



Circulation

The circulation system is vital to the prosperity of a community. It provides for the movement of goods and people within and outside of the community and includes motorized and non-motorized travel modes from bicycles, to trains, to aircraft, and automobiles. In Riverside County, the circulation system is also intended to accommodate a pattern of concentrated growth, providing both a regional and local linkage system between unique communities. This system is multi-modal, which means that it provides numerous alternatives to the automobile, such as mass transit, pedestrian systems, and bicycle facilities so that Riverside County citizens and visitors can access the region by a number of transportation options.



Innovative designs allow for increased density in key locations, such as near transit stations, with associated benefits. In these and other neighborhoods as well, walking, bicycling, and transit systems are attractive alternatives to driving for many residents.



- RCIP Vision

As stated in the Vision and the Land Use Element, the County is moving away from a growth pattern of random sprawl toward a pattern of concentrated growth and increased job creation. The intent of the new growth patterns and the new mobility systems is to accommodate the transportation demands created by future growth and to provide mobility options that help reduce the need to utilize the automobile. The circulation system is designed to fit into the fabric of the land use patterns and accommodate the open space systems.

While the following section describes the circulation system as it relates to the Harvest Valley/Winchester planning area, it is important to note that the programs and policies are supplemental to and coordinated with the policies of the General Plan Circulation Element. In other words, the circulation system of the Harvest Valley/Winchester Area Plan is tied to the countywide system and long range direction. As such, successful implementation of the policies in the Harvest Valley/Winchester Area Plan will help to create an interconnected and efficient circulation system for the entire County.

LOCAL CIRCULATION POLICIES

Vehicular Circulation System

The vehicular circulation system that supports the Land Use Plan for the Harvest Valley/Winchester planning area is shown on Figure 6, Circulation. The vehicular circulation system in the Harvest Valley/Winchester planning area is anchored by State Routes 74 and 79, which run east-west and north-south respectively. At the time of the adoption of this area plan, there were three proposed alignments for State Route 79, as described in detail in subsequent sections. Interstate 215 runs north-south and is adjacent to a portion of the Harvest Valley/Winchester planning area, west of Romoland. A system of arterials and collector roads branch off from these major roadways and serve local uses. Chief among these are Newport Road and Domenigoni Parkway, which provide east-west access, and Briggs and Menifee Roads, which provides north-south access.

Policies:



HVWAP 8.1 Design and develop the vehicular roadway system per Figure 6, Harvest Valley/Winchester Area Plan Circulation, and in



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accordance with the Functional Classifications and Standards section of the General Plan Circulation Element.



HVWAP 8.2 Maintain the County’s roadway Level of Service standards as described in the Level of Service section of the General Plan Circulation Element.

Rail Transit

The Burlington Northern/Santa Fe rail line physically bisects the planning area and divides it into northern and southern halves. The railroad is currently being used for freight and cargo hauling, but has the potential to be used for passenger service. This route would connect the City of Hemet with the March Air Reserve Base and the City of Riverside. Expanded regional access available from a new transit opportunity would reinforce the development of new homes, business, and recreational opportunities here.

Policies:



HVWAP 9.1 Maintain and enhance existing railroad facilities in accordance with the Freight Rail section of the General Plan Circulation Element.

HVWAP 9.2 Work with railroad companies to create a transit stop in the Winchester Community Center Overlay that serves both regional and local transit traffic and is integrated with the Transit Oasis Concept.

Trails and Bikeway System

The County of Riverside contains multi-purpose trails that accommodate bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian trails that traverse urban, rural, and natural areas. These multi-use trails accommodate hikers, bicyclists, equestrian users or others as an integral part of the County's circulation system. These multi-use trails serve both as a means of connecting the unique communities and activity centers throughout the County and as an effective alternate mode of transportation. In addition to transportation, the trail system also serves as a community amenity by providing recreation and leisure opportunities as well as separations between communities.

As shown on Figure 7, Trails and Bikeway System, the Harvest Valley/Winchester planning area supports an extensive system of existing and proposed trails and bikeways. An example is the Salt Creek recreational trail, which runs east-west along Salt Creek, connecting Hemet to Sun City. A few proposed trails and bikeways serve residential, commercial, and mixed uses, increasing the accessibility to these uses by pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrian enthusiasts.

Policies:



HVWAP 10.1 Maintain and improve the trails and bikeways system, as shown on Figure 7, and as it is discussed in the Non-Motorized