



Policy Areas



Eagle Mountain townsite with tailings in background



A Policy Area is a portion of an area plan that contains special or unique characteristics that merit detailed attention and focused policies. Policy Area locations and boundaries are shown on Figure 4, Policy Areas, and are described in detail below.

POLICY AREAS

Eagle Mountain Landfill and Townsite

The 5,500-acre former Kaiser iron ore mining facility has been permitted to transition into a Class III nonhazardous solid waste landfill. Waste transported by rail will be shipped in containers along the Southern Pacific mainline to a rail junction at Ferrum, from which it will be transported along the private 52-mile Eagle Mountain rail line to the project. The adjacent 428-acre townsite, which once provided housing and services for Kaiser employees and their families, will serve the same purpose for the landfill employees. These policies augment other General Plan policies in guiding that transition.

Policies:

- DCAP 1.1 Development and operations within this area shall be in accordance with Specific Plans #305 and 306 (see Table 3).
- DCAP 1.2 Development and operations of the landfill shall minimize adverse effects from animals, odor, noise, air quality and traffic on adjacent land uses, habitats, and Joshua Tree National Park.

Desert Center and Lake Tamarisk

Development in this remote location has primarily served the commercial and recreational needs of the highway traveler. The Lake Tamarisk retirement community includes single family homes and a central golf course, affording its residents a self-contained residential enclave but offering no local services. The Desert Center general aviation airport has the potential to serve the area for limited, visual flight operations, but no control facility exists and there is little use of the desert airstrip. Nevertheless, if even limited development occurs at Eagle Mountain, Lake Tamarisk or Desert Center, this aviation access may become more important. The following policies contribute to achieving a future condition that is very similar to existing and past development.

Policies:

- DCAP 2.1 Maintain a separation between the highway-serving commercial uses near Interstate 10 and the Lake Tamarisk community.
- DCAP 2.2 Restrict future growth and/or redevelopment to the existing Community Development areas of Lake Tamarisk and at the