

**TULARE COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
ALLENSWORTH COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE PROJECT (GPA 25-006 & SPA 25-001)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tulare County intends to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND) for the Allensworth Community Plan Update Project (GPA 25-006 & SPA 25-001). The ND has been approved for public review by the Tulare County Environmental Assessment Officer. Copies are available for review and comment at the Resource Management Agency, Permit Center, 5961 South Mooney Blvd, Visalia, California 93277-9394. Comments and recommendations on the adequacy of the environmental document may be filed at the aforementioned address during the public review period established for the project.

1. **PROJECT:** Allensworth Community Plan Update Project (GPA 25-006 & SPA 25-001)

2. **APPLICANT/AGENT:** County of Tulare
Resource Management Agency
5961 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277

3. **LOCATION:** The boundary subject to the Allensworth Community Plan Update generally includes the approximately 5.9 sq. mile area south of Avenue 56, west of State Route 43 and the railroad, north of Avenue 24, and east of the planned California High Speed Rail line. It is approximately 3.6 miles east of the Community of Alpaugh, 7 miles west of the Community of Earlimart, and approximately 6 miles northwest of the City of Delano.

4. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Tulare County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 2022-0342 on April 19, 2022, approving the General Plan Initiation No. GPI 22-001 to authorize the Allensworth Community Plan Update to provide a roadmap for building on the existing cultural, ecological, and social assets of Allensworth to develop a beautiful and climate-resilient rural community that provides a safe place to live, learn, work, play, and prosper and attracts community-minded residents, including families, veterans, and retirees.

The boundary subject to the Allensworth Community Plan Update (General Plan Amendment No. GPA 25-006 and Specific Plan Project No. SPA 25-001) generally includes the approximately 5.9 sq. mile area south of Avenue 56, west of State Route 43 and the railroad, north of Avenue 24, and east of the planned California High Speed Rail line. The area within the boundary would be subject to the proposed Community Districts to designate particular character areas within Allensworth. The proposed plan's goals and objectives are consistent with the Tulare County General Plan 2030 Update's (2012) Planning Framework Element, Land Use Element, Environmental Resources Management, Open Space Element, Water Resources Element, Transportation and Circulation Element, Healthy and Safety Element, and Environmental Justice Element.

The UDB Modification proposed through General Plan Amendment Project No. GPA 25-006 would modify the existing Allensworth Hamlet Development Boundary by adding approximately 2,794 acres to the proposed community Urban Development Boundary to encompass a total of approximately 3,845 acres. The GPA would also change the existing "Valley Agriculture" land use designation of the acreage currently within the RVLP to the "Mixed Use" land use designation.

The Specific Plan, Project No. SPA 25-001, proposed "Community Districts," which will direct future development within the proposed Allensworth UDB. The proposed Community Districts are as follows: Town Center and Future Town Center Area, State Park and State Park Expansion Area, High Value Farm

& Garden Area, Allensworth Community Savannah, and Historic Properties District. Each proposed district is defined in the Community Plan and states consistent General Plan land use designations that will be used to guide future development.

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:** The ND can be viewed at the Resource Management Agency office located at the address above; and at the Visalia Main Branch Library at 200 W. Oak Ave, Visalia, CA 93291, (559) 713-2700; or on the County website at <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/rma/planning-building/environmental-planning/mitigated-negative-declarations>.
6. **REVIEW PERIOD:** February 4, 2026 – March 6, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
7. **CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Gary Mills, Chief Planner, Environmental Planning Division, at (559) 624-7199 or Gmills@tularecounty.ca.gov (para Español llame Brenda Alcantar (559) 624-7000).

The ND has a review period of **30 days**, starting on **Wednesday, February 4, 2026**, and ending on **Friday, March 6, 2026**, which has been approved by the State of California, Land Use and Climate Innovation. Any written comments on the ND should be sent to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency at the address noted above, to the attention of: Gary Mills, Chief Planner, Environmental Planning Division.

After the close of the public comment review period on the ND established by this notice, this matter will be set for public hearing before the Tulare County Planning Commission. Notice of the date, time and place for such public hearing will be published and/or mailed as provided by law.

Please take notice that - pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21177, Government Code Section 65009, and other applicable law - if you challenge the proposed action described above in court, then you may be limited to raising only those issues or objections you or someone else raised during the public comment period or the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the Tulare County Resource Management Agency within the review period, or to the Planning Commission during the public hearing.

Please note that Public Resources Code Section 21080(c) requires substantial evidence in the record to show that a significant effect on the environment. Any recommendation for preparation of an EIR requires submittal of such evidence with your comments. If there is no such evidence, a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration may be prepared.

Recommendations or suggestions for changes or mitigation measures requested by agencies having jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by the project must be accompanied by a proposed reporting or monitoring program for those changes or measures in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21081.6.

GARY MILLS, CHIEF PLANNER, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING DIVISION
REED SCHENKE, P.E., ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICER