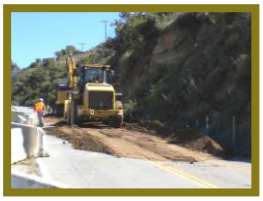
VI. Community Protection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Introduction

An important role of local government is the protection of people and property from natural and man-made hazards. The challenge of protecting the community in times of emergency requires a highly trained, organized, and dedicated staff that is able to respond to incidents at a moment's notice. Additionally, in an environment that values efficiency and a proactive approach to problem solving, the ability to properly prepare for emergencies is also critical for minimizing losses to life and property.

Maintaining a safe environment for Escondido with high quality emergency services is critical to ensuring the community's quality of life. As Escondido continues to grow and urban areas continue to intensify with taller buildings, new employment centers, and additional traffic, the City's emergency personnel will need to adapt to changing conditions within the community.

The Community Protection Element's Purpose

California State General Plan Guidelines direct agencies to incorporate a number of elements into their General Plans including Safety. Escondido's Community Protection Element addresses such issues as flood and fire hazards, geologic and seismic activity, and hazardous materials. Sections regarding Emergency Response and Protection, and Police and Fire service are also included. The Element also includes a section addressing Noise, which is required component for General Plans.

The City of Escondido prepared or participated in the production of two other documents which support and provide implementation measures for the Goals and policies of the Community Protection Element. The City's Climate Action Plan provides a roadmap for reducing Green House Gases and contains a Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Report for the purpose of reducing vulnerability to projected climate change effects, increasing the local capacity to adapt, and building resilience in the city. Adaptation Measures and Actions were developed as part of the Climate Action Plan update process to address the City's priority climate impacts, which have been incorporated herein. [1]The second document is the Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) which conducted a county wide and City of Escondido Specific Risk Assessment, identifying five primary hazards and developing a mitigation strategy to reduce risks associated with those hazards.

The purpose of the Community Protection Element is to identify and address the most relevant public safety issues affecting the community. In addition, the Element offers possible solutions and establishes standards and policies for proactively addressing threats to life and property. The goals and policies established to minimize dangers set forth the framework that will regulate existing and proposed development in hazard-prone areas

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[1] Incorporation by reference is an OPR recommended practice used to incorporate documents which demonstrate the lead agency is complying with local, state, and federal regulatory requirements

Escondido's Police and Fire Headquarters Facility

Relationship to Other Elements in the General Plan

Integrating the goals and policies of the Community Protection Element requires coordination with other related components of the General Plan as well as companion master plans, codes, and ordinances. Other General Plan Elements that are affected by community protection include Land Use and Urban Form, Mobility and Infrastructure, as well as Natural Resources and Open Space. Policies established in the Community Protection Element affect how land uses and infrastructure are developed in areas prone to natural hazards. Recommendations for evacuation and emergency access routes overlap with the City's Circulation Plan. The proper coordination, development and maintenance of drainage infrastructure are essential for ensuring against flooding. Community protection is linked with natural resource and open space areas due to threats of erosion and wildfires that must be addressed.

A. Emergency Response and Protection

An emergency includes any unplanned event that can cause deaths or significant injuries, disrupt operations, cause physical or environmental damage, or threaten the community's reputation or revenue. Examples of emergencies the City has experienced in the past includes wildfires, earthquakes, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Preparing for an emergency can reduce the fear, anxiety, and losses that can occur. An integrated approach to the management of emergency programs and activities promotes a sense of order and control when responding to emergencies. The General Plan includes an emergency evacuation route to aid in the orderly and rapid movement of people away from a threat or actual occurrence of a hazard (Figure VI-1). Evacuation routes identified within the City include those identified by the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services, specifically Interstate 15 and westbound State Route 78. Policies that minimize threats to public safety by preparing the City to address potential emergencies with a coordinated response are included at the end of this element.

The ongoing effort to lessen the impact emergencies may have on people and property is critical to avoiding certain disasters. This includes such precautions as avoiding construction in high-risk areas, proper fuel modification in fire-prone areas, designing development to withstand earthquakes and flooding, and ensuring critical equipment supplies are available such as personal protection equipment (PPE). A critical component of preparing for emergencies involves being in a state of readiness to provide a rapid emergency response, including training exercises and logistics. Minimizing loss of life, injury, and damage to property is vital in appropriately responding to emergencies. After the emergency is over, the recovery process of resuming normal operations is important for ensuring community safety and stability

1. Emergency Preparedness

The City of Escondido's Emergency Preparedness Division maintains an all-hazards Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that defines the actions and roles necessary to provide a coordinated response within the Planning Area before, during, and following extraordinary emergencies associated with natural, manmade, and technological disasters. The plan has built-in flexibility to allow use in all emergencies and facilitates response and short-term recovery activities. It was developed in accordance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

The EOP is also designed to integrate into and support the County of San Diego's Operational Area Emergency Plan for a more seamless multi-jurisdictional response to disasters. The EOP includes detailed sections related to: Hazard Profiles, Training and Exercises, Assignment of Responsibilities, Mutual Aid, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Emergency Declarations, Public Information, Finance, and Logistics. The City has an-always ready Emergency Operations Center and an alternate EOC for use, if necessary. In the event of a major emergency, the EOC would be used to coordinate resources, assist in mitigating the emergency, and properly allocate emergency resources and relief aid.

The City of Escondido is included in the County of San Diego's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP). The plan serves as both a countywide plan, as well as a plan for local jurisdictions, that identifies risks posed by natural and human-made disasters before a hazard event occurs. The MJHMP for Escondido was developed in conjunction with the County of San Diego and other jurisdictions in the County. The MJHMP was crafted in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and followed the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) 2011 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance. The MJHMP, originally adopted in 2018 and updated in 2023, incorporates a process whereby hazards are identified and profiled, the people and facilities at risk are analyzed, and mitigation actions are developed to reduce or eliminate hazard risk. The implementation of these mitigation actions, which include both short and long-term strategies, involve planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities

The Risk Assessment was conducted county-wide and can be found under the County Hazard Mitigation plan. The MJHMP is fully integrated into the Safety Element. The MJHMP's Risk Assessment identified the City's top five hazards, which include wildland fires, earthquakes, dam failure/flood events, drought, and extreme heat. The City also maintains an Evacuation and Repopulation Plan. This plan provides an analysis of Escondido's hazard profiles and provides feasibility of evacuation based on hazard scenarios.

Escondido's Climate Action Plan (ECAP) includes a Vulnerability Assessment which identifies several climate change related effects including increased temperatures, extreme weather events, frequency and intensity of precipitation, wildfire risk, flooding and landslides. The ECAP, referenced above and incorporated by reference in this element, outlines Adaptation Measures and Actions that will mitigate the potential effects of environmental impacts related to GHG emission and climate change.

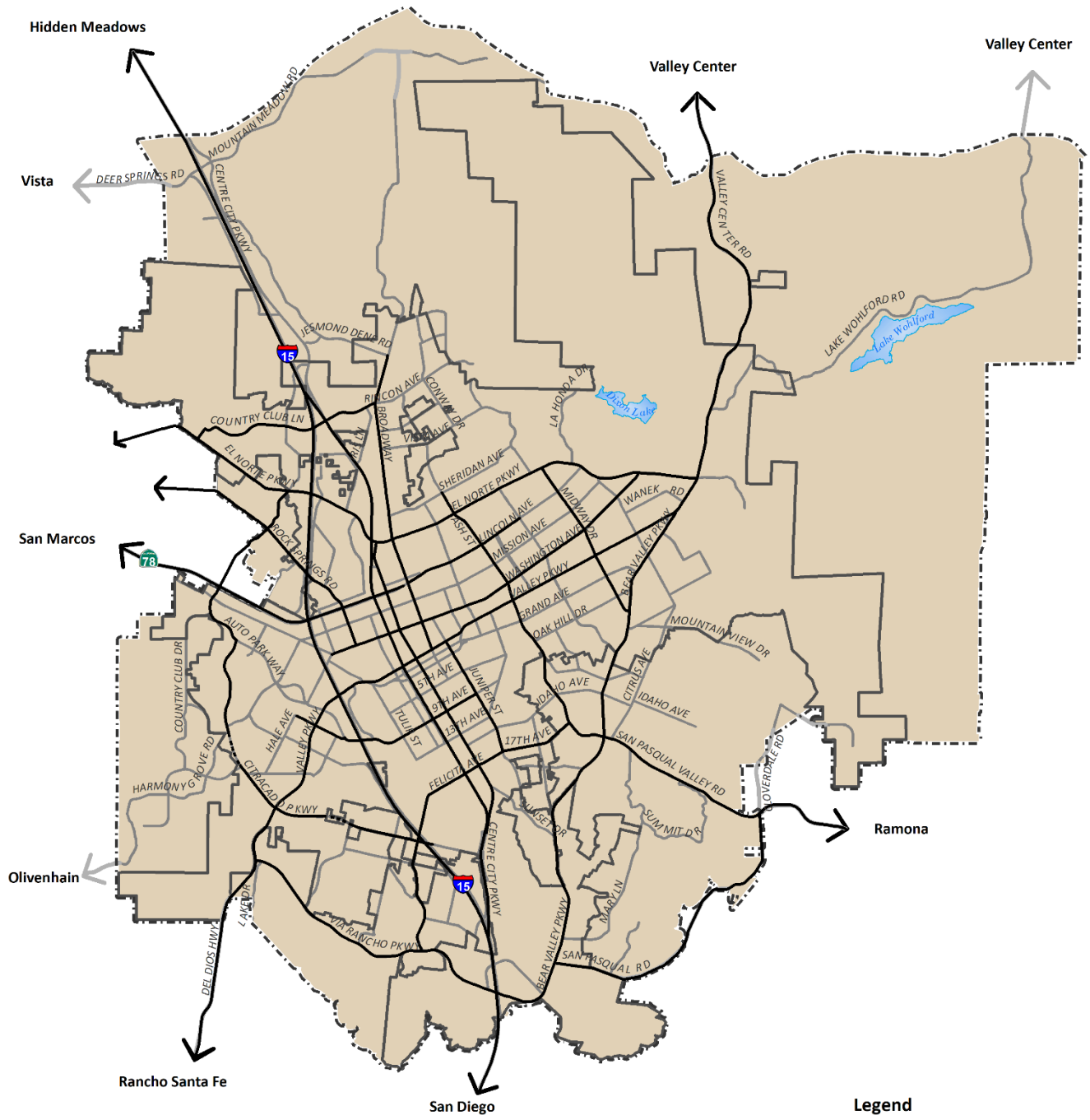
CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

AB 2140

Passed in 2006, Assembly Bill No. 2140 (AB 2140) allows California counties and cities to be considered for additional state cost-share on eligible Public Assistance projects by adopting their current, FEMA-approved local hazard mitigation plans (LHMPs) into the Safety Element of their General Plan. This adoption, along with other requirements, makes the county or city eligible to be considered for part or all of its local-share costs on eligible Public Assistance projects to be provided by the state through the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA).

The City participated in the creation of a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan applicable and adopted by both the County of San Diego and the City of Escondido. The adoption of this document makes the local jurisdiction eligible for federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) post-disaster funding, Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) funding or Flood Management Assistance (FMA) funding.



Escondido General Plan

Figure VI-1 - Emergency Evacuation Routes
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2022

B. Fire Protection

The Escondido Fire Department's central operations are co-located with the Police Department in the City's Police and Fire Headquarters located at 1163 North Centre City Parkway. The department also has seven fire stations with paramedic units located throughout the community. The mission of the Escondido Fire Department is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community. This is accomplished by identifying and mitigating hazards and by preparing for, responding to, resolving, and recovering from emergencies.

The Fire Department is the City's lead agency responding to natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and storms, and for other emergencies related to fire, explosion, hazardous materials, rescue, and medical problems. The General Plan Fire Service Quality of Life Standard establishes thresholds for response times and staffing (Figure VI-2). The City maintains automatic and mutual aid agreements with fire departments in surrounding agencies in order to promote more efficient and thorough emergency coverage (Figure VI-3). Additional Fire Department definitions are located in Figure VI-19.

Figure VI-2

GENERAL PLAN

QUALITY OF LIFE STANDARD #3

FIRE SERIVCE

In urbanized areas of the City, an initial response time of seven and one-half (7½) minutes for all structure fires and advanced life support (ALS) medical incident calls and a maximum response time of ten (10) minutes for supporting companies shall be maintained. A minimum of seven (7) total fire stations each staffed with a Paramedic Assessment Unit (PAU) engine company shall be in place prior to General Plan build-out. For outlying areas beyond a five (5) minute travel time or further than three (3) miles from the nearest fire station, all new structures shall be protected by fire sprinkler systems or an equivalent system as approved by the Fire Chief.

Travel time is the elapsed time from a verbal or computerized acknowledgment of the dispatch by the responding unit at the moment of departure from the station to its arrival at the scene. Response time is the elapsed time from receiving a call for service to the responding unit's arrival at the scene.

In the case of single family residences "arrival at the scene" shall mean at the front door of the residence; for multi-family residences "arrival at the scene" shall mean at the street access to the involved building. The Fire Department intends to meet these times for no less than 90 percent of all emergency responses by engine companies.

Escondido is served by seven Fire Stations located strategically throughout our jurisdiction.

Fire Station #1 is located at 310 North Quince Street. Fire Station #1 has a fire museum, a training classroom, and a regional training facility including a four-story burn tower, a roof prop, a State Fire Marshal certified confined space training prop and a vehicle fire simulation prop. The training facility utilizes recaptured water that is stored in an underground cistern and pumped to the training center's fire hydrants. Station #1 is staffed 24/7 by ten personnel: one Battalion Chief, two Fire Captains, two Engineers, four Firefighter Paramedics and one Paramedic/EMT. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Ladder Truck
- 1 Type 6 Brush Patrol
- 1 Rescue Ambulance
- 1 Battalion Chief Command Unit

Fire Station #2 is located at 421 North Midway. Station #2 is staffed 24/7 by five personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, two Firefighter Paramedics and one Paramedic/EMT. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Rescue Ambulance
- 1 Cross Staffed Type 6 OES Brush Patrol

Fire Station #3 is located at 1808 Nutmeg Street. Station #3 is staffed 24/7 by five personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, two Firefighter Paramedics and one Paramedic/EMT. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Rescue Ambulance
- 1 Cross Staffed Type 3 Brush Engine

Fire Station #4 is located adjacent to Kit Carson Park at 3301 Bear Valley Parkway. Station #4 is staffed 24/7 by three personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, one Firefighter Paramedic. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Cross Staffed Type 3 Brush Engine

Fire Station #5 is located 2319 Felicita. Station #5 is staffed 24/7 by five personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, two Firefighter Paramedics and one Paramedic/EMT. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

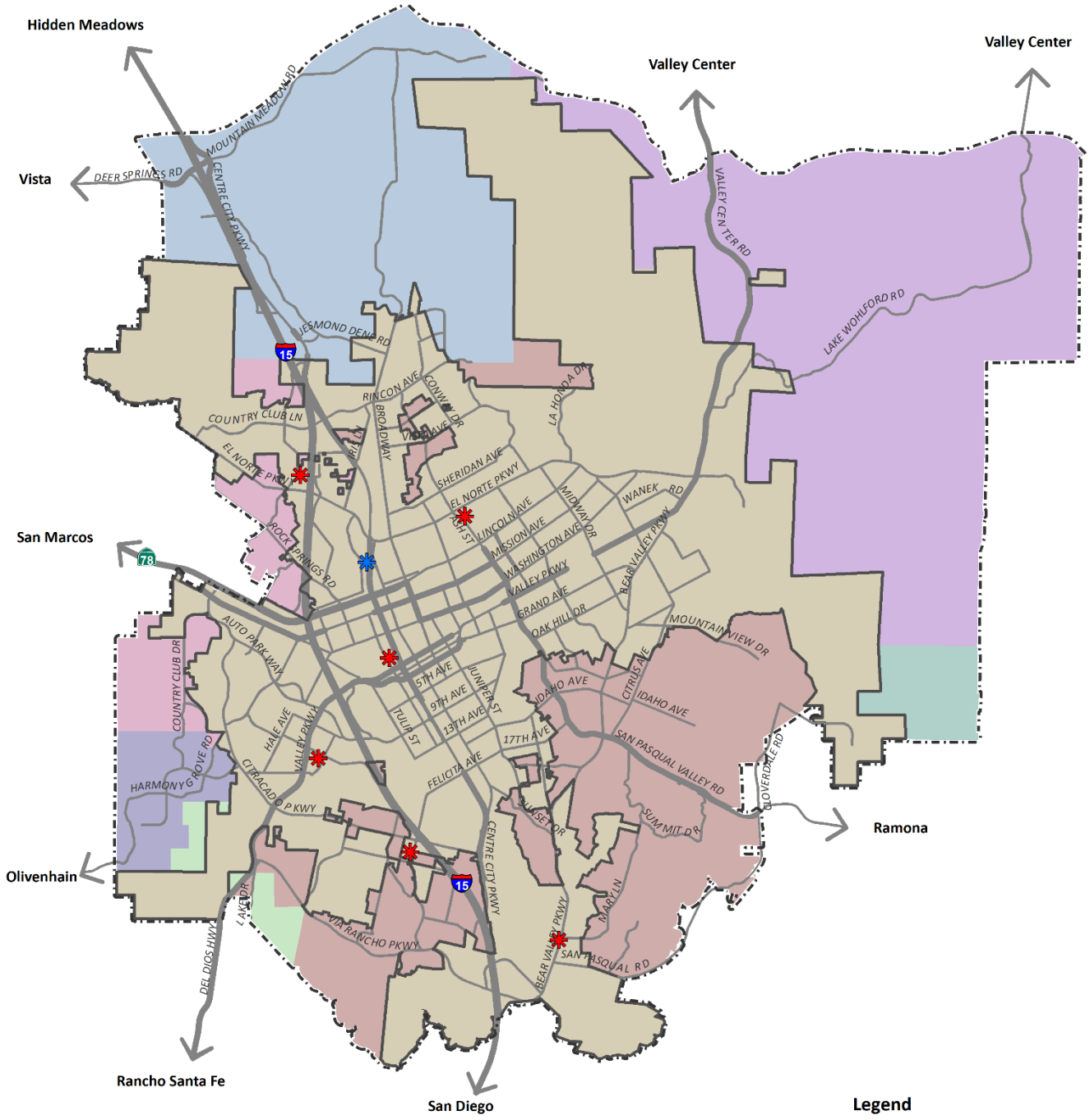
- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Rescue Ambulance
- 1 Cross Staffed Type 3 Brush Engine

Fire Station #6 is located at 1735 Del Dios Road. Station #6 is staffed 24/7 by three personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, one Firefighter Paramedic. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Cross Staffed Type 3 Brush Engine

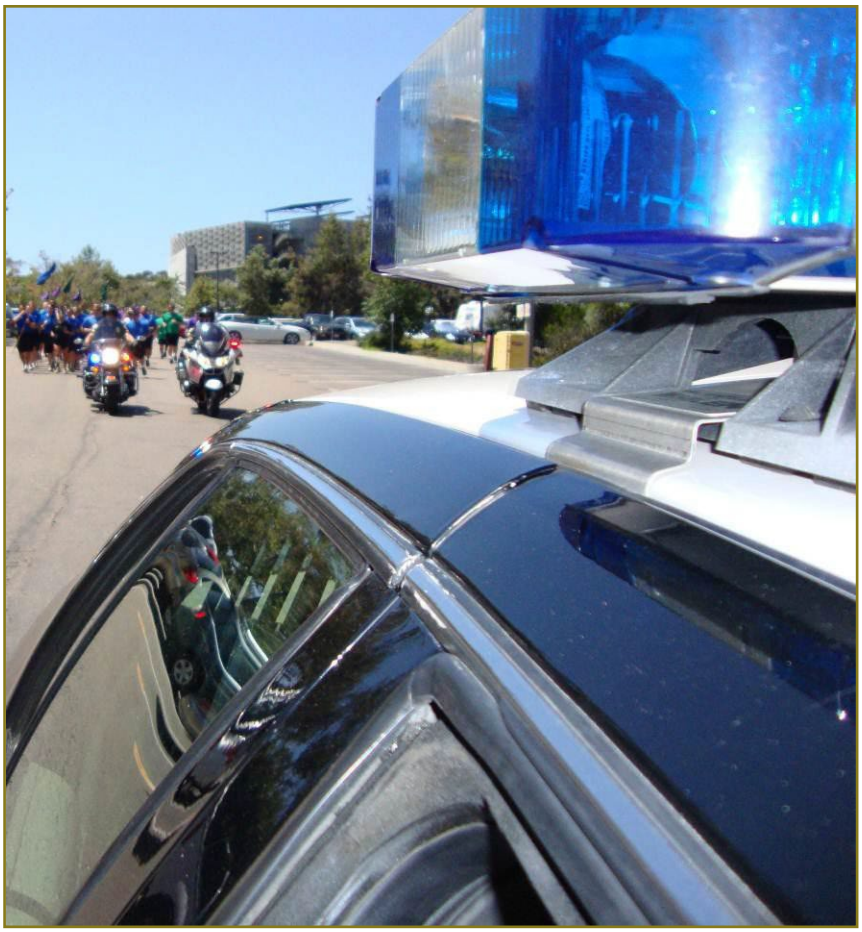
Fire Station #7 is located at 1220 North Ash. Station #7 is staffed 24/7 by five personnel: one Fire Captain, one Engineer, one Firefighter Paramedic and two Paramedics. The facility is equipped with the following emergency response vehicles:

- 1 Type 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Rescue Ambulance



Escondido General Plan

Figure VI-3 - Fire Service Boundaries and Facilities
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2023



C. Police Services

The Escondido Police Department's central operations are co-located with the Fire Department in the City's Police and Fire Headquarters located at 1163 North Centre City Parkway. The department maintains police officer patrol areas to provide law enforcement for the community. The County Sheriff provides law enforcement for areas outside Escondido's corporate boundaries (Figure VI-5). While maintaining law and order, the Police and Sheriff Departments are also active in sponsoring and participating in community programs that promote a safe environment.

Demographic and economic conditions, as well as intensification of General Plan land uses will have tremendous influence on the demand for police services. Changes in population, additional recreational facilities, increased traffic volumes, expanded City limits, and new businesses all increase the importance of maintaining and supporting law enforcement services. The General Plan Police Service Quality of Life Standard establishes thresholds for response times and staffing (Figure VI-4).

Figure VI-4

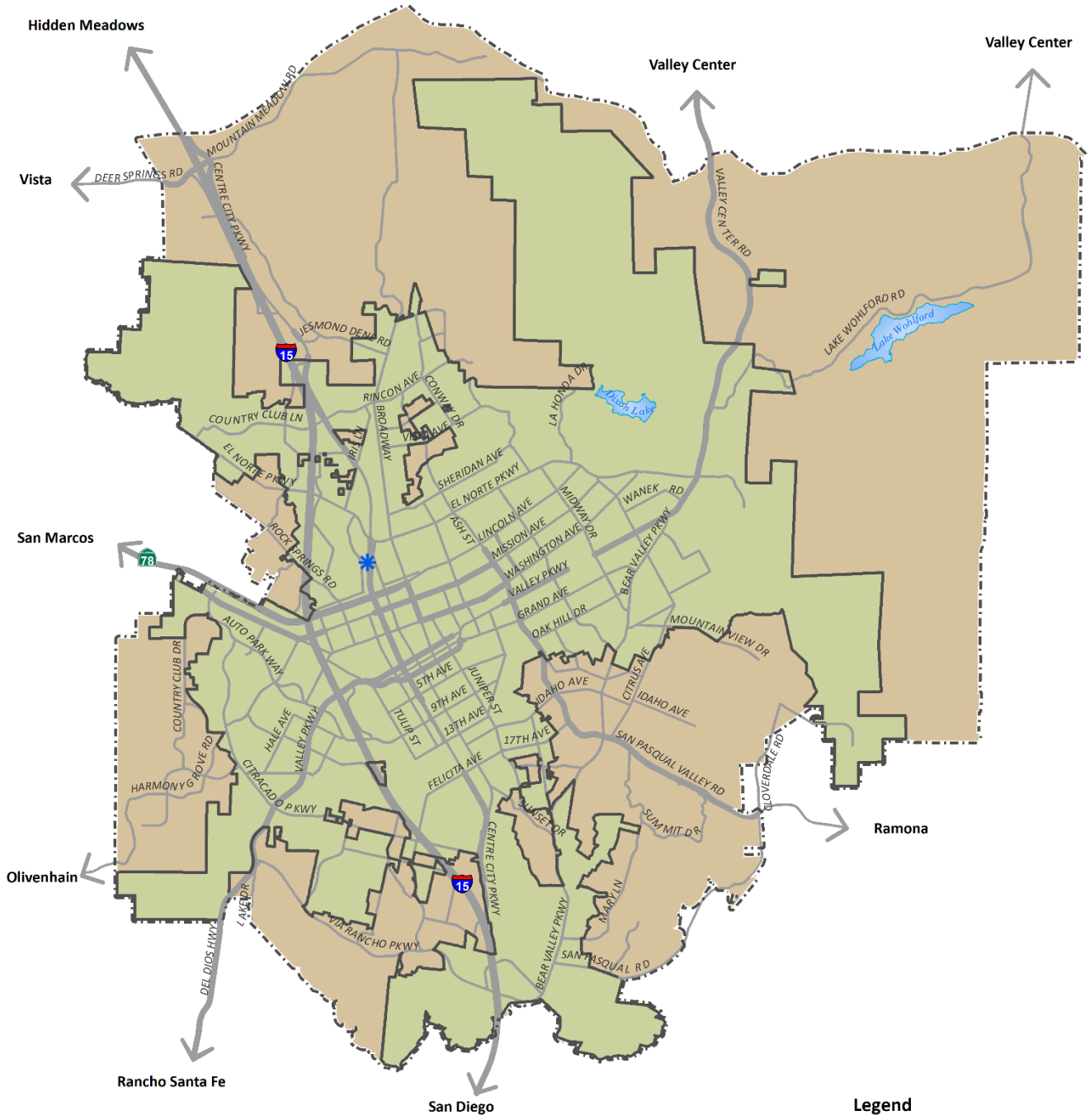
GENERAL PLAN

QUALITY OF LIFE STANDARD #4

POLICE SERIVCE

The city shall maintain personnel staffing levels based on community-generated workloads and officer availability. Resources will be adjusted to maintain an initial response time for Priority 1 calls (crimes in progress or life threatening) of no more than five (5) minutes and an initial response time for Priority 2 calls (serious calls requiring rapid response but not life-threatening incidents) of no more than six and one-half (6½) minutes.

The Escondido Police standard includes the measurement of elapsed times from when the call is initially processed by the communication operator, the transfer of call information to the police officer, and the time of the field officer's arrival at the service call location. Resources will be allocated to organize patrol areas and involve community members when appropriate to achieve Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) efforts. To the maximum economic extent feasible, the Police Department will take aggressive enforcement action against crime trends, including maintenance procedures and incorporating community involvement and education as a means to deter potential incidents.



Escondido General Plan

Figure VI-5 - Police Service Boundaries and Facilities
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2023

1. Strategic Planning

The Escondido Police Department's Management Team regularly engages in an ongoing strategic planning process to produce goals, objectives and strategies that are utilized to create an implementation plan which guides budgetary, operational, and organizational decisions. Components of the strategic planning process directly support the Mission Statement defining the department's pillars of Professional Conduct, Community Outreach, and Crime Reduction.

The department's strategic plan is implemented, evaluated, and updated regularly. Every position on the management team has key responsibilities for the planning, implementation, monitoring, and updating of the specific action items involved in the goals and objectives identified in the strategic planning process.

2. Strategic Priorities

The Police Department's strategic priorities are of equal importance and are dependently interrelated. The following is a list of the Police Department's strategic priorities.

- Community Outreach, Trust and Partnership
- Crime Reduction
- Employee and Organizational Professional Development and Conduct
- Fiscal Efficiency and Support Resources
- Growth Management
- Regional Partnerships
- Professional Service
- Safety Equipment and Technology

The Management Team is tasked with performance measurements to systematically evaluate their assigned strategic initiatives (referred to as "Project Updates"). Within the review process, the department implements both qualitative and quantitative measures with outcome indicators or program results evaluated to gauge overall effectiveness.

"To protect our community through exception police service"

Escondido Police Department Mission Statement

The Escondido Police Department K-9 Unit was established in 1985 with the goal of enhancing the effectiveness of police officers in searching for and apprehending violent criminals, locating evidence, narcotics, and explosive devices. The police service dogs also provide an important com- munity outreach function as the K-9 teams demonstrate their professionalism to schools and community groups.

D. Code Compliance

During the 2012 General Plan public workshops, residents expressed a strong desire for improved community aesthetics through property maintenance. Poorly maintained properties can lead to deteriorated conditions that can create a hazardous and unsafe situation. A proactive code compliance program ensures a higher rate of success in keeping properties maintained. Additionally, code compliance helps ensure the preservation of existing housing stock, health and safety code response, safe and fair business operations, vehicle abatement, and ensuring well-maintained properties.

Escondido's Code Compliance Division protects life, safety, and property with vigilance and a collaborative effort with the community, upholding codes and standards within the City. Maintenance and regulation of property, buildings, and structures in the City is a top priority. Additional responsibilities of the Division include business license compliance, mobile home park compliance and inspections, and the California State Abandoned Vehicle Abatement (AVA) Program.

General Plan policies focus on helping the community adhere to and maintain code requirements by providing state of the art code compliance division facilities, services, and staffing. Properties with public nuisance violations and deteriorated conditions will not be permitted, and substandard or dangerous buildings must be either repaired or demolished. Effective code compliance programs also involve communication with residents and businesses, which includes public outreach and educational programs that facilitate and encourage voluntary compliance with City ordinances.

Graffiti removal and property maintenance code compliance abatement actions

E. Community Safety

Minimizing property damage, disaster costs, injury, and deaths during emergencies is important for Escondido to enhance residents' sense of security, reduce expenditures, and maintain a high quality of life. Community safety is threatened by climate change projections indicating that Escondido could experience future climatic extremes including more intense rainfall events with associated flooding and erosion, and greater fire risk from increased temperatures and evaporation. Climate change is expected to exacerbate existing natural hazard risks such as floods, wildfires, and erosion events, and appropriate safeguards must be considered to increase community resilience to natural hazards.

1. Fire Hazards

Fire is a natural part of California's diverse landscapes and is vital to many ecosystems across the state. Fire hazards can come in the form of both wildfires and urban fires. California is recognized as one of the most fire-prone and consequently fire-adapted landscapes in the world. The combination of complex terrain, Mediterranean climate, and productive natural plant communities, along with ample natural ignition sources, has created conditions for extensive wildfires. The City's environment consists of a broad mixture of urban settings, semi-urban settings, rural areas, and open space areas characterized by shrubs, native trees, and high fire fuel areas with steep topography. During the dry months, the wildfire risk in these open, vegetated areas can increase when exacerbated by occasional

Brush clearance for fire suppression purposes (above left)

Santa Ana winds and high temperatures. Additionally, extreme weather conditions spurred by changing climate conditions, such as high temperatures, low humidity, and/or winds of extraordinary force, may cause an ordinary, localized fire to expand rapidly into one that is more intense and difficult to contain.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) maps fire threat potential throughout California. California law requires CAL FIRE to identify areas based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in that area. These areas, or "zones," are based on factors such as fuel, slope and fire weather. There are three zones, based on increasing fire hazard: moderate, high and very high. The most recent fire hazard severity zone maps can be found on the Office of the State Fire Marshall's website[2]. Escondido is an established community with a developed urban center that is surrounded by large areas of rural land and open space. This land use pattern exposes residents to dangers from both urban and wildland fire risks. The community's varied building ages, construction styles, and densities lead to different urban fire profiles, depending on a variety of factors that create the potential to cause significant loss of life and property. These fires damage and destroy homes, schools, commercial buildings, and vehicles. Improvements in architecture, building design, and construction materials over the years have aided in emergency response efforts and reduced the likelihood of disasters.

Wildland Fire on Escondido's northern boundary in 2008 (above)

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Major wildfires pose a significant risk in the large open space hill- sides bordering Escondido. CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zones maps (Local Responsibility and State Responsibility Areas) highlight areas of the community with the greatest risk for wildfire incidents. A wildland fire differs from other fires by its extensive size, the speed at which it can spread out from its original source, its potential to change direction unexpectedly, and its ability to jump gaps such as roads, rivers, and fire breaks. Wildfires are of particular concern in communities that are located in the WUI. The "interface" WUI condition exists where development and/or structures are adjacent to wildland areas, in which there may be clear demarcation or a hard edge between developed and undeveloped areas. By contrast, an "intermix" WUI condition refers to areas in which structures or semi-developed areas are mixed with wildland areas and vegetation, such as in rural, ex-urban, or large-lot semi-rural developed conditions. In the "occluded" WUI condition within an urban environment, structures may abut an island of wildland fuels, such as a community park, open space, greenbelt, or other natural area. A broader term that further describes conditions that may be adjacent to either the intermix or interface WUI is the "wildfire influence zone" which can be characterized by susceptible vegetation up to 1.5 miles from the WUI. Similarly, in areas where wildfires can occur under high-wind conditions near urbanized areas, the "ember zone" can extend up to several miles into more densely-developed areas that are outside of the WUI or wildfire influence zone areas, in which new spot fires could occur far ahead of the main wildfire perimeter. The WUI continuum of wildland to urban densities is illustrated below (Figure VI-6).

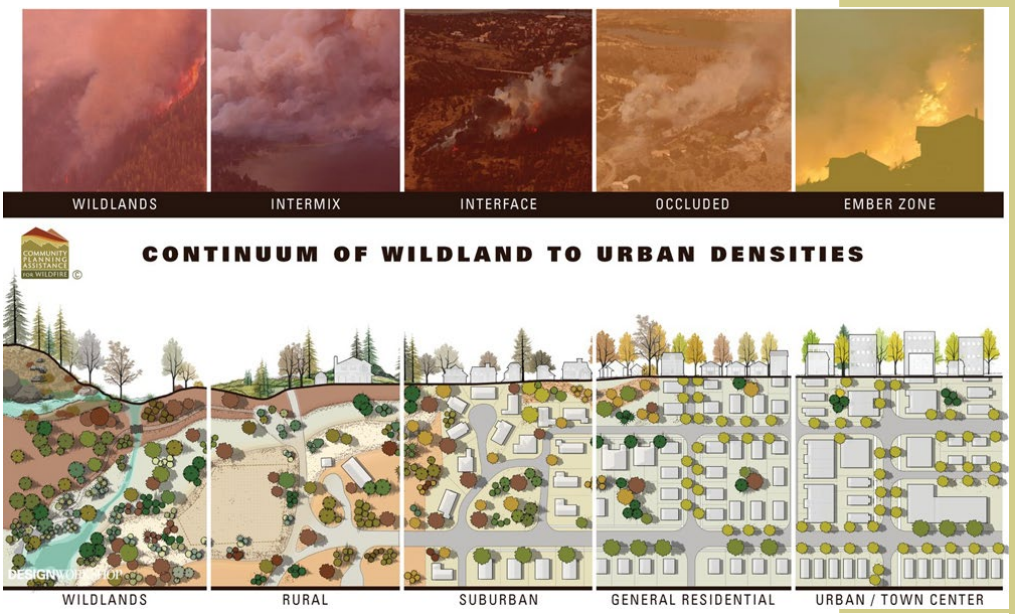


Figure VI-6 - Continuum of Wildland to Urban Densities
Source: Community Planning Assistance for Wildlife and American Planning Association

Past Occurrences of Wildfire

Since 1910, numerous wildfire events in the direct vicinity of the City and its Sphere of Influence have been recorded by CAL FIRE. These past fires, occurring in 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1919, 1927, 1938, 1943, 1945, 1946, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1962, 1965, 1967, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2003, 2004, 2007, and 2013, burned within 5 miles of City.

Notable fires in the past 30 years located within the City (Figure VI-5), or in close proximity, include:

- **1993 Guejito Fire** (east of Escondido): The Guejito Fire charred 20,000 acres and destroyed 18 homes. Ignition was attributed to electrical infrastructure.

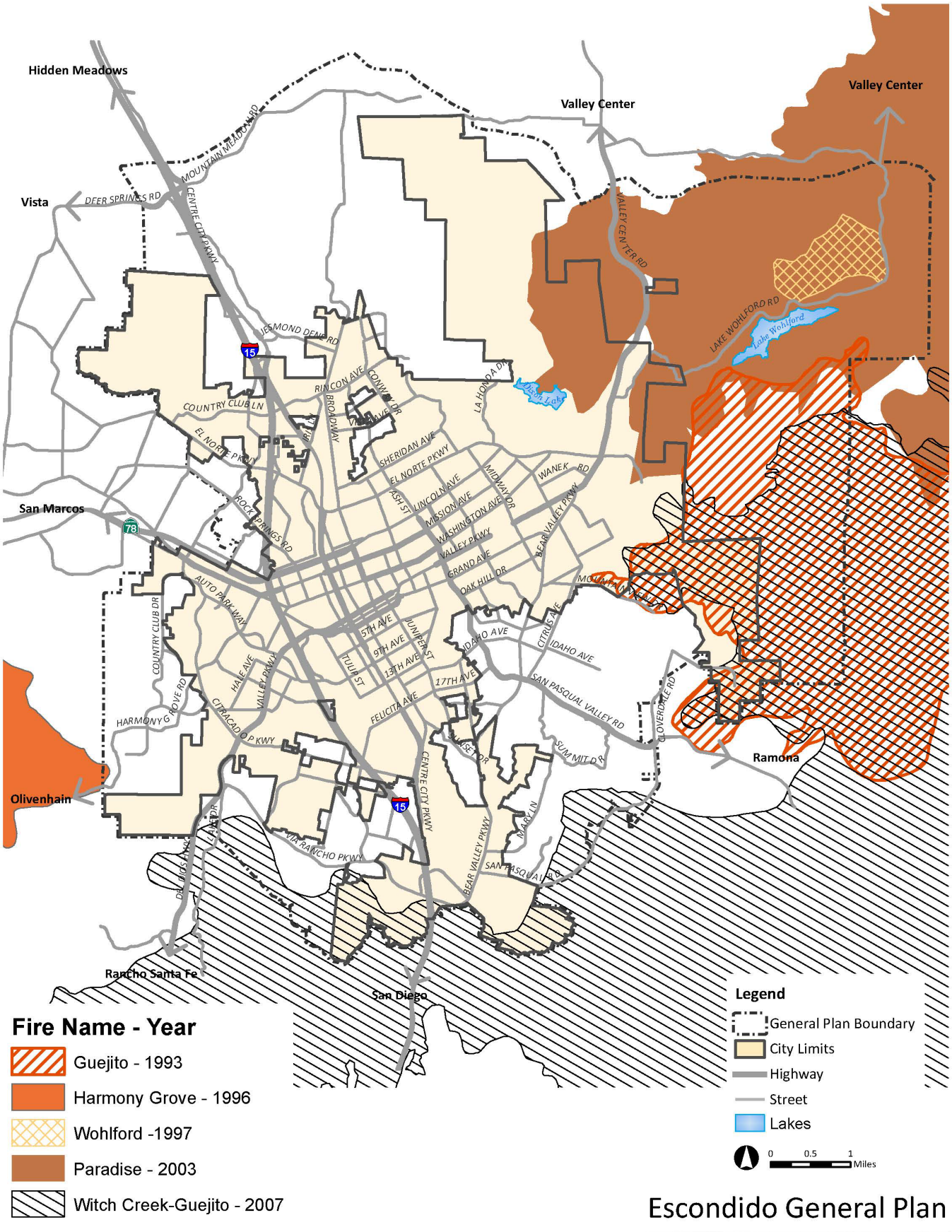
- **1996 Harmony Grove Fire**: The Harmony Grove Fire burned 8,600 acres, from Harmony Grove west of Escondido to La Costa, destroying nearly 110 homes and yielding one fatality. The ignition was attributed to equipment use.

- **1997 Wohlford Fire** (northeast of Escondido): The Wohlford Fire burned 500 acres and destroyed seven houses. Ignition was attributed to arson.

- **2003 Paradise Fire** (northeast of Escondido): The Paradise Fire burned 56,427 acres and destroyed a total of 223 structures, with two fatalities. The ignition was attributed to arson.

- **2007 Witch Creek-Guejito Fires**: These two fires burned southeast to southwest, impacting 197,190 acres, destroying 1,141 residences, with two fatalities.

This information excludes fires less than 10 acres. However, there have been multiple fires throughout inland North San Diego County of less than 10 acres. Rapid and overwhelming response to these fires has resulted in their containment before they could grow to the size that would include them in Cal Fire's database, called California All Incident Report System (CAIRS).



Escondido General Plan

Figure VI-7 - Notable Fires (past 30 years)
Source: SanGIS, City of Escondido FD. Last Updated 2022

The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (the State Board) is required to identify existing subdivisions in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) without secondary egress routes that are at significant fire risk. The State Board must then provide recommendations to local governments to improve safety in the identified subdivisions. This process is mandated to begin on or before July 1, 2021 and repeat every five years thereafter.

The list below shows the 10 identified residential subdivisions within the City's Planning Area that contain more than 30 dwelling units located in the SRA or VHFHSZ without a secondary means of egress route pursuant to Public Resources Code 4290.5, along with recommendations for each subdivision by the State Board. Recommendations by the State Board include, but are not limited to the following for identified subdivisions: 1) create a secondary access to the subdivisions 2) install reflective evacuation route street signs[3] directing residents from their local roads to the nearest collector road(s) and/or arterial highway(s) 3) when side street parking narrows the road to a smaller width than the standards[4], during red flag warnings or conditions of high fire danger, limit street parking so a wider pathway is available to support rapid evacuation 4) Conduct community-wide evacuations drills, 5) install reflective markers to indicate road edges or other areas of danger that might not be evident during periods of low visibility, and 6) install reflective addressing signs for structures and roads[5].

State Board Identified Subdivision Pursuant to PRC 4290.5			
No.	**Subdivision Name (ID)**	**Responsibility Area[1]**	**FHSZ[2]**
1	La Honda (22-XSD-251C)	LRA	Very High
2	Lomas Serenas Drive (21-SXD-E1DC)	LRA	Very High
3	Quiet Hill Drive (21-MVU-6597)	SRA	Very High
4	Quiet Hill Drive (21-SXD-E9FC)	LRA	Very High
5	Kershawn Place (21-MVU-4600)	SRA	Very High
6	Sierra Linda (21-SXD-1AC4)	LRA	Very High
7	Cordrey Drive (22-MVU-67F0)	SRA	Very High
8	Purer Road (21-MVU-9064)	SRA	Very High
9	Via Solana (21-MVU-87F4)	SRA	Very High
10	Via Loma Vista (21-MVU-EBD4)	SRA	Very High
[1] Responsibility Area is either Local Responsibility Area (LRA) or State Responsibility Area (SRA) [2] FHSZ – Fire Hazard Severity Zone			

[3] See California Highway Design manual for definitions, based on the standards for emergency management signing in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
[4] Standards in 14 CCR § 1273.01
[5] in conformance with 14 CCR § 1274.01, 1274.02, 1274.03, and 1274.04 and the California Fire code, California Code of Regulations, title 24, part 9

In order to implement Emergency Services Policy 1.15 the City has identified all residential development in addition to those listed above lacking a secondary point of access pursuant to SB 99 (Figure VI-8). The Office of the State Fire Marshall maintains an interactive map of the subdivisions identified above[6]. Figure VI-8 is meant to identify those residential parcels within the City's Sphere of influence which less than two different emergency evacuation routes. In order to identify residential parcels that were only accessible by one private street, collector, or arterial (or a single pedestrian path), staff identified all parcels where two distinct points of vehicular or pedestrian access was possible. The remaining parcels (and routes) represent parcels with only one egress route. Staff employed GIS to represent residential parcels, the existing circulation system, and manual visual inspection to determine if parcels met the limited access criteria.

The City maintains a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that identifies goals and objectives, collaborative communities and agencies, study area and current risk situation, as well as local preparedness efforts and recommendations. The CWPP provides an overview of the Values at Risk on which significant wildfire would have an impact. These areas include life safety, homes and property values, infrastructure, recreation and lifestyle, and environmental resources. Additionally, the City's General Plan identifies existing and planned land uses within the City in the Land Use and Community Form Element, under Figure II-1 - Land Uses).

Water Supply

The City of Escondido provides water to most of the territory within the General Plan area. Portions of Rincon del Diablo, Valley Center, and Vallecitos Municipal Water Districts' territories are included within the General Plan area as well. The City of Escondido's Urban Water Management Plan identifies adequate water supplies are available to meet customer demands within the City. Additionally, according to the Urban Water Management Plans for those remaining servicing districts, adequate water supplies are available for their areas. This is especially important for ensuring adequate supplies are available for fire suppression needs within the City.

The City's Water Master Plan documents the existing water system facilities and demands and identifies required improvements for build-out within the City's service area, including requirements for system pressures, pipelines, water storage, pump stations, and fire flows.

[6] Office of State Fire Marshall, OSFM Subdivision Review Map: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a045e9e9c01c4dd7abdf14ad30646eaf&center=-13034239.8914%2C3912312.3749%2C102100&level=12

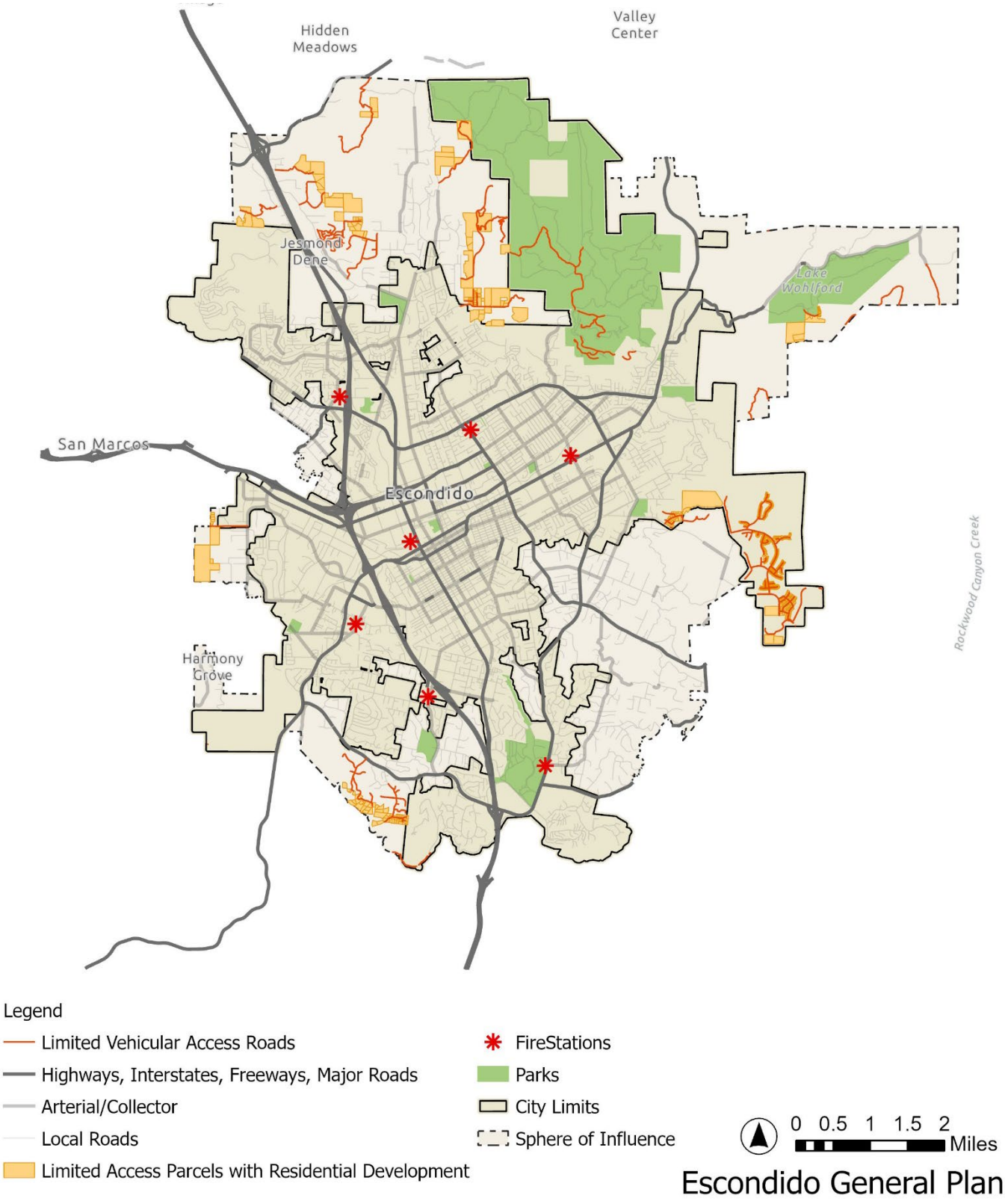


Figure VI-8 – Residential Parcels with Evacuation Constraints
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2024

2. Floods

Flood hazards related to storm events are typically expressed as a "100-year flood," which describes the largest flood event that may be expected within a 100-year period. The event is considered a severe flood, but one that can be reasonably forecasted and therefore reasonably mitigated. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps indicate that the drainage areas along Escondido Creek and Reidy Creek are subject to flooding by the 100-year flood event (Figure VI-9). Escondido participates in the National Flood Insurance Program, which provides coverage for properties affected by the 100-year flood. Participating agencies must recognize FEMA's official flood boundaries and establish appropriate land use policies for flood zone areas in order to receive insurance benefits in the event of a flood. To control flooding and surface runoff, prevention methods such as detention basins and on-site storm water features are required in development projects.

To further prevent flooding, the City maintains the condition of flood control channels and detention basins through periodic cleaning, clearing, dredging, repair, and desilting, subject to approval from appropriate state and federal agencies, to ensure they operate efficiently. To prevent more localized flooding due to pipe failure, the City inventoried and evaluated the integrity of all its corrugated metal pipe storm drain segments, and identified those needing replacement. The inventory and evaluation included identifying the responsible entity for replacement--either by the City and/or grant funded projects, or by nearby potentially affected private development, as it occurs.

Also refer to *Stormwater Management* in the Mobility and Infrastructure Element, and *Water Resources* in the Resource Conservation Element for information on flooding.

Lakes Wohlford and Dixon are located in Escondido's northeastern planning area totaling approximately 266 surface acres of water. A catastrophic dam failure at either of these facilities would likely result in extensive downstream flooding along Escondido Creek (Figure VI-10). The areas below the dams are zoned for flood hazard on the FEMA maps. If one of these facilities fails, properties along Escondido Creek, and a significant portion of the valley floor area including downtown, could be inundated. Flood waters may move at rates that prohibit a significant number of persons from being evacuated in the wake of the initial flows, and significant property damage would likely result. Escondido staff, state, and federal officials regularly inspect these facilities to ensure that risks are minimized.

Local flooding after rains in 2011

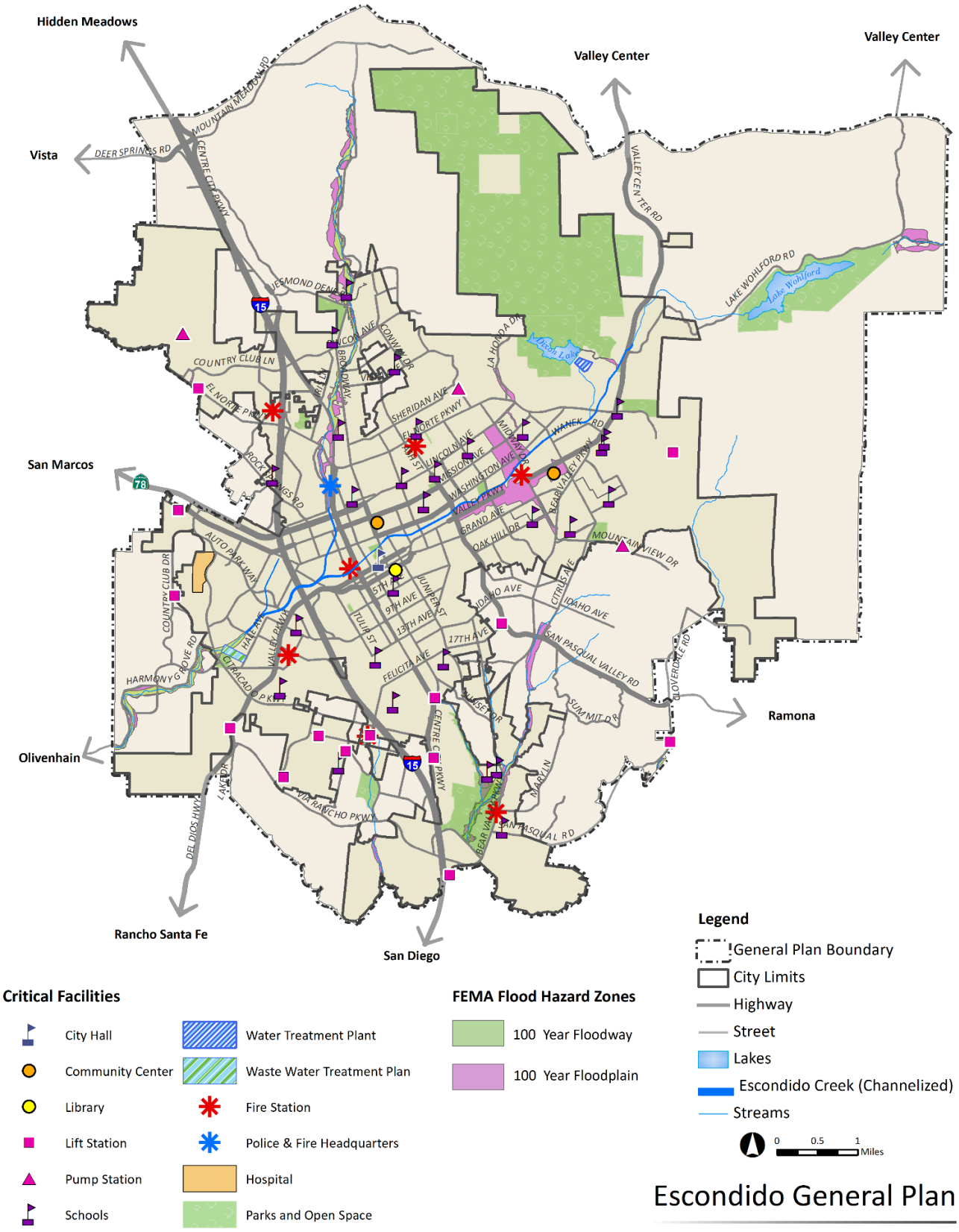


Figure VI-9 - 100 Year Flood Hazard Zones Source: FEMA DFIRM Database. Last Updated 2023

3. Seismicity and Soils

The purpose of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act is to address the hazard of surface fault rupture through the regulation of development in areas near Holocene-active faults and seeks to prevent construction of structures for human occupancy across traces of active faults. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act identifies no Holocene-active faults within Escondido; consequently, the risk of surface rupture is low. Several Holocene-active faults exist in Escondido's vicinity, and the nearest are the Rose Canyon Fault, located approximately 15 miles west under the Pacific Ocean and the Elsinore Fault located approximately 20 miles to the northeast. These Holocene-active faults are not considered a serious threat due to the distance and magnitude of past seismic activity. However, an earthquake large enough to result in moderate ground shaking is possible. Seismic risks are significantly higher in areas closer to the region's major faults, and a moderate or major earthquake could result in potentially damaging ground shaking. The state continues to update its Earthquake Fault Zoning Maps. Given the proximity to fault lines in the Southern California region a Holocene-active fault near Escondido could be identified in the future.

Escondido's topography includes a level valley at 650 Mean Sea Level (MSL) surrounded by hills and mountains ranging up to 2,200 MSL and has the potential for slope instability and landslides (Figure VI-14). Certain soil types in Escondido's Planning Area present difficulties for development because they cannot support roadways or foundations, are unacceptable for septic systems, and can easily erode. Soils generally found in Escondido's Planning Area consist of well-drained, medium to coarse grained, often rocky sandy loams, commonly with

Repairing Lake Wohlford Road after a landslide caused by heavy rains in 2011

clay loam substrata and underlying igneous and metamorphic bedrock. Certain types of clay soils expand when they are saturated and shrink when dried. These are called expansive soils and can pose a threat to the integrity of structures built on them without proper engineering. Collectively, expansive soils cover approximately 3,528 acres within Escondido's Planning Area. Regulating development in steep slope areas relates to public health and safety by protecting against floods, erosion, landslides, and fire hazards. Slope instability is particularly acute in areas steeper than 25 percent that may be prone to surficial failures, mudflows, debris flows, rock falls, soil creep, and erosion. Additionally, failures of man- made slopes pose a threat under the certain conditions such as saturation caused by over irrigating or excessive rainfall.

As part of the City's 2012 General Plan, regional faults and soil types were mapped as part of the General Plan's environmental review process. Figures VI-11, VI-12, and VI-13 illustrate these attributes in the context of Escondido and are integrated into the Safety Element.

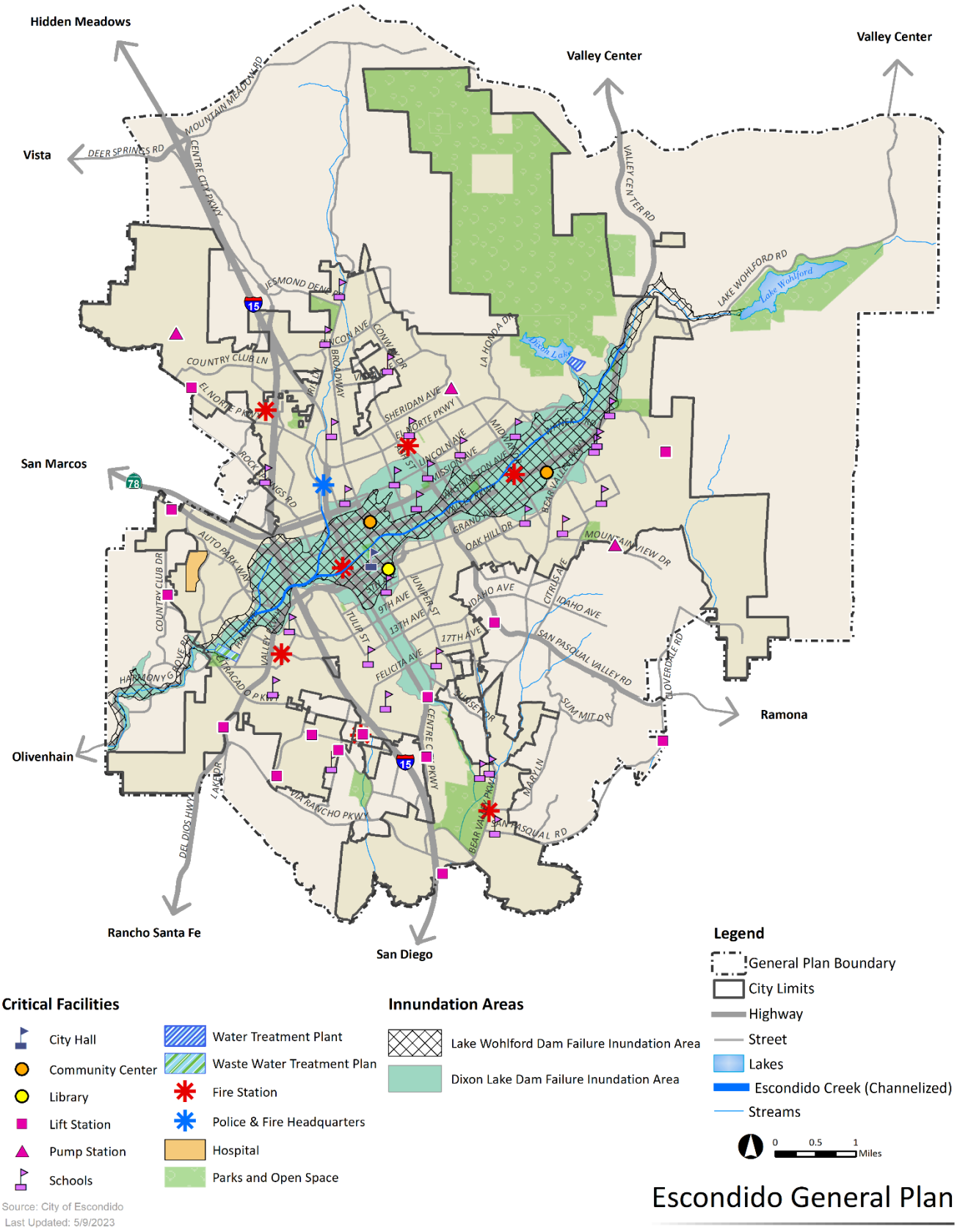
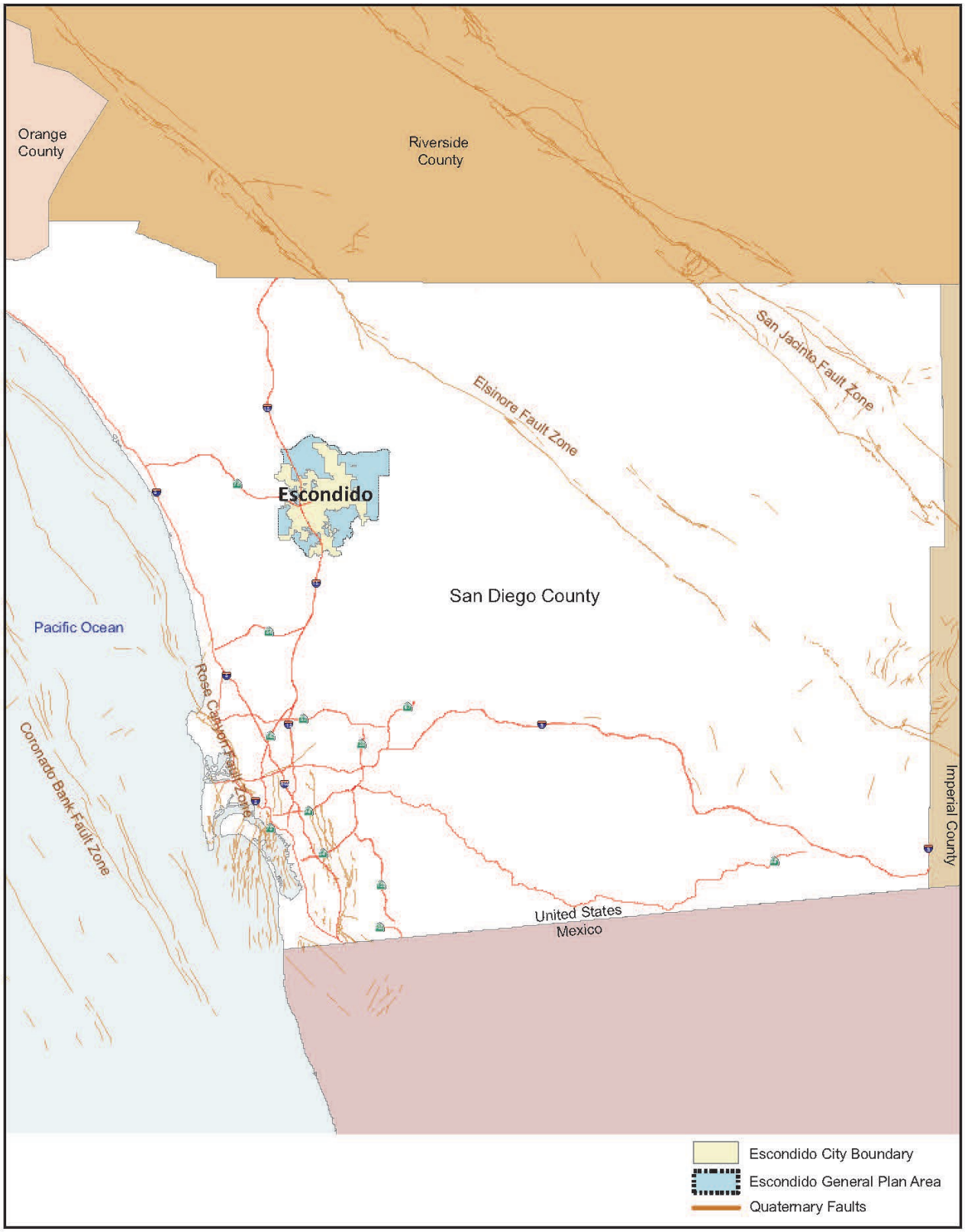
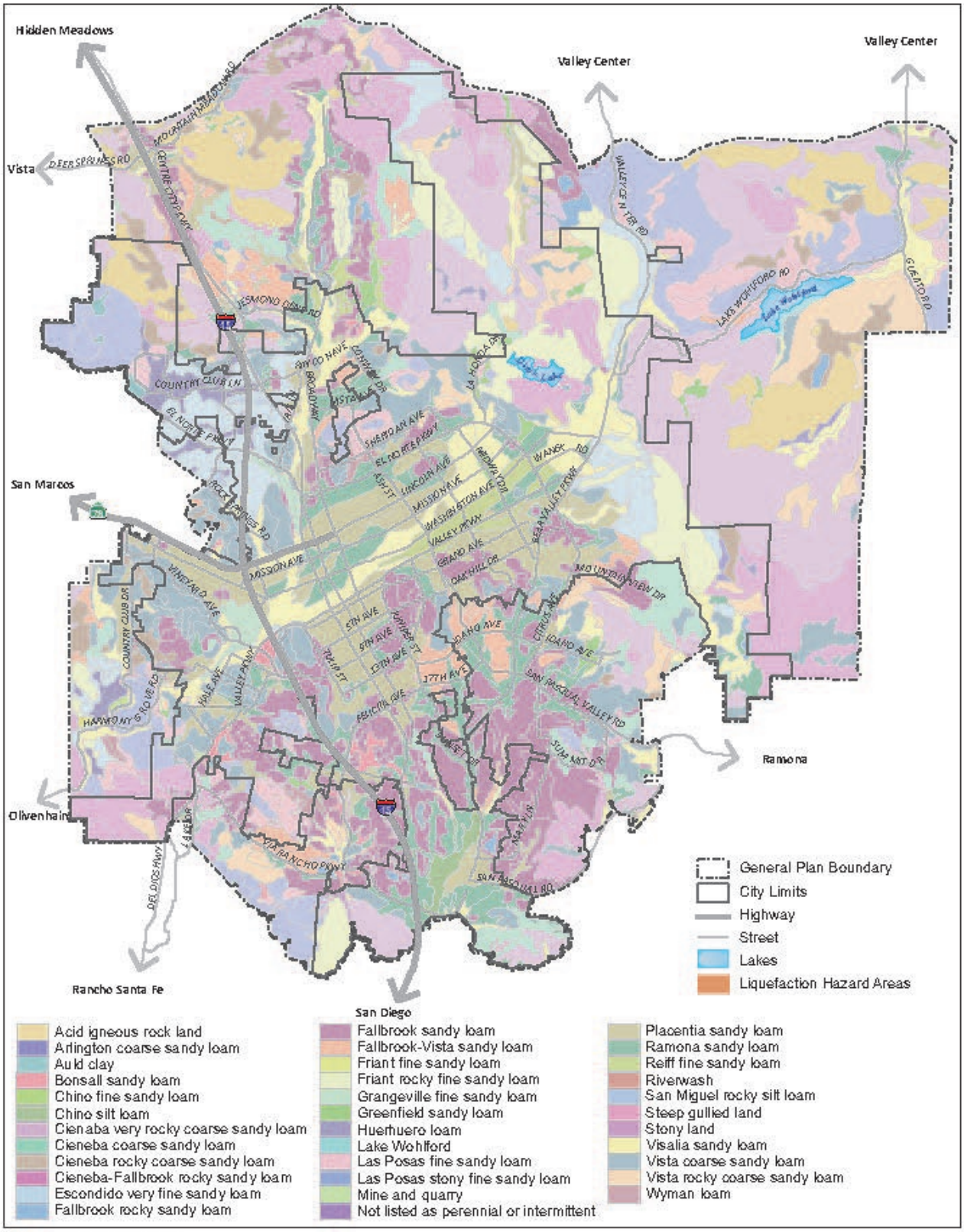


Figure VI-10 - Dam Failure Inundation Areas
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2023



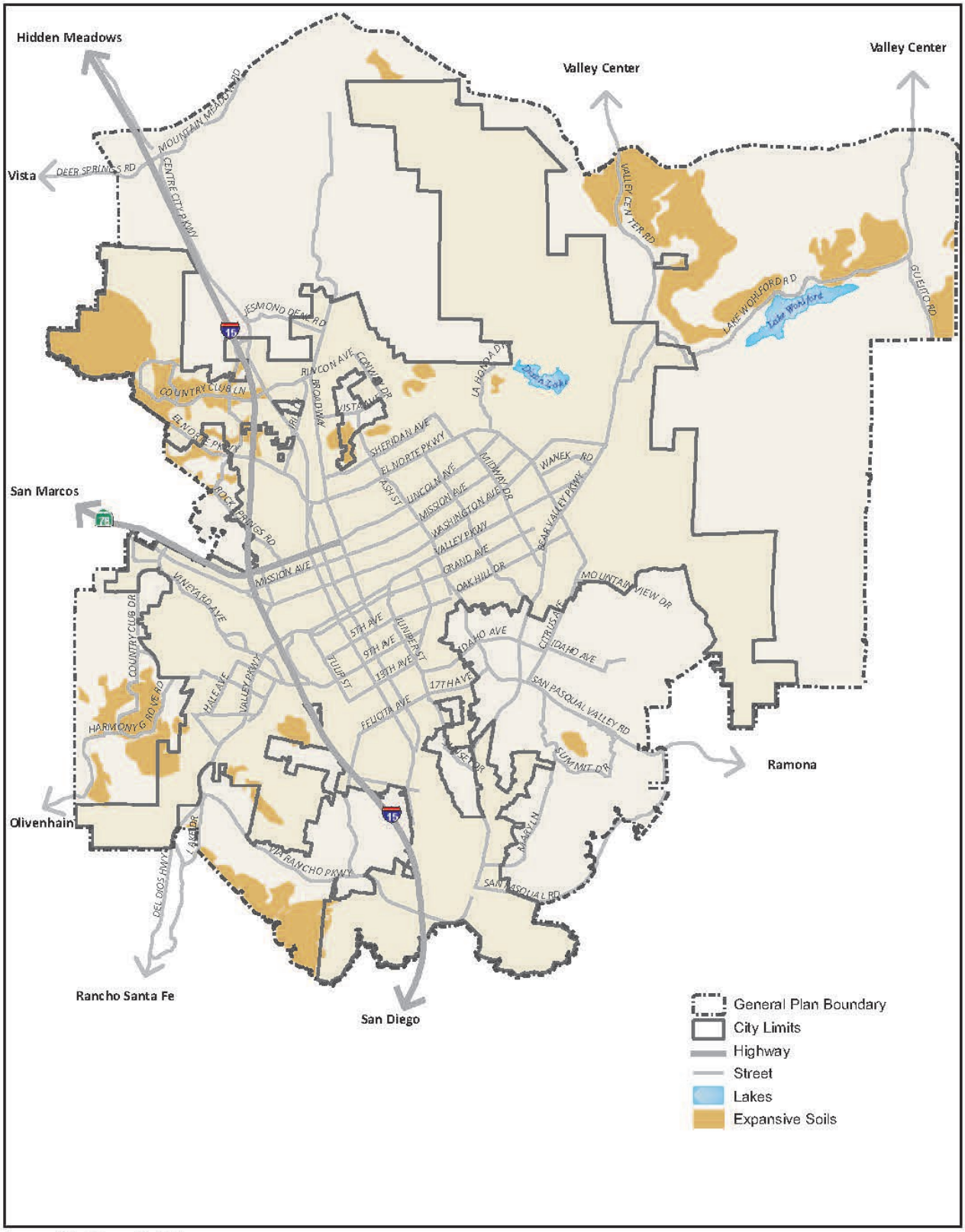
Source: City of Escondido 2011

Figure VI-11 - Regional Faults
Source: City of Escondido General Plan and Final EIR (2012)



Source: City of Escondido 2011

Figure VI-12 - Soil Types
Source: City of Escondido General Plan and Final EIR (2012)



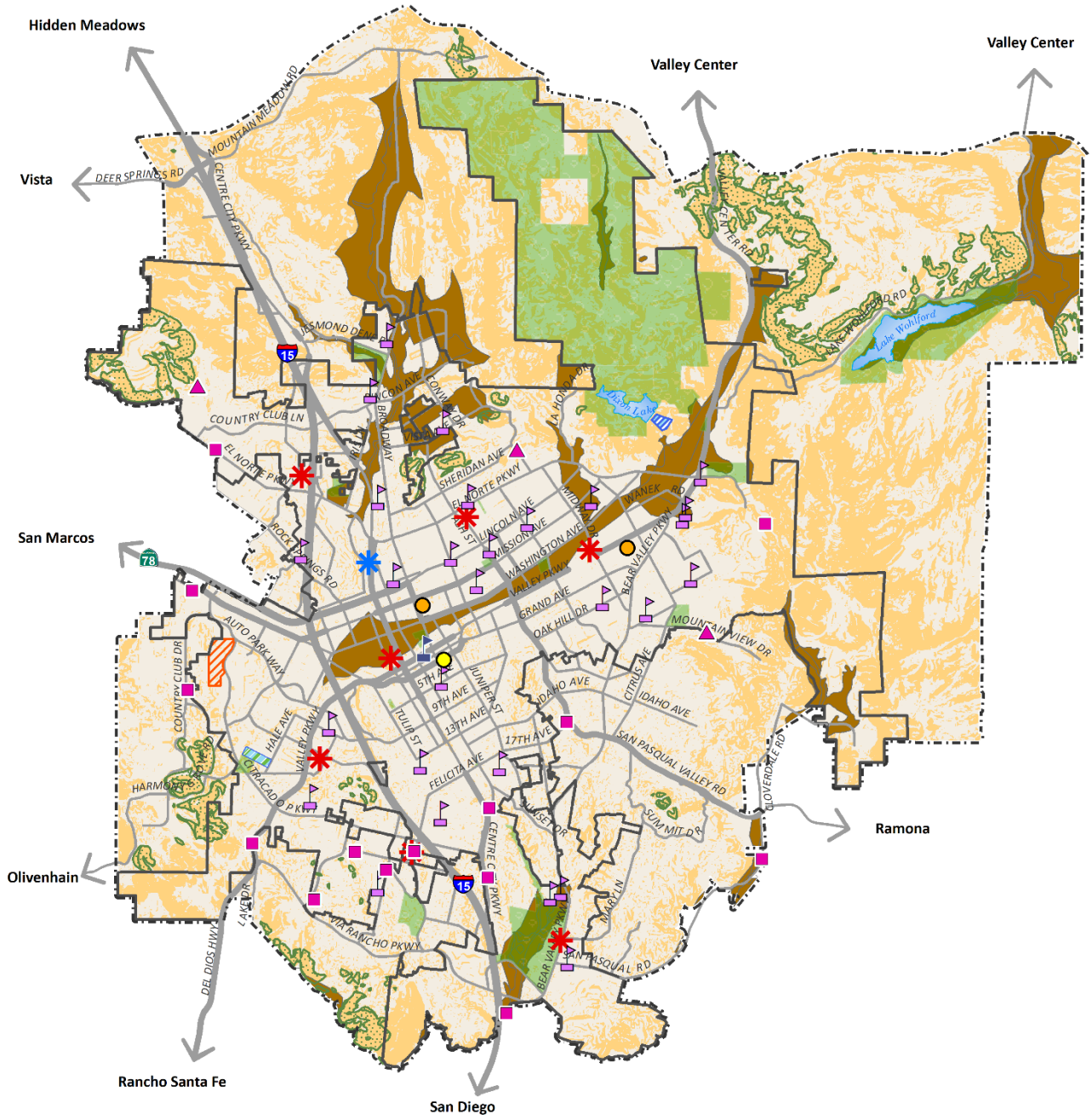
Source: City of Escondido 2011

Figure VI-13 - Expansive Soils
Source: City of Escondido General Plan and Final EIR (2012)

4. Hazardous Materials

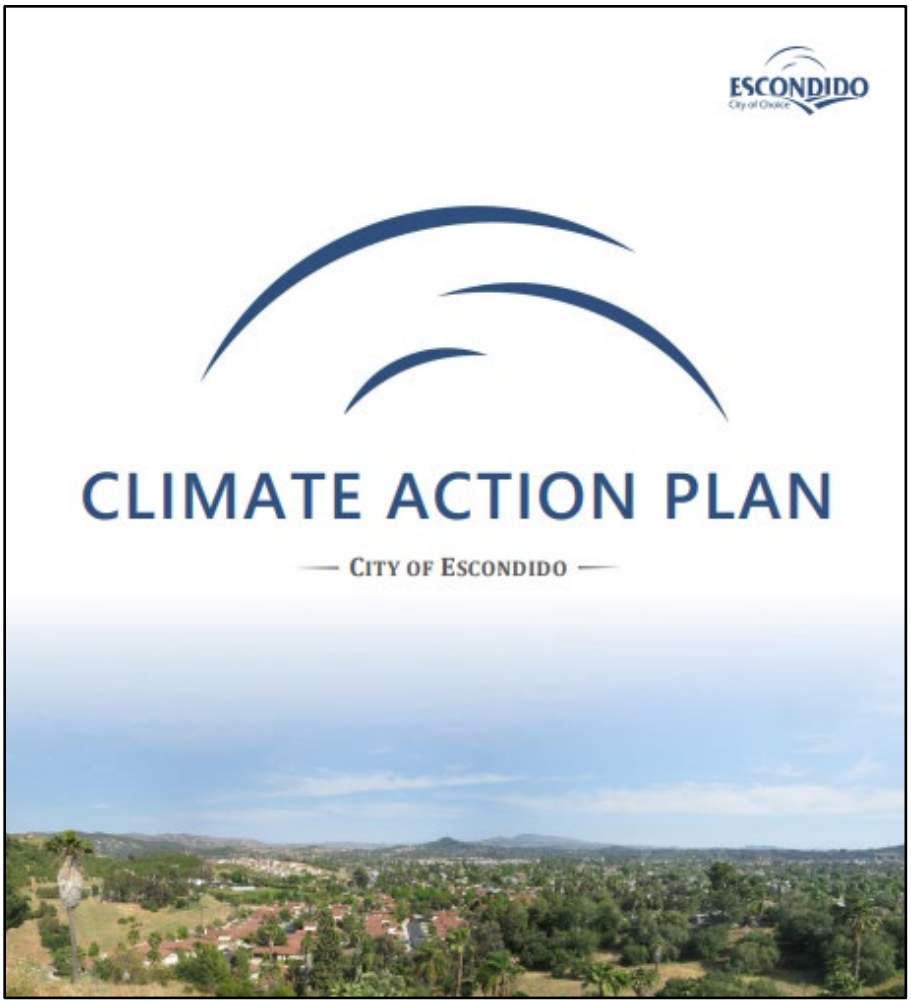
Hazardous materials represent a potential threat to those affected by its misuse and improper or accidental disposal. Establishments within Escondido involved with hazardous materials are regulated by the Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) of the San Diego County Department of Environment Health. The HMD regulates hazardous materials business plans and chemical inventories, hazardous waste permitting, underground storage tanks, risk management plans, and a listing of permitted hazardous materials users within the City. Risks associated with the cleanup of hazardous wastes and the handling and disposal of newly-generated wastes have long-lasting effects. Site contamination may impair the City's ability to implement the General Plan by increasing the costs of development, requiring certain land use restrictions, and causing delays while necessary cleanups are implemented.

Hazardous material inspection photo taken at an Escondido business in the Industrial Zone



Escondido General Plan

Figure VI-14 - Seismic and Geologic Hazards
Source: SanGIS, URS. Last Updated 2023



5.Climate Adaptation and Resiliency

The City maintains a Climate Action Plan ("ECAP") that identifies greenhouse gas inventory, projections, targets, and reductions strategies and measures. The ECAP was developed in 2013 and comprehensively updated in 2021. The ECAP assesses potential climate change impacts over time that may affect the City of Escondido and evaluates how these impacts would potentially affect the community's population, functions, and structures.

The ECAP's Vulnerability Assessment was conducted at the City level utilizing Cal-Adapt, and covers increased temperatures, extreme weather events, frequency and intensity of precipitation, wildfire risk, and flooding and landslides. The implementation of the ECAP measures, which include both short- and long-term strategies, involves planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities. The ECAP is fully integrated into the Safety Element.

F. Noise

Noise is unwanted sound that impacts quality of life by interfering with living, working, and enjoying daily life. Noise can threaten community safety and comfort, affect the general well-being of residents and contributes to annoyance and undue stress. The State of California recognizes the relationship between noise and noise-sensitive land uses. Noise measurement terminology is defined in Figure VI-16 and policies for addressing noise-related issues are included in this General Plan. Noise sources that impact the community are identified with the intent of minimizing the exposure to excessive noise levels through the application of policies and programs.

1. Noise Sensitive Land Uses

Land uses are located throughout the City in areas where the impact of noise could affect their operation or activity. Locations of certain noise-sensitive receptors and noise generators are identified in Figure VI-15 and also include:

- Residential Development and care facilities
- Schools, churches, and transient lodging
- Hospitals and health care facilities
- Libraries, museums, and cultural facilities
- Golf courses and passive recreational sites

Noise exposure levels for a variety of land uses are identified in Figure VI-17. Minimizing noise exposure to sensitive areas is important to ensure the proper function of land uses and to maintain quality of life.

Monitoring equipment measuring traffic noise along a local roadway

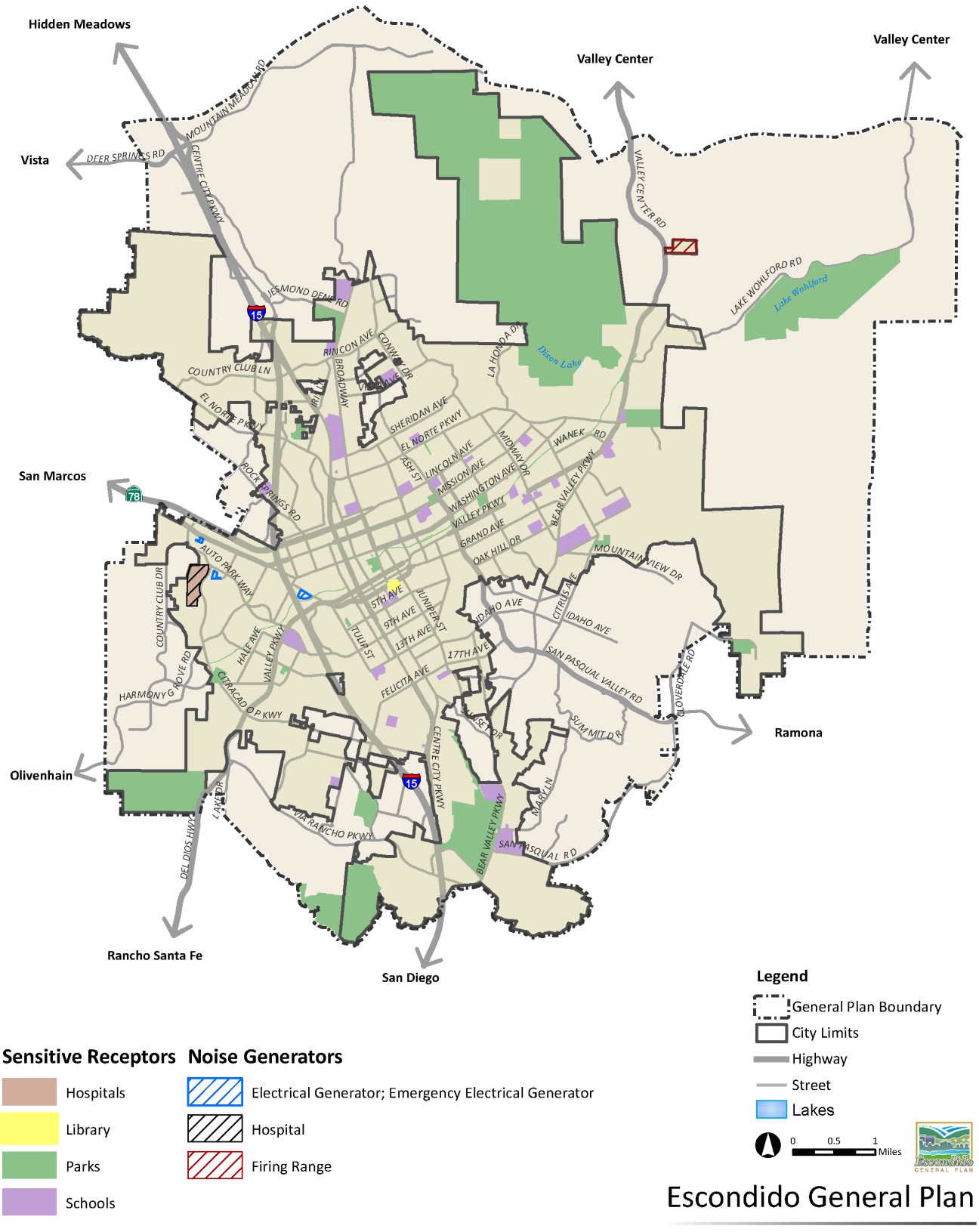


Figure VI-15 - Sensitive Receptors/Noise Generators
Source: City of Escondido. Last Updated 2022

Under certain conditions, the City may require acoustical studies to accompany development proposals in order to establish appropriate noise mitigation measures. Guidelines for conducting noise measurements are included in Figure VI-14.

2. Community Noise Sources

Typical noise levels associated with common indoor and outdoor noise sources are depicted in Figure VI-17. There are a variety of noise sources in the community that affect land uses including:

a. Roadway Network

Escondido's existing noise environment is dominated by traffic-related noise along the City's roadway network, including Interstate 15 and State Highway 78. Variables that affect noise emission include speed, volume, and inclusion of heavy truck traffic. The Land Use and Community Form Element identifies mixed-use overlays and new employment areas where additional growth will be accommodated. Increased traffic volumes in these areas represent where anticipated new major measurable noise sources will be generated.

b. NCTD Rail Line

The North County Transit District (NCTD) began operating its Sprinter commuter rail service in 2008 along an existing rail alignment previously used exclusively for periodic freight operations. The rail line parallels the State Highway 78 through Escondido with a station at the southwestern corner of Mission Road and Auto Park Way (Nordahl Station) and terminates at the Escondido Transit Station on the northern side of Escondido Creek, east of Interstate 15.

Land uses adjacent to the rail line through Escondido comprise non-noise sensitive commercial and industrial businesses. The nearest existing residential land use is approximately one-eighth mile south of the Escondido Transit Station, on the south side of Valley Parkway. Consequently, rail noise is not a significant issue for current residents. Opportunities for additional residential are within one-quarter mile east of the Escondido Transit Station in downtown and/or near the Transit Station Regional Attraction Target Area (see Land Use and Community Form Element).

Future plans for extending the NCTD Sprinter line from the Escondido Transit Station along Centre City Parkway to Westfield Shopping Town have been included in NCTD's Master Planning efforts. This extension would be in close proximity to existing residential neighborhoods.

Figure VI-16

NOISE TERMINOLOGY

Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL):
A measurement of ambient noise that includes an Ldn with an additional 5 dBA "penalty" for the evening hours between 7 p.m.. and 10 p.m.

dBA:
Measurement unit for "A-weighted decibels," for assessing environmental and industrial noise and the potential hearing damage associated with noise health effects.

Equivalent Energy Noise Level (Leq):
Constant noise level delivering the same acoustic energy to the ear of a listener as the actual time-varying noise would deliver over the same exposure. No "penalties" are added to any noise levels during the exposure time; Leq would be the same regardless of the time of day during which the noise occurs.

Day-Night Average Noise Level (Ldn):
A 24-hour average Leq with a 10 dBA "penalty" added to noise levels during the hours of 10p.m. to 7 a.m.. to account for increased sensitivity for nighttime noise. Due to the penalty, Ldn is higher than its corresponding 24-hour Leq (for example, a constant 60 dBA noise over 24 hours would have a 60 dBA Leq, but a 66.4 dBA Ldn).

Sound Exposure Level or Single Event Level (SEL):
Assesses the severity of short duration sound events. SEL is a time averaged, constant intensity, A-weighted sound level over a one-second reference time that would produce the same sound exposure as the actual time-varying sound over the actual exposure time. SEL is usually applied in situations with multiple sound events, each one having its own characteristic SEL.

Figure VI-17

LAND USE NOISE EXPOSURE LEVELS

NORMALLY ACCEPTABLE

Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that buildings involved are of normal conventional construction, without any special noise insulation requirements.

CONDITIONALLY ACCEPTABLE

New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements is made and needed noise insulation features included in the design. Conventional construction, but with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning will usually suffice.

NORMALLY UNACCEPTABLE

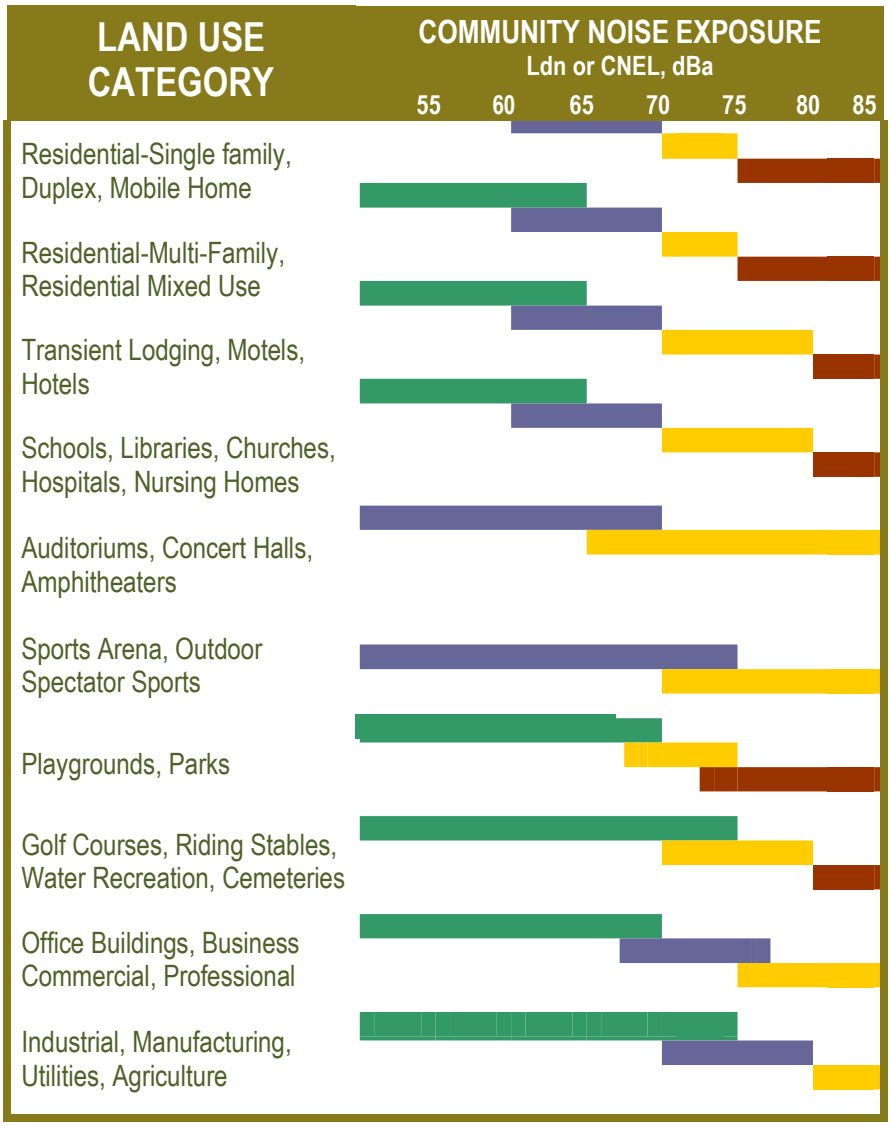
New construction or development should generally be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made with noise insulation features included in the design.

CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE

New construction or development should generally not be undertaken.

c. Firing Ranges

Two firing ranges operate within the Planning Area. The City's municipal firing range on Valley Center Road provides training opportunities for law enforcement personnel from a variety of local, state, and federal organizations. A private recreational firing range east of Lake Wohlford operated by The Escondido Fish and Game Association is available for members on a daily basis and with limited public use.



d. Commercial and Industrial Land Uses

Escondido's development pattern primarily distributes commercial and industrial land uses in a north-south and east-west alignment along major transportation corridors in the urban core. Residential areas generally surround these commercial and industrial areas and establish potential noise conflicts dependent on factors including: type of activity, hours of operation, building orientation, and the site's location relative to other land uses.

e. Flight Operations

The County of San Diego is owner and operator of McClellan-Palomar Airport, a public facility that accommodates smaller civil aircraft located approximately 12 miles west of Escondido. An Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) was adopted that identifies issues and provides guidance regarding land uses surrounding the facility (also refer to Mobility and Infrastructure Element). A noise evaluation in the ALUCP indicates that the facility generates less than 60 dBA CNEL within Escondido's airspace. However, because of Escondido's proximity to the airport, real estate professionals are required to provide a disclosure statement notifying prospective property owners of the airport's flight patterns and potential noise impacts.

Air ambulances transport unscheduled emergency patient deliveries via helicopter to Palomar-Pomerado Hospital. While there are noise implications regarding these flights there are no laws or regulations regarding the specific flight patterns of air ambulances because they are non-scheduled, fly in various directions transporting patients to and from hospitals, and must vary their path to adjust for other air traffic, tall buildings, and weather conditions.

Figure VI-19

Exterior Incremental Environmental Noise Impact Standards for Noise-Sensitive Uses (dBA)

Residences and Buildings Where People Normally Sleep[a]		Institutional Land Uses with Primarily Daytime and Evening Uses[b]	
Existing L_{dn}	Allowable Noise Increment	Existing Peak Hour L_{eq}	Allowable Noise Increment
45	8	45	12
50	5	50	9
55	3	55	6
60	2	60	5
65	1	65	3
70	1	70	3
75	0	75	1
80	0	80	0

Noise levels are measured at the property line of the noise-sensitive use.

a. This category includes homes, hospitals, and hotels where a nighttime sensitivity to noise is assumed to be of utmost importance.

b. This category includes schools, libraries, theaters, and churches where it is important to avoid interference with such activities as speech, meditation, and concentration on reading material.

SOURCE: Federal Transit Administration, Transit Noise Impact and Vibration Assessment, May 2006

Figure VI-18

Noise Measurement Guidelines:

1) Noise measurements in residential areas should generally be applied at ten feet from the backyard property line. However, in certain cases such as on estate lots where backyards are typically very large, the 60 dBA goal could be applied approximately one half the distance between the back of the main residential structure and the rear property line.

2) The outdoor standard should not normally be applied to balconies or patios associated with residential uses.

3) *Noise impacts of proposed projects on existing land uses should be evaluated in terms of potential for adverse community response, based on a significant increase in existing noise levels. For example, if an area currently is below the maximum normally acceptable level, an increase in noise up to the maximum should not necessarily be allowed. Projects increasing noise levels by 5 dB or greater should be considered as generating a significant impact and should require mitigation.

Figure VI-20

Noise Reduction Strategies:

1) Site planning responsive to topography.

Strategies:

- Increase distances between noise sources and receivers;
- Place non-noise-sensitive land uses such as utility areas, parking lots, and maintenance facilities between the source and the receiver;
- Use non-noise-sensitive structures such as garages to shield noise-sensitive areas;
- Orient buildings to shield outdoor spaces from a noise source.

2) Architecture responsive to noise-sensitive spaces.

Strategies:

- Orient bedrooms away from noise sources.
- Limit openings and penetrations on portions of buildings impacted by noise

3) Barriers responsive to reduce noise levels.

Strategies:

- Ensure that line of sight is interrupted between noise source and the receptor when constructing noise walls
- Apply noise insulation to walls, roofs, doors, windows, and other penetrations.

Both stationary and periodic noise levels within the community have a potential to disrupt quality of life, including but not limited to construction activity, schools, parks, playgrounds, churches, landscaping maintenance equipment, barking dogs and loud music, etc.

3. Community Noise Environment

Residential development densities in Escondido's suburban areas that surround downtown are not proposed for intensification. Noise levels in these areas are not anticipated to change significantly. Development in mixed-use target areas includes establishing residential units along busy streets and/or in close proximity to non-residential uses where noise may be a factor. Future residential growth focused in the downtown, urban core, and mixed-use areas may need to incorporate noise reduction strategies as depicted in Figure VI-20 in order to reduce interior noise to acceptable levels as depicted in Figures VI-21.

Figure VI-21

Typical Noise Levels of Common Activities

Common Outdoor Activities	Noise Level (dBA)	Common Indoor Activities
	110	Rock Band
Jet Fly-over at 1,000 feet	100	
Diesel Truck at 50 feet, at 50 mph	90	Food Blender at 3 feet
Noisy Urban Area, Daytime	80	Garbage Disposal at 3 feet
Gas Lawn Mower at 3 feet	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 10 feet
Commercial Area		Normal speech at 3 feet
Heavy Traffic at 300 feet	60	
Quiet Urban Daytime	50	Large Business Office Dishwasher Next Room
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	Theater, Large Conference Room (background)
Quiet Suburban Nighttime	30	Library
Quiet Rural Nighttime	20	Bedroom at Night, Concert Hall (background)
	10	Broadcast/Recording Studio
Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing	0	Lowest Threshold of Human Hearing

Source: CALTRANS

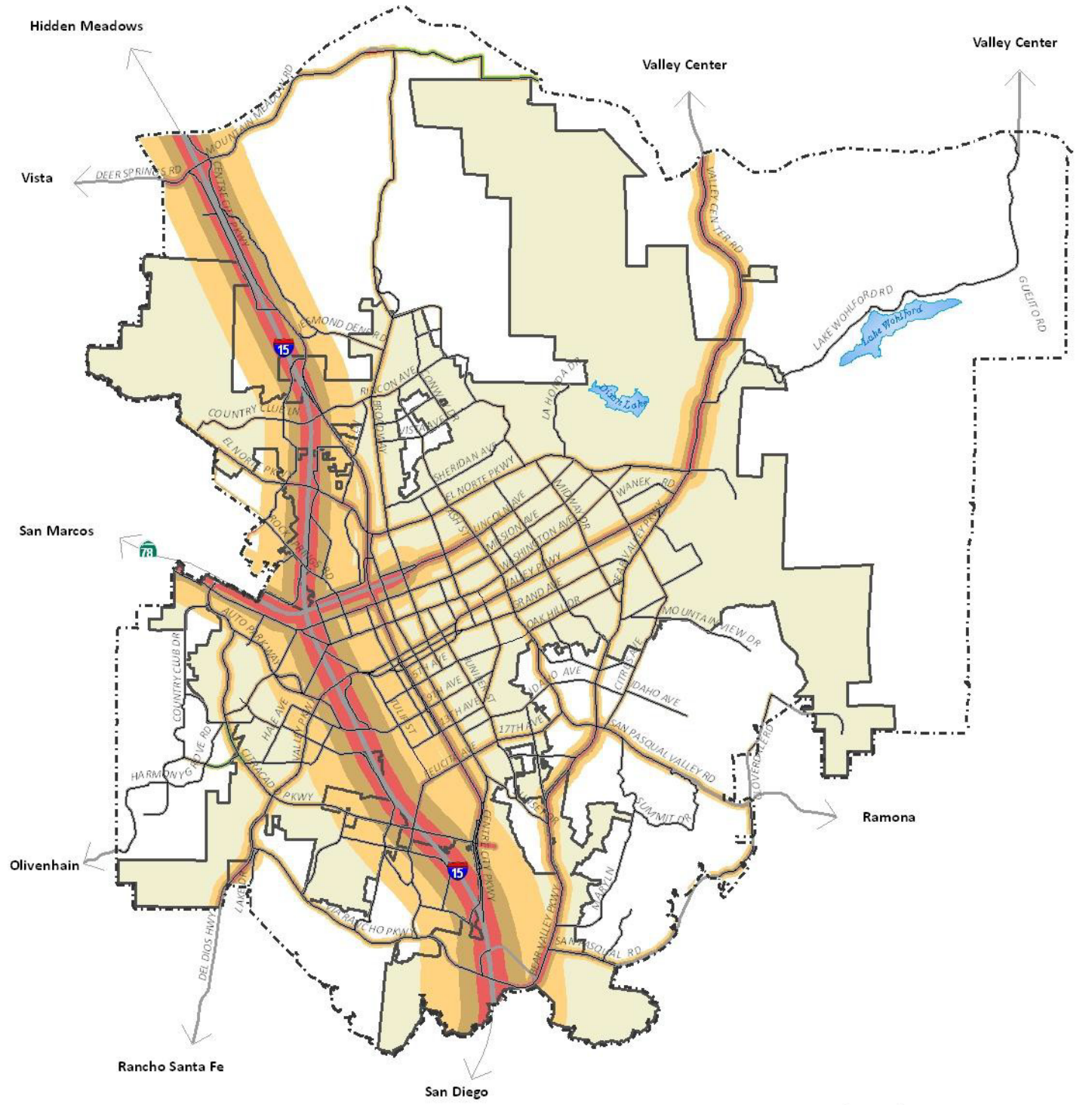


Figure VI-22 - Noise Contours (2035)
Source: Atkins (2011), LLG (2011) (Traffic Data), ISE (2009) (Rail Data)

The community noise environment can be described using contours derived from monitoring major sources of noise. Future noise contours have been estimated by incorporating information about both current and anticipated future land use development and traffic volumes that will be a basis for identifying potential noise issue areas (Figure VI-22). A unique challenge will be the ability to achieve state mandated interior noise requirements for residential uses that are located within activity centers and high intensity environments. Escondido will implement policies, guidelines, and standards to minimize the community's exposure to excessive noise, with special emphasis on protecting residential areas.

G.Community Protection Goals and Policies

A complete list of the General Plan Goals is located in the Vision and Purpose. Specific goals and policies related to community protection provided below are intended to guide development to meet the present and future needs, achieve a vibrant community, and enhance the safety of Escondido.

1.Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response

GOAL 1: A prepared and responsive community in the event of disasters and emergencies.

Emergency Services Policy 1.1
Provide for emergency response during and after catastrophic events.

Emergency Services Policy 1.2
Ensure a coordinated, interagency program for disaster preparedness by maintaining and upgrading the City's disaster response plans and continuing to participate in appropriate Mutual Aid Agreements that enhance disaster preparedness and emergency response.

Emergency Services Policy 1.3
Conduct periodic emergency exercises to test and improve jurisdictional and interdepartmental coordination and response to emergencies brought about by catastrophes such as fire, flood, earthquakes, public health crises, and hazardous spills to: 1) assess and project future emergency service needs; 2) identify deficiencies or practices requiring modification; 3) identify standards for ongoing services and training; 4) assess proficiency in implementing the City's Emergency Operations Plan and 5) determine periodic updates needed based on outcomes.

Emergency Services Policy 1.4
Plan for the continued function of essential facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, and emergency command centers following a major disaster to facilitate post-disaster recovery.

Emergency Services Policy 1.5
Identify locations and facilities in the City to be used as shelters by the community during emergency situations and establish programs to quickly enable operation of these shelters and communicate access information for residents during an event.

Figure VI-23

Fire Department Definitions:

Travel Time:
The elapsed time from a verbal or computerized acknowledgment of the dispatch by the responding unit at the moment of departure from the station to its arrival at the scene.

Response Time:
The elapsed time from receiving a call for service to the responding unit's arrival at the scene.

Arrival at the Scene:
1) Single family residences: at the front door of the residence;
2) Multi-family & non-residential: at the street access of the involved building.

Needed Fire Flow:
The water flow rate needed to control a fire in a building or structure. Factors determining the Needed Fire Flow are size of the building or structure, type of construction according to the California Building Code, use or occupancy of the building or structure, and proximity to property lines, other structures and/or hazards.

Standards of Response Coverage (SORC):
Written policies and procedures establishing the distribution and concentration of the Department's fixed and mobile resources that includes an analysis of risks and expectations to assist in making decisions on deployment issues.

Strategic Plan:
Written priorities and goals addressing Planning Budgets, Life Safety, Incident Stabilization, and Property Conservation.

Emergency Services Policy 1.6

Require minimum road and driveway widths and clearances around structures consistent with local and State requirements to ensure adequate emergency access.

Emergency Services Policy 1.7

Establish guidelines consistent with local and State requirements for adequate water storage and fire flow to meet current and future service needs of the City and to meet current and future needs for fire suppression as defined in the City's Water Master Plan (and the WMP standards).

Emergency Services Policy 1.8

Support the development and maintenance of Citywide emergency evacuation plans and regularly review and revise identified evacuation routes for the public's use in the event of an emergency to ensure adequacy (Figure VI-1). Assess conditions and access of evacuation routes annually through routine street maintenance and City updates (Figure VI-1). Provide for adequate evacuation routes in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (HFHSZ and VHFHSZ), high potential for damn failure, earthquakes, seiches, flooding, or other natural disaster/catastrophic events. Maintain adequate conditions and access on all evacuation routes to provide effective means of evacuation before and during natural disasters/catastrophic events.

a. Transportation routes that are designated on the General Plan Maps as interstates, freeways, highways, and other primary and major arterial routes shall be considered primary evacuation routes. Such routes provide the highest levels of capacity and contiguity and serve as the primary means for egress.
b. Transportation routes designated on the General Plan Maps as minor arterial or collector routes shall be considered secondary evacuation routes. These routes supplement the primary evacuation routes and provide egress from local neighborhood and communities.
c. Prioritize the creation and maintenance of private road agreements on existing private roads to ensure emergency ingress and egress meets City and/or State road and driveway standards and maintains these standards. Private road agreements shall include the assurance that emergency ingress and egress will be maintained.
d. Ensure City emergency evacuation plans include methods for communicating emergency information to agricultural land uses/operations, as such uses/operations may require unique evacuation and traffic control information and/or shelter in place information, such as those with large animal stock or on-site farm-worker housing.

Emergency Services Policy 1.9

Ensure robust and efficacious community outreach and engagement to the community of related emergency service resources by:

- Promoting public awareness through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) of possible natural and man-made hazards and measures which can be taken to protect lives and property during and immediately after emergencies.
- Developing and distributing educational materials to at-risk populations, residents and businesses on the standards and requirements for vegetation clearance, maintenance of defensible spaces, reinspection requirements for property transfer, and existing and planned evacuation routes.
- Fostering collaborative relationships with Fire Safe Councils within the City's Planning Area.

Emergency Services Policy 1.10

Maintain and periodically update a data base documenting wildfire, flooding, and seismic hazard areas and risks as inputs for the City's Emergency Preparedness and Response programs. The database shall include debris management operations and landfill diversion requirements for the safe and responsible removal and disposal of debris after an emergency that maximizes recycling and minimizes materials disposed in landfills.

Emergency Services Policy 1.11

Monitor pertinent studies and research regarding changes in wildland and flooding risks that may accrue with climate change and consider their implications in updating the City's Emergency Response and Preparedness programs.

Emergency Services Policy 1.12

Protect the opportunities for use of the existing shooting range and other sites for public safety training.

Emergency Services Policy 1.13

Coordinate the designation of new evacuation routes with the City's Traffic Engineering, Emergency Management, Fire, and Police Departments, as well as the County OES.

Emergency Services Policy 1.14

Emergency preparedness planning shall include recovery plans to support the people, services and environments affected by the emergency event.

Emergency Services Policy 1.15

To facilitate safe and efficient evacuation, and in collaboration with CAL FIRE, California's Office of Emergency Services, and San Diego County adjacent jurisdictions and SANDAG, the City shall

identify and inventory all residential developments in hazard areas identified in the Community Protection chapter where at least two (2) emergency evacuation routes. Create recommendations and methods for improving safety in the identified residential developments.

Emergency Services Policy 1.16

The City of Escondido will continue to assess identified evacuation routes for viability, capacity, safety.

Emergency Services Policy 1.17

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan or Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan shall be periodically reviewed and updated and serve as the implementation program for the coordination of hazard planning and disaster response efforts within the City.

The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is incorporated into this Element by reference and includes mitigation strategies for flooding, seismic events, wildland fire, and other hazards, shall be reviewed, along with the City's mutual aid agreements and related codes and ordinances to address the hazards of development annually, or as necessary, to ensure compliance with the California Building Standards Code and California Fire Code, as it exists or as may be amended.

2. Fire Protection

GOAL 2: Protection of life and property through adequate fire protection and emergency medical services.

Fire Protection Policy 2.1
Regularly review and maintain the Standards of Response Coverage and the Fire Department Strategic Plan to address staffing, facility needs, and service goals.

Fire Protection Policy 2.2
Provide Fire Department response times for no less than 90 percent of priority emergency responses with engine companies by achieving the following service standard:

- Provide an initial response time of seven and one-half (7½) minutes for all structure fire and emergency Advanced Life Support (ALS) calls and a maximum response time of ten (10) minutes for supporting companies in urbanized areas of the City.

Fire Protection Policy 2.3
Provide a minimum total of seven (7) fire stations each sized and staffed with facilities, services, and equipment to meet current and anticipated needs including, but not limited to, engine and truck units and crews and Advanced Life Support (ALS) staff prior to General Plan build-out to the extent economically feasible.

Fire Protection Policy 2.4
Require new residential and non-residential development to be constructed consistent with local and State requirements. Encourage new residential and non-residential development to exceed local and State regulations for fire protection, especially when located in State Responsibility Areas and in High and Very Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

Fire Protection Policy 2.5
Commit to the use of state-of-the-art equipment, technologies, and management techniques for fire prevention and suppression.

Fire Protection Policy 2.6
Require new development to contribute fees to maintain fire protection service levels without adversely affecting service levels for existing development.

Fire Protection Policy 2.7
Continue to include the Fire Department in the review of development proposals to ensure that projects are located, designed, and constructed to provide on-site fire protection and adequate defensibility to reduce the risk of structural loss and loss of life resulting from wildland fires.

Fire Protection Policy 2.8
Require provisions for adequate emergency access, including secondary public access when in High and Very Fire Hazard Severity Zones, driveway widths, turning radii, fire hydrant locations, visible street addresses and evacuation route signage, and adequate fire flow requirements in the review of all development applications to minimize fire hazards and their impacts.

Fire Protection Policy 2.9
Require mid- and high-rise development to include fire suppression/protection systems and on-site fire suppression equipment and materials and be served by fire stations containing specialized equipment for fire and/or emergency incidents.

Fire Protection Policy 2.10
Establish and maintain an adequate fire flow in relation to structure, size, design, and requirements for construction and/or built-in fire protection.

Fire Protection Policy 2.11
Maintain and enhance an emergency vehicle traffic signal activation system to improve fire station service area coverage in conjunction with planned improvements to the City's major circulation system.

Fire Protection Policy 2.12
Maintain close coordination between planned roadway and other circulation improvements in the City to assure adequate levels of service and response times to all areas of the community.

Fire Protection Policy 2.13
Utilize Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid Agreements with other jurisdictions when appropriate to supplement fire station service area coverage and response times to all portions of the community.

WILDLAND FIRE HAZARDS

Fire Protection Policy 2.14
Require new development in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (HFHSZ and VHFHSZ) areas prepare a project-specific fire protection plan. These shall incorporate site and fire safe design, maintenance practices, defensible space from structures and roadways, and fuel modification to protect properties and reduce risks. The location and development of any road, or any other man-made structure that may act as a fuel break, will be done in consideration of its maximum benefit as a fuel break. The plan will cover the entire parcel(s) and include measures for modifying fuel loading prior to development and a plan to maintain that protection over time.

Cleanup operations after firefighting incident (above)

Fire Protection Policy 2.15
Continue to remove excessive/overgrown vegetation from City-owned properties and require private property owners to remove excessive/overgrown vegetation to the satisfaction of the Fire Department to prevent and minimize fire risks to surrounding properties.

Fire Protection Policy 2.16
Require incorporation of recommended risk reduction measures identified within fire protection plans for mitigation of potential grass and wildland fires within designated HFHSZ and VHFHSZ and other areas required by the Fire Department, that address the need for fire protection systems, water availability, secondary emergency access routes, construction requirements, fuel modification, and appropriate defensible space around structures.

Fire Protection Policy 2.17
Maintain programs to minimize impacts on sensitive biological habitat and species when suppressing wildland fires, when feasible.

Fire Protection Policy 2.18
Educate the public about wildland fire prevention techniques to minimize the potential hazards of wildland fires.

Fire Protection Policy 2.19
Develop policies and provide updates, as appropriate, that address recovery and redevelopment following a fire with the intent to address the reduction of future vulnerabilities to fire hazard risks through site preparation, redevelopment layout design, fire resistant landscape planning, and fire retarding building design and materials.

Fire Protection Policy 2.20
Maintain adequate fuel breaks where feasible, and identify other methods, including maintaining, clearing, and enhancing existing roadways to function as fuel breaks, to prevent and/or slow the spread of potential wildfires. Ensure adequate fuel clearance from roadways functioning as fuel breaks to reduce potential for flame approach to the roadway to protect health, life, and safety of persons and property. Ensure the long-term maintenance of fire hazard reduction projects throughout the City.

Fire Protection Policy 2.21
Continue to work with CAL FIRE, California Office of Emergency Services and San Diego County Office of Emergency Services to:

a. Adopt by ordinance the most current Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map, adopt the most appropriate fire-resistant building material standards and fuel modification/vegetation management requirements for each

zone as a basis for project site plan review in accordance with Federal, state and local standards.

b. Address recommendations based on the Board's Subdivision Review Program for the identified subdivisions within the City's Planning Area.

Fire Protection Policy 2.22

Conduct analyses to determine the existing potential residential (i.e., dwelling units) and nonresidential (i.e., FAR) development density and intensity located within the VHFHSZ. Utilizing such analyses, identify strategies to incentivize transferring that development potential away from the VHFHSZ into lower risk areas, consistent with applicable State laws and regulations.

Fire Protection Policy 2.23

Locate new critical facilities such as hospitals, emergency shelters, fire stations, police stations, civil defense headquarters, and emergency communication centers outside of HFHSZ and VHFHSZ, as defined by CAL FIRE. If no other alternative site is available or feasible, require that critical facilities adhere to California Building Standards Code and California Fire Code regulations when building in these areas.

Fire Protection Policy 2.24

Prioritize engagement with single access neighborhoods to encourage home retrofits to meet current standards on structure hardening, proactively enforce defensible space standards, road standards, and conduct emergency preparedness trainings. Actively apply for funding to assist residents with retrofitting non-conforming development to contemporary fire safe standards.

Fire Protection Policy 2.25

Continue annual defensible space inspections and enforce clearance requirements on public and private property within the VHFHSZ, as dictated by CAL FIRE, in accordance with the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Fire Safe Regulations, and California Building Standards Code related to ongoing maintenance of vegetation clearance on public and private roads, roadside fuel reduction plan, and defensible space clearances.

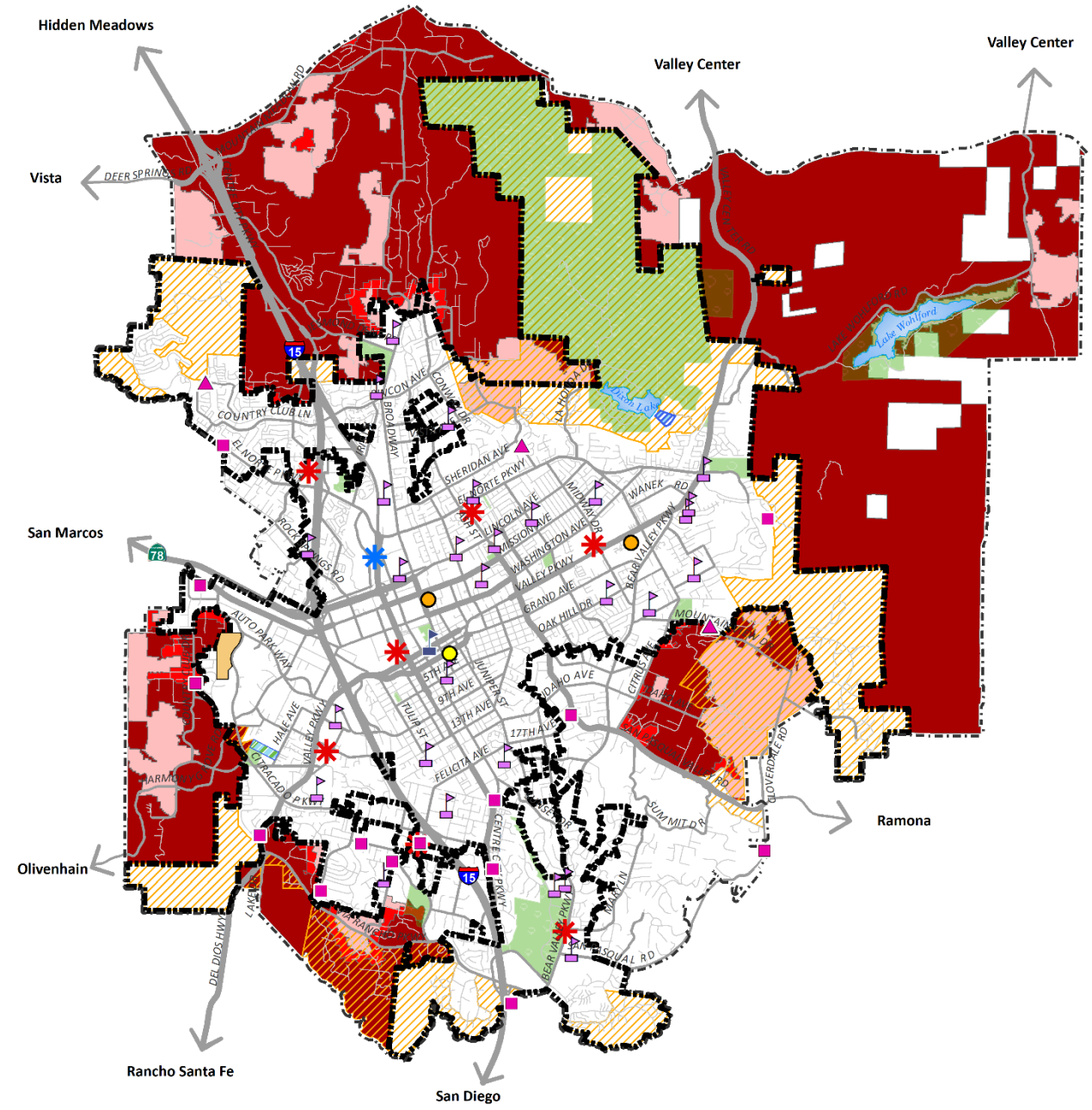


Figure VI-24 - Critical Facilities in SRA and LRA Fire Hazard Zones
Source: CALFIRE, SanGIS, City of Escondido. Last Updated 2011

3. Police Services

GOAL 3: Protection of life and property, and enforcement of law that enhances personal safety in the community.

Police Services Policy 3.1
Regularly review and implement appropriate plans for police protection and services that address staffing, facility needs, and service goals to ensure that the community's needs are met.

Police Services Policy 3.2
Maintain an initial response time for Priority 1 calls of no more than five (5) minutes and an initial response time for Priority 2 calls of no more than six and one-half (6½) minutes. Constantly review these standards to ensure their adequacy and appropriateness in consideration of resource availability.

Police Services Policy 3.3
Maintain adequate levels of sworn officers and civilian personnel to support law enforcement operations based on community needs in order to meet response time standards.

Police Services Policy 3.4
Commit to the use of state-of-the-art equipment, technologies, and management techniques to assure adequate levels of police protection.

Police Services Policy 3.5
Require new development to contribute fees to maintain police facilities and equipment that meet the needs of the community.

Police Services Policy 3.6
Allocate resources to organize patrol areas, and regularly and effectively communicate--through the use of social media, website updates, and safety education booths at public events--with and involve community, school, and civic organizations to encourage community-based crime prevention efforts such as implementing Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) strategies.

Police Services Policy 3.7
Require that defensible space practices that contribute to personal and property safety and crime prevention (i.e., crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED)) be incorporated into development projects, consistent with the City's CAP, such as security and design features (e.g., site and building lighting, visual observation of areas, secured areas).

Police Services Policy 3.8

Enhance crime prevention by working with human care agencies, recreational agencies, educational services, and community groups to:

a) Reduce victimization through educational training opportunities organized by EPD;

b) Encourage recreational and educational opportunities for youth and other community members, with a specific focus on vulnerable groups; and

c) Maintain awareness of potential areas of concern by effectively communicating internally, and with the general public via social media, website updates, and safety education booths at public events.

Police Services Policy 3.9

Educate the public, with an emphasis on engaging with vulnerable groups, such as youth and seniors, about crime prevention techniques through programs such as the Neighborhood Watch Program in residential neighborhoods and the Business Watch Program in commercial and industrial areas.

Police Services Policy 3.10

Coordinate with other federal, State, County, and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance during emergency situations that require outside help as part of the State's Mutual Aid Agreement.

4. Code Compliance Policies

GOAL 4: A safe and healthy environment through a collaborative effort with the community.

Code Compliance Policy 4.1

Provide facilities and staffing to maintain a vigilant and environmentally conscious code compliance program to ensure that existing properties meet health and safety standards.

Property maintenance violations found at a code enforcement investigation

Code Compliance Policy 4.2

Ensure State and local health and safety statues and codes for safe business operations are adhered to with a goal of ensuring the safety of the general public.

Code Compliance Policy 4.3

Work with the community and property owners of properties with identified public nuisance violations, such as graffiti, abandoned and inoperative vehicles, and abandoned shopping carts, to eliminate or correct the violations.

Code Compliance Policy 4.4

Require that structures be maintained to ensure a safe and healthy environment, preventing blight and deterioration resulting from deferred maintenance.

Code Compliance Policy 4.5

Require buildings that are identified as substandard or dangerous to be either repaired or demolished.

Code Compliance Policy 4.6

Conduct public outreach and educational programs with residents, businesses, and community organizations to promote voluntary compliance with City ordinances.

5. Noise

GOAL 5: Protection of the community from excessive noise exposure.

Noise Policy 5.1
Require development to meet acceptable exterior noise level standards as established in Figure VI-17 and use the future noise contour map (FigureVI-22) as a guide for evaluating the compatibility of new noise-sensitive uses with projected noise levels.

Noise Policy 5.2
Apply a CNEL of 60 dB or less for single family and 65 dB or less for multi-family as goals where outdoor use is a major consideration (back yards and single-family housing developments, and recreation areas in multifamily housing developments) as discussed in Figure VI-17 and recognize that such levels may not necessarily be achievable in all residential areas.

Noise Policy 5.3
Require noise attenuation for outdoor spaces in all developments where projected incremental exterior noise levels exceed those shown in Figure VI-19.

Noise Policy 5.4
Require noise attenuation for new noise-sensitive uses which include residential, daycare facilities, schools, churches, transient lodging, hotels, motels, hospitals, health care facilities, and libraries if the projected interior noise standard of 45 dBA CNEL is exceeded.

Noise Policy 5.5
Require construction projects and new development to ensure acceptable vibration levels at nearby noise-sensitive uses based on Federal Transit Administrator criteria.

Monitoring equipment measuring construction activities

Constructing masonry sound attenuation wall to replace wooden fences along Washington Avenue

Noise Policy 5.6
Require the preparation of noise studies, as deemed necessary by the Planning Department, to analyze potential noise impacts associated with new development which could significantly alter existing noise levels in accordance with provisions outlined in Figure VI-17.

Noise Policy 5.7
Encourage use of site and building design, noise barriers, and construction methods as outlined in Figure VI-20 to minimize impacts on and from new development.

Noise Policy 5.8
Require that mixed use and multi-family residential developments demonstrate that the design of the structure will adequately isolate noise between adjacent uses (orientation, window insulation, separation of common walls, floors, and ceilings, etc.).

Noise Policy 5.9
Require new mixed use developments to locate loading areas, parking lots, driveways, trash enclosures, mechanical equipment, and other noise sources away from the residential portion of the development, when physically feasible. Use construction standards to reduce noise between uses.

Noise Policy 5.10
Require development projects that are subject to discretionary approval to assess potential construction noise impacts on nearby sensitive uses and to minimize impacts on these uses, to the extent feasible.

Noise Policy 5.11
Limit direct access from individual properties along Major Roads and Prime Arterials in residential areas in order to minimize gaps in noise barrier sound walls.

Noise Policy 5.12
Limit "through truck traffic" to designated routes to minimize noise impacts to residential neighborhoods and other noise-sensitive uses (see Mobility and Infrastructure Element).

Noise Policy 5.13
Limit the hours of operation for parks and active recreation uses in residential areas to minimize disturbance to residents.

Noise Policy 5.14
Coordinate among city, county, State and other agencies involved in noise abatement to reduce noise generated from outside the City.

Noise Policy 5.15
Coordinate with McClellan-Palomar Airport to distribute property disclosure statements for areas within the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

Noise Policy 5.16
Work with McClellan-Palomar Airport to monitor aircraft noise, implement noise-reducing operation measures, as necessary, and promote pilot awareness of noise-sensitive land uses.

Noise Policy 5.17
Periodically review the adopted noise ordinance to address changing conditions.

6. Flood Protection

GOAL 6: A safe community that is protected from potential flood hazards.

Flood Protection Policy 6.1
Continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to maintain the City's eligibility for flood insurance.

Flood Protection Policy 6.2
Require new and substantial improvements or upgrades of existing development within a flood hazard zone as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (100 and 500-year floodplains) to be constructed in accordance with City, state, and federal regulations (NFIP). These may include implementing construction or other methods to minimize flood damage.

Slope erosion in a residential neighborhood after heavy winter rains

Flood Protection Policy 6.3
Avoid or minimize flooding risks by limiting the type and intensity of new development within the 100-year flood plain to uses that do not involve habitable structures such as agriculture, outdoor recreation, and natural resource areas.

Flood Protection Policy 6.4
Maintain flood control channels, storm drains, and detention basins through periodic dredging, repair, desilting, and clearing subject to approval from appropriate state and federal agencies to ensure they are operating efficiently.

Detention basin in the Escondido Research Technology Center to manage peak period water flows during heavy rainfall events and to enhance groundwater recharging opportunities

Flood Protection Policy 6.5

Require that all facilities within flood hazard zones storing, using, or otherwise involved with substantial quantities of on-site hazardous materials comply with applicable standards of elevation, anchoring, and flood proofing, and that hazardous materials be stored in watertight containers.

Flood Protection Policy 6.6

Inspect the dams at Lakes Dixon and Wohlford periodically to ensure safe operation and maintenance to minimize the risk of failure.

Flood Protection Policy 6.7

Require new development located in identified dam inundation areas to be designed to minimize potential flood damage from dam failure.

Flood Protection Policy 6.8

Locate new critical facilities such as hospitals, emergency shelters, fire stations, police stations, civil defense headquarters, and emergency communication centers outside of flood hazard zones, as defined by FEMA. If no other alternative site is available or feasible, require that critical facilities be designed to minimize potential flood damage if located within flood hazard zones.

Flood Protection Policy 6.9

Maintain the structural and operational integrity of critical facilities during flooding events.

Flood Protection Policy 6.10

Coordinate efforts with local, regional, state, and federal agencies to minimize flood hazards and improve flood protection. Continue to work with appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies, and in particular, FEMA and NFIP in maintaining the most current flood hazard and flood plain information as a basis for project site plan review.

Flood Protection Policy 6.11

Continue to inventory and evaluate the integrity of the City's corrugated metal pipe storm drain segments and identify those needing replacement by either City and/or grant funded projects or by nearby potentially affected private development as it occurs.

Flood Protection Policy 6.12

Implement development standards to ensure new construction does not result in increased peak run-off or flood potential. Avoid increases in downstream flooding potential by protecting natural drainage and vegetative patterns through project site plan review to 1) facilitate use of clustered development; 2) facilitate use of on-site retention or detention of storm water; 3) avoid stream channel modifications; and 4) avoid excessive areas of impervious surfaces.

7. Soils and Seismicity

GOAL 7: Minimization of adverse effects to residents, property, and critical facilities caused by geologic and seismic hazards.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.1

Ensure that new construction meets current structural and safety standards.

a. Regularly review, adopt, and enforce seismic and geologic safety standards, including the Uniform Building Code, in site design and building construction methods to protect public health and safety.

b. Continue to cooperate with the State Department of Conservation – California Geological Survey, the State Office of Emergency Services and other appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies and incorporate the most current data concerning the following as the basis for seismic and geologic safety standards applied to project site plan review.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.2

Minimize development of public utilities in areas where geologic and seismic hazards exist to avoid additional costs associated with installation, maintenance, and replacement.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.3
Require that development applications in areas where the potential for geologic and seismic hazards exist, such as slopes of 25 percent or greater, submit a site-specific geotechnical analysis prepared by a certified geotechnical engineer to identify potential hazards and recommend measures to avoid or mitigate said hazards (see Resource Conservation Element).

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.4
Approve new development in areas identified with geologic or seismic hazards only after completion of a City-approved geotechnical report with appropriate mitigation of such hazards.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.5
Avoid developing in areas that are susceptible to erosion and sediment loss. Where avoidance is not feasible, require the restoration of natural patterns of surface water runoff after grading to minimize erosion.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.6
Encourage the upgrade, retrofitting, and/or relocation of existing critical facilities (hospitals, fire stations, police stations, etc.) that do not meet current building code standards and are susceptible to seismic or geologic hazards.

Soils and Seismicity Policy 7.7
The local earthquake preparedness plan shall be coordinated with regional plans for earthquake preparedness through the local and State Office of Emergency Services.

8.Hazardous Materials

GOAL 8 A safe and healthy community and environment that is protected from the use, storage, and transport of hazardous materials.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.1
Maintain and update Escondido's Household Hazardous Waste Management Plan and coordinate with the County of San Diego on periodic reviews and updates of the County's Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.2
Coordinate with relevant agencies to enforce applicable laws regulating the handling, use, production, storage, disposal, and transportation of hazardous materials, and notify the appropriate city, county, state, and federal agency in the event of a violation.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.3
Maintain regulations requiring proper handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials to prevent leakage, potential explosion, fire, or the escape of harmful gases, and to prevent individually innocuous materials from combining to form hazardous substances.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.4
Encourage businesses and residents to utilize practices and technologies that will reduce the use of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous wastes.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.5
Continue to provide frequent and convenient household hazardous waste collection options.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.6
Cooperate with appropriate regional, state and federal agencies to mitigate impacts associated with hazardous contaminants discovered in the groundwater.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.7
Maintain the Fire Department's programs to safely and effectively respond to hazardous materials incidents by recognizing and isolating the hazard until the Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team can respond.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.8
Participate in the Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team Program, which is a countywide effort to address hazardous materials incidents.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.9
Continue the public education efforts regarding proper use, storage, and disposal of household hazardous wastes, including universal wastes.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.10
Require proponents of projects in known contamination areas to perform comprehensive soil and groundwater contamination assessments, in accordance with applicable regulations. If contamination exceeds regulatory levels, require the proponent to undertake remediation procedures consistent with county, regional, and state regulations prior to grading and development of the site.

Hazardous Materials Policy 8.11
Maintain strict land use controls, performance standards, and structure design standards for uses that generate, use, or store hazardous materials, including setbacks from sensitive uses (schools, residential homes, daycare facilities, etc.) to protect the health and safety of the community in concert with regional, state, and federal requirements for existing and proposed uses.

9.Climate Adaptation and Resiliency

GOAL 9 A safe and healthy community and environment achieved through prioritization of climate adaptation and resiliency to meet the needs of the present without compromising those of the future.

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Policy 9.1

Utilize established methods for projecting the lifecycle carbon emissions of land use and transportation investments. Begin prioritization of projects that have the greatest sustainability potential for future changes; changing weather-related emergencies; and climate hazards.

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Policy 9.2

Continue to implement the City's Climate Action Plan (ECAP), including all relevant adopted measures and actions. Ensure such ECAP measures and actions are incorporated into the implementation of the Community Protection chapter so as to create consistency and provide for climate adaptation and resiliency throughout City actions.

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Policy 9.3

Ensure a coordinated, interagency program to fully anticipate, plan for, and mitigate the risks of climate change by maintaining and upgrading the City's Adaptation Study.

a. Prepare to address environmental hazards and vulnerabilities that climate change is currently influencing and will influence in the future, such as extreme heat/cold, power outages, and, precipitation changes.
b. Identify within the existing safety hazards and vulnerabilities discussed in the most recent Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and Climate Action Plan which hazards and vulnerabilities are likely to be made worse by climate change and have the potential to negatively affect the people and the environment of Escondido. During the periodic future updates of the Safety Element, the hazards and vulnerabilities shall be reviewed, updated and new policies adopted to reflect the most current information available regarding climate change and strategies to reduce hazard risks compounded by climate change.

Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Policy 9.4

Identify, based on current and updated science, strategies to foster resiliency to climate change influences in both the built and undeveloped lands, including mitigation measures, and update and implement development standards to ensure that new construction decrease the vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change, and to protect residents and businesses from increased risks of natural disasters, such as flooding, drought, severe weather events and wildfire.