



City of Kingsburg

# Focused General Plan Update Legislative Review and Assessments Report

October 2024

**Prepared For:**

City of Kingsburg  
1401 Draper Street  
Kingsburg, CA 93631

**Prepared By:**

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

**PROVOST &  
PRITCHARD**

# Table of Contents

Introduction and Purpose..... 1

    Report Organization ..... 1

    Existing City Demographics ..... 1

        Racial and Ethnic Composition ..... 2

        Household and Income ..... 2

        Employment and Workforce ..... 2

        Population ..... 3

Legislative Context ..... 3

    Climate Adaptation – SB 379 ..... 3

    Wildfire Risk – SB 1241 ..... 4

    Flooding – SB 5 ..... 4

    Evacuation Routes - SB 99 ..... 4

    Air Quality – AB 170..... 4

    Environmental Justice – SB 1000..... 5

    Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities - SB 244 ..... 6

    Military Readiness – SB 1458 and SB 1462 ..... 7

    Multimodal Transportation Networks – AB 1358..... 7

    Transportation Planning - SB 932 ..... 7

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency ..... 8

    Background ..... 8

        Mitigation Versus Adaptation..... 8

        Climate Adaptation Planning ..... 9

Vulnerability Assessment ..... 10

    Identified Hazards ..... 11

    Hazard Profiles ..... 12

    Asset Inventory..... 23

    Vulnerability and Potential Losses..... 24

    Capability Assessment..... 25

    Mitigation Strategy (Goals and Objectives) ..... 28

    General Plan Policies ..... 30

    Summary and Recommendations ..... 31

Wildfire Risk ..... 32

    Historical Fire Data ..... 32

    Summary and Recommendations ..... 34

Flood Risk and 200-Year Flood Zones ..... 34

    Summary and Recommendations ..... 34

Planning for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice ..... 35

    Identifying Disadvantaged Communities ..... 35

    Planning for Healthy Communities Analysis ..... 35

        Pollution Exposure ..... 37

        Public Facilities ..... 45

        Food Access ..... 55

        Safe and Sanitary Homes ..... 58

        Physical Activity ..... 61

        Civic Engagement ..... 67

References ..... 68

## List of Appendices

Appendix A: ..... A-1

## List of Tables

Table 1 – Racial and Ethnic Composition<sup>1</sup> ..... 2

Table 2 – Summary of General Plan Legislation ..... 3

Table 3 – Kingsburg Hazard Summaries ..... 12

Table 4 – Kingsburg Assets at Risk ..... 24

Table 5 – Kingsburg Critical Facilities ..... 24

Table 6 – Public Facilities Summary and Recommendations ..... 54

Table 7 – Safe and Sanitary Homes Summary and Recommendations ..... 60

## List of Figures

Figure 1 – Adaptation Planning Development.....	9
Figure 2 – Kingsburg Dam Inundation .....	15
Figure 3 – Kingsburg Flood Zones.....	20
Figure 4 – Kingsburg Fire Hazard Areas .....	21
Figure 5 – Nearest Fire Hazard Severity Zones .....	33
Figure 6 – CalEnviroScreen.....	36
Figure 7 – Pollution Sources .....	40
Figure 8 – Hazardous Sites .....	44
Figure 9 – Community Amenities .....	46
Figure 10 – Public Services .....	47
Figure 11 – Pavement Conditions.....	50
Figure 12 – FCRTA Services Map .....	51
Figure 13 – Healthcare Facilities.....	53
Figure 14 – Food Access .....	57
Figure 15 – Physical Activity .....	63
Figure 16 – Existing Walking Facilities in Kingsburg.....	65
Figure 17 – Existing Bicycling Facilities in Kingsburg.....	66

# Introduction and Purpose

The purpose of this legislative review and assessments report is to provide an overview of the new general plan requirements enacted since adoption of the Kingsburg General Plan in 1992,<sup>1</sup> including climate adaptation (Senate Bill (SB) 379), wildfire risk (SB 1241), flooding (SB 5), transportation (circulation [SB 932, AB 1358] and evacuation routes [SB 99]), air quality (AB 170), and environmental justice (SB 1000, SB 244). Additionally, SB 1458 and SB 1462 have notification requirements for jurisdictions near military facilities and are also addressed in this report. This report also considers community health impacts and analyzes environmental justice factors in Kingsburg. Potential challenges are identified to be addressed as part of the ongoing planning process for the new Healthy Community element of the General Plan.

This report documents required analyses for compliance with these new legislative requirements and provides recommendations that will inform goals and policies for the focused General Plan update.

## Report Organization

This legislative review and assessments report consists of three sections: Introduction and Purpose, Climate Adaptation and Resiliency, and Planning for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice.

- **Introduction and Purpose.** This section provides background information on the City's Focused General Plan Update, City demographics, and the legislative context informing the updates to the General Plan. New legislative requirements that Kingsburg already meets are identified in this section.
- **Climate Adaptation and Resiliency.** This section contains an analysis of legislation and existing conditions related to climate adaptation planning and will largely inform the updates to the City's Hazard Management Element of its General Plan. Much of this section is informed by the 2024 Fresno County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) which Kingsburg participated in. The **Vulnerability Assessment** summarizes the findings of the LHMP and identifies areas where additional policies may be warranted in the General Plan. The Climate Adaptation and Resiliency section also discusses two areas with additional general plan requirements: **Wildfire Risk** and **Flood Risk and 200-Year Flood Zones**.
- **Planning for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice.** This section considers six policy topics related to planning for healthy communities and assesses the City's existing conditions, policies, and programs related to these topics. This analysis is required per Senate Bill 1000.

## Existing City Demographics

Incorporated in 1908, the City of Kingsburg is now home to approximately 13,013 residents, according to the 2023 population estimate from the United States Census Bureau.

---

<sup>1</sup> While some amendments have been made since, the City's General Plan was last comprehensively updated in 1992.

## Racial and Ethnic Composition

The City of Kingsburg is primarily white, with a significant population of Hispanic and Latino individuals as well. A breakdown of racial composition is provided in **Table 1** below, which comes from the United States Census Bureau's 2023 population estimates.

**Table 1 – Racial and Ethnic Composition<sup>1</sup>**

Race	Percentage of Population
White alone	68.5%
Black or African American alone	0.6%
American Indian and Alaskan Native alone	0.3%
Asian alone	6.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.0%
Two or More Races	14.0%
Hispanic or Latino	46.8%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	43.5%

<sup>1</sup> Racial and ethnic composition data comes from the 2023 United States Census Bureau

## Household and Income

The City of Kingsburg is comprised of approximately 4,206 households. A household includes all people living together in a housing unit, which may include one or more families living together, a person living alone, or a group of related or unrelated people. Kingsburg's households have an average of 2.91 people, slightly lower than Fresno County's average household size of 3.63.<sup>2</sup>

In 2022 dollars, the median household income for Kingsburg is \$74,897 annually, which is higher than the Fresno County median household income of \$67,756.<sup>3</sup> Kingsburg's per capita average income is \$32,155. Approximately 9.6% of the City of Kingsburg is considered to be living in poverty, lower than Fresno County's 18.6%.<sup>4</sup>

## Employment and Workforce

The economic health of an area largely depends on the composition of its labor force. In part, major employers decide where to locate based on the availability of the workers that can meet their needs. Kingsburg's unemployment rate as of July 2024 is 5.1%,<sup>5</sup> comparable to California as a whole, which had an unemployment rate of 5.2%.<sup>6</sup> The California Employment Development Department provides employment numbers by the employment industry for various metropolitan areas within the state, including the Fresno metropolitan area. As of July 2024, there were approximately 431,300 jobs in the area across several industries.

<sup>2</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

<sup>3</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

<sup>4</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

<sup>5</sup> (California Employment Development Department, 2024)

<sup>6</sup> (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024)

## Population

Kingsburg’s average age is 37.6, slightly lower than the average age for California of 38.2. The average age for Fresno County is 33.9. 17.4% of Kingsburg’s residents are over the average age of 65, compared to 13.2% in Fresno County.<sup>7</sup>

53.3% of Kingsburg residents are female, while 49.9% of Fresno County residents are female.<sup>8</sup>

## Legislative Context

Brief summaries of relevant legislation enacted since the last comprehensive update to the Kingsburg General Plan in 1992 are provided below. **Table 2** identifies each bill, the general plan element it applies to, whether Kingsburg is subject to the bill based on local conditions, and where additional analysis is contained within this report, if required. Additional information about the requirements of these bills, as well as a discussion of these issues in Kingsburg, is provided in subsequent sections.

**Table 2 – Summary of General Plan Legislation**

Bill	General Plan Element	Applicability	Additional Analysis
<b>SB 379</b> , Climate Adaptation	Safety	Yes	See Climate Adaptation and Resiliency section for additional analysis in compliance with bill requirements
<b>SB 1241</b> , Wildfire Risk	Safety	Limited <sup>1</sup>	
<b>SB 5</b> , Flooding	Safety	Limited <sup>2</sup>	
<b>SB 99</b> , Evacuation Routes	Safety	No	
<b>AB 170</b> , Air Quality	Air Quality	Yes <sup>3</sup>	
<b>SB 1000</b> , Planning for Healthy Communities	Environmental Justice	Yes	See Planning for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice section for additional analysis in compliance with bill requirements
<b>SB 244</b> , Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities	Land Use	No	
<b>SB 1458/SB 1462</b> , Military Readiness	Land Use	No	
<b>AB 1358</b> , Complete Streets	Circulation	Yes <sup>3</sup>	
<b>SB 932</b> , Transportation Planning	Circulation	Yes <sup>3</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> No areas of wildfire risk are located within the Kingsburg Planning Area; however, a summary of historical fire data is required, which is provided in the **Wildfire Risk** section.

<sup>2</sup> No 200-year flood zones are located within the Kingsburg Planning Area; however, mapping is included in the **Flooding and 200-Year Flood Zones** section to document the absence of these areas for compliance with SB 5.

<sup>3</sup> While the requirements of these bills are applicable to the Kingsburg General Plan, no specific additional analysis is required. Compliance with these bill requirements will be confirmed during review of the existing General Plan policies during the update process.

## Climate Adaptation – SB 379

SB 379 (Jackson), enacted October 8, 2015, requires cities and counties to address the impacts of climate change in their communities by including a vulnerability assessment of climate risks; a set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives; and implementation measures in their general plans. The

<sup>7</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

<sup>8</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

legislation permits jurisdictions to reference efforts completed for other plans, including local hazard mitigation plans, as part of their safety elements. The City of Kingsburg participated in the Fresno County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2024, which will be included by reference in the updated Safety Element.

## **Wildfire Risk – SB 1241**

SB 1241 (Kehoe), enacted September 13, 2012, requires jurisdictions to address fire risk in very high fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas. Jurisdictions must include historical data on wildfires; information regarding fire hazards in state responsibility areas and very high fire hazard severity zones; discuss structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities in these areas; and provide goals, policies, and implementation measures to protect the community from unreasonable wildfire risk.

## **Flooding – SB 5**

SB 5 (Machado), enacted October 10, 2007, requires cities and counties in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley to address 200-year flooding in their general plans. To adequately address flooding, jurisdictions must discuss flooding data, provide goals and policies for the protection of lives and property that will reduce the risk of flood damage, and include related feasible implementation measures. Jurisdictions rely on the Central Valley Flood Protection Board to provide mapping of 200-year flood zones. The Central Valley Flood Protection Board uses data from the 2002 Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin Comprehensive Study, which does not indicate the presence of any 200-year flood zones in the Kingsburg Planning Area.

## **Evacuation Routes - SB 99**

SB 99 (Nielsen), enacted August 30, 2019, requires cities and counties to update their safety elements by identifying residential developments in hazard areas that lack at least two emergency evacuation routes. The bill focuses on establishing and maintaining specific evacuation routes within cities and counties. It mandates local governments identify and ensure the accessibility of these routes during emergencies like wildfires, floods, or other disasters. Collaboration among agencies is emphasized to coordinate and maintain these routes, aiming to enhance public safety and streamline evacuation procedures statewide. The goal is to improve preparedness and response capabilities, ensuring efficient evacuation processes during critical situations. The City of Kingsburg is not located within hazard areas for liquefaction, earthquake, fire, or flooding.

## **Air Quality – AB 170**

AB 170 (Reyes), enacted September 22, 2003, focuses on improving air quality in the San Joaquin Valley by requiring local governments to include an air quality element in their general plans. The bill aims to address the significant air pollution challenges in the region, which often affect public health and quality of life. It mandates that the air quality element incorporates strategies for reducing emissions, promoting clean transportation, and enhancing community engagement in air quality initiatives. The bill emphasizes collaboration with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and other stakeholders to ensure effective implementation and measurable improvements in air quality standards. The requirements of AB 170 do apply to Kingsburg and existing General Plan policies will be evaluated for compliance with these requirements. However, no specific analysis is required so this bill is not addressed further in this policy report.



## Environmental Justice – SB 1000

Throughout the country and the State of California, it has been documented that certain communities experience a disproportionate burden of environmental health hazards.<sup>9</sup> Often, these communities are made up of low-income residents, communities of color, indigenous peoples, or immigrant communities, leading to intersecting structural inequalities, or converging disadvantages, that further marginalize already under-served populations.

These burdens are often exacerbated by a range of factors which critically inform the land use planning process. Some of these factors include zoning, land use planning, discriminatory housing policies, limited community involvement in the land use planning process, and development patterns that tend to concentrate environmental hazards in certain impacted communities while simultaneously placing economically or environmentally advantageous uses elsewhere. The impacts of these factors leave certain communities, known as disadvantaged communities (DACs), facing significant barriers to their overall health, livelihood, and ongoing sustainability.<sup>10</sup> Evaluating the presence of DACs within a local jurisdiction, as well as the circumstances that contribute to the classification of a DAC, is an important step in establishing land use plans and policies which meet the needs of the most marginalized, vulnerable, and under-served populations in a community.

It may also be helpful to note that recent movements in social and environmental justice may utilize the terms “disadvantaged community” and “environmental justice community” interchangeably. While environmental justice communities and disadvantaged communities often share common issues and may be analyzed in similar ways, this analysis will use the term DACs in order to maintain consistency with the terms identified in SB 1000, which refers exclusively to Disadvantaged Communities, as described below.

### Land Use Planning and Environmental Justice

There are three important concepts of environmental justice which are linked to land use planning: distributive justice, procedural justice, and social justice.

- **Distributive justice** refers to the inequitable distribution of harms and public benefits in which certain communities are exposed to pollution or lack access to public improvements.<sup>11</sup> Distributive justice is often exhibited through land use planning and local implementation documents, such as zoning codes or Capital Improvement Programs, which establish development requirements and prioritize investments in public improvement projects.
- **Procedural justice** refers to equity in decision-making and can be facilitated by targeted community involvement in the land use planning process.
- **Social justice** refers to the reality that racial, class, economic, and political factors influence the quality of life and the distribution of pollution.<sup>12</sup>

By recognizing these concepts and integrating policies which address environmental justice issues as part of the General Plan update process, the City can ensure that every community member is considered when planning future development in Kingsburg. These policies will be incorporated into the new Healthy Community element.

---

<sup>9</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

<sup>10</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

<sup>11</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

<sup>12</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

## Senate Bill 1000

In order to recognize and address environmental justice issues, the State of California passed legislation requiring cities and counties to incorporate environmental justice policies and programs into their land use planning processes. Senate Bill (SB) 1000, also known as the *Planning for Healthy Communities Act*, was signed into law on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The purpose of this law is to create healthier cities and counties by protecting sensitive land uses and prioritizing the needs of DACs. This law defines DACs as “an area identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) pursuant to Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code or an area that is a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.”

As a result of this law, cities and counties must now determine the presence of DACs in their communities and, if present, adopt an environmental justice element or integrate environmental justice goals, objectives, and policies into their General Plans. These policies must work to reduce unique or compounded health risks in DACs by addressing the following:

- Pollution exposure and air quality,
- Access to public facilities,
- Access to healthy food,
- Access to safe and sanitary homes,
- Access to spaces for physical activity,
- Community engagement, and
- Program improvements to identify and reverse systemic funding inequities for disadvantaged communities.

Based on mapping from CalEnviroScreen, Kingsburg is considered a DAC and is required to include environmental justice policies into the General Plan. The City will accomplish this through the adoption of a new Healthy Community element. CalEnviroScreen mapping is discussed in more detail in the ***Identifying Disadvantaged Communities*** section below.

## Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities - SB 244

SB 244 (Wolk), approved on October 7, 2011, requires jurisdictions to include identification of disadvantaged island, fringe, or legacy unincorporated communities (DUCs)<sup>13</sup> in the land use element of their General Plan. Specifically, cities are required to identify the presence of island or fringe DUCs within their Sphere of Influence (SOI). Where DUCs are present, an analysis of water, wastewater, stormwater drainage, and structural fire protection needs and/or deficiencies, as well as potential service extensions, is required in the General Plan. In 2015, Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission (Fresno LAFCO) initially mapped and discussed DUCs (Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities). In February 2020, Fresno LAFCO updated its database<sup>14</sup> using new demographic datasets to estimate median household incomes across Fresno County. The 2020 DUC database draws on data from the Commission's Municipal Service Review Program, sphere of influence update program, and demographic information sourced from the

---

<sup>13</sup> A disadvantaged unincorporated community is an unincorporated inhabited area where the annual median household income is less than 80 percent of the statewide average.

<sup>14</sup> Fresno Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) 2020 DUC Database

United States Census Bureau's American Community Surveys (five-year reports for 2012-2016). Notably, no DUCs were identified in Kingsburg.

## **Military Readiness – SB 1458 and SB 1462**

SB 1458 (Knight), enacted in September 2002, and SB 1462 (Kuehl), enacted in September 2004, require jurisdictions to consider the impact of new growth on military readiness activities carried out on military property within or adjacent to their planning areas. General plans are also required to identify existing and proposed military facilities. Amendments to a general plan must be referred to the US Armed Forces for review when proposed amendments are within or adjacent to military facilities or training routes. Implementation of these bills relies on mapping from the California Military Land Use Compatibility Analyst which was made available in 2014. According to the California Military Land Use Compatibility Analyst, made available through the Office of Planning and Research in 2014, the Kingsburg Planning Area does not intersect with any military bases, special use airspaces, or low-level flight paths. No coordination with the military is required based on the requirements of SB 1458 or SB 1462.

## **Multimodal Transportation Networks – AB 1358**

AB 1358 (Leno), enacted September 30, 2008, requires that the legislative bodies of cities and counties in California adopt a balanced, multimodal transportation network in their circulation elements during substantive revisions of their general plans. This network must serve all users of streets, roads, and highways, including motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and commercial goods transporters, with adjustments made for the specific rural, suburban, or urban context of each plan. The requirements of AB 1358 do apply to Kingsburg and existing General Plan policies will be evaluated for compliance with these requirements. However, no specific analysis is required so this bill is not addressed further in this policy report.

## **Transportation Planning - SB 932**

SB 932 (Portantino), enacted September 28, 2022, requires cities and counties to incorporate the principles of the Federal Highway Administration's Safe System Approach and to develop bicycle plans, pedestrian plans, and traffic calming plans based on the policies and goals in the circulation element. The bill aims to promote sustainable transportation options, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve overall mobility within communities. It emphasizes the integration of land use and transportation planning to create more walkable, bike-friendly, and transit-oriented neighborhoods across the state. The requirements of SB 932 do apply to Kingsburg and existing General Plan policies will be evaluated for compliance with these requirements. However, no specific analysis is required so this bill is not addressed further in this policy report.

# Climate Adaptation and Resiliency

## Background

The earth's climate has been warming for the past century. Scientific analysis of earth's historical climate shows that the climate system varies naturally over a wide range of timescales. In general, climate changes prior to the Industrial Revolution in the 1700s can be explained by natural causes. However, recent climate changes cannot be explained by natural causes alone.<sup>15</sup> It is understood that this warming trend is related to anthropogenic<sup>16</sup> releases of certain gases, known as greenhouse gases (GHG), into the atmosphere. GHGs absorb infrared energy that would otherwise escape from the Earth. As the infrared energy is absorbed, the air surrounding the Earth is heated. An overall warming trend has been recorded since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the most rapid warming occurring over the past two decades.

Recent scientific analysis completed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirms that human influence on the climate system is clear, and recent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases are the highest in history.<sup>17</sup> This has led to atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide that are unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years. Their effects, together with those of other anthropogenic drivers, have been detected throughout the climate system and are extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>17</sup>

In recent decades, changes in climate have caused impacts on natural and human systems on all continents and across the oceans. Impacts are due to observed climate change, irrespective of its cause, indicating the sensitivity of natural and human systems to changing climate.<sup>18</sup> Some of these impacts include changes in extreme weather, precipitation, and melting snow which affect water resources, impact crop yields, and change wildlife geographic ranges and migratory patterns.<sup>19</sup>

Even after implementing measures to minimize how much the climate will change, communities will experience new challenges due to the shifting climate. These impacts will vary from place to place, as will their intensity. In order to prepare for these changes, communities must determine what impacts they are most likely to face.

## Mitigation Versus Adaptation

In the wake of new legislation pertaining to climate adaptation, it is necessary to distinguish the types of planning efforts undertaken to address climate change. Local planning efforts address climate change in two separate yet related ways. The first is through the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, also known as mitigation. The second is through adaptation planning, which is the focus of the discussion relative to SB 379 within this policy paper. While these efforts are often pursued in parallel, there is a

---

<sup>15</sup> (Causes of Climate Change, 2024)

<sup>16</sup> Resulting from the influence of human beings.

<sup>17</sup> (Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2014)

<sup>18</sup> (Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2014)

<sup>19</sup> (Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2014)

distinct difference between mitigation and adaptation. The purpose of mitigation is to slow the overall effects and consequences of climate change by reducing the amount of GHGs released into the atmosphere. Adaptation planning seeks to address the impacts of climate change on the vital structures, functions, and populations within a specific jurisdiction. Adaptation planning assesses climate change risks and provides coping strategies to help communities adapt to the changing environment regardless of how effectively GHG emissions may be curbed.

**Mitigation.** The reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to slow the effects of climate change by reducing the amount of GHGs.

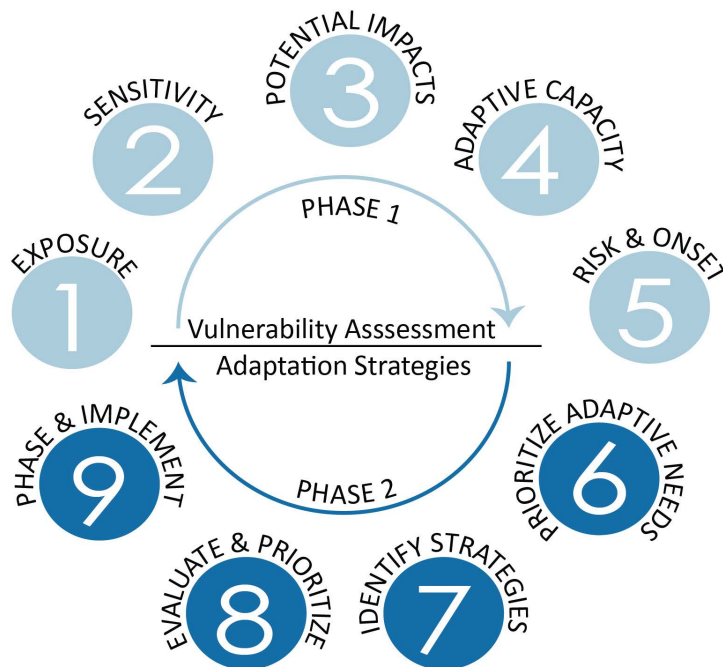
**Adaptation Planning.** The identification of strategies to help communities adapt to changes in the environment regardless of how effective mitigation is in reducing GHGs.

These parallel planning efforts are also handled through two different regulatory landscapes. Mitigation is often dealt with through environmental compliance documents regulated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), while adaptation planning is addressed through long range planning documents such as local hazard mitigation plans (LHMPs), general plans, or climate action plans.

## Climate Adaptation Planning

The primary resource outlining best practices for climate adaptation planning is the California Adaptation Planning Guide (APG). The APG was developed by the California Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to help guide climate adaptation planning at the local level. The guide is a four-part series which introduces the basis for climate adaptation planning, provides a step-by-step process for conducting local vulnerability assessments, and outlines strategies for creating local adaptation plans. The APG breaks down climate adaptation planning into nine distinct tasks categorized into two phases, as shown in *Figure 1*.

**Figure 1 – Adaptation Planning Development**



(California Emergency Management Agency, California Natural Resources Agency, 2012)

Phase one of this process is conducting a vulnerability assessment, which includes steps one through five. The vulnerability assessment considers and identifies:

1. **Exposure** the community will experience due to the effects of climate change.
2. **Sensitivity** of key community structures, functions, and populations that are potentially susceptible to each exposure.
3. **Potential Impacts** likely to occur to the structures, functions, and populations within a community due to climate change exposures.
4. **Adaptive Capacity** of the community, or its ability to cope with and address projected impacts.
5. **Risk and Onset**, including necessary adjustments to address the likely occurrence and timing of the projected impacts.

The Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Fresno County LHMP) used a Risk Factor (RF) methodology employed by Fresno County to assess and rank hazards according to the threat levels, which includes the same considerations identified above, although covered through the following four step methodology identified in the 2023 FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Handbook: describe hazards, identify community assets, analyze risks, and summarize vulnerability. The RF methodology underwent scrutiny by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and all stakeholders during the Draft Plan Review of the Fresno County LHMP.

Phase two of the planning process is known as adaptation strategy development. This process includes steps six through nine:

6. **Prioritize Adaptive Needs** based on the findings in the vulnerability assessment.
7. **Identify Strategies** to address the highest priority adaptation needs.
8. **Evaluate and Prioritize** those strategies based on the projected onset of the impacts, cost, co-benefits, and feasibility.
9. **Phase and Implement** adaptation strategies and develop a monitoring system to assess effectiveness.

As noted in the **Introduction and Purpose** section above, climate adaptation strategies identified during phase two (steps six through nine) will be addressed during future stages of the General Plan update process. The vulnerability assessment (steps one through five) will result in policy recommendations for the General Plan, which will be considered during phase two of the climate adaptation planning process as part of this update process.

## Vulnerability Assessment

A vulnerability assessment was completed as part of the 2024 Fresno County LHMP, of which Kingsburg is a participating agency. Kingsburg-specific data is included in the City of Kingsburg Annex, adopted as part of the Fresno County LHMP. This vulnerability assessment summarizes information included in the LHMP that is relevant to Kingsburg, which includes the City of Kingsburg Annex. Additional details can be found in the LHMP, which will be incorporated into the General Plan by reference. The LHMP can be found [here](#) on the Fresno County website. Information in this section is based on a review of both County-wide and local conditions relevant to Kingsburg and highlights planning activities related to hazard management that have already been conducted outside of the Kingsburg General Plan. The **Summary and Recommendations**

section below focuses on recommended actions for the General Plan in consideration of all the planning activities conducted to-date.

## Identified Hazards

A hazard identification assessment was completed as part of the Fresno County LHMP. It identified potential hazards that may impact Fresno County and its jurisdictions by assessing data from the following sources:

- Bureau of Land Management
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Historic Preservation
- California Department of Transportation
- California Geological Survey
- Fresno County Agricultural Department
- Fresno County Health Department
- Fresno County Information Technology/Geographic Information Systems Department
- Fresno County Internal Services Department
- Fresno County Land Use Department
- Fresno County Public Works and Planning Department
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Climatic Data Center
- National Register of Historic Places
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- National Weather Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- US Sierra National Forest
- Western Regional Climate Center

## Included Hazards

The following hazards were identified and assessed in the Fresno County LHMP:

- Agricultural Hazards
- Avalanche
- Dam Failures
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Wildfire
- Volcano
- Human Health Hazards
- Severe Weather
- Soil Erosion

These are hazards addressed on a County-wide scale. The City of Kingsburg Annex, contained within the LHMP, discusses hazards relevant to the City of Kingsburg. Not all hazards are addressed at this more localized level, and only the hazards discussed within the City of Kingsburg Annex are included in the **Hazard Profiles** below.

## Hazard Profiles

The City of Kingsburg Annex prepared as part of the LHMP identified several hazards with the potential to impact the City. The probability, impact, spatial extent, warning time, and duration of each identified hazard was assessed, and the information is summarized in **Table 3** below. Probability refers to the likelihood of a hazard event occurring in a given year. Impact, in terms of injuries, damage, and/or death, relates to whether impacts would be anticipated to be minor, limited, critical, or catastrophic when a significant hazard event occurs. Spatial extent notes how large of an area could be impacted and whether impacts would be localized or regional. Warning time refers to whether there would usually be some lead time associated with the hazard event and, if so, how long. Duration specifies how long the hazard event would usually last. Overall risk is a determination based on the other hazard attributes.

The **Hazard Profiles** section summarizes the analysis completed in the 2024 Fresno County LHMP on both the County and local level for Kingsburg. This report considers the County-wide and local risk for each hazard relevant to Kingsburg.

**Table 3 – Kingsburg Hazard Summaries**

City of Kingsburg Hazard Summaries						
Hazard	Probability <sup>1</sup>	Impact <sup>2</sup>	Spatial Extent <sup>3</sup>	Warning Time	Duration	Overall Risk <sup>4</sup>
Agricultural Hazards	Highly Likely	Critical	Large	12 to 24 hours	Less than 24 hours	Medium
Avalanche	Unlikely	Minor	Negligible	N/A	N/A	Low
Dam Failure	Possible	Critical	Large	Less than 6 hours	Less than 24 hours	Medium
Drought	Possible	Limited	Large	More than 24 hours	More than 1 week	High
Earthquake	Possible	Limited	Large	Less than 4 hours	More than 1 week	Medium
Flood/Levee Failure	Possible	Critical	Negligible	More than 24 hours	Less than 1 week	Medium
Hazardous Materials	Highly Likely	Critical	Large	Less than 6 hours	Less than 1 week	High
Volcano	Unlikely	Minor	Negligible	Less than 6 hours	Less than 6 hours	Low
Wildfire	Possible	Limited	Negligible	12 to 24 hours	More than 1 week	Low
<b>Human Health Hazards</b>						
Epidemic/Pandemic	Possible	Catastrophic	Large	More than 24 hours	More than 1 week	High
West Nile Virus	Highly Likely	Minor	N/A	N/A	N/A	Low
<b>Severe Weather</b>						
Extreme Cold/Freeze/Heat	Highly Likely	Minor	Large	More than 24 hours	Less than 1 week	Medium



City of Kingsburg Hazard Summaries						
Hazard	Probability <sup>1</sup>	Impact <sup>2</sup>	Spatial Extent <sup>3</sup>	Warning Time	Duration	Overall Risk <sup>4</sup>
Fog	Likely	Limited	Large	More than 24 hours	Less than 24 hours	Medium
Heavy Rain/Thunderstorm/Hail/Lightning/Wind	Likely	Minor	Large	More than 24 hours	Less than 24 hours	Low
Tornado	Possible	Minor	Large	Less than 6 hours	Less than 6 hours	Low
Winter Storm	Possible	Minor	Large	More than 24 hours	Less than 1 week	Low
Soil Hazards						
Erosion	Likely	Minor	Negligible	N/A	N/A	Low
Expansive Soils	Possible	Minor	Negligible	N/A	N/A	Low
Land Subsidence	Possible	No Data	Limited	N/A	N/A	Medium
Landslide	Possible	Minor	Negligible	12 to 24 hours	Less than 6 hours	Low

1. Probability.  
 Highly Likely: Greater than 90% annual probability  
 Likely: Between 50% and 90% annual probability  
 Possible: Between 1% and 49.9% annual probability  
 Unlikely: Less than 1% annual probability
2. Impact.  
 Minor: Very few injuries, if any. Only minor property damage and minimal disruption to quality of life. Temporary shutdown of critical facilities.  
 Limited: Minor injuries. More than 10% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one day.  
 Critical: Multiple deaths/injuries possible. More than 25% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than a week.  
 Catastrophic: High number of deaths/injuries possible. More than 50% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for 30 days or more.
3. Spatial Extent.  
 Negligible: Less than 1% of area affected  
 Small: Between 1% and 10.9% of area affected  
 Moderate: Between 11% and 25% of area affected  
 Large: Greater than 25% of area affected
4. Hazard "Overall Risk" differs from the risk factor methodology used based on the jurisdiction's Hazard Risk Assessment Worksheet. For example, the "Overall Risk" for a hazard may be High but the jurisdiction assessed the hazard to be a Low risk based on other factors.

Hazard profiles for each of the hazards identified in **Table 3** were prepared for the LHMP. Those hazards that are not profiled in the vulnerability assessment in the City of Kingsburg Annex were identified as consistent with the County’s overall vulnerability assessment. Each profile provides a hazard description, discusses the potential impact extent, and considers past occurrences in Fresno County. These profiles can be read in full in the Vulnerability Assessment section of the Fresno County LHMP but are briefly summarized for Kingsburg below. The hazard profiles informed the strategies identified in the mitigation strategy section of the LHMP and listed in the **Mitigation Strategy (Goals and Objectives)** section below.

### Agricultural Hazards

Agricultural hazards, such as fires, crops, livestock disease, noxious weeds, and contamination of animal food and water supply, can significantly alter the natural environment. The primary causes of agricultural losses are severe weather events, such as drought and freeze, excessive rain, moisture, humidity, and hail.

## Extent

According to the County’s Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC), agricultural losses occur on an annual basis throughout the County and are usually related to severe weather events.<sup>20</sup> Some of the primary businesses and sources of employment in Kingsburg specifically are agricultural, and the lands surrounding Kingsburg (in both Fresno and Tulare counties) are in agricultural production (dairy, citrus, grapes/raisins, and nuts).<sup>21</sup>

## Impacts

In Kingsburg, agricultural hazards can impact residents and businesses (including their associated property), as well as the natural environment. The largest impact to people from a widespread crop loss is pressure on the food supply and distribution. The greatest impact to property from an agricultural hazard is crop damage and loss, which, in turn, economically impacts residents and businesses relying on the agricultural industry. Historically, when a hazard-related event results in reduced crop or product production, Kingsburg has been negatively impacted by loss of revenue to major businesses. In addition, noxious weeds, an agricultural hazard, can have negative effects on the natural environment including loss of wildlife habitat and reduced wildlife numbers, loss of native plant species, increased soil erosion and topsoil loss, and diminished water quality.

## Dam Failure

Dam failure may be caused by several events, including overtopping, earthquake, internal erosion, improper design, improper maintenance, negligent operation, and/or failure of upstream dams. Overtopping is the most common cause of dam failure in the United States. A dam failure can range from a small, uncontrolled release to a catastrophic failure. Vulnerability to dam failures is confined to the areas subject to inundation downstream of the facility.

## Extent

Kingsburg is in the mapped inundation area of Pine Flat Dam (see **Figure 2 – Kingsburg Dam Inundation**). Pine Flat Reservoir is located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, approximately 30 miles northeast of Kingsburg.<sup>22</sup> This dam forms a one-million-acre-foot reservoir on the Kings River. Though there is a potential for dam failure, no major dams located throughout Fresno County have failed, and the likelihood of a failure is low.<sup>23</sup>

---

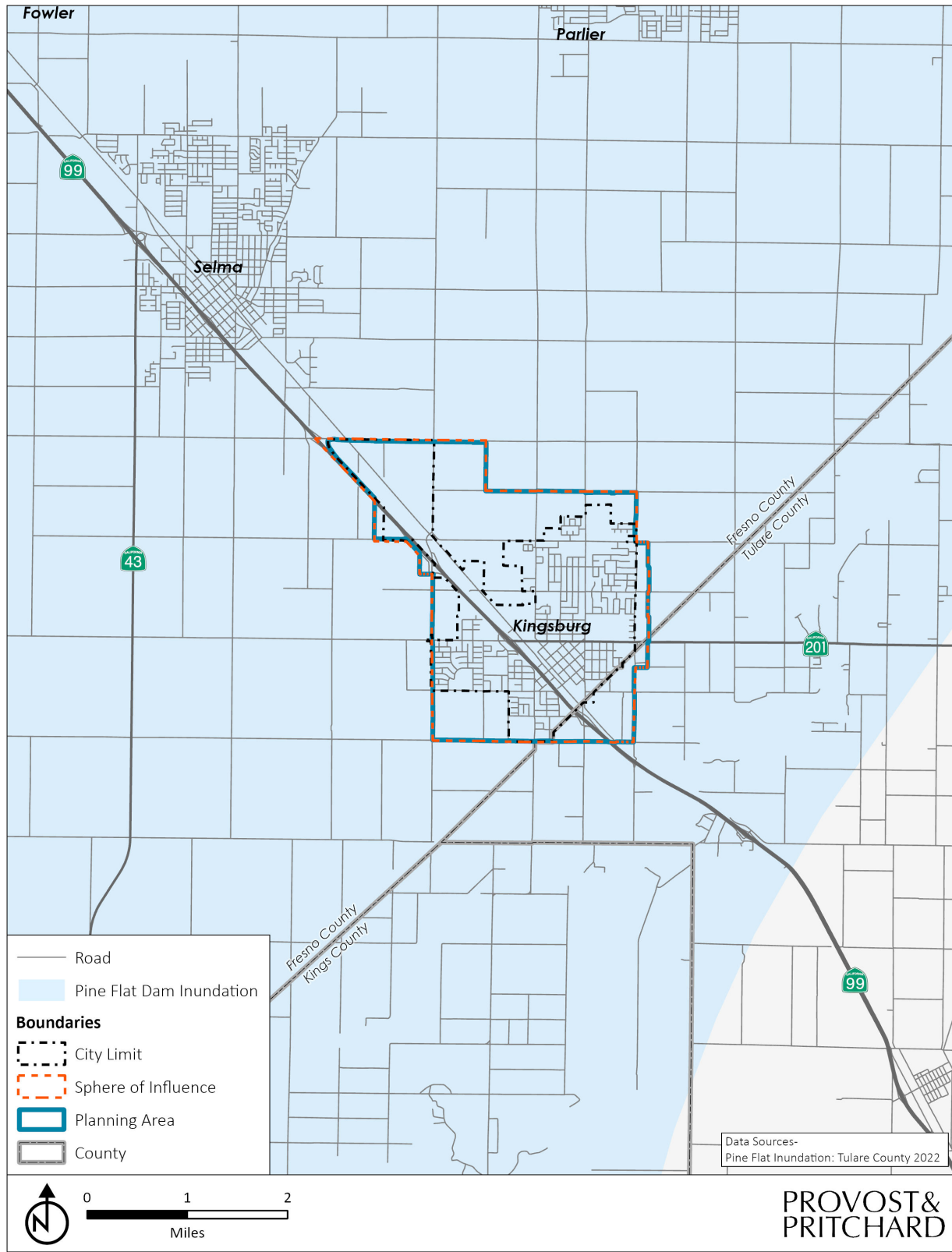
<sup>20</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>21</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>22</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, p. Annex G 16)

<sup>23</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

**Figure 2 – Kingsburg Dam Inundation**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Impacts

Should the dam fail, a large portion of Fresno County, including nearly all of Kingsburg and its planning area, would be inundated with water. Kingsburg is mapped within the 2- to 5- hour window for inundation. The Fresno County LHMP named the Pine Flat Dam a high hazard dam but recognized that failures are more likely to occur with smaller dams.<sup>24</sup> Impacts to Kingsburg from dam failure mostly include possible evacuations and flooding as well as the damages associated with flooding. For instance, in June 2017, Pine Flat Dam had to release significant water due to flooding along the Kings River, prompting evacuations and levee breaches near Kingsburg.<sup>25</sup> However, no Kingsburg residents were impacted. The only City property along the Kings River is an old wastewater treatment property which did not sustain any damage during the flooding.

## Drought

Droughts are unique emergency events due to their gradual nature. They occur slowly over multi-year periods, and it can be difficult to determine when droughts begin and end.<sup>26</sup> In very dry years, the possibility of drought will become a more frequent reality. California's extensive system of water supply infrastructure can mitigate the effects of a short-term dry period, but the changing climate will stress jurisdictions' ability to meet their longer-term water needs.<sup>27</sup>

## Extent

Droughts are a regional phenomenon and will impact the Kingsburg Planning Area and the entire County of Fresno. In recent years, drought has been a significant issue within the State and the Central Valley, and the City of Kingsburg has identified drought as a high-risk hazard for the planning area.<sup>28</sup> Groundwater is the source of domestic water supply for Kingsburg. The groundwater basin is recharged primarily by rainfall and infiltration, stormwater runoff, infiltration from irrigated ditch flows and seepage in the Kings River bottom, and water conservation recharge to natural sloughs in the nearby agricultural area.<sup>29</sup>

## Impact

Drought has a variety of impacts including reduced crop productivity, increased fire hazard, reduced water levels, increased livestock and wildlife mortality, and water rationing, among other impacts. These impacts can also create secondary challenges for communities, such as increased prices, unemployment, and/or reduced tax revenues. Water costs would be expected to increase during a drought, while prolonged drought may result in reduced property values and tax revenues. Tree mortality is an additional drought impact that has been identified as significant to Fresno County and Kingsburg more specifically.<sup>30</sup>

---

<sup>24</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>25</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>26</sup> (California Department of Water Resources, 2024)

<sup>27</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>28</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>29</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>30</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

## Earthquake

Earthquakes can result in ground shaking, soil liquefaction, landslides, fissures, and fires. Earthquakes may cause structural damage, injury, and loss of life. Additionally, earthquakes may cause damage to infrastructure networks including water, power, gas, communication, and transportation.

### Extent

Kingsburg is located in Seismic Hazard Zone 3.<sup>31</sup> The nearest active earthquake faults are located in the Sierra Nevada mountain range approximately 55 miles to the east.<sup>32</sup> Kingsburg has experienced several noticeable ground movement incidents, such as from the 1983 Coalinga earthquake and the 1989 Watsonville earthquake, but no local damage was sustained.<sup>33</sup> The existence and extent of soil liquefaction hazards in the area of Kingsburg are unknown.

### Impact

Potential impacts within the County include damage to infrastructure, residences, and commercial buildings, as well as loss of life and injury. The degree of damage and the potential for impact depends on factors such as the magnitude, focal depth, and duration of the earthquake and/or the distance from the causative fault, among other factors. It is difficult to anticipate the potential costs of an earthquake due to the extreme variation in damages based on the intensity of the earthquake. A weak earthquake could result in little to no damage and a very low cost. However, an extreme earthquake, which, although not likely, is possible in Kingsburg, could result in loss of life and injury and millions of dollars in property damage. The City identified approximately 36 unreinforced masonry buildings in the City.<sup>34</sup> The majority of the unreinforced masonry buildings are downtown, which is considered a community asset, and a substantial earthquake would likely impact these buildings.

## Extreme Heat

Extreme heat events occur when temperatures remain ten degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region for at least two days and can last for several weeks. Both the frequency and severity of extreme heat events are increasing.<sup>35</sup> Exposure to extreme heat is a critical health hazard, leading to illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths. Conditions like heat exhaustion and heat stroke are direct threats, while extreme temperatures also contribute to cardiovascular diseases, causing heart attacks and strokes.<sup>36</sup> Extreme heat also contributes to other hazards such as **Fire and Wildfire** and **Drought**.

### Extent

Extreme heat events are typically regional in nature and would impact the Kingsburg Planning Area and all of Fresno County. In Fresno County, extreme heat is more likely to occur in the San Joaquin Valley where the Kingsburg Planning Area is located and in the foothills.

---

<sup>31</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, pp. Annex - 17)

<sup>32</sup> (California Department of Conservation, 2015)

<sup>33</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, pp. Annex - 17)

<sup>34</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>35</sup> (Center for Disease Control and Prevention)

<sup>36</sup> (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2024)

## Impact

Extreme heat impacts diverse populations disproportionately. Athletes, children, older adults, farm workers and other outdoor workers, and people experiencing homelessness have the greatest risk of being affected by extreme heat. Kingsburg has a high population of elderly residents that are vulnerable during extreme heat events. The City of Kingsburg maintains a cooling station plan administered by the Community Services Department. The fire and police stations, City Hall, and the senior center also serve as cooling centers. Nonetheless, hospital admissions and emergency room visits increase during extreme heat events. Increased electricity usage and additional health care costs are anticipated during extreme heat events.

Extreme heat can cause infrastructure damage to roads. Vulnerable factors can include building materials, insulation, and roofing that may not be adequately designed to withstand prolonged high temperatures. This can lead to increased energy consumption for cooling, potential structural damage, and even health risks for occupants. Moreover, properties lacking sufficient vegetation or green spaces may experience amplified heat effects, contributing to the urban heat island effect and exacerbating local temperature disparities.

Extreme heat may also cause temporary drought-like conditions and increase wildfire risks. For example, several weeks of extreme heat increases evapotranspiration<sup>37</sup> and reduces moisture content in vegetation, leading to higher wildfire vulnerability for that time period even if the rest of the season is relatively moist.<sup>38</sup>

## Flood/Levee Failure

Flooding is a natural occurrence in the Central Valley because it is a natural drainage basin for thousands of watershed acres of Sierra Nevada and Coastal Range foothills and mountains. Historically, the Kingsburg Planning Area has been at risk of flooding primarily during the winter and spring months. Normally, storm floodwaters are kept within defined limits by a variety of storm drainage and flood control measures. However, extended heavy rains can occasionally result in floodwaters that exceed normal high-water boundaries and cause damage.

## Extent

Heavy rain can lead to problems with storm drainage and create localized flood problems. According to the City of Kingsburg Storm Drain Master Plan, there are several flooding problem areas in the City.<sup>39</sup> These areas are primarily a result of undersized pipes where runoff exceeds pipe capacity even for minor storms, damaged curb and gutters where the flow lines have been disrupted due to raised gutters and other obstructions, or damaged drainpipes. Most damaged lines are downtown, where the storm drainpipes are some of the oldest in the system.<sup>40</sup> The undersized lines are located along Kern Street near Roosevelt Elementary School and along Mariposa Street near Lincoln Elementary School. Areas with curb and gutter flow line damage are generally in the older residential areas, including the areas south and west of Kingsburg High School. The downtown areas along Washington, Lincoln, and Lewis streets also have

---

<sup>37</sup> The movement of water from the surface to the atmosphere through both evaporation and transpiration.

<sup>38</sup> (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2024)

<sup>39</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2005)

<sup>40</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2005)

damaged curbs and gutters.<sup>41</sup> Inspection and cleaning has occurred in several areas throughout the City since the adoption of the Storm Drainage Master Plan.

Prior to the construction of the Pine Flat Dam in the 1920s, flooding occurred in the Kings River area. However, there is currently no flood hazard area mapped by FEMA or the Central Valley Flood Protection Control District within the City of Kingsburg (see **Figure 3 – Kingsburg Flood Zones**).<sup>42</sup> Flooding is discussed in more detail in **Flood Risk and 200-Year Flood Zones**, below.

## Impact

Floods can cause substantial damage to structures, landscapes, and utilities. They can also impact human safety, having the potential to sweep people downstream, cause electrical hazards, and create areas of deep standing water, among other concerns. There can also be secondary concerns in the aftermath of a flood, including floodwater infiltration into sewer systems, stagnant pools of water creating breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and the potential for mold growth in water-damaged areas.

An existing system of dams, levees, and other flood protection infrastructure is already in place in the County. Additional information can be found in the **Dam Failure** section.

## Fire and Wildfire

California is prone to wildfires due to its climate, terrain, and vegetation. Developed areas may also experience urban fire hazards such as a fire started by an electrical malfunction or similar accident. Fire conditions are influenced by temperatures, vegetation, humidity, and wind.

Fire risk in Fresno County depends on location. The foothills and mountains are more susceptible to wildfire due to increased vegetation, limited roadways and access, and the likelihood of ignition events. Similar to many areas of the County, Kingsburg has high temperatures in the summer with low rainfall creating fire hazard conditions.<sup>43</sup> Kingsburg has two fire stations, located on Marion Street and South Bethel Avenue.<sup>44</sup> Fresno County Fire Protection District also operates fire stations outside of the City limits to the north and to the west, and the Tulare County Fire Department operates fire stations outside of the City limits to the east and to the south.<sup>45,46</sup> While Kingsburg is primarily within Fresno County, the potential for a wildfire to the east or to the south of its City limits would likely be responded to by the Tulare County Fire Department.

## Extent

There are no Very High, High, or Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones nor State Responsibility Areas within the Kingsburg City Limits.<sup>47</sup> A small portion of the Kingsburg Planning Area and Sphere of Influence is considered a Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Fire risk is mapped in **Figure 4 – Kingsburg Fire Hazard Areas**. Non-wildfire risks are typically focused in developed areas throughout the Kingsburg Planning Area.

---

<sup>41</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2005)

<sup>42</sup> (FEMA, 2024)

<sup>43</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, p. Annex G 21)

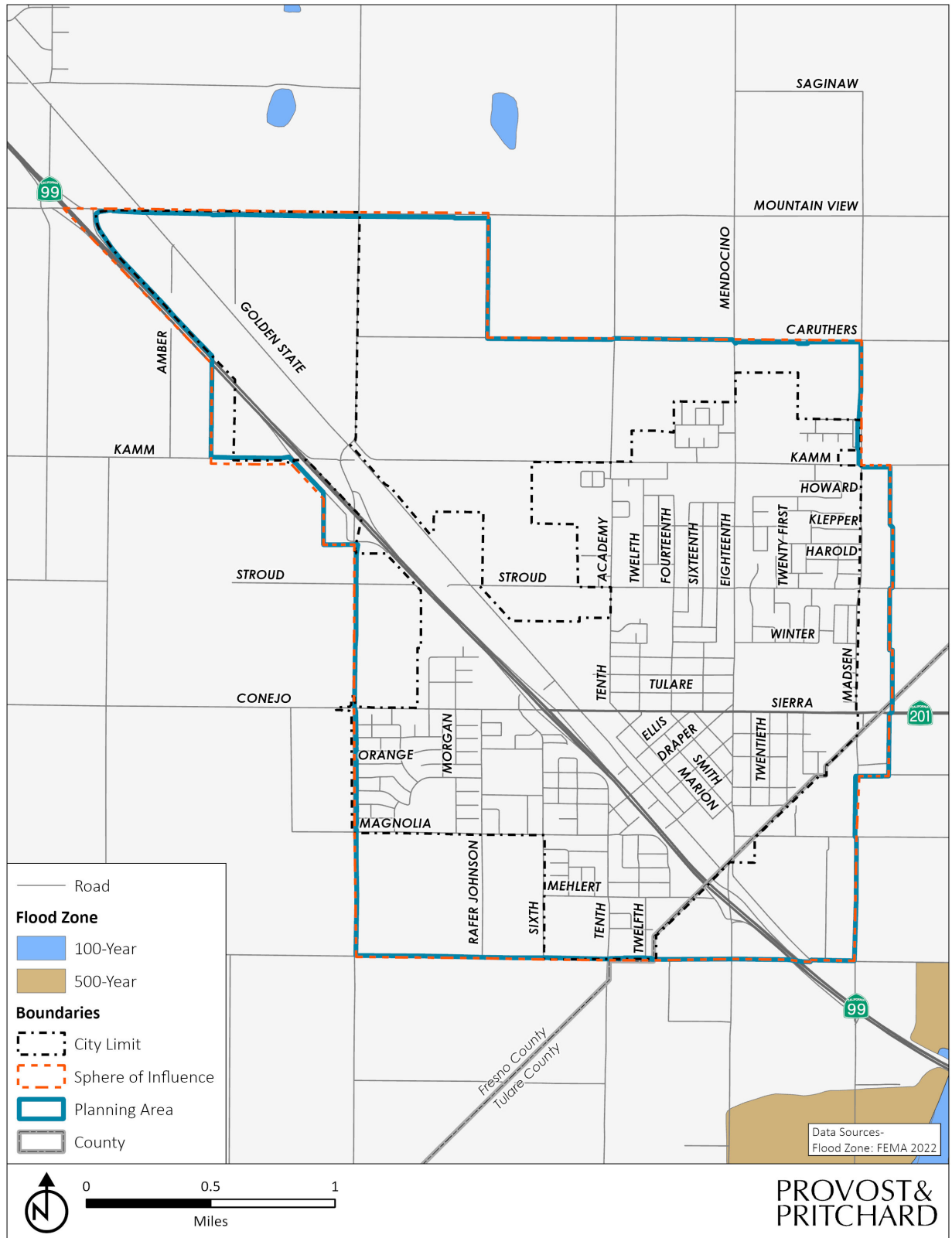
<sup>44</sup> (Kingsburg Fire Department)

<sup>45</sup> (Fresno County Fire Protection District)

<sup>46</sup> (Tulare County Fire, 2024)

<sup>47</sup> (CalFIRE, 2024)

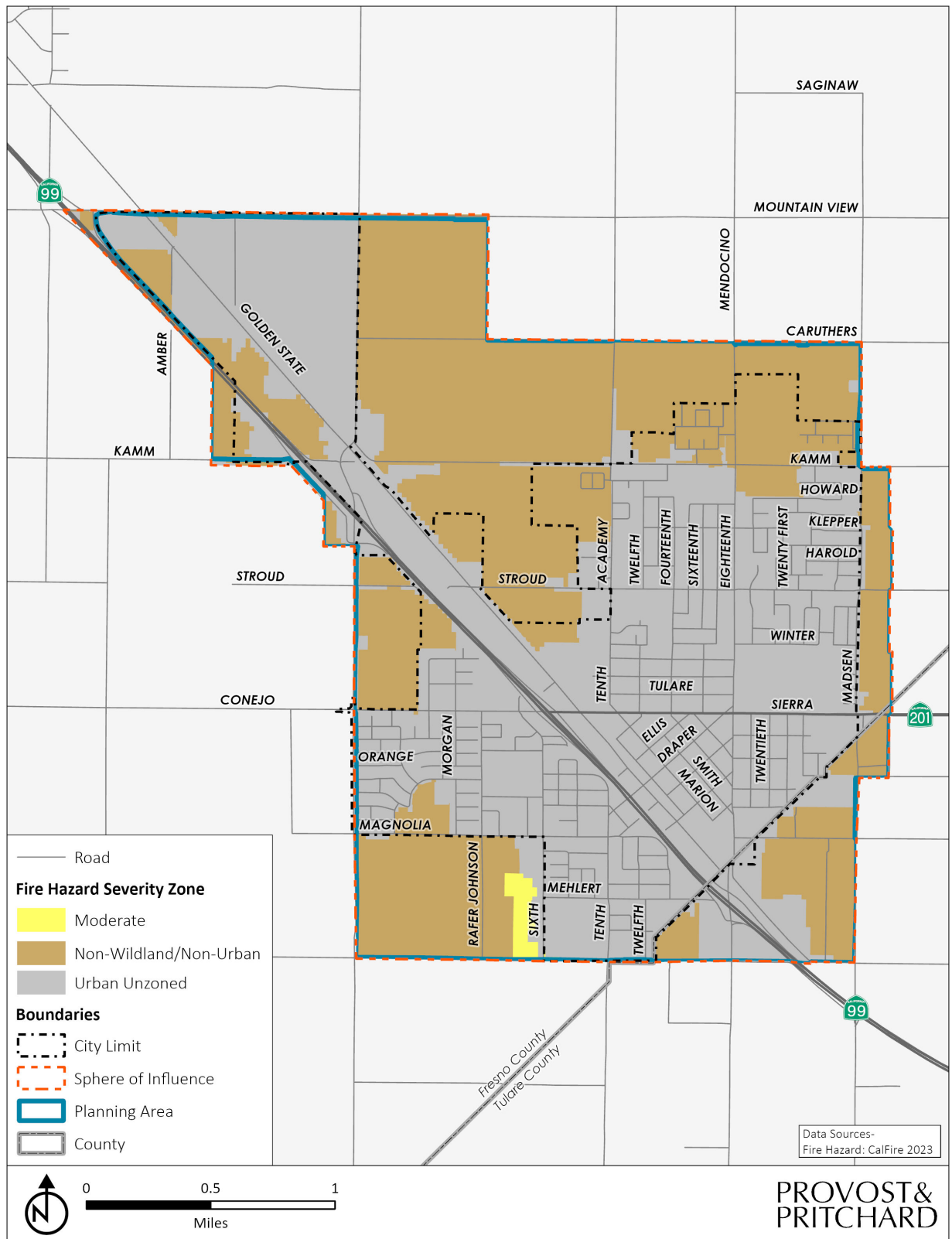
**Figure 3 – Kingsburg Flood Zones**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx



**Figure 4 – Kingsburg Fire Hazard Areas**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Impact

Wildfires can result in loss of life, injury, and structural damage and may also cause short- and long-term disruptions within the County and/or Kingsburg Planning Area to important networks such as transportation or utility infrastructure. Structures located near the urban/wildland interface are more susceptible to wildland fire. Kingsburg is surrounded by farmland and not at-risk from fires in an interface area.

Kingsburg residents may be impacted by indirect effects from wildfires, even those burning significant distances away, as smoke travels across the state and reduces air quality. As climate changes, temperatures increase, and precipitation decreases. As such, wildfires are expected to increase throughout California.

Costs related to wildfire hazards in Kingsburg would primarily be associated with emergency response efforts and damage to private property. An analysis was performed using GIS software to determine where populations, values and properties at risk, and critical facilities are located within wildfire threat zones. According to this assessment, there is no value at risk of wildfire within the City.<sup>48</sup> A very small portion of the Kingsburg Cemetery is within a Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone within the City Limits, as well as a small agricultural and residential area within the Planning Area and Sphere of Influence.

There may be additional fire hazards in Kingsburg that are not related to wildfire risks. However, structural fires such as these would not be associated with climate change impacts or the required SB 379 analysis.

## Hazardous Materials

The use and transportation of hazardous materials has the potential to impact human health as well as the environment in Kingsburg. Sources of hazardous materials and toxic substances that may cause human health hazards include active and inactive industrial facilities, brownfields, or hazardous waste cleanup sites. The agricultural industry in and surrounding the Kingsburg Planning Area also presents the risk of introducing hazardous materials from agricultural activities to the area.

## Extent

There are five California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) hazardous materials facilities<sup>49</sup> located in the City of Kingsburg.<sup>50</sup> There have been six hazardous materials incidents from 2017-2022 that have occurred in the City of Kingsburg.<sup>51</sup> Additionally, California State Highway 99 and the Union Pacific Railroad both run through the heart of Kingsburg and serve as transportation means for large quantities and numerous types of hazardous materials.<sup>52</sup>

## Impact

Along with the potential for death and injuries from large-scale motor vehicle accidents or train derailment, there is the potential for hazardous material spills or fires. A derailment and fire from the Union Pacific Railroad, with large exploding liquefied petroleum gas vessels, could cause widespread damage to the City,

---

<sup>48</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, p. Annex G 21)

<sup>49</sup> CalARP hazardous materials facilities are businesses that utilize certain chemicals over a threshold quantity and participate in a risk management program to minimize impacts.

<sup>50</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>51</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>52</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

as has happened in other communities across the country. Large quantities of hazardous materials are used by the agricultural industry and thus travel through Kingsburg and are stored and used in the surrounding areas. Also, there is the potential for hazardous materials releases from large industrial plants in Kingsburg, such as Guardian Glass and Del Monte.<sup>53</sup>

## Fog

Fog results from cooling air no longer being able to retain its water vapor.<sup>54</sup> Various atmospheric situations can create fog, and the Central Valley of California experiences a unique form of radiation fog called tule fog. Tule fog typically forms on winter nights as the ground cools and can last for days. When fog is particularly dense, it can be hazardous to drivers and aviators and contributes to numerous accidents each year.

### Extent

Fresno County is predisposed to experiencing tule fog during the late fall to early spring. Fog issues are well documented in the Kingsburg Planning Area specifically. Kingsburg has a fog plan that involves routine replacement of signage and street stripping to maintain visibility, and the school district implements a foggy day schedule when needed.<sup>55</sup>

### Impact

Fog can contribute to transportation accidents, resulting in injury or death, due to limited vision while the fog is present. Severe fog events have contributed to multi-vehicle traffic accidents with multiple casualties along Highway 99 in Kingsburg. The Kingsburg Planning Department reported that fatal accidents related to severe fog events occur in the area every year.<sup>56</sup> A similar event is highly likely to occur again in the future, especially with the expansion of Highway 99 from four to six lanes and the increase in highway usage. However, the occurrences of dense fog have declined as temperatures rise due to climate change.

## Asset Inventory

The LHMP, as well as the Kingsburg Annex of the LHMP, outline the various assets<sup>57</sup> that are vulnerable to the hazards discussed in the **Hazard Profiles** section above. The risk assessment first identifies various assets to the community based on the Fresno County Assessor's Office and its certified roll values.<sup>58</sup> While values are provided for these assets, the value lost in the event of a hazard is difficult to estimate, primarily

---

<sup>53</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, p. Annex G 20)

<sup>54</sup> (National Weather Service)

<sup>55</sup> (Fresno County, 2024)

<sup>56</sup> (Fresno County, 2024, p. Annex G 20)

<sup>57</sup> In the context of this analysis, "asset" refers to various buildings and built structures and facilities.

<sup>58</sup> The data on assets in the City Limits is from the Fresno County Assessor's Office and is based on the certified roll values as of February 2024. This data should only be used as a guideline to overall values in the County, as the information has some limitations. The most significant limitation is created by Proposition 13. Instead of adjusting property values annually, the values are not adjusted or assessed at fair market value until a property transfer occurs. As a result, overall value information is likely low and does not reflect current market value of properties within the County. It is also important to note, in regard to a disaster, it is generally the value of the infrastructure or improvements to the land that is of concern or at risk. Generally, the land itself is not a loss.

because damage is dependent on the severity of the hazard. **Table 4** below lists the total parcel and building count of Kingsburg’s assets at risk in addition to their total value.

**Table 4 – Kingsburg Assets at Risk**

Parcel Count	Building Count	Improved Value	Land Value	Total Value
4,166	4,393	\$195,880,186	\$77,170,690	\$277,098,036

A list of critical facilities identified in the Kingsburg Planning Area can be found in Table 90 of the LHMP. Such facilities include schools, fire stations, police stations, government offices, service provision infrastructure, health facilities, various utilities, and transportation infrastructure, among others. Asset types and the quantity of such are summarized in **Table 5** below. The critical facilities were also mapped in Figure 4, City of Kingsburg Critical Facilities, which can be found in Annex G of the LHMP.

**Table 5 – Kingsburg Critical Facilities**

Critical Facility Type	Count
CalARP	5
Fire Station	1*
Oil Crude Pipelines	1
Police Station	1
School	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

\*While there are two fire stations in Kingsburg, only the Marion Street building is listed as a critical facility in the LHMP.

The LHMP also estimates a population of 12,613 in Kingsburg as of 2022, based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>59</sup> Kingsburg is recognized as a bedroom community with more than 70% of the City’s development being residential, which includes an estimated 4,482 housing units based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Employment sectors in Kingsburg are primarily related to agriculture, retail trade, manufacturing, education, construction, and health care and social assistance. The population and employment opportunities are discussed in more detail in the community profile and vulnerability assessment sections of the Kingsburg Annex of the LHMP.

## Vulnerability and Potential Losses

The LHMP includes a summary of vulnerabilities and potential losses<sup>60</sup> for hazard types that have a higher likelihood of affecting Kingsburg, such as agricultural hazards, dam failure, drought, earthquake, and flood/levee failure. This summary was used to develop the hazard profiles in this report and are not repeated in this section of the policy paper. Generally, the summary provides an assessment of the potential impact and cost of a hazard event for the hazard types relevant to Kingsburg. These hazards may impact the economy of the City, especially given their potential to impact the agricultural industry that drives much of the City’s economy. The updated General Plan will include policies to address the hazards

<sup>59</sup> (United States Census Bureau, 2024)

<sup>60</sup> The Kingsburg Vulnerability Assessment begins on page 12 of the Kingsburg Annex.

most likely to affect Kingsburg to help guide future decision-making relative to growth and development in a way that minimizes the risk from hazards.

## Capability Assessment

The capability assessment identifies the City's potential to successfully implement adaptation and mitigation activities.<sup>61</sup> The assessment is divided into five sections: regulatory mitigation capabilities, administrative and technical mitigation capabilities, fiscal resources, education and outreach capabilities, and other mitigation efforts. The City of Kingsburg's existing implementation resources are discussed in more detail in tables 10 through 14 in the LHMP but are also summarized below. These tables are also included as *Appendix A*.

## Regulatory Capabilities

The City's planning and regulatory capabilities include existing ordinances, policies, and laws that relate to growth and development in Kingsburg. These regulations include:

- **General Plan.**<sup>62</sup> A general plan is a comprehensive, long-range planning document that forms the basis of land use decisions and envisions how a community will grow. It addresses issues that impact the entire city, such as how land is used, the locations of roads and parks, safety, noise, and more. Every other planning document adopted by the City must be consistent with the goals and policies of the general plan. The City's current General Plan was adopted in 1992 and includes several updates and amendments to various elements over the years. General Plan policies are used to evaluate proposed development and apply to plans, policies, code provisions, and other regulations proposed in Kingsburg. This policy paper is an early step in the process of a focused update to the City's General Plan.
- **City of Kingsburg 2024-2029 Strategic Plan.**<sup>63</sup> The 2024-2029 Strategic Plan seeks to preserve the Kingsburg experience, maintain financial stability, support local businesses, encourage community engagement, and ensure community safety. The community safety element includes providing emergency response training, decreasing morbidity and injury due to preventable fire and/or rescue incidents, and continuing to develop and implement disaster preparedness plans for the City.
- **Emergency Operations Plan.**<sup>64</sup> The City's Emergency Operations Plan addresses the City's planned response to emergency situations associated with natural disasters, as well as technological incidents and national security emergencies. The plan assists the City's Director of Emergency Services to determine the applicable level of activation of the plan and to implement the operational concepts required by the emergency.
- **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.** The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is intended to reduce the long-term risk of environmental hazards such as severe weather or drought. Fresno County has a multi-jurisdictional plan which addresses hazards at a more regional scale, and Kingsburg contributed an annex to that document which examines more local impacts. The plan identifies

---

<sup>61</sup> The LHMP identifies goals and policies that impact both climate adaptation and mitigation in Kingsburg. This policy paper mirrors the language of the LHMP when referring to identified goals and policies.

<sup>62</sup> (Grunwald & Associates, 1992)

<sup>63</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

<sup>64</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2010)

which hazards pose a risk to the County, what the impacts of such hazards would be, and how to mitigate and lessen those impacts.

- **Storm Drainage Master Plan.**<sup>65</sup> The 2005 Storm Drain Master Plan Report identifies the hydrologic storage capacity requirements for each existing and future basin. The plan relies on the Fresno County Metropolitan Flood Control District’s standards to size all basins.
- **Building Code.** The California Code of Regulations, Title 24, also known as the California Building Standards Code, is published in its entirety every three years by order of the California Legislature. The purpose of building codes is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public through regulating how structures are built. Building codes also establish energy efficiency standards. In addition to typical code requirements, the state of California adopted the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) as part of Title 24 in the year 2007. The City of Kingsburg has adopted both the California Building Code and CALGreen.
- **Fire Code.** The City of Kingsburg enforces the California Fire Code, last updated in 2022. The Code covers fire prevention and resistance standards. While the policies may relate to or attempt to mitigate the impacts of the increased fire risk associated with climate change, the Code does not directly mention climate change.
- **Municipal Code.** The Kingsburg Municipal Code establishes minimum development requirements for the safeguarding of health, safety, and general welfare.
- **Form-Based Code.**<sup>66</sup> The Downtown Form Based Code replaced the existing zoning code for Downtown Kingsburg. The Code preserves, enhances, and creates a “pedestrian friendly community” by reinforcing the unique character of Downtown Kingsburg. Form-based codes are an alternative approach to zoning that reinforces walkable mixed-use development and builds on the character of a place. While climate change is not an explicit aspect of the Code, it includes measures to protect persons and structures from various hazards, including floods and fires.

## Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Administrative and technical capabilities refer to the community’s available staff and their skills and tools for mitigation and adaptation planning and implementation. This includes both City of Kingsburg staff and private sector staff that could be utilized for planning and implementation activities, such as engineers, planners, emergency managers, GIS analysts, building inspectors, and grant writers. This staff takes on the following responsibilities for the City:

- **Planning Department.** The City has a Planning Department led by its Community Development Director. The Community Development Director plans, directs, and oversees the activities and operations of the Community Development Department, including planning, building inspection, economic development activities.
- **Public Works Department.** This department is responsible for maintaining and operating local equipment and facilities to provide clean water, reliable sewer service, street maintenance, storm drainage, street cleaning, streetlights, and traffic signals. The City consults with a contract engineering firm for design services and relies on its in-house Planning Department for planning.

---

<sup>65</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2005)

<sup>66</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2015)

- **Fiscal Management.** The City of Kingsburg has a Financial Committee in place to review the proposed annual budgets, which are compiled and voted on by the City Council, and provide any necessary amendments back to the City Council for final approval.
- **Emergency Manager.** The City Manager also acts as the Emergency Manager and maintains the Emergency Operations Plan and coordinates local response and relief activities in the event of an emergency.

## Fiscal Capabilities

Fiscal capabilities include general funds, property sales, bonds, development impact fees, and other fees imposed or collected by the City. Kingsburg may also receive grant funding to further augment fiscal capabilities. The City may rely on the following funding sources for hazard mitigation efforts:

- **General Fund.** General funds are used for ongoing program operations for the City and may also be used to fund specific mitigation activity projects.
- **General Obligation (GO) Bonds.** GO Bonds are used for construction and acquisition of improvements to properties that are generally accessible, such as libraries, hospitals, parks, and educational facilities.
- **Lease Revenue Bonds Funding.** These bonds are used to finance capital projects that have income streams for repayment or that will be used for general governmental purposes.
- **Public-Private Partnerships for Economic and Redevelopment.** These partnerships typically involve working with local professionals, business owners, residents, civic groups, and trade associations to help study issues and develop recommendations.

## Education and Outreach Capabilities

The City of Kingsburg has outreach and education opportunities related to fire safety, hazard awareness, and public communication. The City of Kingsburg has an existing water responsibility program and annual fire safety programs in schools, and the City is present throughout the year at various special community events. The City of Kingsburg Fire Department recently agreed to an automatic aid agreement for fire and emergency medical services with the Fresno County Fire Protection District. They also have mutual aid agreements with Kings and Tulare Counties' fire departments. The City's weekly newsletter presents another opportunity to distribute educational materials to the community.

## Other Mitigation Efforts

The City of Kingsburg has completed the following mitigation efforts:

- Installed auxiliary power sources at three municipal water wells,
- Adopted standards on building elevations related to curb and gutter,
- Designated cooling centers for heat emergencies,
- Created a plan to divert traffic from Highway 99 during fog-related accidents,
- Adopted a fog plan, and
- Required pad elevation above flow line to prevent flood damage in residential areas.

## Mitigation Strategy (Goals and Objectives)

The City of Kingsburg modified the goals and objectives developed by the Fresno County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee to better fit the City's needs. The Mitigation Strategy was adopted by the City of Kingsburg and includes the following goals and objectives:

### Goal 1: Provide Protection for People's Lives from All Hazards

**Objective 1.1:** Provide timely notification and direction to the public of imminent and potential hazards.

**Objective 1.2:** Protect public health and safety by preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the effects of natural or technological disasters.

**Objective 1.3:** Improve community transportation corridors to allow for better evacuation routes for public and better access for emergency responders.

**1.3.1:** Minimize issues associated with California State Highway 99 and the Union Pacific Railroad.

### Goal 2: Improve Community and Agency Awareness about Hazards and Associated Vulnerabilities that Threaten Our Communities.

**Objective 2.1:** Increase public awareness about the nature and extent of hazards they are exposed to, where they occur, what is vulnerable, and recommended response to identified hazards (i.e., both preparedness and response).

**2.1.1:** Create/continue an outreach program, provide educational resources, and develop and provide training.

### Goal 3: Improve the Community's Capability to Mitigate Hazards and Reduce Exposure to Hazard Related Losses

**Objective 3.1:** Reduce damage to property from an earthquake event.

**3.1.1:** Adopt/maintain building codes to meet required earthquake standards.

**Objective 3.2:** Reduce flood and storm related losses.

**3.2.1:** Provide for better collection of data related to severe weather events.

**3.2.2:** Reduce localized flooding within the City's storm drain systems.

**3.2.3:** Implement better drainage to accommodate heavy rains that cause flooding.

**Objective 3.3:** Reduce hazards that adversely impact the agricultural industry.

**3.3.1:** Promote and protect the viability of agriculture and further the County's economic development goals.

**3.3.2:** Control invasive species.



**3.3.3:** Identify and lessen freeze impacts.

**Objective 3.4:** Minimize the impact to the City due to reoccurring drought conditions that impact both ground water supply and agricultural industry.

**3.4.1:** Develop an integrated City water management plan and ground water management plan for the City of Kingsburg.

**Objective 3.5:** Minimize the impact to vulnerable populations within the community that may be affected by severe weather-related events, such as long duration heat waves and hard freezes.

**3.5.1:** Develop community response plans, such as cooling centers, during heat waves.

**3.5.2:** Develop community response plans during hard freezes that damage plumbing and cause flooding.

#### **Goal 4: Provide Protection for Critical Facilities, Utilities, and Services from Hazard Impacts**

#### **Goal 5: Maintain Coordination of Disaster Planning**

**Objective 5.1:** Coordinate with DHS/FEMA needs.

**5.1.1:** National Incident Management System (NIMS).

**5.1.2:** Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) planning.

**5.1.3:** Emergency Operations plans.

**Objective 5.2:** Coordinate with community plans.

**5.2.1:** General Plans.

**5.2.2:** Drought plans.

**5.2.3:** Drainage plans.

**5.2.4:** Intergovernmental agency disaster planning.

**Objective 5.3:** Maximize the use of shared resources between jurisdictions and special districts for mitigation/communication.

**5.3.1:** Develop mutual/automatic aid agreements with adjacent jurisdictions and agencies.

**Objective 5.4:** Standardize systems among agencies to provide for better interoperability.

**5.4.1:** Standardize communication technology and language.

#### **Goal 6: Maintain/Provide for FEMA Eligibility and Work to Position City Departments and Community Partners for Grant Funding.**

**Objective 6.1:** Provide City departments and other agencies with information regarding mitigation opportunities.

**Objective 6.2:** As part of plan implementation, review projects in this plan on annual basis to be considered for annual FEMA BRIC grant allocations or after a presidential disaster declaration in California for HMGP funding as well as for other local, state, and federal funding opportunities.

## General Plan Policies

In addition to the above mitigation goals and objectives issued in the Kingsburg Annex of the LHMP, the City's General Plan contains goals and policies related to the various hazards discussed in the LHMP. In particular, two of the General Plan's goals and related policies support hazard mitigation: Seismic Hazards and Public Safety Hazards. Additional policies related to fire and flooding are discussed in the **Wildfire Risk** and **Flood Risk** sections, respectively.

### Goal 8: Seismic Hazards<sup>67</sup>

Goals for achieving and maintaining safety from seismic events include preventing serious injury, loss of life, serious damage to critical facilities involving large assemblies of people, and loss of continuity in providing services.

#### Policies

1. The City will inventory all buildings which are unsound under conditions of "moderate" seismic activity; buildings having questionable structural resistance should be considered for either rehabilitation or demolition. Structures determined by the City's building official to be structurally unsound are to be reported to the owner and recorded with the County recorder to ensure that future owners are made aware of hazardous conditions and risks.
2. All new building construction shall conform to the latest seismic requirements of the Uniform Building Code as a minimum standard.
3. The present building height limit of 50 feet shall be maintained, with a maximum of four stories. This policy should stay in force until such a time that high rise construction is desired and capability for evacuation and fire fighting in upper stories is possible through the availability of appropriate equipment.
4. Facilities necessary for emergency service should be capable of withstanding a maximum credible earthquake and remain operational to provide emergency response.
5. Soil compaction tests, and geotechnical analysis of soil conditions and behavior under seismic conditions shall be required of all subdivisions and of all commercial, industrial and institutional structures over 6,000 square feet in area (or in the case of institutional structures, those which hold 100 or more people).
6. The City should adopt an Earthquake Disaster Plan in coordination with Fresno County and local special districts. The plan should identify hazards that may occur as the result of an earthquake of major magnitude. The plan should be sufficiently broad in scope to include the designation of evacuation routes and means to coordinate all local government agencies in assisting local residents in the event of a major earthquake, large-scale fire or explosion, or hazardous chemical spill or release of hazardous airborne gas.
7. All lines which are part of the domestic water distribution system should be looped to assure adequate pressure in the event of major fire, earthquake, or explosion. Adequate emergency

---

<sup>67</sup> (Grunwald & Associates, 1992)

standby power generation capability should be available at water wells to assure water availability in the event of a major power failure.

## Goal 9: Public Safety Hazards<sup>68</sup>

Goals for public safety seek to reduce loss of life or property due to crime, fire, earthquake, or other disasters or hazards, provide adequate medical and emergency services to reduce the effects of natural or manmade disasters, promote citizen awareness and preparedness for emergency/disaster situations or potential for the incidence of crime, and implement adequate interagency disaster planning.

### Policies

4. The City will continue to maintain and update emergency service plans, including plans for managing emergency operations, the handling of hazardous materials, and the rapid cleanup of hazardous materials spills.
5. The City will continue to cooperate with the County of Fresno and other agencies in pre- disaster planning activities, such as evacuation required in the event of a serious spill of hazardous chemicals.
6. The City will seek to reduce the risks and potential for hazards to the public through planning and zoning practices and regulations which avoid hazardous land use relationships and by the continued and timely adoption of new edition building and fire codes.

## Summary and Recommendations

The 2024 Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan will be incorporated into the General Plan by reference during the focused update process. As such, the vulnerability assessment, mitigation strategy (goals and objectives), and implementation plan in the LHMP will also be included in the General Plan. Based on the capabilities assessment, the City of Kingsburg has existing mechanisms in place that will help to mitigate hazards. In addition to these existing capabilities, there are also opportunities to expand or improve on these policies and programs to further protect the community. Opportunities for enhancement of the City's existing mitigation strategy were identified in the LHMP and include:

- Develop a Drought Contingency Plan that will create a framework for drought response and mitigation.
- Update the 2005 City of Kingsburg Storm Drain Master Plan.

The project team may also identify additional climate adaptation policies for inclusion in the General Plan during subsequent phases of the update process. The project team has identified the following topics as areas for potential policies, among other topics:

- Address unreinforced masonry buildings in the downtown area for safety and preservation.
- Reduce urban heat island effect.

---

<sup>68</sup> (Grunwald & Associates, 1992)

## Wildfire Risk

Jurisdictions are required to address fire risk in the safety element of their general plan. SB 1241 further requires that jurisdictions with Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and State Responsibility Areas include additional information and consideration for fire risk in these areas. There are no Very High or High Fire Hazard Severity Zones nor State Responsibility Areas within the Kingsburg Planning Area or Sphere of Influence. A small portion of the Kingsburg Sphere of Influence is within a Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone (see **Figure 4 – Kingsburg Fire Hazard Areas**). This area is developed with agricultural and residential uses, as well as a cemetery. This is determined based on historical data on wildfires; existing facilities in these areas; and goals, policies, and implementation measures to protect the community from unreasonable wildfire risk. The City General Plan notes, “Only hazards from man-made structural or chemical (urban) fires are covered by the Safety Element. The Kingsburg urban area is not subject to the potential for damage from wildland fire.”<sup>69</sup> As such, it lists the following three safety goals and policies within its Hazard Management Element:

1. The City will continue to give high priority to the support of police protection, and to fire suppression and prevention functions of the Kingsburg Fire Department.
2. The City will work to maintain a fire flow standard of 2,000 gallons per minute (gpm) for all commercial and industrial areas of the community, and 1,500 gpm for residential areas, to assure the capability to suppress urban fires.
3. The City will maintain a street system which is capable of providing access to any fires that may develop within the urban area, and which is capable of providing for the adequate evacuation of residents in the event of an emergency condition of magnitude.

Additional information related to wildfire can be found in the **Climate Adaptation and Resiliency** section above, but it should be noted that legislative requirements for SB 379 and SB 1241 vary slightly.

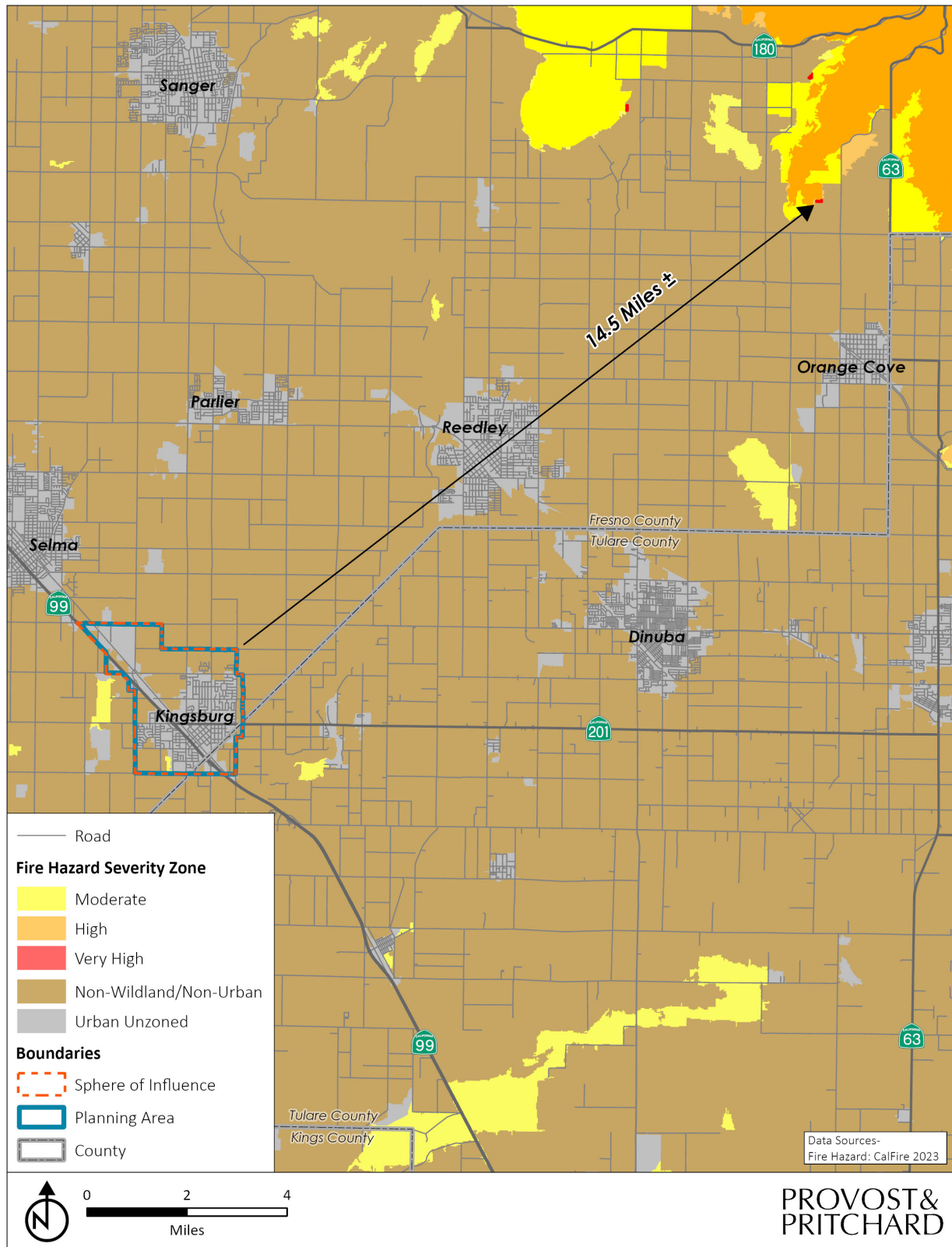
## Historical Fire Data

As discussed, there are no Very High or High and very limited Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the Kingsburg Planning Area (see **Figure 4 – Kingsburg Fire Hazard Areas**). There are also no State Responsibility Areas in the planning area. SB 5 relates to Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and State Responsibility Areas. The nearest Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone is show below **in Figure 5 – Nearest Fire Hazard Severity Zones**. The LHMP includes a summary of historical fire data, as well as a list of wildfires in Fresno County dating back to 1933 in Table 64 of the LHMP. The LHMP also provides additional discussion of the risk for wildfire in the County and the potential effects of wildfire on County residents. The LHMP will be incorporated into the updated General Plan by reference.

---

<sup>69</sup> (Grunwald & Associates, 1992, p. 109)

**Figure 5 – Nearest Fire Hazard Severity Zones**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Summary and Recommendations

The City of Kingsburg does not contain any Very High or High Fire Hazard Severity Zone areas within its planning area. Additionally, the Kingsburg Planning Area is not within a State Responsibility Area nor a Federal Responsibility Area. Only a small portion of the Kingsburg Sphere of Influence is within a Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Existing General Plan policies already address urban fire risk for the City as a whole. Additional policies for the General Plan are not required to adequately comply with SB 1241. The project team may also identify additional policies related to fire risk for the updated Hazard Management Element during the drafting process, though none are required to satisfy SB 1241.

## Flood Risk and 200-Year Flood Zones

Jurisdictions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley are required by SB 5 to address 200-year flooding in their general plans. This requires jurisdictions to provide historical flooding data as well as goals, policies, and implementation measures to protect lives and property at risk of flood damage in 200-year flood zone areas. The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) is responsible for mapping 200-year flood zones. Although SB 5 does not require analysis of 100- or 500-year flood zones, the consideration of these hazard areas are required by other legislation. There are no flood hazard areas mapped by FEMA or the CVFPB in the Kingsburg Planning Area. The nearest flood hazard area is near the Kings River, situated in Tulare County to the southeast. Flood zones are mapped in *Figure 3 – Kingsburg Flood Zones* and additional information related to flood risk can be found in *Climate Adaptation and Resiliency*, above, but it should be noted that legislative requirements for SB 379 and SB 5 vary slightly.

The City's General Plan states that "the potential for damage from flooding from a natural watercourse does not exist" in the Kingsburg Planning Area.<sup>70</sup> As such, it does not include any goals or policies to mitigate flood risk in the area.

## Summary and Recommendations

There are no flood hazard areas mapped by FEMA or the CVFPB within the City of Kingsburg. The closest mapped flood zone to the Kingsburg Planning Area is the 100-year flood zone along the Kings River, which is situated in Tulare County to the southeast. As there are no 200-year flood zones within the planning area, no additional policies are required to satisfy SB 5. The project team may identify policies related to flood risk for the updated Hazard Mitigation Element during the drafting process.

---

<sup>70</sup> (Grunwald & Associates, 1992, p. 109)

# Planning for Healthy Communities and Environmental Justice

## Identifying Disadvantaged Communities

The first step for cities addressing SB 1000 is to identify the presence of disadvantaged communities (DACs) based on the environmental justice criteria defined in the bill. The primary screening tool used to identify DACs is CalEnviroScreen, a mapping tool maintained by CalEPA that identifies DACs by census tract. Scores are assigned to each census tract based on 20 different statewide indicators shown to significantly impact health or influence vulnerability to disease, including pollution exposures, other environmental effects such as hazardous sites, sensitive populations, and socioeconomic factors.<sup>71</sup> The City of Kingsburg is made up of several census tracts, and the entire City scores highly<sup>72</sup> in CalEnviroScreen. This requires the City to consider environmental justice in its General Plan. CalEnviroScreen scores and census tract numbers for the City are mapped in **Figure 6 – CalEnviroScreen**, below.

Disadvantaged communities are defined in several ways depending on the relevant legislation. SB 244 and SB 1000 define disadvantaged communities in the following ways:

**SB 244.** An unincorporated community with a median household income less than 80% of the statewide median income.

**SB 1000.** A community identified by the California Environmental Protection Agency as a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards.

## Planning for Healthy Communities Analysis

In order to comply with the requirements of Senate Bill 1000, EJ policies must address the unique and compounded health risks presented in DACs by addressing the following topics:

- Pollution Exposure and Air Quality,
- Public Facilities,
- Food Access,
- Safe and Sanitary Homes,
- Physical Activity,
- Community Engagement, and
- Improvements and Programs that Address the Needs of Disadvantaged Communities.

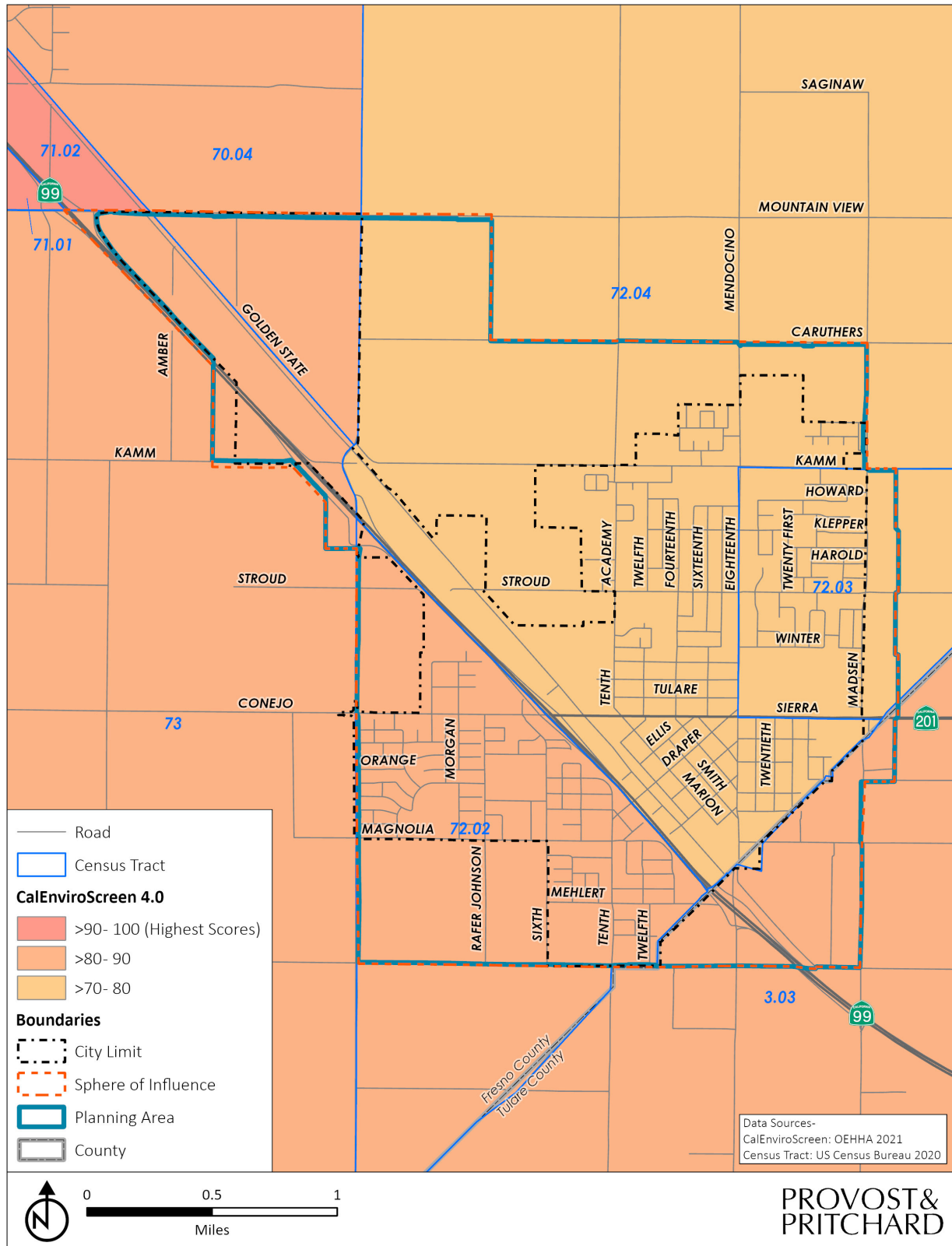
Unique and compounded health risks refer to hazards or health risks caused by hazards that may not be harmful to health in isolation but are harmful when considered with other health risks or stressors associated with negative health outcomes. These are also referred to as cumulative risks.

---

<sup>71</sup> (California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, 2023)

<sup>72</sup> A high CalEnviroScreen score indicates that a census tract is highly negatively impacted by the environmental factors considered in the score.

**Figure 6 – CalEnviroScreen**





While CalEnviroScreen is a useful tool for establishing a community's level of environmental burden in relation to other communities throughout California, there are some limitations to the tool. Data is collected and analyzed at the census tract level, which may not fully represent the nuanced issues faced in areas where census tracts do not correspond to neighborhoods and communities. To provide a more comprehensive, customized, and local analysis of environmental justice issues facing the City of Kingsburg, the analysis outlined below will consider additional indicators of equity, such as access to parks and open space or access to healthcare facilities.

Each of the required topics from SB 1000 is discussed in its own section below, with the exception of Improvements and Programs that Address the Needs of Disadvantage Communities, which is considered as part of the other required analyses. Each section includes a brief introduction to the topic, the methodology for the completed analysis, a summary of findings in Kingsburg, and recommendations for the policies to be included in the new Healthy Community Element to accommodate the environmental justice requirements of SB 1000.

## Pollution Exposure

Pollution exposure occurs daily in all communities where people encounter air, water, and soil contaminants present in the built environment. A key concept in environmental justice is that some communities are exposed to multiple sources of pollution that make them more vulnerable, or disproportionately burdened by, pollution compared to other communities.

SB 1000 requires the General Plan to include policies to “reduce pollution exposure and improve air quality.” Although air pollution is a type of pollution exposure, it is addressed separately by SB 1000 and is geared toward reducing specific air contaminants. Other types of pollution that should be addressed include water contamination and exposure to hazardous materials. Addressing these pollution exposures is critical to advancing community health. This portion of the analysis will focus on identifying the sources, types, and quantities of pollution to which the community in Kingsburg is exposed.

## Air Quality

### Methodology

Healthy air quality is defined as the degree to which ambient air<sup>73</sup> is pollution free.<sup>74</sup> DACs can be disproportionately exposed to air pollution due to the proximity of pollution-emitting sources. Air pollutants are split into three categories: greenhouse gases (GHGs), criteria air pollutants, and toxic air contaminants (TACs).

GHGs trap heat in the atmosphere to make the planet warmer. This is known as the greenhouse effect and is the primary cause of global climate change. GHGs are primarily made up of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, water vapor, ozone, and fluorinated gases. GHGs enter the atmosphere through the burning of fossil fuels; the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil; industrial activities; and agricultural practices.

Criteria air pollutants are made up of six common pollutants (carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, and lead) that cause smog, acid rain, and other health hazards.

---

<sup>73</sup> Ambient air refers to outdoor air that the general public has access to.

<sup>74</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

Typically, these pollutants are the products of the combustion of fossil fuels and industrial processes. The US EPA and the State of California have set acceptable concentration levels for criteria pollutants. Areas that exceed these concentrations are considered in nonattainment status.

Toxic air contaminants (TACs) are pollutants that cause serious health issues even with low levels of exposure. TACs include benzene, asbestos, arsenic, chloroform, and particulate matter from diesel-fueled engines, among many others.

GHGs, criteria air pollutants, and TACs are generally emitted by three types of sources:

- **Stationary sources**, such as power plants, refineries, and manufacturing facilities.
- **Area-wide sources**, which spread pollution over a large geographic area. These include fugitive dust and farming operations.
- **Mobile sources**, which include automobiles, boats, and airplanes, among others.

The California Air Resources Control Board (CARB) created an *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook* (Handbook) in 2005 which provides a method for assessing air pollution exposure. The Handbook outlines a three-step process to assess pollution exposure near sensitive land uses:

1. Locate mobile and stationary sources of air pollution, including freeways, high-volume roads, distribution centers, rail yards, gasoline-dispensing facilities, and others.
2. Establish what areas are at risk of exposure by applying CARB's recommended buffers around pollution sources.
3. Identify sensitive land uses existing within those buffers.

## Analysis

The San Joaquin Valley's air quality is impacted by its topography, climate, and geography. The mountains surrounding the Valley cause pollution to collect in high concentrations with limited ability to disperse. Additionally, the presence of major transportation corridors through the San Joaquin Valley connecting northern and southern California exacerbate the problem.<sup>75</sup> There are several state and federal air quality standards not being met in the San Joaquin Valley. Specifically, the region is in nonattainment status for concentrations of ozone and particulate matter.<sup>76</sup>

To determine the extent to which sensitive land uses in Kingsburg are disproportionately exposed to air pollution, it is necessary to locate pollution sources and establish acceptable proximity of pollution sources to sensitive land uses. Sensitive land uses are places where individuals who are most susceptible to poor air quality, such as children, older adults, pregnant women, and those with health problems, are most likely to spend their time. These land uses can include schools, parks, playgrounds, daycare facilities, nursing homes, hospitals, and residential communities.<sup>77</sup>

CARB provides siting recommendations for sensitive land uses around specific sources of air pollution, including high traffic freeways and roads,<sup>78</sup> distribution centers, rail yards, ports, refineries, chrome plating facilities, dry cleaners, and large gas dispensing facilities. Using these siting recommendations, it is possible

---

<sup>75</sup> (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, 2023)

<sup>76</sup> (San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, 2024); (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2024)

<sup>77</sup> (California Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Control Board, 2005)

<sup>78</sup> The Handbook includes land use siting recommendations related to urban roads that see 100,000 vehicles per day and rural roads with 50,000 vehicles per day.

to map the locations of sensitive uses in closer proximity to pollution sources than is recommended by CARB.

An inventory of Kingsburg's pollution emitting sources and sensitive land uses are shown in **Figure 7 – Pollution Sources**. As seen in the figure, the primary air pollution sources in Kingsburg are mobile pollution sources from the highway, as well as gas stations. While there are some sensitive land uses, including residences, medical offices, and schools, within the 500-foot buffer for highways and the 50-foot buffer for gas stations, facilities are generally well-located in terms of distance from pollution sources. This mapping uses residential land use designations and the Form Based Code area in Kingsburg's downtown. Some residences exist in other land use designations but are not the predominant use.

### **Summary and Recommendations**

Land uses in Kingsburg are generally located to avoid conflicts between sensitive land uses and pollution emitting sources. However, there are some existing sensitive land uses, including schools, parks, and medical centers, within the recommended CARB buffer for several pollution-emitting sources, including the state routes and gas stations.

CARB recognizes that other factors are considered when making land use decisions, including housing needs, existing land uses, and other development priorities. It is not always practical for jurisdictions to strictly adhere to the CARB recommendations. However, it is recommended that Kingsburg consider the buffers identified in the *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook* when new development proposals are received. CARB does not make recommendations for the relocation of already established land uses that do not meet the siting recommendations outlined in the Handbook. The project team may identify policies related to pollution exposure for the updated General Plan during the drafting process, though none are identified at this time.

## **Water Contamination**

### **Methodology**

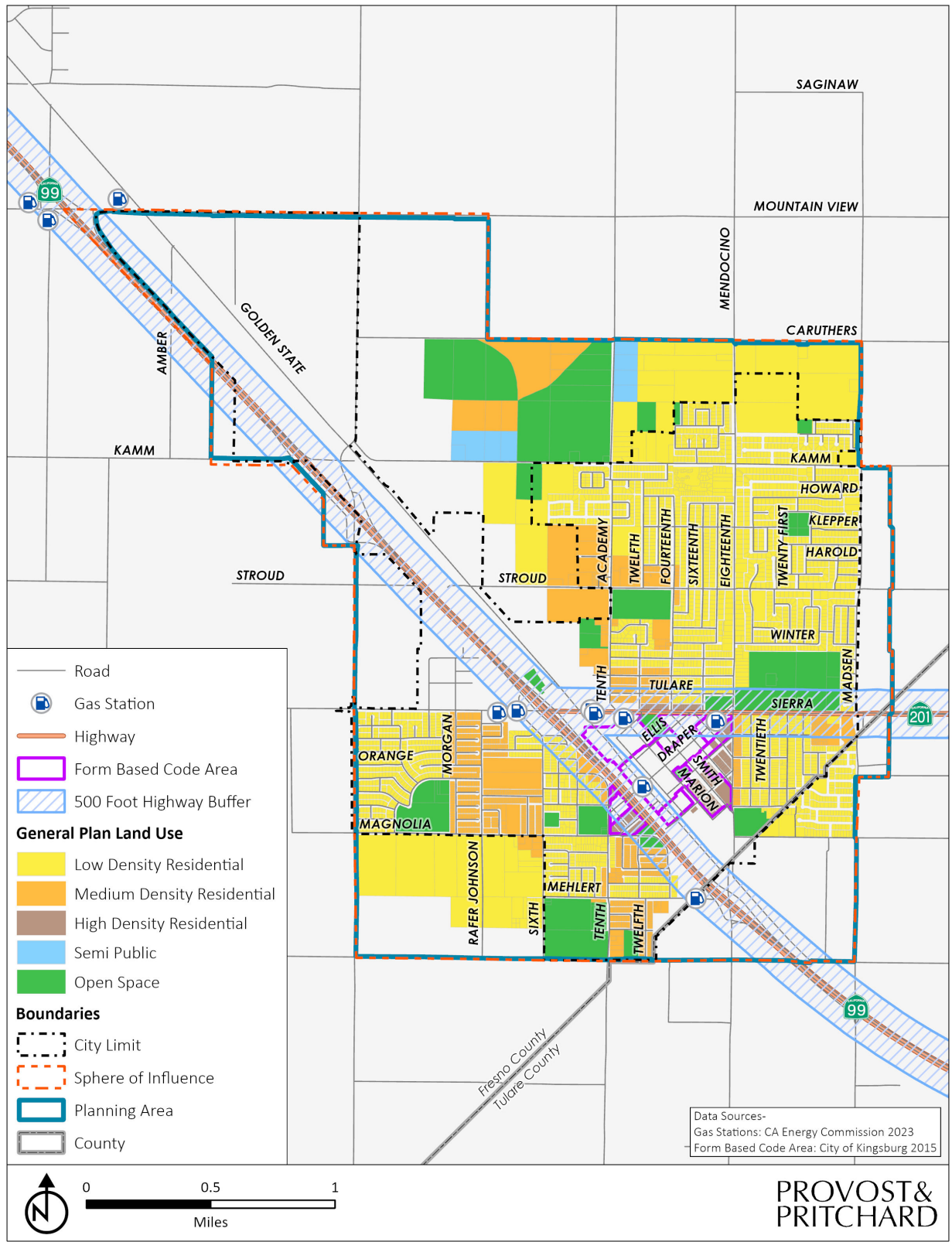
The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards are regulatory agencies in charge of water quality. SWRCB tracks surface water conditions throughout California as well as water bodies with contaminants exceeding water quality standards.

Groundwater quality is often assessed through resources provided through SWRCB, including the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment program, the online database called GeoTracker,<sup>79</sup> as well as the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGMA) program.

---

<sup>79</sup> GeoTracker concerns are discussed in the *Hazardous Materials and Toxins* section.

**Figure 7 – Pollution Sources**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Analysis

In January 2024 the City updated its Urban Water Management Plan, which outlines historic and projected water needs, water supply and its reliability, contingency plans, and conservation programs. The plan is updated on a five-year schedule and submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The City is also a member agency of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA), which maintains and implements a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP). Water provision is also discussed in the **Water, Wastewater, and Flood Control** section below.

### Groundwater

The City provides water through a grid water main system that relies on several groundwater wells located within the City Limits.<sup>80</sup> In 2020, the City's service area consisted of 4,406 connections and supplied 996 million gallons (MG) of water. The SKGSA GSP outlines the sustainability criteria for water levels in Kingsburg. The 2019 GSP indicates that groundwater levels are above the necessary thresholds which would allow Kingsburg to meet its water supply demands.<sup>81</sup> Groundwater recharge is proposed to help maintain groundwater levels. This would occur near the City's well field.<sup>82</sup> The GSP anticipates that with the implementation of identified actions from the GSP, the City's groundwater supplies are sufficient for the next 50 years of demand. The City has contingency in the system that allows wells to be taken out of service for repairs and maintenance.

The City of Kingsburg chlorinates the water at its well sites. Additionally, two well sites within the City have a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment. These treatments are done to achieve Federal and State water quality standards. The maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) for chlorine is 4 parts per million (ppm) and the City works to maintain a chlorine MRDL between .5 and 1.25 ppm.<sup>83</sup>

### Surface Water

The agencies of SKGSA do not own surface water facilities. In some places, they are instead connected to the surface water facilities of Central Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CKGSA) through the Consolidated Irrigation District.<sup>84</sup> The City of Kingsburg does not use any surface water as part of its water supply.<sup>85</sup>

## Summary and Recommendations

The City of Kingsburg's water system provides water to residents that meets all maximum applicable contamination levels. Quality is regularly monitored by the City for compliance with the applicable water quality standards. No additional actions are recommended at this time to address environmental justice related to water quality.

---

<sup>80</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

<sup>81</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

<sup>82</sup> The well field is the area surrounding a well or series of wells.

<sup>83</sup> (City of Kingsburg Water Department, 2024)

<sup>84</sup> (South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency, 2019)

<sup>85</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

## Hazardous Materials and Toxins

### Methodology

Sources of hazardous materials and toxic substances that may lead to exposure include industrial facilities, brownfields, hazardous waste cleanup sites, superfund sites, abandoned mines, or housing built on or near previously-industrial land that has not been properly cleaned up.

Envirostor, an online database maintained by CalEPA, is the primary tool for identifying hazardous sites in communities throughout California. The analysis section below discusses hazardous sites from Envirostor, which maps hazardous sites, and GeoTracker, which maps leaking underground storage tank (LUST) clean-up sites.

### Analysis

The following locations were identified on Envirostor as hazardous sites. These sites are part of clean-up programs or have land use limitations in order to address potential impacts from hazardous materials. Envirostor sites in Kingsburg include:

1. **Elementary School (10010015)**. This site was developed for an elementary school on West Kern Street. Organochlorine pesticides and heavy metals were identified as potential contaminants of concern. No actual or potential release of contaminants of concern were identified at the site as of June of 2003.
2. **Tenth Avenue Legacy Project (60003033)**. The site, previously a poultry farm that used agricultural chemicals and petroleum products, was being considered for residential development by the Housing Authority of Tulare County (HATC). A Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) from December 2019 identified past DDT use as a concern. HATC initially sought to enter a Standard Voluntary Agreement (SVA) with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) but later opted out after completing a Phase II investigation independently. The Phase II results showed DDT levels in the soil were below thresholds requiring remediation. Consequently, HATC decided not to proceed with the SVA. Currently the site is inactive and needs an evaluation as of January 12, 2021.
3. **Kingsburg High School Expansion (10820002)**. This site consists of the 51-acre site of the existing Kingsburg High School. The Kingsburg Joint Union Elementary School District demolished several buildings including an auto hobby shop, in anticipation of new construction. During the demolition, soil contamination was excavated. No data was provided for the excavation and there has been no action required as of July 31, 2001.
4. **Kamm Ave Disposal (10490021)**. Potential contaminants of concern were identified at this site including biological waste (other than sewage sludge), household wastes, metals (other inorganic waste), and other pesticide containers (30 gallons or more). The site was referred to the Regional Water Quality Control Board as of August 02, 1982.
5. **Valley Health Team- Kingsburg (60003089)**. This site consists of 1.67 acres and currently contains no structures. The proposed use for the site is a Health Center. The Phase I Environmental Assessment was completed in 2018 and did not find evidence of hazardous waste storage on the property. No action is required as of May 13, 2021.

6. **Kingsburg Cotton Oil Co (1020026)**. Potential contaminants of concern identified on site included unspecified oil containing waste. This site was referred to another agency as of November 16, 1994.
7. Additionally, there are no LUST clean-up sites in Kingsburg. These sites are monitored through the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker program.

## Summary and Recommendations

Although some sites in Kingsburg are hazardous sites and have been subject to clean-up, they are not disproportionately concentrated in any area of the City (see **Figure 8 – Hazardous Sites**) and have been addressed through cleanup efforts and land use limitations or are currently being addressed through these efforts. Additionally, the General Plan includes the following policies related to land use and hazardous sites:

### Public Safety Hazards

**Policy 4.** The City will continue to maintain and update emergency service plans, including plans for managing emergency operations, the handling of hazardous materials and the rapid cleanup of hazardous materials spills.

**Policy 5.** The City will continue to cooperate with the County of Fresno and other agencies in pre-disaster planning activities such as evacuation required in the event of a serious spill of hazardous chemicals.

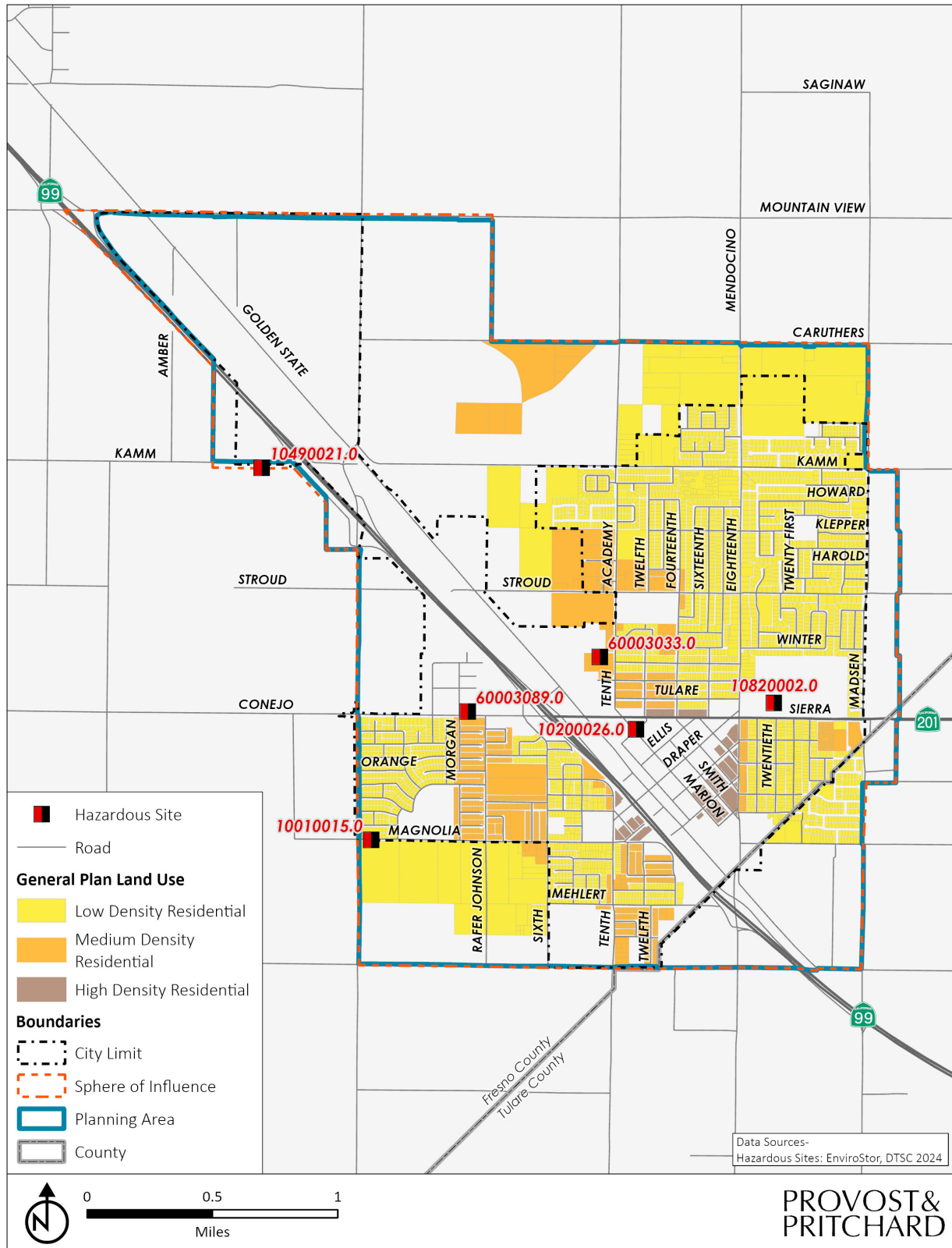
**Policy 6.** The City will seek to reduce the risks and potential for hazards to the public through planning and zoning practices and regulations which avoid hazardous land use relationships, and by the continued and timely adoption of new-edition building and fire codes.

### Seismic Hazards

**Policy 6.** The City should adopt an Earthquake Disaster Plan in coordination with Fresno County and local special districts. The Plan should identify hazards that may occur as the result of an earthquake of major magnitude. The Plan should be sufficiently broad in scope to include the designation of evacuation routes and means to coordinate all local government agencies in assisting local residents in the event of a major earthquake, large-scale fire or explosion, or hazardous chemical spill or release of hazardous air-borne gas.

No additional policies are recommended at this time to address hazardous sites in Kingsburg.

**Figure 8 – Hazardous Sites**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx



## Public Facilities

SB 1000 refers to public facilities as “public improvements, public services, and community amenities”. SB 1000 seeks to ensure that DACs have access to safe, clean public facilities and the equitable distribution of public facilities is an important part of environmental justice and community health. Many DACs do not have adequate access to necessary public facilities. Even basic infrastructure such as sidewalks and streetlights can be inequitably distributed around a community. This can create a range of health risks and quality of life issues including poor physical and mental health, increased exposure to safety hazards, and stifled community growth.

## Methodology

Analyzing the conditions of public facilities requires three steps:

1. Inventorying existing facilities;
2. Assessing access, demand, and compliance; and
3. Identifying future opportunities.

Analysis should consider:<sup>86</sup>

- **Distribution.** Is the distribution of facilities equitable? Are there future facilities planned that may make it more equitable? Are there any barriers to achieving equitable distribution of facilities?
- **Access.** Is there vehicular, pedestrian, biking, and/or transit-served access to the facilities?
- **Conditions and Regulatory Compliance.** Do facilities meet regulatory and safety standards? Are facilities in good working condition?
- **Environmental Impacts.** Are facilities contributing to pollution burdens? Are facilities minimizing their impacts on the environment?
- **Operational Sustainability and Interagency Coordination.** Is there sustained funding for the facilities? Is there long-term maintenance infrastructure for the facilities? Are applicable agencies aware of DAC needs?
- **Future Demand.** Are facilities planned to meet the long-term needs of DACs?

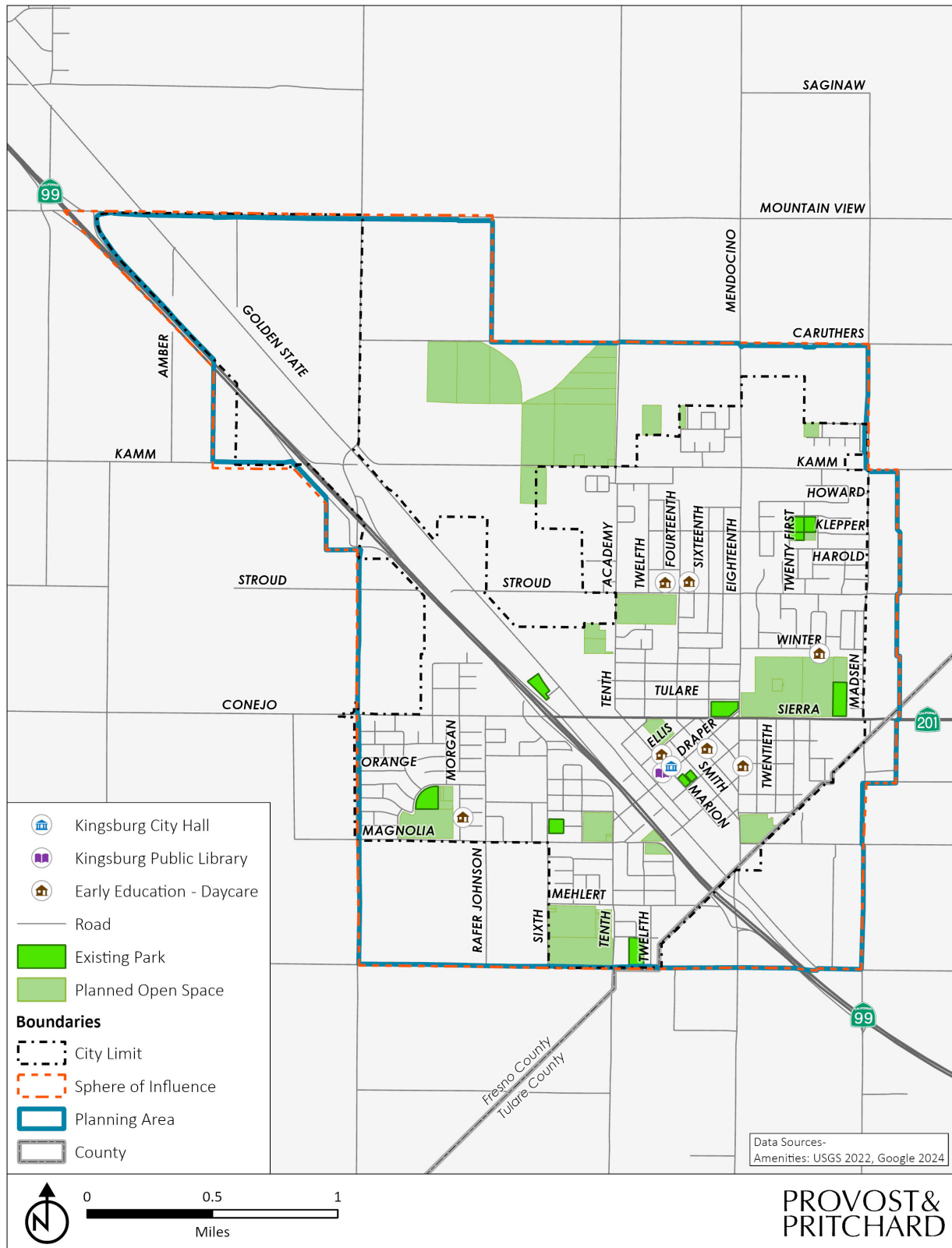
## Analysis

Two inventory maps were developed to help identify the distribution and access of public facilities, including community amenities and public services. **Figure 9 – Community Amenities** shows the location of inventoried community amenities, which includes public facilities such as the library and City Hall. The map also shows parks and early education facilities, which includes commercial day cares. **Figure 10 – Public Services** is another inventory map showing public services including emergency response facilities (fire and police).

---

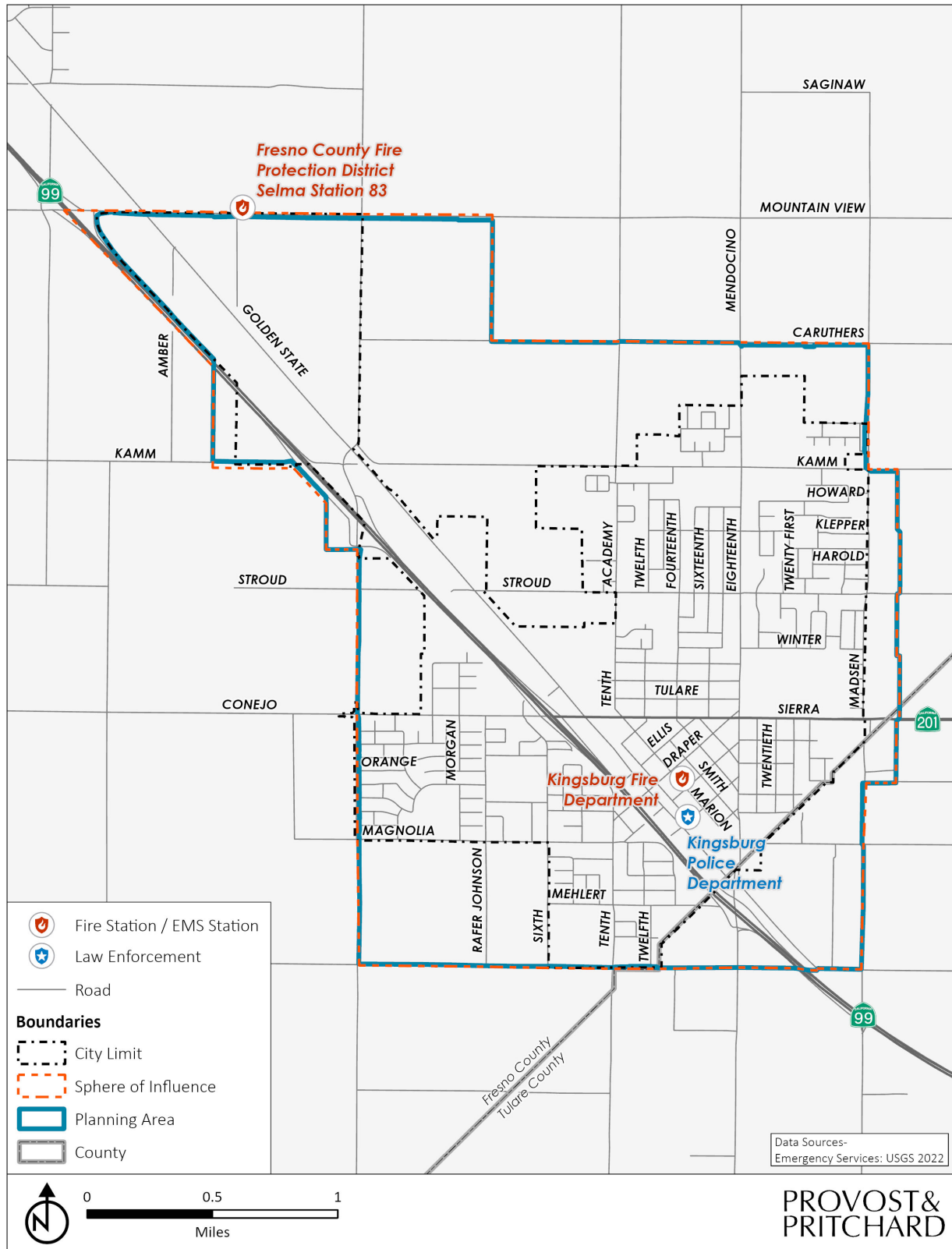
<sup>86</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

**Figure 9 – Community Amenities**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City\_of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

**Figure 10 – Public Services**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## **Water, Wastewater, and Flood Control**

The City of Kingsburg's water needs, including domestic and fire flow demands, are primarily met through its network of local groundwater wells. The City's General Plan includes policies to ensure a reliable supply of fresh water for both current and future community needs. However, like many areas in the San Joaquin Valley, Kingsburg faces challenges related to groundwater overdraft and contamination from agricultural chemicals. The local groundwater basin, which supplies the City, is experiencing conditions of overdraft. The City's Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), last updated in 2024,<sup>87</sup> reviews the existing water system and outlines strategies to secure adequate water capacity for the future. The UWMP, updated every five years, includes measures to address issues such as climate change, natural hazards, and potential decreases in water availability and quality. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies essential projects and ensures that funding for these projects is included in the annual budget.

Historically, Kingsburg's water quality has been satisfactory. While there have been increases in nitrate concentrations, especially in shallower wells, these levels remain within acceptable standards for potable water. The City participates in the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) planning area and adheres to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan, most recently updated in 2019. All wells in the City of Kingsburg's water system are treated with chlorine to meet Federal and State water requirements. Two wells are also treated with a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment.<sup>88</sup> Water treated with chlorine may exacerbate existing health concerns, especially for residents on kidney dialysis. However, the City's goal is to maintain the chlorine residual disinfectant level between 0.5 and 1.25 parts per million (ppm), well below the maximum of 4 ppm.<sup>89</sup>

Kingsburg manages wastewater collection for the City's service area. Wastewater is directed to the Selma-Kingsburg-Fowler County Sanitation District (SKF) facilities for treatment and disposal. The treatment plant currently processes wastewater effectively, and the existing capacity meets the current demands. The City and SKF each own and maintain a portion of the collection system and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is in place between the agencies related to the management of the system. The District's Capital Improvement Program includes plans for potential expansions to accommodate future growth and ensure continued effectiveness.

Stormwater management in Kingsburg is handled through a network of retention and detention basins and conveyance systems. The City maintains several stormwater basins that capture and retain stormwater, allowing for evaporation and groundwater recharge. Some stormwater drainage flows into canals or other drainage facilities. New developments are required to minimize impervious surfaces and runoff to manage stormwater effectively. Flooding concerns are managed through ongoing assessments and improvements to stormwater infrastructure.

## **Solid Waste, Recycling, and Composting Facilities**

Solid waste collection in the City of Kingsburg is managed by the City's Public Works Department. In contrast, private companies handle solid waste services in the unincorporated areas surrounding Kingsburg. The City's solid waste program encompasses regular waste disposal collection, a recyclables pickup program, and an organic/green waste pickup program, which is facilitated by a contracted service

---

<sup>87</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

<sup>88</sup> (City of Kingsburg Water Department, 2024)

<sup>89</sup> (City of Kingsburg Water Department, 2024)

provider. Currently, waste collected in Kingsburg is transported to the Kings Waste and Recycling Facility. As part of the City's waste management strategy, recyclable materials and green waste are taken to the Kingsburg Transfer Station for further processing. Although there are no dedicated waste disposal facilities within the City, residents can access several recycling centers for drop-off of recyclable materials. Additionally, Kingsburg hosts a household hazardous waste drop-off event on the 1st Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Public Works Yard located at 1400 Ellis Street. Items collected at this event include used motor oil and filters, antifreeze, automotive batteries, e-waste, latex paints, household batteries, and fluorescent lamps. Residents can also drop off waste at a designated location up to twice annually through Mid-Valley Disposal. All households in Kingsburg have access to and are adequately served by this waste management system.

### **Public Utilities**

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) provides electric service to Kingsburg Residents. Southern California Gas Company provides natural gas services in the City. AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon all provide communication services. Kingsburg Media Foundation, Comcast, DirecTV and Dish Network all provide cable/internet to Kingsburg. There are no known areas without access to these services.

Kingsburg Fiber is an affordable fiber broadband project that is built on a community partnership between Kingsburg Media Foundation and the City of Kingsburg. The goal of the project is to bring high speed internet to all homes in Kingsburg through a low cost, rapid deployment. Service is available in some areas and is rapidly growing to the entire community.

### **Streets and Roads**

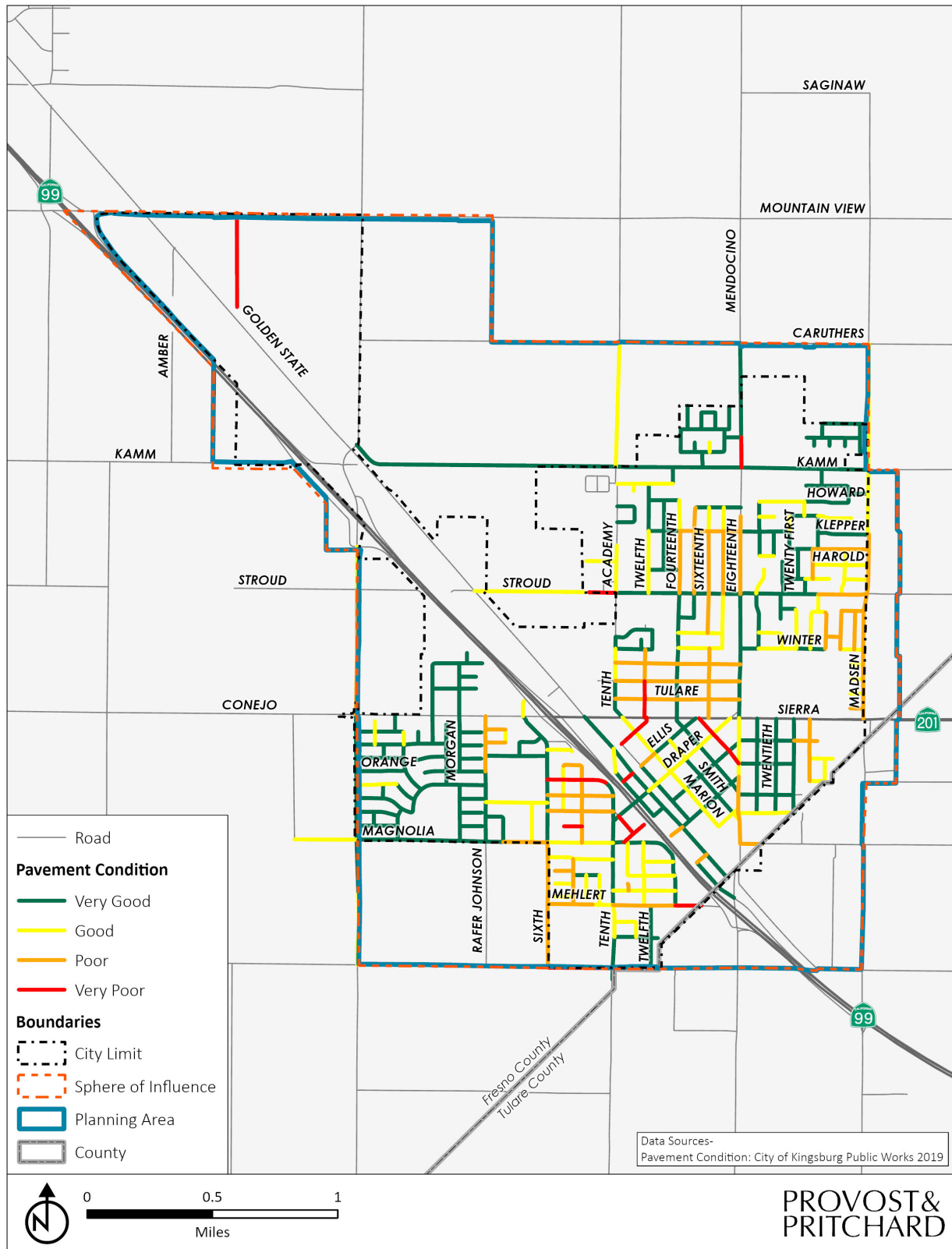
Kingsburg is located at the intersection of State Route 99 and State Route 201. Kingsburg's roadway network includes a combination of City and County roads, with the state routes serving as primary entrances to the City, complemented by arterial streets within the City's local road network. The City of Kingsburg encompasses approximately 50 miles of maintained roads.<sup>90</sup> Street conditions within the City limits are monitored by the City, with improvements identified and funded through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which allocates the City's operating budgets each year. Generally, \$75,000 is designated every three years to evaluate pavement conditions throughout the City. The City has historically worked with Fresno Council of Governments to complete this effort. Funds are set aside each year for road repair and other infrastructure improvements including sidewalk installation and ADA infrastructure. Approximately \$1.2 million is allocated annually for pavement maintenance and road projects, with an additional \$300,000 for ADA and sidewalk improvements.<sup>91</sup> Additional funds are also set aside for alley, curb, gutter, median, and parking lot improvements. The CIP further identifies specific street segments for micro surfacing, redesign, and enhancement projects that extend beyond routine maintenance. The pavement evaluation is used by the City to ensure that areas requiring the most significant improvements are prioritized in the CIP and receive necessary funding. While some areas have pavement in poor condition, these areas are prioritized for maintenance and repair in the CIP. Poor pavement conditions generally correspond with the age of the roads in the City and the previous road maintenance schedule (see **Figure 11 – Pavement Conditions**).

---

<sup>90</sup> (Caltrans, 2022)

<sup>91</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2023-2024)

**Figure 11 – Pavement Conditions**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

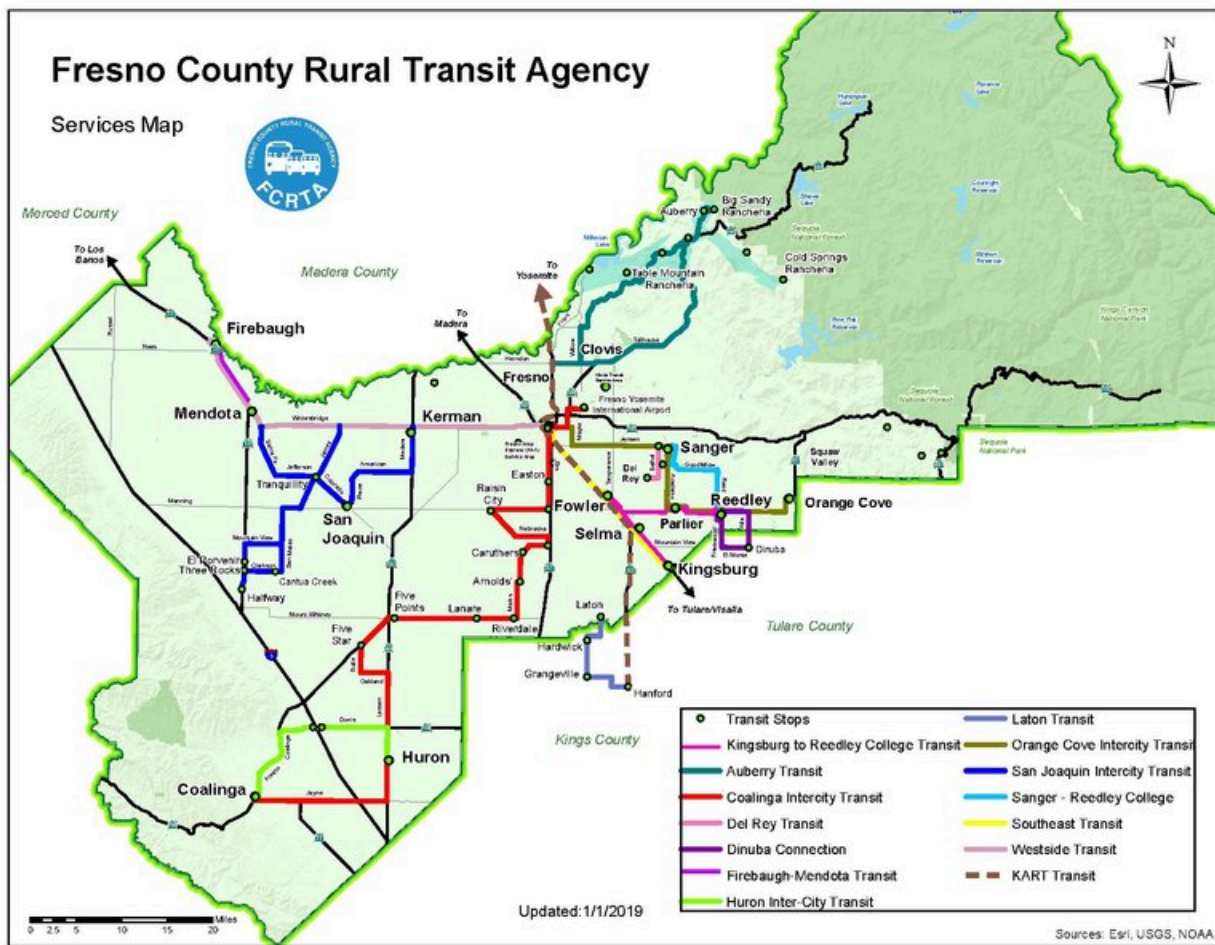
### Transit Services

Transit in Kingsburg is provided by the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA), Reedley College Transit, and Valley Rides. FCRTA operates one transit route in Kingsburg, connecting residents to other incorporated cities in Fresno County (Selma, Fowler, Parlier, Reedley, and Fresno). The bus stop is the Coffee Pot Park Bus Shelter (1460 Marion Street, Kingsburg). They offer two departures each in the morning and afternoon, with fixed fares ranging from \$0.75 to \$2.35 depending on travel distance. The return departures offered include in the morning and two in the afternoon. There are monthly student bus passes (\$35) that can be purchased through the school.

FCRTA also operates the Kingsburg to Reedley College Transit line which connects Kingsburg, Selma, Fowler, and Parlier to Reedley college. It offers two morning and one afternoon departures from Kingsburg to Reedley and one morning and two afternoon departures from Reedley to Kingsburg on weekdays.

The Southern Pacific Railroad line presents an opportunity for rail transit connecting Kingsburg to metro areas and major cities in the San Joaquin Valley, San Francisco Bay Area, and Southern California. Amtrak has a route through Kingsburg but does not have a station. The nearest Amtrak stations are located in Hanford approximately 18 miles to the southwest, Fresno approximately 21 miles to the north, and Visalia approximately 23 miles to the southeast.

Figure 12 – FCRTA Services Map



## Healthcare Access

Kingsburg Community Health Center provides urgent care and are now providing after hours urgent care at their new location at 121 W Sierra Street. At the Kingsburg Community Health Center, they provide medical services, dental and optometry. A variety of family medical services, dental offices, and vision care services are in Kingsburg as well, primarily near the downtown. As of summer 2024, there are 4 medical offices, 9 dental offices, and 2 vision care offices in the City (see **Figure 13 – Healthcare Facilities**).

Emergency medical response is provided by the Kingsburg Fire Department. The department, per the General Plan, has a response time of 3-4 minutes to all parts of the Urban area. Additional details related to the Fire Department can be found in the **Emergency Services and Public Safety** section below.

## Emergency Services and Public Safety

Law enforcement services in Kingsburg are provided by the City of Kingsburg Police Department located at 1300 California Street. Fresno County Sheriff's office provides law enforcement dispatching services as well as emergency 911 services and non-emergency services to Kingsburg. Kingsburg is in Area 3 of the Fresno County Sheriff's service area which is currently served by 53 officers working out of a substation in Selma.<sup>92</sup>

The City's Fire Department responds to a variety of incident types including fire, rescue, hazmat, Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport, and ALS first response. Kingsburg Fire Department operates out of a part-time staffed fire station. The Kingsburg Fire Department has automatic aid agreements with neighboring departments, including Selma, Laton, and the counties of Fresno, Kings, and Tulare, which extend the department's response areas to just over 80 square miles. The department, along with the other departments in the aid agreement area, has a response area containing a population of over 20,000 residents throughout 3 counties. The department operates out of two fire stations: Station 1 (1460 Marion St), which also serves as the headquarters where the administrative and chief offices are, and Station 2 (1880 S Bethel), which is currently part-time staffed during peak hours (see **Figure 10 – Public Services**). Kingsburg Fire Department is an Insurance Service Office (ISO) rated "Class 2" Fire Department, placing it in the top 1.5% of Fire Departments throughout the Nation.

## City and Government Buildings

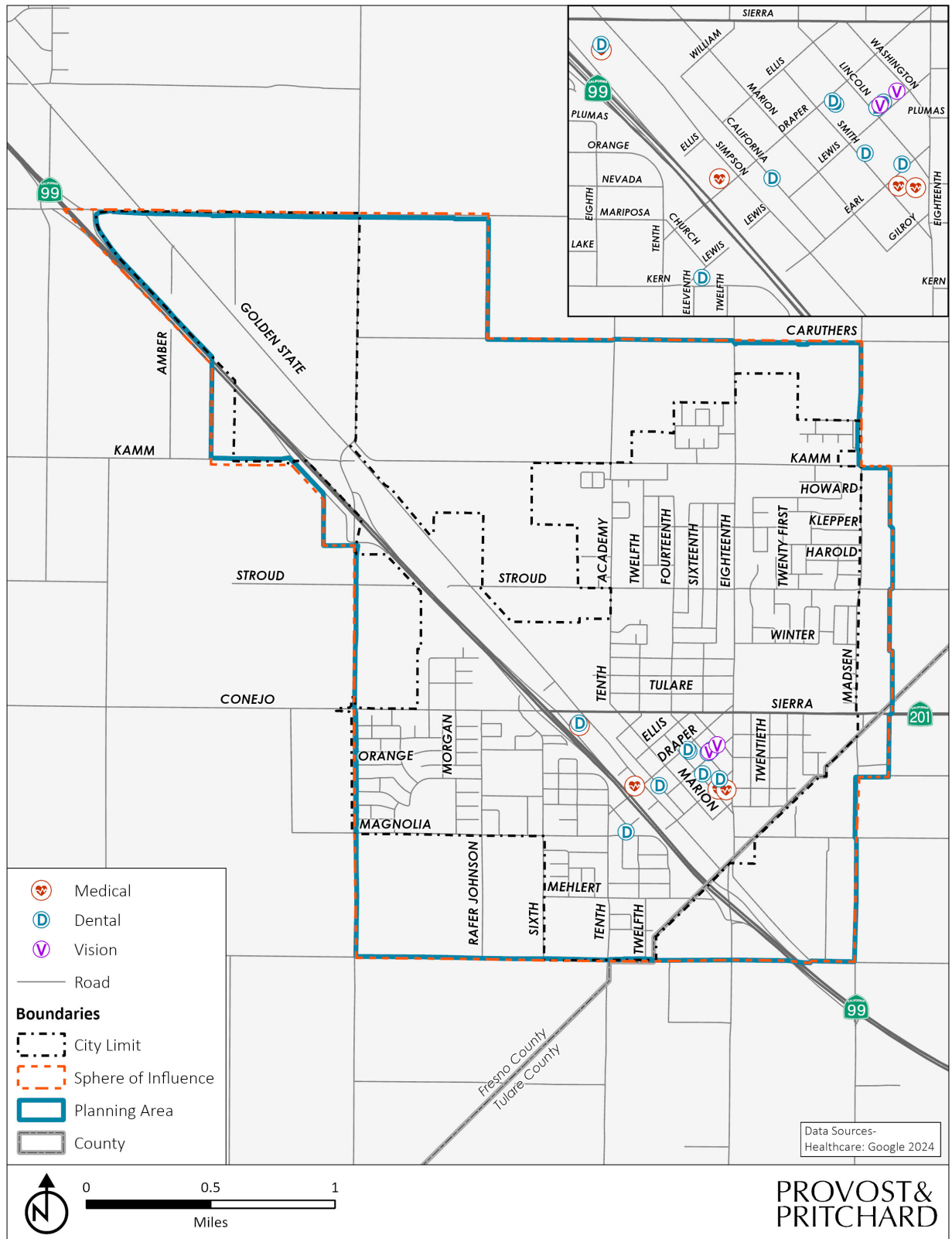
Kingsburg City Hall is located at 1401 Draper Street and houses various City departments, including the Building Department, Planning Department, Economic Development Department, and Code Enforcement. Kingsburg Senior Center provides a Senior Meal program and activities, located at 1450 Ellis Street (see **Figure 9 – Community Amenities**). A United States Post Office is located at 1401 Marion Street. Kingsburg also has a Historical Park located at 2321 Sierra Street.

---

<sup>92</sup> (Fresno County Sheriff's Office, 2024)



**Figure 13 – Healthcare Facilities**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Daycare Centers

A review of online listings for daycares and preschools operating in Kingsburg indicated approximately 11 facilities providing childcare in the City (see **Figure 9 – Community Amenities** for the locations of commercial daycares). This includes daycare homes and commercial daycare centers. Daycare facilities are widely distributed throughout the City and include large and small day care homes, preschools, and commercial daycare centers, providing equitable access to childcare.

## Libraries

The Kingsburg City Library is part of the Fresno County Public Library system, a library consortium that allows member libraries to share materials throughout the network. The library is located at 1399 Draper Street. Originally opened in 1910 inside a local drugstore, the Kingsburg library moved to its current location on Draper Street in 2000 (see **Figure 9 – Community Amenities**). In addition to lending materials the library also offers events for children, teens, and adults. Residents can also reserve a meeting room and print or copy in color and black and white.

## Summary and Recommendations

The following table summarizes the recommended policy considerations for the Healthy Community element based on the analysis completed above. The table considers distribution, access, condition, sustainability, and capacity for each of the topics addressed in this section.

**Table 6 – Public Facilities Summary and Recommendations**

	Distribution	Access	Conditions	Operational Sustainability	Future Capacity	Recommendation
<b>Public Improvements</b>						
<b>Water Distribution</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	Monitor development and water levels through the Urban Water Management Plan to ensure capacity is sufficient for community growth
<b>Wastewater Treatment</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Adequate	Ensure capacity expansion of wastewater treatment facilities occurs in line with timeline from development
<b>Flood Control and Drainage</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	Monitor development and ensure new stormwater

	Distribution	Access	Conditions	Operational Sustainability	Future Capacity	Recommendation
						retention basins are established as necessary
<b>Solid Waste</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Adequate	No additional action needed
<b>Public Utilities</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Streets and Roads</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Adequate	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Public Services</b>						
<b>Transit</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Healthcare</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Emergency Services</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Community Facilities</b>						
<b>Government Buildings</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed
<b>Daycare Centers</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	n/a*	n/a*	No additional action needed
<b>Libraries</b>	Equitable	Equitable	Good	Good	Good	No additional action needed

\* The City is not responsible for the operation or maintenance of private facilities.

## Food Access

Food access is a concept that includes several related topics, including the availability of nutritionally-adequate and affordable food, having enough income to purchase food, as well as proximity and the ability to travel to a food source that offers affordable, nutritionally-adequate food.<sup>93</sup> People in DACs, especially those with low income, may face greater barriers to accessing healthy and affordable food retailers.<sup>94</sup> Research shows that people cope with food insecurity by consuming nutrient-poor but calorie rich foods, going hungry, or both, which leads to health issues ranging from micronutrient malnutrition to obesity.<sup>95</sup>

## Methodology

Community food access conditions were evaluated using the following techniques and indicators:

- **Identify and map existing food outlets**, according to type. This includes healthier food sources, such as grocery stores or farmers markets, as well as stores that may have an abundance of unhealthy foods such as convenience stores or liquor stores.
- **Identify means of access to food sources**, whether by car, transit, or other.
- **Identify barriers to shopping**, such as situations where people must carry groceries home.

<sup>93</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

<sup>94</sup> (United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, 2022)

<sup>95</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

- **Measure percentage of local residents without cars**, including special populations such as home-bound seniors. Evaluate the level to which transit service meets community food shopping needs.

## Analysis

A map of Kingsburg was generated to locate grocery stores and farmers markets in the vicinity. Within the City Limits, three grocery stores and two farmers markets were identified (see **Figure 14 – Food Access**).

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Economic Research Service Food Access Research Atlas (FARA) provides comprehensive data and mapping tools related to food access in the United States. It offers insights into food access indicators such as distance to grocery stores and vehicle availability, aiming to identify areas with limited access to healthy food options. The atlas assists policymakers, researchers, and communities in understanding food accessibility issues and developing strategies to improve food security and nutrition nationwide.

The indicators were established based on the U.S. Department of Treasury’s New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program criteria for identifying Low-Income (LI) Census Tracts. A tract qualifies as low-income if it meets one of the following conditions: the poverty rate is 20% or higher; the median family income is equal to or less than 80% of the statewide median family income; or is in a metropolitan area with a median family income equal to or less than 80% of the metropolitan area’s median family income. The low-access (LA) Census Tracts are determined by calculating both the quantity (at least 500 individuals) and proportion (at least 33%) of residents located at various distances from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store. Additionally, the analysis considers the number of housing units in these areas that lack vehicle access and are situated more than 0.5 miles away from one of these stores.

Based on the Food Access Research Atlas, only a small portion of the Kingsburg Planning Area is in an area identified as Low Income and Low Access. This is the southeastern portion located in Tulare County. This area consists of some residences and industrial facilities. The residents in this area are unlikely to face any additional difficulties in accessing food compared to the rest of the City.<sup>96</sup>

## Summary and Recommendations

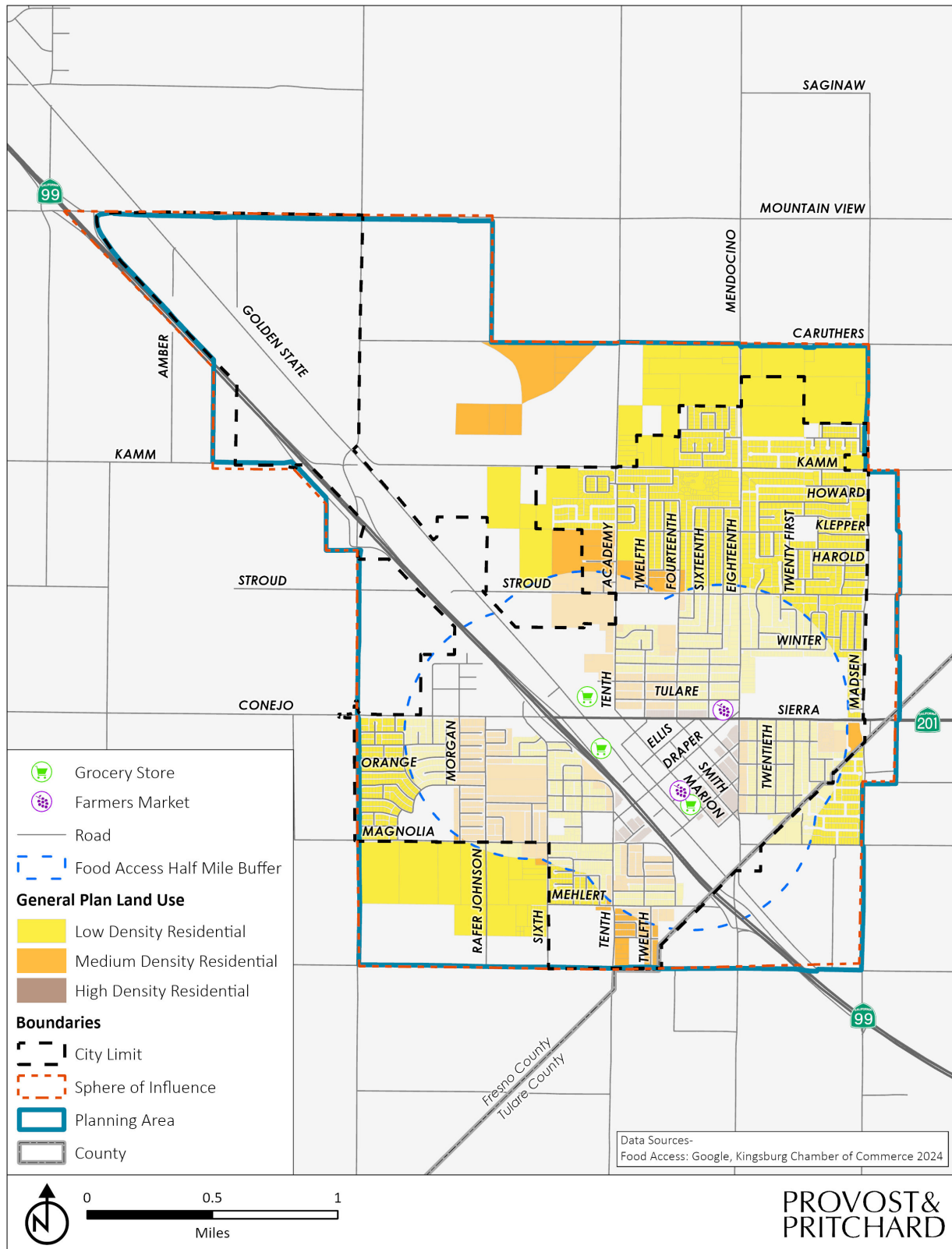
Accessing healthy food in Kingsburg is not a significant challenge and Low-Income or Low-Access indicators are not present. Kingsburg has three grocery stores and two farmers markets, ensuring convenient access for residents. Only 2.44%<sup>97</sup> of households do not own any cars, aligning with the community's reliance on personal vehicles due to limited inner-city transit options. No additional policies related to food access are anticipated at this time.

---

<sup>96</sup> (United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, 2024)

<sup>97</sup> The United States Census Bureau ACS 5-year Estimate

**Figure 14 – Food Access**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

## Safe and Sanitary Homes

Safe and sanitary housing considers three dimensions: housing conditions, housing affordability, and land-use compatibility. Toxic building materials, extreme temperature variation, poor air quality, moisture intrusion, and overcrowding are all aspects of housing condition that can impact residents' health. Residents of DACs tend to live in older housing stock which is more susceptible to these issues. Cost-burdened households have reduced resources available for other necessities such as health care or food. Finally, housing next to incompatible land uses can compound issues related to unsafe housing conditions. While housing condition and affordability are discussed in this section, incompatible land uses are considered in **Pollution Exposure**.

### Methodology

To analyze access to safe and sanitary housing, jurisdictions must assess indoor conditions and housing affordability. Age of housing stock is an important indicator for toxic substances, as regulation that reduces the use of those substances has increased over time. This analysis uses housing stock age data and regulation timelines to determine the risk for toxic substances in Kingsburg. Additionally, census data on issues such as overcrowding is used to indicate indoor housing conditions. Housing affordability is traditionally measured according to the percentage of income spent on housing. Cost-burdened households spend more than 30% of their income on housing.<sup>98</sup> It should also be noted that there are indirect costs associated with housing choices, such as transportation costs to and from daily necessities, that are not factored into the affordability of a home but are influenced by the location of the residence.

### Analysis

#### Toxic Substances

There are known risks associated with substances such as lead, asbestos, mold, and other contaminants that are often present in older homes. In 1978, the United States banned the consumer use of lead-based paint.<sup>99</sup> Structures built prior to the passing of that legislation tend to contain higher levels of lead than newer buildings. When lead-based paint begins to chip, exposure to the substance increases and presents a hazard. Additionally, these homes may contain plumbing components made from lead which can infuse drinking water with the substance. Children are especially at-risk for lead poisoning, although people of all ages may face serious health problems when exposed to lead. Housing stock built prior to 1980 is at higher risk of containing lead-based paint.

Asbestos is a fiber that occurs in rock and soil and has been used in a wide range of building construction materials and manufactured goods, including products like shingles, floor tiles, heat-resistant fabrics, and automobile parts.<sup>100</sup> Primarily, exposure occurs only after disturbance or damage releases the asbestos fibers into the air. While asbestos is not banned, legislation has granted the EPA greater oversight of products that contain the fiber and the ability to partially ban asbestos in certain products.<sup>101</sup> Asbestos causes three major health effects: lung cancer; mesothelioma; and asbestosis, a long-term, non-cancer

---

<sup>98</sup> Housing costs include both rent or mortgage costs and utilities.

<sup>99</sup> (Protect Your Family from Sources of Lead, 2024)

<sup>100</sup> (Learn about Asbestos, 2024)

<sup>101</sup> (EPA Actions to Protect the Public from Exposure to Asbestos, 2024)

lung disease.<sup>102</sup> Homes in a state of disrepair can put residents at greater risk for asbestos exposure. This is especially true for older homes, as regulation of asbestos has increased over time.

While mold is not usually a problem indoors, excessive moisture combined with poor ventilation can increase the possibility of mold in homes. Molds can produce allergens and irritants that can cause health problems, especially for more sensitive populations such as those with mold allergies or asthma. Mold can also cause allergy symptoms for people who are not allergic.<sup>103</sup> Older housing stock with poor ventilation tends to experience excessive moisture build-up and conditions conducive to mold growth.

While there are not specific dates used to determine the risk of exposure to asbestos and mold, 1980 is typically used to determine the risk of exposure to lead-based paint. As such, many analyses use 1980 as the date for all three toxic substances. According to the 2024 Kingsburg Housing Element, 56.6% of the housing units are more than 30 years old (constructed before 1994), while 31.7% of units are over 50 years old (constructed before 1974).<sup>104</sup> Recommended actions to address the risk of toxic substances in the housing stock are included in **Table 7 – Safe and Sanitary Homes Summary and Recommendations**.

### Rodents and Pests

Rodents and other pests, aside from being a nuisance, can also contribute to unsafe housing conditions. While rodents may carry viruses or bacteria that cause diseases in humans, other pests like insects and cockroaches can carry allergens and trigger asthma attacks. Pest invasion is more likely to occur in older or run-down homes that are more susceptible to such an invasion. There are no known problem areas for rodents or pests in Kingsburg.

### Overcrowding

Overcrowded housing units increase health and safety concerns for the community. Additionally, highly overcrowded areas put increased stress on the condition of housing stock and infrastructure. The California Department of Housing and Community Development defines overcrowding as a unit occupied by more than 1.01 persons per room, not limited to bedrooms but excluding bathrooms and kitchens. Severely overcrowded units are occupied by more than 1.5 persons per room.<sup>105</sup> Overcrowding tends to result from a lack of affordable housing or units of adequate size and can impact both owners and renters, though renters tend to be impacted more significantly. The 2024 Housing Element evaluated overcrowding in Kingsburg, revealing that 3.4% of households in the city experience overcrowding, with no households classified as severely overcrowded. In the West Kingsburg neighborhood, which has the highest rates of overcrowding, about 51.5% of housing serves moderate-income residents, and approximately 19.1% serves lower-income residents.<sup>106</sup>

### Housing Affordability

Cost-burdened households have fewer resources to put towards other living expenses such as transportation, education, or healthcare. Additionally, a restricted budget also restricts housing choice, meaning cost-burdened households are also more likely to be subjected to unsafe housing conditions and

---

<sup>102</sup> (Learn about Asbestos, 2024)

<sup>103</sup> (Mold and Health, 2024)

<sup>104</sup> (Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, Appendix 1H: City of Kingsburg, 2023)

<sup>105</sup> (Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, 2024)

<sup>106</sup> (Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, Appendix 1H: City of Kingsburg, 2023)

overcrowding. Housing farther from commercial and employment centers that is more affordable may also increase transportation costs. Lower-income households and renters tend to be more affected by high housing costs.

The 2024 Housing Element for Kingsburg shows that 12.0% of households experience cost burdens, with 14.4% classified as severely burdened, totaling 26.4% of all households. Among these, approximately 43.9% are renters and 56.5% are homeowners. Specifically, 12.2% of renters are cost burdened, with 23.0% severely burdened, compared to 12.1% and 10.2% of homeowners, respectively.

In terms of geographic distribution, there is a slightly higher incidence of renter overpayment south of SR 99 and of homeowner overpayment north of SR 99. According to the 2016-2020 American Community Survey (ACS), 41.0% of renters south of SR 99 experience housing cost overpayment, compared to 37.7% north of SR 99. Conversely, there is a slightly greater disparity in homeowner overpayment, with 27.4% south of SR 99 and 36.0% north of SR 99 experiencing housing cost overpayment.<sup>107</sup>

### Summary and Recommendations

The following table summarizes the recommendations for the Healthy Community element based on the analysis completed above. The table summarizes the analysis of each factor and recommended inclusions, if necessary.

**Table 7 – Safe and Sanitary Homes Summary and Recommendations**

Factor	Summary	Recommendation
<b>Toxic Substances</b>	Due to the age of housing in Kingsburg, there is a likelihood of encountering toxic substances such as lead, asbestos, and mold. When these homes fall into disrepair, the exposure to these substances tends to rise, thereby increasing associated health risks.	Increase awareness of warning signs for presence of toxic substances.
<b>Rodents and Pests</b>	There are no known problems with rodents or pests in the City of Porterville.	No action needed.
<b>Overcrowding</b>	In Kingsburg, overcrowding is minimal, with homeowners experiencing a higher rate.	Encourage construction of affordable housing units and housing that can accommodate larger and multi-generational households.
<b>Affordability</b>	Approximately 26.4% of households in Kingsburg are cost-burdened and spending more than 30% of their income on housing.	Increase awareness of and participation in affordable housing programs and programs that assist in off-setting other living costs such as food and transportation. Encourage construction of affordable housing units.

<sup>107</sup> (Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, Appendix 1H: City of Kingsburg)



## Physical Activity

City design impacts a community's ability to engage in physical activity. A city's open space and transportation network shapes its access to formal and informal recreation opportunities, which in turn impacts public health. In addition, because low-income communities are more likely to depend on transit, walking, and bicycling for their transportation methods, promoting physical activity through active transportation policies not only provides health benefits but contributes to social equity as well. Therefore, an environmental justice framework on physical activity analyzes both the reach of active transportation networks and the distribution of parks and open space.<sup>108</sup> Additional information related to parks, a component of the physical activity analysis, can be found in the **Public Facilities** section above.

## Methodology

In order to evaluate Kingsburg's level of access to physical activity, it is necessary to establish the location of parks and recreation facilities and the quality of its active transportation system. Best practices for environmental justice planning suggest utilizing several indicators to assess active transportation facilities and access to parks and open space, including:<sup>109</sup>

- Accessibility per Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and sidewalk hazards related to path of travel, crosswalks, and curb ramps.
- Bicycle and pedestrian collision locations and other traffic hazards.
- Public realm amenities including trash receptacles, benches, shade and shade structures, and lighting.
- Landscaping including trees and shading along pedestrian routes.
- Bicycle and pedestrian routes, facilities, infrastructure, and connectivity.
- Playing fields and spaces allowing for activities that are reflective of local community preferences.
- Accessibility to parks, open space, and/or recreation facilities by walking within half-mile distance, bicycling, driving, and transit.
- Available amenities at each existing park, open space, and recreation facility.
- Park acres per 1,000 residents.

Fully analyzing all of these components requires an in-depth visual assessment, which is not part of the scope of this policy paper. However, a general assessment of physical activity opportunities that coincides with these aspects has been completed in the analysis below.

## Analysis

### **Recreation Facilities, Parks, Open Space, and Trails**

Kingsburg is home to eight City parks, each offering various amenities and overseen by the Community Services Director under the guidance of the City Manager. Memorial Park, Downtown Park, and Bi-Centennial Park all feature BBQs, playground equipment, and restrooms. Heritage Park provides play equipment and picnic tables, while Athwal Park and Erling Park offer open turf areas. Erling Park closes seasonally but others are open year-round. Memorial Park and Downtown Park are available for reservations, which can be made at City Hall in the Building and Planning/Community Services Office.

---

<sup>108</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

<sup>109</sup> (California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks, 2018)

Currently, there are no State or regional parks within the planning area. The City also has a self-guided interactive walking trail that takes visitors to historic locations, murals, and buildings in Kingsburg.<sup>110</sup>

In addition to these parks, Kingsburg has the Crandell Swim Complex, which includes a swimming pool, bleachers, picnic tables, and restrooms. This facility is also available for reservations and supports a range of activities including swim lessons for toddlers, lap swimming, aqua aerobics, and public swim sessions during the summer. The Senior Center offers hot meals to adults aged 60 and older and features various services, including line dancing, exercise classes, and educational programs.<sup>111</sup>

The General Plan sets a target of 2.7 acres of neighborhood parks per 1,000 residents and 3.0 acres of community parks per 1,000 residents. Currently, there are 28.5 acres of developed open space, resulting in a ratio of 2.3 acres of park space per 1,000 residents, not including any open space at school sites. It emphasizes collaboration between the Elementary School District and the City to establish neighborhood parks, ideally located alongside elementary school sites. For community parks, a similar collaboration between the Joint Union High School District and the City exists. The various parks and schools are mapped in **Figure 15 – Physical Activity**, below. Much of the City is within ½ mile of school and/or park facilities that provide physical activity opportunities.

#### **Bike Lane Classifications**

**Class I:** Completely separated right of way for exclusive use of cyclists and pedestrians.

**Class II:** On-street striped lane for one-way bike travel.

**Class III:** Shared on-street facility, commonly identified by pavement markings or signage.

**Class IV Separated Bikeway:** Physically separated bicycle facilities that are distinct from the sidewalk and designed for exclusive use by bicyclists. Also commonly known as cycle tracks.

### **Transit and Active Transportation Facilities**

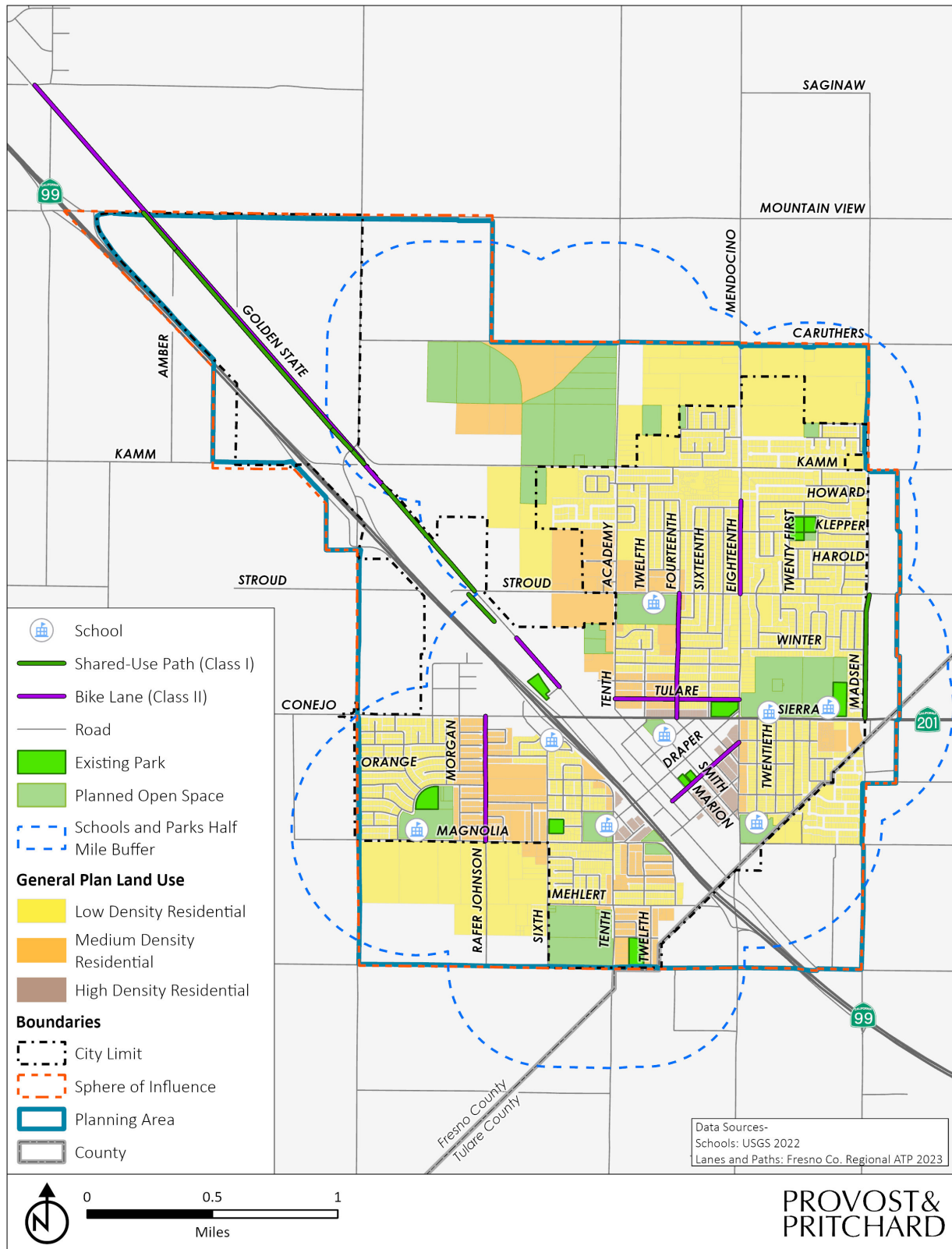
As shown in **Figure 15**, the City of Kingsburg is bisected by the State Route (SR) 99, which is the major north/south transportation and goods movement route through the San Joaquin Valley. While SR 99 provides three vehicular entry/exits points for the City, it acts as a dominant physical barrier separating the east and west sides of the City. Most land area within the Kingsburg City limits lies on the east side of the freeway; however, substantial residential land uses exist west of SR 99. There are limited crossings of the highway, several of which do not include bicycle or pedestrian facilities, which further limits the flow of automobile, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic between the east and west sides of Kingsburg.

The City does not have an extensive system of bike lanes, bike paths, or walking trails, although additional roadway improvements are planned through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The ease of bicycling, walking, and driving in Kingsburg varies depending on the area. The downtown area is more walkable due to its short blocks, moderate density, occurrence of mature trees for shading, and the proximity of a variety of destinations. The City's development requirements provide good active transportation connectivity in areas with new development.

<sup>110</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

<sup>111</sup> (City of Kingsburg, 2024)

**Figure 15 – Physical Activity**



10/10/2024 G:\Kingsburg\_City of - 1345\134524001-Kingsburg Focused General Plan Update\400 GIS\Map\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update\CityOfKingsburg\_Focused\_General\_Plan\_Update.aprx

The Fresno Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP), adopted by the Fresno COG Policy Board on May 30, 2024, identifies the following challenges which impact the safety and comfort of biking and walking in Kingsburg:<sup>112</sup>

- The sidewalk network is comprehensive in the western and central parts of Kingsburg. Gaps exist in the northern side of the City. Existing sidewalks need maintenance.
- The railroad tracks and SR 99 bisect the City. There are no bicycle facilities connecting the two sides of the City.
- Bicycle facilities are intermittent and lack connections to key destinations.

Public transit services are also limited. Transit service in Kingsburg is provided by Fresno County Rural Transit Agency (FCRTA). FCRTA services, amenities, and routes are summarized in the above section titled **Public Facilities**.

The limited nature of transit service in the planning area reduces the likelihood that residents will use transit and other forms of active transportation as a viable means of travel. Increasing availability of transit services and establishing bike and pedestrian infrastructure leading to and from transit stops will increase opportunities for access across all segments of the community and expand opportunities for physical activity in Kingsburg.

## Summary and Recommendations

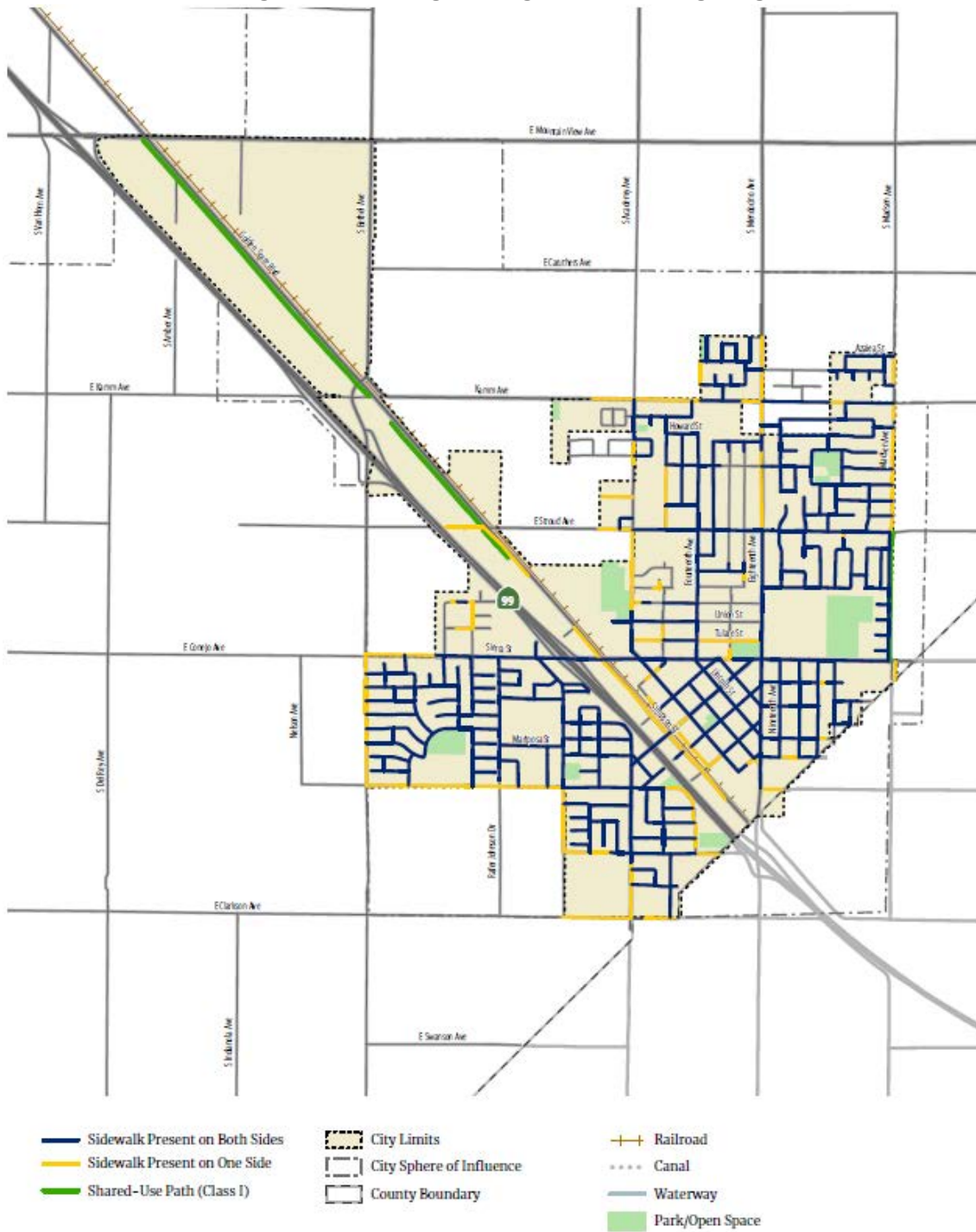
Although a good portion of the City has access to alternative transportation facilities and physical activity infrastructure, some recommended actions can further improve access in Kingsburg.

1. Bicycle infrastructure is limited within the planning area. Some areas are also missing sidewalks. Prioritize the construction of this infrastructure in locations that will close key gaps and link residential uses with schools, shopping, entertainment, recreational and employment centers within the planning area.
2. While the physical activity mapping effort identified the location of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, it does not reflect quality assessments or identify whether these facilities incorporate design elements which make walking or biking a comfortable or viable mode of travel, nor does it assess adherence to current ADA standards. In order to determine the efficacy of existing active transportation improvements, a visual quality assessment of bike and pedestrian facilities should be conducted.

---

<sup>112</sup> (Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan , 2024)

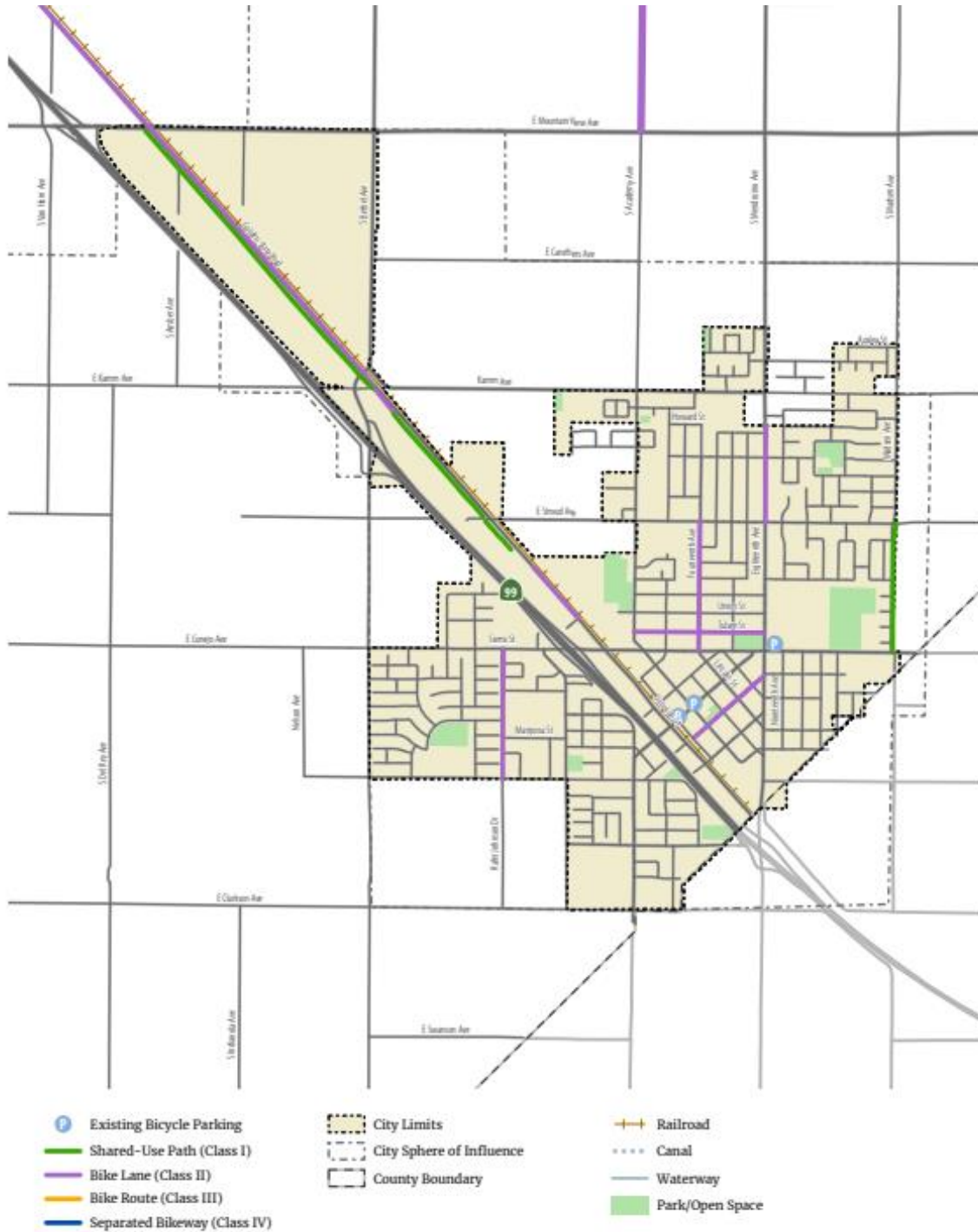
**Figure 16 – Existing Walking Facilities in Kingsburg**



*Source: Fehr & Peers, 2023*

Source: Figure 10-1, Fresno COG 2024 Fresno Regional Active Transportation Plan

**Figure 17 – Existing Bicycling Facilities in Kingsburg**



Source: Fehr & Peers, 2023

Source: Figure 10-2, Fresno COG 2024 Fresno Regional Active Transportation Plan

## Civic Engagement

A core part of environmental justice is listening to the people who are most impacted. The most effective community engagement strategies represent all stakeholders, including those who are directly impacted and the public at large.

The City of Kingsburg holds regular City Council meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, starting at 6 pm. Meetings take place at the City Council Chamber, located two doors down from City Hall. The City may also schedule special community meetings for projects requiring additional public outreach. The City Council Chamber is centrally located in the downtown area, promoting public participation. Meeting materials are posted on the website before each meeting and streamed live on Facebook. Although meetings are streamed, live remote participation is not facilitated. Recordings are uploaded to the City's official YouTube channel. Translation services for Kingsburg meetings are available upon request.

Similarly, the City of Kingsburg Planning Commission convenes regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 6 pm, also held at the City Council Chamber near City Hall. Meeting documents are available on the website before each session, and recordings are shared on the City's YouTube channel.

The City has a weekly email newsletter that residents can sign up for on the City's website. The newsletter provides information about upcoming community events, including opportunities to provide input on relevant City projects.

## Summary and Recommendations

Civic engagement opportunities in Kingsburg are generally easy to access for community members, although best practices for community engagement continue to be refined. Implementing the following recommendations may make engagement opportunities in Kingsburg even more convenient for community members.

1. Ensure meeting times and locations continue to be conducive to public participation. Reassess meeting times and locations to ensure the majority of stakeholders are able to attend. Provide online access to meetings when possible.
2. Language barriers and childcare needs may prevent residents from participating in public meetings. Provide childcare and bilingual services at meetings so parents and individuals with limited English skills are able to participate. Spanish language services in particular should be considered.
3. Provide an alternative way to provide feedback, such as an online form, email, or phone number.

# References

Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024, July).

CalFIRE. (2024). *Is Your Home in a Fire Hazard Severity Zone?* Retrieved from Fire Hazard Severity Zone Viewer:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/Styler/index.html?appid=5e96315793d445419b6c96f89ce5d153>

California Department of Conservation. (2015). *Fault Activity Map of California*. Retrieved from <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/>

California Department of Water Resources. (2024). *Drought*. Retrieved from California Department of Water Resources: <https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Drought>

California Emergency Management Agency, California Natural Resources Agency. (2012). *California Adaptation Planning Guide: Planning for Adaptive Communities*.

California Employment Development Department. (2024). *LMI for Fresno MSA, California*. California Employment Development Department. Retrieved August 22, 2024, from <https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/geography/msa/fresno.html>

California Environmental Justice Alliance, Placeworks. (2018). *SB 1000 Implementation Toolkit*.

California Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Control Board. (2005). *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook*.

California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. (2023). *CalEnviroScreen 4.0*.

Caltrans. (2022). *California Public Road Data*.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). *Heat & Health Tracker*. Retrieved from <https://ephtracking.cdc.gov/Applications/heatTracker/>

City of Kingsburg. (2005). *City of Kingsburg Storm Drainage Master Plan*.

City of Kingsburg. (2010, November). *Emergency Operations Plan*. Retrieved from <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1230/Emergency-Operations-Plan?bidId=>

City of Kingsburg. (2015). *City of Kingsburg Downtown Form Based Code*.

City of Kingsburg. (2020). *Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)*. Kingsburg.

City of Kingsburg. (2023-2024). *Capital Improvement Projects*.

City of Kingsburg. (2024). *City of Kingsburg 2024-2029 Strategic Plan*. Retrieved from <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2707/Kingsburg-Strategic-Plan---2024-2029>

City of Kingsburg. (2024). *City of Kingsburg Urban Water Management Plan*.



- City of Kingsburg. (2024). *Parks & Recreation*. Retrieved from City of Kingsburg: <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/295/Parks-Recreation>
- City of Kingsburg Water Department. (2024). *Water*. Retrieved from City of Kingsburg: <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/213/Water>
- Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2014). *Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report*.
- FEMA. (2024). *FEMA Flood Map Service Center*. Retrieved from <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search?AddressQuery=Kingsburg%2C%20California>
- Fresno County. (2024). *Fresno County Hazard Mitigation Plan*.
- Fresno County. (2024). *Fresno County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Annex G: City of Kingsburg*.
- Fresno County Fire Protection District. (n.d.). *District Operations*. Retrieved from Fresno County Fire Protection District: <https://www.fresnocountyfire.org/district-operations>
- Fresno County Regional Active Transportation Plan . (2024, May 30). *Active Transportation*. Retrieved from Fresno Council of Governments: <https://www.fresnocog.org/project/active-transportation/>
- Fresno County Sheriff's Office. (2024). *Area 3*. Retrieved from Fresno Sheriff: <https://www.fresnosheriff.org/area-3.html>
- (2024). *Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element*.
- Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, Appendix 1H: City of Kingburg. (2023, June). *Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional 2023-2031 Housing Element, Appendix 1H: City of Kingburg*. Retrieved from City of Kingsburg: [https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2733/Appendix-1H\\_KINGSBURG\\_2023-2031-Revised-Housing-Element\\_2-5-24\\_clean?bidId=](https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2733/Appendix-1H_KINGSBURG_2023-2031-Revised-Housing-Element_2-5-24_clean?bidId=)
- Grunwald & Associates. (1992, July). *Comprehensive General Plan for the Swedish Village of Kingsburg*. Retrieved from <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1815/City-of-Kingsburg-General-Plan>
- Kingsburg Fire Department. (n.d.). *Our Stations*. Retrieved from City of Kingsburg: <https://www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/480/Our-Stations>
- National Weather Service. (n.d.). *A. Fog Types*. Retrieved from [https://www.weather.gov/media/zhu/ZHU\\_Training\\_Page/fog\\_stuff/fog\\_guide/fog\\_guide.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/zhu/ZHU_Training_Page/fog_stuff/fog_guide/fog_guide.pdf)
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. (2023). *2023 Annual Report to the Community*.
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. (2024). *Ambient Air Quality Standards & Attainment Status*. Retrieved from ValleyAir: <https://ww2.valleyair.org/air-quality-information/ambient-air-quality-standards-valley-attainmnet-status/>
- South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency. (2019). *South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Plan*.

- Tulare County Fire. (2024). *Stations Map*. Retrieved from Tulare County Fire: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/fire/stations-map/>
- United States Census Bureau. (2024). *QuickFacts Kingsburg City, California*. Retrieved from United States Census Bureau: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/kingsburgcitycalifornia/POP715222>
- United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. (2022, October 20). *Food Access*. Retrieved from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-choices-health/food-access/>
- United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service. (2024). *Food Access Research Atlas*. Retrieved from <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, April 12). *Causes of Climate Change*. Retrieved from United States Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/climatechange-science/causes-climate-change>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024). *Climate Change Indicators: Heat Waves*. Retrieved from Climate Change Indicators: <https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/climate-change-indicators-heat-waves>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, March 18). *EPA Actions to Protect the Public from Exposure to Asbestos*. Retrieved from United States Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/asbestos/epa-actions-protect-public-exposure-asbestos>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, August 2). *Learn about Asbestos*. Retrieved from Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/asbestos/learn-about-asbestos>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, April 10). *Mold and Health*. Retrieved from United States Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/mold/mold-and-health>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, June 20). *Particulate Matter Basics*. Retrieved from United States Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/particulate-matter-pm-basics#:~:text=Particulate%20matter%20contains%20microscopic%20solids,even%20get%20into%20your%20bloodstream.>
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2024, June 28). *Protect Your Family from Sources of Lead*. Retrieved from United States Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/lead/protect-your-family-sources-lead>

# Appendix A: Kingsburg Annex Implementation Resource Tables

# The City of Kingsburg's Existing Implementation Resources

*Table 1: City of Kingsburg Mitigation Capability Summary*

Area	Degree of Capability		
	Limited	Moderate	High
Planning and Regulatory Capability		X	
Administrative and Technical Capability	X		
Fiscal Capability		X	
Available Staff	X		
Political Support/Interest		X	
Community Support		X	

*Table 2: City of Kingsburg's Regulatory Mitigation Capabilities*

Tool/Program	In Place Yes/No	Adopted/Updated
Building Codes	Yes	2022 CBC
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)	Yes	
Community Rating System (CRS Program of the NFIP)	No	
Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP)	No	
Fire Code	Yes	2022 CFC
Firewise Community	No	
Floodplain Management/Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	No	
Land Use/Development Planning	Yes	2017 General Plan
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	No	
Post Disaster Redevelopment/Reconstruction Plan/Ordinance	No	
Storm Ready	No	
Stormwater Management Plan/Ordinance	Yes	
Subdivision Regulations/Ordinance	Yes	
Two Weeks Ready	No	
Unified Development Ordinance	No	
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	

Table 3: City of Kingsburg Planning Capabilities

Regulatory Tool	In Place Yes/No	Under Development Yes/No	Comments
Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)	Yes	No	Annually adopted/updated
Climate Resiliency or Adaptation Plan	No	No	
Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	No	No	
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	No	No	Adopted/updated by Fresno County
Comprehensive Land Use Plan (or General, Master, or Growth Management Plan)	Yes		
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes		Adopted/updated; updated April 2023
Disaster Recovery Plan	No		
Economic Development Plan	Yes		
Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)	Yes		Adopted/updated; updated April 2023
Evacuation Plan	No		
Flood Response Plan	No		
Floodplain Management Plan/Flood Mitigation Plan	No		
Hazard Mitigation Plan	Yes	Yes	Partner with the County
Historic Preservation Plan	Yes		
Natural Resources Protection Plan	No		
Open Space Management Plan (Parks and Rec/Greenway Plan)	Yes		
Threat Hazard Mitigation Identification and Risk Assessment	No		

Table 4: City of Kingsburg's Administrative and Technical Mitigation Capabilities

Staff and Personnel Resources	Yes	No	Department or Single Staff Member	Comments
Emergency Manager	X		City Manager	
Engineers or professionals trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	X			Contract with Peters Engineering
Fiscal Management or Procurement Specialists	X		Finance Division	
Floodplain Manager		X		
Land Surveyors		X		
Land Use/Management/Development Planning	X		Community Development	
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	X			
Resource Development Staff or Grant Writing	X			Peters Engineering
Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community		X		
Staff experienced with Geographic Information Systems (GIS)		X		
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards		X		

Table 5: City of Kingsburg's Fiscal Mitigation Capabilities

Staff or Personnel Resource	Never Used	Previously Used	Currently Used	Comments
Capital Improvement Programming			X	
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)			X	
Special Purpose Taxes (or taxing districts)			X	PG&E
Gas/Electric Utility Fee		X		
Water/Sewer Fees			X	
Stormwater Utility Fees		X		
Development Impact Fees			X	
General Obligation, revenue, and/or Special Tax Bonds		X		
Partnering Agreements or Intergovernmental Agreements			X	
FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants (HMGP, FMA, BRIC)		X		
Homeland Security Grants (HSGP)			X	
USDA Rural Development Agency Grants	X			
US Economic Development Administration Grants	X			
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	X			