

EVSP Focus Area – Infrastructure

Focus Area Formation Guidelines:

1. Reach out to partners for participation in the sub-committee. Consider diversity and inclusion as you assemble the team.
2. Think meaningful and manageable as you contemplate the scope of work/goals to aim for in the next 12 months. Part of your role is to prioritize. Consider aspects such as timing, opportunity, and urgency. We do not have to identify a near term activity for every action item.
3. Avoid duplication. Part of each sub-committee's initial job will be an assessment or inventory of the current state resources and initiatives already in place. Consider what is already in place with our economic vitality partners and how we can support, expand or better coordinate those efforts, before looking to add or create new initiatives to support the Action Items in your Focus Area.
4. The EVSP was completed before the Thomas Fire. We encourage each sub-committee to call out activities taking place within their Focus Area that relate to Thomas Fire Recovery and have an Economic Vitality element to them. Opportunities to support/expand these efforts or fill an identified need are encouraged.
5. Consider the "Suggested Initial Objectives" for your Focus Area (Listed Below, if identified in the EVSP) as just that, a suggestion. Your sub-committee is empowered to choose the initial objectives and report those back to the Steering Committee.
6. Paul Stamper and Rachel Linares will be your primary contacts at the County if you have questions. We can also help to coordinate participation from the various County agencies on each of your sub-committees, where appropriate.
7. All EVSP reports and resources can be found at our website:
<http://vcevsp.org/>

TABLE 1. SUGGESTED INITIAL OBJECTIVES

Focus Area	Action Items	Key Initial Objectives
Infrastructure	A3 E1-E4	Identify any infrastructure deficiencies that are constraining or will soon constrain desired development options. Initial steps could include generating inventory of what is known about infrastructure conditions: a. Where infrastructure deficiencies could constrain desired development options, the nature of such deficiencies, and plans for addressing (or lack or incompleteness of plans) b. Infrastructure partners and their influence on current and future infrastructure issues

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Focus Area Action Item	Recommended Priority Level (Scale 1-3: 1- Highest, 3- Lowest)	Proposed Lead
A.3 Continue to prioritize investment in infrastructure, County services and other assets that are recognized strengths within Ventura County and critical to future economic vitality, including public safety, healthcare, library services, environmental assets, and other quality of life / business climate conditions	1	CEO Sheriff Fire HCA PWA Harbor Airports Library RMA

A.3 *Continue to prioritize investment in infrastructure, County services and other assets that are recognized strengths within Ventura County and critical to future economic vitality, including public safety, healthcare, library services, environmental assets, and other quality of life / business climate conditions*

This action item is intended to maintain an appropriate level of attention on the elements identified in the statement, so that they continue to be viewed as assets, through ongoing enhancements, expansions, and other measures. For the most part, maintaining this attention will be part of operational plans, capital improvement plans, and general plans, as well as interdepartmental and other coordination.

A.3 Continue to prioritize investment in infrastructure, County services and other assets that are recognized strengths within Ventura County and critical to future economic vitality, including public safety, healthcare, library services, environmental assets, and other quality of life / business climate conditions		
KEY PARTNERS • Ventura County CEO and agencies VCTC	• Oxnard Harbor District (OHD) • EDC-VC Chamber Alliance	• Transportation/Public Works Media (notifications, recruitment)
APPLICABLE RESOURCES County Capital Improvement Plans and other plans and operational documents		

Focus Area Action Item	Recommended Priority Level (Scale 1-3: 1- Highest, 3- Lowest)	Proposed Lead
E.1 Prioritize investment in infrastructure improvements to ensure water supply/quality	1	Public Works Agency Cities and Water Wholesalers

E.1 Prioritize investment in infrastructure improvements to ensure water supply/quality

The Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) program provides billions of dollars in grants and low-interest loans to address infrastructure needs related to water supply; water quality; and flood, wastewater, and stormwater management across California, while leveraging billions of dollars in local matching funds. The County of Ventura manages the IRWM program on behalf of the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County, and as of December 2016, the County has been awarded and manages more than \$82 million in funding for planning and implementation of 37 projects across Ventura County.

E.1 Prioritize investment in infrastructure improvements to ensure water supply/quality		
KEY PARTNERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ventura County Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities’ ED function, CDBG Cities and water wholesalers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC)
APPLICABLE RESOURCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Water Project FEMA Levee Certification Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Ventura 2013 Comprehensive Water Resources Report, RBF Consulting NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

Focus Area Action Item	Recommended Priority Level (Scale 1-3: 1- Highest, 3- Lowest)	Proposed Lead
E.2 Continue to monitor and seek improvements to transportation infrastructure involving road/transit/bicycle/ pedestrian systems within city and county jurisdiction, in order to minimize the cost and inconvenience of traffic congestion, while continuing to seek funding through lobbying, grant writing, and similar means, for transportation infrastructure under federal and state jurisdiction	2	Public Works Agency Cities Caltrans GCTD

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The intent of this action item is to emphasize that cities and the County can maximize the management of the overall transportation system while continuing to seek additional federal and state revenues to fund new facilities and services. Management and operational resources that will play a role in this action item could include jurisdictions’ capital improvement plans, transit plans and operations, and resources such as the County Roads Fund and the Pavement Condition Index. Ongoing investments in roads and streets, along with other transportation elements, will be needed in order to maintain the road conditions and connections between cities in the County, for all users including tourists and the special case of bicycle tourism.

Efforts within this action item will recognize that transportation planning has grown more complex in recent years for a variety of reasons. Plans and policies that encourage alternative modes of travel can potentially provide a wide range of benefits, both directly and indirectly related to the movement of goods and people. For example, bicycle tourism is now a relevant consideration in local transportation planning in Ventura County. Continued investments in bicycle resources and developing “bicycle friendly” designations can further economic benefit from transportation infrastructure. Other "global" conditions emerging could also have major, and relatively immediate, effects on transportation planning and programming, including autonomous vehicle technology, increased emphasis on multi-modal transportation facilities, and increasing numbers of electric and hybrid vehicles entering the market.

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KEY PARTNERS

- Ventura County CEO
- PWA

- Ventura COG
- Caltrans

- Convention & Visitors Bureaus (all)
- Cities' ED function
- GCTD

APPLICABLE RESOURCES

- Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), various resources mainly related to transit and other alternative modes
- Ventura County CEO
- Ventura COG
- VC County Roads Fund

- The 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTPSCS), SCAG, Adopted April, 2016.
- Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) projects (most current project list), on SCAG's FTIP website.

- VC Pavement Condition Index
- RTPSCS Selected Appendices – Transportation System: Passenger Rail; Highways & Arterials; Project List
- Website with link to federal automated vehicles policy: <https://www.transportation.gov/AV>

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Focus Area Action Item	Recommended Priority Level (Scale 1-3: 1- Highest, 3- Lowest)	Proposed Lead
E.3 Continue to improve and develop technology/broadband-related infrastructure	2	IT Services Department/ Broadband Consortium

E.3 Continue to improve and develop technology/broadband-related infrastructure

The geographic distribution, other aspects of general accessibility, and the quality of broadband infrastructure have become increasingly critical aspects of an area’s competitiveness for economic activity. Due to the location-specific nature of broadband infrastructure, the notion of competitiveness in a region such as Ventura County applies to individual communities and areas within communities, as well as to the overall perception of the County as a place to do business. Specific considerations that apply to broadband-location strategies include the following:

- Encouraging broadband infrastructure installations in areas where other assets make the area especially attractive for heavy users of this infrastructure.
- Considering the equity effects of broadband infrastructure locations. This infrastructure can be critical for companies other than high-tech, “high value” companies. There is also a geographic component to maintaining equitable distribution of the infrastructure. That is, are all populations, business districts, etc. adequately served?
- Does the appropriate infrastructure exist where development or redevelopment capacity is also present in the property base? In this regard, work within this action item must be coordinated with action item A.5, pertaining to land supply.

E.3 Continue to improve and develop technology/broadband-related infrastructure		
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDC-VC • Southern CA Edison • Cities’ ED function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast • Ventura COG
APPLICABLE RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband Consortium of the Pacific Coast, various ongoing efforts to improve region’s broadband service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Library broadband connection/services for patrons

Focus Area Action Item	Recommended Priority Level (Scale 1-3: 1- Highest, 3- Lowest)	Proposed Lead
E.4 Ensure energy availability, reliability, and sustainability	2	CEO (Energy Team) GSA VCREA SCE So Cal Gas

E.4 Ensure Energy Availability, Reliability, and Sustainability

In addition to its traditional roles in permitting energy facilities/infrastructure, the County is currently actively engaged in many initiatives that impact energy resources for Ventura County residents: In April 2017, the County Board of Supervisors approved a groundbreaking Energy Services Agreement between the County and Ventura Solar, LLC. The agreement, which will be administered by the General Services Agency (GSA), will enable the County to purchase electricity generated from a planned 3-megawatt photovoltaic system to be installed in the unincorporated area of Fillmore. Ventura Solar will engineer, construct, operate and maintain this project. The project will be connected directly to the Southern California Edison utility grid, resulting in GSA annual credits from SCE with a value of \$72,000 above the County’s normal costs. Once the facility is operational, nearly one-third of all power used by GSA-managed County facilities will be from renewable sources.

The CEO Energy Team (Team) is responsible for coordinating with County departments/agencies on the County’s greenhouse gas inventory, the Climate Protection Plan, and preparing progress reports on those efforts to the Board of Supervisors.

The Team has for the past three years administered, on behalf of Ventura County, a tri-County residential energy efficiency program known as emPower. The Energy Team is currently awaiting approval from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to manage a ten-year, \$54 million tri-County residential energy efficiency Regional Energy Network program.

The Team administers the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance, a Joint Powers Agency, composed of public agencies working in collaboration to address good energy stewardship through integrated demand-side management practices in the region.

The Team is undertaking the development of a Certified Green Business program, an effort to help local businesses with energy and water conservation, waste reduction and recycling, responsible purchasing practices, customer and employee education, and pollution prevention.

Additionally, the Team has for the past 18 months been working with Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties and several of tri-County Cities on a study to determine the feasibility of developing a Community Choice Energy program for Ventura County residents.

E.4 Ensure energy availability, reliability and sustainability

KEY PARTNERS

- Ventura County CEO, GSA and RMA
- SoCal Gas

- Ventura Solar
- Cities
- Central Coast Power

- Ventura COG
- VCREA
- SCE

APPLICABLE RESOURCES

- Community Choice Energy (CCE) program

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