

YOLO COUNTY TOUR LOOKS AT RURAL-URBAN ISSUES

Tour of agricultural and other lands part of new Rural-Urban Connections Study

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 16, 2008

Contact: Erik Johnson
916-321-9000

SACRAMENTO— This Thursday, September 18, elected officials from across the six-county region will learn about the challenges and opportunities in agricultural and open space lands in Yolo County. Agricultural experts will lead tours of farming and processing operations, discuss habitat conservation projects, as well as transportation and land use issues.

This is the second tour looking at the challenges and opportunities in our rural communities. In April, SACOG led a tour of Sutter and Yuba counties. Tours of El Dorado and Placer counties are scheduled for Friday, October 24, and Thursday, November 13, respectively.

10:00 a.m. Welcome

International House-Davis, 10 College Park, Davis

- Helen Thomson, Yolo County Supervisor
- Neal Van Alfen, Dean, UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- Alternative Transportation, Neighborhood Electric Vehicles & Bicycles—Tara Goddard, City of Davis

11:00 a.m. Mariani Nut Company

709 Dutton Street, Winters

- Parcel Redevelopment and Rural Downtown Community Design—Harold Anderson, Winters City Councilmember
- Rural and Small Town Transit Operations—Terry Bassett, Yolo County Transportation District

12:00 p.m. Lunch (Yolo Land & Cattle Company)

End of County Road 25

- Agri-tourism and Agricultural Land Preservation—Scott Stone, Yolo Land & Cattle Company
- Habitat Enhancement on Agricultural Lands—Maria Wong, Yolo Natural Heritage Program Executive Director
- Smart Growth, Agricultural Sustainability, and the General Plan—Heidi Tschudin, Yolo County General Plan Project Manager

1:45 p.m. Esparto Community Park

17001 Yolo Avenue, Esparto

- Capay Valley Vision Project—Sue Heitman, Capay Valley Vision

2:15 p.m. Durst Organic Growers

26100 County Road 16, Esparto

- Goods Movement and Rural Road Issues—Jim Durst, Durst Organic Growers
- Agricultural Sustainability—Rick Landon, Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner
- Slow Food Movement, Taste of Yolo, and Farm to School Program—Georgeanne Brennan, Slow Food advocate and author

3:30 p.m. Downtown Woodland

Yolo County Ag & Open Space Tour

Page Two

September 16, 2008

350 Industrial Way, Woodland (Yolo County Transportation District)

- Woodland Infill and Redevelopment—Skip Davies, Mayor of Woodland
- Smart Growth and Rural Road Safety and Maintenance—Petrea Marchand, Yolo County Manager of Intergovernmental Affairs

4:30 p.m. Reception Hosted by Yolo County

International House, Davis

- Delta water issues and Clarksburg Agricultural District—Mike McGowan, Yolo County Supervisor

The Rural-Urban Connections Strategy (RUCS) is looking at the region's growth and sustainability objectives from a rural perspective. In the same way that Blueprint is an economic development strategy for urban areas, RUCS is intended to be an economic, as well as environmental sustainability, strategy for rural areas.

SACOG coordinates transportation planning, funding and project delivery for Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, Yolo, Sutter and Yuba counties and the cities within them. SACOG also engages elected officials in land use and other regional issues.

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