



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 County of Riverside 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 Temescal Canyon 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.

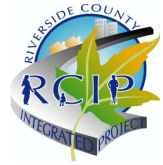
Pattern of Development & Open Space. The Plan intensifies and mixes uses at a development node adjacent to Interstate 15, more accurately reflects topography and natural resources in the Santa Ana Mountains and Gavilan Hills with appropriate land use designations, and avoids high intensity development in natural hazard areas. Land use densities step down into areas constrained by natural features, resources or habitats, and where possible into natural resource extraction areas. Where designations might conflict with implementation of the Vision, areas are addressed with appropriate policies.

Community Centers. This method of concentrating development to achieve community focal points, stimulate a mix of activities, promote economic development, achieve more efficient use of land, create a transit friendly and walkable environment, and offer a broader mix of housing choices is a major device for implementing the RCIP Vision. A Community Center designation has been located within the Serrano Policy Area adjacent to Interstate 15. This center is intended to provide a mix of Job Center serving uses and to assist in accommodating the need to balance jobs and housing in this area in order to reduce the impacts of commuting.

Watercourses. Temescal Wash is a major influence on the character of this area plan, traversing the length of it from northeast to southwest adjacent to Interstate 15. Policy direction in the area plan related to the Wash reflects a desire to buffer it from development so that its scenic and natural resource values are retained.

County of Riverside General Plan - *Hearing Draft*

Temescal Canyon Area Plan



Santa Ana River Corridor/Prado Basin. The Santa Ana River is one of the most significant watercourses in the nation, partly because it serves such a major part of this entire region and is one of the most rapidly growing watersheds in the continental United States. Moreover, it offers outstanding value in the area of drainage, flood control, water conservation, and natural habitat conservation/restoration. The Plan reinforces these functions through the pattern of recreation and open space designations in combination with extensive area plan policies focused on this area.

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 is part of the General Plan Implementation Program.