Sample Community Plan Goals

Toro Canyon Area Plan, Los Alamos Community Plan, Montecito Community Plan, and Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan (Draft)

Organization and Definitions

**Goal** - A goal is an ideal future end, condition or state related to the public health, safety or general welfare toward which planning efforts are directed. A goal is a general expression of community values and therefore is abstract in nature (e.g., “An aesthetically pleasing community,” or “Quiet residential streets”).

**Objective** - An objective is a specific end, condition or state that is an intermediate step toward attaining a goal. It should be achievable and, when possible, measurable and time-specific (e.g., “One hundred affordable housing units for low-income households by 2000”).

**Policy** - A policy is a specific statement that guides decision making that is based on a general plan’s goals and objectives as well as the analysis of data. Policies should be clear and unambiguous (e.g., “Infill development at specified densities shall be encouraged, and scattered urban development shall not be allowed”).

**Action** - An action is a one-time action, program, procedure or development standard that carries out General Plan policy. Not all policies require actions.

  - **One-time Actions** - One-time actions usually are adopted concurrently with the Community or Area Plan.
  
  - **Programs** - Programs are actions that are primarily administrative functions, such as the development of an ordinance or study to address a goal (e.g., “A Tree Preservation Ordinance shall be drafted”). Program Actions will be adopted with the goals, objectives and policies of the Plan.

**Development Standards** - Development standards are measures that will be incorporated into development projects to provide consistency with certain policies of the Community Plan. Not all policies require development standards.
Land Use

GOAL LUR-TC: Balance residential development with protection of resources, respect constraints to development and concentrate development in areas with adequate public facilities and services.

GOAL LU-LA-1: Encourage growth within the community plan area rather than expanding the existing urban boundary.

GOAL LUR-LA-1: Encourage and protect diversity of housing types, while maintaining the predominantly rural identity of the community.

GOAL G-M-1: Maintain and preserve the residential, low intensity, semi-rural character of Montecito.

GOAL LU-M-1: In order to protect the semi-rural quality of life, encourage excellence in architectural and landscape design. Promote area-wide and neighborhood compatibility; protect residential privacy, public view, and to the maximum extent feasible, private views of the mountains and ocean.

GOAL LU-M-2: Preserve roads as important aesthetic elements that help to define the semi-rural character of the community. Strive to ensure that all development along roads is designed in a manner that does not impinge upon the character of the roadway.

GOAL LUG-M-1: Comprehensively plan for, and maintain, an ultimate community buildout that is based on the conservation of limited resources. Infrastructure and services planning shall respect the need to preserve the community’s existing quality of life and community character and shall be scaled to accommodate growth provided within the context of the adopted Land Use Maps and the Plan.

GOAL LUG-M-2: Achieve residential development patterns that maintain the desired balance between growth and availability of community resources and services.

GOAL LUT-SYV 5: The scenic quality, historic character and rural architectural style of the townships should be maintained and enhanced. Future development should add to the townships’ aesthetic appeal by being attractively designed, pedestrian friendly, well landscaped and compatible with their neighborhood context.
GOAL LUR-M-1: Encourage and protect diversity of housing types, while maintaining the predominately large lot, single family identity of the community.

Fire Protection

GOAL FIRE-TC: Maximize effective and appropriate fire prevention measures in order to minimize exposure of people and property to wildfire hazards; minimize adverse impacts on fire protection and suppression efforts.

GOAL FIRE-LA-1: Reduce fire hazards community-wide while preserving and enhancing the hillside views.

GOAL F-M-1: In high fire hazard areas, strive to ensure that adequate fire protection services and facilities are available prior to permitting new development.

GOAL F-M-2: Reduce fire hazards community-wide while preserving and enhancing the hillside views and vegetation which are indispensable to the community character.

GOAL FIRE-SYV: Maximize effective and appropriate fire prevention protection measures to minimize exposure of people and property to wildfire hazards; minimize the adverse impacts of fire protection and suppression efforts.

Parks, Recreation, and Trails

GOAL PRT-TC: Public recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, including improved beach access, expanded trail network and parks.

GOAL PRT-LA-1: Protect diverse outdoor recreational opportunities so that the community’s current and future recreational needs are met to the maximum extent feasible.

GOAL PRT-M-1: Develop and protect diverse outdoor recreational opportunities to strive to ensure that the community’s current and future recreational needs are met.

GOAL PRT-SYV: Protect and provide public recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, including an expanded trail network and parks, consistent with the goals and policies of the County Agricultural Element to the Comprehensive Plan.

Circulation
GOAL CIRC-TC-1: Provide an efficient and safe circulation system to accommodate existing development and future growth in Toro Canyon.

GOAL CIRC-TC-2: Achieve land use patterns and densities that reflect the desire of the community to prevent further degradation of roadways and intersections for benefits of safety, aesthetics and community character.

GOAL CIRC-LA-1: The County shall strive to permit reasonable development of parcels within the community of Los Alamos based upon the policies and land use designations adopted in this community plan, while maintaining safe roadways and intersections that operate at acceptable levels.

GOAL CIRC-LA-2: The County shall continue to encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation such as bicycling, walking, carpooling, and other forms of ridesharing.

GOAL CIRC-M-1A: Permit reasonable development of parcels within the community of Montecito based upon the policies and land use designations adopted in this Community Plan, while maintaining safe roadways and intersections that operate at acceptable levels.

GOAL CIRC-M-1B: The County shall continue to develop programs that encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation including, but not limited to, an updated Bicycle Route Plan, park and ride facilities, and transportation demand management ordinances.

GOAL CIRC-M-2: Recognize that Montecito roadways are important components of the community character in addition to their primary role as corridors for various forms of transportation (e.g., automobile, pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle) through the community.

GOAL CIRC-M-3: Achieve land use patterns and densities that reflect the desire of the community to prevent further degradation of roadways and intersections for the benefits of safety, aesthetics and community character.

GOAL CIRC-SYV-1: Provide an efficient and safe circulation system to accommodate existing development and future growth in the Santa Ynez Valley Planning Area.

GOAL CIRC-SYV-2: Achieve land use patterns and densities that reflect the desire of the community to prevent further degradation of roadways and intersections for the benefits of safety, aesthetics and community character.
Public Services

- No Goals in Toro Canyon Plan.

**GOAL SERV-LA-1:** Provide for adequate public facility and service capacity to support land use buildout as defined in the community plan.

**GOAL RRC-M-1:** Provide community-wide resource recovery opportunities.

**GOAL P-M-1:** Achieve adequate police services for Montecito to protect property and public safety, as well as to provide traffic and parking controls.

Wastewater and Water

**GOAL WW-TC:** Protect quality of surface, ground, and ocean waters from degradation; maintain adequate, safe water supplies; and protect groundwater basins from prolonged overdraft. Provide adequate wastewater treatment and disposal throughout the planning area.

**GOAL SD-LA-1:** Link development to a well managed sewer plant with a high level of treatment in order to best serve the public health and welfare.

**GOAL WAT-LA-1:** Minimize the potential for a significant depletion of the area’s groundwater resources through the promotion of water conservation and an overall reduction in groundwater pumpage.

**GOAL SD-M-1:** Plan development in a manner that achieves adequate sewer service with a high level of treatment in order to best serve the public health and welfare.

**GOAL WAT-M-1:** Pursue sound water management practices that seek a balance between supply and demand in a manner that is consistent with the long-term land use goals of the County and the Montecito Planning Area.

**GOAL WW-SYV:** Provide adequate wastewater treatment and disposal throughout the planning area.

**GOAL WAT-SYV-1:** Protect the quality of surface and ground waters from degradation; maintain adequate, safe water supplies; and protect groundwater basins from prolonged overdraft.
**Biological Resources**

**GOAL BIO-TC:** Recognize that the biological resources of the Toro Canyon Plan area are an important regional asset meriting protection and enhancement.

**GOAL BIO-LA-1:** Maintain the quality of streams, sloughs, drainage channels, and underground water basins and areas adjacent to such waters. Protect, maintain, and restore significant habitat and/or vegetation with the town’s urban boundaries.

**GOAL BIO-M-1:** Recognize that the biological resources of Montecito are an important regional asset. The vegetation and wildlife of the area contribute substantially to the semi-rural character of the community.

**GOAL BIO-SYV:** The biological resources of the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan Area are an important regional asset that should be protected, enhanced and preserved.

**Flooding and Drainage**

- No Goals in Toro Canyon Plan.

**GOAL FLD-LA-1:** Provide adequate drainage within the Los Alamos Planning Area to eliminate flooding and drainage problems.

**GOAL FD-M-1:** Protect the Santa Ynez Mountain Range from development which would interfere with its watershed function.

**GOAL FD-M-2:** Provide adequate drainage within the Montecito foothill area to eliminate flooding and drainage problems.

**GOAL FD-M-3:** Protect stream corridors from sedimentation or other impacts of upstream development.

**GOAL FD-M-4:** Strive to ensure that flood control activities protect and enhance the watershed.

- No Goals in Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan (draft).

**Geology, Hillsides and Topography**

**GOAL GEO-TC:** Protect the public health, safety and welfare by preserving hillside and watershed areas in the most natural state feasible; protect coastal resources from the adverse effects of shoreline protection structures.
GOAL GEO-M-1: Protect the public health, safety and welfare by preserving the hillsides in the most natural state feasible.

GOAL GEO-M-2: Protect citizens in the Montecito area from the effects of radon gas to the extent possible.

GOAL GEO-SYV: Protect public health, safety, and welfare by minimizing the exposure of people and property to geologic hazards.

History and Archaeology

GOAL HA-TC: Preserve and protect significant cultural, archaeological and historical resources in the Toro Canyon Plan Area to the maximum extent feasible.

GOAL HA-LA-1: Preserve and protect those cultural resources deemed of special significance to the maximum extent feasible.

GOAL CR-M-1: Preserve and protect properties and structures with historic importance in the Montecito Community to the maximum extent feasible.

GOAL CR-M-2: Preserve and protect those cultural resources deemed of special significance to the maximum extent feasible without interfering with the rights of the property owners.

GOAL HA-SYV-1: Preserve and protect significant cultural, archaeological and historical resources in the Santa Ynez Valley Planning Area to the maximum extent feasible.

Visual and Aesthetic Resources

GOAL VIS-TC: Protect the rural and semi-rural character and natural features of the area; particularly public views of the foothills, Santa Ynez mountains, and the Pacific Ocean.

GOAL VIS-LA-1: Within the urban boundaries, maintain the open space views and rural character in and around the town’s urban boundaries. Maintain and enhance the aesthetic qualities of the community in all facets of project design.

GOAL VIS-SYV-1: Protect the rural/agricultural character and natural features of the Planning Area, including mountain views, scenic corridors and buffers, prominent valley viewsheds, and the quality of the nighttime sky.