



# Conservation Element

Santa Ana General Plan  
FINAL, APRIL 2022



# A SHARED VISION

Santa Ana is a city that promotes the health & wellness of all residents, with a civic culture that actively embraces the power of diversity. Our city invests in resources that create economic opportunities for the next generation, and it is a community that celebrates our past while working together to create a sustainable future.

## OUR CORE VALUES

### **H** HEALTH

The people of Santa Ana value a physical environment that encourages healthy lifestyles, a planning process that ensures that health impacts are considered, and a community that actively pursues policies and practices that improve the health of our residents.

### **Eq** **Eq**<sup>EJ</sup> EQUITY

Our residents value taking all necessary steps to ensure equitable outcomes, expanding access to the tools and resources that residents need, and to balance competing interests in an open and democratic manner.

*The value of equity that includes “EJ” in the upper corner indicates a policy related to environmental justice.*

### **S** SUSTAINABILITY

Santa Ana values land use decisions that benefit future generations, plans for the impacts of climate change, and incorporates sustainable design practices at all levels of the planning process.

### **C** CULTURE

Our community values efforts that celebrate our differences as a source of strength, preserve and build upon existing cultural resources, and nurture a citywide culture of empowered residents.

### **Ed** EDUCATION

We are a city that values the creation of lifelong learners, the importance of opening up educational opportunities to all residents and investing in educational programs that advance our residents’ economic wellbeing.



▲ A view of the mountains [cover photo]

On a clear day, you can see for miles in all directions, including the surrounding mountains and hills (visible here are the Chino Hills and San Gabriel Mountains). As efforts to improve the region’s air quality continue, residents will enjoy not only enhancements to such views but also, and more importantly, a healthier setting for all of life’s daily activities.

*Photo courtesy of Lisandro Orozco*



# CONSERVATION ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION ..... CN-02

COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS ..... CN-03

POLICY FRAMEWORK ..... CN-05

    GOAL CN-1: AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE ..... CN-05

    GOAL CN-2: NATURAL RESOURCES ..... CN-09

    GOAL CN-3: ENERGY RESOURCES ..... CN-10

    GOAL CN-4: WATER RESOURCES ..... CN-12

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES ..... CN-14

RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES..... CN-18

IMPLEMENTATION ..... CN-19

FIGURES

    FIGURE CN-1: AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ..... CN-08

    FIGURE CN-2: WATERSHEDS ..... CN-13

    FIGURE CN-3: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES ..... CN-15

TABLES

    TABLE CN-1: CALENVIROSCREEN SCORES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES ..... CN-16

    TABLE CN-2: RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES ..... CN-18

    TABLE CN-3: CONSERVATION ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION..... CN-19

## RELATED ITEMS UNDER SEPARATE COVER

AIR QUALITY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS MODELING, JUNE 2020 (APPENDIX C, DEIR)

INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICAL REPORT, JUNE 2020 (APPENDIX H-A, DEIR)

BIOLOGICAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT, MAY 2020 (APPENDIX D, DEIR)

EIR CHAPTERS: 5.2, AIR QUALITY; 5.3, BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES; 5.5, ENERGY; 5.6, GEOLOGY AND SOILS; 5.7, GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS; 5.9, HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY; 5.11, MINERAL RESOURCES

ENERGY WORKSHEET, JUNE 2020 (APPENDIX F, DEIR)

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS, OCTOBER 2021





**Water Smart Landscaping.** With Southern California continuing to grow and limited water resources, it is more important than ever to conserve the large amount of water normally used to maintain grass lawns. Residents and businesses can be a part of the solution by replacing grass areas with landscape designs and plants that require less water.



# CONSERVATION

The Conservation Element identifies the community's natural resources and communicates the benefits for retention, enhancement, and development of these reserves toward improving quality of life and the environment as a whole. The Conservation Element will guide the City in its efforts to prioritize sustainability and enhance the environment for current and future generations.



# INTRODUCTION

The protection and management of our air, water, and energy resources are essential for a healthy, sustainable, and equitable path forward. Additionally, the preservation of the remaining stretches of undisturbed plant and wildlife environment, such as in Santiago Park, is important to residents.

The City conducts numerous programs and maintains local and regional partnerships to educate people about and incentivize the conservation of natural resources. Additional planning and policy direction is provided in the Santa Ana Climate Action Plan, which represents the City's commitment to a more sustainable future and enhanced quality of life by reducing emissions, water demand, and energy usage.

A special focus of the Conservation Element is the reduction of health hazards due to air pollution, water contamination, or soil contamination. While the City addresses the topic of environmental justice throughout nearly every element of the General Plan, the Conservation Element contains the mapping and tabular identification of the issues affecting environmental justice communities in Santa Ana and the boundaries of those communities.



▲ Tree City USA

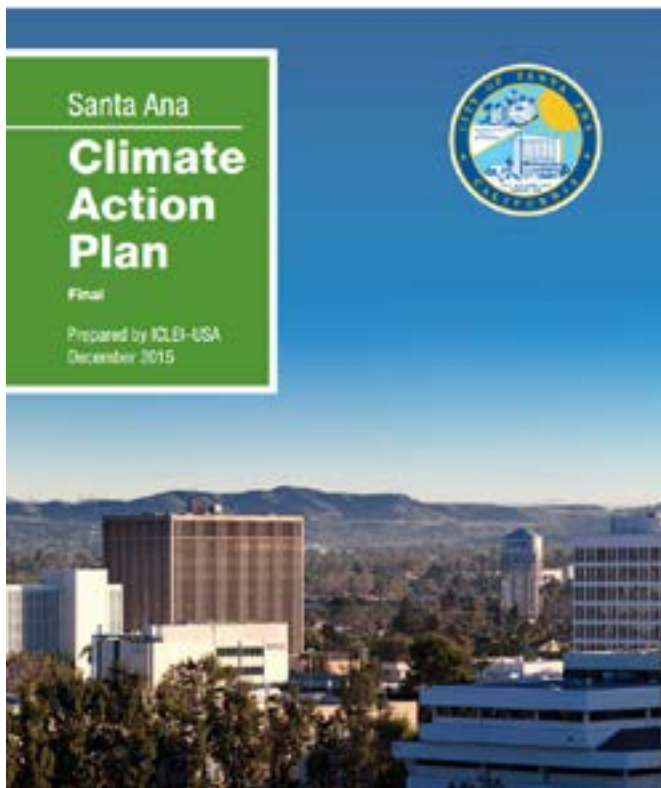
The City of Santa Ana has been a part of the Tree City USA program for 20 years, since it was first recognized in 1999. The city's urban forest consists of 60,000 healthy and attractive trees that improve the look, feel, and health of our community. The use of an extensive urban forest is proven to reduce the heat island effect, lowering surface and air temperatures during peak summer temperatures.

# COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS



Through the community engagement process for this General Plan, participants identified numerous conservation considerations and values that they believe should form the basis of and be addressed by this element. Specifically, participants highlighted the following topics, areas of concern, and community strengths:

- ▶ Build and develop in a sustainable manner
- ▶ Ensure healthy air, water, and soil conditions
- ▶ Support renewable resources
- ▶ Preserve the natural environment
- ▶ Maintain a robust urban forest



## ▲ Climate Action Plan

In 2015, the City adopted a Climate Action Plan to develop and implement strategies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from City operations and the community. GHG emissions have the potential to adversely affect the environment because they contribute, on a cumulative basis, to climate change. Climate change is increasing the weather-related risks, such as extreme heat waves, which can impact human health, infrastructure, and the reliability of the water supply.



## ▲ Community Input

Residents consistently communicated their desire for clean air, clean water, and a more sustainable approach to living, doing business, planning, and building. This input was received during all stages of the General Plan preparation, including at events such as Art Walk (pictured above in September 2016) and focused input such as the 2017 General Plan Advisory Group meeting.







**Santiago Creek Trail.** Santiago Creek trail is a pleasant natural space filled with several species of trees, birds, and plants that connects with the paved, multiuse trail that extends 8.5 miles northeast near the Santiago Oaks Regional Park. While on a hike, run, or bike ride on the trail, visitors can enjoy a unique view and learn about its history and its inhabitants from various information stands.



# POLICY FRAMEWORK

## GOAL CN-1: Air Quality and Climate

Protect air resources, improve regional and local air quality, and minimize the impacts of climate change.

### POLICY CN-1.1

#### REGIONAL PLANNING EFFORTS

Coordinate air quality planning efforts with local and regional agencies to meet or exceed State and Federal ambient air quality standards in order to educate the community on and protect all residents from the health effects of air pollution.



### POLICY CN-1.2

#### CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Consistency with emission reduction goals highlighted in the Climate Action Plan shall be considered in all major decisions on land use and investments in public infrastructure.



### POLICY CN-1.3

#### EDUCATION

Promote efforts to educate businesses and the general public about air quality standards, reducing the urban heat island effect, health effects from poor air quality and extreme heat, and best practices they can make to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



### POLICY CN-1.4

#### DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Support new development that meets or exceeds standards for energy-efficient building design and site planning.



### POLICY CN-1.5

#### SENSITIVE RECEPTOR DECISIONS

Study the impacts of stationary and non-stationary emission sources on existing and proposed sensitive uses and opportunities to minimize health and safety risks. Develop and adopt new regulations avoiding the siting of facilities that potentially emit increased pollution near sensitive receptors within environmental justice area boundaries.



### POLICY CN-1.6

#### NEW AND INFILL RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Promote development that is mixed use, pedestrian friendly, transit oriented, and clustered around activity centers.



### POLICY CN-1.7

#### HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Improve the city's jobs/housing balance ratio by supporting development that provides housing and employment opportunities to enable people to live and work in Santa Ana.



### POLICY CN-1.8

#### PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION

Promote use of alternate modes of transportation in the City of Santa Ana, including pedestrian, bicycling, public transportation, car sharing programs, and emerging technologies.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>



## << GOAL CN-1: AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE

### POLICY CN-1.9 PUBLIC INVESTMENT ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Continue to invest in infrastructure projects that support public transportation and alternate modes of transportation in the City of Santa Ana, including pedestrian, bicycling, public transportation, car sharing programs, and emerging technologies.

S Eq<sup>EJ</sup>

### POLICY CN-1.10 TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

Continue to support and invest in improvements to the City's Transportation Management System, including projects or programs that improve traffic flow and reduce traffic congestion.

S

### POLICY CN-1.11 PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN LOW- OR ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES

Continue to invest in low-emission or zero-emission vehicles to replace the City's gasoline powered vehicle fleet and to transition to available clean fuel sources such as bio-diesel for trucks and heavy equipment.

S

### POLICY CN-1.12 SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Encourage the use of low or zero emission vehicles, bicycles, nonmotorized vehicles, and car-sharing programs by supporting new and existing development that includes sustainable infrastructure and strategies such as vehicle charging stations, drop-off areas for ride-sharing services, secure bicycle parking, and transportation demand management programs.

S

### POLICY CN-1.13 CITY CONTRACT PRACTICES

Support businesses and contractors that use reduced-emissions equipment for city construction projects and contracts for services, as well as businesses that practice sustainable operations.

S

### POLICY CN-1.14 TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT

Require and incentivize projects to incorporate transportation demand management techniques.

H S Ed

### POLICY CN-1.15 COMMUNITY EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Collaborate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District and local stakeholders in advance of designation as a priority community for air monitoring and reduction, and implement measures and strategies identified in other air monitoring and emissions reduction plans that are applicable to and feasible for Santa Ana.

H Eq<sup>EJ</sup> S

### POLICY CN-1.16 INDIRECT SOURCE RULES

Support the development of regional legislation such as the drayage truck rule, advanced clean truck route, and heavy-duty low NOx rule by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

H Eq<sup>EJ</sup> S



<< CN-3 AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE

POLICY CN-1.17  
INDOOR RECREATION

Encourage new development to provide indoor recreation space when located in areas with high levels of localized air pollution or if site is adjacent to freeways or heavy industrial uses.

**H** **Eq**

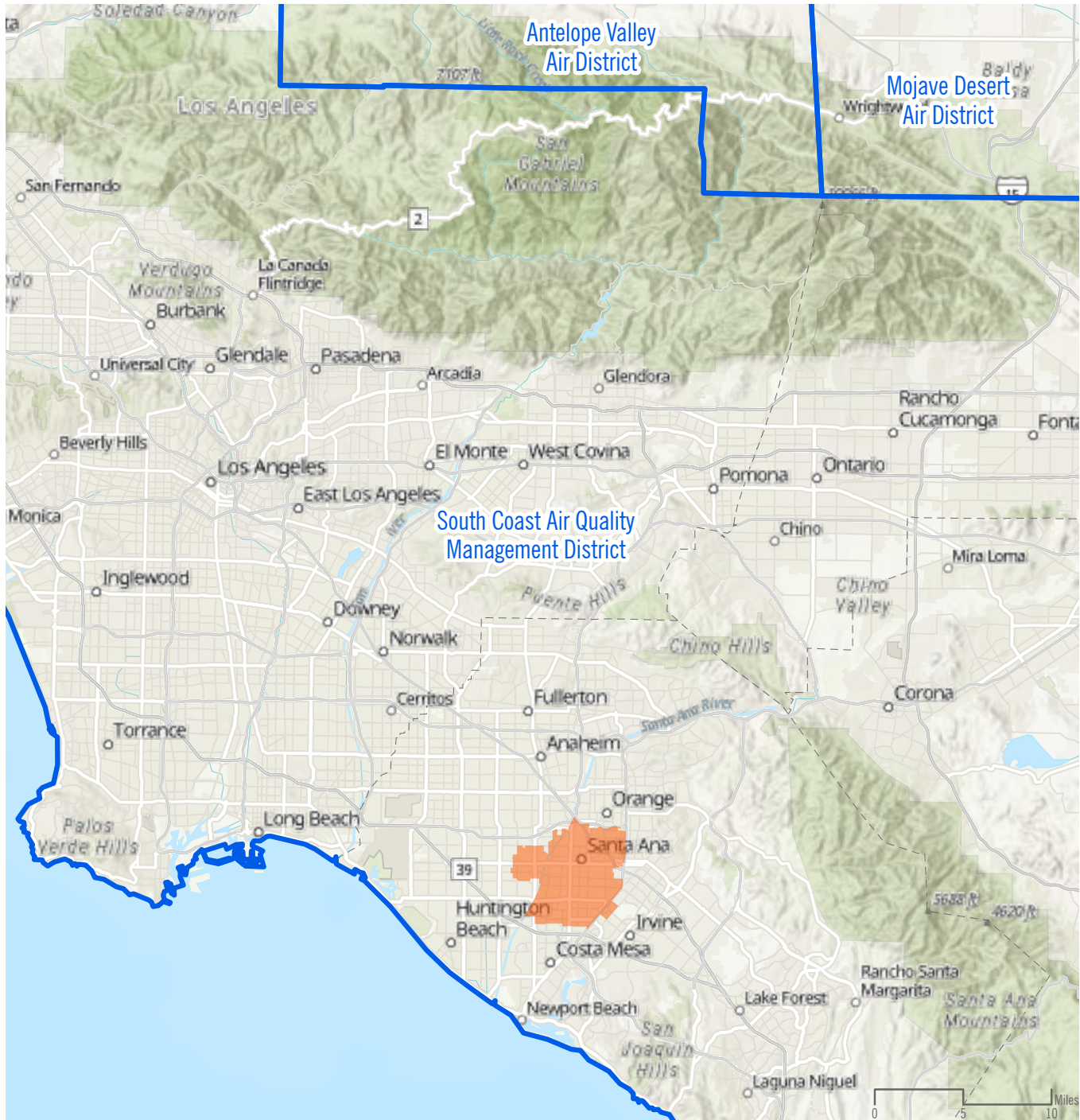
POLICY CN-1.18  
PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN PARKS

Coordinate with park renovation and new development to address air quality and climate impacts by reducing the heat island affect by providing green infrastructure and shade, and reducing air pollution by providing vegetation that removes pollutants and air particles.

**H** **Eq** **S**



**ABOUT THE MAP.** This map shows the boundaries of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which is the agency responsible for regulating air pollution and maintaining clean air standards to protect public health. The District primarily controls emissions from stationary sources of air pollution (e.g., land uses), and the California Air Resources Board and Cal/US EPA regulate mobile sources (e.g., cars and trucks).



Source: CARB 2020 Date Published: 5/18/2020

 Air District

**FIGURE CN-1  
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**





## GOAL CN-2: Natural Resources

Preserve and enhance Santa Ana’s natural and environmental resources while maintaining a balance between recreation, habitat restoration, and scenic resources.

### POLICY CN-2.1 NATIVE WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION

Protect and enhance natural vegetation in parks and open spaces for wildlife habitat, erosion control, and to serve as noise and scenic buffers.

S

### POLICY CN-2.2 BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION

Collaborate with State and County agencies to promote biodiversity and protect sensitive biological resources.

S

### POLICY CN-2.3 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Efficiently manage soil and mineral resource operations to eliminate significant nuisances, hazards, or adverse environmental effects on neighboring land uses.

H S

### POLICY CN-2.4 SCENIC PRESERVATION

Ensure that development, open space and travelways surrounding key destinations, historic sites, recreational areas, and open space protects visual corridors, community aesthetics, and scenic preservation.

H S



▲ Santa Ana River

Nearly four linear miles of trails run along the Santa Ana River through the city’s western area. The City’s vision for the river includes preserving and restoring natural habitat, acquiring land for improvements, protecting water quality, and promoting the Santa Ana River Trail as a nonmotorized transportation route to serve the region. This photo shows bikers and walkers on the bridge connecting the Santa Ana River Trail, Edna Park, and 17th Street Triangle Park.



## GOAL CN-3: Energy Resources

Reduce consumption of and reliance on nonrenewable energy, and support the development and use of renewable energy sources.

### POLICY CN-3.1

#### INTERAGENCY COORDINATION

Consult with regional agencies and utility companies to pursue energy efficiency goals and expand renewable energy strategies.



### POLICY CN-3.2

#### EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Support education programs to provide information on energy conservation and alternatives to nonrenewable energy sources.



### POLICY CN-3.3

#### DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

Promote energy-efficient development patterns by clustering mixed use developments and compatible uses adjacent to public transportation.



### POLICY CN-3.4

#### SITE DESIGN

Encourage site planning and subdivision design that incorporates the use of renewable energy systems.



### POLICY CN-3.5

#### LANDSCAPING

Promote and encourage the planting of native and diverse tree species to improve air quality, reduce heat island effect, reduce energy consumption, and contribute to carbon mitigation with special focus in environmental justice areas.



### POLICY CN-3.6

#### LIFE CYCLE COSTS

Encourage construction and building development practices that use renewable resources and life cycle costing in construction and operating decisions.



### POLICY CN-3.7

#### ENERGY CONSERVATION DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Incorporate energy conservation features in the design of new construction and rehabilitation projects.



### POLICY CN-3.8

#### ENERGY-EFFICIENT PUBLIC FACILITIES

Promote and encourage efficient use of energy and the conservation of available resources in the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of public facilities, infrastructure, and equipment.



### POLICY CN-3.9

#### ENERGY GENERATION IN PUBLIC FACILITIES

Encourage and support the generation, transmission, use, and storage of locally distributed renewable energy in order to promote energy independence, efficiency, and sustainability.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >>





<< CN-3 ENERGY RESOURCES

**POLICY CN-3.10  
ENERGY CONSERVATION IN PUBLIC PROJECTS**

Work with businesses and contractors that use energy-efficient practices in the provision of services and equipment for City construction projects.

S

**POLICY CN-3.11  
ENERGY-EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Continue to support public and private infrastructure for public transportation such as bus routes, rail lines, and the OC Streetcar.

S



▲ **Fleet Vehicles**

The City of Santa Ana uses alternative-fueled vehicles to conserve natural resources and lower emissions. The propane-fueled Ford F-550 truck shown here will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by about 55,000 pounds over its lifetime. While minimizing smog-producing hydrocarbons and virtually eliminating particulate matter, the vehicle will lessen noise levels by about 50 percent compared to its diesel counterparts.

*Photo courtesy of Roush Clean Tech*



## GOAL CN-4: Water Resources

Conserve and replenish existing and future water resources.

### POLICY CN-4.1

#### WATER USE

Encourage and educate residents, business owners, and operators of public facilities to use water wisely and efficiently.

**S** **Ed**

### POLICY CN-4.2

#### LANDSCAPING

Encourage public and private property owners to plant native or drought-tolerant vegetation.

**S** **Ed**

### POLICY CN-4.3

#### RECYCLED WATER SYSTEMS

Continue to coordinate with the Orange County Water District, Orange County Sanitation District, and developers for opportunities to expand use of reclaimed water systems.

**S**

### POLICY CN-4.4

#### IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Promote irrigation and rainwater capture systems that conserve water to support a sustainable community.

**S** **Ed**

### POLICY CN-4.5

#### WATER SUPPLY

Continue to collaborate with Orange County Water District and Metropolitan Water District to ensure reliable, adequate, and high quality sources of water supply at a reasonable cost.

**S**

### POLICY CN-4.6

#### WATER QUALITY

Work with public and private property owners to reduce storm water runoff and to protect the water quality percolating into the aquifer and into any established waterway.

**S**



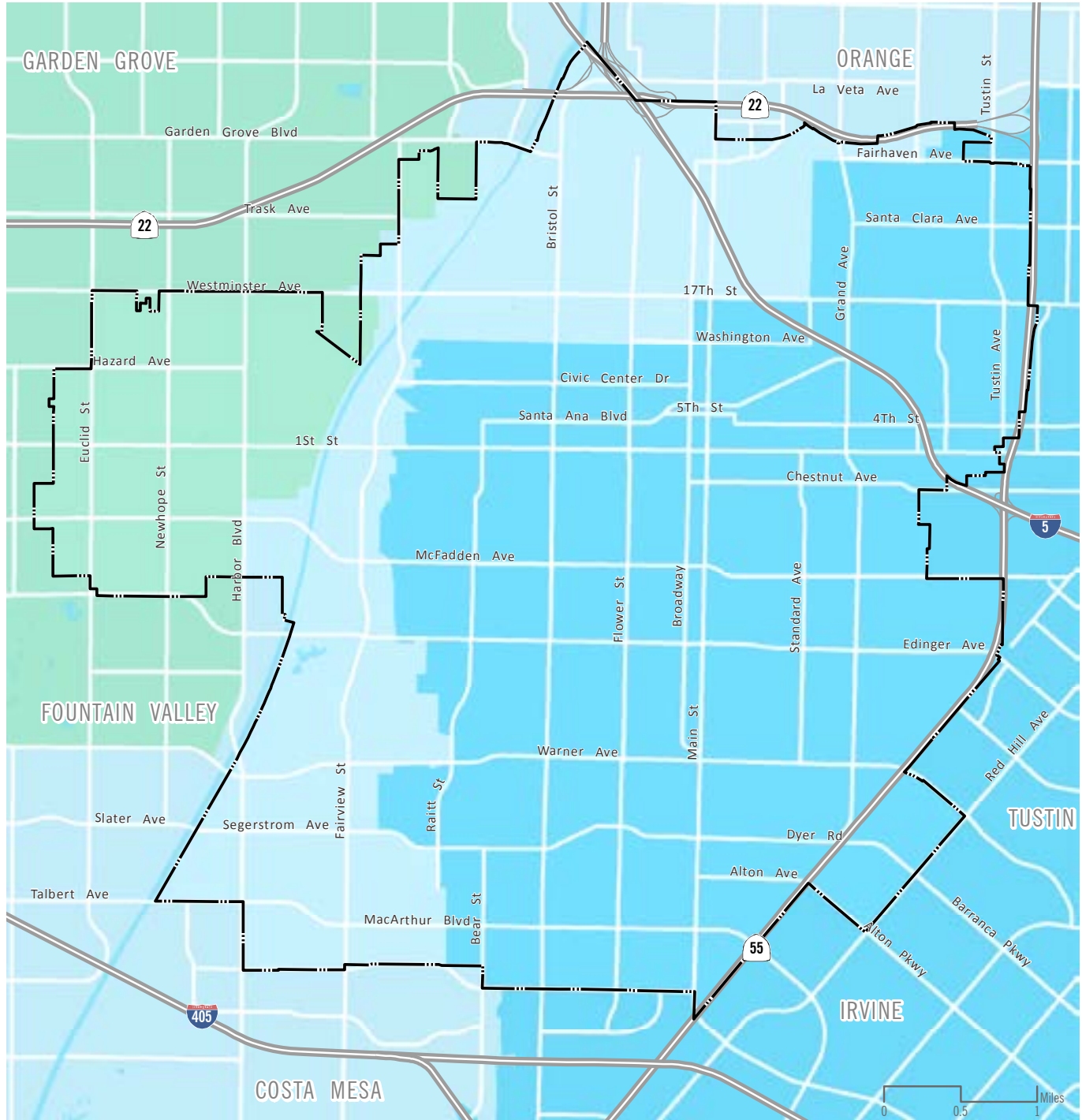
#### ◀ Santa Ana Water Tower

Built in 1928, the historic water tower stands 153 feet tall and is still used today to maintain water pressure for residents. The tower is considered a Landmark structure on the Santa Ana Register of Historical Properties (#253).

*Photo by Chet Frohlich*



**ABOUT THE MAP.** This map shows the boundaries of the three watersheds in the city. When a drop of water falls inside one of these watersheds, it flows toward larger bodies of water (see legend). The water travels either by soaking into the ground or by running directly into the water body. Healthy watersheds help project water quality for both people and nature.



Source: Fuscoe 2020 Date Published: 8/3/2020

- Watershed**
- Anaheim Bay-Huntington Harbour
  - Santa Ana River
  - Newport Bay

**FIGURE CN-2  
WATERSHEDS**



# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES

Our Core Values reinforce the City’s commitment to enabling all persons to enjoy equal access to healthy environments, healthy foods, parks and recreational facilities, and civic engagement opportunities. However, the City recognizes that throughout our communities, some bear a disproportionate burden of pollution and associated health risks.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The concept of environmental justice seeks to correct this inequity by reducing pollution and increasing public investments in these communities, and ensuring their input is considered in decisions that affect them.

State law enacted through Senate Bill 1000 (2016) requires all cities and counties to update public policies to address environmental justice. The City has opted for an “environmental justice in all policies” approach to ensure the topic is present alongside the multitude of issues and topics that affect our communities.

It should be noted that the goals, policies, and implementation actions presented in the General Plan build upon the important work that Santa Ana residents and stakeholders have already started to improve conditions for residences, childcare centers, schools, medical facilities, senior care centers, and parks and recreation facilities throughout the city.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES

An environmental justice community is an area of the city where residents have the highest risk of exposure to pollution in the air, water, and soil. This pollution may be caused by passing vehicles (cars and trucks) or by the daily activities of businesses and institutions. Residents in these areas also tend to be burdened by socioeconomic and health issues, such as higher rates of language barriers, poverty, and asthma. Such areas also tend to experience lower rates of investment and improvements from individuals, private companies, and public agencies. All of these factors can lead to unequal opportunities to lead a healthy and prosperous life.

The City uses a mapping tool from CalEPA called CalEnviroScreen (CES, Version 4.0) to identify the most vulnerable and disadvantaged areas in Santa Ana. The CES tool measures 21 indicators for every census tract in California related to people’s exposure to pollution and quality of life. The results for each census tract are combined and measured against every other census tract, producing a composite score that ranks census tracts from the least impacted to the most impacted.

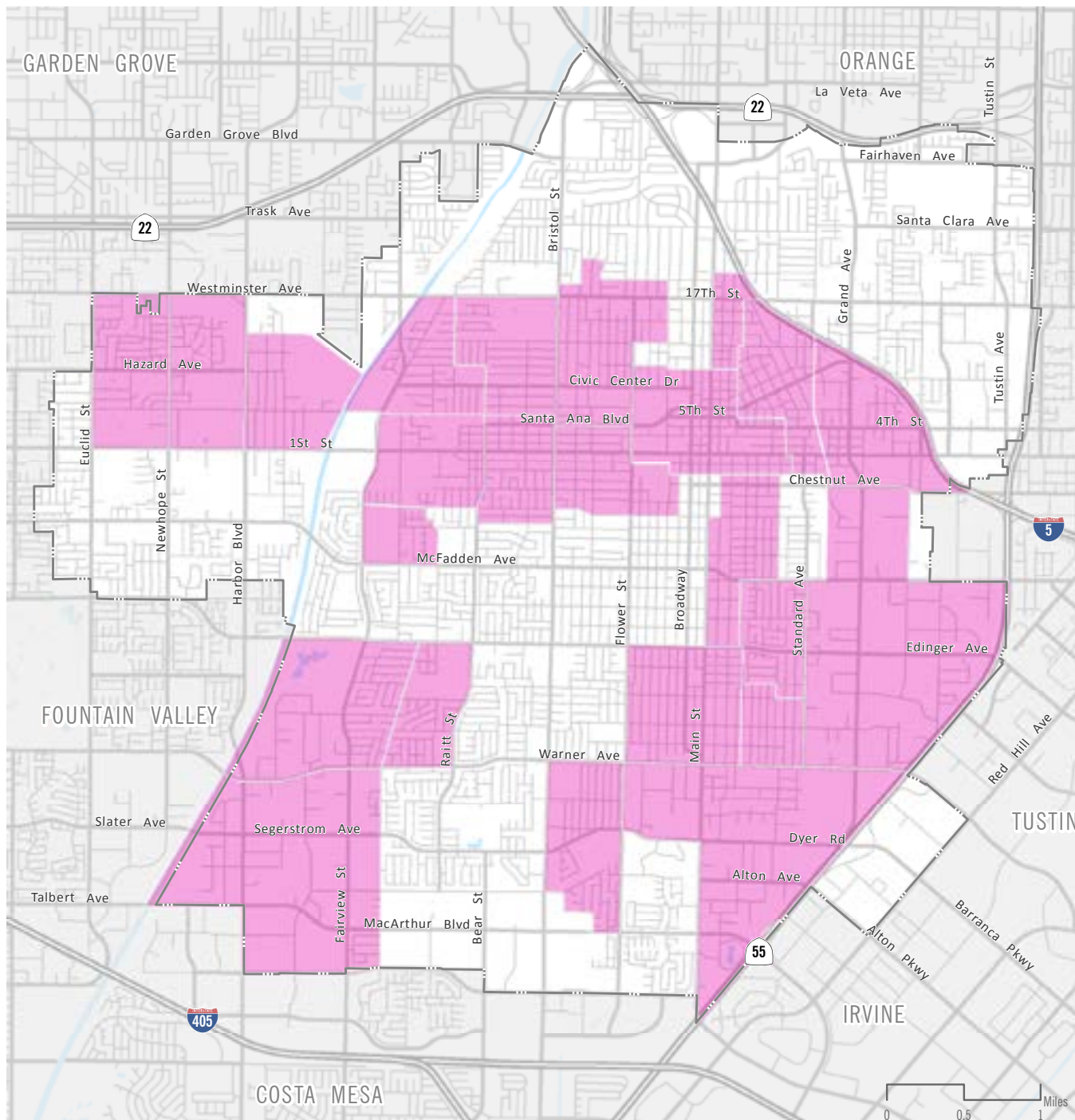
Those ranked in the top 25 percent—with values between 75 and 100 percent—are considered disadvantaged or environmental justice communities. This top 25th percentile score is also referred to as an upper quartile score. Figure CN-3 maps areas of Santa Ana considered to be environmental justice communities. Table CN-1 provides more detail on the neighborhoods that overlap the environmental justice areas.

The mapped environmental justice communities represent the areas where the City’s policies will emphasize and prioritize improving existing environmental conditions, expanding access to public facilities and resources, and augmenting opportunities for civic engagement.





**ABOUT THE MAP.** This map shows the boundaries of Santa Ana’s environmental justice communities based on data from CalEPA’s CalEnviroScreen tool. The boundaries represent the areas where the City’s policies will emphasize and prioritize improving existing environmental conditions, expanding access to public facilities and resources, and augmenting opportunities for civic engagement.



Source: CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Date Published: 11/1/2021

Environmental Justice Communities

**FIGURE CN-3  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES**

**Environmental Justice Community:** The City uses a mapping tool from CalEPA called CalEnviroScreen (CES) to identify the most vulnerable and disadvantaged areas in Santa Ana. The CES tool measures 21 indicators for every census tract in California related to people’s exposure to pollution and quality of life. The results for each census tract are combined and measured against every other census tract, producing a composite score that ranks census tracts from the least impacted to the most impacted. Those ranked in the top 25 percent—shown with values between 75 and 100 percent—are considered and referred to as an environmental justice area, environmental justice community, or disadvantaged community.



**TABLE CN-1. CALENVIROSCREEN SCORES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES**

Census Tract	Neighborhood(s)	Low Income	Percentile Score & Quartile Rank			Variables in the Upper Quartile	
			Composite	Pollution	Population	Pollution	Population
6059074003	Delhi	No	86	99	56	AQ   DPM   TD   CS GW   HZ   L	LB
6059074300	Delhi, Madison Park	Yes	89	93	73	AQ   CS   GW   HZ L   SW	LB   ED   HB
6059074200	Delhi, Madison Park, Memorial Park	Yes	81	82	71	AQ   GW   L   HZ	ED   LI   POV
6059074005	Sunwood Central, Rosewood Baker, South Coast	Yes	76	79	65	AQ   L	ED   LI
6059074108	Centennial Park	Yes	82	89	66	AQ   L   CS   HZ	LB   ED
6059074106	n/a	Yes	76	89	56	AQ   CS   GW   HZ	LB   ED
6059074109	Valley Adams	Yes	77	81	65	AQ   L   HZ	ED   HB
6059089004	Riverview West	Yes	82	77	77	AQ   DPM   L	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059089001	Riverview West	Yes	80	70	79	AQ	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059089105	Santa Anita	Yes	81	65	83	AQ   L   TD	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059074403	Cornerstone Village, Lyon St	Yes	81	94	57	AQ   TD   CS   HZ	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059074406	Lyon St, Saddleback View	Yes	93	94	79	AQ   DPM   TD   CS SW   L	ED   LI   POV   HB   LB
6059074602	Madison Park, Pacific Park	Yes	82	83	72	AQ   CS   HZ   L	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059074502	Cedar Evergreen, Madison Park	Yes	88	90	76	AQ   CS   GW   HZ L	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059074405	French Court, French Park, Lacy, Logan, Pacific Park	Yes	91	94	77	AQ   DPM   TD   CS SW   L	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059075002	Downtown, French Park, Heninger Park, Lacy, Pacific Park, Willard	Yes	90	83	86	AQ   DPM   CS   HZ SW   L	LB   ED   LI   POV

**Rankings**

Quartile 1 = Good	Quartile 2 = Moderate	Quartile 3 = Poor	Quartile 4= Challenged (Upper)
-------------------	-----------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------

**Variable in the CES 4.0 model:**

Pollution Exposure	Environmental Effects	Sensitive Population	Socioeconomic Factors
AQ = Air Quality (incl. Ozone, PM2.5, Toxic Releases)	CS = Toxic Cleanup Sites	LB = Low Birth Weight	LI = Linguistic Isolation
DPM = Diesel Particulate Matter	GW = Groundwater Threats		POV = Poverty
TD = Traffic Density	HZ = Hazardous Waste		HB = Housing Burden
L = Lead	SW = Solid Waste Sites/Facilities		ED = Educational Attainment
			UE = Unemployment

Note: Indicators not ranked in upper quartile: air quality (ozone); air quality (PM2.5); drinking water contaminants; pesticide use; impaired water bodies; asthma; cardiovascular disease. Low income status consistent with Assembly Bill 1550 and mapping by the California Air Resources Board.





**TABLE CN-1. CALENVIROSCREEN SCORES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES**

6059074901	Flower Park, Heninger Park, Pico Lowell	Yes	88	76	87	AQ   CS   HZ   L	ED   LI   POV   UE
6059075201	Artesia Pilar	Yes	84	81	78	AQ   HZ   L	LB   ED   LI   POV   UE   HB
6059075202	Artesia Pilar	Yes	82	84	72	AQ   CS   HZ   L	ED   LI   UE   HB
6059074801	Artesia Pilar, Central City	Yes	85	83	77	AQ   HZ   L	ED   LI   POV
6059075004	French Court, Santa Ana Triangle	Yes	83	79	76	AQ   DPM   TD   L	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059074805	Bella Vista	Yes	77	63	79	AQ	ED   LI   POV   HB
6059075100	Flower Park, Washington Square, Willard, Floral Park, West Floral Park	Yes	77	83	64	AQ   CS   HZ   L	ED   LI
6059074802	Casa Bonita, Artesia Pilar	Yes	76	88	58	AQ   CS   HZ   L	ED   LI   POV

**Rankings**

Quartile 1 = Good	Quartile 2 = Moderate	Quartile 3 = Poor	Quartile 4= Challenged (Upper)
-------------------	-----------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------

**Variable in the CES 4.0 model:**

Pollution Exposure

Environmental Effects

Sensitive Population

Socioeconomic Factors

AQ = Air Quality (incl.

CS = Toxic Cleanup Sites

LB = Low Birth Weight

LI = Linguistic Isolation

Ozone, PM2.5, Toxic Releases)

GW = Groundwater Threats

POV = Poverty

DPM = Diesel Particulate Matter

HZ = Hazardous Waste

HB = Housing Burden

TD = Traffic Density

SW = Solid Waste Sites/Facilities

ED = Educational Attainment

L = Lead

UE = Unemployment

Note: Indicators not ranked in upper quartile: air quality (ozone); air quality (PM2.5); drinking water contaminants; pesticide use; impaired water bodies; asthma; cardiovascular disease. Low income status consistent with Assembly Bill 1550 and mapping by the California Air Resources Board.



# RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES

Each policy in the City of Santa Ana General Plan is listed under the most related goal and element. Some policies, however, also reinforce other goals housed in different elements.

To provide a more complete picture of all of the policies that support the goals of this element, Table CN-2 lists each Conservation goal in the far left column and, in columns to the right, identifies related policy numbers from other elements.

Goal CN-2, for example, is supported not only by the policies listed in this element (CN-1.1 through CN-3.11), but also by Policy M-3.8 in the Mobility Element, two policies in the Open Space Element, Policy LU-4.4 in the Land Use Element and Policy UD-3.7 in the Urban Design Element.

**TABLE CN-2. RELATED GENERAL PLAN POLICIES**

Conservation Goals	Volume 1 Services & Infrastructure				Volume 2 Natural Environment				Volume 3 Built Environment			
	CM	M	EP	PS	CN	OS	N	S	LU	HE	HP	UD
<b>CN-1: Air Quality and Climate</b> Protect air resources, improve regional and local air quality, and minimize the impacts of climate change.	-	M-1.8 M-4.9	EP-2.10	-	Current Element	OS-2.5 OS-2.7 OS-2.8	-	S-2 S-2.1 S-2.2 S-2.3 S-2.4 S-2.5 S-2.6	LU-3.8 LU-3.9 LU-4.3	-	-	UD-2.10
<b>CN-2: Natural Resources</b> Preserve and enhance Santa Ana’s natural and environmental resources while maintaining a balance between recreation, habitat restoration, and scenic resources.	-	M-3.8	-	-	Current Element	OS-3.4 OS-3.7 OS-3.8	-	-	LU-4.4	-	-	UD-3.7
<b>CN-3: Energy Resources</b> Reduce consumption of and reliance on nonrenewable energy, and support the development and use of renewable energy sources.	-	M-5.6	EP-2.9	PS-1.7	Current Element	OS-3.5 OS-3.6	-	-	LU-4.3	-	-	UD-2.11
<b>CN-4: Water Resources</b> Conserve and replenish existing and future water resources.	-	M-1.8 M-5.4	EP-2.9	PS-3.6 PS-3.8	Current Element	OS-1.13 OS-3.6	-	-	LU-4.3	-	-	-

*Notes:*

CM: Community Element

M: Mobility Element

EP: Economic Prosperity Element

PS: Public Services Element

CN: Conservation Element

OS: Open Space Element

N: Noise Element

S: Safety Element

LU: Land Use Element

HE: Housing Element

HP: Historic Preservation Element

UD: Urban Design Element





# IMPLEMENTATION

An implementation plan is a coordinated series of actions the City desires to take in the future that are intended to advance, over the long term, the City’s Shared Vision, Core Values, and the General Plan goals and policies. An implementation plan is thus a follow-up measure for this element. Taken as a whole, these programs represent the City’s best thinking today on what actions should be taken to address the considerations and concerns of the community and make sure that the plan’s aspirations are achieved.

Implementation is in large part contingent upon adequate funding. Many of these actions can be pursued through initiatives already underway.

Other programs will require additional resources. As such, the exact mix and timing of programs the City may pursue will in part be opportunity driven, dependent on the availability of funding, staffing, and other necessary resources. The Time Frame in the Implementation Table below is the target for completion of the Action.

This element may be implemented by amendments to existing plans, ordinances, development standards, and design guidelines; capital investments/projects; and interagency/interjurisdictional coordination. The following table identifies the implementation action, the responsible City agency, and targeted timeline for accomplishment.

**TABLE CN-3. CONSERVATION ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
<b>GOAL CN-1: Air Quality and Climate</b>		
<b>Protect air resources, improve regional and local air quality, and minimize the impacts of climate change.</b>		
1.1 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Air quality planning.</b> Review existing and monitor the development of new air monitoring and emissions reduction plans prepared by the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Gather and evaluate measures and strategies in such plans for their applicability to and feasibility for Santa Ana.	PBA 2022 & annually
1.2 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Community identification.</b> Coordinate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District and local stakeholders to pursue a priority community designation for eligible environmental justice areas of the city , with focus on areas with unique needs and highest pollution burden as identified in the CalEnviroScreen tool. If such designation is not awarded, seek grant funds for activities such as local air quality monitoring.	PBA 2022 & Ongoing
1.3 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Proactive engagement.</b> Collaborate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District and local stakeholders in environmental justice areas experiencing local air pollutions issues to outline objectives and strategies for monitoring air pollution in advance of the establishment of a community emissions reduction and/or air monitoring plan.	PBA 2022 & Ongoing
1.4 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Health risk criteria.</b> Establish criteria for requiring health risk assessments for existing and new industries, including the type of business, thresholds, and scope of assessment. Review existing and establish new regulation to reduce and avoid increased pollution near sensitive receptors within environmental justice area boundaries.	PBA 2022-2027
1.5 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Agency permits.</b> Monitor the South Coast Air Quality Management District permitting and inspection process and the Orange County Health Care Agency to identify businesses in Santa Ana with potential hazardous materials or by-products, with a special focus on environmental justice communities. Serve as a liaison for residents to identify potential emission violations. Share information and data with the community on the City’s Environmental Quality web page.	PBA 2022 & Ongoing
1.6 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Emissions monitoring.</b> Coordinate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to monitor existing air measurements and recommend new air measurements and locations.	PBA 2022 & Ongoing
1.7 <sup>EJ</sup>	<b>Truck idling.</b> Evaluate strategies to reduce truck idling found or reported in areas with sensitive receptors, with a priority placed on environmental justice areas.	PBA/PD 2022-2024



**TABLE CN-3. CONSERVATION ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
1.8 EJ	<b>Improve older trucks.</b> Promote the City’s Vehicle Replacement Plan and explore the replacement of older trucks through City participation in regional incentive programs and education of Santa Ana private fleet owners of program opportunities.	PWA 2022
1.9 EJ	<b>Indirect source rules.</b> Support the development of indirect source rules, drayage truck rules, advanced clean truck routes, and heavy-duty low NOx rules by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.	CMO Ongoing
1.10 EJ	<b>Interagency team.</b> Establish an environmental quality interagency team to evaluate, monitor, and make recommendations to address air quality and environmental hazard issues, with a special focus on environmental justice areas. Publish results and information on the City’s website through a dedicated Santa Ana Environmental Quality web page.	PBA 2022 & Ongoing
1.11 EJ	<b>Public education.</b> Augment existing outreach programs to improve public awareness of State, regional and local agencies’ roles and resources to identify, monitor, and address air quality and other environmental hazards in the community.	PBA/PWA Ongoing
1.12 EJ	<b>Data collection for emissions plans.</b> Coordinate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to explore ways to initiate data collection efforts for a community emissions reduction and/or community air monitoring plan, including the identification of information needed (new or updated), potential data sources and needed resources, and strategies to engage residents and collect information.	PBA 2022
1.13 EJ	<b>Community survey on healthy lifestyles.</b> Plan for and conduct a community survey of residents every two years related to community health, pollution, parks, community engagement, and community services, with focused outreach for environment justice concerns and priority areas (tie into other City efforts like Strategic Plan, park and recreation planning, community benefits, etc.). Report findings of survey through the various media platforms and utilize input to inform periodic evaluation and update of General Plan.	CMO Every two Years
1.14 EJ	<b>Expanded interactions.</b> Identify opportunities to expand regular attendance and support neighborhood associations and community groups to hold regular meetings with City staff and decision-makers in neighborhoods within environmental justice communities, so that residents, community organizations and businesses can communicate their unique issues and needs, as well as their recommendations on how best to implement environmental quality, environmental health, and environmental justice policies. Arrange for language interpretation services as needed at these meetings so that all residents can participate.	PBA/CMO Ongoing
1.15 EJ	<b>Expanded representation.</b> Expand representation of residents from neighborhoods within environmental justice area boundaries by extending residents from such areas to become board, commission, and task force members as openings occur.	PBA/CMO Ongoing
1.16 EJ	<b>City budget.</b> Evaluate the City’s budget and financial policies to include direction for prioritizing public services and improvements within environmental justice area boundaries. Augment budget meeting presentations to include a section dedicated to the status of actions and improvements to address the needs of residents within environmental justice area boundaries.	CMO Annually
1.17	<b>Transportation Demand Management.</b> Collaborate with the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Orange County Transportation Authority, and other transportation planning agencies to develop a transportation demand management program for small businesses and new multifamily housing in the city to educate and incentivize employees and residents to consider transit, carpool, and active transportation travel choices.	PBA/PWA 2023
1.18	<b>Support transit.</b> Support local and regional land use and transportation plans that increase mass transit usage and reduce vehicle trips.	PWA Ongoing
1.19	<b>Climate Action Plan.</b> Review and update the City’s Climate Action Plan.	PWA 2023
<p><b>GOAL CN-2: Natural Resources</b>  <b>Preserve and enhance Santa Ana’s natural and environmental resources while maintaining a balance between recreation, habitat restoration, and scenic resources.</b></p>		
2.1	<b>Native planting.</b> Evaluate opportunities in parks, open spaces, scenic linkages, and greenway corridors to restore native vegetation and establish, where appropriate, native plantings that require limited water and fertilizer. Restoration and establishment of native planting should not limit pedestrian and recreation access.	PRCSA/ PWA 2021 & ongoing



**TABLE CN-3. CONSERVATION ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
2.2	<b>Santiago Creek.</b> Continue working with regional agencies, including the Orange County Flood Control District, to identify opportunities to enhance the natural qualities of Santiago Creek to protect habitat and reintroduce native plants and animals.	PRCSA 2022 & ongoing
2.3	<b>Channel improvement plans.</b> Partner with the County of Orange to explore best practices in greenbelt and channel improvement plans for the Santa Ana River and Santiago Creek to preserve natural vegetation.	PRCSA/PWA 2022
2.4	<b>Preservation of natural and historic resources.</b> Collaborate with local indigenous tribes and other stakeholders to identify and evaluate potential incentives in the municipal code to encourage protection and enhancement of natural and historic resources.	PBA Ongoing
2.5	<b>Programming.</b> Incorporate the city’s natural resources into City plans and recreational programming to facilitate and encourage healthy, safe recreational activities.	PRCSA 2021 & ongoing
<b>GOAL CN-3: Energy Resources</b> <b>Reduce consumption of and reliance on nonrenewable energy, and support the development and use of renewable energy sources.</b>		
3.1	<b>CALGreen voluntary measures.</b> Evaluate the feasibility of adopting CALGreen building code nonresidential voluntary measures as mandatory measures by the City.	PBA 2023
3.2	<b>LEED/ENVISION certification.</b> Evaluate the feasibility of requiring all major renovations and new construction of City-owned facilities over 5,000 square feet to earn a LEED New Construction Silver Certification or greater. Evaluate feasibility of requiring all existing City-owned facilities larger than 25,000 square feet to obtain the LEED Buildings: Operations & Maintenance Certification. Evaluate the feasibility of requiring all major renovations and new construction of City-owned infrastructure facilities to earn ENVISION Bronze Certification. Consider providing incentives and recognition for new commercial, multifamily projects, and neighborhoods to obtain LEED certification. Incentives may include expedited permitting, rebates on or reduced building permit fees, and density bonuses.	PBA/PWA 2022
3.3	<b>Green design guidelines.</b> Update Citywide Design Guidelines to incorporate energy conservation principles, including passive heating and cooling, siting, shading, and material choices. Provide examples of site plans that illustrate energy conservation principles.	PBA 2023
3.4	<b>Retrofitting existing buildings.</b> Support and encourage retrofitting existing buildings to achieve energy optimization. Partner with Southern California Edison and other stakeholders to provide incentives, rebates, and expedited permitting for energy retrofit projects and to make residents, property owners, and businesses aware of such programs.	PBA/PWA Ongoing
3.5	<b>Funding energy projects.</b> Partner with local businesses, community organizations, and advocacy groups to seek creative financing sources for renewable energy retrofit and new development projects, including subsidized or other low-interest loans, on-bill repayment, and the option to pay for system installation through long-term assessments on individual property tax bills. For affordable housing projects involving City funds, require and incentivize affordable housing developers to meet energy-efficiency goals.	PBA/CDA 2023 & Ongoing
3.6	<b>Funding mechanism clearinghouse.</b> Establish and maintain a clearinghouse of information on available funding alternatives for renewable energy projects, rates of return, and other information to support developers and community members interested in pursuing renewable energy projects.	PWA/CDA 2022
3.7	<b>Public awareness.</b> Create educational programs to sustain public awareness of the importance of resource conservation (e.g., energy, water, and open space), the continued existence of long-term resource demand challenges, and specific conservation tactics that are recommended.	PWA Ongoing
3.8	<b>Clean electricity.</b> Coordinate with Southern California Edison to expand the availability of clean/renewable energy services throughout the city, and to explore alternative energy technologies.	PWA 2023
3.9	<b>Local solar photovoltaics (PV).</b> Continue to pursue partnerships with government entities and private companies to establish a range of incentive programs to retrofit existing buildings with photovoltaic panels. Incentives could include reduced fees, expedited permit processing, tax incentives, and reduced energy bills. Provide educational resources to residents, property owners, and businesses regarding PV panels and available incentive programs.	PBA 2023





**TABLE CN-3. CONSERVATION ELEMENT IMPLEMENTATION**

Ref #	Implementation Action	Agency / Time Frame
3.10	<b>Electricity storage.</b> Consider partnering with local Southern California Edison and local community organizations to pursue opportunities for electricity storage at the building scale, separate from the utility-scale storage operated by Southern California Edison. As battery technologies improve, promote the use of distributed electricity storage at commercial and residential buildings.	CMO 2022
3.11	<b>Natural carbon sequestration.</b> Reduce the amount of carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere through the continued maintenance and expansion of the city’s urban forest and development of other green infrastructure. Explore options to include green infrastructure requirements in new public realm plans.	PWA Ongoing
<b>GOAL CN-4: Water Resources</b> <b>Conserve and replenish existing and future water resources.</b>		
4.1	<b>Water education.</b> Provide educational outreach materials for residents and businesses on proper water use and other water conservation practices.	PWA Ongoing
4.2	<b>Water smart landscapes.</b> Promote awareness of the City Landscape and Parkway Improvement Guidelines to require public projects and new private development to incorporate drought-tolerant landscaping. Continue to encourage drought-tolerant retrofits through the Turf Removal Rebate Program and educate property owners about incentives available through the SoCal WaterSmart program to public and private property owners for planting native or drought-tolerant vegetation.	PWA/PBA 2022
4.3	<b>Green stormwater management.</b> Identify opportunities for the installation of stormwater best management practices in the public rights-of-way, parking lots, parks, or public buildings, for inclusion into the Capital Improvement Program.	PWA Ongoing
4.4	<b>Water recycling.</b> Pursue funding to implement the first phase of the City of Santa Ana Recycled Water Master Plan, with an emphasis on local water recycling programs and cooperation with regional water recycling efforts.	PWA 2023

Notes:

CDA - Community Development Agency

CMO - City Manager’s Office

HR- Human Resources Department

PBA - Planning and Building Agency

PWA - Public Works Agency

PRCSA - Parks, Recreation and Community Services Agency

PD - Police Department

**EJ** associated with environmental justice policies



*This page intentionally left blank.*

