

Policy Input Provided by Butte County Department of Public Works
On Policy Alternatives Document

Transportation

1. How should the County maintain and improve road conditions, and safe traffic flow?

a. Re-examine County road standards to ensure that they are adequate.

The County should review and update its Public Works roadway improvement standards on a periodic basis to ensure they reflect current design requirements, new regulatory standards, and/or the adopted improvement standards of adjacent local jurisdictions.

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b. Seek new and protect existing local, State and federal funding for necessary increased road maintenance and rehabilitation.

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c. Coordinate with other State, Counties, and local agencies to improve major travel corridors for the movement of goods and services to and from Interstate 5 via Highway 162.

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d. Condition established. Implement traffic impact fees on new development to fund construction and improvement of affected roadways.

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e. Institute Permanent Road Divisions (PRD's) per established County policies to form assessment districts to fund maintenance on local roads constructed as part of approved new development.

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f. Assess road capacity and ensure it is adequate prior to approval of new development.

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Prior to approval of new development, require traffic studies to assess nexus impacts to roadway and intersection capacities and ensure that it is adequately addressed.

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g. Design roads to have a rural character.

h. Allow new development to occur only in areas that have at least two vehicular access routes.

i. Identify and complete roadside fuel reduction projects and maintain necessary clearance zones on critical roads for fire safety and visibility.

2. How should the General Plan address bicycle issues?

a. Support the County Bicycle Master Plan effort for unincorporated areas currently under study by the Department of Public Works. Work with BCAG to implement new bike facilities identified in the 1998 Bicycle Master Plan, including new facilities (see also Figure 5 of the Land Use and Transportation Alternatives, Transportation Alternatives Bicycle Improvements):

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○ Along River Road, Chico River Road and Old Humboldt Road in the Chico Area.

○ Along Skyway, Neal Road, Pentz Road, and Midway to connect Chico with Paradise and Durham.

○ Along Table Mountain Boulevard, Larkin Road, Gridley Colusa Highway, Olive Highway, and Miners Ranch Road.

- b. Create and maintain a GIS mapping database of current and proposed bicycle routes and facilities countywide.
- c. Seek available local, State and federal funding for new bicycle facilities that encourage commuting and recreation.
- d. Where appropriate, condition new development to provide adequate pedestrian, bicycle and multi-use facilities, as indicated in the Bicycle Master Plans of the County and adjacent jurisdictions and as necessary to incorporate and integrate circulation and recreational use.
- e. Provide appropriate bicycle amenities at all County facilities and park-and-ride lots, including bicycle racks and storage facilities.
- f. Ensure new bicycle routes and paths create a safe bicycle environment.
- g. Require designated bicycle lanes to be clearly demarcated from vehicle travel lanes and to meet the adopted standards for Class II bike lanes.
- h. Support the planning and construction of bicycle lanes and routes to facilitate commuting, and, where appropriate, recreational use.
- i. Plan bicycle facilities to provide connections to transit, and support efforts to expand accommodation of bicycles aboard buses.

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3. How can the County help decrease reliance on automobile travel?

- a. Support walkable and mixed use neighborhoods that provide shopping, services and jobs near to housing.
- b. Provide sidewalks and multi-use trails in urbanized areas.
- c. Ensure that the Zoning Ordinance provides opportunities for basic retail services in rural unincorporated communities where appropriate.
- d. Encourage ~~Require~~ new neighborhoods and subdivisions to utilize a connected grid, or modified grid pattern of streets including short block lengths.
- e. Seek alternative sources of funding for public transit, such as advertising revenue from buses and bus shelters.
- f. When economically feasible, support improved public transit service to rural areas of the county, including expanded service geographically, more frequent buses at key times of the day, and improved transit amenities, such as bus shelters.
- g. Support improved regional bus service to major cities and destinations outside of Butte County.
- h. Develop a plan to support improved connections to other regional transportation services such as rail and regional/national bus lines and to connect Butte County communities with each other.
- i. Develop a plan to support and promote rail service that would connect Butte County with other regions and would connect Butte County communities with each other.

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- j. Establish "slow street," alternative routes to fast roadways that utilize traffic calming signs and physical barriers to slow down traffic.
- k. Encourage carpooling and telecommuting through employer incentives and the allowance of additional carpool pickup and park-and-ride locations. ~~Support businesses that encourage cooperative transportation such as bike and car sharing.~~
- l. Encourage carpooling among County employees through preferred parking and financial incentives.
- m. Develop regulations to support and encourage home occupations.
- n. Design new neighborhoods to provide bike and pedestrian connectivity between streets.
- o. Provide transit incentives for County employees.
- p. Ensure that, wherever feasible, public transit is a viable and attractive alternative to the use of single occupant motor vehicles through the promotion and expansion of a public transit system.
- q. Encourage employers to provide transit subsidies, bicycle facilities, and alternative work schedules, ridesharing, telecommuting and work-at-home programs, employee education, and preferential parking for carpools/vanpools.
- r. Promote and adequately advertise for shuttles from local transit stations to special event centers.
- s. Encourage business owners to schedule deliveries at off-peak traffic periods.
- t. Provide disincentives for single-occupant vehicle trips through parking supply and pricing controls in areas where supply is limited and alternative transportation modes are available.
- u. Support the development of Service Areas (i.e. County or municipality) in order to create funding for transportation services and road improvements that provide air quality benefits.
- v. Encourage transportation policy that gives funding preferences to public transit.
- w. Encourage transportation impact fees on new development in order to facilitate and increase public transit service.
- x. Incorporate bicycle lanes into street systems in regional transportation plans, subdivisions and large developments.

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26A. Should the County consider adopting a different level of service (LOS) standard?

- a. ~~The County should not change its current countywide standard of LOS C.~~
- b. Level of Service (LOS) for County-maintained roads and State highways within the unincorporated areas of the County shall not be worse than LOS C, except that the County should allow LOS D on roadways within the Cities' Spheres of Influence if it would be consistent with the Cities' General Plan LOS policies. Level of Service will be as defined in the latest edition of the Highway Capacity Manual (Transportation Research Board, National Research Council) and calculated using the methodologies contained in that manual. Analysis periods shall be based on Peak Hour traffic volumes or as otherwise based on the professional judgement of the County Director of Public Works.

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~~e. The County should allow LOS D on all roadways in the county.~~

Scenic Highways

4. **How should the County protect and enhance its network of scenic highways and/or create additional scenic highways?**
 - a. Designate additional scenic highways in the county.
 - b. Develop additional design guidelines for development located along scenic highways, such as building setbacks, heights and footprints, as well as landscaping standards and restrictions to protect view corridors.
 - c. Strictly regulate signage in view corridors, including prohibitions on installation of billboards along scenic highways.
 - d. Remove existing billboards along scenic highways.
 - e. Create special design and signage regulations along the Skyway between Chico and Paradise.
 - f. Create special design and signage regulations for key gateway areas, such as Highway 70 as it enters Oroville or the Skyway entering Chico and Paradise.
 - g. Clearly identify scenic highways on maps and through appropriate roadside signage.
 - h. Enhance the County's Scenic Highway zoning classification to provide for additional protection, possibly by widening the protected corridor or establishing stricter site development standards.
 - i. Provide flexibility regarding the size and shape of the Scenic Highway Zone so that narrow lots are not unduly restricted by this Zone.

Utilities and Public Services

5. How should the County ensure that the infrastructure needs of new development are met?

- a. Assess infrastructure capacity for projected build out and ensure it is adequate prior to approval of new development ~~that the infrastructure is to serve~~ that adequate infrastructure capacity requirements are provided as conditions of project approval.
- b. Set development fees so that needed infrastructure is adequately funded ~~to provide for gradually increasing impact fees based upon the distance to existing infrastructure~~ proportionately to the cost of providing infrastructure.
- c. Require new development to provide its own infrastructure in conjunction with each project as it is built.
- d. Work with municipalities and service providers to ensure that services are available ~~prior to approving for~~ new development and consistent with master plans.
- e. Create additional ~~assessment districts and Community Service Agencies special districts~~ to fund and manage new and improved infrastructure.

Trails

6. How should the General Plan address recreational trails facilities, such as hiking, bicycle, equestrian and off-highway vehicle trails?

- a. Conduct a countywide trails planning study to identify new needed routes and a proposed countywide railways system with connectivity to the existing trails network. Deleted: ons
- b. Work with the cities and local park and recreation districts to provide connections between trails in incorporated and unincorporated regions of Butte County.
- c. Work with local jurisdictions, Lassen and Plumas National Forests, and the Department of Water Resources to designate additional shared use trails along unpaved County roads, access roads, and fire roads. Deleted: D
- d. Pursue development of abandoned railroad right-of-way, levee tops, utility easements and waterways for new multi-use trails.
- e. Develop additional equestrian trails, including safe routes along roads.
- f. Develop additional off-road vehicle trails.
- g. Publish Butte County trail maps for the public.
- h. Require that new development incorporate multi-use trails and connections to existing trail networks. Deleted: bicycle
- i. Provide for appropriate and adequate funding for the creation and ongoing maintenance of trails.
- j. Other _____