



Population Growth

There is no question that the process of accommodating almost a doubling of population in the last 20 years has been challenging. Yet, the emerging pattern of growth is now much clearer than it was during earlier growth periods. Perhaps more importantly, because of this clarity, there is now a much stronger focus on the quality of growth and development, rather than a fear of being overwhelmed by the numbers. Population growth has been accompanied by an even greater expansion of jobs.

Riverside County and its cities are so well coordinated in their growth forecasting activities that regional forecast revisions accept locally generated forecasts as a matter of course. This has many benefits for the people of Riverside County, such as unquestioned qualifications for receiving funding under various state and federal programs and stronger competition for available discretionary funding programs to supplement local resources.

1. New growth patterns no longer reflect a pattern of random sprawl. Rather, they follow a framework of transportation and open space corridors, with concentrations of development that fit into that framework. In other words, important open space and transportation corridors define growth areas.
2. Growth focus in this County is on quality, not on frustrating efforts to halt growth.
3. Population growth continues and is focused where it can best be accommodated.
4. Growth is well coordinated between cities and the County and they jointly influence periodic state and regional growth forecasts affecting Riverside County and its cities.

Our Communities and Their Neighborhoods

Each community in the County is identified uniquely as a special place. This includes incorporated cities, unincorporated communities, new communities, and tribal holdings. The combination of multipurpose open space systems, transportation networks, and land suitable for development distinguishes those areas that logically fit into future expansion of cities, creation of new communities, and preservation of rural enclaves.

Cooperative policies and programs are now in place that closely coordinate cities, the County of Riverside, and the Local Agency Formation Commission in concentrating development where it is most appropriate and still allowing considerable choice in location for individual property owners, developers and future residents. This collaboration is widely respected as a means of assuring the integrity of communities within the County, whether they are incorporated, unincorporated, or tribal in status.

Earlier problems clearly associated with leapfrog development (development that "skips over" developable land and establishes inefficient development patterns) have virtually disappeared. Areas slated for development are clearly