

Chapter 1. Introduction

HOW THE GENERAL PLAN SERVES SAN BERNARDINO

State law requires every city in California to adopt a comprehensive, long-term General Plan. The general plan represents the community’s view of its future and can be thought of as the blueprint for a city’s growth and development. City councils, planning commissions, and boards use the goals and policies of the general plan as a basis on which to make their land use, circulation, safety, and environmental decisions.

The general plan is considered “comprehensive” since it covers the territory within the boundaries of the city and any areas outside of its boundaries that relate to its planning activities (sphere of influence). It is also comprehensive in that it addresses a wide variety of issues that characterize a city. These issues range from the physical development of the jurisdiction, such as general locations, timing, and extent of land uses and supporting infrastructure, to social concerns such as those identified in the housing element regarding housing affordability.

The general plan is considered “long-term” since it looks 20 years into the future. The general plan projects conditions and needs into the future as a basis for determining long-term objectives and policies for day-to-day decision-making.

The City of San Bernardino’s General Plan is guided by a Vision Statement and Key Strategies, which describe the basic direction of the policies contained in this Plan and represent the community’s view of its future. The Vision and Key Strategies also act as a yardstick against which initiatives and proposals can be measured to determine if they are or are not in concert with the future direction of the City.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO

History

Since its founding in 1854, San Bernardino has become a vibrant community with an unusual array of features, including:

- ◆ Significant educational institutions in California State University, San Bernardino and San Bernardino Valley College;
- ◆ Major transportation facilities such as the San Bernardino International Airport and Trade Center, the Santa Fe Depot, railroad facilities, Interstates 10 and 215, and State Routes 66, 18, and 30;
- ◆ Major recreational facilities such as the National Orange Show, the San Bernardino Mountains, Arrowhead Springs, the Arrowhead Credit Union Park, and regional soccer fields;
- ◆ A diverse downtown that contains local, county, state, and federal governmental facilities, professional offices, service, retail, and entertainment uses, and residential uses;
- ◆ An array of residential neighborhoods of varying ages, product types, and affordability;

...all situated in a remarkable setting between the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains and the Santa Ana River.

This setting is most likely what inspired the earliest settlers to inhabit the San Bernardino Valley. It is believed that the earliest settlers were Native Americans who may have settled along the Santa Ana River as early as 8000 BC. The setting also inspired the Spanish missionaries, who began to settle the region in the late-eighteenth century. The first Spanish mission in the valley was established on May 20, 1810 by Father Dumetz, a Franciscan missionary, who named the rancho mission "San Bernardino" after Saint Bernardino of Siena, the patron saint of the day on the Catholic Calendar.

In 1852, a group of Mormons purchased the 40,000-acre San Bernardino Rancho and established a thriving community with schools, stores, a network of roads, and a strong government. The City of San Bernardino incorporated in 1854 with a population of 1,200. Gold was discovered in Holcomb Valley in 1862 and the population increased with the influx of prospectors.

In the late 19th century, the Santa Fe, the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific railroads made San Bernardino the hub of their Southern California operations, transforming the City into an enterprising center of commerce. Competition between the railroads set off a rate war, which brought



The official seal and logo of the City of San Bernardino depicts symbols of our identity including the San Bernardino Mountains, the famous Arrowhead landmark, as well as symbols of our favorable climate.



A view of the San Bernardino Mountains, in which the famous Arrowhead Springs Hotel and the Arrowhead landmark can be seen in the right-hand side of the picture.

thousands of newcomers to California in the great land boom of the 1880's. When the Santa Fe Railway established a transcontinental link in 1886, the valley's population exploded, going from 6,150 in 1900 to 12,779 in 1910.

San Bernardino's core slowly intensified and development slowly spread outward. To the west of the core, transportation related industries developed around the Santa Fe rail yard. Residential development during the late nineteenth century spread from the downtown commercial district northward along E Street toward the Shandin Hills. Several annexations added to the City's boundaries, significantly the inclusions of Norton Airforce Base, now known as the San Bernardino International Airport and Trade Center.

Location and Boundaries

As shown on Figure I-1, the City of San Bernardino is located approximately 60 miles east of the City of Los Angeles in the upper Santa Ana River Valley. This valley is framed by the San Bernardino Mountains on the northeast and east, the Blue Mountains and the Box Springs Mountains abutting the Cities of Loma Linda and Redlands to the south, and the San Gabriel Mountains and the Jurupa Hills to the northwest and southwest, respectively.

San Bernardino is surrounded by the Cities of Rialto to the west, Colton to the southwest, Loma Linda to the south, Redlands to the southeast, Highland to the east, and the San Bernardino National Forest to the north.

As shown on Figure I-2, the City of San Bernardino encompasses an area that stretches from the 10 Freeway on the south to the Cajon Creek Wash and the San Bernardino Mountains on the north. The City's total planning area is 45,231 acres, or 71 square miles. This includes 38,402 acres, or 60 square miles, of incorporated territory and 6,829 acres, or 11 square miles, of unincorporated lands within the City's Sphere of Influence.

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Regional Location



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City Boundaries and Sphere of Influence

-  City Boundary
-  Sphere of Influence Boundary

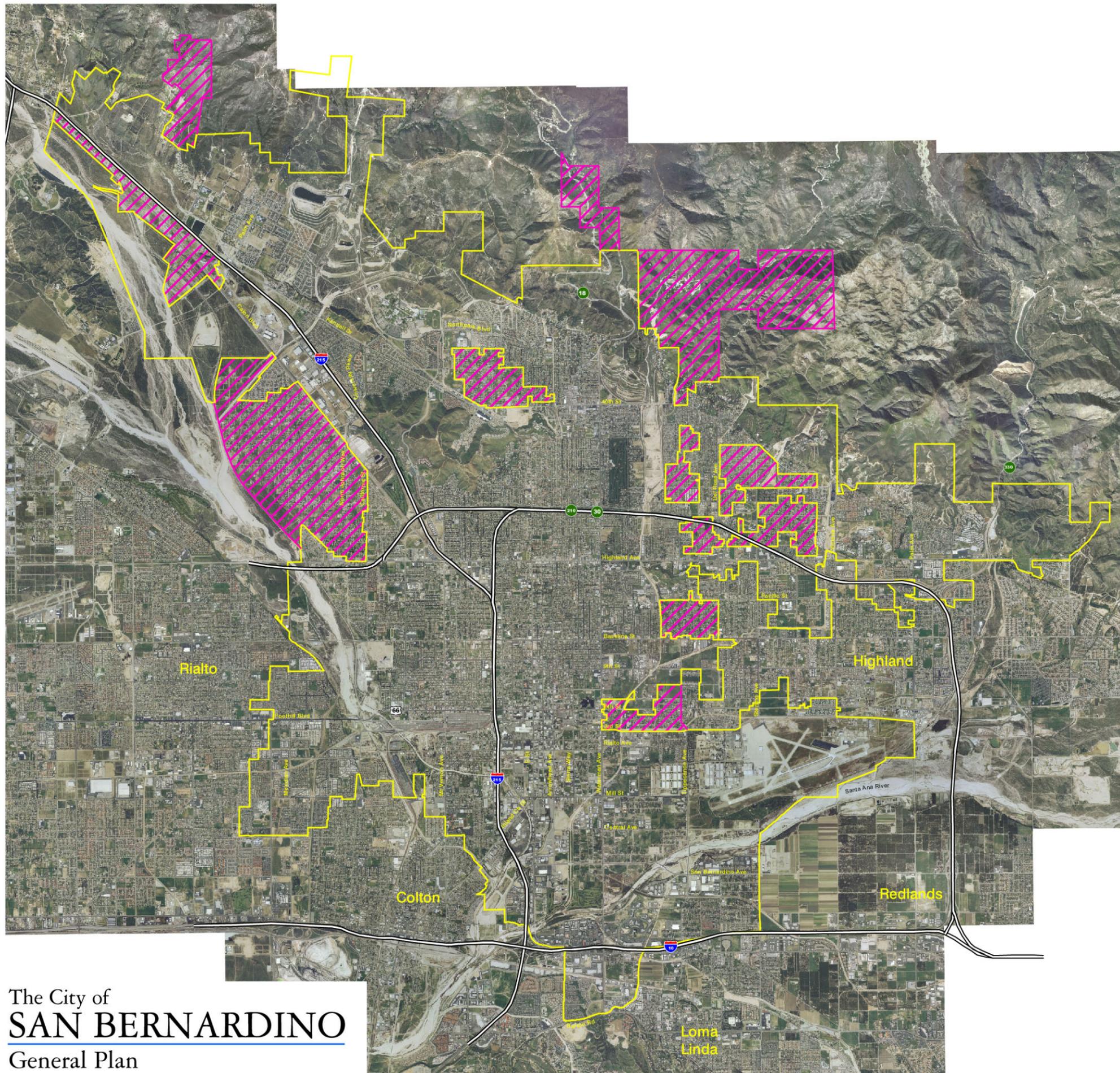
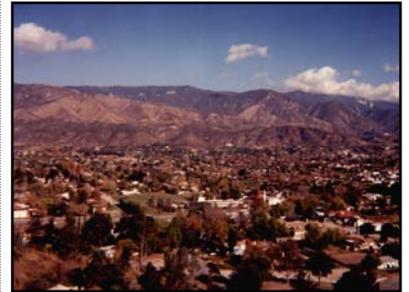


Figure I-2

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The unincorporated County “islands” within the City and the lands adjacent to the City considered by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to represent San Bernardino’s “probable ultimate physical boundaries and service area” (Sphere of Influence) are depicted in Figure I-2. Generally, these include the Muscoy area south of Cable Creek, Cajon Creek Wash area to the north to the Interstate 15-215 interchange, East Twin Creek Wash area, and unincorporated County islands in the eastern and southeastern portions of the community.

Due to its location, San Bernardino is situated as a gateway to the mountain resorts. This gateway role affects the City’s image in subtle ways. Many place and street names (e.g., Highland Avenue, Foothill Boulevard, Base Line Street, Arrowhead Avenue, and Piedmont Drive) are derived from the mountainside location. Freeway exit signs direct motorists to exits leading to “Mountain Resorts.” San Bernardino is also a gateway to southern California due to its proximity to the Cajon Pass, a major natural entry from the high deserts and points east. The historic development of San Bernardino as a transportation hub is directly related to the proximity to the Cajon Pass (railroad lines, Santa Fe rail depot, U.S. Route 66, Interstate 215, etc.).



A view of the San Bernardino Mountains from Kendall Hill.

ABOUT THIS PLAN

Authority

California State law (Government Code Section 65300) requires that each city prepare and adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan that addresses, at a minimum: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety. In addition, it permits the inclusion of optional elements that address specific needs and objectives of the City. The content of San Bernardino’s General Plan area is described in the following section.

General Plan Structure

As a basis for understanding this Plan, it is necessary to understand the basic structure of the General Plan. The General Plan is structured like a pyramid in the following manner:

Vision. The Vision and Key Strategies express the future aspirations and desires of San Bernardino. The Vision is the broadest level of direction in the General Plan and describes the important characteristics that will define San Bernardino in the future.

Topic. The Topic describes the general theme of the Goal(s) and Policies that address it.

Goals. Goals describe a broad direction that addresses a particular aspect of the Vision toward which Policies and Implementation Measures and Strategies are directed.

Policies. Policies describe a process or a particular course of action to achieve the Goal and Vision. In some cases, as in the land use element, standards for various land use designations also represent a type of policy, reflected directly in map form and described in detail in the text. Similarly, circulation system roadway classifications do the same for arterial highways.

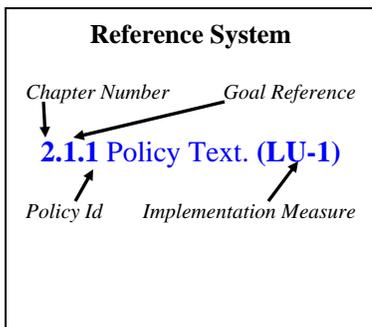
Implementation Measures. Implementation Measures define a specific action, procedure, or program that accomplishes the Policies and defines the level of commitment to be executed. The Implementation Measures are contained in Appendix 1.

Strategies. Strategies are unique aspects of the Strategic Policy Areas described in the Land Use Element. Strategies are similar to the Policies described above but are focused on initiative. Strategies are intended to result in an action and define specific steps necessary to improve/enhance the Strategic Policy Areas.

1. Reference System

In order for the goals and policies to be successfully implemented, they must relate to specific courses of action, described as an Implementation Measure.

To allow easy reference, a numbering system has been established. Each policy is identified by a sequential number that begins with the chapter number and then distinguishes the specific goal and individual policy (see sidebar). For instance, the first policy in the Land Use Element, chapter 2, is identified as 2.1.1. Policies are followed by a set of numbers in parenthesis, which refers to the Implementation Measure related to the Policy.



A graphic explanation of the policy numbering system used in this General Plan.

General Plan Content

The General Plan is organized in the following manner:

- ◆ **Introduction** - describes the background, development process, features, and structure of the General Plan as well as the Vision that guides the entire Plan and Land Use Map.
- ◆ **Land Use** - designates the general distribution and intensity of land uses in our community and provides general development guidelines and policy direction for the use and development of land within the planning area.
- ◆ **Housing** - assesses our current and projected housing needs, and sets out policies and proposals for the improvement of housing and the provision of adequate sites for housing to meet the needs of all economic segments of the City.
- ◆ **Economic Development** - addresses the economic outlook and opportunities in our community and presents strategies to enhance our financial health.
- ◆ **Community Design** - assesses the aesthetic qualities of our community and provides design guidelines to help improve our community's image.
- ◆ **Circulation** - identifies the general location and extent of existing and proposed major transportation facilities, including major roadways, rail, transit systems, and airports.
- ◆ **Public Facilities and Services** - addresses our fire, police, and library services as well as schools and cultural facilities.
- ◆ **Parks, Recreation, and Trails** - presents guidance for the acquisition, development, maintenance, and improvement of our parks, community centers, and trails.
- ◆ **Utilities** - provides guidance for our infrastructure and utilities.
- ◆ **Safety** - addresses geologic and seismic, hazardous materials, wind and fire, aviation, and flooding issues in our community.
- ◆ **Historical and Archeological Resources** - addresses the enhancement and preservation of our historic resources.

- ◆ **Natural Resources and Conservation** - provides guidance for the preservation, use, and enhancement of our natural resources.
- ◆ **Energy and Water Conservation** - addresses the efficient use and conservation of our valuable energy and water resources.
- ◆ **Noise** - identifies and appraises noise problems and includes policies to protect the City from excessive noise.

The following Appendices are attached to this Plan and support its policy direction:

- ◆ Appendix 1 Implementation Program
- ◆ Appendix 2 Neighborhood Improvement Program
- ◆ Appendix 3 Summary of Community Workshops
- ◆ Appendix 4 Common Council Interviews and Business Stakeholders Workshop Summary
- ◆ Appendix 5 Methodology Report
- ◆ Appendix 6 Glossary of Terms
- ◆ Appendix 7 Issues Report
- ◆ Appendix 8 Zoning Consistency Matrix
- ◆ Appendix 9 Circulation Plan Changes
- ◆ Appendix 10 Economic Report
- ◆ Appendix 11 Tippecanoe Baseline Infrastructure Plan (under a separate cover)
- ◆ Appendix 12 Environmental Impact Report (under a separate cover)
- ◆ Appendix 13 Historic Context
- ◆ Appendix 14 Traffic Analysis Summary

Interpreting General Plan Policy Language

Not all policies are the same in terms of the level of commitment they represent. The action words contained in the policies convey distinct levels of commitment and represent expected levels of outcome when they are used. These action words include the following:

- ◆ **Shall.** This type of policy will always be followed. Shall represents an absolute commitment to the guidance expressed in the policy. (Similar action words: require, enforce, must, ensure)
- ◆ **Should.** This type of policy will be followed in most cases and exceptions or degrees of implementation are acceptable with valid reasons. (Similar action words: may)
- ◆ **Allow.** This type of policy permits certain initiatives that will be supported by the City unless there are good reasons not to. Parties other than the City will generally implement this policy type. (Similar action words: permit)
- ◆ **Coordinate.** This type of policy involves working and partnering with other entities to implement the policy. (Similar action words: work with, facilitate)
- ◆ **Consider.** This type of policy requires investigation and study to determine the appropriate level of commitment. This type of policy requires an open-minded evaluation of possibilities until facts are available to allow a decision. (Similar action words: review, evaluate)
- ◆ **Restrict.** This type of policy sets specified limits within which action and/or implementation will occur. (Similar action words: control, limit, contain)
- ◆ **Prohibit.** This type of policy requires steps to actively prevent a specified condition or decision from occurring. (Similar action words: forbid, ban)

Other terminology may appear in certain policy statements. These terms should be interpreted according to their similarity to the appropriate terms described above.

In instances where the interpretation of the Plan is uncertain, consultation with City planning staff is highly recommended. In fact, because of the

broad scope and complexity of the General Plan, any person seeking to implement it would be well advised to consult with City staff for assistance.

Environmental Documentation

In addition to this General Plan document, a comprehensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is published as a companion document, see Appendix 12. It should be referred to for more extensive information about the impacts of the Plan and how they will be mitigated (offset or reduced) or to reference detailed background information that aided the development of the General Plan.

USING THE PLAN

Consistency

Consistency with and within the General Plan is one of the most important considerations surrounding the General Plan. In 1972 the California Legislature enacted the law requiring that development projects must be consistent with a local General Plan and also mandated consistency among the contents of the Plan.

The concept of consistency entails two dimensions: 1) internal consistency within the General Plan itself, and 2) consistency of public improvement projects and private development projects with provisions of the General Plan.

1. Internal Consistency

The essential question here is whether the provisions of the Plan are aligned in a common direction on behalf of the community and not in conflict. This alignment of policies must occur across all elements and among the vision, goals, policies and actions throughout the Plan.

There is a built in tension between the different policy topics under the law. There is an expectation that the Plan will promote housing and open space; jobs and reduced traffic; vehicle movement and reduced noise and air pollution. As can readily be seen, some balancing of these and many other expectations that drive the Plan is essential.

This is a major area in which the City’s vision comes into play. The test of commonality is whether or not a particular policy, standard, or principle in the Plan contributes or frustrates the achievement of the vision.

2. External Consistency

This aspect of consistency is a measure of the extent to which private development projects and public improvement projects actually advance the purposes of the Plan rather than posing obstacles to their achievement or even moving in a totally different direction. As with internal consistency, this determination requires a degree of judgment, although some situations are more clear-cut than others.

For example, a housing development proposed on land designated for open space dedicated to habitat preservation is clearly inconsistent. On the other hand, an auto related use proposed on land designated for light industrial may or may not be consistent, depending on the nature of the auto related activity.

Determinations of project consistency are reflected in staff reports and may result in project approval, project modification as a condition of approval, or outright disapproval. In the latter case, the remedy is to seek a General Plan amendment.

Administration and Implementation

The State recognizes the dynamic nature of the General Plan and provides for periodic review of the document to ensure that it reflects contemporary conditions and values. This is necessary because all development proposed within the community must be consistent with the General Plan and that is a key part of the project’s analysis.

The State requires an update of the Housing Element portion of the Plan every five years. These reports are key facets of the General Plan as a management tool and not solely a policy guide for community development.

The action items associated with policies in the Elements of this General Plan are compiled in an implementation matrix form in Appendix 1. This appendix sets up a process to be completed, expanded, and maintained by the City. This process will require completion of the implementation matrix described above, incorporating timing, status, and responsible agency associated with each action item. The process also entails reviewing the Implementation Plan and updating it based on accomplishments achieved, work not yet completed, and new initiatives

stimulated by changing conditions and circumstances. This Appendix is another key facet of the General Plan as a community management tool.

Amendment

Amending the General Plan requires compliance with certain provisions of the State Government Code. The General Plan must be amended in the same manner as its original adoption: by resolution of the City Council upon recommendation by the Planning Commission. However, each amendment can include a package of changes and is not limited to a single item.

SHAPING THE PLAN

The Vision of San Bernardino that follows is a result of community involvement through Visioning Workshops and through the participation of elected City Officials, the Planning Commission, City Department Heads, and City Staff. The three primary methods used to shape this General Plan are detailed below:



Community members help frame a vision for San Bernardino at one of the public outreach meetings.

- ◆ **Interviews with Common Council Members** – All seven Common Council members were interviewed in late 2002, early 2003, and again in late 2004. The purpose of the interviews was three-fold: 1) to provide an overview of the General Plan update process; 2) to identify future visions of the community; and 3) to identify issues that need particular attention in the update process. The results of these interviews are contained in Appendix 4.
- ◆ **Community Outreach** – During November 2001, four community workshops were held in various parts of the community to identify citywide opportunities and constraints and visions for future City growth. The workshops were strategically located to attract interested members of the public from: the Westside, the University/Verdemont area, the Downtown area, and the northern portion of the City. Each of the four visioning workshops was intended to identify and prioritize the community’s “Likes”, “Dislikes” and “Visions” for the future. The results of these workshops are contained in Appendix 3.

An additional visioning workshop was conducted with local business owners to discuss issues such as housing, quality of life, city image, retail development, signage, and beautification. A summary of the feedback received from the business stakeholders’ workshop is contained in Appendix 3.

- ◆ **Issues Report** – The opportunities and constraints facing the City in its achievement of the Vision is summarized in the Issues Report. This report serves as a basis for prioritizing issues, preparing policies, and crafting implementation measures addressing these issues. This report was prepared utilizing input from policy documents, focused studies and reports prepared for the various City Departments, the Economic Conditions and Trends report prepared for the General Plan update, City Staff, residents, the business community, and other stakeholders. The Issues Report is contained in Appendix 7.

A VISION FOR OUR CITY'S FUTURE

The following describes our desired future for San Bernardino in the next 20 years and beyond. Our Vision was created by this generation to cultivate opportunities for future generations. Our Vision also provides unity to the entire General Plan as well as policy guidance for the City officials and staff.

Vision Summary

Since its founding as a settlement of Spanish Missionaries in 1810, San Bernardino has evolved into a modern metropolis of almost 200,000 people. Over this almost 200 year period, San Bernardino has experienced almost every societal issue: political and societal shifts; periods of rapid growth and relative stability; episodes of economic prosperity and decline; natural disasters from earthquakes, floods, and fires; and developmental and environmental pressures. It is obvious that one constant throughout our community's long history is *change*.

We should not overlook the fact that our community has weathered these changes and grown during this time, with each historical period and generation leaving its imprint.

The purpose of this Plan is to chart a course for the next 20 years so that the positive features can be enhanced and built upon and the less desirable features altered and improved. The following Key Strategies summarize the Vision and emphasize the thrust of our General Plan's direction:

- ◆ Experience a new era of collaboration with an attitude of entrepreneurship and action;
- ◆ Tap into the Inland Empire's dynamic economy;
- ◆ Deal with new fiscal realities;



Examples of our diverse character: The historic California Theatre for the Performing Arts and views of snow capped San Bernardino Mountains from downtown.

- ◆ Develop a distinct personality both at a community wide and a neighborhood level;
- ◆ Realize quality housing in safe and attractive neighborhoods;
- ◆ Enhance cultural, recreational, and entertainment opportunities,
- ◆ Provide quality education at all levels;
- ◆ Maintain a collective sense of community pride; and
- ◆ Achieve the Vision.

Vision

*San Bernardino...Celebrating the Past,
Valuing the Present,
Creating Opportunities for the Future*

1. Community Character/City Image

San Bernardino's character is shaped by a sensitive blend of old and new, historic and contemporary, with respect for its past and future as well. Our diverse and energetic residents actively collaborate to forge a distinct character based upon our traditions and on the opportunities and variety offered in our community. Our City will be known for its recreational attractions, cultural resources, universities, safe and attractive neighborhoods, economic opportunities, and its extraordinary location next to the San Bernardino Mountains and along the trails of the Santa Ana River and Cajon Wash.

2. Economy

San Bernardino is a City of economic opportunity. Our City will benefit from its centralized location to serve as a trucking, aviation, and railroad hub within the Inland Empire, and enjoy a strong and growing economic base from which to diversify. With a commitment to provide a business friendly environment, it is our Vision that San Bernardino will become a premiere location in San Bernardino County to establish new businesses and expand current operations to provide employment opportunities for all residents. One of our main goals is to create a place where more people enjoy the opportunity to live and work within San Bernardino.



The annual Route 66 Rendezvous is a 4-day classic car show that encompasses a 35-block area of the downtown streets of San Bernardino.

Each of our neighborhoods will be enhanced and improved through an investment in people and aggressive revitalization programs. Additionally, retail and entertainment opportunities will be strengthened, particularly in the downtown, making San Bernardino a regional retail and cultural destination.

3. Education

How many cities can boast of two significant places of higher learning? Proud? We sure are. San Bernardino Valley College and California State University, San Bernardino are untapped assets with the potential to expand opportunities for personal and economic growth and create social, recreational, and cultural opportunities for our residents and businesses. We are also committed to forging a partnership between the community, local school districts and our universities to ensure the best possible education for our children and a rich cultural experience for our residents.

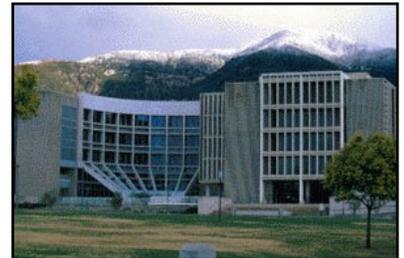
4. Conservation

The distinctive nature of San Bernardino is created not only by its people, but also by the breadth of the natural features within its planning area and surrounding region. Steep mountains, deep canyons, wide alluvial plains, a flat valley floor, the Santa Ana River, and Lytle Creek are just a few of the significant natural features defining our community. There are also significant historical assets such as the Arrowhead Springs Hotel, the Santa Fe Depot, and our characteristic neighborhoods.

How many of us grew up playing in these areas and now enjoy taking our families for walks to see these features? We recognize the important role these resources play in enhancing our experiences and our regional image. We are committed to preserving our natural surroundings and cultural heritage to enhance our social, physical, environmental, and economic quality of life.

5. Transportation

San Bernardino's strategic location within Southern California's transportation system is a major asset. We are positioned as a gateway into the Southern California from Interstate 215, to the Inland Empire via Interstate 10, and to the San Bernardino Mountains from State Route 18 and the 30 and 330 freeways. We are the location of major freight and passenger rail operations and are blessed with a one-of-a-kind resource in the San Bernardino International Airport and Trade Center.



*The John M. Pfau Library on the campus of California State University, San Bernardino.
Source: University Website.*



Examples of our diverse residential neighborhoods.



The Arrowhead Credit Union Park, home of the Inland Empire 66ers, San Bernardino's Single-A minor league baseball team.

It is our Vision that San Bernardino will continue to play an important role in the movement of goods and people and will realize an economic and social gain from this role. Our airport will be a vibrant center for commerce and travel and stimulate surrounding businesses. Our historic Depot will be an example of our versatile community and a destination in itself. We will improve our entire system of mobility to improve connectivity and relieve congestion by providing a range of transportation alternatives including light rail, bus, bicycle, and pedestrian paths and trails.

6. Housing

As is the case in nearly all cities within California, developing an adequate and diverse supply of quality housing is one of our primary goals. Current and future residents need a balanced supply of housing, providing opportunities for first time homebuyers, students, estates, those in need of or choosing multi-family units, and individuals seeking single family homes.

However, we do not want sterile living arrangements; instead, we offer safe and attractive neighborhoods with quality homes and a range of recreational amenities. We want to create a place where San Bernardino's homeowners and renters take pride in their surroundings and contribute to the beautification and upkeep of our community. We desire a place where we can own our homes, raise our families, and then retire in our community.

7. Parks, Recreation, and Culture

The provision of parks, recreational, and cultural activities and amenities improve the quality of life of residents, enhance a community's image, and attract businesses. We realize the importance of these features and are dedicated to providing and maintaining parks, open spaces, cultural amenities, and recreational facilities through a variety of creative and equitable programs. We find ways to develop and attract community centers, museums, theatres, parades, and performing arts facilities to help forge a sense of community pride and excitement.

8. Land Use

The efficient use and development of land is one of our top priorities. We realize that it is the pattern and quality of the development of our land that determines major issues such as:

- ◆ If and how our neighborhoods are linked with the rest of the City;

- ◆ The safety of our streets and neighborhoods;
- ◆ The location, design, aesthetic quality, and character of our neighborhoods and shopping centers (as well as their economic success);
- ◆ The type, location, and intensity of employment opportunities;
- ◆ The revitalization of our commercial corridors and neighborhoods;
- ◆ The distinctiveness of our individual neighborhoods and activity areas; and
- ◆ Compatibility between our land uses.

We realize that we are blessed with numerous “gems” that can be used as catalysts to improve neighborhoods and, in turn, our entire community. Gems such as the National Orange Show, Little League Baseball West Region Headquarters/Complex, California State University, San Bernardino, San Bernardino Valley Community College, Community Youth Soccer Association South Municipal Complex, the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, the Santa Ana River, and Lytle Creek, Arrowhead Springs, Route 66, San Bernardino International Airport and Trade Center, Hospitality Lane, Santa Fe Railroad Depot, historic corridors, downtown, and our soaring mountains are the resources upon which we can enhance our community.

While we know land use changes take time, we will maintain our focus on these positive features to help stimulate constructive adjustments and promote our community.

Our Vision is also founded on a spirit of collaboration, not only among ourselves, but also with our neighboring cities, the County, surrounding Native American tribes, and outside agencies to help achieve our goals and realize a positive change.

9. Public Facilities & Services Issues

As our City continues to grow, we will need to continue to provide a high level of services and enhance and expand public facilities to meet the needs of residents and businesses. We want our libraries, streets, recreational and cultural amenities, civic services, and infrastructure to be continually upgraded to be as efficient, cost effective, and valuable as possible.

10. Safety

Our community sits on the edge of a vast wilderness. While this is a blessing in terms of views, recreational, and living opportunities, there is an inherent danger from the fires, earthquakes, and floods, which are the very processes that have helped to create our natural splendor. We need to be ready to react and, if possible, prevent natural catastrophes from becoming tragedies.

We also envision a coordinated law and code enforcement presence so that we will be safe in our homes, places of business, schools, and neighborhoods.

11. Important Note on the Vision

We cannot realize the Vision by ourselves. The Vision will require close collaboration among the residents of San Bernardino, private businesses, community leaders, school districts, and neighboring cities, to name a few. Our high expectations and goals, which are administered by the City, ongoing public-private partnerships, and interactive and responsive public communication, will sustain San Bernardino's visionary course. In short, our Vision can only be achieved if it motivates key decision makers and stakeholders to persist in actions that carry out the policies in this plan.