



of new housing, rehabilitated housing, group housing, resale, mixed-use development, and various housing assistance programs where they are needed.

2. Regional forecasts of housing needs are well coordinated within Riverside county and are accepted by regional and state agencies.
3. Census data is well-integrated into housing needs forecasts.
4. There is now a balance between the residential development capacities of the County and city general plans within the County and regional housing needs.
5. Mixed-use development occurs at numerous urban concentrations in city spheres and unincorporated communities, many of which include residential uses.
6. All housing projects required by law to provide access to people with disabilities now do so.
7. Universal access guidelines are adopted and a system of incentives is in place to include them as a key feature of residential development projects.
8. Because of the clarity of direction now provided by the General Plan and the cooperative arrangements with most of the cities, constraints on providing affordable housing attributable to excessive local regulations have been eliminated.
9. Adequate housing for farm laborers is now provided.
10. Housing plans are well-integrated throughout the County at four levels:
  - a. Subregionally at the Area Plan level;
  - b. Within cities and unincorporated communities;
  - c. Within large-scale development projects; and
  - d. At the project site planning level where housing is involved.

## Transportation

*Our transportation system has more than kept pace with the growth in population, employment and tourism and their demands for mobility. New and expanded transportation corridors connect growth centers at key locations throughout the County. Several corridors have built-in transit service and all have expansion capability to accommodate various forms of transit. Some are now providing express bus service to Metrolink stations. These same corridors are designed with a high regard for the environment, including provision of critical wildlife corridor crossings so that our open spaces can sustain their habitat value. Air travel access by our residents and businesses is convenient*



## County of Riverside General Plan - *Hearing Draft*

### *Vision Statement*

*and is an integral part of the Southern California air transportation network with worldwide connections.*

1. Major new and expanded transportation corridors accommodating automobiles and other transit modes are now partially developed, with design and funding for additional segments underway. The existing components of the system now work together with each other to afford optimum mobility for the people being served.
2. Strategies of local job creation, coupled with improvements to the transportation system, allow County residents to have access to a wide range of job opportunities within reasonable commute times.
3. Riverside County and its communities are preeminent in their commitment to providing public transportation facilities and services to all people who need them. Where shortfalls remain, strategies are in place to expand universal access services as funding can be established.
4. Airports serving the County are tied into the regional air transportation system and operate as an efficient and convenient transportation mode to accommodate the traveling needs of the people and move selected goods quickly in the highly competitive international marketplace.
5. New fuels technologies are in place at key locations making a diversity of choices available according to the needs of users, particularly among the business fleet users.
6. Toll-way options are being explored as a means of achieving improved capacity in critical corridors.
7. Investment in, and expansion of, the existing freeway and arterial street networks continue to be a critical part of our comprehensive transportation system development.
8. Strategically planned truck routes (including exclusive truck lanes) provide for the movement of goods as a critical component of our transportation system.
9. The new California high-speed rail system now serves Riverside County directly, providing a strategic advantage for the County's business community.
10. Promotion of efficient intermodal freight facilities in the Inland Empire has achieved a shift of a portion of the goods previously moved by trucks onto the rail freight system.
11. The land use/transportation connection is a key part of the development process and has served to reduce the number of vehicle trips compared to earlier patterns of development.
12. Direct and immediate access to multi-purpose open space areas is provided in most areas of the County.



13. The transportation system now has sufficient financial supported to ensure that what is built can be adequately maintained.
14. Ample use is made of advanced transportation technology to ensure that the physical infrastructure is used to its maximum potential. This includes methods of achieving optimum efficiency of transit operations to provide increased frequency and reliability of transit delivery systems.
15. Reliable, real-time information is readily available to travelers for all major transit system routes, including fares, schedules, and current level of service on major roadways in the region to assist travelers in making choices regarding routes and mode of travel.

## Conservation and Open Space Resource System

*The County's conservation and open space resources are preserved and managed to a degree not thought possible 20 years ago. The multi-purpose open space system provides for multi-species habitat preservation rather than a piecemeal approach to single species. This enables the natural diversity of plants and animals to sustain themselves because of the critical relationships between them. Extensive land areas set-aside for this purpose and they are linked by corridors of various designs to allow movement between habitat areas. In addition, the public's access to the open space system is significantly expanded for recreation purposes, enabling a variety of active and passive recreation pursuits. Trails provide a means of recreation in themselves, as well as access for less intensive recreation. Creative and effective means of acquiring open space have enabled establishment of this system so that private property rights are respected and acquisition costs are feasible. This system also provides an effective approach that has eliminated conflict over development activities because of the demonstrated commitment to permanently preserving critical open space resources.*

1. Conserved multi-purpose open space is viewed as a critical part of the County's system of public facilities and services required to improve the existing quality of life and accommodate new development.
2. The open space system and the methods for its acquisition, maintenance, and operation are calibrated to its many functions: visual relief, natural resource protection, habitat preservation, passive and active recreation, protection from natural hazards, and various combinations of these purposes. This is what is meant by a multi-purpose open space system.
3. A major thrust of the multipurpose open space system is the preservation of components of the ecosystem and landscape that embody the historic character and habitat of the County, even though some areas have been impacted by man-made changes.
4. Native habitat for plants and animals endemic to this area that make up such important parts of our natural heritage now have interconnected spaces in a number of locations that allow these natural communities to prosper and be sustained.