



TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

LAFCO MEETING AGENDA January 18, 2023 @ 2:00 P.M. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING 2800 West Burrel Avenue Visalia, CA 93291

COMMISSIONERS:
Dennis Townsend, Chair
Richard Feder, V. Chair
Liz Wynn
Pete Vander Poel
Rudy Mendoza

ALTERNATES:
Larry Micari
Fred Sheriff
Steve Harrell

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Ben Giuliani

Virtual Attendance for Members of the Public:

Toll-free call-in: 888-475-4499 | Meeting ID: 876 2737 6776 | Passcode: 399803

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes from December 7, 2022

(Pages 01 – 02)

III. Public Comment Period

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda and that is within the scope of matters considered by the Commission. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the LAFCO Commission at this time. So that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Commission may be limited at the discretion of the chair. At all times, please use the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

IV. Consent Calendar

None

V. Action Items

1. Annexation to the City of Tulare and Detachment from County Service Area #1, Case 1569-T-169, Annexation 2022-01, East Tulare No. 34 (Fulton Estates Residential Subdivision) (Pages 03 – 16)
[Public Hearing] Recommended Action: Approve

The City of Tulare has submitted a request for an annexation of approximately 38.5 acres of land located at the southwest corner of Tulare Avenue (SR 137) and Oakmore Street. The proposal is intended to facilitate the development of a residential subdivision of 185 residential lots and commercial corner. A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared in compliance with CEQA by the City of Tulare.

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking.
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste. B Visalia CA 93291

VI. Executive Officer's Report

1. Agriculture Report (Pages 17– 34)
Enclosed is information regarding agricultural land from the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner, other south San Joaquin Valley ag commissioners and the California Department of Conservation.
2. Commissioner Stipends (Pages 35 – 38)
Enclosed is information on commissioner stipends from 2019. CALAFCO has not yet compiled up to date information from their biennial survey which includes stipend data.
3. 2023 CALAFCO Calendar (Pages 39 – 40)
Enclosed is a calendar of events for CALAFCO and associated organizations.
4. CALAFCO Quarterly Newsletter (Pages 41 – 48)
Enclosed is CALAFCO's December 2022 newsletter.
5. Legislative Update (No Page)
The State legislature reconvened on January 4th and the deadline to introduce bills is February 17th. There are currently no bills to report on.
6. Upcoming Projects (No Page)
The Executive Officer will provide a summary and tentative schedule of upcoming LAFCO projects.

VII. Correspondence

None

VII. Other Business

1. Commissioner Report (No Page)
2. Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas (No Page)

VIII. Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting

1. March 1, 2023 @ 2:00 P.M in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the County Administration Building, 2800 W. Burrell Ave., Visalia, CA 93291.

IX. Adjournment

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking.
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste. B Visalia CA 93291

**TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
2500 W. Burrel Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291
Tulare County Human Resources and Development
December 7, 2022 – Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Wynn, Vander Poel
Members Absent: Mendoza, Townsend, Feder
Alternates Present: Micari, Sheriff, Harrell
Alternates Absent:
Staff Present: Giuliani, Kane, and Gallo recording
Counsel Present: Matt Pierce

I. Call to Order

Acting Chair Micari called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the November 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Commissioner Harrell and seconded by Commissioner Wynn, the Commission unanimously approved the LAFCO minutes.

III. Public Comment Period

Acting Chair Micari opened/closed the Public Comment Period at 2:01 p.m. No public comments received.

IV. Consent Calendar:

None

V. Action Items:

1. Election of Officers

EO Giuliani outlined the policy requiring the LAFCo Chair and Vice-Chair to be selected annually on a rotating basis so that all members have an equal opportunity to serve. EO Giuliani stated that given this rotational pattern, Commissioner Townsend would be in line to serve as Chair and Commissioner Feder would serve as Vice-Chair.

Upon motion by Alternate Commissioner Harrell and seconded by Commissioner Wynn, the Commission unanimously approved the election of officers for 2023 with Commissioner Townsend as Chair and Commissioner Feder as Vice Chair.

2. Cancellation of January 18th 2023 Meeting

EO Giuliani stated that a change of organization application had been submitted and would be addressed at the January meeting.

No action was taken.

VI. Executive Officer's Report

1. 2022 LAFCO Annual Report

Staff Analyst Kane provided an overview of the 2022 LAFCo Annual Report, highlighting annexation cases from 2022 and city maps illustrating city area growth since 1980.

2. **ESA 2022-07 (Porterville)**

EO Giuliani provided a copy of a letter of approval for the ESA agreement that permits the City of Porterville to provide domestic water service to existing development on APN 264-070-004 (27790 Avenue 146).

3. **Legislative Update**

EO Giuliani stated that the State legislature would reconvene on January 4, 2023, and the deadline to introduce bills would be February 17.

4. **Commissioner Stipends**

EO Giuliani reported that CALAFCO was currently undertaking a survey of other LAFCo agencies in the state which included information on their stipend policies in other LAFCOs. This information would be presented when the survey results were compiled.

5. **Upcoming Projects**

EO Giuliani stated that the following projects would be presented at the January meeting: one annexation for the City of Tulare, an updated agricultural report with maps and information, and the CALAFCO stipend survey if available.

VII. **Correspondence:**

None.

VIII. **Other Business:**

1. **Commissioner Report:**

None

2. **Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas:**

None

IX. **Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting:**

The next Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting is scheduled for **January 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.** in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the County Administration Building, 2800 W. Burrel Ave., Visalia, CA 93291.

X. **Adjournment:** The Tulare County LAFCO meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

**TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

January 18, 2023

**LAFCO Case Number 1569-T-169
Annexation 2022-01, East Tulare No. 34
(Fulton Estates Residential Subdivision)**

PROPOSAL: Annexation to the City of Tulare, detachment from CSA #1.

PROPONENT: The City of Tulare by resolution of its City Council.

SIZE: Approximately 38.48 acres

LOCATION: The Southwest corner of Tulare Avenue (SR 137) and Oakmore Street. **(Figure 1)**

NOTICE: Notice for this public hearing was provided in accordance with Government Code Sections 56660 & 56661.

SUMMARY: The proposal is intended to facilitate the development of a 185-lot single family residential subdivision and commercial corner

APNs: 172-030-010

GENERAL ANALYSIS

1. Land Use:

A. Site Information

	Existing	Proposed (City)
Zoning Designation	County - AE-20	R-1-5 (Single-family residential, 5,000 sq. ft. minimum lot area and C-3 (Retail Commercial)
General Plan Designation	Residential Estate	Low Density Residential and Community Commercial
Uses	One single-family residence, vacant land previously used as agriculture	185 – lot single-family residential subdivision, commercial corner (Figure 3)

B. Surrounding Land Uses and Zoning and General Plan Designations:

	Zoning Designation	General Plan Designation	Existing Use
North	R-A-100 (County)	Rural Residential	Rural Residential
South	R-A-217 (County)	Rural Residential	Rural Residential
East	AE-40 (County)	COS North Transit Oriented Development	Agriculture - Residential
West	R-1-6	Low Density Residential	Residential

C. Topography, Natural Features and Drainage

The site is generally flat with general gradient south and west and no major natural features.

D. Conformity with General Plans and Spheres of Influence:

The site is within the planning area for the City's General Plan and is within the City's Sphere of Influence.

2. Impact on Prime Agricultural Land, Agriculture and Open Space:

The parcels within the site are not under a Williamson Act or Farmland Security Zone contract.

3. Population:

The estimated population of the proposal area is 1. The County Elections Division has indicated that there are fewer than 12 registered voters in the proposal area. Therefore, pursuant to GC Section 56046, the annexation area is uninhabited.

4. Services and Controls - Need, Cost, Adequacy and Availability:

Agency providing service

Service	Now	After	Method of finance
Police Protection	Tulare County Sheriff Dept.	City of Tulare Police Department	City General Fund & Grants
Fire Protection	Tulare County Fire Dept.	City of Tulare Fire Department	General Fund, Grants, Property Taxes
Water Supply	Groundwater Well	City of Tulare	Developer, then water use rates
Sewage Disposal	Individual Septic	City of Tulare	Developer, then water use rates
Street Lighting	None	City of Tulare	Developer fees, LMD
Street	County of Tulare/	City of Tulare / Caltrans	DIFs, Grants, Gas

Maintenance	Caltrans		Tax etc.
Planning/Zoning	County of Tulare	City of Tulare	Service Fees, General Fund
Garbage Disposal	None	City of Tulare	User Fees

According to the City and the Mitigated Negative Declaration, the City can serve the increased demand to provide water services to the proposal area. The proposed project would generate an annual water demand that would be well within the limits of the water demand, as described in the UWMP. In addition, the proposed project would be proposing smaller lots and a portion which will be developed as retail commercial, which tends to use less water due to less outdoor irrigation needs, with a net reduction in outdoor irrigation needs compared to the large lot residential assumed at this location in the General Plan.

Wastewater generated by the project would be collected and treated at the City's domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF). Although the proposed project will increase in wastewater generation due to the addition of 185 residential units and the commercial development, the impact is less than significant and would not exceed the City's WWTF capacity of 6 million gallons per day (mgd).

5. Boundaries and Lines of Assessment:

The boundaries of the proposal area are definite and certain and conform to the lines of assessment and ownership. A map sufficient for filing with the State Board of Equalization has not yet been received (see Discussion section)

6. Assess Value, Tax Rates and Indebtedness:

Upon completion of this annexation the area will be assigned to a new tax rate area. The total assessed valuation of the proposal area is as follows:

Land: 202,517
Improvements: \$182,518

7. Environmental Impacts:

The City of Tulare is the lead agency for this proposal. The City prepared an initial study/environmental checklist and on the basis of that study and other planning documents a Mitigated Negative Declaration was approved for use with this proposal. A copy of the document is included in the application materials.

8. Landowner Consent:

The landowner has provided signed consent to the annexation. Notice was mailed to all landowners and registered voters within 300 feet of the

reorganization area. Since this reorganization has received 100%, the protest hearing can be waived in accordance with Government Code §56662. A neighboring property owner provided a letter of support for the annexation (Figure 4).

9. Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA):

Pursuant to GC §56668 (I), LAFCO shall consider the extent to which the proposal will assist the receiving city and the County in achieving its fair share of regional housing needs as determined by the appropriate council of governments.

185 single family units are proposed for development that are intended to serve the “Above Moderate” income category. A tentative subdivision map has been filed with the City of Tulare. The table below shows the current RHNA cycle allocation.

5th Cycle City of Tulare RHNA allocation

Very Low	Low	Moderate	Above Moderate	Total
920	609	613	1,452	3,594

During the 5th Cycle, the City of Tulare has made the following progress towards providing its fair share of regional housing.

Very Low	Low	Moderate	Above Moderate	Total
43	28	235	2,586	1,758

The table below shows the total remaining fair share of regional housing for the City of Tulare.

Very Low	Low	Moderate	Above Moderate	Total
877	581	378	0	1,836

10. Discussion:

Adjoining Right of Way

Pursuant to Tulare County LAFCO policy, the full extent of adjoining road rights of way must be included in the reorganization. The City must include the right-of-way along Tulare Avenue (SR 137) and Oakmore Street. In addition, the reorganization title in the map and legal description must be updated to match the title in the City resolution of application. An updated map and legal description must be received before filing with the Board of Equalization.

Residential Land Supply and Development

The City currently has approximately a five year supply of residential land. This assumes the remaining 610 acres of undeveloped residential land within the City develops at the current City population density of 16.7 persons per acre of developed residential land at a growth rate of 2.82% per year which is the estimated growth rate for the City from 2000 to 2020.

With the addition of the proposed annexation and development of the 185 single family units the city would add approximately an additional 4 months of residential land supply, assuming the growth rate estimates noted above stay consistent for the City.

Government Services

The adequacy of governmental service will be improved within the subject area. According to the City they are currently able to provide the annexation area urban services and infrastructure for development such as sewer services, fire, police, streets lighting, etc., as well as planning and building services.

Services which would be extended to this area, including police and fire safety services and development permit services, will be funded primarily through impact fees, user fees and the general fund.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

It is recommended that this proposal be approved and that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Certify that the Commission has reviewed and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the City of Tulare for this project and determine that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because of the mitigation measures that have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent.
2. Find that the proposed reorganization of the City of Tulare complies with the policies and priorities of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, Section 56377.
3. Pursuant to LAFCO Policy and Procedure Section C-1, determine that:
 - a. The boundaries of the proposed reorganization are definite and certain.
 - b. The proposed annexation is compatible with the city's General Plan.
 - c. There is a demonstrated need for municipal services and controls and that the city has the capability of meeting this need.

- d. There is a mutual social and economic interest between the residents of the city and the proposed annexation territory.
 - e. The proposed annexation represents a logical and reasonable expansion of the annexing municipality.
 - f. All urban services and infrastructure can be provided for by the city.
4. Find that the annexation does not contain any Williamson Act contract land
 5. Find that the territory proposed for this reorganization is uninhabited.
 6. Approve the proposed reorganization, to be known as LAFCO Case Number 1569-T-169, City of Tulare Reorganization, Annexation 2022-01 subject to the following conditions:
 - a. No change be made to land use designations or zoning for a period of two years after the completion of the annexation, unless the city council makes a finding at a public hearing that a substantial change has occurred in circumstances that necessitate a departure from the designation or zoning.
 - b. The Certificate of Completion shall not be recorded until corrections are made to the map and legal description to include the full right of way sections along this project location and the reorganization title is updated.
 - c. The applicant must provide the required filing fee for the Statement of Boundary Change that is to be submitted to the Board of Equalization.
 7. Waive the protest hearing for this proposal in accordance with Government Code §56662 and order the reorganization without an election.
 8. Authorize the Executive Officer to sign and file a Notice of Determination with the Tulare County Clerk.

Figures:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Figure 1 | Site Location Map |
| Figure 2 | Aerial |
| Figure 3 | Tentative Subdivision Map |
| Figure 4 | Letter of Support |
| Figure 5 | Resolution, Annexation to City of Tulare and Detachment from CSA #1 |

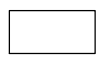
LAFCO Case 1569-T-169



Site Location 1569-T-169



Tulare Sphere of Influence



Parcels

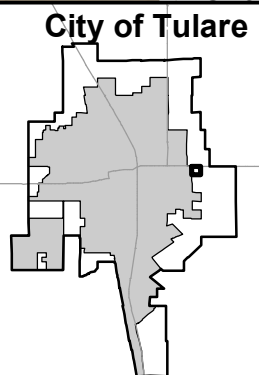


City of Tulare



0 225 450 900
Feet

Boundaries as of 12/6/22



Created by Tulare County LAFCO

LAFCO Case 1569-T-169



An aerial photograph of a city grid. A large, dark, irregularly shaped area, possibly a park or undeveloped land, is located in the center. The surrounding area is a dense grid of streets and buildings. The image is oriented vertically on the page.

A.W. ENGINEERING HEALTH CARE 83292 (505) 713-6159 www.aengineering.com

0109			
1100			

January 10, 2023
Council of the City of Tulare
City of Tulare Planning Commission

We farm the property across Oakmore St. to the East, from the proposed Fulton Estates. We support the proposal to annex the property into the City limits, including both the residential and commercial corner.

Using that property to farm is no longer possible. The lack of water and all the restrictions coming down from our governor make it impossible to make a living on the property. In addition it is very problematic to farm close to residential areas. The current owner of this property hires us to control the weeds on the property to prevent fire hazards per county ordinances. Just doing this small task another neighbor threatened to sue us for causing dust. Although farming is essential to our community it is no longer feasible to farm on this piece of land.

The lack of available housing and the fact that the proposed property joins with a current neighborhood, make housing a perfect solution.

The close proximity to both the COS campus and Mission Oak High School contribute to making this an ideal location for housing and businesses. The property is very close to shopping, both groceries and retail, making it a good fit for families.

Please move forward with a vote to approve the proposal for Fulton Estates.

Thank you,

Bonnie Olson

The neighbor who farms next door

BEFORE THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Annexation to the City of)

Tulare and Detachment from County Service)

RESOLUTION NO. 23-XXX

Area #1, LAFCO Case1569-T-169, City of)

Tulare Annexation 2022-01)

WHEREAS, application has been made to this Commission pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code Sections 56000 et seq.) for approval of a proposal to reorganize certain territories described in attached Exhibit “A” made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, this Commission has read and considered the Resolution of Application and application materials, the report of the County Assessor and the Executive Officers report and recommendations of the Executive Officer, all of which documents and materials are incorporated by reference herein; and

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2023 this Commission heard, received, and considered testimony, comments, recommendations and reports from all persons present and desiring to be heard concerning this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The information, material and facts set forth in the application, the report of the County Assessor, and the report and recommendations of the Executive Officer (including any corrections), have been received and considered in accordance with

Government Code Section 56668. All of said information, materials, facts, reports and other evidence are incorporated by reference herein.

2. The City of Tulare, as Lead Agency, filed a Mitigated Negative Declaration in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). And finds that the Commission has reviewed and considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared by the City of Tulare for this project and determines that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because of the mitigation measures that have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent.

3. The Commission has reviewed and considered, in accordance with Government Code Section 56668, the information, material and facts presented by the following persons who appeared at the meeting and commented on the proposal:

XXXXXXX
XXXXXXX

4. All notices required by law have been given and all proceedings heretofore and now taken in this matter have been and now are in all respects as required by law.

5. Based upon the evidence and information on the record before it, the Commission makes the following findings of fact:

- a. Fewer than 12 registered voters reside in the affected territory, which is considered uninhabited.
- b. The subject territory is within the Sphere of Influence of the City of Tulare.

- c. The proposed annexation does not contain any Williamson Act contract land.

6. Based upon the evidence and information on the record before it and the findings of fact made above, the Commission makes the following determinations:

- a. The boundaries of the proposed reorganization are definite and certain and conform to lines of assessment.
- b. There is a demonstrated need for municipal services and controls and that the city has the capability of meeting this need.
- c. There is a mutual social and economic interest between the residents of the city and the proposed annexation territory.
- d. The proposed annexation is compatible with the City's General Plan.
- e. The proposed annexation represents a logical and reasonable expansion of the annexing municipality.
- f. All urban services and infrastructure can be provided for by the city.

7. The Commission hereby waives the protest hearing proceedings in accordance with GC §56662 and orders the reorganization without an election.

8. The Commission hereby approves the proposed reorganization of the territory described in Exhibit "A," attached hereto, subject to the following conditions:

- a. No change shall be made to land-use designations or zoning for a period of two years after completion of the annexation, unless the city council makes a finding at a public hearing that a substantial change has occurred in circumstance that necessitate a departure from the designation or zoning.
- b. The Certificate of Completion shall not be recorded until corrections are made to the map and legal description to include the adjoining road rights of way and update the annexation title.
- c. The applicant must provide the required filing fee for the Statement of Boundary Change that is to be submitted to the Board of Equalization.

9. The following short form designation shall be used throughout these proceedings:

LAFCO Case No. 1569-T-169, City of Tulare Annexation 2022-01

10. The Executive Officer is hereby authorized and directed to mail certified copies of this resolution as required by law.

11. The Executive Officer is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Notice of Determination on behalf of the Commission and file said notice with the Tulare County Clerk pursuant to Section 21152 (a) of the Public Resources Code.

The foregoing resolution was adopted upon motion of Commissioner_____, seconded by Commissioner _____, at a regular meeting held on this 18th day of January 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

ak



TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS:

*Dennis Townsend, Chair
Rick Feder, Vice-Chair
Liz Wynn
Pete Vander Poel
Rudy Mendoza*

ALTERNATES:

*Larry Micari
Fred Sheriff
Steve Harrell*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Ben Giuliani

January 18, 2023

TO: LAFCO Commissioners, Alternates, Counsel

FROM: Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Agriculture Report

Background

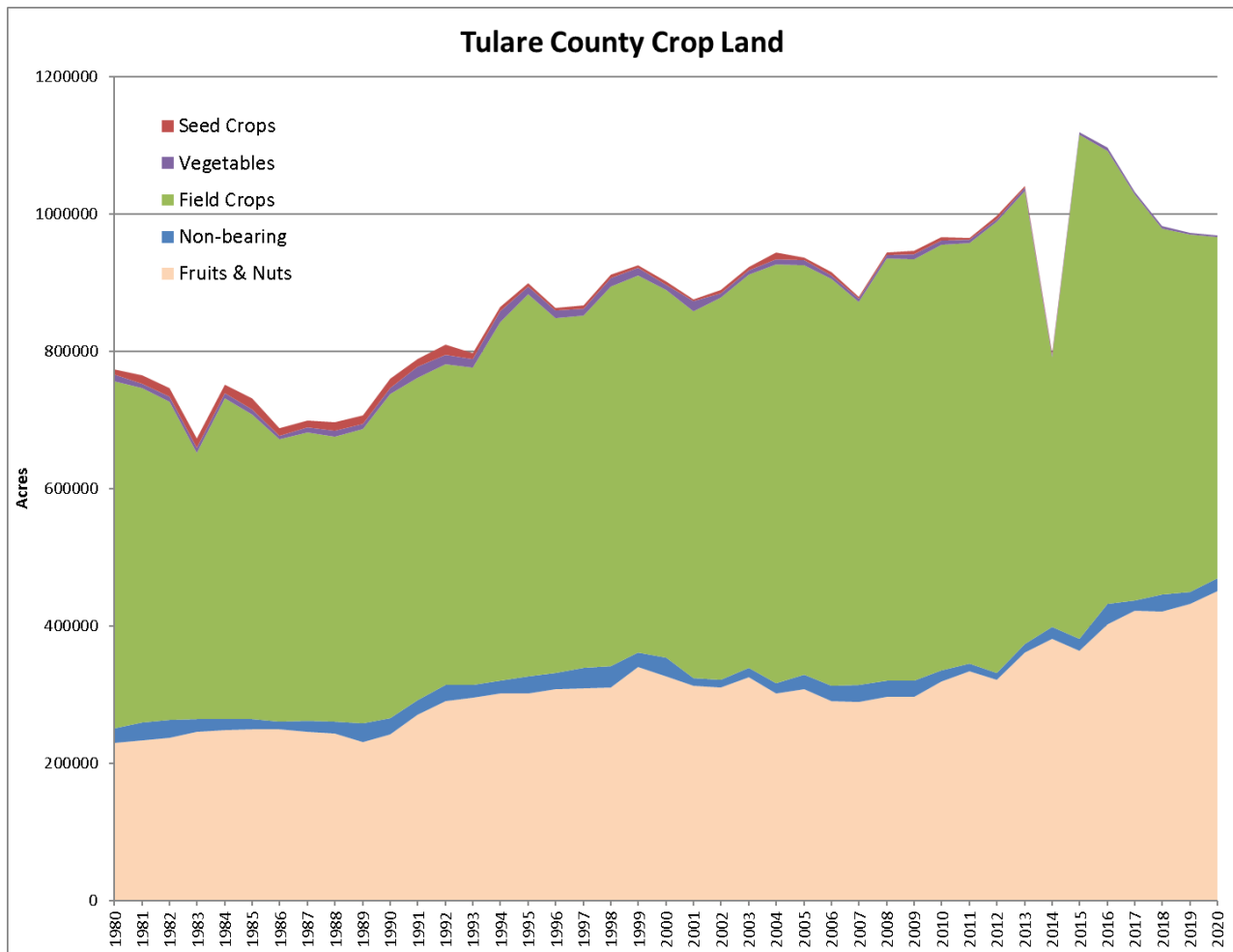
The 2021 Tulare County Annual Crop and Livestock Report along with the other San Joaquin Valley crop reports were released late last year. This report reviews Tulare County and South San Joaquin Valley crop land and agricultural production value over time. Also included in this report is the 2018 Field Report and farmland mapping from the Department of Conservation (DOC). The DOC develops field reports that reviews changes in farmland every two years. Data has been released for some counties for 2020 but not yet for Tulare County.

Discussion

Tulare County Crop Land

The chart on the following page shows farmed acreage in Tulare County as reported by the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner from 1980 to 2021. In 2021, there was a total of 944,326 of planted acreage and Tulare County had a total agricultural product value of \$8.1 billion. There was a reduction of 23,000 acres of planted acreage compared to 2020. The value of agricultural production decreased by almost \$1 billion compared to 2020 with Tulare County ranking as the 2nd most productive county in the nation just behind Kern County and just ahead of Fresno County.

The acreage amount for field crops includes multiple crop yields from the same land (an acre of crop land as listed in the Ag Reports does not exactly equal an acre of physical land). The acreage amounts shown in the chart on the next page does not include non-irrigated pastureland, fallow land, animal confinement facilities or associated agricultural uses such as creameries or packing houses.



Note: "Non-bearing" is planted permanent crops (orchard and vineyard crops) that are not yet producing.

As a comparison, the amount of acreage inside the 8 incorporated cities in Tulare County is 60,783. However, the incorporated acreage amount isn't entirely developed with urban uses. There still is a significant amount of active agriculture inside the cities mainly as cropland associated with effluent irrigation from city wastewater treatment facilities. Listed below are acreage and valuation amounts for the top ten crops in Tulare County in 2021 compared to the top ten in 1980.

2021		
Rank	Crop	Acreage
1	Silage – Small Grain	138,000
2	Corn (Silage)	120,000
3	Irrigated Pasture	111,000
4	Almonds	94,050
5	Oranges	89,705
6	Pistachios	82,306
7	Grapes	46,269
8	Walnuts	43,386
9	Alfalfa	34,800
10	Tangerines	32,800

Note: Cotton acreage was 11,100
Wheat and Barley acreage was 21,400 and 750

1980		
Rank	Crop	Acreage
1	Cotton	176,680
2	Alfalfa	80,000
3	Oranges	76,084
4	Wheat	70,200
5	Grapes	69,823
6	Barley	50,500
7	Silage	64,300
8	Walnuts	24,314
9	Sorghum	17,340
10	Irrigated Pasture	17,000

Note: Almond and Pistachio acreage was 8,504 and 883
Corn acreage was 16,800

2021		
Rank	Crop	Value
1	Milk	\$1,943,043,000
2	Oranges	\$1,224,885,000
3	Grapes	\$683,601,000
4	Cattle	\$633,600,000
5	Pistachios	\$560,120,000
6	Tangerines	\$431,520,000
7	Almonds	\$355,710,000
8	Lemons	\$347,130,000
9	Peaches	\$196,863,000
10	Corn	\$181,792,000

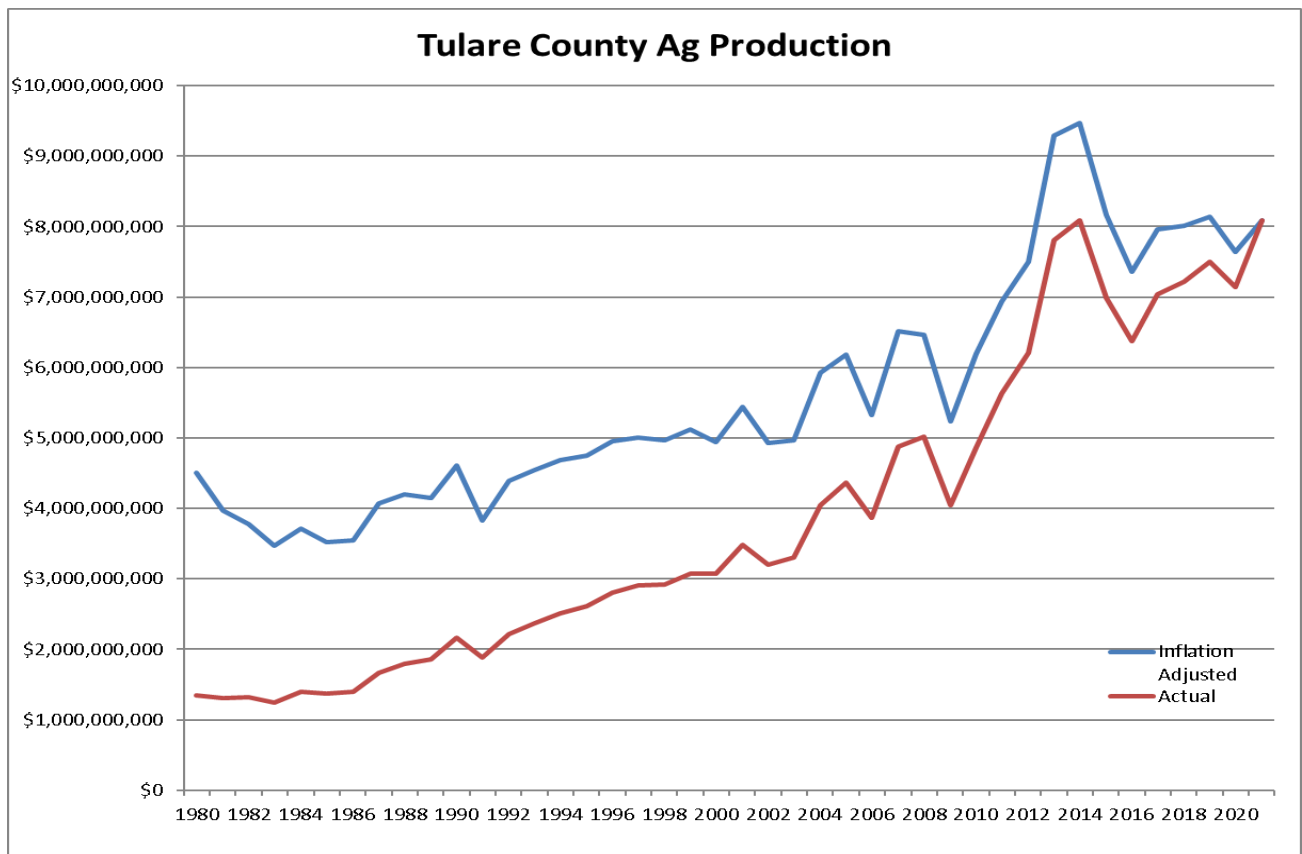
Alfalfa #14, Plums #19, Cotton #25, Wheat #31

1980		
Rank	Crop	Value
1	Grapes	\$259,641,000
2	Milk	\$216,391,000
3	Oranges	\$189,819,000
4	Cotton	\$146,306,000
5	Cattle	\$74,230,000
6	Alfalfa	\$58,909,000
7	Plums	\$54,230,000
8	Nectarines	\$32,423,000
9	Walnuts	\$29,366,000
10	Wheat	\$27,807,000

Almonds #15, Lemons #16, Tangerines #29, Pistachios #33

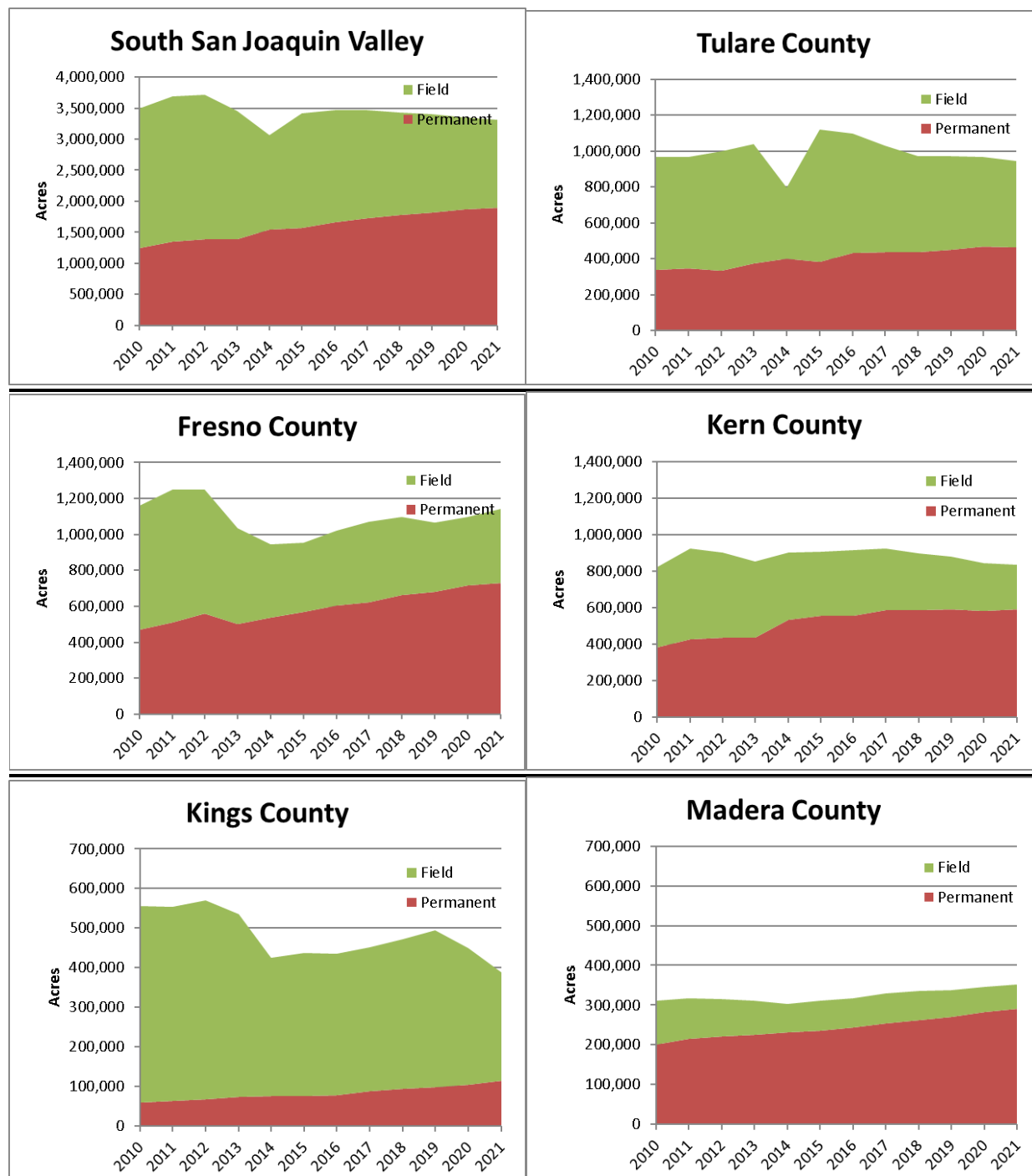
Tulare County Agricultural Production

The following chart shows gross agricultural production in Tulare County as reported by the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner from 1980 to 2021. This includes crops produced on the land shown in the prior chart and also includes dairy production and livestock. The “Adjusted” amounts shown below are adjusted for inflation to 2021 dollars. After adjusting for inflation, agricultural production has increased from \$4.5 billion in 1980 to \$8.1 billion in 2021, an increase of 80%. Even with an increasing population in the County (245,738 in 1980 to 473,117 in 2020) and increased urbanization, the value of production has increased significantly during this time period due in large part to a transition from lower value crops such as cotton to higher value crops such as almonds and pistachios, a large increase in dairy facilities and production and more efficient farming techniques.



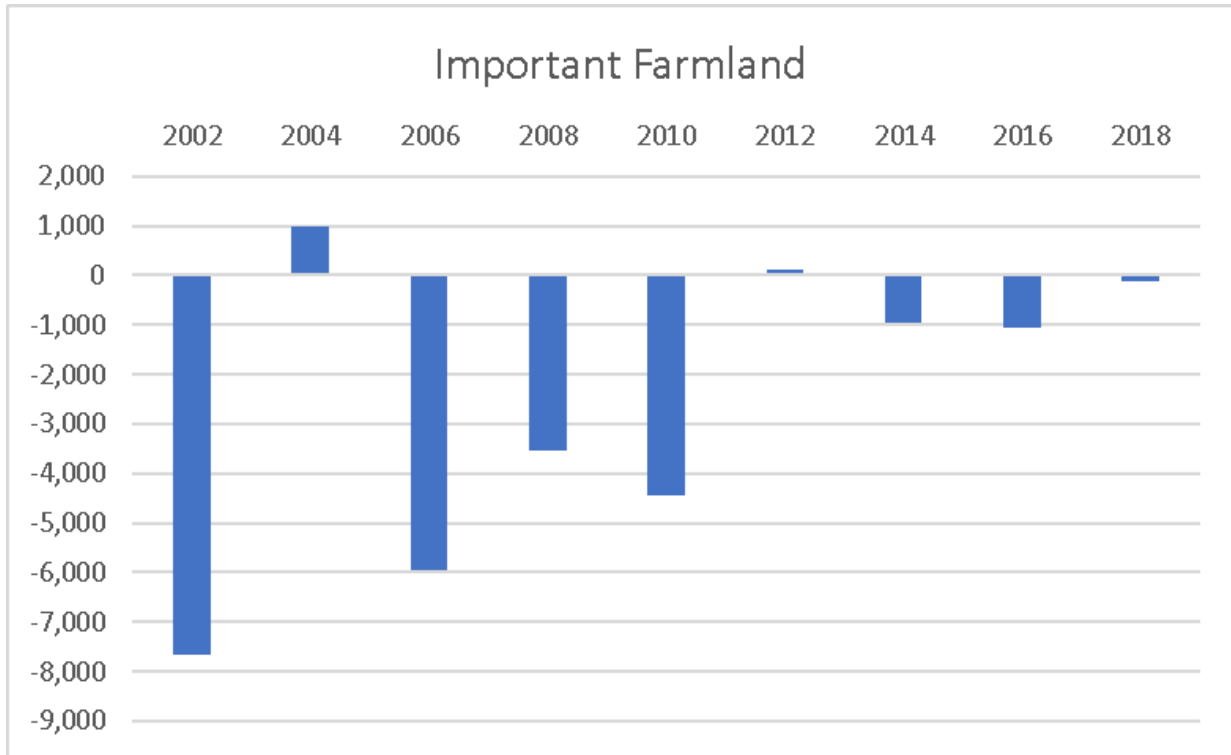
South San Joaquin Valley Crop Land

The following charts compare crop land between the five southern San Joaquin Valley counties and the region as a whole. The increase in permanent crop acreage is continuing due mainly to the increased planting of high value crops such as almonds and pistachios. In Tulare County alone, acreage of almonds, pistachios and walnuts increased from 82,700 in 2010 to 213,800 in 2021.

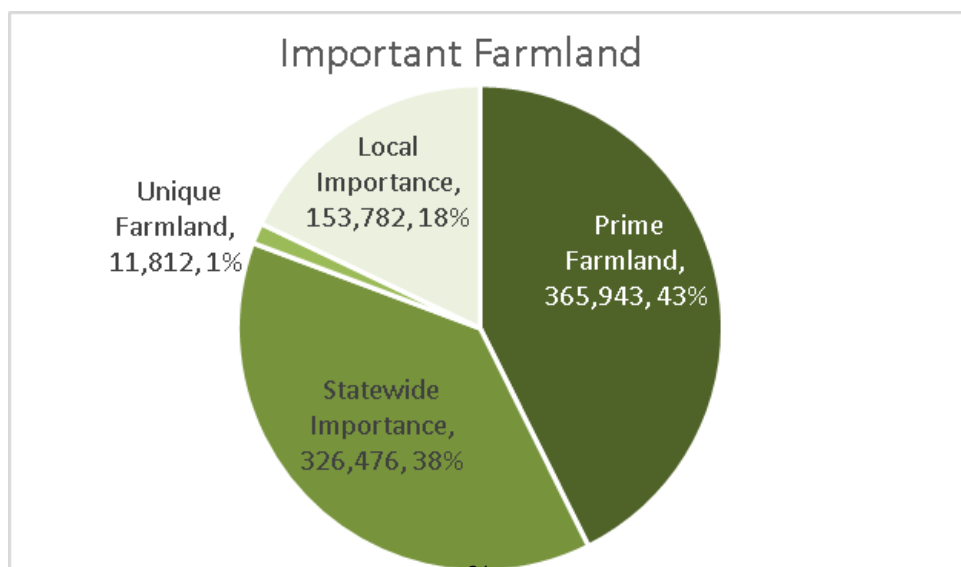


Department of Conservation

Attached are the DOC's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program's 2018 land use conversion table and maps for Tulare County farmland. Using the attached table for 2018 and information from the 2016 Field Report, the chart below shows the conversion of "Important Farmland" in acres to other uses for each two year time period from 2000 to 2018. Note that the DOC considers solar facilities and ponding basins as "Urban and Built-Up Land". More acres of land were developed with solar facilities and ponding basins than for residential development between 2014 and 2016 (that detail of information is not yet available for between 2016 and 2018).



The DOC land use conversion table shows 858,013 acres of Important Farmland in Tulare County in 2018 compared to 66,115 acres of Urban and Built-Up Land. Important Farmland is divided up into four subcategories: Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland and Farmland of Local Importance. The pie chart below shows the components of Important Farmland in Tulare County in 2018.



Important Farmland Categories

FMMP's study area is contiguous with modern soil surveys developed by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). A classification system that combines technical soil ratings and current land use is the basis for the Important Farmland Maps of these lands. Most public land areas, such as National Forests and Bureau of Land Management holdings, are not mapped.

The minimum land use mapping unit is 10 acres unless specified. Smaller units of land are incorporated into the surrounding map classifications. In order to most accurately represent the NRCS digital soil survey, soil units of one acre or larger are depicted in Important Farmland Maps.

For environmental review purposes under CEQA, the categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Local Importance, and Grazing Land constitute 'agricultural land' (Public Resources Code Section 21060.1). The remaining categories are used for reporting changes in land use as required for FMMP's biennial farmland conversion report.

Prime Farmland (P)

Farmland with the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long term agricultural production. This land has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date. More information on the [definition of Prime Farmland](#) the [soils qualifying for Prime Farmland](#) is also available.

Farmland of Statewide Importance (S)

Farmland similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date. Download information on the [soils qualifying for Farmland of Statewide Importance](#).

Unique Farmland (U)

Farmland of lesser quality soils used for the production of the state's leading agricultural crops. This land is usually irrigated, but may include nonirrigated orchards or vineyards as found in some climatic zones in California. Land must have been cropped at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

Farmland of Local Importance (L)

Land of importance to the local agricultural economy as determined by each county's board of supervisors and a local advisory committee. In some counties, [Confined Animal Agriculture](#) (PDF) facilities are part of [Farmland of Local Importance](#) (PDF), but they are shown separately.

Grazing Land (G)

Land on which the existing vegetation is suited to the grazing of livestock. This category was developed in cooperation with the California Cattlemen's Association, University of California Cooperative Extension, and other groups interested in the extent of grazing activities.

Urban and Built-up Land (D)

Land occupied by structures with a building density of at least 1 unit to 1.5 acres, or approximately 6 structures to a 10-acre parcel. This land is used for residential, industrial, commercial, construction, institutional, public administration, railroad and other transportation

yards, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment, water control structures, and other developed purposes.

Other Land (X)

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

The [Rural Land Mapping Project](#) provides more detail on the distribution of various land uses within the Other Land category in nine FMMP counties, including all eight San Joaquin Valley counties. The project may be expanded to the entire FMMP survey area as funding becomes available. The Rural Land categories include:

- Rural Residential Land (R)
- Semi-Agricultural and Rural Commercial Land (sAC)
- Vacant or Disturbed Land (V)
- Confined Animal Agriculture (CI)
- Nonagricultural or Natural Vegetation (nv)
- Water (W) -- Perennial water bodies with an extent of at least 40 acres.

**TABLE A-44
TULARE COUNTY
2016-2018 Land Use Conversion**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Division of Land Resource Protection

Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

**PART I
County Summary and Change by Land Use Category**

LAND USE CATEGORY	TOTAL ACREAGE 2016	TOTAL ACREAGE 2018	2016-18 ACRES LOST (-)	2016-18 ACRES GAINED (+)	2016-18 TOTAL ACREAGE CHANGED	2016-18 NET ACREAGE CHANGED
Prime Farmland	366,137	365,943	2,262	2,068	4,330	-194
Farmland of Statewide Importance	322,354	326,476	2,544	6,666	9,210	4,122
Unique Farmland	11,693	11,812	275	394	669	119
Farmland of Local Importance	157,938	153,782	8,285	4,129	12,414	-4,156
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	858,122	858,013	13,366	13,257	26,623	-109
Grazing Land	439,933	440,213	296	576	872	280
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	1,298,055	1,298,226	13,662	13,833	27,495	171
Urban and Built-up Land	64,618	66,115	322	1,819	2,141	1,497
Other Land	218,599	216,932	3,251	1,584	4,835	-1,667
Water Area	4,656	4,655	1	0	1	-1
TOTAL AREA INVENTORIED	1,585,928	1,585,928	17,236	17,236	34,472	0

**PART II
Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use**

LAND USE CATEGORY	TOTAL ACREAGE 2018
Prime Farmland	DATA
Farmland of Statewide Importance	NOT
Unique Farmland	AVAILABLE
Farmland of Local Importance	Blank
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	Blank
Grazing Land	Blank
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	Blank
Urban and Built-up Land	Blank
Other Land	Blank
Water Area	Blank
TOTAL ACREAGE REPORTED	Blank

PART III Land Use Conversion from 2016 to 2018

LAND USE CATEGORY	Prime Farmland	Farmland of Statewide Importance	Unique Farmland	Farmland of Local Importance	Subtotal Important Farmland	Grazing Land	Total Agricultural Land	Urban and Built-up Land	Other Land	Water Area	Total Converted To Another Use
Prime Farmland (1) to:	—	0	33	1,534	1,567	0	1,567	285	410	0	2,262
Farmland of Statewide Importance (1) to:	0	—	24	2,086	2,110	0	2,110	108	326	0	2,544
Unique Farmland to:	8	0	—	12	20	192	212	0	63	0	275
Farmland of Local Importance (2) to:	1,653	4,861	93	—	6,607	138	6,745	916	624	0	8,285
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	1,661	4,861	150	3,632	10,304	330	10,634	1,309	1,423	0	13,366
Grazing Land to:	0	0	209	2	211	—	211	7	78	0	296
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	1,661	4,861	359	3,634	10,515	330	10,845	1,316	1,501	0	13,662
Urban and Built-up Land (3) to:	54	9	0	53	116	123	239	—	83	0	322
Other Land (2) to:	353	1,796	35	442	2,626	123	2,749	502	—	0	3,251
Water Area to:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	—	1
TOTAL ACREAGE CONVERTED	2,068	6,666	394	4,129	13,257	576	13,833	1,819	1,584	0	17,236

(1) Conversion to Farmland of Local Importance is primarily due to land left idle or land used for dryland grain production for three or more update cycles.

(2) Conversion to irrigated farmland is primarily due to the addition of irrigated orchards and row or field crops.

(3) Conversion from Urban and Built-up Land is primarily due to a lack of sufficient infrastructure and the use of detailed digital imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries as well as the permanent closure of a golf facility and orchards planted at a former airstrip.

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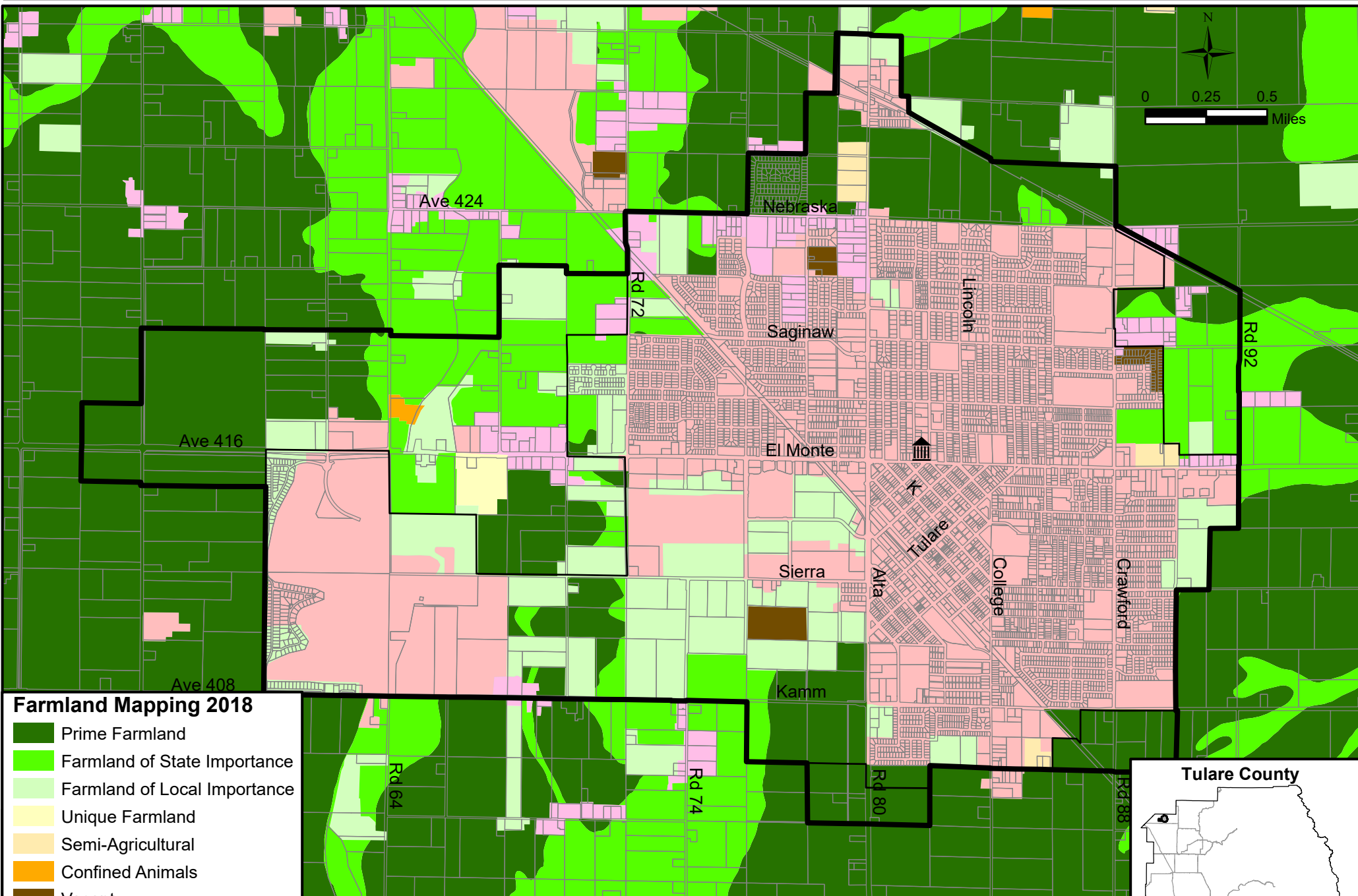
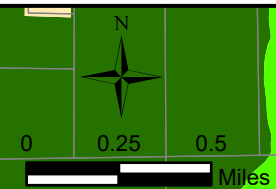
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TULARE COUNTY

End of worksheet.

TULARE COUNTY

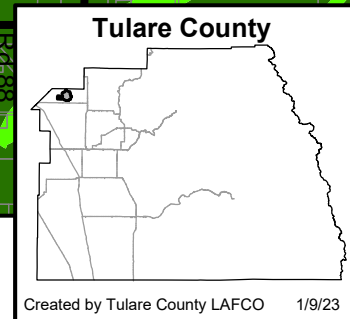
City of Dinuba



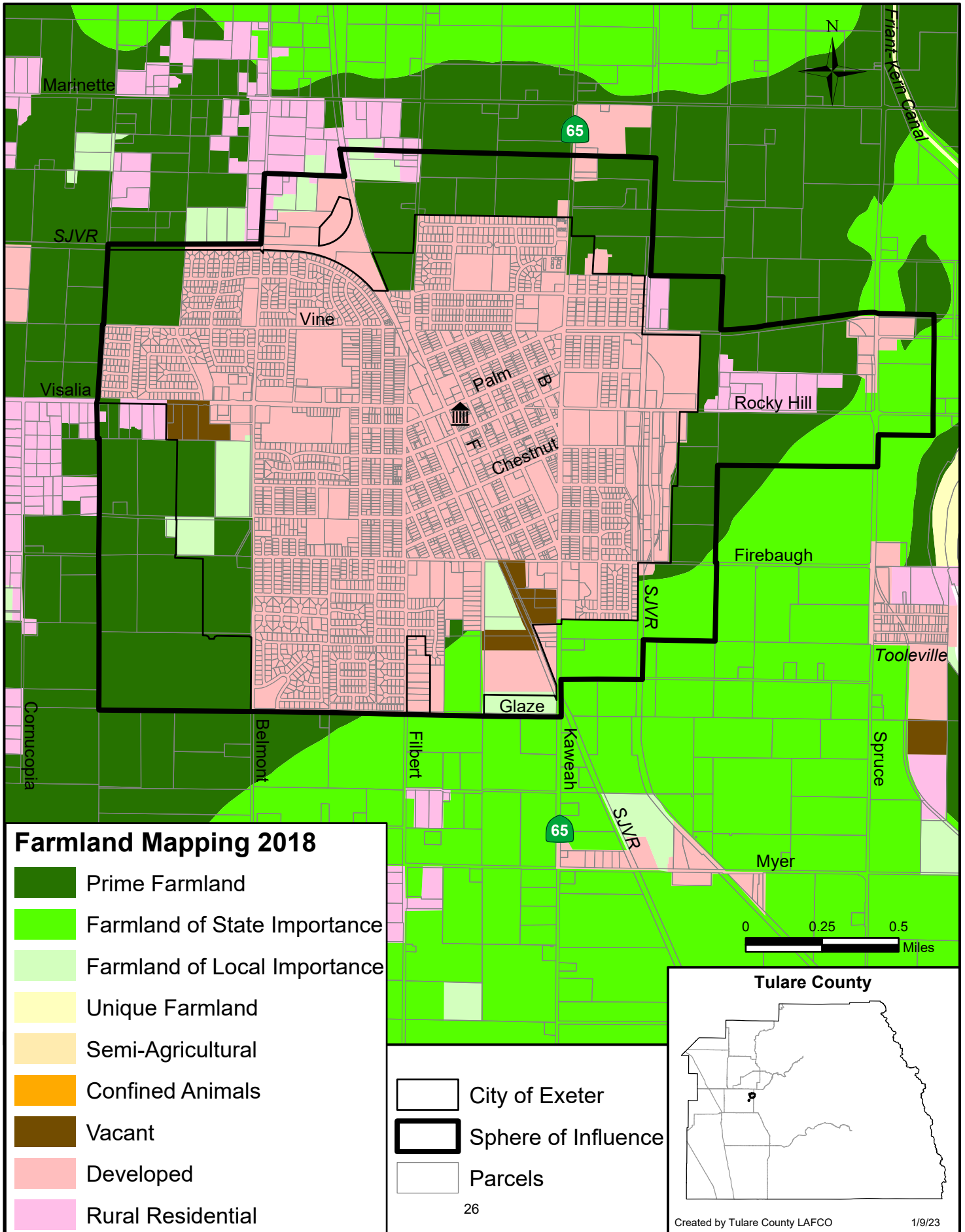
Farmland Mapping 2018

- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of State Importance
- Farmland of Local Importance
- Unique Farmland
- Semi-Agricultural
- Confined Animals
- Vacant
- Developed
- Rural Residential

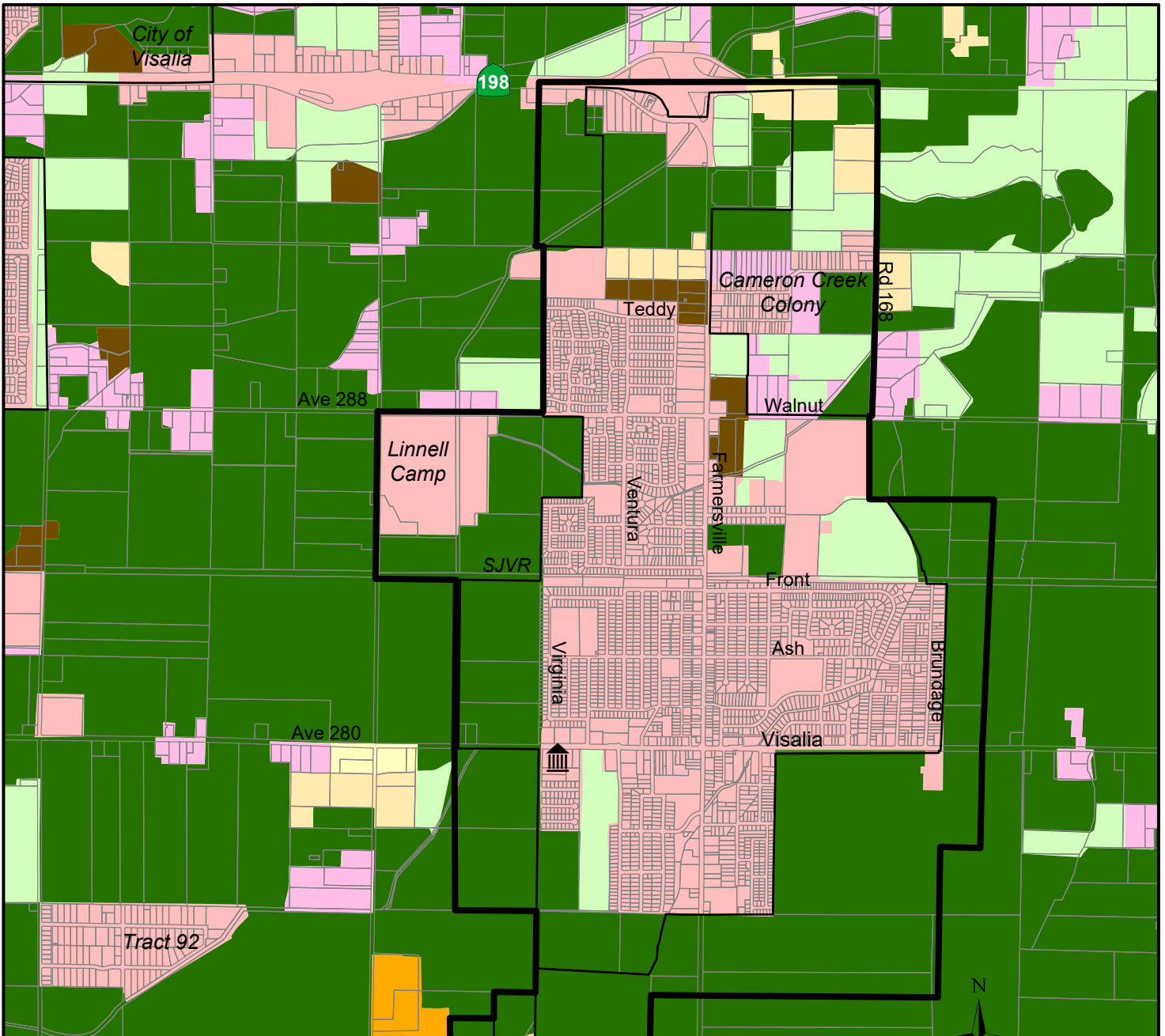
City of Dinuba
 Sphere of Influence
 Parcels



City of Exeter



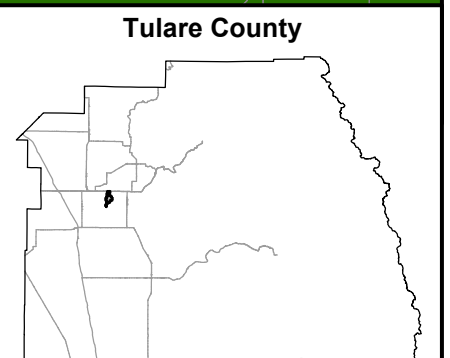
City of Farmersville



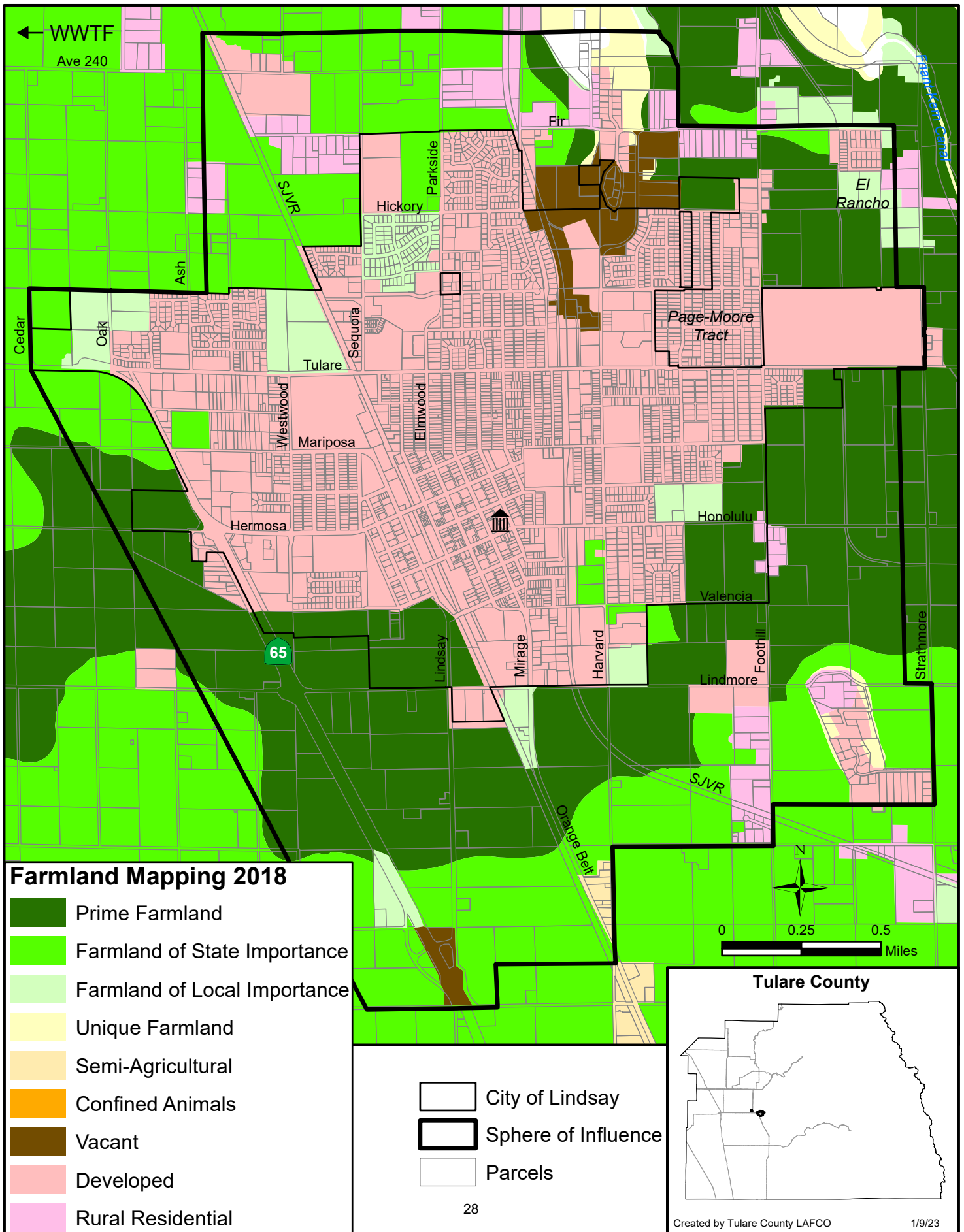
Farmland Mapping 2018

- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of State Importance
- Farmland of Local Importance
- Unique Farmland
- Semi-Agricultural
- Confined Animals
- Vacant
- Developed
- Rural Residential

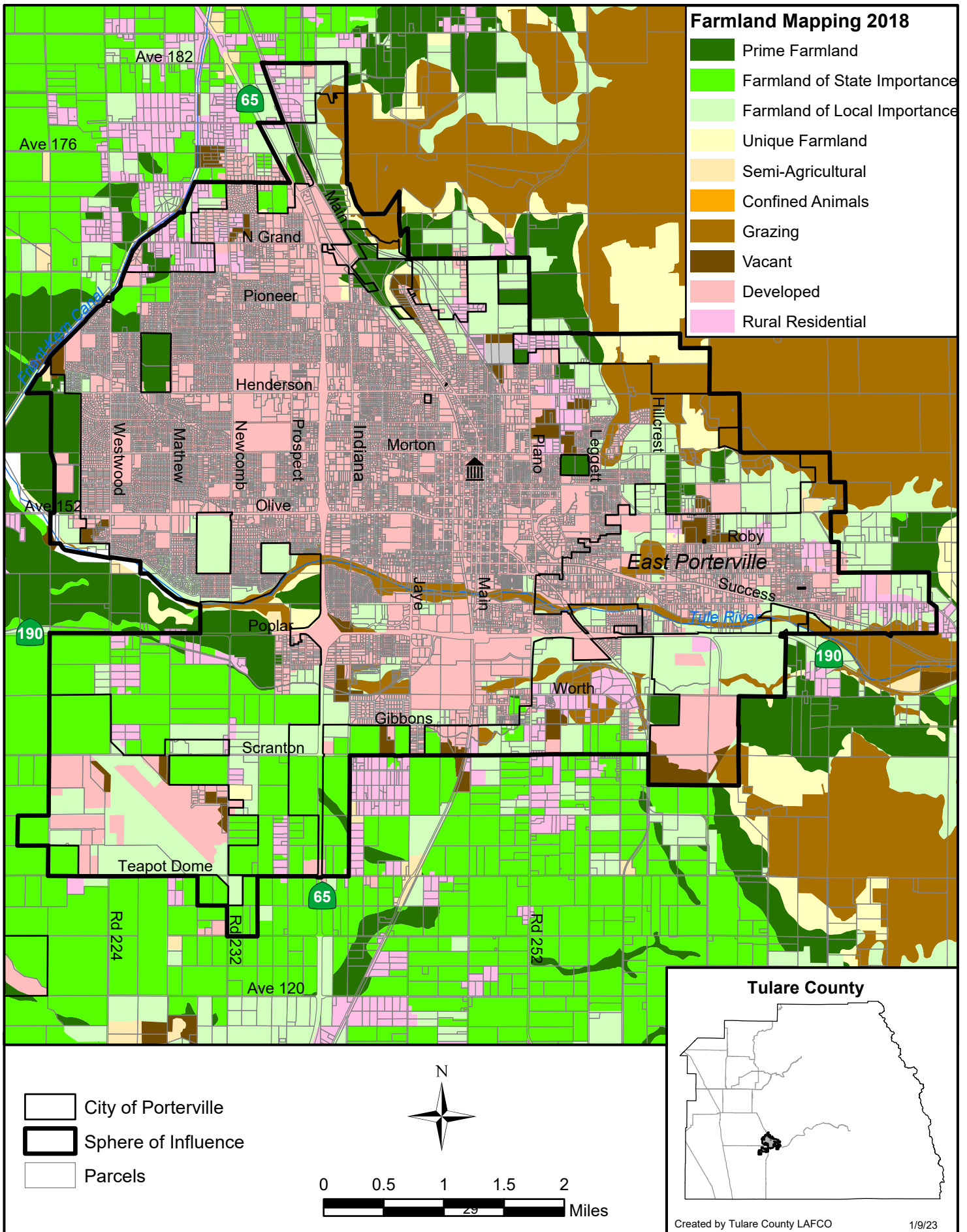
- City of Farmersville
- Sphere of Influence
- Parcels



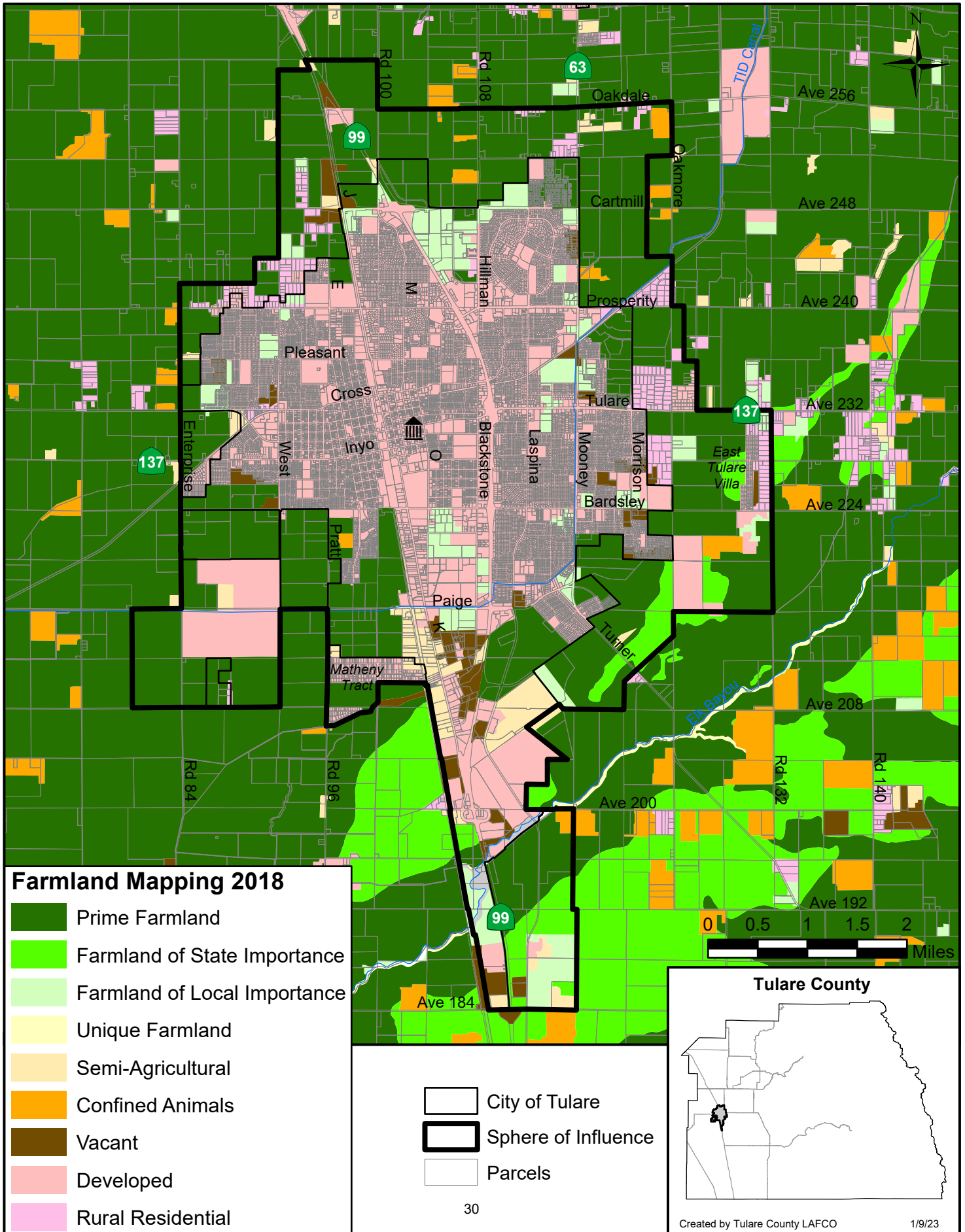
City of Lindsay



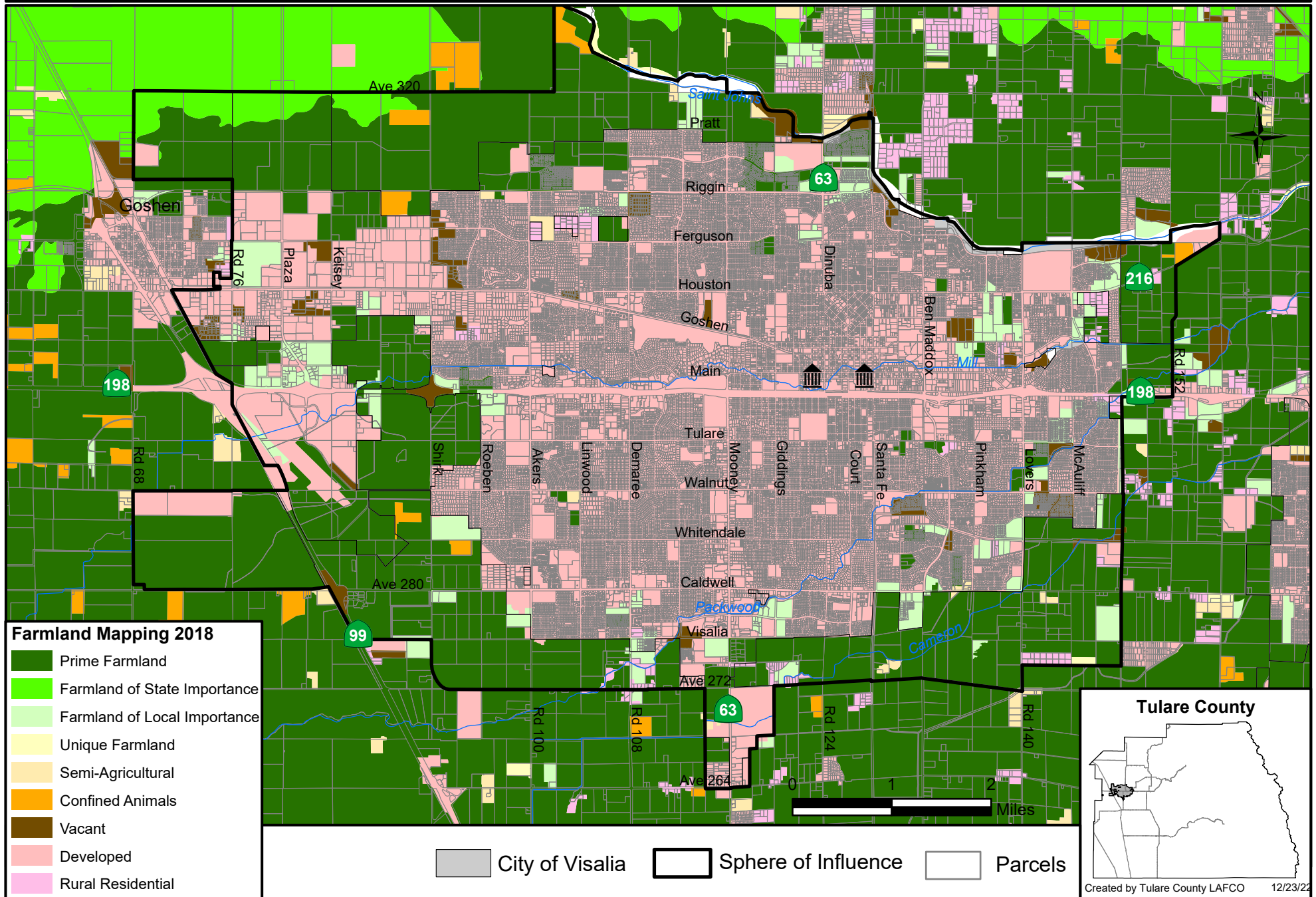
City of Porterville



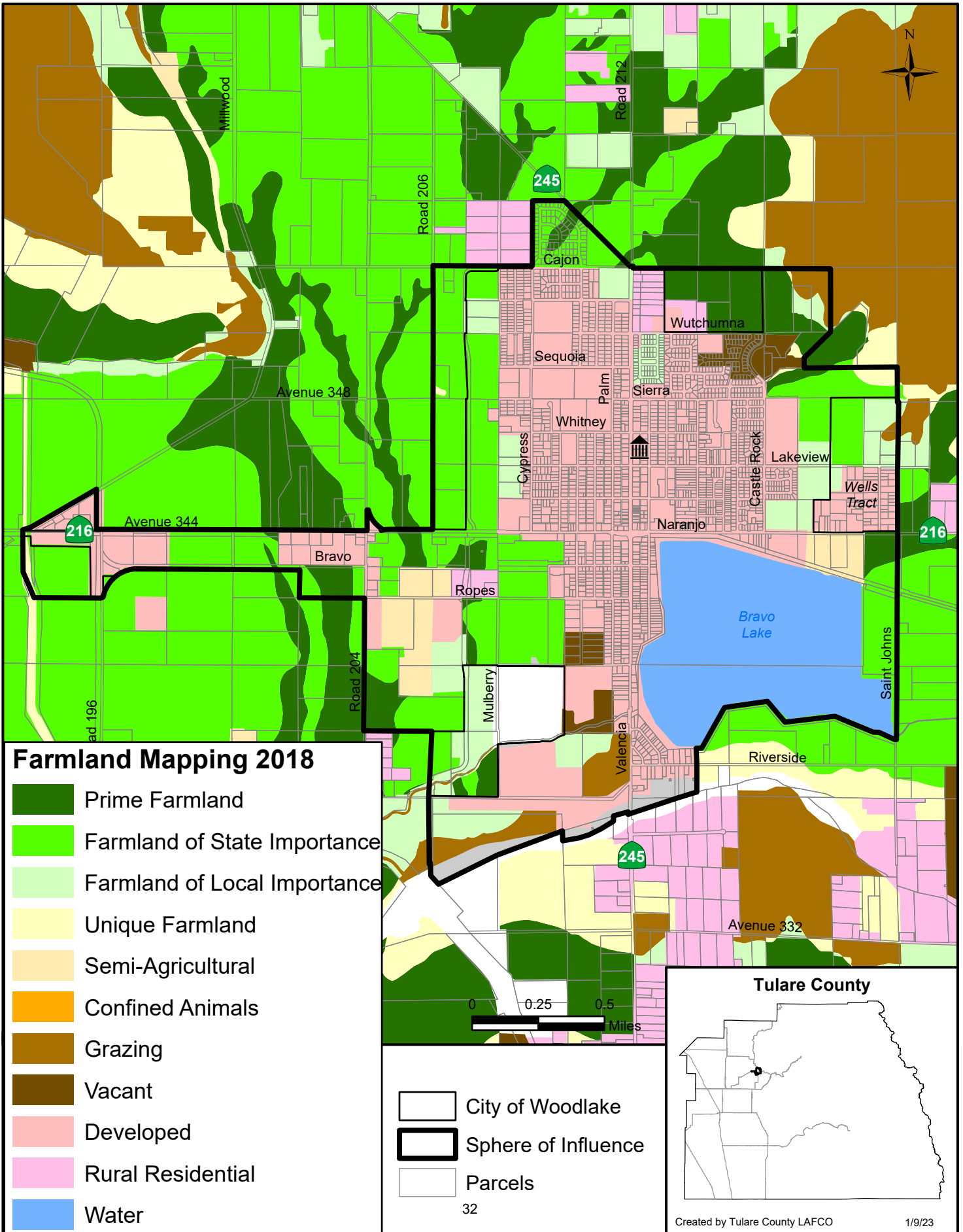
City of Tulare



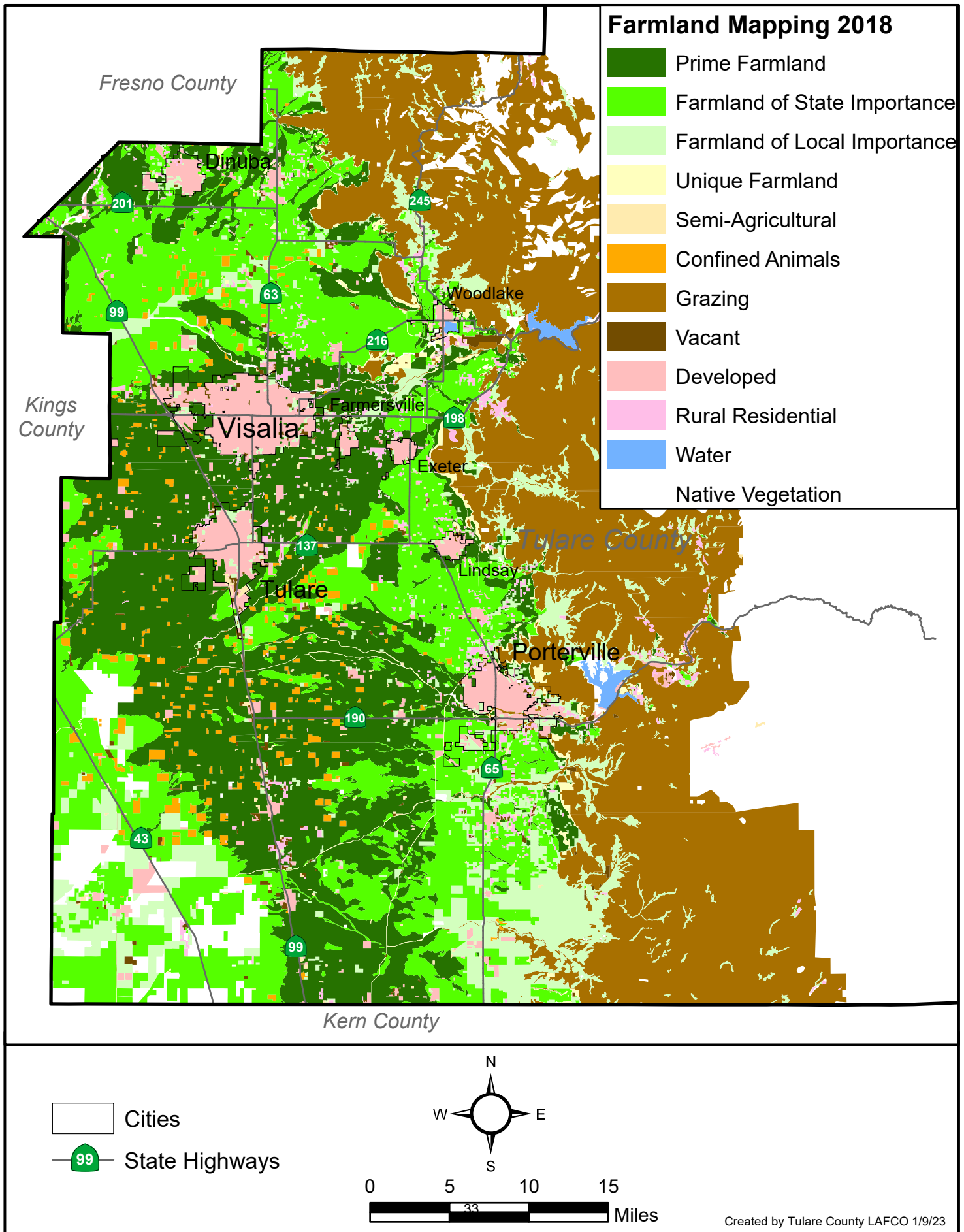
City of Visalia



City of Woodlake



Tulare County State Farmland Mapping



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TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS:
*Dennis Townsend, Chair
Rick Feder, Vice-Chair
Liz Wynn
Pete Vander Poel
Rudy Mendoza*

ALTERNATES:
*Larry Micari
Fred Sheriff
Steve Harrell*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER:
Ben Giuliani

January 18, 2023

TO: LAFCO Commissioners and Alternates

FROM: Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Commissioner Stipends

BACKGROUND

At the December meeting, the Commission requested information regarding how other LAFCOs in the State treat stipends for commissioners. Currently, Tulare County LAFCO does not have stipends for commissioners. There is mileage reimbursement that has been consistently set aside in the annual budget for public members attendance to commission meetings. However, this reimbursement is not included in existing Tulare County LAFCO policy.

DISCUSSION

CALAFCO is currently conducting its biennial survey which includes information regarding commissioner stipends. As of January 6th, 36 of the 57 counties in CALAFCO (Kern is no longer a member) have responded. CALAFCO is trying to get more responses before compiling and sending out the survey results.

Attached are the results of a stipend survey that was conducted at the beginning of 2019. In this survey, 26 LAFCOs responded. Of the 26, 23 LAFCOs have stipends for commissioners ranging from \$20 to \$200 per meeting. Within those 23, there are many variations. For example, less than half include mileage reimbursement to meetings. Also, some LAFCOs do not issue stipends to all of the commissioners such as Placer does not give stipends to County members and Napa does not give stipends to alternate members unless they vote. There are also many variations regarding subcommittee meetings and CALAFCO functions.

In Tulare County, there are three associated groups that currently receive stipends; the Grand Jury (\$25), Planning Commission (\$100) and Assessment Appeals Board (\$150). The Board of Supervisors do not receive stipends and other associated boards such as the Workforce Investment Board and TCAG do not receive stipends.

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission may give direction to staff for a policy change regarding stipends to bring back for action at the next meeting based on the 2019 data, wait until more up to date information is collected from the current CALAFCO survey or take no further action regarding stipends.

If the Commission wishes to develop a policy regarding stipends, the following must be determined:

- The amount of the stipend
- Who receives the stipend
- Whether or not mileage continues to be reimbursed
- Do subcommittees or ad hoc committees receive stipends
- Do commissioners who attend CALAFCO functions receive stipends

Attachment: 2019 CALAFCO Commissioner Stipend matrix

LAFCo Compensation Matrix
April 16, 2019

LAFCo	Compensation, stipend, or reimbursement for Commission meeting	Compensation, stipend, or reimbursement for standing or ad hoc committee meetings	Compensation, stipend, or reimbursement for other meetings, including CALAFCO functions	Limits on paid meetings per month
Note: "R&N" means "reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses."				
Amador	\$50	None		None
Contra Costa	\$150	\$150	\$150	Max 5
El Dorado	Stipend + R&N	R&N	R&N	None
Fresno	\$100 + mileage	mileage only	R&N	None
Glenn	\$50 + mileage			
Humboldt	\$20 + mileage			
Kings	\$20			
Los Angeles	\$150 + round trip mileage			None
Madera	\$100	None	mileage	None
Marin	\$125	\$125	\$125	Max 5
Mariposa	\$50 + mileage			
Mendocino	\$50 + mileage	R&N	R&N	
Merced	\$75	\$75	\$13 breakfast, \$14 lunch, \$23 dinner + mileage	None
Napa	\$150			
Nevada	May request \$50 per diem + mileage	See note	R&N	
Orange	\$100 + mileage	R&N, no stipend	R&N, no stipend	Max 2
Placer	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Riverside	\$175 + mileage	Standing meeting: \$60 + mileage Ad Hoc: mileage, expenses	CALAFCO BoD meeting, if elected to Board: \$175 + mileage, expenses CALFACO Conferences:	
Santa Barbara	\$150			
Solano	\$100			Max 2
Sonoma	\$100	See note		Max 2
San Benito	None	None	None	None
San Diego	\$200/day	See note		
Tulare	mileage for Public members		R&N	n/a
Ventura	\$50 + mileage	R&N See note	R&N See note	Max 2
Yolo	None			

LAFCo	NOTES
Marin	No staff meetings paid. Mileage \$0.545/mile ONLY IF per diem not paid. Conference mileage not reimbursed. "Otherwise they only get a \$100 stipend for attendance at commission meetings.
Mariposa	Rate is for any meeting.
Merced	No ad hoc or meetings with staff are reimbursed.
Napa	Alternates receive stipends only when voting.
Nevada	When budgetary funding permits, members appointed to committees shall receive a stipend for attendance at committee
Orange	W-2 issued.
Placer	Supervisors on LAFCo are not compensated.
Riverside	CALAFCO conferences cant read cut off early--check
Santa Barbara	Stipends processed as taxable income -Commissioners issued W-2s
Sonoma	When scheduled for two meetings a day, paid only once; no payment to attend CALAFCO conference
San Diego	Commissioners and Alternates shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings and in performing official LAFCO duties.
Ventura	"No stipend shall be paid for conferences, classes, training sessions, etc. or other functions or gatherings that are not publicly noticed meetings of the Commission."

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2023 Events Calendar

JANUARY

- 13** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
18-20 League New Mayor & Council Academy
25-27 CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Winter Conference (Palm Springs)

FEBRUARY

- 16** CALAFCO Board of Directors Strategic Planning (Sacto.)
17 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Sacto.)
23 CALAFCO U Webinar
24 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacto.)

MARCH

- 14-17** Fire District Assn. Annual Meeting (Napa)
31 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

APRIL

- 20-21** CA State Assn. of Counties Leg Days (Sacto.)
21 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
26-28 CALAFCO Staff Workshop (Murphys)

MAY

- 3-5** Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Sacto.)
5 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
16-17 CA Special Districts Assn. Leg Days (Sacto.)

JUNE

- 16** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (San Diego)

JULY

- 14** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
28 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)

AUGUST

- 9-11** CA Assn. of Sanitation Agencies Annual Conference (San Diego)
25 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
28-31 CA Special Districts Assn. Conference (Monterey)

SEPTEMBER

- 20-22** Regional Council of Rural Counties Annual Meeting (Monterey)
20-23 League Annual Conference (Sacto.)

OCTOBER

- 18-20** CALAFCO Annual Conference (Monterey)
19 CALAFCO Annual Business Meeting (Monterey)
20 CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Monterey)

NOVEMBER

- 3** CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Virtual)
13-17 CA State Assn. of Counties Annual Conference (Alameda)
28-30 Assn. of CA Water Agencies Conference (Indian Wells)

DECEMBER

- 1** CALAFCO Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
8 CALAFCO Legislative Committee (Sacto.)

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CALAFCO

NEWSLETTER

December, 2022 Edition

Happy Holidays!

BOARDROOM Brief

OCTOBER found us in Newport Beach for the annual conference, the regional elections on October 20th, and the October 21st Board meeting.

Regional elections saw a return of all directors except for Directors Blake Inscore (Northern) and Daron McDaniel (Central), who chose not to run again. Our sincere thanks to them for their service and many contributions to CALAFCO.

Taking their places are new Directors, Tom Cooley, our new city member for the Northern Region (Plumas), and Rodrigo Espinosa, the new County rep for the Central Region (Merced). Welcome!

With the elections completed, the CALAFCO Board members for the next year are:

Central:

Rodrigo Espinosa (Merced)
Gay Jones (Sacramento)
Anita Paque (Calaveras) and
Daniel Parra (Fresno)

Coastal:

Chris Lopez (Monterey)
Mike McGill (Contra Costa)
Margie Mohler (Napa) and
Shane Stark (Santa Barbara)

Northern:

Bill Connelly (Butte),
Tom Cooley (Plumas)
Debra Lake (Humboldt) and
Josh Susman (Nevada)

Southern:

Mike Kelley (Imperial),
Jo MacKenzie (San Diego)
Derek McGregor (Orange) and
Acquanetta Warren (San Bernardino)

(Continued on page 5)



New Gold Associate

Thank you to RSG, Inc. for upgrading to a Gold Membership!

RSG performs fiscal and reorganizational studies for LAFCOs and applicants with the goal of

(Continued on page 8)

CELEBRATING EXTRAORDINARY!



Left to Right: Don Saylor (Yolo), Carolyn Emery (Orange), Christine Crawford (Yolo), and Amanda Ross (Southfork Consulting) and Erica Sanchez (El Dorado)

On October 20, 2021, CALAFCO held its much anticipated Achievement Awards Dinner in the glittering Pacific Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency John Wayne hotel in Newport Beach, California. The prestigious awards are given annually as a way of highlighting exceptional people or projects that have advanced the principles and goals of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act over the past year.

Honoring extraordinary efforts, the awards begin as nominations submitted by members from among eight categories. Those nominations then undergo a thorough consideration by the Achievement Awards Committee, with the final award recipients unveiled during the Awards Dinner at the annual conference.

CALAFCO wishes to extend congratulations to this year's phenomenal winners:

♦ *Outstanding Commissioner:*
DON SAYLOR (Yolo)

♦ *Outstanding LAFCo Professional:*
CAROLYN EMERY (Orange)

♦ *Mike Gotch Excellence in Public Service Award for Innovation (two-way tie) between:*

CHRISTINE CRAWFORD (Yolo),
and the dynamic duo of **ERICA SANCHEZ (El Dorado)** and **AMANDA ROSS (South Fork Consulting, LLC).**

Congratulations to all!



A Message from the Executive Director

Whirlwind Journey

There is something about December that soothes my soul. Maybe it's the changing weather, the holiday sights and sounds, the children oozing with excitement, or maybe it is just knowing that the upcoming change of years allows a little downtime and an opportunity to reflect, rejuvenate, and regrow. That is particularly true this year as December also marks my tenth month as the CALAFCO Executive Director. It has been a bit of a whirlwind journey, but I have been SO glad to have you all by my side.

With the disruption of the pandemic, it's no wonder that the last two years have been challenging for CALAFCO – as with many nonprofits across the country. However, the experience caused us not only to re-examine how we conduct business but to streamline some areas. While it was a painful period, we survived, adjusted, and even developed some new offerings – all in spite of the global conditions.

Then, just when we thought we were normalizing, the year took a bumpy turn due to a spike in COVID-19 cases. That not only forced the cancellation of the spring workshop but also transferred some of its financial obligations to the fall conference. However, despite that, we ended up hosting a successful and well-received conference. Simply put, that success is due to the army of volunteers who assisted in the planning, the presentations, the staffing, and the fundraising that all helped get us there. Because of those combined efforts, we actually made a small profit of approximately \$5,000 on the conference – something I did not think possible back in May. Truly an astounding success, this was a stellar example of the teamwork that made the dream work! Thank you to everyone who offered a helping hand to make it work. (I don't dare try to name you all for fear of missing someone!)

But, that's behind us and we are already looking forward to building on that success in 2023. Of course, we have our next Staff Workshop planned for April 26th-28th in Murphys, California. The planning committee is currently being formed and we will, again, need many hands. Please contact Michelle McIntyre if you would like to help out. Similarly, if you have an idea for a session, please send that to Michelle and me as soon as possible so that the committee has ample time to consider it. Emails to Michelle should be sent to mmcintyre@placer.ca.gov while those to me should go to rlaroch@calafco.org. Look for a flyer for that workshop to go out in January.

Other things expected to occur in 2023 are the selection of a new accountant for CALAFCO, and the build-out of a new website. The need to identify a new accountant rose in June of this year when Jim Gladfelter, our current C.P.A., informed us that he is partially retiring and will no longer be preparing tax returns after this year. Since that preparation is a substantial portion of what he does for CALAFCO, the Board approved an RFP seeking a new accountant with nonprofit expertise. That RFP was issued on December 11th and is currently open. The RFP was transmitted to the EOs who, in turn, have distributed it to their networks and I'm pleased to report

(Continued on page 7)

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Dear
CALAFCO members,

As the newly elected Board Chair, let me first say how honored and proud I am to have been selected as your Board Chair. I have always recognized the importance of the work that LAFCOs do and, by extension, the importance of the support that CALAFCO provides.

Secondly, I want to offer my sincere thanks to my fellow Board members who elected me to this position. Your trust is appreciated and I, of course, will always do my best to be a thoughtful leader and good steward for CALAFCO.

And, lastly, I want to take a moment to recognize Anita Paque, our former Board Chair, for her leadership. While all of the Board positions come at the expense of one's time, the Board Chair position is more intense, so thank you, Anita, for your service to the Association during a difficult year!

As we close the door on 2022, I want to wish Happy Holidays to everyone. I look forward to a rewarding 2023 at CALAFCO!

Bill Connelly



CONFERENCE CANDIDS

Newport Beach, October, 2022



FAREWELL to Two Contra Costa LAFCo Commissioners - Rob Schroder and Tom Butt

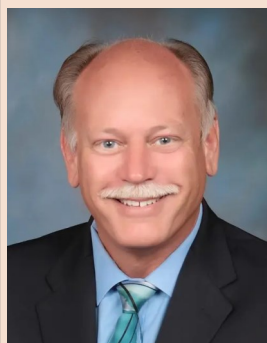
Submitted by Contra Costa LAFCo

Following 20 years as a Contra Costa LAFCo Commissioner, six years as Martinez City Council member, and 20 years as Mayor of the City of Martinez, Rob Schroder is retiring. During his tenure, Rob served on various committees and regional government agencies and boards, including the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) (22 years), Central Contra Costa Identification Bureau (19 years), Marin Clean Energy (MCE) (3 years), and was an active member of the Contra Costa Mayors Conference. Commissioner Schroder began his LAFCo career in 2003 and is currently one of our longest serving Commissioners. During Rob's tenure, LAFCo processed 330 applications, including four district formations and seven district dissolutions, and most recently, a large fire district reorganization. LAFCo also completed 1st and 2nd round municipal service reviews (MSRs)/sphere of influence (SOI) updates covering all municipal services.

Commissioner Schroder attended many CALAFCO conferences and says "serving as a LAFCo commissioner gave me an opportunity to understand the relationship between various governmental agencies and how the services they provide intertwine and rely on each other. The MSR process, although confusing when we first started the process many years ago, became a valuable tool in analyzing the efficient delivery of service and identifying deficiencies, areas, and entities that need to be improved or dissolved. Being a LAFCo commissioner made me a better Mayor with the knowledge of the annexation process and the efficient delivery of services."

Following nearly 12 years as a LAFCo Commissioner, 27 years as City of

(Continued on page 6)



IN MEMORIAM

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Riverside LAFCo Commissioner, Phil Williams, on November 20th.

Commissioner Williams was a Special District Member from the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District and had served on that board since 2001. He was also a local real estate broker and lifelong resident of Lake Elsinore.

Known for his servant heart, he worked tirelessly with local, state, and federal agencies on behalf of his community.

CALAFCO sends it condolences to our colleagues at Riverside LAFCo and to Commissioner Williams' family and friends.



NEW Roles

BRIAN SPAUNHURST, New Fresno EO

Departing EO, David Fey, reported that Brian Spaunhurst was appointed in late May as his replacement. Somehow Brian got missed in the August newsletter but we are rectifying that omission now! Brian has thrown himself into the role and CALAFCO, and has attended the conference (where he could be seen serving time at the registration desk), and has also volunteered to serve on the Legislative Committee. Welcome aboard, Brian!

SHIVA FRENTZEN Appointed El Dorado EO

El Dorado LAFCo reported that its commission took action on September 28th to appoint Shiva Frentzen as Executive Officer. If Shiva's name is familiar, it's because she was previously an El Dorado LAFCo Commissioner who served on the CALAFCO Board of Directors. Welcome (again),

(Continued on page 8)

BOARDROOM

(Continued from page 1)

The new members were seated during the October 21st meeting, followed by the election of the following Executive Officers:

Bill Connelly (Chair)
Margie Mohler (Vice Chair)
Acquanetta Warren (Treasurer)
Daniel Parra (Secretary)

With **Anita Paque** rotating into the Immediate Past Chair position. Thank you to all for your service!

With those changes, the first "regular" Board meeting occurred on **December 9, 2022**, with Chair Connelly at the helm. At that time, the Board chose committee members for the new year (staff members for the Leg Committee had been appointed on October 21st.) Committees and members are:

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Board Appointees - Bill Connelly, Gay Jones, Mike Kelley, Chris Lopez, Jo Mackenzie, Mike McGill, Margie Mohler, Anita Paque, Daniel Parra and Josh Susman.

Staff Voting Members - Clark Alsop, Gary Bell, Mark Bramfitt, Scott Browne, Carolyn Emery, Steve Lucas, Kai Luoma, Jennifer Stephenson, and Gary Thompson.

Staff Alternates - Rob Fitzroy, Paula Graf, Joe Serrano, and Paula de Sousa.

Advisory - Tara Bravo, Crystal Craig, Brandon Fender, Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Priscilla Mumpower, Erica Sanchez, Jim Simon, and Luis Tapia.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS COMMITTEE

Mike Kelley, Debra Lake, Margie Mohler, Anita Paque, and Shane Stark.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Rodrigo Espinosa, Chris Lopez, Derek McGregor, and Josh Susman.

Continued in next column

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Gay Jones, Derek McGregor, Margie Mohler, Anita Paque (Chair), and Josh Susman.

Other matters on the Board's December 9th agenda included receipt of the Investment and Financial Reports for the First Quarter, adoption of the Board's meeting schedule for the next year, approval of an RFP for Accounting Services, and receipt of the Conflict of Interest forms, Legislative Committee report, and Conference Overview.

Speaking of the conference, we must express thanks and gratitude to Paul Novak (Los Angeles) and Carolyn Emery (Orange), for their extraordinary fundraising. Because of their efforts, the conference posted a small profit of approximately \$5,000 - despite the nearly \$32,000 in additional fees that we were obligated to pay due to the cancellation of the spring workshop. Hopefully, we can keep these efforts going next year!!

The last item of the meeting was a closed session evaluation of the Executive Director's (ED) performance. At its conclusion, the Board announced that the term of the ED's employment contract was extended to June 30, 2026, that they had formally approved a 4.9% cost of living increase (the allocation for which had been approved in April with the adopted budget) and, due to security concerns at the current CALAFCO office, approved the ED working remotely from any location, subject to approval by the Executive Committee. For full particulars of public items, please see the agenda packet.

The biennial Strategic Planning session is scheduled for February 16th at the Sacramento offices of Best Best & Krieger located at 500 Capitol Mall. The Board meeting will be held the next day (February 17th) at the same location.

All agendas, staff reports, and minutes can be found on the CALAFCO website at www.calafco.org. Any questions should be directed to the Executive Director at rlaroch@calafco.org.



CONTRA COSTA FAREWELLS

(Continued from page 4)

Richmond Council member, and the past eight years as the City's Mayor, Tom Butt is retiring. Tom served on multiple boards and committees including MCE, CCTA, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee, Association of Bay Area Governments, US Conference of Mayors, Climate Mayors, League of California Cities, and was an active member of the Contra Costa Mayors Conference. Commissioner Butt notes that these regional and statewide appointments have been critical in bringing many benefits to the community including hundreds of millions of dollars in grants, public works projects, legislation, and a seat at the larger table. During Tom's tenure, LAFCo processed 95 applications, including numerous boundary changes/reorganizations, five dissolutions, and most recently, a large fire district reorganization and an out of agency service contract for fire services. During Commissioner Butt's tenure, LAFCo completed 1st and 2nd round MSRs/SOI updates covering all municipal services.

In 2019, both commissioners shared in receipt of CALAFCO's "Most Effective Commission" award. Contra Costa LAFCo Commissioners were recognized for their leadership, diligence, and endeavors to promote healthy and sustainable local agencies. Since 2010, Contra Costa LAFCo Commissioners assisted three special districts to improve their operations and transparency, encouraged several districts to revise its governance structure, reorganized one special district, and dissolved four special districts.

Congratulations and best wishes to Commissioners Schroder and Butt for their valuable and dedicated service to their communities and to Contra Costa LAFCo!

ALAMEDA CONDUCTS MEASURE D STUDY

Submitted By Rachel Jones, Executive Officer, Alameda LAFCo

Alameda LAFCO recently conducted a special study regarding ballot Measure D that was passed in November of 2000 and did the following:

- Amending the County's Urban Growth Boundary
- Increasing restrictions on building intensity, minimum parcel sizes and permitted uses in rural areas of the County
- Establishing that all County planning policies and zoning regulations must be consistent with provisions of Measure D, and
- Mandating that any changes to the land use designations, building intensity or minimum parcel sizes as established by Measure D be subject to a new vote of the County electorate

The study's purposes were to review how Measure D has affected agricultural and open space lands and the surrounding communities, and to consider how implementation of Measure D has or has not met its own LAFCO policies pertaining to agriculture and open space. The study found that since the measure's passing, the agricultural and equestrian communities of Alameda County argue that the strict square footage limitations hinders their business performance. Alameda LAFCO recommended proposed amendments to the County to allow equestrian centers, greenhouses and wineries more flexibility in their building plans.

This November, Alameda County voters approved the recommended amendments on Measure D, or the "Save Agriculture and Open Space Lands" initiative, that aimed at increasing profits for agriculture business while simultaneously preserving the county's open land.

For more information see: <https://dailycal.org/2022/10/31/preserve-open-land-alameda-county-to-vote-on-amended-measure-d>

Upcoming EVENTS



2023 STAFF WORKSHOP

April 26 - 28, 2023

Learn technical topics in a scenic setting! Don't miss the Staff Workshop to be held on the beautiful grounds of Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys, California.

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 18-20, 2023

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Monterey, California



CALAFCO U explores topics of interest to LAFcos and are offered at no cost to our members.

Feb. 23, 2023: The Dirty Dozen: *Things I Wish I Knew About The Act*

BOARD MEETINGS:

Feb. 16, 2023 (Strategic Planning) **LOCATION: Sacramento**

Feb. 17, 2023 **LOCATION: Sacramento**

Apr. 21, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual**

Jul. 14, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual**

Oct. 20, 2023 **LOCATION: Monterey**

Dec. 1, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Jan. 13, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual (9 AM)**

Feb. 24, 2023 **LOCATION: Sacramento (10 AM)**

Mar. 31, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual (9 AM)**

May. 5, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual (9 AM)**

Jun. 16, 2023 **LOCATION: San Diego (10 AM)**

Jul. 28, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual, as needed (9 AM)**

Aug. 25, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual, as needed (9 AM)**

Nov. 3, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual, as needed (9 AM)**

Dec. 8, 2023 **LOCATION: Virtual, as needed (9 AM)**

ED WHIRLWIND

(Continued from page 2)

that we've already begun fielding questions from potential bidders.

The second large administrative undertaking for 2023 will be the website. We have known since March of this year that the platform on which our website has been built is being retired. So far, our vendor has been able to keep the website functioning at an increasing cost. However, the underlying computer language that it uses will not be supported at all after November, 2023. Given that we have no choice but to rebuild the website, it presents the ideal opportunity to upgrade it to an Association Management System (AMS) which will provide more features to the membership, while reducing some of the repetitive administrative things that Jeni does behind the scenes. We are currently in the process of comparing costs and features between available AMS systems and hope to be able to bring something before the Board in the first part of 2023.

While that's a lot, we're also planning for the Fall Conference. Our October event was so successful that I have already begun hearing from sponsors who are interested in the Monterey conference.

Beyond that administrative matrix, we also foresee a busy year for the Legislative Committee who will be working through some of the back-end things needed to get the GC 56133 proposal moving. Now that our new White Paper has been published ("Planning for a Sustainable and Predictable Future: Clarifying LAFco Authority to Determine Government Code Section 56133(e) Exemption Eligibility"), we can begin the process of reaching out to stakeholders.

Lastly, I am pleased to report that at its December 9th meeting, the Board approved an extension to my employment contract through June 30, 2026. I am gratified beyond measure at the faith they, and you, have placed in me and I hope to continue to be worthy of it in the years to come.

Hopefully, you can tell that I am exhilarated by the opportunities and prospects before us. While the year has been a bumpy one, it has led to good friendships, great partnerships, and the start of some wonderful things. I call that a winning year!

Happy Holidays to each of you! May the season ahead bring you love and laughter. May the year to come bring you prosperity and contentment. Happy New Year, everyone!!



CONNECTIONS

Continued from Page 4

Shiva!

J.D. HIGHTOWER takes the EO rein in San Joaquin

J.D. Hightower has taken the EO reins in San Joaquin. Jim Glaser hung around for a month or two to assist with the transition (and even made an appearance at the conference) but is looking forward to indulging in some traveling.

Welcome aboard, J.D.!

KRIS BERRY now with San Benito

Kris Berry has reported that she has accepted a contract to be San Benito's EO. This makes the second LAFCo in Kris' belt, as she is also EO for Amador LAFCo. Looks like lots of travel is in Kris' future. Congratulations, Kris!

STEVE ENGFER appointed Interim EO in Mariposa

Long-time EO, Sarah Williams, has retired after

33 years with Mariposa County. In her place, the Board of Supervisors has appointed Assistant Planning Director Steve Engfer as both the Interim Planning Director and the Interim LAFCo EO. Welcome, Steve!

LORI ZINN hired as San Diego's new Clerk/Analyst

San Diego LAFCo is pleased to welcome Lori Zinn who joined them as their new Clerk/Analyst. Her first day there was October 24th. Congratulations, Lori!

STEPHANIE PRATT welcomed as Marin Clerk/Jr. Analyst

In August, Marin welcomed Stephanie Pratt to the LAFCo family. She comes to Marin from the private sector so is learning not just about LAFCo but the public sector. Hang in there, Stephanie, and welcome!

Congratulations to you all!

RSG, Inc. Continued from page 1

establishing a factual, transparent and credible basis for our clients to make informed decisions. RSG prepared Placer LAFCo's comprehensive fiscal analysis for the 2017 incorporation proposal for Olympic Valley, the preliminary feasibility studies for a 2018 incorporation in Malaga (Fresno County), as well as several reorganization proposals and municipal service reviews.

To learn more about RSG, Inc, visit their website at www.webrsg.com or contact Jim Simon at: jsimon@webrsg.com.

Associate Member SPOTLIGHT



CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE

Located in the geographic center of the Coachella Valley, Rancho Mirage enjoys sunshine nearly every day with clean air. Resort living, superb dining, outdoor recreation, cultural and business opportunities all contribute to a superior quality of life.

To learn more about the City of Rancho Mirage, visit their website at: <https://ranchomirageca.gov/>



QK (formerly Quad Knopf) provides planning, engineering, biology, environmental, and survey services to public and private clients. Our planners have previous experience working for public agencies, including serving as LAFCo Analysts. We specialize in the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento Valley regions.

To learn more about QK visit their website at www.qkinc.com, or contact Trevor Stearns at tstearns@qkinc.com

All information is provided by the Associate upon joining the Association. All Associate Member information can be found in the CALAFCO Member Directory.

CALAFCO wishes to thank all of our Associate Members for their ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to highlighting other Associate Members in future Newsletters.