

# Appendix C: Glossary

## A

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**Active Fault.** A fracture in the crust of the earth that has moved in the last 11,000 years.

**Active Frontage.** Street frontages where there is an active visual engagement between those in the street and those on the ground floor of buildings.

**Active Transportation.** Any form of human-powered transportation including walking, cycling, in-line skating, skateboarding, etc.

**Adaptation.** Adaptation is preparing for climate change impacts that are expected to occur, by making adjustments in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects that are aimed at minimizing harm or taking advantage of beneficial opportunities.

**Affordable Housing.** Housing which costs no more than 30 percent of gross household income. Housing costs include rent or mortgage payments, utilities, taxes, insurance, homeowner association fees, and other related costs.

**Aggregate.** Formed by the conjunction or collection of particles into a whole mass or sum.

**Agritourism.** Commercial enterprises which provide access to visitors at a working farm, ranch, or production facility which is available for the enjoyment or education of visitors. Agritourism commercial enterprises typically include farm stands, u-pick, farm stays, farm and ranch tours, on-site farm classes, pumpkin patches, and winery tours or events.

**Air Basin.** A geographic area that exhibits similar meteorological and geographic conditions. California is divided into 15 air basins.

**Airport Land Use Commission.** A commission authorized under the provisions of California Public Utilities Code, Section 21670 et seq., for the purposes of promoting compatibility between airports and the land uses surrounding them and established, with limited exceptions in each county where a public-use airport is located.

**Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP).** The California State Aeronautics Act (Public Utilities Code, Section 21670 et seq.) requires the preparation of an airport land use compatibility plan (ALUCP) for nearly all public-use airports in the state. The intent of the ALUCP is encourage compatibility between airports and the various land uses that surround them.

**Ambient Noise Level.** The distinctive acoustical characteristics of a given area consisting of all noise sources audible at that location. In many cases, the term ambient is used to describe an existing or pre-project condition such as the setting in an environmental noise study.

**Annexation.** The process by which land is incorporated into an existing district or municipality, with a resulting change in the boundaries of the annexing jurisdiction.

**Aquifer.** A layer of rock or sand that can absorb and hold water.

## B

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**Beneficial Use.** Use of water either directly by people or for their overall benefit as legally defined and identified. According to the California Code of Regulations (CCR) §659-672, the beneficial uses of water, pertaining to water rights include: domestic; irrigation; power; municipal; mining; industrial; fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement; aquaculture; recreational; stock watering; water quality; frost protection; and heat control.

**Best Management Practice.** Techniques or methods identified to be superior to other mitigation, management, implementation, and design practices.

**Agricultural Buffer.** An area of land between agriculture and non-agricultural uses (e.g. residences or business), typically maintained in permanent vegetation that helps minimize conflicts between these uses.

**Bulb-Out.** A traffic calming measure primarily used to extend the sidewalk, reducing the crossing distance and allowing pedestrians and approaching vehicles to see each other when vehicles parked in a parking lane would otherwise block visibility.

## C

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**California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA).** The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) is responsible for restoring, protecting, and enhancing the environment, to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality through the development and enforcement of regulations that implement environmental laws enacted by the State.

**Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>):** Gas that is released into the atmosphere through the burning of fossil fuels (oil, natural gas, and coal), solid waste, trees, and wood products, and also as a result of other chemical reactions (e.g., cement production) and deforestation. Carbon dioxide is also removed from the atmosphere (or “sequestered”) when it is absorbed by plants as part of the biological carbon cycle.

**CEQA.** The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21084.1). A historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing, in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), a resource included in a local register of historical resources or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5[a][1-3]).

**Charter School.** A tax-supported school established by a charter between a granting body (i.e., school board) and an outside group (e.g., teachers and parents). Charter schools operate within the framework of California State law (Education Code §47605-47608) to create a charter that outlines the school’s governing structure, mission, methods of assessment, student outcomes, and goals. Charter schools function as small independent school districts and accept students based on criteria established in the school charter.

**Climate Action Plan.** A description of the measures and actions that a local government will take to reduce GHG emissions and achieve an emissions reduction target. Most plans include a description of existing and future year emissions; a reduction target; a set of measures, including performance standards, that will collectively achieve the target; and a mechanism to monitor the plan and require amendment if it is not achieving specified levels. Interchangeable with GHG Reduction Plan.

**Climate Change.** Climate change refers to any significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). Climate change may result from: natural factors, such as changes in the sun’s intensity or slow changes in the earth’s orbit around the sun; natural processes within the climate system (e.g., changes in ocean circulation); human activities that change the atmosphere’s composition (e.g., through burning fossil fuels) and the land surface (e.g., deforestation, reforestation, urbanization, desertification, etc.).

**Clustered Residential Development.** A development tool that allows the density of development to be clustered on the more buildable portion of the property, leaving the balance of the site as open space. The resulting subdivision may have more compact areas of development, but less paving and more open space when compared to conventional subdivisions.

**Commercial Services.** Commercial services land uses are professional commercial services, such as financial institutions, credit unions, gas stations, automotive repair, and beauty salons.

**Community Choice Aggregation.** CCA is a system, adopted into California law in 2002, which allows cities and counties to aggregate the buying power of individual customers within a defined jurisdiction in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts on a community-wide basis, but allowing consumers not wishing to participate to opt out.

**Community Resilience.** A measure of the sustained ability of a community to use available resources to respond to, withstand, and recover from natural or manmade disasters and other adverse situations.

**Community Separators.** Lands that function as rural open space to separate cities and other communities, to contain urban development, and to provide city and community identity by providing visual relief from continuous urbanization.

**Complete Streets.** Streets designed and constructed to serve all users regardless of their age or ability or whether they are driving, walking, bicycling, or taking transit.

**Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions.** Emissions from electricity generation, natural gas combustion, and vehicle emissions typically measured in mt CO<sub>2</sub>e, which stands for metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

**Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).** A multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design.

**Cul-de-Sac.** A street with only one inlet/outlet.

**Cultural Resources.** An object, document, or any part of the built environment that has significance in archaeology, architecture, art, or history.

**Curb Cut.** An interruption in the street curb for a driveway.

## D

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**Day/Night Noise Level, Ldn or DNL.** The average A-weighted noise level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of 10 decibels to levels measured in the night between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m

**Decibels (dB).** A dB is a sound level expressed in decibels which is the logarithmic ratio of two like pressure quantities, with one pressure quantity being a reference sound pressure.

**Delay.** The metric upon which level of service (LOS) is based and is expressed as the average number of seconds per vehicle that drivers are delayed as they move through a transportation facility (i.e., intersection or roadway segment). Delay includes the time drivers spend stopped, as well as the time effects of moving slowly in a queue of vehicles (such as that typically encountered at all-way stop-controlled intersections).

**Density (Residential).** The number of permanent residential dwelling units per acre of land. Densities specified in the general plan are expressed in units per gross acre.

**Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities.** Unincorporated communities either within a city's sphere of influence and that have been inhabited for over 50 years or that are surrounded or substantially surrounded by one or more cities and county boundary, in which the median household income is 80 percent or less than the statewide median household income.

**Discharge.** A rate of water flow, typically expressed as a unit volume of water per unit of time (e.g., cubic feet per second (cfs)).

**Driverless Vehicle.** A driverless vehicle, also known as an autonomous vehicle, is an unmanned vehicle that can sense its environment and navigate without human input.

**Drought.** A period of below-average precipitation, resulting in prolonged shortages in the water supply including both ground water and surface water.

**Dwelling Unit/Housing Unit.** The place of permanent or customary abode of a person or family. A room or group of rooms (including sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation facilities, but not more than one kitchen), that constitutes an independent housekeeping unit, occupied or intended for occupancy by one household on a long-term basis. A housing unit may be a single-family dwelling, a multifamily dwelling, a condominium, a modular home, a mobile home, a cooperative, or any other residential unit considered real property under State law. It also is a dwelling that cannot be move without substantial damage or unreasonable cost.

**Dwelling, Single-Family Attached.** A one-family dwelling attached to one or more other one-family dwellings by a common vertical wall. Row houses and town homes are examples of this dwelling unit type.

**Dwelling, Single-Family Detached.** A dwelling, not attached to any other dwelling, which is designed for and occupied by not more than one family and surrounded by open space or yards.

## E

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**Easement.** An easement is a limited right to make sure use of a property owned by another; for example, a right of way across the property for an electricity or gas line.

**Endangered Species.** A species whose survival and reproduction in the wild is in immediate jeopardy from one or more causes: including loss of habitat, change in habitat, over exploration, predation, competition, disease, or other factors.

**Erosion.** Erosion is the removal of soil and/or sediment by wind, water, or glacial ice. Erosion occurs naturally but can be intensified by land clearing activities such as farming, development, road building, and timber harvesting.

**EV (Electric Vehicle).** A vehicle that is powered through a collector system by electricity from off-vehicle sources, or through a self-contained battery, solar panels, or an electric generator that converts fuel to electricity.

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**Federal Emergency Management Agency.** The agency that oversees floodplain management and the national flood insurance program.

**Fire Hazard Areas.** California law requires CAL FIRE to identify areas based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail there. These areas, or “zones,” are based on factors such as fuel (material that can burn), slope, and fire weather. There are three zones, based on increasing fire hazard—medium, high, and very high.

**Flood Insurance Rate map.** Maps prepared by FEMA for flood insurance and floodplain management Purposes.

**Flooding.** Flooding is the rising and overflowing of a body of water that submerges dry land not normally covered by water.

**Floodplain Management.** The implementation of policies and programs to protect floodplains and maintain their flood control function.

**Floodway.** The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot. This term is synonymous with the term “regulatory floodway.”

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR).** The square footage of developed space divided by the square footage of the entire parcel or site. It provides an indication of how intensely a site is or will be developed, similar to residential densities.

**Form-Based Code.** Zoning regulations and design standards that foster predictable built results and a high-quality public realm by regulating physical form (rather than the separation of uses) as the organizing principle for the code. Form-based codes offer an alternative to conventional zoning, which primarily regulates the use of the property. Form-based codes address the relationship between facades and the public realm, the form and mass of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks.

**Freeways.** Freeways are highways serving regional and intercity travel. Traffic movement is the primary function of freeways. Accordingly, they have controlled and limited access, and grade separated crossings and medians are used to separate conflicting traffic flows. U.S. Highway 101 is a freeway.

## G

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**General Permit.** A general permit is a permit issued under the NPDES program to cover a certain class or category of stormwater discharges. These permits reduce the administrative burden of permitting stormwater discharges.

**General Plan.** A compendium of county or city policies regarding its long-term development, in the form of goals, policies, implementation programs, and maps. The general plan is a legal document required of each local agency by the California Government Code Section 65301 and adopted by a city council or board of supervisors.

**Green Industries.** Businesses that manufacture and supply sustainable products that require minimal use of raw materials; provide production processes that minimize the use of water and excessive energy use; involve processes that reduce or eliminate the use of harmful toxins; rely on the reuse and recycling of solid waste streams; and include substantial reductions in emissions or effluents of greenhouse gases and pollutants.

**Green Tourism.** Tourism businesses that actively engage in reducing the negative environmental and social impacts of typical tourism operations. Green tourism can include, but is not limited to bicycling tours, energy efficient bus tours, and electric vehicle rentals.

**Greenhouse Gas.** Greenhouse gases (GHG) are the gases in the atmosphere which reduce the loss of heat into space and, therefore, increase global temperatures. Greenhouse gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone, and chlorofluorocarbons.

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory.** A greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory is an accounting of the amount of greenhouse gases emitted to or removed from the atmosphere over a specific period of time (e.g., one year) for a specified area. Inventories may be global or local. A GHG inventory also provides information on the activities that cause emissions and removals, as well as background on the methods used to make the calculations. Policy makers use GHG inventories to track emission trends, develop strategies and policies, and assess progress in controlling GHG emissions.

**Gross Acreage.** The total amount of land to be developed, without subtracting the area that might be needed for public improvements such as roads, schools, or parks. In deriving the amount of gross acreage to determine a project's density, the Town may exclude contiguous, substantially constrained land that normally could not be developed.

**Groundwater.** Groundwater is water that is located beneath the land surface, specifically within pore spaces of saturated soil, sediment, or rock formations. Groundwater does not include moisture held by capillary action in the upper, unsaturated areas of aquifers.

**Groundwater Recharge.** The natural or intentional infiltration/percolation of surface water into the zone of saturation (i.e., into groundwater).

**Growth Control Ordinance.** An ordinance that is approved by the Town Council that annually establishes the number of annual growth control allocations available for new residential units based on maintaining an average annual population growth rate.

**Growth Management.** A philosophy to manage growth by taking into consideration future infrastructure capacity, public service availability, and potential fiscal impacts.

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**Hazardous Material or Waste.** A specific geographic designation with associated land use or management policies and regulations.

**Heat Island Effect.** A phenomenon that occurs when developed areas are significantly warmer than surrounding undeveloped or rural areas.

**Heat Wave.** A prolonged period of excessive heat, often combined with excessive humidity. A heat wave is defined as five or more consecutive extreme heat days.

**Healthy Community.** A community that promotes a positive physical, economic, and social environment, which provides opportunities for physical activity and access to nutritious food, well-paying jobs, as well as social interaction with community members.

**Historic Property.** Any cultural resource listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Household.** All those persons-related or unrelated-who occupy a single housing unit.

**Household Population.** Persons living in households, not including group homes.

## I

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**Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating.** Rating and statistical information for the insurance industry based on a community's fire-suppression delivery system, including fire dispatch, fire department, and water supply. Insurance rates are set using this rating, which is based on a scale from Class 1 to Class 10, where Class 1 is the best score.

**Intermediate Ridges.** Ridges with visible land behind them, which create a backdrop to the ridge when viewed from within Town limits.

## J

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**Jobs/Housing Ratio.** The number of jobs divided by the number of housing units. Used as a measure of how well the local economy provides jobs for the local labor force.

**Joint Powers Agreement.** An agreement by two or more public entities, agencies, or jurisdictions to jointly exercise governmental powers common to both of them.

## K

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*There are no "K" terms to define.*

## L

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**Land Use Designation.** A specific geographic designation with associated land use or management policies and regulations, as incorporated in the General Plan. Land use designations are distinct from zoning regulations, which are more specific.

**Landfill.** A site to dispose of refuse and other waste material by burying it and covering it with soil.

**Landslide.** A landslide is any down-slope movement of soil and rock under the direct influence of gravity and often categorized by slope movement: falls, topples, slides, spread, and flows. Landslides can be further described by the type of geologic material (bedrock, debris, or earth). For instance, debris flows (commonly referred to as mudflows or mudslides) and rock falls are examples of common landslide types. Landslides can be initiated in slope already on the verge of movement by rainfall, snowmelt, changes in water level, stream erosion, changes in groundwater, earthquakes, volcanic activity, disturbance by human activities, or any combination of these factors. Landslides can move slowly (millimeters per year), or can move quickly and disastrously, as is the case with debris flows.

**Level of Protection.** The degree of protection that a drainage or flood control measure provides, typically expressed as the largest frequency flow event that can occur without flooding.

**Level of Service (LOS).** Measure used to rank traffic operation on various types of facilities based on traffic volumes and roadway capacity using a series of letter designations ranging from A to F. Generally, Level of Service A represents free flow conditions and Level of Service F represents forced flow or breakdown conditions. A unit of measure that indicates a level of delay generally accompanies the LOS designation.

**Liquefaction.** Liquefaction is a seismic phenomenon in which loose, saturated granular and non-plastic fine-grained soils lose their structure or strength when subjected to high-intensity ground shaking. Liquefaction occurs when three general conditions exist: 1) shallow groundwater (within the top 50 feet of the ground surface); 2) low-density non-plastic soils; and 3) high-intensity ground motion.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).** An agency within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county LAFCO is empowered to approve, conditionally approve, or deny such proposals.

**Low Impact Development (LID).** A design approach intended to manage stormwater runoff. LID emphasizes conservation and use of on-site natural features to protect water quality using bio-swales, rain barrels, and vegetative buffers.

## M

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**Maximum Containment Level.** Standards set by the USEPA that describe the maximum concentration of a chemical that is allowed in public drinking water systems.

**Metric Ton (MT).** Also known as a “tonne.” Common international measurement for the quantity of GHG emissions. A metric ton is equal to 2,205 pounds or 1.1 short tons.

**Mixed-Use.** Mixed-Use development blends residential and non-residential uses vertically within a single building or horizontally within a larger development. Mixed-Use developments feature higher residential densities and a pedestrian-friendly environment.

**Mobile Source.** A moving source of air pollution such as on road or off-road vehicles, boats, airplanes, lawn equipment, and small utility engines

**Multi-Family Dwelling Units.** A building or portion thereof designed for or occupied by two or more families living independently of each other, including duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, apartments, and condominiums.

**Multi-Modal Transportation System.** An integrated transportation system network that allows people to move about using multiple modes of travel (e.g., walking, biking, automobiles, bus service, and passenger rail).

**Municipal Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions.** Emissions produced from a city’s operations, landfills, employee commutes, and wherever a city can exert policy influence. Municipal GHG Emissions are typically measured in mt CO<sub>2</sub>e, which stands for metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. This unit helps measure these emissions effect on climate change.

## N

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**National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).** Standards for outdoor air pollutants established by the USEPA under authority of the Clean Air Act.

**National Register of Historic Places.** A list of cultural resources determined by the National Park Service to be of historic, cultural, architectural, archaeological, or engineering significance at the national level.

**Natural Gas.** A hydrocarbon gas mixture that is widely used as an energy source in a variety of applications including heating buildings, fueling vehicles, and generating electricity.

**Neighborhood Center.** Neighborhood Centers are a type of commercial development that incorporates social gathering spaces and areas for commerce to meet the needs of neighborhood residents.

**Neighborhood Park.** Neighborhood parks are generally less than 5 acres in size that provide multi-purpose turf areas, playgrounds, hard courts, picnic areas, craft activities, and features that express the unique identity of the neighborhood and reflect local neighborhood needs.

**Nitrogen Oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>).** Oxides of nitrogen primarily created from the fossil fuel combustion process and are major contributors to smog and acid rain formation.

## O

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**Open Space.** Open space uses are largely undeveloped and are used primarily for passive recreation, resource protection, and/or farming.

**Operational Area.** The Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS) established operational areas, which correspond with county boundaries, to coordinate mutual aid and emergency operations. The Operational Area acts as a link between local and State governments to communicate and coordinate aid during emergency events.

**Overlay District.** Overlay districts provide guidance for development in addition to the standards and regulations of the primary zoning district, where important site, environmental, safety, compatibility, or design issues require particular attention in project planning.

## P

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**Paleontological Resources.** Any fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of once living organisms preserved in rock or sediment.

**Paratransit.** Door-to-door transit service provided to users whose physical limitations make traditional transit services infeasible for their use.

**Parks and Recreation.** Parks and recreation uses include developed parks and other facilities primarily used for recreation, such as swimming pools, sports fields, skate parks, and plazas. Typically, these areas are characterized by a high degree of open space, and a limited number of buildings.

**Particulate Matter.** Fine metal, smoke, soot, and dust particles suspended in the air.

**Planning Area.** The area directly addressed by a jurisdiction's general plan. The Planning Area generally encompasses all incorporated and unincorporated territory that bears a relationship to the long-term planning of the jurisdiction. Planning Areas for towns typically encompass all areas in the Town Limits and the unincorporated areas that are within the town Sphere of Influence.

**Preservation.** Identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, curation, acquisition, protection, management, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, maintenance, research interpretation, conservation, and education; the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property.

**Private Driveway.** Private Driveways serve a minimal number of lots as the primary connection to the public street system as well as to off-street parking areas.

**Public/Quasi-Public.** This designation is intended to provide locations for public facilities, public utilities, and public gathering facilities. Typical uses include public schools, libraries, government, police, and fire facilities; corporation yards; private utilities; the wastewater treatment plant; and cemeteries.

**Public Realm.** The public realm is common space that everyone can use. The public realm includes streets, sidewalks, squares, parks, green spaces, and other outdoor public places that do not require private access or charge.

## Q

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*There are no "Q" terms to define.*

## R

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**Reactive Organic Gases (ROG).** Photochemically-reactive gases composed of non-methane hydrocarbons.

**Recession.** Downturn in the economy, generally including a decline in economic output for an extended period of time.

**Recycled Water.** Treated or recycled waste water of a quality suitable for non-potable uses such as landscape irrigation and water features. This water is not intended for human consumption.

**Recycling.** The process of collecting, sorting, cleansing, treating, and reconstituting materials that would otherwise become solid waste, and returning them to the economic mainstream in the form of raw material for new, reused, or reconstituted products that meet the quality standards necessary to be used in the marketplace.

**Regional Park.** Parks owned and operated by Sonoma County Regional Parks Department. These parks are considered natural parks, and provide open-space recreational opportunities for picnicking, fishing, equestrian activities, and hiking.

**Resiliency.** The ability to prepare for, respond to, and rapidly recover from adverse situations.

**Response Time.** The total amount of time it takes for a fire, police, and/or emergency medical service (EMS) unit to respond to a call, from the time when the emergency call is placed to 911 to the time that the unit arrives on scene.

**Riparian.** Of, on, or pertaining to the bank of a natural course of water. For example, riparian vegetation is composed of plant species normally found near streams, lakes, and other freshwater bodies, such as lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.

**Riparian Corridors.** A corridor of riparian vegetation adjacent to perennial and intermittent streams or other freshwater bodies.

**Runoff.** Precipitation (rain or snowmelt) that is not used by plants, evaporated or infiltrated to soils, and is transported across land surfaces to streams or other surface water bodies.

## S

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**Scenic Corridor.** The visible land area adjacent to a transportation corridor right of way and generally described as the "view from the road."

**Scenic Resource.** Areas valued for their scenic quality.

**Sector.** A group of related business types that constitute a broad category in the economy.

**Seniors.** Persons age 65 and older.

**Single-Family Residential.** Single-family residential land uses include detached dwelling units such as single-family homes and mobile homes.

**Skyline Ridges.** Ridges that define the horizon.

**Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART).** A commuter rail service providing daily trips between Marin County and Sonoma County.

**Smart Growth.** A development model that favors a mix of land uses, walkable neighborhoods, compact building design, transportation choices, distinctive architecture, and a strong sense of community.

**Solid Waste.** Non-hazardous solid discarded items from households and businesses. Solid waste includes primarily waste paper and food organic waste. Other common waste items are plastic, cloth, metal cans, and yard trimmings.

**Special Service Facilities.** Facilities that serves a single recreation function, the recreational needs of a special population, and/or indoor recreation facilities.

**Special Status Species.** Rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species protected by Federal, State, or other agencies.

**Special Use Airspace.** An area where activities must be confined because of their nature, and/or where limitations are imposed upon aircraft flight operations that are not a part of those activities. Some of the different types of SUAs include Restricted Areas, Military Operating Areas, and controlled Firing Areas.

**Specific Plan.** A planning tool authorized by Government Code Section 65450, et seq., for the systematic implementation of the general plan for a defined portion of a community's Planning Area. A specific plan must specify in detail the land uses, public and private facilities needed to support the land uses, phasing of development, standards for the conservation, development, and use of natural resources, and a program of implementation measures, including financing measures.

**Sphere of Influence (SOI).** A sphere of influence is a planning boundary outside of an agency's legal boundary (such as the town limit line) that designates the agency's probable future boundary and service area.

**State Responsibility Area (SRA).** Areas in the state where the State of California has the primary financial responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildland fires.

**Stormwater.** Stormwater is precipitation that accumulates in natural and/or constructed storage and stormwater systems during and immediately following a storm event.

**Strip Commercial Development.** Commercial development that fronts major roadways so that each establishment has direct access to the road and parking areas. Strip commercial development typically includes multiple curb cuts and unconnected vehicular use areas.

**Surface Rupture.** The movement of a fault that breaks through to the surface.

**Sustainability.** The philosophy of recognizing the limits of natural resources and conserving them in a manner that allows for their enjoyment by future generations.

**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.** A 2014 State law that calls for local and regional management of groundwater use; including requiring that a Groundwater Sustainability Plan be adopted for the most important groundwater basins in California. The goal of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is to have sustainable groundwater management by 2042.

## T

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**Threatened Species.** A species that is abundant in parts of its range but declining in overall numbers and likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

**Town Limits.** A political boundary that defines land that has been incorporated into a town.

**Transit Oriented Development (TOD).** A mixed-use, residential, commercial, and/or employment area designed to maximize access to public transportation and to encourage walking and transit ridership through on-site features.

**Truck.** Any motor vehicle, including tractor/semitrailer combinations but excluding privately owned recreational vehicles and publicly owned mass transportation motor vehicles, of or in excess of 45 feet in length inclusive of front and rear bumpers, or in excess of 30,000 pounds of empty weight.

**Truck Route.** Any street, highway, public way, or portion thereof designated for the operation of trucks.

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**United States Army Corps of Engineers.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is authorized to issue Section 404 permits, which allow the placement of dredged or fill materials into jurisdictional waters of the United States under certain circumstances. The USACE issues two types of permits under Section 404: general permits (either nationwide permits or regional permits) and standard permits (either letters of permission or individual permits). General permits are issued by the USACE to streamline the Section 404 permitting process formation wide, statewide, or regional activities that have minimal direct or cumulative environmental impacts on the aquatic environment. Standard permits are issued for activities that do not qualify for a general permit (i.e., that may have more than a minimal adverse environmental impact)

**United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is responsible for developing and enforcing regulations that implement environmental laws enacted by Congress. USEPA is responsible for researching and setting national standards for a variety of environmental programs, and delegates to states and tribes the responsibility for issuing permits, monitoring, and enforcing compliance.

**Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).** An Urban Growth Boundary is a planning boundary that shows the limits of future urbanization for a city or county over a given time frame. In 2017 Windsor voters approved Measure H, to renew and expand the Urban Growth Boundary through 2040. The UGB creates a development boundary that encourages a compact, cohesive pattern of urbanization with definite, identifiable boundaries.

## V

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**Vacant/Underutilized.** Vacant/underutilized land includes undeveloped and underdeveloped parcels. A majority of a parcel must be undeveloped for a parcel to be considered underutilized.

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).** The total number of vehicle miles traveled within a specific geographic area over a set period of time.

**Vernal Pools.** Seasonally flooded landscape depressions underlain by a subsurface that limits drainage. A type of ephemeral wetland, vernal pools result from an unusual combination of soil conditions, summer-dry Mediterranean climate, topography, and hydrology. Vernal pools support a specialized biota, including a relatively large number of threatened and endangered species.

## W

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**Wastewater.** Wastewater is sewage (either treated or untreated) from residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional sources

**Wastewater Treatment Plant.** An industrial structure designed to remove biological or chemical waste products from water, thereby permitting the treated water to be used for other purposes.

**Watershed.** The land surface area from which water drains into a common downstream point.

**Wayfinding.** The use of signage and other graphical communication, including visual clues in the built environment, and audible communication to help people orient themselves and navigate from place to place.

**Wetland.** Wetlands are land with wet, spongy soil, where the water table is at or above the land surface for at least part of the year. Wetlands are characterized by a prevalence of vegetation that is adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Examples include swamps, bogs, fens, marshes, and estuaries.

**Wildland Urban Interface.** Areas where homes or other structure are built near or among lands prone to wildland fire.

## X

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*There are no "X" terms to define.*

## Y

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*There are no "Y" terms to define.*

## Z

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**Zoning.** Local codes regulating the use and development of property. A zoning ordinance divides a county or city into districts or zones represented on zoning maps and specifies the allowable uses within each of those zones. It establishes development standards for each zone, such as minimum lot size, maximum height of structures, building setbacks, and yard size.

**Zoning District.** A part of the community designated by the local zoning ordinance for specific land uses, such as single-family homes or neighborhood commercial uses. Only the primary permitted land uses, their accessory uses, and any special uses permitted in the zoning district may be placed on the land in that part of the community.

**Zoning Ordinance.** The adopted zoning and planning regulations of a city or county.