

Blueprint Learning Network Safeguarding Farmland and Agriculture

I. Framework for Effective Farmland Protection

Successful farmland protection programs achieve the following objectives:

- a. Land Use Stability and Certainty through Plan Consistency
- b. Avoid Development of the Most Important Farmland
- c. Increase Efficiency of Urban Development
- d. Eliminate Ranchettes and Land Use Conflicts
- e. Permanently Protect Farmland with Conservation Easements
- f. Accountability for Performance

II. Cutting Edge Farmland Protection Toolkit

A. The Most Effective & Promising Local Farmland Protection Programs in California

_ Farmland Protection Action Guide, Institute for Local Self Government (2002)
http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/22457.Farmland%20Action%20Guide.pdf

_ AFT Case Studies in California Agricultural Land Protection (work in progress)

Case Study	Stabilize agricultural land use & values	Direct growth away from best farmland	Promote more efficient development	Finance permanent farmland protection	Promote agricultural economic viability
Marin Agricultural Land Trust & County Zoning	X	X	X	X	
Monterey County Agricultural & Historical Land Conservancy	X	X	X	X	
Ventura "Save Our Agricultural Resources" Initiative	X	X	X		
Napa County Agricultural Land Preservation Initiative	X	X	X		
Tulare County Rural Valley Lands Plan	X	X	X		
Yuba City Sphere of Influence Adjustment	X	X	X		
South Livermore Agricultural Mitigation Plan		X		X	X
Yolo-Davis Development Control & Tax Sharing	X	X			
Visalia Concentric Growth Boundaries	X		X		
Gilroy-Santa Clara Joint Growth Boundary Agreement	X			X	
Sonoma Agricultural & Open Space District		X	X		
San Diego County Plan for the Future of Agriculture		X		X	
Fresno Landscape of Choice			X		
Sutter County Ranchette Zoning			X		
Davis Farmland Mitigation Ordinance				X	
Fairfield Mello-Roos Community Facilities Districts				X	
Martis Valley Real Estate Conveyance Fees				X	
Farmland Mitigation in San Joaquin County				X	

B. New Ideas for Addressing Critical Farmland Protection Issues

_ AFT Mitigation and Ranchette Proposals
www.farmland.org/programs/states/California.asp

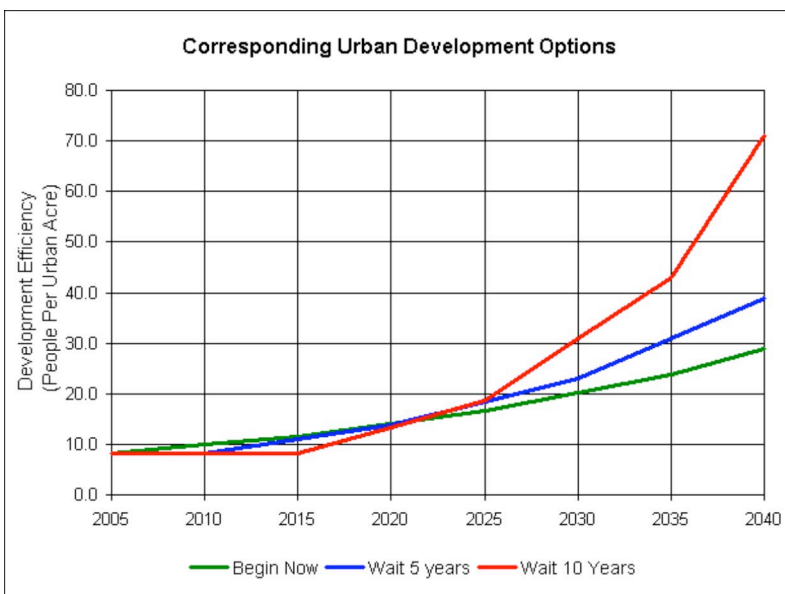
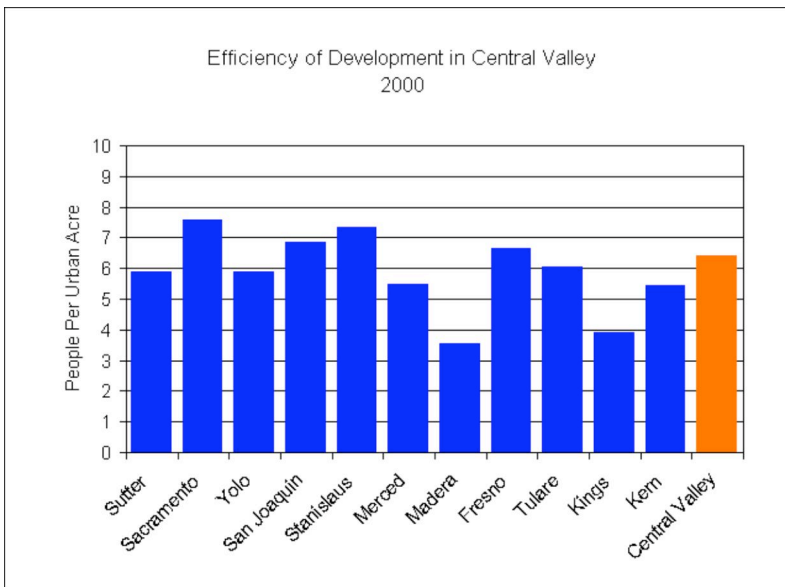
_ Model General Plan Agriculture Element – Help AFT Build It!

C. Innovative Farmland Protection Techniques from Other States

_ AFT-NRCS Farmland Information Center
<http://www.farmland.org/resources/fic/default.asp>

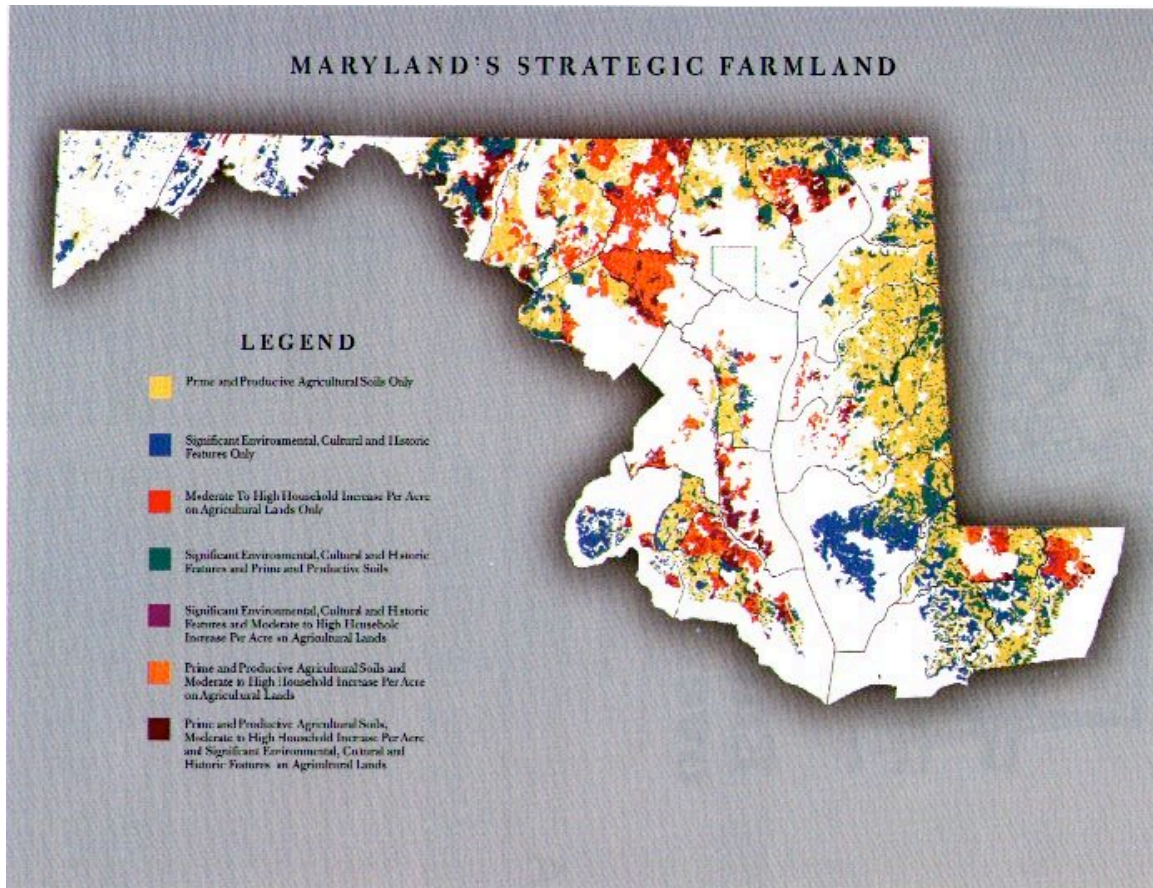
D. Analyzing Land Use Trends: Accountability for Meaningful Outcomes

_ The Future Is Now: Central Valley Farmland at The Tipping Point?
<http://www.farmland.org/programs/states/futureisnow/default.asp>



E. Balancing Agricultural & Environmental Values of the Land

- _ Maryland Future Harvest "Strategic Farmland Mapping"
<http://www.planning.org/thecommissioner/winter00-1.htm>



F. Going Beyond Land Use Planning to Help Sustain Agriculture

Strategic Planning for Agriculture

- _ State of New Jersey Plan for Agriculture
<http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/smartgrowthplan.pdf>
- _ Maryland State Plan for Agriculture
<http://www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/finalagplan.pdf>
- _ San Diego County Farming Program (plan not yet published)
<http://sdfarmingprogram.org/index.html>
- _ California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley:
Land Use, Agriculture & Housing Recommendations
<http://www.bth.ca.gov/cpartnership/pdf/102906landuseagriculturehousing.pdf>

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