

General Plan Goals, Policies & Programs Related to Designated Disadvantaged Communities

**Note:** Each goal, policy, or program may be applicable to multiple categories as described in the table below (e.g., a policy may include both Noticing & Outreach and Coordination & Collaboration).

Category	Description	Total Count
Siting & Development	Goals, policies, and/or programs that relate to the siting and development of future projects within designated disadvantaged communities.	15
Noticing & Outreach	Goals, policies, and/or programs that relate to noticing and educational and outreach needs for designated disadvantaged communities.	8
Services & Infrastructure Investment	Goals, policies, and/or programs that relate to the development or enhancement of County-provided public services and infrastructure within designated disadvantaged communities.	17
Coordination & Collaboration	Goals, policies, and/or programs that relate to the coordination and collaboration efforts between the County and other public entities, private entities, the public, and other stakeholders to increase equity and consider the needs of designated disadvantaged communities.	20
Planning & Policymaking	Goals, policies, and/or programs that relate to developing plans and policies with a focus on designated disadvantaged communities.	14

County of Ventura  
Planning Commission Hearing  
Case No. PL23-0033  
Exhibit 3 - General Plan Goals, Policies, and Programs  
Specifically Focused on DDCs

General Plan Goals Related to Designated Disadvantaged Communities













Total Goal Count: 2









GP Element	#	Goal	Description	Implementation Timing	Siting & Development	Noticing & Outreach	Services & Infrastructure Investment	Coordination & Collaboration	Planning & Policymaking
LU	17	Goal	Within designated disadvantaged communities, to plan for and provide public facilities, services, and infrastructure that provide fair treatment and quality of life to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income.				<div></div>		<div></div>
LU	18	Goal	To promote meaningful dialogue and collaboration between members of designated disadvantaged communities and decision-makers to advance social and economic equity.			<div></div>		<div></div>	










General Plan Policies Related to Designated Disadvantaged Communities









Total Policy Count: 32

GP Element	#	Policy	Description	Implementation Timing	Siting & Development	Noticing & Outreach	Services & Infrastructure Investment	Coordination & Collaboration	Planning & Policymaking
LU	1.7	Safe and Sanitary Homes Education and Outreach	The County shall engage with agencies, non-profit organizations, landlords, property owners and tenants in Disadvantaged Communities to disseminate information to educate about indoor mold and lead hazards, methods for reduction, and prevention.			<div></div>		<div></div>	
LU	17.1	Providing Equitable Public Services	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall consider environmental justice issues as they relate to the equitable provision of public services and infrastructure such as parks, recreational facilities, community gardens, public safety facilities, and other beneficial uses that improve the overall quality of life				<div></div>		
LU	17.2	Siting of Uses	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall consider environmental justice issues as they relate to potential health impacts associated with land use decisions to reduce the adverse health effects of hazardous materials, industrial activities, and other uses that may negatively impact health or quality of life for affected county residents		<div></div>		<div></div>		
LU	17.3	Environmental Protection	The County shall apply environmental protection measures equally among geographic and socioeconomic sectors within designated disadvantaged communities of the county.		<div></div>		<div></div>		







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LU	17.4	New Incompatible Land Uses	The County shall not approve new discretionary projects within or in the immediate vicinity of existing residential areas, especially designated disadvantaged communities, introducing a new incompatible land use that could have substantial adverse health impacts on an area's residents.						
LU	17.5	Placement of New Residential Uses	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall discourage the establishment of new residential and other sensitive land uses near incompatible industrial land uses unless appropriate mitigations or design consideration can be included.						
LU	17.6	Negative Impacts from Potential Hazards	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall work to reduce or prevent negative impacts associated with environmental hazards, including industrial and roadway generated pollution, to people who are living and working in close proximity to these uses.						
LU	17.7	Brownfield Remediation	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall promote the remediation and reuse of contaminated brownfield sites to spur economic development, expand natural open spaces and parks, community gardens, and other similar health-promoting community revitalization activities.						
LU	17.8	Limit Concentrations of Unhealthy Food Providers	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall encourage farmer's markets and healthier food options within neighborhoods or near child-oriented uses (e.g., schools, family day care, parks).						
LU	18.1	Communication Channels	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall continue to improve communication channels and methods for meaningful dialogue between community members and decision-makers, including County staff and elected and appointed representatives.						
LU	18.2	Input on Proposed Planning Activities	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall facilitate opportunities for community members and stakeholders to provide meaningful and effective input on proposed planning activities early on and continuously throughout the public review process.						
LU	18.3	Times and Locations of Public Engagement Opportunities	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall aim to hold meetings, workshops, and other public engagement opportunities at times and locations that make it convenient for community members to attend, particularly						

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			stakeholders who are the most likely to be directly affected by the outcome.						
LU	18.4	Variety of Public Communication Methods	Within designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall continue to share public information across a variety of media, technological, and traditional platforms, and languages based on the demographics of the community.						
LU	18.5	Participation in Climate Change Planning	The County shall encourage stakeholders in designated disadvantaged communities who are vulnerable to sea level rise or other climate change impacts to have the opportunity to learn about and participate in the decision-making process for adaptation planning within Ventura County.						
HE	1.1	Ensure Housing Meets Basic Standards	The County shall support its Code Compliance Division in responding to complaints and ensuring that existing housing meets public health, safety, fire and other applicable development codes and standards, with priority given to designated disadvantaged communities.						
HE	2.2	Increase Housing Opportunities within Area Plan Boundaries	<p>The County shall pursue the following policies in Area Plan updates to increase housing opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities to rezone more properties to Residential Planned Development to encourage the development of diverse housing types, such as: duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, courtyard buildings, bungalow courts, cottage housing, townhouses, multiplexes, accessory dwelling units, and live/work buildings that provide affordable housing options.</li> <li>Identify opportunity sites for higher density housing near job clusters and transit stops to support housing for the County's special needs population.</li> <li>Identify County surplus land that can accommodate residential development and consider re-designation, if feasible.</li> <li>Enhance existing residential areas by seeking opportunities and funding sources for public infrastructure improvements such as installing sidewalks and other pedestrian networks, bicycle facilities, neighborhood parks, and planting street trees, with priority given to designated disadvantaged communities.</li> </ul>						

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			<i>Program “F” in the Land Use Element identifies a schedule for comprehensive Area Plan Updates between 2020-2040.</i>						
PFS	1.4	Collaboration on Infrastructure and Public Service Deficiencies	The County shall collaborate with the cities in Ventura County, neighboring jurisdictions, special districts, and regional agencies to address issues of mutual interest and concern, including infrastructure and public service deficiencies, particularly in Designated Disadvantaged Communities.						
PFS	1.6	Capital Improvements Prioritizations	The County shall prioritize non-emergency capital improvement projects that provide the greatest benefit to county residents, including repairing or replacing inadequate facilities; updating or upgrading aging facilities and structures that exceed their planned lifecycles; protecting sensitive resources; and addressing deficiencies in Designated Disadvantaged Communities.						
PFS	5.1	Solid Waste Facility Location	The County shall require new landfills and other solid waste processing and disposal facilities (including facilities for composting, green waste, food waste) to be sited in areas that do not pose health and safety risks to residents and groundwater resources. The County shall require such facilities to be located based on objective criteria that do not disproportionately impact Designated Disadvantaged Communities						
PFS	7.7	Community Microgrids	The County shall collaborate with renewable energy developers, community choice aggregation programs, and local serving entities to develop solar generation plus energy storage at critical facilities and community microgrids for resilience during power outages with a priority in designated disadvantaged communities.						
COS	3.2	Tree Canopy	The County shall encourage the planting of trees and the protection of existing urban forests and native woodlands, savannahs, and tree canopy throughout the county, including along State or County designated scenic roadways and in residential and commercial zones throughout the county, especially those located within designated disadvantaged communities.						
HAZ	5.2	Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Facilities	The County shall require discretionary development involving facilities and operations which may potentially utilize, store, and/or generate hazardous materials and/or wastes be located in areas that would not expose the public to a significant risk of injury, loss of life, or property damage and would not						



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			disproportionally impact Designated Disadvantaged Communities.						
HAZ	5.8	Siting Criteria for Hazardous Waste Generators	The County shall require commercial or industrial uses which generate, store, or handle hazardous waste and/or hazardous materials to locate, operate, and maintain hazardous waste and/or hazardous materials in a manner that does not endanger public health and safety and is located based on objective criteria that do not disproportionately impact Designated Disadvantaged Communities.						
HAZ	11.3	Limit Impacts of Climate Change on Designated Disadvantaged Communities	The County shall work with public, private, and nonprofit partners to limit impacts of climate change on Designated Disadvantaged Communities by focusing planning efforts and interventions on communities with the highest need and ensuring representatives of these communities have a role in the decision-making process for directing climate change response.						
HAZ	11.4	Education and Outreach on Effects of Climate Change	The County shall support efforts of agencies and organizations that provide effective education and outreach to Designated Disadvantaged Communities on the effects of climate change, including increasing temperatures, wildfires, flooding, sea level rise, poor air quality, extreme weather events, disease prevention, and other public health effects.						
HAZ	11.6	Accessible Cooling Centers	The County shall expand partnerships with local governments, non-government organizations, churches, and businesses to provide additional cooling centers, particularly in designated disadvantaged communities.						
EV	1.2	County Investment Priorities	The County shall prioritize investment in infrastructure, services, safety net programs and other assets that are critical to future economic vitality, including public safety, healthcare, library services, water supply and quality, transportation, energy, and environmental resources. This investment shall consider equity in investment opportunities to designated disadvantaged communities, including designated Opportunity Zones under the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. The focus of these efforts shall be to improve social equity and opportunity for all.						
EV	1.7	Supporting Industries Fitting County Needs	The County shall strive to attract industries based on existing and projected workforce demographics, educational attainment, skills, and commute patterns, and which provide						









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			opportunities to residents living in designated disadvantaged communities.						
EV	5.2	Energy Infrastructure	The County shall work to improve energy infrastructure to increase availability, reliability, sustainability, and use of renewable energy sources, with a focus on Existing Communities and equity in service to disadvantaged communities.						
EV	5.3	Broadband	The County should encourage efforts to equitably extend broadband capacity throughout the county, including to designated disadvantaged communities, and to encourage private sector investments in state-of-the-art high speed fiberoptic infrastructure for both commercial and residential use. The County should use its franchise agreement powers, among others, whenever possible to secure improved services.						
EV	6.5	County Hiring Practices	The County shall leverage its status as the second-largest employer in the county to pursue best practices aimed at maximizing local hiring, with a focus on designated disadvantaged communities, in coordination with education and training providers.						
EV	6.7	Future Job Opportunities	The County shall collaborate with the Workforce Development Board to assess employment changes expected over the next 20 years and evaluate opportunities for job training and education to meet new economic opportunities, particularly in green energy and in designated disadvantaged communities within the county.						

General Plan Programs Related to Designated Disadvantaged Communities

Total Program Count: 8






GP Element	#	Program	Description	Responsible / Supporting Agency	Implementation Timing	Siting & Development	Noticing & Outreach	Services & Infrastructure Investment	Coordination & Collaboration	Planning & Policymaking
LU	H	Limit Alcohol and Tobacco Outlets	The County shall explore establishing zoning code limitations on the density of alcohol and tobacco outlets near sensitive receptors such as schools, childcare facilities, senior housing, parks, etc., and especially in designated	RMA / n/a	2020-25					

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			disadvantaged communities, that is consistent with State law.							
LU	Q	Identify Designated Disadvantaged Communities in Oxnard and Ventura Planning Areas	Within one-year of 2040 General Plan adoption, the County shall research the southwestern and northwestern Oxnard Planning Area and along the Ventura Avenue in the Ventura Planning Area using Cal EPA CalEnviroScreen to identify Designated Disadvantaged Communities (DDCs). Upon identification of DDCs, the General Plan maps and list of low income and disadvantaged communities in the General Plan will be updated. In addition, the Background Report will be updated to reflect the existing conditions and description of these DDCs.	RMA / All agencies as necessary	2020-25					
LU	R	Review of Designated Disadvantaged Communities	Every five years from the adoption of the 2040 General Plan, the County shall review changes to the CalEPA designations of disadvantaged communities as well as changes in localized income data and pollution burdens and amend, as necessary, the maps and lists of low income and disadvantaged communities in the General Plan.	RMA / n/a	ongoing					
HE	A	Local, State and Federal Funding	<p>To the extent that Local, State and Federal housing funds are available, the County shall continue to administer grant/loan programs to assist lower-income households with the following housing and community related issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support local non-profits to rehabilitate housing units.</li> <li>Fund the development of owner-occupied and rental housing for lower-income households and for those households with identified special needs.</li> </ul>	CEO / RMA	<p>Annually as part of the County's Consolidated Plan</p> <p>2025 – The Consolidated Plan fund distribution priorities will be updated</p>					



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support non-profit organizations and County service providers in their efforts to provide services and re-housing efforts to special needs populations including households who are either homeless or “at risk of becoming homeless.”</li><li>Disaster recovery efforts.</li><li>Investment in infrastructure and service upgrades in disadvantaged and low-opportunity areas.</li></ul> <p>The County shall consider as part of the next Consolidated Plan for 2025, establishing priorities for the distribution of funds, which may include criteria such as income targeting, housing for special needs including seniors and persons with disabilities, support services, and designated disadvantaged communities and areas of concentrated poverty that serve to affirmatively further fair housing.</p> <p>The County shall pursue funding from CDBG, HOME, and PHLA funds with a goal of obtaining approximately \$3.1 million dollars annually for the development affordable housing and improvements to services in low-opportunity and disadvantaged communities throughout the Entitlement Area.</p> <p>The County shall evaluate and consider applying for, and strive to receive and maintain thereafter, the State’s Prohousing Designation by demonstrating a sufficient number of policies that contribute to accelerating housing production.</p>							
HE	D	Infrastructure Constraints	The County shall convene all stakeholders, agencies, and service	RMA / PWA, CEO	Stakeholders, Agencies, and			<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>

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			<p>providers in a forum to discuss the policies that impact infrastructure necessary for housing development. The purpose of the discussion would be to identify constraints and solutions in providing water, sewer services, and dry utilities for housing.</p> <p>As Area Plans are updated, especially in designated disadvantaged communities, the County shall apply for funding as funding sources are available from the Community Development Block Grant, Infill Infrastructure Grant Program, or other funding programs as available, to fund infrastructure design plans and infrastructure construction improvements supporting residential development in designated disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>The County's Land Use and Community Character Element identifies the El Rio/Del Norte Area, a designated disadvantaged community, to be updated first and will assist in planning appropriate infrastructure for at least 179 multifamily units identified in the Sites Inventory, Background Report Appendix 5.A. Additionally, the County has been approved for \$300,000 in state Local Early Action Planning grant funds for various projects, one of which is to facilitate the El Rio/Del Norte Area Plan update.</p> <p>The Saticoy Sanitary District serves the unincorporated area of Saticoy, a designated disadvantaged community serving approximately 262 households. As part of the 2013-2021 Housing Element Cycle, approximately \$500,000 in CDBG funds was awarded to the Saticoy Sanitary District to remediate aging infrastructure and ensure reliable operation and processing of wastewater.</p>		<p>Service Providers Forum 2023</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>El Rio/Del Norte (December 2024)</p> <p>North Avenue and Ojai Valley Area Plan Update (2025-2029)</p>					

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			The County shall distribute funding in the 2021-2029 Housing Element during two fiscal years through 2022.							
HE	R	First-Time Homebuyer Assistance	<p>The County shall, in collaboration with community partners, provide down payment assistance to expand homeownership opportunities in Ventura County. Down payment assistance funds provided by the County may be used to leverage monies from other grants to provide additional assistance with the intent to make homeownership more attainable for families living in rental property.</p> <p>Beginning in the FY 2022-23 County budget cycle and based upon the annual funding cycles thereafter, the CEO-Community Development shall implement notice of funding availability and application acceptance process per year during the Housing Element cycle. Priority application points shall be given to applications received from households from low opportunity and/or disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>The County shall target an average of 12 down payment assistance each year, approximately \$300,000, utilizing CDBG funds throughout the Entitlement Area.</p>	CEO	FY 2022-23, Ongoing					
HE	W	Home Rehabilitation	The County shall partner with non-profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity to provide home rehabilitation assistance for homes owned by low-income families, veterans, and elderly residents on limited incomes. By addressing long-deferred home maintenance, and fixing critical repairs and code violations, this program helps families stay in their already affordable homes and avoid displacement.	CEO / RMA	FY 2021-22, Ongoing					

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			Based upon the annual funding cycles available to the County beginning in FY 2021-22, CEO-Community Development shall implement notice of funding availability shall and application acceptance process for up to 15 units or \$200,000, per year during the eight-year Housing Element cycle. Priority application points shall be given to applications received from low opportunity and disadvantage communities in entitlement areas to affirmatively further fair housing.							
COS	CC	Climate Emergency Council	Membership of the CEC shall be comprised of the following: § One person representing each Supervisorial District who has demonstrated interest in and knowledge of climate action planning shall be nominated by each of the five members of the Board of Supervisors, and confirmed by a majority of the Board of Supervisors resulting in a total of five Supervisorial District representatives; § One resident from each of the designated disadvantaged communities identified in the 2040 General Plan who has demonstrated an understanding of their community’s needs as well as an interest in and knowledge of climate action planning shall be appointed by a majority of the Board of Supervisors; and § Two additional at-large members who have demonstrated special interest, competence, experience, or knowledge in climate action planning shall be selected by a majority of the CEC members.	CEO / RMA	2020-25				