

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

207B



FROM: TLMA - Planning Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 31, 2011

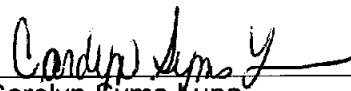
SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT No. 1096 – Entitlement/Policy – Applicant: County of Riverside – Engineer/Representative: N/A- All Supervisorial Districts - Various Zoning Districts/Areas – All Area Plans- Various Land Use Designations– Location: Countywide – N/A Gross Acres - Zoning: Various Zones- **REQUEST:** This County-Initiated General Plan Amendment articulates a vision that would promote a healthy built environment for Riverside County Residents by addressing the major intersections of public health and planning including transportation, active living, access to nutritious foods, access to health care, mental health, quality of life and environmental health.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

The Planning Department recommended Approval; and,
THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS:

ADOPTION of NEGATIVE DECLARATION for **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42403**, based on the findings incorporated in the initial study and the conclusion that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment; and,

TENTATIVE ADOPTION of GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096, based upon the findings and conclusions incorporated in the staff report pending final adoption of the General Plan Amendment Resolution by the Board of Supervisors.


Carolyn Syms Luna
Planning Director

Initials:
CSL:vc

(continued on attached page)

REVIEWED BY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

DATE

4/5/11 TM
Tina Grande

Departmental Concurrence

Dep't Recomm.: ☐ Consent ☒ Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: ☐ Consent ☒ Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: All

Agenda Number:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Re: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT No. 1096
Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND:

Following the February 16, 2011 Planning Commission meeting, the Healthy Communities Element text was refined at the direction of County Counsel.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTE ORDER FEBRUARY 16, 2011
RIVERSIDE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER**

- I. **AGENDA ITEM 3.1: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42403** – County Initiated – Countywide, All Area Plans.

II.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This General Plan Amendment proposes a new, optional General Plan Element entitled "Healthy Communities," that will facilitate positive health related policies and programs for the benefit of the residents of Riverside County. The proposed element incorporates policies that encourage healthy living and provide a land use and planning framework in which positive changes can be made. GPA 1096 will not change land use designations or affect future entitlement obligations for subsequent, individual development proposals.

III. **MEETING SUMMARY**

The following staff presented the subject proposal:

Project Planner: Kristi Lovelady at 951-955-0782 or e-mail klovelad@rctlma.org.

There were no speakers in favor of the subject proposal:

There were no speakers in a neutral position or in opposition of the subject proposal.

IV. **CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES**

NONE

V. **PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION**

The Planning Commission, by a vote of 5-0:

APPROVED the NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42403

ADOPTED the GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096, based upon the findings and conclusions incorporated in the staff report; and,

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2011-03 recommending adoption of GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096 to the Board of Supervisors.

CD

The entire discussion of this agenda item can be found on CD. For a copy of the CD, please contact Desiree Bowie, Interim Planning Commission Secretary, at (951) 955-0222 or E-mail at dbowie@rctlma.org

Agenda Item No.: 3.1
Area Plan: County-wide
Zoning District: County-wide
Supervisory District: County-wide
Project Planner: Kristi Lovelady
Planning Commission: February 16, 2011

General Plan Amendment No. 1096
E.A.: 42403
Applicant: County Initiated Change
Engineer/Representative: N/A

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

The Healthy Communities Element (HCE), or General Plan Amendment (GPA 1096), is a County-initiated amendment to the County of Riverside's General Plan. This new element is intended to facilitate positive health policies and programs that will benefit the residents of Riverside County. GPA 1096 demonstrates the logical link between health and the build environment. It creates policies that encourage healthy living and provide the planning and land use framework in which positive changes can be made.

GPA 1096 would apply Countywide.

BACKGROUND:

Following the adoption of the 2003 County General Plan, the Riverside County Community Health Agency (CHA) recognized an emerging correlation between land use and chronic community health conditions such as heart disease, asthma, cancer, stroke, and obesity. CHA approached the Planning Department with their observations and together they developed the framework for a prospective HCE to be included in a subsequent County-initiated General Plan Amendment. The Planning Department then developed appropriate policy language and technical data during a collaborative process with CHA and the multi-faceted Healthy Community Working Group. The resulting HCE is an innovative, optional element to the County General Plan.

On May 6, 2009 the County General Plan Advisory Committee discussed an initial draft of the HCE and ultimately recommended adding the HCE to the County General Plan as part of the comprehensive General Plan update (GPA 960). GPA 960 updates, including the HCE, were subsequently presented to the Planning Commission on June 24, 2009 as part of a workshop. The Commission indicated general support for the addition of the new HCE.

GPA 960 continues to move forward but it is not expected to conclude until the fall of 2011. Since the HCE is now complete and requires no further analysis, it is moving forward independent of GPA 960 as GPA 1096. The addition of a HCE was anticipated by GPA 960 therefore, no new General Plan amendment initiation process is necessary. Exhibit 1 includes the following GPA 1096 components:

1. A new General Plan Chapter 10: Healthy Communities Element
2. Requisite revisions to Chapter 1: Introduction to the County General Plan
3. Requisite revisions to Chapter 2: Vision Statement of the County General Plan
4. A new General Plan Appendix M: Health Indicators

On April 21, 2010, the County initiated a formal SB 18 consultation process and letters were sent to the local Native American Tribes informing them of GPA 1096 and inviting their comments. Of the 23 Tribes contacted, the County received an informal request from the Pechanga Tribe that resulted in enhancements to the GPA 1096 text. Exhibit 2 summarizes the SB 18 Tribal coordination for GPA 1096 with the participating Tribe.

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096**PC Staff Report: February 16, 2011****Page 2 of 3**

Today's requested actions include the tentative approval of Environmental Assessment 42403 prepared for GPA 1096 (Exhibit 3), tentative adoption of GPA 1096 and its component parts identified above, and approval of Resolution 2011-03 (Exhibit 4) recommending the adoption of GPA 1096 to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

1. General Plan Land Use:	Countywide
2. Proposed Zoning:	Countywide
3. Surrounding Zoning:	Countywide
4. Existing Land Use:	Countywide
5. Surrounding Land Use:	Countywide
6. Project Data:	Total Acreage: N/A Total Proposed Lots: N/A Proposed Min. Lot Size: N/A Schedule: N/A
7. Environmental Concerns:	No significant effect on the environment. Negative Declaration will be prepared. Environmental Assessment attached.
8. SB 18:	The County has complied with the requirements of SB 18

RECOMMENDATIONS:**TENTATIVE APPROVAL of ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42403**

TENTATIVE ADOPTION of GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096, based upon the findings and conclusions incorporated in the staff report; and,

ADOPTION of RESOLUTION 2011-03 recommending adoption of **GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096** to the Board of Supervisors;

CONCLUSIONS:

1. The proposed amendment is in conformance with the Riverside County General Plan's Land Use Policies and with all other elements of the Riverside County General Plan.
2. The proposed amendment is consistent with all applicable provisions of Riverside County Land Use Ordinance No. 348.
3. The project will have no significant effect on the environment.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. As of this writing, no letters in support or opposition have been received on GPA1096.
2. The proposed GPA applies Countywide.

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

PUBLIC HEARINGS have been scheduled before the RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS to consider a proposed GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (GPA) described below. The Planning Department prepared an initial study to evaluate the environmental impacts of GPA 1096 (Environmental Assessment No. 42403). Based on the findings of Environmental Assessment No. 42403, the Planning Department tentatively determined that GPA 1096 will not have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, the Department is recommending adoption of a Negative Declaration for GPA 1096. The Board will consider Environmental Assessment No. 42403 in conjunction with their consideration of the GPA 1096 at the public hearing referenced herein.

SCHEDULE OF HEARINGS:

PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING

DATE OF HEARING: **February 16, 2011**
TIME OF HEARING: **1:30 P.M. or as soon as possible thereafter**
PLACE OF HEARING: **Board Hearing Room**
 First Floor
 4080 Lemon Street
 Riverside CA 92501

BACKGROUND: GPA 1096 is a County initiated General Plan Amendment. Originally included with the overall Riverside County General Plan update, GPA 960, GPA 1096 is now moving forward independent of GPA 960. GPA 1096, the Healthy Communities Element, is a new General Plan element which includes policies that will guide the County in addressing the link between public health and the built environment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND IDENTIFICATION:

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 1096 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42403 – County Initiated – Countywide, All Area Plans – **PROPOSAL:** This General Plan Amendment proposes a new, optional General Plan Element entitled “Healthy Communities,” that will facilitate positive health related policies and programs for the benefit of the residents of Riverside County. The proposed element incorporates policies that encourage healthy living and provide a land use and planning framework in which positive changes can be made. GPA 1096 will not change land use designations or affect future entitlement obligations for subsequent, individual development proposals.

ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:

An environmental assessment (E.A. No. 42403) was prepared for GPA 1096. It found that GPA 1096 would not have a significant effect on the environment and it would not have an adverse effect on wildlife resources therefore, a negative declaration was prepared.

YOUR RIGHT TO COMMENT:

Any person wishing to comment on or testify in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed general plan amendment may do so in writing prior to the hearing (between the date of this notice and the public hearing) or may appear and be heard at the date, time, and place noted above. All comments received prior to the Board of Supervisor’s public hearing will be submitted to the Board, and the Board will consider such comments, in addition to any oral testimony, before making a decision on the proposed project. If you challenge this project (GPA or environmental assessment) in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in

this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the date of the Board hearing.

Please send all written correspondence to the following address:

Riverside County Planning Department
Attention: Kristi Lovelady
P. O. Box 1409
Riverside, CA 92502-1409

Correspondence may also be sent by FAX to (951) 955-1811 or by e-mail to klovelad@rctlma.org

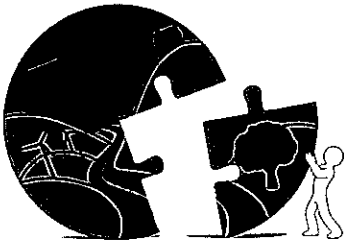
BE ADVISED that, as a result of public hearings and comment, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors may amend, in whole or in part, the proposed general plan amendment and/or the environmental documents associated therewith.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The proposed general plan amendment and environmental documentation to be considered by the Board of Supervisors are available for review beginning February 6, 2011, Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the County of Riverside Planning Department office located at 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA. The proposed general plan amendment and environmental documentation may also be reviewed at the Planning Department offices located at 38686 El Cerrito Road, Palm Desert, CA 92211. For further information regarding this case, please contact Ms. Kristi Lovelady at (951) 955-0781.

Carolyn Syms Luna
Planning Director

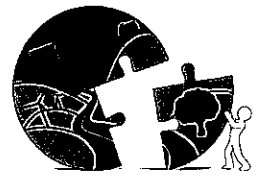
EXHIBIT 1



GPA 1096

Healthy Communities Element:

- **New General Plan Chapter 10: Healthy Communities Element**
- **Revisions to General Plan Chapter 1: Introduction**
- **Revisions to General Plan Chapter 2: Vision Statement**
- **New General Plan Appendix M: Health Indicators**



Chapter 10: Healthy Communities Element

Introduction

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

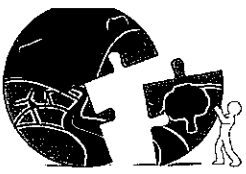
The General Plan Vision speaks of the importance of promoting a healthy living environment for all residents. The Healthy Communities Element provides a framework for translating the General Plan vision for a healthy Riverside County into reality by identifying policies to achieve that vision. The Healthy Communities Element addresses areas where public health and planning intersect, including transportation and active living, access to nutritious foods, access to health care, mental health, quality of life, and environmental health.

BACKGROUND

Riverside County is geographically the fourth largest county in California, stretching nearly 200 miles across and covering 7,200 square miles. The population is currently estimated at 2.1 million, after increasing 44% in the last decade. Riverside County has frequently been ranked as the fastest growing county in the state. If current projections hold true, the County population will reach 4.7 million by 2050, making it the second most populous county in the state. Much of this growth has occurred in unincorporated areas as commuters and retirees from neighboring counties have come in search of affordable housing.

While infectious diseases often receive much publicity, the real and continually growing threat to our community's health is due to chronic disease. The diseases and health conditions that currently reduce the productivity and quality of life of Riverside County residents are intricately entwined with daily routines. Daily routines are shaped by the circumstances our residents encounter in their homes and by the neighborhoods and streets that surround and connect our residents to their jobs, retail outlets, and each other. The risks from being physically inactive, eating poorly, breathing bad air, and having stress and depression does not immediately result in poor health. However, data shows that the presence of these risks over a number of years is associated with the leading causes of death and illness in our community.

For example, when obesity levels rise, so too will the number of Riverside County residents who die from the current leading causes of death: 1) heart



disease, 2) cancer, and 3) stroke. The death rates for all of these conditions were higher in Riverside County than in California, as were death rates for lung disease (COPD) and unintentional injury. With heart disease strongly linked to lifestyle and individual behavior, it is of particular concern that Riverside County ranks 53rd for heart disease mortality among its population out of the 58 counties in California. Other illnesses like diabetes, asthma, and lung disease are also related to the direct and indirect effects of built environments that discourage physical activity, promote unhealthy eating habits, and increase exposure to environmental toxins in the air, water, and soil.

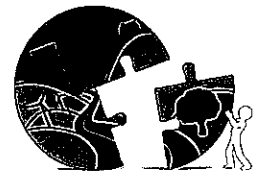
HEALTH INDICATORS

In order to show the need for policies that will shape community design and the health of future generations, it is important to document the current health of residents in a measurable manner so that as changes are adopted and the environment changes, progress toward achieving health goals can be monitored at the population level. A compilation of health, social, and environmental indicators is provided in the technical document identified as Appendix M. The indicators are grouped into meaningful topic areas and are meant to provide support and justification for the policies of this Healthy Communities Element.

INITIAL EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

As noted, Riverside County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation, and has high rates of physical inactivity and chronic disease, including cardiovascular disease, obesity and diabetes. (Figure HC-1). The rapid growth has also resulted in concerns about urban sprawl and poor air quality, both of which have health impacts. To address these health concerns, the Riverside County Department of Public Health incorporated “creating more livable communities” as a goal in the department’s Strategic Plan. To accomplish this goal a multi-disciplinary public health team was formed and works closely with what were formerly considered non-traditional partners including the Departments of Planning, Transportation, Economic Development and Fire, the Open Space and Park District, government associations, city officials and developers in integrating health and safety factors into mainstream planning efforts. Riverside County has been recognized nationally for efforts to integrate health into land use and transportation planning.

Over the past several years many programs have been implemented to improve access to healthy foods and increase opportunities for physical activity that improve health outcomes. Pedestrian and bicycle plans have been developed in cities to improve safety and increase walking and biking. The Department of Public Health has sponsored a variety of trainings and walkable community workshops countywide. Public health data has been provided to cities and various county departments on a variety of topics including obesity, physical activity levels, access to healthy foods, park inequities, crash data, and pedestrian injuries. This data has made a compelling case for improvements in the built environment that affect health. The Public Health Department has worked closely with County agencies on a number of efforts including: reviewing design guidelines for new developments, participating on the trails committee to review development applications, serving on task forces and steering committees, preparing joint grant applications, creating a trails map for



the Coachella Valley and providing technical assistance to cities to secure Safe Routes To School funding to increase the safety and walkability around schools.

The policies in this element will be instrumental in furthering these initial efforts.

Policies

The policies in the Healthy Communities Element are intended to address Riverside County's key health issues and challenges with the goal of fostering the overall health and well being of County residents. In addition, particular attention is paid to those residents who are considered especially vulnerable to public health risks, including children, the elderly, the disabled, and those in poverty.

The policies in this element address a wide range of issues that affect public health including:

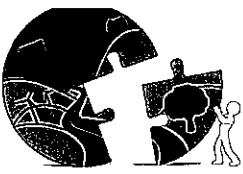
- Overall health
- Land use and community design
- Healthy transportation system
- Arts and culture
- Social capital
- Parks, trails and open space
- Access to healthy foods and nutrition
- Healthcare and mental health care
- Schools, recreational centers and childcare
- Environmental health

Because health is such a comprehensive issue, the policies in this element may at times overlap with the policies in other General Plan Elements. When such overlap occurs the policies included herein are intended to work in concert with and compliment the policies in the other elements.

In each of the following sections, the policies are grouped by topic and subtopic and are preceded by a brief discussion of the issues pertaining to the topic.

OVERALL HEALTH

The County endeavors to promote a built environment that supports healthy choices and, when feasible, prevents the conditions that cause chronic health problems. The following policies outline the overarching principals of planning for Healthy Communities. These policies are intended to address the multidisciplinary nature of health issues and recognize that the efforts of many different County departments and agencies affect health outcomes. These policies also anticipate the need to understand the nature and extent of health issues and to track trends over time in order to maintain effective policies and programs to promote public health.



Policies:

HC 1.1 Foster the overall health and well-being of County residents, particularly the most vulnerable populations.

HC 1.2 Promote an understanding of the connections between the built environment and the on-going health challenges in Riverside County.

LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DESIGN

Land use patterns – how the land uses are arranged and the urban form is constructed – are critical to the health and well being of residents because they affect such things as levels of physical activity, access to nutritious food, and the creation and exposure to pollutants. Healthy land use patterns can be achieved by encouraging infill, focusing development in mixed use districts and along major transit corridors, avoiding leap frog development, constructing a diverse mix of uses throughout the County and encouraging land use patterns that promote walking, bicycling and transit use.

Riverside County is very diverse; it has many urban communities which range widely in terms of densities, uses and scale. There are also many agricultural communities and rural settlements as well as large areas of open space that include significant natural and agricultural resources. The County has grown rapidly in recent decades, thus there are many new communities being built that present an important opportunity to create new, healthier development patterns.

The goal of this section is to encourage land use patterns that promote increased physical activity and healthy lifestyles in all of the communities in Riverside County. Many of the land use and community design policies relevant to health are addressed in other elements of the General Plan, most particularly the Land Use Element. Therefore, only additional policies, specifically related to health are included here.

Countywide Land Uses

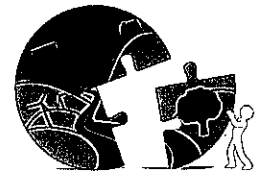
These policies are relevant to many land uses in the County and shall be integrated into Riverside County communities to the maximum extent feasible.

Policies:

HC 2.1 Encourage a built environment that promotes physical activity and access to healthy foods while reducing driving and pollution by:

- a. Promoting the use of survey tools such as Health Impact Assessments, Development Application Health Checklist, or other tools the County deems effective to evaluate the impacts of development on public health.
- b. Directing new growth to existing, urbanized areas while reducing new growth in undeveloped areas of the County.

HC 2.2 Promote increased physical activity, reduced driving and increased walking, cycling and public transit by:



- a. Requiring where appropriate the development of compact, development patterns that are pedestrian and bicycle friendly.
- b. Increasing opportunities for active transportation (walking and biking) and transit use.
- c. Encouraging the development of neighborhood grocery stores that provide fresh produce.

Community Development Land Uses

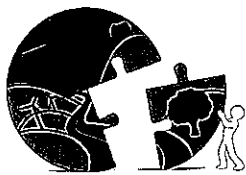
Community Development Areas are described in the Land Use Element as “the appropriate location for urban and suburban development” and are intended to include: “a breadth of land uses that foster variety and choice, accommodate a range of life styles, living and working conditions, and accommodate diverse community settings.” They are also intended to provide a quality physical environment achieved through a range of community design options that respond to varied lifestyle choices with a high regard for the environment, community character and safety. These areas are intended to have a balance of jobs, housing, and services within each community to help achieve mobility, open space, and air quality goals described in the General Plan vision. Many of these same characteristics are important for creating healthy environments for living and working. Integrating land use strategies that foster improvements to the quality of the physical environment and achieve a higher level of community balance will allow County residents to thrive.

Policies:

- HC 3.1 Where appropriate, require high-density, mixed use development near existing and proposed high use transit centers.
- HC 3.2 Where appropriate, design communities with a balanced mix of uses that provide regional transportation facilities within walking distance.
- HC 3.3 Where appropriate, require pedestrian-oriented design that encourages the use of bicycles and walking as alternatives to driving and increases levels of physical activity.
- HC 3.4 Provide for a range of housing options to accommodate a range of income levels and household types.

Open Space, Rural, Rural Community and Agriculture Land Uses

These policies are intended for Open Space, Rural, Rural Community, and Agriculture areas, which were designated in this General Plan to preserve the rural lifestyle that is an integral part of the character and appeal of Riverside County. Agriculture defines the unique character of many communities in Riverside County, and helps to define the edges of and provide separation between developed areas. Widespread and diverse agricultural lands are one of Riverside County's most important land uses in terms of historic character, economic strength and human health. When local agricultural products are



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Healthy Communities Element – March 23, 2011

grown and distributed locally, people have better access to high quality, nutritious food. In addition, local food sources are closer to local retailers and thus require less in terms of transportation costs and fossil fuel. The goal of this section is to promote development patterns in Rural and Agricultural areas that are consistent with the General Plan Vision and which promote healthy lifestyles.

Policies:

HC 4.1 Promote healthy land use patterns by doing each of the following to the extent feasible:

- a. Preserving rural open space areas, and scenic resources.
- b. Preventing inappropriate development in areas that are environmentally sensitive or subject to severe natural hazards.
- c. Developing incentives, such as transfer of development rights, clustered development, development easements, and other mechanisms, to preserve the economic value of agricultural and open space lands.

HC 4.2 Promote services that enable residents to meet their daily needs without driving. Such services may include: shopping shuttles to nearby retail districts, retail near residential, and mobile or virtual health clinics.

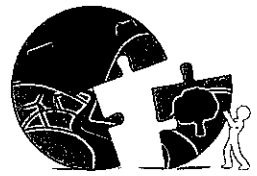
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

The County strives to create a multimodal transportation system that supports active living and healthy lifestyles. The transportation system should facilitate walking, cycling and public transit use while also minimizing the need to drive long distances to meet basic daily needs or get to work. The transportation system should be designed in close coordination with land use patterns and the urban form so that all transportation facilities encourage people to drive less, walk more, and have greater access to jobs, healthy food, and community resources.

Healthier transportation networks can be achieved by creating high quality transit service with safe, attractive facilities for all users, including drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists. Such attributes encourage public use.

Non-Motorized Transportation System

The goal of these policies is to improve the overall safety of the transportation system for pedestrians and cyclists as well as improving access for and visibility of all non-motorized roadway users.



Policies:

- HC 5.1 Identify non-motorized traffic safety issues and locations with a high degree of traffic incidents.
- HC 5.2 Pursue funding for projects that reduce the risk of non-motorized/motorized vehicle collisions, particularly in areas where such collisions frequently occur.
- HC 5.3 When feasible, incorporate non-motorized safety features within road improvement projects.
- HC 5.4 Consider pedestrian safety and crime prevention measures in major transit centers and high pedestrian traffic generators such as schools, community centers, etc.
- HC 5.5 When building sidewalks, ensure that they are sufficiently wide and clear of obstructions to facilitate pedestrian movement and access for the disabled.
- HC 5.6 Implement traffic-calming and traffic-slowing measures on roads with a high level of pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle activity.

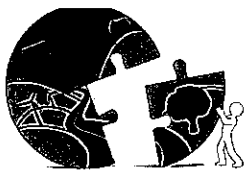
Multi-Modal Transportation Network

Many areas of the County experience severe traffic congestion. A large portion of county residents experience long commute times, and the hours and miles spent driving continue to rise. Increased driving rates are a source of physical, economic, and environmental stress. Driving has been linked with negative health impacts, including higher rates of traffic crashes and increased levels of stress and anxiety. In addition, more vehicle miles and vehicle hours spent traveling by motor vehicle translate into greater amounts of air pollution, which in turn has health impacts.

Driving is likely for some time to remain the main form of transportation in Riverside County, particularly in rural areas. However, the County is striving to create a balanced, multi-modal transportation system, which gives people choices about how to get to their destinations and, at the same time, increases their physical activity and reduces pollution. To do this, the following policies endeavor to improve access to and the effectiveness of alternative transportation modes, such as trains, buses, bicycles, and walking, for all parts of the County.

Policies:

- HC 6.1 Coordinate with transportation service providers and transportation planning entities to improve access to multi-modal transportation options throughout the County, including public transit.
- HC 6.2 Coordinate with transportation service providers and transportation planning entities to address the location of civic uses such as schools and government buildings, commercial corridors, and medical facilities so that they are accessible by public transit.



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Healthy Communities Element – March 23, 2011

- HC 6.3 Coordinate with transportation service providers and transportation planning entities to ensure that public transportation facilities are located a convenient distance from residential areas.
- HC 6.4 Ensure that regional trail plans are implemented at the Area Plan and Specific Plan level.
- HC 6.5 Promote job growth within Riverside County to reduce the substantial out-of-county job commutes that exist today.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Arts and cultural activities are an essential part of a complete, healthy community. Arts and cultural activities contribute to the creation and sense of place, augment local economies, enhance the urban environment and engage citizens in productive dialogue about important issues. Thriving arts and cultural experiences contribute to emotional and social development and provide educational opportunities for residents. The following policies articulate the County's objective to foster arts and culture as an integral part of the healthy communities program.

Policies:

- HC 7.1 Encourage the provision of public art and preserve and increase access to cultural resources.
- HC 7.2 Encourage partnerships among entities and institutions including tribal governments which promote art and cultural programs, foster community identity, and enhance neighborhood pride.

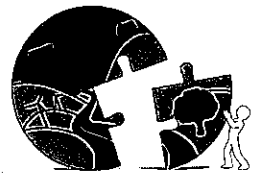
SOCIAL CAPITAL

Communities that have social capital are healthier and provide a higher quality of life for all residents. Social capital is an integrated system of family, community, and civic networks that is the underpinning and core fabric of social communities. Social capital has a stream of benefits including safety and security, friendship and community, a strong sense of civic identity, etc. Studies show that social connectedness improves cardio-vascular and mental health and results in faster recovery from illness. An important ingredient for the creation of social capital is the establishment of places for residents to meet, organize, learn, and socialize.

The policies contained in this section seek to elevate social capital for the purpose of building a strong platform upon which communities will thrive.

Policies:

- HC 8.1 Promote development patterns and policies that:
- a. Reduce commute times.
 - b. Encourage the improvement of vacant properties and the reinvestment in neighborhoods.



- c. Provide public space for people to congregate and interact socially.
- d. Foster safe and attractive environments.
- e. Encourage civic participation.

HC 8.2 Support cohesive neighborhoods, especially with life-cycle housing opportunities.

COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

Complete communities provide for the basic needs of individuals, including food, shelter and safety within a cohesive, attractive environment. In addition, basic services like childcare, dry cleaning, and regional public transportation facilities are available within easy walking distance, thus promoting physical activity, healthy nutrition and social interactions. In addition to these basic human needs, complete communities support a balance of uses that encourage job and neighborhood stability, encourage the creation of social capital and nurture mental and cultural health as well.

Safety is an important component of a complete community. Fear of violence is a leading cause of anxiety and is a major reason people choose not to walk, use recreational facilities, or allow their children to play outside. The physical features, layout and design of many aspects of communities influence crime prevention and other crime-related outcomes, such as neighborhood deterioration and residents' fear of crime. When neighborhoods are designed to provide "defensible space," "natural surveillance," and a "sense of order," research shows a decline in street crime and, as importantly, a decline in residents' fear of crime. The following policies draw upon the principles described above to improve public safety in Riverside County through the creation and support of defensible, orderly and well-cared for neighborhoods.

Policies:

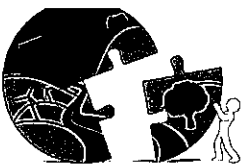
HC 9.1 Coordinate the development of complete neighborhoods that provide for the basic needs of daily life and for the health, safety, and welfare of residents.

HC 9.2 Require appropriate infrastructure, public facilities, and services.

HC 9.3 Require safe and appealing recreational opportunities.

HC 9.4 Improve safety and the perception of safety by requiring adequate lighting, street visibility, and defensible space.

HC 9.5 Where appropriate, require neighborhood retail, service and public facilities within walking distance of residential areas.



PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE

A multi-use open space network, including parks and trails, promotes recreation and physical activity. Physical activity reduces the risk of obesity and chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease—all major health issues affecting Riverside County residents. Physical activity also increases mental health and psychological development. Studies show that people who live within a ¼ mile of a park are 25 percent more likely to meet the minimum weekly physical activity standards.

An additional indicator of how much people use recreational facilities is the perception of safety. Therefore, providing for safe, well-lighted environments within easy access of a wide range of people is also important to create a useful and accessible multi-use open space network.

Riverside County has many diverse open space resources ranging from national and regional open spaces to local and neighborhood parks. However, access to these resources differs throughout the County. The following policies articulate the County's commitment to providing a sustainable multi-use open space network that is accessible, safe, and enjoyable for all residents.

Policies:

HC 10.1 Provide residents of all ages and income levels with convenient and safe opportunities for recreation and physical activities.

HC 10.2 Increase access to open space resources by:

- a. Supporting a diversity of passive and active open spaces throughout the County.
- b. Facilitating the location of additional transportation routes to existing recreational facilities.
- c. Locating parks in close proximity to homes and offices.
- d. Requiring that development of parks, trails, and open space facilities occur concurrently with other area development.

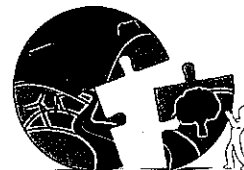
HC 10.3 Encourage the expansion of facilities and amenities in existing parks.

HC 10.4 Encourage the construction of new parks and open spaces.

HC 10.5 Incorporate design features in the multi-use open space network that reflects the sense of place and unique characteristics of the community.

HC 10.6 Address both actual and perceived safety concerns that create barriers to physical activity by requiring adequate lighting, street visibility, and defensible space.

HC 10.7 When planning communities, encourage the location of parks near other community facilities such as schools, senior centers, recreation centers, etc.



HC 10.8 Encourage joint-use agreements with school districts that allow school properties to be used during non-school hours.

HC 10.9 When feasible, coordinate with public entities to allow easements to be used as parks and trails.

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS AND NUTRITION

A healthy, varied diet is a critical component to a healthy life. Poor diet is a primary risk factor in many of the major chronic health issues facing Riverside County. Nearly 2 out of 3 adults and 15 percent of youth are overweight or obese in the County. As of 2005, there were over 115,000 adults diagnosed with diabetes living in Riverside County, an increase of roughly 40,000 people since 2003. At the same time, 80% of teens, 50% of adults, and 50% of children do not eat the daily recommended five fruits and vegetables. Over 40,000 teens and children report eating fast food two or more times a day.

Residents in Riverside County often do not have access to local, affordable healthy food outlets. Convenience stores, fast food restaurants, and gas stations are more prevalent and accessible in large parts of the County. The average community has nearly twice as many fast food outlets and convenience stores as grocery stores and produce stands. Several communities have more than three times as many unhealthy food options as healthy options. A balanced retail food environment enables consumers to access healthy foods and make informed decisions about the meals that would be best for them.

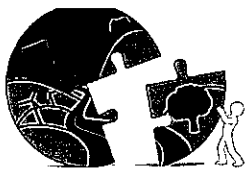
In addition to the traditional food retail outlets, farm- and garden-scale urban agriculture has benefits for public health, including encouraging people to consume fresh products and involving city dwellers in healthy, active work and recreation. Urban agriculture also contributes to the creation of safe, healthy, and green environments in neighborhoods and the reuse of otherwise vacant or underutilized land.

The following policies articulate the County's program for increasing access to healthy food choices.

Policies:

HC 11.1 Improve access to fresh fruits, vegetables, and other healthy food by encouraging a mix of food establishments that offer healthy food choices.

HC 11.2 Promote the production and distribution of locally grown food by reducing barriers to farmers markets, food cooperatives, neighborhood or community gardens, ethnobotanical gardens, etc.



HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Affordable and accessible healthcare and mental health care provide timely intervention to reduce the impact of illnesses. Preventive measures – such as screening for common health problems, dental care, and vaccinations – have been shown to reduce incidences and severity of illnesses. Stress and high blood pressure are associated with increased risk of several chronic illnesses including stroke, obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Anxiety is also associated with increased risk of aggression, depression and substance abuse. Similarly, attributes of the built environment, including the amount of driving, access to green space and nature, and the condition of the built environment, can affect mental health by impacting levels of stress, anxiety and depression.

The following policies articulate the County’s program for increasing access to healthcare and mental health care. For additional policies see the Department of Public Health 2007-2011 Strategic Plan.

Policies:

- HC 12.1 Provide a wide range of healthcare and mental health facilities that are transit-accessible and pedestrian-friendly.
- HC 12.2 Encourage public transit agencies to locate routes near healthcare and mental health facilities.

SCHOOLS, RECREATIONAL CENTERS AND DAY CARE CENTERS

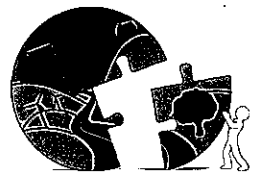
A community that is designed to serve the full lifecycle requires a range of facilities for all ages and vulnerable populations. Day care centers, senior centers, schools, and other recreational centers contribute to the overall well being of residents. These facilities function best when they are centrally located and evenly distributed. The following policies set a framework for encouraging such facilities and the related services they provide.

Policies:

- HC 13.1 Encourage development of recreational centers to serve all phases of life (e.g. children, families, and senior citizens).
- HC 13.2 Encourage the location of recreational centers in areas not subject to environmental hazards and in areas where they are easily accessible by public transportation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

People today are exposed to an unprecedented amount of harmful substances ranging from particulate matter and emissions from auto and industrial sources to toxic pesticides and ingredients found in every day household and pharmaceutical products. These harmful substances enter into our air and water



supplies and accumulate in our bodies causing a range of health effects such as increased respiratory illnesses, cancer and other chronic health problems. Consequently, decisions about the location and mix of land uses, transportation investments, design and building practices and building materials can all have an impact on the environment and human health.

Motor vehicles are the principal source of particulate matter and other pollutants that contribute to poor air quality and associated respiratory illnesses. In general, the more vehicle miles traveled in a region, the worse the air pollution. Factories, concentrated in heavily industrial areas, are equally problematic. Heavy industrial areas have the potential for toxic releases that cause negative health impacts.

Products that we use to maintain landscaping affect ground water and the environment. The widespread use of pesticides and herbicides to maintain parks, roadsides, and other public spaces may result in unhealthy levels of exposure to toxins over time for the people – particularly children – who use these public spaces. The misuse of pesticides can contribute to the contamination of rivers and streams.

The following policies strive to improve air quality and respiratory health, and reduce pesticide use.

Policies:

- HC 14.1 When feasible, avoid siting homes and other sensitive receptors near known or anticipated sources of air pollution.
- HC 14.2 When feasible, avoid locating new sources of air pollution near homes and other sensitive receptors.
- HC 14.3 When feasible incorporate design features into projects, including flood control and water quality basins, to minimize the harborage of vectors such as mosquitoes.



Appendix M: Health Indicators

INTRODUCTION

Concept and Purpose of the Element

The burden of disease has shifted dramatically from infectious diseases to chronic disease conditions over the past 100 years. The threat of illness and death from epidemics of smallpox, polio, and tuberculosis has largely been removed in the developed world. Advances in public health and sanitation have increased life expectancies dramatically, allowing young children to grow up free of illnesses that had previously cut their lives short. In the current age of chronic illness, the choices we make on a daily basis, and repeat for months and years, have the biggest impact on our health. The challenge facing our community is how to build health into the everyday lives of our citizens so that making choices that help prevent chronic disease are as convenient, practical, logical, and affordable as the choices that lead to poor health. The policy decisions we make today will improve local conditions in the short-term by reducing stress and enhancing well-being. By incorporating health into land use and transportation planning efforts we will protect the County's current and future residents from chronic disease for years to come.

Links between Health and Planning

The legal and historical link between city planning and public health is strong. Planning authority originated from the mandate of a city or county to protect a community's "health, safety and general welfare." Modern American urban planning and zoning grew explicitly in response to the public health crises that arose from the rapid industrialization and urbanization of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Early planners required sanitary sewers to prevent cholera epidemics and zoned city blocks to buffer residential neighborhoods from polluting industries, often resulting in a strict separation of uses that is still common today. Early zoning was also often used to exclude the poor and recent immigrants – and the health threats and loss of status they were perceived to represent – from wealthier neighborhoods through limits on density, commercial development, and workforce housing.

In 1926, the Supreme Court decision *Village of Euclid vs. Ambler Realty Co* cited preservation of public health as one of the basic responsibilities of local government, and interpreted zoning as an extension of the local police power to promote the "health, safety and general welfare" of a community. The result was the Zoning Enabling Act, which enabled modern zoning and is still the legal rationale for land use regulation and planning across the country. Because public health is such a tangible example of the "health, safety and general welfare" that is to be promoted through planning and the police power, it remains one of the most legally justified reasons for making planning decisions.

Despite its historical connection and legal standing, addressing public health through city planning became less common as the 20th Century progressed. One reason is that early planning practices successfully resolved many of the public health issues plaguing urban areas during the early 20th century, such as overcrowding and the close proximity of housing to heavy industry. Health professionals began to focus on disease treatment, education, and discouraging unhealthy behaviors, while planning professionals shifted their attention to such issues as economic development and transportation. In particular, planners focused on how to accommodate rapid population growth and the desire for unlimited personal mobility through driving. Zoning increasingly became a means to protect property values, and infrastructure projects more often served to bolster the tax base.



Recently, however, planning and public health professions are rediscovering the impact of planning on public health. The increased prevalence of chronic diseases in the United States, including diabetes, obesity, heart disease and respiratory illnesses has been widely recognized as one of the major social and economic challenges. Recent research has found that people's environments – where they live and work, how they travel, what they eat and where and when they play, socialize, and are physically active – have a major impact on their health and well-being.

Although conventional planning practices (such as separating residential and commercial uses, building low density areas, constructing streets primarily for automobiles, and not providing adequate transportation choices,) are not the single cause of chronic health problems in the United States, there is increasing documentation that they are often a contributing factor. Research indicates that auto-oriented, low density, single use places – as well as places underserved by parks and active recreation facilities – discourage physical activity and therefore contribute to an increased risk of heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes. These four diseases are among the top ten causes of death in California; heart disease, stroke and cancer are also the top three killers in Riverside County. Poor nutrition, which can be exacerbated by land use decisions that limit people's access to healthy food, also contribute to these chronic diseases. Physical inactivity and poor nutrition is also a primary risk factor for obesity (the fastest-growing disease in California, along with diabetes), and obesity in turn increases the risk of a myriad of chronic diseases. Conversely, research shows that higher density, walkable urban places, transportation choices, and access to recreation all increase physical activity, and thus promote positive health impacts.

Land uses and urban form have other health impacts as well. Emissions from transportation sources are strongly linked with respiratory diseases, while automobile accidents consistently kill over 40,000 Americans each year. Land use decisions also impact people's access to grocery stores, farmers markets, community gardens and other sources of nutritious foods and healthcare. Poor mental health is associated with a number of factors related to planning, including long commute times, exposure to crime, lack of transportation choice and lack of access to public spaces.

Exposure to harmful substances ranging from particulate matter and emissions from industrial sources to toxic pesticides and ingredients with some toxicity found in every day household and pharmaceutical products are all Environmental Health related concerns that impact health. These harmful substances enter into our air and water supplies and accumulate in our bodies causing a range of health effects such as increased incidences of respiratory illnesses, cancer and other chronic health problems. Consequently decisions about the location and mix of land uses, transportation investments, design and building practices and building materials can all have an impact on the environment and human health.^{i, ii, iii, iv}

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ELEMENT

The Healthy Communities Element was developed by Riverside County Staff with input from the Healthy Community Working Group and the assistance from Raimi + Associates. The Working Group was formed to provide technical assistance in developing the Healthy Communities Element. Members included staff from a variety of County programs and services including the following: Health, Epidemiology and Program Evaluation, Nutrition Services, Injury Prevention Services, Livable Communities Program, County Parks, County Planning, County Transportation, Environmental Health, Mental Health, Office on Aging, a physician from Department of Public Health, Clinic Management and the Inland Empire Health Plan. The Healthy Community Working Group assisted in identifying and translating the fundamental values of the element into strategies, identifying the key health issues and indicators, exploring creative and innovative methods of achieving improved health outcomes through existing and new policies and providing input on the policies and implementation actions in the Healthy Communities Element.

As part of the development of this Element, the project team, guided by the Healthy Community Working Group developed a Vision Statement and Guiding Principles for the Healthy Communities Element.



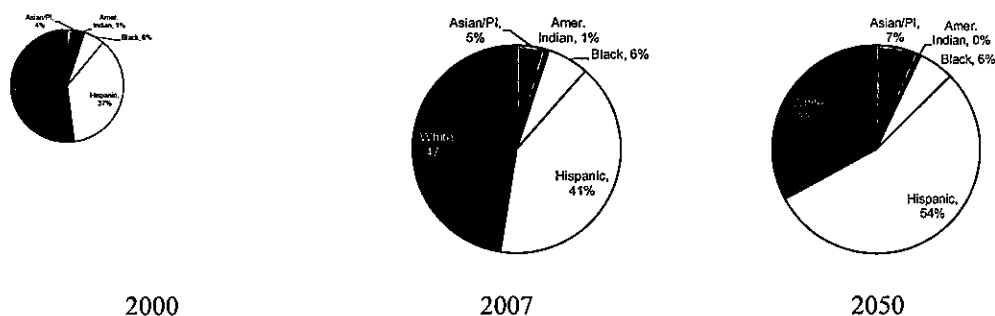
The Vision and Guiding Principles provide the conceptual foundation for the policies of the Healthy Communities Element. The Vision describes how Riverside County will be in terms of health twenty years from today if the policies of this Element are successful. The General Plan Vision Statement expresses the overarching strategies that are being pursued with the adoption of the Healthy Communities Element. They are intended to add specificity to the Vision and to provide a roadmap to achieve the vision.

COUNTY HEALTH STATUS

Current Challenges

Along with the richness of culture afforded by the County's diversity comes the challenge of serving groups of citizens with different needs and priorities. In addition to overall population growth, Riverside County has experienced shifts in its diverse racial and ethnic composition. Between 2000 and 2007, the proportion of County residents of Hispanic origin increased by 10.8%, though there was very little change in the proportion of the population that identified as Black, Asian, and Native American. By the year 2050, the Hispanic population will become the County's majority ethnic group comprising 54% of the population^v (Fig. 1).

Figure 1: Population by Race/Ethnicity, Riverside County: 2000, 2007 and 2050



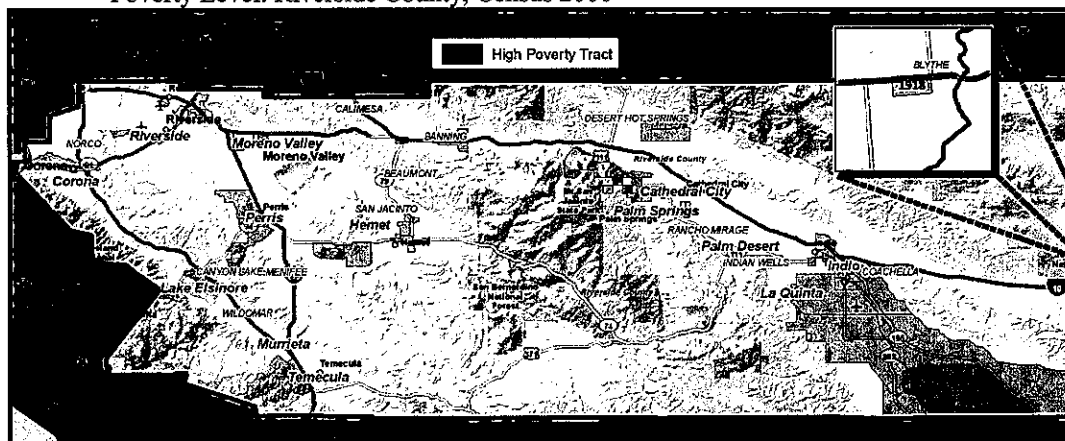
With nearly 40 percent of the County's population speaking a language other than English at home, it is imperative that resources and services are accessible to all.^{vi} Health disparities exist across all groups of people represented in the County and are closely linked to availability of resources and the pattern of environmental exposures that have followed different groups over time. For example, the most recent data available indicates that Hispanic populations are more likely to live within ½ mile of a major freeway in Riverside County.^{vii} This is concerning because exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with increased risk for developing chronic lung diseases like asthma, cancer and heart disease.^{viii}

As with most problems in our society, illness and disease are exacerbated by structural inequity, resource disparity, and poverty. In the current economic climate when local unemployment rates have climbed above 10 percent, more Riverside County residents will make choices that compromise their health. Those recently affected by the job loss may now be joining the more than 200,000 Riverside County residents who lived below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) before the current recession – which in 2007 was 20,000 dollars for a family of four.^{ix,x} Our residents living in poverty, regardless of their ethnic background, language, or skin color are extremely vulnerable to the unhealthy pressures of society and have increased exposure to environmental maladies like air pollution, toxic lead in substandard housing, and decreased opportunities to find affordable, healthy food. Intense poverty is concentrated in census tracts across the County. Public health programs often identify geographic priorities as those areas where greater than 50%



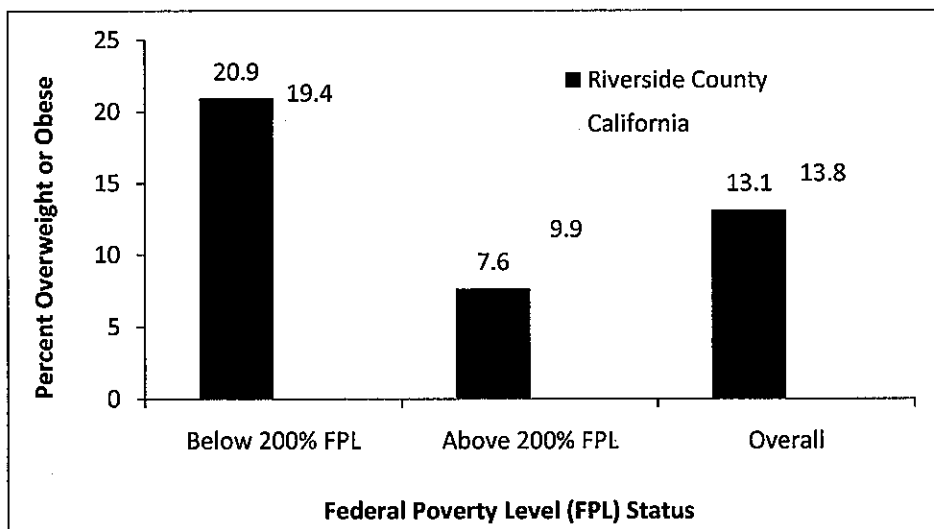
of a census tract's population earns less than 185% of the FPL, which is roughly \$32,000 per year for a family of four (Fig. 2).

Figure 2: Census Tracts Where More Than Half of Population Lives Below 185% of Federal Poverty Level: Riverside County, Census 2000



Perhaps most importantly, poverty jeopardizes the health of Riverside County's children. For example, among Riverside County youth aged 12-17, those living below 200% of FPL are nearly 3 times more likely to be overweight than youth living above 200% FPL^{xi} (Fig. 3). In fact, the obesity epidemic threatens to make today's generation the first in this country to live shorter lives than their parents. Scientists forecast a two- to five-year drop in life expectancy unless aggressive action manages to reverse obesity rates.^{xii}

Figure 3: Percentage of Adolescents Age 12-17 Who Are Overweight or Obese by Income Level, Riverside County and California, 2005 and 2007 Combined.

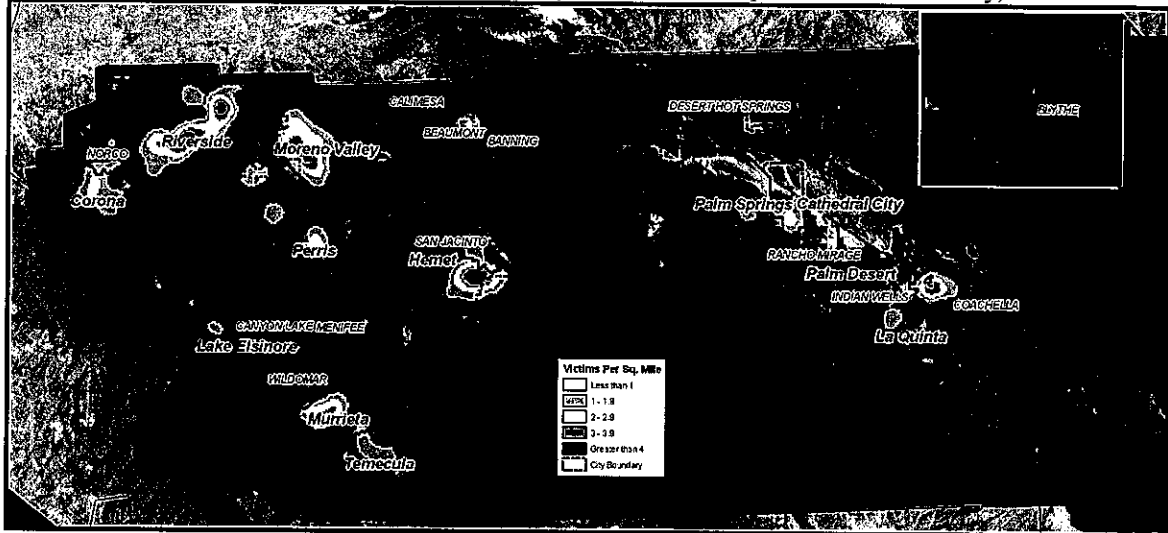




In addition, many of our children are potentially being exposed to environmental toxins, the effects of which may not be seen for years to come. According to a recent report, five schools in Riverside County rank in the 10th percentile for air quality, meaning that 90 percent of the schools in the country had better air. Twenty-five schools ranked in the 50th percentile or below.^{xiii} Many of these schools are located in close proximity to major industrial operations that produce potentially harmful waste.

The vast geography of Riverside County poses challenges for residents by concentrating resources in urban areas and making health care access and resource acquisition difficult for rural residents. These challenges are further exacerbated by poverty which can create pockets of resource deficiency in heavily populated urban areas as well as make it even more difficult for the rural poor to access resources great distances from their homes. The County is home to more than 500,000 rural residents and 1.5 million urban dwellers. Rural residents are also more likely to live in poverty than urban residents (16% vs. 13%).^{xiv} Despite sharing overlapping health concerns, rural and urban environments require specific solutions to their problems. For example, while preventing automobile injuries are relevant to both rural and urban citizens, the approach to prevention may take different forms. *Safe Routes to School* programs may be effective in urban environments but lack relevance in rural areas where walking to school is not feasible (Fig. 4). Whereas many Riverside County residents suffer from health conditions related to the excesses of the urban environment such as overabundance of fast food, high levels of automobile pollution, inability to find safe spaces for children to play, and raised levels of stress, the County's rural residents may find their health disrupted by an inability to access necessary services in a timely manner.

Figure 4: Youth (Aged 5-15yrs) Pedestrian and Bicycle Victim Hot-Spots: Riverside County, 2005-2006



Major Illnesses

The overwhelming majority of illnesses that affect Riverside County residents are of a chronic nature. The most notable chronic health conditions include heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and asthma. The top three leading causes of death—heart disease, cancer, and stroke—account for nearly 60% of all deaths in Riverside County.^{xv} Aside from stealing years of life, these diseases typically reduce quality of life by requiring patients to take a barrage of costly medications, make frequent doctor and hospital visits, and make exercise and leisure activities painful or intensely onerous.



Environmental Health

While chronic disease accounts for the bulk of morbidity and mortality in Riverside County, we must remain vigilant for new infectious diseases that continue to evolve and "emerge." Changes in human demographics, behavior, land use, etc. are contributing to new disease emergence by changing transmission dynamics to bring people into closer and more frequent contact with pathogens. This may involve exposure to animal or arthropod carriers of disease. Increasing trade in exotic animals for pets and as food sources has contributed to the rise in opportunity for pathogens to jump from animal reservoirs to humans.

Meanwhile, infectious diseases that have posed ongoing health problems in developing countries are re-emerging in the United States (e.g., food- and waterborne infections, dengue, West Nile virus). The rise in the transmission of food borne illnesses are facilitated by the dining habits of people in this State as they gravitate toward eating out more often. Also, as the main food sources have become more centralized we can see the effects in large scale outbreaks covering multiple communities, Counties and/or States.

People today are exposed to an unprecedented amount of harmful substances ranging from particulate matter and emissions from auto and industrial sources to toxic pesticides and ingredients with some toxicity found in every day household and pharmaceutical products. These harmful substances enter into our air and water supplies and accumulate in our bodies causing a range of health effects such as increased incidences of respiratory illnesses, cancer and other chronic health problems.

Environmental characteristics like traffic safety and air and water quality can also have direct and indirect health consequences. While traffic accidents may entail immediate life threatening circumstances, perception of safety can influence behavior to the point of increasing chronic disease risk. If children and parents feel unsafe in their neighborhoods due to perceived risk from automobiles or poor air quality, they are less likely to be active outdoors and, consequently, more likely to maintain sedentary lifestyles, increasing their risk of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

HEALTH INDICATORS

As part of our efforts to present the urgent need for policies that will shape community design and the health of future generations, it is important to document the current health of residents in a measurable and discrete manner so that as changes are adopted and the environment changes, progress toward achieving health goals can be monitored at the population level. A compilation of health, social, and environmental indicators is provided below. The indicators are grouped into meaningful topic areas that correspond to the policy components of the Health Element. They are provided here to lend support and justification for the policies of the Healthy Communities Element.

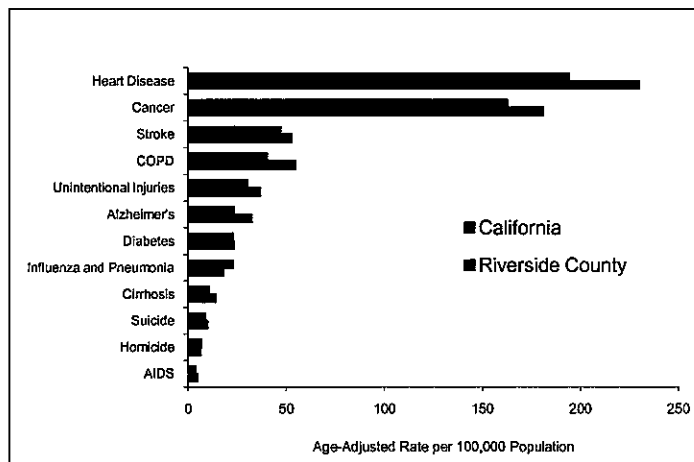
OVERALL HEALTH

- **Inland Empire residents not in good health**
The Riverside San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan area ranked 127th out of the 184 areas surveyed for the percent of residents who say they are in good health, according to a recent analysis using the CDC's SMART BRFSS data.. (<http://www.webmd.com/news/20081117/healthiest-us-city-lincoln-neb>)
- **Health not improving**
The percent of Riverside County residents claiming excellent health fell 4 percentage points from 2003 to 2005 while the percent of those in Fair health increased from 12 percent to 15 percent during the same period. (CHIS 2003 and 2005).



- **Impairment of daily activities due to physical/mental health**
Over 100,000 adults (8%) in Riverside County had more than 5 days a month where their ability to work or perform daily activities was limited by their physical/mental health. (CHIS 2005).
- **Ranking in heart disease mortality rates**
Riverside County is ranked 53rd for heart disease mortality out of the 58 counties in California. The age-adjusted rate for coronary heart disease mortality was approximately 25% higher than the rate for California and the national rate (Fig. 5). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

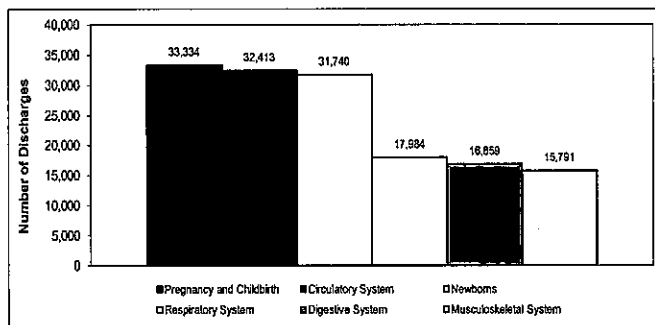
Figure 5: Population Growth in Riverside County,
Department of Finance Estimates and Projections, 1970-2050



- **Causes of hospitalization**
Disease of the circulatory system, like heart disease and stroke, account for more than 1/3rd of all non-birth/newborn related hospitalizations. These are partially influenced by obesity and levels of physical activity (Fig. 6). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)



Figure 6: Leading Hospital Discharge Categories, Riverside County, 2005

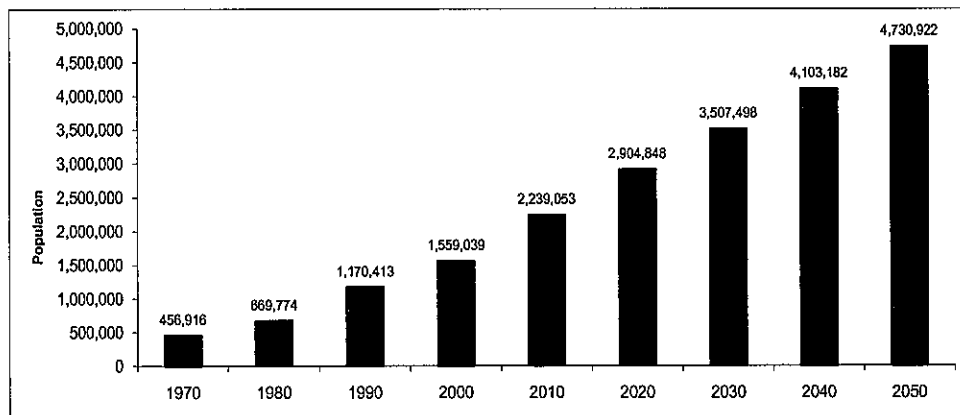


LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DESIGN

- Population growth**

The County experienced a 40% increase in population during the last decade; contributing to its ranking as the fastest growing County in the state. Riverside County ranks fourth in population size in California, with a projected population size reaching 4.7 million by 2050, making it the second largest county in the state (Fig. 7). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

Figure 7: Population Growth in Riverside County:
Department of Finance Estimates and Projections, 1970-2050



- Population density**

Riverside was ranked 460th out of 3140 counties for population density with 214 persons per sq. mile. New York County was ranked 1st with 66,718 persons per sq. mile. The least dense place was the Yukon, Alaska at 0.045 ppl/sq.mi (www.dataplace.org/rankings).

- Number of single family detached housing units**



Roughly two-thirds (67%) of housing units in Riverside County are “single-unit, detached” compared to 58% in California. (American Community Survey 2006 and 2007).

- **Median size of house**

The median number of rooms in a house is 5.4 in 2007, compared to 5.2 in 2000. The median in California is 5.0 (American Community Survey 2006 and 2007, Census 2000).

HEALTHY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

- **Inland Empire residents drive more than most Americans**

The Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area is ranked 14th out of 100 metropolitan areas for the number of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per capita, and 10th overall for total VMT (Brookings Institute, Metropolitan Policy Program: The Road Less Traveled, 2008)

- **Getting to work**

In Riverside County, the average (mean) commute time to work was 31.6 minutes in 2007 compared to 25.1 minutes in the U.S. (American Community Survey 2007)

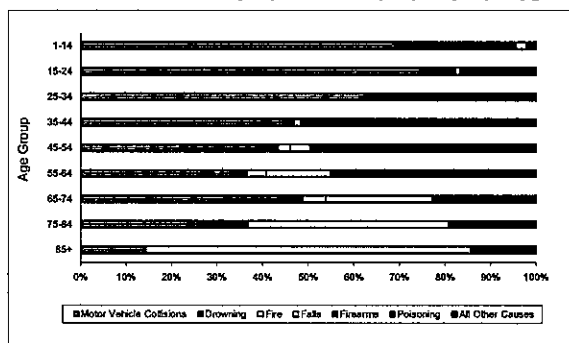
- **Youth injured in pedestrian/bicycle collisions with motor vehicles**

In the time period of 2005 and 2006 there were 486 youth pedestrian/bicycle victims injured by motor vehicles in Riverside County. Three of these bicyclists and seven pedestrians were killed. Forty children were severely injured. (Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS) 2005 and 2006)

- **Motor vehicles are a leading cause of death among youth**

Nearly 70% of children (aged 1-14 years) who died from unintentional injury in 2005 did so as a result of a motor vehicle crash (Fig. 8). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

Figure 8: Unintentional Injury Mortality by Injury Type Within Age Groups, Riverside County, 2005





- **Number of vehicles per household**
The percent of occupied housing units with no car available decreased from 7% in 2000 to 4.5% in 2007. During the same time period the percent of houses with 3 or more cars increased from 19% to 26%. (American Community Survey 2007, Census 2000)
- **Rates of walking**
Roughly 1/3rd of adults do not walk for transportation, fun, or exercise. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)

SOCIAL CAPITAL

- **Unemployment rate**
In February 2009, the unemployment rate in Riverside County is estimated at 12.6%. (California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division.
<http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>).
- **Voting rates**
73.0% of registered voters voted in the 2008 presidential election.
(<http://www.smartvoter.org/2008/11/04/ca/rv/president.html>)
- **Poverty**
In Riverside County, 12% of the overall population had an income placing them below the Federal Poverty Level and 14% of families with children under the age of 5 were in poverty. These numbers likely underestimate the number of people in poverty since they are calculated using a federal scale that does not account for California's higher cost of living and also do not reflect the recent economic downturn. (American Community Survey 2007 and
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/07poverty.shtml>)
- **Education**
Roughly 20% of the population over the age of 25 has not received a high school diploma compared to around 16% of the U.S. population. (American Community Survey 2007)
- **Violent crime rates**
Between 2005 and 2006 violent crime increased 8.4% in Riverside County, with Robbery and Aggravated Assault increasing 23.4% and 2.8%, respectively. (California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center 2006)
- **Homicide deaths**
Roughly 15% of all deaths among 1-24 year olds in Riverside County were due to homicide, placing it in the middle third of the 58 counties in California. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from RAND 2001, 2003, and 2005).



PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Children within walking distance of outdoor space**
As of 2003, 71% of children 0-18 were within walking distance to a park, playground, or open space. This scored a medium ranking among counties in the same income and population density category. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from CHIS 2003).
- **Population within walking distance of a park**
Roughly 500,000 people do not live within a half-mile of a park in Riverside County. That's 30% of the County's population. (Census 2000. Riverside County Department of Transportation and Land Management (TLMA) Parks Data 2008).

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS AND NUTRITION

- **Rates of overweight and obesity**
Nearly 2 out of 3 adults and 15 percent of youth are overweight or obese in Riverside County. (CHIS 2005)
- **Number of adult diabetes diagnoses**
There were over 115,000 adults diagnosed with diabetes living in Riverside County as of 2005, an increase of roughly 40,000 people since 2003. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Number of adult heart disease diagnoses**
There were nearly 140,000 adults diagnosed with heart disease living in Riverside County as of 2005, an increase of roughly 50,000 people since 2003. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Percentage of overweight or obese teens and adults**
The percent of overweight or obese teens and adults increased 2% from 2003 to 2005. Nearly 2 out of every 3 adults in Riverside is overweight or obese. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Children within a healthy weight zone**
Only 68 % of children in Riverside County are considered to be a healthy weight. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from Healthy Kids Survey 2003-05, and 2005-07).
- **Fast food consumption among youth**
Over 40,000 teens and children eat fast food two or more times a day. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Consumption of fruits and vegetables**
80% of teens, 50% of adults, and 50% of children do not eat the recommended 5 fruits and vegetables a day. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)

HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

- **Licensed hospital beds**
In 2005, there were 80,932 licensed hospital beds in California, a rate of 2.2 beds per 1,000 residents. Riverside County had 2,880 licensed beds in 2005, a rate of 1.47 per 1,000 residents, 33% lower than



the California rate. (Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), Regional Medical Facility Profile, 2008)

- **Physician to population ratio**

Nationally, there were 198 active physicians per 100,000 residents in 2000. California maintains a higher rate of active physicians with 231 physicians per 100,000 residents. Yet, Riverside County has only 125.8 active physicians per 100,000 residents. (Center for Health Workforce Studies University at Albany, SUNY (2004). California Physician Workforce Supply and Demand through 2015. Regional Medical Facility Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

- **Health insurance**

The percent of children with health insurance increased from 89.9% in 2005 to 93.1% in 2007. However, the percentage of insured adults (18-64 yrs) fell from 80.8% to 77.7% during the same time period. (CHIS 2005 and 2007)

- **Usual source of care or medical home**

In 2007, roughly 76,000 children and teens in Riverside County had no usual source of care to go to when sick. (CHIS 2007)

- **Adolescents at risk for depression**

25% of adolescents are at risk for depression in Riverside County. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from Healthy Kids Survey 2003-05, and 2005-07)

- **Suicides**

There are nearly 200 suicides a year in Riverside County. Between 2006 and 2007, there were more than 5 suicides a year among children below the age of 18. Among high school students, Hispanic females and Black males are most likely to think about and attempt suicide when compared to their classmates. (Death Statistical Master Files 2006-2007: California Department of Public Health. Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner. Prevention and Early Intervention, 2008: Riverside County Department of Mental Health)

- **Prevalence of mental illness**

The State of California estimates that 114,240 Riverside County residents have some form of mental illness. The latest estimate is that 60% of these individuals are not receiving needed mental health services. (Prevention and Early Intervention, 2008: Riverside County Department of Mental Health)

SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND CHILDCARE

- **Percent of children who walked/biked to school**

Roughly 20% of school aged children in Riverside County walked/biked to school versus 30% in California overall. (CHIS 2005)

- **Child care availability**

Riverside County child care centers currently have 15 slots available for every 100 children aged 0-5. This is much lower than the 22 slots per 100 in California overall, meaning that Riverside needs to increase its child care capacity significantly just to get on par with the State. (Child Care Licensing Division, 12/2008; American Community Survey 2007, and American Community Survey 2005-2007)



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Air Quality

- **Asthma-related hospitalizations**

In 2005, the greatest percentage of asthma-related hospitalizations were among those under age 18 (38%), followed by those over 65 (19%). Blacks experienced the greatest rate of hospitalizations in 2005, at 225.7 per 100,000 population, versus 99.5 and 81.2 per 100,000 for Hispanics and whites, respectively. (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health. Data from Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), 2005)

- **Risk of cancer from diesel soot and other toxic air pollutants**

The cancer risk from diesel soot and other toxic air pollutants increased 2 percent in Riverside County between 1998 and 2005, a period in which the regional risk dropped by 8 percent. (Press Enterprise 9/10/2008; South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD))

- **Cost of poor air quality**

Poor air quality costs Riverside and San Bernardino counties an estimated \$6.3 billion in health care expenses, sick days and deaths with the average cost of \$1,500 to \$1,600 per person. (Press Enterprise, 11/13/2008: Cal State Fullerton's Institute for Economic and Environmental Studies).

- **School children exposed to excess air pollution**

29 of 155 (19%) private schools in Riverside County are located within a ¼ mile of a major highway. In addition, 55 of 498 public schools (11%), and 83 of 392 (21%) licensed child care centers are located within a ¼ mile of a major highway. The licensed child care centers have a capacity to provide care for over 5,500 young children. (Network for Healthy California GIS, Child Care Licensing Division, 2008)

- **Housing locations place residents at risk**

Nearly 350,000 Riverside County residents live within a ½ mile or less of a major highway, including roughly 40,000 children under the age of 5. (Census 2000)

Hazardous Waste/Substances

- **Growth in chemical waste production**

48 Riverside County facilities produced nearly 6,200 tons (12,385,985 lbs) of chemical waste that required disposal. In 2002, 49 County facilities produced roughly 4,800 tons of waste that required management. (EPA, TRI Explorer Waste Quantity: Chemical Report data for 2006 and 2002, accessed 11/20/2008)

- **School children at risk from potentially harmful toxins**

According to a recent report, 5 schools in Riverside County rank in the 10th percentile for air quality, meaning that 90 percent of the schools in the country had better air. Twenty-five schools ranked in the 50th percentile or below. Many of these schools are located in close proximity to major industrial operations that produce potentially harmful waste.



(USA Today online report accessed Dec. 2008

[http://content.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/smokestack/search/CA/~Riverside+County/~name/~1/.](http://content.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/smokestack/search/CA/~Riverside+County/~name/~1/))

Infectious Disease

- West Nile Virus**

West Nile Virus (WNV) remains a potential health hazard in Riverside County. Controlling mosquito populations is important for community health. Unmonitored swimming pools and other sources of standing water can provide havens for mosquitoes which can increase WNV activity in surrounding areas. The number of cases increased substantially in 2008 after large decreases in 2006 and 2007 (Fig. 9). (Riverside County Department of Public Health)

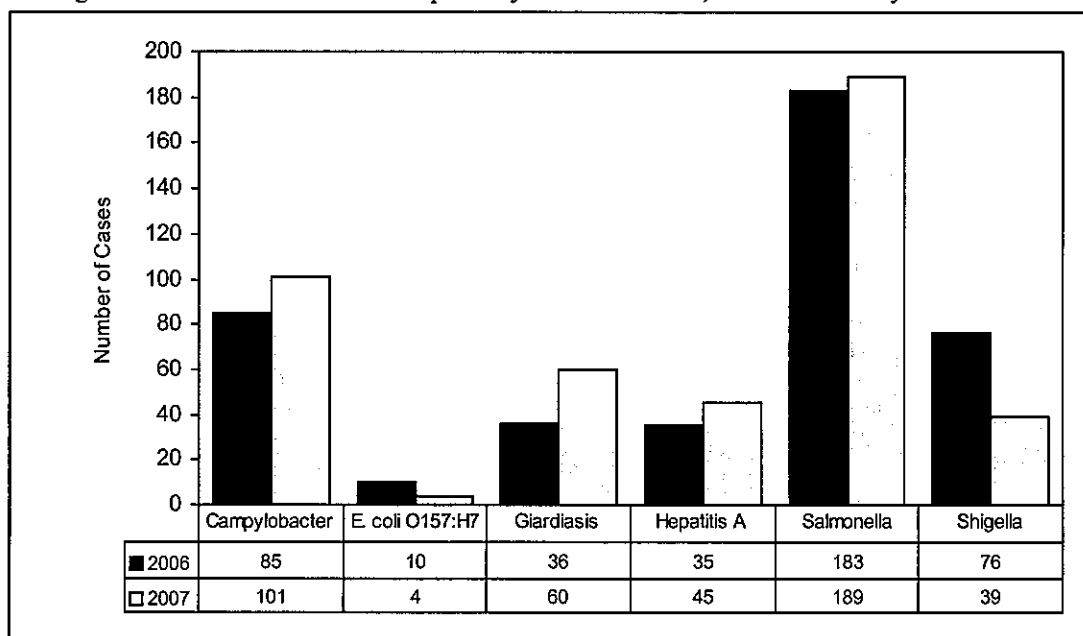
Figure 9: Reported West Nile Virus (WNV) Cases, Riverside County 2000-2008

Disease	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	116	103	4	17	62

- Diseases Spread by Food and Water**

Although infectious diseases commonly spread by contaminated food and water do not typically cause epidemic levels of illness or death, prevention and containment remains an integral part of public health. For the past 7 years, salmonellosis has been the most commonly reported disease spread by food and water in Riverside County. Rates for enteric infections of salmonella, shigella, campylobacter, and giardia are higher among 0-4 year olds compared to other age groups. There was a 66.6% increase in the number of giardiasis cases from 2006 to 2007 (Fig. 10). (Riverside County Department of Public Health, Communicable Disease Report 2007)

Figure 10: Incidence of Diseases Spread by Food and Water, Riverside County 2006-2007





ⁱ D. Stokols et al., *Traffic Congestion, Type A Behavior, and Stress*, Vol. 63, Journal of Applied Psychology, at 467-480 (1978).

ⁱⁱ R. Novaco et al., *Transportation, Stress, and Community Psychology*, Vol. 7, American Journal of Community Psychology, at 361-380 (1979).

ⁱⁱⁱ Pastor, M. Jr, Sadd J L, Morello-Frosch R, 2004, "Reading, writing, and toxics: children's health, academic performance, and environmental justice in Los Angeles" Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy 22(2), pages 271 – 290.

^{iv} Toxic Chemicals in Building Materials: An Overview for Health Care Organizations. Healthy Building Network in conjunction with Kaiser Permanente. May 2008

^v State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007.

^{vi} American Community Survey, 2007: U.S. Census Bureau

^{vii} Census 2000 Block-Level Demographic data for Riverside County: U.S. Census Bureau

^{viii} South Coast Air Quality Management District. Analysis: Riverside County cancer risk from smog rose between 1998-2005. Press Enterprise. September 2008.

^{ix} American Community Survey, 2007: U.S. Census Bureau

^x U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/07poverty.shtml>. Original Source: Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 24, 2007, pp. 3147–3148.

^{xi} California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). 2005-2007 pooled data.

^{xii} Olshansky SJ, Passaro DJ, Hershow RC, Layden J, Carnes BA, Brody J, Hayflick L, Butler RN, Allison DB, and Ludwig DS, "A Potential Decline in Life Expectancy in the United States in the 21st Century," New England Journal of Medicine, 352:11, pp. 1138-1145.

^{xiii} USA Today online report accessed Dec. 2008 <http://content.usatoday.com>

^{xiv} California Health Interview Survey, 2007.

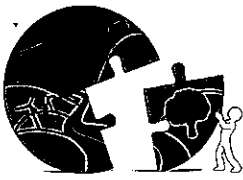
^{xv} Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1: Introduction

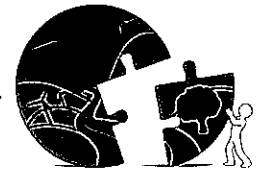
The Origin: Setting the Stage for the General Plan	1
The Process: Foundation	3
Background	3
Team	3
Vision Process	4
Technical Studies	4
Plan Development	5
The Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	5
The Result: Plan Features	7
Vision-Driven Plan	7
Clarity in Land Use Guidance	7
Contemporary Policies and Standards	8
Preserving Stability and Flexibility In the Plan Over Time: The Certainty System	8
Tracking Progress	8
Integrating Realistic Mobility Options	9
The Structure: a Reader's Guide to the General Plan Document	11
Plan Organization & Use	11
General Plan & Area Plans Relationship to Other Plans and Regulations	13
Jurisdictional System	14



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Introduction – December 1, 2010

This page intentionally left blank.



Chapter 1: Introduction

The Origin: Setting the Stage for the General Plan

Two powerful and consistent messages were voiced by the residents of Riverside County when asked for their input into the direction of the Riverside County Integrated Project and the General Plan. During 22 outreach meetings conducted throughout the County, and in a countywide public opinion survey, the messages were:

- The public does not want Riverside County to be like much of the older development in Southern California that symbolizes urban sprawl; and
- The communities that make up the County are important, distinct and special, and must be preserved or enhanced.

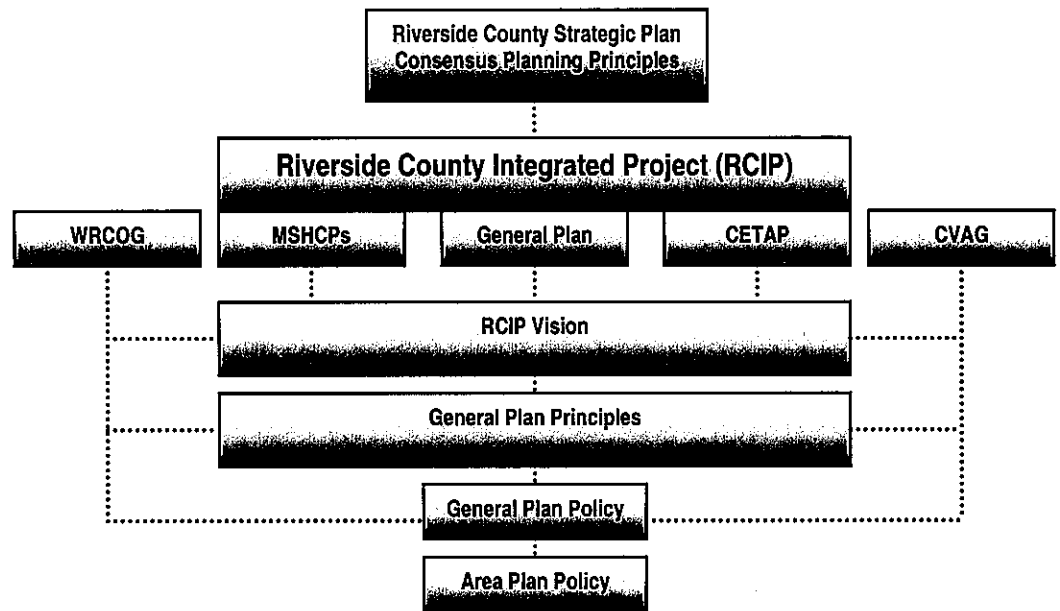
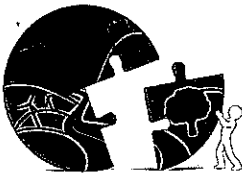
The foundation for this revised and restructured General Plan for the County of Riverside has developed over a number of years. The County's *Strategic Vision*, adopted in October of 1998, incorporates a set of 15 Consensus Planning Principles drafted and endorsed by a coalition of County stakeholders, including the building industry, property owners, environmental groups, and others, and are intended to guide the work of the Riverside County Integrated Project (RCIP). The RCIP is comprised of the Community Environmental Transportation Corridor Acceptability Process (CETAP), a Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and the Riverside County General Plan update. The Consensus Planning Principles have in fact become the foundation for the RCIP Vision statement that was developed by a similarly diverse and expanded stakeholder group that has served as the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC.) (See Chapter 2, Vision, for the text of the Vision Statement.)

This revised General Plan's structure is two-tiered (see diagram below). The General Plan covers the entire unincorporated portion of the County and is augmented by 19 more detailed Area Plans covering the County's territory with the exception of the undeveloped desert areas and the March Air Reserve Base. The thrust of the General Plan is to manage the overall pattern of development more effectively. The Area Plans provide a clear and more focused opportunity to enhance community identity within the County and stimulate quality of life at the community level.

The following diagram does not depict a conventional hierarchy of authority. It intends to illustrate the interactive and intergovernmental process that shaped the development of this General Plan. The remarkable consistency in the Consensus Planning Principles, the RCIP Vision, and the General Plan Principles is most significant. These documents reflect several common themes that have driven the development of this General Plan, and that should shape the future of this County. These themes are:

Quality of Life: Securing a high quality of life for County residents, even as we face a large projected population increase, by integrating and balancing the need for community and economic development, permanent multipurpose open space preservation, and multimodal transportation systems development. The innovative features of this Plan are designed to keep Riverside County economically competitive within the region and to provide an attractive environment and mobility for the high-wage employers sought by the County. This is the key to bringing jobs and housing into better balance in the County and significantly improving quality of life.

Community Identity, Form and Focus: Providing expanded opportunities for strategically located, compact activity centers, or nodes, that foster community identity and a sense of place. Key to this identity is a mix of land uses that will enable a broader range of community needs to be met (e.g. living, working, shopping, playing) within compact development areas, while at the same time providing them with definite edges or separation from other communities or clusters of communities.



Choice: Enabling the development of a greater variety of housing types than has previously been developed in the County. This involves strategies that enable the County to develop multiple housing types and meet the housing needs of residents in a wide range of socioeconomic categories.

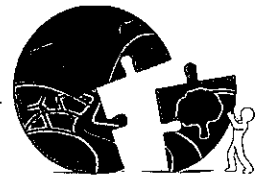
Refining and Redefining the Development Process: Revising the County development processing system in order to strike a balance between certainty

and flexibility, regulation and incentives. This involves providing certainty in the pattern of development and conservation, allowing flexibility in development choices within defined areas, and attempting to achieve the development we want by using a blend of incentives and regulations.

Incentives: Developing a system of practical incentives to stimulate compliance with the Vision, reward excellence in planning and development, and stimulate compact forms of development where they are most appropriate.

Stakeholders as Part of the Team: Building and maintaining a strong constituency for the Plan through stakeholder involvement and buy-in during its development. Stakeholder participation has been one of the key and unique features of the planning program. The involvement of stakeholders in Advisory Committees had a major impact on the content of the General Plan and Area Plans. Support from a committed group of stakeholders during the Plan's implementation will be equally important.

Collaboration: Fostering a new level of regional collaboration between cities and the County. Many General Plan-level issues are not the County's alone; they are regional. Solutions, in relation to transportation systems development, for example, must be collaborative.



The Process: Foundation

BACKGROUND

The last update of the County's General Plan, prior to this Plan revision, was in 1987. At that time the Plan did not contain a countywide land use map for the unincorporated area. Instead, policy direction was given in relation to land use at the General Plan level, and the Open Space, Agriculture, Mountainous, and approved Specific Plans' areas of the County were mapped for reference. The Plan has been amended over 300 times since that date. Eleven Community Plans describing and mapping land use, policy direction and consistency zoning had also been adopted by the Board of Supervisors as part of the General Plan. Four more Community Plans were in draft form.

This update of the General Plan was undertaken by a team of consultants over a 36-month period of time, in order to:

- *clearly map the County's land use designations for the unincorporated areas;*
- *develop a streamlined, consistent set of land use categories for the County;*
- *update and restructure the existing Community Plans and translate them into a new set of 19 Area Plans covering most of the western County area, the Coachella Valley, Desert Center and the Palo Verde Valley*

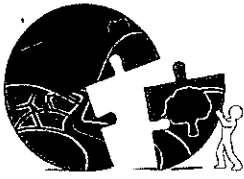
Team

The consulting team developed the General Plan in concert with County staff. Perhaps most significant is that a General Plan Advisory Committee also worked closely with consultants and staff as an integral part of the team, and strongly influenced the content of the General Plan. The General Plan Advisory Committee met monthly for the entire life of the project. A Subcommittee of the GPAC met weekly and at key intervals in the project with consultants and County staff.

The GPAC was comprised of two representatives appointed directly by each County Supervisor, as well as representatives of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, Building Industry Association, California Department of Fish and Game, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Community Access Center, Endangered Habitats League, Sierra Club, Farm Bureau, Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside County Economic Development Agency, Riverside County Property Owners Association, and selected cities.

The CETAP effort included preparation of the circulation element, examination of transit options, and identification and refinement of four new transportation corridors for the County. The consultant's work was also undertaken in concert with County staff and an Advisory Committee composed of a diverse group of County stakeholders.

The MSHCP for Western Riverside County, if adopted, will be implemented through integration into the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space element, and at the Area Plan level. The MSHCP Advisory Committee, a third stakeholder group, also played a key role in shaping the development of the MSHCP for Western Riverside County, together with County staff and consultants. The proposed Coachella Valley MSHCP is referred to in the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element, as well as the Area Plans for REMAP, The Pass, Western Coachella Valley and Eastern Coachella Valley.



VISION PROCESS

Public Meetings & Survey—Between June and October of 1999, two rounds of community meetings were held to determine the issues that residents of Riverside County wanted to have considered in planning for the County's future. The meetings were designed to engage the public in dialog with County staff and the consultants, and with each other, about issues critical to the success of the Plan and to Riverside County's future in general. (See Appendix D for a summary of these community workshops.) A survey relating to planning, traffic and circulation, and multi-species habitat areas was distributed, and the results were incorporated into the subsequent refinement of the RCIP Vision statement. At the same time a professional research firm completed a telephone survey of 600 registered voters in Riverside County, including 120 from each Supervisorial District. (See Appendix C for a summary of the community survey results.) Additional input came from a workshop that involved members of the Board of Supervisors and the Riverside County Transportation Commission.

The public input garnered from the public in the Vision outreach process did shape the structure of the Vision statement, which was further developed and deepened under the leadership of the General Plan Advisory Committee.

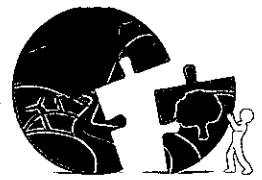
Resident's responses in the outreach process indicated their support for the following key ideas related to the General Plan:

1. Continued planned growth in response to population growth;
2. Road corridors that connect communities and connect Riverside County and adjacent counties;
3. Open space corridors that connect habitats;
4. No leapfrog development;
5. Less sameness, greater densities for "smart" developments;
6. Regional north/south and east/west solutions to congestion;
7. Better air quality through less traffic congestion and more local jobs;
8. A Plan that has a financing strategy; and
9. A planning pact with cities to help achieve the plan.

TECHNICAL STUDIES

Fiscal/Financial Analysis—Growth scenarios were prepared incorporating analysis of: employment and payroll trends, demographics, residential real estate trends, taxable retail sales, industrial and commercial real estate trends, community characteristics, competitive advantage, and infrastructure environment. The scenarios predicting low, medium, and high potentials for growth over the next 20 years were then used to evaluate the land use alternatives generated in the preparation of the Plan. (See Appendix F, Riverside County Population & Employment Forecasts, and Appendix G, Fiscal Analysis)

Existing Conditions Report—The Existing Conditions Report prepared as part of this General Plan update provides a description of the countywide conditions that form the assumptions upon which the plan is based. This report covers land use, circulation, housing, open space and conservation and public safety conditions, and is published as part of the Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan.



PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Review/Assessment of Existing General Plan & Community Plans—The consultants analyzed fifteen existing community plans, eleven approved by the Board of Supervisors and four in draft form. The plans were reviewed with respect to the following topics and characteristics: consistent or inconsistent structure; areas of distinction; land use designation systems; socioeconomic characteristics; land use allocation maps; zoning consistency; communities of interest/unincorporated communities boundaries; linkages with other areas; potential CETAP, MSHCP impacts; and growth predictions.

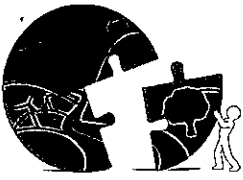
All of the policies contained in the Community Plans were reviewed, and if found relevant and applicable, were reassigned either to Area Plans or to the General Plan.

General Plan Development & Revision: Three land use alternatives were pursued in the preparation of the General Plan and Area Plans: a Trends alternative reflecting the County's approved community plans, specific plans and zoning; a Spheres alternative reflecting cities' designations for their spheres of influence, where those designations differed from the County's designations; and a Vision alternative reflecting land use patterns more consistent with the goals and principles of the Vision and General Plan principles.

The proposed General Plan Land Use Alternatives were presented to the Board of Supervisors in March of 2000, and direction was given to pursue the Vision alternative for further refinement. This latter alternative also contained many features derived from the first two alternatives.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

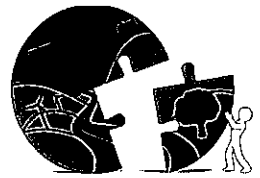
In addition to this General Plan document, a comprehensive EIR has been published as a companion document. It should be referred to for more extensive information about the impacts of the Plan and how they will be mitigated (offset or reduced), as well as background information that aided the development of the EIR.



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Introduction – December 1, 2010

This page intentionally left blank.



The Result: Plan Features

VISION-DRIVEN PLAN

Designed to meet State General Plan requirements (per California Government Code Section 65300 et seq.) and implement the RCIP Vision, this Plan outlines policies, standards, and programs to guide day-to-day decisions concerning Riverside County's future. Updating and revising the County's General Plan also serves several other important purposes, it:

- Provides clarity and stability in community development policy;
- Establishes a comprehensive and sound database for further implementation, project evaluation, administration, and monitoring; and
- Provides a basis for collaborative planning initiatives by cities, councils of government, the County and other governmental agencies.

The General Plan is grounded in the RCIP Vision, sets the direction for the County's land use and development in strategic locations, as well as the development of its economic base, the framework of its transportation system, and the preservation of the extremely valuable natural and cultural resources it contains. The Riverside County General Plan serves as a "guidebook" containing direction that will enable achievement of its Vision Statement.

A set of General Plan Principles has been developed as an outgrowth of the Consensus Planning Principles and Vision. One section of those Principles, relating to the General Plan Certainty System, is introduced in this section and contained in the General Plan. The remaining sections of that document are contained in Appendix B to the General Plan. Together, the Consensus Planning Principles, the Vision, and the General Planning Principles contain a number of significant new directions, embodied in the Plan, which are intended to chart Riverside County a new course for the 21st century.

Significant new General Plan features include:

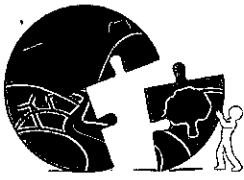
Clarity in Land Use Guidance

Completely Mapped Policy —Land use mapping at the General Plan level (see Chapter 3, Land Use Element) depicts four "Foundation" Components, while Area Plans use a streamlined, consistent set of land use designations that fall under the umbrella of the Foundation Components.

The Foundation Components — The RCIP Vision calls for the land uses in the County to be clearly mapped, and areas suitable for development or agriculture to be easily distinguishable from those to be permanently conserved, either for habitat or to accommodate natural resources or open space. As a result, the land use designations used in this General Plan fall under the umbrella of four Foundation Components, or major categories of County land use: Community Development, Rural, Agriculture, and Multipurpose Open Space. The countywide map of land use delineates only those four Foundation Components (see Chapter 3, Land Use Element).

As detailed in the description of the General Plan Certainty System (see general description below and Chapter 10, Administration), the significance of these foundation components is that General Plan Amendments proposing a change of land use designation from one Foundation Component to another will only be entertained by the County at five-year intervals, except in specific extraordinary circumstances and Agriculture Foundation Amendments which are considered at 2 ½ year intervals.

Area Plans — Nineteen Area Plans replace the previously adopted set of Community Plans as well as the Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan and the



Southwest Area Plan. Area Plan boundaries have been adjusted to include most of the unincorporated area of western Riverside County, as well as the Coachella Valley, Desert Center and the Palo Verde Valley. Area Plans are comprised of a land use map and other illustrative materials relevant to the area, as well as specific policy direction required to provide guidance unique to each area. The Area Plans incorporate a streamlined land use designation system representing a full spectrum of categories that relate to the natural or economic characteristics of the land in Riverside County. This system consolidates and replaces over 200 classifications in the previous General Plan.

Hazards Mapping – The General Plan incorporates a comprehensive set of natural hazards maps identifying physical development constraints within the County, including floodplains and dam inundation areas, areas of seismic activity or faulting, liquefaction and landslide areas, and high fire hazard areas. These maps provide clearer and more comprehensive direction regarding development constraints than had previously been available.

Contemporary Policies and Standards

The General Plan also provides updated policy direction and standards related to land use, housing, safety, circulation, open space and conservation, air quality, and noise that is relevant countywide.

Preserving Stability and Flexibility In the Plan Over Time: The Certainty System

The Riverside County General Plan Certainty System provides clarity regarding the interpretation and use of the General Plan in ongoing decision making, and seeks to sustain the Plan's policy direction over time (see Chapter 10, Administration). It recognizes that circumstances will change, imperfections in the Plan will be discovered, and events will occur that require changes in the Plan. The overriding consideration, however, is the absolute necessity to maintain a high level of confidence in the Plan and enable people affected by it to have reasonable expectations regarding how the Plan will impact them. The Certainty System serves the needs of those who value a rural lifestyle, farmers who have invested in their operations, and developers who want to ensure return on their investments. The System also ensures that open space is preserved in the County for the benefit of all.

State law limits amendments to the General Plan to four times per year. Each one can include multiple areas of change. The Certainty System takes the state guidelines a step further by identifying specific amendment categories and a time frame within which each can be considered for amendment to the General Plan. It is essential to the integrated character of this plan that changes made to it do not create inconsistencies with other parts of the Plan.

Tracking Progress

Carrying out the adopted General Plan requires numerous individual actions and ongoing programs involving almost every County department, as well as many other public agencies and private organizations. Implementing Actions for General Plan policies are referenced within each General Plan element and compiled into an Implementation Program contained in Appendix K of this Plan.

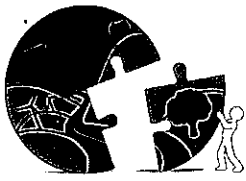


The General Plan implementation database is intended to be a responsive, highly automated system for monitoring and assessing cumulative effects of implementation of the Plan, including documentation of development, land preservation, and transportation activities. Reference to this monitoring information is an essential ingredient in the consideration of any change in the Plan, especially regarding land use designations. The information in this system will be maintained in such a way that basic development activity can be summarized at any time for use in reporting mechanisms, including an annual General Plan progress report.

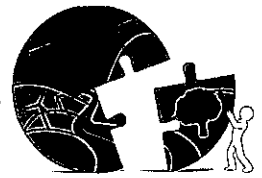
Integrating Realistic Mobility Options

The CETAP incorporates three levels of effort: identification of transportation corridors, development of the General Plan Circulation Element (Chapter 4), and exploration of options for transit system development in the County. Further, guidance for the implementation of the four CETAP corridors and the transit system concepts identified, is incorporated into the General Plan's policies and Implementation Plan.

A transit concept, known as the Oasis Transit System, has been developed to fit the unique needs of Riverside County (see Chapter 4). It entails localized transit loops centered around focal points of relatively compact development, tied in with regional transit corridors and, in turn, connected to the County's burgeoning Metrolink system. For the foreseeable future, the system would consist of rubber-tired vehicles resembling small rail cars, and would connect to neighborhoods through transit stations highly integrated into development concentrations at key locations. These nodes of development would contain a mix of uses normally required to serve each community, but would be designed to reinforce and/or benefit from transit service.



This page intentionally left blank.



The Structure: a Reader's Guide to the General Plan Document

State General Plan law mandates seven required elements of the General Plan and allows optional additional elements. State law also requires that these elements must be internally consistent with one another, though it does not mandate either the format or structure of each element. For example, policies in the Land Use element must be consistent with policies in the Noise Element.

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



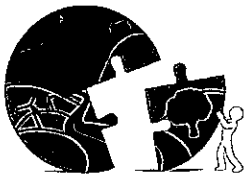
Definitions — clarification of terms and vocabulary used in certain policies or text.

PLAN ORGANIZATION & USE

The Riverside County General Plan is organized in the following manner:

Preface: Introduces the General Plan document and incorporates the summary Vision statement, "Riverside County is a family of special communities in a remarkable environmental setting."

1. **Introduction:** Describes the background, development process, features and structure of the General Plan.
2. **Vision:** Contains the full version of the Vision Statement.
3. **Land Use Element:** Designates the general distribution and intensity of all uses of the land in the County. This includes residential, commercial, industrial, public facilities, and open space uses. Also provides development standards related to each land use category, and general policy level direction for an array of land use-related issues such as hillside development and community design.
4. **Circulation Element:** Identifies the general location and extent of existing and proposed major transportation facilities, including major roadways, rail, transit systems, and airports. The Circulation Element for the Riverside County General Plan also identifies and provides policy direction for the implementation of the CETAP Corridors.
5. **Multipurpose Open Space Element:** In this General Plan, the Conservation and Open Space elements have been combined into the Multipurpose Open Space Element. Addresses the conservation, development, and use of natural resources including water, soils, rivers, and mineral deposits. Details plans and measures for preserving open space for: protection of natural resources such as wildlife habitat; the managed availability of space for parks, trails, and scenic vistas; and protection of public health and safety through protection of areas subject to geologic hazards, flooding, and fires.
6. **Safety Element:** Establishes policies and programs to protect the community from risks associated with seismic, geologic, flood, and wildfire hazards.
7. **Noise Element:** Identifies and appraises noise problems and includes policies to protect the County from excessive noise.
8. **Housing Element:** Assesses current and projected housing needs, and sets out policies and proposals for the improvement of housing and the provision of adequate sites for housing to meet the needs of all economic segments of the County.
9. **Air Quality Element:** This General Plan includes an optional Air Quality element that identifies and appraises air quality problems and includes policies to improve air quality.
10. **Healthy Communities Element:** This General Plan includes an optional, Healthy Communities Element that establishes policies to address primary health issues such as high rates of obesity, chronic illness, air pollution, lack of access to healthy foods, unsafe environments, and lack of access to health care and mental health services.



11. **Administration:** Incorporates policies and procedures for administering the General Plan.

Appendices: The following Appendices to the General Plan are also available:

- A. Glossary of Acronyms & Terms
- B. General Planning Principles
- C. Public Opinion Survey
- D. Summary of Community Workshops
- E. General Plan: Socioeconomic Build-Out Projections Assumptions & Methodology
- F. Riverside County Population & Employment Forecasts
- G. Fiscal Analysis
- H. Geotechnical Report
- I. Noise Element Data
- J. Community Center Guidelines
- K. Implementation Program
- L. Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans
- M. *Health Indicators*



An Example of

references system:

Identifies which element contains the Policy, in this case the Land Use Element, and the sequential number.

LU 1.3

Neighborhood Commercial uses should be located near residential uses.

(AI 1 and AI 4)

Reference to the relevant Action Items contained in the implementation Program

Each element of the General Plan contains the following internal structure and reference system:

Policy Structure and Reference System

The General Plan expresses the broad direction of the Consensus Planning Principles, Vision, and General Plan Principles in the form of policies. Policies are statements that guide the course of action the County must take to achieve the goals outlined in the three guidance documents mentioned above. It is important to note that policies are guides for decision makers, not decisions themselves. The policies themselves are organized by topical area or issue. For instance, policies related to "land use compatibility" can be found under that topical area.

In order for these policies to be successfully implemented, they must be related to specific courses of action. The key questions that need to be answered for policy in the General Plan are:

1. Who is responsible for implementing the policy?
2. When is it to be carried out?
3. How much will it cost?

Details for implementing policies in the General Plan are contained in the Implementation Program in the form of action items (See Appendix K). An action item describes the specific steps necessary to achieve an objective, and defines the level of commitment to be executed.

In order to allow easy reference, a numbering system has been established. Each policy is identified by both its element and a sequential number (see the example in the box at left). For instance, the first policy in the Land Use Element is identified as LU 1.1. Policies can also be followed by a set of numbers in parenthesis. This would be a reference to the action item related to the policy.

Policy Interpretation

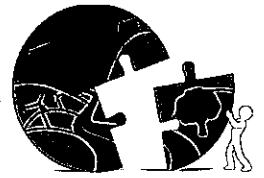
For a policy to be useful, it must be clear. However, not all policies are the same; they differ in terms of expected results, commitment of resources, and indication of importance or urgency. Therefore, it is important to simplify the language used in the General Plan and understand the distinctions between the



The policies for each

element of the General Plan are organized in the following simple structure:

- Topic Example "Land Use Compatibility")
- Policy Example: "Locate neighborhood commercial uses should near residential uses.")
- Action Item (Example: "Establish and maintain a set of community profile maps"



different levels of policy. The following definitions of terms provide guidance in interpreting the policy language of the General Plan:

- *Shall*: Policies containing the word “shall” indicate that an action must be taken in all cases. This represents absolute commitment to the policy, and the expectation is that the policy will always be carried out.
- *Should*: Policies containing the word “should” indicate that an action will be taken in most cases, but exceptions are acceptable for good reason.
- *Allow*: Policies containing the word “allow” indicate that a proposed action will be supported within certain parameters and following certain guidelines.
- *Coordinate*: Policies containing the word “coordinate” indicate that an action will occur along with some other entity, and the County will carry its share of the burden or responsibility.
- *Explore*: Policies containing the word “explore” indicate that an action will be taken to investigate the subject at hand to discover whether or not some further commitment is in order.
- *Consider*: Policies containing the word “consider” indicate that an action may or may not be taken, depending upon the results of analysis that remain to be completed.
- *Limit*: Policies containing the word “limit” indicate that an action will be taken to keep the subject within certain limits, or at least operate to make undesired change more difficult.
- *Restrict*: Policies containing the word “restrict” indicate that an action will be taken to actively keep the undesired action to a minimum.

Where other action terms are used that are not specified here, they are to be equated to the closest applicable term described above.

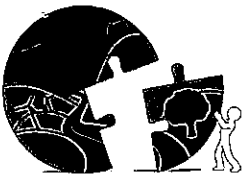
GENERAL PLAN & AREA PLANS RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS AND REGULATIONS

A number of plans and ordinances implement or are impacted by the County's General Plan:

Zoning Ordinance - The County administers its General Plan primarily through its Zoning Ordinance. While the General Plan identifies land use designations in the long-term, zoning identifies specific, immediate uses of land. The General Plan's successful implementation can only occur if the County Zoning Ordinance is updated and consistent with it (State law mandates General Plan-Zoning consistency), and is able to implement the long-term intent of the Plan.

Subdivision Ordinance - State law mandates local approval of land subdivision via the Subdivision Map Act. Local review of proposed subdivisions and parcel maps includes assessment of consistency with, and implementation of, General Plan objectives and policies.

Specific Plans - Specific plans are customized regulatory documents in lieu of standard zoning that are used to plan projects and delineate land uses, infrastructure, development standards and criteria, and implementation measures. Specific plans must address consistency with the jurisdiction's General Plan, and can be used to implement the General Plan within a limited area.



Development Agreements - Development agreements are entered into by developers and local governments. These agreements define permitted uses of property, density and intensity of uses, development criteria, and provisions for the reservation or dedication of land for public purposes. They are in effect for predetermined periods of time and identify vested development rights that apply to the specific development project they govern. Development agreements assure that general plan objectives and policies are carried as development occurs; however, unincorporated territory can be governed by development agreements with cities, subject to annexation, if the property is within the city's sphere of influence.

Transit Village Plans - The Transit Village Planning Act of 1994 authorizes cities and counties to prepare Transit Village Plans to encourage compact, mixed use development in close vicinity to transit stations. A transit village plan must be consistent with the county general plan. A county adopting a transit village plan is eligible for State transportation funds, will receive priority help from the Office of Permit Assistance in establishing a streamlined permitting process, and may be excluded from conformance with county Congestion Management Plan level-of-service standards with the approval of the Congestion Management Agency.

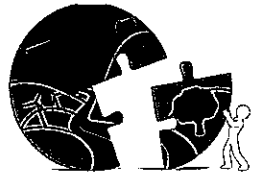
JURISDICTIONAL SYSTEM

The following types of plans and designations, though administered by other jurisdictions, can also impact the County's General Plan:

City General Plans - City General Plans have authority over territory within city limits. This General Plan only has jurisdiction over unincorporated territory within the County of Riverside that is under the authority of the Board of Supervisors. Land within a city's sphere of influence (see definition below) can be given land use designations by both the city and the county. The city's designation applies if the land is annexed into the city, otherwise the county's designation prevails.

City Spheres of Influence - Spheres of influence are established by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and are intended to reflect "the probable physical boundaries and service area" of cities. LAFCO is directed by State law (the Cortese/Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 1985, as amended) to establish and periodically review the spheres of influence for each agency under its jurisdiction.

Communities of Interest (COI) - The Riverside County LAFCO may designate Community of Interest study areas within the County of Riverside unincorporated territory. Proponents of the designation are given two years to evaluate long-term jurisdictional alternatives and submit a summary report to the Commission. Alternative courses of action within this time frame could include annexation to one or more cities or special districts, incorporation as a new city, or the long-term designation of Unincorporated Community. During the study period, piecemeal annexations are strongly discouraged.



Unincorporated Communities(UC) - The Riverside County LAFCO may designate Unincorporated Communities within the County of Riverside unincorporated territory. A UC designation by LAFCO recognizes the Commission's intent that the area designated remains unincorporated for the foreseeable future. Designation of an area as a UC may require removal from a municipal sphere of influence, since the two designations are mutually exclusive. The UC designation for a community is to be reviewed every five years.

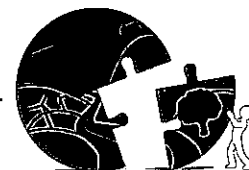
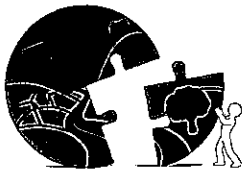


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 2: Vision Statement

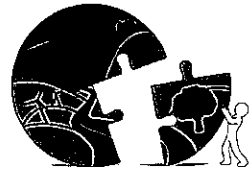
OVERVIEW.....	1
FUNDAMENTAL VALUES	3
<i>Community.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Health</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Inter-relatedness</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Rights</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Risks</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Diversity.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Equity.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Valued Contributions.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Varied Communities</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Balance</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Participation</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Volunteerism</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Decision Making.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Creativity and Innovation</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Distinctiveness</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Livable Centers.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Housing.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Natural Environment</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Man-made Environment.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Multi-Modal Transportation.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Employment</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Safety</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Planning Integration.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Communication and Information.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Quality Management.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Sustainability</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Recreation.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Healthy Food</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Costs</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Governmental Cooperation</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Youth in the Community.....</i>	<i>8</i>
A VISION FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY.....	10
VISION AS A GUIDE FOR THE RCIP	10
<i>Integration: The Hallmark of the County Plan</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Draft Vision Concepts.....</i>	<i>12</i>
TRANSLATING ISSUES INTO VISION	13
<i>Population Growth</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Our Communities and Their Neighborhoods.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Housing.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Healthy Communities.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Conservation and Open Space Resource System</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Air Quality</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Jobs and the Economy</i>	<i>22</i>



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Vision Statement – December 1, 2010

<i>Agricultural Lands</i>	23
<i>Educational Facilities</i>	24
<i>Plan Integration</i>	24
<i>Financial Realities</i>	25
<i>Intergovernmental Cooperation</i>	25



Chapter 2: A Vision for Riverside County

Overview

If you are reading this vision statement it is because you have some interest in what is happening in Riverside County. You may be concerned about your current or future quality of life, how your property will be impacted by change, whether to locate your business here, or, as a government official, what a decision should be regarding a particular issue. This vision will tell you in broad terms what values prevail here and how future community-building decisions will be affected by those values.

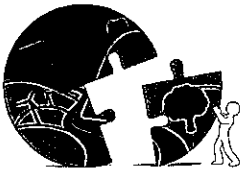
A vision is a positive mental image of the future that is expressed as if it had already been achieved. It is used, not only to shape plans, but also to motivate long term commitment to those plans and their implementation. It is a tool for inspiring achievement and unifying energies toward a future that is considerably more desirable than it would be without such thoughtful preparation.

Our vision for the County is designed to:

1. Build on lasting values;
2. Appeal to the best in people;
3. Have universal appeal, despite unavoidable differences in priority;
4. Communicate in terms people can easily understand;
5. Represent common ground as the basis for resolving inevitable differences;
6. Be both visionary and practical; and
7. Be rich with opportunities for personal interpretation within the framework of the common ground.

The process for developing this vision involved:

1. Listening to the people of Riverside County through outreach meetings and public opinion polling;
2. Consolidating information from workshops involving the Board of Supervisors, Riverside County Transportation Commission, County Planning Commission, cities, tribal governments, appointed advisory committees, and special interest groups;
3. Augmenting that input with technical and planning knowledge from the staff and consultants;



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Vision Statement – December 1, 2010

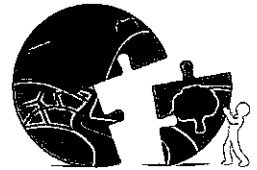
4. Discussions among participants in the planning process of important issues that must be addressed in the vision; and
5. Preparing and refining the draft vision based on these discussions.

This Vision is made up of four parts. The first is a summary version that captures the essence of the Vision, but does not contain the depth of content generated by the outreach process. It is designed to be published separately as an easy to read, stand-alone document. The second part is this overview, which sets the stage for the substance of the Vision. The third part is a statement of fundamental values that provide the foundation for the Vision. The importance of these values cannot be overstated. They are the rationale for everything that appears on the Vision statement. The fourth is the Vision Statement itself. This part describes what the County is like after 20 years of collaboration, based on the common ground established through the process of preparing the Riverside County Integrated Plan.

The essence of the Vision Statement is a description of conditions related to twelve major topics arising from the public outreach process. Each topic contains a number of issues that had to be addressed if the stated values were to truly influence the future. The translation of these issues into a description of results after 20 years of implementation provides the substance of the Vision for the County.

How is this Vision used? Here are some ways:

1. Each General Plan Element contains a description of how it implements the Vision.
2. Each Area Plan contains a description of how the Vision applies uniquely to that area and how it is implemented.
3. The land use and supporting transportation and open space systems respond directly to the Vision through the General Plan Elements and Area Plans.
4. Communities in unincorporated areas are shaped by the content of the Vision.
5. The General Plan Implementation Program is reviewed annually as part of the County budget process and achievements toward the Vision are documented. County resources are focused on supporting the Vision.
6. Achievement of the Vision is being tracked by indicators that are either measurable or at least clearly defined based on a shared definition of success.
7. Staff reports on public improvement projects and private development projects specify how they serve to implement the Vision.
8. Public interest groups regularly observe the implementation process to both celebrate achievements and raise concerns when they are warranted.



9. The Riverside County Vision is frequently the subject of news media stories that call attention to aspects of its status.
10. Educational programs throughout the County contain segments on current issues and how their resolution reinforces the direction stated by the Vision.
11. The entire General Plan is reviewed and refined periodically in response to changing conditions and the degree to which the Vision is being achieved.

In short, the County Vision is at the heart of a great many public deliberations and has the continual attention of the public. It is a central part of the decision-making systems that shape what happens, where it happens, and how it happens.

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES

The physical character of our communities cannot be divorced from the values they respect. Sooner or later, these values manifest themselves in how our development decisions are made and how those decisions shape our communities. Where our values and results are synchronized, our communities prosper; where they are in conflict, so are the communities.

The simplest way to summarize our vision for Riverside County is to say that:

Riverside County is a family of special communities in a remarkable environmental setting.

Our vision is based on values that provide the foundation for common ground that, in turn, underpin the General Plan's goals, policies, and actions. The people of Riverside County declare that they join together in holding the following values and seeking a community future based on them. It can be argued that our values are optimistic and very ambitious: that they require our best instincts to prevail. Of course-why would we seek less in shaping our communities?

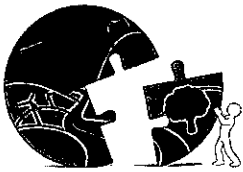
So, with that theme in mind, let us express the values that have motivated our community building and that will continue to do so in the future.

Community

We are, in fact, a community within which a family of local communities exists. "Family" means that we treat each other with the compassion and respect that one rightfully expects of family members. The richness of our natural setting is a shared resource of inestimable value. Despite differences in priorities and approaches, we are engaged in community building for ourselves and our heirs based on the common ground we have forged.

Health

We value the health of our residents. Therefore, we seek to reverse significant negative national health trends so that: 1) children live healthier and longer lives than their parents; 2) air and water quality are improved, 3) respiratory illnesses are reduced so that people spend fewer days out of work and school because of health problems; 4) health care costs have decreased; 5) obesity has decreased; and 6) people are physically active.



Inter-relatedness

We acknowledge the inter-relatedness of the economic, environmental, cultural, and institutional realms of our community life as we continue to plan and build our communities in a manner that enables us to achieve mutually beneficial results.

Rights

We respect the rights of others in the often complex process of developing our communities: property rights, including those associated with Indian lands; the right to dissent; and freedom from infringement on constitutional rights as citizens and as fellow humans seeking their rightful place in society.

Responsibilities

We affirm that, concurrent with rights, lie significant individual responsibilities to our communities and to each other in pursuing our personal priorities along with others engaged in community building.

Risks

We readily acknowledge that there is a certain degree of risk and uncertainty regarding future expectations, especially as they relate to land resources and how we manage them. At the same time, through the unique planning opportunities present here, we seek to make the risks known and avoid arbitrary and capricious decision making that aggravates the normal risks in human affairs.

Diversity

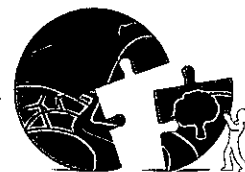
We respect the diversity of our peoples, with their fundamental and common beliefs and convictions. Accordingly, we cherish their rights to live their lives without unnecessary governmental regulation. At the same time, we acknowledge that the diversity we value so much requires leadership and tradeoffs in balancing the interests involved in a community development decision.

Equity

We strive to take care of all residents regardless of age, income, race, or ethnicity. We strive to equitably distribute community facilities and services throughout the County especially health care facilities, preventative care, and early intervention programs designed to serve all populations, particularly children, the elderly, and the mentally ill.

Valued Contributions

We value the contributions to our communities on the part of many sectors of our population whose age, youth, disability, health, or other characteristics may limit their contributions and satisfaction as community members unless they have equal access and are assured opportunities to be full members of our communities.



Varied Communities

We value the contribution to our overall quality of life by the richly varied municipalities, Indian nations, unincorporated communities, and rural communities in the County.

Balance

We acknowledge that balancing a variety of important considerations in making community decisions is a constant challenge. We have faith that the foundation provided through our participation in shaping this vision and its implementing mechanisms will achieve a workable balance of mutual benefit.

Participation

We seek and take seriously the public's involvement in shaping our communities and participation in determining how they evolve over time. We affirm that the people of the County who require a part in whatever forums and opportunities for public dialogue take place include residents, workers, students, business owners and operators, and property owners.

Volunteerism

We value the voluntary effort invested by our citizens in community building and place great worth in the voluntary expression of good will, compassion, understanding, and democratic ideals displayed by those who freely give of their valuable time and resources. We seek to sustain the recognition and continued involvement of the volunteer and not-for-profit sector as they contribute so much to our community life.

Decision Making

We expect decision-making to be informed by the best available information and seek a quality of decision making that is democratic, timely and equitable.

Creativity and Innovation

We seek bold and creative planning approaches and initiatives to implement our communal future based on these shared values and aspirations. We value such innovation because, sometimes, thinking "outside the box" is necessary to achieve the benefits people in our County seek in selecting their preferred life style, community characteristics, and housing types.

Distinctiveness

We are proud of the distinctive identities that our communities now possess and cherish the sense of place that results from them. We want this sense of place and distinctiveness maintained and enhanced in our planning and development activities.



Livable Centers

We value built environments that are concentrated in and around livable centers that have a diverse mix of uses, unique character, and easy access to a wide range of transportation choices.

Housing

We acknowledge shelter as one of the most basic community needs and value the willingness of our communities and their leaders to accept housing for our growing population in our communities, particularly with respect to the ongoing shortage of affordable housing and its negative impacts on our communities.

Natural Environment

We value the unusually rich and diverse natural environment with which we are blessed and are committed to maintaining sufficient areas of natural open space to afford the human experience of natural environments as well as sustaining the permanent viability of the unique landforms and ecosystems that define this environment.

Man-made Environment

We acknowledge and respect the long heritage of economic endeavors that have shaped portions of our environment through mining, agriculture, renewable energy development and similar enterprises and continue to take their value into consideration in shaping our environmental management.

Multi-Modal Transportation

We value streets that are safe, attractive, and designed to include convenient and affordable public transit throughout the County. We strive for bicycling and pedestrian networks that connect most major destinations and for adequate supplemental transportation for people with special needs.

Employment

We acknowledge gainful employment as one of the most basic individual needs and value a growing and diversified job base within which our residents may find a wide range of income opportunities in the agricultural, commercial, industrial, office, tourism, and institutional sectors of our economy.

Safety

We acknowledge security of person and property as one of the most basic community needs and commit to designing our communities so that vulnerability to natural and man made hazards, as well as criminal activities, is anticipated and kept to a minimum.



Planning Integration

We are proud of the multi-faceted approach taken in Riverside County to planning on countywide and community scales and we dedicate ourselves to its continued support for the coherent and comprehensive implementation of this approach. At the same time, we seek an implementation approach that simplifies and focuses on essentials, without being unnecessarily complex.

Communication and Information

We expect the fullest possible communication between our community leaders and the people and believe in the value of information sharing as broadly as possible as the basis for effective communication and problem solving.

Quality Management

We seek and reward quality management of the institutions, organizations, and resources that belong to us. This includes the expectation that accountability and measures of achievement will be a prominent part of public management systems.

Sustainability

We are beneficiaries of the past and we value that. We seek the same for our heirs. We declare that they should have an expectation that they will inherit communities and a natural environment that offer them a reasonable range of choices.

Recreation

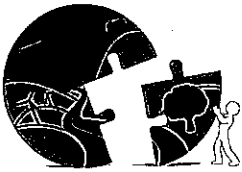
We seek an environment where residents of the County enjoy better access to parks, trails and open spaces than the previous generation. This means a county where most neighborhoods have parks, trails and community facilities that are safe, appealing, and that encourage people of all ages to remain physically and socially active.

Healthy Food

We strive to eliminate barriers to healthy foods throughout the County especially locally grown or produced foods. We encourage neighborhood stores, supermarkets, farmers markets and community supported agriculture drop centers that provide a wide range of nutritious food choices at reasonable prices.

Costs

We know that community-building involves significant costs. We seek sharing of benefits and costs in a proportional manner: the community should fund community-wide benefits and development related benefits should be funded by the development, all as part of an equitable overall financing strategy. We seek shared funding methods through partnerships that improve overall cost-effectiveness.

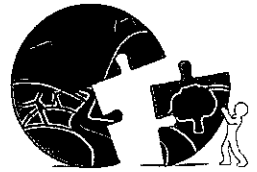


Governmental Cooperation

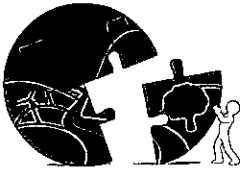
We expect the considerable number of governmental entities that guide and influence the quality of our communities to avoid parochial thinking and make their decisions and conduct their activities with the general community welfare and benefit in mind. This includes pursuing joint priorities where that approach offers community advantages that exceed independent action.

Youth in the Community

We affirm that the future of our community lies with our children and that their education and support are essential to community well being. We dedicate ourselves to building and sustaining a network of support for the youth in our community.



This page intentionally left blank.



A Vision for Riverside County

VISION AS A GUIDE FOR THE RCIP

Our values drive our vision. What we, the people of Riverside County want for our future, our communities, and ourselves will shape the Riverside County Integrated Plan. Implementing the plan will unify our resources to achieve our common purpose. What we choose to do or not to do will, in turn, validate or refine our vision so that it is not only imaginative in seeking a better future, but practical in creating expectations that are real. In short, this will lead to a comprehensive plan that says what it means and means what it says.

Why is this so important? It is because the only way for our vision to be translated into reality is to work at it and persist. In other words, completing the RCIP is not the end of the process; it is the beginning. That is when the hard-but truly rewarding-work begins.

Integration: The Hallmark of the County Plan

The key to the entire RCIP lies in the word “integration.” There are a number of movements throughout the nation that seek to improve quality of life. They all include useful ideas, usually organized around a major theme or emphasis. Examples include Healthy Cities, Sustainable Development, Livable Cities, Safe Communities, Smart Growth, Clean Cities and a number of others. The RCIP is not beholden solely to any one of these ways of defining “quality of life.” Rather, it seeks to integrate combinations of the best ideas from these programs and locally initiated concepts. That will allow us and our leaders to tailor the most applicable ideas to the County’s needs and potentials. If any single quality is evident regarding the County, it is diversity. So, the vision for its future must respect the fact that “one size does not fit all.” The foundation for this approach is integration of a host of ideas rich in potential, based not on a single theme, but on what makes the most sense for the County.

It is essential to appreciate the fact that this vision for the County allows for varied interpretations, depending on one’s priorities. This cannot and should not be avoided. Yet, it should become clear, as implementation of the vision occurs, if some aspect of the vision is completely ignored. That is not acceptable and will require serious attention. So this vision should be thought of as a consolidation of many legitimate agendas within which balanced response is expected. That this balance will vary at different times and in different locales does not diminish the value of the vision. After all, the vision is intended to motivate excellence, not impose a singular straightjacket on the future. Rather, it reflects the heritage of diversity that has always enriched the character of this place.

This thought leads to one final idea reflected in our community vision statement. We constantly refer to the term “quality of life” in describing what we seek in our living environment. We all agree that this is a desirable purpose, yet we may define quality to mean widely differing things. For purposes of this vision statement, quality of life is defined to include all of the ingredients contained in our vision. It is not exactly the same thing in every portion of the County. It is a balancing of competing priorities that do not enjoy universal support throughout



the County. Yet the vision statement includes an essential common ground that must be found to some degree in any quality of life definition used here.

With this in mind, the RCIP...

1. Adapts the best part of many themes to the needs of the County.
2. Derives its power from the values that are held by the people here.
3. Balances stability in the landscape with the dynamism and flexibility to adapt to changing future circumstances.
4. Uses the best available data and analysis to guide decision making without constraining the overall vision.
5. Is flexible so that it can be adjusted to accommodate future circumstances, yet provides a solid foundation of stability so that basic ingredients in the plan are not sacrificed.
6. Protects high-value environmental resources and private property rights – and develops the complex tools needed to do so.
7. Integrates and works closely with cities and their planning efforts.
8. Provides a long-term means for economic stability to be achieved through investment by a variety of interests: residential, agricultural, property owner, environmental, institutional, business community, labor, and others.
9. Seeks a balanced transportation system where people do not need to be totally dependent on the single-occupant vehicle.
10. Stimulates an unprecedented level of intergovernmental cooperation and collaboration.

The RCIP will...

1. Provide on-going monitoring, measurement, and status on progress toward achieving the vision.
2. Preserve crucial open space and transportation corridors, resulting in more compact and efficient development than would otherwise happen.
3. Provide a range of community design options to respond to varied lifestyle choices.
4. Put a focus on high quality, efficient growth that uses land resources efficiently.
5. Provide a process for adjustment through General Plan reviews, in accordance with state law, at regular intervals or when triggered by key events.

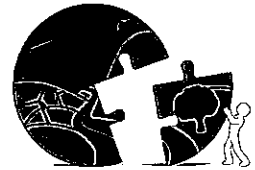


Draft Vision Concepts

The most powerful way to state our vision is to place ourselves in the future and see what we have achieved; what our communities are like; what the quality of life means at that point in time. So, if you will “fast forward” to about the year 2020 and look around, you will see our vision.

Because the Riverside County Integrated Plan was adopted and implementation has been underway for almost 20 years...

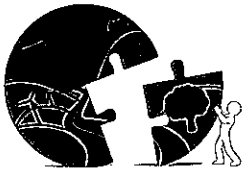
1. Corridors and areas are preserved for distinctive purposes: multi-purpose open space, including wildlife; economic development, including agriculture; residences; public facilities; and transportation systems.
2. Growth involving new development or expansion of existing development is consistently accompanied by the public improvements required to serve it.
3. The rich diversity of the County’s environmental resources—even those modified by human activities—is preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of present and future generations.
4. There is an adequate supply and quality of critical water resources essential to support development, agriculture, wildlife, and open space.
5. Multipurpose regional open space and community/neighborhood public spaces are permanent elements of the County’s landscape.
6. Public facilities such as schools, law enforcement related facilities, libraries, fire stations, community centers and other facilities essential to providing community services are in place.
7. Public access to recreation opportunities is part of the overall open space system, with multi-purpose parks, play fields, and community facilities at varied sizes in accessible locations.
8. Our communities maintain their individual distinctive qualities and character, surrounded in most cases (except in the Coachella Valley, where cities physically merge into a continuous development pattern) by open space or non-intensive uses to contribute to their sense of unique identity. Community centers, gathering places, and special focal points unique to each community also aid this identity.
9. A full range of housing has been achieved and an ongoing program is in operation to continually meet this need.
10. Development standards are consistently high, offset in cost by the absence of unpredictable time delays and conflict in the development review process. This is possible because the places where development should occur are clearly defined and the standards for development in cities and the County highly consistent.
11. Infill and redevelopment that enhance and revitalizes communities are contributing to the accommodation of growth.



12. Our communities—both improvements to existing ones and newly emerging ones—are models for new ways to provide and manage infrastructure, deliver education, access jobs, apply new technology, and achieve greater efficiency in the use of land, structures, and public improvements.
13. A comprehensive transportation system operates at regional, countywide, community and neighborhood scales. As part of that system, transportation corridors serve as unifying connectors between communities, provide high capacity linkages between jobs, residences and recreational opportunities, and offer multiple modes of travel.
14. Expanded local employment opportunities and broadening of choices provided by the transportation system and technological advances in communications systems have resulted in reduced vehicle miles and vehicle hours traveled (compared to what would otherwise have occurred), contributing to an improved quality of life generally and improved air quality specifically.
15. Clusters of similar businesses and industries are created within areas designated for job generating uses and our expanded educational institutions provide preparation and training for the new jobs created in these clusters.
16. Though overall acreage in agricultural production has diminished, proactive measures have retained economically viable agricultural lands, which are well protected as valuable economic resources and, in some areas, have expanded.
17. Many dimensions of the County's Vision are being achieved through expanded levels of intergovernmental cooperation and partnerships that represent commitments to common ground not achievable in the past.
18. Because of the achievements in an improved quality of life, more people are involved in assisting the planning and implementation process than has historically been the case.

TRANSLATING ISSUES INTO VISION

A number of issues were raised by the people of Riverside County during the outreach process aimed at finding out their opinions and concerns about the future. The people had much to say. The issues they talked about and the ideas they had for improvement fell into twelve subject areas. Those subject headings follow, with vision statements applicable to each one. Each topic begins with a brief narrative summary, followed by a number of specific items that make up the vision for that topic.



Population Growth

There is no question that the process of accommodating almost a doubling of population in the last 20 years has been challenging. Yet, the emerging pattern of growth is now much clearer than it was during earlier growth periods. Perhaps more importantly, because of this clarity, there is now a much stronger focus on the quality of growth and development, rather than a fear of being overwhelmed by the numbers. Population growth has been accompanied by an even greater expansion of jobs.

Riverside County and its cities are so well coordinated in their growth forecasting activities that regional forecast revisions accept locally generated forecasts as a matter of course. This has many benefits for the people of the County, such as unquestioned qualifications for receiving funding under various state and federal programs and stronger competition for available discretionary funding programs to supplement local resources.

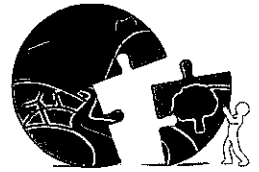
1. New growth patterns no longer reflect a pattern of random sprawl. Rather, they follow a framework of transportation and open space corridors, with concentrations of development that fit into that framework. In other words, important open space and transportation corridors define growth areas.
2. Growth focus in this County is on quality, not on frustrating efforts to halt growth.
3. Population growth continues and is focused where it can best be accommodated.
4. Growth is well coordinated between cities and the County and they jointly influence periodic state and regional growth forecasts affecting the County and its cities.

Our Communities and Their Neighborhoods

Each community in the County is identified uniquely as a special place. This includes incorporated cities, unincorporated communities, new communities, and tribal holdings. The combination of multipurpose open space systems, transportation networks, and land suitable for development distinguishes those areas that logically fit into future expansion of cities, creation of new communities, and preservation of rural enclaves.

Cooperative policies and programs are now in place that closely coordinate cities, the County of Riverside, and the Local Agency Formation Commission in concentrating development where it is most appropriate and still allowing considerable choice in location for individual property owners, developers and future residents. This collaboration is widely respected as a means of assuring the integrity of communities within the County, whether they are incorporated, unincorporated, or tribal in status.

Earlier problems clearly associated with leapfrog development (development that "skips over" developable land and establishes inefficient development patterns) have virtually disappeared. Areas slated for development are clearly identified and mapped. Areas not acceptable for development, based on cause, within the time frame of the General Plan are also clearly identified and

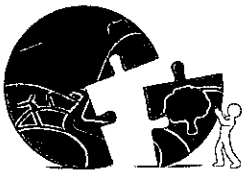


mapped. Development proposed at some distance from existing communities occurs because of a conscious commitment to a new community there, and it must demonstrate its self-sufficiency in terms of public facilities and services. This may eventually facilitate infill development where that is clearly consistent with planning policy and mapped designations. New communities are demonstrating methods for achieving efficient development and building a sense of community from the very beginning.

The pattern of development is now leading toward more efficient use of land resources and the incentives for intensification of development are working very effectively. As a result, the initial components of a transit system are in place, and the capability for expansion is preserved through rights-of-ways that can be brought on line as service needs dictate and financial resources permit.

Not only are multipurpose open space areas permanently protected, but also numerous rural areas are likewise assured a continuation of that lifestyle. Limitations on the erosion of this lifestyle are well respected because of the clarity and strength of commitment by the County and other agencies, and because extensive opportunities for more urban and suburban development exist which are not vulnerable to successful legal challenge regarding their appropriateness.

1. A high degree of consistency now exists between County and city land use and transportation planning within city spheres of influence, resulting in a reduction in development policy conflicts and confusion. In some cases this has been driven by city initiatives, in others by County policy direction, and in still others through a negotiated blend of city/county preferences.
2. Innovative designs allow for increased density in key locations, such as near transit stations, with associated benefits. In these and other neighborhoods, walking, bicycling, and transit systems are attractive alternatives to driving for many residents.
3. Incentives and the competitive need to "raise the bar" in creating communities of excellence commonly stimulate the development community to exceed the norms of development standards.
4. The regulatory system consistently rewards implementation of concepts that contribute to achievement of the County's vision.
5. All communities in the County have complied with legal requirements for universal access to public buildings, sidewalks, and public spaces. Many have established an incentive system to expand similar access in buildings and spaces not covered by legal requirements.
6. Incentives to achieve development efficiency often results in reduced fee costs.
7. The financial implications of implementing the RCIP are well documented and understood.

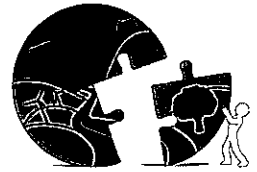


8. The planning process continues to refine acceptable densities as a means of accommodating additional growth so that the extensive permanent open space that now exists can be sustained.
9. The extensive heritage of rural living continues to be accommodated in areas committed to that lifestyle and its sustainability is reinforced by the strong open space and urban development commitments provide for elsewhere in the RCIP.
10. Each of our rural areas and communities has a special character that distinguishes them from urban areas and from each other. They benefit from some conveniences such as small-scale local commercial services and all-weather access roads, yet maintain an unhurried, uncrowded life style. Rural residents accept the fact that they must travel some distance for more complete services and facilities.
11. Some rural residential development and support uses are accommodated in open space preserves where the type of development and sensitivity of the natural resource are mutually compatible.
12. Considerable protection from natural hazards such as earthquakes, fire, flooding, slope failure, and other hazardous conditions is now built into the pattern of development authorized by the General Plan.
13. Major backbone infrastructure systems are funded in a number of locations by grants, ongoing funding programs and supplemental mechanisms supported by the public.
14. Local infrastructure systems to improve levels of service and the quality of life in existing communities and to support new growth are being installed and expanded, with costs paid by those who benefit directly from these improvements. Cooperative and equitable arrangements to accomplish this continue to be crafted to respond to specific local situations.
15. Development occurs only where appropriate and where adequate public facilities and services are available or are provided for at the time of development in accordance with adopted level-of-service standards.

Housing

Our housing choices range from rural retreat to suburban neighborhood, from exclusive custom estate to modest but sound starter housing for young families. Our housing choices also cover the complete spectrum of housing costs and include rental as well as for sale units. People are now seeking housing here, not because it costs less than more developed counties, but because the quality housing choices are attractive as a place to live. Housing here is thriving, not only because it offers an excellent value, but because the communities and neighborhoods are well planned and offer ample opportunities for families to move up or down the cost range as their needs dictate.

1. The people of Riverside County represent a richly varied range of income categories. Housing is available in every increment of this range, from highly affordable to exclusive executive housing and from rental to various forms of ownership housing. This is being satisfied through a combination of new housing, rehabilitated housing, group housing, resale, mixed-use



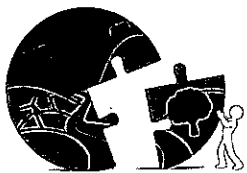
development, and various housing assistance programs where they are needed.

2. Regional forecasts of housing needs are well coordinated within the County and are accepted by regional and state agencies.
3. Census data is well-integrated into housing needs forecasts.
4. There is now a balance between the residential development capacities of the County and city general plans within the County and regional housing needs.
5. Mixed-use development occurs at numerous urban concentrations in city spheres and unincorporated communities, many of which include residential uses.
6. All housing projects required by law to provide access to people with disabilities now do so.
7. Universal access guidelines are adopted and a system of incentives is in place to include them as a key feature of residential development projects.
8. Because of the clarity of direction now provided by the General Plan and the cooperative arrangements with most of the cities, constraints on providing affordable housing attributable to excessive local regulations have been eliminated.
9. Adequate housing for farm laborers is now provided.
10. Housing plans are well-integrated throughout the County at four levels:
 - a. Subregionally at the Area Plan level;
 - b. Within cities and unincorporated communities;
 - c. Within large-scale development projects; and
 - d. At the project site planning level where housing is involved.

Transportation

Our transportation system has more than kept pace with the growth in population, employment and tourism and their demands for mobility. New and expanded transportation corridors connect growth centers at key locations throughout the County. Several corridors have built-in transit service and all have expansion capability to accommodate various forms of transit. Some are now providing express bus service to Metrolink stations. These same corridors are designed with a high regard for the environment, including provision of critical wildlife corridor crossings so that our open spaces can sustain their habitat value. Air travel access by our residents and businesses is convenient and is an integral part of the Southern California air transportation network with worldwide connections.

1. Major new and expanded transportation corridors accommodating automobiles and other transit modes are now partially developed, with

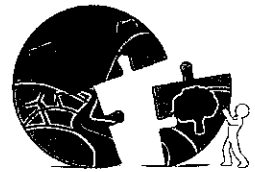


County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Vision Statement – December 1, 2010

design and funding for additional segments underway. The existing components of the system now work together with each other to afford optimum mobility for the people being served.

2. Strategies of local job creation, coupled with improvements to the transportation system, allow County residents to have access to a wide range of job opportunities within reasonable commute times.
3. Riverside County and its communities are preeminent in their commitment to providing public transportation facilities and services to all people who need them. Where shortfalls remain, strategies are in place to expand universal access services as funding can be established.
4. Airports serving the County are tied into the regional air transportation system and operate as an efficient and convenient transportation mode to accommodate the traveling needs of the people and move selected goods quickly in the highly competitive international marketplace. Measures have been taken to preserve the long-term viability of airports by protecting them from the encroachment of incompatible development.
5. New fuels technologies are in place at key locations making a diversity of choices available according to the needs of users, particularly among the business fleet users.
6. Toll-way options are being explored as a means of achieving improved capacity in critical corridors.
7. Investment in, and expansion of, the existing freeway and arterial street networks continue to be a critical part of our comprehensive transportation system development.
8. Strategically planned truck routes (including exclusive truck lanes) provide for the movement of goods as a critical component of our transportation system.
9. The new California high-speed rail system now serves Riverside County directly, providing a strategic advantage for the County's business community.
10. Promotion of efficient intermodal freight facilities in the Inland Empire has achieved a shift of a portion of the goods previously moved by trucks onto the rail freight system.
11. The land use/transportation connection is a key part of the development process and has served to reduce the number of vehicle trips compared to earlier patterns of development.
12. Direct and immediate access to multi-purpose open space areas is provided in most areas of the County.
13. The transportation system now has sufficient financial supported to ensure that what is built can be adequately maintained.
14. Ample use is made of advanced transportation technology to ensure that the physical infrastructure is used to its maximum potential. This includes



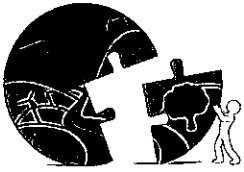
methods of achieving optimum efficiency of transit operations to provide increased frequency and reliability of transit delivery systems.

15. Reliable, real-time information is readily available to travelers for all major transit system routes, including fares, schedules, and current level of service on major roadways in the region to assist travelers in making choices regarding routes and mode of travel.

Healthy Communities

Our communities are built with the overall health and well being of our residents in mind. The communities are sustainable and continue to thrive because the residents take advantage of the amenities and healthy choices provided by the built and natural environment. The residents are provided options to live close to work, health services, and child day care; to safely travel as they choose (by car, public transit, foot, bicycle or other non-motorized form of travel); to have access to trails, parks and open-space; and have the choice of accessible healthy food. Partnerships are formed between the public and private agencies, as well as the community members to help endow the residents a healthier lifestyle. These options and the continued partnerships have improved the quality of life of our residents. Children live longer, healthier lives than their parents; air and water quality have improved, respiratory illnesses have declined; people spend fewer days out of work and school because of health problems; health care costs have decreased; obesity has decreased; and people are more physically active.

1. *Communities are focused around existing urban areas with transit opportunities.*
2. *Critical community facilities, such as parks, schools, healthcare and mental health facilities, as well as civic institutions, are distributed throughout the County in both urban and rural areas so that they are accessible to and benefit all residents.*
3. *Communities are developed so that they support and encourage residents to be more physically active; achieved by increasing the number of and access to active parks and trails, creating new passive open spaces, working with schools to open up school yards as parks, and promoting well balanced transportation networks with an equity between vehicle, public transit, bicycling and walking networks.*
4. *County residents are provided with a wide range of physical and cultural opportunities. The County consistently promotes recreational, cultural and educational opportunities to all residents in a safe and welcoming environment.*
5. *Throughout the County there are hubs of complete, compact and transit-oriented communities, with a mix of housing, jobs, retail, and community facilities. These types of communities flourish because it brings housing, jobs and shopping opportunities close together to create cohesive and beautiful communities that provide for the daily needs of residents within easy walking distance of homes and workplaces.*

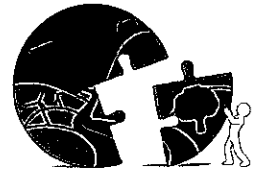


6. *Land use and transportation decisions are made with an understanding of their impact on the health of County residents; achieved through partnerships with project sponsors and evaluation of land use and transportation decisions from the perspective of health outcomes.*
7. *Healthy food options are recognized as a critical factor in maintaining healthy lifestyles and local agriculture is considered important both for the health and the long term economic well-being of the community. There is access to nutritious and locally grown food and the prevalence of unhealthy food sources is reduced.*

Conservation and Open Space Resource System

The County's conservation and open space resources are preserved and managed to a degree not thought possible 20 years ago. The multi-purpose open space system provides for the preservation of multiple species. This enables the natural diversity of plants and animals to sustain themselves because of the critical relationships between them. Land areas will be preserved, set-aside for this purpose, and linked by corridors of various designs to allow movement between habitat areas. In addition, the public's access to the open space system is significantly expanded for recreation purposes, enabling a variety of active and passive recreation pursuits. Trails provide a means of recreation in themselves, as well as access for less intensive recreation. Creative and effective means of acquiring open space have enabled establishment of this system so that private property rights are respected and acquisition costs are feasible. This system also provides an effective approach that has eliminated conflict over development activities because of the demonstrated commitment to permanently preserving critical open space resources.

1. Conserved multi-purpose open space is viewed as a critical part of the County's system of public facilities and services required to improve the existing quality of life and accommodate new development.
2. The open space system and the methods for its acquisition, maintenance, and operation are calibrated to its many functions: visual relief, natural resource protection, habitat preservation, passive and active recreation, protection from natural hazards, and various combinations of these purposes. This is what is meant by a multi-purpose open space system.
3. A major thrust of the multipurpose open space system is the preservation of components of the ecosystem and landscape that embody the historic character and habitat of the County, even though some areas have been impacted by man-made changes.
4. Native habitat for plants and animals endemic to this area that make up such important parts of our natural heritage now have interconnected spaces in a number of locations that allow these natural communities to prosper and be sustained.
5. An incentive-based market system for habitat protection is in operation that includes options to use transfers of development rights (TDRs), conservation credits, and management programs to achieve equitable sharing of costs and benefits.

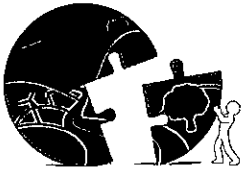


6. The cost to the public of maintaining open space and critical habitat areas continues to be supported because of the habitat value, recreational contributions and economic benefits the areas provide.
7. Lands identified for habitat preservation are based on the best available scientific information regarding species and habitat requirements and that information is updated as better methods emerge.
8. Programs educating students about the rich natural environment are available and offered to local schools.
9. Strategies and incentives for voluntary conservation on private land are an integral part of the County's policy/regulatory system and are referred to nationwide as model approaches.
10. Where natural streams and watercourses are located within designated multipurpose open space systems, they have been preserved as natural living systems. Where they pass through areas that are developed or designated for development (including agriculture), to the extent allowed by existing conditions, their continuity is maintained and protected as environmental corridors linking open space areas. Their viability is enhanced in numerous cases by being included in publicly maintained open spaces rather than in narrow concrete channels.
11. Important watershed resources to support downstream habitat are being maintained. This includes watershed functions such as peak flows, water quality, recharge, and sediment transport, which are necessary for sustaining downstream resources.
12. The Salton Sea, as a result of sustained efforts to return it to a viable condition, is now a thriving water, recreation, and environment resource.

Air Quality

Air quality attainment goals established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District have been more than met despite the substantial growth in the region in the last 20 years. Most of this is a result of significantly improved engine technology and the replacement of more polluting vehicles. However, local initiatives that expanded transit options, concentrated development more efficiently, and increased local employment opportunities have also contributed to air quality improvement.

1. Air quality is viewed as such an important factor in quality of life that its measurements are used as a major factor in evaluating the Plan's performance.
2. The County is an active participant in programs to base air quality improvement techniques on "best available science" methods.
3. Implementing strategies have been accomplished to transition public and private fleets from petroleum-based fuels to alternative fuels and the County is known as a center for applied new technology.

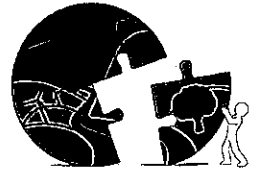


4. The County actively participates with other regional jurisdictions in implementing strategies to reduce air pollution spillover into Riverside County from adjacent counties as well as limiting pollutants generated within the County. This participation has led to measures that contributed to exceeding attainment goals established by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.
5. Land use strategies being implemented in the County reflect an improved balance of jobs and housing, resulting in significant reduction in the average commute times and related motor vehicle pollutants.

Jobs and the Economy

Job growth in Riverside County has exceeded the remarkable population growth experienced during the last 20 years. This is a consequence of the natural pattern of jobs following labor force and the extensive efforts by local governments, the business community and educational institutions to stimulate and reinforce new economic activity. The effort has been aided by the fact that the County offers an outstanding variety of living environments and housing choices and now enjoys a reputation as a highly desirable place for business relocation. The expansion of educational opportunities and complementary programs between education, industry, and the work force has played a significant part in this economic vitality.

1. Implementation of the RCIP provides a clear picture of the fiscal implications of land use policies and documents the financial, as well as physical and social viability of communities in the County.
2. Jobs/housing balance is significantly improved overall, as well as within subregions of the County.
3. Voluntary tax sharing arrangements continue to be available to cities and the County to reduce the negative impacts of large scale projects that would otherwise generate tax revenue problems for adjacent jurisdictions.
4. Economic development coalitions at several levels are active partners in implementing the County Plan through their involvement in stimulating new business development. This has resulted in new and expanded clusters of business activities, aided in part through cooperation with university and college research and development programs.
5. Jobs training programs to put people into new industry clusters are operational throughout the county and serve as an attraction to firms seeking a capable and stable labor force.
6. School programs are coordinated with economic clusters in terms of curriculum emphasis and cooperative internship and training arrangements with businesses.
7. Emerging and expanding employment sectors, such as the hospitality industry and high-tech industries, are receiving renewed emphasis in job training and investment focus.



Agricultural Lands

Agriculture remains a strong component of the County's economy. Even though some agricultural land has been urbanized, there has also been expansion in other locations. The place of agriculture in the community remains strong and conflicts between agricultural operations and nearby development are rare. The County's agricultural industry is a strong competitor in the global agricultural market.

1. The County continues to be one of the major agricultural forces among California counties and competes successfully in the global agricultural economy.
2. Many agricultural properties remain as economically productive businesses, whereas others are phasing into development through a carefully managed transition program designed to stage the transition from farming to clearly designated urban and suburban uses.
3. Productive agricultural lands are broadly understood to be a valuable economic resource and have expanded in some areas. In selected areas they also serve as a valuable buffer between suburban and open space uses. Where agricultural lands are slated for transition to other forms of development, they are still valued for their contribution to the County's economy and continue in productive operation.
4. Financial incentives, such as transfer of development rights, development easements, and other mechanisms are available for voluntary use to preserve the economic value of agricultural lands. Availability of these tools acknowledges the potential development value of these properties and enables property owners to capture some of that value without giving up agricultural production if they so desire.
5. Agricultural operations of varying sizes and types are accommodated under the Plan in response to prevailing market opportunities. In some cases this has resulted in expanding the lands devoted to agriculture.
6. Where agricultural activities, such as dairies, egg production, and animal husbandry are accommodated, they are accompanied by special provisions for mitigating impacts on adjacent development to facilitate their continued operation consistent with State and local Right-to-Farm laws.
7. Agricultural land that remains economically viable, either as a permanent or temporary economic resource, is well protected by policies, ordinances, and design regulations applicable to new development that may be planned nearby.
8. More efficient use of developable land is facilitating the continued use of agricultural lands and the acquisition of open space.
9. Agricultural lands remain as a valuable form of development. Although they are not publicly owned open space, through voluntary agreements, many of them have become part of the County's multi-purpose open space system for their visual value and as buffers to other forms of development.



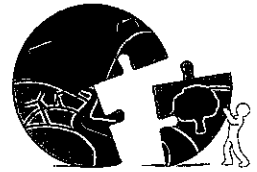
Educational Facilities

The educational system in the County is highly respected as a valued positive force in the County's communities and economic environment. From pre-school through advanced degrees, the educational infrastructure has expanded remarkably in synch with the County's growth. A particularly effective aspect of education's role in the community is the array of partnership programs with the business community and local governments, dealing with job training, environmental resource management, recreation, and a host of other initiatives. Basic educational programs have moved the County's student population near the top ranks in the State as revealed by academic testing.

1. The priority need for quality educational facilities and programs in the County (in order to educate our youth, serve the ongoing educational needs of our existing communities and attract additional industry, business, and quality development) is satisfied through universally established partnerships between school districts and local governments. This is reflected in cooperative planning for school facilities and access to them.
2. A considerable contribution to the educational excellence within the County has been made by expanded and new facilities at the community college and university levels.
3. There are now numerous examples of arrangements for joint use and financing of school facilities, as well as cooperative community based programs made possible by reduced costs of facilities.
4. Several industrial/office park sectors of the County include community college branch facilities in which job training and employee professional development programs are conducted under a business/college partnership arrangement.
5. The special housing needs of educators and students are recognized through innovative partnerships between developers, communities, and educational institutions to provide a range of residential choices for this segment of the population.
6. Effective and widespread initiatives to bolster resources and focus energies on basic education for our student population have resulted in the County's academic performance making a remarkable surge toward the top of county rankings in the State.

Plan Integration

The major thrusts of the County's planning program have resulted in a high degree of program component integration. New transportation corridors (and expansion of older ones) are designed to either avoid environmentally sensitive areas or, if necessary, to pass through them in a very sensitive way. The multi-purpose open space system not only provides a remarkable habitat and recreation resource, but it also provides a framework that distinguishes our family of communities. These components are both integrated into the General Plan through the system of Area Plans covering all but the most remote desert areas of the County. As a consequence, our communities and their development areas are well served by transportation networks and our priceless environmental resources are permanently preserved for future generations.



1. A key opportunity for plan integration is exemplified by the existence of critical corridors linking our communities – all of which are part of the service systems that enable our communities to prosper. This includes open space corridors for vistas and recreation, habitat corridors for wildlife and plants, transportation corridors for mobility, riding and hiking trails for recreational travel, and bikeways as an alternate mode of travel as well as recreation pursuit. In essence, this is resulting in a planned, interdependent network of systems to serve our communities.
2. Many of the corridors are recognized, not only as community links or buffers, but also as unifying elements that reinforce community identity.
3. The need for safe and efficient access to jobs, housing, commerce, and public services for residents of all ages, income groups, and physical abilities is reflected in the comprehensive transportation network serving the County.
4. Flexible planning tools such as mixed use zoning, incentives for creative use of land, overlay zoning, and multiple, flexible use of open space are in common use as our communities mature and new communities take shape.

Financial Realities

Few of the aspirations reflected in the current state of community development, transportation support, and multi-purpose open space preservation could have come about without an aggressive and creative financing strategy. The financing of improvements and programs has benefitted from the unique breadth and integration of the County's planning program. We are very competitive for grant funding. The burden for costs to achieve what we have today has fallen on those who benefit to a degree not achieved in many locales.

1. A wide variety of public and private funding arrangements are in operation, including creative use of state and federal grant and loan funds to confront the continuing financial reality of not having enough money to do everything that is desired.
2. The County has a reputation for being unusually creative in gaining leverage out of limited funds by using them as seed money to attract larger investments in community facilities and programs, to obtain public and private grants, and stimulate investment participation by the private sector.
3. Along with its emphasis on achieving community desires, the County remains highly respected for its sensitivity to private property rights.
4. Because of its fiscal achievements, the County and its cities are exceptionally effective at forestalling unfunded mandates from state and federal levels.

Intergovernmental Cooperation

The integration of planning and importance of the transportation corridors, multi-purpose open space system, and development commitments have had an



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Vision Statement – December 1, 2010

impact on governmental decision making at many levels. Numerous examples now exist of intergovernmental arrangements to facilitate continued implementation of the policy direction established almost 20 years ago. The result of this is not only improved governmental effectiveness, but also less conflict over policy issues, increased competitiveness for grant funding, and establishment of a strong tradition of intergovernmental cooperation.

Recognition that many aspects of the vision are boundary-less is exemplified by the extensive array of intergovernmental arrangements involving the County, cities, special districts, Indian tribes, and unincorporated communities.

A coordinated and streamlined permitting process is now in operation that is feasible because areas clearly slated for development are identified and appropriate open space areas are acquired or protected.

Because of additional regional County facilities and cooperative agreements with some cities and other institutions, public hearings on certain issues and projects are now held locally so as to be more convenient to those most impacted by the decisions.

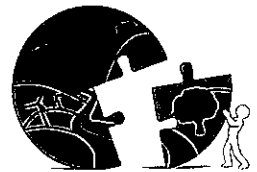
New school sites are used as a focal point of neighborhoods as a result of collaboration between local governments.

Intergovernmental partnerships have eliminated the once common contentiousness surrounding annexations, incorporations, and preservation of unincorporated community integrity.

Several inter-county and intra-county compacts now exist regarding cooperative programs for open space management, transportation corridor planning and implementation, air quality and water quality improvements, water resource management, and other critical topics of mutual concern.

The tradition of intergovernmental cooperation is well established and office seekers habitually include this topic in their campaigns city and County decision-makers and other opinion leaders actively support intergovernmental initiatives.

A Countywide information and education program is in place to sustain an understanding of the unique planning program that has emerged from the RCIP. This program includes a section in school curricula, a summary brochure that is updated from time to time, an orientation program for newly elected officials, a strong internet presence, and an ongoing speakers bureau to reinforce this strong tradition.



This page intentionally left blank.



Appendix M: Health Indicators

INTRODUCTION

Concept and Purpose of the Element

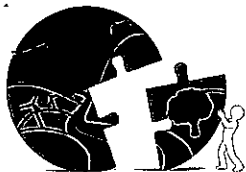
The burden of disease has shifted dramatically from infectious diseases to chronic disease conditions over the past 100 years. The threat of illness and death from epidemics of smallpox, polio, and tuberculosis has largely been removed in the developed world. Advances in public health and sanitation have increased life expectancies dramatically, allowing young children to grow up free of illnesses that had previously cut their lives short. In the current age of chronic illness, the choices we make on a daily basis, and repeat for months and years, have the biggest impact on our health. The challenge facing our community is how to build health into the everyday lives of our citizens so that making choices that help prevent chronic disease are as convenient, practical, logical, and affordable as the choices that lead to poor health. The policy decisions we make today will improve local conditions in the short-term by reducing stress and enhancing well-being. By incorporating health into land use and transportation planning efforts we will protect the County's current and future residents from chronic disease for years to come.

Links between Health and Planning

The legal and historical link between city planning and public health is strong. Planning authority originated from the mandate of a city or county to protect a community's "health, safety and general welfare." Modern American urban planning and zoning grew explicitly in response to the public health crises that arose from the rapid industrialization and urbanization of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Early planners required sanitary sewers to prevent cholera epidemics and zoned city blocks to buffer residential neighborhoods from polluting industries, often resulting in a strict separation of uses that is still common today. Early zoning was also often used to exclude the poor and recent immigrants -- and the health threats and loss of status they were perceived to represent -- from wealthier neighborhoods through limits on density, commercial development, and workforce housing.

In 1926, the Supreme Court decision *Village of Euclid vs. Ambler Realty Co* cited preservation of public health as one of the basic responsibilities of local government, and interpreted zoning as an extension of the local police power to promote the "health, safety and general welfare" of a community. The result was the Zoning Enabling Act, which enabled modern zoning and is still the legal rationale for land use regulation and planning across the country. Because public health is such a tangible example of the "health, safety and general welfare" that is to be promoted through planning and the police power, it remains one of the most legally justified reasons for making planning decisions.

Despite its historical connection and legal standing, addressing public health through city planning became less common as the 20th Century progressed. One reason is that early planning practices successfully resolved many of the public health issues plaguing urban areas during the early 20th century, such as overcrowding and the close proximity of housing to heavy industry. Health professionals began to focus on disease treatment, education, and discouraging unhealthy behaviors, while planning professionals shifted their attention to such issues as economic development and transportation. In particular, planners focused on how to accommodate rapid population growth and the desire for unlimited personal mobility through driving. Zoning increasingly became a means to protect property values, and infrastructure projects more often served to bolster the tax base.



Recently, however, planning and public health professions are rediscovering the impact of planning on public health. The increased prevalence of chronic diseases in the United States, including diabetes, obesity, heart disease and respiratory illnesses has been widely recognized as one of the major social and economic challenges. Recent research has found that people's environments – where they live and work, how they travel, what they eat and where and when they play, socialize, and are physically active – have a major impact on their health and well-being.

Although conventional planning practices (such as separating residential and commercial uses, building low density areas, constructing streets primarily for automobiles, and not providing adequate transportation choices,) are not the single cause of chronic health problems in the United States, there is increasing documentation that they are often a contributing factor. Research indicates that auto-oriented, low density, single use places – as well as places underserved by parks and active recreation facilities – discourage physical activity and therefore contribute to an increased risk of heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes. These four diseases are among the top ten causes of death in California; heart disease, stroke and cancer are also the top three killers in Riverside County. Poor nutrition, which can be exacerbated by land use decisions that limit people's access to healthy food, also contribute to these chronic diseases. Physical inactivity and poor nutrition is also a primary risk factor for obesity (the fastest-growing disease in California, along with diabetes), and obesity in turn increases the risk of a myriad of chronic diseases. Conversely, research shows that higher density, walkable urban places, transportation choices, and access to recreation all increase physical activity, and thus promote positive health impacts.

Land uses and urban form have other health impacts as well. Emissions from transportation sources are strongly linked with respiratory diseases, while automobile accidents consistently kill over 40,000 Americans each year. Land use decisions also impact people's access to grocery stores, farmers markets, community gardens and other sources of nutritious foods and healthcare. Poor mental health is associated with a number of factors related to planning, including long commute times, exposure to crime, lack of transportation choice and lack of access to public spaces.

Exposure to harmful substances ranging from particulate matter and emissions from industrial sources to toxic pesticides and ingredients with some toxicity found in every day household and pharmaceutical products are all Environmental Health related concerns that impact health. These harmful substances enter into our air and water supplies and accumulate in our bodies causing a range of health effects such as increased incidences of respiratory illnesses, cancer and other chronic health problems. Consequently decisions about the location and mix of land uses, transportation investments, design and building practices and building materials can all have an impact on the environment and human health.^{i,ii,iii,iv}

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ELEMENT

The Healthy Communities Element was developed by Riverside County Staff with input from the Healthy Community Working Group and the assistance from Raimi + Associates. The Working Group was formed to provide technical assistance in developing the Healthy Communities Element. Members included staff from a variety of County programs and services including the following: Health, Epidemiology and Program Evaluation, Nutrition Services, Injury Prevention Services, Livable Communities Program, County Parks, County Planning, County Transportation, Environmental Health, Mental Health, Office on Aging, a physician from Department of Public Health, Clinic Management and the Inland Empire Health Plan. The Healthy Community Working Group assisted in identifying and translating the fundamental values of the element into strategies, identifying the key health issues and indicators, exploring creative and innovative methods of achieving improved health outcomes through existing and new policies and providing input on the policies and implementation actions in the Healthy Communities Element.

As part of the development of this Element, the project team, guided by the Healthy Community Working Group developed a Vision Statement and Guiding Principles for the Healthy Communities Element.



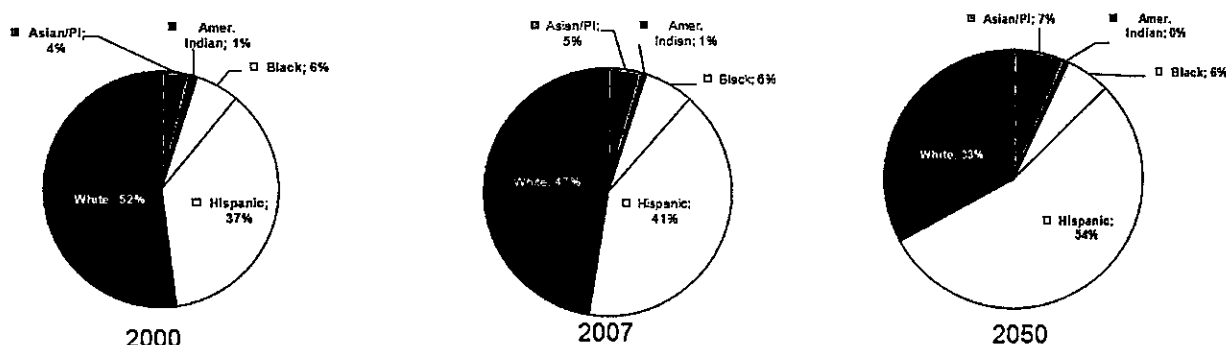
The Vision and Guiding Principles provide the conceptual foundation for the policies of the Healthy Communities Element. The Vision describes how Riverside County will be in terms of health twenty years from today if the policies of this Element are successful. The General Plan Vision Statement expresses the overarching strategies that are being pursued with the adoption of the Healthy Communities Element. They are intended to add specificity to the Vision and to provide a roadmap to achieve the vision.

COUNTY HEALTH STATUS

Current Challenges

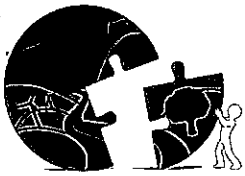
Along with the richness of culture afforded by the County's diversity comes the challenge of serving groups of citizens with different needs and priorities. In addition to overall population growth, Riverside County has experienced shifts in its diverse racial and ethnic composition. Between 2000 and 2007, the proportion of County residents of Hispanic origin increased by 10.8%, though there was very little change in the proportion of the population that identified as Black, Asian, and Native American. By the year 2050, the Hispanic population will become the County's majority ethnic group comprising 54% of the population^v (Fig. 1).

Figure 1: Population by Race/Ethnicity, Riverside County: 2000, 2007 and 2050



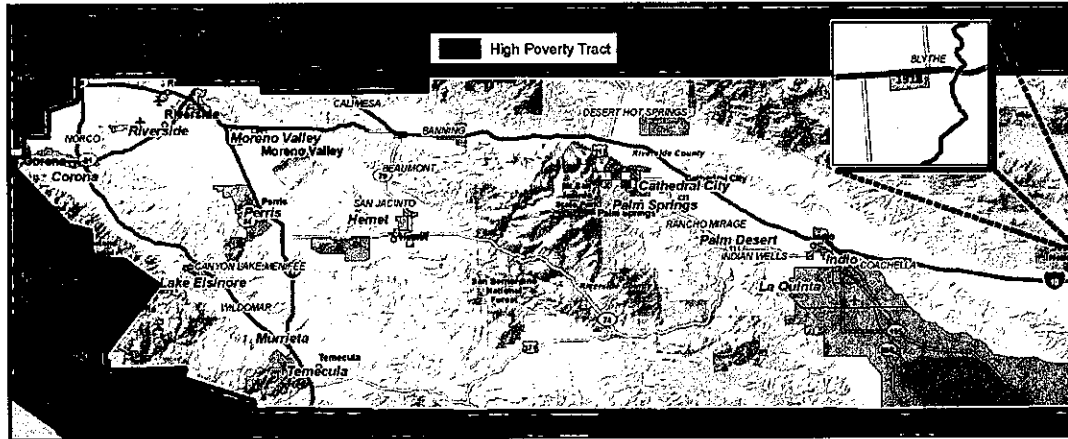
With nearly 40 percent of the County's population speaking a language other than English at home, it is imperative that resources and services are accessible to all.^{vi} Health disparities exist across all groups of people represented in the County and are closely linked to availability of resources and the pattern of environmental exposures that have followed different groups over time. For example, the most recent data available indicates that Hispanic populations are more likely to live within ½ mile of a major freeway in Riverside County.^{vii} This is concerning because exposure to diesel exhaust has been associated with increased risk for developing chronic lung diseases like asthma, cancer and heart disease.^{viii}

As with most problems in our society, illness and disease are exacerbated by structural inequity, resource disparity, and poverty. In the current economic climate when local unemployment rates have climbed above 10 percent, more Riverside County residents will make choices that compromise their health. Those recently affected by the job loss may now be joining the more than 200,000 Riverside County residents who lived below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) before the current recession – which in 2007 was 20,000 dollars for a family of four.^{ix,x} Our residents living in poverty, regardless of their ethnic background, language, or skin color are extremely vulnerable to the unhealthy pressures of society and have increased exposure to environmental maladies like air pollution, toxic lead in substandard housing, and decreased opportunities to find affordable, healthy food. Intense poverty is concentrated in census tracts across the County. Public health programs often identify geographic priorities as those areas where greater than 50%



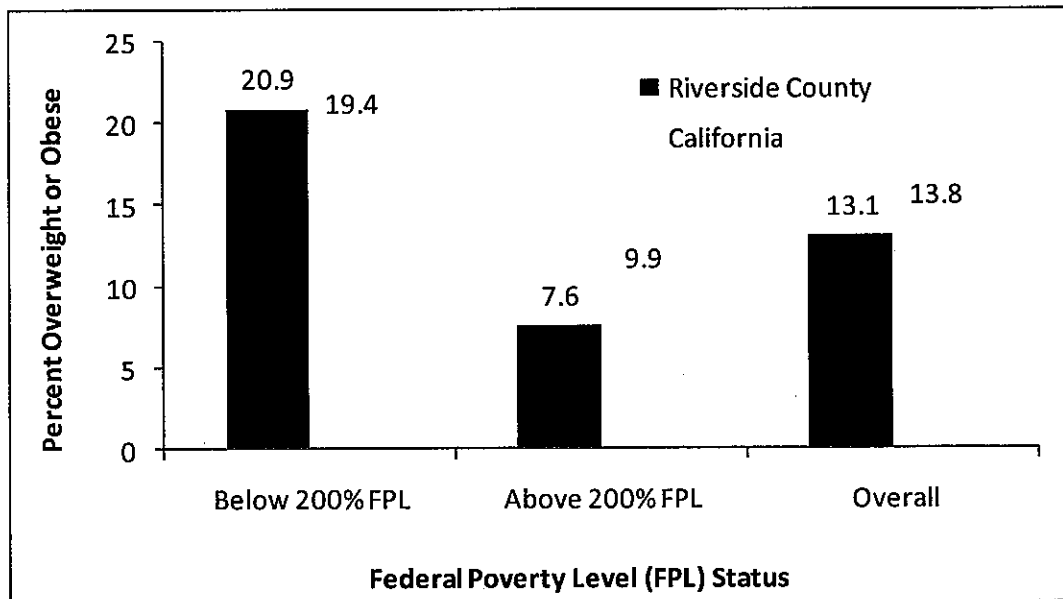
of a census tract's population earns less than 185% of the FPL, which is roughly \$32,000 per year for a family of four (Fig. 2).

Figure 2: Census Tracts Where More Than Half of Population Lives Below 185% of Federal Poverty Level: Riverside County, Census 2000



Perhaps most importantly, poverty jeopardizes the health of Riverside County's children. For example, among Riverside County youth aged 12-17, those living below 200% of FPL are nearly 3 times more likely to be overweight than youth living above 200% FPL^{xi} (Fig. 3). In fact, the obesity epidemic threatens to make today's generation the first in this country to live shorter lives than their parents. Scientists forecast a two- to five-year drop in life expectancy unless aggressive action manages to reverse obesity rates.^{xii}

Figure 3: Percentage of Adolescents Age 12-17 Who Are Overweight or Obese by Income Level, Riverside County and California, 2005 and 2007 Combined.

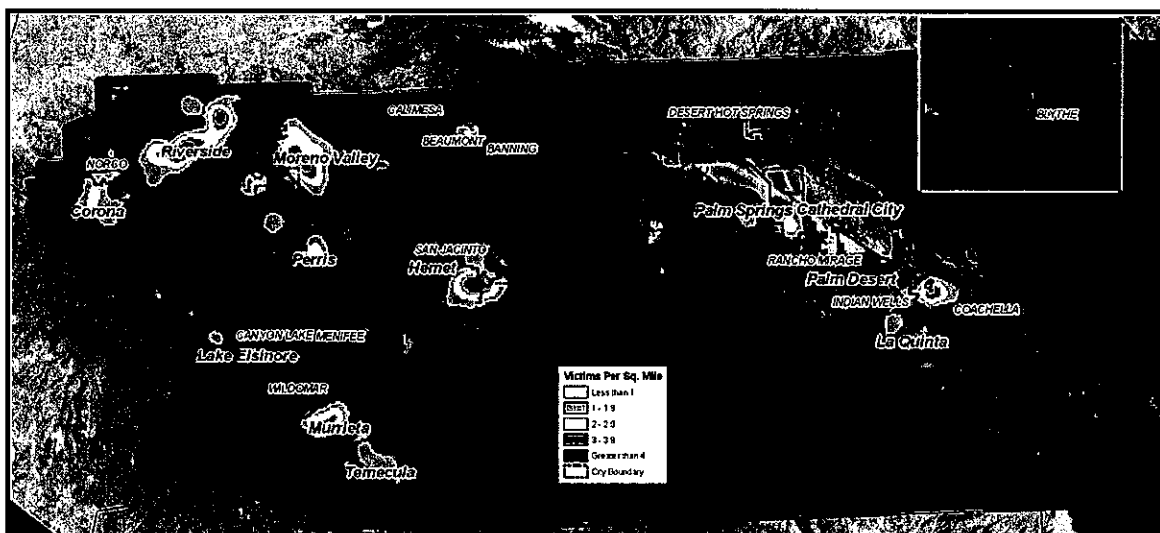




In addition, many of our children are potentially being exposed to environmental toxins, the effects of which may not be seen for years to come. According to a recent report, five schools in Riverside County rank in the 10th percentile for air quality, meaning that 90 percent of the schools in the country had better air. Twenty-five schools ranked in the 50th percentile or below.^{xiii} Many of these schools are located in close proximity to major industrial operations that produce potentially harmful waste.

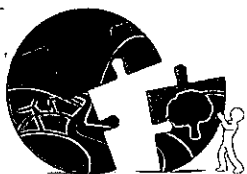
The vast geography of Riverside County poses challenges for residents by concentrating resources in urban areas and making health care access and resource acquisition difficult for rural residents. These challenges are further exacerbated by poverty which can create pockets of resource deficiency in heavily populated urban areas as well as make it even more difficult for the rural poor to access resources great distances from their homes. The County is home to more than 500,000 rural residents and 1.5 million urban dwellers. Rural residents are also more likely to live in poverty than urban residents (16% vs. 13%).^{xiv} Despite sharing overlapping health concerns, rural and urban environments require specific solutions to their problems. For example, while preventing automobile injuries are relevant to both rural and urban citizens, the approach to prevention may take different forms. *Safe Routes to School* programs may be effective in urban environments but lack relevance in rural areas where walking to school is not feasible (Fig. 4). Whereas many Riverside County residents suffer from health conditions related to the excesses of the urban environment such as overabundance of fast food, high levels of automobile pollution, inability to find safe spaces for children to play, and raised levels of stress, the County's rural residents may find their health disrupted by an inability to access necessary services in a timely manner.

Figure 4: Youth (Aged 5-15yrs) Pedestrian and Bicycle Victim Hot-Spots: Riverside County, 2005-2006



Major Illnesses

The overwhelming majority of illnesses that affect Riverside County residents are of a chronic nature. The most notable chronic health conditions include heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and asthma. The top three leading causes of death—heart disease, cancer, and stroke—account for nearly 60% of all deaths in Riverside County.^{xv} Aside from stealing years of life, these diseases typically reduce quality of life by requiring patients to take a barrage of costly medications, make frequent doctor and hospital visits, and make exercise and leisure activities painful or intensely onerous.



Environmental Health

While chronic disease accounts for the bulk of morbidity and mortality in Riverside County, we must remain vigilant for new infectious diseases that continue to evolve and "emerge." Changes in human demographics, behavior, land use, etc. are contributing to new disease emergence by changing transmission dynamics to bring people into closer and more frequent contact with pathogens. This may involve exposure to animal or arthropod carriers of disease. Increasing trade in exotic animals for pets and as food sources has contributed to the rise in opportunity for pathogens to jump from animal reservoirs to humans.

Meanwhile, infectious diseases that have posed ongoing health problems in developing countries are re-emerging in the United States (e.g., food- and waterborne infections, dengue, West Nile virus). The rise in the transmission of food borne illnesses are facilitated by the dining habits of people in this State as they gravitate toward eating out more often. Also, as the main food sources have become more centralized we can see the effects in large scale outbreaks covering multiple communities, Counties and/or States.

People today are exposed to an unprecedented amount of harmful substances ranging from particulate matter and emissions from auto and industrial sources to toxic pesticides and ingredients with some toxicity found in every day household and pharmaceutical products. These harmful substances enter into our air and water supplies and accumulate in our bodies causing a range of health effects such as increased incidences of respiratory illnesses, cancer and other chronic health problems.

Environmental characteristics like traffic safety and air and water quality can also have direct and indirect health consequences. While traffic accidents may entail immediate life threatening circumstances, perception of safety can influence behavior to the point of increasing chronic disease risk. If children and parents feel unsafe in their neighborhoods due to perceived risk from automobiles or poor air quality, they are less likely to be active outdoors and, consequently, more likely to maintain sedentary lifestyles, increasing their risk of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.

HEALTH INDICATORS

As part of our efforts to present the urgent need for policies that will shape community design and the health of future generations, it is important to document the current health of residents in a measurable and discrete manner so that as changes are adopted and the environment changes, progress toward achieving health goals can be monitored at the population level. A compilation of health, social, and environmental indicators is provided below. The indicators are grouped into meaningful topic areas that correspond to the policy components of the Health Element. They are provided here to lend support and justification for the policies of the Healthy Communities Element.

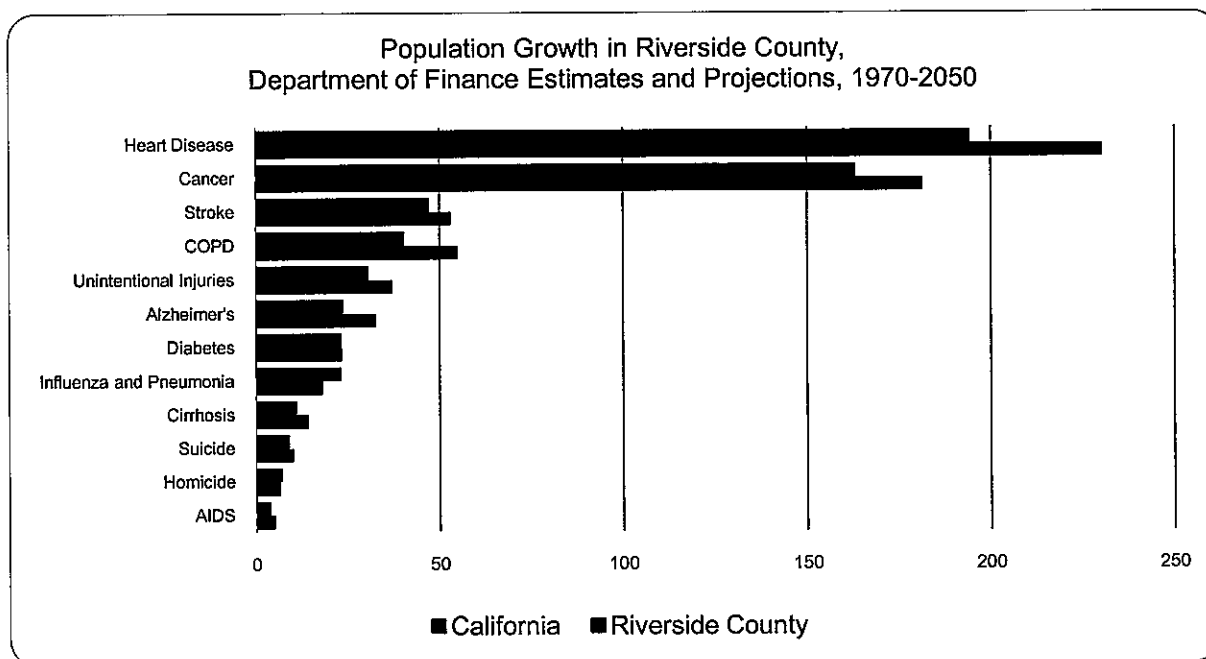
OVERALL HEALTH

- **Inland Empire residents not in good health**
The Riverside San Bernardino-Ontario Metropolitan area ranked 127th out of the 184 areas surveyed for the percent of residents who say they are in good health, according to a recent analysis using the CDC's SMART BRFSS data.. (<http://www.webmd.com/news/20081117/healthiest-us-city-lincoln-neb>)
- **Health not improving**
The percent of Riverside County residents claiming excellent health fell 4 percentage points from 2003 to 2005 while the percent of those in Fair health increased from 12 percent to 15 percent during the same period. (CHIS 2003 and 2005).



- Impairment of daily activities due to physical/mental health**
 Over 100,000 adults (8%) in Riverside County had more than 5 days a month where their ability to work or perform daily activities was limited by their physical/mental health. (CHIS 2005).
- Ranking in heart disease mortality rates**
 Riverside County is ranked 53rd for heart disease mortality out of the 58 counties in California. The age-adjusted rate for coronary heart disease mortality was approximately 25% higher than the rate for California and the national rate (Fig. 5). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

Figure 5: Population Growth in Riverside County, Department of Finance Estimates and Projections, 1970-2050



- Causes of hospitalization**
 Disease of the circulatory system, like heart disease and stroke, account for more than 1/3rd of all non-birth/newborn related hospitalizations. These are partially influenced by obesity and levels of physical activity (Fig. 6). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

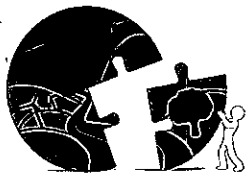
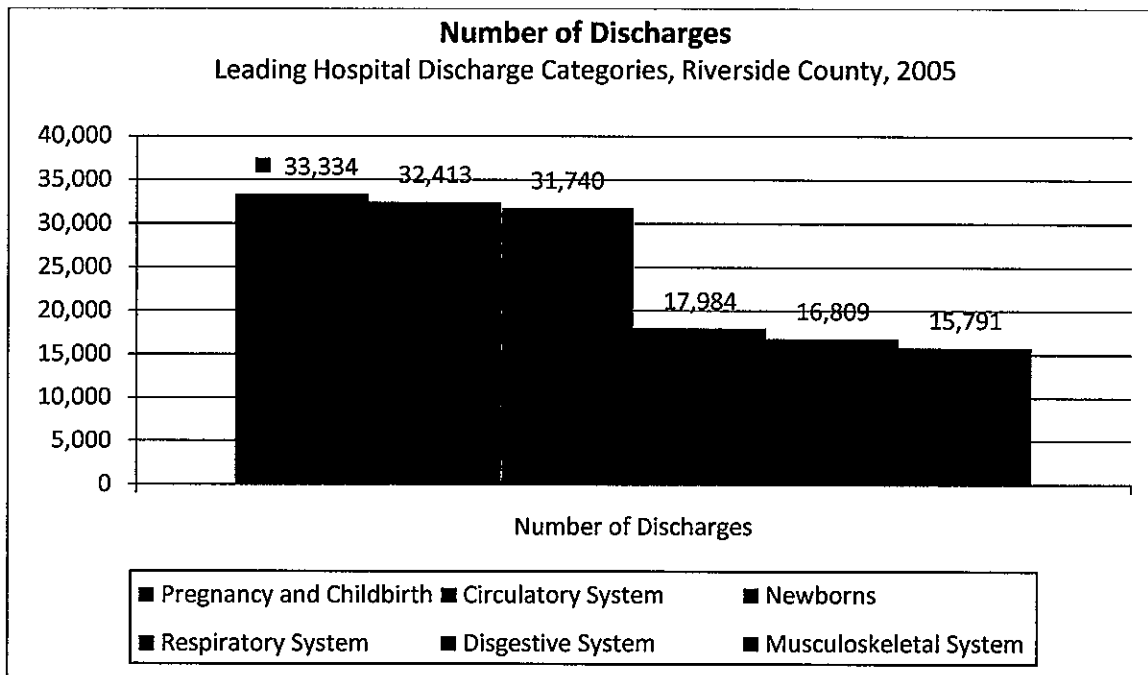


Figure 6: Leading Hospital Discharge Categories, Riverside County, 2005

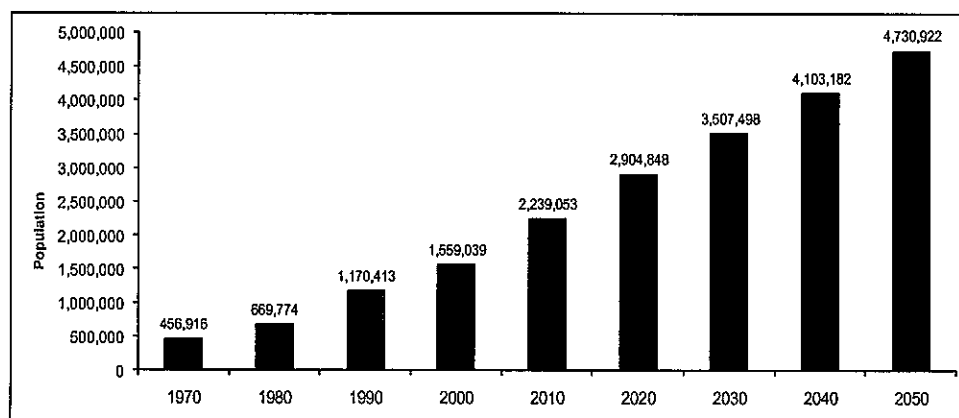


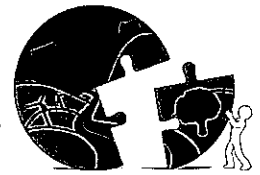
LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DESIGN

- Population growth**

The County experienced a 40% increase in population during the last decade; contributing to its ranking as the fastest growing County in the state. Riverside County ranks fourth in population size in California, with a projected population size reaching 4.7 million by 2050, making it the second largest county in the state (Fig. 7). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)

**Figure 7: Population Growth in Riverside County:
Department of Finance Estimates and Projections, 1970-2050**





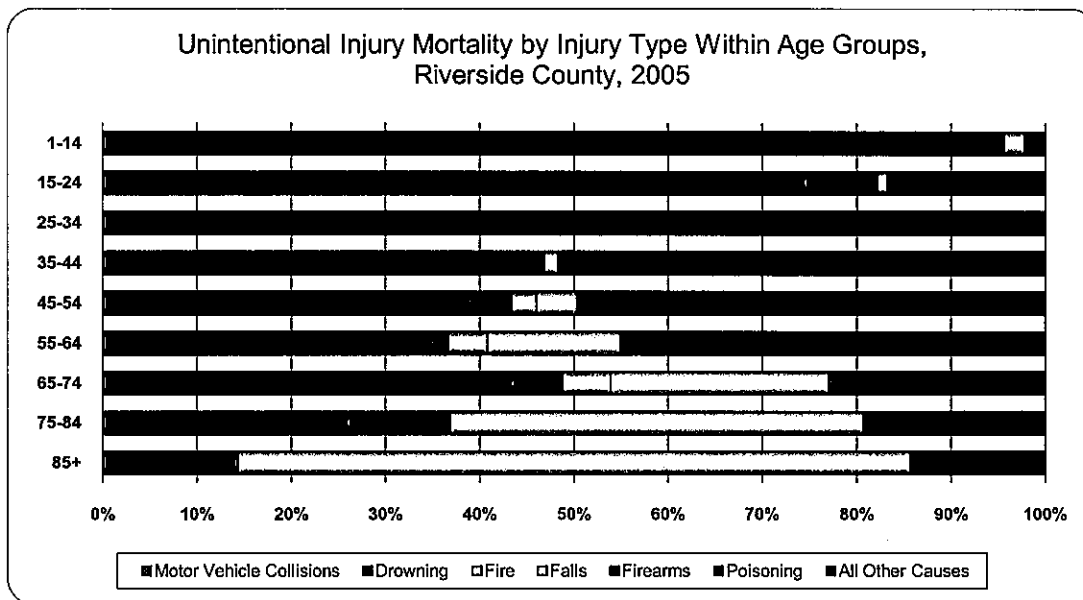
- **Population density**
Riverside was ranked 460th out of 3140 counties for population density with 214 persons per sq. mile. New York County was ranked 1st with 66,718 persons per sq. mile. The least dense place was the Yukon, Alaska at 0.045 ppl/sq.mi (www.dataplace.org/rankings).
- **Number of single family detached housing units**
Roughly two-thirds (67%) of housing units in Riverside County are “single-unit, detached” compared to 58% in California. (American Community Survey 2006 and 2007).
- **Median size of house**
The median number of rooms in a house is 5.4 in 2007, compared to 5.2 in 2000. The median in California is 5.0 (American Community Survey 2006 and 2007, Census 2000).

HEALTHY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

- **Inland Empire residents drive more than most Americans**
The Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area is ranked 14th out of 100 metropolitan areas for the number of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) per capita, and 10th overall for total VMT (Brookings Institute, Metropolitan Policy Program: The Road Less Traveled, 2008)
- **Getting to work**
In Riverside County, the average (mean) commute time to work was 31.6 minutes in 2007 compared to 25.1 minutes in the U.S. (American Community Survey 2007)
- **Youth injured in pedestrian/bicycle collisions with motor vehicles**
In the time period of 2005 and 2006 there were 486 youth pedestrian/bicycle victims injured by motor vehicles in Riverside County. Three of these bicyclists and seven pedestrians were killed. Forty children were severely injured. (Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS) 2005 and 2006)
- **Motor vehicles are a leading cause of death among youth**
Nearly 70% of children (aged 1-14 years) who died from unintentional injury in 2005 did so as a result of a motor vehicle crash(Fig. 8). (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)



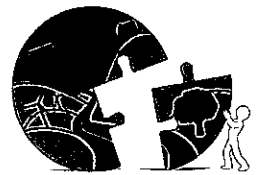
Figure 8: Unintentional Injury Mortality by Injury Type within Age Groups, Riverside County, 2005



- Number of vehicles per household**
 The percent of occupied housing units with no car available decreased from 7% in 2000 to 4.5% in 2007. During the same time period the percent of houses with 3 or more cars increased from 19% to 26%. (American Community Survey 2007, Census 2000)
- Rates of walking**
 Roughly 1/3rd of adults do not walk for transportation, fun, or exercise. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)

SOCIAL CAPITAL

- Unemployment rate**
 In February 2009, the unemployment rate in Riverside County is estimated at 12.6%. (California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division. <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>).
- Voting rates**
 73.0% of registered voters voted in the 2008 presidential election. (<http://www.smartvoter.org/2008/11/04/ca/rv/president.html>)
- Poverty**
 In Riverside County, 12% of the overall population had an income placing them below the Federal Poverty Level and 14% of families with children under the age of 5 were in poverty. These numbers likely underestimate the number of people in poverty since they are calculated using a federal scale



that does not account for California's higher cost of living and also do not reflect the recent economic downturn. (American Community Survey 2007 and <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/07poverty.shtml>)

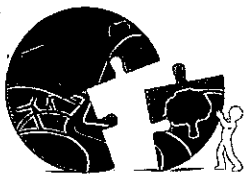
- **Education**
Roughly 20% of the population over the age of 25 has not received a high school diploma compared to around 16% of the U.S. population. (American Community Survey 2007)
- **Violent crime rates**
Between 2005 and 2006 violent crime increased 8.4% in Riverside County, with Robbery and Aggravated Assault increasing 23.4% and 2.8%, respectively. (California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center 2006)
- **Homicide deaths**
Roughly 15% of all deaths among 1-24 year olds in Riverside County were due to homicide, placing it in the middle third of the 58 counties in California. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from RAND 2001, 2003, and 2005).

PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE

- **Children within walking distance of outdoor space**
As of 2003, 71% of children 0-18 were within walking distance to a park, playground, or open space. This scored a medium ranking among counties in the same income and population density category. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from CHIS 2003).
- **Population within walking distance of a park**
Roughly 500,000 people do not live within a half-mile of a park in Riverside County. That's 30% of the County's population. (Census 2000. Riverside County Department of Transportation and Land Management (TLMA) Parks Data 2008).

ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS AND NUTRITION

- **Rates of overweight and obesity**
Nearly 2 out of 3 adults and 15 percent of youth are overweight or obese in Riverside County. (CHIS 2005)
- **Number of adult diabetes diagnoses**
There were over 115,000 adults diagnosed with diabetes living in Riverside County as of 2005, an increase of roughly 40,000 people since 2003. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Number of adult heart disease diagnoses**
There were nearly 140,000 adults diagnosed with heart disease living in Riverside County as of 2005, an increase of roughly 50,000 people since 2003. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Percentage of overweight or obese teens and adults**
The percent of overweight or obese teens and adults increased 2% from 2003 to 2005. Nearly 2 out of every 3 adults in Riverside is overweight or obese. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)



- **Children within a healthy weight zone**
Only 68 % of children in Riverside County are considered to be a healthy weight. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from Healthy Kids Survey 2003-05, and 2005-07).
- **Fast food consumption among youth**
Over 40,000 teens and children eat fast food two or more times a day. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)
- **Consumption of fruits and vegetables**
80% of teens, 50% of adults, and 50% of children do not eat the recommended 5 fruits and vegetables a day. (CHIS 2003 and 2005)

HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

- **Licensed hospital beds**
In 2005, there were 80,932 licensed hospital beds in California, a rate of 2.2 beds per 1,000 residents. Riverside County had 2,880 licensed beds in 2005, a rate of 1.47 per 1,000 residents, 33% lower than the California rate. (Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), Regional Medical Facility Profile, 2008)
- **Physician to population ratio**
Nationally, there were 198 active physicians per 100,000 residents in 2000. California maintains a higher rate of active physicians with 231 physicians per 100,000 residents. Yet, Riverside County has only 125.8 active physicians per 100,000 residents. (Center for Health Workforce Studies University at Albany, SUNY (2004). California Physician Workforce Supply and Demand through 2015. Regional Medical Facility Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health)
- **Health insurance**
The percent of children with health insurance increased from 89.9% in 2005 to 93.1% in 2007. However, the percentage of insured adults (18-64 yrs) fell from 80.8% to 77.7% during the same time period. (CHIS 2005 and 2007)
- **Usual source of care or medical home**
In 2007, roughly 76,000 children and teens in Riverside County had no usual source of care to go to when sick. (CHIS 2007)
- **Adolescents at risk for depression**
25% of adolescents are at risk for depression in Riverside County. (Children Now Scorecard 2008, from Healthy Kids Survey 2003-05, and 2005-07)
- **Suicides**
There are nearly 200 suicides a year in Riverside County. Between 2006 and 2007, there were more than 5 suicides a year among children below the age of 18. Among high school students, Hispanic females and Black males are most likely to think about and attempt suicide when compared to their classmates. (Death Statistical Master Files 2006-2007: California Department of Public Health. Riverside County Sheriff-Coroner. Prevention and Early Intervention, 2008: Riverside County Department of Mental Health)



- **Prevalence of mental illness**

The State of California estimates that 114,240 Riverside County residents have some form of mental illness. The latest estimate is that 60% of these individuals are not receiving needed mental health services. (Prevention and Early Intervention, 2008: Riverside County Department of Mental Health)

SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND CHILDCARE

- **Percent of children who walked/biked to school**

Roughly 20% of school aged children in Riverside County walked/biked to school versus 30% in California overall. (CHIS 2005)

- **Child care availability**

Riverside County child care centers currently have 15 slots available for every 100 children aged 0-5. This is much lower than the 22 slots per 100 in California overall, meaning that Riverside needs to increase its child care capacity significantly just to get on par with the State. (Child Care Licensing Division, 12/2008; American Community Survey 2007, and American Community Survey 2005-2007)

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Air Quality

- **Asthma-related hospitalizations**

In 2005, the greatest percentage of asthma-related hospitalizations were among those under age 18 (38%), followed by those over 65 (19%). Blacks experienced the greatest rate of hospitalizations in 2005, at 225.7 per 100,000 population, versus 99.5 and 81.2 per 100,000 for Hispanics and whites, respectively. (Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health. Data from Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), 2005)

- **Risk of cancer from diesel soot and other toxic air pollutants**

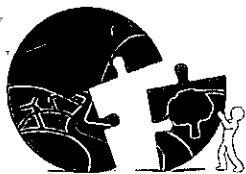
The cancer risk from diesel soot and other toxic air pollutants increased 2 percent in Riverside County between 1998 and 2005, a period in which the regional risk dropped by 8 percent. (Press Enterprise 9/10/2008; South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD))

- **Cost of poor air quality**

Poor air quality costs Riverside and San Bernardino counties an estimated \$6.3 billion in health care expenses, sick days and deaths with the average cost of \$1,500 to \$1,600 per person. (Press Enterprise, 11/13/2008; Cal State Fullerton's Institute for Economic and Environmental Studies).

- **School children exposed to excess air pollution**

29 of 155 (19%) private schools in Riverside County are located within a ¼ mile of a major highway. In addition, 55 of 498 public schools (11%), and 83 of 392 (21%) licensed child care centers are located within a ¼ mile of a major highway. The licensed child care centers have a capacity to provide care for over 5,500 young children. (Network for Healthy California GIS, Child Care Licensing Division, 2008)



- **Housing locations place residents at risk**

Nearly 350,000 Riverside County residents live within a ½ mile or less of a major highway, including roughly 40,000 children under the age of 5. (Census 2000)

Hazardous Waste/Substances

- **Growth in chemical waste production**

48 Riverside County facilities produced nearly 6,200 tons (12,385,985 lbs) of chemical waste that required disposal. In 2002, 49 County facilities produced roughly 4,800 tons of waste that required management. (EPA, TRI Explorer Waste Quantity: Chemical Report data for 2006 and 2002, accessed 11/20/2008)

- **School children at risk from potentially harmful toxins**

According to a recent report, 5 schools in Riverside County rank in the 10th percentile for air quality, meaning that 90 percent of the schools in the country had better air. Twenty-five schools ranked in the 50th percentile or below. Many of these schools are located in close proximity to major industrial operations that produce potentially harmful waste.

(USA Today online report accessed Dec. 2008

[http://content.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/smokestack/search/CA/~Riverside+County/~name/~1/.](http://content.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/smokestack/search/CA/~Riverside+County/~name/~1/))

Infectious Disease

- **West Nile Virus**

West Nile Virus (WNV) remains a potential health hazard in Riverside County. Controlling mosquito populations is important for community health. Unmonitored swimming pools and other sources of standing water can provide havens for mosquitoes which can increase WNV activity in surrounding areas. The number of cases increased substantially in 2008 after large decreases in 2006 and 2007 (Fig. 9). (Riverside County Department of Public Health)

Figure 9: Reported West Nile Virus (WNV) Cases, Riverside County 2000-2008

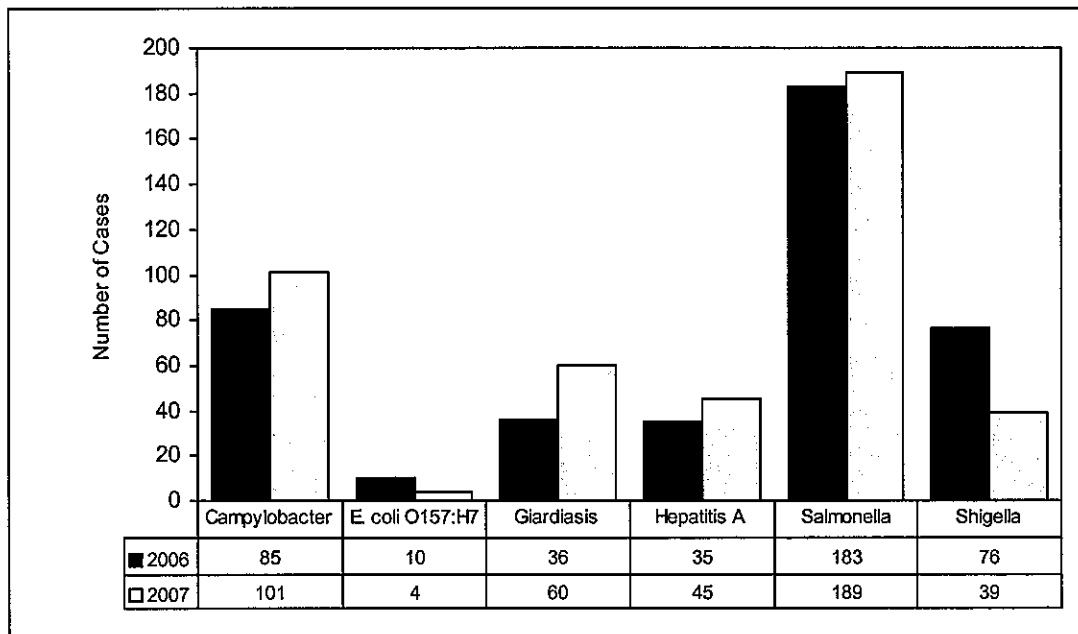
Disease	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	116	103	4	17	62

- **Diseases Spread by Food and Water**

Although infectious diseases commonly spread by contaminated food and water do not typically cause epidemic levels of illness or death, prevention and containment remains an integral part of public health. For the past 7 years, salmonellosis has been the most commonly reported disease spread by food and water in Riverside County. Rates for enteric infections of salmonella, shigella, campylobacter, and giardia are higher among 0-4 year olds compared to other age groups. There was a 66.6% increase in the number of giardiasis cases from 2006 to 2007 (Fig. 10). (Riverside County Department of Public Health, Communicable Disease Report 2007)



Figure 10: Incidence of Diseases Spread by Food and Water, Riverside County 2006-2007



ⁱ D. Stokols et al., *Traffic Congestion, Type A Behavior, and Stress*, Vol. 63, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, at 467-480 (1978).

ⁱⁱ R. Novaco et al., *Transportation, Stress, and Community Psychology*, Vol. 7, *American Journal of Community Psychology*, at 361-380 (1979).

ⁱⁱⁱ Pastor, M. Jr, Sadd J L, Morello-Frosch R, 2004, "Reading, writing, and toxics: children's health, academic performance, and environmental justice in Los Angeles" *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy* 22(2), pages 271 – 290.

^{iv} Toxic Chemicals in Building Materials: An Overview for Health Care Organizations. Healthy Building Network in conjunction with Kaiser Permanente. May 2008

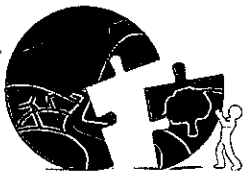
^v State of California, Department of Finance, *Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050*. Sacramento, CA, July 2007.

^{vi} American Community Survey, 2007: U.S. Census Bureau

^{vii} Census 2000 Block-Level Demographic data for Riverside County: U.S. Census Bureau

^{viii} South Coast Air Quality Management District. Analysis: Riverside County cancer risk from smog rose between 1998-2005. Press Enterprise. September 2008.

^{ix} American Community Survey, 2007: U.S. Census Bureau



County of Riverside General Plan – GPA 1096

Health Indicators December 1, 2010

^x U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/07poverty.shtml>. Original Source: Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 15, January 24, 2007, pp. 3147–3148.

^{xi} California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). 2005-2007 pooled data.

^{xii} Olshansky SJ, Passaro DJ, Hershow RC, Layden J, Carnes BA, Brody J, Hayflick L, Butler RN, Allison DB, and Ludwig DS, “A Potential Decline in Life Expectancy in the United States in the 21st Century,” *New England Journal of Medicine*, 352:11, pp. 1138-1145.

^{xiii} USA Today online report accessed Dec. 2008 <http://content.usatoday.com>

^{xiv} California Health Interview Survey, 2007.

^{xv} Community Health Profile, 2008: Riverside County Department of Public Health

EXHIBIT 2

SUMMARY OF SB18 TRIBAL CONSULTATION FOR GPA 1096

Tribe	SB 18 Initiation		Meeting Date(s)	Tribal Letters		County Follow Up
	Letter	Received		Received	Correspondence	
Pechanga Cultural Resources - Temecula Band of Luiseño Mission Indians	April 21, 2010		June 2, 2010	None		November 8, 2010

Exhibit 3

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM: INITIAL STUDY

Environmental Assessment (E.A.) Number: 42403
Project Case Type (s) and Number(s): General Plan Amendment No. 1096 (GPA01096)
Lead Agency Name: County of Riverside Planning Department
Address: P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, CA 92502-1409
Contact Person: Kristi Lovelady
Telephone Number: 951-955-0781
Applicant's Name: County of Riverside
Applicant's Address: 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, P.O. Box 1409, Riverside, CA 92502

I. PROJECT INFORMATION

A. Project Description: The Healthy Communities Element (HCE) will be added as a new, optional element to the Riverside County General Plan. This new element is intended to facilitate positive health policies and programs that will benefit the residents of Riverside County. The HCE demonstrates the link between health and the built environment. It creates appropriate policies that encourage healthy living and provides the land use-planning framework in which positive changes can be made. The policies within the element are focused on those areas which, with proper planning, can have positive impacts on community health. Such policies include but are not limited to: designing the built environment to promote increased physical activity through walkable neighborhoods, parks, trails, bike routes, etc.; improving access to healthy foods; increasing access to recreation and open space areas; providing improved access to public transit and health care services; and improving air quality; promoting arts and culture; and improving social capital. It is anticipated that the goals, policies and programs found within the element will aide in addressing many of Riverside County's health concerns as identified by the Riverside County Community Health Agency and further promote the Vision of the Riverside County General Plan.

B. Type of Project: Site Specific ☐; Countywide ☒; Community ☐; Policy ☐.

C. Total Project Area: Countywide (unincorporated areas)

Residential Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Units: N/A	Projected No. of Residents: N/A
Commercial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Industrial Acres: N/A	Lots: N/A	Sq. Ft. of Bldg. Area: N/A	Est. No. of Employees: N/A
Other: N/A			

D. Assessor's Parcel No(s): All APN's within Riverside County

E. Street References: All Publically Maintained Streets within Riverside County

F. Section, Township & Range Description or reference/attach a Legal Description: All Sections, Townships and Ranges in Riverside County

G. Brief description of the existing environmental setting of the project site and its surroundings: Varies Countywide

II. APPLICABLE GENERAL PLAN AND ZONING REGULATIONS

A. General Plan Elements/Policies:

1. **Land Use:** Varies Countywide
2. **Circulation:** Varies Countywide
3. **Multipurpose Open Space:** Varies Countywide
4. **Safety:** Varies Countywide
5. **Noise:** Varies Countywide
6. **Housing:** Varies Countywide
7. **Air Quality:** Varies Countywide

B. General Plan Area Plan(s): Varies Countywide

C. Foundation Component(s): Varies Countywide

D. Land Use Designation(s): Varies Countywide

E. Overlay(s), if any: Varies Countywide

F. Policy Area(s), if any: Varies Countywide

G. Adjacent and Surrounding Area Plan(s), Foundation Component(s), Land Use Designation(s), and Overlay(s) and Policy Area(s), if any: Varies Countywide

H. Adopted Specific Plan Information

1. **Name and Number of Specific Plan, if any:** Not Applicable

2. **Specific Plan Planning Area, and Policies, if any:** Not Applicable

I. Existing Zoning: Varies Countywide

J. Proposed Zoning, if any: Not Applicable

K. Adjacent and Surrounding Zoning: Varies Countywide

III. ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The environmental factors checked below (x) would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" or "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture & Forest Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation / Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities / Service Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology / Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services | |

IV. DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS NOT PREPARED

- ☒ I find that the proposed project **COULD NOT** have a significant effect on the environment, and a **NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project, described in this document, have been made or agreed to by the project proponent. **A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION** will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project **MAY** have a significant effect on the environment, and an **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required.

A PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED

- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, **NO NEW ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED** because (a) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, (b) all potentially significant effects of the proposed project have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (c) the proposed project will not result in any new significant environmental effects not identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (d) the proposed project will not substantially increase the severity of the environmental effects identified in the earlier EIR or Negative Declaration, (e) no considerably different mitigation measures have been identified and (f) no mitigation measures found infeasible have become feasible.
- ☐ I find that although all potentially significant effects have been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or Negative Declaration pursuant to applicable legal standards, some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist. An **ADDENDUM** to a previously-certified EIR or Negative Declaration has been prepared and will be considered by the approving body or bodies.
- ☐ I find that at least one of the conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162 exist, but I further find that only minor additions or changes are necessary to make the previous EIR adequately apply to the project in the changed situation; therefore a **SUPPLEMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required that need only contain the information necessary to make the previous EIR adequate for the project as revised.
- ☐ I find that at least one of the following conditions described in California Code of Regulations, Section 15162, exist and a **SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT** is required: (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; (2) Substantial changes have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or negative declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects; or (3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the negative declaration was adopted, shows any the following: (A) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or negative declaration; (B) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR or negative declaration; (C) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives; or, (D) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR or

negative declaration would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measures or alternatives.

Signature

Tamara Harrison

Date

12/1/2010

Printed Name

Tamara Harrison

For Carolyn Syms Luna, Planning Director

V. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000-21178.1), this Initial Study has been prepared to analyze the proposed project to determine any potential significant impacts upon the environment that would result from construction and implementation of the project. In accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 15063, this Initial Study is a preliminary analysis prepared by the Lead Agency, the County of Riverside, in consultation with other jurisdictional agencies, to determine whether a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or an Environmental Impact Report is required for the proposed project. The purpose of this Initial Study is to inform the decision-makers, affected agencies, and the public of potential environmental impacts associated with the implementation of the proposed project.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
AESTHETICS Would the project				
1. Scenic Resources				
a) Have a substantial effect upon a scenic highway corridor within which it is located?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings and unique or landmark features; obstruct any prominent scenic vista or view open to the public; or result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have a substantial effect upon scenic highway corridors nor will the element substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings and unique or landmark features; obstruct any prominent scenic vista or view open to the public; or result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

2. Mt. Palomar Observatory

a) Interfere with the nighttime use of the Mt. Palomar Observatory, as protected through Riverside County Ordinance No. 655?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly interfere with the nighttime use of the Mt. Palomar Observatory, as protected through Riverside County Ordinance No. 655.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

3. Other Lighting Issues

a) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Expose residential property to unacceptable light levels?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area nor would the element expose any residential properties to unacceptable light levels.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

AGRICULTURE & FOREST RESOURCES Would the project

4. Agriculture

a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Conflict with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural use or with land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Cause development of non-agricultural uses within 300 feet of agriculturally zoned property (Ordinance No. 625 "Right-to-Farm")?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly convert farmland to non-agricultural use, conflict with existing agricultural zoning, agricultural use or with land subject to a Williamson Act contract or land within a Riverside County Agricultural Preserve.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

5. Forest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Govt. Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land or timberland nor will the proposed element directly result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

Mitigation: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Monitoring: None Required

AIR QUALITY Would the project				
6. Air Quality Impacts				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors which are located within 1 mile of the project site to project substantial point source emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve the construction of a sensitive receptor located within one mile of an existing substantial point source emitter?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly conflict with or obstruct implementation of any applicable air quality plan, violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation nor will the proposal involve the construction of a sensitive receptor located within one mile of an existing substantial point source emitter, expose sensitive receptors or create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people. Rather, the HCE prescribes policies such as Policy HC 14.1 which requires applicants to "pursue a comprehensive strategy to ensure that residents breathe clean air... in adequate quality and quantity" that strive to achieve good air quality and improved respiratory health. Policies such as HC 14.2 and 14.3 also aim to achieve good air quality for the residents of Riverside County, to the extent feasible, by avoiding the sighting of proposed residential developments "near stationary sources of air pollution" and avoiding the sighting of proposed facilities that may produce harmful air pollution near homes and other sensitive receptors. However, as mentioned above, future developments that may be subject to the HCE will undergo project specific CEQA review in order to determine and/or mitigate, if necessary, any related impacts.

Mitigation: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Monitoring: None Required

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES Would the project

7. Wildlife & Vegetation

a) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Conservation Community Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state conservation plan?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any endangered, or threatened species, as listed in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (Sections 670.2 or 670.5) or in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations (Sections 17.11 or 17.12)?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

c) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Wildlife Service?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

e) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

f) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

g) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have adverse impacts on wildlife or vegetation within Riverside County.

Mitigation: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Monitoring: None Required

CULTURAL RESOURCES Would the project

8. Historic Resources

a) Alter or destroy an historic site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have adverse impacts on historic resources within Riverside County. Rather, HCE policies, specifically HC 8.1 promotes the preservation of cultural and historic resources as well as increasing access to such resources.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

9. Archaeological Resources

a) Alter or destroy an archaeological site.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have adverse impacts on archaeological resources within Riverside County. Rather, HCE policies, specifically HC 8.1 promotes the preservation of cultural and historic resources as well as increasing access to such resources. Policy HC 11.2 promotes "the production and distribution of locally grown food by reducing

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

barriers to farmers markets, food cooperatives, neighborhood or community gardens, ethnobotanical gardens, etc.," the latter of which is of interest and importance to many Native American tribes.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

10. Paleontological Resources

a) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, or site, or unique geologic feature?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have adverse impacts on paleontological resources within Riverside County.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

GEOLOGY AND SOILS Would the project

11. Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone or County Fault Hazard Zones

a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Be subject to rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death nor will the

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

proposal directly be subject to rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

12. Liquefaction Potential Zone

a) Be subject to seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly be subject to liquefaction or other seismic related ground failures.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

13. Ground-shaking Zone

Be subject to strong seismic ground shaking?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly be subject to strong seismic ground shaking.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

14. Landslide Risk

a) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, collapse, or rockfall hazards?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. It is not anticipated that the proposed element will impact landslide risks.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

15. Ground Subsidence

a) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in ground subsidence?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. It is not anticipated that the proposed element will impact ground subsidence.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

16. Other Geologic Hazards

a) Be subject to geologic hazards, such as seiche, mudflow, or volcanic hazard?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. It is not anticipated that the proposed element will impact geologic hazards.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

17. Slopes

a) Change topography or ground surface relief features?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Create cut or fill slopes greater than 2:1 or higher than 10 feet?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

c) Result in grading that affects or negates subsurface sewage disposal systems?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly change topography or ground surface relief features nor will the proposal result in any direct grading.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

18. Soils

a) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Section 1802.3.2 of the California Building Code (2007), creating substantial risks to life or property?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

c) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact soils.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

19. Erosion

a) Change deposition, siltation, or erosion that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of a lake?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Result in any increase in water erosion either on or off site?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly change deposition, siltation, or erosion that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of a lake nor will the proposal result in any increase in water erosion.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

20. Wind Erosion and Blowsand from project either on or off site.

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

a) Be impacted by or result in an increase in wind erosion and blowsand, either on or off site?

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed Healthy Communities Element itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact or result in an increase in wind erosion or blowsand.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS Would the project

21. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly generate greenhouse gas emissions nor will the proposal conflict with any applicable plans and/or policies that have been adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Would the project

22. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

c) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

d) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				
e) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly emit or cause any significant hazardous materials that will impact the public or the environment.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

23. Airports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Result in an inconsistency with an Airport Master Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Require review by the Airport Land Use Commission?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, or heliport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an impact on Riverside County Airports.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

24. Hazardous Fire Area

a) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact hazardous fire areas.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY Would the project

25. Water Quality Impacts

a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

c) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

d) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

e) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Include new or retrofitted stormwater Treatment Control Best Management Practices (BMPs) (e.g. water quality treatment basins, constructed treatment wetlands), the operation of which could result in significant environmental effects (e.g. increased vectors or odors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact hydrology or water quality. The HCE contains policies to ensure clean water in "adequate quality and quantity" such as HC 14.1 which requires developers to "pursue a comprehensive strategy to ensure that residents... drink clean water in adequate quality and quantity."

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

26. Floodplains

Degree of Suitability in 100-Year Floodplains. As indicated below, the appropriate Degree of Suitability has been checked.

NA - Not Applicable ☒

U - Generally Unsuitable ☐

R - Restricted ☐

a) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Changes in absorption rates or the rate and amount of surface runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam (Dam Inundation Area)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly alter existing drainage patterns or surface water amounts. The proposal will not directly expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding; it will not directly alter any existing drainage patterns, increase the amount of runoff in an area nor will the proposal change the amounts of surface water in any water body.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

LAND USE/PLANNING Would the project

27. Land Use

a) Result in a substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area?

☐
☐
☒
☐

b) Affect land use within a city sphere of influence and/or within adjacent city or county boundaries?

☐
☐
☒
☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. In an effort to guide the County, the HCE encourages land use and planning patterns that will link health and the built environment and promote increased physical activity and healthy lifestyles for all residents of Riverside County. Multiple policies within the proposed element promote this link including policy HC 2.1 which would require "a built environment that promotes physical activity and access to healthy foods while reducing driving and pollution." Policy HC 2.1 identifies a number of ways to achieve the goals of the policy including identifying and educating the public about the link between public health and the built environment. Although the proposed element encourages the recognition of this link, the proposal itself would not alter the present land use of an area nor would it affect land use within a city sphere of influence or within adjacent city or county boundaries.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
28. Planning				
a) Be consistent with the site's existing or proposed zoning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Be compatible with existing surrounding zoning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be compatible with existing and planned surrounding land uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Be consistent with the land use designations and policies of the Comprehensive General Plan (including those of any applicable Specific Plan)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Disrupt or divide the physical arrangement of an established community (including a low-income or minority community)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly conflict with any existing and/or proposed zoning or land uses and the proposal will remain consistent with the land use designations and the policies of the General Plan. The physical patterns of established communities will not be disrupted due to the proposal.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

MINERAL RESOURCES Would the project

29. Mineral Resources				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region or the residents of the State?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be an incompatible land use located adjacent to a State classified or designated area or existing surface mine?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or property to hazards from proposed, existing or abandoned quarries or mines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have adverse impacts on mineral resources within Riverside County.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

NOISE Would the project result in

Definitions for Noise Acceptability Ratings

Where indicated below, the appropriate Noise Acceptability Rating(s) has been checked.

NA - Not Applicable

A - Generally Acceptable

B - Conditionally Acceptable

C - Generally Unacceptable

D - Land Use Discouraged

30. Airport Noise

a) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

NA ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐

b) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

NA ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on noise and will not expose residents to excessive noise, including airport noise.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
31. Railroad Noise			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/>				

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on noise and will not expose residents to excessive noise, including railroad noise.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

32. Highway Noise			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/>				

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on noise and will not expose residents to excessive noise, including highway noise.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

33. Other Noise			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/>				

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on noise and will not expose residents to excessive noise.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

34. Noise Effects on or by the Project

a) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on noise and will not expose residents to excessive noise.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

POPULATION AND HOUSING Would the project

35. Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a demand for additional housing, particularly housing affordable to households earning 80% or less of the County's median income?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing else-	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
where?				
d) Affect a County Redevelopment Project Area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly have an adverse impact on the population within Riverside County or housing within Riverside County. Rather, the proposed element includes policy HC 3.1 which promotes "policies that achieve positive health outcomes in the Community Development areas" by requiring developers to "provide for a range of housing options to accommodate a range of income levels and household types."

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

PUBLIC SERVICES Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered government facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

36. Fire Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not result in any adverse physical impacts to public services, including fire services.

Mitigation: None Required

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Monitoring: None Required

37. Sheriff Services

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not result in any adverse physical impacts to public services, including sheriff services.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

38. Schools

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not result in any adverse physical impacts to public services, including schools.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

39. Libraries

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not result in any adverse physical impacts to public services, including libraries.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

40. Health Services

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not result in any adverse physical impacts to public services, including health services.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

RECREATION

41. Parks and Recreation

a) Would the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

b) Would the project include the use of existing neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

c) Is the project located within a Community Service Area (CSA) or recreation and park district with a Community Parks and Recreation Plan (Quimby fees)?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed Healthy Communities Element itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed HCE does not propose any specific Parks and or Recreational development. However, policies within the proposed element such as Policy HC 10.3 which would require "that development of parks, trails and open space facilities occur concurrent with other development in an area" in order to provide a significant resource to residents of the Riverside County and may facilitate the development of such facilities.

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

42. Recreational Trails

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed HCE does not propose any specific Recreational Trails; however, policies within the proposed element such as Policy HC 10.3 which would require "that development of parks, trails and open space facilities occur concurrent with other development in an area" in order to provide a significant resource to residents of the Riverside County and may facilitate the development of Recreational Trails. Policy HC 7.4 aims to "ensure that the Regional Trail plans are implemented at the Area Plan and Specific Plan level."

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC Would the project

43. Circulation

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing a measure of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

d) Alter waterborne, rail or air traffic?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

e) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Cause an effect upon, or a need for new or altered maintenance of roads?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Cause an effect upon circulation during the project's construction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Result in inadequate emergency access or access to nearby uses?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Conflict with adopted policies, plans or programs regarding public transit, bikeways or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise substantially decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact current transportation or traffic patterns. Rather, the HCE promotes a healthy transportation system that will support a healthy lifestyle. Although many transportation policies related to health are found in other elements of the General Plan, a number of HCE policies support a healthy transportation system as well. Policy HC 6.1 promotes "a balanced transportation system that ensures the safety and mobility of all users through: evaluation of the transportation system to identify traffic safety issues and locations with a high degree of traffic incidents..." HCE policy HC 6.6 aims to "implement design solutions for traffic calming and traffic slowing measures on roads with a high level of pedestrian activity. Aside from policies that focus on a safe transportation system, the proposed element also prescribes policies that will facilitate a "Multi-Modal Transportation Network." Policy HC 7.1 encourages the coordination with "transportation service providers and transportation planning entities to improve access to multi-modal transportation options throughout the County, including public transit" while HCE policy 7.5 encourages the development of policies "that reduce residents' reliance on cars and supports alternatives to driving as a means of increasing levels of physical activity."

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

44. Bike Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

substantially affect the environment. The proposed HCE does not propose any specific Bike Trails; however, policies within the proposed element promote the development of such trails in conjunction with other development in an area in order to provide a significant resource to residents of the Riverside County and may ultimately facilitate the development of Bike Trails.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

UTILITY AND SERVICE SYSTEMS Would the project

45. Water

a) Require or result in the construction of new water treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact utility and service systems, including water.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

46. Sewer

a) Require or result in the construction of new wastewater treatment facilities, including septic systems, or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which would cause significant environmental effects?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may service the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact utility and service systems, including sewer.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

47. Solid Waste

a) Is the project served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Does the project comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid wastes including the CIWMP (County Integrated Waste Management Plan)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact utility and service systems, including solid waste.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

48. Utilities

Would the project impact the following facilities requiring or resulting in the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities; the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

a) Electricity?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

b) Natural gas?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

c) Communications systems?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

d) Storm water drainage?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

e) Street lighting?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

f) Maintenance of public facilities, including roads?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

g) Other governmental services?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact utility and service systems.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

49. Energy Conservation

a) Would the project conflict with any adopted energy conservation plans?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Project Description, Staff Review, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: Those policies proposed by the HCE will guide the County in addressing the link between health and the built environment. As such, the proposal will not directly impact the environment but will address the impacts of the subject policy on the County as opposed to the impacts of project specific, site development on the County. Project level California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review to address and/or mitigate, if necessary, any environmental concerns will be reviewed for any future development. It is not expected that the proposed HCE itself would substantially affect the environment. The proposed element will not directly impact utility and service systems, including energy conservation.

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

OTHER

50. Other: N/A

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------

Source: Staff review

Findings of Fact:

Mitigation: None Required

Monitoring: None Required

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--	--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

51. Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Staff review, Project Application Materials

Findings of Fact: Implementation of the proposed project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife populations to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, or reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.

52. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects and probable future projects)?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Staff review, Project Description, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: The project does not have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable.

53. Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

☐ ☐ ☒ ☐

Source: Staff review, Project Description, County of Riverside General Plan

Findings of Fact: The proposed project would not result in environmental effects which would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

VI. EARLIER ANALYSES

Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration as per California Code of Regulations, Section 15063 (c) (3) (D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:

Earlier Analyses Used, if any: N/A

Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
--------------------------------------	--	---------------------------------------	--------------

Location Where Earlier Analyses, if used, are available for review:

Location: N/A

VI. AUTHORITIES CITED

Authorities cited: Public Resources Code Sections 21083 and 21083.05; References: California Government Code Section 65088.4; Public Resources Code Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21082.1, 21083, 21083.05, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21095 and 21151; *Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino* (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296; *Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors* (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 1337; *Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka* (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; *Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency* (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; *San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco* (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.

Revised: 1/19/2011 11:50 AM
EA 2010.docx



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Project/Case Number: General Plan Amendment No. 1096

PROJECT DESCRIPTION, LOCATION (see Environmental Assessment).

By: Tamara Harrison Title: Project Planner Date: February 15, 2011

Applicant/Project Sponsor: County of Riverside Date Submitted: March 23, 2010

Person Verifying Adoption: _____ Date: _____

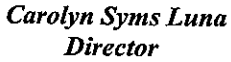
Riverside County Planning Department, 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, CA 92501

Revised: 10/16/07
Y:\Planning Master Forms\CEQA Forms\Negative Declaration.doc

Please charge deposit fee case#: No Fee, Government Code Section 6103.

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

☐ 38686 El Cerrito Road
Palm Desert, California 92211

FOR COUNTY CLERK'S USE ONLY

Tribal Historic Preservation Office
35008 Pala Temecula Rd.
PMB 445
Pala, CA 92509

Anthony Rivera
31411-A La Matanza Street
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-
2674

John Gomez
56310 Highway 371 Ste. B
P.O. Box 391670
Anza, CA 92539

Patricia Garcia-Tuck
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Roland Ferrer
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA 92274

Anna Hoover
P.O. Box 2183
Temecula, CA 92593

John Gomez
56340 Highway 371 Ste. B
P.O. Box 391670
Anza, CA 92539

Joseph Ontiveros
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581

Franklin Dancy
12700 Plumarra Road
Banning, CA 92220

David Roosevelt
84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy
Indio, CA 92203-3499

Francine Kupsch
P.O. Box 189
Warner, CA 92086

Tribal Historic Preservation Office
35008 Pala Temecula Rd.
PMB 445
Pala, CA 92059

Joseph Hamilton
P.O. Box 391670
Anza, CA 92539

Soboba Band Of Mission Indians
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581

Mary Resvaloso
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA 92274

Darrell Mike
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236

Charles Wood
P.O. Box 1976
Chemehuevi Valley, CA 92363

Michael Tsosie
Route 1, Box 23-B
Parker, AZ 85344

John Marcus
P.O. Box 609
Hemet, CA 92546

Mary Ann Green
P.O. Box 846
Coachella, CA 92236

Sam Dunlap
P.O. Box 86908
Los Angeles, CA 90086

Anthony Rivera
31411-A La Matanza Street
San Juan Capistrano,
CA 92675-2674

Richard Milanovich
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Robert Martin
12700 Plumarra Road
Banning, CA 92220

Mark Macarro
P.O. Box 1477
Temecula, CA 92593

Rob Roy
22000 Highway 76
Pauma Valley, CA 92061

Goldie Walker
6588 Valaria Drive
Highland, CA 92346

Sonia Johnston
P.O. Box 25628
Santa Ana, CA 92799

Luther Salgado Sr.
P.O. Box 391760
Anza, CA 92539

Joyce Perry
4955 Paseo Segovia
Irvine, CA 92612

Michele Fahley, Deputy General Counsel
Pechanga Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 1477
Temecula, CA 92593

Edward Last
12 Rue Villars
New Port Beach, CA 92660



for Easy Peel Feature
See Instruction Sheet
Expose Pop-Up Edge™
Bend along line to



Use Avery® Template 5160®
Easy Peel Labels
Use Avery® Template 5160®
Easy Peel Labels