

## Sample Child Care Policies for General Plan

Jurisdiction	Element	Purpose/Goal	Child Care Policies
<p><b><u>Alameda County</u></b>  <b>Alameda County</b>            As cited in, Child Care Law Centers' "Including Child Care in Local Planning," 2005</p>	<p>East County Area Plan</p>	<p>Mitigation for child care to be included in an area if child care demand is going to increase</p>	<p>"...shall require mitigation if a significant impact [upon child care] is identified."</p>
<p><b>Union City</b>            Union City, California General Plan Economic Development Element (2002)</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>To create incentives for developing child care facilities.</p>	<p>"The City shall develop a formula for granting a bonus in density or intensify of use for commercial, industrial, and residential projects (of specific sizes) that provide child care facilities."</p> <p>"The City shall encourage the siting of child care, disabled, mentally disabled and elderly facilities compatible with needs, land use and character, and encourage such facilities to be located near employment centers, homes, schools, community centers, recreation facilities, and transit hubs."</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Amador County</u></b> <b><i>City of Jackson</i></b> City of Jackson, California General Plan Land Use Element (2008)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Use</p>	<p>To allow child care centers to be developed in most areas.</p>	<p>“The City shall facilitate and promote the development of child care centers and homes in all areas and encourage inclusion of child care centers in non-residential areas, with the exception of Open Space and Industrial designations.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Kern County</u></b> <b><i>City of Delano</i></b> City of Delano, California General Plan Land Use Element (2007)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Use</p>	<p>To develop a comprehensive child care delivery system that builds child care services into the fabric of community development.</p>	<p>“Coordinate services for children and their families in conjunction with local agencies and groups.”</p> <p>“New developments having more than 50 housing units or 50,000 square feet of commercial or industrial space shall prepare a Child Care Facilities Needs Assessment. The purpose is to assess new child care demand created by new residents and employees against available community resources.”</p> <p>“Assist child development resource agencies and organizations in networking, referral, and coordination of services.”</p> <p>“Inventory unused public and private</p>

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<p><b>City of Taft</b> City of Taft, California General Plan Land Use Element (2007)</p>	<p>Land Use, Residential Neighborhoods</p>	<p>To ensure new residential developments address child care.</p>	<p>locations in the City of Delano for potential conversion into child care sites and identify available funding for the effort.”</p> <p>“Encourage the use of public facilities for child care services, including collaboration between schools and parks, faith based institutions, community centers, and senior centers.”</p> <p>“City of Delano shall facilitate the development of quality child care spaces and acknowledges that the provision of such facilities is a community goal.”</p> <p>“All new residential developments with 50 or more homes should address the need for child care resulting from the new growth and consider the inclusion of child care facilities as a component of their neighborhood design.”</p>
	<p>Land Use, Growth Management</p>	<p>To assess how new residential developments will affect child care.</p>	<p>“Promote opportunities for the inclusion of child care facilities as part of the city’s growth. Encourage the establishment of child care facilities to address the existing demand.</p> <p>1. Coordinate services for children and</p>

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			<p>their families in conjunction with local agencies and groups.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. New developments having more than 50 housing units or 50,000 square feet of commercial or industrial space shall prepare a Child Care Facilities Needs Assessment. The purpose is to assess new child care demand created by new residents and employees against available community resources.</li> <li>3. Assist child development resource agencies and organizations in networking, referral, and coordination of services.</li> <li>4. Inventory unused public and private locations in the City of Taft for potential conversion into child care sites and identify available funding for the effort.</li> <li>5. Encourage the use of public facilities for child care services, including collaboration between schools and parks, faith based institutions, community centers and senior centers.</li> <li>6. The City of Taft shall facilitate the development of quality child care spaces and acknowledges that the</li> </ol>
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	Land Use, Employment	To encourage employers to support child care for their employees.	<p>provision of such facilities as a community goal.”</p> <p>“Encourage employers to support child care for their employees.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide family friendly policies such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reserve and pay (in full or in part) for child care spaces with a provider near the worksite.</li> <li>• Offer Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts or “cafeteria plan” benefits.</li> <li>• Enter into a consortium with other employers to provide an on- or near-site child care center.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. New developments having 50,000 square feet or more of commercial or industrial floor area shall prepare a Child Care Facilities Needs Assessment. The purpose is to assess new child care demand created by new residents and employees against available community resources.”</li> </ol>
	Land Use, Schools	To encourage the co-location of before and after school	“To the greatest extent possible, schools should be utilized for after school programs

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		<p>programs within school districts.</p>	<p>whether operated by the school district or an outside entity.”</p> <p>“Schools should collaborate with child care providers in the establishment of co-located child care centers operated by the school district or an outside entity.”</p> <p>“The City, Taft Schools, Taft College and the Recreation District should work on projects jointly including recreational facilities, public buildings and other complementary or compatible uses such as after school and/or child care programs.”</p>
	<p>Land Use, Public Facilities</p>	<p>To encourage public facilities to be used for child care.</p>	<p>“Public facilities should be evaluated for their potential to accommodate child care services.”</p>
	<p>Human Environment, Parks &amp; Recreation Between Parks &amp; Recreation and Land Use</p>	<p>To encourage child care to be located strategically to support workforce and livable communities.</p>	<p>“Having quality, accessible and affordable child care supports Taft’s workforce and families. As the number of dual-income families increases, there is an increase in child care demand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A strategically located child care center supports smart growth and reduces trips.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child care businesses contribute to the local economy.</li> <li>• Quality child care promotes school readiness and ultimately a better workforce and productive citizens.</li> <li>• Child care services attract and retain business and employees.</li> <li>• Quality child care supports work/life balance and increases job loyalty and satisfaction.</li> </ul> <p>In order to develop and maintain livable communities, child care must be included in any growth plans to encourage families to move to and remain in these local communities.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Los Angeles County</u></b>  <b><i>City of Los Angeles</i></b>          Los Angeles, California General Plan Land Use          Chapter of Citywide Framework Element (2001)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Use</p>	<p>To encourage neighborhoods to provide or continue the use of space for child care.</p>	<p>“Encourage retention of existing and development of new commercial uses that primarily are oriented to the residents of adjacent neighborhoods and promote the inclusion of community services (e.g., childcare and community meeting rooms).”</p> <p>“Encourage owners of existing commercial shopping centers that contain grocery and drug stores to include additional uses, such as</p>

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<p>Los Angeles, California General Plan Economic Development Chapter of Citywide Framework Element (2001)</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>		<p>restaurants, entertainment, childcare facilities, public meeting rooms, recreation, cultural facilities, and public open spaces, which enhance neighborhood activity.”</p> <p>“Encourage the inclusion of community-serving uses (post offices, senior community centers, daycare providers, personal services, etc.) at the community and regional centers, in transit stations, and along the mixed-use corridors.”</p>
<p><b><u>Marin County</u></b> <b>City of Sausalito</b> Sausalito, California General Plan Housing Element (1995)</p>	<p>Housing</p>	<p>To create a committee composed of agencies that reviews child care needs</p>	<p>“The City of Sausalito’s Housing Element established a Housing Committee whose role is to support implementation of the housing policies, with one of the suggested items for its workplan to work with county agencies to examine child care and other support services needs that could be implemented for family and single parent housing”</p>
<p><b><u>Monterey County</u></b> <b>City of Marina</b> As cited in, Child Care Law Centers’ “Including Child Care in Local Planning,” 2005</p>	<p>Land Use</p>	<p>Mitigate for child care to be included in new developments that can increase the demand for child care</p>	<p>“Provision shall be made for childcare facilities with the development of major job centers in the MBEST Center and Marina Airport Business Park, the commercial and</p>

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			<p>industrial center of Armstrong Ranch, the West University Village, and all other large-scale mixed-use projects...[T]he facilities shall be adequate to serve the projected employee based of the respective areas.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Orange County</u></b>  <b><i>City of Huntington Beach</i></b>          Huntington Beach, California General Plan          Housing Element (2008)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Housing Element</p>	<p>Conserve and improve existing affordable housing in Huntington Beach</p> <p>Assist in development of affordable housing</p>	<p>“Maintain the quality of life within neighborhoods by maintaining an adequate level of community facilities, such as child care centers and municipal services.</p> <p>“Encourage the inclusion of space for child care in new housing developments, including affordable housing developments.”</p> <p><b>“Child Care Facilities:</b> The City of Huntington Beach recognizes that finding adequate and convenient child care is critical to maintaining quality of life for many households in the City. In early 2007, the City Council adopted an ordinance to allow large family day care uses administratively in residential zoning districts. The City’s Zoning Code (Section 230.14.G) provides additional density bonuses and incentives for the inclusion of childcare facilities in affordable housing projects. Additionally, other General</p>

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<p><b><i>City of San Clemente</i></b>          San Clemente, California General Plan Public          Facilities and Services Element (1992)</p>	<p>Public Facilities          and Services</p>	<p>“Objective 7.18 – contribute (along with the private sector residential and business community and existing service provider) to the future development, implementation and management of a successful child care network within the community”</p>	<p>Plan elements incorporate policies to facilitate the provision of child care facilities in the City.”</p> <p>“To further the commitment to providing adequate child care opportunities, the City will work with project applicants to evaluate the demand for child care in new housing developments and establish incentives for the inclusion of child care in housing developments.”</p> <p>“Determine the need for child care facilities within the community while identifying condition of existing facilities and services.”</p> <p>“Pursue programs, mechanisms, and liaison activities that will increase the provision of modern child care services in the community, in accordance with local and state building/zoning, health and safety code requirements.”</p> <p>“Coordinate with CDSO to utilize existing educational facilities for expansion of day care opportunities within the community.”</p> <p>“Monitor and analyze the overall needs of</p>
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<p><b>Orange County</b> Orange County, California General Plan Public Services and Facilities Element (1985)</p>	<p>Services and Facilities</p>	<p>“Goal – to encourage and facilitate provision of child care facilities to address the growing County Demand”</p> <p>“Objective – to achieve facilitation of child care services consistent with the Orange County General Plan”</p>	<p>child day care-eligible population, in order to better meet the needs of this segment of the community.”</p> <p>“Require that new large commercial developments and business parks include child care facilities.”</p> <p>“To ensure that child care facility proposals are compatible with surrounding land uses and to review planned land uses adjacent to facilities for their compatibility with facility operations.”</p> <p>“To encourage and support a cooperative effort among all agencies towards the implementation of necessary child care facilities through normal County review procedures.”</p> <p>“New developments will participate in the Child Care Improvements program through conditions placed on projects in the unincorporated South County area, with appropriate coordination be encouraged between the County, school districts, community programs, and developers, and an</p>
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			assessment of the supply and demand for child care facilities monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report process.”
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sacramento County</u></b> <b><i>City of Elk Grove</i></b> Elk Grove, California General Plan Economic Development Element (2003)</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>To encourage child care within commercial and offices areas.</p>	<p>“Encourage developers of larger commercial and office projects to provide for on-site ancillary uses that would allow employees and residents to make nonwork-related trips (e.g., banking, lunch, dry cleaning, recreation, child care) without having to use their automobiles.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>County of Sacramento</i></b> Sacramento County, California General Plan Urban Growth Element (1993)</p>	<p>Urban Growth</p>	<p>To provide child care next to employment centers.</p> <p>To provide child care for working families.</p>	<p>“Encourage and support efforts to provide support services such as child care and health services near employment centers.”</p> <p>“It is the policy of the City to enhance and maintain the quality of life by adhering to high standards for project and plan evaluation as these relate to the following characteristics that help define the quality of life in the City.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Because most parents are in the paid work force, adequate child care at the worksite would help attract and maintain a productive work force.”</li> </ul>
<p>Sacramento County, California General Plan Residential Land Use Element (1993)</p>	<p>Residential Land Use</p>	<p>“Provide affordable housing opportunities for all income household categories</p>	<p>“Conduct a feasibility study to determine if a monitoring system on housing development will help in meeting needs for child care</p>

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<p>Sacramento County, California General Plan Housing Element (1993)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Housing</p>	<p>throughout the City.”</p> <p>To include child care service within single parent households.</p>	<p>facilities in growing communities and recommend methods to meet these child care needs.”</p> <p>“Special Housing need groups are those individuals or households who share a common type of need due to age, disability, income, or other mutual circumstance. The following section attempts to enumerate these special needs groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Single Parent Head of Household: The percentage and total population of single female head of households declined in 2000. The 2000 Census counted 14,536 households (approximately 9.4% of all households) headed by a single female with related children. The 1990 Census counted 18,217 households (approximately 12% of all households) headed by a single parent with related children. Of these, 14,880 (10.2% of all households) were headed by a female and 3,337 were headed by a male. These households have special needs for child care and related support services. According to</li> </ul>
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<p>Sacramento County, California General Plan Commerce and Industry Land Use Element (1993)</p>	<p>Commerce and Industry Land Use</p>	<p>“Maintain and strengthen Downtown’s role as a major regional office, retail, commercial, governmental, and cultural/entertainment center.”</p>	<p>the 1990 Census, 16.2% of all households reported public assistance as their primary source of income, and it is estimated that a majority of these households use AFDC. In general, this population group can be assisted by the same strategies necessary to maintain and produce affordable housing in Sacramento. Special efforts to also provide childcare and family services on-site would also assist this segment of the population. SHRA has participated in the HUD public housing Self-Sufficiency project and a number of other assisted housing programs with child care services. In addition, SHRA loans and city-issued tax exempt bonds also require tenant services on-site, many of which involve Head Start or other child care programs.”</p> <p>“Actively support efforts to develop child care facilities for downtown employees, shoppers, and visitors.”</p>
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<p>Sacramento County, California General Plan Public Facilities and Services Element (1993)</p>	<p>Public Facilities and Services</p>	<p>“Promote development of mixed-use regional commercial and office projects. Regional office parks also have the opportunity to incorporate mixed uses (limited retail, light manufacturing, child care, and public amenities) and become major activity periods.”</p> <p>“Continue to assist school districts in providing quality education facilities that will accommodate projected student enrollment growth.”</p>	<p>“Strongly encourage new regional commercial and office centers to incorporate accessory uses as stated below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Action a): Study and adopt development guidelines that establish incentives for inclusion of public amenities, transit amenities, child care facilities, and non-office ground floor retail uses in regional office and commercial developments.”</li> </ul> <p>“Continue to explore ways of utilizing existing school facilities for non-school related and child care activities.”</p>
<p><b><u>San Diego County</u></b> As cited in, Child Care Law Centers’ “Including Child Care in Local Planning,” 2005</p>	<p>Public Facility</p>	<p>To develop consistency of requirements with cities around child care facilities</p> <p>To require mitigation and incentives that encourage developers to plan for child care</p>	<p>“Cooperate with...the region’s cities to draft a model ordinance or procedure for the processing of permits for child care facilities” and to “[w]ork with the region’s cities to develop uniform zoning policies regarding location, parking and other requirements.”</p> <p><b><u>Implementation Measure 3.1.2:</u></b> investigate the feasibility of requiring applicants for projects for major residential,</p>

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		<p>facilities</p> <p>To support child care facilities within transportation hubs</p> <p>To coordinate with local school districts that are planning new schools or renovating them</p>	<p>commercial, and industrial developments to use the developed formula to assess the demand for child care facilities created by the development, and to mitigate these needs.”</p> <p><b>“Implementation Measure 3.1.3:</b> Investigate a program to grant a bonus in density or intensify of use for commercial, industrial, and residential projects that provide child care facilities.”</p> <p>“Support research on the feasibility of locating child care centers at ‘Park and Ride’ sites, transit centers or other locations accessible to public transportation.”</p> <p>“...advocate [for] the inclusion of child care facilities in both the planning of new school facilities, and plans for the expansion or improvements of existing school facilities.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>San Joaquin County</u></b> San Joaquin County, California General Plan Public Facilities Element (1992)</p>	<p>Public Facilities</p>	<p>To encourage child care to be included within public facilities</p>	<p>“The County shall encourage the use of public facilities, schools, churches, community centers, and spaces within other facilities for child care and adult care services.”</p>

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			“The County shall encourage the development of child care facilities within commercial and industrial land use designations as well as in residential areas”
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Solano County</u></b> <b><i>City of Fairfield</i></b> Fairfield, California General Plan Housing Element (2002)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Housing</p>	<p>To provide social services with affordable housing</p>	<p>“Incorporate child care and social services into affordable housing.”</p> <p>“Work with non-profit housing developers who build affordable housing in Fairfield to address any special needs of farm workers, such as on-site child care, and community rooms.”</p>
<p>Fairfield, California General Plan Land Use Element (2002)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Land Use</p>	<p>To encourage the development of child care centers within single family dwellings</p>	<p>“Ancillary uses permitted in single-family residential neighborhoods, such as public facilities, day care centers, and churches, shall have minimum negative impact on the neighborhood.”</p>
<p>Fairfield, California General Plan Public Facilities and Services (2002)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Public Facilities and Services</p>	<p>“Provide timely, functional, safe, and attractive public buildings in order to provide high levels of public service.”</p>	<p>“The clustering of public and quasi-public uses such as school, parks, libraries, child care facilities, and community activity centers is encouraged.”</p>
<p>Fairfield, California General Plan Economic Development (2002)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Economic Development</p>	<p>“Create an economic climate conducive to attracting new development and businesses which yield net social and economic benefits to the community.”</p>	<p>“Work to remove impediments to gainful employment, such as lack of transportation, child care, job training, vocational education, and other factors (See program HO 7.3A).”</p>

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<p><b>Suisan City</b> Suisan, California General Plan Land Use Element</p>	<p>Land Use</p>	<p>To co-locate child care with affordable housing.</p>	<p>“Within residential districts, land uses that have historically been located in residential neighborhoods and which, by design, can be made compatible with the purpose and character of the residential classification should continue to be allowed. These other land uses include, but are not limited to, small day care facilities for children, group and residential care homes of six or fewer persons, schools, and parks.”</p> <p>“The City will ensure that affordable housing constructed or rehabilitated by the City meets the needs of single-parent households, especially female-headed households. Achievement: No affordable housing developments of sufficient size were constructed or rehabilitated since 1990 in which it would have been feasible to locate a child care facility. The City will maintain this program, however, in the event a future affordable housing development of sufficient size is proposed that could incorporate on-site child-care for single parents.”</p>
<p><b>City of Vacaville</b> Vacaville, California General Plan Land Use</p>	<p>Land Use</p>	<p>To conveniently locate child care within close proximity of</p>	<p>“Commercial uses and services for employees and businesses (i.e. delicatessens,</p>



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		<p>areas</p> <p>To plan for child care with school districts and parks</p>	<p>areas if there is sufficient available space for outdoor activity, and traffic, parking and noise are mitigated. Determine need for and, where applicable, location of day-care facilities at the time a specific plan, tentative map or development plan is approved.”</p> <p>“Cooperate with school districts in planning school parks as a means of meeting neighborhood recreation, child care, and open space needs.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sonoma County</u></b> <b>Santa Rosa</b> Santa Rosa, California General Plan Youth and Families Element (2002)</p>	<p>Youth and Families</p>	<p>“Goal YF-A – create an environment where children can grow and develop in secure and supportive families and neighborhoods”</p> <p>“Goal YF-B – expand child</p>	<p>“Work with project applicants to identify sites (in areas slated for new development or reuse) that would be suitable for child care or youth-oriented facilities, promoting this type of development in area where such facilities are lacking.”</p> <p>“Promote development of multi-use buildings/community centers that can be utilized for youth and teen activities and child care.”</p> <p>“Endorse the development of new child care</p>

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		<p>care services to meet the existing and future needs of Santa Rosa”</p>	<p>facilities in all areas of the City, including residential neighborhoods, employment centers, and school sites, promoting development of new child care facilities during review of development projects at sites designated Community Commons on the Land Use Diagram.”</p> <p>“Allow utilization of a portion of City parkland for a child care center to be developed and maintained by outside resources.”</p> <p>“Continue the City’s permitting fee deferral and rebate program for provision of child care facilities.”</p> <p>“Encourage the school districts to continue and expand the provision of before- and after-school care on or near school sites.”</p> <p>“Foster partnership between business community and the child care community to provide information to employees about child care options.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Ventura County</u></b> <b><i>Port Hueneme</i></b></p>	<p>Conservation,</p>	<p>To develop a comprehensive</p>	<p>“Create a joint public/private child care</p>

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<p>Port Hueneme, California General Plan Conservation, Open Space, Environmental Resources Element (1998)</p>	<p>Open Space, Environmental Resources</p>	<p>child care delivery system.</p>	<p>master plan and Child Care Trust Fund.”</p> <p>“Create a community-wide child care task force (or council) to study the development of child care programs, to fill service gaps, increase program effectiveness, improve service accessibility , and maximize all available resources in the community.”</p> <p>“Create a joint public/private child care master plan that will coordinate a range of services for children and their families, in conjunction with local agencies and groups.”</p> <p>“Assist Child Development Resources (CDR) of Ventura County, Inc. in networking, referral, and coordination of services to Port Hueneme.”</p> <p>“Review unused public and private facilities in the city for potential renovation as child care sites.”</p> <p>“Establish a Child Care Trust Fund under the direction of the Child Care Task Force with an emphasis on fund raising for capital projects and development of seed money for new programs.”</p>
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			<p>“Assist businesses in the development of child care benefit programs and postpartum parent leave benefits.”</p> <p>“Encourage existing partners to open their programs to special needs enrollees and develop options for special needs training.”</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Yolo County</u></b>  <b><i>City of West Sacramento</i></b>          As cited in, Child Care Law Centers’ “Including Child Care in Local Planning,” 2005</p>	<p>Land Use</p>	<p>To promote the development of child care facilities in most areas</p> <p>To streamline the facility development process</p> <p>To provide assistance for those developing child care facilities</p>	<p>“Child care facilities shall not be precluded in any land use designation except Open Space and Heavy Industrial designations.”</p> <p>“Streamline processing and permit regulation to promote the development of child care facilities.”</p> <p>“Where feasible, make underutilized County properties or low-cost loans available to child care providers, particularly for those child care facility types of greatest need.”</p>

\*In addition to actual General Plans most of the information for this document was obtained through these resources:

Anderson, K. (2006). *Planning for Child Care in California*. Point Arena, CA: Solano Press Books  
 Child Care Law Center. (2003). *A Child Care Advocacy Guide to Land Use Principles*. San Francisco, CA: Author.  
 Child Care Law Center. (2005). *Including Child Care in Local Planning*. San Francisco, CA: Author.