



**MEETING DATE:** June 10, 2025

**FROM:** Jon Kennedy

**RE:** SACOG 2025 Blueprint – Isleton Jurisdiction Highlight

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**BACKGROUND:**

On May 17, Councilmember Bulahan, Isleton’s representative to SACOG, forwarded the draft jurisdiction highlight provided by SACOG Outreach Coordinator Hannah Tschudin. The purpose of the document is to summarize local planning activities that align with the regional 2025 Blueprint.

The document is included for Council’s review. Any feedback or suggested edits may be submitted to SACOG following the meeting.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive presentation and consider providing edits or feedback on the draft jurisdiction highlight submitted by SACOG for the 2025 Blueprint publication.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

A. BLUEPRINT 2025

# DRAFT Isleton Jurisdiction Highlight

Tucked into the Sacramento Delta, the City of Isleton is a community shaped by its geography, history, and enduring cultural legacy. Located within a designated flood plain, Isleton faces unique development challenges. Despite these obstacles, the community remains resilient and committed to laying the groundwork for thoughtful revitalization.

Known for its eclectic local festivals, including the Spam Festival and the Crawdad Festival, the city embraces its rich cultural identity and continues to celebrate the diversity that defines it.

## Reinvesting in Isleton's Main Street

The city is working on updating its infrastructure design to breathe new life into Isleton's downtown. In 2020, the City of Isleton worked with SACOG, its consultants and a fourth-year architecture class from the University of San Francisco to reimagine the Main Street corridor. To ensure that the design reflected the values and needs of the community, a Design Advisory Committee was formed of local community members to provide guidance and feedback throughout the planning process.

The redesign plan focuses on creating a more accessible, welcoming, and pedestrian-friendly environment. Key improvements include reconfiguring parking to increase capacity, installing curb bulb-outs at intersections to enhance safety for both drivers and people walking, planting shade trees to mitigate summer heat, and exploring the addition of parklets which are small outdoor seating areas that encourage social interaction and community gathering.

These enhancements are intended not only to improve the streetscape but also to stimulate local economic activity. With many storefronts currently vacant and some buildings occupied in violation of residential use codes, revitalization of Main Street is essential. By enforcing parking regulations and investing in public infrastructure, Isleton aims to increase foot traffic, attract new businesses, and support long-term commercial growth.

## Asian American Heritage Park: Honoring Cultural Legacy

A major step in Isleton's efforts to preserve and celebrate its history is the development of the Asian American Heritage Park. Located at 27 Main Street, adjacent to the historic Bing Kong Tong building, which serves as the Isleton Museum, the park will serve as an educational and commemorative space, highlighting the experiences and contributions of Chinese and Japanese Americans in Isleton and across the United States.

The park's entrance will feature an interpretive exhibit wall detailing the settlement history of Chinese and Japanese communities in the region. A central element of the park is the Kansho-do, a meditation structure designed to serve as a space for quiet reflection and remembrance. The Kansho-do serves as a symbolic reminder of the church that once stood on F Street, a spiritual and communal center for Isleton's Japanese families prior to World War II internment.

The park will also feature exhibits and educational materials addressing significant historical events such as the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the story of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a highly decorated Japanese American unit that served during World War II. In addition, the park will highlight the legacy of regional Asian American business owners and community leaders, encouraging reflection on themes of sacrifice, perseverance, and social justice.

## Conclusion

Isleton is a community with a rich historical foundation and a clear vision for the future. Through the development of the Asian American Heritage Park and the transformation of Main Street, the city is demonstrating a commitment to honoring its past while creating new opportunities for growth. These efforts reflect a broader mission to build a resilient, inclusive, and economically vibrant community for current and future generations.