



## Introduction

Throughout the Area Plan, special features have been included to enhance the readability and practicality of the information provided. Look for these elements:



**Quotes** — quotations from the RCIP Vision or individuals involved or concerned with Riverside County.



**Factoids** — interesting information about Riverside County that is related to the element.



**References** — contacts and resources that can be consulted for additional information.



**Definitions** — clarification of terms and vocabulary used in certain policies or text.



Unincorporated land is all land within the County that is not within an incorporated city or an Indian Nation. Generally, it is subject to policy direction and under the land use authority of the Board of Supervisors. However, it may also contain state and federal properties that lie outside of Board authority.

The first thing to understand about the Temescal Canyon Area Plan is that it encompasses the western gateway to Riverside County. The Plan area wraps around the City of Corona which straddles the 91 freeway corridor, a critically important path of travel for commuters to Orange County, and Interstate 15, an important route out of the Canyon in an emergency. Further, while the largest segment of this unincorporated area is actually a part of Temescal Canyon, the Area Plan incorporates other communities with vastly different qualities. They range from the largely open space area at the western edge of the Area Plan in the Santa Ana Canyon, to the specialized County island communities of Coronita and Home Gardens. Perhaps the most singular quality of this part of Riverside County is its dominance by landforms of regional significance: the Santa Ana Mountains and Cleveland National Forest, the Santa Ana River, and the Gavilan Hills and Temescal Wash. The traveler passing through this area cannot help but be impressed by the natural features that define the edges and spaces here, and by the wide variety of activities that take place here. This narrow canyon incorporates residential development together with commercial and light industrial areas, and sand and gravel extraction areas.

The Temescal Canyon Area Plan doesn't just provide a description of the location, physical characteristics, and special features here. It contains a Land Use Plan, statistical summaries, policies and accompanying exhibits that allow anyone interested in the continued prosperity of this area to understand the physical, environmental, and regulatory characteristics that make this such a unique area. Background information also provides insights that help in understanding the issues that require special focus here and the reasons for the more localized policy direction found in this document.

Each section of the Area Plan addresses critical issues facing Temescal Canyon. Perhaps a description of these sections will help in understanding the organization of the Area Plan as well as appreciating the comprehensive nature of the planning process that led to it. The Location section explains where the Area Plan fits with what is around it and how it relates to the cities that impact it. Physical features are described in a section that highlights the planning area's communities, surrounding environment and natural resources. This leads naturally to the Land Use Plan section, which describes the land use system guiding development at both the countywide and area plan levels.

While a number of these designations reflect the unique features found only in Temescal Canyon, a number of special policies are still necessary to address unique situations. The Policy Areas section presents these additional policies. Land use related issues are addressed in the Land Use section. The Plan also describes relevant transportation issues, routes, and modes of transportation in the Circulation section. The key to understanding the valued open space network is described in the Multipurpose Open Space section. There are both natural and man made hazards to consider, and they are spelled out in the Hazards section.