

### 3.1.3 Farmlands

As stated in the Department’s *Environmental Handbook Volume 4, Community Impact Assessment*, “The intent of the California Department of Transportation is to avoid, whenever practical, locating public improvements within agricultural preserves or acquiring high quality agricultural land for transportation improvements” (California Department of Transportation 1997). This section presents a discussion of the agricultural resources and nature of agriculture in the project area, including a description of state, county, and city farmland preservation policies.

#### ***Regulatory Setting***

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA, 7 USC 4201-4209; and its regulations, 7 CFR Part 658) require federal agencies, such as the FHWA, to coordinate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) if their activities may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use. For purposes of the FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance.

The California Environmental Quality Act requires the review of projects that would convert Williamson Act contract land to non-agricultural uses. The main purposes of the Williamson Act are to preserve agricultural land and to encourage open space preservation and efficient urban growth. The Williamson Act provides incentives to land owners through reduced property taxes to deter the early conversion of agricultural and open space lands to other uses.

#### ***County of Solano***

The 2008 Solano County General Plan continues the County’s long-time commitment to preserving agricultural land by limiting urbanized development outside the incorporated cities and their “municipal service areas.” County voters have established policies, by initiative, which restrict the conversion of lands designated for agricultural use on the General Plan to other uses. Solano County administers the Williamson Act on lands outside city limits.

The Solano County 2008 General Plan Agriculture Element identifies the Suisun Valley as one of ten agricultural regions within the county that will be the subject of additional strategic planning for the purpose of encouraging the conservation of agricultural uses. Minimum parcel size within the Suisun Valley is set at 20 acres, and general land use is intended to include “agricultural production, agricultural processing facilities, and facilities to support the sale of produce, and tourist services that are ancillary to agricultural production.”

At the present time, the County has issued a Draft Suisun Valley Strategic Plan that is intended to establish the means to implement the County’s vision for the Suisun Valley in support of family farms and increased economic vitality from farming (County of Solano 2009). The draft is still being prepared (three public workshops have been held in 2009) and has not been formally adopted. As the plan is being drafted, the following have emerged as the top five priorities of the area’s stakeholders, in order: maintain agricultural character; improve farm production and income; create agri-tourism serving centers; provide infrastructure to support expanded use of Suisun Valley; and enable value-added agriculture.

The General Plan contains the following strategies for agriculture.

- Ensuring that agriculture endures as an essential part of Solano County’s identity and lifestyle.
- Maintaining and promoting agriculture as an important business and major contributor to Solano County’s economy.
- Preserving additional values of agricultural land, including important scenic value within the rural environment, providing habitat, providing options for recreation, and serving as community separators defining the county’s distinct cities.
- Providing opportunities for agriculture to serve as an educational tool and tourist draw.

The goals listed below, excerpted from the County Agriculture Element, are pertinent to the proposed project.

**AR.G-1:** Recognize, value, and support the critical roles of all agricultural lands in the stability and economic well-being of the county.

**AR.G-2:** Preserve and protect the county’s agricultural lands as irreplaceable resources for present and future generations.

**AR.G-5:** Reduce conflict between agricultural and nonagricultural uses in Agriculture-designated areas.

**AR.G-7:** Preserve and enhance the landscape and economy of the Vaca, Pleasants, Lagoon, and Suisun Valleys as rural agricultural communities.

In addition, the following policies from the County Agriculture Element are pertinent to the proposed project.

**AG.P-1:** Ensure that agricultural parcels are maintained at a sufficient minimum parcel size so as to remain a farmable unit. Farmable units are defined as the size of parcels a farmer would consider viable for leasing or purchasing for different agricultural purposes. A farmable unit is not considered the sole economic function that will internally support a farm household.

**AG.P-17:** Minimize potential conflicts between automobile and bicycle traffic and agricultural operations through transportation planning and capital improvement efforts.

**AG.P-29:** Support the unique agricultural uses found in the interior valleys (Suisun, Pleasants, Vaca, and Lagoon) and encourage the development of complementary agritourism, processing, and commercial uses in these regions.

The Agricultural Element also provides the following pertinent implementation recommendations.

**AG.I-1:** Create and adopt a farmland conversion mitigation program and ordinance. Require compensation for loss of agricultural land. Establish appropriate mitigation ratios for the program or utilize a graduated mitigation mechanism. The mitigation ratio shall be a minimum of 1.5:1 (1.5 acres of farmland protected through mitigation for each acre of farmland converted). The program shall not present regulatory barriers to agritourism, agricultural services, and agricultural processing in regions and within land use designations where such uses are permitted and encouraged. The program shall also establish mitigation within the same agricultural region as the proposed development project, or within the Agricultural Reserve Overlay district, as a preferred strategy. The program shall incorporate a fee option, and shall provide an exemption for farmworker housing. Mitigation lands shall be of similar agricultural quality to the lands being converted.

**AG.I-8:** In coordination with programs in the Transportation and Circulation chapter, create a comprehensive plan for roadway improvements to support agricultural needs. The plan shall include increased connectivity across I-80 for farmers and their equipment, turnouts on agricultural roads, and grading/paving of unimproved roads. The plan shall also provide strategies to reduce automobile and bicycle conflicts with agricultural operations throughout the county. Recommendations shall be integrated into County transportation plans, recreation plans, and capital improvement programs. Partner with cities and the Solano Transportation Authority to address funding strategies for planned facilities.

### City of Fairfield

The City of Fairfield General Plan Land Use Element includes the following goals, objectives, policies, and programs relevant to the proposed project.

**Goals [Goal A]**—Preserve agricultural and grazing lands within the General Plan area which define the visual setting of Fairfield; and, recognize the economic importance of agriculture in Solano County by directing the city’s growth away from Important Farmlands and prime agricultural soils.

**Objective AG 1**—Support preservation of existing agricultural lands.

**Policy AG 1.4**—Permanently preserve productive agricultural lands within the Suisun Valley by continuing to direct new urban development away from the Suisun Valley.

**Program 1.4A**—Where land is identified as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, or Unique Farmland on the most recent Important Farmland maps prepared by the California Department of Conservation and is proposed for conversion to urban uses, the city shall arrange for preservation of an equal amount of the same class of farmland within the area. Such an arrangement may be through fee purchase, purchase of conservation easements, payment of an in-lieu fee, or other mechanisms.

**Objective AG 2**—Encourage the preservation and expansion of the local agricultural economy.

**Policy AG 2.1**—Cooperatively work with farmers, property owners, universities, colleges, and agricultural organizations and agencies to enhance the viability of agricultural uses and activities.

**Policy AG 2.3**—Development shall not encroach upon or consume productive cropland in areas such as the Suisun Valley.

### Suisun City

The City of Suisun City General Plan Land Use Element includes the following policy relevant to the proposed project.

**Policy 6—Open Space for Agriculture.** Open spaces suitable for agricultural production within the city’s sphere of influence should be preserved under Solano County General Plan policies for agricultural preservation until such a time as these lands are needed and are determined to be feasible for urban development.

### ***Affected Environment***

The information below is summarized from the CIA prepared for the proposed project. Additional information comes from the County of Solano’s 2008 General Plan.

The California Department of Conservation’s FMMP tracks changes in farmland use, including the conversion of farmland to urban use. This program is informational only, and does not regulate land uses. The FMMP classifies farmland into four types. Prime Farmland is considered land with the best physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term production of crops. Farmland of Statewide Importance is land that is similar to Prime Farmland, but has minor faults, such as slopes or limited ability to store soil moisture. Unique Farmland has lesser quality soils used for the production of the state’s leading crops; it may be irrigated or include non-irrigated orchards or vineyards (together, these three farmland classifications constitute “Important Farmland”). Grazing Land contains existing vegetation suitable for livestock.

As of 2006, Solano County had a total of 360,562 acres of land under cultivation. Of this total, 139,536 acres were designated as Prime Farmland, 7,164 acres were designated as Farmland of Statewide Importance, 11,036 acres were designated as Unique Farmland, and 202,826 acres were used for grazing purposes (California Department of Conservation 2006). In 2006, the county produced a grand total of \$233,505,000 worth of agricultural products, accounting for 10% of all county economic activity but also representing a 2.2% decline from 2005, when Solano County produced a record \$238,689,600 worth of agricultural products (Solano County Department of Agriculture 2006). Farm production supports between 2,500 and 4,200 jobs and results in personal income of approximately \$140 million. However, it is important to keep in mind that these numbers do not reflect the sum of agriculture’s contribution to the economy of Solano County. A “multiplier effect” exists, whereby transportation, processing, marketing, and other farm-related activities significantly increase these values to the benefit of the regional economy.

Fairfield contains 2,981 acres of farmland within its urban limit line. Of this total, 1,179 acres are Prime Farmland, 314 acres are Farmland of Statewide Importance and 1,488 acres are Unique Farmland. Most of this land is concentrated in areas north of Travis Air Force Base and between I-80 and I-680 on the city's far western edge. According to the City of Fairfield General Plan, almonds, walnuts, and grapes are the city's primary agricultural products. Apricots, cherries, peaches, pears, prunes, and row crops are also grown.

Areas designated for agricultural purposes within the Suisun City planning area are limited. Remaining agricultural areas are primarily located east of Walters Road and south of SR 12E. Because of the high water table and poor soil conditions, these lands are used for grazing purposes only. No higher-quality farmlands are located within Suisun City limits.

According to U.S. Agricultural Census figures, the total dollar value of agricultural output in Solano County has steadily increased over the past 20 years. This trend has occurred in spite of the fact that total farmland acreage in the county has declined over the same period. Table 3.1.3-1 illustrates the trend of farmland conversion in Solano County from 1984 to 2006.

Between 1984 and 2006, 40,537 acres (1,843 acres per year) of agricultural land was converted to non-agricultural uses in Solano County. This conversion included 23,221 acres of Important Farmland at a rate of 1,056 acres per year. Approximately half of the converted acreage, or 12,689 acres, was considered Prime Farmland (California Department of Conservation 2006). During this same period, about 13,000 acres inside the cities' spheres of influence were converted to non-agricultural uses. This trend has caused local and regional governments to implement measures to preserve farmland.

In 2007, there were 265,629 acres of land held under Williamson Act contracts in Solano County. Table 3.1.3-2 and Figure 3.1.3-1 show parcels within the project area that are currently bound by Williamson Act contracts, as well as the acres that are being removed from the contract through cancellation or non-renewal.

**Table 3.1.3-1. Historical Agricultural Conversion in Solano County, 1984–2006**

Land Use Category	Acreage By Category <sup>a</sup>												Net Change	Average Annual Change
	1984	1986	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000 <sup>b</sup>	2002	2004	2006		
Prime Farmland	152,225	152,261	152,044	151,795	151,525	150,796	150,865	150,356	144,667	143,210	141,575	139,536	-12,689	-577
Farmland of Statewide Importance	12,620	12,293	12,084	12,125	11,580	11,345	11,498	11,088	10,772	7,582	7,286	7,164	-5,456	-248
Unique Farmland	16,112	15,972	17,211	13,641	13,469	13,380	13,504	13,969	14,495	13,736	12,012	11,036	-5,076	-231
<b>Important Farmland Subtotal</b>	180,957	180,526	181,339	177,561	176,574	175,521	175,867	175,413	169,934	164,528	160,873	157,736	-23,221	-1,056
Grazing Land	220,142	218,919	208,984	205,626	203,983	204,334	202,121	199,270	201,813	201,339	201,303	202,826	-17,316	-787
<b>Agricultural Land Subtotal</b>	401,099	399,445	390,323	383,187	380,557	379,855	377,988	374,683	371,747	365,867	362,176	360,562	-40,537	-1,843
Urban and Built-Up Land	40,171	40,610	41,594	46,066	48,374	48,651	51,015	53,130	53,801	55,434	57,717	58,628	18,457	839
Other Land <sup>c</sup>	90,489	91,791	99,832	102,497	102,714	101,548	101,184	102,375	107,129	111,376	112,730	113,433	22,944	1,043
Water Area	50,612	50,524	50,622	50,621	50,726	52,316	52,182	52,182	49,695	49,696	49,749	49,749	-863	-39
<b>Total Area Included in Inventory</b>	582,371	582,370	582,371	582,371	582,371	582,370	582,369	582,370	582,372	582,373	582,372	582,372	1	0

Source: Solano County 1984-2006 Land Use Summary. California Department of Conservation Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program 2006.

<sup>a</sup> Figures are generated from the most current version of the GIS data. Files dating from 1984 through 1992 were reprocessed with a standardized county line in the Albers Equal Area Projection and other boundary improvements.

<sup>b</sup> Due to the incorporation of digital soil survey data (SSURGO) in 2000, acreages for farmland, grazing and other land categories may differ from those published in the 1998–2000 Farmland Conversion Report. Water acreage also changed due to improvements to more accurately reflect the shoreline of San Pablo Bay.

<sup>c</sup> Other Land consists of nonagricultural land larger than 40 acres in size, and vacant land.

**Table 3.1.3-2. Affected Williamson Act Lands**

Map #	APN	Contract Number	Total Acres in Contract <sup>a</sup>
1	0027-251-330 0027-271-060	739	69.97
2	0148-260-010 0148-270-010	97	268.9
3	0148-270-340	1100	42.2
4	0150-270-050 0150-270-060	2	7.51
<b>Total</b>			<b>388.58</b>

Source: Solano Transportation Authority 2008.

<sup>a</sup> Acres for contracts 739 and 2 have been adjusted to account for land removed from these contracts by the North Connector Project which was approved by STA, May 14, 2008, and is under construction as of November 2009.

In addition to lands under Williamson Act contract, the project area includes lands restricted by conservation easements. Typically, conservation easements are legal agreements between property owners and government agencies or nonprofit organizations that permanently limit land development. Easements can restrict land to a prior use or preserve land for purposes of creating and maintaining open space. Some parcels in the project area are under both an agricultural easement and an open space easement. These easements are held by the Solano Land Trust. Table 3.1.3-3 shows the parcels in the project area that are restricted by conservation easements.

**Table 3.1.3-3. Conservation Easements in the Project Area**

Map #	APN	Type of Easement	Total Acres
1	0027-251-330 0027-271-060	Agricultural	69.97 <sup>a</sup>
5	0027-251-340	Agricultural	0.15
6	0027-251-400	Agricultural	0.06
7	0027-251-420	Agricultural	0.23
8	0027-251-440	Agricultural	2.05
<b>Total</b>			<b>72.46</b>

Source: Solano Transportation Authority 2008

<sup>a</sup> Acres have been adjusted to account for land removed from this easement by the North Connector Project which was approved by STA, May 14, 2008, and is under construction as of November 2009.

### **Environmental Consequences**

The method for determining affected agricultural parcels was identical to that used for determining parcel acquisitions (see Section 3.1.1). Additionally, affected acreage for each acquired agricultural parcel was determined by measuring the area of overlap between the project roadway linework and the edge of the parcel. Table 3.1.3-4 and Figures 3.1.3-2 and 3.1.3-3 show agricultural parcels affected by the proposed project alternatives. Parcels located in the footprint of more than one alternative are listed under each relevant alternative.

**Table 3.1.3-4. Impacted Agricultural Parcels**

Map #	APN	Project Segment	Total Acreage	Impacted Acreage
<b>Alternative B</b>				
1	0148-260-010 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	256.1	19.2
2	0148-260-050 <sup>a</sup>	Western	44.0	11.5
3	0148-260-080 <sup>a</sup>	Western	21.7	14.1
4	0148-270-010 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	12.8	2.2
5	0148-270-060	Western	6.0	3.0
6	0148-270-240 <sup>a</sup>	Western	15.0	4.8
7	0148-270-340 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	42.2	4.4
8	0046-050-180 <sup>a</sup>	Western	157.6	12.5
9	0027-251-330 <sup>c, d</sup>	Central	54.71	11.2
10	0027-271-060 <sup>b, c, d</sup>	Central	15.26	11.3
11	0148-260-060 <sup>a</sup>	Western	2.72	2.6
12	0027-510-160	Central	4.9	0.3
13	0150-270-050 <sup>b</sup>	Central	7.7	1.0
14	0150-270-060	Central	10.5	2.1
15	0032-010-390	Eastern	65	23.45
16	0032-020-040	Eastern	5	3.28
17	0032-020-140	Eastern	21.51	10.05
18	0032-020-160	Eastern	4.54	1.91
<b>Total</b>			<b>747.24</b>	<b>138.89</b>
<b>Alternative B, Phase -1</b>				
	No Agricultural Parcels Impacted		0	0
<b>Alternative C</b>				
1	0148-260-010 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	256.1	19.3
2	0148-260-050 <sup>a</sup>	Western	44.0	10
3	0148-260-080 <sup>a</sup>	Western	21.7	13.7
4	0148-270-010 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	12.8	3.9
5	0148-270-060	Western	6.0	4.5
6	0148-270-240 <sup>a</sup>	Western	15.0	6.8
7	0148-270-340 <sup>a, b</sup>	Western	42.2	4.6
8	0046-050-180 <sup>a</sup>	Western	157.6	11.8
9	0027-251-330 <sup>c, d</sup>	Central	54.71	11.2
10	0027-271-060 <sup>b, c, d</sup>	Central	15.26	11.3
12	0027-510-160	Central	4.85	0.27
13	0150-270-050 <sup>b</sup>	Central	7.66	1.01
14	0150-270-060	Central	10.47	2.05
15	0032-010-390	Central	65	7.06
16	0032-020-040	Central	5	0.87
17	0032-020-140	Central	21.51	8.6
18	0032-020-160	Central	4.54	2.83
19	0148-260-060 <sup>a</sup>	Western	2.72	2.6
<b>Total</b>			<b>747.12</b>	<b>122.39</b>
<b>Alternative C, Phase -1</b>				
1	0148-260-010 <sup>a</sup>	Western	256.1	19.3
2	0148-260-050 <sup>a</sup>	Western	44.0	10
3	0148-260-080 <sup>a</sup>	Western	21.7	13.7
4	0148-270-010 <sup>a</sup>	Western	12.8	3.9
5	0148-270-060	Western	6.0	4.5

Map #	APN	Project Segment	Total Acreage	Impacted Acreage
6	0148-270-240 <sup>a</sup>	Western	15.0	6.8
7	0148-270-340 <sup>a</sup>	Western	42.2	4.6
8	0046-050-180 <sup>a</sup>	Western	157.6	11.8
19	0148-260-060 <sup>a</sup>	Western	2.72	2.6
<b>Total</b>			<b>680.51</b>	<b>77.2</b>

Source: Solano County Assessor's Office 2007.

<sup>a</sup> Not Prime Farmland.

<sup>b</sup> Williamson Act Parcels.

<sup>c</sup> Valine Conservation Easement.

<sup>d</sup> Total Acreage adjusted to account for land removed by the North Connector Project which was approved by STA, May 14, 2008, and is under construction as of November 2009.

The federal AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form (also known as the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment or LESA form), which was completed in conjunction with the NRCS, allows the alternatives of the proposed project to be assessed for their impact on the viability of farmlands. This assessment helps to determine the impact each alternative might have on the farmlands in the project area. Correspondence with the NRCS and the completed AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form are contained in Appendix E.

For purposes of NEPA analysis, the LESA approach rates the impact of a proposed project on the basis of a scoring system. Specific criteria related to agricultural viability are examined by both the NRCS and the federal agency involved. Each criterion has a set number of points it may be awarded. A project's point total is compared to the "significance score" created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If the total site assessment is less than 160 points, a minimal level of consideration of protection would be given, but no further alternative analysis would be needed. The completed form may be found in Appendix C of the CIA. The LESA site assessment for Alternatives B and C are 137.7 and 134.3 respectively which are below the "significance score" of 160 points. As such, the NEPA analysis concludes that the proposed project would not adversely affect agriculture.

### Direct Conversion of Farmland

Alternative B would affect 18 parcels, converting roughly 140 acres of agricultural land to roadway, while Alternative B, Phase 1 would not affect agricultural land. Alternative B would encroach upon 48.76 acres of land held in Williamson Act contracts. Additionally, Alternative B would affect 22.5 acres of land protected by the Valine Ranch Conservation Easement through construction of the westbound truck scales relocation.

Alternative C would affect 19 parcels, converting roughly 122 acres of agricultural land, while Alternative C, Phase 1 would affect nine parcels, converting roughly 77 acres of agricultural land.

Affected farmlands in the western segment are not categorized as Prime Farmland and are used for dryland grazing. Prime Farmland in the central segment between Dan Wilson Creek and Suisun Creek have already been approved for development of a mixed-use project (Fairfield Corporate Commons Project) and is therefore not included in calculation of affected farmland. Alternative C would affect 22.5 acres of land protected by the Valine Ranch Conservation

Easement and 40 acres of land under a Williamson Act contract through construction of the westbound truck scales relocation.

Based on the results of the LESA scoring, neither Alternative B nor Alternative C would result in a substantial adverse effect on farmland and therefore Alternatives B, Phase 1 and Alternative C, Phase 1, because they represent a subset of improvements under Alternatives B and C, would also not result in a substantial adverse effect on farmlands

The No-Build Alternative would make no physical changes and therefore would have no effect on existing agricultural uses.

### **Conversion of Agricultural Lands under Williamson Act Contracts**

Alternative B, Alternative C, and Alternative C, Phase 1 would not be able to avoid the conversion of land held in Williamson Act contracts in the vicinity of the extension of Red Top Road to Business Center Drive and in the area of the westbound truck scales relocation. The affected portion of the Williamson Act parcels would be removed from the Williamson Act contract by cancellation, upon acquisition by the Department. The remainder of the parcels would be unaffected. Because Williamson Act contracts are related to the tax status of the parcel, and since the remainder of the Williamson Act contract would remain in place, this is not considered an adverse effect.

Alternative B, Phase 1 would not include construction in the vicinity of any Williamson Act parcels and therefore no conversion of lands under Williamson Act contracts would result. The No-Build Alternative would not result in any physical changes to the project area and therefore, would have no effect on lands under Williamson Act Contracts.

### **Conversion of Agricultural Lands under Conservation Easements**

Lands under the Valine Conservation Easement would also be affected by the proposed project. Both Alternative B and C would result in the acquisition and conversion of all of this land between the North Connector and I-80 for the westbound truck scales, approximately 22.5 acres. Because a conservation easement has been placed over this land, it is considered to have higher agricultural value than other agricultural land in the project area.

The No-Build Alternative would not result in any physical or land use changes and therefore would have no effect on agricultural lands under conservation easements.

### **Avoidance, Minimization, and/or Mitigation Measures**

The Department's *Environmental Handbook Volume 4, Community Impact Assessment*, Section 4-5.3 offers many possible mitigation measures for significant impacts on agriculture. They include choosing alternative alignments that would avoid farmland altogether, or that would convert fewer acres of farmland or take other farmland that has a lower relative value. However, Alternatives B and C have very similar impacts on agricultural lands in terms of the number of parcels and total acreage affected. Of the fundable first phases, Alternative B, Phase 1 would affect the least amount of agricultural land. The manual lists a number of measures to mitigate

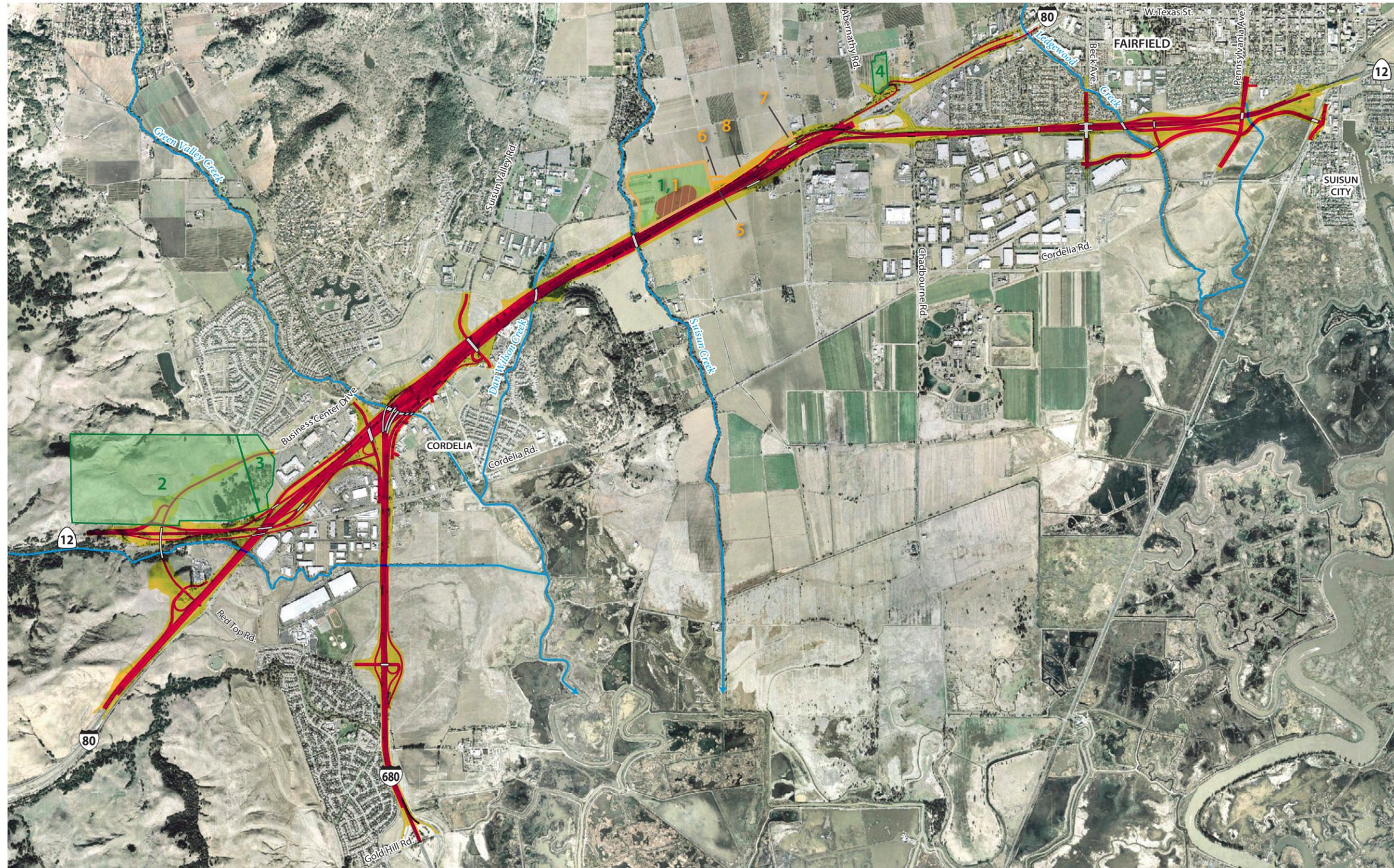
farmland impacts, of which the proposed project has implemented the use of concrete median barriers instead of wider medians.

### **Compensate for Conversion of Important Farmland**

The Department does not have a specific policy or regulation regarding mitigation for agricultural conversion, nor is the Department bound by local government policies or regulations regarding mitigation for agricultural conversion. However, the Department does consider local government policies and regulations in evaluating impact and determining what constitutes appropriate mitigation. In that context, the Department considered mitigation ratios used by STA as part of the North Connector Project (Final EIR certified May 18, 2008), as well as the recently adopted Solano County General Plan. In both those examples, the mitigation centers on protecting farmland within the county through purchase of conservation easements based on the acreage of farmland affected.

The Department applied the following mitigation ratios to the I-80 EB Cordelia Truck Scales Relocation Project (Final EIR/EA, October 2009, page 3-12) which represents the most recent and relevant example for mitigation of agricultural impacts associated with transportation projects in Solano County. To mitigate impacts on important farmland (those lands classified as “prime farmlands”), long-term land use restrictions such as agricultural conservation easements shall be obtained over Prime Farmland within Solano County at a 1:1 ratio (one acre protected for every one acre directly affected). Lands under an agricultural conservation easement are considered to have higher agricultural value than other agricultural land in the project area. As such, the mitigation for the loss of lands under easement will be implemented at a higher ratio of 1.25:1.

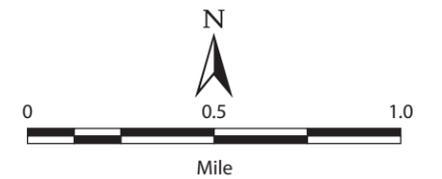




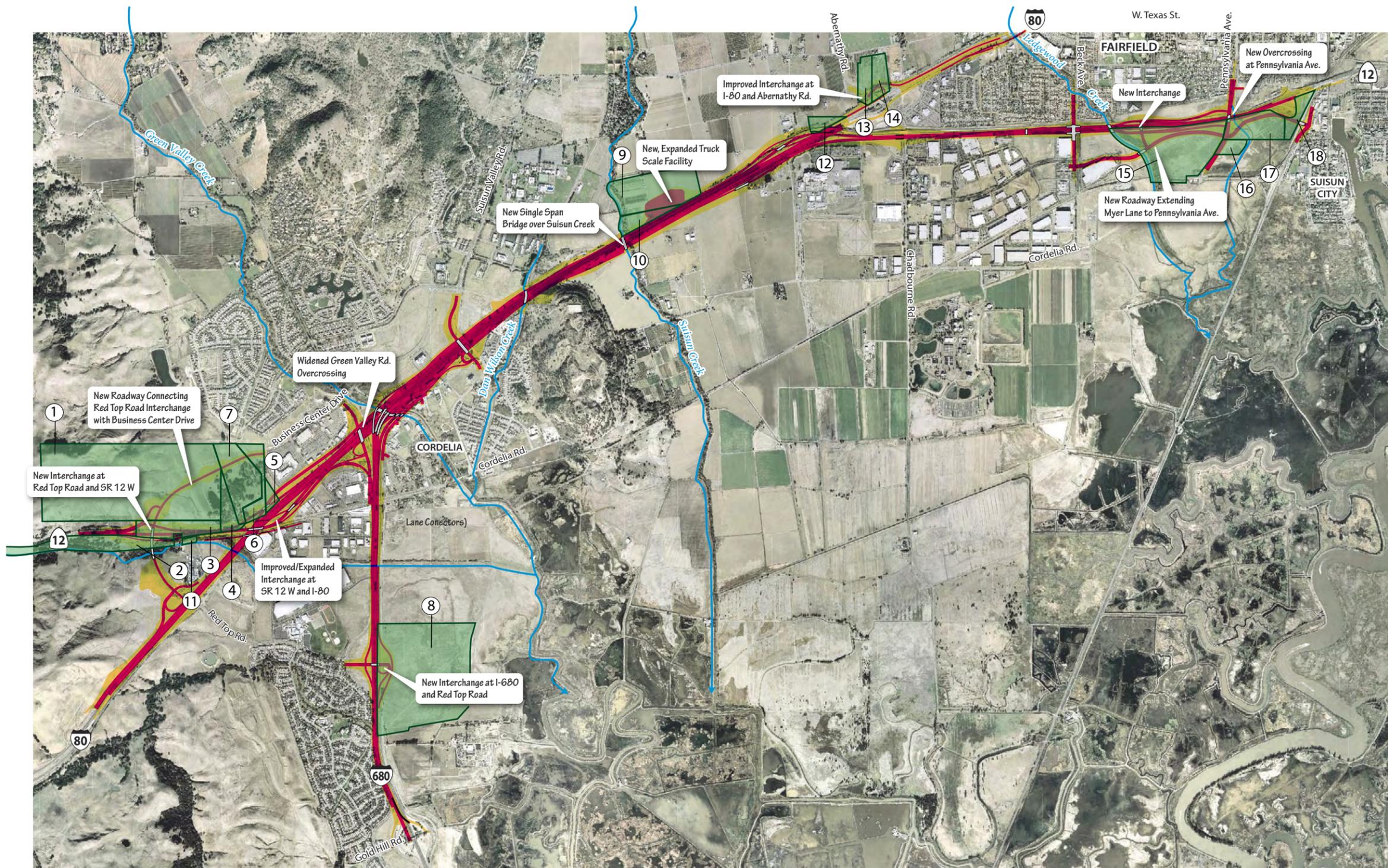
**Legend**

**I680/I80/SR12 Interchange Protected Lands**

-  Williamson Act Contract (See Table 3.1.3-2)
-  Conservation Easement (See Table 3.1.3-3)
-  Potential Area of Disturbance
-  Proposed New and Expanded/Improved Roads
-  Bridge
-  Creeks



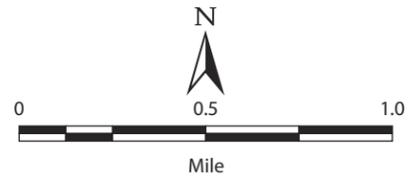
**Figure 3.1.3-1**  
**Lands under Williamson Contract and Conservation Easements**



**Legend**

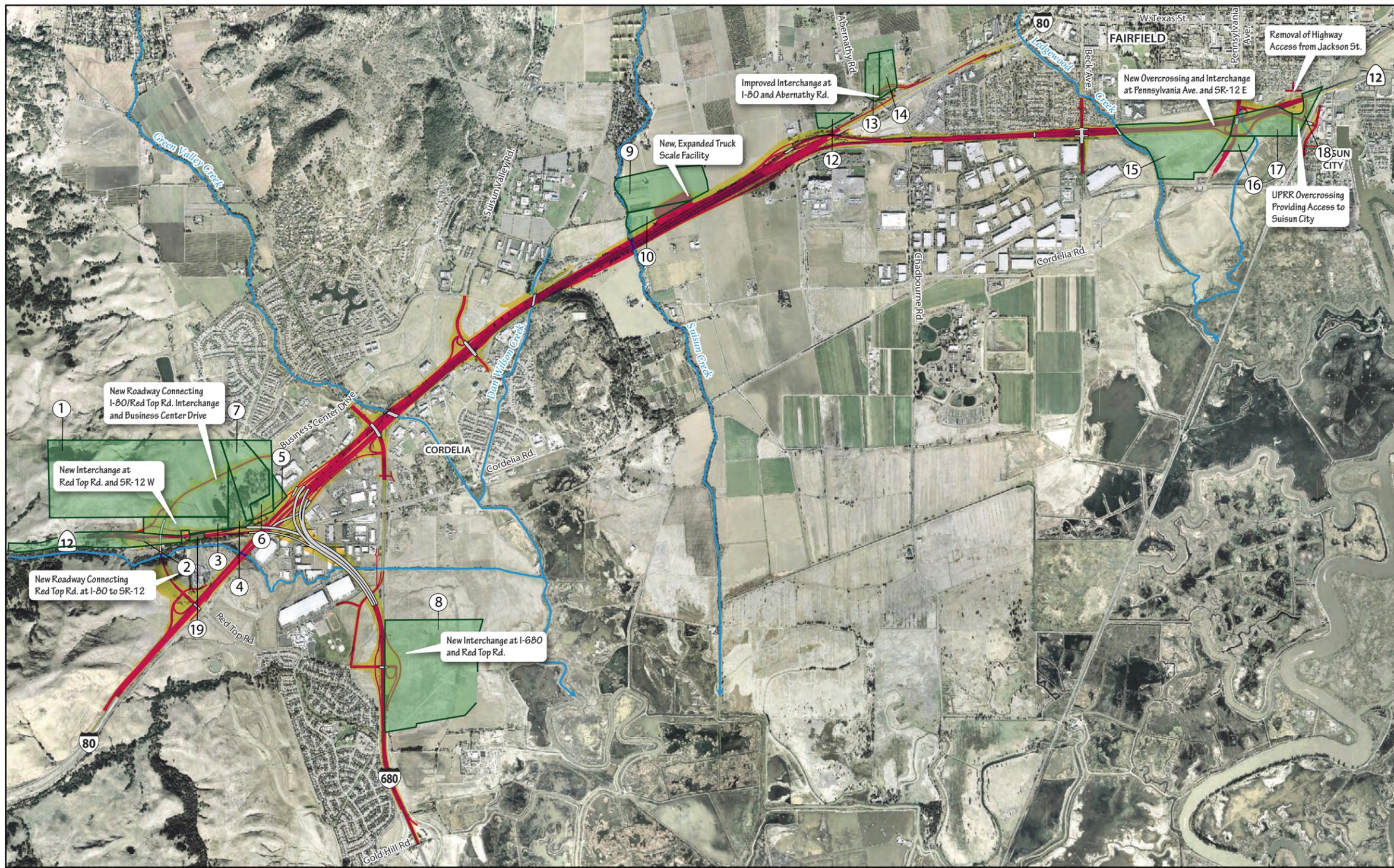
**I680/I80/SR12 Interchange**

- Impacted Agricultural Parcel (see Table 3.1.3-4)
- Potential Area of Disturbance
- Proposed New and Expanded/Improved Roads
- Bridge
- Creeks

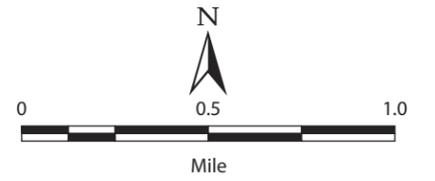


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**Figure 3.1.3-2**  
**Alternative B: Impacted Agricultural Parcels**



- Legend**
- I680/I80/SR12 Interchange**
- # Impacted Agricultural Parcel (see Table 3.1.3-4)
  - Potential Area of Disturbance
  - Proposed New and Expanded/Improved Roads
  - Bridge
  - Creeks



**Figure 3.1.3-3**  
**Alternative C: Impacted Agricultural Parcels**

