



COUNTYWIDE PLAN

COUNTY POLICY PLAN December 2025

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Adoption & Amendment History

Date	Resolution	Update / Amendment
October 27, 2020	Resolution No. 2020-197	Policy Plan, comprehensive update
September 27, 2022	Resolution No. 2022-185	Housing Element, comprehensive update
September 27, 2022	Resolution No. 2022-186	Hazards Element, technical update
December 16, 2025	Resolution No. 2025-233	Transportation & Mobility Element, technical update

Built Environment Section

Land Use Element

How we accommodate development and arrange land use is critical to achieving the Countywide Vision. While the county may appear to have a limitless supply of land, the County only has land use authority over approximately 12 percent of unincorporated lands (the balance is primarily under federal control). As the regional service provider and municipal government, the County must plan for uses and development that adds value to its communities and the overall county, in terms of function, design, and fiscal return.

The County can best serve our communities, businesses, institutions, and visitors by focusing new development in and around cities, towns, and communities with access to infrastructure and services, while preserving natural open spaces that define San Bernardino County and our way of life.

Purpose

The Land Use Element:

- Designates the distribution, location, intensity, and balance of land uses for the unincorporated areas of the county.
- Establishes goals for where, when, and how the county grows, which is also guided by policies in other elements.
- Provides direction for new development on community design, land use compatibility, and interagency coordination.
- Provides guidance for orderly expansion of incorporated areas.

Principles

We believe:

- The way land is used and developed will determine our revenue base and costs.
- Development that supports our Countywide Vision will strengthen the county's economy and quality of life.
- When growth occurs, it should do so in a manner that is fiscally sustainable and context-sensitive.
- New development should be focused in areas where there is potable water, wastewater treatment, roadways, and public services.

- New development should be focused in areas with low risks from natural and man-made hazards, and with fewer impacts on the natural environment.
- Rural and suburban patterns of development in unincorporated areas of the county complement the urban and suburban options found in incorporated cities and towns.
- Supporting our military institutions is critical to the mission of national defense and the military plays an integral role in the county's economic success.
- Collaboration with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies is essential to effectively manage land and land use in San Bernardino County.

Goals & Policies

Goal LU-1 Fiscally Sustainable Growth

Growth and development that builds thriving communities, contributes to our Complete County, and is fiscally sustainable.

Policy LU-1.1 **Growth.** We support growth and development that is fiscally sustainable for the County. We accommodate growth in the unincorporated county when it benefits existing communities, provides a regional housing option for rural lifestyles, or supports the regional economy.

Policy LU-1.2 **Infill development.** We prefer new development to take place on existing vacant and underutilized lots where public services and infrastructure are available.

Policy LU-1.3 **Fiscal sustainability.** When determining fiscal impacts, we consider initial capital investments, long-term operations and maintenance, desired levels of service for public facilities and services, capital reserves for replacement, and impacts to existing uses in incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Policy LU-1.4 **Funding and financing mechanisms.** We require the establishment of community facility districts, lighting and landscaping maintenance districts, and other types of funding and financing mechanisms for new development when the County determines that it may be necessary to maintain fiscal sustainability. We prefer the expansion of existing districts to the establishment of new districts.

Policy LU-1.5 **Development impact fees.** We require payment of development impact fees to ensure that all new development pays its fair share of public infrastructure.

Policy LU-1.6 **Tax sharing.** We may utilize tax sharing as a tool to extend public facilities and services from adjacent municipalities into unincorporated areas as an alternative to the County's direct provision of public facilities and services when it is fiscally sustainable for the County.

Goal LU-2 Land Use Mix and Compatibility

An arrangement of land uses that balances the lifestyle of existing residents, the needs of future generations, opportunities for commercial and industrial development, and the value of the natural environment.

Policy LU-2.1 **Compatibility with existing uses.** We require that new development is located, scaled, buffered, and designed to minimize negative impacts on existing conforming uses and adjacent neighborhoods. We also require that new residential developments are located, scaled, buffered, and designed so as to not hinder the viability and continuity of existing conforming nonresidential development.

Policy LU-2.2 **Compatibility with planned uses.** We require that new residential development is located, scaled, buffered, and designed to minimize negative impacts both on and from adjacent areas designated for nonresidential land uses.

Policy LU-2.3 **Compatibility with natural environment.** We require that new development is located, scaled, buffered, and designed for compatibility with the surrounding natural environment and biodiversity.

Policy LU-2.4 **Land Use Map consistency.** We consider proposed development that is consistent with the Land Use Map (i.e., it does not require a change in Land Use Category), to be generally compatible and consistent with surrounding land uses and a community's identity. Additional site, building, and landscape design treatment, per other policies in the Policy Plan and development standards in the Development Code, may be required to maximize compatibility with surrounding land uses and community identity.

Policy LU-2.5 **Hillside preservation.** We require that new development in sloping hillside areas preserve the natural character of the surrounding environment and does not further exacerbate natural hazards or erosion.

Policy LU-2.6 **Coordination with adjacent entities.** We require that new and amended development projects notify and coordinate with adjacent local, state, and federal entities to maximize land use compatibility, inform future planning and implementation, and realize mutually beneficial outcomes.

Policy LU-2.7 **Countywide jobs-housing balance.** We prioritize growth that furthers a countywide balance of jobs and housing to reduce vehicle miles traveled, increase job opportunities and household income, and improve quality of life. We also strive for growth that furthers a balance of jobs and housing in the North Desert region and the Valley region.

Policy LU-2.8 **Rural lifestyle in the Mountain/Desert regions.** We intend that new residential development in the unincorporated Mountain and Desert regions offer a lower intensity lifestyle that complements the suburban and urban densities in incorporated cities and towns to provide a range of lifestyle options. Master planned communities in unincorporated Mountain/Desert regions may provide a broader range of lifestyles and densities.

Policy LU-2.9 **Suburban lifestyles in the Valley region.** We intend that new residential development in the unincorporated Valley region offer a suburban lifestyle that is similar to that of adjacent cities.

Policy LU-2.10 **Unincorporated commercial development.** We intend that new commercial development in the unincorporated areas serve unincorporated residential areas, tourists, and/or freeway travelers. We encourage new commercial development to be concentrated to enhance pedestrian circulation and reduce vehicular congestion and vehicle miles traveled, with new development directed into existing centralized areas when possible.

Policy LU-2.11 **Office and industrial development in the Mountain/Desert regions.** We allow new office and industrial uses in unincorporated Mountain/Desert regions in order to meet the service, employment, and support needs of the unincorporated areas.

Policy LU-2.12 **Office and industrial development in the Valley region.** We encourage office and industrial uses in the unincorporated Valley region in order to promote a countywide jobs-housing balance.

Policy LU-2.13 **Short-term private home rentals.** We enforce appropriate operation standards, maintenance standards, and permitting procedures for the establishment and maintenance of short-term private home rentals in the unincorporated areas.

Policy LU-2.14 **Contiguous land administration.** We support the consolidation of disconnected land areas under public ownership or administration to increase financial and environmental value, streamline the management of land and resources, and establish more complete and effective transition areas or buffers. Such consolidation may include transfer of title of property among public entities and the purchase or swapping of private property voluntarily sold when the consolidation is fiscally neutral or beneficial to the County.

Goal LU-3 Annexations and Sphere Development

Annexations and development in spheres of influence that improve the provision of public services to incorporated and unincorporated residents and businesses.

Policy LU-3.1 **Annexation of unincorporated areas.** We support the annexation of unincorporated areas when it will result in a more effective and efficient provision of public services and a net fiscal benefit to the County.

Policy LU-3.2 **Annexations with planned incompatible land uses.** We oppose annexations when future planned land uses for the proposed annexation area would be incompatible with the remaining adjacent unincorporated lands.

Policy LU-3.3 **City/town standards in SOIs.** Upon negotiation with individual jurisdictions, we may require new development in unincorporated municipal sphere of influence areas to apply the improvement standards for roads and sidewalks of the incorporated jurisdiction.

Policy LU-3.4 **Development project annexations.** When a property owner proposes annexation to facilitate new development adjacent to an unincorporated residential area, we prefer that the annexation includes the adjacent residential area.

Goal LU-4 **Community Design**

Preservation and enhancement of unique community identities and their relationship with the natural environment.

Policy LU-4.1 **Context-sensitive design in the Mountain/Desert regions.** We require new development to employ site and building design techniques and use building materials that reflect the natural mountain or desert environment and preserve scenic resources.

Policy LU-4.2 **Fire-adapted communities.** We require new development in high or very high fire hazard severity zones to apply fire-resistant design techniques, including fuel modification areas, fire resistant landscaping, and fire-resistant building materials.

Policy LU-4.3 **Native or drought-tolerant landscaping.** We require new development, when outside of high and very high fire hazard severity zones, to install and maintain drought-tolerant landscaping and encourage the use of native species.

Policy LU-4.4 **Natural topography in the Mountain region.** We require new development in the Mountain region to retain natural topography and minimize grading unless it is necessary to reduce exposure to natural hazards.

Policy LU-4.5 **Community identity.** We require that new development be consistent with and reinforce the physical and historical character and identity of our unincorporated communities, as described in Table LU-3 and in the values section of Community Action Guides. In addition, we consider the aspirations section of Community Action Guides in our review of new development.

Policy LU-4.6 **Adaptive reuse.** We encourage the rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, and revitalization of existing structures to preserve and celebrate the unique sense of place, identity, and history of our communities.

Policy LU-4.7 **Dark skies.** We minimize light pollution and glare to preserve views of the night sky, particularly in the Mountain and Desert regions where dark skies are fundamentally connected to community identities and local economies. We also promote the preservation of dark skies to assist the military in testing, training, and operations.

Policy LU-4.8 **Public gathering spaces.** We require the development of safe and attractive public gathering spaces that facilitate social interaction, community events, and physical activity in master planned communities, large residential developments, and large commercial developments.

Policy LU-4.9 **CPTED.** We require public gathering spaces to use CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) principles and ensure sufficient access for public safety services.

Policy LU-4.10 **Entry monumentation, signage, and public art.** We encourage the installation of durable signage, entry monumentation, and/or works of public art in commercial areas of unincorporated Community Planning Areas as a means of reinforcing a community's character, culture, heritage, or other unique features.

Policy LU-4.11 **Businesses in Joshua Tree.** We prohibit the establishment of franchise businesses in the commercial focus area/franchise-restricted in Joshua Tree to preserve the unique community character and its value as a year-round, world renowned tourist destination.

Goal LU-5 Military Mission

The federal government maintains and invests in military facilities and operations in the county to further the mission of national defense, thereby generating employment opportunities for residents and commercial opportunities for businesses in the county.

Policy LU-5.1 **Military land use compatibility.** We coordinate with military stakeholders to ensure compatible land uses in areas where military operations on or off installations could affect public health and safety, or where civilian activities could have an impact on current or future military operations. We will coordinate with military stakeholders to resolve existing land use conflicts and protect public safety in the Military Influence Overlay.

Policy LU-5.2 **Military Influence Overlay.** We require conditional use permits for projects within the Military Influence Overlay that could penetrate the defined floor elevation of the military airspace, or that could encroach upon military operations. We consider how development of roads and infrastructure within the Military Influence Overlay will promote growth that might lead to incompatible land use.

Policy LU-5.3 **Open space for military activity and buffering.** We engage with military installations to preserve open space areas to facilitate military training and operations and to buffer civilian areas from military activity.

Policy LU-5.4 **Ranged activities and projects.** We require activities and projects that can exert impacts beyond project boundaries, such as renewable energy facilities, wireless communication systems, and unmanned aircraft systems, to coordinate with military installations in preliminary planning and throughout the project's construction stages and long-term operation.

Policy LU-5.5 **Transportation and infrastructure.** We consider military needs for operations and training when planning and improving local and regional transportation and infrastructure systems.

Policy LU-5.6 **Military partnerships.** We maintain effective partnerships among military and community stakeholders and pursue joint projects that provide long-term mutual benefits for the military, County, and general public.

Policy LU-5.7 **Economic development opportunities with the military.** We leverage our relationship and increased coordination with the military to expand employment and commercial opportunities with military agencies.

Goal LU-6 Amendments to the Policy Plan

Growth and development in the unincorporated county in a manner that requires few and infrequent amendments to the Policy Plan.

Policy LU-6.1 **Residential amendments that increase density in the Desert and Mountain regions.** We discourage policy plan amendments that would permit new development on lots smaller than 2.5 acres in the Desert regions and lots smaller than one-half acre in the Mountain region. We approve general plan amendments that would increase residential density only if:

- The proposed change is determined to be compatible in accordance with policies LU-2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 4.5.
- Adequate infrastructure and services are available concurrently.
- The increase in density would not degrade existing levels of service for fire protection, sheriff, water, or wastewater service in the area.

Policy LU-6.2 **Large residential development in the Desert and Mountain regions.** We require a specific plan or Planned Development process for proposed residential development in the:

- North or East Desert regions: when the proposed development would include one or more lots that is 2.5 acres or smaller and the overall development would cover 40 or more acres.
- Mountain region: when the proposed development would include one or more lots that is 1 acre or smaller and the overall development would cover 40 or more acres.

Policy LU-6.3 **Commercial amendments.** We will only approve Land Use Plan amendments that would introduce new commercial areas in the context of a comprehensive Land Use Plan amendment. We may waive this requirement when the proposed amended area abuts an existing or designated commercial area and the amount of land available for new commercial uses falls below 15 percent of the total commercially-designated land in the area.

Policy LU-6.4 **Industrial amendments near schools and parks.** We approve Land Use Plan amendments for new industrial development only if they are at least one-half mile from an existing or planned public primary or secondary school or public park. We may waive this requirement for obsolete school or park sites or for industrial amendments submitted through a specific plan.

Tables

Land Use Categories and Zoning

The County plans and regulates land uses using a two-map system for the unincorporated land in San Bernardino County. In the Policy Plan, a set of broad Land Use Categories provide long-term guidance and direction for the overall distribution, intensity, and compatibility of development in the unincorporated county areas.

The Policy Plan provides the basis for and is implemented by the County's Development Code, which includes a set of Land Use Zoning Districts that establishes detailed land use districts, intensities, requirements, and standards. The Land Use Zoning Districts must be consistent with the Land Use Categories.

While unincorporated areas administered and/or controlled by federal, tribal, and state governments are generally outside of the County's land use authority, the two-map system is applied to these areas to convey the long-term land use plans of said entities and provide complete coverage of the unincorporated lands. The Land Use Categories and Zoning Districts would also directly govern land use if the federal, tribal, or state governments relinquished control over any of these lands in the future.

Table LU-1 summarizes the Policy Plan Land Use Categories, including the permitted density/intensity range, the primary purpose of each category, and a list of typical permitted uses. Table LU-2 depicts the implementing Land Use Zoning Districts for each Land Use Category.

Community Character

The county contains dozens of unincorporated communities, each presenting their own unique history, setting, and way of life. These places will continue to attract those seeking to live, work, or benefit from the amenities and/or quality of life found only in unincorporated community planning areas. In the evaluation of proposed development, the County will use standards and guidance in the Development Code and goals and policies from the Policy Plan to determine whether a proposed development would positively reinforce or negatively affect the desired community character and identity of an unincorporated community. Although the goals and policies throughout the entire Policy Plan may apply, those contained in the Land Use Element will commonly be the initial reference points.

In particular, Policy LU-4.5 directs the County to ensure that new development is consistent with the physical and historical character and identity of an unincorporated community planning area. This policy also directs the County to ensure consistency with the values and aspirations as defined by each community in their Community Action Guides. To further assist the County in determining the consistency of new development with a community's character, Table LU-3 identifies key characteristics and features that new development should reinforce and/or not detract from in order to maintain and protect the identity and character of the community planning areas.

Table LU-1. Land Use Categories

Land Use Category		Density / Intensity Range	Primary Purpose	Description of Typical Uses ^{2,3}
RESIDENTIAL LAND USES				
RL	Rural Living	1 unit per 2.5 acres max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow for rural residential development set in expansive areas of open space that reinforce the rural lifestyle while preserving the county's natural areas Minimize development footprint and maximize undeveloped areas Allow for cluster-type development to provide and preserve open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural residential Small-scale, non-water-intensive, and incidental agricultural (commercial-scale agriculture permitted in Oak Glen and Mentone community planning areas) Public and quasi-public facilities such as parks, religious facilities, schools, sheriff's stations, and fire stations
VLDR	Very Low Density Residential	2 units per acre max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow for very low density residential uses when developed as single family neighborhoods that can share common infrastructure, public facilities, and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-family residential uses Incidental agriculture Public and quasi-public facilities such as parks, religious facilities, schools, sheriff's stations, and fire stations
LDR	Low Density Residential	2 to 5 units per acre ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote conventional suburban residential neighborhoods that support and are served by common infrastructure, public facilities, and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-family residential uses Public and quasi-public facilities such as parks, religious facilities, schools, sheriff's stations, and fire stations
MDR	Medium Density Residential	5 to 20 units per acre ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide areas for a wide range of densities and housing types Promote efficient location of higher density residential development and neighborhoods in relation to infrastructure and transit systems, as well as employment opportunities, retail and service businesses, and community services and facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-family and multiple residential uses (or any mix thereof) Public and quasi-public facilities such as parks, religious facilities, schools, sheriff's stations, and fire stations
EMPLOYMENT GENERATING LAND USES				
C	Commercial	0.75 FAR max 5 units per acre max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide suitable locations for retail, office, and service commercial businesses that serve the needs of local residents, regional markets, and visitors/tourists Provide employment opportunities for residents in the surrounding area Allow for a mix of commercial and lower density residential uses in rural areas (when residential is permitted in the underlying zoning district) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retail stores and personal services Office and professional services Lodging, recreation, and entertainment Heavy commercial with adequate buffering for surrounding residential uses In rural areas: agriculture and lower density residential
LI	Limited Industrial	0.50 FAR max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide suitable locations for light or limited industrial activities where operations are totally enclosed in a structure and limited exterior storage is fully screened from public view Provide suitable locations for employee-intensive uses, such as research and development, technology centers, corporate offices, clean industry, and supporting retail uses Provide employment opportunities for residents in the surrounding area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light industrial and manufacturing Wholesale, warehouse, and distribution Transportation services Agricultural support services Neighborhood-scale and community-scale energy facilities (see note 3 on limitations)
GI	General Industrial	0.75 FAR max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide suitable locations for general or heavy industrial activities where all or part of operations take place outside of enclosed structures, exterior storage is not fully screened from public view, or involve large equipment Provide areas for industrial activity that generates substantial odors, noise, vibration, or truck traffic Provide employment opportunities for residents in the surrounding area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General or heavy industrial, manufacturing, and processing Recycling and salvage operations Wholesale, warehouse, and distribution, including rail facilities Mineral extraction and associated processing Transportation services Agricultural support services Neighborhood-, community-, and utility-scale energy facilities (see note 3 on limitations)

Table LU-1. Land Use Categories

Land Use Category		Density / Intensity Range	Primary Purpose	Description of Typical Uses ^{2,3}
PUBLIC AND SPECIAL LAND USES				
PF	Public Facility	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provides areas for public and quasi-public uses and facilities to meet current and future needs ▪ Protect and ensure the continued operation of public facilities and systems during times of flooding, fire, or other hazardous events ▪ Prevent the loss of life or property caused by flooding by preserving areas and capacity to carry/discharge flood flow ▪ Protect floodways from encroachment by land uses that could be endangered during times of flooding; prohibit occupancy or encroachment of any improvement that would unduly affect the capacity of floodways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Civic and educational buildings and facilities ▪ Utility systems, facilities, and corridors ▪ Neighborhood, community, and utility-scale energy facilities (see note 3 on limitations) ▪ Channels, drainage areas, and other floodways ▪ Transportation corridors and facilities ▪ Cemeteries and landfills ▪ Commercial agriculture/grazing
RLM				
RLM	Resource/Land Management	1 unit per 40 acres max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manage, preserve, and protect natural resources such as agricultural/grazing lands, watersheds, minerals, and wildlife habitat areas, as well as open space areas not otherwise protected or preserved ▪ Provide areas for military operations and training while minimizing impacts on and from surrounding civilian uses ▪ Allow for limited rural development while minimizing the expansion of development outside of existing communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural resource conservation, such as watersheds, habitat areas and corridors, wilderness study areas, areas of critical environmental concern, and national conservation lands ▪ Mineral resource extraction and processing, commercial agriculture and grazing ▪ Military facilities, operations, and training areas ▪ Recreation areas ▪ Renewable energy facilities consistent with the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element (see note 3 on limitations) ▪ Single family homes on very large parcels ▪ Limited and low density commercial development ▪ Lands under the control of the state or federal government or tribal entities
OS				
OS	Open Space	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide and preserve publicly-owned land for parks and open space ▪ Manage, preserve, and protect natural areas, habitats, and wildlife corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local, regional, and state parks and recreation areas ▪ National forests, monuments, parks, preserves, and wilderness areas ▪ Locally conserved lands for the purposes of resource management, mitigation, land banking, or similar purpose ▪ Public facilities in an open space setting ▪ Privately-owned land treated as RLM designated lands, unless otherwise restricted by government regulations ▪ Mineral extraction, timbering, or similar activities as permitted by federal or state regulations ▪ Commercial-scale agriculture in the Oak Glen and Mentone community planning areas and in the Crafton Hills
SD				
SD	Special Development	With a Specific Plan: 30 units per acre max 2.0 FAR max Without a Specific Plan: 4 units per acre max 0.25 FAR max	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Allow for a combination of residential, commercial, and/or manufacturing activities that maximizes the utilization of natural and human-generated resources ▪ Identify areas suitable for large-scale, master planned developments ▪ Promote cluster-type development to provide and preserve open space ▪ Allow for a mix of residential, commercial, and public/quasi-public uses in rural areas ▪ Facilitate joint planning efforts among adjacent land owners and jurisdictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specific plans and master planned development ▪ Mixed use development in rural areas

1. For a parcel designated LDR or MDR, property owners can build one residential unit on an existing lot even if the resulting density would be below the minimum density. Additionally, if a parcel is adjacent to a lower density Land Use Category and is not required to connect to sewer, property owners can subdivide/develop below the minimum density.

2. The list of typical uses is not exhaustive and is intended to further clarify the purpose of each land use category. The exact uses permitted in each land use category is subject to the regulations of the underlying Zoning District as described in the Development Code.

3. The list of typical uses is also subject to and limited by policies in every element of the County Policy Plan. Policy 4.10 of the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element, for example, prohibits utility-oriented renewable energy projects in the Rural Living land use category and any land use category within the boundaries of multiple community planning areas.

Table LU-2. Land Use Category/Zoning Equivalency Matrix

Land Use Category		Implementing Zoning Districts	
Rural Living	RL	RL RL-5 RL-10 RL-20 RL-40	Rural Living
Very Low Density Residential	VLDR	RS-1 RS-20M	Single Residential
Low Density Residential	LDR	RS-14M RS-10M RS	Single Residential
Medium Density Residential	MDR	RM	Multiple Residential
Commercial	C	CG CH CN CO CR CS	General Commercial Highway Commercial Neighborhood Commercial Office Commercial Rural Commercial Service Commercial
Limited Industrial	LI	IC CS	Community Industrial Service Commercial
General Industrial	GI	IR	Regional Industrial
Special Development	SD	SD SP	Special Development ¹ Specific Plan ¹
Public Facility	PF	FW IN	Floodway Institutional
Resource/Land Management	RLM	AG RC	Agriculture Resource Conservation
Open Space	OS	OS RC	Open Space Resource Conservation

Note:

1. Although the Special Development (SD) and Specific Plan (SP) Land Use Zoning Districts are generally intended to implement the SD Land Use Category, the SD and SP Land Use Zoning Districts can act as an implementing district for any Land Use Category.

Table LU-3. Community Character

Community Category	Key Characteristics and Features
Valley Communities Bloomington, Mentone, Muscoy, San Antonio Heights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A suburban lifestyle characterized by a mix of lot sizes and/or land uses in proximity to urban services and facilities. Views of canyons and hills within the community planning area (Mentone and San Antonio Heights). Economic activity that benefits local residents and/or serves the local economy.
Mountain Communities Angelus Oaks, Bear Valley ¹ , Crest Forest ² , Hilltop ³ , Lake Arrowhead ⁴ , Lytle Creek, Mt Baldy, Oak Glen, Wrightwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A rural lifestyle characterized by low density neighborhoods oriented around commercial or recreational nodes, and the prevalence of the forest and mountain landscapes and natural resources. Abundant views of open spaces, natural features, and dark skies. Scenic, natural, and recreational features that serve as the foundation of the community's local economy and attract tourists. Small businesses that serve local residents and visitors, compatible with the natural environment and surrounding uses.
Rural Desert Communities Baker, El Mirage, Homestead Valley ⁵ , Lucerne Valley, Morongo Valley, Newberry Springs, Oak Hills, Pioneertown ⁶ , Phelan/Pinon Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A rural lifestyle characterized by the predominance of large lots, limited commercial development, and the prevalence of the desert landscape and natural resources. Abundant views of open spaces, natural features, and dark skies. Scenic, natural, and/or recreational features that serve as the foundation of the community's local economy and attract tourists. Small businesses that serve local residents and visitors, compatible with the natural environment and surrounding uses. Mining of mineral resources with minimal negative impacts on local residents.
Desert Village Communities Daggett, Helendale, Joshua Tree, Oro Grande, Yermo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A rural context with clusters of housing in proximity to commercial development and public facilities, and larger lots farther from the commercial core. Abundant views of open spaces, natural features, and dark skies especially outside of clustered development. Scenic, natural, and/or recreational features that serve as the foundation of the community's local economy and attract tourists. Small businesses that serve local residents and visitors, compatible with the natural environment and surrounding uses. Mining of mineral resources with minimal negative impacts on local residents (Oro Grande and Yermo).

Notes:

1. Bear Valley includes: Baldwin Lake, Big Bear City, Erwin Lake, FawnSkin/Northshore, Lake Williams, Moonridge, Sugarloaf.
2. Crest Forest includes: CedarPines Park, Crestline, Lake Gregory, Valley of Enchantment.
3. Hilltop includes: Arrowbear, Green Valley Lake, Running Springs.
4. Lake Arrowhead includes: Agua Fria, Blue Jay, Cedar Glen, Crest Park, Deer Lodge Park, Lake Arrowhead, Rimforest, Skyforest, Twin Peaks.
5. Homestead Valley includes: Flamingo Heights, Johnson Valley, Landers, Yucca Mesa.
6. Pioneertown includes: Gamma Gulch, Pioneertown, Pipes Canyon, Rimrock.

Housing Element

An adequate supply of quality and affordable housing is fundamental to the economic and social well-being of the county. California cities and counties are required by state law to prepare a housing element to address existing local housing needs and an assigned share of the region's housing growth in eight-year cycles. State law also requires that the cities and counties identify and analyze existing and projected housing needs and prepare a series of goals, policies, and quantified objectives, financial resources, and programs to further the development, improvement, and preservation of housing.

The Housing Element contains goals, policies, and programs to address the state law requirements and the needs of our unincorporated communities. The County also provides housing services to the entire county through the Housing Authority and Community Development & Housing Agency.

NOTE: The Housing Element is updated every eight years and is subject to detailed statutory requirements and mandatory review by a State agency, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). This Housing Element is for the 2021–2029 planning period. The following presents the purpose, principles, goals, and policies, with the balance of the Element presented as a technical report under separate cover.

Purpose

The Housing Element:

- Identifies adequate sites to facilitate and encourage housing for households of all economic levels, including persons with disabilities.
- Removes governmental constraints to housing production, maintenance, and improvement as legally feasible and appropriate.
- Assists the development of adequate housing for low- and moderate-income households.
- Preserves publicly assisted multiple-family housing developments in each community.
- Conserves and improving conditions in existing housing and neighborhoods, including affordable housing.
- Promotes a range of housing opportunities for all individual and households consistent with fair and equal housing opportunity.

Principles

We believe:

- A range of housing for all income levels is essential to a complete county.
- The county's housing stock should match the type and price needed by current and future residents and workforce, including those with special needs.

- New housing development should be focused in areas where there is potable water, wastewater treatment, roadways, and public services.
- Affordable, moderately-priced, and higher density housing should be placed in areas served by public transportation.
- Preserving, maintaining, improving, and creating distinct neighborhoods and communities protects property values and provides a desirable place to live.
- Affordable, quality housing helps attract and retain a qualified workforce and supports a prosperous local economy.

Goals & Policies

Goal H-1 Housing Production and Supply

A broad range of housing types in sufficient quantity, location, and affordability levels that meet the lifestyle needs of current and future residents, including those with special needs.

Policy H-1.1 **Appropriate range of housing.** We encourage the production and location of a range of housing types, densities, and affordability levels in a manner that recognizes the unique characteristics, issues, and opportunities for each community.

Policy H-1.2 **Concurrent infrastructure.** We support the integrated planning and provision of appropriate infrastructure (including water, sewer, and roadways) concurrent with and as a condition of residential development to create more livable communities.

Policy H-1.3 **Income-restricted multifamily.** Where infrastructure and public services are available, we encourage the production of affordable multifamily housing by providing assistance and incentives for projects that include new affordable units reserved for lower income, moderate income, or special needs households.

Policy H-1.4 **Accessory dwelling units.** We Incentivize and encourage the construction of accessory dwelling units through various methods, including but not limited to public education, fee modification, and making necessary resources available.

Policy H-1.5 **RHNA transfers with annexation.** We work with the Southern California Association of Governments, Local Agency Formation Commission, and incorporated jurisdictions to develop agreements for the transfer of the regional housing need allocation as a precondition for annexations.

Policy H-1.6 **Life-cycle costs.** We encourage energy-conservation techniques and upgrades in both the construction and rehabilitation of residential units that will reduce the life-cycle costs of housing.

Goal H-2 Development Regulations

An efficient administrative process that recognizes the need for efficient and timely review of residential projects while also ensuring and valuing the need for quality design, environmental review, and planning.

Policy H-2.1 **Streamlining development regulations.** We review the County Development Code regularly for possible revisions that might unduly constrain the production or rehabilitation of residential development. We also advocate for changes in state law, state and federal tax codes, and funding vehicles that will make market rate and affordable housing more feasible.

Policy H-2.2 **Small lot sizes.** We continue to utilize Planned Development density bonus and density transfer provisions as described in the Development Code to allow the development of lot sizes less than that normally required by residential land use districts.

Policy H-2.3 **Flexible standards and incentives.** We maintain development incentives and allow flexibility in the application of residential and mixed-use development standards to gain benefits such as exceptional design quality, economic advantages, sustainability, or other benefits that would not otherwise be realized.

Policy H-2.4 **Certain and transparent process.** We maintain a residential development review process that provides certainty and transparency for project stakeholders and the public, complies with streamlining provisions in state law, and provides sufficient review to ensure safe and high quality housing development.

Policy H-2.5 **Critical infrastructure.** We ensure that the efficient provision of critical infrastructure accompanies residential development and the building of complete communities, and ensure that the costs are fairly apportioned to the development community.

Goal H-3 Housing and Neighborhood Quality

Neighborhoods that protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community, and enhance public and private efforts in maintaining, reinvesting in, and upgrading the existing housing stock.

Policy H-3.1 **Public services, amenities, and safety.** We support the provision of adequate and fiscally sustainable public services, infrastructure, open space, nonmotorized transportation routes, and public safety for neighborhoods in the unincorporated area.

Policy H-3.2 **Code enforcement.** We support the timely removal of neighborhood blight through graffiti abatement, abandoned or inoperative automobile removal, trash and debris removal, housing repair, and other code enforcement efforts.

Policy H-3.3 **Housing maintenance.** We establish and enforce public health, safety, building, and zoning standards to ensure housing and property maintenance that yields safe, sound, and attractive residential properties.

Policy H-3.4 **Housing rehabilitation and improvement.** We seek funding to facilitate the rehabilitation, repair, and improvement of single family homes, multiple family housing,

and mobile homes and, if needed, the demolition of substandard housing through available loan and grant programs.

Policy H-3.5 **Inspection of subsidized housing.** We inspect or facilitate the inspection of assisted multifamily rental housing, contract shelters, voucher hotels, and other housing projects on a regular basis to ensure that properties are regularly repaired and maintained in good condition.

Policy H-3.6 **Neighborhood improvements.** We support comprehensive neighborhood efforts to address housing conditions, property maintenance, infrastructure repair, public safety, landscaping, and other issues affecting the livability of neighborhoods.

Goal H-4 Affordable Housing Assistance

The development, maintenance, modernization, and preservation of affordable housing; and the provision of assistance, where feasible, for residents to rent or purchase adequate housing in San Bernardino County.

Policy H-4.1 **At-risk units.** We seek funding to preserve income-restricted housing units that are at risk of converting to market rents within 10 years due to the expiration of affordability covenants or funding contracts. In establishing or extending affordability requirements, we prefer the preservation of affordability in perpetuity.

Policy H-4.2 **Rental assistance.** We support the provision of rental assistance to qualified extremely low, very low, and low income households and special needs households served by the County Housing Authority, Department of Behavioral Health, and other County entities.

Policy H-4.3 **Homeowner assistance.** We support the expansion of homeownership opportunities and preservation by offering financial assistance when available, working in collaboration with partners to increase funding, and supporting foreclosure prevention programs.

Policy H-4.4 **Modernize and replace multiple-family projects.** We support the Housing Authority's efforts to modernize and replace, where needed, existing multiple-family projects to provide safe, sound, and affordable housing options for qualified low income individuals and families.

Policy H-4.5 **Nonprofit partnerships.** We continue to form and strengthen partnerships with nonprofit organizations, public agencies, community-based organizations, and housing developers in order to increase housing opportunities for very low and low income and special needs households.

Goal H-5 Equal housing opportunities

Equal housing opportunities for all persons regardless of race, age, religion, sex, marital status, disability status, ancestry, national origin, or color.

Policy H-5.1 **Housing discrimination.** We further fair housing opportunities by prohibiting discrimination in the housing market; providing education, support, and enforcement services to address discriminatory practices; and removing potential impediments to equal housing opportunity.

Policy H-5.2 **Local organizations.** We utilize local organizations that provide fair housing services to the San Bernardino County area to better prevent, monitor, and resolve fair housing issues. We also utilize local organizations to provide housing information, counseling, and financial literacy to lower income households.

Policy H-5.3 **Higher resource areas.** In census tracts identified by the state as high/highest resource areas, we facilitate the production of new income-restricted housing and target rental assistance for lower income households overpaying for housing costs in high/highest resource areas.

Policy H-5.4 **Transitional, supportive, and emergency housing.** We encourage the production of transitional and permanent supportive housing to serve special needs groups in unincorporated communities. We promote access to emergency housing for individuals and families living throughout the county by coordinating with cities and incorporated towns to facilitate the production of emergency shelters and low barrier navigation centers in incorporated areas that are close to public services, transit, and food stores.

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Infrastructure & Utilities Element

The ability to live and prosper in the diverse physical setting of San Bernardino County is dependent on the effective provision and management of water, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste, power, and communication systems. The effective management of these systems helps fulfill the County's obligation to protect the lives and property of residents and businesses, while also protecting the natural environment from the impacts of human development.

The County maintains a regional flood control system for the entire county and coordinates local flood management for the unincorporated areas. The County has limited responsibilities for public water systems and public sewer systems in unincorporated areas, but the County is responsible for regulating small public water systems, permitting wells and septic systems countywide, and uses a significant amount of water at County facilities.

In collaboration with incorporated jurisdictions, the County operates regional landfills and maintains closed landfills to manage dispersion programs and solid waste disposal. Power and communication systems are predominantly provided and maintained by private companies and public utilities.

Purpose

The Infrastructure & Utilities Element:

- Provides guidance on where, when, and how infrastructure and utilities are improved and expanded.
- Establishes goals and policies to maintain an adequate supply of potable water and the safe disposal, treatment, and recycling of wastewater, and the recycling and safe disposal of solid waste.
- Provides direction on system integration, resource conservation, and the protection of the natural environment.

Principles

We believe:

- Reliable and cost-effective water, stormwater, wastewater, sanitary, power, and communications systems are critical for maintaining and improving our communities, institutions, and businesses.
- Groundwater recharge, water conservation, water reclamation, and supplemental water are key components of a resilient water supply strategy. The effective management of water resources can reduce carbon emissions, energy consumption, and utility costs.
- Reducing, treating, and safely disposing solid and liquid waste will protect public and environmental health and preserve our natural resources.
- Flood control facilities are important for reducing the risks of flooding, contributing to groundwater recharge, and providing open space and habitat area.
- Collaborative efforts between government agencies and other stakeholders are necessary in order to effectively plan and efficiently provide infrastructure.

Goals & Policies

Goal IU-1 Water Supply

Water supply and infrastructure are sufficient for the needs of residents and businesses and resilient to drought.

Policy IU-1.1 **Water supply.** We require that new development be connected to a public water system or a County-approved well to ensure a clean and resilient supply of potable water, even during cases of prolonged drought.

Policy IU-1.2 **Water for military installations.** We collaborate with military installations to avoid impacts on military training and operations from groundwater contamination and inadequate groundwater supply.

Policy IU-1.3 **Recycled water.** We promote the use of recycled water for landscaping, groundwater recharge, direct potable reuse, and other applicable uses in order to supplement groundwater supplies.

Policy IU-1.4 **Greywater.** We support the use of greywater systems for non-potable purposes.

Policy IU-1.5 **Agricultural water use.** We encourage water-efficient irrigation and the use of non-potable and recycled water for agricultural uses.

Policy IU-1.6 **User fees.** For water systems operated by County Special Districts, we establish user fees that cover operation and maintenance costs and set aside adequate reserves for capital upgrades and improvements.

Policy IU-1.7 **Areas vital for groundwater recharge.** We allow new development on areas vital for groundwater recharge when stormwater management facilities are installed onsite and maintained to infiltrate predevelopment levels of stormwater into the ground.

Policy IU-1.8 **Groundwater management coordination.** We collaborate with watermasters, groundwater sustainability agencies, water purveyors, and other government agencies to ensure groundwater basins are being sustainably managed. We discourage new development when it would create or aggravate groundwater overdraft conditions, land subsidence, or other “undesirable results” as defined in the California Water Code. We require safe yields for groundwater sources covered by the Desert Groundwater Management Ordinance.

Policy IU-1.9 **Water conservation.** We encourage water conserving site design and the use of water conserving fixtures, and advocate for the adoption and implementation of water conservation strategies by water service agencies. For existing County-owned facilities, we incorporate design elements, building materials, fixtures, and landscaping that reduce water consumption, as funding is available.

Policy IU-1.10 **Connected systems.** We encourage local water distribution systems to interconnect with regional and other local systems, where feasible, to assist in the transfer of water resources during droughts and emergencies.

Policy IU-1.11 **Water storage and conveyance.** We assist in development of additional water storage and conveyance facilities to create a resilient regional water supply system, when it is cost effective for County-owned water and stormwater systems.

Goal IU-2 Wastewater Treatment and Disposal

Residents and businesses in unincorporated areas have safe and sanitary systems for wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.

Policy IU-2.1 **Minimum parcel size.** We require new lots smaller than one-half acre to be served by a sewer system. We may require sewer service for larger lot sizes depending on local soil and groundwater conditions, and the County's Local Area Management Program.

Policy IU-2.2 **User fees.** For wastewater systems operated by County Special Districts, we establish user fees that cover operation and maintenance costs and set aside adequate reserves for capital upgrades and improvements.

Policy IU-2.3 **Shared wastewater facilities for recycled water.** We encourage an expansion of recycled water agreements between wastewater entities to share and/or create connections between wastewater systems to expand the use of recycled water.

Goal IU-3 Stormwater Drainage

A regional stormwater drainage backbone and local stormwater facilities in unincorporated areas that reduce the risk of flooding.

Policy IU-3.1 **Regional flood control.** We maintain a regional flood control system and regularly evaluate the need for and implement upgrades based on changing land coverage and hydrologic conditions in order to manage and reduce flood risk. We require any public and private projects proposed anywhere in the county to address and mitigate any adverse impacts on the carrying capacity and stormwater velocity of regional stormwater drainage systems.

Policy IU-3.2 **Local flood control.** We require new development to install and maintain stormwater management facilities that maintain predevelopment hydrology and hydraulic conditions.

Policy IU-3.3 **Recreational use.** We prefer that stormwater facilities be designed and maintained to allow for regional open space and safe recreation use without compromising the ability to provide flood risk reduction.

Policy IU-3.4 **Natural floodways.** We retain existing natural floodways and watercourses on County-controlled floodways, including natural channel bottoms, unless hardening and channelization is the only feasible way to manage flood risk. On floodways not controlled by the County, we encourage the retention of natural floodways and watercourses. Our priority is to reduce flood risk, but we also strive to protect wildlife corridors, prevent loss of critical habitat, and improve the amount and quality of surface water and groundwater resources.

Policy IU-3.5 **Fair share requirements.** We require new development to pay its fair share of capital costs to maintain adequate capacity of the County's regional flood control systems.

Goal IU-4 Solid Waste

Adequate regional landfill capacity that provides for the safe disposal of solid waste, and efficient waste diversion and collection for unincorporated areas.

Policy IU-4.1 **Landfill capacity.** We maintain a minimum ongoing landfill capacity of 15 years to serve unincorporated waste disposal needs.

Policy IU-4.2 **Transfer stations.** We locate and operate transfer stations based on overall system efficiency.

Policy IU-4.3 **Waste diversion.** We shall meet or exceed state waste diversion requirements, augment future landfill capacity, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use of natural resources through the reduction, reuse, or recycling of solid waste.

Policy IU-4.4 **Landfill funding.** We require sufficient fees for use of County landfills to cover capital costs; ongoing operation, maintenance, and closure costs of existing landfills; and the costs and liabilities associated with closed landfills.

Goal IU-5 Power and Communications

Unincorporated area residents and businesses have access to reliable power and communication systems.

Policy IU-5.1 **Electricity and natural gas service.** We partner with other public agencies and providers to improve the availability and stability of electricity and natural gas service in unincorporated communities.

Policy IU-5.2 **Expanded high-speed internet and wireless communication.** We encourage the expansion of expand affordable, high-speed internet access in underserved and unserved unincorporated communities. We encourage the expansion of advanced mobile and fixed wireless communication technologies that improve service, coverage, and reliability throughout the county.

Policy IU-5.3 **Underground facilities.** We encourage new and relocated power and communication facilities to be located underground when feasible, particularly in the Mountain and Desert regions.

Policy IU-5.4 **Electric transmission lines.** We support the maintenance of existing and development of new electric transmission lines along existing rights-of-way and easements to maintain the stability and capacity of the electric distribution system in southern California.

Policy IU-5.5 **Energy and fuel facilities.** We encourage the development and upgrade of energy and regional fuel facilities in areas that do not pose significant environmental or public health and safety hazards, and in a manner that is compatible with military operations and local community identity.

Policy IU-5.6 **Dig once approach.** We encourage infrastructure, telecommunication, and utility planning and projects to coordinate so that improvements are made concurrently or in such a manner that minimizes disruption to rights-of-way and reduces costs.

Transportation & Mobility Element

A large and diverse multimodal transportation network serves residents, businesses, and visitors throughout San Bernardino County. The efficiency of this transportation network is a key asset to businesses operating in the county and influences the quality of life experienced by residents.

While cars and trucks are expected to be the dominant mode of transportation throughout the lifetime of this plan, we recognize the need to invest in robust alternatives for residents, including complete streets, public transit systems, and off-street networks that promote walking and bicycling. With dozens of communities spread across 20,000 square miles and four subregions, we must also design transportation and mobility systems to be sensitive to the local and environmental context.

Purpose

The Transportation & Mobility Element:

- Establishes the location and operational conditions of the roadway network.
- Coordinates the transportation and mobility system with future land use patterns and projected growth.
- Provides guidance for the County's responsibility to satisfy the local and subregional mobility needs of residents, visitors and businesses in unincorporated areas.
- Addresses access and connectivity among the various communities, cities, towns, and regions, as well as the range and suitability of mobility options: vehicular, trucking, freight and passenger rail, air, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit.

Principles

We believe:

- An effective transportation and mobility network involves a fair share, collaborative effort between multiple local and regional agencies.
- The ongoing operations, maintenance of, and reinvestment in the transportation network must be matched with new and on-going funding.
- The pattern of land use and transportation systems should be designed to reduce the length and duration of trips traveled by vehicles.
- Pedestrian, cyclist, and other active transportation infrastructure in mobility focus areas should safely connect neighborhoods and communities to key destinations.
- Local roadways should be designed to serve projected travel demand and reflect the surrounding environmental and community context.
- Road, freight, and airport design and maintenance are essential for efficient movement of goods and people.
- The expansion of passenger, freight, and general aviation services at airports throughout the county is vital to the regional economy.

Goals & Policies

Goal TM-1 Roadway Capacity

Unincorporated areas served by roads with capacity that is adequate for residents, businesses, tourists, and emergency services.

Policy TM-1.1 **Roadway level of service (LOS).** We require our roadways to be built to achieve the following minimum level of service standards during peak commute periods (typically 7:00-9:00 AM and 4:00-6:00 PM on a weekday):

- LOS D in the Valley Region
- LOS D in the Mountain Region
- LOS C in the North and East Desert Regions

Policy TM-1.2 **Interjurisdictional roadway consistency.** We promote consistent cross-sections along roads traversing incorporated and unincorporated areas.

Policy TM-1.3 **Freeways and highways.** We coordinate with Caltrans and regional transportation agencies and support the use of state, federal, and other agency funds to improve freeways and highways.

Policy TM-1.4 **Unpaved roadways.** The County does not accept new unpaved roads into the County Maintained Road System, and we require all-weather treatment for all new unpaved roads.

Policy TM-1.5 **Upgrading unpaved roads.** We support the paving of unpaved roads when funding is contributed through a local area funding and financing mechanism.

Policy TM-1.6 **Paved roads.** For any new development for which paved roads are required, we require the developer to construct the roads and we require the establishment of a special funding and financing mechanism to pay for roadway operation, maintenance, and set-aside reserves.

Policy TM-1.7 **Fair share contributions.** We require new development to pay its fair share contribution toward off-site transportation improvements.

Policy TM-1.8 **Emergency access.** When considering new roadway improvement proposals for the CIP or RTP, we consider the provision of adequate emergency access routes along with capacity expansion in unincorporated areas. Among access route improvements, we prioritize those that contribute some funding through a local area funding and financing mechanism.

Policy TM-1.9 **New transportation options.** We support the use of transportation network companies, autonomous vehicles, micro transit, and other emerging transportation options that reduce congestion, minimize land area needed for roadways, create more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly streets, reduce VMT, or reduce dependence on privately-owned vehicles.

Goal TM-2 Road Design Standards

Roads designed and built to standards in the unincorporated areas that reflect the rural, suburban, and urban context as well as the regional (valley, mountain, and desert) context.

Policy TM-2.1 **Context sensitive approach.** We maintain and periodically update required roadway cross sections that prioritize multi-modal systems inside mobility focus areas (based on community context), and vehicular capacity on roadways outside of mobility focus areas (based on regional context).

Policy TM-2.2 **Roadway improvements.** We require roadway improvements that reinforce the character of the area, such as curbs and gutters, sidewalks, landscaping, street lighting, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. We require fewer improvements in rural areas and more improvements in urbanized areas, consistent with the Development Code. Additional standards may be required in municipal spheres of influence.

Policy TM-2.3 **Concurrent improvements.** We require new development to mitigate project transportation impacts no later than prior to occupancy of the development to ensure transportation improvements are delivered concurrent with future development.

Policy TM-2.4 **Atypical intersection controls.** We allow the use of atypical intersection concepts such as roundabouts when they improve traffic flow and safety compared to conventional intersection controls.

Policy TM-2.5 **Context-based features.** When making road improvements, we provide feasible, context-based transportation features such as:

- Chain installation and inspection areas in the Mountain Region
- Slow-vehicle turnouts on roadways with steep grades
- Limited on-street parking areas to serve snow-plow or emergency services
- Passing lanes in rural areas
- Vista areas along scenic routes

Policy TM-2.6 **Access control.** We promote shared/central access points for direct access to roads in unincorporated areas to minimize vehicle conflict points and improve safety, especially access points for commercial uses on adjacent properties.

Goal TM-3 Vehicle Miles Traveled

A pattern of development and transportation system that minimizes vehicle miles traveled.

Policy TM-3.1 **VMT Reduction.** We promote new development that will reduce household and employment VMT relative to existing conditions.

Policy TM-3.2 **Trip reduction strategies.** We support the implementation of transportation demand management techniques, mixed use strategies, and the placement of development in proximity to job and activity centers to reduce the number and length of vehicular trips.

Policy TM-3.3 **First mile/last mile connectivity.** We support strategies that strengthen first/last mile connectivity to enhance the viability and expand the utility of public transit in unincorporated areas and countywide.

Goal TM-4 Complete Streets, Transit, and Active Transportation

On- and off-street improvements that provide functional alternatives to private car usage and promote active transportation in mobility focus areas.

Policy TM-4.1 **Complete streets network.** We maintain a network of complete streets within mobility focus areas that provide for the mobility of all users of all ages and all abilities, while reflecting the local context.

Policy TM-4.2 **Complete streets improvements.** We evaluate the feasibility of installing elements of complete street improvements when planning roadway improvements in mobility focus areas, and we require new development to contribute to complete street improvements in mobility focus areas. In evaluating complete street improvements, we prioritize those in mobility focus areas that are within unincorporated environmental justice focus areas.

Policy TM-4.3 **Funding.** We partner with SBCTA, Caltrans, and local agencies to fund active transportation systems in the county. We encourage unincorporated communities to apply for funding and cooperate with them in their funding applications for active transportation improvements that are identified in a non-motorized transportation plan that is accepted or adopted by the County.

Policy TM-4.4 **Transit access for residents in unincorporated areas.** We support and work with local transit agencies to generate a public transportation system, with fixed routes and on-demand service, that provide residents of unincorporated areas with access to jobs, public services, shopping, and entertainment throughout the county.

Policy TM-4.5 **Transit access to job centers and tourist destinations.** We support and work with local transit agencies to generate public transportation systems that provide access to job centers and reduce congestion in tourist destinations in unincorporated areas.

Policy TM-4.6 **Transit access to public service, health, and wellness.** In unincorporated areas where public transit is available, we prefer new public and behavioral health facilities, other public facilities and services, education facilities, grocery stores, and pharmacies to be located within one-half mile of a public transit stop. We encourage and plan to locate new County health and wellness facilities within one-half mile of a public transit stop in incorporated jurisdictions. We encourage public K-12 education and court facilities to be located within one-half mile of public transit.

Policy TM-4.7 **Regional bicycle network.** We work with SBCTA and other local agencies to develop and maintain a regional backbone bicycle network.

Policy TM-4.8 **Local bicycle and pedestrian networks.** We support local bike and pedestrian facilities that serve unincorporated areas, connect to facilities in adjacent incorporated areas, and connect to regional trails. We prioritize bicycle and pedestrian network improvements

that provide safe and continuous pedestrian and bicycle access to mobility focus areas, schools, parks, and major transit stops.

Policy TM-4.9 **Bike and pedestrian safety.** We promote pedestrian and bicyclist safety by providing separated pedestrian and bike crossings when we construct or improve bridges over highways, freeways, rail facilities, and flood control areas. We monitor pedestrian and bicycle traffic accidents and promote safety improvements in unincorporated high-accident areas.

Policy TM-4.10 **Shared parking.** We support the use of shared parking facilities that provide safe and convenient pedestrian connectivity between adjacent uses.

Policy TM-4.11 **Parking areas.** We require publicly accessible parking areas to ensure that pedestrians and bicyclists can safely access the site and onsite businesses from the public right-of-way.

Goal TM-5 Goods Movement

A road, rail, and air transportation system that supports the logistics industry and minimizes congestion in unincorporated areas.

Policy TM-5.1 **Efficient and sustainable goods movement network.** We advocate for the maintenance of a goods movement system in southern California that is efficient and sustainable and that prioritizes public health through the use of zero-emission equipment and infrastructure.

Policy TM-5.2 **Intermodal facility.** We support the development of an intermodal facility in connection with the Southern California Logistics Airport.

Policy TM-5.3 **High Desert Corridor.** We support the development of the High Desert Corridor to improve the regional goods movement network and foster economic development in the North Desert region.

Policy TM-5.4 **Grade separations.** We support grade separations to reduce conflicts between rail facilities and roadways, subject to available funding.

Policy TM-5.5 **Countywide truck routes.** We support SBCTA's establishment of regional truck routes that efficiently distribute regional truck traffic while minimizing impacts on residents and other sensitive receptors. We support funding through the RTP to build adequate truck route infrastructure.

Policy TM-5.6 **Unincorporated truck routes.** We establish local truck routes in unincorporated areas to efficiently funnel truck traffic to freeways while minimizing impacts on residents and other sensitive receptors. We establish routes where trucks are prohibited and prioritize enforcement in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas and to avoid overlaps or conflicts with safe routes to schools.

Policy TM-5.7 **Trucking-intensive businesses.** We require trucking-intensive businesses to pay their fair share of costs to build and maintain adequate roads.

Goal TM-6 Airports

A network of local and regional airports that meet regional and local aviation needs.

- Policy TM-6.1 **Local airports.** We maintain County airports and coordinate with other local airports to provide general aviation services to residents and businesses throughout the county.
- Policy TM-6.2 **Economic potential.** We seek to maximize the economic development potential of County airports.
- Policy TM-6.3 **Regional airports.** We advocate for expanded passenger and cargo service at regional airports.
- Policy TM-6.4 **Airport land use compatibility.** We require proposed development in unincorporated areas to be consistent with applicable airport master plans, airport safety review areas, and military air installation compatible use zones. We may support proposed development in the influence area of County airports only when they are consistent with applicable airport master plans.
- Policy TM-6.5 **Coordination on airport planning.** We collaborate with FAA, military installations, Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, airport owners, neighboring jurisdictions, and other stakeholders in the preparation, update, and maintenance of airport-related plans.

Table

The County applies designations to roadways throughout the county to depict and evaluate how the roadway system and individual roads accommodates two characteristics: the movement of vehicular traffic and the level of access provided to adjacent properties. Based on these generalized characteristics, roadways often vary in terms of right-of-way, roadway width, number of lanes, intersection and traffic signal spacing, speed, and other factors. Table TM-1 identifies the roadway designations for the County of San Bernardino and provides the general geometric mid-block cross sectional characteristics of each.

The County also maps these roadway designations onto adjacent incorporated roads to depict a more comprehensive diagram of the overall roadway system. While the County's roadway designations are generally consistent with the designations of incorporated cities and towns, the County's roadway designations do not officially apply within incorporated boundaries. The designation, design, construction, maintenance, and improvement of roadways in incorporated areas are the responsibility of the incorporated city or town.

Additionally, the County may apply roadway designations to freeways and state highways, but the design, construction, maintenance, and improvement of freeways and state highways is under the jurisdiction and responsibility of Caltrans, unless the roadway has been relinquished to a local jurisdiction.

Table TM-1. County Roadway Designations

Roadway Designation	Typical Street Cross Section Characteristics			
	Divided	Right-of-Way	Curb-to-Curb	Lanes
Major Divided Highway	Yes	120'	94'	4 to 6
Major Arterial Highway	No	120'	94'	4 to 6
Major Highway	At times	104'	80'	2 to 4
Secondary Highway	At times	88'	64'	2 to 4
Controlled/Limited Access Collector	Usually	66'	44'	2
Mountain Major Highway	No	80'	64'	2 to 4
Mountain Secondary Highway	No	60'	44'	2
State Highway/Special Conditions or Special Standards	Determined by Caltrans			
Freeway	Determined by Caltrans			
Notes:				
1. Characteristics listed in this table are provided for general guidance on a typical mid-block street cross section. Intersection configurations will vary by location as necessary. The County may approve or construct mid-block street sections that vary from these figures based on physical or environmental constraints.				

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Resources & Conservation Section

Natural Resources Element

The county's abundant natural resources are integral to our quality of life, community identities, and economic success. Natural resources include agricultural/grazing lands, watersheds, minerals, native plants and wildlife, and plant and wildlife habitat areas. Appropriately managed, they provide safe air and water for our people and the environment, improve the health of our residents and workers, attract visitors from around the world, and sustain the productivity of our local and national economies.

The County maintains a regional system of parks and trails for the entire county. In the unincorporated areas, the County maintains some local park facilities with special district funding, and self-governing community service districts maintain other local park facilities. The County also sets standards and applies designations to preserve the varied scenic resources across the unincorporated lands.

While air and water quality are largely regulated by regional, state, and federal agencies, the County applies standards set by and coordinates with such agencies, manages small public water systems, and provides permits for wells and septic systems. Similarly, the protection and conservation of biological resources is primarily regulated and controlled by state and federal agencies, with the County enforcing state and federal laws and participating in local and countywide efforts to promote biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

The County is the lead agency for mining activity on all private and public lands in unincorporated areas and facilitates the extraction of mineral resources while minimizing adverse effects on the environment and communities. Although the rich agricultural lands of the Valley region were long ago urbanized, the County promotes the preservation and continued viability of remaining agricultural resources and farming operations.

Purpose

The Natural Resources Element:

- Establishes policies that preserve and enhance the beauty and resiliency of our natural resources.
- Provides guidance on coordinating with others to manage, conserve, and protect natural resources such as watersheds, wildlife habitat areas and corridors, and other natural and open space areas.
- Promotes clean air and a supply of water for human consumption and the natural environment.
- Supports the maintenance and enhancement of a countywide system of open space, parks, and recreation assets.
- Provides guidance and support for mining operations and the preservation of viable agricultural and grazing lands.
- Provides guidance on the location and distribution of new development to protect natural resources.

Principles

We believe:

- Effective preservation, management, and enhancement of natural resources will ensure their environmental and economical sustainability and resiliency.
- Access to open space and vibrant natural resources improves public health and contributes significantly to the county's overall economic vitality.
- Improving air quality and ensuring access to clean and affordable drinking water will enhance the quality of life for our residents and attract continuing investment in residences and businesses.
- The County's primary role is to govern land use and establish development standards to ensure that new development has minimal impact on the natural environment in the unincorporated areas of the county.
- The County has a responsibility to maintain and make available information on natural resources to enable property owners to be better stewards of the land and natural resources.

Goals & Policies

Goal NR-1 Air Quality

Air quality that promotes health and wellness of residents in San Bernardino County through improvements in locally-generated emissions.

Policy NR-1.1 **Land use.** We promote compact and transit-oriented development countywide and regulate the types and locations of development in unincorporated areas to minimize vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.

Policy NR-1.2 **Indoor air quality.** We promote the improvement of indoor air quality through the California Building and Energy Codes and through the provision of public health programs and services.

Policy NR-1.3 **Coordination on air pollution.** We collaborate with air quality management districts and other local agencies to monitor and reduce major pollutants affecting the county at the emission source.

Policy NR-1.4 **Military coordination on air quality.** We collaborate with the military to avoid or minimize impacts on military training and operations from air pollution and haze.

Policy NR-1.5 **Sensitive land uses.** We consider recommendations from the California Air Resources Board on the siting of new sensitive land uses and exposure to specific source categories.

Policy NR-1.6 **Fugitive dust emissions.** We coordinate with air quality management districts on requirements for dust control plans, revegetation, and soil compaction to prevent fugitive dust emissions.

Policy NR-1.7 **Greenhouse gas reduction targets.** We strive to meet the 2040 and 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in accordance with state law.

Policy NR-1.8 **Construction and operations.** We invest in County facilities and fleet vehicles to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions. We encourage County contractors and other builders and developers to use low-emission construction vehicles and equipment to improve air quality and reduce emissions.

Policy NR-1.9 **Building design and upgrades.** We use the CALGreen Code to meet energy efficiency standards for new buildings and encourage the upgrading of existing buildings to incorporate design elements, building materials, and fixtures that improve environmental sustainability and reduce emissions.

Goal NR-2 Water Quality

Clean and safe water for human consumption and the natural environment.

Policy NR-2.1 **Coordination on water quality.** We collaborate with the state, regional water quality control boards, watermasters, water purveyors, and government agencies at all levels to ensure a safe supply of drinking water and a healthy environment.

Policy NR-2.2 **Water management plans.** We support the development, update, and implementation of ground and surface water quality management plans emphasizing the protection of water quality from point and non-point source pollution.

Policy NR-2.3 **Military coordination on water quality.** We collaborate with the military to avoid or minimize impacts on military training and operations from groundwater contamination and inadequate groundwater supply.

Policy NR-2.4 **Wastewater discharge.** We apply federal and state water quality standards for wastewater discharge requirements in the review of development proposals that relate to type, location, and size of the proposed project in order to safeguard public health and shared water resources.

Policy NR-2.5 **Stormwater discharge.** We ensure compliance with the County's Municipal Stormwater NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit by requiring new development and significant redevelopment to protect the quality of water and drainage systems through site design, source controls, stormwater treatment, runoff reduction measures, best management practices, low impact development strategies, and technological advances. For existing development, we monitor businesses and coordinate with municipalities.

Policy NR-2.6 **Agricultural waste and biosolids.** We coordinate with regional water quality control boards and other responsible agencies to regulate and control animal waste and biosolids in order to protect groundwater and the natural environment.

Goal NR-3 Open Space, Parks, and Recreation

A system of well-planned and maintained parks, trails, and open space that provides recreation opportunities for residents, attracts visitors from across the region and around the country, and preserves the natural environment.

Policy NR-3.1 **Open space preservation.** We regulate land use and coordinate with public and nongovernmental agencies to preserve open space areas that protect natural resources, function as a buffer against natural hazards or between land uses, serve as a recreation or tourist destination, or are central to the identity of an unincorporated community.

Policy NR-3.2 **Residential clustering.** We allow residential development to cluster housing units in order to reduce the consumption of undeveloped land, maximize the amount of open space, preserve natural resources, conform to natural topography/grade, and/or reduce exposure of structures to natural hazards.

Policy NR-3.3 **Management of designated areas.** We coordinate with public and nongovernmental agencies to sustainably manage and conserve land within or adjacent to locally-, state-, or federally-designated open space or resource conservation areas.

Policy NR-3.4 **Land exchange.** We coordinate with state and federal agencies to exchange publicly owned lands in order to provide additional areas for open space, recreation, and resource protection. We also request the right of first refusal on publicly owned lands made available for purchase to the public.

Policy NR-3.5 **Private conservation efforts.** We support nongovernmental organizations and private entities who purchase, own, maintain, and expand areas for conservation and preservation. We also support the voluntary transition of privately held lands within a larger boundary designated by the state or federal government for open space and resource conservation to public ownership.

Policy NR-3.6 **Regional park land.** We coordinate with other jurisdictions and agencies to provide regional park land. We prioritize the maintenance and improvement of existing County parks and trails over their expansion or creation of new facilities.

Policy NR-3.7 **Regional park revenue.** We generate revenues from County-owned parks and facilities to offset the costs of operation and maintenance. We may also coordinate with local jurisdictions and leverage other resources to support the maintenance and improvement of park and trail facilities.

Policy NR-3.8 **Regional trail system.** We coordinate with incorporated jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, and other regional and not-for-profit entities to maintain and improve a regional trail system. We prioritize the maintenance and improvement of the Santa Ana River Trail, followed by the creation of trails in unincorporated areas that connect to existing trails in incorporated areas and to state- and federally-maintained trails.

Policy NR-3.9 **Local parks, trails, and recreation.** We support the provision of local and community parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities in unincorporated areas when a locally-approved funding and financing mechanism is established to pay for acquisition, construction, maintenance, and operations. We encourage unincorporated communities to apply for funding and cooperate with them in their funding applications for local trails that are identified in a non-motorized transportation plan that is accepted or adopted by the County. We also encourage, where feasible, local trails to be separated from vehicular traffic to improve the safety of trail users.

Policy NR-3.10 **Joint use facilities.** We promote the creation of joint use facilities for local parks and recreation programs through coordination with the County Flood Control District, local school districts, utilities, and other public agencies.

Policy NR-3.11 **Off-highway vehicle areas.** In areas under the County's land use authority, we require new or expansion of existing commercial off-highway vehicle (OHV) areas to be situated and buffered to minimize effects on nearby residential uses, military activity, and environmentally sensitive areas.

Policy NR-3.12 **Rights-of-way and easements.** We consider reserving portions of rights-of-way and easements found to be unnecessary for the ultimate buildout of roadways or flood control facilities for use as local pedestrian, bicycle, and/or equestrian trails.

Goal NR-4 Scenic Resources

Scenic resources that highlight the natural environment and reinforce the identity of local communities and the county.

Policy NR-4.1 **Preservation of scenic resources.** We consider the location and scale of development to preserve regionally significant scenic vistas and natural features, including prominent hillsides, ridgelines, dominant landforms, and reservoirs.

Policy NR-4.2 **Coordination with agencies.** We coordinate with adjacent federal, state, local, and tribal agencies to protect scenic resources that extend beyond the County's land use authority and are important to countywide residents, businesses, and tourists.

Policy NR-4.3 **Off-site signage.** We prohibit new off-site signage and encourage the removal of existing off-site signage along or within view of County Scenic Routes and State Scenic Highways.

Goal NR-5 Biological Resources

An interconnected landscape of open spaces and habitat areas that promotes biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, both for their intrinsic value and for the value placed on them by residents and visitors.

Policy NR-5.1 **Coordinated habitat planning.** We participate in landscape-scale habitat conservation planning and coordinate with existing or proposed habitat conservation and natural resource management plans for private and public lands to increase certainty for both the conservation of species, habitats, wildlife corridors, and other important biological resources and functions; and for land development and infrastructure permitting.

Policy NR-5.2 **Capacity for resource protection and management.** We coordinate with public and nongovernmental agencies to seek funding and other resources to protect, restore, and maintain open space, habitat, and wildlife corridors for threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species.

Policy NR-5.3 **Multiple-resource benefits.** We prioritize conservation actions that demonstrate multiple resource preservation benefits, such as biology, climate change adaptation and resiliency, hydrology, cultural, scenic, and community character.

Policy NR-5.4 **Off-base recovery efforts.** We coordinate with military installations to facilitate off-base recovery of threatened and endangered species and landscape-scale conservation.

Policy NR-5.5 **Mitigation and future responsibilities.** We require that new development satisfy habitat conservation responsibilities without shifting conservation responsibilities onto military property.

Policy NR-5.6 **Mitigation banking.** We support the proactive assemblage of lands to protect biological resources and facilitate development through private or public mitigation banking. We require public and private conservation lands or mitigation banks to ensure that easement and fee title agreements provide funding methods sufficient to manage the land in perpetuity.

Policy NR-5.7 **Development review, entitlement, and mitigation.** We comply with state and federal regulations regarding protected species of animals and vegetation through the development review, entitlement, and environmental clearance processes.

Policy NR-5.8 **Invasive species.** We require the use of non-invasive plant species with new development and encourage the management of existing invasive plant species that degrade ecological function.

Goal NR-6 Mineral Resources

Mineral resource zones that allow extraction industries to continue supporting the regional and national economy while minimizing negative impacts on the public and natural environment.

Policy NR-6.1 **Mineral resource areas.** We prioritize the conservation of land area with mineral resources by prohibiting or discouraging development of land that would substantially preclude the future development of mining facilities in areas classified as Mineral Resource Zone (MRZ) 2a, 2b, or 3a.

Policy NR-6.2 **Mining operations and reclamation.** We require and monitor mineral extraction activities to ensure that the operation and reclamation of mined lands is consistent with the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA).

Policy NR-6.3 **Conservation of construction aggregate.** We encourage the continued operation of existing mining facilities and streamline the permitting of new mining facilities (consistent with the Policy Plan and other local, state, and federal regulations) to establish aggregate resources that are sufficient to satisfy 50 years of county demand.

Goal NR-7 Agriculture and Soils

The ability of property owners, farmers, and ranchers to conduct sustainable and economically viable agricultural operations.

Policy NR-7.1 **Protection of agricultural land.** We protect economically viable and productive agricultural lands from the adverse effects of urban encroachment, particularly increased erosion and sedimentation, trespass, and non-agricultural land development.

Policy NR-7.2 **Preservation of important farmlands.** We require project applicants seeking to develop 20 or more acres of farmland (classified as prime, of statewide importance, or unique farmland) to non-agricultural uses to prepare an agricultural resource evaluation prior to project approval. The evaluation shall use generally accepted methodologies to identify the potentially significant impact of the loss of agricultural land as well as the economic viability and sustainability of future agricultural use of the property, including long-term sustainability and economic viability of water resources. If the conversion is deemed significant, the County shall require mitigation at a 1:1 ratio of converted to preserved acreage through conservation easements, payment of its valuation equivalent if a fee mitigation program is established, or inclusion in a regional agricultural preservation program.

Policy NR-7.3 **Conservation and preservation incentives.** We support programs and policies that provide tax and economic incentives to conserve existing productive agricultural lands or preserve farmland classified as prime, of statewide importance, unique, or of local importance. We support land owners in establishing new and maintaining existing California Land Conservation (Williamson Act) contracts.

Policy NR-7.4 **Economic diversity of farm operations.** We encourage farm operations to strengthen their economic viability through diversifying potential sources of farm income and activity, including value added products, agricultural tourism, roadside stands, organic farming, and farmers markets.

Policy NR-7.5 **Agriculture on Rural Living and Open Space properties.** We permit small-scale, non-water-intensive, and incidental agricultural on properties designated for Rural Living. In the Oak Glen and Mentone community planning areas, we also permit commercial-scale agriculture on properties designated for Rural Living. In the Oak Glen and Mentone community planning areas and in the Crafton Hills, we also permit commercial-scale agriculture on privately-owned properties designated for Open Space.

Policy NR-7.6 **Sustainable grazing practices.** We require all grazing on open rangelands to be compatible with the conservation of threatened and endangered species.

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Renewable Energy and Conservation Element (placeholder for element adopted in 2017 and amended in February 2019)

This page is a placeholder for the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element (RECE), which was adopted in 2017 and amended in February 2019 and is not being updated through the Countywide Plan. The RECE will be incorporated in its entirety into the Countywide Plan upon its adoption.

On February 28, 2019, the Board of Supervisors voted to prohibit utility-oriented renewable energy development in the Rural Living land use district, currently adopted Community Plan areas, and other areas as determined in the Development Code update.

Additional policy amendments were adopted regarding a focus on using existing energy generation sites and greater collaboration to encourage development of utility-oriented renewable energy generation facilities on public lands, apart from unincorporated communities.

The adopted changes (see below) will be reflected in the Countywide Plan. This webpage will be updated with the updated element in the near future.

The amendments became effective immediately upon adoption of the resolution. Any application for development of a renewable energy generation project that had been accepted as complete in compliance with California Government Code Section 65943 before the effective date of the resolution is to be processed in compliance with the policies and regulations in effect at the time the application was accepted as complete. These applications may be relocated to other sites under the same policies and regulations.

AMENDMENTS: The text of the Renewable Energy and Conservation Element was amended to add RE Policy 4.10, replace RE Policy 5.2, and add RE Policy 5.9 to read as follows:

RE Policy 4.10: Prohibit utility-oriented RE project development on sites that would create adverse impacts on the quality of life or economic development opportunities in existing unincorporated communities. Any exceptions or revisions to the following policy direction would require approval by the Board of Supervisors.

RE 4.10.1: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects in the Rural Living land use districts throughout the County.

RE 4.10.2: Prohibit development of utility-oriented RE projects within the boundaries of existing community plans, which at the time of adoption of this Element are the Bloomington, Muscoy, Bear Valley, Crest Forest, Hilltop, Lake Arrowhead, Lytle Creek, Oak Glen, Homestead Valley, Joshua Tree, Lucerne Valley, Morongo Valley, Oak Hills and Phelan/Pinon Hills Community Plans.

RE 4.10.3: Establish exclusion areas in the Development Code regulations for renewable energy development, beginning with the prohibitions in Policies 4.10.1 and 4.10.2 and provide for additional exclusion areas, such as new community plan areas, to be designated by amendment to the Development Code.

RE Policy 5.2: Utility-oriented RE generation projects on private land in the unincorporated County will be limited to the site-types below, in addition to meeting criteria established herein and in the Development Code:

- i. Private lands adjacent to the federal Development Focus Areas supported by the Board of Supervisors that meet siting criteria and development standards

- ii. Waste disposal sites
- iii. Mining sites (operating and reclaimed)
- iv. Fallow, degraded and unviable agricultural lands
- v. Airports (existing and abandoned or adaptively re-used)
- vi. Brownfields
- vii. California Department of Toxic Substance Control Cleanup Program sites
- viii. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act sites
- ix. Sites within or adjacent to electric transmission and utility distribution corridors
- x. Existing energy generation sites
- xi. Industrial zones proven to not conflict with economic development needs
- xii. Other sites proven by a detailed suitability analysis to reflect the significantly disturbed nature or conditions of those listed above

RE Policy 5.9: Collaborate with utilities, the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to plan for RE generation facilities to be located on public lands, apart from existing unincorporated communities.

Cultural Resources Element

Cultural resources provide both tangible and intangible links to the past. Such resources may include archaeological sites, sacred landscapes, historic buildings, and even culturally important plants and animals. These resources are valuable in that they can serve to recognize the diversity of our county's many previous, current, and future inhabitants. Not only can a resource be a memorial to historical events and individuals, but it can also be an important object/place of modern cultural significance, as well as be something that will contribute to the continuance of a community's cultural identity. Additionally, paleontological resources, which most commonly manifest as fossils related to animals, plants, and the ecosystem, provide great insight into our county's past prior to human habitation. As such, it is vital that we find and implement culturally appropriate ways to preserve and conserve these resources, while also continuing to grow and develop in the unincorporated parts of our county.

Purpose

The Cultural Resources Element:

- Establishes direction on notification, coordination, and partnerships to preserve and conserve cultural resources.
- Provides guidance on how new development can avoid or minimize impacts on cultural resources.
- Provides direction on increasing public awareness and education efforts about cultural resources.

Principles

We believe:

- Today's generations are stewards of the county's cultural history and are responsible for conserving it for future generations.
- Preserving and celebrating cultural resources enhances our understanding of the world in which we live.
- Cultural resources are valuable assets that attract visitors and support local businesses.

Goals & Policies

Goal CR-1 Tribal Cultural Resources

Tribal cultural resources that are preserved and celebrated out of respect for Native American beliefs and traditions.

Policy CR-1.1 **Tribal notification and coordination.** We notify and coordinate with tribal representatives in accordance with state and federal laws to strengthen our working relationship with area tribes, avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American archaeological sites and burials, assist with the treatment and disposition of inadvertent discoveries, and explore options of avoidance of cultural resources early in the planning process.

Policy CR-1.2 **Tribal planning.** We will collaborate with local tribes on countywide planning efforts and, as permitted or required, planning efforts initiated by local tribes.

Policy CR-1.3 **Mitigation and avoidance.** We consult with local tribes to establish appropriate project-specific mitigation measures and resource-specific treatment of potential cultural resources. We require project applicants to design projects to avoid known tribal cultural resources, whenever possible. If avoidance is not possible, we require appropriate mitigation to minimize project impacts on tribal cultural resources.

Policy CR-1.4 **Resource monitoring.** We encourage coordination with and active participation by local tribes as monitors in surveys, testing, excavation, and grading phases of development projects with potential impacts on tribal resources.

Goal CR-2 **Historic and Paleontological Resources**

Historic resources (buildings, structures, or archaeological resources) and paleontological resources that are protected and preserved for their cultural importance to local communities as well as their research and educational potential.

Policy CR-2.1 **National and state historic resources.** We encourage the preservation of archaeological sites and structures of state or national significance in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's standards.

Policy CR-2.2 **Local historic resources.** We encourage property owners to maintain the historic integrity of resources on their property by (listed in order of preference): preservation, adaptive reuse, or memorialization.

Policy CR-2.3 **Paleontological and archaeological resources.** We strive to protect paleontological and archaeological resources from loss or destruction by requiring that new development include appropriate mitigation to preserve the quality and integrity of these resources. We require new development to avoid paleontological and archeological resources whenever possible. If avoidance is not possible, we require the salvage and preservation of paleontological and archeological resources.

Policy CR-2.4 **Partnerships.** We encourage partnerships to champion and financially support the preservation and restoration of historic sites, structures, and districts.

Policy CR-2.5 **Public awareness and education.** We increase public awareness and conduct education efforts about the unique historic, natural, tribal, and cultural resources in San Bernardino County through the County Museum and in collaboration with other entities.

Safety & Security Section

Hazards Element

The massive scale of the county's geography and the complexity of its economy and socioeconomics exposes people, buildings, and facilities to a wide range of natural (wildfires, flooding, geologic activity, and wind) and human-generated hazards (hazardous materials, airports, and noise). Reducing the risks associated with such hazards improves real and perceived senses of safety, providing the county with a higher quality of life and spurring continuous investment and improvement of the county's communities, businesses, and natural areas.

The County is committed to protecting life, property, and commerce from impacts associated with natural hazards, human-generated hazards, and increased risk due to climate change. The County also works to ensure that residents in unincorporated disadvantaged communities have a reduced risk of exposure to pollution and have equitable access to public facilities and services. Effectively reducing these risks requires the County and its partners to evaluate public safety threats, proactively plan and protect against potential hazards, and establish systems that will make the county and its people safer and more self-reliant.

Purpose

The Hazards Element:

- Identifies potential natural and human-generated hazards, including increased risk due to climate change.
- Provides direction to address risks to residents, businesses, workers, and visitors.
- Prioritizes resources and reduce pollution exposure in unincorporated disadvantaged communities.

Principles

We believe:

- A safe environment is necessary to build and maintain a sustainable and prosperous county.
- The County is proactive in lessening risks from natural and human-generated hazards.
- Reduction in the loss of life, injury, private property damage, infrastructure damage, economic losses, and social dislocation can be achieved through planning and preparedness.
- Emergency response and recovery efforts contribute to a resilient county, given unavoidable emergencies and natural disasters.
- Those who live in unincorporated disadvantaged communities should not be burdened with elevated exposure to pollution risks and reduced access to public facilities and services.

Goals & Policies

Goal HZ-1 Natural Environmental Hazards

Minimized risk of injury, loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption caused by natural environmental hazards and adaptation to potential changes in climate.

Policy HZ-1.1 **New subdivisions in environmental hazard areas.** We require all lots and parcels created through new subdivisions to have sufficient buildable area outside of the following environmental hazard areas:

- Flood: 100-year flood zone, dam/basin inundation area
- Geologic: Alquist Priolo earthquake fault zone; County-identified fault zone; rockfall/debris-flow hazard area, existing and County-identified landslide area

Policy HZ-1.2 **New development in environmental hazard areas.** We require all new development to be located outside of the environmental hazard areas listed below. For any lot or parcel that does not have sufficient buildable area outside of such hazard areas, we require adequate mitigation, including designs that allow occupants to shelter in place and to have sufficient time to evacuate during times of extreme weather and natural disasters.

- Flood: 100-year flood zone, dam/basin inundation area
- Geologic: Alquist Priolo earthquake fault zone; County-identified fault zone; rockfall/debris-flow hazard area, medium or high liquefaction area (low to high and localized), existing and County-identified landslide area, moderate to high landslide susceptibility area)
- Fire: high or very high fire hazard severity zone

Policy HZ-1.3 **Floodplain mapping.** We require any new lots or subdivisions partially in, and any new development partially or entirely in 100-year flood zones or 100-year flood awareness areas to provide detail floodplain mapping for 100- and 200-year storm events as part of the development approval process.

Policy HZ-1.4 **500-year flood zone.** We may collaborate with property owners in the Valley region to establish funding and financing mechanisms to mitigate flood hazards in identified 500-year flood zones.

Policy HZ-1.5 **Existing properties in environmental hazard areas.** We encourage owners of existing properties in hazard areas to add design features that allow occupants to shelter in place and to have sufficient time to evacuate during times of extreme weather and natural disasters.

Policy HZ-1.6 **Critical and essential facility location.** We require new critical and essential facilities to be located outside of hazard areas, whenever feasible.

Policy HZ-1.7 **Underground utilities.** We require that underground utilities be designed to withstand seismic forces, accommodate ground settlement, and hardened to fire risk.

Policy HZ-1.8 **Wind erosion hazards.** We require new development in medium-high or high wind erosion hazard areas to minimize the effects of wind-blown soil through building and site design features such as fencing, surface treatment or pavement, attenuation or wind barriers, architectural features, building materials, and drought resistant landscaping.

Policy HZ-1.9 **Hazard areas maintained as open space.** We minimize risk associated with flood, geologic, and fire hazard zones or areas by encouraging such areas to be preserved and maintained as open space.

Policy HZ-1.10 **Energy independence.** We encourage new residential development to include rooftop solar energy systems and battery storage systems that can provide backup electrical service during temporary power outages.

Policy HZ-1.11 **Energy efficiency retrofits.** We encourage owners of existing residential and commercial properties to retrofit the walls, doors, windows, ceilings, roofs, ductwork, and other elements of their building envelopes, in order to improve energy efficiency and better protect occupants from extreme temperatures.

Policy HZ-1.12 **Local hazard mitigation plan implementation.** We require adherence to the goals, objectives and actions in the Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and subsequent amendments to reduce and mitigate damages from hazards in the county.

Policy HZ-1.13 **Fire protection planning.** We require that all new development in County-designated Fire Safety Overlay and/or CAL FIRE-designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones meet the requirements of the California Fire Code and the California Building Code as amended by the County Fire Protection District, including Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations fire safety requirements for any new development within State Responsibility Areas, as well as provide and maintain a Fire Protection Plan or Defensible Space/Fuel Modification Plan and other pre-planning measures in accordance with the County Code of Ordinances.

Policy HZ-1.14 **Long-term fire hazard reduction and abatement.** We require proactive vegetation management/hazard abatement to reduce fire hazards on existing private properties, along roadsides of evacuation routes out of wildfire prone areas, and other private/public land where applicable, and we require new development to enter into a long-term maintenance agreement for vegetation management in defensible space, fuel modification, and roadside fuel reduction in the Fire Safety Overlay and/or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

Policy HZ-1.15 **Evacuation route adequacy.** We coordinate with CAL FIRE, California's Office of Emergency Services, and other local fire districts to identify strategies that ensure the maintenance and reliability of evacuation routes potentially compromised by wildfire, including emergency evacuation and supply transportation routes.

Goal HZ-2 Human-generated Hazards

People and the natural environment protected from exposure to hazardous materials, excessive noise, and other human-generated hazards.

Policy HZ-2.1 **Hazardous waste facilities.** We regulate and buffer hazardous waste facilities to protect public health and avoid impacts on the natural environment.

Policy HZ-2.2 **Database of hazardous materials.** We maintain up-to-date databases of the storage, use, and production of hazardous materials, based on federally- and state-required disclosure and notification, to appropriately respond to potential emergencies.

Policy HZ-2.3 **Safer alternatives.** We minimize the use of hazardous materials by choosing and by encouraging others to use non-toxic alternatives that do not pose a threat to the environment.

Policy HZ-2.4 **Truck routes for hazardous materials.** We designate truck routes for the transportation of hazardous materials through unincorporated areas and prohibit routes that pass through residential neighborhoods to the maximum extent feasible.

Policy HZ-2.5 **Community education.** We engage with residents and businesses to promote safe practices related to the use, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials.

Policy HZ-2.6 **Coordination with transportation authorities.** We collaborate with airport owners, FAA, Caltrans, SBCTA, SCAG, neighboring jurisdictions, and other transportation providers in the preparation and maintenance of, and updates to transportation-related plans and projects to minimize noise impacts and provide appropriate mitigation measures.

Policy HZ-2.7 **Truck delivery areas.** We encourage truck delivery areas to be located away from residential properties and require associated noise impacts to be mitigated.

Policy HZ-2.8 **Proximity to noise generating uses.** We limit or restrict new noise sensitive land uses in proximity to existing conforming noise generating uses and planned industrial areas.

Policy HZ-2.9 **Control sound at the source.** We prioritize noise mitigation measures that control sound at the source before buffers, soundwalls, and other perimeter measures.

Policy HZ-2.10 **Agricultural operations.** We require new development adjacent to existing conforming agricultural operations to provide adequate buffers to reduce the exposure of new development to operational noise, odor, and the storage or application of pesticides or other hazardous materials.

Policy HZ-2.11 **Legacy abandoned mine lands.** We inventory legacy abandoned mines and require private property owners to eliminate hazardous conditions that could threaten human life and environmental contamination. We pursue funding to address legacy abandoned mines on County-owned property.

Goal HZ-3 Environmental Justice

For unincorporated environmental justice focus areas, equitable levels of protection from environmental and health hazards; expanded opportunities for physical activity and meaningful civic engagement; and access to healthy food, public facilities, safe and sanitary housing.

Policy HZ-3.1 **Health risk assessment.** We require projects processed by the County to provide a health risk assessment when a project could potentially increase the incremental cancer risk by 10 in 1 million or more in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas, and we require such assessments to evaluate impacts of truck traffic from the project to freeways. We establish appropriate mitigation prior to the approval of new construction, rehabilitation, or expansion permits.

Policy HZ-3.2 **Studying and monitoring.** We coordinate with state and regional regulatory entities to monitor pollution exposure, publicize pollution data, and identify solutions in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas. We work with state and regional regulatory entities to pursue grant funding to study cumulative health risks affecting such areas.

Policy HZ-3.3 **Community emissions reduction plans.** We assist the air quality management districts in establishing community emissions reduction plans for unincorporated environmental justice focus areas and implement, as feasible, those parts of the plans, that are within the jurisdiction and authority of the County, with particular emphasis in addressing the types of pollution identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.4 **Residential improvements.** In directing discretionary housing improvements investments in unincorporated communities, we encourage and prioritize investments that also address environmental conditions identified in the Hazard Element tables. We utilize code enforcement activities to enhance structural safety and property maintenance in environmental justice focus areas.

Policy HZ-3.5 **Hazardous waste facilities.** We do not permit new hazardous waste facilities to be developed in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas.

Policy HZ-3.6 **Contaminated water and soils.** We advocate for and coordinate with local and regional agencies in efforts to remediate or treat contaminated surface water, groundwater, or soils in or affecting unincorporated environmental justice focus areas. We pursue grant funding and establish partnerships to implement the County's Site Remediation Program in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas, with particular emphasis in addressing the types of contamination identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.7 **Well water testing.** In unincorporated environmental justice focus areas that are not served by public water systems, we periodically test well water for contamination, identify potential funding sources, and, where feasible, provide technical assistance to implement necessary improvements, with particular emphasis in addressing the types of contamination identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.8 **Indoor air quality.** We educate and raise awareness in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas about indoor air quality, and we pursue grant funding to address asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

Policy HZ-3.9 **Public improvements and services.** In directing discretionary investments in County-provided public facilities, infrastructure, and services in unincorporated communities, we prioritize investments that also address environmental conditions identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.10 **Multi-use facilities.** We emphasize coordination efforts for joint use of public and private recreation facilities serving unincorporated environmental justice focus areas. We encourage that newly constructed or substantially remodeled public facilities serving unincorporated environmental justice focus areas be assessed and designed for features and spaces that improve the community's access to physical activity and/or healthy food options, as feasible and appropriate to the needs of the community.

Policy HZ-3.11 **Public Health.** We utilize County Department of Public Health experience, expertise, and staffing resources to expand and improve outreach, community engagement, analysis, and implementation efforts in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas, with particular emphasis in addressing the types of health concerns identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.12 **Barriers to physical activity.** We prioritize identification of appropriate remedies to improve and remove, where feasible, barriers to outdoor physical activity, such as inadequate infrastructure, when doing County projects in environmental justice focus areas, with particular emphasis in addressing the types of health and mobility issues identified in the Hazard Element tables.

Policy HZ-3.13 **Safe routes to school.** We work with our regional transportation authority, school districts and local law enforcement to ensure that schools have safe walking and bicycling routes to school. In applying for Safe Routes to School grants, we will prioritize schools that are either located in the environmental justice focus areas, or serve children residing in environmental justice focus areas.

Policy HZ-3.14 **Community-desired improvements.** We assist unincorporated environmental justice focus areas to identify ways in which they might establish special funding and financing mechanisms to provide community-desired public facilities and services, recreational facilities, sidewalks and bike trails, and access to fresh and healthy food.

Policy HZ-3.15 **Food access.** We increase access to healthy food in underserved areas by promoting local food production, community gardens, and urban farms in agricultural zoning districts or on vacant or underutilized lands. We also encourage existing and new small grocery or convenience stores to sell fresh foods in underserved areas. We require the County Healthy Communities Program to prioritize environmental justice communities for technical assistance and grant making, and ensure that residents of environmental justice communities are provided educational materials related to food assistance programs, healthy eating habits and food choices.

Policy HZ-3.16 **Notification.** We notify the public through the County website, mail, and other means when applications are accepted for conditional use permits, changes in zoning, and Policy Plan amendments in or adjacent to environmental justice focus areas. We prepare public notices in the predominant language(s) spoken in the communities containing environmental justice focus areas.

Policy HZ-3.17 **Community stakeholders.** We identify and coordinate with key community stakeholders through advisory committees or other methods to increase public awareness and obtain timely community input concerning potential funding opportunities, conditional use permits, changes in zoning, and amendments to the Policy Plan in or adjacent to environmental justice focus areas.

Policy HZ-3.18 **Application requirements.** In order for a Planning Project Application (excluding Minor Use Permits) to be deemed complete, we require applicants to indicate whether the project is within, adjacent to, or nearby an unincorporated environmental justice focus area and, if so, to:

- document to the County's satisfaction how an applicant will address environmental justice concerns potentially created by the project; and
- present a plan to conduct at least two public meetings for nearby residents, businesses, and property owners to obtain public input for applications involving a change in zoning or the Policy Plan. The County will require additional public outreach if the proposed project changes substantively in use, scale, or intensity from the proposed project presented at previous public outreach meeting(s).

Policy HZ-3.19 **Community education.** We make educational materials available to the public in unincorporated environmental justice focus areas so that they clearly understand the potential for adverse pollution, noise, odor, vibration, and lighting and glare, and the effects of toxic materials to promote civil engagement. We require that such educational materials be developed in accordance with Plain Language Guidelines. We require that this information be made available in public spaces such as libraries and community centers, as well as on County websites and other appropriate means.

Policy HZ-3.20 **Updating EJFAs.** We update the assessment of boundaries, issues, policies, objectives, and implementation strategies regarding environmental justice focus areas subsequent to updates in CalEnviroScreen, equivalent state tools, or as the County deems necessary.

Policy HZ-3.21 **Emerging pollutants.** For pollutants that do not yet have established regulatory thresholds, we coordinate with regulatory agencies to assist their efforts to monitor pollutant levels, establish thresholds, and identify funding and mitigation options, particularly for pollutants that are found in environmental justice focus areas.

Tables

The following tables provide more detailed information on the census tracts and community areas considered to be environmental justice focus areas (EJFAs). Table HZ-1 lists the percentile scores and major contributing factors for each EJFA. Tables HZ-2 through HZ-5 provide an expanded discussion of the contributing issues present in each EJFA by topical area, while Table HZ-6 lists high-level objectives for each topic.

Table HZ-1. CalEnviroScreen Scores for Environmental Justice Focus Areas

CES Rankings	Quartile 1 = Good		Quartile 2 = Moderate		Quartile 3 = Poor		Quartile 4 = Challenged			
Variables/Factors in the CES model:										
POLLUTION EXPOSURE		ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS			SENSITIVE POPULATION		SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS			
AQ = Air Quality		CS = Toxic Cleanup Sites			AS = Asthma		LI = Linguistic Isolation			
PEST = Pesticides		GW: Groundwater Threats			LB = Low Birth Weight		POV = Poverty			
DW = Drinking Water		HZ = Hazardous Waste			CVD = Heart Disease		UE = Unemployment			
TR = Toxic Releases		IW = Impaired Waters					HB = Housing Burden			
TD = Traffic Density		SW = Solid Waste Sites/Facilities					ED = Educational Attainment			
LD = Lead from Housing										
Census Tract	Low Income	Percentile and Quartile Rank			Scores in the Upper Quartile					
		Composite Score	Pollution Score	Population Score	Pollution Factors		Population Factors			
El Mirage Valley										
6071011700 Oro Grande	Yes	81	72	79	AQ, HZ, SW		LB, POV, UE			
6071009117 El Mirage	Yes	89	65	95	AQ, CS, HZ		AS, CVD, ED, POV, UE, HB			
North High Desert										
6071011900 Hinkley	No	78	59	83	AQ, CS, GW, HZ		AS, CVD, ED, UE			
6071010300 Daggett/ Newberry Springs/Baker	Yes	75	62	77	AQ, DW, CS, GW, HZ, SW		LB, POV, UE			
Bloomington-Colton										
6071003606	Yes	77	80	66	AQ, TD, DW		AS, CVD, ED, LI, POV			
6071004001	Yes	94	88	89	AQ, TD, DW		AS, CVD, ED, LI, POV, UE			
6071004003	Yes	95	91	89	AQ, DW, LD, GW, HZ, SW		AS, LB, CVD, ED			
6071004004	Yes	96	99	76	AQ, TD, DW, CS, GW, HZ, SW		AS, LB, CVD, ED			
6071003302	Yes	91	95	75	AQ, TR, TD, DW, SW		ED, LI, POV, UE			
6071006601	Yes	78	83	65	AQ, TD, LD		AS, CVD			

Table HZ-1. CalEnviroScreen Scores for Environmental Justice Focus Areas

CES Rankings	Quartile 1 = Good		Quartile 2 = Moderate		Quartile 3 = Poor		Quartile 4 = Challenged			
Variables/Factors in the CES model:										
POLLUTION EXPOSURE		ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS		SENSITIVE POPULATION		SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS				
AQ = Air Quality		CS = Toxic Cleanup Sites		AS = Asthma		LI = Linguistic Isolation				
PEST = Pesticides		GW: Groundwater Threats		LB = Low Birth Weight		POV = Poverty				
DW = Drinking Water		HZ = Hazardous Waste		CVD = Heart Disease		UE = Unemployment				
TR = Toxic Releases		IW = Impaired Waters				HB = Housing Burden				
TD = Traffic Density		SW = Solid Waste Sites/Facilities				ED = Educational Attainment				
LD = Lead from Housing										
Census Tract	Low Income	Percentile and Quartile Rank			Scores in the Upper Quartile					
		Composite Score	Pollution Score	Population Score	Pollution Factors		Population Factors			
Muscoy-San Bernardino										
6071004104	Yes	95	77	99	AQ, LD, CS	AS, LB, CVD, ED, LI, POV, UE, HB				
6071004101	Yes	86	63	93	AQ, LD, CS	AS, LB, CVD, ED, POV, UE				
6071004103	Yes	92	77	94	AQ, LD, CS	AS, CVD, ED, POV, UE, HB				
Valley Unincorporated Islands: Chino-Montclair										
6071000303	Yes	84	91	67	AQ, DW, CS, HZ, SW	ED, LI, POV				
6071000304	No	84	78	79	AQ, DW, CS	LB, ED, LI				
Valley Unincorporated Islands: Western Fontana										
6071002402	Yes	81	66	83	AQ, HZ	CVD, ED, LI, POV				
6071002204	Yes	93	96	77	AQ, TR, CS, HZ, SW	CVD, ED, UE				
6071002501	No	91	92	79	AQ, TR, TD, HZ, SW	CVD, ED, POV				
6071002401	Yes	84	79	79	AQ, CS, HZ	CVD, ED, LI, POV				
Valley Unincorporated Islands: San Bernardino										
6071006302	Yes	83	56	93	AQ, DW, LD	AS, CVD, ED, POV, UE, HB				
6071006500	Yes	87	66	93	AQ, LD, CS	CVD, ED, POV, UE, HB				
6071006100	Yes	78	48	91	AQ, DW, LD	AS, LB, CVD, HB				

Source: OEHHA, CalEnviroScreen, version 4, 2021; latest data available.

Table HZ-2. EJ Assessment in the El Mirage Valley

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Reduction of pollution exposure and improving air quality	<p>Pollution Exposure El Mirage has hazardous waste cleanup sites from past military and aerospace uses, groundwater threats, and a remediated/closed hazardous waste storage facility.</p> <p>Air Quality El Mirage and Oro Grande are in the Mojave Air Quality Management District. Like much of southern California, the region has air quality issues. The region does not meet federal standards for ozone and respirable particulate matter (PM10) or state standards for ozone and respirable and fine PM2.5.</p>
Promoting public facilities (including infrastructure and community services)	<p>Water and Sewer El Mirage has limited water infrastructure and relies on private wells that tap into the aquifer. El Mirage is also reliant on septic tanks and leach fields, with no ability to support the installation of a regional wastewater treatment plant due to the extremely low levels of population and density. Groundwater has been known to be vulnerable to contaminants. Oro Grande has sufficient water, but lacks adequate storage, is a high priority basin, and is susceptible to contaminants.</p> <p>Fire and Sheriff County Fire Station 311 serves El Mirage and responds in an average of 19 minutes. Station 322 serves Oro Grande at an average response time of 8 minutes due primarily to the extremely low levels of population and density. Police service is provided by the County Sheriff in Victorville and response time is not known.</p>
Promoting health care Infrastructure	<p>Health Needs Health needs for El Mirage and Oro Grande are significant—including a 39% adult obesity (13 points above the state average), 30% of working age adults in fair or poor health (50% higher than state averages), 14% diabetes rate (50% above the state average), and higher asthma rates among adults. Heart disease is also a significant concern in the area.</p> <p>Health Care Infrastructure Both El Mirage and Oro Grande are designated a HPSA for mental health and primary care services and is a medically underserved area. Both areas have limited medical infrastructure, and residents must travel some distance to access facilities in other communities</p>

Table HZ-2. EJ Assessment in the El Mirage Valley

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Promoting food access	<p>Food Security The poverty rate in El Mirage and Oro Grande is 30%, which is twice the state average. As a result, food insecurity is similarly high, affecting 16% of low income households, twice the state average. In El Mirage and Oro Grande schools, over 70% of children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.</p>
	<p>Food Access El Mirage has limited grocery outlets, located in a cluster near SR-395 in Adelanto. There are no WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) vendors and only one Cal-Fresh-certified vendor in El Mirage. Due to the general lack of access to nearby stores, El Mirage is designated a food desert. Oro Grande also has limited food options, but is not considered a food desert due to its access to stores in Victorville.</p>
Promoting safe and sanitary housing	<p>Housing As part of the consolidated plan process, residents indicated a need to promote safe and sanitary housing. Although housing is relatively affordable in El Mirage and Oro Grande compared to other areas, concerns remain. Residents mentioned that abandoned homes should be demolished or rehabbed; code enforcement is understaffed; more is needed.</p>
Promoting physical activity	<p>Level of Physical Activity Among youth ages 5 to 17, 26% participated in at least of one hour of physical exercise regularly versus 24% in the county and 21% in the state. For adults, the percentages of adults who walked more than 150 minutes per week was lower in the area versus the county and state averages.</p>
	<p>Opportunities for Physical Activity Recreational outlets include trails and outdoor sports, including opportunities in state and federal parks. The unincorporated areas in the community plan areas have few developed parks. Road have limited pedestrian and bicycling facilities. This is not uncommon for desert roads.</p>
Civil Engagement	<p>Community Participation With daytime Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings and a conventional notification process, it can be difficult for residents in this area to learn about and provide input on proposed development in a timely manner that substantively and effectively impacts the decision making process. Additionally, this area is far from public meeting sites, most households do not have good internet access, and approximately 11 percent of households do not speak English well.</p>

Table HZ-3. EJ Assessment in the North High Desert

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Reduction of pollution exposure and improving air quality	<p>Pollution Exposure The area's primary exposure to pollution is groundwater threats, hazardous wastes, and solid wastes. It should be noted, however, that this area extends 200 square miles to the Nevada border. Many of these pollutant sources are in unpopulated areas, far from Daggett, Newberry Springs, and Yermo.</p>
	<p>Air Quality This area is in the Mojave Air Quality Management District. Although the area has very high levels of ozone, there are few other appreciable air pollutants, except for a small area around the Barstow BNSF railyard, which has high levels of diesel particulate matter.</p>
Promoting public facilities (including infrastructure and community services)	<p>Water and Sewer LAFCO identified Daggett as a hotspot for insufficient water supply, water quality concerns, deficient infrastructure, and financial concerns. Unincorporated areas rely on individual septic systems. Drinking water is known to be at risk of contamination from nitrate, lead, and radioactive elements.</p>
	<p>Fire and Sheriff County Sheriff's Barstow Station serves this area; response times are not available. County Fire provides fire protection services from stations #52, #53, #56, and #4. Response times vary—from 20 to 50 minutes depending on staffing for the paid-call firefighter station.</p>
Promoting health care Infrastructure	<p>Health Needs Health issues include a 28% obesity rate and 10% diabetes rate—all close to state averages. Despite more modest income levels compared to other parts of the county, the health conditions of residents are better than many other areas of the county.</p>
	<p>Health Care Infrastructure Currently, the area is designated an HPSA for primary care, mental health, and dental services and a medically underserved area/population. There is a significant need for all the major medical services; residents must now travel to Barstow for service.</p>
Promoting food access	<p>Food Security The poverty rate in the area for adults is high (21%), far above the state average, and 11% of low income households are food insecure. Food insecurity affects children in the area as well. Approximately 78% of children in Barstow Unified School District were eligible for free/reduced-price meals in 2016.</p>
	<p>Food Access Except for small markets, these areas lack a full-service grocery store, and residents must drive to Barstow. There are no WIC vendors or Cal-Fresh-certified vendor closer than Barstow. Due to limited access to grocery stores, the entire area is designated a food desert by the USDA.</p>

Table HZ-3. EJ Assessment in the North High Desert

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Promoting safe and sanitary housing	<p>Housing</p> <p>Limited information is available about safe and sanitary housing in the area. Generally, the housing stock has a high proportion of mobile home units on septic service. Given the construction type and age of structures, there is a significant need to rehabilitate aging housing and demolish abandoned or dilapidated homes. Code enforcement issues may be concentrated in certain areas as well.</p>
Promoting physical activity	<p>Level of Physical Activity</p> <p>State physical fitness tests show one-third of students need improvement in aerobic capacity. However, the percentage of youth (age 5–17) getting regular physical activity is greater (31%) than in California (21%). The level of physical activity (measured by walking) among adults is lower than state averages.</p> <p>Opportunities for Physical Activity</p> <p>Recreational outlets include trails, hiking, and outdoor sports. Outside of Barstow and schools, formal park facilities are limited to Newberry Springs Park. Roadways have no pedestrian and bicycling facilities or other amenities. However, residents can walk and bicycle on public streets because traffic is very light.</p>
Civil Engagement	<p>Community Participation</p> <p>With daytime Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings and a conventional notification process, it can be difficult for residents in this area to learn about and provide input on proposed development in a timely manner that substantively and effectively impacts the decision making process. Many parts of this area are far from public meeting sites. Additionally, the Daggett, Newberry Springs, and Baker communities do not have good internet access and approximately 10 percent of households do not speak English well.</p>

Table HZ-4. EJ Assessment in Bloomington and Muscoy

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Reduction of pollution exposure and improving air quality	<p>Pollution Exposure Nearly all census tracts (11 of 13) have high levels of air pollution and drinking water contamination concerns. Other pollution exposure issues include traffic density, toxic releases from industry, hazardous waste and cleanup sites from military and industrial land uses.</p>
	<p>Air Quality This area is in the South Coast Air Quality Management District and has a nonattainment status for ozone and particulate matter. Pollutant concentrations are high for particulate matter, including diesel particulate matter due to trucking routes in and around both communities.</p>
Promoting public facilities (including infrastructure and community services)	<p>Water and Sewer Water and sewer challenges are significant. For Muscoy, water service is provided by the Muscoy Mutual Water Company, and septic tanks and leach fields are used for its wastewater needs. For Bloomington, several water districts provide potable water for the community. For sewer, Bloomington was also developed with reliance on septic tanks and leach field systems.</p>
	<p>Fire and Sheriff San Bernardino County Fire Station #75 serves Muscoy, and response times are 4 to 6 minutes, which is generally within NFPA standards. Bloomington Fire Station #76 serves the community and response times are unknown but are assumed to be also within NFPA standards due to the size of the community. Both areas are served by County Sheriff and response times were not available.</p>
Promoting health care Infrastructure	<p>Health Needs Within this area, Muscoy has elevated levels of asthma and high levels of obesity (35%) versus statewide average of 26%, and emergency room admits for cardiovascular disease. For Bloomington, key health needs include diabetes, a 43% obesity rate, and high rate of emergency room admits for heart disease.</p>
	<p>Health Care Infrastructure Access to health-supporting land uses is mixed. While Bloomington is not defined as a HPSA, all areas south of I-10 are designated a medically underserved population/area. Muscoy is also not a HPSA, although utilization of existing clinics in the area is mixed.</p>

Table HZ-4. EJ Assessment in Bloomington and Muscoy

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Promoting food access	<p>Food Security The poverty rate in both Bloomington and Muscoy is high. Low income household food insecurity is high in Bloomington (13%) and Muscoy (10%) versus state averages (8%). County has designated both areas as an HPLA—high poverty low access food desert.</p>
	<p>Food Access Food access is generally poor. In Bloomington, the area south of I-10 is designated by the USDA as a food desert, but other areas north of the I-10 have adequate access. Muscoy is also considered a food desert. There is a high preponderance of fast food outlets, liquor markets, and convenience stores.</p>
Promoting safe and sanitary housing	<p>Housing Limited information is available about safe and sanitary housing in the area. No code enforcement data are available. However, residents reported issues with the need for demolition and/or rehabilitation of homes, illegal dumping, junk and trash, and vacant homes in certain locations.</p>
Promoting physical activity	<p>Level of Physical Activity Among youth ages 5 to 17, 20% in Bloomington and 24% in Muscoy participated in at least of one hour of physical exercise regularly versus 24% in the county and 21% in the state. The percentage of adults who walked more than 150 minutes per week was lower in the area versus the county and state averages.</p>
	<p>Opportunities for Physical Activity Recreational outlets include bicycling, walking, and active recreation at parks. Roadways generally have limited pedestrian and bicycling facilities. Safety concerns (traffic and trucking) along streets makes active transportation uses generally not optimal.</p>
Civil Engagement	<p>Community Participation Despite the area's proximity to the primary County Government Center, daytime Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings and a conventional notification process can make it difficult for residents in such areas to learn about and provide input on proposed development in a timely manner that substantively and effectively impacts the decision making process. Additionally, approximately 13 to 23 percent of households in Bloomington, 15 percent of households in the Colton SOI, and 5 to 13 percent of households in selected portions of Muscoy do not speak English well.</p>

Table HZ-5. EJ Assessment in Valley Unincorporated Islands

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Reduction of pollution exposure and improving air quality	<p>Pollution Exposure</p> <p>Pollution exposure is significant for valley unincorporated islands, particularly those located within or near to industrial land uses or transportation infrastructure. Locations and issues where the CES scores exceed the 75th percentile are as follows:</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: drinking water and toxic releases</p> <p>Western Fontana: toxic releases</p> <p>San Bernardino: toxic releases, lead from housing, drinking water, and cleanup sites</p>
	<p>Air Quality</p> <p>The San Bernardino Valley is in the South Coast Air Quality Management District and is designated as a nonattainment status for ozone and particulate matter. Pollutant concentrations are high for particulate matter, including diesel particulate matter due to trucking routes in these communities. Of concern, west Fontana and Chino-Montclair areas are near industrial centers. Toxic releases from industrial uses exceed the 75th percentile in every census tract within these two communities. None of the other census tracts in unincorporated San Bernardino or the Mentone area score high in toxic releases from industries.</p>
Promoting public facilities (including infrastructure and community services)	<p>Water and Sewer</p> <p>None of the four valley unincorporated islands were noted by the San Bernardino LAFCO as a hotspot for providing water. Wastewater service capacity is being studies by LAFCO. Based on technical reports for the countywide plan, infrastructure in all the unincorporated islands is able to provide water and sanitation services to support projected residential and nonresidential growth over the foreseeable future. However, it should be noted that drinking water contamination levels exceeded the 75th percentile in the Chino-Montclair and San Bernardino, unincorporated islands.</p> <p>Fire and Sheriff</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: Montclair FD and Chino Valley FD provides service; response times are unknown</p> <p>Western Fontana: County Station #72 serves west Fontana; response times are unknown</p> <p>San Bernardino: County Fire provides services to these areas; response times are unknown</p> <p>County Sheriff provides law enforcement services for all areas; response times are unknown</p>

Table HZ-5. EJ Assessment in Valley Unincorporated Islands

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Promoting health care Infrastructure	<p>Health Needs</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: high levels of diabetes (13%), obesity (37%), and emergency room visits for heart disease</p> <p>Western Fontana: high levels of diabetes (13%), obesity (41%), and emergency room visits for heart disease</p> <p>San Bernardino: high levels of diabetes (12%), obesity (40%), and emergency room visits for heart disease</p> <p>Health Infrastructure</p> <p>While the desert regions are known for a lack of health care infrastructure, most areas in the valley are fairly well-served with health care professionals, with a few exceptions by area.</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: not designated as a HPSA</p> <p>Western Fontana: not designated as a HPSA</p> <p>San Bernardino: designated as a HPSA for medically underserved area /population only</p>
Promoting food access	<p>Food Security</p> <p>A significant portion of children in these areas are eligible for free or reduced meals at local schools. With respect to household food insecurity, rates vary by community.</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: food insecurity similar to state (8%) and county averages (9%)</p> <p>Western Fontana: a-high levels of food insecurity among low income households (15%)</p> <p>San Bernardino: moderate levels of food insecurity among low income households (11%)</p> <p>Food Access</p> <p>Food access according to the USDA is generally good, with a few exceptions.</p> <p>Chino-Montclair: small portion along Mission Boulevard is a food desert</p> <p>Western Fontana: southeast quadrant is a food desert</p> <p>San Bernardino: selected unincorporated census tracts are food deserts</p>
Promoting safe and sanitary housing	<p>Housing</p> <p>There is no source of data documenting the condition of safe and sanitary housing in unincorporated islands. Most cities and the County do not track the data nor is this information included in consolidated plans or other mandated reports for individual areas. However, visual inspection indicates a need for housing rehabilitation, demolition of dilapidated structures, code enforcement concerns, property maintenance, and debris and vehicle clearance. While not all unincorporated islands display these issues, many of the lower income census tract areas have one or more of the above conditions affecting neighborhood quality.</p>

Table HZ-5. EJ Assessment in Valley Unincorporated Islands

Topic	Environmental Conditions
Promoting physical activity	<p>Level of Physical Activity</p> <p>Levels of physical activity are similar for most valley communities as follows. Chino-Montclair: 22% of youth exercised regularly and 30% of adults walked at least 150 minutes per week</p> <p>Western Fontana: 21% of youth exercised regularly and 31% of adults walked at least 150 minutes per week</p> <p>San Bernardino: 24% of youth exercised regularly and 30% of adults walked at least 150 minutes per week</p>
	<p>Opportunities for Physical Activity</p> <p>As the Valley is urbanized, there are ample opportunities for bicycling, walking, and active recreation at parks. Roadways generally have limited pedestrian and bicycling facilities. However, safety concerns (traffic and trucking) along streets makes active transportation uses generally not optimal. Certain neighborhoods may also have elevated levels of crime and vagrancy that may discourage use of physical activity opportunities.</p>
Civil Engagement	<p>Community Participation</p> <p>Despite the area's proximity to the primary County Government Center, daytime Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors meetings and a conventional notification process can make it difficult for residents in such areas to learn about and provide input on proposed development in a timely manner that substantively and effectively impacts the decision making process. Additionally, approximately 17 percent of households in the Montclair SOI, 14 to 17 percent of households in the western Fontana SOI, and 7 to 20 percent of households in the City of San Bernardino SOI do not speak English well.</p>

Table HZ-6. Objectives for Unincorporated Environmental Justice Focus Areas

Topic	Objective
Reduction of pollution exposure and improving air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contaminated soils. Remediation of hazardous waste sites and other contaminated sites. ▪ Water quality. Improved water quality and elimination of groundwater threats. ▪ Air quality. Reduction of ozone emissions and particulate matter to levels that meet federal and state standards.
Promoting public facilities (including infrastructure and community services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fire and Sheriff. Improved response times for public safety services. ▪ Public facilities. Improved access to existing and new public facilities that serve community needs for safety, health, and physical activity. ▪ Water and wastewater infrastructure. Adequate leach fields for onsite wastewater treatment systems and safe drinking water.
Promoting health care Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health needs and infrastructure. Reduction in the number of residents that lack access to health care professionals.
Promoting food access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Food access. Improved food security and access to fresh food.
Promoting safe and sanitary housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing. Improved housing conditions for homeowners and renters.
Promoting physical activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint use facilities. New joint use facilities that reduce barriers to exercise opportunities and increase access to physical fitness facilities. ▪ Opportunities for physical activity. New alternative transportation improvements in mobility focus areas.
Civil Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community participation. Increased awareness and understanding of potential projects and more opportunities for meaningful public participation that can affect the decision making process.

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Personal & Property Protection Element

The benefits, public goods, and investments associated with a high quality of life in San Bernardino County—strong neighborhoods, economic prosperity, cradle-to-career education, a vibrant culture, and civic engagement—can only be achieved when people experience a real and perceived sense of safety. Public safety is also directly related to the County’s resilience—its ability to adapt to changing conditions and prepare for, withstand, and rapidly recover from disruption or disasters.

The County provides law enforcement, including crime prevention, in unincorporated areas and under contract to some incorporated jurisdictions. It also provides some countywide law enforcement services, including the coroner, and when requested, special investigation assistance to incorporated jurisdictions. The County is also responsible for: the administration of justice, both prosecutions and public defenders, for crimes committed in the county; operation of County jails, including rehabilitation of inmates in its custody; holistically rehabilitate and assist the reentry and transition of parolees, probationers, and others living in the county engaged by the criminal justice system, and assistance to victims of and witnesses to crimes committed in the county.

The County Fire District provides fire prevention services, fire protection for wildfires and urban fires, and emergency medical response in unincorporated areas, portions of incorporated jurisdictions included in the district, and, under contract, in some incorporated jurisdictions. The County plans for and responds to emergencies and natural disasters countywide, and County Fire also provides regional urban search and rescue services.

The Sheriff is responsible for law enforcement and is elected by voters countywide. The Board of Supervisors appropriates funds to supplement state and federal funding for law enforcement. Achieving the Policy Plan’s goals for law enforcement is, thus, a collaborative effort between the Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff. The Sheriff also provides countywide wilderness rescue services.

The County makes a maintenance of effort payment for courts, but the state is primarily responsible for funding courts and fully responsible for any expansion. However, the County funds the elected District Attorney’s office, the Public Defender’s office, and the Sheriff’s department’s court services. Thus, state decisions on court funding will influence the ability of the County to achieve this element’s law and justice goal.

Purpose

The Personal and Property Protection Element:

- Promotes continuous improvement in the provision of public safety and administration of justice.
- Supports coordinated and effective interagency response to emergencies and natural disasters.
- Provides policy direction to engage communities and respond to identified needs.
- Fosters collaboration among the Board of Supervisors-directed agencies and departments and the elected Sheriff and District Attorney.
- Augments, rather than replaces, state- and federally-mandated goals and objectives.

Principles

We believe:

- Public safety and administration of justice is a fundamental responsibility of county government, and a key determinant of quality of life.
- Maintaining and improving a real and perceived sense of public safety is necessary to attract private investment in residences and businesses.
- A collaborative effort among County agencies and other organizations is required to prevent crime, assist victims of and witnesses to crime, and holistically rehabilitate and aid the reentry and transition of parolees, probationers, and others engaged in the criminal justice system.
- A regional approach to fire suppression and emergency response is effective and cost-efficient.
- Minimizing the loss of life and property during emergencies and natural disasters requires collaborative planning, preparation, and execution.

Goal PP-1 Law Enforcement

Effective crime prevention and law enforcement that leads to a real and perceived sense of public safety for residents, visitors, and businesses.

Policy PP-1.1 **Law enforcement services.** The Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services for unincorporated areas and distributes resources geographically while balancing levels of service and financial resources with continuously changing needs for personal and property protection.

Policy PP-1.2 **Contract law enforcement.** When requested, the Sheriff's Department provide law enforcement services to incorporated jurisdictions by contract at the full cost of services as determined by the County, without direct subsidy by the County.

Policy PP-1.3 **Holistic approach to crime prevention.** We recognize that the roots of crime are found throughout a spectrum of psychological, social, economic, and environmental issues, and we coordinate proactive planning and activities among the Sheriff's Department and county and non-county agencies and organizations to intervene and effectively prevent crime.

Policy PP-1.4 **Crime prevention resource allocation.** The Sheriff's Department uses crime data analysis, professional expertise, and community input to allocate patrols and other crime prevention resources.

Policy PP-1.5 **Community-based crime prevention.** The Sheriff's Department provides a range of outreach, education, and training programs for community-based and school-based crime prevention.

Policy PP-1.6 **Agency partnerships.** The Sheriff's Department partners with other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and private security providers to enhance law enforcement service.

Policy PP-1.7 **Community partnerships.** The Sheriff's Department establishes and maintains partnerships to help identify public safety needs, strengthen community confidence, and improve service to our communities.

Policy PP-1.8 **Public awareness.** The Sheriff's Department engages the media and our communities to improve the public's perception and awareness of personal and property protection and safety.

Policy PP-1.9 **Periodic needs assessment.** The Sheriff's Department periodically assesses their facility, equipment, and staffing needs and use the assessment to allocate funding resources in the annual budget and capital improvement program.

Policy PP-1.10 **Qualified workforce.** The Sheriff's Department attracts and retains a qualified workforce of law enforcement and support personnel, reflective of the people they serve, and invest in training and ongoing education.

Goal PP-2 Law & Justice

An equitable justice system for violations of law in the county, adequate care and effective rehabilitation for inmates in the County's custody, and the holistic rehabilitation and aided reentry and transition of parolees, probationers, and others living in the county engaged by the criminal justice system.

Policy PP-2.1 **Equity.** We, in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department, monitor and improve our law and justice functions, including for those accused of violating state and local law, victims, and witnesses, to ensure that individuals and corporations are treated equitably.

Policy PP-2.2 **Capacity.** We advocate for and support sufficient capacity in the justice system, including the criminal and civil courts, District Attorney's office, and Public Defender's office, to effectively and efficiently adjudicate violations of law committed in the county.

Policy PP-2.3 **Information sharing.** We continually improve the sharing of non-privileged information from the time of arrest through trial, among the Sheriff's Department and city police departments, courts, District Attorney's office, Public Defender's office, and Probation Department.

Policy PP-2.4 **Housing and care of inmates.** We provide adequate care and effective rehabilitation for those incarcerated in County jails or housed in County juvenile detention facilities, consistent with state and federal law, and we advocate for adequate state funding.

Policy PP-2.5 **Support for victims and witnesses.** In conjunction with the District Attorney's office, we provide supportive services for victims of and witnesses to crime through a holistic approach considering physical, psychological, and basic needs.

Policy PP-2.6 **Recidivism.** To prevent recidivism, we provide holistic rehabilitation to those incarcerated and engaged in the reentry process, and provide coordinated services through the departments and agencies associated with law and justice, human services, economic development, and housing, as well as other agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

Goal PP-3 Fire and Emergency Medical

Reduced risk of death, injury, property damage, and economic loss due to fires and other natural disasters, accidents, and medical incidents through prompt and capable emergency response.

Policy PP-3.1 **Fire and emergency medical services.** We maintain a sufficient number and distribution of fire stations, up-to-date equipment, and fully-trained staff to respond effectively to emergencies.

Policy PP-3.2 **Fire District.** We support the expansion of the Fire District to serve additional incorporated jurisdictions, and the use of special funding and financing mechanisms to augment Fire District revenues to improve service and coverage.

Policy PP-3.3 **Search and rescue.** We maintain up-to-date equipment and fully-trained staff to provide urban search and rescue and swift water rescue emergency response.

Policy PP-3.4 **Fire prevention services.** We proactively mitigate or reduce the negative effects of fire, hazardous materials release, and structural collapse by implementing the California Fire Code, adopted with County amendments.

Policy PP-3.5 **Firefighting water supply and facilities.** We coordinate with water providers to maintain adequate water supply, pressure, and facilities to protect people and property from urban fires and wildfires.

Policy PP-3.6 **Concurrent protection services.** We require that fire department facilities, equipment, and staffing required to serve new development are operating prior to, or in conjunction with new development.

Policy PP-3.7 **Fire safe design.** We require new development in the Fire Safety Overlay to comply with additional site design, building, and access standards to provide enhanced resistance to fire hazards.

Policy PP-3.8 **Fire-adapted communities.** We inform and prepare our residents and businesses to collaboratively plan and take action to more safely coexist with the risk of wildfires.

Policy PP-3.9 **Street and premise signage.** We require adequate street signage and premise identification be provided and maintained to ensure emergency services can quickly and efficiently respond.

Policy PP-3.10 **Community outreach.** We engage with local schools, community groups, and businesses to increase awareness of fire risk, prevention, and evacuation.

Policy PP-3.11 **Post-burn risks.** In areas burned by wildfire, we require new and reconstructed development to adhere to current development standards, and may require additional study to evaluate increased flooding, debris flow, and mudslide risks.

Policy PP-3.12 **Fire protection and emergency medical resource allocation.** We use fire and emergency services data analysis and professional expertise to allocate resources, reduce fire risks, and improve emergency response.

Policy PP-3.13 **Periodic needs assessment.** We periodically assess our facility, equipment, and staffing needs and use the assessment to allocate funding resources in the annual budget and capital improvement program.

Policy PP-3.14 **Qualified workforce.** We attract and retain a qualified workforce of fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, and support personnel, and invest in training and ongoing education.

Goal PP-4 Emergency Preparedness and Recovery

A reduced risk of and impact from injury, loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption resulting from emergencies, natural disasters, and potential changes in climate.

Policy PP-4.1 **Emergency management plans.** We maintain, update, and adopt the Emergency Operations Plan, Continuity of Operations Plan, and the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Plan updates are coordinated with wildfire hazard planning efforts of outside agencies, such as CALFIRE Strategic Fire Plan, Community Wildfire Protection Plans, U.S. Forest Service, military institutions, California Fire Safe Council and other non-profit stakeholder groups, and other applicable local, state, and federal agencies.

Policy PP-4.2 **Critical and essential facility operation.** We ensure that critical and essential County facilities remain operational during emergencies.

Policy PP-4.3 **Automatic and mutual aid.** We participate in agreements for automatic and mutual aid with other local, state, federal, and nongovernmental emergency service providers to improve protection services and emergency response throughout the county.

Policy PP-4.4 **Emergency shelters and routes.** We identify and publicize emergency shelters and sign and control evacuation routes for use during emergencies.

Policy PP-4.5 **Vulnerable populations.** We coordinate with and encourage the use of community-based networks to aid vulnerable populations prepare for emergencies and provide assistance with evacuation and recovery.

Policy PP-4.6 **Recovery.** We reestablish and expedite County services to assist affected residents and businesses in the short- and long-term recovery from emergencies and natural disasters.

Policy PP-4.7 **Public outreach and education.** We engage with the community to increase awareness of and preparedness for emergencies and natural disasters.

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Economy & Wellness Section

Economic Development Element

The economy of San Bernardino County is an integrated part of Southern California's regional economy. The skills and level of education of county residents, the provision of infrastructure, and the availability of sites and facilities influence which of the regional economy's businesses operate and are successful in the county. At the same time, the types of businesses that operate in the county determine the types of jobs and wages available to county residents. By increasing the number and quality of jobs, the County's economic development efforts are intended to attract private investment, reduce commute times, increase household wealth, and improve overall quality of life.

The County has a regional role in fostering economic and workforce development countywide and has a local role in bringing nonresidential development to targeted unincorporated communities. While economic development issues are addressed throughout the Policy Plan, this Element focuses on the County's major economic development responsibilities.

Purpose

The Economic Development Element:

- Provides direction for County efforts to attract private investment in nonresidential development in unincorporated areas of the county.
- Focuses countywide investments in workforce development on growing occupations and industries.
- Establishes the County's intent to invest in economic development in order to improve the countywide jobs-housing ratio.
- Identifies the means through which the County promotes countywide economic development.

Principles

We believe:

- Economic security is a necessary component of public safety and quality of life.
- Effective economic development requires collaboration among public agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and the private sector.
- Comprehensive and excellent labor force training and business assistance services are assets that help existing businesses grow and help attract new businesses.
- Tourism is important for its direct local economic impact, enhancing community identity, and improving the regional image of San Bernardino County.

Goals & Policies

Goal ED-1 Unincorporated Land and Facilities

Increased business investment in land and facilities and job growth in key unincorporated areas.

Policy ED-1.1 **Marketing focus areas.** In unincorporated areas, we actively market sites for business park and industrial development in employment focus areas, and we actively market sites for retail and commercial businesses in commercial focus areas.

Policy ED-1.2 **Infrastructure improvements.** We support and facilitate the establishment of special funding and financing mechanisms for road, water, sewer, and drainage infrastructure improvements in order to generate private investment in employment and commercial focus areas.

Policy ED-1.3 **Site aggregation.** We may assist in aggregating smaller lots and parcels to create more marketable and developable sites in employment focus areas.

Policy ED-1.4 **Planned business park and industrial areas.** We prefer master planned approaches through specific and area plans for business park and industrial development and redevelopment. We facilitate master planned approaches in order to discourage incremental general plan amendments that introduce or expand business park or industrial development.

Policy ED-1.5 **Mineral resources.** We support the extraction of mineral resources in unincorporated areas and the establishment and operation of supporting businesses throughout the county.

Policy ED-1.6 **Industrial redevelopment.** We facilitate and promote redevelopment in the industrial redevelopment focus areas to provide land and facilities for non-mining industrial development.

Goal ED-2 Labor Force

A skilled and educated labor force that helps businesses compete in the regional and global economy.

Policy ED-2.1 **Education pathways.** We collaborate with school systems and civic organizations to support countywide education pathways (P-14) to prepare students for jobs in high-skill, high-wage careers and/or to prepare for college.

Policy ED-2.2 **English proficiency.** We support local and countywide programs that improve adult proficiency in the English language.

Policy ED-2.3 **Industry-driven workforce training.** We support countywide education and workforce training programs with a demonstrated ability to expand skills and improve employment opportunities, and we also promote innovative approaches that address the diversity of education, job skills, geography, and socioeconomic status of the countywide labor force.

Policy ED-2.4 **Business engagement.** We engage with businesses throughout the county to identify current and future skill and education needs. We assist businesses with recruitment, hiring, on-the-job training, and short-term training needs.

Policy ED-2.5 **Individual assistance.** We provide job search and application assistance to residents countywide, and we provide training and education assistance to eligible individuals.

Goal ED-3 Countywide Business and Employment Growth

Growth of new businesses, improved profitability of existing businesses, and an increased number and quality of jobs in the county.

Policy ED-3.1 **Countywide jobs-housing ratio.** We strive to achieve countywide job growth in excess of household growth to improve the jobs-housing ratio, reduce out-commuting, and enhance quality of life.

Policy ED-3.2 **Business assistance.** We collaborate with economic development service providers to offer training and other assistance to existing businesses and business startups countywide.

Policy ED-3.3 **Site selection assistance.** We coordinate with agencies, incorporated cities and towns, and service providers to assist existing and prospective businesses in identifying and selecting sites and facilities countywide. We also assist businesses with permitting, licensing, incentives, and other regulatory requirements.

Policy ED-3.4 **Site and facilities inventory.** We collaborate with real estate brokers, developers, municipalities, and building owners to maintain a countywide inventory of available sites and facilities for businesses.

Policy ED-3.5 **Countywide marketing.** We regularly analyze economic and market conditions and trends to identify target economic sectors and actively market sites and facilities countywide to prospective businesses.

Policy ED-3.6 **Countywide tourism.** We coordinate with a variety of partners to promote San Bernardino County as a regional, national, and international tourist destination and collaborate with tourism industry businesses to improve visitor experience.

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Health & Wellness Element

Maintaining and improving the health and wellness of individuals, families, and communities is one of society's most fundamental goals, similar in importance to public safety and providing adequate shelter. Creating healthier places and improving the health and education of people contribute to lower governmental costs for health care, enhances the capacity of the individual and collective workforce, and leads to a stronger economy and overall prosperity. Positive outcomes are not only the result of health-care treatment and the provision of a social safety net; they must also be achieved through preventive or upstream efforts that help avoid or reduce the occurrence of physiological, financial, and social instability.

The County is committed to improving the health and wellness of individuals, families, and communities through collaboration with public, private, and not-for-profit organizations. The County is also responsible, within the bounds of annual state and federal funding, for implementing the human health and social assistance responsibilities of the state and federal governments. Establishing a more complete county and stronger communities is achieved through the County's provision of or coordination with others to provide places, facilities, and programs for learning, arts and culture, entertainment, and social bonding.

In the context of this Element, the terms "health" or "health and wellness" are used broadly to reference physical health, behavioral health, and social well-being.

Purpose

The Health and Wellness Element:

- Provides guidance on addressing issues that by their nature require extensive coordination and collaboration within the County and with outside agencies and organizations.
- Establishes a holistic approach to the continuum of care.
- Identifies the County's policy focus regarding its use of state and federal funds to improve the physical and behavioral health of residents.
- Describes the County's priorities and roles in serving the health and social needs of vulnerable populations.

Principles

We believe:

- Human health and wellness are intrinsically valuable.
- Facets of health and wellness are often interrelated and should be addressed together, with a focus on preventative and proactive care.
- The health, well-being, education, and enrichment of residents are key components to the prosperity and quality of life in San Bernardino County.
- A diverse range of community and cultural resources, programs, and facilities help make the entire county and individual communities more complete and prosperous.

- Society has chosen to maintain a safety net that protects the most vulnerable and assists individuals and households in transitioning to self-sufficiency.
- Human health and social assistance services are state and federal responsibilities implemented, subject to available state and federal funding, by the County in partnership with service providers and not-for-profit organizations.

Goals & Policies

Goal HW-1 Health and Social Wellness

Supportive public facilities and services that assist and guide individuals to achieve and sustain self-sufficiency, social stability, and excellent physical and behavioral health and wellness.

Policy HW-1.1 **Coordinated holistic approach.** We invest in a holistic approach to individual health and wellness to improve the continuum of care, providing coordinated services through departments and agencies associated with human services, economic development, law and justice, and housing, as well as other agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

Policy HW-1.2 **Cultural humility and inclusion.** We guide the development and delivery of appropriate health care, health services, and social assistance by recognizing and continuously learning about the diverse values, cultures, languages, and behaviors found throughout the county, especially for those that are underserved or isolated.

Policy HW-1.3 **Monitoring health and social conditions.** We prioritize our resources to address the most pressing needs by continually engaging residents and monitoring health and social conditions, trends, and emerging needs across the county, while complying with federal and state mandates.

Policy HW-1.4 **Funding application coordination.** We coordinate the application for funding resources to maximize the long-term benefit of addressing multiple health and social issues, both within the County organization and between the County and other agencies and organizations.

Policy HW-1.5 **Partnerships and capacity building.** We leverage partnerships with other agencies and organizations to address health and wellness issues, and, as funding allows, assist in building the capacity of service providers and partner organizations to expand their service and effectiveness.

Policy HW-1.6 **Healthy behaviors.** We collaborate with other public agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and private service providers to offer education and training that enable individuals to make better health and wellness choices. We work to remove environmental and social barriers to healthy habits.

Policy HW-1.7 **Upstream issues.** We collaborate with partners to address upstream issues related to the social determinants of health and social stability (e.g., income, education, housing, neighborhood conditions, and job skills), and to reduce the occurrence of and costs associated with responding to acute and chronic conditions, while complying with federal, state, and local mandates.

Policy HW-1.8 **Assistance for veterans.** We invest in services to assist veterans and their families countywide connect with service providers and apply for benefits from federal, state, and local governmental agencies.

Policy HW-1.9 **Homelessness.** We address homelessness by coordinating a comprehensive countywide network of service delivery and by focusing on transitional and permanent supportive housing for the homeless, including the chronically homeless and near-homeless families and individuals.

Policy HW-1.10 **Safety net.** We use state and federal funding to provide a safety net of services that provides temporary, transitional, and ongoing assistance to protect those most vulnerable.

Policy HW-1.11 **Insurance and medical services.** We collaborate with other public agencies, non-profit organizations, and private health and wellness service providers to facilitate residents obtaining medical insurance, vaccines and preventative care, behavioral health, and treatments, through private service providers, County health and wellness facilities, and public programs.

Policy HW-1.12 **Equity.** We monitor and seek to achieve equitable access to County health and social services, with an emphasis on environmental justice focus areas countywide.

Policy HW-1.13 **Health care professional capacity.** We collaborate with other public agencies, non-profit organizations, and private health and wellness service providers to ensure that an adequate number of medical, behavioral, and dental health professionals serve residents countywide, with an emphasis on health care professional shortage areas.

Policy HW-1.14 **Arrowhead Regional Medical Center.** We provide quality general and specialty health care services, operate medical residency programs, conduct community outreach and wellness programs, and act as a safety-net hospital for the countywide under-insured and uninsured. We also leverage ARMC as an economic asset to stimulate the local economy and attract investment and professionals from outside the county.

Goal HW-2 Education

A common culture that values education and lifelong learning and a populace with the education to participate and compete in the global economy.

Policy HW-2.1 **Lifelong learning.** We collaborate with educators, the business community, students and families, recreation departments and other public agencies, and civic and not-for-profit organizations to foster lifelong learning including early childhood literacy, cradle to career education, English as a second language, career development, and adult enrichment. We encourage approaches to learning that embrace diverse modes of learning for all.

Policy HW-2.2 **Land use compatibility for schools.** We prioritize the safety and security of public schools in unincorporated areas by minimizing incompatible land uses near instructional facilities. We encourage school districts to place new schools where existing and planned land uses are compatible.

Policy HW-2.3 **Superintendent support.** We support the Superintendent of Schools in fulfilling the obligations for school district support, advocacy, and student services

Policy HW-2.4 **Health and enrichment programs.** We provide additional support for school districts for nutrition, physical activity, arts, and other enrichment programs, commensurate with the availability of grants and other funding resources.

Goal HW-3 Community Development

Assets that contribute to a complete county and healthy neighborhoods and communities.

Policy HW-3.1 **Healthy environments.** We collaborate with other public agencies, not-for-profit organizations, community groups, and private developers to improve the physical and built environment in which people live. We do so by improving such things as walkability, bicycle infrastructure, transit facilities, universal design, safe routes to school, indoor and outdoor air quality, gardens, green space and open space, and access to parks and recreation amenities.

Policy HW-3.2 **Building social capital.** In unincorporated communities, we support the provision of neighborhood and community gathering places for social activities, and the provision of meeting spaces and facilities for community organizations in order to build social capital, establish a sense of community, increase volunteerism, and expand civic engagement.

Policy HW-3.3 **Public libraries.** We operate public libraries in unincorporated areas and contract cities/towns to provide programs and facilities that ensure equitable access to information and digital technology, provide places and activities for people to connect with other people, promote literacy and reading for pleasure for children and adults, and foster a culture of creativity, innovation, and collaboration. We invest in the modernization and expansion of public library facilities as adequate funding is available.

Policy HW-3.4 **Public museums.** We operate County museums to preserve and depict the history, culture, and natural science of San Bernardino County. We invest in facilities and technology and collaborate with other institutions, organizations, and businesses in order to increase public exposure to museum holdings.

Policy HW-3.5 **Arts and culture.** We increase awareness of the benefits of the arts throughout the county by recognizing and promoting the arts, artists, performing arts, and cultural organizations as valuable resources for community identity, economic vitality, and tourism. We encourage private and not-for-profit support of artistic and cultural activities through mutual programs and public-private partnerships.

Policy HW-3.6 **Multi-use facilities and integrated development.** We encourage those who build and/or operate community assets to accommodate multiple functions and programs. We encourage the development of new residential, commercial, and institutional uses and public facilities that incorporate one or more community assets.

Policy HW-3.7 **Attracting local-serving businesses.** We actively work across County departments and agencies to attract businesses that provide desired goods and services in unincorporated communities, especially in environmental justice focus areas, including but not limited to food stores with fresh produce, health care, child care, pharmacies, and other retailers. We balance community desires with comprehensive assessments of market demand to guide our business attraction efforts.

Policy HW-3.8 **Attracting leisure and entertainment.** We advocate for the establishment and retention of leisure and entertainment businesses and venues, countywide, that contribute to the complete county concept.

Policy HW-3.9 **Community-driven improvements.** We provide resources and information to assist unincorporated communities with the implementation of Community Action Guides.

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Glossary of Terms

The following is a glossary of terms to help users read and understand the Policy Plan and the meaning and intent of its goals and policies. Please note that this glossary is not intended to be comprehensive or define terms, acronyms, or abbreviations that are generally well understood or easily looked up using other resources. The focus is on terms that have multiple potential meanings (either in or out of the Policy Plan context), and to define the intended meaning of such terms to ensure the correct interpretation and implementation of the Policy Plan.

Some terms are used in multiple parts of the Policy Plan or other parts of the Countywide Plan. For these terms, additional words or document references are presented in italics and in parentheses (*e.g., Community Action Guide*), to indicate the specific context.

A

Accommodate. To make room for or provisions for something that is specifically intended to occur.

Action (*Community Action Guide*). Suggested, measurable step to be taken to implement an Action Statement. Actions are found in the Action Plan of a Community Action Guide, along with potential leaders for each step and a timeline of when it should occur in the process. In the context of the Community Action Guide, the activity is typically to be undertaken by a member(s) of the community, although some activity by a broader public entity (such as the County) may also be involved.

Action (*Implementation Plan*). A specific, measurable step that needs to be taken to meet stated objectives. An action is not mere compliance with the law or a commonly adopted or accepted practice or protocol. An action is short in duration and is meant to be updated and replaced once action has been taken. In the context of the County Implementation Plan, the activity is typically to be undertaken by the County or another public entity.

Action Plan (*Community Action Guide*). A set of focus statements, action statements, and actions (detailed or suggested outline), intended for community members and stakeholders to use in improving their community.

Action Statement (*Community Action Guide*). Measurable statements providing critical information on a program, initiative or project to complete.

Advocate. To openly support and promote an action, objective, or goal; also to speak on behalf of an individual or group.

Adaptive reuse. A method by which a building is adapted/modified to a different use from its original use, while its general physical form is retained. See also *historic rehabilitation* for historical buildings.

Agency. A governmental entity, department, office, or administrative unit responsible for carrying out regulations.

Agriculture. Use of land for the production of food and fiber, including the growing of crops and/or the grazing of animals on natural prime or improved pasture land.

Agricultural preserve. An agricultural preserve defines the boundary of an area within which a local government will enter into contracts with land owners. Only land located within an agricultural preserve is eligible for a Williamson Act contract. Preserves are regulated by rules and restrictions designated in the resolution to ensure that the land within the preserve is maintained for agricultural or open space use. See also *Williamson Act*.

Allow. To be open to something occurring but without any particular effort to make it happen.

Always. The action will apply to future decisions without exception.

Annexation. The means by which an incorporated city or town extends its corporate boundaries. Annexation of unincorporated land into an incorporated city or town is initiated by a petition of affected land owners or registered voters, or by resolution from the incorporated city or town. The process of annexation is overseen by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

Analyze. To methodically examine the desirability or feasibility of something, with a view toward letting the evidence determine the appropriate level of commitment.

Aspirations statement (*Community Action Guide*). A written narrative illustrating the community's desired look and function once the Community Focus Statements and Action Statements are fully implemented. This is a long term view of 10 to 20 years. The Aspirations Statement serves as a foundation for developing Community Focus Statements and Action Statements.

Aspire. To direct one's ambitions toward achieving something.

Augment. To add to something that is already in place to make it more desirable, functional, or beneficial.

Automatic aid. Automatic aid is assistance that is dispatched automatically by a contractual agreement between two emergency service departments, communities, or districts when an emergency occurs. It differs from mutual aid, which is arranged on an as-needed and requested basis.

Avoid. To not enable something that will lead to an undesirable outcome.

B

Bicycle facilities. On- and off-street spaces delineated for safe use by bicycles, designated in one of four classes:

- **Class I (shared use or bike path).** A bikeway physically separated from any street or highway. Shared Use Paths may also be used by pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other non-motorized users.
- **Class II (bike lane).** A portion of roadway that has been designated by striping, signaling, and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.
- **Class III (bike route).** A generic term for any road, street, path, or way that in some manner is specifically designated for bicycle travel regardless of whether such facilities

are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles, or are to be shared with other transportation modes.

- **Class IV (separated bikeway).** A bikeway for the exclusive use of bicycles and includes a required separation between the bikeway and the through vehicular traffic. The separation may include, but is not limited to, grade separation, flexible posts, inflexible posts, inflexible barriers, or on-street parking.

Buffer / buffer zone. An area of land, structure, feature, or design treatment separating two uses that acts to soften or mitigate the effects of one use on the other.

C

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A state law (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), requiring state and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an environmental impact report (EIR) must be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project.

California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The governor-appointed nine-member commission charged with identifying and cataloging places of special religious or social significance to Native Americans and known graves and cemeteries of Native Americans on private lands. The NAHC also performs other duties regarding the preservation and accessibility of sacred sites and burials and the disposition of Native American human remains and burial items.

Capital Improvements Program (CIP). A program, administered by a city or county government that schedules permanent improvements, usually for a minimum of five years in the future, to fit the projected fiscal capability of the local jurisdiction. The CIP is generally reviewed annually for conformance to and consistency with the Policy Plan.

Capacity. The ability to provide a service or fulfill an obligation in the desired manner or at a desired level of service.

Cluster. Residential development in which a number of dwelling units are placed in closer proximity than usual, or are attached.

Collaborate. To intentionally, willingly work together toward a common objective or goal.

Community action guide. A set of potential actions community members (within a specific community planning area or CPA) can take to remain and become the type of community that current and future residents desire. The guides include action plans that place a focus on self-reliance, grass-roots action, and implementation, allowing the community to take the lead in moving actions forward.

Furthermore, the guides frame these potential actions in a set of community-driven values and aspirations generated based on public input from community members and stakeholders. While some actions will require coordination with, approval from, or assistance by the County, many others can be undertaken without County involvement. The guides may also be augmented by a set of generalized actions presented in a Community Development Toolkit.

Community assets. Public libraries, public museums, arts and cultural facilities, community/senior centers, and similar facilities open to and for the benefit of the public.

Community character / community identity. The history, culture(s), natural features, and human-built features that a community's residents value and wish to celebrate and maintain. Community character can also be defined as the sum of attributes and assets that make a community unique and establish a sense of place for its residents. Some attributes and assets are tangible, like a unique main street area, while others are intangible, like a general sense of tranquility associated with the natural environment.

Community facilities district (CFD). A special funding and financing mechanism that is formed when the property owners in a geographic area agree to impose a special property tax on the land to fund public improvements and services. Based on future tax revenue, CFDs (aka Mello-Roos) seek public financing through bonds. A Mello-Roos tax must be approved by 2/3 of the voters in a proposed district.

Community planning area (CPA). A planning area identified by the County of San Bernardino as an area where policies, standards, and guidelines may vary, based on local context and community character. A CPA is also used to define the boundaries for community action guides. See also *Community Planning Continuum* and the types of CPAs.

Community Planning Continuum (CPC). The CPC is a system of community planning activities and documents intended to guide local expectations for County services and set a clear direction for the future of unincorporated communities. The CPC is implemented by both County government (Policy Plan and Implementation Plan) and community residents and stakeholders (Community Action Guide and Community Development Toolkit). The resulting plans, guides, maps, and tools are web-based, living documents that will be updated periodically to reflect progress and change. The CPC includes a hierarchy of community planning areas (CPAs) that will ensure that planning details, tools, and resources match the conditions and needs of each community:

- **Detailed CPAs.** Includes communities that contain, or have the potential for, a variety of housing opportunities and supporting uses, such as commercial and industrial businesses, schools, a library, parks and recreation facilities, and religious and civic organizations.
- **Framework CPAs.** Includes communities that are primarily characterized by single-family residential properties and a limited number of supporting uses, such as a school, post office, and commercial businesses.
- **Foundation CPAs.** Includes communities that are primarily characterized by single-family residential properties. Residents of these communities typically drive to nearby towns or cities for employment, shopping, entertainment, education, and recreation opportunities.
- **Fundamental CPAs.** Includes communities that are primarily characterized by open space or agriculture with a scattering of residential homes and/or highway commercial uses, or an area where growth is constrained by adjacent land ownership, such as federal lands and state lands.

Community services district (CSD). A special funding and financing mechanism that is formed as an independent, self-governed entity that can provide locally adequate levels of public facilities

and services, an effective form of governance for combining two or more special districts that serve overlapping or adjacent territory into a multifunction special district, a form of governance that can serve as an alternative to the incorporation of a new city, and a transitional form of governance as the community approaches cityhood.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). A plan developed in the collaborative framework established by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and agreed to by state, tribal, and local government, local fire department, other stakeholders, and federal land management agencies managing land in the vicinity of the planning area. A CWPP identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment on Federal and non-Federal land that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure and recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community. A CWPP may address issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness, or structure protection.

Compatible. In relation to use, the ability for two or more uses to coexist without conflict, with minimal conflict that can be mitigated, or in a beneficial manner. When used in relation to a structure, indicates that the structure is built so that its appearance is similar to that of the principal unit to which the structure is accessory or to the general character of the neighborhood or community with regards to color, materials, construction, lighting, signs, or the emission of sounds, noises and vibrations. See also *incompatible*.

Complete streets network. A system of on- and off-street facilities (e.g., sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails), that enable all users of all ages and abilities to navigate within or through a community area, with an emphasis on mobility focus areas. The system can consist of one or more facility type based on the intended users and access requirements. Individual facilities may overlap or not, serve all or just some users, and be contiguous or disconnected. Complete streets facilities and improvements are subject to physical constraints presented by the local context and financial feasibility limitations.

Comply with. To follow specified existing ordinances, regulations or procedures.

Complement / complementary. Combining or coexisting (e.g., two buildings or land uses) in such a way as to enhance or emphasize the qualities of each other.

Concurrent. Services, facilities, activities or other things that are provided or are occurring at the same time as something else.

Consider. To remain open to and evaluate a range of possible actions or outcomes as part of a decision.

Consistent. To be or act in harmony or aligned with something; see also *inconsistent*.

Consolidate. To bring together aspects, features, or components of a system or locale that can serve better in a consolidated form, compared to existing or provided separately.

Construct. To build something: buildings, roads, channels, etc.

Context. Local or regional environmental, social, and economic conditions.

Context-sensitive. An approach, design, standard, or practice that is sensitive to and varies according to the local or regional environmental, social, and economic conditions.

Contiguous land administration. Parcels that share a border and are under the ownership or administrative authority of a single entity, enabling more effective and efficient use, preservation, and/or management of the land and its resources and relationship to surrounding lands and resources.

Continue. To maintain and/or resume an action.

Cooperate. To work in a positive effort with another entity toward a mutually beneficial end. Such work may take the form of direct action, passive support, or even inaction.

Coordinate. To work in a positive effort with another entity in the process of conducting individual actions or initiatives that relate to each other and that can benefit from concurrent or cooperative activity.

County service area (CSA). Separate legal entities authorized by California laws and formed by the County Board of Supervisors to fund the County's provision of services, capital improvements and financial flexibility. They are formed and tailored to meet the specific needs of an area so that the property owners only pay for the services they want. Some of the unincorporated areas within San Bernardino County are exclusively serviced by these CSAs. CSAs in the County are generalized characterized by small and remote service areas with primary customers being single family residential parcels.

Critical and essential facilities. Public safety and services sites, structures and institutions that, if negatively impacted by an emergency, could exacerbate the problem, reduce a (generally public) entity's ability to respond, or present a significant secondary problem or a problem greater than the original emergency.

Cultural humility. An approach to public service (particularly medical and social services), where the professional service provider embraces a lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and lifelong learning about the cultures of their clients, working to learn with and from their clients to better serve individuals and defined populations.

D

Dedicate. To offer or set aside for a specific program, action, or use; when in the context of land dedication, the land is generally set aside for public ownership, use, and/or operation or maintenance.

Density (dwelling units per acre or du/ac). The number of residential units allowed per acre for a given area of the unincorporated county based on the Policy Plan land use category. The permitted Policy Plan density guides the maximum density for corresponding zoning designations as described in the Development Code and applied to a specific property.

Design. To conceive in advance the size, shape, qualities, appearance, open space and other attributes of a proposed development, building and related improvements, generally rendered in graphic forms that communicate the anticipated outcome.

Determine. To calculate in advance the nature or outcome of an anticipated action, situation, or proposal.

Development Code. Title 8 of the San Bernardino County Code, intended to implement the County Policy Plan by classifying and regulating the uses of land and structures within unincorporated San Bernardino County; by preserving and protecting the County's important agricultural, cultural, natural, open space and scenic resources; and by protecting and promoting the public health, safety, comfort, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare of residents and businesses in the County.

Discourage. To openly deter (or attempt to deter) an individual, group, or organization from doing something.

Discretionary. An action taken by a governmental agency that calls for the exercise of judgment in deciding whether to approve and/or how to carry out a project.

Dwelling Unit. A room or group of rooms (including sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation facilities, but not more than one kitchen), which constitutes an independent housekeeping unit, occupied or intended for occupancy by one household on a long term basis.

E

Earthquake fault zone / Alquist Priolo (AP) earthquake fault zone. Earthquake fault zones are regulatory zones around active faults. On the Earthquake Fault Zone Maps, the zones are shown as polygons that encompass mapped fault traces. The zones vary in width, but average about one-quarter mile wide.

Economic development service providers. State, federal, utility, education, and not-for-profit organization partners that help fund economic development activities; and public, private, and not-for-profit organizations that provide assistance to businesses such as small business development centers.

Economic value (mining). A mineral resource has economic value if it is financially feasible to extract and sell the mineral resource in the current market.

Encourage. To promote, support, or champion a concept or action; such support may be in terms of political support and coordination, staff resources, and/or financial resources.

Enhance. To improve existing conditions in quality, value, or characteristic.

Environmental Justice Focus Area. See focus area.

Equitable. A condition or treatment that is fair and impartial.

Establish. To bring something into being that does not currently exist.

Explore. To search for or examine the nature of a possibility before a commitment is made. See also *analyze*.

Expand. To increase in detail, extent, number, volume, or scope.

F

Facilitate. To make an action or process easier or to help bring about.

Fair share. An allocation of resources, costs, or fees considered equitable and proportional to the needs, impacts, or activity of an existing or proposed project.

Farmland, Important. Refers to four of the eight classifications of land mapped by the California Department of Conservation.

- **Prime farmland.** Land other has the best good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the four years prior to the Important Farmland Map date produced by the State Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program.
- **Farmland of statewide importance.** Land other than prime farmland that has a good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the four years prior to the Important Farmland Map date produced by the State Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program.
- **Unique farmland.** Land that does not meet the criteria for prime farmland or farmland of statewide Importance, that has been used for the production of specific high economic value crops at some time during the two update cycles prior to the Important Farmland Map date produced by the State Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high quality and/or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to current farming methods.
- **Farmland of local importance.** Farmlands that include areas of soils that meet all the characteristics of prime, statewide, or unique and which are not irrigated. It also includes farmlands not covered by above categories but of high economic importance to the community.

Fault / active fault. A fracture in the crust of the earth along which rocks on one side have moved relative to those on the other side. Most faults are the result of repeated displacements over a long period of time. A fault trace is the line on the earth's surface defining the fault. For the purposes of the Alquist Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, an active fault is one that has ruptured in the last 11,000 years. See *earthquake fault zone*.

Feasible. Capable of being done, executed, or managed successfully taking into consideration social, physical, environmental, and/or economic factors.

Feasible, technically. Capable of being implemented because the industrial, mechanical, or application technology exists.

Feature. A noticeable or important characteristic, attribute, or aspect of something.

Fire hazard severity zone. A designated area in which the type and condition of vegetation, topography, fire history, and other relevant factors demonstrate an increased possibility of uncontrollable wildland fire. As part of CAL FIRE's responsibilities, it assigns fire severity—moderate, high, and very high—to areas in California for fire planning and suppression purposes.

Fire responsibility areas. California's wildlands have been divided into three zones or responsibility areas, depending on the agency with primary financial responsibility for addressing the prevention, suppression, and postfire recovery of fire. These include local responsibility area (LRA), state responsibility area (SRA), and federal responsibility area (FRA).

- **Local responsibility areas (LRAs).** The areas of California where local jurisdictions (e.g., county or city/town fire departments, fire protection districts, and by CAL FIRE under contract to local government) are responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires.
- **State Responsibility Areas (SRAs).** The areas of California where the State of California is financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. SRA does not include lands within incorporated city/town boundaries or in federal ownership.
- **Federal Responsibility Areas (FRAs).** The areas of California where the federal government has the primary financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires. These lands are generally protected by a variety of federal agencies.

Finding(s). The result(s) of an investigation and the basis upon which decisions are made. Findings are used by government agents and bodies to justify action taken or a decision made by the entity.

Fiscal sustainability. The County's capacity to operate and maintain public facilities and to provide public services with a reasonable level of service using the revenue generated for the service or facility or revenue generated by the users or beneficiaries of the service or facility. Fiscal sustainability exists when the County has the financial capacity to operate and maintain public facilities and to provide public services in the short term and over the long term.

Determination of the fiscal impacts of a project, program, policy, or other decision must account for:

- Initial capital investments and startup costs;
- Ongoing operations and maintenance over the long term;
- Reasonable levels of service and expected or desired levels of service over the long-term;
- Set-aside capital reserves for replacement, maintenance, and upgrades; and
- Impacts to existing uses in incorporated and unincorporated areas, which may have secondary fiscal impacts.

Fiscal or financial resiliency is related to fiscal sustainability and refers to the County's capacity to continue providing reasonable levels of service for the operations and maintenance of public facilities and for the provision of public services during periods of economic and financial stress and during emergencies. Fiscal resiliency is typically achieved by minimizing the use of debt, maintaining adequate dedicated reserves, maintaining an appropriate level of unrestricted fund balance, long-term financial planning, disaster planning, and comprehensive risk management.

Flood. Refers to the rising and overflowing of a body of water onto normally dry land that is often caused by storm events or breaches of flood control infrastructure. While there are many different types of flooding that are recognized for communities, the three common types of flooding in the county are alluvial fan, riverine, and urban flood:

- **Alluvial flood.** Alluvial flooding occurs on the surface of an alluvial fan or similar landform that originates at the apex, and is characterized by high-velocity flows, active erosion, sediment transport, and deposition; and unpredictable flow paths. Alluvial fan flooding is depicted on a Flood Insurance Rate Map as Zone AO, with a flood depth and velocity.
- **Riverine flood.** Riverine flooding occurs when excessive rainfall or heavy snow melt causes water to rise and overflow the edges of a river, bank, or channel. Flash flooding, a type of riverine flood, is characterized by an intense, high velocity torrent of water, often accompanied by debris, which occurs in a river channel with little to no warning.
- **Urban flooding.** Urban flooding is caused when heavy rainfall creates a flood independent of an overflowing water body, such as when intense rain overwhelms the capacity of an urban drainage system. An urban flood is more common in areas that lack or have undersized drainage systems.

Flood zone / flood hazard area. The Policy Plan displays and/or refers to the following simplified categories on flood hazard maps and in policies:

- **FEMA 100-year flood zone.** An area mapped on a flood insurance rate map (FIRM) where a storm with a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year can cause flood conditions. FIRMs are mapped under the Federal Agency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- **DWR 100-year flood zone.** An area mapped by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that identify 100-year flood hazard areas using approximate assessment procedures. These floodplains are identified simply as flood prone areas without specific depths and other flood hazard data; they are not FEMA regulatory floodplain maps. The state conducts an Awareness Floodplain Mapping project to identify all pertinent flood hazard areas for areas that are not mapped under FEMA's NFIP, and to provide the community and residents an additional tool in understanding potential flood hazards currently not mapped as a regulated floodplain.
- **FEMA 200-year flood zone.** An area mapped (currently in limited areas) by DWR where a storm with a 0.5 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year can cause flood conditions
- **FEMA 500-year flood zone.** An area mapped on a FIRM where a storm with a 0.2 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year can cause flood conditions. FIRMs are mapped under FEMA's NFIP.

Flood insurance rate map (FIRM). The official map on which FEMA has delineated both the areas of special flood hazards and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. Flood hazard areas identified on the FIRM are identified as a special flood hazard area (SFHA). SFHAs are defined

as the area that will be inundated by the flood event having a 1-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The 1-percent annual chance flood is also referred to as the base flood or 100-year flood. SFHAs are labeled as Zone A, Zone AO, Zone AH, Zones A1-A30, Zone AE, Zone A99, Zone AR, Zone AR/AE, Zone AR/AO, Zone AR/A1-A30, Zone AR/A, Zone V, Zone VE, and Zones V1-V30.

Moderate flood hazard areas, labeled Zone B or Zone X (shaded) are also shown on the FIRM, and are the areas between the limits of the base flood and the 0.2-percent-annual-chance (or 500-year) flood. The areas of minimal flood hazard, which are the areas outside the SFHA and higher than the elevation of the 0.2-percent-annual-chance flood, are labeled Zone C or Zone X (unshaded).

While the FIRM displays the above detailed flood hazard zones, the Policy Plan displays and refers to the following simplified categories from the FIRM on Policy Plan flood hazard maps and in policies: 100-year flood hazard and 500-year flood hazard.

Floodplain. The area, adjacent to a watercourse or other body of water, subject to recurring floods. Floodplains may change over time as a result of natural processes, the characteristics of a watershed, or the construction of bridges or channels. Floodplain can also serve as a reference to areas subject to flooding and mapped under FEMA's NFIP.

Floor-area-ratio (FAR). The ratio of floor area to total net parcel area. FAR restrictions are used to limit the maximum floor area allowed on a site (including all structures on the site, except as excluded by the Development Code). The maximum floor area of all structures (measured from exterior wall to exterior wall) permitted on a site (excluding carports) shall be determined by multiplying the FAR by the total net parcel area of the site: FAR x total net parcel area = maximum allowable floor area.

Focus area. A location where the County seeks to encourage and facilitate public improvements and private investment that lead to one of the following: increased mobility, community- and/or tourist-serving shops and services, employment opportunities, or the reuse and/or intensification of industrial development. The boundary of a focus area (excluding commercial focus area/franchise-restricted and environmental justice focus areas), is intended to convey the general location, but the actual boundary may be somewhat larger or smaller as determined during implementation efforts.

- **Commercial focus area.** An area where the County seeks to encourage and facilitate public improvements and private investment that lead to increased community- and/or tourist-serving shops and services.
- **Commercial focus area/franchise-restricted.** A defined commercial focus area where franchise businesses are not permitted. See *franchise business*.
- **Employment focus area.** An area where the County seeks to encourage and facilitate public improvements and private investment that lead to increased commercial, office, or industrial employment opportunities (consistent with the Policy Plan and as permitted by the adopted Land Use Categories).

- **Environmental justice focus area.** An area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation. Such areas are determined by CalEnviroScreen composite scores in the upper quartile (census tracts with composite scores ranking above the 75th percentile). The term “environmental justice focus area” or “EJFA” is to be interpreted the same as the term “disadvantaged community” and is understood in the context of Senate Bill 1000 (2016).

Consistent with CalEPA’s criteria for SB 535, the County uses the following criteria to define an EJFA as any portion of a census tract:

- Within the County’s land use authority; and
- Within a community planning area or unincorporated sphere of influence; and
- A CES composite score in the 75th percentile (upper quartile)

The County excludes areas outside of a community planning area or unincorporated sphere of influence from EJFAs as such lands are typically unpopulated, surrounded by state or federally owned land, and planned for open space, and resource and land management.

- **Industrial redevelopment focus area.** An area where the County seeks to encourage and facilitate public improvements and private investment that increase reuse, redevelopment, and/or intensification of industrial development (consistent with the Policy Plan and as permitted by the adopted Land Use Categories).
- **Mobility focus area.** An area where the County seeks to encourage and facilitate public improvements and private investment that lead to increased non-motorized accessibility and public safety. Mobility focus areas have a core with a high concentration (typically along corridors and/or at nodes), of two or more of the following: pedestrians; bicyclists; transit; retail, service, and office businesses; or medium density residential or higher.

Focus statement (*Community Action Guide*). General direction towards realizing a community’s aspirations; a focus statement also helps to organize the Action Plan.

Food insecurity. The state of being without reliable access to sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.

Franchise business. All businesses in the retail trade, accommodation and food services, and other services as defined in the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), that have 11 or more establishments worldwide under the same trademark, service mark, or company brand name, regardless of ownership. Such establishments maintain two or more of the following features: a standardized array of merchandise, a standardized facade, a standardized decor and color scheme, uniform apparel, standardized signage, a trademark or a service mark. See *commercial focus area/franchise-restricted*.

Fugitive dust. Small solid particles or liquid droplets (particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometers or less or PM₁₀), that come primarily from the earth’s soil and are suspended in the air by wind action and human activities.

Fund. To make money available for a prescribed purpose; may be a one-time, periodic, or ongoing commitment.

Funding and financing mechanism. A legislatively authorized public revenue tool covering a distinct geographical area in which revenues may be generated by properties to fund various public facilities and services. Many of these mechanisms also allow for the issuance of debt. Examples of funding and financing mechanisms can include: assessment district, contractual assessment district, business improvement district, community facility district, community services district, multifamily housing district, lighting and landscaping maintenance district, parking district, community revitalization and investment authority, and enhanced infrastructure finance district.

The use of funding and financing mechanisms must be complemented with the establishment, collection, and use of development impact fees.

The term funding and financing mechanism does not include the use of county service areas as these divert property tax revenues that would otherwise go to the County General Fund. The term also does not include the use of home/property owners' associations.

G

Grazing land. Land on which the existing vegetation, whether grown naturally or through management, is suitable for grazing or browsing of livestock. This classification does not include land otherwise designated as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, unique farmland, or farmland of local importance; or heavily brushed, timbered, excessively steep, or rocky lands that restrict the access and movement of livestock.

Greenhouse gas (GHG). Any gas that absorbs infrared radiation in the atmosphere. State law identifies seven greenhouse gases for which the California Air Resources Board is responsible to monitor and regulate in order to reduce GHG emissions: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).

Goal. A statement of desired future conditions regarding a particular topic; a goal paints a picture of how something will be in the future. A goal in and of itself is not sufficient to understand its intent, extent, or context. A goal itself is kept simple, with policies, objectives, and implementation actions providing further definition.

Greywater / graywater. Wastewater that is generated in residential buildings, excluding sewage, such as gently used water from bathroom sinks, showers, tubs, and washing machines. The wastewater generated by toilets, kitchen sinks, and dishwashers is called blackwater due to its larger organic load (fecal or organic matter).

Groundwater. Water under the earth's surface, often mapped as basins and confined to aquifers capable of supplying wells and springs.

Groundwater recharge. The natural process of infiltration and percolation of rainwater from land areas or streams through permeable soils into water-holding rocks that provide underground storage in aquifers. This process can also be conducted artificially by capturing and injecting surface water or recycled water into aquifers.

H

Habitat linkages. Landscape-scale open space areas that provide a natural habitat connection between at least two larger adjacent open spaces or habitat areas. Habitat linkages provide a large enough area to support, at a minimum, a natural habitat mosaic and viable populations of smaller terrestrial species and allow for gene flow through diffusion of populations over a period of generations. Habitat linkages also allow for jump dispersal for some species between neighboring habitats. Habitat linkages may be large tracts of natural open space that serve as resident species habitat or habitat linkages may serve primarily as landscape connections (i.e., for dispersal movements or travel). See also *wildlife corridors*.

Harden. The use of site design and materials to make a building or site able to withstand the onset or severity of damage from an event such as a fire, earthquake, flood, or other similar event.

Hazardous materials. Materials or wastes that either cause or contribute to an increase in mortality, serious illness, or otherwise pose a substantial treat to human or environmental health when improperly managed; see Division 10 (Definitions) of the County Development Code.

Hazardous waste facilities. Carefully designed off-site facilities accepting hazardous wastes for storage or treatment; see Division 10 (Definitions) of the County Development Code.

Health professional shortage area (HSPA). A geographic area, population, or facility with a shortage of primary care, dental, or mental health providers and services. The US Health Resources and Services Administration and California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development work together using public, private, and state-provided data to determine when such a shortage qualifies for designation as a HSPA.

Historic resources. Buildings, structures, sites, or districts that are considered of particular historical and/or cultural significance. Generally, such resources are listed on a local, state, or federal register.

Historic treatment. The memorialization, preservation, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or restoration of a historic resource.

- **Historic memorialization.** Permanent recognition of an important historical resource through such means as a physical plaque or official designation.
- **Historic preservation.** A treatment for a historic building or landscape that focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time.
- **Historic reconstruction.** A treatment for a historic building or landscape that re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes.
- **Historic rehabilitation.** A treatment for a historic building or landscape that acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.
- **Historic restoration.** A treatment for a historic building or landscape that depicts a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods.

Holistic approach. An approach that addresses the factors that lead to a condition or behavior as well as the treatment of symptoms or enforcement of laws, in order to prevent a condition or behavior.

I

Impact. Generally, the result of an action or inaction; when the term is used in the context of an environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the term “impact” refers to how a proposed project may directly or indirectly effect specific environmental, infrastructure, and public service factors; a negative impact damages those environmental factors or increases burdens on selected facilities and services).

Identify. To determine characteristics or facts without any predetermination regarding future commitments; gather information only.

Include. To make a part of a consideration or issue under public scrutiny.

Incompatible. To be so opposed in character as to be incapable of existing together without causing conflicts or harm upon one or all parts; conflicting; see also *compatible*.

Incorporate. The same as *include*.

Inconsistent. Varying to the point of conflict or contradiction; see also *consistent*.

Infill development. Development that is constructed on land that has direct access to existing public services and infrastructure.

Innovative. Methods or approaches that are new and original, often (but not always) more advanced.

Install. To put in place at a specified time or place or in a particular sequence.

Integrate. To blend new and existing projects or activities together in a compatible fashion.

Intensity. For non-residential land uses (such as commercial or retail development) the amount of square footage built on a given site. Expressed typically as floor-to-area ratio (see FAR). The maximum intensity permitted in an area of the unincorporated county is determined by the Policy Plan land use category and corresponding zoning designation.

Inundation area. A defined area downstream from any dam, basin, or impounded body or source of water (including reservoirs, large above ground water tanks, lakes, etc.) that could be flooded in the event of a sudden or complete failure of the structure. The inundation area or zone can also include levees that are breached or compromised, causing water to flood adjacent areas.

Investigate. To examine the accuracy of information provided in support of a proposed project, process, or program.

J

[placeholder]

K

[placeholder]

L

Land use category. Reference term for the classification of generally permitted land use type and intensity as directed by the County Policy Plan; also commonly referred to in other jurisdictions as general plan land use designations. The land use categories are implemented by land use zoning districts, which contain more specific regulations on land use and building standards.

Land use zoning district. Reference for the classification and regulation of land use type and intensity in the County Development Code. The land use zoning districts implement the land use categories of the Policy Plan. See also *zoning*.

Land Use Map. Reference term for the Policy Plan Land Use Map showing the distribution of land use categories across the unincorporated county.

Land Use Plan. Reference term that consists of the Policy Plan Land Use Map and tables describing the nature and intensity of development allowed in each Policy Plan land use category.

Land Use Plan amendment. A proposed change by an applicant or the County in the land use category(ies) of a parcel or set of parcels. Such change requires approval by the County Board of Supervisors.

Land Use Plan amendment, comprehensive. An evaluation by the County of the appropriate quantity and distribution of that land use category in the entire area (community planning area, unincorporated sphere of influence, or, when outside of such boundaries, the local context defined by the County).

Landscape-scale conservation. A holistic approach to conservation, concerned with biodiversity and local economies, cultural heritage, agriculture, eco-tourism, geodiversity and the health and social benefits of the environment. Landscape-scale conservation contrasts with site-based conservation and is not merely large-scale conservation.

Legacy community. In accordance with state law and guidance provided by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and San Bernardino County Local Area Formation Commission, the County used the following criteria to identify disadvantaged unincorporated legacy communities (consistent with Senate Bill 244, 2011):

- Located outside of city/town limits and spheres of influence of any city/town;
- Inhabited and has been for at least 50 years (also referred to as a legacy community);
- Consists of at least 10 dwelling units in close proximity (approximately 1-mile radius); and
- Median household income for the census tract less than 80% of the statewide median.

The County must conduct a high level evaluation of the potable water, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage, and structural fire protection service needs and resources for legacy communities.

Level of service (LOS) (*standard*). A qualitative measure describing the delivery of service based on the needs and/or desires of customers or users. A LOS standard also generally factors in financial constraints (e.g., amount of user fees or taxes), as well as physical constraints (e.g., topography or distance). In measuring traffic conditions, it is the measurement and categorization of traffic flow based on vehicle speed, density, congestion, and other elements.

Limit. To confine a project or activity within prescribed specifications or performance criteria.

Link. To connect a project, area, function, or activity to another feature or features that would be mutually beneficial and reinforce desired functions.

Local park. Publicly-owned land designed and maintained to serve the recreation needs of people living or working in close proximity to the park. Neighborhood parks are small (~1 to 15 acres) and offer developed and programmed space and facilities such as playgrounds, picnic areas, fields, community centers, and sports fields for those within approximately one-half mile radius of the park. Community parks are larger (~16 to 99 acres) and are intended to provide recreation opportunities beyond those supplied by neighborhood parks, serving residents from throughout a community or jurisdiction.

Local trail. A trail typically built, operated, and maintained by a single jurisdiction, district, or agency for access by residents and visitors within a single community or jurisdiction.

Locate. To place an improvement, function, or use in a particular locale, on property with certain characteristics, or in proximity to specified features to bring about benefits and/or efficiency.

M

Master planned communities. A residential development that also includes recreational and commercial amenities, and can also include local retail stores, businesses, and other employment opportunities. Master planned communities are typically built in phases with coordinated transportation and infrastructure improvements, a variety of housing types, and long-term public and private funding mechanisms.

Maintain. To keep a system, facility, area, or activity in continuously sound condition, as defined by approved standards.

May. To offer the possibility but not the probability or promise of a certain commitment of resources or support; associated with action or activity that is often desirable and allowed, but implementation of such action or activity is often conditional.

Military activity / operations. Testing, training, or other activities conducted by the military (personnel or equipment) within or outside of a military installation.

Military installation. The land and facilities within a specific boundary identified by the US Department of Defense. The five military installations in (wholly or partially) San Bernardino County are: Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center/Marine Corps Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MCAGCC/MAGTF), Edwards Air Force Base (AFB), Fort Irwin National Training Center (NTC), Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake, and Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) Barstow.

Mines, legacy abandoned. Mines that ceased operation before state and federal laws required reclamation of mined land.

Minimize. To reduce something to the smallest amount or degree feasible.

Ministerial. An action taken by a governmental agency that follows established procedures and rules and does not call for the exercise of judgment in deciding whether to approve a project.

Mitigation bank. A wetland, stream, or other aquatic resource area that has been restored, established, enhanced, or (in certain circumstances) preserved for the purpose of providing compensation for unavoidable impacts to aquatic resources permitted under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or a similar state or local wetland regulation. A mitigation bank may be created when a government agency, corporation, nonprofit organization, or other entity undertakes these activities under a formal agreement with a regulatory agency.

Monitor. To track the performance of a particular physical condition, activity accomplishment or aspect of change, with a view toward using the results to inform County determination of its appropriate commitments.

Mutual aid. Mutual aid is assistance that, based on a contractual agreement, is dispatched on an as-needed and requested basis between two emergency service departments, communities, or districts when an emergency occurs. It differs from automatic aid, which is dispatched automatically.

N

Never. Something (e.g., action or land use) will not take place or occur under any circumstance.

New development. On land in the unincorporated area, any construction of new buildings or construction of new structures that are the primary use, and any subdivision or change in zoning classification.

New lot. On land in the unincorporated area, any lot that is created (recorded) after the adoption date of the Policy Plan. The term applies to lots created through a parcel map or subdivision map.

Notify. To advise a specified party or parties regarding an event or change for which there is an obligation to inform or need to know.

O

Objective (*Business Plan*). Something that an individual's, group's, or organization's efforts are intended to attain; something designed to achieve specific results.

Overdraft. The condition of a groundwater supply in which the average annual amount of water withdrawn by pumping exceeds the average annual amount of water replenishing the aquifer in any ten year period, considering all sources of recharge and withdrawal.

Overdraft, critical. A groundwater basin is subject to critical conditions of overdraft when continuation of present water management practices would probably result in significant adverse overdraft-related environmental, social, or economic impacts. Groundwater basins "subject to

critical conditions of overdraft that are assigned a high or medium priority by the State Department of Water Resources must be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan by January 31, 2020. Groundwater sustainability plans, or their equivalent, must be established for all other high and medium-priority basins by January 31, 2022.

P

Partner. To join with another entity in conducting an activity or building a facility that would be mutually beneficial and add value more efficiently than if pursued independently; does not necessarily require financial commitments. See also *cooperate*.

Periodically. The action will take place or apply to future decisions at specified intervals or times.

Policy. A statement that guides decision-making and specifies public commitment. A policy defines and directs how the County intends to achieve goals.

Policy Plan. A compendium of long-term goals and policies intended to guide decision making regarding the improvement and planning of the county unincorporated areas, as well as the provision of regional and local services and facilities. The Policy Plan also provides the high-level direction for implementing programs and ordinances, such as the County Development Code.

The Policy Plan legally functions as the County's general plan. A general plan is a legal document required of each local agency by the State of California (see Government Code Section 65300 et seq.). In California, a general plan must address at least eight mandatory topics (land use, circulation, housing, conservation, noise, open space, safety, and environmental justice), and may include any number of optional topics (such as air quality, economic development, and health and wellness).

There is no requirement that the County refer to the document as a general plan, and other jurisdictions may refer to their general plan as a comprehensive plan. The County opted to refer to its general plan as the County Policy Plan to reflect its expanded topical and geographic coverage.

Prevent. To keep a particular use, condition, activity, or circumstance from occurring; it does not imply complete (100 percent) avoidance or elimination.

Preserve. To maintain something in its original or existing state (*verb*). An area dedicated to the protection and conservation of biological resources and/or landscapes (*noun*).

Prioritize. To intentionally direct discretionary investments or actions to one area ahead of other areas. The act of prioritizing is an ad-hoc process that considers a variety of relevant factors. State and federal law and agency requirements, court orders, and County-declared emergencies take precedent over the prioritization direction in the Policy Plan

Principle. An assumption, fundamental rule, or doctrine that guides Policy Plan policies, proposals, standards, and implementation measures.

Prohibit. To absolutely disallow something from happening or being built.

Promote. To actively stimulate the likelihood and desirability of something happening; does not require investing public resources in its direct development.

Protect. To shield from damage to people or property.

Provide. To make something available, typically to a community, organization, or business; it does not imply that the thing is being made available at no cost.

Public infrastructure. Capital facilities that are owned and maintained by public entities, including but not limited to: flood control, water, sewer, transportation, parks, law and justice, fire prevention and protection, public health, and facilities for parks, recreation, and other community services.

Public water system. A system for the provision of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances that has 15 or more service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year, or as otherwise defined in the California Health and Safety Code. The three main types of public water systems are: community, transient-noncommunity, and nontransient, noncommunity.

Pursue. To strive to obtain or to seek to accomplish something, often through direct actions, partnerships, or indirect assistance. See also *support*.

Q

[placeholder]

R

Ranged activities or projects. Civilian activities or projects that can exert impacts beyond a project's boundaries and create compatibility issues with military activity.

Recidivism. A person's relapse into criminal behavior; a subsequent criminal adjudication or conviction while on probation supervision.

Recycled water. Water which, as a result of treatment of waste, is suitable for a direct beneficial use or a controlled use that would not otherwise occur and is therefore considered a valuable resource. A form of water reuse that includes primary, secondary and tertiary treatment of wastewater to produce water suitable for a variety of non-potable applications, most notably for landscaping irrigation and industrial uses. Recycled water is synonymous with "reclaimed water," "Title 22 Water" (water that conforms to the Uniform Statewide Recycling Criteria), and "treated wastewater."

Redevelopment, significant. The addition or replacement of 5,000 or more square feet of impervious surface on an already developed site, including, but not limited to: expansion of a building footprint; addition of a building or structure; addition of an impervious surface, such as construction of a new parking lot that is not part of a routine maintenance activity; and replacement of imperious surfaces, buildings or structures when 5,000 or more square feet of soil is exposed during replacement construction. It does not include routine maintenance activities conducted to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or the original purpose of a facility.

Reflect. To embody or represent (something) in a faithful or appropriate way.

Region / regional. A geographic area; or pertaining to activities or economies at a scale greater than that of a single jurisdiction, and affecting a broad geographic area. In the Countywide Plan, the term may refer to the Inland Empire (generally considered San Bernardino and Riverside counties), Southern California, or to San Bernardino County subareas with similar features or characteristics (e.g., Valley, Mountain, North Desert, and East Desert regions).

Regional park. A park typically 100 acres or larger focusing on activities and natural features not included in most other types of parks and often based on a specific scenic or recreational opportunity. A regional park may have any combination of developed, undeveloped, programmed, and unprogrammed space. A regional park is primarily intended to serve residents within an hour's drive, although it may also serve the entire county in some capacity.

Regional trail. A trail typically extending for very long distances across multiple jurisdictions, with operation and maintenance often coordinated and funded by multiple jurisdictions and/or agencies.

Report. To provide public information on a subject or condition.

Require. To absolutely impose an obligation or standard.

Resiliency. The ability to adapt to changing conditions and prepare for, withstand, and rapidly recover from disruption or disasters.

Respect. To give due regard for something or to hold something in high regard.

Rural. Development patterns characterized predominantly by very low density housing development and limited amounts of low intensity commercial buildings in proximity to large natural areas or open space. Rural development often has limited infrastructure (e.g., onsite septic, onsite wells, unpaved roads, etc.).

S

Safe yield. The maximum quantity of water that can be annually withdrawn from a groundwater aquifer without resulting in overdraft, without adversely affecting aquifer health, and without adversely affecting the health of associated lakes, streams, springs and seeps or their biological resources. The safe yield of an aquifer can be increased by management actions such as artificial recharge, including infiltration and other similar actions.

Sensitive land uses. Types of facilities that the California Air Resources Board recommends being protected from sources of air pollution. Sensitive land uses include residences, childcare centers, educational institutions, medical facilities, senior care facilities, and parks and recreation facilities.

Sensitive receptor. In the context of truck routes, sensitive receptor means one or more of the following:

- (1) A residence, including, but not limited to, a private home, apartment, condominium unit, group home, dormitory unit, or retirement home.
- (2) A school, including, but not limited to, a preschool, prekindergarten, or school maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

- (3) A daycare facility, including, but not limited to, in-home daycare.
- (4) (A) Publicly owned parks, playgrounds, and recreational areas or facilities primarily used by children.
- (4) (B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the following types of park and recreation areas shall not be considered a sensitive receptor:
 - (i) Parks and recreation areas included as a condition of approval for the logistics use development.
 - (ii) Land that will be used to ensure the public's right of access to the sea, or other public access, pursuant to the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code) or McAteer-Petris Act (Title 7.2 (commencing with Section 66600)).
 - (iii) Land developed at or adjacent to an airport or seaport for the express purpose of creating a buffer area between sensitive receptors and an airport or seaport facility.
- (5) Nursing homes, long-term care facilities, hospices, convalescent facilities, or similar live-in housing.
- (6) Hospitals, as defined in Section 128700 of the Health and Safety Code.

Shall. Will always be carried out or required; no exceptions.

Shared parking. A land use strategy that optimizes parking capacity, reduces the amount of land developed, and promotes connectivity by allowing complementary land uses to share parking spaces, rather than producing or requiring separate spaces for separate uses.

Should. Will be carried out or required most of the time, unless a very good reason is identified why an exception is acceptable.

Social capital. An intangible resource that community members can draw upon to solve collective problems. It consists of social trusts, norms, and networks that can alleviate societal problems. Civic engagement encourages feelings of reciprocity between community members and facilitates coordination, communication, and collaboration. Social capital can also be understood by examining community events, organizations, facilities, and participants.

Sometimes. Will apply to future decisions under specified conditions or circumstances.

Specify. To establish distinct requirements.

Sphere of influence (SOI). The probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency, such as an incorporated city or town or a special district, as determined by the local agency formation commission (LAFCO). SOIs are planning tools used to provide guidance for individual proposals involving jurisdictional changes, and are intended to encourage the efficient provision of organized community services and prevent duplication of service delivery. A territory must also be within a city or district's sphere in order to be annexed.

While a city/town SOI can include both incorporated and unincorporated lands, the unincorporated lands remain within the jurisdictional control of the county until such time that the

land is annexed into the city/town. A city/town is obligated to consider its unincorporated SOI in its general plan, although the county's planning authority remains in place.

Strive. To make great efforts or devote serious effort to achieve or obtain something.

Sufficient buildable area. Able to conform to current development standards and requirements from local, state, and federal agencies.

Suburban. Development patterns characterized predominantly by a mix of very low to medium density single family housing and multifamily housing development, interspersed with retail, office, industrial, and public or quasi-public facilities. Suburban development is often supported by investments in water, sewer, and roadway infrastructure.

Support. To provide assistance or promotion; see *encourage*.

Sustainable. Able to use a resource or conduct activity at a desired rate or level without depleting resources (e.g., financial or natural) to a point where others cannot rely upon or use them in the future; in some context the term can refer to the long-range viability of the environment, economy, and social equity (referred to as "the three E's of sustainability").

T

Truck traffic, truck trips, or trucking-intensive business. In the context of defining truck traffic or a trucking-intensive business, a truck is a vehicle identified by the Federal Highway Administration vehicle as Class 5 or higher, with the exception of dually trucks and recreational vehicles. A trucking-intensive business is a permitted use that includes the frequent use of trucks as part of its primary activities. Examples include truck yards, logistics facilities, hazardous materials or waste facilities, container storage, and container parking. Excluded from this definition is commercial vehicle storage in residential areas as permitted in the County Development Code.

U

Upstream issues. Conditions, such as food insecurity, that exist prior to and contribute to a person's undesirable medical, social, financial, or legal circumstance.

Urban. Development patterns characterized by higher density residential and/or nonresidential development served by frequent transit service and public infrastructure.

V

Value (*Community Action Guide*). A shared asset, principle, standard, social more, and in the judgement of the community, what is important in the lives of its residents and businesses.

Vulnerable population or community. Populations or communities that experience heightened risk and increased sensitivity to natural disasters, emergencies, or severe weather events or conditions; and have less capacity and fewer resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from such events or conditions.

W

Watermaster. A board or committee appointed by a court to oversee an adjudicated water basin, fulfilling the obligations set forth in a stipulated judgement containing a declaration of rights of the water users and other entities for a specific groundwater basin.

We (Community Action Guide). The collective of community residents, business owners, property owners, service providers, and other stakeholders; distinct from the usage of “we” in the Policy Plan.

We (Policy Plan). The County of San Bernardino government body; distinct from the usage of “we” in the Community Action Guides.

Wildlife corridor. A wildlife corridor can be defined as a linear landscape feature of sufficient width to allow animal movement between two comparatively undisturbed habitat fragments. Wildlife corridors are similar to linkages, but provide specific opportunities for animals to disperse or migrate between areas. Adequate cover is essential for a corridor to function as a wildlife movement area. It is possible for a habitat corridor to be adequate for one species yet, inadequate for others. Wildlife corridors are significant features for dispersal, seasonal migration, breeding, and foraging. Additionally, open space can provide a buffer against both human disturbance and natural fluctuations in resources.

Williamson Act (WA). Also known as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, the WA creates an arrangement whereby private land owners contract with local governments to voluntarily restrict land to agricultural and open space uses. The vehicle for these agreements is a rolling term 10-year contract (i.e., unless either party files a “notice of nonrenewal” the contract is automatically renewed annually for an additional year). In return, restricted parcels are assessed for property tax purposes at a rate consistent with their actual use (which is typically very low based on agricultural or open space usage), rather than potential market value.

Contracts may be exited at the option of the land owner or local government by initiating the process of term nonrenewal. Contract cancellation involves a comprehensive review and approval process, as well as a fee equal to 12.5 percent of the full market value of the subject property. Other circumstances and processes may also apply. *See also agricultural preserve.*

Wind erosion hazard area. Wind erosion is the process of detachment, transport, and deposition of soil by wind. Wind erosion potential is determined based on the type of soil present in an area and the area’s average wind speed. A wind erosion hazard area is an area where the potential for wind erosion is categorized as medium-high or high, and is therefore an area where wind-blown soil could be a hazard for buildings and other structures.

X

[placeholder]

Y

[placeholder]

Z

Zoning. The division of a jurisdiction by legislative regulations into areas (aka land use zoning districts), which specify allowable uses for real property and size restrictions for buildings within these areas; a program that implements policies and the land use categories of the Policy Plan.