Safety							●	
	 Environmental Resources				●	●			
	 Environmental Constraints	●				●	●	●	

# How to Use the General Plan

The City's General Plan is intended for use by all members of the community including residents, businesses, developers, and decision-makers. The organization of the 2030 General Plan allows users to find topics or sections that interest them and to quickly review city policies; although, users should realize that the policies throughout all elements are interrelated and should be examined comprehensively and must be considered together when making planning decisions.

## Residents, Businesses, Developers, and Decision Makers

For Sacramento residents, the General Plan indicates the general types of uses that are permitted around housing, the long-range plans and changes that may affect neighborhoods, and the policies the City will use to evaluate development applications. The General Plan indicates how the City will attract businesses that provide goods and services to meet daily needs and new jobs that are closely matched to educational skills and that lessen the need to commute. The General Plan informs residents how the City plans to improve transportation infrastructure, continue to provide adequate public services, and protect valued open spaces and environmental resources. Cumulatively, the General Plan identifies the actions the City will take to ensure that the city and its neighborhoods remain great places to live.


For Sacramento businesses, the General Plan outlines the measures the City will take to protect investments and encourage future success. Expectations for the city's business areas are spelled out, while policies ensure that business operations will be compatible with other businesses and nearby residential areas.

For developers within the city, or those moving homes or businesses to the city, the General Plan introduces the community, provides background information, and outlines development regulations. It is important to review all maps and policies throughout this General Plan, its appendices, the Technical Background Report (TBR), Design Guidelines, and the Sacramento Municipal Code to get a complete perspective on how and where development may take place.

The General Plan is a tool to help city staff, the Planning Commission, other boards and commissions, and the City Council make land use and public investment decisions. Future development decisions must be consistent with the General Plan. Finally, the Plan is also intended to help other public agencies, from Caltrans to SACOG to local school districts, as they contemplate future actions in and around Sacramento.

# Goals and Policies Readers' Guide

Each element contains the goals and policies that will be used by the City to guide future land use, development, and environmental protection decisions. A goal is a statement that describes in general terms a desired future condition or “end” state. Goals describe ideal future conditions for a particular topic and tend to be very general and broad. A policy is a clear and unambiguous statement that guides a specific course of action for decision-makers to achieve a desired goal.



**GOAL NUMBERING**  
Each goal number starts with the element acronym and is followed by an element section number and then the number of the goal (e.g., LU 2.6 – Land Use and Urban Design Element, Section 2, sixth goal).

**SECTION HEADER**  
Identifies the part or element and section name on every page.

**ELEMENT IDENTIFIER**  
Provides the element's unique acronym and section number in the top right hand corner of every page in Part 2.

**GOALS**  
Each goal has one or more policies associated with the goal.

**POLICIES**  
Each policy is associated with a specific goal.

**IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM TAG**  
Each policy is followed by a set of letters in italics/parenthesis that identifies the type of tool or action the City will use to implement the policy.

**POLICY NUMBERING**  
Continuing from the goal numbering, the policy number is shown as the last number, supporting the goal it follows (e.g., Policy LU 2.6.2 – second policy under the Land Use and Urban Design Element, Section 2, sixth goal).

**POLICY TITLE**  
Each policy contains a leading title in bold for a quick reference to the policy text.

**NOTES, CROSS REFERENCES, AND CAPTIONS**  
Provides additional discussion of photographs and diagrams and references to other areas of the General Plan where similar information can be found.

**PAGE NUMBER**  
Shows the part and page number (e.g., Page 2-17 is Part 2, page 17).

**PHOTOGRAPHS AND DIAGRAMS**  
Graphically illustrates or shows an example of the intent of the goals and policies.

# Implementation Programs Readers' Guide

To help ensure that appropriate actions are taken to implement the 2030 General Plan, the Plan includes a set of implementation programs. Implementation programs identify the specific steps to be taken by the City to implement the policies. They may include revisions of current codes and ordinances, plans and capital improvements, programs, financing, and other measures that should be assigned to different City departments after the General Plan is adopted. The types of tools or actions the City can use to carry out its policies and implementation programs generally fall into the eight categories listed below. These are explained in detail in Part 4, Administration and Implementation, along with the specific implementation programs.

- Regulation and Development Review (*RDR*)
- City Master Plans, Strategies, and Programs (*MPSP*)
- Financing and Budgeting (*FB*)
- Planning Studies and Reports (*PSR*)
- City Services and Operations (*SO*)
- Inter-governmental Coordination (*IGC*)
- Joint Partnerships with the Private Sector (*JP*)
- Public Information (*PI*)

**IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM TAG**  
 Each implementation program is followed by a set of letters in italics/parenthesis that identifies the type of tool or action the City will use to implement the program.

**TIMELINE**  
 Identifies an estimated timeframe for when the implementation program will be completed. Implementation programs may not be completed as indicated due to budget or resource constraints.

**PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFIER**  
 Provides the unique cover photograph for quick reference.

**TABLE NUMBER AND NAME**  
 Each section begins with a new table number and section name.

		2009-2011	2012-2015	2016-2030	Annual	Ongoing
<b>Table 4-2</b> <b>Land Use and Urban Design Implementation Programs</b>						
1. The City shall develop and maintain a citywide database of vacant and underutilized sites to monitor the city's growth and change. The City shall prepare an annual report on the number of vacant sites and underutilized sites that were developed during the previous year. ( <i>PSR/PI</i> )						
<b>Implements Which Policy(ies)</b>	LU 1.1.3	●			●	
<b>Responsible Department(s)</b>	Planning, Economic Development, and Development Services					
<b>Supporting Department(s)</b>	N/A					

**IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM TEXT**  
 Specific action(s) the City will take to implement the General Plan.

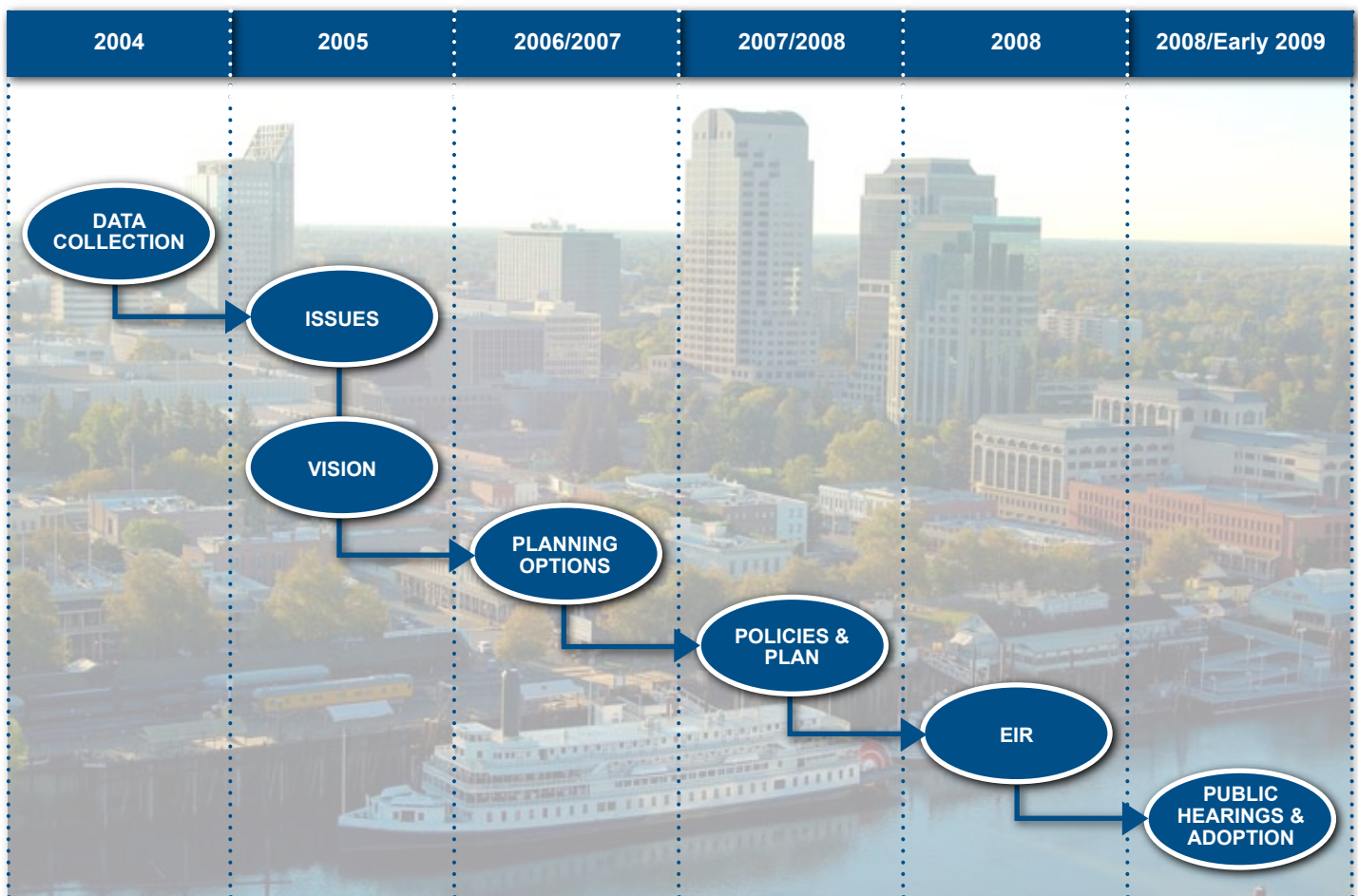
**RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)/ SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT(S)**  
 Identifies which City department(s) are responsible to see the specific implementation is completed and which City department(s), if necessary, will support the responsible department.

**SUPPORTING POLICY(IES)**  
 Identifies which policy(ies) the implementation program supports.

# How the General Plan was Prepared

This General Plan is the first comprehensive revision of the city’s General Plan in over twenty years. The previous General Plan was adopted in 1988 and amended over the years. Major amendments to the 1988 General Plan included updates to the Housing Element and the development and adoption of a Historic Preservation Element.

The 2030 General Plan process began in August 2004 and was adopted on March 3, 2009. The 2030 General Plan effort is the result of over four years of work by city residents and business owners representing all segments of this community. Thousands of city residents participated in many different roles bringing their ideas, passions, and energy to plan Sacramento’s future. This input has directly shaped the 2030 General Plan.



*The 2030 General Plan planning process included several milestone phases and products.*

## Milestone Documents

**Technical Background Report.** The Technical Background Report (TBR) was the first major product of the 2030 General Plan program. Published in June 2005, the TBR provides a profile and analysis of existing conditions and trends within Sacramento and the surrounding area as of December 2004. The TBR provides a foundation for policy in the General Plan and serves as the environmental setting for the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR).

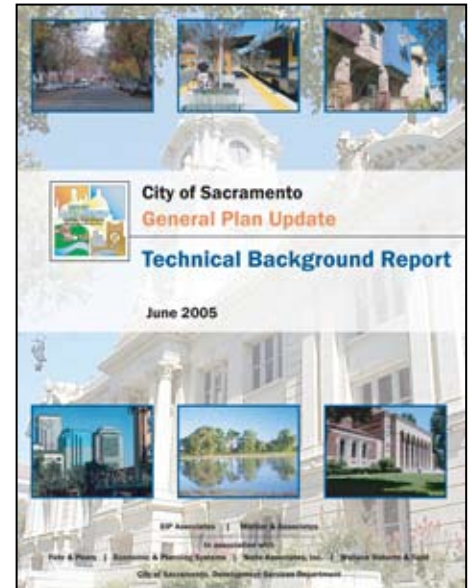
**Planning Issues Report.** Approved by the City Council in November 2005, the Planning Issues Report identifies the key physical, environmental, economic, cultural, and social issues to be addressed in the 2030 General Plan. The report is based on early input from several sources, including the first round of Town Hall Forums, General Plan Focus Group interviews, the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and the Technical Background Report.

**Vision & Guiding Principles.** Adopted by the City Council in November 2005, this document describes a Vision of the City's key values and vision for Sacramento's future and sets out Guiding Principles that flow from the Vision Statement. The Vision & Guiding Principles report was developed based on policy directives of the City Council and extensive public input received through focus group interviews and the first round of Town Hall Forums.

**Draft General Plan.** Based on the Vision & Guiding Principles, the Draft General Plan is a compilation of land use goals, policies, and implementation programs. The Draft General Plan was released for public review on May 8, 2008.

**Financing Strategy.** The Financing Strategy evaluates the City's ability to fund capital improvements needed to provide the level of services envisioned by the 2030 General Plan and provides financing strategies for infrastructure and public facility improvements needed to achieve the 2030 Plan's objectives. The Financing Strategy also describes the City's new strategies for growth and identifies the major challenges related to financing this new approach to growth. In addition, the Financing Strategy identifies financing mechanisms available to fund major improvements for roads, transit, utilities, parks, library, police and fire, and schools and provides information on how the City can prioritize the funding of projects that foster the type of growth envisioned by the 2030 General Plan.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis.** The Fiscal Impact Analysis identifies the impact of the proposed development for the land uses identified in the 2030 General Plan and analyzes the impact of this development on the city's annual revenues and expenditures. The Fiscal Impact Analysis focuses on the City's ability to provide essential city services to both the existing residents and employees of the city and the additional residents and employees that will result from the new development detailed in the 2030 General Plan. The development of a fiscal impact model as part of this analysis also provides information that forecasts the city's General Fund revenues and General Fund service costs.





**Master Environmental Impact Report.** Prepared consistent with the requirements of the *California Environmental Quality Act* (CEQA), the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) analyzes the potential significant impacts of the proposed plan’s policies and identifies measures to mitigate those impacts. The Master EIR (alternative to preparing a project EIR, staged EIR, or program EIR) is intended to streamline the later environmental review of projects included within the plan analyzed in the Master EIR. A Master EIR, to the greatest extent feasible, evaluates the cumulative impacts, growth inducing impacts, and irreversible significant effects on the environment of subsequent projects. The MEIR may be used for a period of five years or as long as the City is able to make findings that “no substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the Master EIR was certified, or that there is no new available information which was not known and could not have been known at the time the Master EIR was certified.”

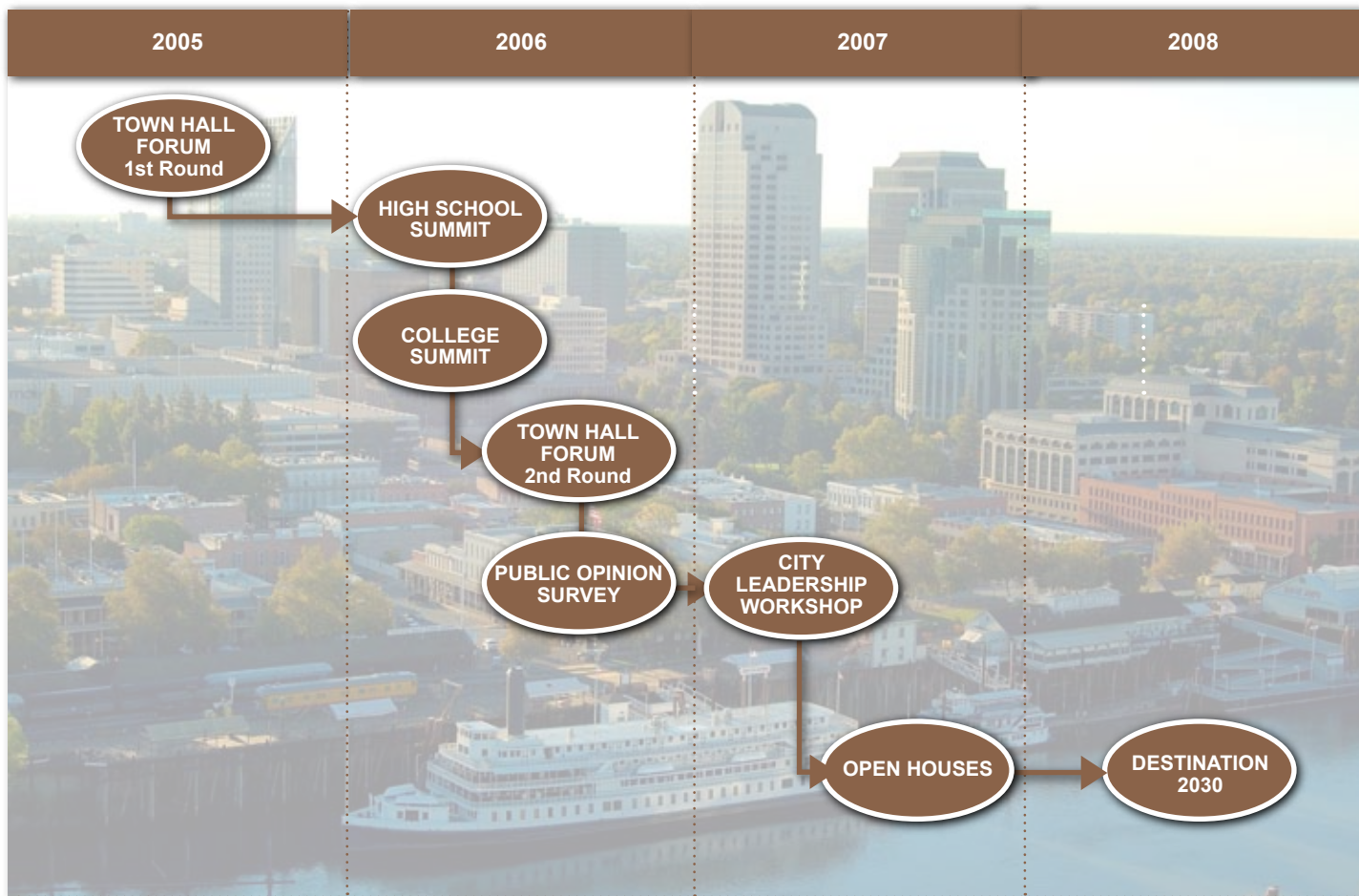
**Final General Plan.** The May 2008 Public Review Draft Sacramento 2030 General Plan was revised based on the fiscal evaluation, MEIR analysis, public hearings, and ultimately the direction from the City Council. The Final General Plan was adopted by the City Council on March 3, 2009. The 1988 General Plan and all existing Community Plans are superseded by the 2030 General Plan.

## Community Involvement

**General Plan Advisory Committee Meetings.** The twenty-five-member General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) served in an advisory role to city staff and the City Council during the General Plan process. The GPAC was appointed by the City Council and made up of Sacramento citizens. Throughout the process the GPAC worked with staff to address specific issues associated with the 2030 General Plan including land use, economic development, mobility/transportation, air quality, infill, housing, finance, infrastructure, community/urban design, preservation, cultural resources, community outreach/involvement, parks, recreation, open space, health, safety, environmental, and regional issues.



**Town Hall Forums.** The General Plan program included two rounds of Town Hall Forums. The first round of fourteen Town Hall Forums was held between May and June 2005 and provided participants an opportunity to identify what they felt were the five most important issues to be addressed in the 2030 General Plan. The second round of Town Hall Forums was held between May and June 2006 and allowed meeting attendees to examine different land use alternatives and development choices. Participants analyzed and discussed the trade-offs associated with different development patterns and provided input as to how they thought the city should grow.



*The 2030 General Plan effort is the result of input by thousands of city residents and business owners representing all segments of Sacramento bringing their ideas, passions, and energy to plan the City's future.*

**High School and College Summits.** In order to encourage the involvement of youth and young adults in Sacramento, the City invited high school and college students to participate in a special General Plan summit. The purpose of the meeting was to get youth and young adults involved in planning the future of our city. At the Library Galleria in downtown, participants listened to a presentation about the new General Plan and then were given the opportunity to tell the City what they wanted a future Sacramento to look like.



**City Leadership Workshop.** The City Leadership Workshop gathered together members of city boards and commission as well as city department directors, charter officers, and the Mayor and City Council for an interactive workshop focusing on the trade-offs, and implications associated with the choices for Sacramento's future. The workshop included a presentation of public opinion survey results, the final results of the land use scenario analysis, visual simulations of the scenarios for different parts of the city in 2030 and interactive exercises. The result of this workshop gave city decision-makers and leaders an understanding of the implications associated with future growth choices and an opportunity to provide direction on a preferred scenario.



**Community Open Houses.** The City held four public Open Houses in October and November 2007 to share with the community the direction of General Plan draft policies and solicit additional public input. The Open Houses were attended by a total of about 300 people and resulted in further refinement of the draft policies.

**Destination 2030: Celebrating Sacramento's Future.** In May 2008, the City of Sacramento hosted a community convention at Cesar Chavez Plaza Park in downtown Sacramento to commemorate the public release of the draft 2030 General Plan. Many Sacramento residents attended this community-wide event and enjoyed refreshments and music while viewing the draft Plan.

**Public Hearings and Adoption.** The final step in the General Plan process was a series of public hearings to hear public testimony on the Public Review Draft General Plan and Draft Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR). This process culminated in revisions to the Draft General Plan and Draft MEIR based on City Council direction. After final review, the City Council adopted the 2030 General Plan and certified the Final MEIR on March 3, 2009, superseding the previous General Plan as the City's official guide for growth and development.

**Other Outreach Efforts.** In addition to the outreach efforts described here, the City also made individual presentations on the General Plan to neighborhood groups, organizations, developers, and other interested groups throughout the 2030 General Plan process.