



Appendix D: Community Workshops

Riverside County Integrated Plan

A Summary of the First Round of
Community Workshops June/July 1999

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY INTEGRATED PLAN COMMUNITY MEETINGS

INTRODUCTION

Between June 17 and July 16, 1999, the County of Riverside, with the assistance of technical and community outreach consultant team members, held a series of twelve community meetings designed to find out issues that residents would like to see considered in planning for Riverside County's future.

The community meetings were held between 5:30 and 8:00 p.m. in twelve locations throughout Riverside County:

June 12	Temecula
June 21	Riverside (Raincross)
June 22	Riverside (Jurupa)
June 24	Corona
June 28	Moreno Valley
June 29	Palm Desert
July 1	Beaumont
July 6	Lake Elsinore
July 8	Perris
July 13	Blythe
July 15	Hemet
July 16	Sun City

MEETING PROCESS AND DESIGN

The meetings were designed to engage the public in dialog with County staff and the consultants – and with each other – about issues critical to the success of the Plan and to Riverside County's future in general. The meetings had four distinct parts: an open house, a brief presentation, small group discussions and group summaries.

Open House and Interactive Exercises

During the first hour of the meetings, participants were invited to circulate among exhibits explaining the overall planning process as well as the individual elements: General Plan, Conservation and Habitat, and Transportation. In addition to learning and asking questions about the plan elements, participants were engaged in interactive exercises designed to get the dialog started on current issues and future possibilities for Riverside County. These included: a "postcard home" written from a future time in Riverside County; identifying favorite open space and recreational activities; and the "bests and worst" awards for transportation, among others. During this time, participants were also invited to fill out more detailed surveys at each booth, or to mail them back later in the postage-paid envelopes provided.

Presentation

After the initial workshop period, participants were invited to listen to a brief presentation on the Plan by the Sverdrup Team.

Small Group Discussions and Summary

After the presentation, small group discussions were held to explore specific issues and possibilities under the individual Plan areas (General Plan, Conservation and Habitat, Transportation) in more detail. Using the interactive exercises as a resource, the technical consultants and facilitators took the groups through a series of questions designed to engage participants in discussion of issues facing Riverside County and their community area in particular. MIG assisted in the group facilitation and graphically recorded the group's discussion.

The sessions concluded with a report by the MIG facilitator/recorders on the results of the group discussions and a summary of next steps by the Sverdrup project manager.

MEETING RESULTS – SYNOPSES AND DETAILED REPORTS

The following sections include:

- An overview of common issues
- A review of the correlation between issues raised in the community meetings and issues raised in a separate opinion poll
- A synopsis of issues by community area and Plan area and
- Detailed community meeting reports, including a summary of comments and results of the interactive exercises

NEXT STEPS

The results of these workshops, along with opinion poll and focus group results will be used to develop a draft Vision for the Riverside County Integrated Plan. This draft Vision will be taken out for review and comment to a similar series of workshops to be held throughout Riverside County in September/October, 1999.

Riverside County Integrated Plan Community Workshop Summary

COMMON THEMES

Appreciation of Open Space

People in all areas appreciate the open space and rural character of many parts of Riverside County and want to preserve it.

Support for Planned Growth

Growth is generally supported but at varied levels around the County, with more concern being expressed in Temecula, Lake Elsinore and Moreno Valley than in other areas. In all areas, people were concerned with the need for planning housing and infrastructure together.

Support for Infill Development

Infill development was supported in several areas – specifically Temecula, Hemet and Riverside. It was seen as a way to preserve open and green space while continuing to grow.

Concern for Jobs and Support for Clean Industry

Jobs are a key social issue with many community areas. Specifically, residents are asking for creation of “clean industry” jobs so that people can pursue opportunities close to home.

Air Quality

Poor air quality was a consistent theme in the workshops. All areas were concerned with general air quality issues and areas with truck-related issues (such as Jurupa and Moreno Valley) were particularly concerned with diesel emissions.

Opportunities for Youth

Participants expressed a need for opportunities for youth, especially in rapidly growing areas with many young families such as Corona, Moreno Valley, Hemet, Jurupa and Perris. Some were also concerned that lack of opportunity would exacerbate problems with crime, gangs and drugs.

Range of Housing Variety and Opportunity

Residents want a variety of housing types and are concerned about the sameness of housing being developed. In addition, they are asking for variety of housing opportunities for various income levels, especially in Blythe, the Moreno Valley, the Coachella Valley, Perris and Sun City.

Need for Buffers and Green Space

People in all areas would like more green space and many would like to have buffer zones -- but residents in certain areas feel particularly impacted by industry and freight. These include Riverside, Jurupa and Corona.

Private Property Rights

Most would like to see recognition and preservation of private property rights and would like to see a focus on incentives rather than regulations or penalties.

Balance

Most people expressed interest in balancing the rural area's character with infrastructure needs and protection of rural quality of life while also protecting individual rights.

Public Transportation Access

Public transportation is important to people – especially in areas with large elderly or aging populations. Dial-a-ride is a particular concern in Jurupa, Moreno Valley, Palm Desert, Beaumont, Lake Elsinore, Perris, Hemet and Sun City.

Need for Cooperation among Cities and Agencies

Several participants saw lack of cooperation among cities, towns and agencies as a significant barrier to getting things done. Residents at the Beaumont and Jurupa workshops saw this as a particularly serious problem.

Regional Transit Access

Access to regional public transportation was a specific issue for people present at the Palm Desert and Beaumont workshops.

Support for Metrolink Expansion

Metrolink service was widely supported at the public workshops. Residents of Riverside, Moreno Valley, Palm Desert, Beaumont, Lake Elsinore, Perris and Hemet were particularly interested in Metrolink extensions or expansion.

Preservation and Exploration of Corridor Options

Key north-south and east-west corridors need to be preserved and expanded. Specifically, participants were concerned with the lack of alternatives to the 91 corridor, the lack of direct access to Orange County from the Temecula-Elsinore area and indirect and unsafe access between the Beaumont-Coachella and Elsinore-Temecula areas. There was general support for advance planning and preservation of corridors.

Environmental Impact of Trucking Corridors

In most workshop areas, people were concerned with the impacts of freight traffic and noise – from both trucks and trains. Residents in the Jurupa and Moreno Valley areas had particularly strong concerns.

Lack of Alternative Corridors and Emergency Access

Workshop participants in several areas – including Temecula, Beaumont and Hemet were concerned with lack of emergency access and availability of alternative corridors, especially during fires and floods.

A CORRELATION OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS WITH SURVEY RESULTS

Comments made by community members who attended the Riverside County Integrated Plan Community Meetings reflect many of the opinions expressed by Riverside voters in a recent survey conducted June 20 – 23, 1999. Please note that a close correlation seems to exist between the qualitative data captured through the community meetings and the quantitative information gained through the statistically-correct (with a 4% margin of error) survey.

Rate of Growth, Traffic, and Open Space

At all 12 community meetings, audience members consistently expressed concern about the rate of growth in their communities, traffic congestion, and the need to preserve open space. Creating new jobs was cited as an important issue at most of the meetings, also. Reducing crime, gang activity, and the need to provide recreation or diversion programs for youth were stated as key concerns at meetings in Corona, Moreno Valley and Hemet. In general, concerns stated at RCIP meetings correspond to a Key Finding of the survey in which respondents, in an open-ended question, describe the most important issues facing Riverside County as: the rate of growth; crime, violence and gangs; schools and education; traffic congestion; police issues; and jobs.

Air Quality and Overcrowded Schools

Another important parallel between concerns stated in the survey and in the community meetings was poor air quality. In closed survey questions, crime, gangs and drugs were ranked as the most serious problems in Riverside County. (Threats to personal safety rank as most important, of course.) The next serious issues were traffic congestion, poor air quality and overcrowded public schools. In most community meetings, (9 out of 12) poor air quality was described as a significant issue. Concern about the inadequacy of school facilities to meet the growing youth population was stated at several community meetings as well.

Planned Growth

A solid sixty-five percent (65%) of survey respondents support planned growth for the future. This support seems consistent with sentiments expressed by meeting participants for the Integrated Plan efforts undertaken by the County. At meetings throughout the County, most community members expressed support for planned growth. Many participants also expressed gratitude to the County for giving them the opportunity to express their views through the Community Meetings.

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Synopsis of Key Community Workshop Issues
July, 1999**

Community Area	Synopsis of Issues		
	General Plan	Conservation & Habitat	Transportation
Temecula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support infill development ▪ Balance preservation and growth ▪ Concern with job development ▪ Concern with development in surrounding County unincorporated areas – outside City's control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support incentive-based rather than regulatory approach ▪ Concern with species and boundaries ▪ Look at "lessons learned" from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need for public transportation options and a viable public transportation system ▪ The freeway presents a barrier ▪ Concern with impact of transportation on habitats
Riverside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support incentives for infill development to preserve open space ▪ Concern with preserving community appearance and feel ▪ Need for resource management ▪ Increase buffers ▪ Do resource management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural and open space areas are assets that need to be preserved ▪ Need to plan for development ▪ Concern with impact of habitat plans on private property rights ▪ Concern with Riverside's environmental image 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need for public transportation options, including bike lanes ▪ Increased Metrolink service ▪ Linkages to San Bernardino County ▪ Corridor improvement needed: 91, 60/215 interchange, HOV-Fastrak linkage
Jurupa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Community is considered a "dumping ground"-warehousing and trucks ▪ Buffers needed – no industry next to housing ▪ Improved housing affordability and less density ▪ Beautification needed ▪ Improved inter-jurisdictional coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open space and hills are assets that need to be preserved ▪ Consider environment as part of the planning process ▪ Need incentives to preserve the environment and preserve/shepherd resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider cumulative impact of developments and transportation projects ▪ Better public transportation including fixed route and dial-a-ride ▪ Poor surface street condition ▪ Area is a "sacrifice zone" with truck and freight traffic

Community Area	Synopsis of Issues		
	General Plan	Conservation & Habitat	Transportation
Moreno Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conserve agriculture and view sheds ▪ Provide low-cost and elderly housing ▪ Concern with overcrowding of facilities – safety, infrastructure, schools ▪ Jobs, gangs and crime are social issues ▪ Value rural atmosphere, parks and open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve open space ▪ Need wildlife link to protect animals ▪ Clear understanding of impact of habitat areas on zoning, real estate agreements needed ▪ Need for trails and equestrian facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern with SCAG models and impact on area ▪ North/south connections to San Bernardino and other regional links are needed ▪ Need accessible transportation and dial-a-ride ▪ Concern with trucks and intermodal facilities ▪ Need Metrolink extension ▪ Bike and pedestrian facilities are needed
Palm Desert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interjurisdictional issues get in the way of implementation ▪ Concern with Riverside County dichotomies – Western vs. other parts of County, rich vs. poor (especially Coachella Valley) ▪ Need to plan for development ▪ Concern with water conservation ▪ Appreciation of open space and concern with encroachment on agricultural land ▪ Concern with benefit gained by outside development interests ▪ Manage trash, landfill and recycling issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of open space ▪ Preserve desert ecology ▪ Debate on extent to which habitats are preserved – especially single-species habitats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan infrastructure to meet needs of development ▪ Interagency disagreements interfere with corridor improvement ▪ Public transportation including regional linkages and local dial-a-ride

Community Area	Synopsis of Issues		
	General Plan	Conservation & Habitat	Transportation
Beaumont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve rural areas ▪ Improve downtowns and preserve old buildings ▪ Regional approach is needed to planning and development, including sharing economic gains ▪ Towns should be merged into one city ▪ Balance jobs and housing ▪ Reduce pollution and improve air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve open spaces ▪ Improve water and air quality ▪ Protect wildlife ▪ Protect and preserve the natural terrain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve regional transportation – access and coordination ▪ Improve transportation for the elderly ▪ Government fragmentation impacts implementation of improvements ▪ Improve the 79 corridor ▪ Provide for emergency transportation access ▪ Improve maintenance ▪ Need to plan ahead and preserve transportation corridors ▪ Provide access to jobs
Lake Elsinore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern with sprawl – consider moratorium on development; reduce miscellaneous annexations, do cost-benefit analysis ▪ Special concern with Liberty development ▪ Implement development consistent with General Plan ▪ Preserve open space ▪ Concern with level of services financed by new development ▪ Need for a variety of shopping opportunities ▪ Need for buffers, barriers and greenbelts ▪ Protection against natural hazards needed ▪ Need clean industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain open space and country lifestyle ▪ Concern on Metropolitan Water District ownership and development ▪ Lake runoff ▪ Importance of trails ▪ Need for park policy and development, including user fee structure and developer responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community is neglected in public transportation access ▪ Concern with land use-transportation connections ▪ Dial-a-ride is needed in many areas ▪ Rail extensions are needed ▪ Concern with roadway conditions ▪ Highway 74 improvements needed ▪ Questions on Measure A uses

Community Area	Synopsis of Issues		
	General Plan	Conservation & Habitat	Transportation
Perris	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Address loss of agricultural land ▪ Buffers and transition areas needed ▪ Provide for adequate lot sizes ▪ Create varied styles and types of housing ▪ Increase density but increase amount of open space also ▪ Need jobs in rural areas and jobs-housing balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support habitat conservation in general but: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide clear explanation on why habitat areas are needed ▪ Preserve waterways and riverbeds ▪ Willing to commit resources to preserve open space and rural areas ▪ Need to create habitat with freeway/arterial construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to improve east-west corridor access ▪ Improve dial-a-ride for the elderly ▪ Increase Metrolink service ▪ Improve road maintenance ▪ Question if Measure A implemented (specifically Highway 74)
Hemet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support integrated planning ▪ Need to preserve green space ▪ Concern with restrictiveness of large parcel zoning ▪ Support infill development ▪ Need to protect private property rights ▪ Need to plan infrastructure along with development ▪ Increased coordination and joint planning are needed ▪ Provide job training and improved social services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern with erosion and flooding ▪ Concern with Eastside Reservoir and impacts ▪ Preserve the natural environment and increase the amount of green space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Concern with mass transit capacity and needs ▪ Dial-a-ride service needs significant improvement ▪ Extend passenger rail ▪ Consider and improve emergency transportation access ▪ Improved maintenance is needed ▪ Consider freight rail extension ▪ Need explanation of use of Measure A funding

Community Area	Synopsis of Issues		
	General Plan	Conservation & Habitat	Transportation
Sun City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Balance progress and growth – preserve the natural beauty and open space ▪ Consider urban limit lines for growth ▪ Increase availability of jobs ▪ Provide a mix of housing styles and purposes ▪ Decrease crowding ▪ Increase connections with the County – the area feels disenfranchised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preserve wildlife ▪ Balance preservation with property rights ▪ Create observation as well as recreation areas ▪ Plan for diversity of habitats and habitat requirements ▪ Build on existing recreational and trail resources ▪ Consider development's impact on the food chain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Road plans should be detailed ▪ Concern with area's status as unincorporated area and plans ▪ Public transit service needs improvement – fixed route service has been cut and dial-a-ride is poor ▪ Concern with local arterial expansion – especially impact of development ▪ Maintenance needs to be improved ▪ Traffic and development impacts of Eastside Reservoir need to be considered
Blythe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase amount of affordable housing ▪ Decrease restrictions on land use to encourage mix of housing types ▪ Preserve Native American sites ▪ Mitigate hydrocarbons – impacts development in key areas of Blythe ▪ Increase job opportunities – provide for self-sufficiency in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open space and habitat preservation 	

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**TEMECULA
June 17, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ There is a demand for growth but residents want a County that reflects the values of the community.

Housing

- ◆ Inner-city redevelopment is important, we need to work from inner-out
- ◆ Housing in Riverside County is market driven. Condominiums have not worked in Riverside County; they are too densely populated.
- ◆ Development is a concern – especially to the east of Temecula in unincorporated County areas and on the Pechanga Indian reservation

Other Comments

Economic Development

- ◆ Riverside County needs jobs that attract growth.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Problems don't end at the County line – we share problems with San Diego County, specifically
- ◆ The mall and Eastside Reservoir and Rogerdale are also concerns
- ◆ The issue is how to accommodate this development and take transportation into consideration
- ◆ Southern Bell is a good example
- ◆ Isolation of our youth is a concern – they don't interact because they're in cars
- ◆ We need to look at commercial activities that are implemented – especially sports bars

Transportation and Access Issues

- ◆ We need a choice of modes
- ◆ We need to change the auto paradigm and provide a network of transportation alternatives – currently, alternatives are lacking
- ◆ Pedestrian and bike transportation should also be a focus -- bike paths should be differentiated for safety
- ◆ There should be a viable public transportation system
- ◆ We should decrease dependence on the freeway
- ◆ We should promote carpools – right now there's a lack of incentives
- ◆ School buses and public transit should be integrated as one system

- ◆ Low farebox return is a problem
- ◆ The freeway presents a physical barrier
- ◆ There should be on- and off-ramps every 2 miles
- ◆ Southwest County congestion causes air quality problems
- ◆ There needs to be infrastructure for low-emission vehicles
- ◆ Temecula traffic is getting better
- ◆ We should look at the impact of transportation on habitats – specifically wildlife movement
- ◆ A key issue is how to get the resources:
- ◆ Improve farebox recovery
- ◆ Get bond support
- ◆ Make the auto and petroleum industries part of the solution
- ◆ Do not study things to death!

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ The challenge is to find a balance between Preservation and Growth/Development -- the RCIP plan is balancing both sides
- ◆ One common goal is to preserve Riverside County for the future
- ◆ Is there a way to retain current species? Growth boundaries might work and can have open space benefits but how do we utilize boundaries when species do not recognize boundaries?
- ◆ The Alamo Hills Area is an area with political and biological issues. We can create an island but what do we do with the island? Will creating islands only create more problems since it disrupts the natural chain of events?
- ◆ We need to recognize a shared responsibility in preserving open space and multiple species.
- ◆ We need to look at other plan models to learn what has worked in other places and what could work here.

Mitigation Banking Issues

- ◆ We need to find an incentive based program for landowners and farmers
- ◆ There needs to be a defined set of standards and criteria for conservation easements and mitigation banking and should not be on a case-by-case basis.
- ◆ The public and individual landowner needs to know who the competitors are when working on mitigation banking.
- ◆ The process needs to be a fair.
- ◆ Want some local control within federal guidelines.
- ◆ Want to know at the local level if there is a conflict of interest.
- ◆ The mitigation banking process is a frustrating process.

Housing and Redevelopment Issues

- ◆ Inner-city redevelopment is important, we need to work from inner city outward
- ◆ Housing in Riverside County is market driven. Condominiums have not worked in Riverside County; they are too densely populated.

Growth Issues

- ◆ Riverside County needs jobs that attract growth.
- ◆ There is demand for growth but people want a County that reflects the values of the community.

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"If I could change one thing about Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ We need jobs in Riverside County.

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"

Winners

- ◆ Metrolink
- ◆ Traffic Directors at 79 South and I-15
- ◆ Individual staff contract coordination skills (Gary McKinsey)
- ◆ All government Agencies (under the circumstances)
- ◆ State of California allowing private enterprise to build roads

Losers

- ◆ Fastrak ends at Highway 71 – why can't it extend to the HOV lane?
- ◆ Construction costs too high for local CSAs to fund
- ◆ Driver courtesies

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Hiking (3) Quiet, uncrowded
- ◆ Landscape photography
- ◆ Enjoying solitude
- ◆ Camping

"Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)"

- ◆ Temecula/Mur Creek and Santa Margarita River
- ◆ Murrieta Creek bottom and Oaks
- ◆ Santa Rosa Plateau

"What do you like about this special place?"

- ◆ Beautiful habitat – peaceful

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ One of the last of its kind in Southern California
- ◆ Beauty

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**RIVERSIDE
June 21, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Too much emphasis on new development and not enough on developing existing resources and areas.
- ◆ Use existing infrastructure and infill ---no more stripmalls, fill up the Plaza.
- ◆ Add urban limit lines like they have in Oregon and Washington
- ◆ Change regional emphasis from consumption to conservation.
- ◆ Communities lack a sense of space
- ◆ Loss of agricultural land
- ◆ Garden communities feel friendlier, safer --We'd like that.
- ◆ Diesel truck centers are located next to high school . . .leads to bad air quality, traffic dangers for students

Housing

- ◆ New develop should look like old development
- ◆ Buildings look temporary --little sense of longevity
- ◆ Needs to be better building/community fit

Traffic

- ◆ We need options to using the car; like trolleys
- ◆ Need bike lanes
- ◆ Need different distribution systems (besides diesel trucks) and emission controls

Natural Resources

- ◆ Water resources need to be considered, along with conservation, recycling, demonstration projects, flood management.

What an Ideal Community would be like . . .

- ◆ Sense of community; sense of soul
- ◆ Have porous pavement

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Can we accommodate the expected population increase with proposed solutions?
- ◆ We need to link up with San Bernardino County and others
- ◆ Things we support with our taxes are not necessarily picked up at the county line

- ◆ We need to educate people about how their transportation dollars are spent

Transportation and Access Issues

- ◆ There has been a history of citizens being distanced from transportation information
- ◆ I don't know whom to ask about transportation information – how to get from here to there
- ◆ We need an alternate route to the 91 but the best alternative is through a kangaroo rat area
- ◆ There are no surface alternatives to the 91
- ◆ The portion of I-15 between Baseline Road and Route 60 is a recent hotspot
- ◆ 60/215 weaving causes a hazardous situation
- ◆ The image is that access to Los Angeles is the problem
- ◆ The HOV linkage to the Fastrak is underused
- ◆ We need alternative access – maglev, more Fastrak, congestion pricing
- ◆ Not just freeways but arterials, too
- ◆ Ports, airports and trains should be linked
- ◆ Freight issues are key in this area
- ◆ Truck delivery schedules should be changed to nighttime deliveries – trucks cause daytime congestion
- ◆ Railroads, especially the Colton terminal, cause pollution
- ◆ Freight up I-10 to Banning is a problem
- ◆ There is a conflict between Metrolink and freight
- ◆ Metrolink is infrequent – the freight conflicts add to this problem
- ◆ Any alternative needs to be assessed for air quality impact
- ◆ Incentives for clean fuel conversion are needed

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Area Image

- ◆ Historically Riverside County was seen as an oasis with its ideal winters and opportunities for citrus. It was not the wasteland that many view it as today.
- ◆ We need to work on changing the public image of Riverside County and highlight its positives
- ◆ We need to highlight natural abundance of Riverside County -- it is a commodity

Community Involvement

- ◆ We need to address apathy of citizenry
- ◆ People in the County need to be part of the solution
- ◆ Riverside Neighborhood Partnership and the Mayor's "Night-Out" have worked well to get the community involved

Area Assets

- ◆ The diversity in Riverside County is a benefit
- ◆ Trees are an area asset
- ◆ Positive features of Riverside County are its natural qualities

- ◆ The City of Riverside has quality of life benefits: citrus areas, university, mountains, Victorian homes

Open Space and Development

- ◆ We need to prioritize open space
- ◆ Planning and management of open areas needs to be continuous – it cannot be piecemeal
- ◆ Open space is seen as a positive
- ◆ There are empty buildings now, why are we building more?
- ◆ We need to get funds from development to acquire and preserve land
- ◆ People want to know if the government will buy their land at fair market value to preserve species
- ◆ Places to avoid development and protect include San Jacinto Hills and Gavilan Hills
- ◆ Riverside County needs collaborative partnerships to preserve and maintain open space and habitat
- ◆ Open space increases air quality and can be a solution for other concerns
- ◆ Needs to be a reward for private land owners for management of large chunks of open space
- ◆ Wildlife corridors should be multi-use corridors

RESPONSES TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

“If I could change one thing about Riverside County, it would be . . .”

- ◆ Keep diesel trucks way from neighborhoods. Establish buffer zones so our community is safe --in terms of transportation and air quality
- ◆ Use existing infrastructure. Establish urban limit lines. Infill vacant areas. No more stripmalls, fill up the Plaza!
- ◆ There’s too much emphasis on new development and not enough on developing existing resources and areas.
- ◆ Use urban line limits like they have in Oregon and Washington
- ◆ Change regional emphasis from consumption
- ◆ Eliminate apathy

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations “Winners” and “Losers”

Winners

- ◆ Metrolink

Losers

- ◆ Riverside doesn’t incentivize jobs and small business like Orange County does
- ◆ The auto-oriented society
- ◆ Not getting information to voters
- ◆ The 60/215/91 interchange

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

“When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing...”

- ◆ Hiking
- ◆ Camping
- ◆ Gardening (2)
- ◆ Breathing clean air!
- ◆ I like walking, horseback riding, and raising children with healthy lungs
- ◆ Birdwatching

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ Citrus Heritage Park
- ◆ UCR Botanical Gardens
- ◆ San Jacinto Valley
- ◆ Santa Ana River area (the whole length)
- ◆ San Jacinto wildlife area

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ Quiet, inspiring
- ◆ Openness
- ◆ It is natural
- ◆ Open space / wetlands / birds

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ Need for meditation
- ◆ Development is a great threat
- ◆ It feels wild and far away from civilization, when I ride the trail or camp.
- ◆ I keep working to add to it

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**JURUPA
June 22, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Industry has built huge warehouses; semi-trucks (making deliveries) are too close to our homes, schools, and areas where children play
- ◆ We'd like a new community plan. Too much mixed land use ---high school students and large hauling diesels don't mix.
- ◆ No buffer between homes and industries
- ◆ Loss of rural appearances ---and life style (ability to ride horses and walk without dodging traffic) as a consequence of industries moving in
- ◆ Need to balance "big business' concerns with community values and wishes
- ◆ We need coordinated planning to include living conditions for residents.

Housing

- ◆ More affordable housing
- ◆ Less density

Circulation

- ◆ Need to improve the land use and transportation relationship, to generate an efficient public (mass) transit system.

Open Space

- ◆ Local parks are poorly maintained; dirty, poorly lit
- ◆ Horse trails are not maintained.

Air Quality

- ◆ County needs to honor the "No truck/diesel moratorium". We want clean air. Risk assessment is 1700 cancer deaths per 1,000,000.

Other Comments

Community Identity

- ◆ Glen Avon has its own identity that of a friendly, (tree-lined), peaceful small town.
- ◆ Need beautification and clean up. "Feels like beautification (efforts) stops at the edge of our area."
- ◆ Again, about beautification: "Beautify that part of Rubidoux that needs to be improved. The improvements made to Rubidoux in '96 were basically pointless. That part of Mission was in great condition but farther down the road, the street is in bad condition."
- ◆ We need to incorporate.

Coordination Between Agencies

- ◆ “Poor coordination and too much infighting between agencies, schools, and parks leads to inefficiency.”

Social Issues

- ◆ Address the needs of poor and elderly. They are a large percentage of the population.

Public Participation

- ◆ Community members believe they must become more involved to ensure their views are heard and respected.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Is Jurupa a “sacrifice zone”? We’re losing green space and air quality is decreasing
- ◆ Other environmental issues are the dust from gravel and aircraft noise

Transportation and Access Issues

Trucks

- ◆ Truck traffic/depots
- ◆ Being a “sacrifice zone”
- ◆ Cumulative impact of local projects
- ◆ Trucks are a major issue
- ◆ Big trucks transport hazardous waste, cause diesel hot spots and accidents
- ◆ Truck safety around schools is a concern
- ◆ Trucks damage our streets
- ◆ Truck depots cause traffic

Traffic and Speed

- ◆ Speed and traffic enforcement
- ◆ Why do we have a policy to increase speed? To move more traffic?
- ◆ The Highway patrol are our only local traffic cops but they’re busy on the freeways

Noise

- ◆ Noise is a problem
- ◆ Freeway, train and truck noise all impact our area
- ◆ There is “soundwall spillover”, where noise carries across soundwalls to houses located inside the noise barrier
- ◆ Soundwall promises were made and not kept
- ◆ Ontario Airport’s night policy causes noise problems for the area

Surface Street Issues:

- ◆ Pedley Road – curves and underpass create a dangerous situation. Speed causes safety and driveway access problems
- ◆ Congestion and slow speeds on Valley Way impacts traffic on Granite Mill Drive – it becomes a commuter bypass
- ◆ The Van Buren Curve needs re-engineering
- ◆ Schools are endangered by traffic, especially on Valley Way. Potholes are also a problem on this street

Public Transportation

- ◆ Buses are a problem but Metrolink service is good.
- ◆ There are no buses on Etiwanda or Sunnyslope – you have to go to Country Village to connect to Riverside
- ◆ Bus stops are not in safe pedestrian locations – stops should be at intersections/corners – not mid-block
- ◆ School transportation affects both safety and traffic
- ◆ Bike lanes are few and far between but they're not a good idea on main streets
- ◆ School bus loading zones, especially at Jurupa Valley School, cause traffic and safety problems
- ◆ The freedom to select your own school has increased transportation problems

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Open Space

- ◆ Hills, grass, cows and nature are all assets to area
- ◆ Conservation important to preserve open space
- ◆ Historically in the 1980's open space was not as high of a priority as growth, development and employment
- ◆ People in the area have an appreciation for nature and for things that are not "man made"
- ◆ Santa Ana River, Jurupa Hills, Mountains are all important areas to maintain

Planning and Development

- ◆ Residential areas need buffers
- ◆ Industrial areas should not be right next to residential areas There is a concern with exploitation of open spaces
- ◆ People recognize that the zoning code is interrelated with some density concerns
- ◆ Residents need information on zoning restrictions i.e. "area can be no less than 1/2 acre parcels"

Environment

- ◆ Historically environmental concerns were low on the priority list
- ◆ Environment now has a place at the table and is part of the planning process
- ◆ There should be financial incentives to preserve and maintain environment

Requirements for the Plan

- ◆ The plans need to consider what is best for people
- ◆ Community involvement is important in planning process
- ◆ There needs to be a look at the long term, not a focus on short-term gain
- ◆ The area needs to be maintained and preserved for our children and their children
- ◆ It is a matter of money; we spend money on what is important to us. Need to keep environment in mind
- ◆ Need a regional view, it is the best way to protect reserves and corridors
- ◆ We need to recognize that resources are not unlimited
- ◆ The Plan needs to balance the rural area's character with infrastructure needs

RESPONSES TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"If I could change one thing about Riverside County, it would be..."

- ◆ Incompatible land uses
- ◆ Haphazard planning
- ◆ Traffic congestion
- ◆ Inadequate public transportation exists – "Need up-to-date transportation"
- ◆ Need recreation opportunities for youth (such as skate-boarding parks)- Opportunities for youths would help deter them from crime."
- ◆ Poor air quality – "We need clean air." (4)

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE...

GROUP DISCUSSIONS COMMENTS AND WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ."

- ◆ Fewer people living in our area (than L.A. or Orange County)
- ◆ Nature preserves

You really have to see:

- ◆ Acres of green zones set aside to retain the area's rural nature

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"

Winners

- ◆ None Mentioned

Losers

- ◆ Only two bridges for street use from Western Riverside (Jurupa Valley) to Riverside City. If the Van Buren Bridge is down over the Santa Ana River, getting to work is a nightmare
- ◆ The 60/215/91 interchange

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

“When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing...”

- ◆ Driving
- ◆ Walking (4) Maybe a walking trail just for walkers in the Glen Avon area
- ◆ Relaxing in a lawn chair
- ◆ Hiking (4)
- ◆ Camping (2)
- ◆ Fishing
- ◆ Rock-hounding
- ◆ Bird watching
- ◆ Horseback riding (2)
- ◆ Running (4) (in open areas with the dogs)
- ◆ Basketball (2)
- ◆ Gardening (2)
- ◆ Bike riding
- ◆ Just being with my family
- ◆ Playing tennis, softball, soccer

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ Rancho Jurupa Park
- ◆ The environment along the Santa Ana River – It is one of the few remaining actual rivers in Southern California in a growing area. We have already lost the L.A. River.
- ◆ There are not enough natural places in West Riverside. If there were, I would enjoy a park that had more grassy areas or recreational places.
- ◆ Jurupa Mountains – north of 60 freeway
- ◆ Jurupa Hills – north of Limonite Ave, near Valley Way / Jurupa Road and 60 freeway
- ◆ Jurupa – Joshua Natural Park
- ◆ No, but I feel parks should be improved and added and kept clean
- ◆ Louis Rubidoux Nature Center

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ It’s amazing to be in Rubidoux, it is very serene
- ◆ It is natural
- ◆ It is nearby. Fairmount Park is crawling with derelicts that make it an unsafe place.
- ◆ Undeveloped – grasslands, wildlife, especially the birds, (hawks, etc.)
- ◆ The lay of the land
- ◆ Accessible to public

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ It is a family area. It is clean and feels like your in the mountains
- ◆ My children can grow up seeing rivers as they should be, not surrounded by concrete
- ◆ There are no lighted tennis courts for people that are only able to practice at night. No places for children to play safely
- ◆ For the horseback riding and hiking
- ◆ I live here
- ◆ Because there isn't such a place
- ◆ It's function in educating the public about nature

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**CORONA
June 24, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Zoning needs to be sure uses are compatible

Open Space

- ◆ Need open space between cities. It provides a sense of place, social character and provides connections between cities.

Other Comments

Social Issues

- ◆ We need to provide more free services for youth –diversion programs, mentoring.
- ◆ Schools (facilities) need to be improved.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Where does the funding come from?
- ◆ How do we get to sustainability?
- ◆ Environmental issues are important – all the way from CO₂ generation to dust and dirt from gravel pits
- ◆ Temecula-Murrieta buildup impacts our area – land use and transportation policy should be linked

Transportation and Access Issues

Corridor Alternatives and Linkages

- ◆ There need to be more alternate routes
- ◆ Specifically, an east-west connection to Orange County other than the 91
- ◆ Cut-through traffic makes impacts worse -- problems on the freeway create local problems
- ◆ There is concern that projects may not match up – specifically the Route 91 auxiliary lanes
- ◆ There should be a link with Route 241
- ◆ Emergency vehicle delay is a concern – especially if they close 91 – where do emergency vehicles go?
- ◆ Can the southbound 15 connection to the 215 be metered?
- ◆ Temescal Canyon is congested -- especially with trucks
- ◆ Impact of development on traffic and impact of traffic on ability to develop further are both concerns in our area –developments have been turned down because of congestion
- ◆ Roadway maintenance funding is inadequate

Truck Issues

- ◆ Truck speed
- ◆ We should time truck delivery better or move to just-in-time delivery
- ◆ Trash haulers are a problem for our area
- ◆ There should be more grade crossings for trains

Public Transit

- ◆ Bus service needs improvement
- ◆ There are no direct bus routes
- ◆ Bus stops are far away
- ◆ There is concern with CNG bus expense

Bike Issues

- ◆ There should be more infrastructure for bikes
- ◆ Bike safety should be improved
- ◆ Topography gets in the way of bike use
- ◆ We should bring Amsterdam bike policies here – have more bike paths and parkways

Other

- ◆ Can transportation funding be used for economic development – specifically supporting structure for small businesses?
- ◆ Freeway beautification should be pursued

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Open Space

- ◆ We need to slow down progress
- ◆ We like the arm-stretching aspect of this area
- ◆ We need to address people dumping odds and ends in open space areas
- ◆ It is important to maintain open space
- ◆ We need open space between cities. It provides a sense of place, social character and provides connections between cities
- ◆ Concrete is just not as attractive as open space
- ◆ It is important to preserve and value open space. Agricultural land and open space needs to be valued for its open space qualities and not for its “potential development value”.

Habitat Preservation

- ◆ We should keep streams as natural entities
- ◆ There is question on where the animals will go when there is growth and development
- ◆ We need to respect species territories.
- ◆ The overall concern is for animal population, not a specific species
- ◆ Species are changing
- ◆ Cities are their own ecosystem

Values

- ◆ If we can promote human respect we can encourage respect of natural items
- ◆ We value interaction and close connections with natural world
- ◆ The outdoors helps social structures and helps teach peace and understanding
- ◆ Zoning needs to be sure uses are compatible

Property Issues

- ◆ Property ownership rights need to be factored into the preservation equation
- ◆ The dollar amount spent in county fees is not indicative of infrastructure services.

RESPONSES TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"If I could change one thing about Riverside County, it would be..."

- ◆ Plant more trees and have a nice park in El Cerrito to have friends and family meet.
- ◆ Supervisors should get the word out about these meetings to organizations
- ◆ I would make economic development easier to achieve in the unincorporated areas to bring in more tax base, which in turn brings better things to El Cerrito.
- ◆ Why must all areas be made to look alike? In the uniquely special area of El Cerrito, we are striving to save our plants, animals and quality of life. It is fast disappearing due to massive developments surrounding us.
- ◆ Keep it as it is on east of 15 on Ontario Boulevard.

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE...

GROUP DISCUSSIONS COMMENTS AND WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ."

- ◆ Slow living life style
- ◆ Open spaces – not housing tracts
- ◆ Help widen Ramon Road Bridge in Thousand Palms

Please Note: (This is a message to Ed Studor)

"Dear Ed Studor:

I am living in beautiful El Cerrito. I am still living here because I love it when you visit. Let's go down to scenic Temescal Canyon." (Unsigned)

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Looking at other people's gardens
- ◆ Picnic with church group
- ◆ Camping
- ◆ Backpacking

- ◆ Canoeing
- ◆ Kayaking
- ◆ Hiking (2)
- ◆ Fishing
- ◆ Bird watching (2)
- ◆ Spending time with my registered quarter horses. I used to enjoy the blue sky and clean water before it became polluted. I used to ride in the chaparral areas before things changed vastly and are still changing adversely
- ◆ Walking, nice parks, natural streams, etc.

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ San Jacinto Wildlife Area (2)
- ◆ Gavilan Hills
- ◆ Potrero
- ◆ Vail Lake
- ◆ San Timoteo Creek
- ◆ Badlands
- ◆ Mystic Lake
- ◆ The mining open space area about 4000 acres could co-exist with the mines as a preserve and harbor and protect sensitive and endangered species that still live there
- ◆ Temecula
- ◆ The hill with the rocks on the very top at Cajalco
- ◆ Lake Matthews
- ◆ Santa Rosa Plateau (2)

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ No traffic – no houses (2)
- ◆ Lots of wildlife
- ◆ Animals and plants either adapt migrate or die. Many are adapting to stay away from hordes of people
- ◆ View of the lake and surrounding
- ◆ I was told that it is a sacred Indian burial ground
- ◆ Peace and quiet
- ◆ Open, clean air a wonderful place to ride my horse
- ◆ It is natural – Keep it that way

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ Love the quiet and the birds
- ◆ The wildlife is able to survive because of little urbanization

- ◆ Because I have lived there for over 35 years, I have observed many plants and animals. There is a quiet, peacefulness when the mines are not blasting. Even the mining activity is tolerable when you compare it to the vast impacts of the fast developing areas.
- ◆ I think, it has to do with our drinking water
- ◆ Childhood favorite place
- ◆ Birds can fly in and the beauty of the water and trees
- ◆ I live there – I moved there to get away from the city and crowds.
- ◆ It is kept up that way people can enjoy it.

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**MORENO VALLEY
June 28, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Important to control patterns of growth. We need coherent patterns of growth.
- ◆ Too much private property is poorly maintained
- ◆ Land use policies have to make it profitable for people to stay in agriculture --We need agricultural protection.
- ◆ Scenic impact of windmills has to be considered.
- ◆ View sheds --We need protection and understanding of implications for landowners.
- ◆ Beware! Land use restrictions and its impacts may have unintended restrictions (pertaining to the taking of private property and the cost.)

Circulation

- ◆ How will traffic be accommodated?

Housing

- ◆ We need low cost housing for elderly, and better coordination between City and County for this.

Conservation

- ◆ Water availability and cost is a concern.

Other Comments

Social Issues

- ◆ Overcrowding is increasing crime rate.
- ◆ Negative media hurts Moreno Valley.
- ◆ Police/public safety, and infrastructure demands are already at a pivotal spot--How are we going to meet additional demands?
- ◆ Important to consider current patterns and levels of public services. We need available information to make decisions about development.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ How do our plans mesh with SCAG's plans?
- ◆ Moreno Valley development is not in SCAG's model -- the model needs to match Moreno Valley's reality. Moreno Valley industrial development and March Air Force Base need specific attention
- ◆ Can we get a development moratorium while we plan?

Transportation and Access Issues

Regional Linkages

- ◆ The north-south connection with San Bernardino County is key
- ◆ Is San Bernardino County being considered in the plan?
- ◆ Regional linkage with San Bernardino, San Diego and Orange Counties are important

Congestion and Corridors

- ◆ Overall, congestion is a great concern
- ◆ Congestion from accidents is especially bad because alternate routes, when they exist, are congested also – this needs to be considered in the plans
- ◆ Route 60 lane drops cause a problem – it goes from 4 to 3 back to 4 lanes
- ◆ Should Route 60 improvements be mixed flow or HOV?
- ◆ If the grade is fixed it increases Moreno Valley congestion.

Interjurisdictional Coordination

- ◆ Interjurisdictional continuity is needed on circulation plans
- ◆ There should be incentives for consistency (as there are in Orange County)

Truck Issues

- ◆ We need to get truck traffic off the freeway
- ◆ We need a truck climbing lane on Routes 15 and 215

Rail Needs

- ◆ Rail and inter-modal
- ◆ Rail service expansion is important – all the way from a Joint Powers Authority for rail service to freight to high-speed rail
- ◆ Consultants should look at the San Jacinto line extension study
- ◆ Truck-Rail inter-modal transfers should consider the existing major east-west rail corridor
- ◆ Is it possible to do inter-modal transfer at March Air Force Base?
- ◆ Is it possible to have rail service along Route 60 into the city?

Metrolink

- ◆ Metrolink bypasses Moreno Valley – plans are to go from Riverside to Hemet and not stop in Moreno Valley
- ◆ Lack of Metrolink service from Moreno Valley adds to route 91 congestion

Bus Service

- ◆ Accessible public transportation, especially for disabled people, is lacking
- ◆ The system is overbooked but only one person is on board – is this a contradiction?
- ◆ Tie-down abilities for wheelchairs are inconsistent, as is driver training
- ◆ Bus service stops too early, especially for special events such as the fireworks
- ◆ Bike and Pedestrian train connections are important – equestrian trails, too

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Special Places in Riverside County That Need To Be Maintained

Anza Valley	Moreno Valley	4000 Acres of "Cycle Park"
Open Space	San Jacinto (2)	Unincorporated Northern Hills of Moreno Valley
Golf Courses	Davis Road	San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Hills Adjacent to San Jacinto Hills)
Tree Mound	Santa Rosa Plateau	

Wildlife Corridors

- ◆ Want wildlife corridor linkages
- ◆ Animals and plants can not protect themselves
- ◆ We enjoy knowing that species are around us

Trails and Equestrian Use

- ◆ Would it be possible to create a trail circle around the county for horse riding?
- ◆ We want multiple-use trails
- ◆ We do not like motorcycles -- they are invasive and scar the area
- ◆ Could be possible to create a trail circle around the County for horse riding?
- ◆ An east-west trail connection is possible
- ◆ Fire and utility roads are good equestrian trails
- ◆ We want more equestrian trails

Development and Open Space

- ◆ It is harder to preserve open space once development starts
- ◆ People want a "no surprises" agreement and a pre-listing agreement in real estate transactions
- ◆ We need to increase awareness of zoning codes and restrictions
- ◆ When people build next to open space they need to be aware of neighboring species and sign a waiver they understand the conditions
- ◆ Cluster homes impact infrastructure. These developments tend to want urban amenities
- ◆ Larger lot homes are important to maintain the lifestyle of the Moreno Valley

General Issues

- ◆ People in the area value a sense of community
- ◆ We have an opportunity to do something now to preserve for the future
- ◆ Balance is the key
- ◆ We need to increase understanding

RESPONSES TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"If I could change one thing about Riverside County, it would be..."

- ◆ Gangs
- ◆ Lack of employment
- ◆ Kids need more free activities and opportunities

- ◆ Poor condition of roads

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE...

GROUP DISCUSSIONS COMMENTS AND WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise comments are noted with an asterisk)*

- ◆ Rural atmosphere – It's a city away from the City
- ◆ Natural parks
- ◆ No smog at higher altitudes
- ◆ Open spaces free of signage
- ◆ Parks and programs for kids
- ◆ Easy drive to San Diego or Orange County
- ◆ Proximity to deserts, mountains, ocean and urban areas
- ◆ Open spaces *

You really have to see:

- ◆ Victoria Avenues, Palm Springs Museum, Mission Inn *

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"

Winners

- ◆ None mentioned

Losers

- ◆ The 60/215/91 interchange (additional mention)

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Horseback riding (2)
- ◆ Bicycling
- ◆ Hiking (3)
- ◆ Multi-use trails
- ◆ Open space
- ◆ Yardwork
- ◆ Gardening
- ◆ Enjoying the wildlife and natural settings I can find

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ Santa Rosa Plateau (2)
- ◆ Bogart Park
- ◆ Idyllwild
- ◆ Whitewater
- ◆ San Jacinto Wildlife area
- ◆ Santa Ana River Park, horse trails and bike trails

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ Trails, wildlife

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ I live here
- ◆ All open space is important
- ◆ It keeps people off the streets and safe

Riverside County Integrated Plan Community Workshop Summary

PALM DESERT June 29, 1999

Note: At this workshop, there was a combined discussion of General Plan, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Transportation issues.

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Palm Desert, the Coachella Valley and Riverside County are all one system
- ◆ Interjurisdictional issues get in the way of implementation
 - For example, on I-10 Caltrans, trucking Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Federal Agencies (including Fish and Wildlife) and local cities all get into the act
 - We need to get commitments to put improvements on the fast track
- ◆ We need to mesh idealism with financial and political reality – there are no “quick fixes”
- ◆ There are dichotomies in Riverside County:
 - One is a dichotomy of regions – those on this side of the mountain (Coachella Valley and beyond) and those on the other side of the mountain (western Riverside County)
 - The other is a financial dichotomy – especially in this area. We have the high-end vs. the working people
 - The working people need “working wage” jobs
 - We need balance in societal values

General Plan Issues

- ◆ We need to recognize a plan’s vision vs. its reality
- ◆ We don’t need any more Hollywood glitz. However, visitors maintain vitality. One idea is to maintain Palm Springs’ eclecticism
- ◆ There is a need for more land use planning – we need to recognize what’s happening in Orange County
- ◆ The question is how to accommodate a plan when change is rapid
- ◆ We need to prevent encroachment on agricultural land
- ◆ We also need to manage trash, landfill and recycling issues
- ◆ Development is pushing southeast to Thermal but is also increasing in developed areas – we need to plan for infrastructure requirements in both
- ◆ Water control is an issue
 - We need to look at the Arizona model and use of xeriscapes
 - Conservation education and practice are key
 - We need to keep the desert a desert – the look and the ecology – and preserve natural beauty. There should be less golf course watering and a more natural landscape
- ◆ Bighorn sheep need to be protected
- ◆ In general, there is an appreciation of open space
- ◆ There is debate on the extent to which we preserve natural habitats, especially large single-species habitats

- We need to look to “lessons learned” from Orange County and Los Angeles County – prevent ecological issues
- ◆ There is question on who benefits from development – do the people in the area benefit or do “carpetbagger” developers?
- ◆ There need to be more opportunities for kids

The Best Things about the Coachella Valley Are...

- ◆ The people – the diversity, the residents themselves and our guests
- ◆ Its beauty
- ◆ The climate
- ◆ The lifestyle
- ◆ It’s a great place to raise kids
- ◆ The quality of life
- ◆ The open space
- ◆ The cost of living
- ◆ Agriculture
- ◆ Good health care
- ◆ Active philanthropic organizations

RESPONSES TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Get rid of blowing sand, small particles are unhealthful
- ◆ Control west side air pollution to our valley
- ◆ Where will all the water come from?
- ◆ Convert the Salton Sea into a major water resort area
- ◆ Preserve the mountain slopes in the Coachella Valley
- ◆ Affordable electricity for seniors and low income citizens. SCE us a monopoly and rates exorbitant.
- ◆ Have a major university in Coachella Valley
- ◆ Create a medical university in the Coachella Valley
- ◆ Will a train system like the monorail be good for the valley?
- ◆ Support Amtrak
- ◆ More alternatives for travel destinations via Amtrak
- ◆ Better public transportation to and from Coachella Valley
- ◆ Ample provisions for bus turnouts and shelters during development review process
- ◆ Not have our area turn into L.A. – specifically we need plan for water
- ◆ Better schools and more education – maybe a big university in the area
- ◆ Improve our cultural and economic mix – stress the importance of a multicultural environment
- ◆ Deal with waste issues
- ◆ Get rid of slumlords

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"
"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ."

- ◆ The climate
- ◆ The beauty and peacefulness of the desert

You really have to see:

- ◆ Civic Center and Palm Desert

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION: *Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"*

Winners

- ◆ None Mentioned

Losers

- ◆ Hadley trucking uses surface streets at high speed
- ◆ Trucks on Highway 60—too scenic for dangerous trucks
- ◆ Number of trucks and diesel
- ◆ Road maintenance and drainage in Meadowbrook
- ◆ Traffic lights not coordinated at streets adjacent to Freeway onramps
- ◆ Transportation within Coachella Valley
- ◆ No synchronized traffic lights in Coachella Valley
- ◆ Uncovered bus stops with no water in Coachella Valley – no wonder people don't take public transport
- ◆ Public transportation to and from Coachella Valley to Riverside and Los Angeles

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**BEAUMONT
July 1, 1999**

Note: At this workshop, the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan discussion was combined with the General Plan and Transportation issues.

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Cabazon needs a modernized downtown.
- ◆ In Calimesa, we need to limit growth to preserve rural life style.
- ◆ Need to limit expansion of cities.
- ◆ Planning should encompass regions. Important to recognize linkage between Beaumont, Banning, Cherry Valley, Calimesa, and Cabazon. (Collectively called San Gregorio Pass).
- ◆ C.O.I.s are important in this area.
- ◆ Old buildings need to be preserved and remodeled.
- ◆ Prevent piecemeal annexation.

Circulation

- ◆ Regional transportation doesn't extend past city boundaries.
- ◆ Transportation needs to be addressed better before high-density development takes place.
- ◆ Elderly needs should be addressed --especially lack of public transportation--before senior housing is developed.

Conservation

- ◆ Providing enough water for growth is a problem. May need tertiary-treated water.
- ◆ Quality of water should be considered.
- ◆ Entire Pass needs to be preserved.

Safety

- ◆ Housing is built in flood zones.

Air Quality

- ◆ Air pollution is a serious problem.

Other Comments

Economic Development

- ◆ Jobs to housing ratio are too low.
- ◆ Pass should consider establishing a Joint Power Agreement to increase revenue sharing, and shared services to capture economic benefits.
- ◆ Need jobs that create greater disposable income (income that's left after paying taxes)

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Beaumont is the industrial hub – the Pass is the gateway to the East
- ◆ People in the area have a strong belief in the future
- ◆ Identity is an issue – we need one name and one Mayor – this workshop title is an indicator of this: it's called the Beaumont workshop but covers Cherry Valley, Banning, Cabazon and Calimesa as well.
- ◆ There are too many small governments and connections are lost
- ◆ Fragmentation of governments makes it difficult to develop corridors and to determine what's compatible in the area – for example, a proposed Magic Mountain-like theme park and a GM plant may be incompatible uses
- ◆ Without government cooperation we can't determine impacts of transportation, development and industrial location decisions

Transportation and Access Issues

Significance of the Area

- ◆ The Pass is the gateway to the East
- ◆ All travel decisions are made in Beaumont

Corridor Preservation

- ◆ Five highways converge in Beaumont
- ◆ Transportation corridors are important
- ◆ We need to take advantage of the opportunity to preserve transportation corridors – this is the last frontier for open land that still has the ability to access the Los Angeles basin
- ◆ If we develop transportation corridors now, industry will go where it should

Transportation and Jobs

- ◆ We need to tie transportation decisions to access and economic development opportunities. We need jobs for young people and the ability for them to access jobs in other areas. Specifically:
- ◆ Open up the 79 corridor to San Diego – that's where the high-tech jobs are
- ◆ Consider a passenger airport in this area – this is key to development of technical jobs here in the Valley. Palm Springs airport is tourist-oriented and Ontario is too far away. Development of Norton Air Force Base is a possibility

Public Transportation

- ◆ Get Metrolink extended to this area
- ◆ Bus transportation in individual communities is fairly satisfactory but regional connections are difficult
- ◆ People have to transfer between individual systems – some trips take a whole day
- ◆ There is no way to access the Palm Springs area by public transit

Safety and Maintenance

- ◆ Routes 60, 10 and 79 are hazardous
- ◆ Local road maintenance is poor – we need curbs, sidewalks and striping

Emergency Access

- ◆ We need to keep the area open for emergency transportation – all the way from access for fire crews to hazardous material cleanup (due to large number of trucks and freight trains coming through) to emergency medical services
- ◆ Because medical facilities are few and far between, air evac for medical access is key

Other Issues

- ◆ Air pollution is a problem for our area
- ◆ We don't want to be another Moreno Valley – Moreno Valley has poor access to jobs, no public transportation and “no escape” from Highway 60
- ◆ Bike lanes are nice but secondary

RESPONSE TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Bus service to and from Palm Springs
- ◆ Air Quality. It is getting worse. Should be more emphasis of electric cars and other sources to replace diesels
- ◆ Merge Banning, Beaumont, Cherry Valley, Calimesa into one city – with one city hall and one government
- ◆ Ecology! Ecology! Ecology! Trash disposal. Stripping the land of natural (illegible) that only increases humidity
- ◆ Wild life habitat
- ◆ My concern is the commercial and industrial development proposed for San Timoteo Canyon. It needs to be compatible with open space
- ◆ No sewer treatment plant on East San Timoteo Canyon Road
- ◆ Protect C.O.Is
- ◆ Stop city expansion and leave C.O.Is alone
- ◆ More input on water issues and land use
- ◆ Job to housing ratio
- ◆ Plot out permanent trails in San Timoteo Canyon
- ◆ Have you considered monorails?

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

*"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercises comments are noted with an asterisk *)*

- ◆ Rural atmosphere (2)
- ◆ Low property costs
- ◆ Beautiful mountains, rolling hills (3)
- ◆ Diversity of natural terrain
- ◆ Clean air
- ◆ County and city work well together
- ◆ Open space, quiet (3) *

You really have to see:

- ◆ Orchards, scenery, mountains, wildlife (3) *

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION: *Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"*

Winners

- ◆ Lots of open area – please plan use well
- ◆ Air conditioned buses
- ◆ County road repair
- ◆ Less traffic in the Pass area

Losers

- ◆ Semi-truck traffic on freeways
- ◆ Semi-trucks on city streets
- ◆ Truck traffic, accidents and road debris
- ◆ Regional access for transit dependent individuals – needs to be more coordination between providers
- ◆ Interstate 10 needs repair where it meets up with the 60
- ◆ Street striping
- ◆ Banning and Beaumont should be cleaned up of all trash
- ◆ Too much competition for freeway access (i.e. railroad operations) and 24 hour load and unload operation

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION: *"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."*

- ◆ Bicycle riding
- ◆ Looking at things which do not remind me of urbanization
- ◆ Walking the trail in Glen Avon

- ◆ Hiking, long walk with my dog, gardening, growing flowers, BBQ in backyard, bird watching

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ San Timoteo Canyon
- ◆ Bogart Park in Cherry Valley
- ◆ Edward Dean Museum

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ Open space, rolling hills
- ◆ Great for outdoor hiking and horseback riding
- ◆ Great land and environment

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ I live there
- ◆ Shade trees and wild animals roam, aesthetic atmosphere
- ◆ A great place for all activities

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**LAKE ELSINORE
July 6, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Need curbs and gutters in our area.
- ◆ Development's continuing as General Plan is produced. We need a moratorium so that community can have a "say" in development.
- ◆ Potential and future growth can lead to loss of community character.
- ◆ City annexation has been piece meal and non-contiguous.
- ◆ Prevent urban sprawl through use of sunset clauses.
- ◆ Need more sensible boundaries.
- ◆ Need open space/wooded area --with parks, playgrounds --in new developments.
- ◆ We have inadequate services, infrastructures, water resources, and schools for the new development (that's taking place).
- ◆ Need stronger community input and implementation of EIRs.
- ◆ Need a greater variety of shopping areas.

Housing

- ◆ Developers don't respect General Plan.
- ◆ We need a cost-benefit analysis (reflecting externalities—true cost to society such as pollution) to calculate what developers should really be paying.

Open Space

- ◆ Need barrier (open space) between developments.
- ◆ Green belts would help.
- ◆ Important to examine what's habitat area and what can be built on.

Safety

- ◆ Need stronger restrictions (of where people can build) to protect against natural hazards.

Other Comments

Community Identify

- ◆ Need plans to reflect each community distinct interests.

Economic Development

- ◆ Need clean industries. Provide policies and incentives to attract them.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ The land use-transportation connection needs to be considered, especially in relation to job creation
 - Land use patterns and growth should be considered
 - The Temecula area is surrounded by County unincorporated areas – this makes it difficult for areas such as this to control their own destiny with regard to the land use-transportation connection
- ◆ The Meadowbrook area has been ignored and neglected:
 - There is no public transit
 - The community needs a community center

Transportation and Access Issues

- ◆ The area needs more alternative forms of transportation:
 - There is no dial-a-ride in some areas – there is a need to consider tradeoffs between dial-a-ride and fixed route
 - There may be a possibility of bus maturing to rail
 - The Moreno Valley area needs rail
 - The San Jacinto Branch is a possibility
 - For all public transit, funding resources are a concern
- ◆ Road conditions on many streets and highways are poor – specifically:
 - Residents are concerned that Bundy Canyon and Railroad Canyon cannot handle the projected growth
 - Macy in Meadowbrook needs improvement
 - Mission Trail and Olive are hazardous – especially given the overflow from Elsinore Storm games
 - The 91 freeway is crowded and needs resurfacing
- ◆ Highway 74 is a particular concern:
 - It is dangerous -- people question whether the safety figures – specifically number of fatalities – are accurate
 - There are no signs, speeding cars and unsafe passing on the highway
 - The corridor was number one on the Measure A list but there is confusion as to what is going to be done and when: widening the 2-lane road to 4 lanes and straightening curves. The curve straightening is to be done in the next 18 months but the widening will take 3-4 years
- ◆ Measure A is a resource but results are unclear to some -- and it will need to be re-voted soon
 - There are concerns whether the promises of Measure A have been kept
 - Officials need to communicate what has been done – specifically funding of the 60/215 connection, Highway 60 into the Moreno Valley and Rail

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Special Places In Riverside County That Need To Be Maintained

All parks and open space (2)	Santa Rosa Plateau	Riding trails
San Timoteo Canyon	Temescal Canyon	Wasson Canyon
Wetlands	Lake Elsinore	

Development

- ◆ There is concern over the new Liberty Development, which is at the south end of the lake -- it proposes approximately 8,000 homes
- ◆ MWD plans could be at odds with private property rights
- ◆ MWD needs to plan mitigations with the city of Lake Elsinore

Water Quality and Environment

- ◆ There is concern about runoff into Lake Elsinore and nutrient buildup in lake. Nutrients build up and then the standing water evaporates, leaving all the damaging runoff byproducts. The county needs to mitigate this issue.
- ◆ There are concerns over shutting down Elsinore Valley treatment plant, due to noise and during special species habitation
- ◆ There are concerns over dumping in open areas -- we need better enforcement

Corridors and Equestrian Trails

- ◆ Riding trails plans submitted to county have in the past been ignored. Need better coordination to make sure these plans are included in planning processes
- ◆ Have riding trails that connect the Santa Ana River with Lake Elsinore
- ◆ Temescal Canyon Road needs to be preserved

Park Development

- ◆ Temescal Canyon needs active and passive parks
- ◆ There is concern over the low priority that the county gives its parks
- ◆ We need a policy for maintaining parks. An adaptive management plan will need funding.
- ◆ The money to maintain parks could come from user fees. "If you want to use it -- you need to pay for it".
- ◆ There is concern over developers trading land for less desirable areas for park and open space designation
- ◆ Some donated parks have been designated not to have user fees.
- ◆ Temescal Canyon area needs parks and could be different types at different sites

Lake Elsinore and Wetlands

- ◆ Lake ownership issues include: the bottom, water and surface areas -- these are all owned by different parties
- ◆ Land around lake is all privately owned. The launch ramp is the only revenue generator for the City
- ◆ We need to increase awareness of wetland areas and their benefits

Voter Involvement

- ◆ There could be \$57 million dollars for parks in the Inland area if state bond passes
- ◆ Low local voter turnout has hurt local after school programs, especially those associated with the Ortega Trail

RESPONSE TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Political representation. Meadowbrook is split between three County Supervisors that's why nothing is ever achieved.
- ◆ Speed limit enforcement on 74. And we see too much passing on double lines
- ◆ Do the 74 in Meadowbrook
- ◆ To build a community center and provide public transportation in Meadowbrook

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise responses are indicated with an asterisk*)

- ◆ Open Space (6) "Preserve, carefully planned"
- ◆ Affordable housing
- ◆ Country life style

You really have to see:

- ◆ Donkey, pigs, sheep, ducks, chicken, dogs, cats, and k-rats *
- ◆ The outlet center *

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"

Winners

- ◆ None Mentioned

Losers

- ◆ Lack of planning and permitting development without infrastructure
- ◆ Planned rerouting of Cajalco Road

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Reading and gardening

“Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)”

- ◆ Citrus Park
- ◆ Mystic Lake (2)
- ◆ Temescal Wash

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ Scenic landscapes
- ◆ Except for farming, it is pretty much left natural
- ◆ Natural area

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ Historical value
- ◆ Natural habitats
- ◆ It is neat to see all the birds and wildlife

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**PERRIS
July 8, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Loss of agricultural land should be addressed.
- ◆ Important to recognize that development standards and interests may differ between very rural area and urban areas. For example, rural areas with migrant workers need economic opportunities --jobs!
- ◆ We need soft transitions between urban areas and open space habitats. Important to establish urban limit lines.
- ◆ We want well-planned growth that makes development economically feasible
- ◆ Development is fine if we keep our small-town-feel

Circulation

- ◆ Transportation needs to be improved for all. East/west corridors especially.

Housing

- ◆ Adequate lot size is preferred over small lots with large homes
- ◆ A variety of housing styles is preferred, including a mix of lot sizes, to avoid boring developments. Design standards would help.

Open Space

- ◆ Higher density is fine if open space is allocated for public use (trails, parks) within developments.
- ◆ Ecosystem approach preferred over establishing large areas for habitat. Development shouldn't be disrupted. Clarity of purpose for habitat preservation is important.

Conservation

- ◆ Water resources need to be address

Other Comments

Economic Development

- ◆ Jobs and housing balance is a concern.

American Indians

- ◆ Tribal councils should be involved in this planning.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

Transportation and Access Issues

- ◆ Interested in seeing Metrolink to Perris, especially the downtown area
- ◆ Why does LAFCO draw boundaries down the middle of the road? Meadow Brook has been paying for thirty-five years
- ◆ Ensure coordination of improvements
- ◆ Need public transportation to poorer areas in order to facilitate welfare-to-work programs (3)
- ◆ Need other transportation options like shuttles and T.R.I.P
- ◆ Especially need inter-city transportation
- ◆ Avoid impacting cities and communities through transportation facilities that create sprawl
- ◆ Explore alternative modes of transportation
- ◆ Make cities more self contained to promote walking and biking
- ◆ Create landscaped, appealing freeways
- ◆ We need more freeways
- ◆ Need better communication between Caltrans and RCTC to speed economic development
- ◆ Need many modes of transportation plus good inter-modal connections, such as pedestrian facilities and shelters and equestrian trails
- ◆ Balance increasing alternative arterioles with open space

Issues Concerning Highway 74

- ◆ Concern regarding widening of Highway 74. People are frustrated about impacts. Need better communication with residents
- ◆ Concerned regarding large housing development project. Need better communication with residents
- ◆ County needs to be more involved in envisioning Highway 74 improvements. Caltrans and the county are not in sync. It is unclear what the right-of-way impacts will be
- ◆ Need to fast track the environmental review process and identified improvements

Comments from Transportation Map

- ◆ County work-welfare program representative is concerned about lack of transit service along Gavilan and Cajalco roads: people living in these areas need access to jobs in Perris and Temecula
- ◆ State parks representative expressed interest in working with the planning effort to enhance wildlife corridors between Perris Lake and San Jacinto Wildlife Preserve. Also concerned with the widening of the 71 freeway and that it not expand outside current right-of-way
- ◆ Need an east-west connection, especially to serve traffic from Eastside Reservoir
- ◆ Make highway 74 a direct connection
- ◆ Improve the 4th Street – Placentia ramps
- ◆ Need freeway to continue the alignment of 79 north to 74 to the 60
- ◆ Need access north from the 60 to San Bernardino County
- ◆ Need expressway along Cajalco Road

- ◆ Need Metrorail extension to Perris from Riverside

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Special Places In Riverside County That Need To Be Maintained

San Jacinto Riverbed	Mystic Lake	Lake Perris	San Jacinto Wildlife Area
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Waterways

- ◆ We need to preserve natural waterways
- ◆ We need to keep the San Jacinto riverbed natural
- ◆ People support the state conservation board buying areas surrounding Mystic Lake
- ◆ We need to keep Mystic Lake shallow -- Lake Perris is a deep water lake

Preservation and Open Space

- ◆ We need to preserve open space
- ◆ The plan needs to strike a balance between growth and preservation
- ◆ The cost of preserving open space is not "too much" -- it will be much more expensive later
- ◆ We want urban limit lines for cities to prevent further annexation
- ◆ Community members love the open space and rural character of area
- ◆ We need to make a connection between rural character and preservation of open space
- ◆ Perris and surrounding areas need more parks, both passive and active

Wildlife and Habitat Conservation

- ◆ Sycamore Canyon needs a habitat conservation area
- ◆ There is a lack of connectivity of areas
- ◆ There are economic issues in preservation, again the key is balancing preservation with growth
- ◆ New and existing freeways and arterials need to maintain or create habitat corridor crossings
- ◆ Improvement" is defined as returning area to whatever the historic habitat and natural dynamic was

Transportation Corridors

- ◆ There is a concern that people will want a north/south corridor that could cut through the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and Mystic Lake. We want alternative forms of transportation realized first
- ◆ Measure A has not been implemented. It included rail into Perris and improvements on Highway 74
- ◆ The Highway 74 extension will hurt downtown Perris and could pose safety issues for schoolchildren trying to cross
- ◆ There is a need for a Chino Hills and Prado Base connection

RESPONSES TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE,

"If you could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Transportation for the elderly in areas like Hemet. Better access to L.A.
- ◆ Metrolink connection to and from the communities to cut down traffic and emissions
- ◆ Upkeep on roads especially concentrating in Mead Valley. Develop Cajalco to be 4 lanes traveling to Corona
- ◆ Political mind set from conservative thinking to Democratic, Dialectic view

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise comments are noted with an asterisk)*

- ◆ Parks
- ◆ Small town feel
- ◆ Rural areas (3)
- ◆ The people – genuine and caring
- ◆ Community involvement – ability to shape our community
- ◆ Green grass and flowing water
- ◆ Education facilities, colleges/universities *
- ◆ Career alternatives *
- ◆ Proximity to oceans, mountains, deserts *
- ◆ Orange groves *
- ◆ Orange Festival, Market street where I can play in misters and see waterfalls. I like hiking in Citrus Park (Van Buren). (comments from a five year old child) *

You really have to see:

- ◆ BMX (Perris Speedway) raceway* (comments from a nine year old child)

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Landscaping (at home), passive use of open space, picnics, fishing, and walking and observing
- ◆ Gardening, hiking (2), camping

"Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)"

- ◆ Lake Perris
- ◆ SJ CDFG Reserve
- ◆ None in particular, but any place with groves of trees, water ways and hillsides

“What do you like about this special place?”

- ◆ It's bio-diversity
- ◆ These types of places allow us to unwind, to think. Kind of like having a window with a view at your office

“Why is this place important to you?”

- ◆ It is a SKR love reserve and I'd like to see it expanded and preserved

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**BLYTHE
July 13, 1999**

Note: At this workshop, there was a combined discussion of General Plan, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Transportation issues.

Land Use

- ◆ Land use designations make it prohibitive for low-income populations to have an affordable home --(For example, mobile (affordable) homes aren't allowed in some areas by zoning code).

Housing

- ◆ Housing shortage exists, in general, because of large number of prison employees (have moved in)
- ◆ Lack of affordable homes in our area; too much sub-standard housing exists in low-income areas, such as Ripley, (near Blythe) with outdoor plumbing ("outhouses") in some cases.

Conservation (Preservation)

- ◆ Important to preserve ancient Native American sacred sites, such as Giant Intaglios Figures

Safety

- ◆ (The need for) Hydrocarbon mitigation --as petroleum products from previous gas stations mix with the high water table --affects development (prohibitively expensive) along Hobsonway

RESPONSE TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ This area is referred to as the stepchild of Riverside County. We are sometimes forgotten communities and left out of projects, plans, etc.

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

**GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM
INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"**

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise comments are noted with an asterisk*)

- ◆ Generations of my family have lived here

You really have to see:

- ◆ Sacred sites and surrounding hills that are filled with petroglyphs and geoglyphs. *
- ◆ Richness of culture. You really have to see the Colorado River and Intaglios *

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**HEMET
July 15, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ Schools need physical improvements.
- ◆ School facilities should offer multi-uses.
- ◆ Concern for the policy of large parcel zoning (one dwelling unit per 10 acre) in Eastside Reservoir area. (May be too restrictive)
- ◆ Should use the expertise of agricultural landowners (regarding economic feasibility) to determine agricultural land policies. Consider the use of T.D.R. (as in northern California).
- ◆ Need more development within the city.
- ◆ Developers need to consider infrastructure demands, and water resources before building.
- ◆ Regarding vacant areas: land use projections and possible impacts should be considered.

Circulation

- ◆ Streets are too narrow. Can't ride bikes or walk safely. Weren't designed to support change in Hemet from retirement community to family community. Need to examine patterns of growth impacts --not just circulation --on families.
- ◆ There's inadequate public transportation.
- ◆ Alternative modes of transportation needed.

Open Space

- ◆ Need more green space in developments.

Other Comments

Coordination Between Agencies

- ◆ Need better planning between schools, states, and cities to correlate the needs/ways to meet those needs.
- ◆ Need streamlined permit process for development.

Social Issues

- ◆ Community youths need pre-job training and more activities.
- ◆ Important to provide senior services and intergenerational activities (such as mentoring of youth by seniors)
- ◆ Community needs more access to information about the services (mentoring, for example) that are available. We should tap into the local colleges as resources.

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ People support the concept of having an integrated planning process:
- ◆ It is important to plan and put improvements in place before it's too late
- ◆ People need to think "big picture" for Riverside County and not focus on the small things
- ◆ People need to consider wants vs. needs
- ◆ There is great value in getting to know County staff as people – and having them answer your questions and concerns. They are more responsive than people sometimes give them credit for!
- ◆ Residents need to support Measure A and get it re-voted
- ◆ But there are some who question what has been done with Measure A
- ◆ Volunteers are a key resource in the Hemet community – as people age the lack of public transit will be a hindrance to this resource

Transportation and Access Issues

Transportation and Development

- ◆ There is a need to consider land use and transportation connections:
- ◆ We anticipate an influx of visitors to the Reservoir – what will be the impact on corridors?
- ◆ Transit needs to be linked to job access, opportunities and development – For example, DPSS is relocating to the old Sears building – what will access be like?
- ◆ There needs to be transit linkage to the colleges

Rail and Guideways

- ◆ Rail is a need and an opportunity:
- ◆ Passenger rail needs to be extended and expanded
- ◆ Light rail should be considered
- ◆ The freeway corridors could be used to move buses
- ◆ Rail speed needs to be improved for freight
- ◆ People need to consider the rail-economic development connection

Public Transit Access

- ◆ Public transit in general is a problem in the area. There is lack of knowledge and confidence in the system:
- ◆ Some contend that no one believes in mass transit
- ◆ Some question whether people in the area will ever use transit
- ◆ The Southern California population in general is difficult to serve with transit
- ◆ Low demand causes less use and higher per-passenger costs
- ◆ The public should be re-educated about mass transit and its benefits
- ◆ More buses are needed but long delivery time is an issue

Special Transportation Issues

- ◆ There are serious gaps and needs in the transit system:
 - Dial-a-Ride is “the joke of the Valley” – the bumping system results in cancellation of trips at the last minute and people in the middle (specifically Seniors who aren’t disabled) fall through the cracks
 - There is no transportation for kids after school – no one is responsible
 - A park-and-ride is needed – especially at Ramona and Sanderson – where car-poolers could meet up

Highway Issues

- ◆ The area needs better roads out of town:
- ◆ The area is sometimes “locked in” after rainstorms because of eroded or flooded roads – Drainage is especially a problem on 79, South State, Ramona and the bridge to Idyllwild
- ◆ Overall quality and capacity of the roadway system serving Hemet blocks emergency and other access
- ◆ Highway 79 needs improvement – some things are being done but more is needed
- ◆ Highway 74 between Perris and Elsinore is also dangerous
- ◆ Ramona Expressway needs to be expanded to 4 lanes and extended to Valle Vista
- ◆ Hemet needs to be connected to the airport

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations:

- ◆ Concerned about the assumptions of the doubling of population --self-defeating assumption
- ◆ Let's see projections and policy decisions
- ◆ Concern that the Kangaroo Rat process took eight years. That one species took so long, how long will a multiple species process take?
- ◆ Like animals --but how about private property rights? A balance is needed between preservation and property rights.
- ◆ Concern that Kangaroo Rat property has been removed from tax rolls
- ◆ Do not want the area to be like the San Fernando Valley
- ◆ Recognize that the Board of Supervisors has the final decision
- ◆ The state and federal government have to help with land acquisition.
- ◆ Endangered species study. How in depth is it?
- ◆ How do other species interact?

Community Involvement

- ◆ Need more input into policy decisions. Community needs to be actively involved.

Housing and Redevelopment Issues

- ◆ Low lands development is more accessible.
- ◆ Incentive should be provided for farmers to preserve agricultural land

Area Asset

- ◆ Eastside Reservoir --New recreation areas attract water contact, boating, camping, golf

Transportation

- ◆ Transportation issues surround Eastside Reservoir. Shouldn't impact surrounding communities.

Requirements for the Plan

- ◆ The Plan should include funding mechanisms--One area should not have to pay for all of it.
- ◆ Green belt areas
- ◆ Reforest where fire damage
- ◆ More open space/with reason
- ◆ Want to make sure plan looks at integrated corridors
- ◆ The MSHCP should rely on existing information, data generated at University of California at Riverside, while gathering new data
- ◆ Study resources collaboratively with University of California at Riverside
- ◆ It was suggested that there be a computer keyword search --MSHCP

Development and Open Space

- ◆ Concern about preserving snakes, gophers, rodent population
- ◆ Need healthy natural areas
- ◆ Islands --for the most part self-managing but as developing encroaches, they need more outside managing

RESPONSE TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Transportation within our community and to nearby communities (3) *

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise comments are noted with an asterisk*)

- ◆ County services are good
- ◆ Building department was very helpful, easy to work with.
- ◆ Friendly, small town feeling (3) *
- ◆ Community involvement thrives *
- ◆ Preservation of the natural environment *
- ◆ Natural beauty *

You really have to see:

- ◆ The Ramona Bowl and the mountains *
- ◆ The Natural History Museum *
- ◆ Idyllwild and our hills *
- ◆ The new reservoir (3) *

- ◆ Sight from driving from Lamb's canyon

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

Transportations "Winners" and "Losers"

Winners

- ◆ Retirement areas provide own transportation
- ◆ Road to Idyllwild is o.k.
- ◆ Traffic lights on Florida provide almost non-stop flow of traffic
- ◆ There are a lot of routes to travel in lots of directions

Losers

- ◆ Need improved bus service between Hemet and Riverside or extension of Light Rail Service
- ◆ Stetson at Soboba needs repaving
- ◆ Seniors who shouldn't be driving are still driving!
- ◆ Efforts should be increased to encourage commuters to carpool!
- ◆ The damage that cars and trucks do to air quality
- ◆ Road condition – repave 79
- ◆ Divide and widen Ramona Expressway

RESPONSE TO THE INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION:

"When I spend time outdoors, I enjoy doing..."

- ◆ Fishing, deer hunting, water skiing, hiking, softball
- ◆ Gardening, picnic in mountains, hike a bit in forest with NO FEE!
- ◆ Hiking, swimming and driving through the county discovering new places
- ◆ Camping, fishing, bike riding, hiking and swimming

"Is there a special natural place in Western Riverside County that is important to you to maintain? (i.e. Lake Matthews, Santa Rosa Plateau)"

- ◆ Simpson Park
- ◆ Mount San Jacinto

"What do you like about this special place?"

- ◆ It's naturalness
- ◆ All of Mount San Jacinto range

"Why is this place important to you?"

- ◆ Beauty / quiet / space
- ◆ For my soul

**Riverside County Integrated Plan
Community Workshop Summary**

**SUN CITY
July 16, 1999**

General Plan Discussion

Land Use

- ◆ How will growth be accommodated and our rural beauty preserved?
- ◆ There's an inadequacy of school sites ---and parks --for our growing population.
- ◆ We're not anti-growth but we need a balance between progress and growth.
- ◆ Urban limit lines (as in Portland) would control growth.

Housing

- ◆ We need mix of housing styles (single family, apartments) to meet needs and lifestyles.

Circulation

- ◆ Roads in our area need to be improved (better maintenance).
- ◆ Transportation corridors will destroy rural qualities by inducing growth.

Open Space

- ◆ Natural wild life is better than more housing.

Conservation

- ◆ Water quality is a concern.

Other Comments

Quality of Life

- ◆ It's getting too crowded. Crowds are visiting the dam and causing littering and speeding on our streets.

Economic Development

- ◆ We need jobs for growing population ...Let's make them clean industries so we have no more air pollution.

Communication

- ◆ We need better communication with county. There's no contact when we have a problem.
- ◆ Need clarity of language so we know what's being proposed. (Recent rezoning made some people feel confused, frustrated).

Land Value

- ◆ The value of my property has been devalued so much I can't sell (Why I am still living here.)

Transportation Discussion

Overall Issues and Observations

- ◆ Sun City is an unincorporated area and has no “official” representation
- ◆ However, incorporation would be difficult because of the area’s limited tax base
- ◆ In addition, people in the area couldn’t afford the taxes
- ◆ One possibility is to get a Civic Association together that would represent the area for the County Supervisor – However, the question would be defining the boundaries: who is represented inside and outside of Sun City?
- ◆ The public needs to know the details of road plans – there are many uncertainties and questions:
 - ◆ What are the dates of completion
 - ◆ What types of improvements are planned
 - ◆ How can the County best get the word out?

Transportation and Access Issues

Public Transportation

- ◆ The dial-a-ride service is outrageous:
- ◆ There is a long wait for people calling in to schedule rides
- ◆ The return trip scheduling is unreliable
- ◆ There is no driver assistance – drivers seem to use excuses not to access facilities (for example, overhanging trees damaging vehicles)
- ◆ For much of the service, people have to be ADA certified – however, the only certification is done in Riverside
- ◆ Fixed route service no longer meets the area’s needs:
- ◆ Services have been cut – trips that used to take an hour now take 2 to 3 hours
- ◆ For policy reasons, welfare to work transportation has replaced Senior transportation

Highways and Roads

- ◆ Newport widening is necessary but controversial:
- ◆ Widening Newport will bring in more traffic
- ◆ But it brings better transportation – we need to realize that growth is going to happen
- ◆ There are left turn problems out of driveways
- ◆ Scott Road should be considered as an alternative
- ◆ Development has had an impact on roads – especially Newport but, in general, all east-west connections:
 - ◆ There is much development on the books along Newport Boulevard from Goetz to Menifee
 - ◆ We have fantastic freeways but development brings truck traffic – especially gravel trucks
- ◆ Other Access Issues:
 - ◆ Road condition in Riverside County is poor
 - ◆ There is confusion on Eastside Reservoir access plans – does the County have them?
 - ◆ The area supports French Valley airport expansion plans

- ◆ The area isn't particularly interested in regional transportation – even if people had regional transportation they couldn't get to it

Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Discussion

Special Places in Riverside County That Need To Be Maintained

Lake Matthews	Santa Rosa Plateau	Hills behind the west side of Sun City
Mystic Lake	North Peak	Warm Springs Creek
Ortega Highway	Cleveland National Forest	Kabian Park – Bureau of Land Management and County land

Issue Areas:

Overall Issues and Observations:

- ◆ Many people moved to Riverside County for open space and the rural feel of the County
- ◆ The Plan needs to have an adaptive management plan
- ◆ Less responsible people should not be able to sue due to negligence

Housing and Redevelopment Issues:

- ◆ Want to preserve landowners' rights
- ◆ Need to balance preservation with property rights

Open Space:

- ◆ Some areas should be reserved for observations – not all should be for active recreation
- ◆ Areas without access could be kept as “extras” to other preservation areas
- ◆ Need to have open space between cities
- ◆ We have trails in place – we need to build from existing resources
- ◆ There is plenty of recreation available
- ◆ People are concerned about litter in recreational areas

Habitat Preservation:

- ◆ Need to have information on rules and “common sense” in dealing with wildlife
- ◆ For botanical species, translocation can be unique – it is associated with soils
- ◆ Needs to be a native-exotic balance
- ◆ Larger animals require larger areas to roam but population growth can get in the way
- ◆ Animals need corridors and areas without intrusion from people
- ◆ Diversity is key to a healthy habitat
- ◆ The food chain can be disrupted by development

RESPONSE TO INTERACTIVE EXERCISE QUESTION,

"If I could change one thing in Riverside County, it would be . . ."

- ◆ Their attitude towards the people who they are supposed to be trying to serve.

WHAT RESIDENTS VALUE . . .

GROUP DISCUSSION COMMENTS & WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM INTERACTIVE EXERCISE, "POSTCARD HOME,"

"I moved here/am still living here because . . ." & "When you come visit me you really have to see . . ." (Interactive exercise comments are noted with an asterisk)*

- ◆ Open space
- ◆ Rural life style
- ◆ Wild animals (No more cows, though!)
- ◆ Potential to accommodate growth by planning. (We can) take the best of Orange County and mix with our rural life style.
- ◆ I love the area and the quiet. You really have to see the mountains, blue skies, clean air, the stars at night (2) *
- ◆ I am living here because it is so clean, well-maintained, low crime rate and mainly the very nice senior areas. *

You really have to see:

- ◆ My trees and flowers, nice view of the hills. *
- ◆ The wineries in Temecula and the reservoir that's being built *
- ◆ The nice people who live here (2) *