



7

Environment and Sustainability (ENV)

The Environment section describes the existing conditions related to environmental resources and sustainability in Solvang. This section includes, but is not limited to water quality and supply, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, open space, cultural and natural resources, mineral resources, and biological resources.



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Open Space and Conservation

Solvang desires to conserve and protect open space to preserve the scenic beauty of its natural surroundings. The city is located in the Santa Ynez Valley, known for its agricultural lands, rolling hills, open spaces, rural character, scenic roadways, and natural features. The unincorporated areas of the Santa Ynez Valley are governed by County of Santa Barbara and the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan which designates allowed land uses, including a large amount of agricultural land.

The city contains two open space parcels, shown in Figure ENV-1. The first is a 2.67-acre parcel located south of SR 246 near Nykobing, opposite the southern tip of Hans Christian Andersen Park. The second is a 9.00-acre parcel behind the homes along Aarhus Drive, east of Oster Sted Court. This second area is owned by the Nyborg Estates Homeowners Association and contains a steep canyon with some walking trails. Other important open space areas for the city include the two local golf courses, River Course at Alisal and the Alisal Golf Course at the Alisal Guest Ranch Resort. The Alisal Guest Ranch is a working 10,000-acre cattle ranch located in the southern portion of the city

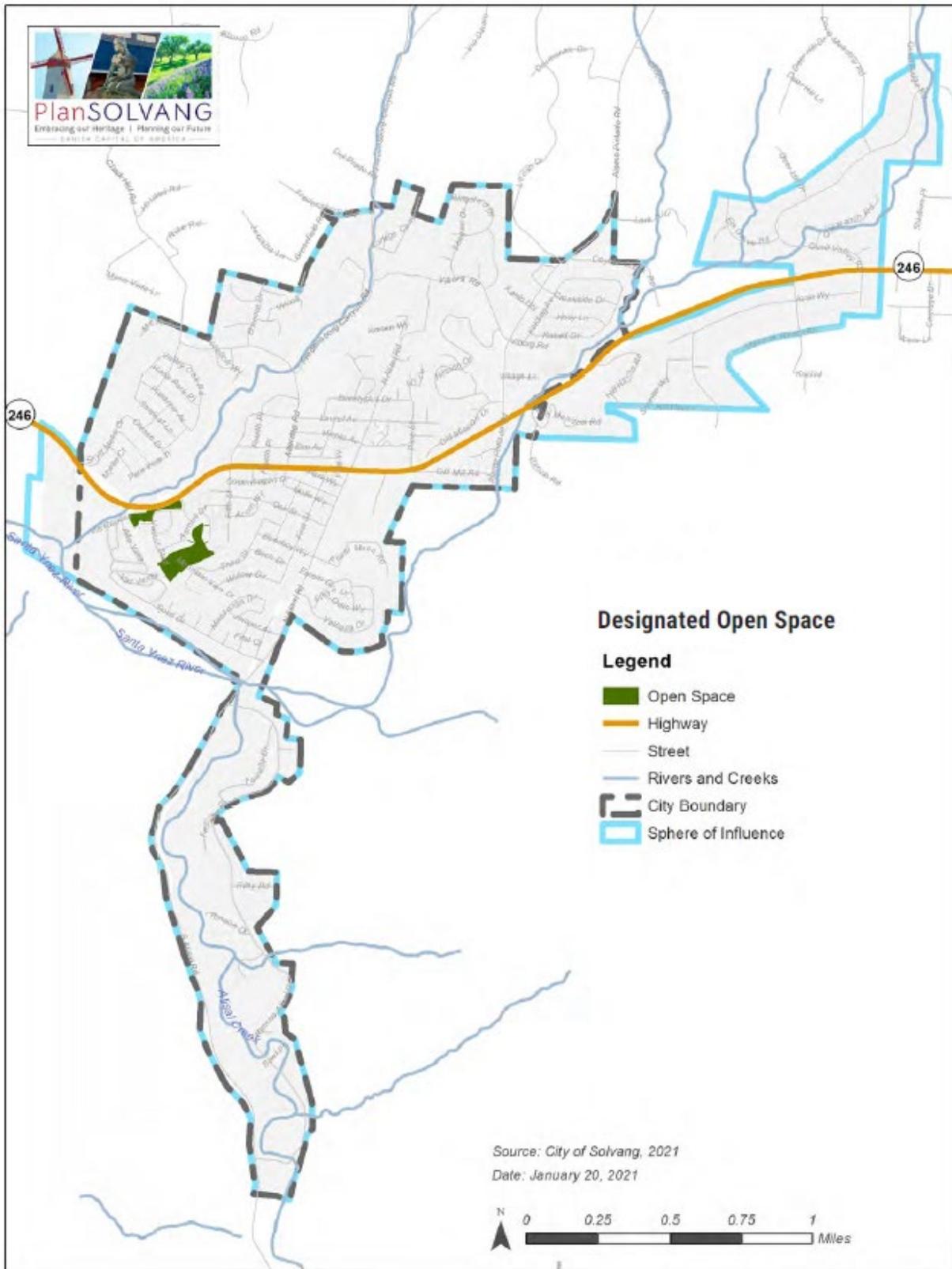
Although only two parcels are officially designated as open space by the General Plan, some residential subdivisions within the city incorporate open space areas, particularly between neighborhoods. Within the Design Residential and Planned Residential Development Districts, the City requires a minimum of 40 percent of the gross acreage of a planned residential development be dedicated to landscaping that is owned and maintained by Homeowners Associations.



For goals and policies relating to parks and recreation, please refer to Section PFS-7, PFS-8, and PFS-9 (Parks and Recreation) in the Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.



Figure ENV-1: Designated Open Space



Goal ENV-1:

To protect and provide access to important space areas within the city and within the region.

Policies

- ENV-1.1: Open Space Management.** The City shall manage city-owned open space designated land for the protection of sensitive biological resources primarily as a preserve.

- ENV-1.2: Support Regional Open Space.** The City shall support the efforts of Santa Barbara County, and other jurisdictions, the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County and other agencies, organizations, and private landowners to establish and maintain open space lands in the region.

- ENV-1.3: Maintain Agricultural Lands.** The City shall support Santa Barbara County to retain the Agriculture designation in viable farming units on lands surrounding the City and support implementation of the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan.

- ENV-1.4: Open Space Access.** The City shall continue to provide access to open space resources, with interpretive information, when doing so is consistent with protection of the resources, and with the security and privacy of affected landowners and occupants.



Goal ENV-2:

To protect important scenic resources within the city's plan area.

Policies

- ENV-2.1: Protect Scenic Qualities.** The City shall protect and enhance the important scenic qualities within the City Limits, including scenic views of rolling hillsides and agricultural lands.
- ENV-2.2: Urban Forest.** The City shall protect the urban forest created by mature trees in existing developed areas and require planting of approved trees and landscaping in new development.
- ENV-2.3: Scenic Transportation Corridors.** The City shall support efforts by Santa Barbara County to protect the scenic qualities of transportation corridors serving the City and region.
- ENV-2.4: Greenbelts.** The City shall work with the County of Santa Barbara, the City of Buellton, and other jurisdictions and agencies, to preserve the scenic character of the greenbelts and buffers surrounding Solvang, and enhance the gateways to the City.
- ENV-2.5: City Gateways.** The City shall support efforts to enhance and improve city gateways.

Biological Resources

Solvang is located along the southern edge of the Santa Ynez Valley where three creeks, Alamo Pintado Creek, Alisal Creek and Adobe Creek, flow into the Santa Ynez River. The river and its watershed from a riparian habitat with nearby chaparral and oak woodland supported a variety of species. The watershed is also identified as a Critical Habitat for Steelhead Trout, which are endangered in Southern California. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted an order to protect the steelhead trout population and downstream senior water right holders for Cachuma Reservoir in Santa Barbara County. This will assist in restoration for the Santa Ynez River watershed ecosystem.

Habitats within the city include designated wetland, annual grassland, ~~bare~~ land, coastal oak woodland, coastal scrub, deciduous orchard, mixed chapparal, valley foothill riparian, and valley oak woodland. There are three California Protected Areas within Solvang for conservation purposes: Alisal Commons

Park, Hans Christian Andersen Park, and Sunny Fields Park. California Protected Areas are lands that are protected for open space purposes and can include regional parks, forests, preserves, and wildlife areas as well as urban parks that are mainly open space.

Goal ENV-3:

To protect natural open space areas, sensitive native vegetation, and wildlife communities and habitat.

Policies

- ENV-3.1: Natural Resource Protection.** The City shall protect sensitive natural resources, wildlife communities and habitats within the open spaces.
- ENV-3.2: Educational Programs.** The City shall encourage and support educational programs in the local schools and park programs that enhance public appreciation and awareness of the natural environment, and programs on how to manage development to preserve native wildlife populations.
- ENV-3.3: Minimize Impacts of Development.** The City shall ensure new development does not significantly deplete, damage, or alter existing critical wildlife habitat or populations such as coastal oak woodland along Alamo Pintado Creek, Alisal Creek, and Adobe Creek and riparian habitat along the Santa Ynez River.
- ENV-3.4: Support Local and Regional Efforts.** The City shall support and participate in local and regional efforts of local, State and federal resource agencies (e.g., Santa Barbara County, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Army Corps, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Cost Guard, local land trusts and conservation organizations) to protect, restore and maintain viable, contiguous areas of habitat for sensitive plant and animal species along Alamo Pintado Creek, Alisal Creek, and Adobe Creek and the Santa Ynez River.
- ENV-3.5: Preserve Creek Corridors.** The City shall preserve the ecological integrity of creek corridors that support riparian resources by preserving native riparian plants and, to the extent feasible, removing invasive nonnative plants. If preservation of the ecological integrity of existing resources is found to be



infeasible, adverse impacts to riparian resources shall be fully mitigated consistent with the requirements of applicable State and Federal regulations.

Historic and Cultural Resources

Based on archeological records, humans have resided in and around the areas surrounding Solvang for over 7,500 years. The Chumash were the first known people to inhabit the area. Pre-historic and historic resources have been discovered throughout the area, particularly near permanent water supplies such as the Santa Ynez River, Alamo Pintado Creek, and Alisal Creek. Additionally, it is likely these areas contain archaeological and historic resources that have not yet been discovered. Solvang contains many buildings and landmarks of historical significance including Mission Santa Inés, certain 20th Century structures, and some that reflect early Danish settlement.

Chumash

The Chumash were the original inhabitants of the region. A subset of the Chumash known as the Ynezeño, occupied the Alisos Canyon area of the Santa Ynez Valley, which includes modern-day Solvang. During the 18th century, the Chumash population was estimated to be in the tens of thousands, with territory covering approximately 7,000 square miles spanning from Malibu to Paso Robles and stretching inland to the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley. Many Chumash tribal members currently reside on the Chumash Indian Reservation, located approximately three miles northeast of Solvang, which was established in 1901. The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is the only Federally-recognized Chumash tribe in the United States and is the central location for Chumash tribal government. Due to extensive Native American settlement in the Santa Ynez Valley, archaeological resources are regularly uncovered in the vicinity of Solvang, predominately near waterways including the Santa Ynez River. Based on the pattern and extent of pre-historic and historic settlement, previously undiscovered resources may be present within the city.

Tribal Consultation

The City works with the local Santa Ynez Valley Band of Chumash Indians to ensure the protection of cultural and tribal resources. In addition to ongoing

communication with local tribal governments, Solvang fully adheres to required consultation procedures as outlined in State legislation:

- Senate Bill 18 (2004) – SB 18 requires local governments to consult with California Native American Tribes prior to making certain planning decisions, such as adoption or amendment of general plans and specific plans or designation of open space, and to provide notice to tribes at certain key points during the planning process. The purpose of SB 18 is to engage tribes in decision making early in the planning process.
- Assembly Bill 52 (2014) – AB 52 requires public agencies to consult with California Native American Tribes during the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process about potential tribal cultural resources in the project area and the potential significance of project impacts. AB 52 is intended to include California Native American Tribes within the decision making and protect tribal cultural resources.

Mission Santa Inés

Mission Santa Inés, located at 1760 Mission Drive in Solvang, was founded in 1804 as part of the Spanish Missions of California. The Mission was constructed as a midway point between Mission Santa Barbara and Mission La Purisima Concepcion. Most of the original church structure was destroyed during the 1812 Santa Barbara earthquake. It was reconstructed in 1817 to better withstand seismic events. Today the Mission serves as parish church of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and incorporates a historical museum and burial ground. It is recognized as a historic landmark at both the State and national level and is a major tourist attraction.



Goal ENV-4:

To protect the historic and cultural resources in order to preserve the heritage of native peoples and the area's earliest settlers.

Policies

ENV-4.1: Protect Archaeological Resources. The City shall provide for the protection of both known and potential archaeological resources citywide. To avoid significant damage to important archaeological sites, all available measures shall be explored at the time of a development proposal. Where such measures are not feasible and development would adversely affect identified archaeological or paleontological resources, mitigation shall be required in accordance with the relevant provisions of federal and State laws.

ENV-4.2: Collaboration with Chumash. The City shall continue a positive and collaborative working relationship with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians through continued consultation and collaboration with respect to the preservation of, or the mitigation of impacts to, specified Native American places, features, and objects.

ENV-4.3: Central Coast Information Center Referrals. The City shall continue to refer development proposals that may adversely affect archaeological sites to the University of California Santa Barbara Central Coast Information Center for review and comment.

Danish Heritage and Early Settlement

Danish American culture has existed in Solvang since its founding in 1911. Early in its history, Solvang looked like many other small rural California towns and did not outwardly reflect its Danish cultural heritage through architecture. Bethania Lutheran Church, completed in 1928, was the first structure to reflect the Danish heritage with many more following in the years after WWII. The Veterans Memorial Building, a community treasure constructed in 1937, incorporates Mission-style arches as does the promenade constructed in the 1930s on store fronts along Copenhagen Drive.

Danish culture is on display throughout contemporary Solvang in architecture and icons, including the downtown with its half-timber facades and replicas of Danish structures. Many of the early buildings remain, redressed in Danish style,

as does the Mission-style promenade constructed along Copenhagen Drive in Solvang is home to several museums including the Elverhøj Museum of History and Art. Housed in a historic Danish-style structure, Elverhøj celebrates the community's history and heritage.

Goal ENV-5:

To preserve and enhance Solvang's Historic and Danish heritage.

Policies

ENV-5.1: Protect Significant Sites and Buildings. The City shall protect and enhance Solvang's historically and architecturally significant sites and buildings.

ENV-5.2: Support Property Owners. The City shall encourage the efforts of property owners to preserve and renovate historic and architecturally significant structures. Where such buildings cannot be preserved intact, the City shall seek to preserve the building facades and ensure renovations are consistent with the applicable standards set forth in the Community Design Element and design guidelines.

Mineral Resources

Mineral resources are naturally occurring minerals that have, or are expected to have, economic value. In Solvang these include sand and gravel. There are no known oil or gas fields within or in proximity to the city. The policies in this section encourage continued accessibility to native minerals, while avoiding significant harm to the environment or human health from their extraction.

Goal ENV-6:

To achieve environmentally responsible reclamation of mineral-extraction sites.

Policies

ENV-6.1: Mineral Extraction Site Reclamation. The City shall require the environmentally responsible reclamation of mineral extraction



sites within the City and shall work with other agencies in the area to do the same.

ENV-6.2: Prohibit Mineral Extraction in Open Space. The City shall prohibit mineral extraction within open space owned by the City in fee or as an easement.

ENV-6.3: Mineral Extraction. The City shall work with existing mineral extraction operations to minimize impacts to human health and the environment.

Water Resources

The Water Division of the Utilities Department operates and maintains the City's water supply and distribution facilities and provides potable water to the residents and businesses of Solvang. The Water Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the entire water system. Like most of California, Solvang are subjected to intensified drought conditions. These droughts have led to local mandatory reductions in water use. It is likely that droughts will become more common in the future due to climate change.

The City has four water supply sources: State Water, Upland Wells, River Wells and the Santa Ynez River Water Improvement District. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) operates the State Water Project which allocates a maximum of 1,500 acre-feet per year (AFY) of State Water to the City. However, the percentage of this allocation granted to the City varies each year based on rainfall, Sierra snowpack, and State reservoir levels. In recent years the allocation of State Water has varied from 5 percent (during drought) to as much as 85 percent.

The City manages the local groundwater supply in partnership with the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD). The City, Central Coast Water Authority, and SYRWCD regularly monitor water levels pursuant to applicable standards. SYRWCD also publishes an annual water quality report.

Water Quality

Water quality in Solvang is monitored through the Water Division's State-Certified water operators' drinking water testing. The Water Division's State-certified water operators perform daily, monthly, and annual testing of Solvang's drinking water to verify residents are receiving a safe supply of

municipal water. The City publishes the annual Consumer Confidence Report to share the results of water monitoring. The City also provides brochures and posters of Stormwater Best Management Practices Guides for residents and business owners.

Goal ENV-7:

To maintain an adequate level of service in the City's water system to meet the needs of existing and future development.

Policies

- ENV-7.1: Adequate Water Supply.** The City shall continue to work with water providers to ensure adequate water supply is available to the community. Further, the City shall impose limitations or moratoriums on new development or redevelopment when the water supply of existing customers will be adversely impacted.
- ENV-7.2: Diverse Water Supply.** The City shall pursue a water supply program consisting of the development of multiple sources of water, water conservation, and groundwater management to accommodate projected water demand and provide as best possible for water supply security.
- ENV-7.3: Water Conservation Measures.** The City shall require new development and redevelopment projects to incorporate water conservation measures to reduce water demand through the Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo), relevant sections of Title 24 and LEED certification, and other conservation policies and programs.



Air Quality and Climate Change

Air Quality

Solvang is located in the South Central Coast Air Basin (SCCAB), which includes all of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura Counties, and is within the jurisdiction of the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (SBAPCD). The SBAPCD conducts continuous air monitoring to assess regional air quality, updating its website with hourly measurements and issuing alerts when conditions reach hazardous levels. The primary air pollutants in Santa Barbara County are ground-level ozone, particulate matter, and air toxins. The majority of local air pollution sources in Solvang are from the operation of on-road vehicles tied to local and regional traffic on State Route 246. Another source of air pollution, especially particulate matter, and greatly affects air quality in Solvang and the greater Santa Ynez Valley during fire events. Wildfires are expected to have a greater impact to the region and the state as climate change increases their frequency and severity.

Santa Barbara County generally has good air quality as measured by State and Federal standards. Certain land uses are more sensitive to air pollution, such as those that support people who may have a significantly increased sensitivity or exposure to air pollution by virtue of their age and health (e.g., schools, day care centers, hospitals, and nursing homes), plants or animals with a special status (e.g. sensitive or endangered species), or those who are in close proximity to the pollution source.

Goal ENV-8:

To foster effective communication, cooperation, and coordination in developing and operating community and regional air quality programs.

Policies

- ENV-8.1: Reduce Air Pollution.** The City shall cooperate with the efforts of the SBCAPCD to reduce emission of air pollutants and their precursors and ensure ongoing attainment of federal and State ambient air quality standards.
- ENV-8.2: Particulate Emissions Reduction.** The City shall work with the SBCAPCD to reduce particulate emissions from construction, grading, excavation, and demolition to the maximum extent feasible.
- ENV-8.3: Air Quality Mitigation Measures.** The City shall ensure all air quality mitigation measures are feasible, implementable, and cost effective.
- ENV-8.4: Mitigation Measures.** The City shall require new development and redevelopment to incorporate measures from the most recent SBCAPCD Clean Air Plan to reduce air quality impacts to a less than significant level.
- ENV-8.5: Air Quality Education Programs.** The City shall support the efforts of local public and private groups that provide air quality education programs.



Goal ENV-9:

To reduce the air quality impacts of motor vehicle and small engine use.

Policies

- ENV-9.1: Workforce Housing Opportunities.** The City shall support expansion of workforce housing opportunities in Solvang to reduce the volume and distance of home-to-work commute trips by motor vehicle.
- ENV-9.2: Commuter Trip Reduction.** The City shall support regional transportation programs that reduce single-rider commuter related vehicle trips.
- ENV-9.3: Alternative Modes of Transportation.** The City shall encourage the use of alternative transportation modes, including transit, walking, and bicycling.
- ENV-9.4: Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.** The City shall encourage the installation of solar photovoltaic systems and electric vehicle charging facilities in commercial, residential, and industrial development.
- ENV-9.5: Fuel Efficient Vehicles.** The City shall encourage adoption of alternative fuel vehicles including electric, hybrid, hydrogen fuel cell, or other fuel-efficient vehicles, for personal transportation.
- ENV-9.6: City Fleet and Equipment.** The City shall work toward converting 100 percent of non-emergency City vehicles to electric, hybrid, flex-fuel, or alternative fuels. In addition, the City shall replace gas-powered mowers and other equipment with electric or hybrid models and to use alternative carbon-free models where possible.
- ENV-9.7: Sustainable Development Patterns.** The City shall continue to promote patterns of development that minimize dependence on personal automobiles and reduce VMT and GHG.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Greenhouse gases (GHG) trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere and influence the surface temperature of Earth. The main sources of GHG emissions in California include cars, energy production, and large-scale business activity. The State of California has passed legislation setting GHG reduction targets including

Assembly Bill (AB) 32, Senate Bill (SB) 32, Executive Order (EO) B-55-18, and SB 100 which outline a path to carbon neutrality by 2045. The State has made substantial efforts to lower GHG emissions and decarbonize the economy by investing in clean energy and encouraging building and vehicle electrification.

Similarly, cities such as Solvang are working to further the transition to a carbon free economy by implementing local mitigation strategies that reduce GHG emissions or capture GHGs before they are released into the atmosphere. These mitigation strategies include actions such as planting trees to sequester carbon dioxide in the air, transitioning to renewable sources of energy, and increasing energy and fuel efficiency for buildings and vehicles.

Goal ENV-10:

To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.

Policies

- ENV-10.1: State GHG Reduction Goals.** The City shall work with the SBCAPCD, SBCAG and Santa Barbara County to comply with statewide greenhouse gas reduction goals as established in AB 32, SB 375 and subsequent Executive Orders and legislation.
- ENV-10.2: Regional Climate and Sustainability Plans.** The City shall implement the relevant provisions of the Santa Barbara County Energy plans to reduce emissions.
- ENV-10.3: GHG Reduction Preference.** The City shall give preference to vendors which reduce or eliminate indirect greenhouse gas emissions.
- ENV-10.4: GHG Thresholds.** The City shall establish and maintain GHG thresholds to evaluate non-exempt discretionary projects consistent with CEQA. Projects above those thresholds shall mitigate their GHG emissions and locally offset the remaining GHG emissions if necessary.
- ENV-10.5: Prioritize GHG Reduction in Development.** The City shall support new development that is compact, mixed-use, transit oriented, and reduces GHG emissions by lowering vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and promoting energy-efficient building design and site planning.



Goal ENV-11:

To encourage community action to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Policies

ENV-11.1: Green Business Program. The City shall encourage businesses to obtain certification under the Santa Barbara County Green Business Program.

ENV-11.2: Sustainability Education. The City shall partner with the local school districts, waste haulers, food banks, and other local organizations to integrate sustainability and environmental literacy into the academic curriculum and educate the community on waste diversion and recycling.

ENV-11.3: Local Partnerships. The City shall partner with local businesses and organizations to secure grants and incentives for facilitating GHG reduction projects such as energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Goal ENV-12:

To incorporate sustainable building and development practices into the city's development regulations.

Policies

ENV-12.1: Green Building Code. The City shall require through the State Building Code energy efficient construction and sustainable building practices by continuing to implement the Green Building Code.

ENV-12.2: Green Building Practices. The City shall support the use of green building practices in the planning, design, construction, management, renovation, operations, and demolition of all public and private buildings and projects, including:

- Land planning and design techniques that preserve the natural environment and minimize disturbance of the land.

7. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Site development to reduce erosion, minimize paved surfaces and runoff and protect vegetation, especially trees.
- Water conservation indoors and outdoors.
- Energy efficiency in heating/cooling systems, appliances, lighting and the building envelope.
- Selection of materials based on recyclability, durability and the amount of energy used to create the material.
- Waste reduction, reuse and recycling during construction and throughout the life of the project.
- Other new aspects of green design and construction included in LEED™ or other certification programs.
- Control nighttime lighting to lower energy use, reduce glare, and prevent illumination of the night sky.

ENV-12.3: LEED Certified City Buildings. The City shall design and construct all new or renovated City buildings to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold rating requirements.

ENV-12.4: Passive Temperature Regulation. The City shall to the extent feasible, require the orientation of buildings to maximize passive solar heating during cool seasons, avoid solar heat gain in warm seasons, enhance natural ventilation and effective use of daylight, and to maximize opportunities for the installation of solar panels.

ENV-12.5: Co-Generation Facilities. The City should promote and encourage co-generation projects, office, and industrial facilities, provided they meet all applicable air quality standards and provide a net reduction in GHG emissions associated with energy production.

ENV-12.6: Emerging Technologies. The City shall remain informed of and support the inclusion of new and emerging technologies for carbon-free and energy efficient design. Support may include permit streamlining procedures, reduced fees, rebate and financing information, or other incentives at the City's discretion.



Energy

Energy for lighting, heating and cooling, and powering buildings is a major component of GHG emissions in Solvang. Reducing GHG emissions related to energy can be accomplished by reducing energy use and by transitioning to clean energy sources. Implementing energy efficient design in new construction and retrofitting existing buildings with fuel efficient fixtures and superior insulation reduces energy demand. Installation of renewable energy sources such as solar eliminates the carbon footprint associated with the energy that is consumed. Because renewable energy can provide carbon free electricity, electrification of buildings and vehicles works to eliminate GHG emissions associated with energy and fuel consuming activities. Currently, many buildings in Solvang use natural gas as a source of energy. Moving away from dependency on natural gas will reduce the city's GHG emissions. Reducing GHG emissions through electrification and renewable energy will help the City of Solvang achieve the statewide goal of carbon neutrality by 2045, set by EO B-55-18 and SB 100.

Goal ENV-13:

To reduce Green House emissions (GHG) related to energy consumption.

Policies

- ENV-13.1: Energy Efficiency Incentives.** The City shall work with energy providers and developers on voluntary incentive-based programs to encourage the use of energy efficient designs and equipment in existing buildings.
- ENV-13.2: Renewable Energy for Homes.** The City shall encourage installation of renewable energy sources for new homes per the new state building codes.
- ENV-13.3: Building Emissions Reductions Plan.** The City shall consider the adoption of an ordinance for all new buildings to meet State emissions reductions targets by 2045.
- ENV-13.4: Energy Retrofit Program.** The City shall encourage homeowners and building owners to retrofit their structures with energy efficiency improvements.

ENV-13.5: Low Income Energy Efficiency. The City shall partner with community service agencies and organizations to support energy efficient projects for low-income residents. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, the installation of heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems, lighting, water heating equipment, and insulation and weatherization.

ENV-13.6: Renewable Energy in Open Space. The City shall allow renewable energy projects in areas zoned for open space, where consistent with all the elements of this General Plan, and other uses and values.

Solid Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling

The City of Solvang contracts with a third party provider to provide solid waste collection services. A portion of the solid waste generated by residents and businesses in Solvang is diverted from landfills through recycling and reuse. The Solvang Municipal Code Title 5 Chapter 2, *Trash and Disposal Maintenance*, regulates the management of solid waste and recycling in the city, including the services of franchise waste haulers. The Solid Waste Collection Program includes programs for diversion of recyclable materials and organic waste from landfills. State law requires that the City create a waste management plan to direct the City's waste source reduction, recycling and composting, and environmentally safe transformation and disposal in order to achieve the statewide goal of source-reduction, recycling, or composting of 75 percent of solid waste generated in California.

Major California Recycling and Waste Reduction Legislation

- **AB 341** – AB 341 mandates recycling for all businesses that generate more than four cubic yards of solid waste per week, and multifamily dwellings of more than five units or more. This bill is designed to reduce GHG emissions in California by five million metric tons of CO₂.
- **AB 1826** – AB 1826 requires all generators of four cubic yards or more of garbage, recycling, and compost combined per week to recycle organic waste such as food scraps, soiled paper products, yard trimmings, and landscape materials. Multi-family dwellings do not need



to have food-waste recycling on site but must recycle yard and landscape materials.

- **SB 1383** – SB 1383 creates a target of diverting 50 percent of organic waste from landfills below 2014 levels by 2020 and 75 percent by 2025 and sets the goal to recover a minimum of 20 percent of currently disposed edible food for human consumption by 2025. Furthermore, SB 1383 requires jurisdictions conduct education and outreach on organics recycling to all residents, businesses, haulers, and food recovery organizations.

Goal ENV-14:

To become a zero-waste community through responsible procurement, waste diversion, and innovative strategies.

Policies

- ENV-14.1: Zero Waste.** The City shall promote activities that reduce waste and increase waste diversion, including sourcing products with reusable, recyclable, or compostable packaging; establishing food diversion programs; and promoting and educating on waste diversion and its importance.
- ENV-14.2: Household Waste Programs.** The City shall coordinate with the contract waste management company to provide convenient, easy-to-use programs for bulky items and household hazardous waste.