

CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY

COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL PLAN

CHAPTER VI

PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

This chapter of the General Plan addresses the public services and facilities needed to support development in the City of Palm Desert. General Plan elements found in this chapter that discuss these services and facilities include Water, Sewer and Utilities, Fire and Police Protection, Schools and Libraries, Health Services, Emergency Preparedness, Public Building and Facilities, and Arts and Culture. The levels of service needed for residential, commercial and industrial development is directly related to the intensity of development in the community. The economic life of the City is tied to the level of services, the types and intensities of land use, and the levels of demand for services and the revenue generating potential of urbanizing areas.

WATER, SEWER AND UTILITIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Water, Sewer and Utilities Element establishes City policies and programs pertaining to domestic water, sewage treatment, and utility services. The provision of these services is essential for the orderly growth and development of the community. In addition to water and sewer services, this element addresses natural gas, electricity, telephone, cable, and solid waste management. The element identifies goals, policies and programs necessary to provide a coordinated system of services to the City at full buildout.

BACKGROUND

The Water, Sewer and Utilities Element is directly related to the Land Use Element, in that new development must be planned in conjunction with the extension and availability of essential infrastructure. Other related elements include Water Resources, Energy and Mineral Resources, and Flooding and Hydrology.

According to California Government Code Section 65302(d), the General Plan is required to address the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources, including water. Related to this is the availability and utilization of natural resources, such as natural gas and electricity. This element satisfies, in part, the requirement for a Conservation Element, and addresses other utilities as allowed by Section 65303. California Government Code Section 65103(c) requires that the City review its capital improvement program annually to assure consistency with the General Plan. This Element provides an effective and meaningful framework from which to comply with this law.

Domestic Water

Groundwater Resources

The primary groundwater repository for the Coachella Valley is the Whitewater River Subbasin, which encompasses nearly 400 square miles. Most of the City of Cathedral City overlies the Palm Springs subarea of the Whitewater River Subbasin, which contains an estimated 4.6 million acre-feet of groundwater in storage in the first 1,000 feet below the ground surface. The easterly portion of the City occurs over the Upper Thermal subarea, which extends as far east as the Salton Sea. The entire Thermal subarea (including the Upper and Lower portions) contains approximately 19.4 million acre-feet of groundwater in storage in the first 1,000 feet below the surface. The northernmost portion of the planning area, north of Interstate-10 and south of the Indio Hills, overlies the Thousand Palms subarea. This subarea contains approximately 1.8 million acre-feet of groundwater in storage.

The hydrological and geophysical characteristics of these subareas are discussed in greater detail in the Water Resources Element of the General Plan, as are methods of groundwater replenishment and consumption rates in the Coachella Valley.

Coachella Valley Water District

The Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) provides domestic water to development north and east of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel. CVWD utilizes deep wells to extract groundwater from the Whitewater River Subbasin. Within the planning area, CVWD's domestic water system includes 12 well sites, 2 booster stations, 3 water storage reservoirs, and water mains up to 30 inches in diameter. Major water trunk lines serving the planning area include those beneath Date Palm Drive, Vista Chino, 30th Avenue, Ramon Road, Dinah Shore Drive and Gerald Ford Drive. Nearly all development in CVWD's service area, south of I-10, is connected to its water delivery system.

Land north of Interstate-10 in the planning area is also located within CVWD's service area. However, given that development in this vicinity is sparse and largely limited to scattered residences, CVWD's domestic water infrastructure in this area is minimal. With the adoption of the North City Specific Plan in 2009, timing for construction of domestic water infrastructure will need to be moved forward to accommodate anticipated development. Two water storage reservoirs are located off Varner Road, approximately one-half mile west of Date Palm Drive. The reservoirs are connected to development south of I-10 by a 30-inch water main, which extends south along Varner Road and Date Palm Drive, then crosses beneath the interstate. Other water mains north of I-10 are limited to those at the north of the planning area, on 20th Avenue west of Mountain View Road. CVWD has indicated that it will be able to expand its water delivery system to serve future development in this area, should the demand for such facilities warrant it.

Desert Water Agency

The Desert Water Agency (DWA) provides domestic water to development south and west of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel. Nearly all development in DWA's service area, including development in the Cove and the downtown district, is connected to its water delivery system. Within the planning area, DWA's water delivery system includes 3 wells, 2 booster stations, 4 water storage reservoirs, and water mains ranging in size from 2 to 24 inches in diameter. Two of the wells are located at the Whitewater River and Ramon Roads, and the other is located at Cathedral Canyon and Kieley Roads. Each is capable of producing between 1,800 and 2,400 gallons of water per minute. The booster stations are located in the Cove and are capable of pumping between 200 and 400 gallons per minute. The reservoirs are located in the immediate vicinity of the Cove, and their capacities range from 100,000 to 500,000 gallons. Major trunk lines include those under East Palm Canyon Drive, Cathedral Canyon Drive, and Perez Road.

Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Coachella Valley Water District

The Coachella Valley Water District provides wastewater collection and treatment services to lands north and east of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel. Wastewater is conveyed through sewer lines ranging from 4 to 24 inches in diameter.

The major wastewater conveyance facilities in the planning area include 15-inch and 24-inch sewer trunk lines, which extend along Date Palm Drive. From Date Palm Drive, the 15-inch line continues east on Gerald Ford Drive, and the 24-inch line continues east along the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel, where it feeds into the Cook Street Wastewater Reclamation Plant in Palm Desert. The Cook Street Wastewater Reclamation Plant currently has a capacity of 20 million gallons per day (mgd). CVWD continually increases the capacity of its wastewater reclamation facilities by constructing new treatment ponds, aeration plants and other structures.

Land north of Interstate-10 also occurs within CVWD's service area. Development in this area is sparse. All wastewater disposal in this area is currently accommodated through private septic systems. However, with the adoption of the North City Specific Plan in 2009, timing for construction of wastewater collection and treatment facilities will need to be moved forward to accommodate anticipated development. CVWD operates wastewater collection and treatment facilities in Thousand Palms, to the east of the City.

Desert Water Agency

DWA's service area encompasses lands south and west of the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel. DWA's wastewater collection system utilizes sewer mains ranging in size from 8 to 18 inches in diameter. DWA does not operate a wastewater treatment plant. Instead, its wastewater collection system is connected to CVWD's sewer system by two lift stations at the following locations: 1) Date Palm Drive and Buddy Rogers Drive, and 2) Cathedral Canyon Drive near Kieley Road. Wastewater collected by DWA is gravity-fed to these lift stations, where it joins CVWD's sewer system and is conveyed to the Cook Street wastewater treatment plant in Palm Desert.

All residential development in the Cove continues to rely on individual septic systems for wastewater disposal. DWA has indicated that it has enough capacity available in its existing sewer conveyance system to manage waste generated in the Cove, and limited development in the area, including the recently restored St. Louis Church, has been connected to DWA's sewer conveyance system. The City and DWA are actively involved in planning future sewer connections in the Cove and the Downtown Redevelopment Area, and are evaluating methods of financing these improvements.

Septic Usage in the Planning Area

Although much development in the planning area is connected to the CVWD and DWA systems, some development continues to rely on septic systems for wastewater disposal. Homes in the Pioneer Ranch, Dream Homes and Cove neighborhoods, for example, are currently without sewer service. Efforts are underway to connect older neighborhoods and other developed areas that are currently served by septic systems. As mentioned above, the St. Louis Church, located in the Cove, was recently connected to DWA's wastewater collection system, and DWA has indicated that it has sufficient capacity to serve other development in the Cove.

The greatest impacts to groundwater quality are expected to occur where poorly maintained septic systems serve large populations in high densities. Community sewer systems provide excellent protection of groundwater resources, since they provide for the swift removal of raw sewage materials.

Tertiary Treated Water

In response to increasing demands for groundwater supplies in the Coachella Valley, CVWD has implemented the use of tertiary (third-stage) treated wastewater for the irrigation of golf courses and other landscaped areas. Traditionally, wastewater is treated to secondary levels and reintroduced into the groundwater table through percolation ponds.

With tertiary treatment techniques, wastewater undergoes an additional stage of treatment, which renders it suitable for irrigation and contributes to water conservation efforts. The Cook Street wastewater treatment plant has a tertiary water capacity of 10 mgd, which is expected to be expanded to 15 mgd in the next few years.

Other Utilities

Electricity

Southern California Edison (SCE) provides electricity to much of coastal, central, and southern California, including the Cathedral City General Plan planning area. SCE derives its power from a number of sources, including cogeneration, geothermal, hydroelectric, solar, and wind sources. Its most important generating facilities are: 1) the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS), a jointly owned project with San Diego Gas & Electric and the cities of Riverside and Anaheim, and 2) the Big Creek hydroelectric system, a complex of hydroelectric facilities located on the western slope of the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains, which comprises approximately 90% of SCE's hydroelectric generation capacity.

SCE offers a wide range of programs which promote energy conservation and help residential and business consumers reduce their electricity costs. These include rebates for customers who install energy-efficient home appliances, air conditioners, insulation, and insulated windows. SCE's Design and Engineering Services department conducts technical analyses to encourage and facilitate the creation and use of new energy-efficient technologies. The company showcases a variety of residential, business, industrial and agricultural energy solutions at seven technology centers, and offers training courses and special events to present these solutions to the public. SCE also provides a number of tools to analyze and improve energy usage habits, such as home and small business energy surveys, which evaluate energy usage and recommend methods for reducing energy costs and consumption. A series of low-income programs provides qualified customers with energy-efficient



refrigerators, discounted cooling systems, and weatherization services.

SCE's facilities include high-voltage transmission lines, lower voltage distribution lines, and substations, which "step down" voltage so that it can be distributed to homes and businesses. SCE's transmission system includes high-voltage lines rated at 500, 230, 115, 66, and 55 kilovolts (kV). These lines connect substations and feed into the distribution network serving businesses, homes, and other electric power customers. Distribution lines are those rated below 55 kV. Electric power is transported to individual homes and businesses from substations through 33 and 12 kV distribution lines. Some distribution lines are supported by wooden poles, while others may be underground.

Within the planning area, SCE's facilities include four substations, major transmission lines, (particularly along Date Palm Drive, Landau Boulevard, Dinah Shore Drive and north of Interstate 10 diagonally from southeast to northwest) and distribution lines which carry electricity to homes and businesses. An additional substation, located west of the planning area, may provide service to Cathedral City residents.

SCE has indicated that it will be capable of serving future development in the planning area. According to regulations established by the state and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmission systems must have sufficient capacity to maintain reliable and adequate service to customers. Planning for future electricity infrastructure involves determining the need for additional facilities, assessing potential environmental impacts, preparing applications for necessary regulatory permits, and regulatory review and approval. SCE performs annual five-year and ten-year growth and service forecasts to assure that its electrical transmission system will be adequate to serve future populations.

Deregulation

In 1998, the State of California implemented legislation that deregulated its power industry. The primary goal of deregulation was to enhance competition in the electric power industry and bring a wider range of choices to consumers. The legislation mandated rate reductions from some electric companies, allowed consumers of large, investor-owned utilities (like SCE) the option to choose alternative electricity providers, and established a statewide Power Exchange where electricity is bought and sold at wholesale prices. Under the current regulatory environment, SCE is precluded from building electric power generation plants or selling any power it generates. Instead, all electrical power generated by SCE is fed into the state's power grid, and the California Independent System Operator (Cal-ISO) regulates its day-to-day distribution.

The legislation froze rates charged by investor-owned utilities at 1996 price levels until no later than March 31, 2002. By winter 2000, a significant price gap emerged between wholesale electricity prices and maximum retail prices that utilities were permitted to charge, with wholesale prices typically exceeding the maximum permitted retail prices. In essence, it became cheaper not to provide electricity to consumers. As a result, many California communities have experienced rolling blackouts to save on the state's power grid. The ISO is responsible for determining when blackouts are necessary. SCE makes every effort to implement blackouts on a rotating basis so that the impacts of power service interruption are distributed geographically. Rolling blackouts last no longer than one hour at each location.

An electric power supply problem exists in California, since the statewide demand for electricity seems to be outstripping the combination of state and interstate supplies. Many interstate suppliers who have sold electricity to California utilities in the past have experienced low winter temperatures and precipitation in recent years, and hydroelectric and other power resources are

not as readily available as they once were. The construction of new power plants in California also appears to be subject to regulatory barriers, including significant state and federal participation in the environmental review process, which makes permitting difficult in some cases. According to SCE staff, the California electric power crisis is expected to last through the summer of 2002. The California Energy Commission and governor are expecting to approve construction of enough new power plants to improve the situation by 2003.

Natural Gas

The Gas Company provides natural gas services and facilities to the City of Cathedral City. The natural gas originates in Texas and is transported to the Coachella Valley through three east-west trending gas lines, which cross the valley just north of Interstate-10 and continue west to Los Angeles. These include one 30-inch line and two 24-inch lines, with pressures of 2,000 pounds per square inch (psi).

High-pressure gas lines are typically steel pipes with pressures greater than 60 psi. Within the planning area, major high-pressure gas lines are located within the rights-of-way of Date Palm Drive, Vista Chino, Varner Road and Mountain View Road. Two high-pressure lines are also located along East Palm Canyon Drive, one on the north side of the street and one on the south.

Medium-pressure distribution lines typically consist of plastic pipelines (older pipes may be constructed of steel) with pressures less than 60 psi. Most residences are fed through pipelines rated at 25 to 40 psi. The Cove and most other residential neighborhoods in the planning area are connected to medium-pressure distribution lines.

Most development in the General Plan planning area is connected to the natural gas system; however, several small pockets of development are not connected and use propane as an alternative fuel source.

Telephone Service

Verizon, formerly GTE California, provides a wide range of residential and commercial telephone services to the City of Cathedral City. Telephone services include local and long distance services, calling cards, business 800 numbers, and voice mail. Verizon also provides state-of-the-art data services such as internet and high-speed DSL data connections.

The backbone of Verizon's communications system consists of central switching offices, which are responsible for the connection of telephone and data transmissions. The City of Cathedral City is connected to three central switching offices located outside the City limits, including the following: 1) on the west side of DaVall Road, north of Gerald Ford Drive in Rancho Mirage, 2)

on the southwest corner of Sunrise Way and Amado Road in Palm Springs, and 3) on the east side of Palm Drive at 1st Street in Desert Hot Springs. A smaller, unmanned sub-switching unit, located on the east side of Date Palm Drive south of McCallum Way in Cathedral City, is fed by the Rancho Mirage central switching office. All calls to the City are handled out of these switching stations.

Cable Television

Cable television service is provided to the City through a franchise agreement with Time Warner, which provides its customers with access to approximately 70 channels. The City also has access to Channel 17, a public service channel, which it uses to broadcast City Council meetings.

Access to this channel is not exclusive to Cathedral City, but is shared with other cities in the Coachella Valley. The City is currently consulting with Time Warner to discuss the possibility of having an exclusive public access channel in the future.

In March 2001, digital cable service, which produces high-quality digital pictures and sound, became available in Cathedral City. Customers who lease digital converter channel boxes from Time Warner have access to approximately 180 channels.

In May 2001, high-speed cable-modem data services were offered to customers in the northern portion of the City. With cable-modem services, the computer modem is connected to the cable line, rather than the telephone line. This state-of-the-art service offers numerous advantages to customers: the cable-modem is always turned on and the time needed to connect to the internet is eliminated, it operates at a significantly faster rate than the standard modem, and it does not tie up the telephone line when in use. Time Warner expects to offer these services to the rest of the City by the end of 2001.

Solid Waste Management

Waste Management of the Desert provides solid waste collection and disposal services to the City of Cathedral City through an exclusive franchise agreement. Standard residential pick-up occurs once a week, and commercial pick-up is offered up to six days per week. Additional collection services are offered to large waste generators, such as restaurants and hotels.

Waste Management uses a two-cart automated collection system throughout Cathedral City. Customers are provided with one bin for trash and one for green waste; the bins are lifted and dumped into garbage trucks mechanically. Recyclables are placed in curb-side 18-gallon tubs, which are lifted and dumped manually.

During 2000, a total of 38,974 tons of trash were collected in Cathedral City. Residential and commercial trash collected in the City is stored in "pods," or large containers that function as temporary transfer stations. When the pods are filled, they are transported by truck and dumped at the Copper Mountain Landfill in Wellton, Arizona. The Copper Mountain Landfill receives an

average of 900 tons of solid waste per day. It has a remaining capacity of about 200 acres and a future lifespan of approximately 50 years.

The Edom Hill Landfill closed in 2004. With the closure of this landfill, a transfer station has been built and is operating. Solid waste is collected with automated compacter trucks, deposited at the transfer station where it is sorted for recyclables, and then transported to the Lambs Canyon or Badlands landfill. This landfill is prepared to accept solid waste from the Coachella Valley immediately and is permitted to receive up to 4,000 tons of waste per day.

The Eagle Mountain Landfill and Recycling Center is planned for construction east of the Coachella Valley, was approved by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors in 1997, and was purchased by Los Angeles County. It is expected to have a total capacity of 708 million tons and a life expectancy of 100 years; however, on-going litigation has delayed its opening. The proposed Mesquite Landfill in Imperial County is expected to have a capacity similar to that of the Eagle Mountain Landfill, but has also been delayed by litigation. Although both of these landfills would be located in relatively close proximity to Cathedral City and may be available to the City in the long-term, their futures remain unclear. A more viable, near-term alternative is the Badlands Landfill, located northeast of the City of Moreno Valley off Highway 60.

Recycling

The City's recycling program, mandated by AB 939, has proven beneficial in the preservation of landfill space for non-recyclable materials. During 2000, a total of 3,590 tons of recyclable materials were collected in Cathedral City. This includes 1,532 tons from residential curb-side sources; 570 tons from commercial sources; and 1,488 tons of concrete and other debris from construction sites. Green waste is recycled at BioMass in Thermal. Other recyclables, including glass, plastic and newspaper are transported by a third party hauler to a recycling company in Los Angeles.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The logical extension of public services is an integral component of land use planning. The availability of high-quality services is also an important aspect of economic development, and plays an important role in attracting commercial, industrial, hotel/motel, and other revenue-generating development. To assure that public services and utilities meet the needs of the community at buildout, it is essential that the City be actively involved in long-range facilities planning, and routinely consult and coordinate with appropriate public and quasi-public agencies and service providers.

In the near-term, the City will need to concentrate its efforts on pending service issues, including the state-wide energy crisis and the potential connection of unsewered development to the sewer system. The City recently adopted the North City Specific Plan, which, when implemented, will guide the logical and cost-effective extension of water, sewer, and other utilities north of Interstate 10. The City will need to keep abreast of technological advances, particularly in the realm of digital and high-speed data transmissions, to assure that City residents and businesses are offered the most state-of-the-art technologies.

GOALS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

Economical utility services and facilities that adequately and safely meet the needs of the community.

Goal 2

A city-wide sewage collection and treatment system.

Goal 3

Conservation of regional and local water resources.

Goal 4

Adequate and reliable utility services for all residents and businesses.

Goal 5

A long-term, viable landfill site, which can accommodate all waste generated in the City.

Policy 1

The City shall encourage CVWD and DWA to implement short- and long-term plans for an integrated, city-wide sewer system.

Program 1.A

Evaluate a wide range of methods to finance the expansion of the sewer system, including assessment districts and a financial assistance program for existing neighborhoods.

Responsible Agency: City Manager's Office; Public Works; Finance Department; Coachella Valley Water District; Desert Water Agency

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.B

The City shall work with CVWD and other interested parties to design and implement a process for development of utilities in the area north of I-10.

Responsible Agency: City Manager's Office; Public Works Department, Finance Department, Planning Department, Redevelopment Department, Coachella Valley Water District, Property Owners

Schedule: Immediately and ongoing

Policy 2

Sewer connection shall be required at the time an individual or infill lot is developed.

Policy 3

Where a residential unit is served by a septic system, at the point of sale, the septic system shall be properly abandoned, and the unit shall be connected to the sewer system.

Policy 4

All subdivisions of ten lots or more shall extend and be connected to sewer lines.

Policy 5

Monitor resource management activities of the CVWD, DWA, and CRWQCB to preserve and protect water resources and quality.

Program 5.A

The City shall support the efforts of DWA and CVWD to construct and expand facilities that treat and distribute reclaimed water.

Responsible Agency: Desert Water Agency, Coachella Valley Water District

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 6

Major utility facilities, such as well sites and substations, shall be designed and sited to minimize environmental and visual impacts.

Policy 7

Utility lines shall be undergrounded, to the greatest extent practical. Those on major streets and scenic roadways shall have primary consideration for undergrounding.

Policy 8

The City shall encourage the recycling of solid waste whenever possible.

Policy 9

The City shall carefully evaluate the development of alternative energy and recycling facilities, such as power plants and composting facilities, which provide its residents with cost effective options, while adequately protecting the environment.

FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The provision of adequate levels of fire and police protection is one of the most important and essential functions of local government. It is the purpose of this Element to coordinate the planning of the community with the demand for and availability of these services. The element is also designed to define existing levels of fire and police protection services and to identify the agencies which provide these services. The Element also provides policies and programs that, through their implementation, are essential to in the continued provision of adequate long-term public safety services for the entire community.

BACKGROUND

The Fire and Police Protection Element has a direct and important relationship to several other General Plan elements, including Land Use, Circulation, Emergency Preparedness, Water Resources, Health Services and Community Design Elements. The distribution and intensity of land uses, accessibility, coordination of emergency responses, the availability of water to fight fires and health services to treat the injured, and the provision of “defensible space” in urban development are all tied to the effective provision of fire and police services.

Police and fire protection services are essential to the continued safety of this growing community. The City of Cathedral City provides its own law enforcement and fire department, and maintains cooperative/mutual aid agreements with other communities and agencies for additional emergency response support.

A number of state regulatory codes focus on the importance of addressing the protection of the community from natural and man-made hazards. Government Code Section 65302(g) requires that a Safety Element or its equivalent be included in the General Plan to address measures necessary to protect the community from risks associated with fire and other hazards and threats. Public Resources Code 4125(a) states that the State Board of Forestry shall classify all lands within the State for the purpose of determining hazards and addressing financial responsibility for the prevention and suppression of fires. Unclassified lands fall under the jurisdiction of the City or appropriate federal agency, such as the U.S. Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Forest Service.

Cathedral City Fire Department

The City of Cathedral City operates its own fire and emergency services department, located at 32-100 Desert Vista Road. Fire Department staff includes 33 paid firefighters (including the Fire Chief), 3 administrative personnel, 3 part-time fire inspectors, 10 to 15 reserve firefighters, and 4 code enforcement officers (plus one vacant position)

Current staffing levels represent a ratio of about 0.77 firefighters to every 1,000 residents. The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) recommends a target ratio of 1.89 firefighters per 1,000 residents. Because development in Cathedral City is predominantly low-density residential, with limited light manufacturing facilities, the City has a relatively low fire hazard risk. A ratio of 1.0 firefighters to every 1,000 residents would be adequate at this time; however, the City should strive to increase its staffing level to approximately 1.5 staff members to every 1,000 residents over the next 5 to 10 years. As development occurs north of Interstate-10, the City can reallocate its firefighting staff, as necessary, based on demand for fire services and an assessment of the population and risk hazards in the area.

Three fire stations are located within the City, including: 1) Station No. 411, at 36-913 Date Palm Drive, 2) Station 412, at 32-100 Desert Vista Road, and 3) Station No. 413, at 27-610 Landau Boulevard. The stations contain a wide range of firefighting equipment and vehicles, including three front-line engines, two reserve engines, one state Office of Emergency Services (OES) vehicle, one water tender, four ambulances, and one hazardous materials (HAZMAT) vehicle. One of the front-line engines is a 65-foot telesquirt, and one of the reserve engines is a 50-foot telesquirt. The Department maintains an automatic mutual aid agreement with the City of Palm Springs and a county-wide agreement with the Riverside County Fire Department for additional fire support, as necessary.

National Fire Insurance Organizations and the National Fire Protection Association formally recommend a maximum emergency response time of five minutes. The City Fire Department currently meets this standard. Within the last two years, the Cathedral City Fire Department has been re-certified by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) as a Class 3 Department (Class 1 being the top rating and Class 10 being the worst). The rating recognizes the department's outstanding communications system, the City's high-quality water distribution system, an acceptable staffing model, an excellent emergency response fleet, and the department's ability to respond in a timely and efficient manner. The last rating improved by one point, from a Class 4 to a Class 3. In order to achieve an even better classification, the City will need to build a dedicated Fire Training Center and increase staffing. If development occurs north of Interstate-10 without the construction of a new fire station, the Class 3 rating would be potentially at risk due to longer response times, inadequate staffing based on population, and potential risk hazards associated with the area.

In addition to fighting fires, the Fire Department provides advanced life support and emergency ambulance services, has code enforcement responsibilities, reviews development plans, and performs construction inspections and fire investigations. It also sponsors community fire prevention and public education programs, such as the installation and inspection of fire detectors, and CPR and First Aid courses.

The Fire Department plays a key role in disaster preparedness and is responsible for coordinating, in conjunction with other City departments, the City's response to a wide range of hazards and threats (please refer to the Emergency Preparedness Element for more information about disaster preparedness).

Cathedral City Police Department

The Cathedral City Police Department was created in 1984 and is located in the Civic Center at 68-700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero. The Department is staffed by 55 sworn officers, 29 non-sworn support and administrative personnel, and 6 reserve officers. Reserve officers are required to serve a minimum of 24 hours per month and are usually assigned as the second officer in a patrol car, although they may also transport prisoners or perform other assigned duties. Police vehicles include 35 marked and approximately 15 unmarked cars.

With 55 sworn officers currently, the City currently provides approximately 1.4 officers for every 1,000 residents, which is near the commonly recommended ratio of 1.5 officer for every 1,000 residents. The department anticipates filling approximately 13 additional positions, ranging from police officers to a dispatch records supervisor, by the beginning of fiscal year 2001-02.

Community-Oriented Policing

The Police Department has adopted a Community-Oriented Policing philosophy, which is founded upon a working partnership between the community and police to reduce and prevent criminal activity and to identify neighborhood problems and their underlying causes. The City is divided into three beat areas for the purpose of community-oriented policing. The North Beat area generally extends from 30th Avenue to the northerly city limits, but also includes lands south to Ramon Road between Date Palm Drive and Landau Boulevard.

The Central Beat area generally includes land between 30th Avenue and Dinah Shore Drive. The South Beat area comprises all City lands south of Dinah Shore Drive. Each beat is further divided into three sub-beats, and two police officers are assigned to each sub-beat. The officers primarily function as emergency responders, but also address specific local policing problems, such as traffic control and illegally parked or abandoned vehicles.

Within each beat is a satellite police office, known as a “Community Police Service Office,” which is highly visible within the community and easily accessible to the public. The Community Police Service Office for the North Beat is located at 68-100 Ramon Road. The Central Beat office is located at 34-481 Date Palm Drive, near the intersection of Date Palm and Dinah Shore Drives. The South Beat office is located at 69-038 East Palm Canyon Drive.

Each office is staffed by one sworn Community Alliance Officer and volunteer staff, and is supported by six officers who are assigned to the sub-beat areas (described above). Each Community Alliance Officer is responsible for developing a relationship with businesses and residents in his/her beat area, and to be responsive to neighborhood problems and citizen concerns.

Response times can vary significantly, depending on the nature of the incident and the location of patrol cars at the time a 911 call is received. All calls are prioritized, and the response time is contingent on the number of calls pending and their urgency. In 2000, the average response time to a “hot” (emergency) call in Cathedral City, from the time the dispatcher contacted an officer

to the time the officer arrived at the scene, was approximately 4.2 minutes. The average response time to an incident that “just occurred” was also 4.2 minutes.

Community-Based Policing

The Police Department sponsors and supports a variety of community-based policing programs and other special community events. The Neighborhood Watch program educates residents about implementing crime prevention strategies in their neighborhoods. Racing for Kids uses motorcross racing to provides important activities for teenagers, while also serving as a forum for educating vulnerable youth about alternatives to drugs and gangs.

The Police Explorers Program allows teenagers and adults ages 14 to 21 to learn about and participate in a variety of law enforcement functions, including crime prevention support and ride-along programs with officers. One officer is assigned to the D.A.R.E. program and brings a message of drug resistance to school children. The Department also has assigned a School Resource Officer.

The Citizens-on-Patrol (COP) program consists of volunteers who serve as the eyes and ears of the police department and provide two patrols per day. Responsibilities include facilitating towing abandoned vehicles, directing traffic at collision sites, looking for graffiti, and alerting police to potential criminal activity. COPS volunteers also provide support to the Community Police Service Offices and Community Alliance Officers. Volunteers are trained by sworn police officers and attend monthly meetings. The program currently (2001) includes approximately 50 volunteers.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As the City continues to grow, so will the need for additional police and fire protection. It is difficult to predict exactly where and when new police and fire facilities will need to be constructed, as this will depend upon the type, location and intensity of future development. Nonetheless, the City will be responsible for monitoring growth patterns and responding to the demand for additional public safety facilities and services. Considerations will include land use and circulation patterns, the provision of water for adequate fire flows, the financing of future fire and police stations, and the adequacy of emergency response times.

GOALS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

Protection of the community from the threat of loss of life and property from fire and environmental hazards.

Goal 2

The highest level of security and police protection to preserve and protect the health, welfare and property of residents, visitors and businesses in the City.

Policy 1

All new development proposals shall be thoroughly reviewed for potential impacts and the ability to effectively provide public safety and the provision of fire and police protection.

Program 1.A

The Fire and Police Departments shall evaluate proposals for new development to assure adequate emergency access, the integration of defensible space principles, clear street name signage and numbering, internal circulation, fire flow and other safety design considerations.

Responsible Agency: Fire Department, Police Department, Planning Department

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 2

Emergency vehicles shall be provided with adequate access to all new development.

Policy 3

The City shall provide for the adequate and timely expansion of fire and police protection services and facilities to meet future development demands.

Program 3.A

Establish objective criteria, including appropriate minimum response time, the matching of services and facilities to local needs, and the availability of alternative routes to serve target neighborhoods, which assure the optimal siting of future fire and police stations.

Responsible Agency: Fire Department, Police Department, Planning Department

Schedule: 2002-2003

Program 3.B

Evaluate alternative methods of financing the expansion of fire and police services, including developer impact fees, assessment districts, and fire and police permitting fees for development occurring in high security or fire risk areas.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Finance Department

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 4

The City supports the highest level of code enforcement practical in order to protect property and lives, property values and quality of life.

Program 4.A

Strictly enforce the Uniform Fire Codes and other applicable building standards in the course of reviewing development plans and conducting building inspections.

Responsible Agency: Fire Department

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Program 4.B

Encourage community involvement in code enforcement efforts, including a volunteer neighborhood-based code enforcement program, with specific attention directed toward property maintenance.

Responsible Agency: Fire Department, Police Department, Redevelopment Agency, Planning Department

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 5

The City shall strive to achieve and maintain a minimum staffing ratio of 1.5 firefighters per 1,000 residents.

Policy 6

The Fire Department shall continue to be responsible for reviewing the City's Emergency Operations Plan on an annual basis and coordinating the revision of the Plan, as necessary.

Policy 7

The use, manufacture, storage and transportation of potentially hazardous materials shall be reviewed and monitored by the City and other appropriate agencies.

Program 7.A

The siting of facilities which use, produce, store, or transport hazardous, flammable or explosive materials shall be conducted in a manner which assures the highest level of safety, in strict conformance with the Uniform Fire Code and other applicable regulations.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Fire Department

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 8

Essential community facilities shall not be located in areas of high fire hazard risk.

Policy 9

The City shall coordinate with Desert Water Agency and Coachella Valley Water District to assure adequate fire flows for all developed areas in the City.

Program 9.A

Special on-site fire protection measures may be required for development occurring on hilly areas with slopes of 10 percent or greater; such measures shall be specified during project review.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Fire Department, Desert Water Agency, Coachella Valley Water District

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 10

The City shall apply, to the greatest extent practical, crime prevention principles by integrating them in the project planning process, which results in “defensible space” or high security designs as a means of providing increased security in residential, commercial, industrial and institutional development.

Policy 11

The City recognizes the importance and benefits associated with secured, gated and otherwise security-enhanced communities and development, and the effects that such measures have on reducing crime in the community.

Policy 12

The City shall strive to maintain a minimum ratio of 1.5 sworn police officers per 1,000 residents.

Policy 13

Continue to support community-based policing efforts, including the Neighborhood Watch and Citizens on Patrol programs.

Program 13

Enhance public awareness and participation in crime prevention, and encourage and promote the Neighborhood Watch Program, Citizens on Patrol and other community-oriented policing programs. The City shall develop new and expand existing educational programs dealing with personal safety awareness, such as neighborhood and commercial association watch/protection programs.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Police Department

Schedule: Immediate; On-going

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Schools and Libraries Element describes the City's educational facilities, services, resources, and the opportunities made available through the local school and library systems. The Element also helps to anticipate and plan for future needs, and directs decision-makers to assure that adequate and accessible educational facilities are provided to the community. The element also identifies the City's role in planning and siting new school and library facilities, and sets forth policies and programs designed to enhance the educational experience of the City's residents.

BACKGROUND

The Schools and Libraries Element addresses the need for adequate and conveniently located public lands for educational facilities, and therefore is directly related to the Land Use Element. It is also related to the Circulation and Noise Elements, in the City's efforts to protect schools and libraries from excessive noise and traffic. This Element is also related to the Public Building and Facilities Element in its definition and location of existing facilities.

California Government Code Section 65302(a) requires that, among other things, the General Plan assess the general distribution, location and adequacy of educational facilities. Also applicable is State legislation (AB 2926), effective January 1, 1987, which authorized school districts to charge per square foot development fees to fund the construction and reconstruction of public school facilities. The fees are paid by developers directly to the appropriate school district prior to the issuance of building permits. In 2001, the fee for residential development was \$2.05 per square foot, and the fee for commercial development was \$0.33 per square foot.

Public Education

The Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) provides kindergarten through 12th grade public educational services and facilities to the City of Cathedral City and other communities in the western Coachella Valley. In 2001, PSUSD schools enrolled 21,505 students in 22 schools and an independent study program. PSUSD operates eight schools within the Cathedral City planning area, including four elementary, two middle, one high, and one continuation high school. Many of the District's schools are overcrowded and use temporary, portable buildings for additional classroom space. The District plans to construct additional portable classrooms in several Cathedral City schools over the next several years. The following briefly describes the PSUSD schools located in the planning area.

Agua Caliente Elementary School is located at 30-800 San Luis Rey in Cathedral City and includes kindergarten through fifth grades. The school's maximum capacity is 726 students, and in January 2001 it enrolled 819 students.

Cathedral City Elementary School is a new school facility located on Converse Road just west of Plumley Drive. It includes kindergarten through fifth grades and operates year-round. The school can accommodate a maximum of 899 students and enrolled approximately 1,029 in 2001.

Landau Elementary School operates on a year-round basis and is located at 30-310 Landau Boulevard. The school includes kindergarten through fifth grades. Although its maximum capacity is 971 students, enrollment in January 2001 was 1,084 students.

Sunny Sands Elementary School includes kindergarten through fifth grades and is located at 69-310 McCallum Way in Cathedral City. The school operates year-round and has a maximum capacity of 966 students. In 2001, the student body included 998 students.

Nellie N. Coffman Middle School includes sixth through eighth grades and is located at 34-603 Plumley Road. The school can accommodate a total of 1,252 students and enrolled 1,036 in January 2001.

James Workman Middle School is located at 69-300 30th Avenue and includes sixth through eighth grades. Although the school has a maximum capacity of 1,222 students, the student body totaled 1,306 students in 2001.



Cathedral City High School, located at 69-250 Dinah Shore Drive, includes ninth through twelfth grades. The school first opened in September 1991. It can accommodate a maximum of 2,673 students and enrolled 2,371 in January 2001.

Mt. San Jacinto Continuation High School is located at 30-800 Landau Boulevard. Approximately 325 students were enrolled in the school in January 2001.

Cathedral City High School

PSUSD has indicated that it plans to build a new elementary school in the Rio Vista area of Cathedral City, in the vicinity of Vista Chino, east of Landau Boulevard. The school will include kindergarten through fifth grades.

The District is currently accepting architecture and construction applications for the school, although specific construction and opening dates have not yet been determined. PSUSD may also construct a new elementary school in the Thousand Palms/Rancho Mirage area in the distant future. This school may support future Cathedral City students but no specific sites or construction dates have been selected.

Private Education

Calvary Bible Christian School is located at 68-550 Dinah Shore Drive and includes pre-kindergarten through twelfth grades. School enrollment averages approximately 100 students. The school can currently accommodate a maximum of approximately 150 students but is anticipating expanding its facilities in the future.

First School of the Desert is located at 69-440 McCallum Way and is licensed to care for children ages 2 to 12. The school provides pre-school, childcare, and kindergarten programs, as well as an after-school program for students attending Sunny Sand Elementary School. Although it is licensed for a maximum of 96 children, only 60 are enrolled at this time. First School of the Desert also operates school facilities in Palm Springs and La Quinta.

Palm Valley School is located on Dinah Shore Drive, north of Gerald Ford Drive, within the Rancho Mirage city limits, and a short distance from Cathedral City. This school serves students from throughout the Coachella Valley and provides classroom instruction for grades kindergarten through 12. Year 2000 enrollment stands at 280 students, with a capacity for 300. The school is currently undergoing expansion on its master planned campus, which will add a gymnasium, theatre and pool. Following completion of this project, the school hopes to add a high school, which will expand its capacity to 500 students.

Kings School is located on Bolero Road adjacent to Cathedral City limits east of Golf Club Drive. The school serves students from kindergarten through 8th grade. The school has a capacity of 200 students, and a current enrollment of 130. The school is built out at this location.

Colleges and Universities

Regional colleges and universities include the Coachella Valley Campus of Chapman University, College of the Desert, the Coachella Valley Campus of California State University-San Bernardino (CSSB), and University of California-Riverside (UCR) Extension, all of which are located in the City of Palm Desert. CSSB is currently undergoing a major expansion at its new site on Cook Street just south of Interstate-10, which may ultimately become an independent Coachella Valley Campus of the CalState system.

At the southeast corner of Cook Street and Gerald Ford Drive, UCR is also constructing a branch of its Anderson Graduate Business School, to be named the Richard Heckman School of Entrepreneurship. More distant institutions include the University of California-Riverside main campus, California State University-San Bernardino, and the University of Redlands.

Exhibit VI-1: Schools and Libraries

Library Facilities

The Cathedral City Public Library is a branch of the Riverside County Library System and is located at 33-520 Date Palm Drive, at the southeast corner of Date Palm Drive and Dave Kelley Road. The library, which opened in 1996, consists of a 20,000 square foot facility and contains approximately 70,000 volumes. The library offers a full range of community programs and services, including youth activities, computer facilities and workshops, literacy programs, a community meeting room, and a comprehensive HIV/AIDS information center. An organization known as “Friends of the Library” provides volunteer services and operates a bookstore within the library.

Regional library facilities include the College of the Desert Library in Palm Desert, which is open to COD students and the general public, and includes a state-of-the-art research system. The medical library at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage (lending to non-hospital staff is prohibited) and other branches of the Riverside County Library System are also available for public use.



Cathedral City Public Library

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The City’s schools and library are important community assets and indicators of the community’s social health and quality of life. These facilities are also important considerations for many contemplating moving to the City. Schools and libraries are land use sensitive, and their location requires consideration of many factors, including student safety, accessibility, and impacts from excessive noise.

Public school districts are considered “responsible agencies” and have “lead agency” status for the siting, planning and processing development plans associated with their own facilities. While consultation with local jurisdictions is required, most decisions rest with the school districts. Building, planning and design plans are processed and approved by the State Architect’s Office. Nonetheless, the City of Cathedral City can assist and coordinate with the local school district and state agencies to assure the provision of adequate educational facilities and services.

The General Plan provides the City with the opportunity to preserve and protect existing and future school and library sites from excessive noise and traffic conditions, and to ensure accessibility and compatibility with surrounding land uses.

GOAL, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal

The provision of quality school and library facilities in the City that are accessible and conveniently located within the community.

Policy 1

Assist, cooperate and coordinate with the Palm Springs Unified School District and state agencies in identifying, acquiring and developing school sites needed to meet future growth demands. Encourage the selection of potential school sites that are centrally located in areas of existing or future residential development.

Program 1.A

Review PSUSD development proposals and environmental documentation and otherwise coordinate with PSUSD in planning new public school facilities as part of the City's continuing effort to provide enhanced educational opportunities for the community's residents.

Responsible Agency: Palm Springs Unified School District, Planning Department; Economic Development Department

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 2

Schools and libraries shall be protected from excessive noise and traffic conditions, and incompatible land uses to the greatest extent practical.

Program 2.A

Routinely evaluate and update the Land Use Element to assure that school and library sites are compatible with surrounding land uses, arterial roadways and significant noise generators.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 2.B

The City shall encourage and/or require the use of design and development techniques, such as sound attenuation walls, earthen berms and acoustical insulation in buildings, that mitigate potential traffic and noise impacts on schools and libraries.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Building Department

Schedule: Continuous

Program 2.C

To maximum the safety of students, parents, school staff and the general public, the City shall coordinate with the Palm Springs Unified School District to maintain an adequate staff of traffic control officers responsible for monitoring and patrolling roadways immediately surrounding public schools during appropriate school hours.

Responsible Agency: Palm Springs Unified School District, Community Development Department

Schedule: Immediate and continuous

Policy 3

The City shall cooperate in securing school impact fees from developers, in accordance with state law.

Policy 4

The City shall consult and coordinate with the Palm Springs Unified School District to allow the shared/joint use of school open space and recreation facilities.

Program 4.A

The City shall proactively pursue an agreement with the Palm Springs Unified School District regarding the shared purchase, lease, or joint use of land for school and recreational purposes. Provisions shall be made which allow for accessible recreation facilities and open space for the community during non-school hours.

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Department, Planning Department, PSUSD

Schedule: 2002

Policy 5

The City shall support the development and/or expansion of local and regional childcare facilities.

Policy 6

The City shall coordinate with the Riverside County Library System to assure that adequate library facilities, services and resources are provided to meet the educational and literary needs of the community.

HEALTH SERVICES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Health Services Element is to identify existing health care facilities and services available to the citizens of Cathedral City. It is also designed to ensure that accessible health care options are in place. Accessibility of health care relates not only to physical location but also to affordability and the variety of services and their availability. Availability of high quality health care options contributes greatly to the quality of life within a community, and to the well-being and comfort level of its residents.

This Element also addresses issues associated with the location of new development and its proximity to community health care facilities, which is especially important to the residents of senior, group care or convalescent housing. The City has shown a particular interest in providing accessible medical services and facilities, convalescent facilities and their services, as well as facilities specializing in treatment of medical emergencies.

These include Home Health Care for those patients able to remain home but requiring assessment and treatment by a skilled nurse or therapist; Continuing Care Centers offering sub-acute (long-term) care or specialized intensive medical care for the seriously ill; and Hospice services, including those in the home and caring for the terminally ill and their families.

It is also essential that accessibility to health care in emergency situations be considered, and that land planning, emergency planning and circulation issues be taken into account so that even under extreme conditions citizens can be assured that they will be able to reach, or be reached by, health care and emergency medical professionals. For a more comprehensive discussion of these issues, please see the Emergency Preparedness Element.

BACKGROUND

This element directly relates to other General Plan Elements including Public Buildings and Facilities, Land Use, and Emergency Preparedness. It is also related to the Police and Fire and Circulation Elements. As the City grows, land planning and circulation issues will determine continued accessibility to health services, and the need for planning regarding expansion of these services in order to serve all of Cathedral City's neighborhoods is key.

Hospitals Serving Cathedral City

Cathedral City's location in the upper Coachella Valley positions it between and near two of the valley's major health care providers. Each of these is briefly discussed below.

Desert Regional Medical Center

Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs is operated under a long-term management agreement by Tenet Health Care Corporation. It is a 388-bed acute care hospital, with a 24-hour emergency room and is the only designated trauma center (Level II) serving the Coachella Valley with a staff of specially trained trauma surgeons to offer their aid in the event of major injury. Desert Medical also has a Home Health Care department providing in-home nursing and household maintenance service. Hospice of the Desert has been incorporated into Desert's operations and provides specialized treatment and counseling for the terminally ill.

Eisenhower Medical Center

Eisenhower Medical Center is in neighboring Rancho Mirage and is located on a 90 acre master planned campus. Eisenhower is comprised of a general acute care hospital with 261 beds, the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center, the Betty Ford Center, a well-known substance abuse treatment center, and the Annenberg Center for Health Sciences, a conference and communications center. Twenty-four hour emergency care facilities are also located at Eisenhower, with at least one full-time physician on duty at all times.

A wide variety of outpatient and specialist services are provided by Eisenhower Medical Center, which recently opened a birthing center. Other developments are currently planned, such as the opening of a comprehensive cancer center (see discussion below). Long-term plans include expansion of the emergency room facilities and seismic retrofitting of the main wing.

John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital, located in Indio, is an accredited community hospital with a 24-hour emergency room and 130 beds, also owned by Tenet Health Care. It offers many programs similar to those offered by Desert Regional Medical Center.

Comprehensive Cancer Centers

Currently, the Center of Excellence at Desert Regional Medical Center provides comprehensive detection, diagnosis, treatment and follow up to cancer patients. It includes physician's offices, a pharmacy, surgical facilities, support services, and research facilities. It also encompasses and is complemented by the Comprehensive Breast Center, which offers a range of breast health services, including diagnostic and treatment services. Eisenhower Medical Center recently purchased the Heart Institute of the Desert facility and is retrofitting the building for an "under-one-roof" approach to cancer care. The Eisenhower Comprehensive Cancer Center is set to open in early 2002.

Immediate Care Clinics

Two immediate care facilities serve Cathedral City. Centro Medico de Valle is located at Date Palm Drive and Ramon Road. One physician and a physician's assistant staff it during hours of operation. The private clinic has entered into a relationship with Eisenhower Medical Center whereby Eisenhower provides the clinic's rotating staff of physicians. In addition to regular medical services offered to insured and self-pay clients at a reduced rate, the clinic offers the Healthy Beginnings Program for infants and new parents (see discussion below). It also provides

free physicals for children up to age 18 and free breast exams and mammograms for income-qualified patients.



The Eisenhower Immediate Care Center is located on East Palm Canyon Drive just east of Palm Springs. It is staffed during hours of operations by two physicians and at least one support medical staff, which may include a physician’s assistant or a nurse practitioner. Services include occupational health screening and physicals, and urgent care for individuals needing immediate treatment for injuries or illness. This immediate care center is owned and operated by the Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage.

Eisenhower Medical Center Immediate Care and Occupational Health Clinic

Special Services

The Desert Aids Foundation, an education and prevention program, is located in Palm Springs and serves clients throughout the Coachella Valley. It is the region’s primary provider of services to HIV-affected persons. The Foundation provides a range of services including home health care, anonymous HIV testing, and financial, legal, nutritional, re-employment, substance abuse and psychological counseling. Clients may also apply for housing assistance, child care, dental referrals and other services.

Through Desert Regional Medical Center and JFK Hospital, the “Healthy Beginnings” program is offered in Cathedral City at the Family Medical Clinic located at the Date Palm/Dinah Shore Drive intersection. Health Beginnings is a low-cost program offering pregnancy testing, assistance with enrollment in Medi-Cal and Healthy Families Insurance programs, pre-natal and parenting classes and counseling. Incentives are offered to encourage follow-through with doctor’s appointments.

The “Desert Health Car,” a fleet of vans sponsored by the Desert Health Care Foundation, provides free transportation to parents needing such assistance. The Healthy Beginnings program is funded through the State Department of Health.



Centro Medico de Valle near Date Palm Avenue and Ramon Road. Offers Healthy Beginnings and Urgent Care Service

The Desert Health Care Foundation is a non-profit organization, formerly a part of Desert Regional Medical Center, and now an independent foundation administering matching funds provided to Desert Regional Medical Center by the State Department of Health's Desert Health District. Funds provide programs such as free mammogram screenings to women who qualify either by income level or uninsured status. They also fund the Desert Health Car, which in addition to serving the Healthy Beginnings Program, is available at no charge to western Coachella Valley residents needing transportation to medical or dental appointments.

The Foundation's Tiempo de los Ninos auxiliary funds the Smile Factory, a 52-foot long "mobile dental unit" which travels to Palm Springs Unified School District schools, including Cathedral City schools. Kindergartners through 5th graders who qualify for the school lunch program are also eligible for dental screenings and treatment through the Smile Factory. Staffed by an administrator, dentists, dental assistants and hygienists, the Smile Factory operates throughout the year-round school year.

Canyon Springs, a licensed intermediate care facility serving developmentally disabled individuals, admitted its first client in December of 2000. It is located just west of the Da Vall Drive /Ramon Road intersection. This state-run facility is licensed for up to 63 clients. It offers intermediate-level nursing care to adult individuals with mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy or seizure disorders. Clients are referred through a regional center and receive job and other skills training, with the goal of moving them into less structured group homes or other more independent-living settings. This facility allows clients with mild to moderate developmental disabilities to be closer to their families in Southern California. Some of its clients are from the Coachella Valley. It is the only such specialized facility in Southern California.

Substance Abuse Facilities

A variety of residential substance abuse treatment facilities are located in surrounding communities, most notably Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Indio and Desert Hot Springs. These include The Ranch, a 46-bed facility serving male alcohol and drug treatment clients. The corresponding treatment center for women is Hacienda Valdez, operating 35 beds. Both are located in Desert Hot Springs. . The Soroptomist House of Hope offers 90-day residential drug and alcohol treatment programs for up to 5 women at each of its locations in Banning and Desert

Hot Springs. House of Hope also has a 4 person short-term re-entry facility for women who have completed a 60-90 day residential treatment program. Life's Journey, licensed for 30 beds and serving both male and female patients. The Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage is a residential substance abuse treatment center for both men and women. The ABC Recovery Center in Indio has 8 beds, and transitional housing.

The Riverside County Department of Health Services/Cathedral Canyon Clinic is located on Perez Road in Cathedral City. It provides outpatient mental health services for children and adults, and substance abuse services for adolescents and adults. There is also a 3-day, 16-week program for pregnant or parenting women. Mental health services intake is provided through the State's clinic in Indio and through referrals from local schools; substance abuse and other services are initiated at the Cathedral Canyon Clinic. Fees are based on a sliding scale. The clinic serves residents of the Coachella Valley from Rancho Mirage west to Palm Springs and north to Desert Hot Springs.

Senior Services

The Cathedral City Senior Center, located on East Palm Canyon Drive in downtown Cathedral City offers weekly blood pressure checks and a menu of monthly health screenings for seniors, all staffed by volunteer registered nurses. Screenings are at a reduced fee for all seniors, whether members of the Center or not. Annual flu shots are provided at no cost. A variety of health and fitness classes are also offered at nominal fees.

Hospice Care

Two providers of home-based hospice services have offices in Cathedral City. Trinity Hospice is privately owned and funded. Hospice services, staff and equipment are delivered to patients in their homes. The firm currently serves approximately 30 patients per day with a capacity of 75 per day. This provider has the largest capacity for delivery of hospice care in the low desert area. The Trinity Hospice Foundation provides funding to assist patients without insurance coverage for these services.

Vitas Healthcare Corporation, a large, national corporation with a regional office in San Bernardino, maintains a small satellite office in Cathedral City. Services are delivered to patients in-home or at other facilities where they are currently living. Most patients served are Medicare insured. Also see the discussion above regarding the Hospice of the Desert program at Desert Regional Medical Center.

Accessibility and Transportation

In addition to the Desert Health Car, discussed above, transportation to routine medical and dental appointments is available to valley residents via SunLine operated "Sun Dial" buses. Pre-appointments are available for such services and they are provided at no charge to qualifying riders.

Medical transport available to Cathedral City residents are the Cathedral City Fire Department EMS vehicles, and American Medical Response (AMR), a private ambulance company based in Palm Springs. For inter-facility transfers, AMR, Balboa and Bowers ambulance services are available. For more information on emergency transport services, please refer to the Emergency Preparedness Element.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Medical services located in the City tend to be grouped in one of three areas: near the Ramon Road/Date Palm intersection; near Date Palm Drive and Dinah Shore Drive; and near the Cathedral City downtown area, on Perez Road or on Highway 111 (East Palm Canyon Drive). Residents of neighborhoods north of Ramon Road must travel outside their neighborhoods for services.

The City should consider encouraging the establishment of a medical center complex in the northern planning area, which could include general/family medicine, obstetrics/ gynecological services, pediatrics, internists, dental and vision care in a “one-stop shopping” facility. Such a facility could be housed in an existing commercial center or small office complex, as are many of the existing clinic facilities, or within the mixed-use urban or business park areas of North City as it develops.

Residents must travel outside Cathedral City to obtain some comprehensive and many very specialized health services, such as MRI screenings, although distances to these services are not great. Locating small satellite offices providing comprehensive breast care, cancer screening, heart-care related fitness and wellness facilities, preventative medicine in some City neighborhoods may be encouraged. While affiliated with the larger hospitals, these “neighborhood health stores” would encourage utilization by near-by residents and also might attract other valley residents who prefer to visit a more convenient site as opposed to a large hospital campus.

The City may also wish to consider providing inter-facility transport service through the Fire Department in the future, based on growth and economic conditions.

GOAL, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

Goal

A variety of high quality health care facilities which provide City residents accessible, affordable services, promoting their health and well-being.

Policy 1

Encourage the establishment of additional health services accessible to all planning area neighborhoods.

Program 1.A

The City shall consult with local providers to discuss the feasibility of locating at least one medical clinic or group of clinics within a self-contained setting in the northern planning area.

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Department, Desert Regional Medical center, Eisenhower Medical Center

Schedule: 2002; On-going

Program 1.B

If deemed feasible, the City shall offer incentives to local providers to locate a medical clinic or group of clinics in the northern planning area.

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Department; City Council; Desert Regional Medical Center, Eisenhower Medical Center

Schedule: 2002; On-going

Program 1.C

As feasible, the City shall facilitate the placement of congregate care facilities and facilities for developmentally disabled persons in accessible locations throughout the City.

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Department; City Council; providers of congregate care and developmentally-disabled care

Schedule: 2002; On-going

Policy 2

Encourage the establishment of neighborhood satellite offices within Cathedral City with the purpose of offering specialized and comprehensive care services in a neighborhood setting.

Program 2.A

The City shall consult with Desert Regional Hospital and Eisenhower Medical Center to discuss the feasibility of locating such neighborhood satellite offices in various locations.

Responsible Agency: Economic Development Department; Desert Regional Medical Center, Eisenhower Medical Center

Schedule: 2002; On-going

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Emergency Preparedness Element provides information on emergency response services and plans currently (2001) in effect, outlines critical facilities and services necessary to respond adequately to emergencies, and discusses potential impacts of natural and man-made threats which could significantly affect the City. Finally, the Element sets forth the goals, policies and programs that have been, or will be, developed by the City to ensure adequate preparation for such emergencies. Its inclusion is also designed to provide the City of Cathedral City with information, which it can use to plan responsively in order to minimize human and economic losses.

BACKGROUND

This Element is included as part of the overall discussion and planning regarding general environmental hazards, in accordance with Government Code Section 65302(g) which mandates that General Plans address hazards such as seismic disturbances and their effects, “other geologic hazards ... flooding; and wild land and urban fires.” The Emergency Preparedness Element is related to other general Plan elements, including Health Services, Police and Fire protection, Flooding and Hydrology, Circulation, Land Use, Hazardous and Toxic Materials, and Economic Development Elements.

The northern portion of the City of Cathedral City is crossed by the San Andreas Fault, one of the most active faults in California, and is vulnerable to seismically-induced ground shaking, ground rupture, slope failure, rockfalls and landslides, ground subsidence and soils liquefaction. These seismic hazards, as well as fires, flooding, and hazardous materials releases all require emergency planning. The potential for man-made emergencies, such as power outages, major accidents involving trains, motor vehicles or aircraft, also exists. Emerging concern over urban terrorism, sparked by events such as the Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing, and increasing incidents of school shootings, may also necessitate an emergency response plan.

Cathedral City is a member of the Riverside County Emergency Services Organization. The City has developed its own Emergency Operations Plan to anticipate and comprehensively plan for a variety of man-made and natural disasters, which could potentially expose residents and property to harm. The Plan utilizes the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which categorizes various activities necessary to prepare for or mitigate potential disasters, and assigns responsibility for managing and implementing those activities to the appropriate City department or entity.

By means of 15 separate but integrated planning documents, which function as area-specific sub-component summaries and response plans, the Plan further details specific actions to be taken in the event of each emergency and which agency or City entity would handle the action. Of these summaries, the first, Emergency Management, which includes Emergency Operations Center (EOC) management and operations, is complete.

Other summaries and response plans still to be completed will cover communications, mutual aid functions between fire and police agencies, public health operations, communications, care and shelter operations, and damage assessment and recovery, as well as other vital areas of emergency operations. Although under development, the Plan in its entirety will remain a “living document”, with on-going updates and improvements. The Cathedral City Emergency Operations Plan is hereby incorporated by reference into this Element.

Critical Facilities

Critical facilities such as hospitals, police and fire departments, governmental operations, communications centers and utility facilities form a vital network functioning to implement the plan in the event of an emergency. Support facilities, such as fire and police communications, auxiliary personnel and commercial radio stations, can support the primary critical facilities by providing information and direction to the public during a crisis. The City also relies on the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) organization for amateur radio communications county-wide during a disaster.

Access, including evacuation routes and transport of the injured, peak-load water supply and delivery, and airport services must also be considered. It is important to take into account transportation system constraints, which may hinder ground-based access or delivery of supplies and emergency services to the affected areas.

Coachella Communications Group (COACHELLACOMM) comprises the Coachella Valley’s arm of a network of seven regional committees mandated by Riverside County. This network was formed to deal specifically with disaster preparedness. Coachella Valley cities’ Emergency Managers or other designated representatives, as well as Safety Officers from at least two of the area’s major hospitals, serve on this committee. The County’s Emergency Operations Coordinator is the current committee chair.

Shelters must be available which are capable of handling large numbers of people and providing basic services such as food, potable water and medical supplies. In the event of an emergency involving Cathedral City, shelters would be set up and managed by the American Red Cross. In addition, the City has been actively purchasing disaster support supplies as part of its Disaster Medical Assistance Center (DMAC), which has been located at the intersecting corner of the Big League Dreams and Cathedral City High School football stadium. When activated, the DMAC is stocked to provide care to between 300 and 500 persons. Any necessary transport of injured persons would be coordinated between the appropriate emergency transport provider, City and County EOCs, and area hospitals.

In the past, many of the City's private residential communities participated in the Neighborhood Emergency Service Team (NEST) program and received preparedness, response and recovery operations training. NEST has been replaced by the Community Emergency Response Training Program (CERT), which is designed to help such communities prepare to be self-sufficient for a period of at least 72 hours following an emergency. Such preparedness optimally includes emergency stockpiles of food, water and other needed supplies. While some of the City's communities are believed to have such stockpiles, neither levels of preparedness nor participating communities are documented.

CERT training is currently offered on a quarterly basis through a valley-wide, consolidated training program. The City does not currently schedule training for individual communities but is willing to do so if requested.

Emergency Accessibility and Transportation

Immediate access to impacted areas by emergency personnel and supplies is essential after a disaster. East Palm Canyon Drive, Dinah Shore Drive (Mid-Valley Parkway), Ramon Road and US Interstate-10 are major intercity and regional access routes serving Cathedral City. These arteries could be blocked or damaged in the event of a major disaster, including major earthquakes or floods, urban wildfires, major truck or rail accidents, or by other natural or man-made disasters. The loss of freeway overpasses, bridging over the Whitewater River, or the closing of roads due to rockfalls or landslides would each impede the delivery of emergency services and supplies.

The City is generally well protected from major flooding by the extensive drainage channels built through it and adjacent to the Santa Rosa Mountains. All-weather crossings over the Whitewater River at Date Palm Drive, Ramon Road and Dinah Shore Drive, and where East Palm Canyon Drive crosses the East and West Cathedral Canyon Washes are in place.

Other parts of the City and General Plan study area are susceptible to major flooding and possible isolation from major transportation links and the rest of the community. Lands at the west end, and north and south of East Palm Canyon Drive, are located in an AO flood zone, with the possibility inundation at depths of one to three feet. In the northern portion of the City, lands north and south of I-10 are also susceptible to major flooding, which could isolate these lands from emergency services (also see the Flooding and Hydrology Element).

The City shall continue to coordinate with CalTrans, the Federal Highway Administration, CVAG, adjoining cities and Riverside County, as well as Sunline Transit Authority, to provide the highest functional reliability of major roadways and the public transportation system serving the City and the region. The City shall also continue to coordinate with Riverside County Flood Control, the Coachella Valley Water District and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to address continuing flooding hazards that threaten people and property, and which may isolate portions of the community. Programs shall be developed to identify and address weak links in the circulation system, in conjunction with the efforts of other Coachella Valley jurisdictions.

Emergency Medical Facilities

Emergency medical services are provided by the City of Cathedral City Fire Department, which can provide paramedic services on-site and during emergency transport. Backup services are provided by American Medical Response, which maintains a ring-down communication line with City Fire Department dispatchers and has ambulances staffed with Emergency Medical Service personnel (paramedics). AMR can link with California Highway Patrol to provide airlift capabilities based out of the Thermal Airport, and with Mercy Air, which operates out of Banning. The Palm Springs International Airport is located within 5 miles of most portions of Cathedral City and provides an important access point to the western Coachella Valley for helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft.

There are three valley hospitals that can provide care and personnel in the event of an emergency. Most notably, Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs is a 388-bed acute care hospital and is a designated trauma center. Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage includes a general acute care hospital with 261 beds and emergency medical facilities. A third hospital, located in Indio, is the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital, an accredited community hospital with a 24-hour emergency room and 130 beds. (Please see the Health Services Element for more information on these hospitals). Should an emergency occur, the designated Emergency

Services Coordinator will contact and coordinate with these emergency medical service providers.



**The Cathedral City Emergency
Operations Center**

Emergency Operations Center

The City of Cathedral City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located at Fire Station 412 at 32100 Desert Vista Road, just south of Ramon Road. As outlined in the City’s Emergency Operations Plan, adopted in May, 2000, in the event of an emergency the EOC would be activated and serve to coordinate the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), “to organize response to the emergency or disaster, incorporating the functions, principles and components of ICS (i.e., unified command, action planning, span of control, hierarchy of command, etc.)” The City Manager is designated to serve as Director of Emergency Services.

Emergency Response & Organizational Structure

Cathedral City's emergency entities, including Fire and Police services, cooperate with other valley cities and the County on an on-going basis. In the event of a local or valley-wide emergency, such cooperation becomes essential to provide continuity of basic services and to manage large-scale emergency operations. While the City's Emergency Operations Plan addresses management functions of mutual aid, the hazard summary and response documents, which specify mutual aid field responses and strategies, are still to be developed. The City places development of these documents as a high priority. It is essential that coordination of mutual-functioning responses between valley cities, Riverside County, and the State of California are clearly defined and ready for implementation.

State and national organizations, such as the Red Cross and the National Guard, have specific roles in emergency management. The Red Cross, as mentioned in the Critical Facilities section of this Element, has primary responsibility for establishing and managing emergency shelters. The State National Guard will primarily serve as a peace-keeping or security force, unless required to function otherwise by an emergency declaration by the President of the United States. Should a large-scale regional or state-wide emergency require airlifting of stable injured individuals out of the State to make room for more severely injured, less mobile persons, the National Guard has the capability to provide that service.

Implementation of a plan in accordance with State and County requirements, and documentation steps followed in an emergency, are important to allow the City to recover costs associated with emergency management. Therefore, planning becomes crucial in accessing funds available for such emergencies and for safeguarding the City's on-going financial resources after an emergency has occurred.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

It is unclear whether private residential communities whose members previously received NEST training have since become involved in CERT; it is also unclear how such communities within the City would now be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours following an emergency. Therefore, in order to maximize critical facilities available to residents, the City should consider a more systematic approach to implementing the CERT program in gated communities that would allow it to quantify and readily identify participating and non-participating communities. This approach should also focus on developing and implementing a public information campaign targeting these communities, and should actively encourage their involvement in CERT training.

The Emergency Operations Plan implements the Emergency Preparedness Element. When completed, the Plan will provide detailed organizational directives, scopes of responsibilities, operational priorities, authority and powers, emergency communications protocols and, in summary, the comprehensive framework for effective emergency response. The City has begun the process of planning for a variety of contingencies and has in place a solid foundation for emergency preparedness.

It is very important that this process continue, that remaining components are completed, and that the Plan remain adaptable to all. Although the Emergency Preparedness Plan will remain a living document, baseline information provides a valuable structure for refinement and expansion of emergency preparedness efforts.

GOAL, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal

A detailed, integrated and effective emergency preparedness plan for the City ensuring a high level of readiness and responsiveness to man-made and natural disasters of any scope, and which maximizes response capabilities of the City, County, State and Federal governments.

Policy 1

The City shall give priority to completion of all hazard summaries and responses of the Emergency Operations Plan.

Program 1A

The City shall expedite scheduling and completion of the remaining fourteen (14) operations plans addressing fire protection, law enforcement, communications, public health, damage assessment and other emergency response parameters of Emergency Operations Plan.

Responsible Agency: City Manager, Fire Department, Police Department, All Other City Departments

Schedule: Immediately; on-going

Policy 2

The City shall maintain and update the Emergency Operations Plan to keep it updated with staffing and technical capabilities of the City and cooperating agencies.

Program 2.A

Periodically schedule and direct the review and revision of the Emergency Operations Plan and all completed Hazard Summaries and Responses.

Responsible Agency: City Manager, Fire Department, Police Department, Riverside County Emergency Services, Other City Departments

Schedule: Annually

Policy 3

The City realizes that aspects of the physical and urban environment pose potentially significant hazards and shall take proactive steps to minimize these threats to the community's residents, visitors and economy.

Program 3.A

The City shall evaluate the full range of physical constraints to the effective implementation of the Emergency Operations Plan, shall develop a strategic plan to address and minimize the effects of these constraints, and shall periodically report to the City Council on progress made in addressing these constraints.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Riverside County Emergency Services, Other City Departments

Schedule: Immediately; Annual Report

Program 3.B

The City shall coordinate with responsible flood control agencies and shall jointly develop long-term strategies and capital improvement plans that, to the extent practical, eliminate or minimize significant flooding hazards which threaten lives, property and emergency access.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, County Flood Control, CVWD

Schedule: 2002-03; Update every five years

Program 3.C

The City shall ensure that responsible domestic water providers comply with State requirements for water storage and distribution systems to withstand strong groundshaking and other seismic hazards.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Department, Desert Water Agency, CVWD

Schedule: 2002-03

Policy 4

The City shall identify and establish emergency evacuation and supply routes and plans to preserve or reestablish the use of East Palm Canyon Drive, Dinah Shore Drive, Interstate-10 and other essential transportation routes.

Program 4.A

Establish and appoint a staff liaison with adjoining cities, Riverside County, CVAG and CalTrans to facilitate the designation of emergency evacuation and supply routes, and for the development of a multi-agency emergency response plan that provides expeditious and timely repair to major streets and highways damaged by earthquakes, flooding or other disasters.

Responsible Agency: City Manager, Public Works Department, Cities of Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage and Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County Emergency Services, CalTrans, CVAG

Schedule: 2002; Continuous

Policy 5

Formal lines of communication shall be established and maintained between the City and the US Geological Service and/or the California Institute of Technology to assure the provision of earthquake predictions that may impact the City and surrounding area.

Program 5.A

The City shall contact Caltech and the appropriate office of the US Geological Survey and shall establish a liaison and procedures by which these organizations contact and inform the City of earthquake predictions that may affect the community.

Responsible Agency: City Manager, Fire Department, Police Department,

Schedule: 2002; Continuous

Policy 6

The City shall cooperate and coordinate with Riverside County Emergency Services, local utility purveyors and other agencies and utilities in the preparation of public information materials to assist residents, visitors and business owners in responding to local disasters and emergencies.

Program 6.A

The City shall coordinate and cooperate with County Emergency Services, Desert Water Agency, CVWD, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas, and other agencies and utilities in the development and dissemination of information and instructions on appropriate actions in the event of a local disaster or emergency.

Responsible Agency: City Council, City Manager, Fire Department, Police Department, Riverside County Emergency Services, SCE, SCG, DWA, CVWD

Schedule: 2002; Continuous

Program 6.B

Coordinate with local schools and appropriate public and quasi-public agencies to assure that a public information program is developed and broadly implemented to advise the community on how to prepare for and cope in a local disaster or emergency.

Responsible Agency: City Council, City Manager, Fire Department, Palm Springs Unified School District

Schedule: 2002; Continuous

Policy 7

The City shall thoroughly consider and assess vulnerability to natural and manmade disasters or emergencies when reviewing proposals for the siting and development of critical and essential public/quasi-public facilities.

Program 7.A

In order to assure the maximum possible protection from environmental and manmade hazards, including earthquakes and flooding, the City shall consider their vulnerability to natural and manmade disasters and emergencies when reviewing proposals for critical and essential facilities, as well as sensitive land uses.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Public Works Department, Fire Department, Police Department,

Schedule: Continuous

Policy 8

Where feasible, the City shall encourage the development of critical facilities within private residential communities in order to ensure the preparedness and safety during periods of disaster which may limit accessibility and resources.

Program 8.A

Coordinate with local gated communities to train and educate residents, and then to implement, develop and maintain emergency preparedness plans and stockpile supplies, in accordance with the CITIZENS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS (CERT) program, to ensure their self-sufficiency for a period of at least 72 hours following an emergency or disaster.

Responsible Agency: City Council, City Manager, Fire Department, gated communities.

Schedule: 2002, Continuous

Program 8.B

Develop and maintain a record-keeping system indicating which gated communities have participated in the CERT training, and communicate with those communities on an annual basis to schedule training updates.

Responsible Agency: Assistant City Manager, Fire Department, gated communities.

Schedule: 2002, Continuous

Program 8.C

Develop a public information and awareness program targeting gated communities, actively encouraging participation and annual training updates.

Responsible Agency: Assistant City Manager, Fire Department, gated communities.

Schedule: 2002, Continuous

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

This Element describes and provides background information on the various public and quasi-public facilities and structures in the City. It is intended to provide sufficient information to identify important structures and to assure that adequate facilities are provided to meet the demands of the growing community. The element is also meant to provide sufficient information to identify issues associated with these important and critical facilities. Implementation of the element will help to assure coordinated planning and development. The Element also sets forth goals, policies and programs, which address the City's long-term planning needs.

BACKGROUND

The importance of coordinated planning, funding and operation of essential public facilities is clearly recognized by state, county and local jurisdictions. Government Code Section 65103(c) states that the planning agency is to "annually review the Capital Improvement Program of the City or County and the local public works projects of other local agencies for their consistency with the General Plan..." Furthermore, according to Government Code Section 65303, the local jurisdiction may emphasize the importance of this issue by requiring an optional Public Facilities Element in the General Plan

The Public Buildings and Facilities Element is directly related to the Land Use Element, which assigns land use designations and assures that adequate and optimally planned lands are available for existing and future public buildings and facilities. It is also related to the Circulation Element, which is directed at providing efficient, safe transportation corridors throughout the City, and especially to essential public facilities. The Community Design Element, which sets forth the architectural and design criteria to be used throughout the community, is responsive to occasional aesthetic issues that arise with the siting and construction of these buildings and facilities.

The City contains a number of public buildings and facilities, ranging from the Civic Center to schools and libraries, fire stations, post offices and other public buildings, as well as telephone and cable transmission lines.

Civic Center's Archways



City and utility maintenance yards and facilities, roads, bridges and traffic signals also fall into this category. Advance planning for public facilities assures that they are built in time to accommodate existing and anticipated future needs of the community. Some, most notably utility infrastructure, play a key role in determining the location, intensity and timing of future development. Most of these facilities are shown on the General Plan map included in this element.

The location of public buildings and facilities is largely based on their function in the community. These functional criteria should not preclude the logical and sensitive integration of these facilities into the City's existing and planned land use patterns. Fire and police stations, for example, should be strategically located throughout the community so as to provide optimal emergency response times. Public office buildings in which residents and City officials conduct business should be conveniently located, with safe public access and adequate parking. Electrical substations, water wells, and other utility infrastructure can be effectively screened from public view and aesthetically and cost-effectively integrated into the natural and built environment.

Public Buildings and Facilities

Civic Center

The City has made a substantial commitment to the redevelopment of its downtown. The Civic Center, which houses City Hall and the Police Station, is located at 68-700 Avenida Lalo Guerro, and serves as an important civic monument and community focal point in the heart of the downtown district. The building is designed on a grand scale with strong neo-classical architectural features. It overlooks a public plaza, which showcases several art sculptures and a fountain courtyard; this space serves as a dynamic and beautiful community-gathering place for important civic and other community functions.

The building opened in July 1998 and encompasses approximately 65,000 square feet. It houses the Police Department and city staff and administrative offices, including the Mayor's office and City Council chambers. As part of the downtown redevelopment effort, the City has constructed a multi-level parking structure immediately west of City Hall, providing parking for theater-goers, shoppers and other visitors to the downtown. This structure opened in Spring, 2001.



The Cathedral City City Hall Building

Corporate Yard

The City's corporate yard is located at 68-385 Kieley Road, near Cathedral Canyon Drive. The facility includes two masonry buildings, which comprise a total of approximately 8,500 square feet. One building serves as a vehicle maintenance garage/workshop, and the other includes staff

offices for the Public Works Department and warehousing space. The remainder of the site consists of an asphalt parking lot, which accommodates staff and City-owned vehicles. City staff has indicated that additional parking space is needed and that the corporate yard may be expanded in the future.

Cathedral City Community Center

The Cathedral City Community Center is fully funded and operated by the City's Parks and Recreation Division. It is located at 68-727 E. Palm Canyon Drive and occupies approximately 10,000 square feet in two buildings: the City-owned community center building, and the old library building, which the City leases from Riverside County. The Senior Center, described below, occupies an additional 3,000 square feet of the Community Center building.

The Community Center offers a wide range of community programs and activities, including day camps, dance and tumbling programs, karate lessons, bridge clubs, and seasonal/holiday festivities. Large and small meeting rooms are available to scouts, clubs and other community groups.

City staff has identified the need for a new, larger community center in the northern portion of the City. Proposed programs and facilities would include more adult and evening classes, a day care program, and a gymnasium, swimming pool and/or other recreational facilities.

Cathedral City Senior Center

The Cathedral City Senior Center has been serving the City for more than 20 years and is located at 68-727 E. Palm Canyon Drive. It is a private, non-profit organization, which is partially funded by the City of Cathedral City, and is open Monday through Friday, with special events on weekends and evenings. Programs include crafts, bingo, dancing, lectures and a variety of other activities. The center also operates an Outreach Program, which recently acquired a van for transporting seniors to and from the center.

Fire Stations

Cathedral City operates its own fire department and has made a concentrated effort to assure the highest level of fire protection services for the community. The Cathedral City Fire Department is responsible for fire suppression, fire prevention, paramedic services, disaster preparedness, hazardous materials response and code enforcement. It operates three fire stations, including Station No. 411 at 36-913 Date Palm Drive; Station No. 412 at 32-100 Desert Vista Road; and Station No. 413 at 27-610 Landau Boulevard. The Department maintains mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for additional fire support. Please refer to the Fire and Police Protection Element for more information about the City's fire services and facilities.

Police Department

The Cathedral City Police Department is located within the City Hall Building at 68-700 Avenida Lalo Guerrero. The Department also operates three satellite offices, known as "Community Police Service Offices," at the following locations: 1) 68-100 Ramon Road, 2) 34-481 Date Palm Drive, and 3) 69-038 East Palm Canyon Drive. The Department is staffed by approximately 55 sworn officers, 6 reserve officers, and 29 support and administrative personnel. Additional support is provided by the Citizens on Patrol program, which currently enrolls

approximately 50 volunteers. The Police Department implements a wide range of community programs, including Neighborhood Watch, D.A.R.E., Racing for Kids, and the Police Explorers Program.

Schools

The Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) provides public education services and facilities to the City of Cathedral City. Eight schools are located within the planning area, including the following: Agua Caliente Elementary, Cathedral City Elementary, Landau Elementary, Sunny Sands Elementary, Nellie N. Coffman Middle, James Workman Middle, Cathedral City High, and Mt. San Jacinto Continuation High. Private educational facilities and services are provided by the Calvary Bible Christian School and First School of the Desert in Cathedral City, and other private schools in the Coachella Valley.

Three colleges and universities offer a wide range of certificate, degree and vocational programs to residents of the Coachella Valley. The Coachella Valley Campus of Chapman University is located on Cook Street in the City of Palm Desert. In 2001, College of the Desert (COD) enrolls approximately 8,600 students, and the Coachella Valley Campus of California State University-San Bernardino (CSUSB), which enrolls approximately 800 students. The new CSUSB campus at Cook Street and Frank Sinatra Drive in Palm Desert will serve thousands of students. Educational facilities and services are discussed further in the Schools and Libraries Element.

Cathedral City Public Library

The Cathedral City Public Library is located at 33-520 Date Palm Drive and is a branch of the Riverside County Library System. The 20,000 square foot facility opened in 1996 and includes approximately 70,000 volumes. It offers a full range of community services, including computer workshops, literacy programs, youth activities, and an HIV/AIDS information center. Regional library facilities include the College of the Desert Library in Palm Desert, the medical library at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, and other branches of the Riverside County Library System. Please refer to the Schools and Libraries Element for more information about these facilities.

Post Offices

A new U.S. Post Office opened in Cathedral City in January 2000. The Post Office is a full-service facility located at 33-940 Date Palm Drive, at the intersection of Date Palm Drive and Dave Kelley Road. It provides all the basic postal services offered in most other facilities, including post office boxes, voter registration forms, mail boxes, shipping services and postage stamp sales.

Utility Infrastructure

Utility buildings and facilities, including electrical substations and switching facilities and well sites, can generate noise and also detract from the scenic value of an area. Landscaping and architectural elements can be incorporated into the design of these structures to minimize their visual and noise impacts, screen them from public view, and assure their compatibility with the surrounding built and natural environment. Effective design elements include decorative block walls, vegetative buffers, and the use of locally compatible architectural style and color. Some utility transmission lines can be undergrounded to shield them from view.

The primary utility companies serving the City of Cathedral City are the Coachella Valley Water District, Desert Water Agency (DWA), Southern California Edison (SCE), Verizon, Time Warner, and Southern California Gas Company. Major utility buildings and facilities in the City include a Verizon telephone sub-switching unit on the east side of Date Palm Drive, south of McCallum Way, and DWA sewage pumping plants on Date Palm Drive and Cathedral Canyon. SCE has three substations within the City limits, and one immediately outside the City limits which may serve Cathedral City residents.

Drainage Facilities

The City's primary drainage facility is the Whitewater River Stormwater Channel, which extends from Vista Chino, southeast to East Palm Canyon Drive. Additional capital projects, such as levees, channels and detention/retention basins have been constructed within the City to manage local and regional drainage, particularly in the vicinity of the mountain cove areas of the City. The planned Mid-Valley Stormwater Channel will be constructed immediately east of the City limits and south of the Union Pacific Railroad lines.

Drainage is typically divided into two categories, local and regional drainage, which are ultimately interrelated. Local drainage refers to limited drainage areas and the generation of runoff associated with urban development. Regional drainage consists of high-volume runoff and facilities capturing and conveying runoff from a larger geographic area. There is a mix of responsibilities among the City, Riverside County Flood Control District, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Coachella Valley Water District regarding the ownership and management of local and regional drainage facilities. These agencies maintain close cooperation and coordination with one another regarding flood control planning and the management of drainage facilities in the community. Please refer to the Flooding and Hydrology Element for more information about local and regional drainage.

Critical Structures

The term "critical structure" refers to any building or facility that provides important and/or essential emergency services following a major disruptive event, such as an earthquake, flood or fire. Critical structures include fire and police stations, hospitals, major airports and roadways, and primary communications facilities.

They may also include other civic structures, as well as school facilities. These structures should be located, to the greatest extent practical, in areas that are the least susceptible to impacts from seismic activity, flooding and other hazardous occurrences. Specifically, they should not be located within or near the 100-year floodplain or a fault zone.

Given the City's proximity to the Whitewater River, and the San Andreas and other fault zones, special considerations should be made in the construction of critical structures. In particular, the City and other responsible agencies should assure that thorough engineering analyses are performed, to the extent necessary, prior to construction of future critical facilities. Building design should include allowances for the offset of building foundations resulting from surface displacements. These and other safety issues are addressed in more detail in the Geotechnical, Flooding and Hydrology, and Emergency Preparedness Elements of the General Plan.

Exhibit VI-2: Public Buildings & Facilities

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The continued funding of public services and facilities is crucial to meeting essential needs of the community, and the construction and/or expansion of new facilities will be necessary as the City continues to grow. Until December 1999, the City's Community Services District (CSD) provided a steady revenue stream to fund law enforcement, parks and recreation, street lighting and other public services and facilities. In December 1999, the residents of Cathedral City voted to terminate the CSD. With the loss of CSD income, the City will have to pursue other funding opportunities, such as state and federal grants, General Fund revenues, and the expanded use of volunteers, to meet increasing demands for public services.

Each year, local government agencies (including cities, counties, school districts and special districts) planning the construction of capital facilities must submit to the planning agency a list of proposed projects which they would like implemented. The City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies existing and proposed projects that require on-going and forward-looking governmental funding, such as traffic signals, street widenings and repavings, parks and recreation facilities, and public parking lots. It is essential that the City carefully review and adjust its CIP, as necessary, to assure consistency with General Plan goals and policies and to respond to the changing needs of the community.

GOALS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

Dependable, cost-effective, and conveniently located public buildings, services and facilities, which meet the current and future needs of the City residents.

Goal 2

Public buildings and facilities with optimal functionality, while being compatible with surrounding land uses and aesthetically integrated into the City's built and natural environments.

Policy 1

The Land Use Element shall assure the long-term availability of sites for future public and quasi-public buildings, infrastructure, and other facilities.

Program 1.A

The City shall periodically review its official Land Use Map and development patterns to assure the availability of adequate sites for future public and quasi-public buildings, infrastructure, and other facilities. The City shall confer and coordinate with utilities and other public and quasi-public agencies regarding their long-term needs.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Public Works Department, CVWD, DWA, Riverside County Flood Control, SCE, SCG, Verizon, Time Warner

Schedule: 2003-2004; every five years

Policy 2

Continue to identify and evaluate viable, long-term funding mechanisms that provide for the construction, maintenance and operation of existing and future public buildings and facilities.

Policy 3

The City shall routinely evaluate and update, as appropriate, its Capital Improvement Program.

Program 3.A

Establish and implement a Capital Improvement Program review and update schedule, which includes annual reviews, analysis and comprehensive revisions every five years.

Responsible Agency: City Manager, City Council, All City Departments

Schedule: Annual review; comprehensive revision every five years

Policy 4

Coordinate with public utility providers and other public/quasi-public agencies to assure that utility buildings and facilities are compatible with the surrounding landscape.

Program 4.A

The City shall establish and maintain close working relationships with utility purveyors and other public and quasi-public agencies serving the City to assure the least intrusive integration of related buildings and facilities into the community.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Public Works Department, CVWD, DWA, SCE, SCG, Verizon, Time Warner

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Program 4.B

All new maintenance and utility facilities (and their signage) shall be integrated into the surrounding environment using landscape treatments, architectural elements, and/or other appropriate design mechanisms. Whether as a regulatory or advisory function, design plans shall be reviewed by the Planning Department.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Public Works Department, CVWD, DWA, Riverside County Flood Control, SCE, SCG, Verizon, Time Warner

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 5

All public buildings and facilities shall comply with the same development standards as private development.

Policy 6

To the greatest extent practical, the City shall encourage the undergrounding of electrical power lines

Program 6.A

Consult and coordinate with Southern California Edison regarding the costs, methods, potential barriers to, and feasibility of undergrounding electrical power lines.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Southern California Edison

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 7

Critical structures and facilities (including civic administrative center, hospitals, fire stations, police stations, schools and major communications facilities) shall be restricted from geologically and hydrologically hazardous areas, to the greatest extent practical.

Program 7.A

The City shall review all development proposals for new critical structures to assure they demonstrate safety in terms of geologic, hydrologic and other engineering conditions of the site.

Responsible Agency: Planning Department, Public Works Department

Schedule: Immediate; Continuous

Policy 8

Investigate the feasibility of expanding the City's existing corporate yard to accommodate larger office space, parking lots and maintenance facilities.

Policy 9

Investigate the feasibility of constructing a new community center in the northern portion of the City, including potential sites and funding opportunities.

ARTS AND CULTURE ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The City's aesthetic values are reflected in, and provide the basis for, cultural identification throughout the community's planning efforts. The Arts and Culture Element presents policies and programs that maximize the role the City can play in encouraging and supporting the cultural development of the community. In addition to the direct support given to City-sponsored activities and facilities, the City can and should play an important role in helping to encourage and enhance the activities of public and private nonprofit enterprises supporting the arts. The purpose and intent of this involvement is to further a better understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the cultural environment in Cathedral City.

BACKGROUND

Elements directly related to arts and culture include the Community Image and Urban Design Element, the Archaeological and Historical Resources Element, the Open Space and Conservation Element and the Schools and Libraries Element. The Parks and Recreation Element plays an essential role in providing facilities and coordinated activities for sport and recreation. In addition, the Biological Resources Element recognizes the community's vested interest in and dedication to the preservation of wildlife and habitat, and as the reason many have chosen to live in the city.

South View of Cathedral City Civic Center



The cultural and artistic tradition of the City of Cathedral City and the Coachella Valley have a long and interesting history of human culture to draw upon, extending from Cahuilla Indian rock art, pottery and basketry, to the modern city with state-of-the-art technologies and communication systems. Those living in the city today comprise a wide range of artistic appreciation and cultural diversity, with common roots and shared values. Our awareness of this cultural tradition, as well as natural environment, is essential to forming the cultural sensitivity of our community. This is the basis of the City's culture and art.

In 1992, the city began the implementation of a Downtown Revitalization Strategy. A new Civic Center and street improvements along the East Palm Canyon Drive corridor were completed in 1998. The first of a series of Downtown projects that have been completed include the City Hall and Police Department, the Desert IMAX Theater, the Fountain of Life, the Mary Pickford Theater and Experience, and various retail shops and restaurants.

Future Downtown projects will include more restaurants, shops, plazas and other public gathering places, all of which will set the stage for increased opportunities for Art in Public Places and cultural events

Within the City, the Downtown Revitalization Strategy includes the development of an Arts Program, which focuses on providing a welcoming and stimulating environment for practicing artists to live, work and present their art to the community. A concerted effort is in place to make art a more integral part of citizens' lives by encouraging the expansion of the arts in the school system, establishing new educational activities, inviting broader participation of students and designers in local public arts opportunities and creating venues for local artists.



The Mary Pickford Theatre

An Arts in Public Places program has been established and fees are collected to support the projects being developed. These and other arts and culture issues are discussed below.

Unlike many areas of community planning, which are relatively distinct in their application to the city limits, the arts and culture focus is better viewed on a valley-wide basis. Residents of Cathedral City are able to enjoy cultural resources that have been supported by all Valley residents, including such facilities as the Palm Springs Desert Museum, the Agua Caliente Museum, the McCallum Theater, and the Children's Discovery Museum. The Living Desert Preserve also provides important cultural opportunities for residents and visitors of all communities in the Coachella Valley.

Cultural Venues

IMAX Theater

The Desert IMAX Theater is in the core of the city's newly developed Downtown. The six-story, 279-seat 2D/3D theatre projects large format movies onto the largest screen in the desert communities. The theater also offers educational film experiences relevant to specific curricula followed by local schools.

Teachers' supplements and resource guides incorporate subjects such as the sciences, computer studies, environmental studies, geography, social studies, astronomy, history, creative arts, and technology.



Imax Theater on East Palm Canyon Drive

The Mary Pickford Theatre and Experience (Museum) opened in spring of 2001. The theatre is a 14-screen, first-run movie house with state-of-the-art auditoriums, digital sound and stadium seating. One of the auditoriums is equipped with a stage and movable screen to handle live performances

and special showings. The museum displays items from the estate of silver screen star Mary Pickford, using objects, video, lighting and storyboards to illustrate the actress' life, historical setting, and influence on Hollywood. The museum has been made possible by the generosity of Buddy and Beverly Rogers.

Palm Springs Desert Museum

The Palm Springs Desert Museum is a fine arts and natural history museum located in Palm Springs. In addition to indoor exhibition space and instruction facilities, the Desert Museum also has an outstanding sculpture garden. This facility also houses the Annenberg Theater, which is the site of a wide array of cultural programs ranging from classical and popular music to theater and education programs. The natural history programs include dioramas of desert and mountain habitats and wildlife, and in-house education programs on the natural world. The museum is also an important repository for cultural artifacts of the Agua Caliente Indians.

Agua Caliente Museum

The Agua Caliente Museum, currently (2001) located in the Village Green Heritage Center in Palm Springs, is planning the development of a tribal museum in Palm Springs. The Agua Caliente Tribe has designated a twenty-acre site in the Indian Canyons Heritage Preserve to be home for a museum complex that will include exhibits, classrooms, a library, auditorium, restaurant, botanical garden, Cahuilla village recreation, and hiking trails. The museum will be an important catalyst for the advancement of the rich Cahuilla cultural heritage.

McCallum Theater and The Bob Hope Cultural Center

The McCallum Theater at the Bob Hope Cultural Center is a 1,200-seat performance facility located on the campus of the College of the Desert. A wide variety of cultural events are staged at this facility and range from accomplished local theater and concert performances to similar activity by world renowned performers and orchestras. A wide variety of popular music and theater are performed at this facility, which is also the venue for the annual Diana Hodges International Piano Competition

The Living Desert

The Living Desert is a non-profit education and conservation center located in Palm Desert. It includes a 1,200-acre zoological park representing over 150 species including coyotes, bighorn sheep, oryx, zebras, desert tortoises, lizards, cheetahs and meerkats. The botanical gardens represent 10 different desert ecosystems. The center also features wilderness hiking trails, Native American exhibits and special events and programs throughout the year.

Children's Discovery Museum

The Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert is dedicated to the cultural and artistic development of children. Located in Rancho Mirage on Gerald Ford Drive, it is a hands-on museum that serves all ages of children by encouraging the exploration of the natural environment and the community. The museum also houses a museum store, performing arts center, outdoor amphitheater, community gardens and covered picnic area.

Palm Springs Air Museum

The Palm Springs Air Museum is dedicated to the preservation, presentation and interpretation of the Air Power of World War II, its relevance and significance upon the course of history, and its impact on contemporary life. The museum has one of the world's largest collections of flying World War II warplanes. Exhibits include combat photography, original artworks, artifacts, uniforms, and video documentaries. Regularly featured are flight demonstrations of the museum's collection and visiting aircraft, both historic and contemporary.

Festivals

Festival of Festivals

The City of Cathedral City serves as the host city and provides the central valley-wide box office for the Coachella Valley Festival of Festivals, a new film festival. It features the best films from festivals throughout the world. The Mary Pickford Theatre is used for the opening and closing nights of the film festival, with other valley theaters and venues participating throughout the event.



The Kaleidoscope Festival

The Kaleidoscope Festival celebrates the diverse culture that is Cathedral City. The event, sponsored by the Cathedral City Chamber of Commerce to promote a sense of community, features international arts and crafts vendors, music and entertainment from local schools and performers. It is held annually in Town Square.

The Town Square at Civic Center

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS AND APPRECIATION

Art in Public Places

The placement of art in public places is another significant opportunity to express and reinforce the cultural cohesion of the community. Consistent with the principle of a low density resort residential community that values its mountains and wild places, public art can integrate native landscaping along major roadways to reflect the surrounding Santa Rosas and desert washes. It can include the attentive design and placement of public buildings, as well as placement of manmade monumental sculpture on public lands, or within the rights-of-way of major roadways.

The Art in Public Places Program has been created in order to promote the general welfare of the city through balancing the community's physical growth and revitalization of its cultural and artistic resources. The city's Art in Public Places ordinance has established a Public Art or In Lieu Payment requirement collected at the time building permits are issued. New projects for this program are developed on an ongoing basis.

Fountain of Life

The interactive Fountain of Life is one of the City's initial responses to the concept of art in public places. Located in the Civic Center Plaza, it is designed to encourage children and adults to walk and play in the fountain, which has a soft surface made from recycled tires, a gift of the Agua Caliente Band of Mission Indians. Reflecting the nature and history of the desert, the fountain features stone columns surrounded by sculptures of desert wildlife.

The Fountain of Life located in front of the Town Square

Sites including Town Square, the City Library, City Hall, The Mary Pickford Theatre, and the Desert IMAX Theater are all suitable locations for public art. A bronze sculpture, *Hollywood Hero*, donated by actor George Montgomery, has been installed in Town Square, demonstrating the beauty of such public art. Murals offer various opportunities to convert blank walls into interesting canvases. Also appropriate are the Fountain of Life, and City-owned parks and open space areas, which offer important opportunities for local artists to display or perform their work and hold workshops and classes.





The Fire House has a painted mural on the back of the building resembling an open bay garage for the fire engines

Cathedral City Public Arts Commission

The Cathedral City Public Arts Commission (CCPAC) has been established to help the community attain the benefits of the arts by making them more accessible, establishing specific programs, securing funding and creating a clear policy and procedural guidelines. It develops and presents concepts to the City Council and organizes and directs subcommittees to take advantage of the special talents of individuals within the community. Comprised of seven commissioners, its goal is to enhance the image of Cathedral City as being a magnet for the arts and artists, by engaging in highly visible projects and programs which are designed for citizen participation. Establishing temporary exhibit spaces for local artists, organizing performance arts events, and joining with other Coachella Valley cultural leaders to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest are also some of the core objectives of the Commission.

The Cathedral City Public Arts Commission has adopted an Arts Plan to carry out these and other goals and concepts. This document sets forth Cathedral City's vision of an arts program and outlines strategies for implementing it.

Land Use Planning as a Strategy for Cultural Resource Preservation

Cathedral City's resort residential lifestyle and a close association with wildlife and the environment have been consistently recognized as integral parts of the community's culture and traditions. The development of the General Plan Land Use map has been based on several central values embraced by the community. These include the desire to preserve open spaces to assure the long-term enjoyment of wildlands and wildlife, and to preserve and protect the cultural heritage of local Native Americans. The Land Use Element and various elements of the General Plan take these and other special concerns into account and will play an active role in preserving these community assets for future generations.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Part of the fabric of a community is woven by the resources for cultural enrichment that are offered to its citizens. The goals and policies of the Arts and Culture Element are intended to help foster a civic environment where artistic expression and cultural diversity can flourish. Like the element devoted to Economic Development, the relation of arts and culture to the physical environment is indirect, but both have decided influences on the quality of life offered in Cathedral City.

There are several means available to implement the Arts and Culture Element, including the integration of public art into main city entries and focal points. The City may also encourage developers to include sculpture and cultural icons into major project corners, entries and parkway treatments.

GOALS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

Develop, maintain, nurture and promote cultural and artistic awareness, expression and diversity as a way to enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Goal 2

Provide an improved sense of community through the integration of the arts into the civic identity, through cultural programs, facilities and events, and all aspects of the arts.

Policy 1

Recognize and promote the arts, artists, performing arts, and cultural organizations as valuable resources of our community for economic vitality and tourism.

Program 1.A

The City shall proactively sponsor and support performing arts, musical events, exhibitions and festivals in the venues provided by theatres, plazas, squares, parks and other areas available for such events within the city.

Responsible Agencies: Public Arts Commission; Parks and Recreation Department; Economic Development Department; Technology Department; City Council

Schedule: Continuous

Policy 2

Through mutual programs and public-private partnerships, encourage corporate, business and foundation support of artistic and cultural activities.

Program 3

Create a series of public art programs throughout the community.

Program 3.A

Encourage cooperation between the schools and community cultural and arts organizations to increase exposure to, appreciation of, and participation in, our cultural activities and heritage.

Responsible Agencies: Public Arts Commission; Parks and Recreation Department; PSUSD

Schedule: Continuous

Program 3.B

The City shall encourage the development of an arts appreciation curriculum, designed to provide positive reinforcement to each student, which would offer elementary and secondary school students the opportunity to become knowledgeable and skilled in the arts. This could include after-school and summer programs dealing with the arts, which may utilize city property, including walls for murals.

Responsible Agencies: Public Arts Commission; Planning Department; Parks and Recreation Department; PSUSD; Technology Department, Developers

Schedule: Continuous

Program 3.C

When reviewing development proposals, the City shall consider the inclusion of venues for public art, as well as venues for music and the performing arts. As their Public Art or In Lieu Payment requirement, developers may choose to designate their contribution to this program.

Responsible Agencies: Public Arts Commission; Planning Department

Schedule: Continuous

Policy 4

Recognize that by their nature, the arts are developmental, experimental and controversial, and take a leadership role in creating an atmosphere in which creative expression can flourish.

Policy 5

The Arts Commission should consider the City's varied and diverse cultural heritage when planning programs and projects for the City Council's consideration.