

Responsibility: Parks Department  
Planning Department  
Time Frame: FY 94-95; ongoing as funds are available  
Funding: General Fund

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

**Goal 5.D:** To identify, protect, and enhance Placer County's important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment.

### Policies

- 5.D.1. The County shall assist the citizens of Placer County in becoming active guardians of their community's cultural resources.
- 5.D.2. The County shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural and paleontological resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources.
- 5.D.3. The County shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance.
- 5.D.4. The County shall coordinate with the cities and municipal advisory councils in the County to promote the preservation and maintenance of Placer County's paleontological and archaeological resources.
- 5.D.5. The County shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources.
- 5.D.6. The County shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment. Such assessments shall be incorporated into a Countywide cultural resource data base, to be maintained by the Department of Museums.
- 5.D.7. The County shall require that discretionary development projects are designed to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources whenever possible. Unavoidable impacts, whenever possible, shall be reduced to a less than significant level and/or shall be mitigated by extracting maximum recoverable data. Determinations of impacts, significance, and mitigation shall be made by qualified archaeological (in consultation with recognized local Native American groups), historical, or paleontological consultants, depending on the type of resource in question.

- 5.D.8. The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts.
- 5.D.9. The County shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures.
- 5.D.10. The County will use existing legislation and propose local legislation for the identification and protection of cultural resources and their contributing environment.
- 5.D.11. The County shall support the registration of cultural resources in appropriate landmark designations (i.e., National Register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Local Landmark). The County shall assist private citizens seeking these designations for their property.
- 5.D.12. The County shall consider acquisition programs as a means of preserving significant cultural resources that are not suitable for private development. Organizations that could provide assistance in this area include, but are not limited to, the Archaeological Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and the Placer Land Trust.

**Implementation Programs**

- 5.4. The County shall prepare, adopt, and implement procedures for review and approval of all County-permitted projects involving ground disturbance and all building and/or demolition permits that will affect buildings, structures, or objects 45 years of age or older.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
 Department of Museums  
 Board of Supervisors  
 Time Frame: FY 94-95; ongoing  
 Funding: Mitigation fees  
 Permit fees

- 5.5. The County shall develop preservation incentive programs for owners of important cultural and paleontological resources, using such mechanisms as the Mills Act, the Historic Preservation Easement program, the Certified Local Government program, and the Heritage Tourism program.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
 Department of Museums  
 Assessor  
 Time Frame: FY 94-95; ongoing  
 Funding: Grants  
 General Fund

- 5.6. The County shall establish a formal Placer County Register of Historical Properties to facilitate preservation of the locally-significant historical properties that do not qualify for State or Federal listings.

Responsibility: Department of Museums  
Time Frame: FY 94-95; ongoing  
Funding: General Fund  
Grants

5.7. The County shall consider pursuing the following cultural resource management programs and shall explore possible funding sources to support these programs:

- a. Pursuit of status as a Certified Local Government to facilitate state funding and technical assistance from the State Office of Historic Preservation;
- b. Preparation, adoption, and implementation of a cultural resources ordinance that provides definitions and standards for identification and protection of cultural resources and provides penalties for their disturbance; and
- c. Establishment of the staff position of cultural resources coordinator. The coordinator would provide archaeological and architectural historian expertise to the activities outlined above and would maintain a Countywide cultural resource database. The coordinator would also provide assistance to the public in understanding cultural resource concerns and in fulfilling cultural resource legislative requirements.

Responsibility: Department of Museums  
Time Frame: FY 94-95 and as funds become available  
Funding: Grants  
Permit fees  
General Fund