



8. Open Space and Recreation Element

Introduction

The Open Space and Recreation Element provides policies and programs to enhance the overall quality of life in Yorba Linda and direct the management and protection of open space land in the City. The Open Space and Recreation Element provides guidance for the acquisition, maintenance, and development of parks, trails, and recreational facilities and programs throughout the City.



The Open Space and Recreation Element provides policies and programs to protect, maintain, and enhance the City's open space land for the betterment of current residents and future generations. The City of Yorba Linda is strongly committed to the continued development and programming of park facilities, trails, and recreation programs to meet the needs of the community and uphold the community's quality of life. This Element allows the City to continue to plan, develop, maintain, and provide quality active and passive park facilities, trails, and recreational programs to ensure that residents and visitors can enhance health and well-being through outdoor experiences.

Authority and Scope

California Government Code Section 65302(e) requires that a General Plan include an Open Space Element. Section 65560(b)(3) requires that the General Plan address ". . . Open space for outdoor recreation, including but not limited to, areas of outstanding scenic, historical and cultural value; areas particularly suited for park and recreation purposes, including access to lakes, shores, beaches, and rivers and streams; and areas which serve as links between major recreation and open space reservations, including utility easements, banks of rivers and streams, trails, and scenic highway corridors . . ."

Recreation Elements are an optional element of the General Plan, pursuant to Section 65303 of the Government Code. Other relevant sections of the Government Code that are applicable to the Open Space and Recreation Element include Sections 65560, 65562, 65563, 65564, 65566, and 65567, as well as Public Resources Code Section 5076, which allows cities to consider the demands for trail-oriented recreational use. In addition, Government Code Section 66477, more commonly referred to as the Quimby Act, allows cities to adopt ordinances addressing dedication of park land and/or payment of fees in conjunction with approval of new residential subdivisions.



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The Open Space and Recreation Element must contain goals and policies concerning the management and enhancement of all open space and recreation facilities. The Open Space and Recreation Element identifies those undeveloped lands that contain open space for the preservation of natural resources, open space for the managed production of resources, and open space for public health and safety.

Background

The residents of Yorba Linda value open space as a resource that contributes significantly to community character and quality of life. Open space provides a multitude of functions that are beneficial to the community, including the provision of recreation areas; protection of viewsheds; preservation of natural resources; avoidance of development in hazardous areas; and the establishment of buffers between incompatible land uses. Open space is one of the key features defining the character and form of the City.



Parks and Recreational Facilities

Existing recreational facilities and trails within the Yorba Linda planning area are categorized into a local classification system in the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Each of these classifications is based on standards derived specifically to suit the City's aspiration to maintain a balance of recreation facilities and trails throughout the community. The classifications and parks and recreation facilities include:

Mini-Park Standards – A mini-park typically contains less than 2.5 acres of land. Mini-parks, also termed “vest pocket” parks, contain specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. The service radius is sub-neighborhood, at approximately one-quarter mile maximum. Desirable site characteristics include location within neighborhoods in close proximity to housing developments or senior housing. Limited equipment is provided at these locations, such as tot lot play equipment, benches and picnic areas.

Neighborhood Park Standards – A neighborhood park is any general use local park developed to serve the needs of a particular neighborhood within a community. The size of the park depends on the population within its service area and the extent of desired amenities, but usually ranges from 2.5 to 5.0 acres. Typical neighborhood parks may be within walking or bicycling distance of park users with a service radius of approximately 1/2 mile. These parks may feature such amenities as children's play areas, ball fields, and open turf areas.



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Community Park Standards – A community park is typically a 5.0 to 20.0+ acre site designed to meet the active recreational needs of several neighborhoods. These parks are intended to serve drive-to clientele within a radius of up to three miles. They contain facilities which require more space than neighborhood parks and which may include playfields, basketball courts, tennis courts, swimming pools, community centers and off-street parking.



Greenbelt/Passive Park Standards – Greenbelt parks include landscaped greenbelts areas, parkways, trail easements, and landscape buffers, with a minimum of active recreation equipment. Activities are limited to passive recreation, such as picnicking. Greenbelt parks range in size from 1/2 acre to 3 acres.

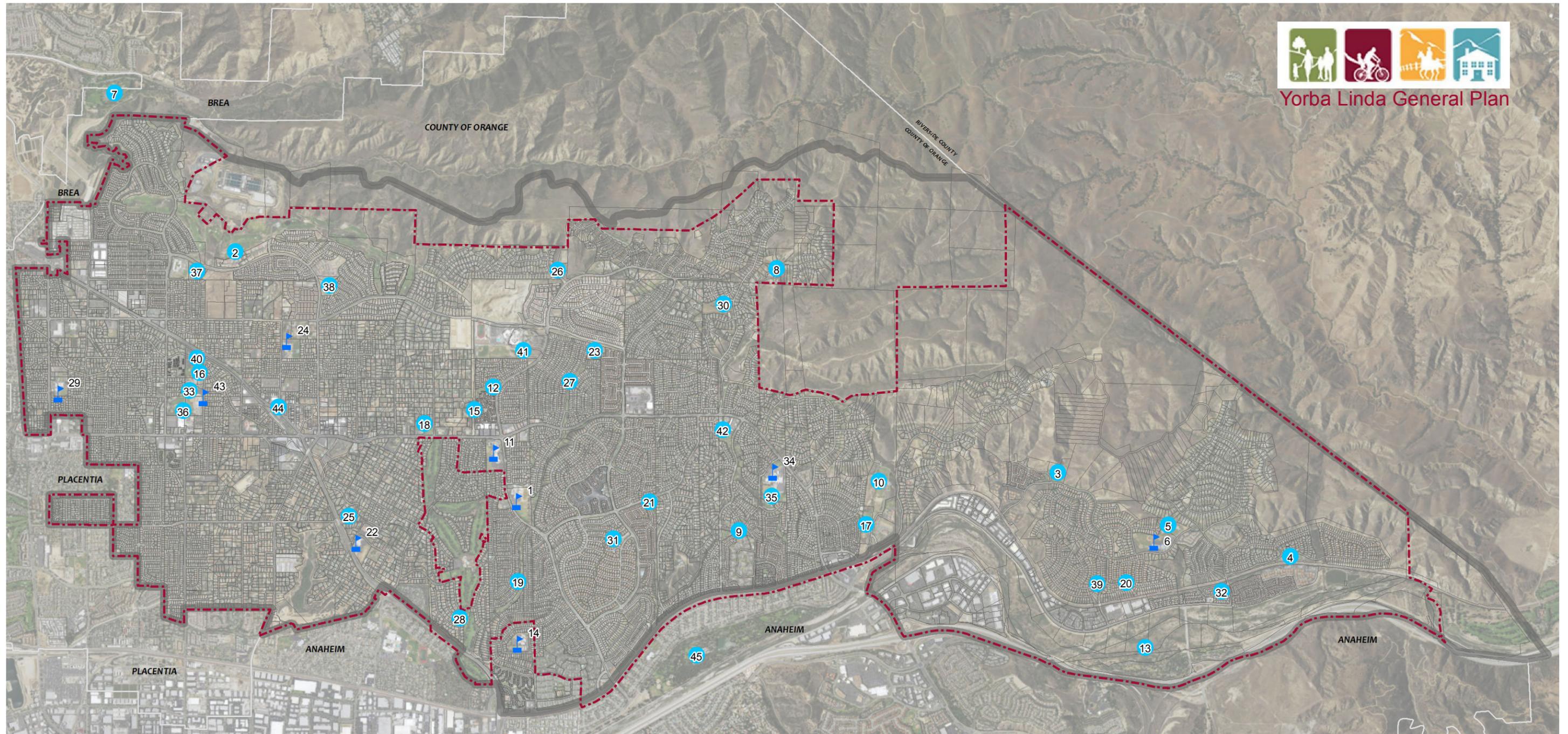
Yorba Linda’s current parkland is summarized in **Table OR-1: Existing Parkland**. The locations of parks and recreational facilities are illustrated in **Exhibit OR-1: Parks and Recreational Facilities**.

Table OR-1 Existing Parkland			
Map Number	Park/Facility	Park Classification	Total Acres
Mini-Parks, Linear Parks, and Greenbelts			
9	Dominguez Trail	Linear Park	17.08
15	Gun Club Road Linear Park	Linear Park	7.50
20	Las Brisas Park	Mini-Park	0.50
23	Lucia Kust Trail	Linear Park	1.20
39	Vista Lampara Park	Mini-Park	1.00
Total Mini/Greenbelts			27.28
Neighborhood Parks			
42	Yorba Linda Police Services Facility & Arroyo Park	Neighborhood Park	9.0
3	Box Canyon Park	Neighborhood Park	5.0
4	Brush Canyon Park	Neighborhood Park	5.0
12	Fairmont Knolls Tennis Park	Neighborhood Park	4.0
17	Jean Woodard Park	Neighborhood Park	9.5
18	Jessamyn West Park	Neighborhood Park	7.0
19	Kingsbriar Park	Neighborhood Park	8.0
21	Las Palomas Tennis Park	Neighborhood Park	3.0
27	Rio Del Oro Park	Neighborhood Park	6.0
28	Roland E. Bigonger Park	Neighborhood Park	3.0
30	San Antonio Park	Neighborhood Park	10.5



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Table OR-1 Existing Parkland			
Map Number	Park/Facility	Park Classification	Total Acres
31	Shapell Park	Neighborhood Park	6.0
35	Travis Ranch Youth Park	Neighborhood Park	8.5
37	Vista Del Verde Park	Neighborhood Park	5.0
38	Vista Del Verde II Park (Future)	Neighborhood Park	5.0
Total Neighborhood Parks			94.5
<i>Community Parks</i>			
5	Bryant Ranch Park	Community Park	9.0
10	Eastside Community Park	Community Park	17.0
16	Hurless Barton Park	Community Park	5.0
33	Thomas Lasorda Jr Field House & Adventure Playground	Community Park	8.0
36	Veterans Park	Community Park	9.5
40	Yorba Linda Community Center	Community Park	5.8
41	Yorba Linda High School Park (Future)	Community Park	10.0
Total Community Parks			64.3



-  City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Schools
-  Parks



Parks and Recreational Facilities

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Yorba Linda Trails

Yorba Linda has 30 multi-use trails, both paved and earthen, which are over 100 miles (160 km) in aggregate length. The Santa Ana River Trail runs along the Santa Ana River and provides a regional bicycle connection to areas east and west of the City. The City of Yorba Linda Master Plan of Trails establishes a coordinated system of riding and hiking trails and bikeways including connections to Chino Hills State Park. The last update to the riding, hiking, and bikeway trails component (also known as the Master Plan of Trails) was complete in 2005 and is illustrated in



Exhibit OR-2: Trails. The standards for the various types of trails located in Yorba Linda are described below:

Earthen Multipurpose Trails – Soft surfaces intended for use by equestrians, hikers, joggers, and some mountain bicyclists where appropriate.

Paved Multipurpose Trails – Trails for multiple users (hikers, joggers, equestrians, bicyclists) that do not necessarily meet Class I bikeway standards because of varying widths and surfaces.

Paved Trails (Class I Bikeway) – Paved paths intended primarily for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, those in wheelchairs and those with strollers.

Bike Lanes (Class II Bikeway) – Striped, stenciled and signed lanes on streets or highways for the use of bicycles.

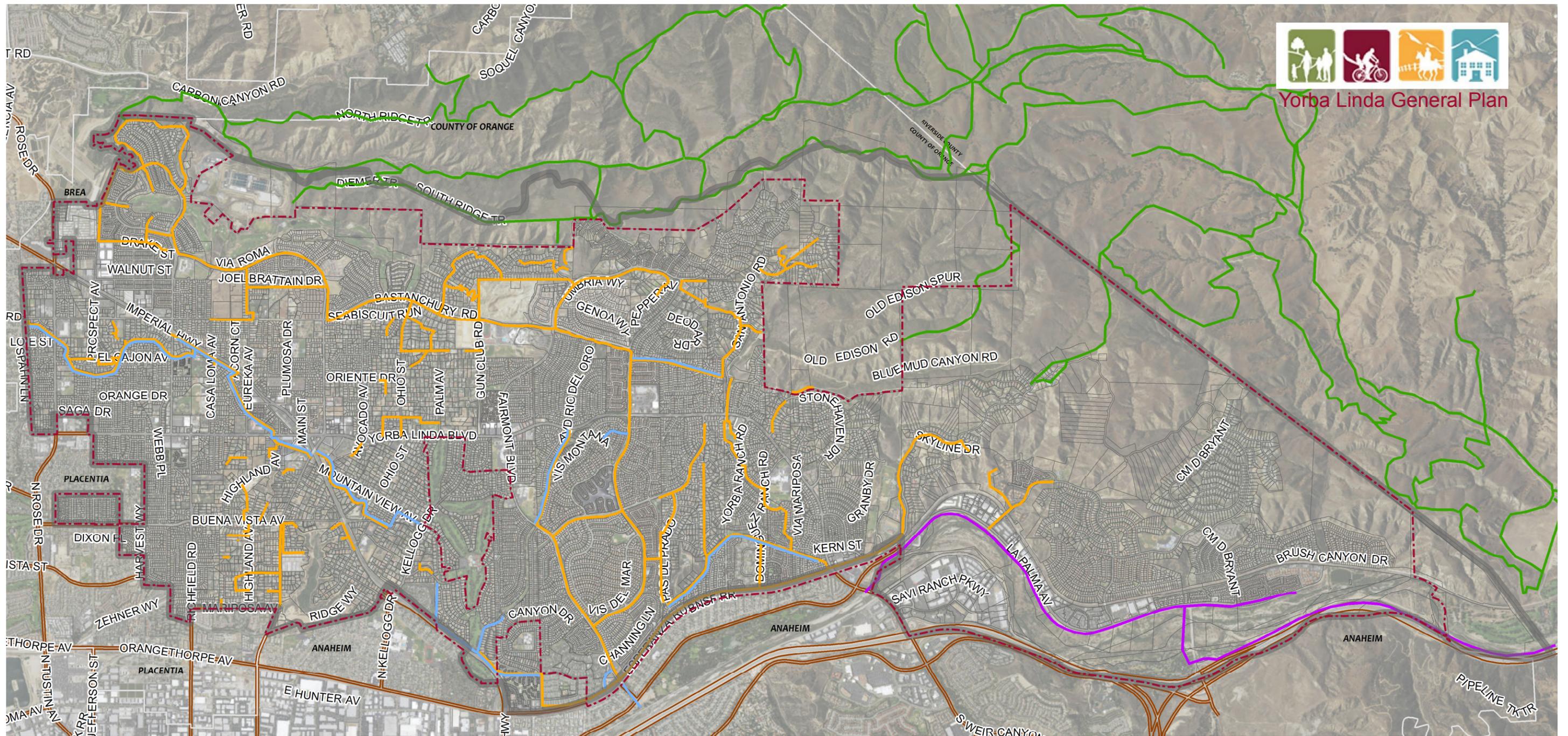
Bike Routes (Class III Bikeway) – Signed routes along streets or highways where bicycles share travel lanes with motor vehicles.



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- - - City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence
- Earthen Multipurpose Trail
- Paved Multipurpose Trail
- Orange County Bicycle Path
- Trail



Trails

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School District Properties (Joint-Use)

The City of Yorba Linda maintains inter-agency cooperative agreements with the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District for the use of playing fields when not in use by the school. The agreement includes use of rooms for various classes sponsored by the City's recreation department. **Table OR-2: Joint Use Facilities**, below lists the schools with which the City has a joint-use agreement. The acres listed reflect the total area of fields, courts and recreation facilities, not the school buildings.

Table OR-2 Joint Use Facilities			
Map Number	Park/Facility	Park Classification	Total Acres
1	Bernardo Yorba Middle School & Recreation Facilities	Middle School	13.0
6	Bryant Ranch School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	7.8
11	Fairmont Elementary School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	4.2
14	Glenknoll Elementary School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	3.1
22	Linda Vista Elementary School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	5.2
24	Mabel Paine Elementary School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	4.7
29	Rose Drive Elementary School & Recreational Facilities	Elementary School	3.9
34	Travis Ranch School & Recreational Facilities	Middle School & Activity Center	11.7
43	Yorba Linda Middle School & Recreational Facilities	Middle School Sports Fields & Courts	8.0
Total Schools Joint-Use			61.6

Civic Center

Yorba Linda's Civic Center is easily accessible to the community, located between Imperial Highway and Yorba Linda Boulevard. The Civic Center is a community meeting place which includes City Hall, the Yorba Linda Community Center, Hurless Barton Park, Veterans Park, and the Yorba Linda Middle School. The Yorba Linda Library and the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum are located within close proximity to the Civic Center.

Equestrian Facilities

Yorba Linda has a rich equestrian tradition stemming from the days when ranches and agriculture were the main land uses in the area. Over the years, the City has developed into residential neighborhoods and commercial centers, much like the rest of Orange County. City leaders took great pride during the



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development process to preserve the equestrian and semi-rural lifestyles and environment in Yorba Linda.

The Yorba Linda planning area currently has over 100 miles of equestrian access trails and the City has a dedicated area known as the Phillip S. Paxton Equestrian Center where equestrian clubs offer lessons, training, shows and events for the local equestrian community. The City also maintains equestrian arenas within the park site for unreserved use by local horse owners. Yorba Linda also contains numerous residential equestrian properties with horse boarding amenities.

Recreational Programs

The Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Department operates parks and recreation facilities that provide the opportunity for leisure activities for about 65,000 residents. The City maintains an extensive schedule of recreational programs and activities for all ages and segments of the community at various locations throughout Yorba Linda. These locations include City, school, and private facilities.



Yorba Linda's Parks and Recreation Department provides adult and youth programs, adventure playground, aquatics, and tennis programs. Residents have the ability to register on-line or in-person for programming. Additionally, the City provides senior programs and services for adults who are 55 years and older that includes a wide variety of activities, classes and trips offered at the Yorba Linda Senior/Community Center.

To provide extensive recreational programs for residents, the City works with community groups and private businesses to develop recreational programs. This includes the summer concert series and family movies in the park. Yorba Linda also provides facilities for use by private recreation providers such as Little League and Pop Warner Football. The City is committed to providing outstanding facilities for its youth.

Regional Facilities

Regional Parks are defined as large open spaces of approximately 100 acres or more providing facilities which attract visitors from a broad geographic area and are located within a convenient traveling distance. Regional recreation facilities are an important resource for the City's residents, because they provide supplemental recreational opportunities that may not be offered by the City. Regional park facilities offer additional amenities such as hiking trails fishing, boating, and swimming. As shown in **Table OR-3: Regional Facilities**, there are three parks within Yorba Linda's planning area classified as regional facilities, along with Chino Hills State Park, which is accessible from the City.



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Yorba Regional Park – Yorba Regional Park, once a part of the expansive cattle ranch of Bernardo Yorba, is located between the Santa Ana River and La Palma Avenue, east of Imperial Highway, in the City of Anaheim. The 106-acre park is a linear day use park over one-mile-long and recaptures the river setting of the adjacent Santa Ana River. Yorba Regional Park provides an abundance of family and group picnicking facilities with more than 400 picnic tables, many with permanent shade structures. A series of four lakes with connecting streams provides opportunities for fishing and model boat sailing. The park includes bicycle trails connecting to the Santa Ana River Trails as well as playground and restroom facilities throughout. Additionally, the park has group shelters, volleyball courts, horseshoe puts, two ball diamonds, a physical fitness course and some 200 barbecues. Yorba Regional Park is part of the OC Parks system.

Carbon Canyon Regional Park – The 124-acre Carbon Canyon Regional Park is located upstream of the Carbon Canyon Dam in a protected valley northwest of the City of Yorba Linda in the City of Brea. Sixty acres of the park are developed with grassy areas for picnicking, sports facilities including backstops and lighted tennis courts, and a 4-acre lake with piers for fishing. The undeveloped portion of the park has a trail that leads to Orange County’s only grove of redwoods. Carbon Canyon Regional Park is part of the OC Parks system.

Featherly Regional Park – Located in the City of Yorba Linda, Featherly Regional Park provides 364 acres of mostly natural riparian wilderness area. The park is located in Santa Ana Canyon and public access is restricted. The only developed portion of the park is Canyon R.V. Park, a privately-operated facility. The Canyon R.V. Park offers RV sites with full hook-ups, small cabins, youth group camping and areas for group events.

Chino Hills State Park – Chino Hills State Park is located directly to the north and east of Yorba Linda. There are multiple access points from the City: Quarter Horse Staging Area located at Quarter Horse Drive and Winners Circle; Casino Ridge Staging Area located at Casino Ridge Road; Rim Road off Condor Ridge Road; and Rimcrest Drive off Fairmont Boulevard. Chino Hills State Park encompasses stands of oaks, sycamores, and rolling, grassy hills that stretch nearly 31 miles, from the Santa Ana Mountains to the Whittier Hills. Chino Hills State Park provides overnight campsite facilities, RV access, hiking and horseback riding trails, and picnic areas. The park also features the Chino Hills State Park Discovery Center and multiple interpretive exhibits throughout the area. The park provides ideal nature and wildlife viewing and is considered a critical link in the Puente-Chino Hills biological corridor.¹

The City is also adjacent to **Black Gold Golf Club**, which is located within the unincorporated County land north of Yorba Linda. The course incorporates water features, rolling hills, and incredible vistas; and provides additional recreational opportunities for area residents and visitors.

¹ California Department of Parks and Recreation website, *Chino Hills State Park*. http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=648. Accessed August 3, 2015.



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Table OR-3 Regional Facilities			
Map Number	Park/Facility	Park Classification	Total Acres
45	Yorba Regional Park	Regional Park	105.69
7	Carbon Canyon Regional Park	Regional Park	124.00
13	Featherly Regional Park	Regional Park	364.00
N/A	Chino Hills State Park	Regional Park	14,176.00
Total Regional Parks			14,769.69

Parkland Standards

In January 2014, the Yorba Linda City Council revised the City's Park Dedication and Park In-Lieu Fee Ordinance. The policy amendments included the following:

- Increasing the amount of parkland dedication and in-lieu fee requirements from two acres to three acres per 1,000 residents.
- Removal of previously allowed credit of up to 50% of any required in-lieu fees where the proposed development provided private open space for park and recreation purposes.
- Adding a Section to the Municipal Code consistent with recent changes in State law (AB 1359) allowing the City to use Quimby Act fees outside the neighborhood of the development from which the fees were collected.

In addition to Quimby Act requirements, the Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) recommends a local neighborhood and community parkland standard of four acres per 1,000 residents (which includes joint use of property pursuant to agreement with other agencies such as the school district). The PRMP also strives to have one acre of mini-park/greenbelt parkland per 1,000 residents; and ten acres of regional parkland per 1,000 residents. When combined (mini, local, neighborhood, and regional), the Yorba Linda PRMP's recommended parkland standard is 15 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Overall, the City exceeds the recommended combined parkland standard of 15 acres per 1,000 residents, but only because of the proximity of three regional parks, the use of school fields and recreation facilities covered by joint-use agreements, and the 219-acre Black Gold Golf Club. The Yorba Linda PRMP determined that the City has a deficit of 101.2 acres of local parkland per the master plan's recommended requirement of four acres per 1,000 residents. This deficit figure is derived as follows:

Current total local city parkland acreage equals: 158.8 acres



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A total local city parkland standard of 4 acres per 1,000 residents would require a total of 260 acres (4 acres x 65,000 residents/1,000 = 260 acres) to meet the standard.

The local city parkland deficit is 101.2 acres to meet the recommended standard (260 acres minus 158.85 acres).

The Yorba Linda PRMP states that if the City wishes to follow the recommended local parkland standard of four acres per 1,000 residents instead of the current policy of three acres per 1,000 residents then it should consider acquiring at least an additional 68.9 acres of local City parkland in order to accomplish this goal.

The Yorba Linda PRMP includes the following strategies and recommendations for parkland acquisition:

- **The City's current standard is to require a minimum of 3 acres to be dedicated or the corresponding in-lieu payment per the Quimby Act which was accomplished by amending the General Plan and the Park Dedication and In-Lieu Fee Ordinance to require the dedication of 3 acres per 1,000 persons.** The City amended and adopted the Park Dedication and In-Lieu Fee Ordinance most recently in January 2014. Park acquisition efforts, along with Park Dedication/In-Lieu Fee requirements, should concentrate on local neighborhood and community parks where the largest deficits exist. The City should ensure that future residential developments are required to dedicate a minimum of 3 acres per one thousand residents, which is the Quimby Act standard for these types of parks (i.e. neighborhood and community parks).
- **Acquire or obtain parkland in underserved areas of the City.** The City should seek to acquire through parkland, open space, and trail dedication requirements; lease and extended long term lease agreements, joint use agreements; and easements of balance of mini parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, passive open space, special use parks, and trails in underserved areas of the City based on equity maps in the Park and Recreation Master Plan by working with the residential developers, Placentia- Yorba Linda Unified School District, private schools and churches, non-profit agencies and organizations, commercial developers, and the County of Orange to meet the adopted parkland standards for Yorba Linda.

In November 2013, the City Council approved an update to the in-lieu fee amount imposed on the development of new residential subdivisions parks and recreation purposes under the Quimby Act. This fee increase was based upon a City-commissioned land appraisal establishing the current fair market value for vacant residential property in the City. At the same time that the City approved the fee update, it also directed staff to bring back an ordinance increasing the acreage variable of the Quimby Fee equation, so that developers would be required to provide three acres per 1,000 population, as specifically authorized by the Quimby Act, instead of the previously required two acres.



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Related Plans and Programs

There are a number of land use documents which have been adopted which bear a relationship to the General Plan. Relevant plans and documents are listed as follows:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The updated Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted in August 2014. The Master Plan provides direction to continue the orderly and consistent planning, acquisition, development, and administration of the parks and recreation programming in Yorba Linda. The Master Plan guides the City's decision making with regard to overall policy and provides an inventory and assessment of recreation programs



and service offerings, operations, maintenance, and capital improvements to be made over the next twenty years that will enhance the quality of life in Yorba Linda. The goals, programs, and strategies identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan are incorporated into the General Plan Update.

Regional Plans and Initiatives

County of Orange Recreation Element – The County of Orange Recreation Element contains official policies pertaining to the acquisition, development, operation, maintenance, and financing of the County's recreation facilities, which include regional recreation facilities, local parks, and riding and hiking trails. The Recreation Element primarily focuses on the unincorporated areas in Orange County. The City of Yorba Linda's sphere of influence includes unincorporated County lands.

Chino Hills State Park Plan – The Chino Hills State Park General Plan establishes objectives for the area's natural and cultural resources, visitor use, facility development, interpretation, general operation, and coordination with other public and private entities. The Plan, developed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, provides goals, policies, and implementation actions that affect the interface and trail linkages between the Park and significant open space areas of Yorba Linda.



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Yorba Linda Stormwater Program – The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted for the purpose of restoring the health of the Nation’s waters to point of being fishable and swimmable for all. The CWA established the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program to regulate discharges, including urban and stormwater runoff, into the waters of the United States. One

of the functions of the NPDES program is to issue permits for stormwater discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) entering the waters of the United States. The County of Orange has prepared a Drainage Area Master Plan (DAMP) to comply with the NPDES permit requirements for Orange County. The DAMP identifies the stormwater management practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods to be implemented to protect beneficial uses of receiving water to the maximum extent practicable. Each permittee city implements programs of the DAMP through its Local Implementation Program.

The City, as an Orange County permittee, has developed its Local Implementation Plan, the Yorba Linda Stormwater Program, to manage stormwater runoff and water quality protection practices. The purpose of the stormwater management program is to ensure that new development incorporates measures, to the maximum extent practicable, to reduce the quantity of storm flow and the discharge pollutants in the urban/stormwater runoff to protect water quality, biological habitats, and recreational uses of downstream receiving waters. The General Plan incorporates policies and programs to support the stormwater management and water quality protection requirements and practices in the Yorba Linda Stormwater Program.



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Open Space and Recreation Element Policy Program

Goal OR-1

Preservation and maintenance of open space resources.

- Policy OR-1.1 Mitigate the impacts of development on sensitive lands such as steep slopes, cultural resources and sensitive habitats through the development review process.
- Policy OR-1.2 Preserve and protect the scenic and visual quality of canyon and hillside areas as a resource of public importance.
- Policy OR-1.3 Achieve the retention of permanent open space through dedication as a part of the development review process.
- Policy OR-1.4 Promote the concentration of higher intensity recreation uses in areas containing less sensitive resources and landforms and preserve the most sensitive landforms and natural resources as passive open space.

Policy OR-1.5 Ensure that conversion of open space from vacant or passive status to permanent resource conservation or active recreation use is accompanied by a thorough analysis of site characteristics and justification for the conversion of type of open space use.

Policy OR-1.6 Preserve and protect Yorba Linda's lakebed area as an open space and recreational resource of public importance.

Policy OR-1.7 Mitigate the impacts of adjacent development on the Yorba Linda lakebed through the development review process.

Goal OR-2

Accessible passive and active open space areas and recreational facilities.

Policy OR-2.1 Ensure that park and recreational facilities are available and accessible to all residents.

Policy OR-2.2 Facilitate cooperative joint use of school facilities and programs for enhancement of recreation programs.

Policy OR-2.3 Promote both active and passive park sites within the City.



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Policy OR-2.4 Promote flexible park planning and design that supports more recreation opportunities and support a diversity of uses and facilities within park sites.

Policy OR-2.5 Investigate the feasibility of utilizing the surface of underground water reservoirs for recreation purposes through a joint use agreement with the Yorba Linda Water District.

Policy OR-2.6 Actively pursue the development of existing park facilities to their maximum potential.

Goal OR-3

Adequate provision of parks and open space as part of new development.

Policy OR-3.1 Ensure developers of new residential projects contribute to a citywide minimum park-to-population ratio per City standards or pay in-lieu fees as appropriate.

Policy OR-3.2 Promote the acquisition and development of parkland, passive open space, special use parks, and multi-purpose trails in underserved areas of the City.

Policy OR-3.3 Ensure community input is solicited when planning for new parkland in the City and major modifications to existing parks.

Goal OR-4

Adequate funding sources for acquisition, operation and maintenance of park and recreation facilities within the City.

Policy OR-4.1 Evaluate the nexus between the City's park in-lieu fees and the cost of parkland acquisition and improvement.

Policy OR-4.2 Develop criteria for the effective allocation of public resources for park and recreation facilities.

Policy OR-4.3 Identify new sources of funding for park and recreational facilities.

Policy OR-4.4 Establish agreements wherever possible between the City and other entities for the purpose of development, operation, use and maintenance of recreation facilities.

Goal OR-5

A comprehensive multi-purpose trail system.

Policy OR-5.1 Establish the dedication of right-of-way and construction of public trails



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	or payment of in-lieu fees as a condition of approval on appropriate development projects.		wherever environmentally, physically, and economically feasible.
Policy OR-5.2	Promote the separation of trails from vehicular traffic wherever possible.	Policy OR-5.8	Promote commercial, office, industrial and multi-family residential developers to provide local bicycle trails and rack facilities within their projects as conditions of development, where appropriate.
Policy OR-5.3	Promote the construction and maintenance of adequate staging areas, trail connections, and signage to recreational resources outside the City, such as Chino Hills State Park and Santa Ana River.	Policy OR-5.9	Solicit and utilize all sources of local, regional, State and Federal funds to plan, acquire right-of-way and construct bikeways and equestrian trails.
Policy OR-5.4	Complete the multi-purpose trail network through the community, with particular emphasis on extension of trails and connections.	Policy OR-5.10	Prioritize the completion of fragmentary portions of trails which currently exist in the City to ensure continuity and connection of all links in the trail system.
Policy OR-5.5	Continue regional trail systems maintenance and operation within the City by the Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Department or the Public Works Department.		
Policy OR-5.6	Route bikeways and multi-purpose trails to facilitate access to open space areas, recreational facilities, schools and shopping areas.		
Policy OR-5.7	Locate trails along designated scenic corridors		
		Goal OR-6	
		Valued and preserved cultural, paleontological, and historical buildings, sites and features.	
		Policy OR-6.1	Protect significant areas of historical, archaeological, educational or paleontological resources.
		Policy OR-6.2	Ensure the implementation of effective mitigation measures where development may affect



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historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

Policy OR-6.3 Continue to require preparation of archaeological or paleontological reports in areas where there is potential to impact cultural resources.

Policy OR-6.4 Continue to require an archaeologist be retained to observe grading activities in areas where the probable presence of archaeological or paleontological resources is indicated.

Policy OR-6.5 Preserve uncovered resources in their natural state, as much as feasible, to assure their conservation and availability for later study.



9. Conservation Element

Introduction

The Conservation Element addresses conservation and utilization of natural resources and the management and protection of open space lands. The Conservation Element provides policy guidance to protect, maintain, and enhance Yorba Linda's natural resources and open space land.



Authority and Scope

The State of California Government Code Section 65302(d) requires that a General Plan include *"a conservation element for the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources."*

The Conservation Element must contain goals and policies that further the protection and maintenance of the State's resources such as water, soils, wildlife, mineral, and other natural resources. The Conservation Element identifies those undeveloped lands that contain open space for the preservation of natural resources; open space for the managed production of resources; and open space for public health and safety.

Background

Approximately one-fourth of the land in Yorba Linda is preserved as permanent open space, including natural habitat, wildlife corridors, and viewsheds. Much of Yorba Linda's open space areas are located in the northern and southeastern portions of the planning area. The unincorporated areas of Orange County located in the north and east of the City's Sphere of Influence (SOI) contain natural resources significant to the sub-region. These portions of Yorba Linda contain natural habitat directly adjacent to the Chino Hills State Park. The steep slopes along Yorba Linda's northeastern City boundary form an edge between Orange County and Chino Hills State Park, located in San Bernardino County, as illustrated in *Exhibit CN-1: Open Space and Recreation Areas*.



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Wildlife Habitat

Areas in the northern and southeastern portions of the City of Yorba Linda, provide natural open space, important wildlife connectivity, and biological habitats. **Exhibit CN-2: Natural Habitat Areas**, shows the locations of natural habitat areas in the planning area. The natural habitat areas are open spaces which contain wildlife and native plant life.



Important open space in Yorba Linda includes the riparian habitat around the Santa Ana River in the southeastern portion of the City, as well as extensive oak woodland, chaparral, coastal sage scrub and riparian habitats located adjacent to the Chino Hills State Park in the northern portion of the City. According to the National Land Cover Database, Yorba Linda's natural open space areas consists of a majority of shrub/scrub, with some herbaceous and woody wetlands land cover.¹

According to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the open space areas around the City are ideal locations for observing many wildlife species native to Southern California. More than 200 species of birds and mammals, numerous reptiles and amphibians, and thousands of types of insects and other invertebrates can be found in habitat areas, including Chino Hills State Park. Wildlife species in and around Yorba Linda include: mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, mule deer, raccoons, opossums, striped skunks, western grey squirrels, red-tailed hawks, Cooper's hawks, and turkey vultures.

According to data provided by the California Natural Diversity Database, there are sensitive plant and animal species located in the Yorba Linda Planning Area. Sensitive biological resources include species present in the project vicinity that have been given special recognition by federal, state, or local resource conservation agencies and organizations due to declining, limited or threatened populations, resulting in most cases from habitat reduction; and habitat areas that are unique, of relatively limited distribution, or of special value to wildlife. State governments have developed a rating system to designate the status of sensitive species. These designation include, "Candidate," "Threatened," or "Endangered." Official designation of a species in one of these categories affords species or habitats certain levels of protection in an effort to preserve their existence. **Table CN-1: Sensitive Animals, Plants, and Communities**, lists the sensitive species that are rated "Threatened" or "Endangered."

¹ California Department of Fish and Wildlife. BIOS. <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/bios>. Accessed August 3, 2015.



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Table CN-1
Sensitive Animals, Plants and Communities

Species	Federal Status	State Status	CDFW/Rare Plant Rank
Animals: Birds			
<i>Buteo swainsoni</i> Swainson's hawk	None	Threatened	n/a
<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i> Western yellow-billed cuckoo	Threatened	Endangered	n/a
<i>Empidonax traillii</i> Willow flycatcher	None	Endangered	n/a
<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i> Southwestern willow flycatcher	Endangered	Endangered	n/a
<i>Passerculus sandwichensis beldingi</i> Belding's savannah sparrow	None	Endangered	n/a
<i>Polioptila californica californica</i> Coastal California gnatcatcher	Threatened	None	SSC
<i>Sternula antillarum browni</i> California least tern	Endangered	Endangered	FP
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i> Least Bell's vireo	Endangered	Endangered	n/a
Animals: Fish and Mollusks			
<i>Catostomus santaanae</i> Santa Ana sucker	Threatened	None	SSC
Plants			
<i>Eriastrum densifolium</i> ssp. <i>Sanctorum</i> Santa Ana River woolly star	Endangered	Endangered	1B.1

Notes:

CDFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife

SSC = Species of Special Concern

FP = Fully Protected

B1.1 = Plants rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere, seriously threatened in California.

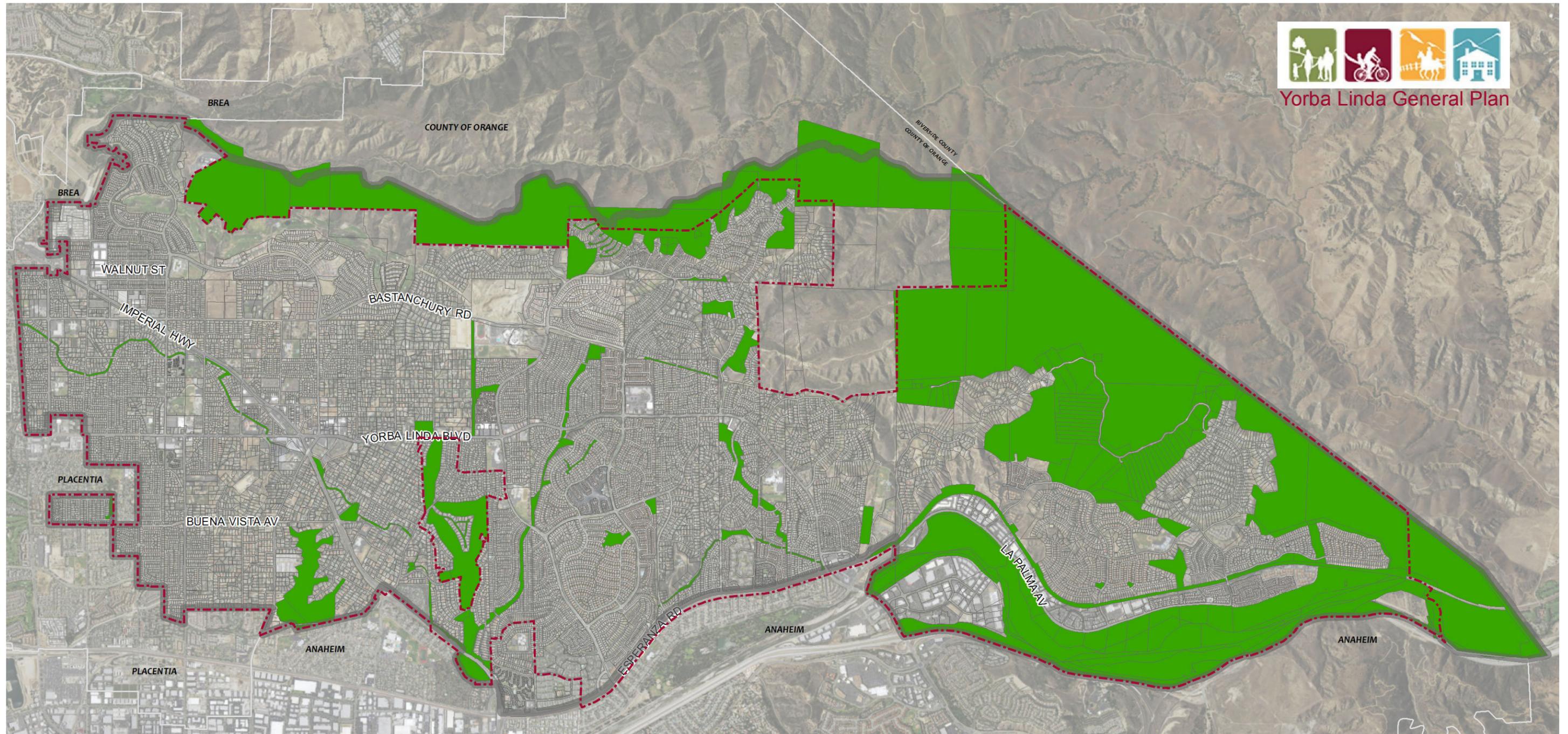
Source: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Natural Diversity Database, Yorba Linda, Orange, and Prado Dam Quads.



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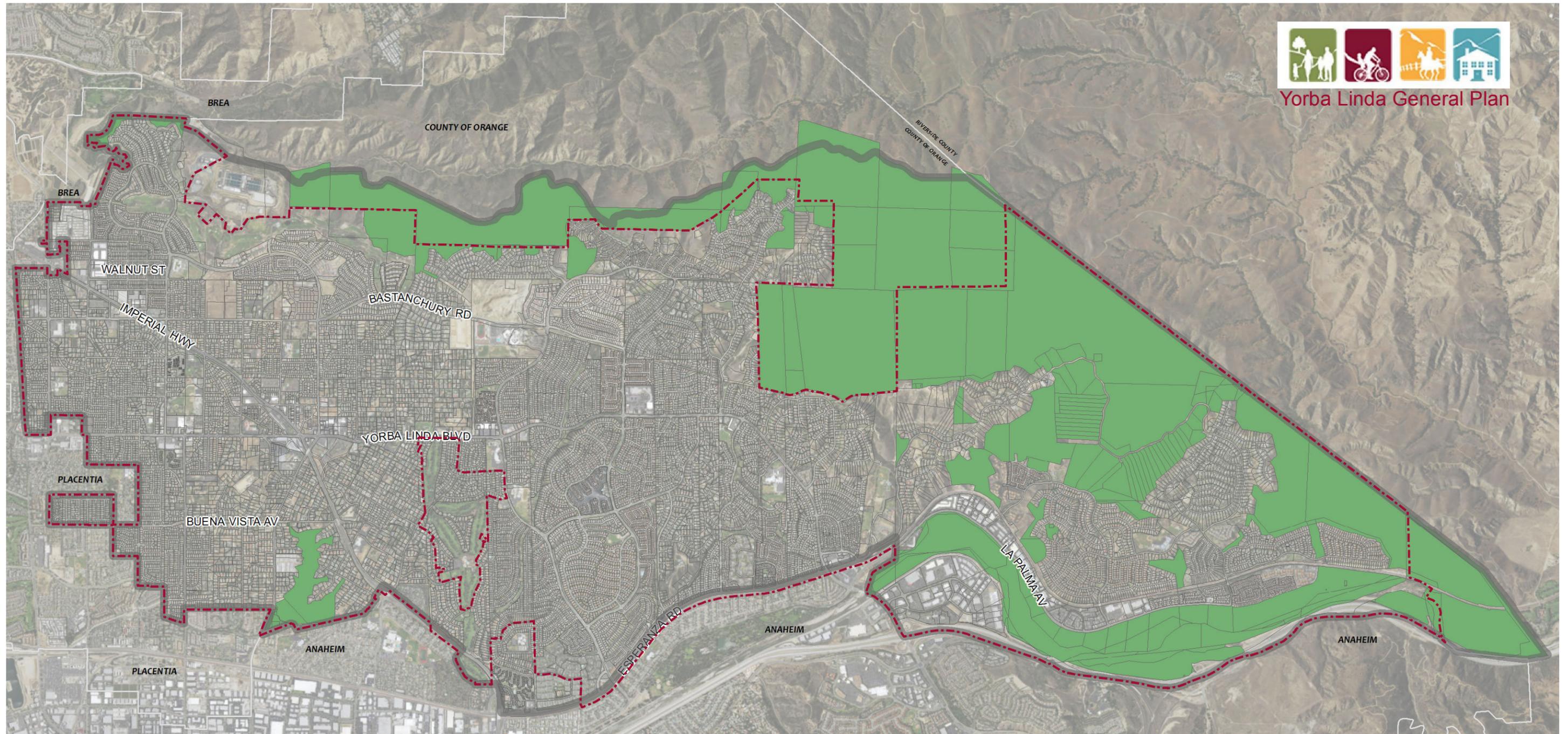


- City Boundary
- ☐ Sphere of Influence
- Open Space and Recreational Areas



Open Space and Recreation Areas

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- City Boundary
- ▭ Sphere of Influence
- Natural Habitat Areas



Natural Habitat Areas

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Wildlife Corridors

A wildlife corridor is a section of land connecting two larger areas of natural habitat which is free of barriers that would prevent wildlife passage. Wildlife movement corridors are important for the free movement of animals between population centers, for access to food and water sources, as escape routes from brush fires, and in the longer term, for genetic dispersal of individuals between populations. According to the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project, parts of northern and eastern Yorba Linda are considered Natural Landscape Blocks. Natural Landscape Blocks are relatively natural habitat blocks that support native biodiversity and areas essential for ecological connectivity between them.²

Viewsheds

Yorba Linda has diverse topography, from the flood plains surrounding the Santa Ana River, to steep ridgelines in the Chino and Pleito Hills. One of the most important ridgelines is known as Telegraph Canyon, located within the Chino Hills State Park to the north of Yorba Linda. Telegraph Canyon reaches an elevation of 1,476 feet, with an average height of 1,000 feet. Other prominent ridges are to the northeast of the City in the Chino Hills, including Brush Canyon with elevations reaching 1,400 feet and San Juan Hills, reaching elevations of 1,661 feet. Chino Hills State Park is a dominant feature in the area, as are the Santa Ana River, Featherly Park, and Yorba Regional Park.³

Night Skies

Nighttime lighting provides safety and comfort to communities and their residents, but excess and misdirected light creates the phenomenon known as light pollution. An increasing problem in local jurisdictions, light pollution is light not targeted for a specific task, creating an unhealthy and unsightly environment. This light originates from a number of sources including interior and exterior lighting on buildings, and lights associated with advertising, streetlights, sporting venues and shopping centers. There are a number of environmental, ecological, and human health implications associated with light pollution. Excess nighttime light wastes energy and harms the integrity of ecosystems. Upward-directed light creates sky glow above cities, impairing the view of the night sky, stars and planets. The preservation of night skies in Yorba Linda is an important priority to minimize light pollution and preserve the community's semi-rural character.

² California Department of Fish and Wildlife. *California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project: A Strategy for Conserving a Connected California*. February 2010.

³ The Planning Center. *Yorba Linda Community Profile*. September 2010.



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Watersheds

A Watershed is the area of land where all of the water that is either on or under it goes into the same place. Yorba Linda is within the Santa Ana Watershed, which is Southern California's largest watershed. The Santa Ana Watershed begins in the San Bernardino Mountains and discharges into the ocean in Huntington Beach. The Yorba Linda Planning Area is drained by the Santa Ana River in its natural configuration; beyond Yorba Linda, the river is channelized. The flow of the Santa Ana River is intermittent, dependent on the amount of rainfall.



Water Resources

The City receives water service from both the Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) and the Golden State Water Company. Groundwater is pumped from nine active wells located throughout the YLWD and imported water is treated at the Diemer Filtration Plant and is delivered to the YLWD system through four imported water connections.

In response to the continuing drought in California, the Yorba Linda Water District adopted a Water Conservation Ordinance in 2009. The ordinance consists of permanent year-round restrictions for potable water, focused on the prevention of water waste, and four "Water Supply Shortage" stages. These stages have increasing restrictions on water use in order to allow YLWD to meet all health and safety guidelines in the face of water shortages. The ordinance contains a financial penalty structure similar to a code enforcement violation for wasting water.

Golden State Water Company has filed Advice Letter with the California Public Utilities Commission to activate Staged Mandatory Water Conservation and Rationing. The Staged Mandatory Water Conservation and Rationing filings outline restrictions, water allocations, enforcement measures, and surcharges designed to achieve reductions due to water supply shortages or to achieve identified water usage goals established by an authorized government agency or official.

The City of Yorba Linda has also adopted Water Efficient Landscape Regulations. These regulations establish alternative water efficient landscape regulations that are acceptable under AB 1881, the State Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. The adopted ordinance provides regulations that are at the least as effective in conserving water as the Model Ordinance in the context of conditions in the City in order to:



Yorba Linda General Plan

- Promote the benefits of consistent landscape ordinances with neighboring local and regional agencies;
- Promote the values and benefits of landscapes while recognizing the need to invest water and other resources as efficiently as possible;
- Establish a structure for planning, designing, installing, maintaining, and managing water efficient landscapes in new construction and rehabilitation projects;
- Establish provisions for water management practices and water waste prevention for existing landscapes;
- Use water efficiently without waste by setting a Maximum Applied Water Allowance as an upper limit for water use and reduce water use to the lowest practical amount; and
- Encourage the use of economic incentives that promote the efficient use of water, such as implementing a budget-based tiered-rate structure.

Municipal Storm Water Permitting Program

The Municipal Storm Water Permitting Program regulates storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). Storm water is runoff from rain or snow melt that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, paved streets, highways or parking lots and can carry with it pollutants such as: oil, pesticides, herbicides, sediment, trash, bacteria and metals. The runoff can then drain directly into a local stream, lake or bay. Often, the runoff drains into storm drains which eventually drain untreated into a local waterbody.

Additionally, municipal or urban areas commonly include large impervious surfaces which contribute to an increase in runoff flow, velocity and volume. As a result streams are hydrologically impacted through streambed and channel scouring, instream sedimentation and loss of aquatic and riparian habitat. In addition to hydrological impacts, large impervious surfaces contribute to greater pollutant loading, resulting in turbid water, nutrient enrichment, bacterial contamination, and increased temperature and trash. MS4 permits were issued in two phases.

Under Phase I, which started in 1990, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards have adopted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit (NPDES) storm water permits for medium (serving between 100,000 and 250,000 people) and large (serving 250,000 people) municipalities. Most of these permits are issued to a group of co-permittees encompassing an entire metropolitan area. These permits are reissued as the permits expire. The Phase I MS4 permits require the discharger to develop and implement a Storm Water Management Plan/Program with the goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). MEP is the performance standard specified in Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act. The management programs specify what best management practices (BMPs) will be used to address certain program areas. The program areas include public education and outreach; illicit discharge detection and elimination; construction and post-construction; and good housekeeping for municipal operations. In general, medium and large municipalities are required to conduct monitoring.



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On April 30, 2003 as part of Phase II, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a General Permit for the Discharge of Storm Water from Small MS4s (WQ Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ) to provide permit coverage for smaller municipalities (population less than 100,000), including non-traditional Small MS4s, which are facilities such as military bases, public campuses, prison and hospital complexes. The Phase II Small MS4 General Permit covers Phase II Permittees statewide. On February 5, 2013 the Phase II Small MS4 General Permit was adopted and will become effective on July 1, 2013.

Agricultural Resources

According to the State of California Department of Conservation, Yorba Linda contains a small parcel of Unique Farmland, located just east of Lakeview Avenue and south of Buena Vista Avenue. There is a small portion of land located north of the Santa Ana River, near Featherly Regional Park that is designated Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance and Unique Farmland. Prime Farmland has the best combination of physical and chemical features able to sustain long-term agricultural production. Farmland of Statewide Importance is similar to Prime Farmland but with minor shortcomings, such as greater slopes or less ability to store soil moisture. Unique Farmland consists of lesser quality soils used for the production of the state's leading agricultural crops.⁴

Mineral and Petroleum Resources

Mineral Resources

Yorba Linda contains mineral resources in the form of potential source of aggregate. Aggregate is the term used to describe sand, gravel, and crushed stone which are used as construction materials. In the Yorba Linda planning area, construction aggregate is found in the natural sand and gravel deposits along the Santa Ana River. There are no active quarries in the planning area.

California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) requires that the State Geologist classifies land based on the known or inferred mineral resource potential of that land. The Mineral Land Classification process identifies lands that contain economically significant mineral deposits. The primary goal of mineral land classifications is to ensure that the mineral source potential of lands is recognized and considered in land use planning.⁵

The SMARA designated Mineral Resource Zones for areas with minerals which were of State-wide or regional importance, as shown in **Exhibit CN-3: Oil Production and Mineral Resource Zones**. The areas along the Santa Ana River are classified as Mineral Resource Zone 2 (MRZ-2). Adequate information indicates that significant mineral deposits are present, or it is judged that a high likelihood exists for their presence.⁶ The classification process does not take into account existing land uses and may result

⁴ California Department of Conservation, *California Important Farmland Finder*. <http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/ciff/ciff.html#>. Accessed August 3, 2015.

⁵ California Geological Survey, *Aggregate Sustainability in California*. 2012.

⁶ Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology, *Santa Ana River and Lower Santiago Creek Resource Areas*. 1994.



Yorba Linda General Plan

in the classification of MRZs which are already developed, rendering these zones unsuitable for mining production.

The planning area contains two specific Resource Sectors (Resource Sector B and Sector C) that are designated Regionally Significant Aggregate.⁷ A Resource Sector is an area judged to contain a significant deposit of construction-quality aggregate that is available to meet the future needs of the region. Resource Sector B is located directly east of Featherly Regional Park, north of the Santa Ana River. Resource Sector C is located directly west of Featherly Regional Park and includes lands presently part of the Savi Ranch development.

The Yorba Linda General Plan is required to show the location of the Resource Sectors and incorporate policies for the management of their mineral resources, due to the presence of the MRZ-2 Area in the planning area. The aggregate located in Resource Sectors B and C are unavailable because the areas were developed with land uses that preclude mining. The use of aggregate underlying the sand beneath Featherly Park and within portions of Savi Ranch would require major land use changes, as well as loss of valuable natural spaces and recreational facilities.

Petroleum Resources

There are known oil deposits located in Yorba Linda. The on-shore oil fields are aligned with the Newport-Inglewood and Whittier fault zones. The faults have facilitated the entrapment of petroleum resources. Oil extractions in Yorba Linda has been declining over the last several decades as resources are depleted. The large Yorba Linda oil field (previously known as the Shell Property) has been redeveloped into the Black Gold Golf Course and residential development.

There are still several active wells in the southwestern and northern portions of the planning area. The City has identified existing and potential petroleum resource areas through the Oil Production Combining Zone (O). The O Zone designates appropriate areas for the continued extraction and new extraction of oil, gas, and other hydrocarbon substances. **Exhibit CN-3: Oil Production and Mineral Resource Zones**, shows the locations of the City's oil producing zones.

Related Plans and Programs

There are a number of land use documents which have been adopted, through ordinance or resolution, which bear a relationship to the General Plan. Relevant plans and documents are listed as follows:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The updated Yorba Linda Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted in August 2014. The Master Plan provides direction to continue the orderly and consistent planning, acquisition, development, and administration of the parks and recreation programming in Yorba Linda. The Master Plan guides the

⁷ Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology, *Santa Ana River and Lower Santiago Creek Resource Areas*. 1994.



Yorba Linda General Plan

City's decision making with regard to overall policy and provides an inventory and assessment of recreation programs and service offerings, operations, maintenance, and capital improvements to be made over the next twenty years that will enhance the quality of life in Yorba Linda. The goals, programs, and strategies identified in the updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan are incorporated into the General Plan Update.

Regional Plans and Initiatives

County of Orange Resources Element – The County of Orange Resources Element contains official County policies on the conservation and management of resources within Orange County. The Element is comprised of six components including Natural Resources, Energy Resources, Water Resources, Air Resources, Open Space, and Cultural-Historical Resources. The Resources Element sets forth the strategy for the development, management, preservation, and conservation of resources that are necessary to meet Orange County's existing and future demands. The Resources Element primarily focuses on the unincorporated areas in Orange County.

Chino Hills State Park Plan – The Chino Hills State Park General Plan establishes objectives for the area's natural and cultural resources, visitor use, facility development, interpretation, general operation, and coordination with other public and private entities. The Plan, developed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, provides goals, policies, and implementation actions that affect the interface and trail linkages with the Park with significant open space areas of Yorba Linda.

Yorba Linda Stormwater Program – The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was enacted for the purpose of restoring the health of the Nation's waters to point of being fishable and swimmable for all. The CWA established the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program to regulate discharges, including urban and stormwater runoff, into the waters of the United States. One of the functions of the NPDES program is to issue permits for stormwater discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) entering the waters of the United States. The County of Orange has prepared a Drainage Area Master Plan (DAMP) to comply with the NPDES permit requirements for Orange County. The DAMP identifies the stormwater management practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods to be implemented to protect beneficial uses of receiving water to the maximum extent practicable. Each permittee city implements programs of the DAMP through its Local Implementation Program.

The City, as an Orange County permittee, has developed its Local Implementation Plan, the Yorba Linda Stormwater Program, to manage stormwater runoff and water quality protection practices. The purpose of the stormwater management program is to ensure that new development incorporates measures, to the maximum extent practicable, to reduce the quantity



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of storm flow and the discharge pollutants in the urban/stormwater runoff to protect water quality, biological habitats, and recreational uses of downstream receiving waters.

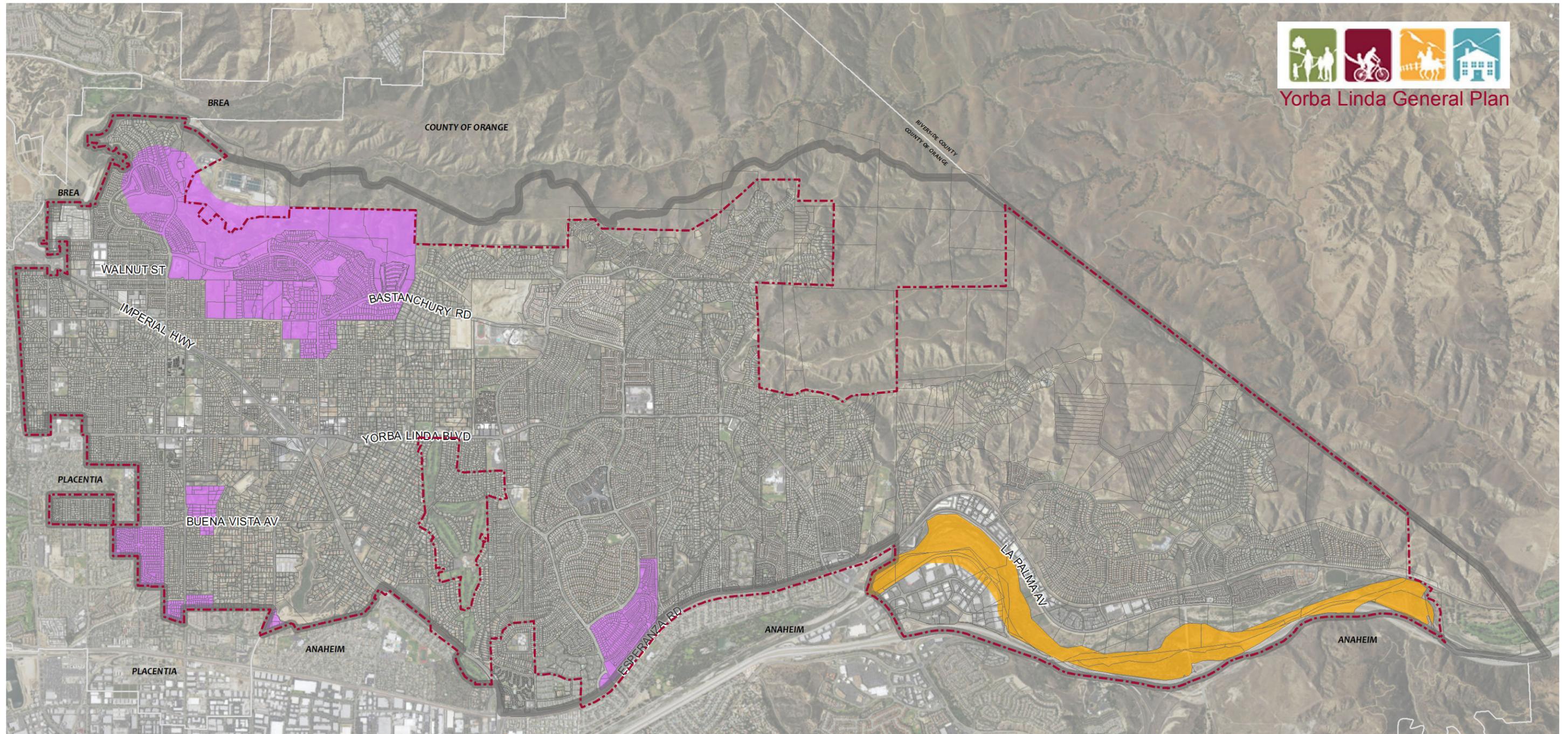
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-  City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence
-  Mineral Resource Zones
-  Oil Production Zones



Oil Production and Mineral Resource Zones

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Conservation Element Policy Program

Goal CN-1

Preservation of visual resources along existing and planned landscape corridors.

- Policy CN-1.1 Ensure that new development along landscaped corridors preserves unique visual features.
- Policy CN-1.2 Ensure roadway design that takes advantage of natural or man-made scenic features to provide visual quality and riding comfort.
- Policy CN-1.3 Incorporate pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle and multi-use trails into the right-of-way of landscaped corridors.

Goal CN-2

Preservation of natural resource areas of community and regional significance.

- Policy CN-2.1 Support the preservation of native wildlife and plant communities, and their habitats..
- Policy CN-2.2 Work with developers to ensure that resource

protection measures are prepared and incorporated into development proposals.

Policy CN-2.3 Conserve resource areas which are preserved through public and private acquisition by an open space management program.

Policy CN-2.4 Support responsible management of regionally significant natural resources and wildlife habitat such as the Santa Ana River Corridor and Chino Hills State Park.

Policy CN-2.5 Support the delineation of permanent open space areas within the City's sphere-of-influence.

Policy CN-2.6 Support the requirement for development proposals to provide detailed biological assessments in areas which may contain important plant communities and wildlife habitat.

Policy CN-2.7 Maintain an inventory of existing sensitive resources in and adjacent to the City.

Policy CN-2.8 Ensure open space areas that contain sensitive biological resources are maintained as passive recreation uses.



Yorba Linda General Plan

Goal CN-3

Protection of sensitive hillside areas within and adjacent to the community.

- Policy CN-3.1 Support the preservation of sensitive hillside, canyon areas, and ridgelines within the City.
- Policy CN-3.2 Ensure that site planning and architectural design respect the natural landform to minimize grading and visual impact.
- Policy CN-3.3 Ensure the practice of proper soil management techniques to reduce erosion, sedimentation, and other soil-related problems during the construction and operation of new development.

Policy CN-4.3

Promote the use of water efficient practices in site and building design for private and public projects.

Policy CN-4.4

Ensure the maintenance and monitoring of flood control and drainage facilities to provide protection from inundation from a 100-year flood event.

Policy CN-4.5

Promote the retention of local drainage courses, channels and creeks in their natural condition where possible.

Policy CN-4.6

Protect groundwater from sources of pollution.

Policy CN-4.7

Support the reduction of the discharge of pollutants from the City's storm water system and meet the requirements of the Municipal Storm Water Permitting Program.

Goal CN-4

A healthy watershed and adequate, safe, and reliable water supply.

- Policy CN-4.1 Promote the preservation and enhancement of stream courses and watersheds in the City.
- Policy CN-4.2 Consider conservation of water resources in the review of all development proposals and public facility improvement plans.

Goal CN-5

Responsible management of designated areas for petroleum and mineral extraction.

Policy CN-5.1

Compile and maintain maps and descriptions of petroleum and mineral resources as a basis for policy and program implementation.



Policy CN-5.2 Document current extraction sites, including petroleum and sand and gravel quarries, including the current status and duration of existing permits and approvals, for compliance monitoring.

Policy CN-5.3 Cooperate with other governmental agencies and educational institutions to arrange for the development and exchange of information on petroleum and mineral resources.

Policy CN-5.4 Support future efforts to protect areas of the City currently identified as potential mineral resource areas when it has been determined that mining is no longer a feasible use for the property.

Policy CN-5.5 Ensure that all mineral extraction reclamation plans be consistent with the policies and procedures of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act.

Policy CN-5.6 Ensure reclamation projects comply with State, federal, and local standards and attainment programs with respect to air quality, watersheds and basins, and erosion potential.

Goal CN-6

Preservation of the views of stars and the night sky.

Policy CN-6.1 Support efforts that require outdoor lighting fixtures to be shielded and down-directed in order to minimize glare and light trespass.

Policy CN-6.2 Promote removal, replacement, or retrofit of non-shielded or non-down-directed light fixtures that contribute to glare and light pollution.

Policy CN-6.3 Strive to achieve a natural nighttime environment and an uncompromised view of the night sky.



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10. Public Health and Safety Element

Introduction

The Public Health and Safety Element provides policy guidance for the provision of quality public safety services needed to serve the existing and expected future population in Yorba Linda. The Public Health and Safety Element identifies natural and man-made hazards which have the potential to impact the population, property, and the natural environment.



Through the investigation of hazard risks, and careful land use planning to reduce or restrict development in high risk areas, the potential for disaster can be reduced. The Public Health and Safety Element seeks to sustain and improve the City's commitment to safety through proactive and comprehensive police, fire, building, and code enforcement services that encourage community outreach and education, maintain local agency partnerships, promote prevention, and enhance the technical, logistical, and technological systems to prepare for and respond to public safety needs.

Authority and Scope

The State of California Government Code Section 65302(g) requires that a General Plan include “a safety element for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risk associated with the effects of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence, liquefaction; and other seismic hazards identified pursuant to Chapter 7.8 (commencing with Section 2690) of Division 2 of the Public Resources Code, and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding; and wildland and urban fires.”

The State of California Government Code Section 8876 requires that the Safety Element discuss hazardous buildings due to Yorba Linda's location within a seismically active region and potential for structures which were built prior to uniform building code restrictions (pre 1930).

Background

Geologic events, seismic activity in particular, are the primary natural hazards to the residents and property of Yorba Linda.



Yorba Linda General Plan

Seismic Hazards

Earthquake Faults

There are several large active faults in the Southern California region that could potentially impact the City of Yorba Linda including the San Joaquin Hills Thrust Fault, the Newport-Inglewood Fault, the San Andreas Fault, the Peralta Hills Fault and the Whittier-Elsinore Fault. The San Andreas Fault system distributes shearing across a complex system of primarily northwest-trending faults. The Whittier-Elsinore Fault cuts along the base of the southwestern slopes of the Puente and Chino hills.¹ **Table PS-1: Existing Faults**, below shows the significant faults and potential earthquake effects in the areas surrounding Yorba Linda.

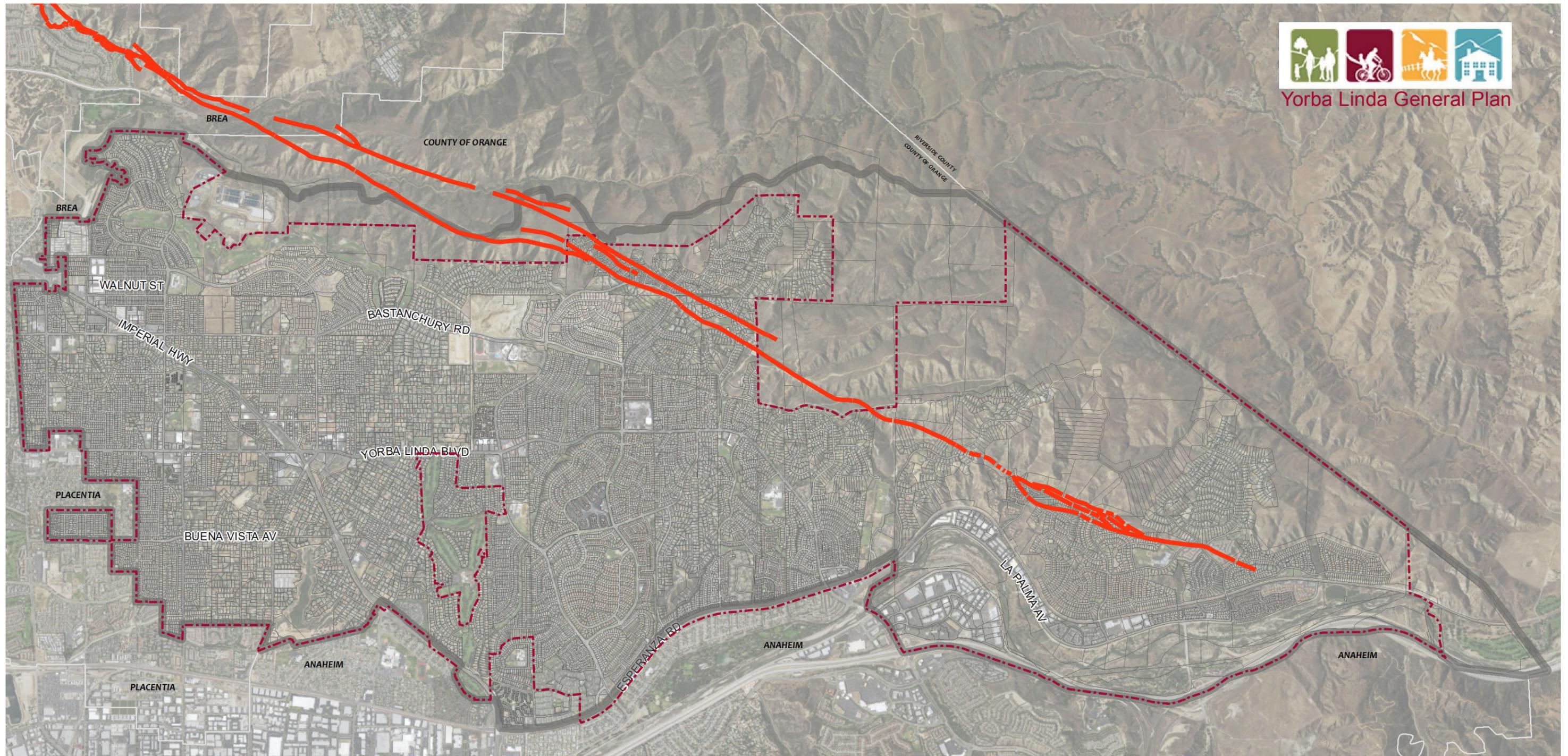
Table PS-1 Existing Faults		
Fault	Category ¹	Estimated Maximum Magnitude ²
Whittier	Active	7.0
Elsinore	Active	7.3
Chino	Potentially Active	6.5
Peralta Hills	Active	6.5
Newport/Inglewood	Active	7.0
San Jacinto	Active	7.5
San Andreas	Active	8.25

Notes:

1. Active faults are known to have surface displacements within Holocene times (past 11,000 years). Potentially active faults have evidence of surface faulting within Quaternary time (past 2-3 million years).
2. Maximum magnitude based on estimated rupture length and empirical relationships between historical rupture and earthquake magnitude.

The Whittier Fault is believed to be the main spur from the larger Elsinore Fault which follows a general line easterly of the Santa Ana Mountains into Mexico. Accordingly, the surface fault rupture hazard in Yorba Linda is high within the boundaries of this zone. The Whittier fault extends over 20 miles from the Whittier Narrows near Whittier, southeast to the Santa Ana River, where it merges with the southeasterly trending Elsinore fault. Collectively, these two faults combined with smaller faults are known as the Whittier-Elsinore Fault Zone. The Whittier-Elsinore Fault Zone traverses the Planning Area in a generally northwest to southeast direction. **Exhibit PS-1: Whittier-Elsinore Fault**, shows the locations of these nearby faults that could potentially impact the planning area.

¹ California Geological Survey, *Seismic Hazard Zone Report for the Yorba Linda 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. 2005.



-  Whittier-Elsinore Fault
-  City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence



Whittier-Elsinore Fault

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Surface Rupture and Ground Shaking

As discussed above, there are several active and potentially active faults in the vicinity of Yorba Linda which make the risk of structural damage and loss of life due to ground shaking considerable. According to the County of Orange Safety Element, portions of the City of Yorba Linda could experience “intensities of VI” (according to the Modified Mercalli Scale) in the event of a maximum credible earthquake on the San Andreas or Newport-Inglewood faults. Intensity, which differs from magnitude, refers to the perceived strength of an earthquake as it affects local residents and construction. Intensity depends on magnitude, distance from the epicenter, acceleration, period duration and amplitude of seismic waves, type of ground, water table, type and quality of construction, and the natural fundamental period of structures and their foundations. Intensity scales are a measure of perceived impact based on interviews and observations. **Table PS-2: Richter and Modified Mercalli Scale Comparison**, describes the Modified Mercalli Scale for Earthquake Intensities.

Table PS-2 Richter and Modified Mercalli Scale Comparison	
Magnitude on Richter Scale	Effects at Different Levels of Intensity
Below 3.0	I. Not felt by most people; only instruments detect the earthquake.
3.0-3.9 Distance felt: (approx. miles) 15	II. People lying down might feel the earthquake. III. People on the upper floors of the building will feel it, but may not know it is an earthquake. Hanging objects may swing.
4.0-4.9 Distance felt: (approx. miles) 30	IV. People indoors will probable feel it, but those outside may not. Houses may creak. V. Nearly everyone feels it. Sleepers are awakened. Doors swing, pictures move, things tip over.
5.0-5.9 Distance felt: (approx. miles) 70	VI. Everyone feels the earthquake. It is hard to walk. Windows and dishes are broken. Books fall from shelves.
6.0-6.9 Distance felt: (approx. miles) 125	VII. It is hard to stand. Plaster, bricks, and tiles fall from buildings. Small landslides. VIII. People will not be able to drive cars. Poorly built buildings may collapse and chimneys may fall.
7.0-7.9 Distance felt: (approx. miles) 250	IX. Most foundations are damaged. Masonry heavily damaged. Pipes are broken. The ground cracks. X. Most buildings are destroyed. Water is thrown out of rivers and lakes. Large landslides.
8.0-8.9	XI. Rails are bent. Bridges and underground pipelines are unusable. XII. Large rock masses displaced. Large objects may be thrown into air. Most things are leveled.

Source: County of Orange, *General Plan 2005, Safety Element*.



Yorba Linda General Plan

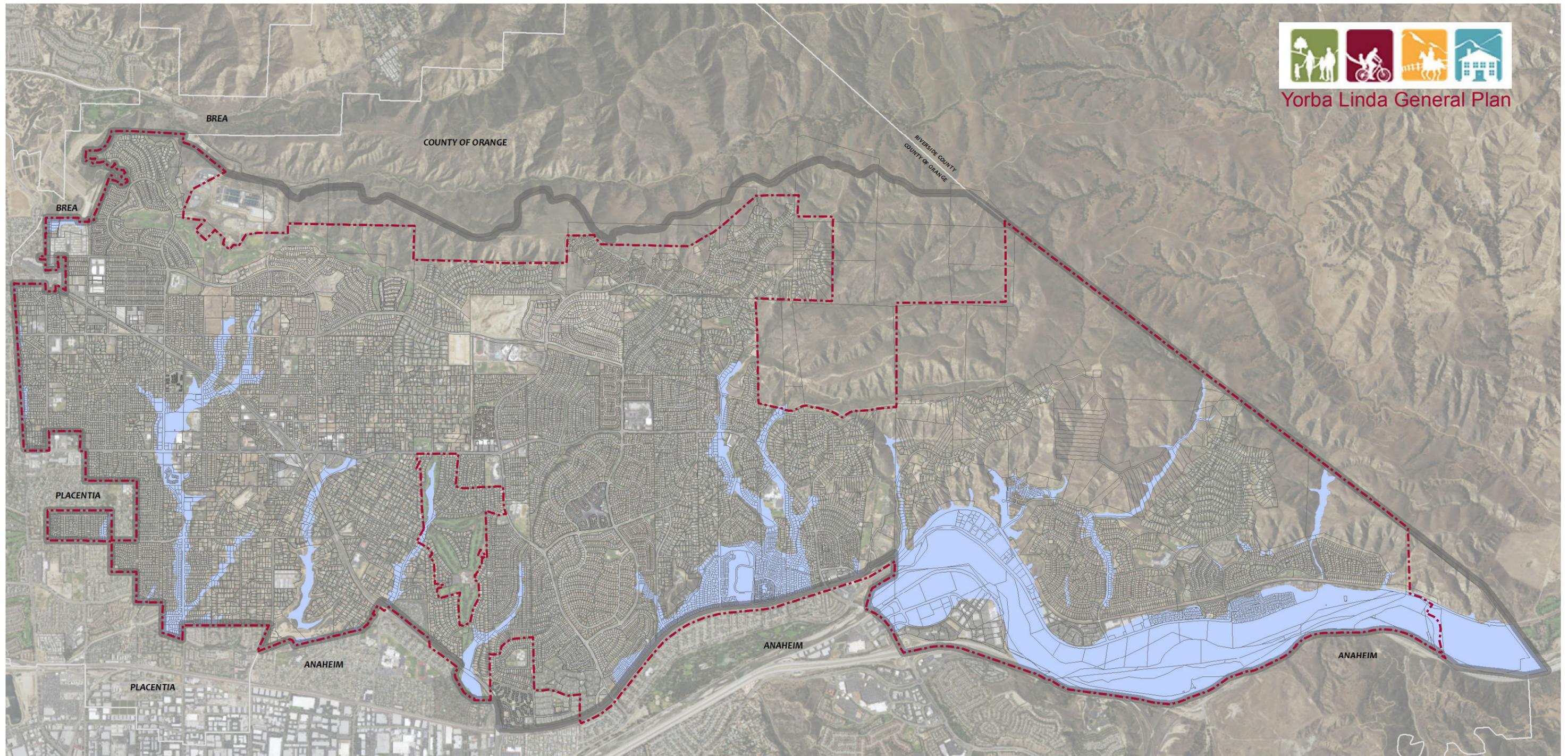
Liquefaction

Liquefaction-induced ground failure has historically been a major cause of earthquake damage in Southern California. Localities most susceptible to liquefaction-induced damage are underlain by loose, water-saturated, granular sediment within 50 feet of the ground surface. These geological and ground-water conditions exist in parts of Yorba Linda. In addition, the potential for strong earthquake ground shaking is high because of the nearby active faults. The combination of these factors constitute a significant seismic hazard in areas of Yorba Linda.² Areas that are prone to liquefaction due to geological and ground-water conditions are located within liquefaction zones. In Yorba Linda, the liquefaction zone is located primarily within a mile of the Santa Ana River.³ **Exhibit PS-2: Liquefaction Zones**, shows the portions of the planning area that are located with the liquefaction zone.

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² California Geological Survey, *Seismic Hazard Zone Report for the Yorba Linda 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. 2005.

³ California Geological Survey, *Seismic Hazard Zone Report for the Orange 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Orange County, California*. 1997.



- City Boundary
- ▭ Sphere of Influence
- ▭ Liquefaction Zones



Liquefaction Zones

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Hazardous Buildings

One of the major threats to public safety in an earthquake is the damage that the earthquake causes to structures that house people and/or essential civil functions. Continuing advances in engineering design and building code standards over the past decade have greatly reduced the potential for collapse in most new construction during an earthquake. However, many structures in the City of Yorba Linda were built before earthquake design standards were incorporated into building codes. The following specific building types are of particular concern in this regard:

Unreinforced Masonry Structures – Following the 1933 Long Beach earthquake, seismic requirements were added to local building codes for the first time, and the Field Act of 1934 instituted statewide standards which applied to existing unreinforced masonry structures. These structures are still recognized as the most hazardous type of structure in an earthquake. Because of the development that occurred in Yorba Linda during the 1930s, unreinforced masonry buildings potentially may still exist within the City. Most of the development that took place in the 1930s is concentrated in the downtown area.

Senate Bill 547 requires local jurisdictions to enact structural hazard reduction programs by (a) inventorying pre-1934 unreinforced masonry structure, and (b) developing mitigation programs for structural hazards.

Soft-Story Buildings – Soft-story buildings are structures that have at least one story (commonly the ground floor) which has significantly less rigidity and/or strength than the rest of the structure. This can form a weak link in the structure, unless special design features are incorporated to give the building adequate structural integrity. Typical examples of soft-story construction are buildings with glass curtain walls on the first floor only, or buildings placed on stilts or columns, leaving the first story open for landscaping, street-friendly building entry, parking, or other purposes. In the early 1950s to early 1970s, soft-story structures were a popular construction style for low- and mid-rise concrete frame structures.

Landslide Hazards

Landslides triggered by earthquakes have been a significant cause of earthquake damage. Areas that are most susceptible to earthquake-induced landslides are steep slopes in poorly cemented or highly fractured rocks, areas underlain by loose, weak soils, and areas on or adjacent to existing landslide deposits.⁴

Slope stability is a serious geologic problem in the northern and northeastern parts of the City of Yorba Linda. **Exhibit PS-3: Landslide Zones**, shows the portions of the planning area that are at risk of landslides due to geological conditions. This area is underlain by siltstone and interbedded sandstone of the Puente Formation and is often prone to landslides and other forms of slope failure. Along Telegraph Canyon and other east-west trending canyons, landslides are more common than on south-facing slopes which

⁴ California Geological Survey, *Seismic Hazard Zone Report for the Yorba Linda 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. 2005.

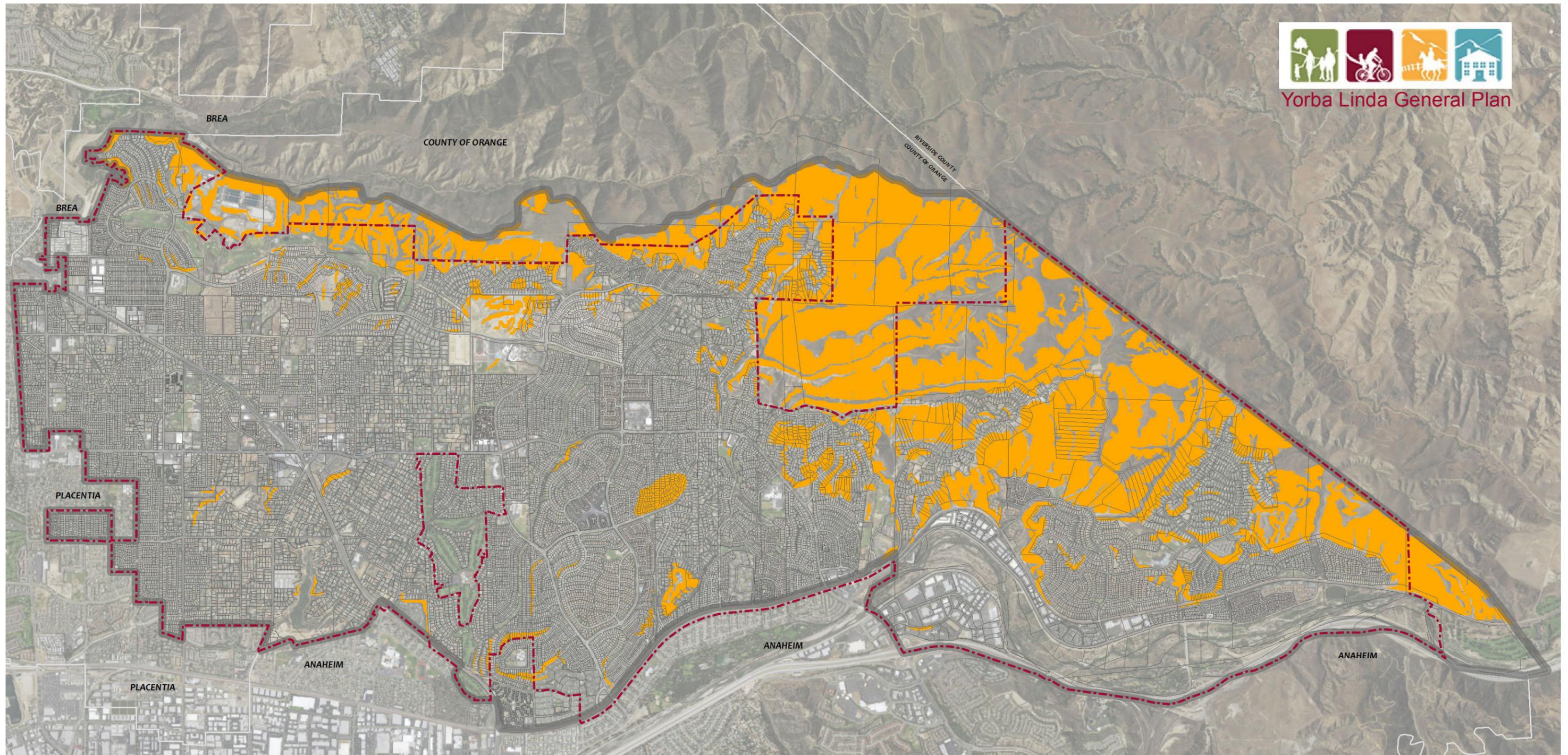


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are typically underlain by thick soil and slope wash. Soil creep and shallow slope failures also occur more on the east-west trending slopes. Conditions which contribute to the slope failures are evident in the Chino Hills area, particularly in areas of well-bedded siltstone and sandstone within the Puente Formation. The Puente Formation underlies the Puente and Chino hills and is comprised of four members: the Sycamore Canyon, Yorba, Soquel, and La Vida members.⁵ Rockfalls and rockslides are also identified as a hazard where resistant, thick-bedded or massive sandstone is exposed on steep, high-slopes such as in areas underlain by the Soquel Member of the Puente Formation.

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⁵ California Geological Survey, *Seismic Hazard Zone Report for the Yorba Linda 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. 2005.



- City Boundary
- ▭ Sphere of Influence
- ▭ Landslide Zones



Landslide Zones

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Drainage and Flood Hazards

Flooding

Historic flooding in Orange County has occurred largely along the Santa Ana River. Flood flows have been documented since 1825. The greatest flood in the history of California occurred in 1862 when it was estimated that the flow in the Santa Ana River was 315,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), more than three times larger than any subsequently measured flow. The history of flooding along the Santa Ana River has been the impetus behind the Santa Ana River Mainstream Project which is designed to provide flood protection to communities in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. The project will increase levels of flood protection for more than 3.35 million people and include the Seven Oaks Dam, Mill Creek Levee, San Timoteo Creek, Oak Street Drain, Prado Dam, Santiago Creek, and the Lower Santa Ana River.⁶



The project will increase levels of flood protection for more than 3.35 million people and include the Seven Oaks Dam, Mill Creek Levee, San Timoteo Creek, Oak Street Drain, Prado Dam, Santiago Creek, and the Lower Santa Ana River.⁶

The City of Yorba Linda has within its boundaries a number of identified 100-year floodplains. A 100-year floodplain is defined as an area that has a one percent or greater chance of experiencing a flood inundation in any given year. The floodplain areas in Yorba Linda have been established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS). **Exhibit PS-4: Flood Hazards**, shows the floodplain areas designated by FIRMS that are located within the planning area.

The designated floodplain within the boundaries of the City of Yorba Linda can be broken into two categories – tributaries to the Santa Ana River and the Santa Ana River. The Santa Ana River floodplain in Yorba Linda extends approximately four miles along the southern border of the City and encompasses approximately 690 acres. The floodplains that are tributaries to the river generally follow the area topography that flows roughly south to southwest. Some of these designated areas have been improved to contain floodwaters, but many are in an unimproved state.

The Yorba Linda Municipal Code, Chapter 15.12 Flood Damage Protection, helps to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas. Flood hazard areas in the City of Yorba Linda are subject to periodic inundation which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, and disruption of commerce and governmental services. Special flood hazard areas are

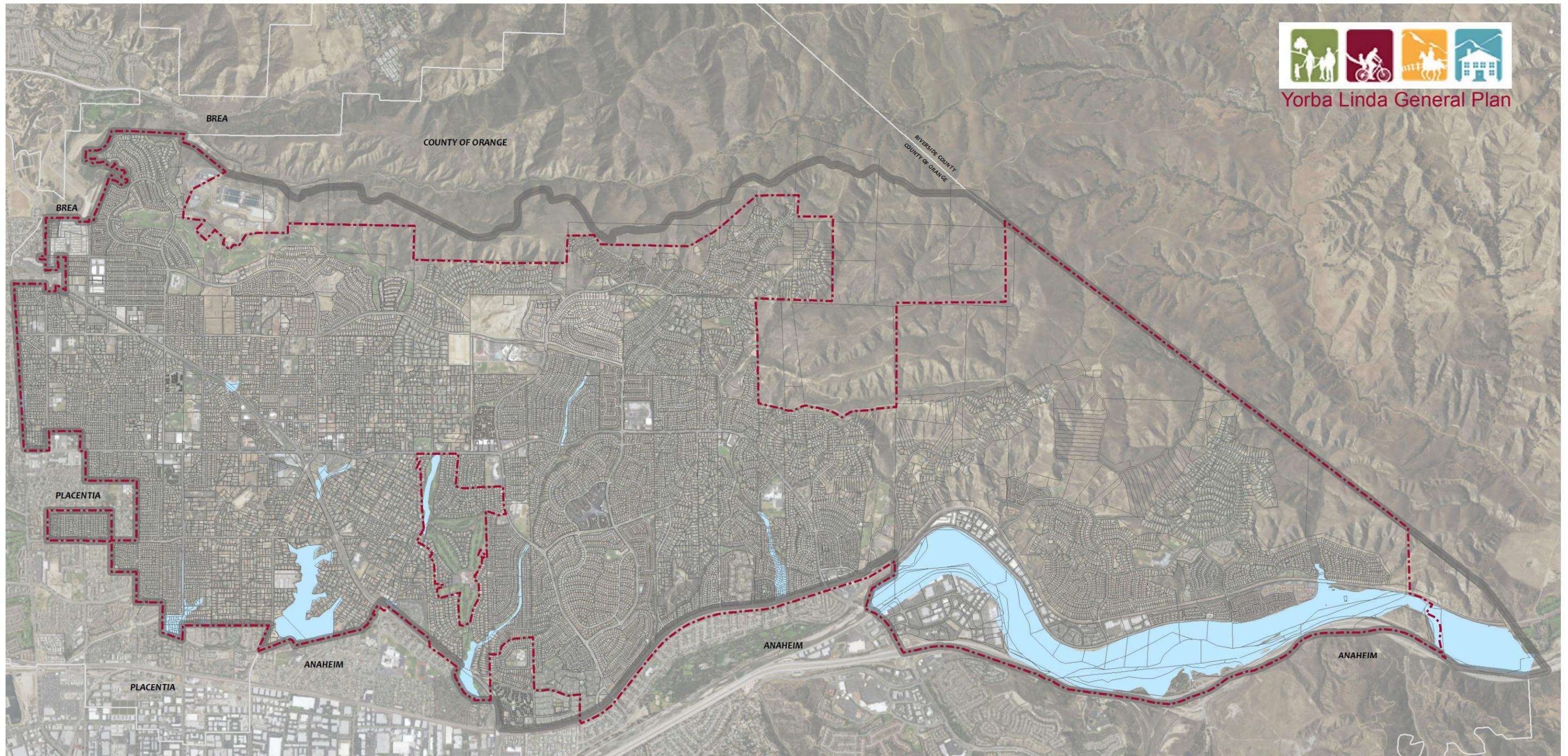
⁶ OC Public Works, *Santa Ana River Project*. <http://ocflood.com/sarp/>. Accessed July 27, 2015.



Yorba Linda General Plan

identified by FEMA and FIRMS. The City's Municipal Code requires a Floodplain Development Permit before construction or development within any area of special flood hazards.

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- City Boundary
- ▭ Sphere of Influence
- 100 Year Flood Plain



Flood Hazards

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Dam Inundation

Prado Dam and Reservoir, completed by the Corps of Engineers in 1941, are intended to provide flood protection to the Lower Santa Ana River, including the City of Yorba Linda. The earthen dam and its reservoir were designed to control floods of magnitudes that could be reasonably expected to occur under anticipated future development of the watershed (typically a 200-year flood). Since the Prado Dam was built, changes have occurred in the drainage area. Historical data on rainfall and runoff, coupled with advances in predicting future flood potential, have shown Prado Dam offers only 70-year flood protection. A serious concern is that the existing Prado Dam and spillway could not accommodate a probable maximum flood, resulting in overtopping of the dam.⁷

According to the County of Orange Safety Element, portions of southern Yorba Linda along the Santa Ana River are located within the Prado Dam Inundation Area that could potentially be impacted by flooding from Prado Dam, as shown in ***Exhibit PS-5: Dam Inundation Areas***.

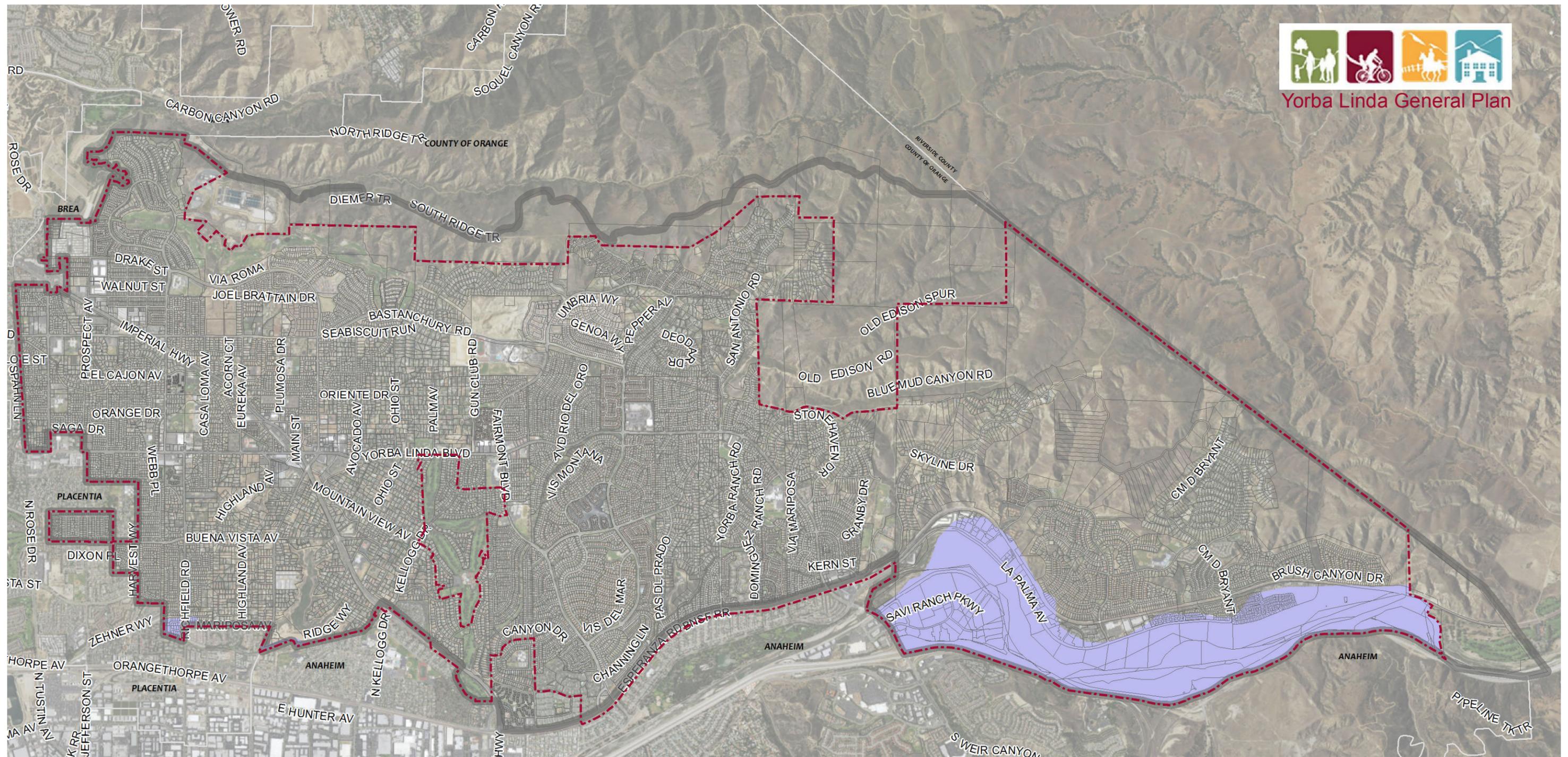
⁷ County of Orange, *General Plan 2005*. <http://ocplanning.net/planning/generalplan2005>. Accessed July 27, 2015.



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- City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence
- Prado Dam Inundation Areas



Dam Inundation Areas

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Fire Hazards

The City of Yorba Linda is subject to wildfires due to the City's geographical location, steep terrain, highly flammable chaparral vegetation, and the Santa Ana winds that occur during seasonal dry periods. Major fires have threatened the City in the past. Fire hazards are typically greatest in the late summer and early fall when vegetation is dry. Early fall is also when the warm dry Santa Ana winds blow from the north and northeast.

The Santa Ana Canyon, which begins to the east of Yorba Linda, has an extensive wildland fire history. The canyon's geographical location plays a major role in directing wildland fire into Orange County. Since 1980, the Santa Ana Canyon area has experienced 25 separate wildland fires, burning a total of 82,734 acres with the events ranging from one to more than 30,000 acres. **Table PS-3: Significant Wildfires in Yorba Linda**, below lists the most notable and devastating fire events that have impacted Yorba Linda since 1980.

Fire Name	Year	Acres Burnt
Carbon Canyon Fire	1980	14,613
Owl Fire	1980	18,332
Gypsum Fire	1982	19,986
Sierra Peak Fire	2006	10,506
Freeway Complex Fire	2008	30,000+

Source: Orange County Fire Authority, *After Action Report Freeway Complex Fire, November 15, 2008*.

The 2008 Freeway Complex Fire was one of the largest wildland fires in Orange County history. The fire consumed over 30,000 acres, impacted six cities in four counties, and destroyed over 381 homes, commercial structures and out-buildings. The fire started in the City of Corona and was swiftly spread by the Santa Ana winds, causing widespread damage in the cities of Yorba Linda, Anaheim, and Corona, as well as to the Chino Hills State Park. The estimated cost for fighting the Freeway Complex Fire was approximately \$16.1 million.⁸

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) identifies Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) and shares that information with local agencies. CAL FIRE map areas of FHSZ within Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs) and State Responsibility Areas (SRAs). Wildland fire protection in the State is the responsibility of either the local government, the State, or the federal government. LRAs include incorporated cities with service provided by municipal fire departments or fire protection districts.

⁸ Orange County Fire Authority, *After Action Report Freeway Complex Fire, November 15, 2008*.



Yorba Linda General Plan

SRAs include areas of California in which the responsibility of preventing and stopping fires is the responsibility of the State.

Elements that are considered in determining the FHSZ include:

Vegetation- Vegetation is “fuel” to a wildfire and fire hazard considers the potential vegetation over a 50 year time period.

Topography- Fire burns faster on steep slopes.

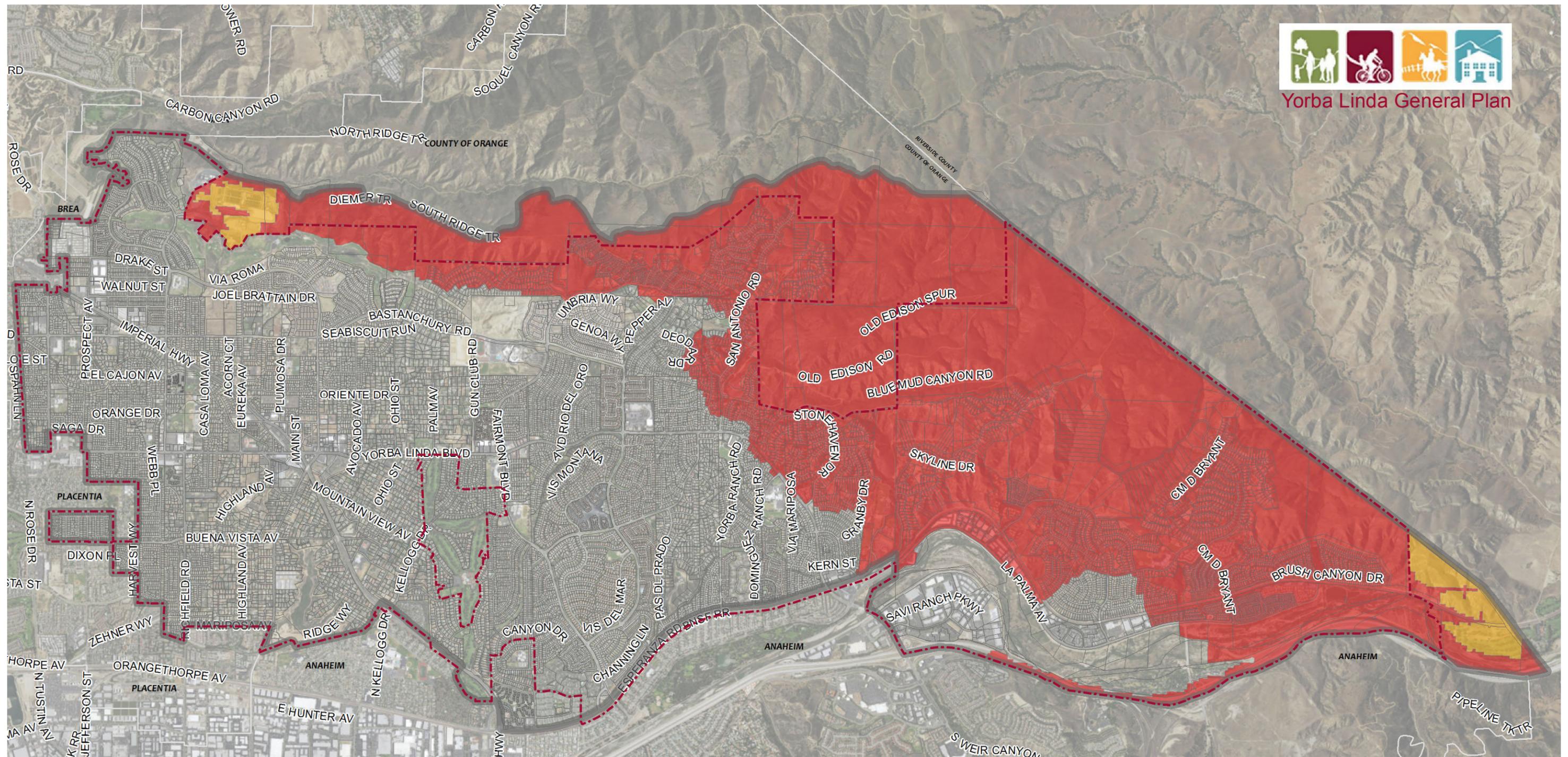
Weather- Fire burns faster and with more intensity when air temperature is high, relative humidity is low, and winds are strong.

Crown fire potential- Under extreme conditions, fires burn up into trees and tall brush.

Ember production and movement- Fire brands are blown ahead of the main fire.

Likelihood of wildfire- The likelihood of an area burning over a 30 to 50 year time period.

Exhibit PS-6: California Fire Hazard Severity Zones, shows the LRAs and SRAs Fire Hazard Severity Zones as designated by CAL FIRE which are located in Yorba Linda and surrounding areas.



- City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence
- Wildfire Severity Zone**
- Moderate
- High
- Very High



California Fire Hazard Severity Zones

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Oil Well Hazards

Yorba Linda has a long history of oil production, dating back to the 1930s. There are several active wells in Yorba Linda; however, oil extraction in the City has been declining over the past several decades as resources are depleted. Several of the sites previously used for oil extraction have been redeveloped into residential, recreational or commercial uses. The large Shell oil field was redeveloped into the Black Gold Golf Course.

Hazards exist for both active and abandoned oil wells. Potential hazards from active oil wells include potential soil and groundwater contamination, as well as release of methane gas. The abandonment of oil wells falls within the jurisdiction of the California Department of Conservation, Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR). Oil wells are subject to regulations and oversight by DOGGR. Additionally, DOGGR provides regulations regarding the placement of structures on abandoned oil well sites. Abandoned wells must be vented to the atmosphere and plugged. A well is plugged by placing cement in the well-bore or casing at certain intervals as specified in California laws or regulations.

Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials are substances that may pose a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety and/or to the environment if released into the community. Hazardous materials are found in household cleaners, industrial solvents, paint, etc. Storage, transport and disposal of hazardous materials requires careful and sound management practices.

Hazardous Waste Management

Hazard waste management in the City of Yorba Linda is regulated by the County of Orange. The Orange County Environmental Health Division is designated as the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the County of Orange. The CUPA is the local administrative agency that coordinates the regulation of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes in Orange County through the following six programs:

- Hazardous Materials Disclosure (HMD)
- Business Emergency Plan (BEP)
- Hazardous Waste (HW)
- Underground Storage Tank (UST)
- Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank (APST)
- California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP)

Additionally, the Orange County Environmental Health Division has a specialized Health Hazardous Materials Team (Health HazMat Team). The Health HazMat Team responds to incidents County-wide that involve a release or potential threat of hazardous materials and wastes that pose a physical, chemical, biological, or radiological hazard to the community. The Health HazMat Team responds to:



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- Hazardous materials spills
- Clandestine drug lab operations
- Terrorism incidents
- Hazardous materials complaints

The City of Yorba Linda is responsible for informing the emergency service personnel in the County of the use and dangers of hazardous materials in the community in order to plan for and respond to potential emergencies and exposure to such materials; provide a system of disclosure to allow firefighters, health officials, planners, elected officials, and other emergency service personnel to meet their responsibilities for the health and welfare of the community while respecting trade secrecy; and to keep the community informed on the use and disposal of hazardous materials in the County.

Transportation of Hazardous Materials

The Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) is the primary regulatory authority for the interstate transport of hazardous materials. The DOT establishes regulations for safe handling procedures, such as the packaging, marking, and routing of the transport of hazardous materials. The California Highway Patrol enforces the interstate transport of hazardous materials and hazardous waste.

In Yorba Linda, trucks are the primary mode of transportation for the movement of hazardous materials. The City of Yorba Linda has instituted truck restrictions on all streets within the City limits except for Imperial Highway. This truck restriction requires that trucks use Imperial Highway and that local and collector roads can only be used for local deliveries. Trucks must use the shortest route to the delivery site possible from Imperial Highway. There are no other designated routes or travel time restrictions for hazardous waste haulers who transport hazardous materials on City roads to access the State Route 91 Freeway (SR-91). The SR-91 is a major east-west transportation corridor in the region and is located just south of Yorba Linda.

While trucks are the primary mode of transportation, the Atchinson, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad travels through the southeast portion of Yorba Linda and is used to transport hazardous materials among other freight.



Related Plans and Programs

California Division of Mines and Geology

The California Division of Mines and Geology identifies and evaluates specific geologic and seismologic hazards with respect to their impact on land use planning and makes this information available to the public.



California Fire Plan

The California Fire plan is the state's road map for reducing the risk of wildfire. The Fire Plan is a cooperative effort between the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protections and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The objectives of the Fire Plan are to reduce fire costs and property losses, increase firefighter safety, and contribute to ecosystem health. The Fire Plan is structured to

allow individual fire departments to establish plans and policies for land within their respective jurisdiction.

Orange County Hazardous Waste Management Program

Developed pursuant to the Tanner Act (1986), the Orange County Hazardous Waste Management Plan identifies current and projected future hazardous waste generation and management needs in Orange County. The plan provides the framework for the development of facilities to manage hazardous wastes and also sets in motion policy directives towards developing county-wide programs in areas such as waste reduction, and collection of hazardous wastes from households and small quantity businesses.

County Hazardous Waste Material Incident Response Plan

The County of Orange has developed a comprehensive plan which establishes the County's response organization, command authority, responsibilities, functions and interactions required to mitigate hazardous substance emergency incidents affecting Orange County. The plan identifies local, state, and federal responsibilities designed to minimize damage to human health, natural systems, and property caused by the release of hazardous substances.

Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Element

The City of Yorba Linda participates in Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Element. Its participation includes working with the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) office. The goals for the plan include education, places for disposal, monitoring of



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regulation requirements and ultimately to significantly reduce disposal of household hazardous waste in solid waste landfills. The City of Yorba Linda supports these goals and assists the County with implementation.

Yorba Linda Source Reduction/Recycle Element

In compliance with AB 939, the City of Yorba Linda adopted a Source Reduction and Recycle Element, which is a separate document and not included in the General Plan. The Source Reduction component of the Element identifies specific objectives that are achievable, and, when possible, measurable and time specific. The objective of this component is to minimize the quantity of solid waste generated by targeting specific waste types.

The Recycling component of the Element identifies several programs that are aimed at increasing the recycling of waste. In addition to developing the programs, this Element describes programs to reduce waste, special disposal methods, and who is responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the programs.

Yorba Linda Emergency Response Plan

The Emergency Response Plan addresses the City's planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense operations. The plan does not apply to normal day-to-day emergencies. The Emergency Response Plan focuses on potentially large-scale disasters which can generate unique situations requiring unusual responses. Specifically, this includes emergencies which threaten life and property, and potentially impact the well-being of large numbers of people.



Public Health and Safety Element Policy Program

Goal PS-1

The City's highest priority shall be the protection of human life.

Policy PS-1.1 Prioritize the protection of residents of the City, workers at businesses within the City, and invited guests of residents or businesses within the City over the protection of other persons in the event of a conflict of goals and resources.

Policy PS-1.2 Coordinate all available resources, including regularly contracted services, City employees, and organized volunteer groups in the event of a disaster.

Policy PS-1.3 Ensure appropriate response to recognized natural and manmade disasters with a high probability of occurrence.

Goal PS-2

The protection of property shall be the second highest priority.

Policy PS-2.1 Prioritize the protection of private property within the City in the event of a

conflict of goals and resources.

Policy PS-2.2 Ensure all new development pays its share of costs and/or completes necessary improvements to mitigate impacts on existing infrastructure.

Policy PS-2.3 Review and evaluate existing traffic mitigation fees and develop new fees, if necessary, to fund the improvements identified in the General Plan in cooperation with other jurisdictions.

Policy PS-2.4 Proactively seek best practices in engineering and construction of structures to enhance occupant safety with particular emphasis on hazards identified by the City's disaster response plans.

Policy PS-2.5 Ensure that structures within very high fire zones include adequate fire sprinkler systems.

Goal PS-3

A community protected from hazards associated with geologic instability and seismic events.

Policy PS-3.1 Ensure stable soil and geologic conditions in the review of development



Yorba Linda General Plan

decisions, especially in regards to type of use, size of facility, and ease of evacuation of occupants.

Policy PS-3.2 Monitor known and potential geologic hazards in the City.

Policy PS-3.3 Mitigate the potential for landslides and seismic hazards in the engineering and construction of structures within the City.

Policy PS-3.4 Promote high standards for seismic performance of structures.

Policy PS-3.5 Promote the collection of relevant data on groundwater levels and soil types in regard to liquefaction susceptibility, landslide potential and subsidence risks.

Policy PS-3.6 Discourage the siting of habitable facilities and structures close to an active or potentially active fault.

Policy PS-3.7 Promote the use of earthquake survival and efficient post-disaster functioning in the siting, design and construction standards for structures and facilities.

Goal PS-4

Protect the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City from flood hazards.

Policy PS-4.1 Provide appropriate land use designations and regulations for areas subject to flooding.

Policy PS-4.2 Maintain natural drainage courses and keep them free of obstructions.

Goal PS-5

Protect the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City from wildfire hazards through preventative measures.

Policy PS-5.1 Reduce the risk for wildfires within the City.

Policy PS-5.2 Coordinate with the U.S. Forest Service, the Orange County Fire Authority, and private land owners to maintain landscape and provide buffers which will reduce the risk of wildfires.

Policy PS-5.3 Promote and support City programs aimed at reducing the risk of wildfires.

Policy PS-5.4 Educate the public as to the risks associated with wildfire hazards and promote wildfire reduction activities by residents.



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Goal PS-6

Community protection from hazards associated with fires and crime.

- Policy PS-6.1 Minimize the loss of life, damage to property, and the economic and social dislocations resulting from structural fires.
- Policy PS-6.2 Consult with the responsible agencies to ensure that fire, police, and emergency services concerns are considered in the review of planning and development proposals.
- Policy PS-6.3 Ensure that adequate police, fire, and emergency service facilities and personnel are maintained to provide service at sufficient levels.
- Policy PS-6.4 Promote public safety education programs in the City.
- Policy PS-6.5 Ensure that local streets and transportation corridors are sufficient in the event of fires within the City for safe evacuation.
- Policy PS-6.6 Ensure that local streets and transportation corridors have adequate capacity for safe evacuation when new development is constructed.

Goal PS-7

Availability and effective response of emergency services following a disastrous event within the City.

- Policy PS-7.1 Maintain the Emergency Response Plan that identifies all available resources and funds for use in the event of a disaster.
- Policy PS-7.2 Establish procedures and implementation actions for rescue efforts, medical efforts, emergency shelters, and provision of supplies.
- Policy PS-7.3 Coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies to reduce community risks in the event of a disaster.
- Policy PS-7.4 Provide for an Emergency Operations Center for use in the event of a disaster, based on an inter-agency communication system.

Goal PS-8

Protect public health, safety, and welfare and the environment from exposure to hazardous materials and waste.

- Policy PS-8.1 Establish planning procedures which consider the handling and transportation of hazardous materials and ensure that they are in accordance with



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applicable County, State and Federal regulations.

Policy PS-8.2 Discourage transportation of hazardous materials on residential streets and establish transportation routes for the conveyance of hazardous materials.

Policy PS-8.3 Support implementation of and continue with participation in the Orange County's Household Hazardous Waste Plan.

Goal PS-9

A community with opportunities for healthy living and wellness.

Policy PS-9.1 Explore opportunities to address public health concerns through City policies, projects, programs, and regulations.

Policy PS-9.2 Support programs to coordinate regional, county, and local agencies, including schools, medical facilities, and community centers to improve public health and well-being.



11. Public Services and Utilities Element

Introduction

The Public Services and Utilities Element provides policy guidance to ensure the City provides adequate services and infrastructure to support the needs of residents and businesses.

Authority and Scope

The State of California Government Code Section 65302(b) requires that the General Plan include, “local public utilities and facilities, all correlated with the land use element of the plan.”



Background

Exhibit PSU-1: Public Service Facilities, shows the location of the public service facilities which serve Yorba Linda.

Schools

The City of Yorba Linda is served by the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District in addition to numerous private schools. The District has a student enrollment of over 25,000 students and includes 20 elementary schools, five middle schools, a K-8 school, four comprehensive high schools, one special education school, one continuation high school, a K-12 home school, and an independent study high school.

Fire Protection Services

Fire protection for the City of Yorba Linda is currently provided by the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA). The OCFA is a regional fire service agency that serves 23 cities in Orange County and all unincorporated areas. The OCFA protects over 1,680,000 residents from its 71 fire stations located throughout Orange County. OCFA Reserve Firefighters work 10 stations throughout Orange County. *Table PSU-1: OCFA Fire Stations in Yorba Linda*, lists the three fire stations located in Yorba Linda.



Yorba Linda General Plan

Table PSU-1
OCFA Fire Stations in Yorba Linda

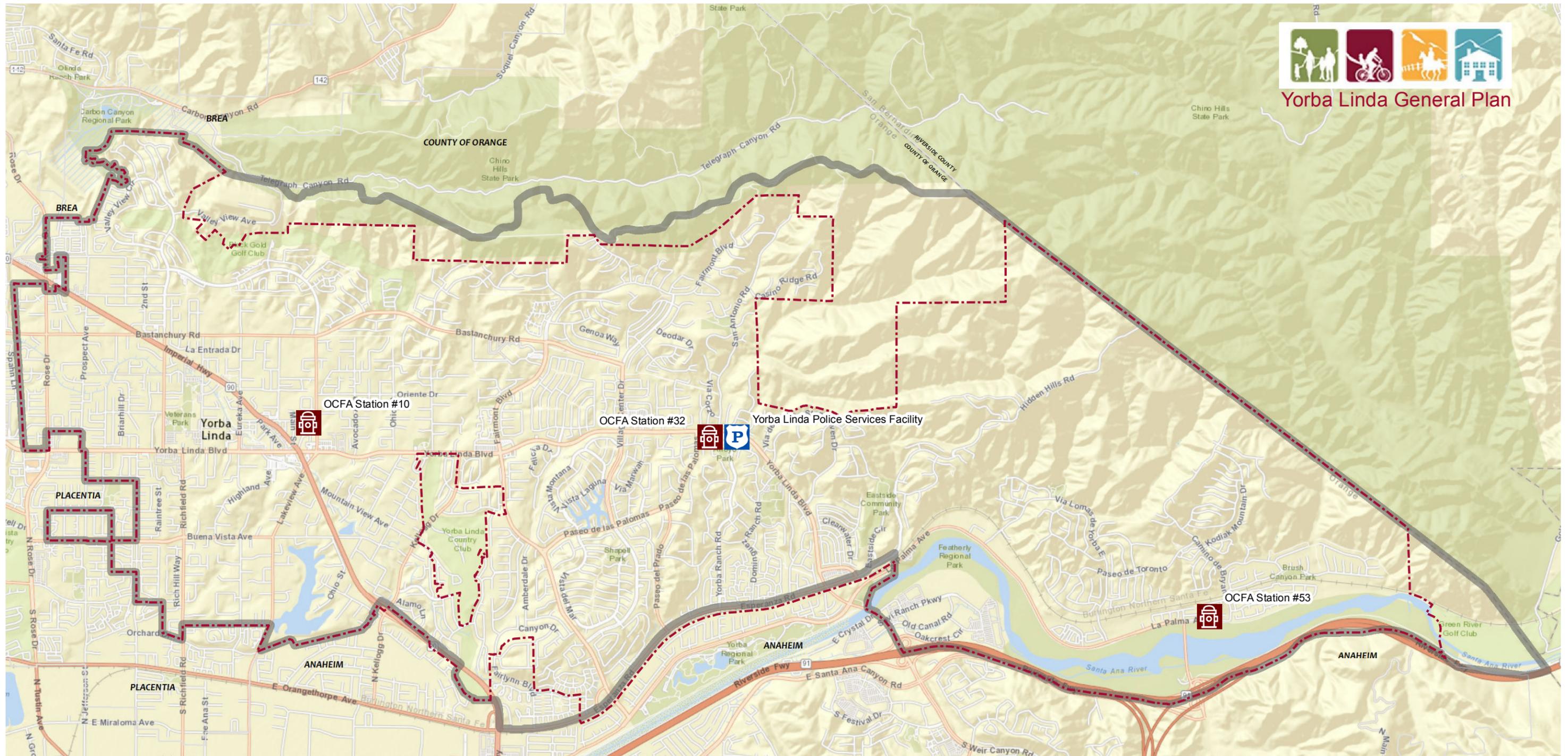
Fire Station	Location	Staffing	Apparatus
Station 53	25415 La Palma Avenue	3 fire captains 3 fire apparatus engineers 3 firefighters	Dozer 2 Engine 353 PAU Engine 53
Station 10	18422 E Lemon Drive	3 fire captains 3 fire apparatus engineers 6 firefighters	Medic Engine 10 Patrol 10
Station 32	20990 Yorba Linda Boulevard	3 fire captains 3 fire apparatus engineers 6 firefighters Reserve firefighters	Medic Engine 32 Patrol 32 Water Tender 32

Police Protection Services

The City of Yorba Linda currently contracts with the Orange County Sheriff's Department for Police Services. The Orange County Sheriff's Department is served by approximately 4,000 sworn and professional staff members and over 800 reserve personnel. For the City, the Sheriff's Department is responsible for providing protection of citizens, the enforcement of laws, apprehension of criminals, and crime prevention. Law enforcement services include patrol, general and special crime investigation, traffic enforcement, collision investigation, parking enforcement, and a crime prevention unit. A Sheriff's lieutenant is designated as the Chief of Police Services and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of law enforcement services in the City.



Yorba Linda General Plan



-  City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence
-  OCFA Station
-  Yorba Linda Police Services Facility



Public Service Facilities

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Water System

The City receives water service from both the Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) and the Golden State Water Company, which is a for-profit agency regulated by the Public Utilities Commission. YLWD is a ratepayer-owned, non-profit agency licensed by the California State Water Resources Control Board. YLWD is allowed to use wells to pump approximately 60-70 percent of demand from the Lower Santa Ana River Groundwater Basin and pays fees to the Orange County Water District. The remaining water demand is purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California through the Municipal Water District of Orange County. Groundwater is pumped from nine active wells located throughout the YLWD and imported water is treated at the Diemer Filtration Plant and is delivered to the YLWD system through four imported water connections.

Development projects are assessed fees for new water provision facilities by the YLWD to ensure that the water infrastructure in Yorba Linda is capable of meeting the demands of domestic and commercial water usage.

Wastewater System

The Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) maintains the sewer systems within the City. The YLWD owns and maintains nearly 150 miles of various diameter sewer pipes and one sewer lift station. Wastewater collected within the YLWD is delivered to the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) trunk sewer line for treatment and disposal. Wastewater flows by gravity to OCSD's Reclamation Plant No. 1, which is located in the City of Fountain Valley. The plant provides advanced primary and secondary



treatment and supplies secondary-treated water to the Orange County Water District which further treats and distributes the water for various uses, including groundwater recharge, and operation of an ocean water intrusion barrier system. Development projects are assessed fees for new sewer provision facilities by the YLWD.

Storm Drain System

In Yorba Linda, storm drains flow directly to local creeks and rivers, like the Santa Ana River, and eventually into the Pacific Ocean. Maintenance of the City's storm drain system is the responsibility of Yorba Linda's Department of Public Works. In addition to managing the day-to-day maintenance work, Public Works also designs and constructs new storm drain facilities as well as major capital improvements to existing facilities. Two important planning considerations in regards to storm drain



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systems are 1) ensuring adequate capacity to collect and carry storm water; and 2) working to reduce pollutants in storm water.

The 1972 Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program to regulate the discharge of pollutants from point sources, such as sewage treatment plants and industrial facilities, to the waters of the United States. The City of Yorba Linda participates in the NPDES permit program, which includes public education, regulatory requirements for existing and new development, increased inspections, monitoring, revision, and the adoption of more restrictive development standards.

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Public Services and Utilities Element Policy Program

Goal PSU-1

Maintenance and improvement of local school facilities that serve the City.

- Policy PSU-1.1 Work with the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District to properly serve the educational needs of Yorba Linda's school-age children.
- Policy PSU-1.2 Continue efforts to cooperatively resolve service demands for educational facilities.
- Policy PSU-1.3 Continue to monitor the impacts of new development and redevelopment on city-serving schools.

Goal PSU-2

A high level of fire protection services which adequately serves the community.

- Policy PSU-2.1 Ensure that adequate fire facilities and personnel are maintained by the County and contracted by the City to provide adequate service levels.

- Policy PSU-2.2 Work directly with fire protection agencies to annually assess fire protection services and to evaluate the adequacy of facilities and resources serving the City.

- Policy PSU-2.3 Use the development review process to assess the impact of new development on fire protection services and to ensure that increased demand for emergency services will be adequately served.

- Policy PSU-2.4 Ensure that existing and new developments maintain or exceed standards for fire prevention to minimize the risk of fire.

Goal PSU-3

A high level of police protection services which adequately serve the community and provide a sense of safety to residents.

- Policy PSU-3.1 Ensure that sufficient law enforcement facilities and personnel are maintained by the County and contracted by the City to provide adequate service levels.

- Policy PSU-3.2 Work directly with the law enforcement agencies to annually assess crime prevention and law



Yorba Linda General Plan

- enforcement services and to evaluate the adequacy of facilities and resources serving the City.
- Policy PSU-3.3 Use the development review process to assess the impact of new development on police protection services and to ensure that increased demand for emergency services will be adequately served.

Goal PSU-4

A strong sense of community and opportunities for the continuing education and entertainment of the community.

- Policy PSU-4.1 Continue to provide space for community activities and actively promote City events to the community.
- Policy PSU-4.2 Work with the Yorba Linda Library to ensure adequate facilities for the current and future population.
- Policy PSU-4.3 Support senior programs and services to serve the recreational needs of the City's senior population.

Goal PSU-5

Efficient, high-quality public infrastructure facilities and utility services throughout the City.

- Policy PSU-5.1 Support projects, programs, policies and regulations to ensure that development is appropriate in scale to current and planned infrastructure capabilities.
- Policy PSU-5.2 Work with the Yorba Linda Water District to ensure adequate wastewater facilities for all new developments.
- Policy PSU-5.3 Coordinate development with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to ensure completion of high-priority facility and infrastructure elements.
- Policy PSU-5.4 Provide storm drainage in accordance with best management practices and all adopted plans. Assess the system's ability to accommodate current and future users and include all necessary improvements in development plans.
- Policy PSU-5.5 Identify and improve areas experiencing localized storm drainage problems for storm drain improvements.
- Policy PSU-5.6 Promote and coordinate efforts with utilities for the undergrounding of existing and new utility distribution lines in accordance with current rules and



regulations of the California
Public Utilities Commission.

Goal PSU-6

An adequate, safe, and reliable water supply.

- Policy PSU-6.1 Support regional and local efforts to ensure that an adequate water supply, including groundwater, remains available.
- Policy PSU-6.2 Support regional and local efforts to promote water efficiency and conservation.
- Policy PSU-6.3 Promote water efficient practices in site and building design for public and private projects.
- Policy PSU-6.4 Work with the Yorba Linda Water District to ensure adequate water supply for all new developments.



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12. Noise Element

Introduction

The Noise Element provides goals and policies to protect local citizens from the harmful effects of excessive exposure to noise. Physical health, psychological stability, social cohesion, property values, and economic productivity are factors affected by excessive amounts of noise. Noise, as it has been simply defined, is “unwanted sound,” and is an undesirable by-product of activities within the community that permeates the environment and causes disturbance.



To protect citizens from excessive exposure to noise, the Noise Element examines noise sources in the City to identify and appraise the potential for noise conflicts and problems. Existing and future noise environments and the compatibility of land uses are considered in the Element, as well as sensitive receptors and generators of stationary noise. The Noise Element further identifies ways to reduce existing and potential noise impacts.

Authority and Scope

The Noise Element recognizes the land use compatibility guidelines established by the State Department of Health Services. The California Government Code Section 65302(f) requires a General plan include:

A noise element that shall identify and appraise noise problems in the community. The noise element shall analyze and quantify, to the extent practicable, as determined by the legislative body, current and projected noise levels for all of the following sources:

- a) *Highways and freeways*
- b) *Primary arterials and major local streets.*
- c) *Passenger and freight online railroad operations and ground rapid transit systems.*
- d) *Commercial, general aviation, helicopter, helistop, and military airport operations, aircraft overflights, jet engine test stands and all other ground facilities and maintenance functions related to airport operation.*
- e) *Local industrial plants, including, but not limited to, railroad classification yards.*
- f) *Other ground stationary noise sources, including, but not limited to, military installations, identified by local agencies as contributing to the community noise environment.*



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Existing Setting

Acoustic Fundamentals

Noise is generally defined as sound that is loud, disagreeable, or unexpected. Sound is mechanical energy transmitted in the form of a wave because of a disturbance or vibration. Sound levels are described in terms of both amplitude and frequency.

Amplitude

Amplitude is defined as the difference between ambient air pressure and the peak pressure of the sound wave. Amplitude is measured in decibels (dB) on a logarithmic scale. For example, a 65 dB source of sound, such as a truck, when joined by another 65 dB source results in a sound amplitude of 68 dB, not 130 dB (i.e., doubling the source strength increases the sound pressure by 3 dB). Amplitude is interpreted by the ear as corresponding to different degrees of loudness. Laboratory measurements correlate a 10 dB increase in amplitude with a perceived doubling of loudness and establish a 3 dB change in amplitude as the minimum audible difference perceptible to the average person.

Frequency

The frequency of a sound is defined as the number of fluctuations of the pressure wave per second. The unit of frequency is the Hertz (Hz). One Hz equals one cycle per second. The human ear is not equally sensitive to sound of different frequencies. For instance, the human ear is more sensitive to sound in the higher portion of this range than in the lower and sound waves below 16 Hz or above 20,000 Hz cannot be heard at all. To approximate the sensitivity of the human ear to changes in frequency, environmental sound is usually measured in what is referred to as "A-weighted decibels" (dBA). On this scale, the normal range of human hearing extends from about 10 dBA to about 140 dBA.

Human Response to Noise

The human response to environmental noise is subjective and varies considerably from individual to individual. Noise in the community has often been cited as a health problem, not in terms of actual physiological damage, such as hearing impairment, but in terms of inhibiting general well-being and contributing to undue stress and annoyance. The health effects of noise in the community arise from interference with human activities, including sleep, speech, recreation, and tasks that demand concentration or coordination. Hearing loss can occur at the highest noise intensity levels. When community noise interferes with human activities or contributes to stress, public annoyance with the noise source increases. The acceptability of noise and the threat to public well-being are the basis for land use planning policies preventing exposure to excessive community noise levels.



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Existing Noise Environment

Short-term (10-minute) noise level measurements were conducted on May 3, 2016 for the purpose of documenting and measuring the existing noise environment at various locations throughout the City. Measurement locations were selected near major noise sources located in the vicinity of proposed focus areas and other locations within the community. Noise measurement locations are depicted on *Exhibit N-1: Noise Measurement Locations*.

Noise Sensitive Land Uses

Noise-sensitive land uses are generally considered to include those uses that would result in noise exposure that could cause health-related risks to individuals. Places where quiet is essential are also considered noise-sensitive uses. Residential dwellings are of primary concern because of the potential for increased and prolonged exposure of individuals to both interior and exterior noise levels. Other land uses such as libraries, places of worship, and recreation areas are also considered noise-sensitive land uses.

Noise-sensitive land uses within the City of Yorba Linda consist predominantly of residential land uses. Other noise-sensitive land uses located within the City of Yorba Linda include schools, places of worship, and community parks.

Noise Sources

Surface Transportation Sources

Roadway Vehicular Traffic

Noise from vehicular traffic on area roadways is a primary source of ambient noise in the City. Major sources of noise include the California State Route 91 (SR-91), Imperial Highway and Yorba Linda Boulevard.

Railroad Traffic

The BNSF Railroad main line is generally located along the City's southern boundary. Roughly 60 freight trains travel along this corridor over a 24-hour period. The number of freight trains and hours of operation can vary depending on market demands. Approximately 25 Metrolink and two Amtrak trains also utilize this rail corridor on a daily basis. Approximately 76 percent of passenger train traffic along this corridor occurs during the daytime hours, between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. As a result, average-daily noise levels along this rail corridor are largely dominated by freight trains.



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Train noise events can be a source of intermittent noise, including noise generated by locomotive engines, wheel squeal, and warning horns. These instantaneous noise events can contribute to increased levels of annoyance to occupants of nearby noise-sensitive land uses. To partially mitigate noise produced by trains on surrounding land uses, a barrier has been constructed along the Esperanza Road, between Yorba Linda Boulevard at the eastern extent to the City's western boundary near Echo Hill Lane. However, the proposed Fairlynn County Island and East Gateway Focus areas are largely unshielded from train noise.

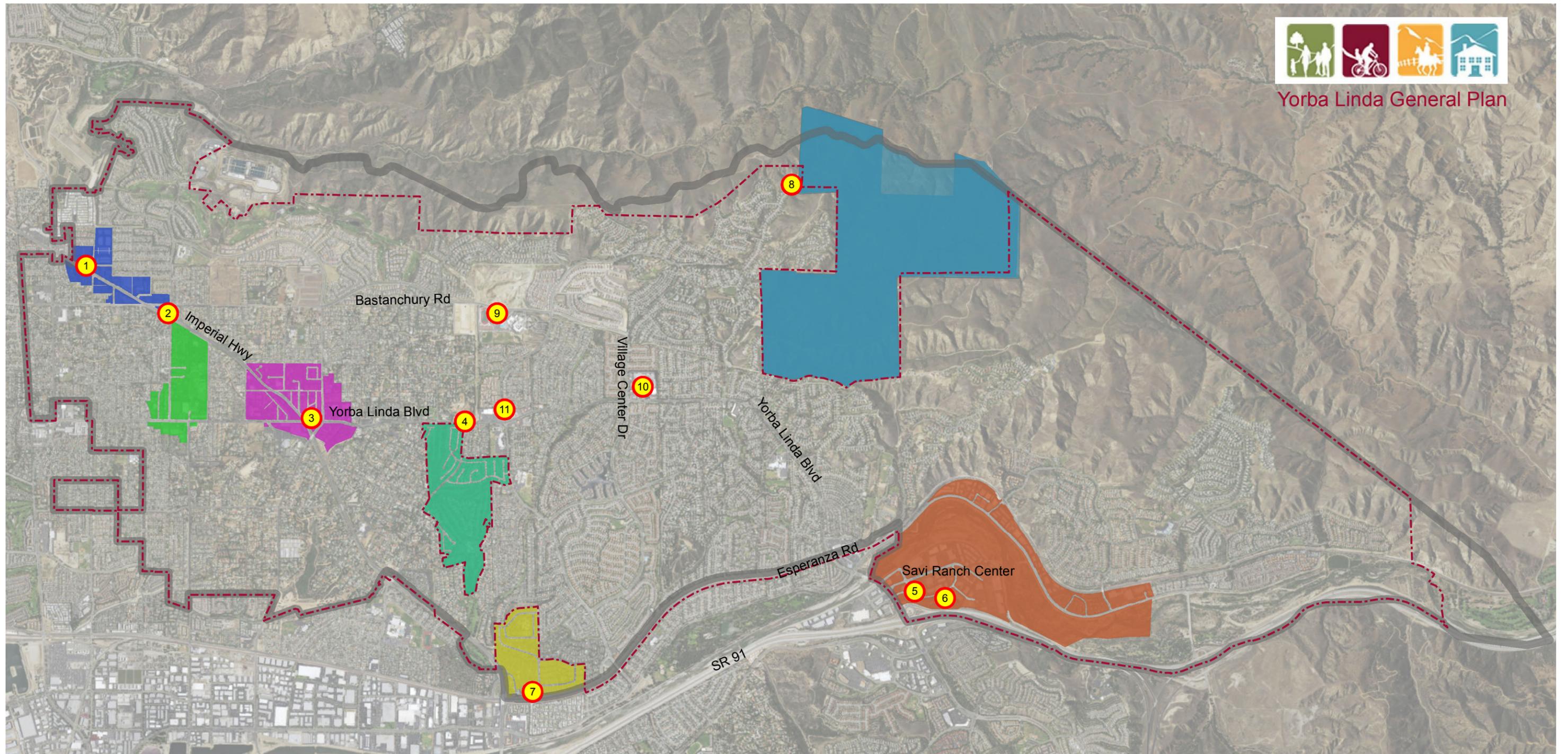
Aircraft Overflights

There are no airports or airfields located within the City. The nearest airports include the City of Fullerton's Municipal Airport, located roughly 7 miles to the west, the LA/Ontario International Airport located roughly 12 miles to the northeast, and the El Monte Airport located approximately 16 miles to the northwest. The Riverside Municipal Airport is located roughly 17 miles to the east. However, although no airports or airfields are located in the City, noise generated by aircraft overflights may be noticeable, particularly during the quieter nighttime hours. In addition, helicopter overflights may also contribute to intermittent increases in ambient noise levels. Intermittent noise events associated with aircraft overflight may result in increases in annoyance and potential sleep disruption to occupants of nearby residential dwellings.

Stationary Sources

From a land-use planning perspective, stationary-source noise control issues focus on two goals: (1) preventing the introduction of new noise-producing uses in noise-sensitive areas; and (2) preventing encroachment of noise-sensitive uses upon existing noise-producing facilities. The first goal can be achieved by applying noise performance standards to proposed new noise producing uses. The second goal can be met by requiring that new noise-sensitive uses near noise-producing facilities include mitigation measures to ensure compliance with noise performance standards. Each of these goals stresses the importance of avoiding the location of new uses that may be incompatible with adjoining uses.

Within the City of Yorba Linda, non-transportation noise sources are predominantly associated with commercial and light industrial activities. Depending on the type of operation, noise sources associated with commercial and industrial activities may include mechanical equipment, loading and unloading of vehicles and trucks, as well as amplified or unamplified communications. To a lesser extent, stationary sources of noise may also include common building or home mechanical equipment, such as air conditioners, ventilation systems, or pool pumps. These noise sources can be continuous or intermittent and may contain tonal components that are annoying to individuals who live nearby. Noise generated by stationary sources are often directional and can vary depending on various factors, including site conditions, distance from source, shielding provided by intervening terrain and structures, and ground attenuation rates.



Noise Measurement Locations

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Construction Activities

Construction noise typically occurs intermittently and varies depending upon the nature or phase (e.g., demolition/land clearing, grading and excavation, erection) of construction. Noise generated by construction equipment, including pile drivers, material handling equipment, pavers, jackhammers, and portable generators, can result in intermittent and prolonged increases in ambient noise levels. Although construction noise impacts are generally short-term, they can result in increased levels of annoyance to occupants of nearby residential dwellings. Noise-generating construction activities are currently regulated through implementation of the City's Noise Control ordinance, which generally limits these activities to the less noise-sensitive daytime hours.

Related Plans and Programs

Federal

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

In 1974, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Noise Abatement and Control published a report entitled Information on Levels of Environmental Noise Requisite to Protect Public Health and Welfare with an Adequate Margin of Safety. Although this document does not constitute EPA regulations or standards, it is useful in identifying noise levels at which increased levels of annoyance would be anticipated. Based on an annual-average day-night noise level (expressed as Ldn or DNL), the document states that "undue interference with activity and annoyance" will not occur if outdoor noise levels in residential areas are below 55 dBA Ldn and indoor levels are below 45 dBA Ldn (EPA 1974).

Department of Housing and Urban Development

The Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines for the acceptability of residential land uses are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 24, Part 51, "Environmental Criteria and Standards." These guidelines identify a noise exposure of 65 dBA Ldn, or less, as acceptable. Exterior noise levels of 65 to 75 dBA Ldn are considered normally acceptable, provided appropriate sound attenuation is provided to reduce interior noise levels to within acceptable levels. Exterior noise levels above 75 dBA Ldn are considered unacceptable. The goal of the interior noise levels for residential, hotel, and hospital/nursing home uses is 45 dBA Ldn. These guidelines apply only to new construction supported by HUD grants and are not binding upon local communities.

State

California Building Code

Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations contains standards for allowable interior noise levels associated with exterior noise sources (California Building Code, 1998 edition, Volume 1, Appendix Chapter 12, Section 1208A). The standards apply to new hotels, motels, dormitories, apartment houses,



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and dwellings other than detached single-family residences. The standards state that the interior noise level attributable to exterior sources shall not exceed 45 dBA CNEL in any habitable room. Proposed multi-family residential structures to be located where the CNEL exceeds 60 dBA shall require an acoustical analysis showing that the proposed building design would achieve the prescribed allowable interior noise standard.



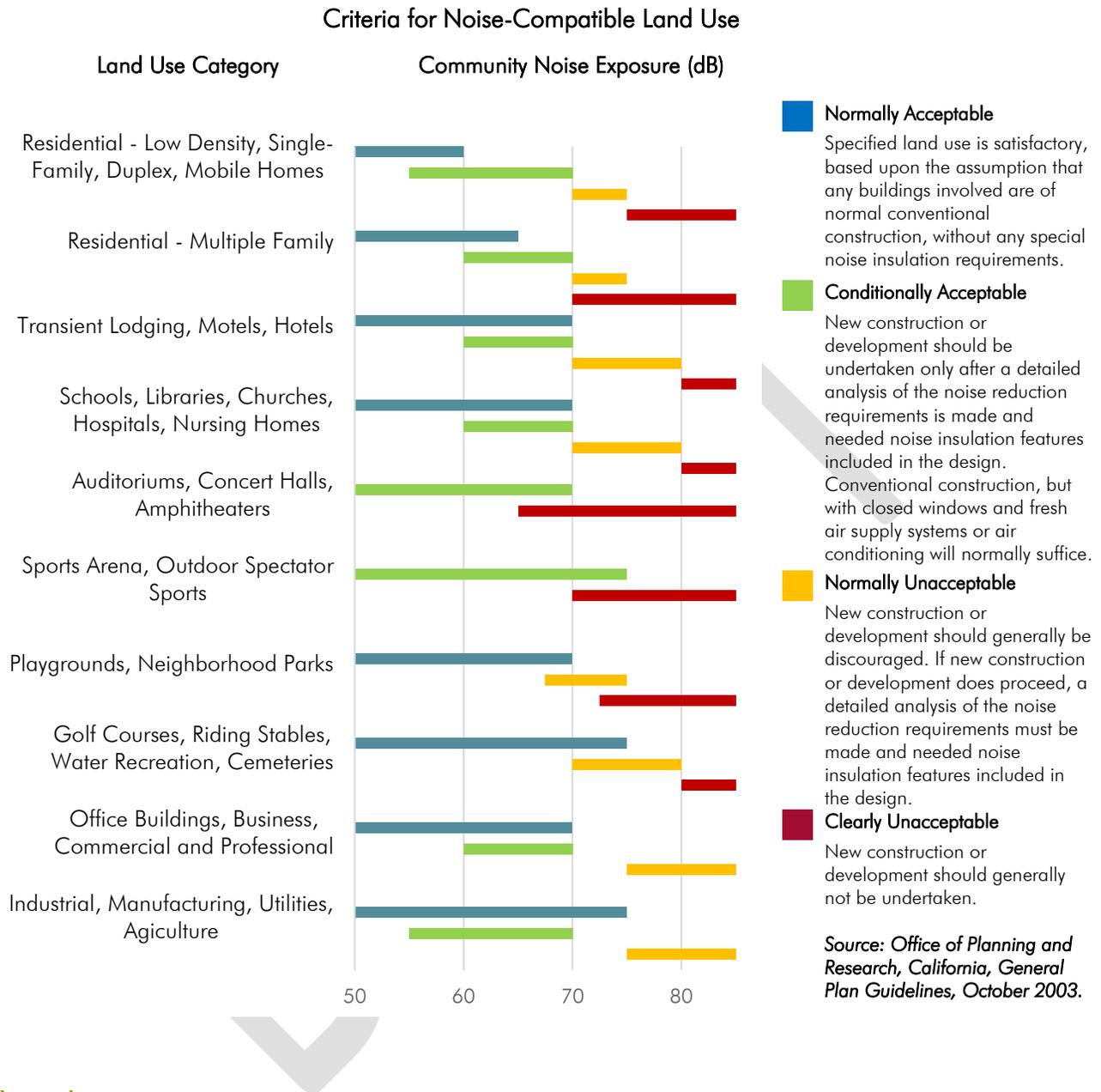
State of California General Plan Guidelines

The State of California General Plan Guidelines (State of California 2003), published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), also provides guidance for the acceptability of projects within specific noise environments. Based on these guidelines, residential uses, churches, libraries, and hospitals are "normally unacceptable" in areas where the exterior noise level exceeds 70 dBA

CNEL and "conditionally acceptable" within exterior noise environments between 60 and 70 dBA CNEL. Noise levels of up to 60 dBA CNEL are considered "normally acceptable". The goal of these noise standards is, in part, to allow for a "normally acceptable" interior noise level of 45 dBA CNEL. For instance, assuming an average exterior-to-interior noise reduction of 15 dBA (with windows partially open), an exterior noise level of 60 dBA CNEL, or less, would be sufficient to achieve an interior noise level of 45 dBA CNEL. Higher exterior noise levels may be allowed provided that noise-reduction measures are incorporated to achieve acceptable interior noise levels. Within "conditionally acceptable" exterior noise environments, conventional construction with incorporation of fresh air circulation systems sufficient to allow windows to remain closed would normally suffice. Compliance with current building code requirements and with windows closed, exterior-to-interior noise reductions typically average approximately 25 dBA or more. However, the state stresses that these guidelines can be modified to reflect communities' sensitivities to noise. Adjustment factors may also be used in order to arrive at noise acceptability standards that reflect the noise control goals of the community, the particular community's sensitivity to noise, and the community's assessment of the relative importance of noise pollution. The State recommended noise criteria for land use compatibility are summarized in following Criteria for Noise-Compatible Land Use table summarizes the suggested use of the CNEL/L_{dn} metrics for evaluating land use noise compatibility as outlined in the Governor's Office of Planning and Research General Plan Guidelines.



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Local

City of Yorba Linda General Plan Noise Element

The existing Noise Element of the City of Yorba Linda General Plan (1993) includes noise standards intended to ensure compatibility of proposed land uses within exterior noise environments and that noise levels at adjacent land uses do not exceed acceptable levels. These standards are also designed to protect existing land uses, including transportation and industry, from encroaching urban uses.



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City of Yorba Linda Municipal Code

The City of Yorba Linda Municipal Code (Title 8, Health & Safety, Chapter 8.32, Noise Control) includes various provisions intended to protect community residents from prolonged unnecessary, excessive, and annoying sound levels that are detrimental to the public health, welfare, and safety, or are contrary to the public interest. Examples of noise sources subject to the City’s municipal Code include, but are not limited to, industrial and commercial machinery and equipment, pumps, fans, compressors, generators, air conditioners and refrigeration equipment. Section 8.32.060 of the City’s noise ordinance establishes exterior noise standards for noise-sensitive land uses, which include residential areas, hospitals, schools, and churches. These exterior noise standards are summarized in the following **Table N-1: Municipal Code Exterior Noise Standards**. In addition, Section 8.32.070 establishes interior noise standards for residential uses, which are summarized in **Table N-2: Municipal Code Interior Noise Standards for Residential Uses**.

Table N-1 Municipal Code Exterior Noise Standards	
Time Period	Noise Standards (dBA)
7 a.m. – 10 p.m.	55
10 p.m. – 7 a.m.	50
<p>The following exterior standards shall not exceed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.The noise standard for a cumulative period of more than thirty minutes in any hour; 2.The noise standard plus five dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than fifteen minutes in any hour; 3.The noise standard plus ten dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than five minutes in any hour; 4.The noise standard plus fifteen dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than one minute in any hour; or 5.The noise standard plus twenty dB(A) for any period of time. <p>In the event the ambient noise level exceeds any of the five noise limit categories stated in subsection B of this section, the cumulative period applicable to said category shall be increased to reflect said ambient noise level. Furthermore, the maximum permissible noise level shall never exceed the maximum ambient noise level.</p> <p>Each of the noise limits specified in this section shall be reduced by five dB(A) for impact or simple tone noises or for noises consisting of speech or music.</p> <p>Source: City of Yorba Linda 2016</p>	

Table N-2 Municipal Code Interior Noise Standards for Residential Uses	
Time Period	Noise Standards (dBA)
10 p.m. – 7 a.m.	45
<p>The following interior standards shall not exceed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forty-five dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than five minutes in any hour; 2. Fifty dB(A) for a cumulative period of more than one minute in any hour; or 3. Fifty-five dB(A) for any period of time. <p>In the event that the ambient noise level exceeds any of the above three noise limit categories, the cumulative period applicable to said category shall be increased to reflect said ambient noise level. Furthermore, the maximum permissible noise level shall never exceed the maximum ambient noise level.</p> <p>Source: City of Yorba Linda 2016</p>	



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Noise sources associated with construction-related activities are typically exempt provided the activities do not take place between the hours of eight p.m. and seven a.m. on weekdays, including Saturday, or at any time on Sunday or federal holidays. Various other activities are also exempt, including, but not limited to, school entertainment and athletic events, mobile sources associated with agricultural activities, and emergency response activities.

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Noise Element Policy Program

reducing or minimizing potential noise impacts.

Goal N-1

Indoor and outdoor living areas that are adequately protected from excessive transportation noise impacts.

- Policy N-1.1 Ensure existing transportation noise sources comply with the City’s noise ordinance.
- Policy N-1.2 Consider appropriate technologies to mitigate excessive noise levels where necessary or where feasible.
- Policy N-1.3 Ensure noise mitigation measures are clearly articulated and implemented prior to the approval of new roadway projects.
- Policy N-1.4 Ensure potentially excessive noise generators provide for the highest feasible level of noise mitigation and compliance with local, state, and federal noise standards.
- Policy N-1.5 Promote alternative transportation modes such as walking, bicycling, equestrian transportation, and transit to contribute to

Goal N-2

Noise and land use compatibility.

- Policy N-2.1 Ensure compliance with the City’s established noise thresholds for various land uses.
- Policy N-2.2 Ensure compliance with the City’s established noise thresholds for noise sensitive receptors, land uses, and activities.
- Policy N-2.3 Ensure noise producing land uses and activities are designed and located to consider impacts to adjacent uses and activities.

Goal N-3

Mitigate noise impacts from non-transportation sources.

- Policy N-3.1 Ensure compliance with standards and procedures for mitigating construction-related activities that introduce excessive noise levels.
- Policy N-3.2 Promote coordination among City agencies involved in noise abatement.



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Goal N-4

Project approvals that include conditions to mitigate noise impacts.

- Policy N-4.1 Consider noise impacts in the siting, design, and construction of new development to minimize noise impacts.
- Policy N-4.2 Consider alternative architectural layouts as a means of meeting noise requirements.
- Policy N-4.3 Consider a combination of noise barriers, landscape berms, and architectural design treatments when needed to mitigate noise impacts.
- Policy N-4.5 Consider measures which alter, prohibit or mitigate noise generating uses through site design.



13. Growth Management Element

Introduction

The Growth Management Element provides a framework to guide growth and development based upon the City's ability to provide an adequate circulation system and public facilities. Planning and provision of mobility improvements, public services, and public facilities are important considerations for orderly and sustainable growth and development to occur. Given the broad scope of the Growth Management Element, many related goals



and policies are addressed elsewhere in the General Plan, particularly the Land Use, Circulation, Public Services, and Public Health and Safety elements.

Authority and Scope

This Element is not required per California Government Code Section 65302; however, as growth management is of importance to the community, it is prepared as an optional element per California Government Code Section 65303.

Legislative Context

Measure M

Since 1991, Measure M has been an important aspect behind traffic congestion relief in Orange County. Measure M is the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements first approved by Orange County voters in 1990, and renewed by voters for a 30-year extension in 2006. The combined measures raise the sales tax in Orange County by one-half cent through 2041 to help alleviate traffic congestion.

Revenue generated by both measures is returned to local jurisdictions for use on local and regional transportation improvements and maintenance projects. To receive Measure M funds, the city must submit to OCTA a statement of compliance with the Countywide Growth Management components that are summarized below.

1. Adoption of a Growth Management Element that includes
 - Traffic level of service standards
 - A development mitigation program
 - A development phasing and annual monitoring program
2. Participation in inter-jurisdictional planning forums



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3. Development of a seven-year capital improvement program
4. Assessment of housing options and job opportunities
5. Adoption of a Transportation Demand Management Ordinance

Measure M1

Under the first Measure M program (M1), more than \$4 billion worth of transportation improvements for Orange County were achieved, including the widening of State Route 22 (SR-22). As a result, M1 was responsible for adding 192 freeway lane miles, improving 170 intersections and 38 freeway interchanges, and implementing Metrolink service in Orange County, which now carries the equivalent of one lane of traffic on Interstate 5 (I-5).

Measure M2

In 2006, voters approved a continuation of transportation improvements through the Measure M Transportation Investment Plan (M2). The renewed measure plans to deliver approximately \$15.5 billion worth of transportation improvements to Orange County by the year 2041. Major improvement plans focus on Orange county freeways, streets and roads, transit and environmental programs. Measure M2 no longer requires Orange County jurisdictions to prepare a Growth Management Element to comply with program requirements, the City of Yorba Linda has amended its 1993 Growth Management Element to continue its commitment to balance local growth with the ability of the local roadway system to support it.

Proposition 111

In 1990, the California Legislature enacted the Congestion Management Program (CMP) to implement Proposition 111, a state-wide transportation funding proposal that required local governments to implement mitigation measures to offset the impacts from new development on the regional transportation system.

The program required, among other things, that every county designate a congestion management agency, which in turn would designate a regional roadway network for monitoring purposes and develop a plan to address deficiencies in levels of service on the network. OCTA is the designated congestion management agency (CMA) for Orange County and is responsible for the conformance monitoring and biennial updating of Orange County's CMP.

Many of the Proposition 111 requirements are the same or similar to the requirements of Measure M, such as requirements to include traffic level of service (LOS) standards and a seven-year capital improvement program.



Growth Management Element Policy Program

Goal GM-1

Adequate infrastructure and public services provided to areas within the City limits and, if determined appropriate, to areas outside City limits and within its sphere of influence.

Policy GM-1.1 Ensure that new development pays its share of the costs of public facilities and services needed to serve new residents.

Policy GM-1.2 Collaborate with adjacent jurisdictions to ensure that infrastructure and public services are provided in a timely and high-quality manner.

Policy GM-1.3 Promote the establishment of development phasing plans for new development within the City corresponding to required improvements.

Goal GM-2

Reduced traffic congestion.

Policy GM-2.1 Maintain a Level of Service "D" or better along all City arterials and at intersections during peak hours.

Policy GM-2.2 Ensure that new development pays its fair share of street improvement costs associated with local and regional traffic mitigation.

Policy GM-2.3 Integrate land use and transportation planning to provide adequate transportation system service standards.

Policy GM-2.4 Adopt and maintain a seven-year CIP in conformance with the provisions of Measure M for the purpose of maintaining the LOS standards established in this Element.

Policy GM-2.5 Maintain consistency with OCTA Congestion Management Plan and Master Plan of Arterial Highways pursuant to the requirement of state law to continue to receive State gasoline sales tax revenues.



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