



County of Riverside General Plan - *Hearing Draft*

Highgrove Area Plan

described in the Multipurpose Open Space section. There are, of course, both natural and man made hazards to consider, and they are spelled out in the Hazards section.

A Special Note on Implementing the Vision

The preface to this area plan is a summary version of the Riverside County Vision That summary is, in turn, simply an overview of a much more extensive and detailed Vision of Riverside County two decades or more into the future This area plan, as part of the Riverside County General Plan, is one of the major devices for making the Vision a reality.

No two area plans are the same. Each represents a unique portion of the incredibly diverse place known as Riverside County While many share certain common features, each of the plans reflects the special characteristics that define its area's unique identity. These features include not only physical qualities, but also the particular boundaries used to define them, the stage of development they have reached, the dynamics of change expected to affect them, and the numerous decisions that shape development and conservation in each locale. That is why the Vision cannot and should not be reflected uniformly.

Policies at the General Plan and area plan levels implement the Riverside County Vision in a range of subject areas as diverse as the scope of the Vision itself The land use pattern contained in this area plan is a further expression of the Vision as it is shaped to fit the terrain and the conditions in the Highgrove area.

To illustrate how the Vision has shaped this area plan, the following highlights reflect certain strategies that link the Vision to the land. This is not a comprehensive enumeration; rather, it emphasizes a few of the most powerful and physically tangible examples.

Open Space Resources. The rolling hillside terrain, rock outcroppings, and riparian corridors of the Highgrove area define the character of this region. The Box Springs Mountains and Springbrook Wash are prime examples of the area's prominent open space and rural character. They also serve as important habitat preservation areas for several species. The plan preserves the character of the Box Springs Mountains with the application of the Open Space Conservation designation, and applies specific policy guidance for the preservation of Springbrook Wash.

Rural Character. The rural nature of the Highgrove area is evident throughout much of the planning area. The community of Highgrove, particularly in its eastern half, has a very distinct rural character. The land use patterns reflect a strong commitment to continuation of the cherished rural/semi-rural lifestyle in this part of the County.

Data in this area plan is current as of June 19, 2001. Any General Plan amendments approved subsequent to that date are not reflected in this area plan and must be supported by their own environmental documentation. A process for incorporating any applicable portion of these amendments into this area plan will be part of the General Plan Implementation Program.