

A photograph of a red and black fire truck. The truck is viewed from a side-front angle. It features a long row of emergency lights on the roof. The front bumper is red with the number '6881' in yellow. A fire department emblem is visible on the side. The background shows a building and a cloudy sky.

5 Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element



Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element

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5.1 Water

The City is a municipal water supply agency within the Upper Russian River Watershed. The City is bounded by a number of other agencies, including: Redwood Valley County Water District, Willow County Water District, Millview County Water District, Rogina Water Company, Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (Flood Control District), and Sonoma County Water Agency. The City provides water service to about 99 percent of the City limits through 5,030 active water service accounts, including residential, commercial, and institutional accounts, and maintains emergency service intertie agreements with Millview and Willow County Water District. The City's water service area is roughly 3,000 acres or 4.7 square miles in size, with a population of approximately 16,000 persons. The City's senior water rights, recycled water program, groundwater facilities, and conservation measures have allowed the City to develop a diverse and resilient water supply portfolio. The City has been able to share a small portion of the water right with neighboring water districts, in times of need.

The City is a member of the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), which is a coalition of eleven cities, counties, and special districts in the Russian River watershed that coordinate regional programs for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. RRWA was formed in 2003 to create opportunities for member agencies to expand their stewardship role in the watershed. These member agencies include the Cities of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, and Ukiah, as well as Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, Sonoma Water, and the Town of Windsor.

Goals and Policies

PFS-1 *To maintain a safe and adequate water system to meet the needs of existing and future development.*

PFS-1.1 Water Service Annexation Impacts

The City shall ensure newly annexed areas within the city do not negatively affect water services to existing customers.

PFS-1.2 Russian River Water Rights

The City shall protect and confirm all Russian River tributary water rights to which the Ukiah Valley and City may be entitled.

PFS-1.3 Consolidation of Water Districts

The City shall support the consolidation of water districts as part of future annexations to establish efficient services and ensure adequate water supply and delivery.

PFS-1.4 Water Storage

The City shall encourage the protection and expansion of existing sources and methods of water storage for future development.

PFS-1.5 Recycled Water Project

The City shall explore the potential expansion of the Recycled Water Project to provide non-potable water to areas of large-scale urban irrigation, such as Todd Grove Park and the golf course.

PFS-1.6 Reduce Reliance on the Russian River

The City shall continue to support the reduction on the reliance of surface water from the Russian River as a water source to serve the community.

PFS-1.7 Groundwater Recharge

The City shall enhance groundwater supply by looking to expand its capacity to recharge by developing storm ponding and retention basins where feasible. In some areas these ponds or basins can be incorporated into a recreational area, used as wildlife habitat area, or may be required by new development to offset impacts associated with new nonpermeable surfaces.



For goals and policies relating to water conservation and preservation, please refer to Section 6.3 (Conservation) in the Environment and Sustainability Element.

5.2 Wastewater

The Ukiah Wastewater Treatment Plan (UWWTP) provides wastewater treatment for the City and surrounding areas via the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District (UVSD). Recycled water is distributed through a 7.8-mile network of recycled water distribution mains. Roughly 2.7 million gallons of wastewater is treated each day. Since 2019, a portion of this wastewater is recycled within the City's service area. The remainder of the wastewater is treated and discharged to percolation ponds for groundwater replenishment.

The WWTP has a dry-weather capacity of 3.01 million gallons per day (MGD), and a peak wet-weather capacity of 24.5 MGD. The WWTP includes primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment. As of 2021, about one-third of the wastewater at the WWTP is recycled, and about two-thirds of the wastewater is discharged to percolation ponds at the WWTP. The recycled water system allows the City to serve approximately 325 MG of water to farmers, parks, and schools each year. The fourth phase will expand the recycled water system by 400 AFY to serve the Ukiah Valley Golf Course, Ukiah High School, an agricultural field, adjacent parks, and softball fields.

Goals and Policies

PFS-2 *To maintain quality wastewater treatment and disposal services to meet the needs of existing and future development.*

PFS-2.1 Level of Service

The City shall maintain an adequate level of service in the City's wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system to meet the needs of existing and projected development and all State and Federal regulations.

PFS-2.2 Wastewater System Funding

The City shall ensure that the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system have adequate funds and programs for maintenance, upgrades when required, and day-to-day operations.

PFS-2.3 Wastewater Service Coordination

The City shall coordinate with the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure ongoing wastewater treatment capacity within the wastewater treatment plant for future development.

PFS-2.4 Ukiah Valley Sanitation District

The City should collaborate with Ukiah Valley Sanitation District to ensure adequate wastewater collection and treatment is provided to properties within City limits and their jurisdictional boundaries.

PFS-2.5 Out of Area Service Agreements

The City shall require out of service area agreements in rural areas where the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District cannot feasibly provide wastewater services.

PFS-2.6 Wastewater Service Capacity

The City shall ensure there is adequate wastewater service capacity prior to annexation of additional land.

PFS-2.7 Protect Groundwater Quality

The City shall preserve and protect groundwater quality through the implementation of best practices and innovative methods for modern wastewater disposal.

5.3 Solid Waste, Composting, and Recycling

The City contracts with a franchise garbage company for collection of garbage, recycling, and green waste within the city limits. Solid waste disposal services are mandatory for residential customers. The contractor provides comingled recycling and green waste processing, in compliance with state waste diversion regulations.

The Mendocino Solid Waste Authority (MendoRecycle) was formed in 1990 by the County of Mendocino and the Cities of Ukiah, Willits, and Fort Bragg. MendoRecycle provides administrative oversight and program implementation for solid waste and recycling in the County.

Goals and Policies

PFS-3 *To ensure adequate solid waste, recycling, and composting services and maximize waste diversion from landfills.*

PFS-3.1 Solid Waste Diversion Targets

The City shall encourage increased community participation in recycling and composting programs and weekly collection of recyclables and organic waste to achieve 85 percent diversion for community waste and municipal operations by 2030.

PFS-3.2 Waste Management Services

The City shall continue waste management service contracts to provide quality and cost-effective solid waste removal throughout the city and require all residents and businesses to comply with solid waste collection and recycling service requirements.

PFS-3.3 Construction and Demolition Waste

The City shall require all new development to comply with the current CALGreen requirements for construction and demolition waste diversion.



PFS-3.4 Recycling Receptacles and Biodegradable/Recycled-Materials Products

The City shall require the availability of recycling and composting receptacles and use biodegradable or recycled-material products instead of single-use plastic products at all City facilities and City-sponsored events.

PFS-3.5 Sustainable Purchasing Policy

The City shall prioritize purchasing products that are environmentally friendly; made with postconsumer recycled content; are recyclable, compostable, or reusable; are less toxic than conventional goods; are manufactured locally; and are fairly traded.

PFS-3.6 Waste Reduction Education

The City shall collaborate and partner with local organizations to provide waste reduction education programs to residents and businesses.

PFS-4 *To enforce Citywide codes and ordinances, with special attention regarding private property maintenance, abandoned vehicles, rubbish/weeds, and public nuisances.*

PFS-4.1 Private Property Nuisances

The City shall provide adequate staffing to support code enforcement efforts to the extent financially feasible to reduce the number of nuisance issues on private property.

5.4 Stormwater Management

Stormwater can provide groundwater recharge benefits for the City, provided that the stormwater entering Basin aquifers does not compromise groundwater quality. Development of land typically increases impervious surfaces which can compromise stormwater quality. The City of Ukiah adopted a Low Impact Development (LID) Technical Manual to provide technical guidance for development projects that significantly impact the impervious surface on a redevelopment site, and therefore require permanent stormwater best management practices (BMPs) to offset the impact.

Goals and Policies

PFS-5 *To maintain an adequate stormwater management system to accommodate runoff and improve environmental quality.*

PFS-5.1 Low Impact Development

The City shall require new developments to install green infrastructure consistent with the Stormwater Low Impact Development Technical Design Manual and sustainable objectives of the State and the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, including but not limited to pervious pavement, infiltration basins, raingardens, green roofs, rainwater harvesting systems, and other types of low impact development (LID).

PFS-5.2 Pollutants Discharge Reduction

The City shall provide non-point source pollution control programs to reduce and control the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system and Russian River.



For goals and policies relating to flooding and related hazards, please refer to Section 7.4 (Flood Hazards) in the Safety Element.

5.5 Utilities and Energy

The City of Ukiah Electric Utility is a Municipal Utility and operates as a department of the City of Ukiah under the authority and direction of the City Council, the City Manager, and the Electric Utility Director. The Utility is composed of electric generation, transmission and distribution facilities and boasts a diverse portfolio of power sources. The Utility owns, operates, and maintains a 3.5 Megawatt (MW) hydroelectric plant located at Lake Mendocino, transmission facilities and overhead and underground distribution facilities. Additionally, the Utility is responsible for power procurement, state, and federal regulatory requirements, and providing conservation programs to its customers. Goals and Policies

PFS-6 *Improve the efficiency and quality of utility services in the city.*

PFS-6.1 New Initiatives

The City shall support innovative, sustainable, and alternative practices and technologies for delivering energy and utility services to the community.

PFS-6.2 Undergrounding Utilities

The City shall encourage the conversion of overhead transmission and distribution lines to underground as economically feasible.

PFS-6.3 Energy Efficiency Education

The City shall support education for residents and businesses on the importance of energy efficiency.

PFS-6.4 Energy Efficient Municipal Buildings

The City shall require municipal and public buildings to operate at the highest energy efficiency level economically and operationally feasible.

PFS-6.5 Privately-Owned Building Retrofits

The City shall promote retrofitting of privately-owned buildings to increase energy efficiency.

PFS-6.6 Local Power Generation

The City shall support local power generation and production that is economically and operationally feasible.

PFS-7 *To ensure a safe and resilient utility and infrastructure system.***PFS-7.1 Resilient Electric Grid**

The City shall explore options for hardening the electric grid to continue to provide ongoing service to the community without disruption caused by natural (seismic events, flooding, wildfires, extreme wind events) or man-made hazards.

PFS-7.2 Vegetation Clearance

The City shall require vegetation clearance and tree trimming adjacent to transmission and distribution lines and other critical electrical infrastructure.

PFS-7.3 Electric Infrastructure Upgrades

The City shall implement electrical infrastructure upgrades as outlined in the Ukiah Wildfire Mitigation Plan to reduce the risk of wildfires.

PFS-8 *To transition to sustainable and renewable energy.***PFS-8.1 Utility Sustainability**

The City shall continue to expand alternative, sustainable electric energy use.

PFS-8.2 Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency

The City shall encourage the site planning and design of new buildings to maximize energy efficiency.

PFS-8.3 Solar Photovoltaic Use

The City shall encourage solar photovoltaic systems for existing residential uses to reduce the reliance on the energy grid.

PFS-8.4 Residential Electric Appliances

The City shall encourage the use of electric appliances and utility hook-ups in all new residential development.

PFS-8.5 LEED Certification

The City shall encourage new construction, including municipal building construction, to achieve third-party green building certifications, such as LEED rating system, or an equivalent.

PFS-8.6 Incentivize Energy Efficiency

The City shall consider providing incentives, such as prioritizing plan review, permit processing, and field inspection services, for energy efficient building projects.

5.6 Emergency Services

The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority protects life and property from fire and other natural and man-made events through the provision of the following services:

- Emergency Medical Response
- Emergency Fire and Hazards Response
- Fire Prevention
- Public Education and Information
- Disaster Preparedness
- Emergency Scene Investigation
- Public Assistance.

The Ukiah Police Department is organized into three divisions: Operations, Administrative, and Communications and Records. The Communications Center handles all 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls for the City of Ukiah and City of Fort Bragg Police Departments, provides after-hours dispatching services for Electric, Water, Wastewater, and other City services, and makes emergency notifications to the community.

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is a division within the City Manager's Office and is responsible for coordinating emergency planning, preparedness, response, and recovery of the City of Ukiah Operational Area for man-made or natural disasters. OEM works before, during and after emergencies to minimize impacts on the community. The Division operates in conjunction with other government agencies, private sector, and community stakeholders to advocate for preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation.



Goals and Policies

Fire Protection and Emergency Response

PFS-9 *To maintain effective, fast, and dependable fire protection and emergency medical response in Ukiah.*

PFS-9.1 **Emergency Medical Services**

The City shall coordinate emergency medical services between agencies servicing the city.

PFS-9.2 **Fire Prevention**

The City shall require all new development to include provisions for onsite fire suppression measures and/or management of surrounding vegetation to provide minimum clearance between structures and vegetation.

PFS-9.3 **Interagency Coordination**

The City shall coordinate with Cal Fire and the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority regarding the fire protection and wildfire safety standards.

Law Enforcement

PFS-10 *To provide high-quality public safety and crime reduction services to maintain a safe and secure community.*

PFS-10.1 **Police Staffing**

The City shall prioritize the maintenance of Police Department staffing levels in line with community needs.

PFS-10.2 **Interagency Coordination**

The City shall coordinate with the Mendocino County Sherriff's Office on joint operations and services.

PFS-10.3 **Community Policing Strategies**

The City shall promote community policing strategies that strengthen trust and collaboration with the residents of Ukiah, including those of all races, ethnicities, cultural backgrounds, economic status, sexual orientation, and disabilities, and ensure public safety through meaningful cooperation and problem-solving techniques.

PFS-10.4 **School Safety**

The City shall collaborate with the Ukiah Unified School District to enhance school security and student, teacher, and administrator safety.

PFS-10.5 **Public Safety Communications**

The City shall use a variety of communication methods (e.g., social media, text messaging, television and radio alerts, website postings) to communicate and inform residents and businesses about crimes, investigations, and emergencies.

Office of Emergency Management

Office of Emergency Management has the responsibility of anticipating hazards and vulnerability and undertake measures to deal with disasters more effectively.

Mitigation

Enhance the Mitigation System through developing and leveraging technology, funding opportunities, partnerships, and policy.

Preparedness

Enhance protection through training, exercises, and outreach to first responders, support agencies, and community members.

Response

Strengthen and ensure a multi-faceted response capability through response programs, advanced resource management and coordination and planning with partners.

Recovery

Cultivate, develop, and sustain a comprehensive recovery system that provides a better and safer community after a disaster.



For goals and policies relating to emergency operations and planning, please refer to Section 7.6 (Emergency Planning and Awareness) in the Safety Element.

5.7 Parks and Recreation Facilities

The City maintains a wide variety of park and building facilities to meet the needs of the community. Most parks are open daily to the public between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Many facilities may also be reserved for a low rental fee. Rental operations include picnic and barbecue facilities, conference and meeting rooms, banquets and wedding facilities, a board room and auditorium, sports stadium and complex, swimming pool, amphitheaters, covered gazebo, and a pavilion. In addition to the 14 parks and facilities, the City has completed four miles of the Great Redwood Trail, established by SB 1029 (McGuire), which is expected to be a 320-mile, multi-use rail-to-trail project from the San Francisco Bay Area to Humboldt County.

Goals and Policies

Community Facilities

PFS-11 *To ensure adequate community facilities.*

PFS-11.1 Adequate Community Facilities

The City shall develop or identify adequate and appropriate community facilities for public meetings and cultural activities.



PFS-11.2 Joint-Use Facilities

The City shall partner with Mendocino County and the Ukiah Unified School District to provide joint-use facilities.

Parks and Recreation

PFS-12 *To provide parks, recreational facilities, and trails for residents and visitors.*

PFS-12.1 Connected Park System

The City shall provide an interconnected park system that creates an urban greenbelt and links all trail systems within the City.

PFS-12.2 Expansion of Recreational Amenities and Programs

The City shall expand amenities and recreational programs in parks and recreational facilities that accommodate a variety of ages and address the needs of families.

PFS-12.3 Equitable Access to Parks and Recreation Facilities

The City shall establish new parks and recreation facilities to ensure all residents have access within a one-mile radius of their place of residence regardless of socio-economic status.

PFS-12.4 Access for Persons with Disabilities

The City shall design all parks and recreation facilities to have adequate access for those with accessibility issues.

PFS-12.5 Park Visibility

The City shall assure that all parks are visible from the public right-of-way when possible and remain clear of visual obstructions that reduce visual connections for safety concerns.

PFS-12.6 Park Safety

The City Police Department shall patrol and secure parks and recreational facilities from potential crime and misuse.

PFS-12.7 Great Redwood Trail - Ukiah

The City shall support the continued phased development of the Great Redwood Trail through and beyond the city limits, to connect adjoining regional trail networks.

PFS-12.8 Collaborative Partnerships for Improved Services

The City shall work with Mendocino County, Ukiah schools, and other large land or facility owners to establish and maintain partnerships to improve access and maintenance to parks and recreation.



For goals and policies relating to open space areas, including the hillsides and designated habitat areas, please refer to Section 6.1 (Open Space) and Section 6.4 Biological Resources in the Environment and Sustainability Element.

5.8 Education and Lifelong Learning

Educational facilities are provided by the Ukiah Unified School District (USD), Mendocino County Office of Education, and the Mendocino-Lake Community College District. There are many other private and nonprofit entities that provide services to individuals ranging in age from preschool to adults.

The USD serves the Ukiah Valley with elementary and middle schools, a high school, and a continuation high school. The District upgrades facilities and as necessary builds new facilities. As is the case with the existing schools, any new school site should provide for the recreational needs of the neighborhood it is proposed for.

Mendocino-Lake Community College District operates Mendocino College, located north of the City of Ukiah at the end of Hensley Creek Road. The majority of students attend part time. The college benefits the area by providing a local opportunity for higher education, sponsoring social and cultural events, and helping to train people for work within the local job market. It also houses a satellite learning facility for Sonoma State University, allowing students to take some classes locally instead of having to drive more than an hour to Rohnert Park.

City and County government can assist with the provision of a quality learning environment through policies that promote land use compatibility in school facility siting and operation. School siting should minimize distractions to learning, threats to health and safety, and facilitate multiple uses of public-school facilities. Discretionary land uses with the potential to negatively impact school facilities should be discouraged or mitigated. Conversely, the negative impacts of school facilities on local neighborhoods, agriculture, and other surrounding uses should also be mitigated.

Goals and Policies

Education

PFS-13 *To ensure high-quality educational institutions for all community members that foster diversity and educational attainment.*

PFS-13.1 Consideration of Impacts

The City shall consider potential impacts on the Ukiah Unified School District during the review of new development projects.

PFS-13.2 Planning for Future Growth

The City shall collaborate with Ukiah Unified School District in its long-range planning efforts to ensure the adequacy of school facilities to serve new development.

PFS-13.3 School Siting Coordination

The City shall coordinate with Ukiah Unified School District on the future location of schools in relation to transportation and land use plans and seek to avoid traffic impacts and facilitate joint use of community parks and other public facilities by schools.

Lifelong Learning

PFS-14 *To enhance the educational support system serving the City to the benefit of all residents, regardless of age and location within the community.*

PFS-14.1 **Implementing Continuing Education**

The City should encourage Mendocino College, local vocational schools, and technical training institutes to maintain and improve continuing education courses and certificate programs, including opportunities for on-line learning.

5.9 Healthy Community

A healthy community promotes a positive physical, social, and economic environment that supports the overall well-being of its residents. While other parts of the General Plan also touch on aspects of health and quality of life, the purpose of section is to promote a healthy lifestyle and improve residents' quality of life.

Goals and Policies

PFS-15 *To ensure all residents have access to healthy lifestyle options.*

PFS-15.1 **Alcohol and Tobacco Sales**

The City shall study the feasibility of establishing zoning code provisions limiting the location and concentration of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.

PFS-15.2 **Healthy Food Options**

The City shall support programs that guide healthy food options in the community.

PFS-15.3 **Support Government-Issued Vouchers**

The City shall support the acceptance of Government-issued food vouchers (such as WIC and Cal FRESH) via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card at food retailers and farmer's market.

PFS-15.4 **Vending Machine Options**

The City shall support healthy food options for vending machines in City-owned and leased locations.

PFS-15.5 **Healthy Food at Government-sponsored Events**

The City shall support the provision of healthy foods at City-sponsored meetings and events when food is provided.

PFS-15.6 **Healthy Homes**

The City shall promote green building practices that support "healthy homes," such as low VOC materials, environmental tobacco smoke control, and indoor air quality construction pollution prevention techniques.



Outdoor activity is also part of a healthier community. Bicycle and pedestrian options are covered in Section 4.4 (Complete Streets) in the Mobility Element.

5.10 Implementation Programs

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible Supporting Department(s)	2022 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
A Wastewater Annual Review The City shall annually review the wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system to ensure the financing structure and viability of the system.	PFS – 2.2 PFS – 2.3 PFS – 2.6	Public Works				■	
B Parks Gap Analysis The City shall prepare a parks gap analysis identifying areas of the city underserved by parks and recreation facilities access. The analysis shall, at a minimum, establish equitable access standards, including the minimum distance between parks every residence, and potential funding mechanisms.	PFS – 12.1 PFS – 12.3	Community Services	■				
C Park Maintenance and Security Program The City shall establish a comprehensive maintenance and security program for all recreational facilities, parks, and trails in the Ukiah area.	PFS – 12.5 PFS – 12.6	Community Services		■			
D Alcohol and Tobacco Ordinance The City shall prepare a feasibility analysis studying the establishment of establishing zoning code provisions related to the location and number of businesses selling alcohol and tobacco near sensitive land uses.	PFS- 15.1	Community Development		■			
E Solid Waste Reduction The City shall review existing programs and study the feasibility of new or expanded programs related to waste reduction. These efforts should be coordinated with preparation of the City's Climate Action Plan and incorporated where necessary.	PFS-3.1 PFS-3.2 PFS-3.3 PFS-3.4 PFS-3.5 PFS-3.6	Public Works Community Development	■				

