

Excerpt from December 16, 2003 General Plan (Land Use Element)

City of Paso Robles

POLICY LU- 2E: “Purple Belt” (Open Space/Conservation Areas Around the City). Create a distinct “Purple Belt” surrounding the City by taking actions to retain the rural, open space, and agricultural areas.

Action Item 1. Coordinate with the County and private organizations to identify boundaries of and obtain support for a “purple-belt” that buffers the eventual edge of the City through the preservation of existing, and encouragement of future agriculture and open space.

Action Item 2. As feasible, acquire development rights/easements within the designated purple belt area. Use these development rights/easements to limit land uses within the designated purple belt to agricultural and/or open space.

Action Item 3. Take steps to ensure that the County retains surrounding lands in very low-density rural residential, open space (including natural resource), and agricultural uses. Oppose the creation of new parcels within the County.

Action Item 4. Implement strategies that help preserve or protect agriculture beyond the City limits, including:

- Establishment of agricultural buffer easements, berms and/or vegetative screening, on property proposed for urban development as a condition of approval of discretionary development applications.
- Implement the City’s adopted “right-to-farm” ordinance.
- Participation in the Williamson Act and other farmland preservation programs.

Action Item 5. Require disclosure agreements for new non-agricultural development within 500 feet of an existing agricultural use. Such disclosure agreements should describe potential nuisances (e.g., dust, noise, pesticide spraying, etc.) associated with normal agricultural operations.