

## 5. CONSERVATION ELEMENT

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technologies; protection of grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to other uses; and development of energy-efficient structures.

**Policy CON 2-10:** Support education programs that promote energy conservation, energy efficiency, and solid waste reduction, reuse, and recycling opportunities for County operations, residents, and businesses.

**Policy CON 2-11:** Manage timberlands and forest resources for their value both in timber production and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration.

**Policy CON 2-12:** Require new development with significant paved surfaces, such as parking lots and plazas, to provide adequate shading.

**Policy CON 2-13:** Encourage LEED certification or equivalent for all public and private development, where feasible, and strongly encourage LEED Neighborhood Design (ND) certification or equivalent for other applicable projects, particularly within large-scale developments and Specific Plan areas.

**Policy CON 2-14:** Any proposed pipeline or transmission line within the county shall be aligned so that interference with agriculture is minimized.

*Action CON 2-A: Amend the Zoning Ordinance to streamline permitting and provide clear development standards for the production of biofuels, biomass, solar, wind and other energy alternatives to reduce dependency on fossil fuels.*

*Action CON 2-B: Amend the Zoning Ordinance to encourage energy-efficiency in new development and renovations, including the use of EnergStar appliances in all new subdivisions and green/sustainable building options as identified in Policies CON 2-5 through 2-7.*

*Action CON 2-C: Pursue grants to address existing energy inefficiencies in County facilities.*

*Action CON 2-D: Institute County purchasing policies that require purchase of energy-efficient products, products that contain recycled materials, and products that reduce waste generated when feasible.*

**Objective CON-2B:** *Minimize Air Pollutant Emissions and Improve Air Quality to Protect Public Health*

**Policy CON 2-15:** Improve air quality through continuing to require a compact development pattern that focuses growth in and around existing communities, locating new housing near places of employment, encouraging alternative modes of transportation, and requiring projects to mitigate significant air quality impacts to the extent feasible.

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally-recognized green building certification system.