

# 8

## **Natural and Cultural Resources**



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### **Introduction**

Gilroy's location in the southern Santa Clara Valley, surrounded by hills, streams, and agriculture, is one of the many reasons that residents love living here. Gilroy has a proud, multi-cultural heritage that spans centuries. These sensitive natural and cultural resources are critical to Gilroy's vibrancy and prosperity, and therefore deserve protection. The Natural and Cultural Resources Element establishes goals, policies, and programs to preserve and enhance Gilroy's natural areas, plant and wildlife habitats, wetlands and streams, scenic views, and historic or culturally significant resources.

### **Natural Resource Conservation**

The planned urban area of Gilroy includes some undeveloped natural areas, but primarily contains developed properties, productive agricultural lands, and landscaped ornamental areas such as parks and residential yards. Grasslands, oak woodlands, and major riparian corridors (such as Llagas Creek and Uvas Creek) make up much of the natural areas found in and near Gilroy. Conservation and protection of Gilroy's remaining natural resources are integral to not only a healthy ecosystem but also to a healthy human community. Policies in this section guide the location, design, and quality of future development to protect important biological resources such as open space corridors and habitats supporting native plants and wildlife.

### **18 special-status covered species**

- Bay checkerspot butterfly
- California tiger salamander
- California red-legged frog
- foothill yellow-legged frog
- western pond turtle
- western burrowing owl
- least Bell's vireo
- tricolored blackbird
- San Joaquin kit fox
- Tiburon Indian paintbrush
- coyote ceanothus
- Mount Hamilton thistle
- Santa Clara Valley dudleya
- fragrant fritillary
- Loma Prieta hoita
- smooth lessingia
- Metcalf Canyon jewelflower
- most beautiful jewelflower

The Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan is a combined Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan incorporating the southern portion of Santa Clara County, including the cities of Gilroy, San Jose, and Morgan Hill. Other partners and permittees of the Habitat Plan include the County of Santa Clara, Valley Water, and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. The Habitat Plan was developed in association with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority. It provides a framework to protect, enhance, and restore natural resources in many areas of Santa Clara County, while improving and streamlining the environmental permitting process for impacts to threatened and endangered species.

The Habitat Plan describes covered activities including planned urban development, in-stream capital projects, in-stream operations and maintenance, rural capital projects, rural operations and maintenance, rural development, and conservation strategy implementation. It specifically protects and regulates 18 special-status covered species: Bay checkerspot butterfly, California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle, western burrowing owl, least Bell's vireo, tricolored blackbird, San Joaquin kit fox, Tiburon Indian paintbrush, coyote ceanothus, Mount Hamilton thistle, Santa Clara Valley dudleya, fragrant fritillary, Loma Prieta hoita, smooth lessingia, Metcalf Canyon jewelflower, and most beautiful jewelflower.

The Habitat Plan defines a regional multi-jurisdictional conservation strategy, including preservation of a priority reserve system, habitat enhancement and restoration, adaptive management and monitoring, and conservation conditions on covered activities (such as minimizing impacts on sensitive natural communities and covered species, maintaining and facilitating wildlife movement, and establishing stream setback

requirements). Sensitive communities addressed include wetlands and waterways (including associated freshwater marsh vegetation and riparian corridor habitats), serpentine rock formations that support native species, and native oak woodlands.

### Goal NCR 1

Preserve and enhance Gilroy's natural resources for current and future residents.

#### **NCR 1.1 Habitat Plan Compliance**

For all covered activities throughout the city, comply fully with permit conditions of the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan. This will protect natural resources by minimizing impacts on sensitive natural communities and 18 covered species, facilitating wildlife movement, and establishing stream setbacks and buffers. Associated permit fees will be used for reserve system preservation, habitat enhancement and restoration, and adaptive management and monitoring. **RDR**

#### **NCR 1.2 Stream Protection**

In concert with the Habitat Plan, protect the ecological, aesthetic, and recreational value of the streams that flow through the Gilroy Planning Area. Areas required for riparian setbacks shall be dedicated to Valley Water in fee or easement, or incorporated into private open space to be preserved and maintained by future development projects. Access to streams should be of sufficient width to accommodate trails, flood control access, and protection of riparian habitat. **RDR** **MPSP**

#### **NCR 1.3 Riparian Setbacks**

Riparian setback areas shall be required of all new development, consistent with the requirements of the Habitat Plan and other City regulations. Exceptions to the riparian setbacks requirements may be allowed in a minority of cases, with the approval of the City Council, consistent with the Habitat Plan. **RDR** **MPSP**

#### **NCR 1.4 Plant and Wildlife Habitats**

In concert with Habitat Plan requirements, preserve important plant and wildlife habitats, including streams and riparian habitats, wildlife movement corridors, heavily vegetated hillside areas, unique ecosystems (such as oak woodlands and serpentine substrates), and significant nesting/denning sites for native wildlife.

**RDR** **MPSP**

#### **NCR 1.5 Open Space Access and Management**

In concert with Habitat Plan requirements, encourage the management and maintenance of public and private open space areas in a manner that ensures habitat protection, provides for public access, addresses public safety concerns, and meets low-impact recreation needs. **RDR** **MPSP**

### **NCR 1.6 Preservation Techniques**

In concert with Habitat Plan requirements, develop and apply a variety of preservation tools to protect open space areas in and around the city (such as through dedication of open space easements). In the selection and application of preservation methods, emphasis should be given to minimizing public cost and liability exposure; encouraging private ownership and responsibility for long-term management and maintenance issues; consideration of public access issues; and ensuring preservation in perpetuity. **MPSP**

### **NCR 1.7 Special Status Species**

Special-status species are those listed as Endangered, Threatened, or Rare, or as Candidates for listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and/or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), or as Rare Plant Rank 1B or 2B species by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). This designation also includes CDFW Species of Special Concern and Fully Protected Species. For special-status species that are not among the 18 covered species in the Habitat Plan, minimize future development in areas that support such species. Conduct focused surveys per applicable regulatory agency protocols as appropriate to determine if such species occur on a given project site, as determined necessary by a qualified biologist. If development of occupied habitat must occur, species impacts shall be avoided or minimized, and if required by a regulatory agency or the CEQA process,, loss of wildlife habitat or individual plants should be fully compensated on the site. If off-site mitigation is necessary, it should occur within the Gilroy Planning Area whenever possible with a priority given to existing habitat mitigation banks. Habitat mitigation shall be accompanied by a long-term management plan and monitoring program prepared by a qualified biologist and include provisions for protection of mitigation lands in perpetuity through the establishment of easements and adequate funding for maintenance and monitoring. **RDR MPSP**

### **NCR 1.8 Native Nesting Bird Protection**

Protect native nesting birds, which are protected by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Fish and Game Code. **RDR**

### **NCR 1.9 Native Tree Protection**

Preserve and protect healthy oak trees and other native trees from harm or destruction during the development process. **RDR**

### **NCR 1.10 Light Pollution**

Encourage measures to limit light pollution from outdoor sources, and direct outdoor lighting downward and away from wildlife habitat areas. **RDR**

### **NCR 1.11 Healthy Urban Forest**

Maintain and expand a vibrant, healthy urban forest in public street right-of-ways, parks, and other public lands and facilities through arborist-supervised tree selection and planting, pest and disease control, scheduled pruning, tree removal limitations, and systematic removal and replacement of dead or diseased trees. **SO**

### **NCR 1.12 Invasive Species**

Support efforts to eradicate non-native invasive species. **SO RDR**

### **NCR 1.13 Assess Potential Wetland Impacts**

Applicants of projects on sites where potential jurisdictional wetlands or waterways are present shall retain a qualified biologist/wetland regulatory specialist to conduct a site investigation and assess whether wetland or waterway features are jurisdictional with regard to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan, and/or California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). This investigation will include assessing potential impacts to wetland and riparian habitats and determining whether any stream buffers/riparian setbacks are required by the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan. If a feature is found to be jurisdictional or potentially jurisdictional, the applicant shall comply with the appropriate permitting process with each agency claiming jurisdiction prior to disturbance of the feature, and a qualified biologist/wetland regulatory specialist shall conduct a detailed wetland delineation if necessary. **RDR**

### **NCR 1.14 Maintain Pre-Project Stormwater Flows**

Encourage project design for smaller projects in the areas of the unconfined Llagas sub-basin to maintain pre-project stormwater flows consistent with City stormwater standards that prohibit offsite discharge up to the 95th percentile storm event for Tier 3 projects, allow treat and release for Tier 2 projects, and allow a more passive, 'best practices' design to minimize runoff for Tier 1 projects. **RDR**

## **Scenic Resources**

While continuing to grow, Gilroy retains some of its small town and historic character, especially in the older neighborhoods where several buildings date back to the mid-1800s. There is a sense of abundant space, due mainly to the wide, tree-lined streets in the older neighborhoods; the rich riparian corridors of Llagas Creek and Uvas Creek as they flow southward into the Pajaro River; the vast agricultural lands to the south and east; and

Gilroy's hillside backdrop. Policies in this section preserve Gilroy's scenic assets, as viewed from designated scenic routes.

## Goal NCR 2

Allow residents to enjoy views of the hills, creeks, and habitats that make Gilroy such a beautiful place to live.

### NCR 2.1 Scenic Routes

Maintain the scenic character and ecology of the hillsides of the city when designing circulation facilities. Any roadways that must pass through hillside areas will be designed so as to preserve the ecological and scenic character of the hillsides, and high quality vistas. **SO RDR**

### NCR 2.2 Scenic Highways

Support the designation of Hecker Pass Highway as an official State Scenic Highway and establish appropriate development controls to ensure long-term protection of its scenic qualities. Controls should establish appropriate setbacks, sign standards, and other development regulations in keeping with State guidelines for the protection of scenic highway corridors. **IGC**

### NCR 2.3 Other Scenic Roadways

Protect important scenic qualities and natural features on other roadways in the Planning Area, including Miller Avenue from Uvas Park Drive to Mesa Road. **SO RDR**

## Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Air quality is an important natural resource that influences public health and welfare, the local and regional economy, and quality of life. Air pollutants have the potential to adversely impact public health, the production and quality of agricultural crops, native vegetation, visibility, buildings, and other structures.

Air pollution is a regional issue. The potential for elevated levels of air pollutants in the Santa Clara Valley is significant, due to high summer temperatures, stable air, and mountains that border the Valley that limit air movement. Pollution sources are numerous and diverse. In addition air pollutants from San Francisco, San Mateo, and Alameda counties are carried by prevailing winds in the Santa Clara Valley, which intensifies local pollutant concentrations.

Greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change are a global issue. Greenhouse gas emissions generated either directly or indirectly from activities within

Gilroy and the Santa Clara Valley contribute to global warming. While other communities in the region generate a greater volume of greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants, Gilroy has a role to play in reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the largest sources of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions include passenger cars and light-duty trucks, including sport utility vehicles, pickup trucks, and minivans. These sources account for over half of the emissions from this sector. The remainder of greenhouse gas emissions comes from other modes of transportation, including freight trucks, commercial aircrafts, ships, boats, and trains, as well as pipelines and lubricants.

### Goal NCR 3

Contribute to improvements in regional air quality and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions

#### **NCR 3.1 Energy Use Data and Analysis**

Increase building owner, tenant, and operator knowledge about how, when, and where building energy is used. **PI**

#### **NCR 3.2 Retrofit Financing**

Promote existing and support development of new private financing options for building retrofits and renewable energy development. **FB PI**

#### **NCR 3.3 Shade Tree Program**

Increase community-wide use of shade trees to decrease energy use associated with building cooling. **MPSP SO**

#### **NCR 3.4 Solar Development**

Encourage voluntary community-wide solar photovoltaic development through regulatory barrier reduction and public outreach campaigns. **PI**

#### **NCR 3.5 Community Choice Aggregation**

Partner with other Santa Clara County jurisdictions to determine the feasibility for development of a regional Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, including identification of the geographic scope, potential costs to participating jurisdictions and residents, and potential liabilities. **MPSP IGC**

#### **NCR 3.6 Bicycle Infrastructure Expansion**

Continue to encourage alternative modes of transportation, including bicycling, through expansion of bicycle paths, lanes, and routes within the community. **SO**

### **NCR 3.7 Transportation Demand Management**

Provide informational resources to local businesses subject to SB 1339 transportation demand management program requirements and encourage additional voluntary participation in the program. **MPSP** **PI**

### **NCR 3.8 Community-Wide Alternative Fuel Vehicles**

Encourage community-wide use of alternative fuel vehicles through expansion of alternative vehicle refueling infrastructure. **MPSP**

### **NCR 3.9 Food Scrap and Yard Waste Diversion**

Promote the collection of food scraps and compostable paper in yard waste bins through public outreach campaigns. **PI**

### **NCR 3.10 Water Use Reduction**

Continue to implement water conservation policies contained within Gilroy's Urban Water Management Plan to achieve 20 percent per capita water reductions by 2040. **MPSP**

### **NCR 3.11 Urban Forest**

Support development and maintenance of a healthy, vibrant urban forest through outreach, incentives, and strategic leadership. **MPSP**

### **NCR 3.12 Existing Municipal Building Energy Retrofit**

Reduce energy consumption in existing municipal buildings through energy efficiency improvements. **MPSP** **GC**

### **NCR 3.13 Zero Waste**

Reduce municipal waste through procurement policies, waste diversion goals and waste stream monitoring and analysis. **MPSP**

### **NCR 3.14 Prepare a Qualified GHG Reduction Plan**

Pursue funding through grants and any other appropriate funding mechanisms, including California Air Resources Board's list of programs and projects, California State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program, Climate Corps, and CivicSpark. The plan may be prepared by amending the Gilroy 2040 General Plan or by preparing a separate GHG reduction plan. In either case, requirements for a qualified GHG reduction plan as identified in CEQA Guidelines, § 15183.5 (b)(1) must met. Accordingly, definition and implementation of GHG reduction measures in addition to those identified in Gilroy 2040 General Plan policies and programs may be required to show progress towards meeting the reduction targets established in the GHG reduction plan. **MPSP** **FB**

### **NCR 3.15 Reduce Construction Emissions**

Require the use of low emissions construction equipment for public and private projects, consistent with the air district 2017 Clean Air Plan. Where construction-related emissions would exceed the applicable Thresholds of Significance, the City will consider, on a case-by-case basis, implementing Additional Construction Mitigation Measures (Table 8-3 in BAAQMD's CEQA Guidelines). **RDR**

### **NCR 3.16 Implement Dust-Control Measures**

Require the implementation of the air district's dust control measures during construction of individual projects, consistent with the air district 2017 Clean Air Plan. **RDR**

### **NCR 3.17 Sensitive Receptors within 500 feet of U.S. Highway 101.**

Require modeling of toxic air contaminants, and include mitigation as may be appropriate, prior to approval of new residential development within 500 feet of U.S. Highway 101, to ensure significant health risks are mitigated. **RDR**

### **NCR 3.18 Sensitive Receptors within 500 feet of Existing Point Sources or Existing Heavy Industrial Designated Areas.**

Require modeling of toxic air contaminants, and include mitigation as may be appropriate, prior to approval of new

residential development within the Downtown Specific Plan within 500 feet of existing point sources with screening factors in excess of thresholds, or within 500 feet of areas designated Heavy Industrial, to ensure significant health risks are mitigated. **RDR**

### **NCR 3.19 New Industrial Uses within 500 feet of Sensitive Receptors.**

Require modeling, and include mitigation as may be appropriate, of toxic air contaminants prior to approval of new industrial development within 500 feet of residential uses, Neighborhood District designations, or the Downtown Specific Plan, to ensure significant health risks are mitigated. **RDR**

## **Hydrology and Water Quality**

The health and function of Gilroy's surface and groundwater resources are of vital importance to community health and quality of life, preservation of sensitive species and habitat, and essential ecosystem services. Examples of essential ecosystem services are flood protection and storage and availability of clean water resources for multiple community uses. Gilroy receives all of its drinking water from groundwater sources. The policies in this section identify methods for protecting valuable surface and groundwater

resources from contaminants, restoring natural features to improve their functionality, and conserving water for future generations.

## Goal NCR 4

Maintain overall water quality by protecting surface and groundwater sources, restoring creeks and rivers to their natural state, and conserving water resources.

### NCR 4.1 Consistent Standards

Coordinate with South County jurisdictions to ensure consistent ordinances, standards, and enforcement procedures regarding water quality so that there is no advantage for a company to locate in an area with lower standards. **IGC**

### NCR 4.2 Pollution Prevention

Prohibit the development of waste processing facilities and industries using toxic chemicals in areas where pollutants may come in contact with groundwater, floodwaters, creeks, or reservoir waters. **RDR**

### NCR 4.3 Drinking Water Quality

Ensure that City drinking water meets the required and recommended standards set forth by the State of California. **SO**

### NCR 4.4 Abandoned and Unused Wells

Require developers to identify and seal abandoned and unused wells within their developments in accordance with the City and Valley Water requirements. **RDR**

### NCR 4.5 Water Conservation and Reclamation

Require water conservation measures and maximize the use of recycled water to reduce the overall demand on water resources. Ensure that recycled wastewater is treated in accordance with State and Federal standards. **MPSP**  
**RDR**

### NCR 4.6 Irrigation with Recycled Water

Encourage the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation, especially for large water users such as golf courses. **MPSP**

### NCR 4.7 Inter-Agency Coordination

Coordinate with agencies relevant to South County's water supply and water quality, including: the San Francisco Bay and Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Boards; Valley Water; Santa Clara County; and Morgan Hill to protect regional water quality. **IGC**

### **NCR 4.8 Low Impact Development**

Require new development to protect the quality of water resources and natural drainage systems through site design, source controls, runoff reduction measures, best management practices (BMPs), and Low Impact Development (LID). **RDR**

### **NCR 4.9 Native and Drought-Tolerant Landscaping**

Use native or drought-tolerant vegetation and water-efficient irrigation systems in the landscaping of all new public facilities, except in active recreation areas. Encourage the use of similar landscaping and irrigation in private development.

**RDR**

## **Historic and Cultural Resources**

The Gilroy area has many significant prehistoric, historic, and cultural resources. Examples of historic resources include buildings, districts, sites, and objects. Historical and archaeological resources are nonrenewable resources that often yield unique information about past societies and environments. The policies in this section strive to preserve Gilroy's historic and cultural resources to preserve its local heritage for future generations.

### **Goal NCR 5**

Preserve significant historic buildings, sites, and resources to enrich the sense of place and appreciation of the city's history.

#### **NCR 5.1 Historic Structures and CEQA**

Discretionary projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which include changes to, or demolition of, structures that are 45 years or older, will require an historic property report or other substantial evidence in the record of the project to determine whether the structure is historically significant. **RDR**

#### **NCR 5.2 Historic and Pre-historic Archaeological Resources and CEQA**

Discretionary projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) which include disturbance of the existing ground surface of the project site will require an archaeological survey and records search if the project site is located in a moderate to high archaeological sensitivity zone as identified on Figure 3.5-1 of the General Plan EIR, or if other evidence suggests the project site to be archaeologically sensitive. **RDR**

### **NCR 5.3 Archaeological Resources Protection**

Ensure that all projects involving ground-disturbing activities include procedures to protect archaeological resources if discovered during excavation. Projects shall follow CEQA and other applicable State laws. **RDR**

### **NCR 5.4 Historic Preservation**

Encourage public and private efforts for the preservation of historic and architecturally significant buildings and sites, archeological sites, and other landmarks. **MPSP**

### **NCR 5.5 Historic Resources Inventory**

Maintain and periodically update the city's inventory of historically significant buildings to meet current State and Federal historic preservation guidelines. **MPSP**

### **NCR 5.6 Preservation Funding and Incentives**

Strive to obtain State and Federal funding for the preservation of buildings and sites of historical merit and consider public/private partnerships for capital and program improvements including historic preservation components. **IGC JP**

### **NCR 5.7 Mills Act Contracts**

Support the use of Mills Act contracts to reduce property taxes on historic properties and thereby provide a monetary incentive for their acquisition, maintenance, and restoration. **FB**

### **NCR 5.8 Historic Character**

Encourage preservation of older homes, other structures, and neighborhood districts with distinct and recognizable historic or architectural characteristics to maintain and enhance the historic character of the city. In particular, encourage the retention and rehabilitation of older homes in and near the historic city center and ensure that rehabilitation activities are sensitive to the historic character of the building, site, and/or surrounding area. **MPSP**

### **NCR 5.9 Adaptive Reuse**

Promote adaptive reuse of old buildings, especially in the Downtown Historic District, to preserve the buildings' historic character while encouraging development of an economically vital Downtown. **MPSP**

### **NCR 5.10 Historic Building Demolition**

Consistent with Goal NCR 5, prior to approving the demolition of historically significant buildings, evaluate alternatives including structural preservation, relocation or other mitigation in an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and demonstrate that financing has been secured for replacement use. **MPSP**

### **NCR 5.11 Non-Conforming Uses in Historic Structures**

Consider, on a case-by-case basis, allowing non-conforming uses in designated historic structures with a conditional use permit where the proposed use will not have a detrimental effect on the neighborhood and will be in keeping with the historic nature of the building, taking into consideration compatibility of the use to neighboring uses. **RDR**

# Implementation Programs

<b>Table 8-1: Natural and Cultural Resources Implementation Programs</b>	<b>2021-2023</b>	<b>2024-2028</b>	<b>2029-2040</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<p><b>1. Riparian Setback Policy</b>            Update the Zoning Ordinance to identify the required riparian setbacks for all new development and the process for consideration of exceptions from the policy, consistent with the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 1.2</p> <p><b>Responsible Departments:</b> Community Development and Public Works</p>	X				
<p><b>2. Nesting Bird Impact Mitigation</b>            During the development review process, require pre-construction nesting bird surveys (and subsequent nest protection if necessary) conducted by a qualified biologist for tree removals and all construction projects (high noise-related activities) located within 250 feet of trees. These surveys are only required if tree removals or construction activities are planned during the nesting bird season, which is February 1 through August 31.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 1.7</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>					X

<b>Table 8-1: Natural and Cultural Resources Implementation Programs</b>	<b>2021-2023</b>	<b>2024-2028</b>	<b>2029-2040</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<p><b>3. Pollution Prevention</b>                      Develop and adopt an ordinance to prohibit the development of waste processing facilities and industries using toxic chemicals in areas where pollutants may come in contact with groundwater, floodwaters, creeks, or reservoir waters.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 4.2  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				
<p><b>4. Historic Resources Inventory</b>                      Maintain and update every five years, the historic resource inventory to evaluate, register, and protect Gilroy’s historic resources. The inventory should be publicly accessible and regularly updated.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 5.2  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X	X		
<p><b>5. Archaeological Resources Protection</b>                      Develop and adopt an Archaeological Resources Protection policy and/or standard conditions for development permits that establish procedures for disposition of buried cultural resources unearthed during construction activities, consistent with the requirements of CEQA Section 15064.5(e) and other applicable state laws.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 5.3  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				

Table 8-1: Natural and Cultural Resources Implementation Programs		2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<b>6. Map Archaeological Resources.</b> Identify and map in the City GIS archaeologically sensitive areas in the City.  <b>Implements Policies:</b> NCR 5.2, NCR 5.3  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development			X			
<b>7. Historical Preservation</b> Develop and adopt an historic preservation ordinance in conjunction with the Zoning Ordinance Update for the preservation of historic and architecturally significant buildings and sites, archeological sites, and other landmarks.  <b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 5.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development		X				

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p>The source of the following Implementation Programs is from the Draft Gilroy Climate Action Plan. There are three categories of Implementation Programs noted below.</p>					
<p><b>Category 1</b> - Implementation Programs that provide potential GHG reduction benefits to the existing community for which funding will be the responsibility of the City to determine.</p>					
<p><b>CAP 1. Individual Multi-Family and Multi-Tenant Meters</b>                      Following regional conversations regarding building ordinance revisions, adopt an ordinance that requires existing multi-family and multi-tenant commercial buildings to install individual electricity and natural gas meters for each unit/space at point-of-sale; alternatively, develop educational information on benefits of sub-metering and work with the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce to share with the local business community.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>			X		
<p><b>CAP 2. Property Assessed Clean Energy</b>                      Continue to participate in HERO and similar programs to make PACE financing available to commercial, industrial, multi-family residential (5+ units), and non-profit-owned buildings. Work with other Santa Clara County local governments to establish PACE financing districts available for residential property owners (could also provide other sources of residential or commercial financing to compliment the HERO and similar programs). Work with PACE financing providers to educate local realtor and contractor community about PACE offerings, process, and benefits to increase participation.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.2  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>					X

**Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources;  
Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs**

	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 3. Parking Lot Lighting Efficiency</b> Develop a parking lot lighting retrofit ordinance requiring property owners or managers to replace inefficient parking lot or parking structure lighting with high-efficiency lighting technologies, where feasible.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 4. Parking Lot Light Retrofit</b> Work with regional partners to develop and adopt local ordinances that require non-residential and multi-family property owners to retrofit inefficient parking lot or parking structures lighting with high-efficiency lighting technologies at point-of-sale or point-of-lease; adopt ordinance.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 5. Lighting Improvements Payback Period Outreach Materials</b> Develop outreach materials explaining simple payback period for lighting improvements and available funding sources (e.g., PG&amp;E lighting rebates, energy performance contracts).</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>					X

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 6. Shade Tree Program</b>                      Adopt an ordinance that requires new residential projects to incorporate properly selected and located shade trees on per unit basis. Develop a shade tree planting guide to facilitate proper tree selection and installation. Work with local environmental and conservation groups to advertise the various benefits of planting shade trees near existing buildings.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.2  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 7. Remove Solar Regulatory Barriers</b>                      Review/Revise all applicable building, zoning and other codes and ordinances to identify and remove remaining regulatory barriers to installation of solar PV or solar hot water systems in residential and nonresidential construction; consider opportunities to reduce permitting fees related to renewable energy installations.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 8. Solar Benefits Education Program</b>                      Conduct an outreach program to educate residents and businesses about potential benefits of solar service providers’ power purchase agreements and opportunities for community shared solar PV systems and invite neighborhood groups/organization to help identify potential interest; work with PG&amp;E to share information about PG&amp;E’s Community Solar Program.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>					X

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 9. Solar Service Provider Workshop</b>            Host a workshop with area solar service providers to identify opportunities to further streamline the installation of solar PV systems; pending the results of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) workshop, remove identified barriers to wide-scale solar installation throughout the city.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 10. Roundtable Discussion</b>            Host a roundtable discussion with large hot water users to identify potential City barriers to installation of solar thermal systems; work with City departments to remove or reduce identified barriers, where possible.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 11. Community Choice Aggregation</b>            Partner with other Santa Clara County jurisdictions to conduct a study to determine the feasibility for development of a regional CCA program, including the identification of the geographic scope, potential costs to participating jurisdictions and residents, and potential liabilities. If the study determines a CCA to be feasible and advantageous to Gilroy residents and businesses, work with Santa Clara County partners to prepare necessary additional study reports, informational materials, and any other supporting research and/or documents to help pursue development of a CCA program.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.5  <b>Responsible Department:</b> City Administrator</p>	X				

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 12. Update Bicycle and Pedestrian/Trail Master Plan</b>                      Update the existing Bicycle Master Plan to continue to serve as guidance document for bicycle network improvements and a programmatic strategy; update the plan every five years. Re-prioritize bicycle network enhancements as necessary, based on community input regarding problematic or unsafe routes, bicycle accommodation limitations (e.g., secure parking, commuter facilities), and focused outreach strategies.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.6  <b>Responsible Departments:</b> Public Works</p>					X
<p><b>CAP 13. Bicycle Planning Funding Sources</b>                      Update the list of identified primary funding sources and preliminarily identify additional local funding sources by which to provide the City’s match for grant-funded project planning, design, and construction.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.6  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Public Works</p>					X
<p><b>CAP 14. Removal of Bicycle Barriers</b>                      Identify and work to remove physical barriers or safety concerns that could inhibit cyclists from accessing various transit stations/stops; partner with VTA, as necessary.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.6  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Public Works</p>		X			

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 15. Maximize Bicycle Separation</b> Review Complete Streets street cross sections and development specifications to encourage bicycling by maximizing bike lane widths or establishing physical separation between vehicle travel lanes and bicycle lanes on high-volume roadways, to the extent feasible.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.6 <b>Responsible Department:</b> Public Works</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 16. Community-Wide Alternative Fuel Vehicles</b> Continue to explore cost-effective ways to increase alternative vehicle charging/refueling infrastructure within the city for public use, including installations at municipal facilities and partnerships with technology providers. Revise the Municipal Code to require pre-wiring for at-home electric vehicle charging ports in new single family and multi-family construction. Work with regional partners to develop information brochures and technical support for developers/contractors interested in providing electric vehicle charging ports in new projects.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.8 <b>Responsible Departments:</b> Community Development, Public Works</p>					X

<b>Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs</b>	<b>2021-2023</b>	<b>2024-2028</b>	<b>2029-2040</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<p><b>CAP 17. Drought-Tolerant Landscaping</b>                      Develop a public information campaign that highlights City projects and landscaping practices that conserve water at public buildings and parks/landscaped areas (e.g., drought-tolerant landscaping, efficient irrigations systems, indoor plumbing retrofits). Partner with community/neighborhood groups to promote existing water conservation programs and participation in voluntary landscaping retrofit programs. Identify opportunities for water use data tracking and reporting.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 4.9  <b>Responsible Departments:</b> Public Works</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 18. Food Scrap and Yard Waste Diversion Program</b>                      Implement a residential food scrap and compostable paper collection program and outreach campaigns; provide information to local elementary schools on existing food scrap diversion programs for incorporation into on-going recycling curriculum. Work with the franchise waste hauler to develop new outreach programs or strategies that address solid waste diversion opportunities identified in Residential Waste Characterization Study. Work with the franchise waste hauler, the Gilroy Chamber of Commerce, and other local business organizations to develop and encourage participation in voluntary commercial food scrap collection pilot program; identify opportunities to share best-practices and lessons learned with other cities in Santa Clara County that have implemented similar programs.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.9  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 19. Construction and Demolition Waste Diversion</b>            Continue to implement the Construction and Demolition Waste Ordinance requiring 50 percent diversion from applicable construction and renovation projects. Work with the franchise waste hauler to evaluate the capability of area landfill operators to maximize construction and demolition waste diversion, and consider increasing diversion requirements to 75 percent diversion by 2035. Alternatively, only target scrap lumber with 75 percent diversion requirements.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.13</p> <p><b>Responsible Departments:</b> Community Development</p>					X
<p><b>CAP 20. Construction and Demolition Diversion Deposit</b>            Develop a Construction and Demolition Debris Diversion Deposit Program to help enforce the Construction and Demolition Waste Ordinance, in which the deposit is paid to City prior to issuance of building permit and refunded to the applicant following submittal/approval of applicable waste diversion documentation.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.13</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>			X		

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 21. Urban Forest</b></p> <p>Partner with neighborhood groups, community organizations, and business community to encourage voluntary tree planting on private property within Gilroy, identify opportunities for such organizations to assist the City with the maintenance of street trees planted within public rights-of-way, develop a strategic, long-range plan to identify policies and strategies to proactively manage and grow City’s street tree population, and prepare a tree protection ordinance that requires the replacement of removed street trees, including planting site selection criteria.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.11</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Public Works</p>					X
<p><b>Category 2</b> - Implementation Programs whose benefits are more focused on <b>new development</b>, through their ability to achieve CEQA streamlining benefits for such new development. In order to minimize taxpayer funding of GHG emission reduction measures that benefits new development, these measures will be implemented based on a cost-recovery fee on new development intended to fund preparation (if required outside of the General Plan) and implementation of a CEA “Qualifying Climate Action Plan” which brings with it accompanying CEQA streamlining benefits.</p>					
<p><b>CAP 22. Home and Business Area Network</b></p> <p>Work with PG&amp;E to facilitate aggressive implementation of the Home and Business Area Network (HAN) program and similar programs within Gilroy; develop a community outreach program to encourage participation in the programs.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.14</p> <p><b>Responsible Departments:</b> Community Development</p>	X				

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 23. Advanced Metering and Analytics</b> Partner with PG&amp;E, other Santa Clara County local governments, third-party service providers, and local businesses to establish a regional advanced metering and analytics implementation program for commercial and residential buildings; leverage existing PG&amp;E education materials, including the description of the O-Power Program, and make information available at the Building and Safety Division counter.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1 <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				
<p><b>CAP 24. Advanced Analytics Education Program</b> Collaborate with other Santa Clara County local governments to develop an outreach program that communicates the benefits of using advanced analytics to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy bills; provide links to available rebates for smart-grid compatible appliances and systems on the City's Energy Conservation website.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1 <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 25. Business Energy Performance Program</b>                      Develop a business energy performance contracting market aggregation program that identifies interested commercial and industrial properties and aggregates them into a market of sufficient scale to attract energy service companies (ESCOs) or energy service agreement (ESA) providers.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>			X		
<p><b>CAP 26. Mortgage Lender Limitations Reduction</b>                      Work with commercial banks to reduce mortgage lender limitations on external financing that limit energy service company (ESCO) and energy service agreement (ESA) contracts.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>			X		
<p><b>CAP 27. Collaborate with PG&amp;E</b>                      Collaborate with PG&amp;E and California Solar Initiative Thermal Program to develop an outreach program to maximize installation of solar hot water systems and leverage existing funding opportunities. Work with PG&amp;E to identify businesses and multi-family residential building owners with high hot water use, and provide targeted outreach with promotional materials for participation in the California Solar Initiative (CSI)-Thermal Program.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.4  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>			X		

**Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs**

	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 28. Transportation Demand Management</b></p> <p>Work with VTA and/or 511.org to develop and implement an outreach program targeting employers with fewer than 50 employees to encourage voluntary participation in TDM program activities, including pre-tax deductions for alternative travel mode expenses, transit pass subsidies, and new vanpool development; share best-practices in TDM programs with local businesses to identify options that have been successful at a small scale. Support regional efforts to implement SB 1339 commuter benefit requirements for employers with more than 50 employees. Partner with 511.org and employers to leverage new ride-matching technologies and promote rideshare among employees.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.7</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Public Works</p>		X			
<p><b>Category 3</b> - Implementation Programs designed to reduce <b>municipal operation</b> GHG emissions.</p>					
<p><b>CAP 29. Municipal Building Retrofit</b></p> <p>Prepare and implement a comprehensive municipal building retrofit program that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A municipal energy plan to guide future energy retrofit projects.</li> <li>▪ A retrofit opportunity tracking framework that identifies building/facility, retrofit project components, and energy use reduction estimates by energy source.</li> <li>▪ A program that requires all major systems (e.g., HVAC) in existing buildings/facilities to be retro-commissioned at five year intervals.</li> <li>▪ Facility manager training on existing (EMS) in order to maximize effectiveness of City’s building systems.</li> </ul> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.12</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Facilities Department</p>		X			

<b>Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs</b>	<b>2021-2023</b>	<b>2024-2028</b>	<b>2029-2040</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<p><b>CAP 30. Public Realm Lighting Efficiency</b>                      Prepare and implement a lighting efficiency program that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A funding and implementation strategy to convert all City-owned street and traffic lights to high-efficiency technologies (e.g., LED).</li> <li>▪ A revised set of public lighting standards to establish minimum efficiency thresholds consistent with LED or similar prevalent technologies.</li> <li>▪ Park lighting (e.g., pathways, restroom facilities, area lighting, sport field lighting) that has not yet been converted to LED, magnetic induction, or similar highly-efficient technology.</li> <li>▪ Appropriate energy-efficient lighting technologies for sports fields/courts that still provide lighting levels required for applicable sporting use.</li> <li>▪ Energy efficient lighting in all new public parks and recreational facilities, as appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.12</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Facilities Department</p>		X			

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 31. Municipal Renewable Energy Facilities</b>            Develop additional renewable energy facilities on City buildings, parking lots, or property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to operate solar PV system at the Gilroy library.</li> <li>▪ Identify opportunities for additional solar PV installations on municipal buildings and/or property.</li> <li>▪ Consider opportunities for solar thermal installations to reduce municipal natural gas consumption.</li> <li>▪ Discuss renewable energy financing options with solar service providers to minimize up-front and operational costs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.12  <b>Responsible Departments:</b> Public Works, Facilities Department</p>			X		X
<p><b>CAP 32. Low Emissions Vehicles</b>            Transition the municipal fleet to fuel efficient and alternative-fuel vehicle models, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expand Green Fleet inventory data collection to include annual mileage use by vehicle, vehicle age/lease expiration dates, and kWh to charge electric vehicle models.</li> <li>▪ Define the vehicle fleet transition pathway to implement the Green Fleet policy goal that reflects market conditions and existing vehicle fleet lifespan.</li> <li>▪ Replace passenger vehicles with EV, biofuel, CNG, or hybrid models.</li> <li>▪ Explore joint procurement options with other area jurisdictions to lower costs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.8  <b>Responsible Department:</b> Fleet Division</p>		X			

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 33. Green Products Handbook</b>                      Develop a staff handbook to serve as a user-friendly resource to guide City purchases of "green" products, such as furniture, carpeting/flooring, paints, packaging materials, energy-efficient appliances, etc.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.1</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Purchasing Division</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 34. Waste Audits</b>                      Establish the practice of performing regular waste audits at City facilities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determine type/quantity of waste being produced.</li> <li>▪ Measure effectiveness of existing waste diversion practices</li> <li>▪ Identify opportunities for new waste diversion practices.</li> <li>▪ Establish baseline data for measuring progress towards waste reduction and diversion goals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.13</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			
<p><b>CAP 35. Paper Use Reduction</b>                      Install printer-tracking software that allows printer analytics; identify third-party, paperless office solutions providers to help develop a municipal strategy for increased use of electronic forms/files, as well as file management practices.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.13</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Information Technology Development</p>			X		

Table 8-2: Natural and Cultural Resources; Climate Action Plan Implementation Programs	2021-2023	2024-2028	2029-2040	Annual	Ongoing
<p><b>CAP 36. Food Waste</b>            Contract with a franchise waste hauler to provide organics collection services at City buildings/facilities; establish food recovery programs.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.13</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				
<p><b>CAP 37. Qualified GHG Reduction Plan</b>            Prepare and adopt a qualified GHG reduction plan within three years of the date the Gilroy 2040 General Plan is adopted. When drafting the Climate Action Plan / Qualified Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy, the City will consider recommendations outlined in BAAQMD’s CEQA Guidelines, and any requirements of AB 32, SB 32, Executive Order B-55-18, and SB 100.</p> <p><b>Implements Policy:</b> NCR 3.14</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>	X				
<p><b>CAP 38. Maps Areas for Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) Emission Modeling</b>            Identify and map areas in the city subject to TAC emission modeling requirements, including areas within 500 feet of: U.S. 101, designated heavy industrial uses, designated residential uses, Neighborhood District designations, and the Downtown Specific Plan area.</p> <p><b>Implements Policies:</b> NCR 3.17, NCR 3.18, NCR 3.19</p> <p><b>Responsible Department:</b> Community Development</p>		X			

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