

# San Jose 2020 General Plan

## Goals and Policies

### Zero Waste

#### Industrial Land Use

**Goal:** Provide sufficient land for a variety of industrial uses that is distributed to provide optimum commute access and to promote a balanced distribution of jobs and housing to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.

#### **Policies:**

1. In order to support the City's Solid Waste Program, the City encourages the use of industrially-planned land to provide locations for various forms of recycling services (e.g., collection, handling, transfer, processing, etc.), for the support facilities required by these services (e.g., service yards, truck storage and service) and for companies that manufacture new products out of recycled materials.

#### Urban Service Area

**Goal:** Insure that San José's future growth will proceed in an orderly, planned manner in order to provide efficient and economical public services, to maximize the utilization of existing and proposed public facilities, and to achieve the equitable sharing of the cost of such services and facilities.

#### **Policies:**

1. Territory outside the Urban Service Area may be annexed to the City if its intended use will require minimal or no services and either:
  - The intended use contributes to providing services to development in the Urban Service Area, such as a planned thoroughfare across nonurban territory or a solid waste disposal facility which should be located in a remote area; or

## SERVICES AND FACILITIES

#### Level of Service

#### **Goals:**

1. Provide a full range of City services to the community at service levels consistent with a safe, convenient, sustainable and pleasant place to live, work, learn and play.
2. Achieve the following level of service for these City services:
  - For transportation, level of service "D".
  - For sanitary sewers, level of service "D".
  - For sewage treatment, to remain within the capacity of the Water Pollution Control Plant.
  - For storm drainage, to minimize flooding on public streets and to minimize property damage from storm water.

#### **Policies:**

##### *Other Services:*

1. For solid waste management, the City should seek to exceed 50% diversion of waste from disposal, maintain 20 years of landfill capacity, and provide for storage and collection of recyclables from every location where solid waste is generated.

## **Solid Waste**

### **Goals:**

1. Recover the resource value of solid waste and foster the establishment of facilities in San José which constructively use and reinvest such resources in the local economy.
2. Extend the life span of existing landfills by promoting source reduction, recycling, composting and transformation of solid wastes.
3. Locate and operate solid waste sites in a manner which protects environmental resources.
4. Locate and operate solid waste disposal facilities in a manner compatible with existing and planned surrounding land uses.
5. Achieve a high level of public awareness of solid waste issues and alternatives to landfilling.
6. Promote the equitable distribution of Santa Clara County's solid waste disposal capacity among all jurisdictions within the County.

### **Policies:**

#### *Solid Waste Capacity:*

1. Monitor the continued availability of long-term disposal capacity to ensure adequate solid waste disposal capacity.
2. No new candidate landfill sites should be designated until the need for additional landfill capacity has been established. Source reduction and recycling/composting alternatives should be taken into account when evaluating the need for a landfill.
3. No new candidate landfill sites should be designated in the General Plan until a Countywide site review has been conducted according to criteria established through the County Solid Waste Management Plan process.
4. The preferred method for increasing the City's landfill capacity is to expand the capacity of existing landfill sites and monitor the continued availability of recycling, resource recovery and composting capacity to ensure adequate long term capacity.

#### *Landfill Sitting Criteria:*

5. Solid waste landfills are considered nonurban uses and, therefore, all candidate solid waste sites should be located outside of the Urban Service Area. The existing Zanker Road and Owens-Corning landfills are exempt from this policy.
6. Preference should be given to inland non-urban sites for future solid waste landfill facilities. The use of bayland sites for landfill facilities should be ultimately phased out, although the continued use of existing bayland sites may be allowed and, for sites located within the City's Urban Service Area and Urban Growth Boundary, recycling, resource recovery and composting may continue on a portion of the site after landfill closure.
7. New solid waste landfills should be established only on lands designated with the Candidate Solid Waste Landfill Site overlay ("CSW"). The Candidate Solid Waste Landfill Site overlay is compatible with the underlying designations of Public/ Quasi-Public, Non-Urban Hillside and Private Open Space.
8. New Candidate Solid Waste Landfill Sites should be located at least 1/2 mile from areas with existing or planned residential uses at urban densities.
9. Access routes to solid waste landfill sites in non-urban areas should be designed and controlled so as to avoid encouraging urban development on adjacent or nearby properties.
10. Solid waste landfills should be discouraged in the proximity of existing or planned airports.
11. Landfill sites should be approved through the Planned Development zoning process.
12. Only when solid waste landfills have incorporated adequate mitigation measures should they be located on lands that are susceptible to landslides, faulting, seismically induced ground failure,

- 100-year flood inundation, salt water inundation, or dam inundation; or which have a high water table, are within a reservoir drainage basin, in wetlands or in areas of granular soils with potential for seismic failure which may result in the introduction of leachate into groundwater aquifers.
13. Solid waste landfills should be designed and operated in a manner that protects surface water and ground water aquifers from contamination by leachate.
  14. Solid waste landfills should be designed and operated in such a manner as to minimize their attractiveness to birds, insects and rodents.
  15. Additional screening should be provided when topography and naturally occurring vegetation is insufficient to adequately screen a solid waste landfill site or its access road from the view of residences or public roads.
  16. The approval of solid waste landfill sites should include planning for their eventual phased restoration to recreational or open space uses, including revegetation with native plant species.
  17. Solid waste sites should be planned, located and maintained to mitigate potential negative impacts on surrounding land uses, particularly in residential areas. The effects of increased traffic and traffic hazards, noise and odor problems, pollution and potential littering of traffic routes, including windborne and waterborne litter, should be mitigated.
  18. Methane gas may be recovered from a closed solid waste landfill irrespective of the land use designation of the site.
  19. Only compatible uses should be located adjacent to an operating landfill or other regional publicly owned facility, such as the Water Pollution Control Plant.
- Siting Criteria for other Solid Waste Management Facilities:*
20. Solid waste transfer/processing stations may be located in areas designated Heavy Industrial on the Land Use/Transportation Diagram if, during the development review process, it is determined that such a use would be compatible with existing and planned land uses in the vicinity of the site.
  21. Solid waste reduction techniques, including source reduction, reuse, recycling, source separation and energy recovery, should be encouraged.

## **Hazardous Waste Management**

### **Goals:**

1. To protect public health, safety, and the environment, whenever feasible, by reducing or eliminating the generation of hazardous waste as expeditiously as possible through the adoption and implementation of a hierarchy of hazardous waste management priorities by hazardous waste generators. The hazardous waste management hierarchy emphasizes the importance of preventing pollution by giving primacy to reducing hazardous waste at the source of generation. The hierarchy requires source reduction and recycling particularly as alternatives to land disposal whenever feasible.
2. To site only those facilities which are necessary to safely, economically and responsibly manage the hazardous waste needs of the County of Santa Clara.