



# Kings County Association of Governments

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Member Agencies: Cities of Avenal, Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore, County of Kings

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TO: Lemoore Planning Commission  
FROM: Terri King, Executive Director  
(in Coordination with Greg Gatzka, Deputy Planning Director for Kings County)  
DATE: April 22, 2008  
SUBJECT: San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Presentation

The eight Councils of Government of the San Joaquin Valley came together in 2005 to initiate the San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process. The goal of the Blueprint Planning effort is to open dialogue among valley residents, local agencies, and other stake holders to explore and strategically work towards addressing long term, through 2050, critical issues that the Valley faces. The San Joaquin Valley is estimated to more than double in size by 2050 and local government general plans often look towards planning for the next decade or two. The Blueprint Planning Process allows all of us the opportunity look at what the possible long term implications of this additional growth may have on our agricultural lands, air quality, affordable housing, and transportation infrastructure.

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint Planning Process is both a local and regional endeavor. Each of the Council of Governments has been actively engaging their stakeholders and member agencies in identifying the local values of the communities, defining the status quo, and creating alternative future growth scenarios. The status quo reflects the potential land use footprint of Kings County in the year 2050, based upon existing General Plans and the current development trends from the previous 5-10 years. The Blueprint growth scenarios will integrate planning assumptions such as land use, housing, economic development, transportation, and environmental resources to explore the potential future impacts to the land use footprint. Planners from each of the Cities and County of Kings have been actively involved in this process to help shape what this County's possible future growth may be for integration into the overall 8 County effort.

The Councils of Government do not have any local land use authority and that authority will not be taken away from the City of Lemoore. The Blueprint Planning Process may result in a planning tool kit of possible policies and approaches to address some of the critical issues identified, but the Cities and County have the ability to now to help shape what will result from this process. A Valleywide Professional Planners Panel has also been integrated into the overall process and is providing guidance from City and County Planners, and the local planning effort under KCAG is coordinating with planning staff from all four Cities and the County. With this approach, the aim of the Blueprint Planning Process is to utilize a bottom's up approach, where all land use decisions are guided by the local land use authorities.

A brief overview of the Blueprint activities to date, the Kings County Status Quo, and draft alternative growth scenarios will be presented for your comments. These Blueprint products have been developed with the direct input and assistance from Planners representing each of the Cities and County of Kings. This information will be presented to local boards throughout Kings County.