

Shaping Carmichael's Future



Community Action Plan

CARMICHAEL COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN An Appendix to the 1975 Carmichael Community Plan



Adopted by
Sacramento County
Board of Supervisors
April 26, 2006

Sacramento County
Carmichael/Old Foothill Farms
Community Council
January 31, 2006



**Municipal Services Agency, County of Sacramento
Department of Planning and Community Development
Department of Neighborhood Services**

Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
Roger Dickinson, 1st District Illa Collin, 2nd District Susan Peters, 3rd District
Roberta MacGlashan, 4th District Don Nottoli, 5th District
Terry Schutten, **County Executive**

ACTIONS DEVELOPED BY:

Community Members on the following Teams:

Carmichael Coordinating Committee

Carmichael Outreach Team

Phase Two Theme Teams:

Community Identity Team;

Transportation Team;

Neighborhood Services Team

Land Use and Governance Team; and

Public Safety Team

Phase Four Subject Matter Teams:

Neighborhood Services Team

Transportation Team;

Community Identity Team;

Land Use Team; and

Public Safety Team

County Staff:

Department of Planning and Community Development: *Larry Brooks, Amanda Haws, Mindy Louis, Richard Maddox, Dave Pevny, Corinna Sandmeier, Robert Sherry, Kohar Shirikian, Tricia Stevens, Cindy Storelli*

Department of Neighborhood Services: *Bobbe Dworkis, Victor Morrison-Vega*

Economic Development Department: *Margie Daugherty, Jim Pardun*

Department of Transportation: *Jeff Clark, Dave Franke, Dan Shoeman, Steve White*

Office of the County Executive: *Kathleen Campini-Chambers*

Sheriff's Department

County Board of Supervisors

Roger Dickinson, 1st District

Illa Collin, 2nd District

Susan Peters, 3rd District

Roberta MacGlashan, 4th District

Don Nottoli, 5th District

Terry Schutten, County Executive

Carmichael Community Council

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose: The adopted Community Action Plan (CAP) is an appendix to the Carmichael Community Plan. This CAP covers more than just land use as is typical in a community plan. The purpose of doing an Action Plan was to increase community involvement in planning and service delivery. The actions contained in this CAP will result in guidance for many different agencies and departments within the County when adopting new plans and implementing existing ones.

Types of Actions: The CAP contains three types of actions.

- **On-going** actions are currently underway by the County. Typically, these actions are already in the work plan of the department, have a budget and staffing.
- **Short-term** actions are new programs or policies that will be implemented within a two-year time frame. Typically these actions are easy to implement, do not have significant costs and will be included in near-term work plans and budgets.
- **Long-term** actions are new programs or policies that will be implemented after two years. Although some actions will be in the short-term, they may take longer than two years to implement. These long-term actions are typically items that could be costly to implement or need further review and study to determine costs. They will be considered in both near-term and future work plans and budgets.

Further Review and Revisions: The Community Council (or other appropriate authority) and the Board of Supervisors will review the Community Action Plan annually to determine the status of the action. Additionally, the long-term actions will be analyzed to determine if it is time to begin work on them. Items that were originally deferred will be reassessed to determine if it is time to develop actions to accomplish those items. The Community Council may choose to survey the community, either formally or informally to assess whether or not deferred items should be further addressed.

As part of the annual review, the hearing authority will determine if the actions need to be modified or eliminated due to changes in County policies or programs.

Policies Endorsed by the Community: The Carmichael community was invited to participate in the preparation of the Community Action Plan. The early phases of the process resulted in the identification of issues that were important to the community.

Goals: From these issues, participants were to consider the following goals in determining solutions to those issues:

Neighborhood Services Goals

N1- The County will be responsive to neighborhoods.

N2- The County will more actively involve residents in the ongoing shaping of their community through different means of governance and community involvement.

Transportation Goals

- T1- The County will continue to pursue the implementation of the Circulation Element of the General Plan.
- T2- The County will continue to work with the Carmichael community and Regional Transit regarding the strategies that are under Regional Transit's control.
- T3 - The County will investigate and, where appropriate, install bike lanes according to the City/County Bikeway Master Plan.
- T4 - The County will install sidewalks at high priority locations.
- T5- The County will work with neighborhoods/SMUD to identify locations where the installations of streetlights are desired.

Community Identity Goals

- C1- Create a distinct and identifiable community identity for Carmichael.
- C2- Create an attractive and revitalized business district that is oriented to serving the residents of Carmichael.

Land Use Goals

- L1- Identify policies and strategies for using land use planning and decisions to preserve the character of Carmichael.

Public Safety Goals

- P1- Improve the safety and quality of life for the citizens of Carmichael.

Policies: The actions contained in the Community Action Plan support these goals and implement the policies that were endorsed by the Carmichael community and the Board of Supervisors. These policies listed below resulted from the survey of the community. The questions from the survey are noted in Appendix A.

Neighborhood Services Policies

- N1: Work with local park districts to help sponsor and organize festivals, farmer's markets and other community events at area parks and the community centers. (Survey Question #26)*
- N2: Maintain a Carmichael community website that includes information about all aspects of the community, including land use, transportation issues, and community events. (Survey Question #56)*
- N3: Establish a partnership between Sacramento County and the local school district to allow schools to be used as neighborhood centers. For example,*

allow schools to be used for neighborhood and after-school activities. (Survey Question #63)

N4: Neighborhood districts should be established to increase public participation and communication between neighborhoods, citizens, and the County. (Survey Question #43)

N5: Provide a designated staff person at a local office in Carmichael. (Survey Question #52)

N6: Establish a Carmichael Community Council that would replace the CPAC. The council would be responsible for making decisions, to the extent allowed by law, on projects that have a direct impact on Carmichael, such as transportation, public services or other issues. (Survey Question #53)

N7: Membership on the CPAC of the Community Council should have a balanced representation of business owners, neighborhood districts, and service groups. (Survey Question #55)

Transportation Policies

T1: Maintain/improve traffic flow and control speeding in Carmichael. (Survey Questions #1 and #2)

T2: Increase the level of public transit service to Carmichael. (Survey Question #'s 5-10)

T3: Create a network of bike lanes throughout Carmichael connecting parks, schools, the library, shopping, and neighborhoods. (Survey Question #11)

T4: Accelerate the pace of pedestrian-friendly improvements. (Survey Question #12)

T5: Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas. (Survey Question #73)

Community Identity Policies

C1: Designate portion of Fair Oaks Boulevard corridor as a Main Street with a common design theme (architectural design standards, landscaping, signage, street lights) (Survey Question #18) (Note: survey question #25, "Remove SMUD and other utility poles off of Fair Oaks Boulevard, either by moving them underground or to the rear of the property." has been included in this policy)

C2: Work with the community to ensure that all business properties are properly maintained. (Survey Question #23)

- C3: Adopt stronger code enforcement to eliminate blight and undesirable, poorly mainlined commercial property. (Survey Question #24)*
- C4: An effort should be made to actively recruit businesses that will enhance Carmichael such as restaurants, boutiques, and businesses that are oriented to families. (Survey Question #21)*
- C5: An effort should be made to encourage more variety in the types of businesses located in Carmichael. (Survey Question #22)*

Land Use Policies

- L1: Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 1 or 2 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the semi-rural character and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood. (Survey Question #34)*
- L2: Projects within low-density neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 4 or 5 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the character of the neighborhoods and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood. (Survey Question #37)*
- L3: Encourage rehabilitation of existing high density and commercial areas before new projects are developed. (Survey Question #40)*
- L4: Projects within residentially zoned high density and commercially zoned areas along the major streets should be developed as mixed-use (retail and high density residential in the same development) which are compatible with adjacent residential neighborhoods and promotes public transit. (Survey Question #41)*
- L5: In addition to protecting heritage oaks, which are already protected by the County of Sacramento Tree Ordinance, strictly monitor and limit the removal of other large trees in neighborhoods. (Survey Question #45)*
- L6: Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas. (Survey Question #73)*
- L7: Additional gated communities in Carmichael should not be allowed. (Survey Question #42, rewritten)*

Public Safety Policies

- P1: Make public safety contact information readily available to citizens and neighborhood groups. (Survey Question #70)*

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- P2: Increase the presence of both neighborhood officers (Problem Oriented Policing) and County Code Enforcement in Carmichael. (Survey Question #71)*
- P3: Encourage more communication (community building, conflict resolution and crime reduction practices) between the Sheriff's Department and neighborhood groups such as neighborhood watch and the community. (Survey Question #72)*
- P4: (Maintain/Improve traffic flow and) control speeding in Carmichael (Survey Question #1 and #2)*

BACKGROUND

In September 2001, the Board of Supervisors began the process to prepare the community action plan for the community of Carmichael in Sacramento County using methods developed by Dr. Ed Weeks of the University of Oregon, a nationally recognized specialist in democratic process and citizen engagement. Central to the approach are five neighborhood involvement principles that guided the process and served as a measure of its success:

1. The broadest possible opportunity for participation – Get as many people as possible to the table.
2. Multiple avenues of participation – Give people as many different ways to participate as possible.
3. Opportunity for constructive face-to-face discussion among citizens.
4. Openness to any idea or issue that is of interest to any resident – No idea or concern is better or worse than any other.
5. Not manipulative – No preconceived results.

The County and the community worked together to complete the process in four phases. Each of these phases involved members of the community and the County staff.

PHASE ONE: Setting the Agenda — Fall 2001 – Spring 2002

Community members, as part of an outreach team, assisted staff in the preparation of a newsletter and conducting community workshops and in outreach to the community to ensure that a broad range of community members attended the workshops and filled out surveys.

- Five workshops were held in the community to determine what issues were most important to the residents of Carmichael, and which issues the community believed needed the most attention.
- A newsletter including a questionnaire asking two questions was mailed to every address in Carmichael.
- Approximately 2400 community members responded by attending a workshop or filling out a questionnaire.



- Eleven themes with a total of 24 issues were defined by the community:
 - Transportation
 - Traffic Management
 - General Transportation
 - Alternative non-motorized transportation
 - Public Transit
 - Street Maintenance
 - Community Identity
 - Beautification
 - Community Pride/ Involvement
 - Community/Town Center
 - General Community Identity
 - The community “set the agenda” by identifying **transportation** and **community identity** as the most important issues to be addressed in the next phases.
- Land Use
 - Neighborhoods and Housing
 - General Land Use and Zoning
 - Public Safety
 - Parks, Recreation and Open Space
 - Services
 - Public Infrastructure and Utilities
 - General Community Services
 - Health and Human Services
 - Education
 - Business Development/Employment
 - Environmental Quality

PHASE TWO: Developing Strategies – Summer 2002 – Spring 2003

Community members were then invited via another newsletter to the community to attend an open house where the results from the first phase were presented. Then, the community was invited to join with the County on teams that would be responsible for identifying policies, strategies and action items, both short-range and long-range, for the categories determined in Phase One.



- Five theme teams were formed to identify a strategic plan to address the 24 issues:
 - Community Identity (which included code enforcement and economic development)
 - Public Safety
 - Transportation
 - Community Services
 - Land Use and Governance
- 130 community participants identified hundreds of different implementation ideas.
- A coordinating committee was formed to oversee the five theme teams and to assist staff in preparing policy choices.

After each team met virtually weekly for 6 months, staff and the coordinating committee spent many months grouping the implementation ideas into 56 policy choices. The community and the Board of Supervisors were given a chance to review and comment on these policy choices and ultimately, the choices were narrowed to 54 policy options, approved by the Board of Supervisors. These policy options would ultimately be included in a newsletter and survey sent back out to the community at large in Phase Three.

PHASE THREE: Making Decisions – Summer 2003 – Spring 2004

In Phase Three, the coordinating committee assisted staff in preparing a newsletter that was sent to all addresses in Carmichael. In preparation of the newsletter being sent out, and immediately after the newsletter was distributed, the community continued to be involved both by responding to the survey contained in the newsletter, and through the coordinating committee’s outreach efforts to increase the number of surveys that were returned to the county.

The implementation ideas were formed into policy options.

- The residents of the Carmichael Community were sent a survey containing the policy options, and asked to rate their level of support for each. The community was also asked to make choices on funding options to pay for the ideas they were asked to rate in the survey. The survey was ultimately 78 questions, 54 policy options and 24 finance options.
- The members of the coordinating committee distributed the newsletters and surveys to schools, at the Carmichael Library every Sunday afternoon, farmer’s markets, at the Carmichael Chamber of Commerce, and many coffee shops throughout the community.
- The community returned over 2700 completed surveys.
- The Board of Supervisors endorsed the 24 policies that received the strongest support by the community and directed staff to work with the community and use the past work to develop specific implementation plans to carry out the endorsed policies.
- Additionally, the Board of Supervisors directed staff to begin work on a potential special planning area (SPA) for Fair Oaks Boulevard and coordinate the efforts with the Department of Transportation’s project for improvement of Fair Oaks Boulevard from Marconi Avenue to Engle Road.
- Finally, the Board directed that the policies related to community governance be forwarded to the Department of Neighborhood Services for consideration during the pilot program for community councils.



PHASE FOUR: Taking Action – Fall 2004 – Summer 2005

In the final phase, all community members who had participated on one of the five teams in Phase Two and any community member who responded to the survey in Phase Three (and included his/her address) was invited to attend an open house where the results of the survey were presented to the attendees. Community members were also invited to join one of five teams to review the ideas generated in Phase Two and reconcile them with the policy options supported by the community and endorsed by the Board of Supervisors in Phase Three.

- Approximately 100 community members attended an open house to kick-off Phase Four.
- Five teams (Neighborhood Services; Transportation; Community Identity; Land Use; and Public Safety) were formed to assist staff with the process of determining which of the implementation ideas generated during Phase Two were consistent with the 24 policies that were supported by the 2700 community members and then endorsed by the Board of Supervisors during Phase Three.
- The draft community action plan was presented to the community at a second open house in June 2005. Approximately 85 community members attended this open house. Responses to comments received in writing have been posted on the Carmichael website and will be made available to the Board of Supervisors.
- Staffs of the Planning Department and the Department of Transportation are continuing to work together on the Fair Oaks Boulevard Improvement project and the proposed Special Planning Area (SPA) for Fair Oaks Boulevard.
- The Carmichael Community Council will review the draft action plan prior to adoption by the Board of Supervisors

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

This section of the Community Action Plan addresses issues and services regarding community governance and the County’s outreach to neighborhoods. Of the various policies that the community considered in the 2003 survey, one stood out with overwhelming support – that the County increase neighborhood involvement. Through increased communication, outreach, and involvement, the County will meet this policy objective primarily through the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS). These will include efforts to organize neighborhoods and put them in touch with each other, create mechanisms to keep community leaders and organized groups informed, and reach out to consult with them on large policy and specific project proposals.

Many of the ideas considered by community volunteers did not reach the level of strong support for inclusion in this community plan. Nonetheless, some of them are under consideration as part of countywide strategies to empower neighborhoods and strengthen community identity. An example is the creation of community councils to which the County could delegate decision-making authority. The County has included Carmichael as one of the four pilots for determining if Community Councils will be established countywide.

Neighborhood Services Goals, Policies and Actions

Goal N1 - The County will be responsive to neighborhoods.

Goal N2 - The County will more actively involve residents in the ongoing shaping of their community through different means of governance and community involvement.

Policy N-1: Work with local park districts to help sponsor and organize festivals, farmer’s markets and other community events at area parks and community centers. (63.7% support) (Survey Question #26)

<i>Neighborhood Services Actions</i>	<i>On-Going</i>	<i>Short-Term</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>
N1-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will use the Carmichael Chamber, Neighborhood Associations and Park Districts to promote community events and interests on an on-going basis.	X	X	
N1-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services will notify all neighborhood associations and the chamber of commerce of community events in Carmichael.	X		
N1-3: The Department of Neighborhood Services will give annual awards recognizing excellent improvements in categories to be developed by the Community Council.			X
N1-4: The Department of Neighborhood Services will use the Carmichael website to foster community involvement and participation in community events and the arts.	X	X	

Policy N-2: Maintain a Carmichael community website that includes information about all aspects of the community, including land use, transportation issues, and community events. (61.5% support) (Survey Question #56)

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N2-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will create a Carmichael website that fosters community involvement and participation. The website should include a “What’s happening in Carmichael” page to announce upcoming events in Carmichael (i.e. Founder’s Day events, 4 th of July Parade); Community Council information and updates, including the tracking of projects with identification number from the time an application is filed until it is completed: (current status of project with details of meetings, approvals, denials), information on new businesses in the community and changes and/or additions to existing businesses.	X		X
N2-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services will post the Agendas and Action Summaries from the Community Council meeting on the website	X		
N2-3: The Department of Neighborhood Services will provide zoning information on-line for new homeowners in Carmichael.			1
N2-4: The Department of Neighborhood Services will set up automatic e-mail distribution list for the Community Council (CPAC) Subdivision Review Committee, Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meeting agendas and meeting minutes.	2		

Policy N-3: Establish a partnership between Sacramento County and the local school district to allow schools to be used as neighborhood centers. For example, allow schools to be used for neighborhood and after-school activities. (64.6% support) (Survey Question #63)

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N3-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will work with the School District to allow for use of the schools after hours for community events and programs.			X

¹ Software not yet available

² For Council meetings

Policy N-4: Neighborhood Districts should be established to increase public participation and communication between neighborhoods, citizens and the County. (45.2% support) (Survey Question #43)

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N4-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will develop a system of neighborhood districts as a communication tool to notify Carmichael residents of matters affecting their community. Use these districts to establish responsible, active listening with County. Involve the community in designating the geographical boundaries for Neighborhood Districts.	3		X
N4-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services will encourage and support the formation of organized and recognized Neighborhood Associations throughout the community. Encourage Neighborhood Associations to take an active role in making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, and other hearing bodies, on projects in the community.	X		

Policy N-5: Provide a designated staff person at a local office in Carmichael. (32.3% support) (Survey Question #52)

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N5-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will set up a process for any project that will have an impact on the community to be made known to Community Councils by working with all County Departments and other agencies to refer their projects to the Community Council for a review.			4
N5-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services will assign a specific staff person for Carmichael (one contact) with office hours in Carmichael (could co-exist with other County or special districts personnel). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not need to be full time in Carmichael • An addition to code enforcement staff • Assigned at a high enough level to have “clout” with and knowledge of other Departments (but does not need to be an expert, but an ombudsman) 		X	
N5-3: The Department of Neighborhood Services will provide support for Community Councils (including on-going training and attendance at the meetings).	X		

³ Currently using Neighborhood Associations

⁴ Dependant on authorized scope of councils

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N5-4: The Department of Neighborhood Services will keep records (agendas and action summaries) of all community council meetings.	5		
N5-5: The Department of Neighborhood Services will provide the necessary training for Community Council members, including training to ensure that all Community Council members are familiar with the Community Plan and the Community Action Plan and continue to use it as a guideline for approval of future projects.	X		
N5-6: The Department of Neighborhood Services will designate staff to keep the e-mail distribution lists current.	X		
N5-7: The Department of Neighborhood Services will ensure that the Community Councils will be notified of all changes to projects prior to subsequent hearings.	6		
N5-8: The Department of Neighborhood Services will designate staff to help keep the website current.		X	
N5-9: The Department of Neighborhood services will sponsor Town Hall meetings once or twice a year in Carmichael. Attendees to include: The Third District Supervisor, other Supervisors who wish to attend, Sheriff, CHP, Water Districts, Park Districts, Fire Districts, Libraries, School Districts, county staff, businesses and community members from Carmichael. Additionally, coordinate periodic scheduled meetings with elected officials.			X
N5-10: The Department of Neighborhood Services will keep the Community Council informed of all projects going through the hearing process so that the Community Council can keep the community informed of the status if the project as the move through the process.			7
N5-11: The Department of Neighborhood Services will maintain a large map of Carmichael that tracks all project to be displayed at all Community Council meetings.		X	

Policy N-6: Establish a Carmichael Community Council that would replace the CPAC (Community Planning Advisory Council). The Council would be responsible for making decisions, to the extent allowed by law, on projects that have a direct impact on Carmichael, such as transportation, community services and local issues. (43.7% support) (Survey Question #53)

⁵ Clerk of the Board website

⁶ Clerk of the Board

⁷ Must coordinate with Planning Department

Neighborhood Services Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
N6-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will be responsible for local governance to implement and enforce policies on beautification, community pride and involvement, business development and Town Center/Business District, and land use.			8
N6-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services will ensure that when the Council reviews each project, that cumulative impact on the community is addressed.			X
N6-3: The Department of Neighborhood Services will keep neighborhood associations and the Chamber of Commerce informed about projects in the community using the website.		X	
N6-4: The Department of Neighborhood Services will consider increasing required notification distance.	9		
N6-5: The Department of Neighborhood Services will ensure that the Community Council will continue to notify the adjacent Community Councils and/or Community Planning Advisory Councils (CPAC's) when a project is located near a common boundary. The Council will be responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making decisions on projects that have a direct impact on Carmichael up to certain dollar amount (to be approved in the County budget). • Recommended that council should be allowed to make decisions on spending 10% of the tax dollars generated in Carmichael for specific projects in Carmichael. • This council will partner with the County to make recommendations on other projects that impact Carmichael by helping to set the priorities of projects in Carmichael, for example, when a list of transportation improvements are suggested, the council will assist the County in setting the priority for how those transportation dollars will be spent in Carmichael. 	10		
N6-6: The Department of Neighborhood Services will invite representatives from the school board, park board, County entities, neighborhood associations, and other service providers to attend or staff the Community Council.			11

⁸ Currently neither Councils nor DNS have authority to enforce these types of policies. DNS could help citizen committees with implementation.

⁹ MSA Cabinet will be working on this.

¹⁰ MSA Cabinet will make recommendations to the Board regarding authority issues for Councils

¹¹ This is related to authority issue for Councils.

Policy N-7: Membership on the Community Council (or the CPAC) should have a balanced representation of business owners, neighborhood districts and service groups. (70% support) (Survey Question # 55)

<i>Neighborhood Services Actions</i>	<i>On-Going</i>	<i>Short-Term</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>
N7-1: The Department of Neighborhood Services will divide the community into neighborhood districts. One representative from each neighborhood district is to be on the Community Council.	12		
N7-2: The Department of Neighborhood Services would take a role in selecting the representatives for the Council. Guidelines for the selection process would be adopted.	13		

Deferred Neighborhood Services Policies

The Board of Supervisors deferred the following policies because they were supported at a lower level, or because County Counsel has advised staff that the Board cannot legally delegate land use decision-making authority to another elected body. Implementation ideas supported by these policies will be deferred to a later date and/or are part of other County studies that are currently on going.

- *Enhance the current CPAC (Community Planning Advisory Council) to allow the CPAC to make advisory recommendations on a broader range of projects, such as transportation, public services or other local issues. (40.8% support) (Survey Question #51)*
- *The members of the Community Council should be elected by the community of Carmichael rather than be appointed by the Board of Supervisors. (59.9% support) (Survey Question #54)*

Neighborhood Services Policies Not Supported

The Board of Supervisors did not recommend the following policies, as the community did not support them.

- *Increase the number of members of the Board of Supervisors from five to seven to make the supervisorial districts smaller. (33.9% support) (Survey Question # 57)*

¹² Completed – this was done as part of the creation of the Carmichael/Old Foothill Farms Community Council

¹³ Completed – DNS coordinated town hall meetings/the application process. The Board appointed council members.

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation policies developed and strongly supported by the community survey in Phase Three of the Community Action Plan dealt mainly with the following:

- Maintain/improve traffic flow and control speeding in Carmichael.
- Increase the level of public transit service in Carmichael
- Create a network of bike lanes throughout Carmichael connecting parks, schools, the library, shopping and neighborhoods.
- Accelerate the pace of pedestrian-friendly improvements.
- Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas.

The outcome of the Phase Four process determined that many of the Phase Two implementation ideas have already been incorporated into existing County programs and processes. Many projects implementing the strategies to maintain/improve traffic flow are contained in the Sacramento County DOT's "Project Priority List and Seven Year TIP." Traffic management (also known as traffic calming) strategies to control speeding are included in the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Many of the pedestrian strategies are contained in the Sacramento County Pedestrian Master Plan, the accessibility strategies are contained in the Sacramento County ADA (American's with Disabilities Act) Transition Plan, and the bicycle strategies are contained in the Sacramento City/County Bikeway Master Plan.

Regional Transit was also involved in the Phase Four process. Transit strategies including expanded light rail, enhanced bus service, bus rapid transit and neighborhood shuttles will be forwarded to Regional Transit for consideration. The County will continue to work with the Carmichael community and Regional Transit regarding the strategies that are under RT's control.

Some of the strategies were forwarded to other teams in Phase Four for implementation. The speeding enforcement issues referred to in Policy T1 were forwarded to Public Safety as the California Highway Patrol regulates speeding. Since the Sheriff's Department has a working relationship with the CHP, this issue is discussed in the Public Safety section. Land use strategies involving private development were forwarded to the Land Use team. Policy T5 in this Transportation section and Policy L6 in the Land Use section both address lighting in public areas and parking lots. The Transportation Team also eliminated some of the strategies that were outside of the boundaries of the Carmichael community.

Funding is the key to implementation of the strategies. The ADA Transition Plan Capital Implementation Plan has prioritized roughly 2,300 intersections at a cost of \$67 million dollars over a 15-20 year period to achieve programmatic accessibility throughout the unincorporated County. Roughly \$3 million (or 5%) of those ADA improvements are located in the Carmichael community. The Pedestrian Master Plan estimates that roughly \$18 million dollars is needed over the next 5 years for the highest ranking projects but also estimates that \$420 million dollars is needed to address the entire set of pedestrian projects in unincorporated Sacramento County contained in the

Pedestrian Master Plan. Roughly \$1.6 million (or 9%) of the pedestrian improvements contained in the Pedestrian CIP are located in Carmichael and \$44 million (or 10%) of the entire set of pedestrian projects are located in Carmichael.

The City/County Bicycle Master Plan estimates that roughly 43 miles of County bike lanes are needed over the next ten years for bicycle improvements in Carmichael. The estimated rough cost for bicycle improvements is \$43 million using \$1 million per mile for bike lanes. The estimated total project cost for the Fair Oaks Blvd. Corridor Enhancements, Marconi Ave. to Engle Rd., is between \$10.5 million and \$11.3 million, depending on alternative selected. The estimated cost of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan for Carmichael is not known at this time. The estimated cost of the Regional Transit strategies is also not known and is dependent on their feasibility as determined by Regional Transit.

Transportation Goals, Policies and Actions

- Goal T1 - The County will continue to pursue the implementation of the Transportation Circulation Element Plan in the General Plan.**
- Goal T2 - The County shall continue to work with the Carmichael community and Regional Transit regarding the strategies that are under RT’s control.**
- Goal T3 - The County shall investigate and, where appropriate, install bike lanes according to the City/County Bikeway Master Plan.**
- Goal T4 - The County will install sidewalks at high priority locations.**
- Goal T5 - The County will work with neighborhoods/ SMUD to identify locations where the installations of streetlights are desired.**



Policy T1: Maintain/Improve traffic flow (and control speeding) in Carmichael (80% support). (Survey Question #1 and #2)

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T1-1: The Department of Transportation will continue to prioritize unfunded projects in the Project Priority List. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure existing traffic flows, average speeds, levels of service (LOS), accident rates and locations in Carmichael to establish priority projects. • Consider widening Cypress to 4 lanes between Manzanita and Pasadena/Winding Way to improve Carmichael access to Route 80. 	X	X	
T1-2: The Department of Transportation will continue to	X		

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
implement transportation projects identified in the 7 Year Transportation Improvement Plan based on efficiency, effectiveness, and safety criteria. Implement various measures to maintain existing LOS such as ITS, street widening, or redesign, landscaped medians, etc.)			
<p>T1-3: The Department of Transportation will implement the recommendations approved by the Board of Supervisors in the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify speed limits; reduce excess lane widths. • Add planted medians for selected arterials with frequent left-turn lane opportunities at intersections (especially at all arterials and corridor entries into Carmichael.) <p>Develop Neighborhood areas with entry gateways and appropriate signage (coordinate with neighborhoods.)</p>	14		
<p>T1-4: The Department of Transportation will implement the recommendations included in the Pedestrian Master Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and implement 25-year plan for adding shade trees, sidewalk planting strips. • Coordinate efforts with the Fair Oaks Blvd. Special Planning Area (SPA) 	15		
<p>T1-5: The Department of Transportation shall conduct a license plate survey to determine auto, truck and transit movements on Fair Oaks Boulevard.</p>		X	
<p>T1-6: The Department of Transportation shall coordinate a Traffic Management Association (TMA) or other alternatives, for new development to establish a rideshare program for Carmichael over an average of a 25-year period and provide service to employment centers.</p>		X	
<p>T1-7: The Department of Transportation shall repave all streets in Carmichael over an average 25-year period.</p>	X		
<p>T1-8: The Department of Transportation shall continue the basic level of service to clean, maintain, and repair all streets, sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, pavement markings, signage, signals and drainage facilities.</p>	X		

¹⁴ The Board will adopt the NTMP on December 13, 2005.

¹⁵ The Board of Supervisors adopted the Pedestrian Master Plan on November 15, 2005.

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T1-9: The Department of Transportation shall use results of the Mobility Strategy Study for future planning/project decisions in Carmichael.	X		
T1-10: Efforts by the County to improve Fair Oaks Boulevard shall be coordinated with the Special Planning Area ordinance process. It shall be recognized that the plan to create a “Main Street” needs to consider that FOB will remain a major corridor for auto traffic that should not be shifted to the neighborhood streets surrounding Fair Oaks Boulevard. Because Fair Oaks Boulevard will remain a transportation corridor, alternative modes of transportation shall be encouraged.	16		

*Policy T2: Increase the level of public transit service to Carmichael. (86% support)
(Survey Question #5 thru #10)*

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T2-1: Continue existing Para transit door-to-door shared ride service.	X		
T2-2: The County of Sacramento will work with Regional Transit (RT) to improve mobility. The following ideas should be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase bus service on all thoroughfares and some arterials (for both peak and off-peak, with longer hours & more frequent service). • Restructure existing bus routes based on surveys of potential riders to provide better service to Carmichael. Residents. Improve safety of bus stops by locating them off of traffic lanes and constructing better pedestrian access to them. • Expand the Neighborhood Ride to service all of Carmichael. • Provide connecting bus service to LRT (light rail) all day and weekends. • Coordinate LRT/BRT (light rail/bus rapid transit) connections • Support the Sacramento County General plan to explore the feasibility of a transit only crossing of the American River between Watt Avenue and Sunrise, amend the Transportation Plan as appropriate, and develop funding 	X		

¹⁶ DOT, Planning and Economic Development are concurrently working on the Fair Oaks Blvd Concept Plan and the Fair Oaks Blvd. Road Improvement Project.

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
mechanisms for facility construction as necessary.			
T2-3: Consider allowing private “jitneys” to operate on Fair Oaks Blvd.			X

Policy T3: Create a network of bike lanes throughout Carmichael connecting parks, schools, the library, shopping and neighborhoods (55.2% support) (Survey Question #11).

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T3-1: Update the 2010 Bicycle Master Plan in accordance with the Bicycle Advisory committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study the feasibility of differential paving on all bike lanes, rumble strips, short curbing and/or differential paving to provide physical separation between bikes and autos. • Study the feasibility of connecting with the regional bikeway system. • Study the feasibility of connecting the Arden and Sunrise bicycle bridges over the American River with a bike trail on the north side of the river through Ancil Hoffman Park. • Upgrade bike lanes and/or sidewalks with roadway maintenance projects where feasible. 		X	
T3-2: Upgrade bike lane environment (cleaning of lanes, marking of hazards, lighting at intersections and busier night routes, route and destination signage); increase bike lane widths wherever feasible.	X		
T3-3: At intersections, expand and improve bike-signal activations & methods with detector loops in bike and vehicle lanes, and bicyclist-accessible push buttons.	X		
T3-4: Establish secondary / alternate routes through quiet neighborhoods with pavement signage for bicycles.	X		
T3-5: Paint one-way arrows on all bike lanes adjacent to traffic.	X		

*Policy T4: Accelerate the pace of pedestrian-friendly improvements (56% support)
(Survey Question #12).*

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
<p>T4-1: The Department of Transportation will implement the recommendations included in the Pedestrian Master Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize funds for “Safe Routes to School” sidewalk construction and other non-vehicular programs for getting kids safely to school. • Install or complete sidewalks, with the priority within a half-mile of schools (top priority), libraries, parks, transit stops, neighborhood centers). • County to ensure Pedestrian and wheelchair access, and fully implement ADA/Ped master plans. • Sidewalk to be free of obstructions (utility poles, mailboxes, etc.) with 5 ft. min. of available walking space near neighborhood centers and commercial areas. Irremovable obstructions should be mitigated by wider widths. Add lighting. • Planting strips between roadways and sidewalks and/or parallel parking as buffers in commercial areas. • Upgrade all residential neighborhoods’ sidewalks (for all such neighborhoods that voice support for such improvements). Primary upgrade would be taking some of the existing street width for new shade-tree planting strips between sidewalk and street. Replace rolled with vertical curb and gutter. Where planting strips or sidewalks are not present and street width is narrow in existing residential areas, explore alternate-side parallel parking in order to achieve improvements. • Replace street side drainage ditches with underground pipes to regain land for sidewalks and bike lanes. Locations shall be consistent with the Pedestrian Master Plan and Bikeway Master Plan and where financially feasible. Develop a comprehensive plan for rehabilitating and upgrading all infrastructures, subject to approval of Neighborhood residents; cover open ditches; relocate utility poles; explore community-wide funding mechanisms or assessments to pay for improvements. • Provide safety improvements at intersections to include pedestrian islands adjacent to turning lanes (except right-turn lanes) and on higher volume roads. 	17		

¹⁷ The Board of Supervisors adopted the Pedestrian Master Plan on November 15, 2005.

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T4-2: The Department of Transportation will provide more visible crosswalks; and/or raised crosswalks, pedestrian crossing signs and lights to alert drivers where appropriate; curb bulb-outs (raised curb extensions that narrow the travel lane at intersections or mid-block locations.)		X	
T4-3: The Department of Transportation will establish additional pedestrian / bike crossings with paving differential and/or signals at mid-block locations on higher speed roads.		X	
T4-4: The Department of Transportation will provide countdown signals with longer signal timings (on a case by case basis) at locations with higher counts of children (near schools), elderly and disabled.	18		
T4-5: The Department of Transportation will implement the recommendations included in the ADA Transition Plan. County to ensure Pedestrian and wheelchair access, and fully implement ADA/Ped master plans.	19		

Policy T5: Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas. (54.2 support) (Survey Question #73)

Transportation Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
T5-1: The Department of Transportation will implement the recommendations included in the Pedestrian Master Plan. Establish streetlight plan to install/upgrade more urban sections of Carmichael.	20		

Deferred Transportation Policies

The Board of Supervisors did not defer any transportation policies.

Transportation Policies Not Supported

The Board of Supervisors did not recommend the following policies, as the community did not support them.

- *Study the feasibility of adding a transportation tunnel connecting Highways 50 & 80 to reduce through traffic in Carmichael. (45.7% support) (Survey Question # 3)*
- *Study the feasibility of shifting some traffic from Fair Oaks Boulevard to alternative routes in Carmichael. (27.8% support) (Survey Question #4)*

¹⁸ The Board of Supervisors adopted the Pedestrian Master Plan on November 15, 2005.

¹⁹ The Board of Supervisors adopted the ADA Transition Plan on January 25, 2005.

²⁰ The Board of Supervisors adopted the Pedestrian Master Plan on November 15, 2005.

COMMUNITY IDENTITY

The community identity policies that were endorsed by the Carmichael Community centered on creating a “sense of place” that is Carmichael. Upgrading Fair Oaks Boulevard is seen as a key component of establishing an identity for the Carmichael community. In addition to improving the streetscape itself, the community desires to improve the type and variety of businesses located in Carmichael to serve the community. An important component of improving the look of the corridor is increasing the attention given to the community by the County both in terms of enforcement of codes and in marketing the community to new and different types of commercial ventures oriented toward serving the residential community.

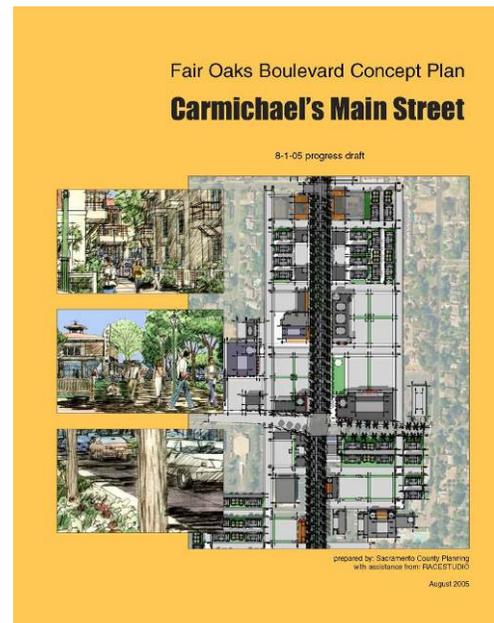
The designation of a portion of Fair Oaks Boulevard as a “main street” is important to establish a focal point for the community. The proposal of a Special Planning Area will allow the County to create standards for the uses along the Boulevard. Common design components can be incorporated with the goal of establishing an attractive, upscale business district that is an enhancement to the community. As further discussed in the Land Use section, by mixing together commercial and residential uses along the Boulevard, a pedestrian friendly atmosphere can be created in coordination with the improvements that are part of the transportation component.

Community Identity Goals, Policies and Actions

Goal C1 - Create a distinct and identifiable community identity for Carmichael

Goal C2 – Create an attractive and revitalized business district that is oriented to serving the residents of Carmichael

Policy C1: Designate portion of Fair Oaks Boulevard corridor as a Main Street with a common design theme (architectural design standards, landscaping, signage, street lights). (48.9% support) (Survey Question #18) (Note: survey question #25, “Remove SMUD and other utility poles off of Fair Oaks Boulevard, either by moving them underground or to the rear of the property.” which received 45.6% support, has been included in this policy and is addressed by short-term action C1-4 below)



Community Identity Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
C1-1: Consider a Special Planning Ordinance for Fair Oaks Boulevard to modify commercial zoning and encourage a variety of commercial uses. This ordinance would discourage certain uses in order to develop the economic vitality of Carmichael. The following elements to ensure a “Main Street” design should be included in the ordinance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike/ Pedestrian friendliness • Coordination with FOB Road Improvement Project (on-going) • Façade/ Landscaping Improvements • Encouragement of the assembly of parcels to allow redevelopment • Encouragement of shared parking resources • Consideration of the use of consultants to help with the design issues. 		X	
C1-2: Conduct a study to determine options for removing billboards		X	
C1-3: County will encourage and support implementation to beautify Fair Oaks Boulevard and will support efforts by the community.		X	
C1-4: County will encourage and work with utilities to underground and/or move utility poles to the rear of the parcel and will support efforts by the community.		X	
C1-5: Pursue funding sources for the FOB SPA developments and take measures as appropriate to reduce the necessity to use an auto to access the developments on the new transit oriented, bike/pedestrian friendly Main Street. Recognize that the goal is to NOT shift traffic on to neighborhood streets surrounding Fair Oaks Boulevard.		X	

Policy C2: Work with the community to ensure that all business properties are properly maintained. (79.1% support) (Survey Question #23)

Community Identity Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
C2-1: Consider code amendments and policy changes to allow the County to work with new business and property owners to bring existing developments up to current standards through use of compliance programs.		X	
C2-2: County will create educational programs on codes and comprehensive code enforcement.		X	

Policy C3: Adopt stronger code enforcement to eliminate blight and undesirable, poorly maintained commercial property. (79.8% support) (Survey Questions #24 rewritten)

Community Identity Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
C3-1: County will review codes for consistency, efficiency and effectiveness.	X		
C3-2: Devote more Code Enforcement resources and consider additional staffing through funding sources.		X	
C3-3: The County shall adopt a zero tolerance policy for blight conditions to cite code violators immediately and without warning.	X		

Policy C4: An effort should be made to actively recruit businesses that will enhance Carmichael, such as restaurants, boutiques and businesses that are oriented to families. (68.5% Support) (Survey Question #21)

Policy C5: An effort should be made to encourage more variety in the types of businesses located in Carmichael (55.2% Support) (Survey Question #22)

Community Identity Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
C4-1: Pursue opportunities for a revitalization strategy through a Property and Business Improvement District (PBID) or other type of community financing district			X
C4-2: The Economic Development Department will work with existing business advocacy organizations like the Carmichael and Metro Chambers of Commerce, and with property owners and commercial real estate professionals to assist in marketing Carmichael to desirable businesses.		X	
C4-3: Work with County to identify appropriate Business Incentives		X	
C4-4: Fund a market research study to better determine business strengths and weaknesses, constraints and opportunities.		X	X
C4-5: Establish a marketing campaign to bring in commercial businesses and services to Carmichael. Consider using the following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring a professional firm to market Carmichael; • Aggressive outreach by the County Economic Development Department; • The Carmichael Chamber of Commerce. 		X	

Deferred Community Identity Policies

The Board of Supervisors did not defer any community identity policies.

Community Identity Policies Not Supported

The Board of Supervisors did not recommend the following policies, as the community did not support them.

- *Create three Village Centers with distinct design themes in the area between Winding Way and Oak Avenue. (31.8% support) (Survey Question #19)*
- *One village center should be expanded to serve as a mixed-use (retail/residential) transit hub. (29.2% support) (Survey Question # 20)*

LAND USE

Land Use covered a wide range of issues in Carmichael. The primary issue, which is related to the issue of community identity, is maintaining the existing semi-rural character of the community, primarily by addressing the issue of preserving this character in the many different, eclectic residential neighborhoods throughout the community, both semi-rural (defined as RD-1 and RD-2) and lower density neighborhoods (defined as RD-3, RD-4 and RD-5). While it is recognized that much of the land originally labeled as semi-rural in the 1975 Community Plan has now been



converted to higher densities, the mixture large lots with smaller lots is part of the character that the community identifies with. Therefore, preservation of that character by maintaining the areas of semi-rural that remain is important.

The community desires to have an identity, and as discussed in the Community Identity section,

having a focal point can create that identity. Integral to that desire, is concentrating higher density residential and commercial uses along the major transportation corridors in the community. The policies address the amount and location of multiple family properties and the creation of “mixed-use” areas along the major boulevards to accommodate new multiple-family units while addressing the overabundance of commercially zoned properties. Policy L4 related to mixed-use (from Survey Question #41) did not receive more than 50% support but the board of supervisors included this as an endorsed policy as it supports the County General Plan and other policies related to public transportation. Additionally, the concept of mixed-use is integral to the Fair Oaks Boulevard special planning area that is part of the community identity discussion.

Land Use Goals, Policies and Actions

Goal L1 – Identify policies and strategies for using land use planning and decisions to preserve the character of Carmichael.

Policy L1: Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 1 or 2 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the semi-rural character and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood. (58.9% support) (Survey Question #34)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
<p>L1-1: Rezones that impact, change, or contribute to the change of the character of the semi-rural areas should be discouraged. A semi-rural area is defined as: <i>“A geographic area containing RD-1 & RD-2 zoned land but may also include a mixture of other zoning. The area may contain large animals or hobby farms. The area may generally include mature vegetation, natural streams, parcels / lots with large open space around houses and open area which provides wildlife habitat. Street improvements are minimal. All of these elements contribute to the character of a semi-rural neighborhood.”</i></p> <p>Identify the semi-rural areas to be preserved (rezones are to be discouraged). By designating these areas, the following can be taken into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of cumulative effects of previous development projects • Incentives to property owners to maintain current RD-1 and RD-2 zoning. • Modification of improvement standards to discourage new sidewalks in new developments • Inclusion of greenbelts and open space, with more trees (vegetation and trees) in new developments. 		X	
<p>L1-2: Provide zoning information on the Carmichael website for use by homeowners (existing and prospective), realtors and anyone else desiring information on zoning regulations in Carmichael.</p>		X	
<p>L1-3: Consider County sponsored Neighborhood Preservation Areas (NPA's) or amendments to the existing NPA's to increase minimum lot sizes, setbacks and to regulate variance requests.</p>			X

Policy L2: Projects within low-density neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 3, 4, or 5 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the character of the neighborhoods and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood. (62.3% support) (Survey Question #37)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L2-1: Define “low-density neighborhood” and identify which areas are to be preserved (rezones are to be discouraged). By designating these areas, the following can be taken into consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of previous development projects • Incentives to property owners to maintain current zoning. • Modification of improvement standards to discourage new sidewalks in new developments • Inclusion of greenbelts and open space, with more trees (vegetation and trees) in new developments. 		X	
L2-2: Provide zoning information on the Carmichael website for use by homeowners (existing and prospective), realtors and anyone else desiring information on zoning regulations in Carmichael.		X	
L2-3: Consider County sponsored Neighborhood Preservation Areas (NPA's) or amendments to the existing NPA's to increase minimum lot sizes, setbacks, and to regulate variance requests.			X

Policy L3: Encourage rehabilitation of existing high-density and commercial areas before new projects are developed (69.8% support) (Survey Question #40).

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L3-1: Encourage existing apartment complexes to be re-habilitated. For example, consider changes in building and zoning codes to make it easier to re-habilitate older structures as an incentive to reduce the number of new apartment complexes, except as provided by policy L4.	X		
L3-2: Consider a Special Planning Area designation on Fair Oaks Blvd. to revitalize commercial development and encourage façade and landscape improvements.	X		
L3-3: Work with SHRA to determine if any areas in Carmichael qualify for redevelopment monies.			X

Policy L4: Projects within residentially zoned high-density and commercially zoned areas along the major streets should be developed as mixed-use (retail and high-density residential in the same development) which are compatible with adjacent residential neighborhoods and promotes public transit. (38% support) (Survey Question #41)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L4-1: Consider a Special Planning Area designation on Fair Oaks Blvd. to revitalize commercial development and encourage façade and landscape improvements.	X		
L4-2: Consider code amendments to develop a mixed-use zone (could be part of the Special Planning Area ordinance). As part of that zone ensure that high density and commercial uses are compatible with adjacent single-family uses, and encourage redevelopment and mixed use of vacant strip malls and marginal commercial land uses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include access requirements to separate the traffic flow from these projects away from adjacent single-family neighborhoods. • Encourage this zoning to be located along major arterials. • Include development standards to make it simpler to build a mixed-use project. • Standards shall include requirements to orient the development on the site away from the adjacent single-family uses. • Use landscaping to buffer adjacent uses. • Development should include high-density single-family detached or attached units whenever possible, rather than traditional apartment complexes. • As part of the Special Development Area study, complete a transportation plan and infrastructure plan. • Encourage more pedestrian walkways (not just sidewalks). • Development should include greenbelts and open space (vegetation and trees) 		X	
L4-3: Consider a plan to offer tax incentives and reduced fees to developers for conversion of commercial and marginal high-density to new mixed-use developments.			X

Policy L5: In addition to protecting heritage trees, including oak trees, which are already protected by the County of Sacramento Tree Ordinance, strictly monitor and limit the removal of other large trees in neighborhoods (57.2% support) (Survey Question #45)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L5-1: Consider a zoning code amendment to increase setbacks from creeks in order to protect trees.			X
L5-2: Consider changes in the County Tree Ordinance to encourage protection of additional species of trees			X

Policy L6: Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas. (54.2% support) (Survey Question #73)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L6-1: Consider adding lighting standards for all businesses and apartments as part of the SPA for Fair Oaks Blvd. These standards should include a definition of brightness (number of lumens), definition of public areas, and standard for angle or lighting and shielding and placement of lights.	X		

Policy L7: Additional gated communities in Carmichael should not be allowed. (72.3% support as re-written) (Survey Question #42, rewritten)

Land Use Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
L7-1: Consider code amendments that would require a public hearing to install a private gate when more than two homes are located on a private drive or street.		X	

Deferred Land Use Policies

The Board of Supervisors deferred the following policy. Implementation ideas supported by these policies will be deferred to a later date and/or are part of other County studies that are currently on going.

- *Require developers to plant trees in all new residential developments. (79.2 % support) (Survey Question # 46)*

Land Use Polices Not Supported

The Board of Supervisors did not recommend the following policies, as the community did not support them.

- *Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 1 or 2 homes per acre. Rezones to allow up to 4 or 5 homes per acre*

- should be allowed on a case-by-case basis.(31.8% support) (Survey Question #33)*
- *Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built at higher densities than the existing zoning allows by encouraging rezones up to 4 or 5 homes per acre. The character of the neighborhoods should be preserved with designs that retain open space and larger setbacks.(14.6% support) (Survey Question #35)*
 - *Projects within low-density neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 4 or 5 homes per acre. Rezones to allow up to 7 homes per acre should be allowed on a case-by-case basis.(17.7% support) (Survey Question #36)*
 - *Developments within low-density neighborhoods should be built at higher densities than the zoning allows by encouraging rezones up to 7 homes per acre. The character of the neighborhoods should be preserved with designs that include retention of open space and larger setbacks.(9% support) (Survey Question #38)*
 - *Projects within both the residentially zoned and commercially zoned areas along the major streets should be built using the existing zoning for traditional multiple family developments or as traditional strip commercial shopping areas. (26.2% support) (Survey Question #39)*
 - *Provide neighborhood entrance signs in Carmichael.(30.4% support) (Survey Question #44)*

PUBLIC SAFETY

During Phase Two of the Community Action Plan process, the public safety theme team generated many implementation ideas. The community and resulting committees developed several excellent ideas to improve public safety. Many of these ideas are either already underway, now in the process of implementation, or the Sheriff's Department will explore the viability to complete. The Sheriff's Department recommends that all community-based organizations collaborate with the Northeast Division on a regular basis to ensure that non-crime related information and activities are distributed to the community through each perspective organization. It is also recommended that each perspective organization is responsible to finance the cost of marketing such information. The survey results for Carmichael indicated that the community does not support increases in taxes to pay for these services.

If specific neighborhoods within the Carmichael area desire additional law enforcement services than what the Sheriff's Department is currently able to provide an alternative is available. Several neighborhood Associations have contracted for additional patrol services with the Sheriff's Department through the "Off-Duty" program. The current approximate cost to hire off-duty deputies is \$41.53 per hour per deputy.

Policy P2 refers to both neighborhood officers - Problem Oriented Policing – and County Code Enforcement officers. The discussion of additional code enforcement resources is discussed in the community identity section.

The portion of Policy P4 that refers to maintain and improving the flow of traffic in Carmichael is addressed in the Transportation section.

Public Safety Goals, Policies and Actions

Goal P1 – Improve the safety and quality of life for the citizens of Carmichael.

Policy P1: Make public safety contact readily available to citizens and neighborhood groups. (61.1% support) (Survey Question #70)

Public Safety Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
P1-1: Create a brochure with Sheriff and related organizations contact information. Include Sheriff website information as well as the Department of Neighborhood Services website information. Distribute the brochure through the community. Use free resources as much as possible.	X		
P1-2: The Sheriff Department should promote the formation of neighborhood watch groups by placing periodic articles in local newspapers, homeowner’s association newsletters, community and faith-based newsletters, at zone meetings and other special presentations.	X		
P1-3: Hold an annual safety fair in the community.	X		
P1-4: Post Sacramento Sheriff Department information on the Neighborhood Services Department Carmichael community website.	X	21	
P1-5: Use neighborhood watch groups contact information (addresses and e-mails) to distribute information about community events and happenings. Coordinate this with the Department of Neighborhood Services.	X		
P1-6: Set regular meeting dates for the zone meetings to enable the community to know when the meetings will be held.	X		
P1-7: Quarterly zone meetings should be announced by posting notices throughout the community.	X		
P1-8: Establish a public website link that would allow citizens to file reports on-line. This is a goal of the Records Management System currently under construction within the Sheriff’s Department.		X	

Policy P2: Increase the presence of (both) neighborhood officers - Problem Oriented Policing – (and County Code Enforcement) Carmichael. (60.5% Support) (Survey Question #71)

²¹ Can do a link from the DNS website.

Public Safety Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
P2-1: Increasing communication and sharing information between POP officers and the non- POP officers.	X		
P2-2: Consider expanding the use of VIPS (Volunteers In Partnership with the Sheriff's Department), for additional programs as appropriate.	X		
P2-3: Consider increasing the budget to restore POP officers to Carmichael.			X

Policy P3: Encourage more communication (community building, conflict resolution and crime-reduction practices) between the Sheriff's Department and neighborhood groups such as neighborhood watch and the community. (66% support) (Survey Question #72)

Public Safety Actions	On-Going	Short-Term	Long-Term
P3-1: Encourage the use of existing mediation programs by educating public safety officers on community building, conflict transformation strategies, restorative practices, and crime reduction techniques.	X		

Policy P4: (Maintain/Improve traffic flow and) Control speeding in Carmichael (80% support). (Survey Question #1 and #2)

The Sheriff's Department relies upon the California Highway Patrol for enforcement of laws relating to traffic in the unincorporated areas of the county. The Sheriff's Department helps to facilitate the exchange of information from the community to representatives of the CHP during public meetings and through personal contacts with the CHP.

Deferred Community Identity Policies

The Board of Supervisors did not defer any public safety policies.

Community Identity Policies Not Supported

The community and the Board of Supervisors supported all public safety policies.

OTHER COUNTY SERVICES AND/OR NON-COUNTY SERVICES

This section of the Community Action Plan addresses the various services that the County provides to all residents in the County, including Carmichael, or involves programs not within the purview of Sacramento County as a provider of services. These include health and human services, community parks, libraries, and schools

Human and Community Services

- *Establish satellite or mobile County offices that visit schools, parks and the library to provide greater access and information regarding health and human services. (31% support) (Survey Question #62)*
- *Establish a partnership between Sacramento County and the local school district to allow schools to be used as neighborhood centers. For example, allow schools to be used for neighborhood and after-school activities.(64.6% support) (Survey Question #63)*

Library

- *The library should be open more hours. (62.7% support) (Survey Question #64)*
- *Provide library satellite services at various locations such as schools and parks. (33.3 % support) (Survey Question #65)*

Parks and Recreation

- *Renovate existing park facilities. (56.3% support) (Survey Question #66)*
- *Develop undeveloped park property. (43.3% support) (Survey Question #67)*
- *Study the feasibility of consolidating the Carmichael Park District and Mission Oaks Park District. (41.1% support) (Survey Question #68)*
- *Support the development of an aggressive beautification program for Carmichael Park. (47.2% support) (Survey Question #69)*



FINANCING OPTIONS

The community was asked to indicate their support for a series of funding options to pay for new programs or efforts that were supported. Overall, new taxes and/or increased taxes were not supported. The community did support using existing County funds and new federal or state money, or in the case of code violations, increased fines. The use of existing County funds or the use of new federal and state monies will be looked at on a case-by-case basis as the new programs and efforts are implemented pursuant to this action plan.

For a complete list of all policies, see Appendix A.

APPENDIX “A” – Phase Three Policy Options

Transportation

Streets and Traffic Management

1. and 2. Maintain/improve traffic flow and control speeding in Carmichael.
(Note: this is a combination of two of the original policy options: “Maintain/improve traffic flow and control speeding in Carmichael using traditional measures such as adding more lanes on major streets and traditional traffic-calming techniques on residential streets, including speed bumps, painted lines, roundabouts.”; and “Maintain/improve traffic flow and control speeding in Carmichael by redesigning many of the major and residential streets (semi-rural areas would not be altered) to include tree canopies, landscape strips and planted medians where appropriate.”)

Streets and Traffic Management

3. Study the feasibility of adding a transportation tunnel connecting Highways 50 & 80 to reduce through traffic in Carmichael.
4. Study the feasibility of shifting some traffic from Fair Oaks Boulevard to alternative routes in Carmichael.

Public Transit

5. – 10. Increase the level of public transit service to Carmichael.
(Note: this is a combination of six of the original policy options: “Increase the level of public transit service by adding new express (limited stops) bus service to job centers.”; “Extend Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service to Carmichael.”; “Extend Light Rail to better serve Carmichael.”; “Add more Neighborhood Ride routes in Carmichael.”; “Add more conventional public transit service to Carmichael by increasing the routes and frequency of bus service.”; and “Provide Park and Ride lots in Carmichael.”)

Alternative Modes of Transportation

11. Create a network of bike lanes throughout Carmichael connecting parks, schools, the library, shopping, and neighborhoods.
12. Accelerate the pace of pedestrian-friendly improvements.

Financing

To improve transportation in Carmichael, how much would you favor each of the following ways to pay for new or expanded programs and efforts?

13. Make these a priority for existing County funds.
14. Ask voters to increase County sales or utility taxes.
15. Ask voters to create a special taxing district of property owners in Carmichael.
16. Look for and use new federal or state money.
17. Increase user fees where possible.

Community Identity

Identity

18. Designate a portion of Fair Oaks Boulevard Corridor as a Main Street with a common design theme (architectural design standards, landscaping, signage, street lights).
19. Create three Village Centers with distinct design themes in the area between Winding Way and Oak Avenue.
20. One village center should be expanded to serve as a mixed-use (retail/residential) transit hub.

Local Businesses

21. An effort should be made to actively recruit businesses that will enhance Carmichael such as restaurants, boutiques, and businesses that are oriented to families.
22. An effort should be made to encourage more variety in the types of businesses located in Carmichael.

Community Appearance and Pride

23. Work with the community to ensure that all business properties are properly maintained.
24. Adopt stronger code enforcement to eliminate blight and undesirable, poorly maintained commercial property.
25. Remove SMUD and other utility poles off of Fair Oaks Boulevard, either by moving them underground or to the rear of the property.
26. Work with local park districts to help sponsor and organize festivals, farmer's markets and other community events at area parks and the community centers.

Financing

To improve community identity in Carmichael, how much would you favor each of the following ways to pay for new or expanded programs and efforts?

27. Make these a priority for existing County funds.
28. Ask voters to increase County sales or utility taxes.
29. Ask voters to create a special taxing district of property owners in Carmichael.
30. Look for and use new federal or state money.
31. Increase fines for violations of County codes.
32. Ask business owners in Carmichael to tax themselves more.

Neighborhoods

Semi-Rural Area (1 to 2 Homes per Acre)

33. Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 1 or 2 homes per acre. Rezones to allow up to 4 or 5 homes per acre should be allowed on a case-by-case basis.
34. Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 1 or 2 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the semi-rural character and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood.
35. Projects within semi-rural neighborhoods should be built at higher densities than the existing zoning allows by encouraging rezones up to 4 or 5 homes per acre. The

character of the neighborhoods should be preserved with designs that retain open space and larger setbacks.

Low-Density Areas (4 to 5 Homes per Acre)

36. Projects within low-density neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 4 or 5 homes per acre. Rezones to allow up to 7 homes per acre should be allowed on a case-by-case basis.
37. Projects within low-density neighborhoods should be built using the existing zoning of 4 or 5 homes per acre. Discourage rezones to preserve the character of the neighborhoods and encourage retention of larger lot sizes and setbacks consistent with the neighborhood.
38. Developments within low-density neighborhoods should be built at higher densities than the zoning allows by encouraging rezones up to 7 homes per acre. The character of the neighborhoods should be preserved with designs that include retention of open space and larger setbacks.

High-Density Areas (Including Duplexes and Apartments)

39. Projects within both the residentially zoned and commercially zoned areas along the major streets should be built using the existing zoning for traditional multiple family developments or as traditional strip commercial shopping areas.
40. Encourage rehabilitation of existing high density and commercial areas before new projects are developed.
41. Projects within residentially zoned high density and commercially zoned areas along the major streets should be developed as mixed-use (retail and high density residential in the same development) which are compatible with adjacent residential neighborhoods and promotes public transit.

Neighborhood Identity and Appearance

42. Additional single-family gated communities in Carmichael should be allowed.
43. Neighborhood districts should be established to increase public participation and communication between neighborhoods, citizens and the County.
44. Provide neighborhood entrance signs in Carmichael.
45. In addition to protecting heritage, which are already protected by the County of Sacramento Tree Ordinance, strictly monitor and limit the removal of other large trees in neighborhoods.
46. Require developers to plant trees in all new residential developments.

Financing

To improve neighborhoods in Carmichael, how much would you favor each of the following ways to pay for new or expanded programs and efforts?

47. Make these a priority for existing County funds.
48. Ask voters to increase County sales or utility taxes.
49. Ask voters to create a special taxing district of property owners in Carmichael.
50. Look for and use new federal or state money.

Local Governance

51. Enhance the current CPAC (Community Planning Advisory Council) to allow the CPAC to make advisory recommendations on a broader range of projects, such as transportation, public services or other local issues.
52. Provide a designated staff person at a local office in Carmichael.
53. Establish a Carmichael Community Council that would replace the CPAC. The council would be responsible for making decisions, to the extent allowed by law, on projects that have a direct impact on Carmichael, such as transportation, public services or other local issues.
54. The members of the Community Council should be elected by the community of Carmichael rather than be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.
55. Membership on the CPAC or the Community Council should have a balanced representation of business owners, neighborhood districts, and service groups.
56. Maintain a Carmichael community website that includes information about all aspects of the community, including land use, transportation issues, and community events.
57. Increase the number of members of the Board of Supervisors from five to seven to make the supervised districts smaller.

Financing

To improve local governance in Carmichael, how much would you favor each of the following ways to pay for new or expanded programs and efforts?

58. Make these a priority for existing County funds.
59. Ask voters to increase County sales or utility taxes.
60. Ask voters to create a special taxing district of property owners in Carmichael.
61. Look for and use new federal or state money.

Community Services and Public Safety

Human and Community Services

62. Establish satellite or mobile County offices that visit schools, parks and the library to provide greater access and information regarding health and human services.
63. Establish a partnership between Sacramento County and the local school district to allow schools to be used as neighborhood centers. For example, allow schools to be used for neighborhood and after-school activities.

Library

64. The library should be open more hours.
65. Provide library satellite services at various locations such as schools and parks.

Parks and Recreation

66. Renovate existing park facilities.
67. Develop undeveloped park property.
68. Study the feasibility of consolidating the Carmichael Park District and Mission Oaks Park District.

69. Support the development of an aggressive beautification program for Carmichael Park.

Public Safety

70. Make public safety contact readily available to citizens and neighborhood groups.

71. Increase the presence of both neighborhood officers (Problem Oriented Policing) and County Code Enforcement in Carmichael.

72. Encourage more communication (community building, conflict resolution and crime reduction practices) between the Sheriff's Department and neighborhood groups such as neighborhood watch and the community.

73. Adopt an ordinance to increase lighting in public areas and parking areas.

Financing

To improve community services and public safety in Carmichael, how much would you favor each of the following ways to pay for new or expanded programs and efforts?

74. Make these a priority for existing County funds.

75. Ask voters to increase County sales or utility taxes.

76. Ask voters to create a special taxing district of property owners in Carmichael.

77. Look for and use new federal or state money.

78. Increase fines for violations of County codes.