



Draft Vision Concepts

The most powerful way to state our vision is to place ourselves in the future and see what we have achieved; what our communities are like; what the quality of life means at that point in time. So, if you will “fast forward” to about the year 2020 and look around, you will see our vision.

Because the Riverside County Integrated Plan was adopted and implementation has been underway for almost 20 years...

1. Corridors and areas are preserved for distinctive purposes: multi-purpose open space, including wildlife; economic development, including agriculture; residences; public facilities; and transportation systems.
2. Growth involving new development or expansion of existing development is consistently accompanied by the public improvements required to serve it.
3. The rich diversity of the County’s environmental resources—even those modified by human activities—is preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of present and future generations.
4. There is an adequate supply and quality of critical water resources essential to support development, agriculture, wildlife, and open space.
5. Multipurpose regional open space and community/neighborhood public spaces are permanent elements of the Riverside County landscape.
6. Public facilities such as schools, law enforcement related facilities, libraries, fire stations, community centers and other facilities essential to providing community services are in place.
7. Public access to recreation opportunities is part of the overall open space system, with multi-purpose parks, play fields, and community facilities at varied sizes in accessible locations.
8. Our communities maintain their individual distinctive qualities and character, surrounded in most cases (except in the Coachella Valley, where cities physically merge into a continuous development pattern) by open space or non-intensive uses to contribute to their sense of unique identity. Community centers, gathering places, and special focal points unique to each community also aid this identity.
9. A full range of housing has been achieved and an ongoing program is in operation to continually meet this need.
10. Development standards are consistently high, offset in cost by the absence of unpredictable time delays and conflict in the development review process. This is possible because the places where development should occur are clearly defined and the standards for development in cities and the County highly consistent.
11. Infill and redevelopment that enhance and revitalizes communities are contributing to the accommodation of growth.



12. Our communities—both improvements to existing ones and newly emerging ones—are models for new ways to provide and manage infrastructure, deliver education, access jobs, apply new technology, and achieve greater efficiency in the use of land, structures, and public improvements.
13. A comprehensive transportation system operates at regional, countywide, community and neighborhood scales. As part of that system, transportation corridors serve as unifying connectors between communities, provide high capacity linkages between jobs, residences and recreational opportunities, and offer multiple modes of travel.
14. Expanded local employment opportunities and broadening of choices provided by the transportation system and technological advances in communications systems have resulted in reduced vehicle miles and vehicle hours traveled (compared to what would otherwise have occurred), contributing to an improved quality of life generally and improved air quality specifically.
15. Clusters of similar businesses and industries are created within areas designated for job generating uses and our expanded educational institutions provide preparation and training for the new jobs created in these clusters.
16. Though overall acreage in agricultural production has diminished, proactive measures have retained economically viable agricultural lands, which are well protected as valuable economic resources and, in some areas, have expanded.
17. Many dimensions of the Riverside County Vision are being achieved through expanded levels of intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships that represent commitments to common ground not achievable in the past.
18. Because of the achievements in an improved quality of life, more people are involved in assisting the planning and implementation process than has historically been the case.

TRANSLATING ISSUES INTO VISION

A number of issues were raised by the people of Riverside County during the outreach process aimed at finding out their opinions and concerns about the future. The people had much to say. The issues they talked about and the ideas they had for improvement fell into twelve subject areas. Those subject headings follow, with vision statements applicable to each one. Each topic begins with a brief narrative summary, followed by a number of specific items that make up the vision for that topic.