



## 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.*

One of the most notable qualities of Riverside County is simply its expansiveness. In a word, it's huge—the size of some states. The Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan (REMAP) is much larger—by almost ten percent—than nearby Orange County! This vastness is not just a matter of size. Dominated by the San Jacinto Mountains, REMAP includes some of the most spectacular landscape in Riverside County including 12,000 foot peaks and Alpine zones. From the picturesque Garner Valley high in the mountains to the village of Aguanga; from the rural enclaves along Sage Road to the spectacular vistas from the Pines to Palms Highway; this is a land that demands awe. The people and the land here have developed a relationship that matches lifestyles to the grandeur of this place. The REMAP seeks to sustain that relationship because it is so appropriate to the situation and so unique to this area.

A word must be stated regarding the titles used in this area plan. As noted, the acronym REMAP actually refers to the Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan—this planning document. At the same time, it has become so identified with this part of the County that it doubles as a name for the area as well. Thus, REMAP is both a shorthand for the Plan and a name for the area the plan covers. It will be used interchangeably for both purposes in this document.

The REMAP 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 distinctive mountainous region 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 REMAP. 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 REMAP, a number of special policies are still necessary to address unique situations. The Policy Areas section presents these policies. Land use isn't the only key factor in developing and conserving land here. The Plan also describes relevant circulation 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, of course, both natural and man made hazards to consider and they are spelled out in the Hazards section.