



Multipurpose Open Space

The Temescal Canyon planning area contains a multitude of open space functions, hence the label of “multi-purpose.” The point is that open space is really a part of the public infrastructure and should have the capability of serving a variety of needs and diversity of users. The Temescal Canyon natural open space resources are unusually extensive and important compared to some other parts of the County. That means that these resources require thoughtful preservation and, in some cases, restoration. This Multipurpose Open Space section is a critical component of the character of the County of Riverside and of the Temescal Canyon Area Plan. Preserving the scenic background and natural resources of this area gives meaning to the “remarkable environmental setting” portion of the overall Riverside County Vision. Not only that: these open spaces also help define the edges of and separation between communities, which is another important aspect of the Vision. In fact, they even serve to mark the edge of the entire County.

In this area plan, the natural characteristics are especially dominant factors in determining appropriate development/conservation policies. They offer design opportunities for quality development and define areas of exceptionally rich habitat value, partly owing to their expansive coverage of the landscape. In addition, achieving a desirable end state of valued local open space to benefit residents and visitors will require sensitive design attention in laying out development proposals.

LOCAL OPEN SPACE POLICIES



Oak woodland in southwestern Riverside County

Oak Tree Preservation

Temescal Canyon contains significant oak woodland areas that provide habitat and maintain character of the area. These oak woodlands can be found in: the Gavilan Hills, the Cleveland National Forest, and the Prado Basin. It is necessary to protect this natural resource in order to preserve the character and one of the many unique natural habitats in the area.

Policies:



TCAP 16.1 Protect viable oak woodlands through adherence to the Oak Tree Management Guidelines adopted by the County of Riverside.



Mineral extraction area in Temescal Canyon

Mineral Resource Extraction

There are significant areas of mineral resource extraction within Temescal Canyon. The area contains regionally important aggregate and clay resources, as well as non-regionally important mineral resources. Most of these resources are currently being extracted or are being held in reserve for future extraction. Compatibility with surrounding land uses, potential noxious impacts, surface runoff management, and the future reclamation of the sites must be considered for all existing and proposed mineral extraction areas.