

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY
Policy and Legislation Committee
8/28/2025

DRAFT RESOLUTION 2025.08.01

Opposing the Upper Westside Specific Plan in Natomas

WHEREAS the Upper Westside Specific Plan is a proposed development encompassing over 2,000 acres of farmland and open space in the Natomas Basin, located outside the Urban Services Boundary (USB), and envisions the construction of thousands of residential units, commercial centers, and supporting infrastructure in an area currently designated for habitat conservation and agricultural use; and

WHEREAS the Democratic Party of Sacramento County (DPSC) platform explicitly opposes development outside the USB as defined in September 2024, and the California Democratic Party platform calls for the preservation of adequate corridors and resting spaces for wildlife to migrate between habitats where they breed, feed, or winter; and the Upper Westside Specific Plan proposes development on over 2,000 acres of farmland and open space beyond the USB, threatening the ecological integrity of the Natomas Basin, fragmenting critical habitat, and disrupting migratory pathways in violation of both local and state Democratic Party principles on land use and biodiversity; and

WHEREAS the DPSC affirms that housing is a fundamental human right and supports sustainable land use planning that prioritizes infill development, pedestrian and bicycle- friendly communities, and proximity to amenities and transportation, and believes that these goals are best achieved through reforming zoning policies to encourage higher- density development within existing communities—rather than through sprawling greenfield development that exacerbates climate and infrastructure challenges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County opposes the Upper Westside Specific Plan in Natomas as incompatible with the Party’s commitment to sustainable land use, ecological preservation, and equitable housing development within existing communities and urges the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to reject the proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Democratic Party of Sacramento County urges the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors to advance policies that promote infill development, habitat conservation, and zoning reforms that reflect the values of environmental stewardship, regional resilience, and responsible growth instead.

Author: Joshua Cameron

Contact Information: joshuaecameron@icloud.com