

Final Kings County Blueprint Principles
Approved by the KCAG Commission on August 27, 2008

The following principles reflect the values and guidelines that will direct the future growth of the Cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford, and Lemoore and the County of Kings. These principles are the guiding statements that were used in the development of the Kings County Preferred Growth Scenario.

- ❖ The Cities and County of Kings will retain local land use authority.
- ❖ Direct future growth to existing urbanized areas within Kings County to ensure orderly and sufficient provision of services and infrastructure.
- ❖ Concentrate urban growth within the Blueprint Urban Growth Boundaries* for Cities and Community Service Districts to minimize outward expansion into important farmlands.
- ❖ Preservation of agricultural lands surrounding Cities and Communities shall serve as open space buffers that separate and maintain the individual identities and uniqueness of Cities and Communities within the County.
- ❖ Balance the Countywide need for urban growth and economic development with reinforced preservation of the County's prioritized agricultural resources.
- ❖ Enhance economic development connectivity through transportation highway infrastructure improvements that focus on expanding State Route 198 and 43 to four lanes through Kings County.
- ❖ Improve air quality through enhanced commuter connectivity by implementing alternative transportation modes and enhancing existing modes, and supporting the continuation of Amtrak passenger rail service through Kings County on the existing BNSF alignment.
- ❖ Create a range of housing alternatives and minimum and maximum densities that meet the changing needs of County residents.
- ❖ Protect the many natural resources and sensitive environmental habitats such as the Kings River corridor and wetlands from urban encroachment.
- ❖ Provide for an encroachment free operating environment for Naval Air Station Lemoore in coordination with the City of Lemoore and County of Kings.

*The Blueprint Urban Growth Boundaries are based upon the primary or secondary Sphere of Influence as defined by LAFCO, but modified to consider potential urban growth beyond the planning timeframe of current jurisdictional general plans. For the City of Avenal and Communities of Armona and Home Garden, the LAFCO Primary Sphere of Influence was relied upon. The City of Hanford and Community of Kettleman City have minor expansions beyond the LAFCO Primary Sphere of Influence. The Cities of Lemoore and Corcoran include more substantial territory within the LAFCO Secondary Sphere of Influence due to their unique growth restraint considerations.