

COUNTY OF VENTURA

Strategic Plan

2024–2027



*“The future is not someplace we are
going to, but one we are creating.”*

– John Schaar, Professor Emeritas of UC Santa Cruz



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The County of Ventura's Strategic Plan

is the roadmap that provides guidance for the Board of Supervisors and County staff to work towards and meet the same strategic priorities and goals. County policies, programs, and initiatives will be evaluated through this lens to ensure our decisions, efforts, and resources remain focused on these key areas leading to a better quality of life for all.

Our residents and families must feel safe and secure in their homes, at school, and at work so they can engage with their neighbors and community to enjoy the many natural resources, social gatherings, and amenities in Ventura County. Access to quality healthcare is essential for our community to thrive.

We must continue to support small businesses, entrepreneurs, and attract new businesses to the county. A vibrant economy is critical to create jobs and opportunities for our residents and the financial resources needed to provide services the community needs. Reliable and sustainable infrastructure are integral to supporting the economy and quality of life.

The County must continue its leadership role as the safety net, lifting up those who need assistance to ensure their basic needs are met. Working to end homelessness and addressing the related challenges faced by the homeless and vulnerable populations is imperative to ensure a just and equitable society. This means taking on some of the most complex and systemic challenges confronting our community such as affordable housing, mental health, addiction treatment, and employment barriers.

Critical to achieving all of these strategic priorities and goals is developing and maintaining an innovative, dedicated, and diverse County workforce that is laser-focused on providing stellar services to the residents and businesses in Ventura County.

By working together, we can make Ventura County a better place for everyone.

Performance Management

The County Strategic Plan is intended to be a blueprint that each County agency and department can use to guide the development of each agency's strategic plan and work plans. This will allow every agency to assess and determine how their own work, services, and mission can support the County's Strategic Priorities and Goals. The agency level is where specific objectives and measures will be identified and tracked to monitor our progress. Additionally, many County metrics have already been identified in existing documents such as the County Budget and the General Plan.

The County staff will update the Board of Supervisors on a regular basis to report on progress and achievements toward the Strategic Priorities. Regular reporting will facilitate transparency and allow the Board to consider periodic changes or course corrections.

ventura.org/government/county-strategy-performance-budget/

2023 Elected Officials and Department Directors

COUNTY OF VENTURA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



DISTRICT 1
Supervisor
Matt LaVere



DISTRICT 2
Supervisor
Jeff Gorell



DISTRICT 3
Supervisor
Kelly Long



DISTRICT 4
Supervisor
Janice S. Parvin



DISTRICT 5
Supervisor
Vianey Lopez

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Sevet Johnson, PsyD.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assessor	Keith Taylor
Auditor-Controller	Jeff Burgh
Clerk-Recorder/Registrar	Michelle Ascencion
District Attorney	Erik Nasarenko
Sheriff	Jim Fryhoff
Treasurer/Tax Collector	Sue Horgan

AGENCY AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

<i>Agriculture Commissioner</i>	Korinne Bell	<i>Human Services Agency</i>	Melissa Livingston
<i>Airports</i>	Keith Freitas	<i>Information Systems</i>	Terry Theobald
<i>Animal Services</i>	Jackie Rose	<i>Library Services Agency</i>	Nancy Schram
<i>County Counsel</i>	Tiffany North	<i>Medical Examiners Office</i>	Christopher Young
<i>Child Support Services</i>	Marcus Mitchell	<i>Probation Agency</i>	Gina Johnson
<i>Fire Protection District</i>	Dustin Gardner	<i>Public Defender</i>	Claudia Bautista
<i>General Services Agency</i>	Dave Sasek	<i>Public Works Agency</i>	Jeff Pratt
<i>Harbor Department</i>	Michael Tripp	<i>Resource Management Agency</i>	Kim Prillhart
<i>Health Care Agency</i>	Barry Zimmerman		

Mission, Values, and Guiding Principles

MISSION

To provide superior public service and support so that all residents have the opportunity to improve their quality of life while enjoying the benefits of a safe, healthy, and vibrant community.

VALUES

Build and foster public trust through:

- Ethical behavior
- Transparency and accountability
- Equitable treatment and respect of all constituents
- Excellence in service delivery

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We focus on serving our resident and business communities by:

- Adopting carefully considered policies
- Staying competitive through the implementation of proven practices and the effective use of technology
- Delivering services in a business and constituent-friendly, customer service driven, cost-effective manner
- Utilizing strategic thinking and action
- Promoting an action-oriented, empowered, and accountable workforce
- Planning for and developing programs to meet future needs
- Operating in a fiscally responsible manner



Strategic Priorities 2024–2027

Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities

Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Vitality

Reliable Infrastructure and Sustainability

Address Homelessness and Lift Up the Most Vulnerable

Diverse and Innovative Workforce Dedicated to Service Excellence

Summary of Strategic Priorities

Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities

Maintain the highest standard of health and remain one of the safest and most resilient counties in the nation.

GOALS:

- 1) Provide equitable and timely access to quality healthcare, mental health, and public health services.
- 2) Maintain high-performing public safety services.
- 3) Promote community resilience and strengthen our ability to withstand and recover from disaster or adversity.

Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Vitality

Make responsible and efficient use of public funds and promote economic stability and growth during a changing economy.

GOALS:

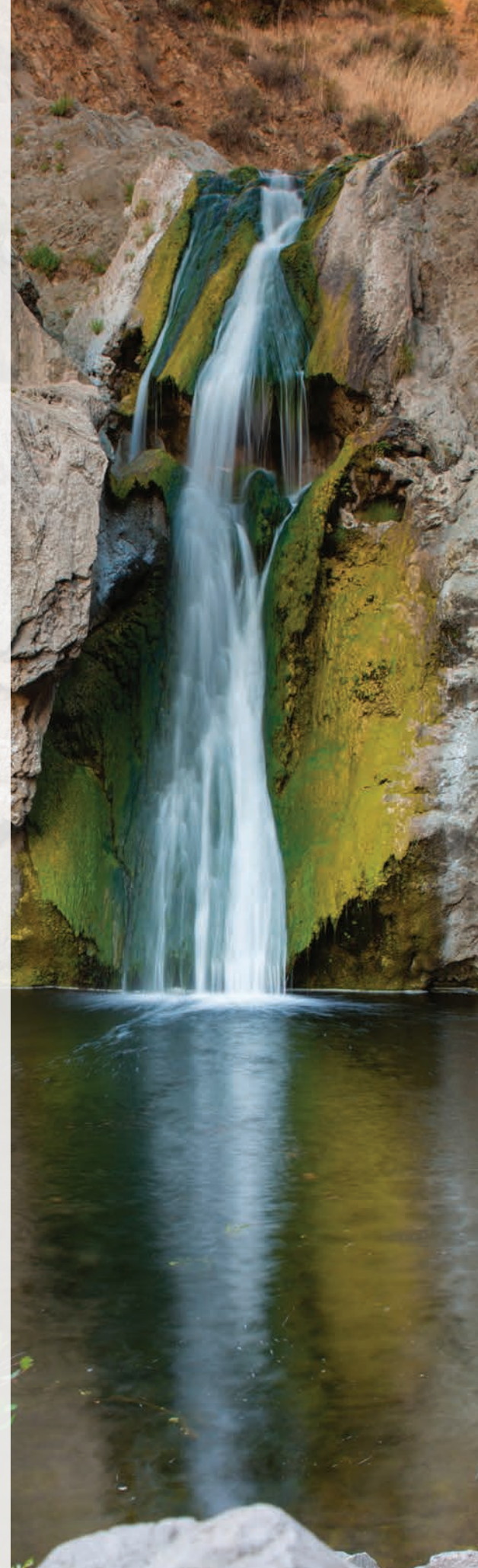
- 1) Maintain a transparent and balanced budget, while funding essential services and implementing cost-saving measures.
- 2) Foster a thriving business ecosystem to create jobs, increase wages, and strengthen the local economy.
- 3) Create a customer service-focused and business-friendly environment while stimulating entrepreneurship and industry growth.

Reliable Infrastructure and Sustainability

Provide robust infrastructure, facilities, technology, and land-use policies to enable vibrant and sustainable communities.

GOALS:

- 1) Maintain and improve dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities.
- 2) Preserve our agricultural land and natural environment while ensuring housing availability for all residents.
- 3) Invest in sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, and preservation of our natural resources.



Address Homelessness and Lift Up the Most Vulnerable

Continue to relentlessly pursue an end to homelessness in collaboration with our cities and community partners. Strengthen our safety net to support those in need.

GOALS:

- 1) Provide short and long-term housing options with wrap-around services to foster well-being and self-sufficiency for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- 2) Meet/sustain basic needs and be a reliable safety net for our vulnerable populations.

Diverse and Innovative Workforce Dedicated to Service Excellence

Attract, hire, develop, and retain a diverse workforce empowered to meet the needs of our customers.

GOALS:

- 1) Cultivate a talented, diverse, and inclusive workforce emphasizing ethics, leadership, and effectiveness.
- 2) Leverage innovation and continuous improvement to provide efficient and effective services.
- 3) Promote a culture of connection, health, and well-being for all County employees.



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