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- GPA No. 1075, BOS RSLN 2011-156, 10/18/11
- GPA No. 1120, BOS RSLN 2014-222, 11/24/14
- GPA No. 743, BOS RSLN 2015-214, 09/22/15
- GPA No. 960, BOS RSLN 2015-260, 12/08/15



# Elsinore Area Plan

## Vision Summary

The County of Riverside General Plan and Area Plans have been shaped by the RCIP Vision. Following is a summary of the Vision Statement that includes many of the salient points brought forth by the residents of Elsinore Area Plan as well as the rest of the County of Riverside. The RCIP Vision reflects the County of Riverside in the year 2020. So, fast forward yourself to 2020 and here is what it will be like.

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

It is now the year 2020. This year (incidentally, also a common reference to clear vision), is an appropriate time to check our community vision. Twenty years have passed since we took an entirely new look at how the County of Riverside was evolving. Based on what we saw, we set bold new directions for the future. As we now look around and move through Riverside County, the results are notable. They could happen only in response to universal values strongly held by the people. Some of those values are:

- Real dedication to a sense of community;
- Appreciation for the diversity of our people and places within this expansive landscape;
- Belief in the value of participation by our people in shaping their communities;
- Confidence in the future and faith that our long term commitments will pay off;
- Willingness to innovate and learn from our experience;
- Dedication to the preservation of the environmental features that frame our communities;
- Respect for our differences and willingness to work toward their resolution;
- Commitment to quality development in partnership with those who help build our communities;
- The value of collaboration by our elected officials in conducting public business.

Those values and the plans they inspired have brought us a long way. True, much remains to be done. But our energies and resources are being invested in a unified direction, based on the common ground we have affirmed many times during the last 20 years. Perhaps our achievements will help you understand why we believe we are on the right path.

## Population Growth

The almost doubling of our population in only 20 years has been a challenge, but we have met it by focusing that growth in areas that are well served by public facilities and services or where they can readily be provided. Major transportation corridors serve our communities and nearby open space preserves help define them. Our growth focus is on quality, not quantity. That allows the numbers to work for us and not against us. We enjoy an unprecedented clarity regarding what areas must not be developed and which ones should be developed. The resulting pattern of growth concentrates development in key areas rather than spreading it uniformly throughout the County of Riverside. Land is used more efficiently, communities operate at more of a human scale, and transit systems to supplement the automobile are more feasible. In fact, the customized Oasis transit system now operates quite successfully in several cities and communities.

## Our Communities and Neighborhoods

Our choices in the kind of community and neighborhood we prefer are almost unlimited here. From sophisticated urban villages to quality suburban neighborhoods to spacious rural enclaves, we have them all. If you are like most of us, you appreciate the quality schools and their programs that are the centerpiece of many of our neighborhoods. Not only have our older communities matured gracefully, but we boast several new communities as well. They prove that quality of life comes in many different forms.

## Housing

We challenge you to seek a form of housing or a range in price that does not exist here. Our housing choices, from rural retreat to suburban neighborhood to exclusive custom estate are as broad as the demand for housing requires. Choices include entry level housing for first time buyers, apartments serving those not now in the buying market, seniors' housing, and world class golf communities. You will also find smart housing with the latest in built-in technology as well as refurbished historic units. The County of Riverside continues to draw people who are looking for a blend of quality and value.

## Transportation

It is no secret that the distances in the vast County of Riverside can be a bit daunting. Yet, our transportation system has kept pace amazingly well with the growth in population, employment and tourism and their demands for mobility. We are perhaps proudest of the new and expanded transportation corridors that connect growth centers throughout the County of Riverside. They do more than provide a way for people and goods to get where they need to be. Several major corridors have built-in expansion capability to accommodate varied forms of transit. These same corridors are designed with a high regard for the environment in mind, including providing for critical wildlife crossings so that our open spaces can sustain their habitat value.

## Conservation and Open Space Resources

The often-impassioned conflicts regarding what lands to permanently preserve as open space are virtually resolved. The effort to consider our environmental resources, recreation needs, habitat systems, and visual heritage as one comprehensive, multi-purpose open space system has resulted in an unprecedented commitment to their preservation. In addition, these spaces help to form distinctive edges to many of our communities or clusters of communities. What is equally satisfying is that they were acquired in a variety of creative and equitable ways.

## Air Quality

It may be hard to believe, but our air quality has actually improved slightly despite the phenomenal growth that has occurred in the region. Most of that growth, of course, has been in adjacent counties and we continue to import their pollutants. We are on the verge of a breakthrough in technical advances to reduce smog from cars and trucks. Not only that, but our expanded supply of jobs reduces the need for people here to commute as far as in the past.

## Jobs and Economy

In proportion to population, our job growth is spectacular. Not only is our supply of jobs beyond any previously projected level, it has become quite diversified. Clusters of new industries have brought with them an array of jobs that attract skilled labor and executives alike. We are particularly enthusiastic about the linkages between our diversified business community and our educational system. Extensive vocational training programs, coordinated with businesses, are a constant source of opportunities for youth and those in our labor force who seek further improvement.

## Agricultural Lands

Long a major foundation of our economy and our culture, agriculture remains a thriving part of the County of Riverside. While we have lost some agriculture to other forms of development, other lands have been brought into agricultural production. We are still a major agricultural force in California and compete successfully in the global agricultural market.

## Educational System

Quality education, from pre-school through graduate programs, marks the County of Riverside as a place where educational priorities are firmly established. A myriad of partnerships involving private enterprise and cooperative programs between local governments and school districts are in place, making the educational system an integral part of our communities.

## Plan Integration

The coordinated planning for multi-purpose open space systems, community based land use patterns, and a diversified transportation system has paid off handsomely. Integration of these major components of community building has resulted in a degree of certainty and clarity of direction not commonly achieved in the face of such dynamic change.

## Financial Realities

From the very beginning, our vision included the practical consideration of how we would pay for the qualities our expectations demanded. Creative, yet practical financing programs provide the necessary leverage to achieve a high percentage of our aspirations expressed in the updated RCIP.

**Intergovernmental Cooperation**

As a result of the necessary coordination between the County of Riverside, the cities and other governmental agencies brought about through the RCIP, a high degree of intergovernmental cooperation and even partnership is now commonplace. This way of doing public business has become a tradition and the County of Riverside is renowned for its many model intergovernmental programs.

**Introduction**

Throughout the Area Plan, special features have been included to enhance the readability and practicality of the information provided. Look for these elements:



**Quotes:** quotations from the RCIP Vision or individuals involved or concerned with Riverside County.



**Factoids:** interesting information about Riverside County that is related to the element



**References:** contacts and resources that can be consulted for additional information



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

It doesn't matter whether you whiz by on Interstate 15 or wind your way down the spectacular face of the Santa Ana Mountains on State Route 74; the eye cannot avoid taking in Lake Elsinore. From the I-15 you also get a bonus in the form of the precipitous slope of the mountains; from the 74 you gaze out over hills, towns and valleys stretching far into the distance. As if that was not enough, there is even the man-made Canyon Lake off to the northeast, capturing waters from the San Jacinto River. The richness of this special place isn't just in its visual qualities. It is also a collection of unique communities as well as home to a remarkable variety of natural species. The Elsinore area is a truly unique human and natural habitat within a county that encompasses many notable environments.

The Elsinore Area Plan doesn't just provide a description of the location, physical characteristics, and special features here. It contains a Land Use Plan, statistical summaries, policies, and accompanying exhibits that allow anyone interested in the continued prosperity of this distinctive area to understand the physical, environmental and regulatory characteristics that make this such a unique area. Background information also provides insights that help in understanding the issues that require special focus here and the reasons for the more localized policy direction found in this document.

Each section of the Area Plan addresses critical issues facing Elsinore. Perhaps a description of these sections will help in understanding the organization of the Area Plan as well as appreciating the comprehensive nature of the planning process that led to it. The Location section explains where the Area Plan fits with what is around it and how it relates to the cities that impact it. Physical features are described in a section that highlights the planning area's communities, surrounding environment and natural resources. This leads naturally to the Land Use Plan section, which describes the land use system guiding development at both the countywide and area plan levels.

While a number of these designations reflect the unique features found only in Elsinore, a number of special policies are still necessary to address unique situations. The Policy Areas section presents these additional policies. Land use related issues are addressed in the Land Use section. The Plan also describes relevant transportation issues, routes and modes of transportation in the Circulation section. The key to understanding the valued open space network is described in the Multipurpose Open Space section. There are, of

course, both natural and manmade hazards to consider, and they are spelled out in the Hazards section.

## *A Special Note on Implementing the Vision*

The preface to this area plan is a summary version of the Riverside County Vision. That summary is, in turn, simply an overview of a much more extensive and detailed Vision of Riverside County two decades or more into the future. This area plan, as part of the Riverside County General Plan, is one of the major devices for making the Vision a reality.

No two area plans are the same. Each represents a unique portion of the incredibly diverse place known as Riverside County. While many share certain common features, each of the plans reflects the special characteristics that define its area's unique identity. These features include not only physical qualities, but also the particular boundaries used to define them, the stage of development they have reached, the dynamics of change expected to affect them, and the numerous decisions that shape development and conservation in each locale. That is why the Vision cannot and should not be reflected uniformly.

Policies at the General Plan and Area Plan levels implement the Riverside County Vision in a range of subject areas as diverse as the scope of the Vision itself. The land use pattern contained in this area plan is a further expression of the Vision as it is shaped to fit the terrain and the conditions in the Elsinore area.

To illustrate how the Vision has shaped this area plan, the following highlights reflect certain strategies that link the Vision to the land. This is not a comprehensive enumeration; rather, it emphasizes a few of the most powerful and physically tangible examples.

**Pattern of Development and Open Space.** The Plan intensifies and mixes uses at nodes adjacent to transportation corridors, more accurately reflects topography and natural resources in the Gavilan and Sedco Hills with appropriate land use designations, and avoids high intensity development in natural hazard areas. Land use densities step down into areas constrained by natural features, resources or habitats, or remote from transportation facilities. Existing communities and neighborhoods retain their character and are separated from one another by lower intensity land use designations where possible.

**Watercourses.** Temescal Wash is a major influence on the character of the northern portion of the Area Plan, traversing it from northwest to southeast and flowing around Lee Lake and adjacent to Interstate 15. Land use designations adjacent to the Wash reflect a desire to buffer it from development so that its scenic and natural resource values are retained. Murrieta Creek, which flows adjacent to Palomar Street in Wildomar, has also been illustrated as a watercourse.

Data in this area plan is current as of [*Adoption date of GPA No. 1122*] ~~March 23, 2010~~. Any General Plan amendments approved subsequent to that date are not reflected in this area plan and must be supported by their own environmental documentation. A process for incorporating any applicable portion of these amendments into this area plan is part of the General Plan Implementation Program.



Unincorporated land is all land within the County that is not within an incorporated city or an Indian Nation. Generally, it is subject to policy direction and under the land use authority of the Board of Supervisors. However, it may also contain state and federal properties that lie outside of Board authority.

## Location

The strategic location of this area is clearly evident in Figure 1, Location. Because of the access provided by State Route 74 over the Santa Ana Mountains, Elsinore is a gateway to the west. It is also an important north/south link in the western flank of Riverside County. One looks outward toward five area plans that constitute a major portion of the vast development potential in western Riverside County. Starting to the south and moving counter-clockwise, we find the adjacent Southwest Area Plan, and the plans for Sun City/Menifee Valley, Mead Valley, Lake Mathews/Woodcrest and Temescal Canyon. The cities of Lake Elsinore, Wildomar and Canyon Lake are core communities here. Murrieta approaches from the south and Perris from the northeast, but neither extend into this planning area. Moreover, the Elsinore planning area borders on both San Diego County to the south and Orange County to the west. These relationships can be better visualized by reference to Figure 1, Location, which also depicts the unincorporated places that have a strong local identity. As a framework for these locales, some of the more prominent physical features are also shown on this exhibit.

## Features

The Riverside County Vision builds heavily on the value of its remarkable environmental setting. That certainly applies here as well. This section describes the setting, features and functions that are unique to the Elsinore Area Plan. These defining characteristics are shown on Figure 2, Physical Features.

## Setting



The San Jacinto River meanders over 40 miles through Riverside County, beginning at Lake Hemet in the San Jacinto Mountains and terminating at Lake Elsinore.

Much of the Elsinore Area Plan is situated within a valley, running from northwest to southeast, framed by the Santa Ana and Elsinore Mountains on the west and the Gavilan and Sedco Hills on the east. Lake Elsinore, which is the largest natural lake in Southern California, covering about 3,000 surface acres, is a centerpiece in the valley. Lake Elsinore is the terminus of the San Jacinto River, which is regulated by the Railroad Canyon dam and generally stabilized at an elevation of approximately 1,230 feet. The Lake is fed by the San Jacinto River and underground springs and is drained by the Temescal Wash to the north, flowing eventually into the Santa Ana River. Murrieta Creek, which eventually drains into the Santa Margarita River, starts just south of Lake Elsinore. Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, the San Jacinto River, Temescal Wash, and Murrieta Creek provide a distinctive pattern of lakes and watercourses throughout the valley floor and the settlements here are significantly shaped by the richness of both waterways and the widely varied topography. It is truly a remarkable setting.

## Unique Features

### *Cleveland National Forest*

The Cleveland National Forest forms the western boundary of the area and encompasses large portions of the Santa Ana and Elsinore Mountains. This area is characterized by natural open space and outdoor recreational



uses with pockets of rural residential and wilderness oriented visitor serving uses scattered along State Route 74. Private inholdings within the Forest boundary are developed with limited residential and commercial uses.

## *Temescal Wash*

The Temescal Wash creates an impressive swath pinched between the Gavilan Hills and the Santa Ana Mountains. Although dry most of the year, the wash serves as an outlet for Lake Elsinore and eventually drains into the Santa Ana River. While the wash runs in a generally northwest/southeast direction, it also provides a critical perpendicular linkage for animals between the mountain and hill habitats on either side. That is why the wash plays such an important role in the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.

## Unique Communities

### *Meadowbrook*

Meadowbrook, an Unincorporated Community recognized by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) in 1997, is situated in the northeastern portion of the Area Plan immediately north and east of presently undeveloped portions of the City of Lake Elsinore. This community includes some commercial and light industrial uses focused along State Route 74, the central transportation spine within the community. However, Meadowbrook is generally characterized by very low density residential development and vacant properties set amid rolling hills. Community residents have expressed interest in economic development through implementation of a Rural Village Land Use Overlay.

### *Warm Springs*

Warm Springs, a Community of Interest recognized by LAFCO, forms a portion of the northern boundary of the Elsinore Area Plan. The northerly portion of this community is set in the Gavilan Hills. A strip along the north edge of this area, along the border of the Lake Mathews/Woodcrest Area Plan, is within the sphere of influence of the relatively distant City of Riverside. This area is generally characterized by rural uses set along steep slopes. Development is concentrated adjacent to Interstate 15 and in a focused area along State Route 74 adjacent to the City of Lake Elsinore.

### *Horsethief Canyon*

Horsethief Canyon is located in the northwestern corner of the plan area. This emerging suburban development is developing pursuant to a comprehensive specific plan (Specific Plan No. 152) that both accommodates potential population growth and provides for conservation of open space.



**A Community of Interest (COI)** is a study area designated by LAFCO within unincorporated territory that may be annexed to one or more cities or special districts, incorporated as a new city, or designated as an **Unincorporated Community (UC)** within two years of status obtainment.

Designation of an area as a UC may require removal from a municipal sphere of influence since the two designations are mutually exclusive.

### Cleveland Ridge (Lakeland Village)

The community of Cleveland Ridge is located immediately west of Lake Elsinore and includes a major ridge along the eastern face of the Santa Ana and Elsinore Mountains. This community also incorporates the Lakeland Village Redevelopment Project Area, which comprises a mix of urban residential and commercial uses along Grand Avenue on the low lying areas adjacent to the lake. Natural open space with pockets of rural residential uses are adjacent to State Route 74 as it winds along the steep easterly face of the Santa Ana Mountains.



A “**sphere of influence**” is the area outside of and adjacent to a city’s border that has been identified by the County Local Agency Formation Commission as a future logical extension of its jurisdiction. While the County of Riverside has land use authority over city sphere areas, development in these areas directly affects circulation, service provision, and community character within the cities.

### Incorporated Cities

#### City of Lake Elsinore

The Elsinore Area Plan surrounds the incorporated City of Lake Elsinore. As of, the City of Lake Elsinore encompassed about 42.3 square miles, with an estimated population of 50,267, and 16,207 households. Lake Elsinore's sphere of influence encompasses over 30.2 square miles and extends into the Horsethief Canyon, Warm Springs and Meadowbrook communities and southwest towards the communities of El Cariso and Rancho Capistrano near the Main Divide Road.

#### City of Riverside

A portion of the City of Riverside's sphere of influence extends into the Warm Springs community. The City of Riverside’s predominantly rural land use designations for this area are consistent with this area plan’s direction.

### City of Wildomar

Wildomar is located immediately south of the City of Lake Elsinore in a valley between the Santa Ana Mountains and the Gavilan and Sedco Hills. Wildomar City, incorporated on July 1, 2008, includes rural residential uses in the rolling hills and more intense concentration of residential, commercial and employment uses between Interstate 15 and Grand Avenue. The community is expanding easterly of Interstate 15, especially along Clinton Keith Road and Bundy Canyon Road.

### City of Canyon Lake

Canyon Lake is a private, gated city located halfway between Lake Elsinore and Sun City, California. Canyon Lake began as a master-planned community developed by Corona Land Company in 1968. The “City of Canyon Lake” was incorporated on December 1, 1990. As of 2009, the city geographically spanned over 4.6 square miles. Originally formed in 1927 after Railroad Canyon Dam was built, the lake covers 383 acres and includes 14.9 miles of shoreline.

## Land Use Plan

The Land Use Plan focuses on preserving the numerous unique features in the Elsinore area and, at the same time, guides the accommodation of future growth. To accomplish this, more detailed land use designations are applied than for the Countywide General Plan. Proposed uses represent a full spectrum of categories that relate the natural characteristics of the land and economic potential to a range of permitted uses.

The Elsinore Land Use Plan, Figure 3 depicts the geographic distribution of land uses within this area. The Plan is organized around 20 Area Plan land use designations. These land uses derive from, and provide more detailed direction than, the five General Plan Foundation Component land uses: Open Space, Agriculture, Rural, Rural Community and Community Development. Table 1, Land Use Designations Summary, outlines the development intensity, density, typical allowable land uses, and general characteristics for each of the area plan land use designations within each Foundation Component. The General Plan Land Use Element contains more detailed descriptions and policies for the Foundation Components and each of the area plan land use designations.

Many factors led to the designation of land use patterns. Among the most influential were the Riverside County Vision and Planning Principles, both of which focused, in part, on preferred patterns of development within the County of Riverside; the Community Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP) that focused on major transportation corridors; the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) that focused on opportunities and strategies for significant open space and habitat preservation; established patterns of existing uses and parcel configurations; current zoning, and the oral and written testimony of Riverside County residents, property owners, and representatives of cities and organizations at the many Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors hearings. The result of these considerations is shown in Figure 3, Land Use Plan, which portrays the location and extent of proposed land uses. Table 2, Statistical Summary of the Elsinore Area Plan, provides a summary of the projected development capacity of the plan if all uses are built as proposed. This table includes dwelling unit, population, and employment capacities.

## Land Use Concept

The Elsinore Area Plan reflects the RCIP Vision for Riverside County in several ways. It does so by intensifying and mixing uses at nodes adjacent to transportation corridors, by more accurately reflecting topography and natural resources in land use designations, by avoiding high intensity development in natural hazard areas, and by considering compatibility with adjacent communities' land use plans as well as the desires of residents in the plan area.

The land use designations maintain the predominantly very low density character of the Meadowbrook and Warm Springs communities, the natural and recreational characteristics of the Cleveland National Forest, and

“

*Communities should range in location and type from urban to suburban to rural, and in intensity from dense urban centers to small cities and towns to rural country villages to ranches and farms.*

”

*- RCIP General Plan Principles*

“

*Our communities - both improvements to existing ones and newly emerging ones - are models for new ways to provide and manage infrastructure, deliver education, access jobs, apply new technology, and achieve greater efficiency in the use of land, structure, and public improvements.*

”

*- RCIP Vision*

Community Development uses in Cleveland Ridge. Areas designated Conservation-Habitat and Rural Mountainous help provide a separation between communities and provide additional definition for existing communities.

**Table 1: Land Use Designations Summary**

Foundation Component	Area Plan Land Use Designation	Building Intensity Range (du/ac or FAR) <sup>1, 2,3,4</sup>	Notes
Agriculture	Agriculture (AG)	10 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural land including row crops, groves, nurseries, dairies, poultry farms, processing plants, and other related uses.</li> <li>One single-family residence allowed per 10 acres except as otherwise specified by a policy or an overlay.</li> </ul>
Rural	Rural Residential (RR)	5 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family residences with a minimum lot size of 5 acres.</li> <li>Allows limited animal keeping and agricultural uses, recreational uses, compatible resource development (not including the commercial extraction of mineral resources) and associated uses and governmental uses.</li> </ul>
	Rural Mountainous (RM)	10 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family residential uses with a minimum lot size of 10 acres.</li> <li>Areas of at least 10 acres where a minimum of 70% of the area has slopes of 25% or greater.</li> <li>Allows limited animal keeping, agriculture, recreational uses, compatible resource development (which may include the commercial extraction of mineral resources with approval of a SMP) and associated uses and governmental uses.</li> </ul>
	Rural Desert (RD)	10 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family residential uses with a minimum lot size of 10 acres.</li> <li>Allows limited animal keeping, agriculture, recreational, renewable energy uses including solar, geothermal and wind energy uses, as well as associated uses required to develop and operate these renewable energy sources, compatible resource development (which may include the commercial extraction of mineral resources with approval of SMP), and governmental and utility uses.</li> </ul>
Rural Community	Estate Density Residential (RC-EDR)	2 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 2 to 5 acres.</li> <li>Limited agriculture, intensive equestrian and animal keeping uses are expected and encouraged.</li> </ul>
	Very Low Density Residential (RC-VLDR)	1 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 1 to 2 acres.</li> <li>Limited agriculture, intensive equestrian and animal keeping uses are expected and encouraged.</li> </ul>
	Low Density Residential (RC-LDR)	0.5 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 0.5 to 1 acre.</li> <li>Limited agriculture, intensive equestrian and animal keeping uses are expected and encouraged.</li> </ul>
Open Space	Conservation (C)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The protection of open space for natural hazard protection, cultural preservation, and natural and scenic resource preservation. Existing agriculture is permitted.</li> </ul>
	Conservation Habitat (CH)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applies to public and private lands conserved and managed in accordance with adopted Multi Species Habitat and other Conservation Plans and in accordance with related Riverside County policies..</li> </ul>
	Water (W)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes bodies of water and natural or artificial drainage corridors.</li> <li>Extraction of mineral resources subject to SMP may be permissible provided that flooding hazards are addressed and long term habitat and riparian values are maintained.</li> </ul>
	Recreation (R)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreational uses including parks, trails, athletic fields, and golf courses.</li> <li>Neighborhood parks are permitted within residential land uses.</li> </ul>
	Rural (RUR)	20 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One single-family residence allowed per 20 acres.</li> <li>Extraction of mineral resources subject to SMP may be permissible provided that scenic resources and views are protected.</li> </ul>
	Mineral Resources (MR)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mineral extraction and processing facilities.</li> <li>Areas held in reserve for future mineral extraction and processing.</li> </ul>

Foundation Component	Area Plan Land Use Designation	Building Intensity Range (du/ac or FAR) <sup>1, 2,3,4</sup>	Notes
Community Development	Estate Density Residential (EDR)	2 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 2 to 5 acres.</li> <li>Limited agriculture and animal keeping is permitted, however, intensive animal keeping is discouraged.</li> </ul>
	Very Low Density Residential (VLDR)	1 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 1 to 2 acres.</li> <li>Limited agriculture and animal keeping is permitted, however, intensive animal keeping is discouraged.</li> </ul>
	Low Density Residential (LDR)	0.5 ac min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached residences on large parcels of 0.5 to 1 acre.</li> <li>Limited agriculture and animal keeping is permitted, however, intensive animal keeping is discouraged.</li> </ul>
	Medium Density Residential (MDR)	2 - 5 du/ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family detached and attached residences with a density range of 2 to 5 dwelling units per acre.</li> <li>Limited agriculture and animal keeping is permitted, however, intensive animal keeping is discouraged.</li> <li>Lot sizes range from 5,500 to 20,000 sq. ft., typical 7,200 sq. ft. lots allowed.</li> </ul>
	Medium High Density Residential (MHDR)	5 - 8 du/ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family attached and detached residences with a density range of 5 to 8 dwelling units per acre.</li> <li>Lot sizes range from 4,000 to 6,500 sq. ft.</li> </ul>
	High Density Residential (HDR)	8 - 14 du/ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family attached and detached residences, including townhouses, stacked flats, courtyard homes, patio homes, townhouses, and zero lot line homes.</li> </ul>
	Very High Density Residential (VHDR)	14 - 20 du/ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-family attached residences and multi-family dwellings.</li> </ul>
	Highest Density Residential (HHDR)	20+ du/ac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multi-family dwellings, includes apartments and condominium.</li> <li>Multi-storied (3+) structures are allowed.</li> </ul>
	Commercial Retail (CR)	0.20 - 0.35 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local and regional serving retail and service uses. The amount of land designated for Commercial Retail exceeds that amount anticipated to be necessary to serve Riverside County's population at build out. Once build out of Commercial Retail reaches the 40% level within any Area Plan, additional studies will be required before CR development beyond the 40% will be permitted.</li> </ul>
	Commercial Tourist (CT)	0.20 - 0.35 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourist related commercial including hotels, golf courses, and recreation/amusement activities.</li> </ul>
	Commercial Office (CO)	0.35 - 1.0 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variety of office related uses including financial, legal, insurance and other office services.</li> </ul>
	Light Industrial (LI)	0.25 - 0.60 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial and related uses including warehousing/distribution, assembly and light manufacturing, repair facilities, and supporting retail uses</li> </ul>
	Heavy Industrial (HI)	0.15 - 0.50 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More intense industrial activities that generate greater effects such as excessive noise, dust, and other nuisances.</li> </ul>
	Business Park (BP)	0.25 - 0.60 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employee intensive uses, including research and development, technology centers, corporate offices, clean industry and supporting retail uses.</li> </ul>
	Public Facilities (PF)	< 0.60 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civic uses such as County of Riverside administrative buildings and schools.</li> </ul>
	Community Center (CC)	5 - 40 du/ac 0.10 - 0.3 FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes combination of small-lot single family residences, multi-family residences, commercial retail, office, business park uses, civic uses, transit facilities, and recreational open space within a unified planned development area. This also includes Community Centers in adopted specific plans.</li> </ul>
	Mixed-Use Planning Area		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This designation is applied to areas outside of Community Centers. The intent of the designation is not to identify a particular mixture or intensity of land uses, but to designate areas where a mixture of residential, commercial, office, entertainment, educational, and/or recreational uses, or other uses is planned.</li> </ul>

## Overlays and Policy Areas

Overlays and Policy Areas are not considered a Foundation Component. Overlays and Policy Areas address local conditions and can be applied in any Foundation Component. The specific details and development characteristics of each Policy Area and Overlay are contained in the appropriate Area Plan.

Community Development Overlay (CDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows Community Development land use designations to be applied through General Plan Amendments within specified areas within Rural, Rural Community, Agriculture, or Open Space Foundation Component areas. Specific policies related to each Community Development Overlay are contained in the appropriate Area Plan.</li> </ul>
Community Center Overlay (CCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows for either a Community Center or the underlying designated land use to be developed.</li> </ul>
Rural Village Overlay (RVO) and Rural Village Overlay Study Area (RVOSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Rural Village Overlay allows a concentration of residential and local-serving commercial uses within areas of rural character.</li> <li>The Rural Village Overlay allows the uses and maximum densities/intensities of the Medium Density Residential and Medium High Density Residential and Commercial Retail land use designations.</li> <li>In some rural village areas, identified as Rural Village Overlay Study Areas, the final boundaries will be determined at a later date during the consistency zoning program. (The consistency zoning program is the process of bringing current zoning into consistency with the adopted general plan.)</li> </ul>
Historic District Overlay (HDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This overlay allows for specific protections, land uses, the application of the Historic Building Code, and consideration for contributing elements to the District.</li> </ul>
Specific Community Development Designation Overlay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permits flexibility in land uses designations to account for local conditions. Consult the applicable Area Plan text for details.</li> </ul>
Policy Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy Areas are specific geographic districts that contain unique characteristics that merit detailed attention and focused policies. These policies may impact the underlying land use designations. At the Area Plan level, Policy Areas accommodate several locally specific designations, such as the Cherry Valley Policy Area (The Pass Area Plan), or the Highway 79 Policy Area (Sun City/Menifee Valley Area Plan). Consult the applicable Area Plan text for details.</li> </ul>

### NOTES:

1 FAR = Floor Area Ratio, which is the measurement of the amount of non-residential building square footage in relation to the size of the lot. Du/ac = dwelling units per acre, which is the measurement of the amount of residential units in a given acre.

2 The building intensity range noted is exclusive, that is the range noted provides a minimum and maximum building intensity.

3 Clustering is encouraged in all residential designations. The allowable density of a particular land use designation may be clustered in one portion of the site in smaller lots, as long as the ratio of dwelling units/area remains within the allowable density range associated with the designation. The rest of the site would then be preserved as open space or a use compatible with open space (e.g., agriculture, pasture or wildlife habitat). Within the Rural Foundation Component and Rural Designation of the Open Space Foundation Component, the allowable density may be clustered as long as no lot is smaller than 0.5 acre. This 0.5-acre minimum lot size also applies to the Rural Community Development Foundation Component. However, for sites adjacent to Community Development Foundation Component areas, 10,000 square foot minimum lots are allowed. The clustered areas would be a mix of 10,000-square-foot and 0.5-acre lots. In such cases, larger lots or open space would be required near the project boundary with Rural Community and Rural Foundation Component areas.

4 The minimum lot size required for each permanent structure with plumbing fixtures utilizing an onsite wastewater treatment system to handle its wastewater is 0.5 acre per structure.

**Table 2: Statistical Summary of Elsinore Area Plan**

LAND USE	STATISTICAL CALCULATIONS <sup>1</sup>			
	AREA ACREAGE <sup>7</sup>	D.U.	POP.	EMPLOY.
<b>LAND USE ASSUMPTIONS AND CALCULATIONS<sup>9</sup></b>				
<b>LAND USE DESIGNATIONS BY FOUNDATION COMPONENTS</b>				
<b>AGRICULTURE FOUNDATION COMPONENT</b>				
Agriculture (AG)	0	0	0	0
<i>Agriculture Foundation Sub-Total:</i>	0	0	0	0
<b>RURAL FOUNDATION COMPONENT</b>				
Rural Residential (RR)	2,442	366	1,107	NA
Rural Mountainous (RM)	10,606	530	1,602	NA
Rural Desert (RD)	0	0	0	NA
<i>Rural Foundation Sub-Total:</i>	13,048	896	2,709	0
<b>RURAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION COMPONENT</b>				
Estate Density Residential (RC-EDR)	686	240	725	NA
Very Low Density Residential (RC-VLDR)	69	52	156	NA
Low Density Residential (RC-LDR)	0	0	0	NA
<i>Rural Community Foundation Sub-Total:</i>	755	292	881	0
<b>OPEN SPACE FOUNDATION COMPONENT</b>				
Open Space-Conservation (OS-C)	224	NA	NA	NA
Open Space-Conservation Habitat (OS-CH)	51,907	NA	NA	NA
Open Space-Water (OS-W)	341,338	NA	NA	NA
Open Space-Recreation (OS-R)	88	NA	NA	13
Open Space-Rural (OS-RUR)	6,407	160	484	NA
Open Space-Mineral Resources (OS-MIN)	0	NA	NA	0
<i>Open Space Foundation Sub-Total:</i>	58,967 58,964	160	484	13
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION COMPONENT</b>				
Estate Density Residential (EDR)	0	0	0	NA
Very Low Density Residential (VLDR)	3,293	2,470	7,461	NA
Low Density Residential (LDR)	571	856	2,585	NA
Medium Density Residential (MDR) <sup>8</sup>	2,732	8,784	26,537	NA
Medium-High Density Residential (MHDR)	245	1,591	4,807	NA
High Density Residential (HDR)	7	77	231	NA
Very High Density Residential (VHDR)	16	265	799	NA
Highest Density Residential (HHDR)	0-45	0 1,355	0 4,093	NA
Commercial Retail <sup>2</sup> (CR)	120 95	NA	NA	1,805 1,409
Commercial Tourist (CT)	17	NA	NA	282
Commercial Office (CO)	0	NA	NA	0
Light Industrial (LI)	825 783	NA	NA	10,609 10,066
Heavy Industrial (HI)	0	NA	NA	0
Business Park (BP)	56	NA	NA	915
Public Facilities (PF)	47	NA	NA	47
Community Center (CC) <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
Mixed Use Planning Area (MUPA)	0 66	0 989	0 2,988	0 396
<i>Community Development Foundation Sub-Total:</i>	7,929 7,932	14,043 16,249	42,420 49,083	13,658 13,115
<b>SUB-TOTAL FOR ALL FOUNDATION COMPONENTS:</b>	<b>80,699</b>	<b>15,394 17,597</b>	<b>46,494 53,157</b>	<b>13,674 13,128</b>
<b>NON-COUNTY JURISDICTION LAND USES</b>				
<b>OTHER LANDS NOT UNDER PRIMARY COUNTY JURISDICTION</b>				
Cities	45,435	---	---	---
Indian Lands	0	---	---	---
Freeways	218	---	---	---
<i>Other Lands Sub-Total:</i>	45,653			
<b>TOTAL FOR ALL LANDS:</b>	<b>126,352</b>	<b>15,394 17,597</b>	<b>46,494 53,157</b>	<b>13,674 13,128</b>



# Elsinore Area Plan

LAND USE	AREA	STATISTICAL CALCULATIONS <sup>1</sup>		
	ACREAGE <sup>7</sup>	D.U.	POP.	EMPLOY.
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL LAND USE PLANNING AREAS</b>				
<i>These SUPPLEMENTAL LAND USES are overlays, policy areas and other supplemental items that apply OVER and IN ADDITION to the base land use designations listed above. The acreage and statistical data below represent possible ALTERNATE land use or buildout scenarios.</i>				
<b>OVERLAYS AND POLICY AREAS</b>				
<b>OVERLAYS<sup>4,5</sup></b>				
Rural Village Study Area Overlay	701	2,003	6,050	3,859
<i>Total Area Subject to Overlays:<sup>4, 5</sup></i>	701	2,003	6,050	3,859
<b>POLICY AREAS<sup>6</sup></b>				
Temescal Wash	460	---	---	---
Glen Eden	703	---	---	---
Warm Springs	13,834	---	---	---
Walker Canyon	1,248	---	---	---
Lake Elsinore Environs	234	---	---	---
March Joint Air Reserve Base Influence Area	190	---	---	---
<i>Total Area Within Policy Areas:<sup>6</sup></i>	16,669			
<b>TOTAL AREA WITHIN SUPPLEMENTALS:<sup>7</sup></b>				
	<b>17,370</b>			

**FOOTNOTES:**

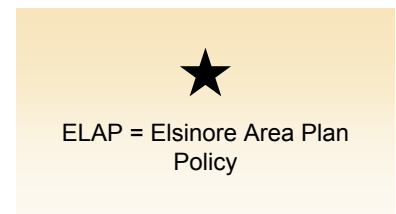
- 1 Statistical calculations are based on the midpoint for the theoretical range of buildout projections. Reference Appendix E-1 of the General Plan for assumptions and methodology used.
- 2 For calculation purposes, it is assumed that CR designated lands will build out at 40% CR and 60% MDR.
- 3 Note that "Community Center" is used both to describe a land use designation and a type of overlay. These two terms are separate and distinct; are calculated separately; and, are *not* interchangeable terms.
- 4 Overlays provide alternate land uses that may be developed *instead of* the underlying base use designations.
- 5 Policy Areas indicate where additional policies or criteria apply, *in addition to* the underlying base use designations. As Policy Areas are supplemental, it is possible for a given parcel of land to fall within one or more Policy Areas. It is also possible for a given Policy Area to span more than one Area Plan.
- 6 Overlay data represent the additional dwelling units, population and employment permissible under the alternate land uses.
- 7 A given parcel of land can fall within more than one Policy Area or Overlay. Thus, this total is *not* additive.
- 8 723.91 acres is under Glen Eden Policy Area which has an assumption of 2.5 du/ac.
- 9 Statistical calculation of the land use designations in the table represents addition of Overlays and Policy Areas.

## Overlays and Policy Areas

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

### Overlays and Policy Areas

Special policies are appropriate to address important locales that have special significance to the residents of this part of Riverside County. Six policy areas have been designated within the Elsinore Area Plan. Many of these policies derive from citizen involvement over a period of years in planning for the future of this area. In some ways, these policies are even more critical to the sustained character of the Elsinore area than some of the basic land use policies because they reflect deeply held beliefs about the kind of place this is and should remain. The policy area boundaries are only approximate and may be interpreted more precisely as decisions are called for in these areas. This flexibility, then, calls for considerable sensitivity in



determining where conditions related to the policies actually exist, once a focused analysis is undertaken on a proposed development project.

### **Warm Springs**

Located in the northern portion of the plan area, Warm Springs includes a rural area set within the steep slopes of the Gavilan Hills. The ridge line and slopes of the Gavilan Hills are biological and visual assets to the region.

**Policies:**

- ELAP 1.1      Protect the life and property of residents and maintain the character of the Gavilan Hills through adherence to the Hillside Development and Slope section of the General Plan Land Use Element, the Environmentally Sensitive Lands section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element, and the Slope and Soil Instability Hazards and Fire Hazards sections of the General Plan Safety Element.
- ELAP 1.2      Require that development of contiguous areas designated as Light Industrial be designed in a coordinated manner.
- ELAP 1.3      Require that all commercial and industrial uses be sensitive to environmental hazards (i.e., flooding) and not substantially impact environmental resources (i.e., biological and water quality).
- ELAP 1.4      Require commercial and industrial uses to not substantially impact circulation systems.

### **Temescal Wash**

Temescal Wash, extending 28 miles from Lake Elsinore to the Santa Ana River, is the principal drainage course within the Temescal Valley. The Wash also serves as an important component of the Western Riverside County MSHCP and has the potential for providing recreational amenities to serve the planning area. The preservation and enhancement of this feature is an important component of the Elsinore Area Plan land use plan. This policy area is synonymous with the 100 year flood zone for the Wash.

**Policies:**

- ELAP 2.1      Protect the multipurpose open space attributes of the Temescal Wash through adherence to policies in the Flood and Inundation Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element; the Non-motorized Transportation section of the Circulation Element; the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans and the Environmentally Sensitive Lands sections of the Multipurpose Open Space Element; and the Open Space, Habitat and Natural Resource Preservation section of the Land Use Element.
- ELAP 2.2      Encourage the maintenance of Temescal Wash in its natural state, with its ultimate use for recreational and open space purposes such as trails, habitat preservation, and groundwater recharge.

## Walker Canyon Policy Area

The Walker Canyon Policy Area consists of 1,250 acres of land located northerly of Interstate 15 in the vicinity of Walker Canyon Road. The site is designated Open Space-Rural on the Elsinore Area Plan. However, a preferable alternative to extremely large lot rural land sales would be the master planning of this area to provide for a limited amount of development, coupled with preservation of the majority of the site as open space and wildlife habitat.

### Policies:

ELAP 3.1 Notwithstanding the Open Space -Rural designation of this property, any proposal to establish a master planned community within this area through the general plan amendment and specific plan process shall be exempt from the eight-year limit and other procedural requirements applicable to Foundation Component amendments as described in the Administration Element, provided that:

- a. A specific plan is submitted for a Community Center or mixed use village center development designed as a hillside village. Potential uses may include residential uses at a variety of densities (including community development foundation component densities), commercial retail and service uses, offices, and a hotel, as well as public facilities and recreational areas. In addition to the required components, the specific plan must address the unique requirements of hillside development, special hillside design guidelines, and the special nuances of integrating hillside development into the natural environment.
- b. Approximately 900 acres, or at least two-thirds of the site area, is set aside as Open Space - Conservation Habitat for inclusion in the Western Riverside County Multiple -Species Habitat Conservation Plan reserve system.
- c. The specific plan shall include special attention to the following concerns: (1) pedestrian circulation in a hillside context, including provision for ramps and paths as well as stairs in order to ensure full accessibility for all users; (2) provision for retail commercial uses so as to minimize the need for residents to travel outside the village for routine daily needs, such as groceries, banking, etc.; and (3) the buffering and protection of conserved open space, especially relating to the interface between riparian areas and development.
- d. Due to the unique character of this development, the area is hereby determined to be eligible for reductions in onsite street widths and an exemption from the prohibition on development on slopes over 25%. Such exemptions would be subject to official determination by the Board of Supervisors or its successor-in-interest at the time of its action on the specific plan.

The environmental impact report or other CEQA document prepared for any specific plan at this site shall address the site's access, soils, geology, hydrology, biology, and wildfire susceptibility in addition to issues of slope and topography.

- e. Any such amendment shall be deemed an Entitlement/Policy amendment and be subject to the procedural requirements applicable to that category of amendments.

### ***Glen Eden Policy Area***

The Glen Eden Policy Area consists of portions of Sections 17, 18, and 19 located southwesterly of Temescal Canyon Road and northerly, northeasterly, and westerly of the Horsethief Canyon community. Development within this Policy Area shall be subject to the following policies.

#### **Policies:**

- ELAP 4.1 Residential development shall comply with an average density of 2.5 dwelling units per acre. No individual project may have an overall density in excess of 2.5 dwelling units per acre, unless a permanent density transfer between two or more projects is approved by the County of Riverside, in which case the overall density of the projects together may not exceed 2.5 dwelling units per acre. The density of individual parcels or planning areas within a project may exceed 2.5 dwelling units per acre, as long as the overall project density does not exceed this level.
- ELAP 4.2 Clustering of dwelling units within an individual project is encouraged where such clustering would enable the conservation of open space in accordance with the Multipurpose Open Space Element.

### ***Rural Village Land Use Overlay***

Rural Village Overlay Study Areas were identified on the Elsinore Area Plan map for the community of Meadowbrook (along State Highway Route 74 northeasterly of the City of Lake Elsinore) in the 2003 General Plan. Prior to the adoption of the 2008 General Plan Update, all relevant factors were studied in more detail on a parcel-by-parcel basis through a spatial analysis. As a result of this analysis, county review, and community discussions, the boundary and policies of these study areas were modified and a Rural Village Land Use Overlay was created to strategically intensify the uses in the targeted core areas of Meadowbrook (Figure 5), but not in El Cariso.

The spatial analysis indicated that the increase in intensity of uses in El Cariso Rural Village is not necessary at this particular time, thus resulting in removing the boundaries of the Rural Village Study Area established in the RCIP General Plan.

#### **Policies:**

- ELAP 5.1 Allow areas designated with the Rural Village Land Use Overlay to develop according to the standards of this section. Otherwise, the standards of the underlying land use designation shall apply.
- ELAP 5.2 In the Meadowbrook Land Use Overlay, commercial uses, small-scale industrial uses (including mini-storage facilities), and residential uses at densities higher than those levels depicted on the Area Plan may be approved as designated in the overlay. Additionally, existing commercial and industrial uses may be relocated to this Rural Village Land Use Overlay as necessary in conjunction with the widening of State Highway Route 74.

## Meadowbrook Town Center

Meadowbrook Town Center (see Figure 3A) features two areas of intense, Mixed-Use Area development clustering, the Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue Neighborhood [Neighborhood 1] and the Highway 74/Kimes Lane Neighborhood [Neighborhood 2] to provide a **more** broad panoply of conveniently located local community services, and an expanded variety of housing opportunities for local residents. These Mixed-Use Areas, described below, will provide landowners with opportunities to develop their properties for either all residential development (at varying urban densities) or a mixture of residential and nonresidential development. Those who choose to develop mixed uses on their properties will be able to utilize either side-by-side or vertically integrated land use designs. Both neighborhoods require that at least 50% of their areas be developed for Highest Density Residential (HHDR) uses.

Potential nonresidential uses include those traditionally found in a “downtown/Main Street” setting, such as retail uses, eating establishments, personal services such as barber shops, beauty shops, and dry cleaners, professional offices, and public facilities including schools, together with places of religious assembly and recreational, cultural, and spiritual community facilities, all integrated with small parks, plazas, and pathways or paseos. Together these designated Mixed-Use Areas will provide a balanced mix of jobs, housing, and services within compact, walkable neighborhoods that feature pedestrian and bicycle linkages (walking paths, paseos, and trails) between residential uses and activity nodes such as grocery stores, pharmacies, places of assembly, schools, parks, and community and/or senior centers.

### **Mixed-Use Area (MUA) Neighborhood Descriptions and Policies:**

Following are the descriptions of the two Mixed-Use Area (MUA) neighborhoods of Meadowbrook Town Center, and the policies specific to each neighborhood:

The **Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue Neighborhood** [Neighborhood 1] The Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue Neighborhood is bisected by State Highway 74. This neighborhood covers about 56 gross acres (about **39 40** net acres), and currently contains low density single family residences and vacant lots. The neighborhood is surrounded by similar land uses - low density single family residences and vacant parcels. The neighborhood will be developed as a Mixed-Use Area, with a **minimum** 50% HHDR component, and commercial and other land use types. Surrounding land uses are designated Very Low Density Residential.

Two bus stops are currently located on Highway 74 towards the northernmost boundary of the neighborhood, one located to serve northbound passengers, and one located to serve southbound passengers. Commercial and other types of non-residential mixed-use development will be most appropriately placed directly along and near Highway 74, which is convenient for those living in and commuting into the neighborhood and will provide a buffer from the highway for the HHDR residential development in the neighborhood. Also, the opportunity exists to expand transit services and provide more bus stops and more bus services along Highway 74, as local transit demand expands in the future.

Also, because of its mixed-use characteristics, this neighborhood should be designed to promote a village-style mix of retail, restaurants, offices, and multi-family housing, thereby resulting in a walkable neighborhood. This neighborhood would serve surrounding neighborhoods by providing job opportunities through its commercial uses. It should be noted that this neighborhood is within a flood zone which could result in additional permits to meet floodplain management requirements, and would provide opportunities for open space buffers between differing use types, as needed, and opportunities for open space edge trails.

### **Policy:**

ELAP 5.3 **Fifty percent At least 50%** of the Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue Neighborhood shall be developed in accordance with the HHDR land use designation.

ELAP 5.4 Residential uses for the Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue Neighborhood should generally be located in the southeastern and northeastern portions of this neighborhood. Nonresidential uses should include a variety of

*other uses, such as retail activities serving the local population and tourists, parks, light industrial uses, parkland, and other uses.*

***Highway 74/Kimes Lane Neighborhood [Neighborhood 2]*** is located less than one mile north of Neighborhood 1 and also along State Highway 74, on about 10 gross acres (about 7 net acres). With the exception of one single family residence, the neighborhood site is currently vacant and is surrounded by low density single family residential uses and vacant parcels. Highway 74 adjoins the western edge of the neighborhood. This neighborhood will be developed as a Mixed-Use Area, with a **minimum** 50% HHDR component, and commercial and other land use types. This neighborhood is surrounded by Very Low Density Residential land uses.

This neighborhood could serve the surrounding community by providing local commercial services and job opportunities in association with the commercial uses. Also, because of its mixed-use characteristics, this neighborhood would be designed to promote a village-style mix of retail, restaurants, offices, and multi-family housing, resulting in a walkable neighborhood. Two bus stops are conveniently located on Highway 74 within the neighborhood boundaries. It should be noted that this neighborhood is within a flood zone which could result in additional permits to meet the community's floodplain management requirements, and would provide opportunities for open space buffers between differing use types, as needed, and opportunities for open space edge trails.

*Policies:*

ELAP 5.5 **Fifty percent At least 50%** of the Highway 74/Kimes Lane Neighborhood shall be developed in accordance with the HHDR land use designation.

ELAP 5.6 Residential uses for the Highway 74/Kimes Neighborhood [Neighborhood 2] should be encouraged to be located in the eastern portion of this neighborhood. Nonresidential uses should include a variety of other uses, such as retail activities serving the local population and tourists, business parks, light industrial uses, and parkland.

### ***Policies Applying to both Neighborhoods of Meadowbrook Town Center:***

*The following policies apply to both of the Mixed-Use Area (MUA) neighborhoods of Meadowbrook Town Center:*

ELAP 5.7 Both the Highway 74/Meadowbrook Avenue and Highway 74/Kimes Lane Neighborhoods shall be developed with **minimum of 50 %** Highest Density Residential, and other uses, potentially including commercial, business park, office, etc. uses, in a mutually supportive, mixed-use development pattern.

ELAP 5.8 Paseos and pedestrian/bicycle connections should be provided between the Highest Density Residential uses and those nonresidential uses that would serve the local population. Connections should also be provided to the public facilities in the vicinity, including the elementary school, library, and community center.

ELAP 5.9 All HHDR sites should be designed to facilitate convenient pedestrian, bicycle, and other non-motorized vehicle access to the community's schools, jobs, retail and office commercial uses, park and open space areas, trails, and other community amenities and land uses that support the community needs on a frequent and, in many cases, daily, basis.

ELAP 5.10 Ensure that all new land uses, particularly residential, commercial, and public uses, including schools and parks, are designed to provide convenient public access to alternative transportation facilities and services including potential future transit stations, transit oasis-type shuttle systems, and/or local bus services, and local and regional trail systems.

- ELAP 5.11 Project designs should reduce traffic noise levels from Highway 74 as perceived by noise-sensitive uses, such as residential uses, to acceptable levels.*
- ELAP 5.12 Residential uses that are proposed in both neighborhoods where they would be located immediately adjacent to areas designated for Low Density Residential development should include edge-sensitive development features to provide buffering between the differing residential densities, including but not necessarily limited to such features as one-story buildings, park lands and open space areas, and trails.*
- ELAP 5.13 Uses approved and operating under an existing valid entitlement may remain or be converted into another land use in accordance with Riverside County Ordinance No. 348 and consistent with these policies.*

## **Lake Elsinore Environs Policy Area**

The Lake Elsinore Policy Area consists of portions of Sections 11, 13, and 14 of Township 6 South, Range 5 West and portions of Sections 18, 19, and 20 of Township 6 South, Range 4 West designated Open Space - Conservation. The Open Space - Conservation designation is based generally on the boundaries of the mapped 100-year flood plain in this. The intent of this designation is to protect the public from flooding hazards.

Following adoption of the General Plan in 2003, the County of Riverside reviewed and integrated the most accurate and updated flood mapping information in the 2008 update of the General Plan.

### **Policies:**

- ELAP 6.1 To avoid potential flood hazards for future developments, use clustering and consolidation of parcels whenever feasible. (AI 25, AI 59-61)
- ELAP 6.2 To ensure that development along the Grand Avenue Corridor occurs in a historically consistent manner, require the necessary studies in the future.

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## Specific Plans

Specific Plans are highly customized policy or regulatory tools that provide a bridge between the General Plan and individual projects in a more area-specific manner than is possible with community-wide zoning ordinances. The specific plan is a tool that provides land use and development standards that are tailored to respond to special conditions and aspirations unique to the area being proposed for development and conservation. These tools are a means of addressing detailed concerns that conventional zoning cannot accomplish.



The authority for preparation of Specific Plans is found in the California Government Code, Sections 65450 through 65457.

Specific Plans are identified in this section as Policy Areas because detailed study and development direction is provided in each plan. Policies related to any listed specific plan can be reviewed at the Riverside County Planning Department. The four specific plans located in the Elsinore planning area are listed in Table 3, Adopted Specific Plans in the Elsinore Area Plan. Each of these specific plans is determined to be a Community Development Specific Plan.

**Table 3: Adopted Specific Plans in the Elsinore Area Plan**

Specific Plan	Specific Plan #
Horsethief Canyon Ranch	152
Toscana <sup>1</sup>	327
Renaissance Ranch	333
Colinas del Oro	364

Source: County of Riverside Planning Department.

<sup>1</sup> Portions of this specific plan extend into a neighboring Area Plan

## Land Use

While the General Plan Land Use Element and Area Plan Land Use Map guide future development patterns in the Elsinore Area Plan, additional policy guidance is often necessary to address local land use issues that are unique to the area or that require special policies that go above and beyond those identified in the General Plan. These policies may reinforce County of Riverside regulatory provisions, preserve special lands or historic structures, require or encourage particular design features or guidelines, or restrict certain activities, among others. The intent is to enhance and/or preserve the identity, character and features of this unique area. The Local Land Use Policies section provides policies to address those land use issues relating specifically to the Elsinore area.

## Local Land Use Policies

### **Lee Lake Community: Highest Density Residential (HHDR) Neighborhoods**

*The Lee Lake Community (see Figure 3B) is located in the Temescal Canyon, along the east side of I-15, between the freeway and Temescal Canyon Road, and south of Indian Truck Trail. It consists of two neighborhoods, which are separated by Indian Wash. **Lee Lake North Neighborhood** [Neighborhood 1] is located adjacent to Indian Truck Trail, and north of Indian Wash, and **Lee Lake South Neighborhood** [Neighborhood 2] is located south of Indian Wash. Both neighborhoods are designated*

entirely as Highest Density Residential. Although the Lee Lake Community currently contains some light industrial development, most of the area is vacant.

Retail Commercial uses, a fire station, and parks are located nearby to the north, across I-10 via Indian Truck Trail, and Luiseno Elementary School and parks are located nearby toward the south, across I-10 via Horsethief Canyon Road. More intense light industrial development is located toward the south along Temescal Canyon Road. Both neighborhoods are located in areas convenient to I-10 and Temescal Canyon Road for local and regional transportation, and near a Riverside Transit Agency bus transit line that provides convenient connections to destinations from Corona to Temecula, and to the Corona Metrolink Transit Center, which also provides the opportunity for potential links from the site or near the site to regional transit services and regional destinations.

Lee Lake Community is situated in a highly scenic setting, with spectacular views of nearby mountains to both the east and west. Lee Lake is located immediately nearby toward the east, across Temescal Canyon Road. The westerly edges of both neighborhoods, located adjacent to I-15, are exposed to elevated traffic noise levels. Site designs should incorporate features to reduce freeway noise impacts, and to buffer development in Lee Lake Neighborhood South from nearby industrial uses.

Open space, trails, and park and recreation areas can be integrated into site development in the Lee Lake Community to provide buffers and scenic recreation along both the northern and southern edges of Indian Wash, and to provide walkable destinations and internal features that promote both internal community walkability and pedestrian and bikeway access to nearby attractions off-site.

### **Highest Density Residential (HHDR) Neighborhoods and Policies:**

Following are descriptions of the two Highest Density Residential (HHDR) neighborhoods of the Lee Lake Community, and the policies specific to each neighborhood:

The **Lee Lake North Neighborhood** [Neighborhood 1] contains about 13 gross acres (about 11 net acres) and is located between Temescal Canyon Road and I-15, between Indian Truck Trail at its interchange with I-15 on its north, and Indian Wash on its south.

#### **Policy:**

ELAP 6.3            The entire Lee Lake North Neighborhood shall be developed in accordance with the HHDR land use designation.

The **Lee Lake South Neighborhood** [Neighborhood 2] contains about 33 gross acres (about ~~25~~ 29 net acres) and is located between Temescal Canyon Road and I-15, immediately south of Indian Wash.

#### **Policy:**

ELAP 6.4            The entire Lee Lake South Neighborhood shall be developed in accordance with the HHDR land use designation.

### **Policies Applying to both Neighborhoods of the Lee Lake Community:**

The following policies apply to both Highest Density Residential (HHDR) neighborhoods of the Lee Lake Community:

ELAP 6.5            Paseos and pedestrian and bicycle paths should be provided within the Lee Lake Community, between residential structures, community facilities, and open space areas, including between both neighborhoods and along or near both the northern and southern edges of Indian Wash.

- ELAP 6.6 All HHDR sites should be designed to facilitate convenient pedestrian, bicycle, and other non – motorized vehicle access to the community’s schools, jobs, retail and office commercial uses, park and open space areas, trails, and other community amenities and land uses that support the community needs on a frequent and, in many cases, daily basis.*
- ELAP 6.7 All new land uses, particularly residential, commercial, and public uses, including schools and parks, should be designed to provide or potentially accommodate convenient public access to alternative transportation facilities and services, including potential future transit stations, transit oasis-type shuttle systems, and/or local bus services, and local and regional trail systems.*
- ELAP 6.8 All new residential and other noise-sensitive uses shall be designed to sufficiently reduce traffic noise levels from nearby roads, including I-15.*
- ELAP 6.9 All new residential uses shall be designed to sufficiently reduce noise levels and other potential impacts associated with retained on-site and adjacent industrial uses.*
- ELAP 6.10 Uses approved and operating under an existing valid entitlement may remain or be converted into another land use in accordance with Riverside County Ordinance No. 348 and consistent with these policies.*

## **Mt. Palomar Nighttime Lighting**

The Mount Palomar Observatory, located in San Diego County, requires darkness so that the night sky can be viewed clearly. The presence of the observatory necessitates unique nighttime lighting standards throughout the Elsinore Area Plan as shown on Figure 6, Mt. Palomar Nighttime Lighting Policy. The following policies are intended to limit light leakage and spillage that may obstruct or hinder the view. This is an excellent example of a valuable public resource that requires special treatment far beyond its immediate locale.

### **Policies:**

- ELAP 7.1 Adhere to the lighting requirements of Riverside County for standards that are intended to limit light leakage and spillage that may interfere with the operations of the Palomar Observatory.

## **Circulation**

The circulation system is vital to the prosperity of a community. It provides for the movement of goods and people within and outside of the community and includes motorized and non-motorized travel modes such as bicycles, trains, aircraft, automobiles and trucks. In Riverside County, the circulation system is also intended to accommodate a pattern of concentrated growth, providing both a regional and local linkage system between unique communities. This system is multi-modal, which means that it provides numerous alternatives to the automobile, such as transit, pedestrian systems, and bicycle facilities so that Riverside County citizens and visitors can access the region and move around within it by a number of transportation options.

As stated in the Vision and the Land Use Element, Riverside County is moving away from a growth pattern of random sprawl toward a pattern of concentrated growth and increased job creation. The intent of the new growth patterns and the new mobility systems is to accommodate the transportation demands created by future growth and to provide mobility options that help reduce the need to utilize the automobile. The circulation system is designed to fit into the fabric of the land use patterns and accommodate the open space systems.

While the following section describes the circulation system as it relates to the Elsinore Area Plan, it is important to note that the programs and policies are supplemental to, and coordinated with, the policies of the General Plan Circulation Element. In other words, the circulation system of the Elsinore Area Plan is tied to the countywide system and its long range direction. As such, successful implementation of the policies in the Elsinore Area Plan will help to create an interconnected and efficient circulation system for the entire County of Riverside.

## Local Circulation Policies

### Vehicular Circulation System

Environmental features both water oriented and topographic impose substantial obstacles to circulation routes; however, the Elsinore Area Plan proposes a circulation system to handle these challenges. The area is served by Railroad Canyon Road, Bundy Canyon Road, and Clinton Keith Road from the east. Temescal Canyon Road is the main arterial serving the area from the north. State Route 74 also traverses the Area Plan in an east-west orientation.

#### Policies:


- ELAP 8.1 Design and develop the vehicular roadway system per Figure 7, Circulation, and in accordance with the functional classifications and standards specified in the Planned Circulation Systems section of the General Plan Circulation Element.
- ELAP 8.2 Maintain Riverside County’s roadway Level of Service standards as described in the Level of Service section of the General Plan Circulation Element.

### Trails System

A multi-purpose trails system is a critical part of this area plan because of the concentration of critical linkages centered here. In this sense, the trails for human use parallel the connectivity required for habitat linkages. An extensive system of proposed trails and bikeways exists within the planning area connecting the various neighborhoods with the recreational resources of the Cleveland National Forest and the regional trail system. The Elsinore Area Plan trail system is mapped in Figure 8, Trails and Bikeway System.

#### Policies:

- ELAP 9.1 Implement the Trails and Bikeway System, Figure 8, through such means as dedication or purchase, as discussed in the Non-motorized Transportation section of the General Plan Circulation Element.



The California Scenic Highways program was established in 1963 to Preserve and protect scenic highway corridors from change which would diminish the aesthetic value of lands adjacent to highways.

## Scenic Highways

Certain roadways are not only functional; they are a part of the public's ability to experience an area, especially one that offers important scenic vistas. That is the case with Interstate 15 from Corona south to the San Diego County line. It has been designated as an Eligible State Scenic Highway. State Route 74 has also been designated as an Eligible State Scenic Highway. The western segment is a secondary County entrance road and will serve as a link to Orange County's system of scenic routes. The scenic highways designated within the Elsinore Area Plan are depicted on Figure 9, Scenic Highways.

### Policies:

ELAP 10.1 Protect Interstate 15 and State Route 74 from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent properties through adherence to the Scenic Corridors sections of the General Plan Land Use and Circulation Elements.

## Community Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process (CETAP) Corridors

The population and employment of Riverside County are expected to significantly increase over the next twenty years. The CETAP was established to evaluate the need and the opportunities for the development of new or expanded transportation corridors in western Riverside County to accommodate increased growth and preserve quality of life. These transportation corridors include a range of transportation options such as highways or transit, and are developed with careful consideration for potential impacts to habitat requirements, land use plans, and public infrastructure. CETAP has identified four priority corridors for the movement of people and goods: Winchester to Temecula Corridor, East-West CETAP Corridor, Moreno Valley to San Bernardino Corridor, and Riverside County - Orange County Corridor.

The East-West CETAP Corridor may pass through the Elsinore Area Plan along State Route 74, or to the north of it. This corridor could accommodate a number of transportation options, including vehicular traffic and high occupancy vehicle lanes. The Riverside County- Orange County Corridor is currently under study, but is envisioned to connect from Interstate 15 in Riverside to State Route 241 in Orange County, somewhere in the range between State Route 91 and State Route 74.

### Policies:

ELAP 11.1 Accommodate the East-West CETAP Corridor in accordance with the CETAP section of the General Plan Circulation Element.

ELAP 11.2 Accommodate the direction of the Riverside County-Orange County Corridor study, once it is complete.

## I-15 Corridor

Interstate 15 is a major connector between the Corona/Riverside area and San Diego. This corridor could be enhanced, especially by connecting transit links, to provide a critical north-south link for transit, automobile and truck trips within and outside the County of Riverside. The capacity of this critical corridor could be expanded through such strategies as widening, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, dedicated truck lanes, and transit improvements, such as exclusive express buses. Infrastructure put in place along with development in this area plan should support all modes of transit along this corridor.

**Policies:**

- ELAP 12.1      Require projects to be reviewed for the provision of transit support facilities (including bus turnouts, signage, benches, shelters, etc.) along arterial streets and local transit service routes.
- ELAP 12.2      Consider the following regional and community wide transportation options when developing transportation improvements in the Elsinore Area Plan:
- a.    Construct a new interchange on Interstate 15 at Horsethief Canyon Road.
  - b.    Develop regional transportation facilities and services (such as high-occupancy vehicle lanes and express bus service), which will encourage the use of public transportation and ridesharing for longer-distance trips.
- ELAP 12.3      Require each proposed Specific Plan, and major commercial and industrial projects consisting of 20 acres or larger, to be evaluated for the provision of a park-and-ride facility.

## Multipurpose Open Space

The Elsinore area contains an unusually rich concentration of open space resources, for habitat, recreation and scenic purposes, hence the label of multipurpose. The point is that open space is really a part of the public infrastructure and should have the capability of serving a variety of needs and diversity of users. The importance of the resources here means that they require thoughtful preservation and, in some cases, restoration. In many cases, the focus here must be on establishing and maintaining vital linkages, without which the vital habitat and recreational potential of this area would be severely compromised. This Multipurpose Open Space section is a critical component of the character of the County of Riverside and of the Elsinore Area Plan. Preserving the scenic background and natural resources here gives meaning to the remarkable environmental setting portion of the overall Riverside County Vision. Not only that: these open spaces also help define the edges of and separation between communities, which is another important aspect of the Vision.

In this area plan, the natural characteristics are quite dominant. In addition to their extensive basic supply value, they offer design opportunities for quality development. Achieving a desirable end state of valued local open space to benefit residents and visitors will require sensitive design attention in laying out development proposals and linkages to make the open space system work to its optimum.

## Local Open Space Policies

### *Watersheds, Floodplains, and Watercourse Policies*

The Elsinore Area Plan contains a major portion of the Santa Margarita River watershed, which includes Murrieta Creek. This watershed, and its included watercourses, provide a truly unique habitat for flora and fauna of statewide significance. The watercourses provide corridors through developed land as well as linking open spaces outside of development areas. This allows wildlife the ability to move from one locale to another without crossing developed land. The following policies preserve and protect these important watershed functions.

**Policies:**

- ELAP 13.1 Protect the Santa Margarita watershed and habitat, and provide recreational opportunities and flood protection through adherence to the policies found in the Open Space, Habitat, and Natural Resource Preservation section of the General Plan Land Use Element and the Environmentally

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*The open space system and the methods for its acquisition, maintenance, and operation are calibrated to its many functions: visual relief, natural resources protection, habitat preservation, passive and active recreation, protection from natural hazards, and various combinations of these purposes. This is what is meant by a multipurpose open space system.*

”

- RCIP Vision



A watershed is the entire region drained by a waterway that flows into a lake or reservoir or the ocean. It is the total area above a given point on a stream that contributes water to the flow at that point, and the topographic dividing line from which surface streams flow in two different directions. Clearly, watersheds are not just water. A single watershed may include a wide variety of resources and environments.

Sensitive Lands, Floodplain and Riparian Area Management, Wetlands, and Open Space, Parks and Recreation sections of the Multipurpose Open Space Element.

## Mineral Extraction

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

### Policies:

- ELAP 14.1 Protect the economic viability of mineral resources as well as the life and property of Elsinore Area Plan residents through adherence to the Mineral Resources section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.
- ELAP 14.2 Avoid mineral resource extraction within the Temescal Wash Policy Area, which contains viable riparian habitat, in favor of areas containing very sparse or non-existent riparian habitat.
- ELAP 14.3 Require a biologically designed and professionally implemented revegetation program as part of reclamation plans, where avoidance is not feasible.
- ELAP 14.4 Require hydrologic studies by a qualified consultant as part of the environmental review process for all proposed surface mining permits within or adjacent to the Temescal Wash Policy Area. This shall include proper management of surface run-off.

## Oak Tree Preservation

The Elsinore Area Plan contains significant oak woodland areas. Oak woodlands should be protected to preserve habitat and the character of the area.

### Policies:

- ELAP 15.1 Protect viable oak woodlands through adherence to the Oak Tree Management Guidelines adopted by Riverside County and the Vegetation section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element of the General Plan.



For further information on the MSHCP please see the Multipurpose Open Space Element of the General Plan.

## Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

Regional resource planning to protect individual species such as the Stephens Kangaroo Rat has occurred in Riverside County for many years. Privately owned reserves and publicly owned land have served as habitat for many different species. This method of land and wildlife preservation proved to be piecemeal and disjointed, resulting in islands of reserve land without corridors for species migration and access. To address these issues of wildlife health and habitat sustainability, the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRC MSHCP) was developed by the



County of Riverside and adopted by the County of Riverside and other plan participants in 2003. Permits were issued by the Wildlife Agencies in 2004. The WRC MSHCP comprises a reserve system that encompasses core habitats, habitat linkages, and wildlife corridors outside of existing reserve areas and existing private and public reserve lands into a single comprehensive plan that can accommodate the needs of species and habitat in the present and future.

**WRC MSHCP Program Description**

The Endangered Species Act prohibits the “taking” of endangered species. Taking is defined as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect” listed species. The Wildlife Agencies have authority to regulate this take of threatened and endangered species. The intent of the WRC MSHCP is for the Wildlife Agencies to grant a take authorization for otherwise lawful actions that may incidentally take or harm species outside of reserve areas, in exchange for supporting assembly of a coordinated reserve system. Therefore, the WRC MSHCP allows the County of Riverside to take plant and animal species within identified areas through the local land use planning process. In addition to the conservation and management duties assigned to the County of Riverside, a property owner-initiated habitat evaluation and acquisition negotiation process has also been developed. This process is intended to apply to property that may be needed for inclusion in the WRC MSHCP Reserve or subjected to other WRC MSHCP criteria.

**Key Biological Issues**

The habitat requirements of the sensitive and listed species, combined with sound habitat management practices, have shaped the following policies. These policies provide general conservation direction.

**Policies:**

- ELAP 16.1 Protect sensitive biological resources in the Elsinore Area Plan through adherence to policies found in the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans, Environmentally Sensitive Lands, Wetlands, and Floodplain and Riparian Area Management sections of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.
- ELAP 16.2 Provide for connection between Santa Ana Mountains, Temescal Wash and foothills north of Lake Elsinore; existing connections are at Indian Truck Trail (buffer along Canyon Creek), Horsethief Canyon, and open upland areas southwest of Alberhill.
- ELAP 16.3 Provide northwest-southeast connection along hills between Estelle Mountain and Sedco Hills, primarily for California gnatcatchers, but also other sage scrub species.



The Wildlife Agencies include The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)



The following sensitive, threatened and endangered species, covered under the MSHCP, may be found within this area plan:

- Bell’s sage sparrow
- California gnatcatcher
- Orange-throated whiptail
- Loggerhead shrike
- San Diego ambrosia
- Bobcat
- Quino checkerspot butterfly
- Munz’s onion
- Many-stemmed dudleya
- Southwestern willow flycatcher
- Least Bell’s vireo
- Slender-horned spineflower

- ELAP 16.4 Conserve clay soils supporting sensitive plants such as Munz's onion, many-stemmed dudleya, small-flowered morning glory and Palmer's grapplinghook. (There is a Munz's onion population of approximately 7,500 heads in Alberhill.)
- ELAP 16.5 Conserve wetlands including Temescal Wash, Collier Marsh, Alberhill Creek, Wasson Creek, and the lower San Jacinto River, (including marsh habitats and maintaining water quality).
- ELAP 16.6 Maintain upland habitat connection between North Peak Conservation Bank, Steele Peak, and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands.
- ELAP 16.7 Conserve Engelmann Oak Woodlands.
- ELAP 16.8 Conserve sensitive plants, including Parry's spineflower, prostrate spineflower, Payson's jewelflower, smooth tarplant, slender-horned spineflower, Couldte's matijila poppy, Palomar monkeyflower, little mousetail, vernal barley, San Jacinto Valley crownscale, Coulter's goldfields, heart-leaved pitcher sage, and the Quino checkerspot butterfly.
- ELAP 16.9 Conserve Travers-Willow-Domino soil series.
- ELAP 16.10 Conserve foraging habitat adjacency for raptors, sage scrubbed-grassland ecotone.
- ELAP 16.11 Conserve habitat in Sedco Hills to maintain connection between Granite Hills and Bundy Canyon Road.
- ELAP 16.12 Provide for connection across State Route 74 for birds and land species.
- ELAP 16.13 For Wasson Creek, maintain north-south linkage at least 750 feet wide from Wasson Creek to North Peak.
- ELAP 16.14 South of Wasson Creek, development should be limited to western and eastern slopes.

## Hazards

Hazards are natural and manmade conditions that must be respected if life and property are to be protected as growth and development occur. As the ravages of wildland fires, floods, dam failures, earthquakes and other disasters become clearer through the news, public awareness and sound public policy combine to require serious attention to these conditions. Portions of the Elsinore Area Plan may be subject to hazards such as flooding, dam inundation, seismic occurrences, and wildland fire. These hazards are depicted on the hazards maps, Figure 10 to Figure 14. These hazards are located throughout the Elsinore area and produce varying degrees of risk and danger. Some hazards must be avoided entirely while the potential impacts of others can be mitigated by special building techniques. The following policies provide additional direction for relevant issues specific to the Elsinore Area Plan.

## Local Hazard Policies

### *Flooding and Dam Inundation*

Temescal Wash, Murrieta Creek, and the San Jacinto River, as well as Lake Elsinore, pose significant flood hazards within the Elsinore Area Plan. Dam failure of the Railroad Canyon Dam at Canyon Lake would cause flooding in the plan area. Refer to Figure 10, Flood Hazards for a depiction of flood hazards in the Elsinore area.

#### **Policies:**

- ELAP 17.1 Adhere to the flood proofing and flood protection requirements of the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.
- ELAP 17.2 Protect proposed development projects that are subject to flood hazards, surface ponding, high erosion potential or sheet flow by requiring submittal to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for review.
- ELAP 17.3 When possible, create flood control projects that maximize multi-recreational use and water recharge.
- ELAP 17.4 Protect life and property from the hazards of potential dam failures and flood events through adherence to the Flood and Inundation Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.

### *Wildland Fire Hazard*

The plan area contains a number of unique features and communities that are subjected to a high risk of fire hazards, including the Cleveland National Forest, Cleveland Ridge, Warm Springs and Meadowbrook. Methods to address this hazard include techniques such as avoidance of building in high-risk areas, creating setbacks that buffer development from hazard areas, maintaining brush clearance to reduce potential fuel, establishing low fuel landscaping, and utilizing fire-resistant building techniques. In still other cases, safety oriented organizations such as the Fire Safe Council can provide assistance in educating the public and promoting practices that contribute to improved public safety. Refer to Figure 11, Wildfire Susceptibility.



**Fire Fact:**  
Santa Ana winds create a special hazard. Named by the early settlers at Santa Ana, these hot, dry winds heighten the fire danger throughout Southern California.

#### **Policies:**

- ELAP 18.1 Protect life and property from wildfire hazards through adherence to the Fire Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.



Liquefaction occurs primarily in saturated, loose, fine to medium-grained soils in areas where the groundwater table is within about 50 feet of the surface. Shaking causes the soils to lose strength and behave as liquid. Excess water pressure is vented upward through fissures and soil cracks and a water-soil slurry bubbles onto the ground surface. The resulting features are known as “sand boils, sand blows” or “sand volcanoes.”

Liquefaction-related effects include loss of bearing strength, ground oscillations, lateral spreading, and flow failures or slumping.

## Seismic

The Elsinore fault runs north-south through the middle of the plan area. Threats from seismic events include ground shaking, fault rupture, liquefaction, and landslides. The use of specialized building techniques, the enforcement of setbacks from faults, and practical avoidance measures will help to mitigate the potentially dangerous circumstances. Refer to Figure 12, Seismic Hazards, for the location of faults within the Elsinore Area.

### Policies:

ELAP 19.1 Protect life and property from seismic-related incidents through adherence to the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.

## Slope

Many areas within the Elsinore Area Plan, depicted on Figure 13, Steep Slope, contain steep slopes that require special development standards and care to prevent erosion and landslides, preserve significant views and minimize grading and scarring. Additionally, the ridgelines of the Santa Ana Mountains and Gavilan and Sedco Hills provide a significant visual resource for users of the Interstate 15 corridor and occupants of the valley floor.

### Policies:

ELAP 20.1 Identify and preserve the ridgelines that provide a significant visual resource for Elsinore through adherence to the Hillside Development and Slope section of the General Plan Land Use Element and the Scenic Resources section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element.

ELAP 20.2 Prohibit building sites on the Gavilan Hills Ridgeline. Projects proposed within this area shall be evaluated on a case by case basis to ensure that building pad sites are located so that buildings and roof tops do not project above the ridgeline as viewed from Interstate 15.

ELAP 20.3 Protect life and property and maintain the character of the Elsinore area through adherence to the Slope and Soil Instability Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element, the Hillside Development and Slope section of the General Plan Land Use Element, and the Rural Mountainous land use designation.