



Laguna Hills GENERAL PLAN

Community Services and Facilities Element

July 14, 2009





Laguna Hills GENERAL PLAN

City Council

Mayor: Joel Lautenschleger
Mayor Pro Tem: Randal Bressette
Council Member: Melody Carruth
Council Member: R. Craig Scott
Council Member: L. Allan Songstad, Jr.

City Staff

Bruce Channing, City Manager
 Donald White, Assistant City Manager
 David Reynolds, Deputy City Manager/
 Community Services Director
 Vern Jones, Community Development Director
 Julie Molloy, Project Manager
 Peggy Johns, City Clerk
 Ken Rosenfield, Public Services Director/
 City Engineer
 Steve Doan, Chief of Police Services
 Greg Simonian, City Attorney
 Jennifer Luna, Administrative Assistant

General Plan Advisory Committee

Larry Bertino	Tom McCabe
Barbara Breazeale	Carol Meyers
Bud Freedman	John Oldroyd
Donald Froelich	Melissa Palencia
Steve Geidt	Charles Reames
Steve Kazarian	Christina Salcido
Mary King	Marty Samuel
Joe Martinez	Don Sedgwick
Susan Masson	Everett Stone

Consultants to the City

EDAW | AECOM

In Association with:

Austin Foust Associates
 Stanley R. Hoffman Associates
 Wilson Geosciences

Table of Contents

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES CSF-1

- Introduction CSF-1
- Purpose and Scope of the Community Services and Facilities Element..... CSF-1
- Background CSF-2
- Community Services and Facilities Plan..... CSF-2
 - Community Facilities CSF-3
 - Schools CSF-6
 - Fire Protection and Emergency Services CSF-7
 - Police Services CSF-8
 - Water Services CSF-9
 - Sewer Services CSF-11
 - Solid Waste Disposal CSF-11
 - Libraries..... CSF-12
 - Electricity and Natural Gas CSF-12
 - Communications CSF-14
 - Flood Control and Stormwater Drainage CSF-14
- Goals and Policies CSF-15
 - Community Facilities CSF-16
 - Schools CSF-16
 - Fire Protection and Emergency Services CSF-17
 - Police Services CSF-17
 - Water Service CSF-17
 - Sewer Service CSF-18



Libraries..... CSF-19

Electricity and Natural Gas CSF-19

Communications CSF-19

Flood Control and Stormwater Drainage CSF-20

Summary of Approach CSF-20

FIGURES

CSF-1 Community Facilities..... CSF-4

CSF-2 Water Districts..... CSF-10

CSF-3 Electricity and Gas Providers CSF-13

TABLES

CSF-1 Community Services and Facilities Service Standards ...CSF-3

CSF-2 Fire Stations Near Laguna Hills CSF-8

CSF-3 Description of Actions to Address Community Services
and Facilities Issues CSF-21

Community Services and Facilities



Introduction

The capacity and quality of the public services and facilities that serve Laguna Hills significantly affect the quality of life enjoyed by those who live, work, and own property in the City. Moreover, community buildings, libraries, services, and facilities enhance the identity of the community and reinforce commitment to the public. The City provides a variety of services and infrastructure but also contracts with appropriate agencies and special districts to serve the City's residents and businesses. Building, maintaining, and improving upon the quality of public infrastructure and services for residents and business owners would ensure that Laguna Hills is a city prepared for the future. The Community Services and Facilities Element intends to integrate the planning of community facilities into the development process. The various goals and policies established in this element will ensure that adequate consideration is given to the provision and maintenance of these necessary services and facilities.

Purpose and Scope of the Community Services and Facilities Element

The purpose of the Community Services and Facilities Element is to assess the current status of community services as well as evaluate their long-term provision to ensure that adequate services and facilities are both planned and provided proportionate with the projected growth, as well as development and redevelopment, as it occurs within the City. The Community Services and Facilities Element also establishes the City's plan to provide and maintain infrastructure and public services for future growth, without diminishing services to existing development. Community services collectively refer to law enforcement, fire protection, water, sewer, solid waste, electricity and natural gas, communication, and animal care services. Community facilities collectively refer to schools, libraries, parks, and recreational facilities.

Background

Laguna Hills is a developed community with established community facilities and infrastructure that are necessary to support urban development. The quality of life experienced by residents of the community is directly related to how effectively these services are provided. The City's infrastructure and public services systems have been designed to accommodate the anticipated population increases and future land development within the City; however, emphasis must continually be placed on the maintenance and improvement of these systems. The City continues to be committed to providing a high level of community services and facilities. The Community Services and Facilities Plan discusses these services and sets forth goals and policies for development to ensure that community facilities are adequate to keep Laguna Hills running smoothly, encourage economic development and investment, and protect and enrich the lives of all community members.

Community Services and Facilities Plan

The City's community services and facilities have a direct impact on the safety, health, and overall quality of life for Laguna Hills residents. The overarching purpose of the Community Services and Facilities Plan is to ensure that residents and businesses of Laguna Hills enjoy adequate access to a variety of services and infrastructure in order to function and thrive for generations to come. The central concept in the provision of infrastructure and community services is the establishment of a set of performance and service standards. All new development and redevelopment will be required to meet these standards as detailed in Table CSF-1. In cases where the performance standards are not met due to impacts from existing development, the City will work with appropriate agencies to ensure that the standards can be met at the earliest feasible date. Figure CSF-1 depicts the location of the community facilities in Laguna Hills.

Table CSF-1 Community Services and Facilities Service Standards	
Service or Facility	Service Standard
Park Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 acres of active or passive park land per 1,000 residents
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide adequate capacity to meet projected enrollment
Fire Protection and Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First fire engine or emergency unit to reach the scene within 5 minutes 90 percent of the time
Police Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average response time of 5 minutes for emergency calls Preventative patrol times of 40 percent and 50 percent of an officer's workday
Water Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish adequate fire flow and sufficient water storage for emergency situations with the Orange County Fire Authority
Sewer/Wastewater Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require unrestricted flow during both average and peak conditions
Solid Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly pick-up of residential solid waste Street sweeping to meet NPDES requirements
Flood Control and Stormwater Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require adequate facilities to protect structures and roadways from 100-year flood

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Recreational Facilities and Programs

A variety of recreation programs is available to City residents, including youth and adult sports leagues; seasonal or special events and classes; cooking, dance, and art classes; gallery exhibits; wellness series and lectures; fossil exhibits; and other programs. Recreation programming is the responsibility of the Community Services Department. Most recreation programs are coordinated from the Laguna Hills Community Center and Sports Complex.

The Laguna Hills Community Center is the focal point of the City's recreational, leisure, and cultural interests. The 43,000-square-foot building includes a gymnasium, fossil exhibit, Rotating Art Gallery, and Technology Branch of the Orange County Public Library. The Center also provides a large banquet facility referred to as the "Heritage Room,"





Source: EDAW, 2009.

Figure CSF - 1
Community Facilities



a full-functioning catering kitchen, two classroom facilities, an Art Room, and a Physical Activity Room. The Sports Complex features a softball field, baseball field, two soccer fields, skate park, roller hockey rink, snack bar, picnic shelters, and a prehistoric themed playground.

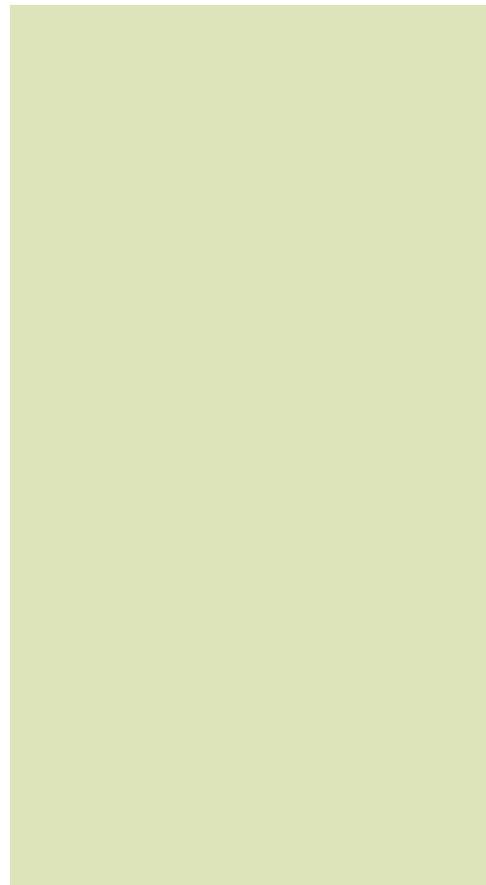
Laguna Hills also offers a range of classes and activities for all members of the community. These classes are announced in *City Views*, a document published quarterly by the City. *City Views* includes an activity schedule with classes and activities for all ages, such as special community events, dance, sports and fitness, cultural arts, personal development, and other social activities. These activities take place in a number of locations throughout the City, including the Community Center as well as parks and schools.

Additionally, the Florence Sylvester Senior Center operated independently by the Orange County Community Foundation provides a range of services and programs for the community's senior citizens. At this center, lunches are provided daily from Monday through Friday, as well as an occasional dinner period and professional entertainment during the meals. Wellness programs are developed and administered through the senior center, including screenings and other assessments by nurses and public health professionals. Lecture series and other programs are regularly scheduled at the senior center.

These community programs provide opportunities for residents to come together and be involved actively in the community. The City will continue to support community events and activities that bring together various segments of the community and actively seeks ways to improve and enhance current community programs.

Community Parks

Parks are places where Laguna Hills residents can gather to have fun, celebrate occasions, or just relax and enjoy being outdoors in their city. There are 13 public parks within Laguna Hills and they provide places of adventure and discovery, peace and tranquility, and recreation and play. These parks offer a sense of enjoyment, a strong community spirit, and a sense of community belonging and identity. Amenities at each park can include sports fields, ballparks, tennis courts, picnic shelters, tot lots, playgrounds, walking trails, fountains, restrooms, and lighting. Nearby golf courses, regional parks, and open space in the coastal foothills offer additional outdoor recreation opportunities. There are parks within the City designated as private, which are generally maintained by homeowners associations or private entities. Laguna Hills also has a number of recreational trails, including pedestrian and equestrian trails, and bikeways. Currently, the community-wide standard for the provision of park lands is 5 acres of active or passive park land per 1,000 residents.



For a complete discussion on these parks and recreational trails, please refer to the Conservation and Open Space Element.

Animal Care Services

The City of Laguna Hills promotes responsible pet ownership and is committed to supporting and improving the quality of animal care services for all residents of the community, and their pets. Animal care services for Laguna Hills are provided under contract by OC Animal Care, a division of the Orange County Community Resources Department (OCCR). OC Animal Care is a division of Public Health Services and provides shelter, pet licensing and patrol services to 19 contract cities and all the unincorporated areas of the County. The OC Animal Care Center, located in the City of Orange approximately 19 miles from Laguna Hills, houses and provides medical care for lost and found dogs, cats, and exotic animals. OC Animal Care also offers pet adoption services, shelter tours, and community outreach services. In addition, free public education presentations are provided upon request to city and county agencies, schools, businesses, and other public and private groups on the topics of responsible pet ownership, careers in animal care, dog bite prevention, and animal laws and regulations. The City, in coordination with OC Animal Care, is committed to investigating opportunities to further improve regional animal care services, including a new shelter and spay and neuter programs.



SCHOOLS

Excellent schools are an asset to any city and are an integral part of the community they serve. Laguna Hills is located within the Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) and four SVUSD schools are located within the City: Valencia Elementary School, Lomarena Elementary School, San Joaquin Elementary School, and Laguna Hills High School. The nearest junior high school is La Paz Intermediate School in Mission Viejo. Some residents of Laguna Hills may also have children attending de Portola Elementary School or Los Alisos Intermediate School. Nearly all these schools are operating at or above 90 percent of existing capacity, with San Joaquin operating at 105 percent capacity.



Many facilities at these schools have recently undergone, or will soon undergo, significant renovations to modernize and better serve students. When completed, facilities should be more than adequate to serve the student population of Laguna Hills for the upcoming years. Though student growth at all schools generally increased between 1987 and 2004, the system observed a leveling or slight decline of student population since then, consistent with trends elsewhere in the district, county, and State. Projected enrollment is expected to decrease even further in the future.

The Community Center has joint-use agreements with Laguna Hills High School to share facilities, particularly sports fields and recreation areas, for general public use outside of student activity hours. Public higher education classes, including adult education classes, are locally provided by the South Orange County Community College District. The nearest district campus is Saddleback Community College located in nearby Mission Viejo.

The City will continue to cooperate with SVUSD to update information in its master plans and long-range facility plans, and identify future facility sites, student generation formulas, and facility improvement plans. The City will also assist the SVUSD in their review of development proposals to ensure that the proposals are consistent with school facilities requirements, and offer accessible facilities that complement the surrounding land uses.

FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) is contracted to provide fire protection and emergency services to Laguna Hills. OCFA provides fire suppression services, emergency medical, rescue, and fire prevention services for the City, as well as 22 additional cities and the unincorporated areas within the County. In addition, OCFA has an inspection service section that conducts fire safety inspections and enforces applicable fire codes and ordinances in Laguna Hills. The City is served by Fire Station #22, located on Paseo de Valencia in nearby Laguna Woods. Table CSF-2 provides a list of additional fire stations within the vicinity of Laguna Hills, Aliso Viejo, and Lake Forest (also shown in Figure CSF-1). Additional cities are available to assist Station #22 with supplemental resources in an event of great need.

The OCFA response goal is for the first engine to reach the emergency scene within 5 minutes 90 percent of the time. In the event of a medical emergency, OCFA transports patients to the Saddleback Memorial Medical Center located off Paseo de Valencia. The OCFA response goal for medical emergencies is for a paramedic to reach the scene within 5 minutes 90 percent of the time. OCFA has consistently met or exceeded these response goals. The City will continue to work with the OCFA to ensure that adequate resources are available for continued protection of the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Laguna Hills and will continue to educate all residents about fire hazards and reducing the risk associated with wildland and structure fires.



**Table CSF-2
Fire Stations Near Laguna Hills**

Station Name	Location	Distance from Laguna Hills (miles)
OCFA Fire Station # 22 Laguna Hills	24001 Paseo de Valencia Laguna Woods, CA 92637	0.9 North
OCFA Fire Station # 57 Aliso Viejo	57 Journey Aliso Viejo, CA 92656	2.3 Southwest
OCFA Fire Station # 19 Lake Forest	23022 El Toro Rd Lake Forest, CA 92630	2.3 Northeast
OCFA Fire Station # 39 No. Laguna Niguel	24241 Avila Rd Laguna Niguel, CA 92677	2.6 South
OCFA Fire Station # 24 Mission Viejo	25862 Marguerite Pkwy Mission Viejo, CA 92692	3.0 East
OCFA Fire Station # 51 Irvine Center Dr	18 Cushing Irvine, CA 92618	3.3 Northwest
OCFA Fire Station # 9 So. Mission Viejo	26312 Via Curacion Mission Viejo, CA 92691	3.8 Southeast
OCFA Fire Station # 38 Irvine	26 Parker Irvine, CA 92618	4.1 North
Laguna Beach Fire Station #3	2900 Alta Laguna Blvd Laguna Beach, CA 92651	4.5 Southwest

Source: Orange County Fire Authority 2008

POLICE SERVICES

Laguna Hills takes pride in being one of the safest cities in Orange County, which can be attributed, in part, to the excellent provision of police services within the community. The City contracts its law enforcement services through the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) and is committed to providing responsive, professional, and caring law enforcement to all citizens. OCSD personnel are responsible for general patrol, traffic enforcement, traffic collision, and criminal investigation. The OCSD assigns a Chief of Police Services to oversee staff that operates locally from the Laguna Hills Police Service substation located at the Civic Center, as shown in Figure CSF-1.

The department's service standard is a 5-minute average response rate for emergency calls. The provision of preventative patrol time ranges between 40 percent and 50 percent of an officer's workday. The active police presence in areas of enhanced activities throughout the City, such

as schools and shopping centers, helps contribute to an overall feeling of safety for residents of the community.

The City administers services that partner with the OCSD, including Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs and emergency management operations. The OCSD also sponsors a Citizens' Disaster Preparedness Academy in Laguna Hills. The City will continue to coordinate with the OCSD to provide an adequate level of police services to maintain the current police visibility.

WATER SERVICES

Laguna Hills obtains water and wastewater services from the Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD) and the El Toro Water District (ETWD). These services are provided in the northern portion of the City by the ETWD and in the southern portion of the City by the MNWD. The division line runs through a neighborhood north of Alicia Parkway and south of Aliso Creek (Figure CSF-2). Water from both Districts comes from the Colorado River and the State Water Project (which draws water from the San Francisco-San Joaquin Bay Delta) and travels hundreds of miles to the local water districts through an intricate aboveground and underground delivery system operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Both the MNWD and the ETWD Urban Water Management Plans (2005) indicate that the districts expect to have adequate water supply available to meet the demand posed by growth within their jurisdictions. Encouraging good water service in the City will require maintaining current infrastructure and extending new infrastructure to serve new development projects. Because the City is almost entirely developed, water infrastructure is in place and few improvements will be required to accommodate new development. Development proposals and amendments will be reviewed for consistency with water infrastructure requirements established in development plans and agreements. For certain projects identified in the State Water Code, the City will require preparation of 20-year water supply assessments. The City will require adequate water supplies for fire flow as established by the OCFA, along with sufficient water storage for emergency situations, and will work with the water districts to update their Urban Water Management Plans to ensure the districts' overall ability to maintain adequate water supplies for the community on an ongoing basis.

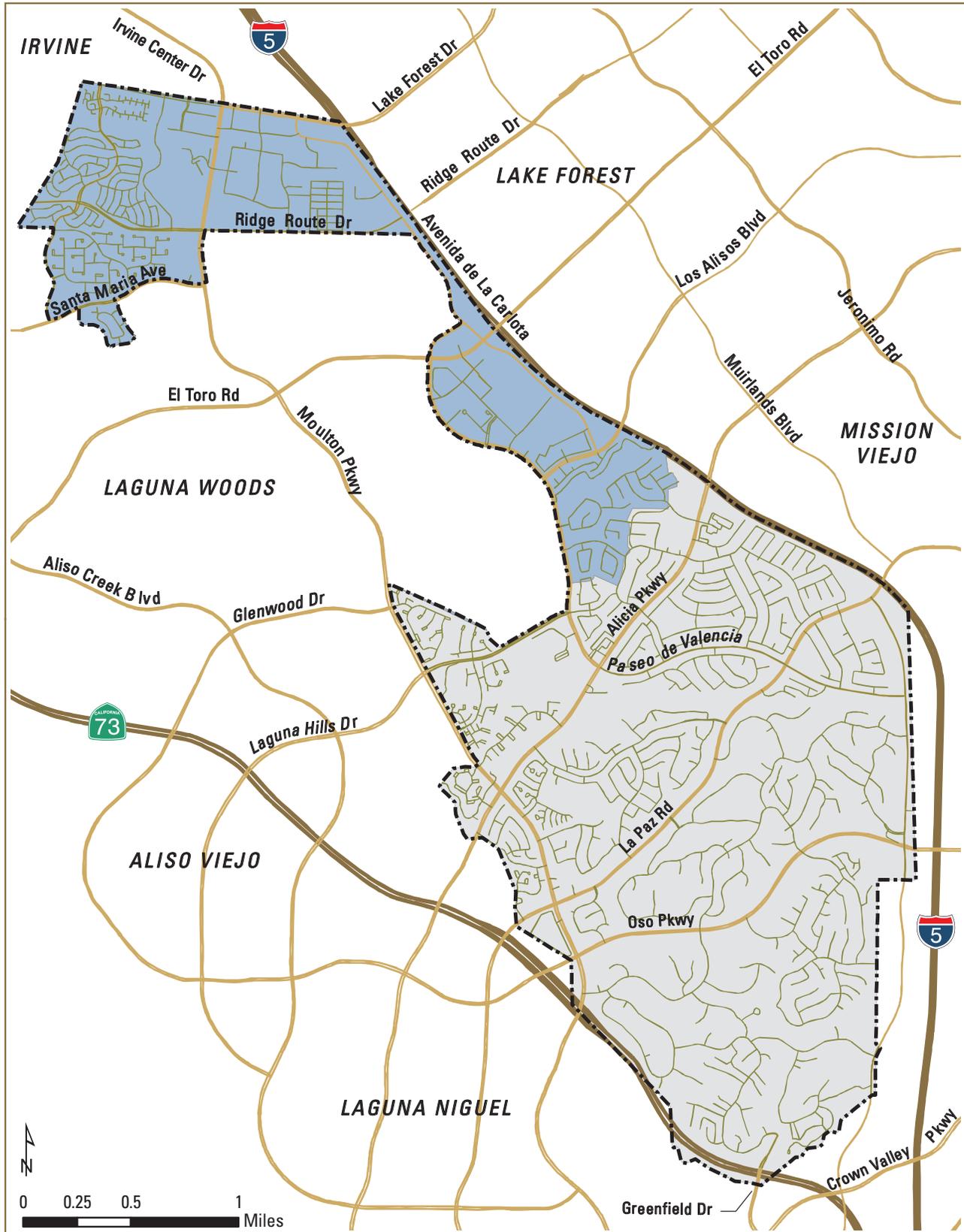


Figure CSF - 2
Water Districts



Source: EDAW, 2008.

SEWER SERVICES

Wastewater (including sewage) generated within Laguna Hills is also carried by the MNWD and ETWD wastewater collection systems to a Regional Treatment Plant operated by the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA). Because Laguna Hills is largely urbanized and built out, and has few remaining vacant sites in the city, the remaining capacity at the regional treatment plant wastewater treatment facility is sufficient to serve potential new development and redevelopment. Development proposals and amendments will be reviewed for consistency with sewer infrastructure requirements established in development plans and agreements. New development and redevelopment activities will be required to cooperate with the MNWD or the ETWD to ensure the adequacy of existing wastewater infrastructure to service the City. The City will continue to cooperate with SOCWA in that agency's efforts to provide adequate wastewater treatment services for Laguna Hills. In addition, the City will continue to coordinate with the local water districts in planning and maintenance of wastewater collection facilities for the community.

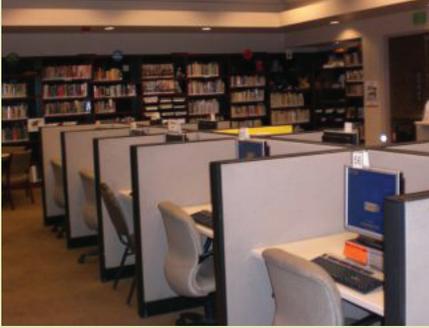
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Solid waste generated in Laguna Hills is collected by a private sector contractor. The City's solid waste is disposed of in the Prima Deshecha Landfill, located approximately 11 miles south of the City in San Juan Capistrano. The landfill is managed by the County of Orange, Integrated Waste Management Department (IWMD).

Regional household hazardous waste collection centers are located in Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Irvine, and San Juan Capistrano. Additional information pertaining to household hazardous waste collection is provided in the Safety Element.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 requires diversion of 50 percent of solid waste generated within all California jurisdictions from regional landfills. To comply with this State regulation, the City implements a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE), which outlines the City's strategy for reducing solid waste generated within the City that may ultimately impact regional landfills. The SRRE identifies numerous programs that will assist the City to divert solid waste in compliance with State law. The City is working to reduce the disposed amount of solid waste through recycling and composting, source reduction, and public education. The City will continue to cooperate with the IWMD in efforts to maintain and expand regional landfill facilities to accommodate the County's growing population.





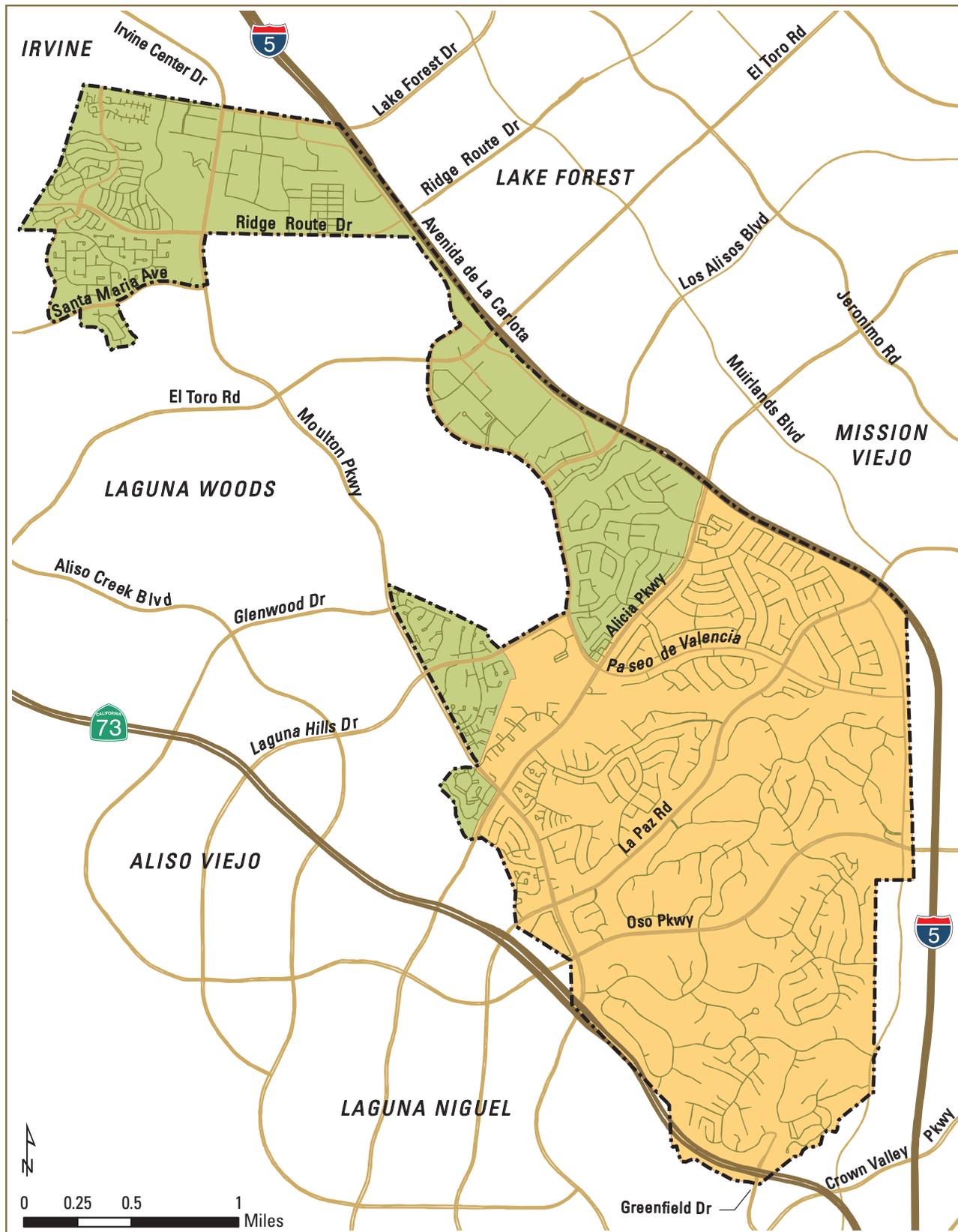
LIBRARIES

Successful library systems serve to increase knowledge and enrich lives within the community by equitably connecting people to programs, services, and resources. Library services in Laguna Hills are provided regionally by the Orange County Public Library (OCPL) system. The Laguna Hills Technology Library is located inside the Community Center and Sports Complex. Rather than maintaining extensive local collections of traditional library materials, this branch was designed to support public computer and internet access also while providing a modest circulating collection of books, popular magazines, and major newspapers for all ages. As part of OC Public Libraries, Laguna Hills Technology Branch Library shares collection materials with the county's other 33 branches. Patrons are encouraged to browse the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) on-site or remotely via the Internet. Any books, magazines, or audiovisual materials that are not physically available at the Laguna Hills Technology Branch Library can be delivered from another branch for a small fee. Similarly, library materials may be returned to any other branch within the County system. Laguna Hills will continue to work with the OCPL to provide adequate library facilities, maintain and improve access to information, and foster community involvement and educational connections to further enrich the residents of Laguna Hills.

ELECTRICITY AND NATURAL GAS

Fossil fuel products such as coal, natural gas, oil, and diesel are the primary fuel for generating electricity and for heating homes, water, and food. The global supply of these products is limited and the demand for electricity and fossil fuels continues to increase. Employing efficient energy efforts throughout the City and transitioning to nonfossil fuel alternatives will help to extend limited supplies, reduce the need for expensive new regional power generators and transmission lines, and contribute to Laguna Hills' economic sustainability and regional competitiveness.

The primary sources of energy in Laguna Hills are electricity and natural gas. Southern California Edison (SCE) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) provide electricity services to Laguna Hills, while the Southern California Gas Company is the provider of natural gas (Figure CSF-3). SCE and SDG&E review new development and redevelopment projects on a case-by-case basis and evaluate existing infrastructure for its adequacy. At this time, neither SCE nor SDG&E has plans to underground any utility or transmission lines in Laguna Hills. Further, all Laguna Hills' energy providers, including SCE, SDG&E, and the Southern California Gas Company, indicated that their present facilities are adequate, and no major upgrades are planned within the City in the near future. The City will continue to collaborate with the providers to address energy needs within the community. Refer to the Conservation and Open Space Element for further discussion of energy resources and alternative energy and conservation.



- Southern California Edison
- San Diego Gas & Electric
- City Boundary
- Local Streets
- Major Streets
- Freeway/ Toll Road

Figure CSF - 3
Electricity and Gas Providers



Source: EDAW, 2008.

COMMUNICATIONS

As the ever-changing world of communications continues to evolve, residents and businesses have the ability to interact with the global community from anywhere within Laguna Hills. Advancements in technology have allowed for the creation of more efficient communication options and have opened the door for state-of-the-art services that facilitate a healthy business climate, making businesses more competitive and providing an edge in accessing and using important information. Furthermore, telecommunication technologies allow residents to establish home offices, which can decrease commutes, enhance neighborhood security, and provide flexibility for working parents.

Communications services in Laguna Hills included telephone, cable, and wireless communication services provided by several companies. Future communication technologies may expand into other fields. Infrastructure upgrades are being made by private providers to facilitate high-speed data transmission and interactive video capabilities. The City encourages constructing new office and industrial buildings with state-of-the-art telecommunication circuits to use these upgrades.

FLOOD CONTROL AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE

The Orange County Flood Control Division (OCFCD) manages the maintenance and operation of an integrated system of storm drains, creek channels, retaining basins, dams, and other measures to protect the City from flooding and flood-related disasters. Major natural drainages serving the City include Aliso Creek, which flows parallel to Alicia Parkway providing drainage from I-5 to the Pacific Ocean, and Oso Creek, located at and just beyond the eastern boundary of the City. Several concrete-lined drainages are also located in various areas throughout the City (for further discussion on the hazards associated with flood events, refer to Safety Element).

Laguna Hills lies primarily in the Aliso Creek watershed area, although portions are in the San Diego Creek and San Juan Creek watershed areas as well. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for these watershed areas requires that all runoff be treated so that pollutant levels at the stormwater outfalls are minimized to the maximum extent practicable. In addition, development within Laguna Hills has been planned and constructed in conformance with the National Flood Insurance Program, and the existing flood control and stormwater drainage systems have both been designed and created to accommodate the anticipated growth and future land development within Laguna Hills. The City intends to optimize the existing system and maintain



the community's drainage features in their natural condition. In an effort to achieve this, the City will also work closely with the OCFCD to construct and maintain flood control facilities for the community. In addition, the City requires adequate flood control facilities to protect all structures and major roadways from hazards associated with being near a 100-year floodplain and will require new development and redevelopment to be located to either avoid flood hazards or incorporate them into the overall design. The City will also encourage the use of Low Impact Development (LID) standards to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff and pollution. Refer to the Conservation and Open Space Element for a full discussion on LID design techniques.

Goals and Policies

The goals and policies section sets both broad and specific direction for the future of the City based on identified issues, as captured in the Guiding Themes and expressed by the community, City staff, and decision makers.

Eleven major issue areas are addressed in the goals and policies of the Community Services and Facilities Element. The major issues are:

- Ceating and maintaining community facilities that meet the needs of residents while promoting connectivity;
- Providing superior school programs and facilities that are complementary to surrounding land uses;
- Providing fire protection and emergency services of the highest quality; providing effective and responsive police services and emphasizing community-based crime prevention strategies;
- Collaborating with local water supply districts to ensure high-quality and adequate water supplies are available within Laguna Hills;
- Providing adequate levels of sewage collection and treatment; collaborating with private providers of solid waste collection, disposal, and recycling services;
- Ensuring the provision of library resources that meet the learning needs of residents;
- Ensuring adequate energy supplies are available;
- Remaining in step with advancements in technology and communication; and
- Maintaining adequate drainage facilities and flood hazard protection for the community.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Laguna Hills is dedicated to creating strong community connections and places emphasis on the creation of new community gathering centers and recreational opportunities that foster community traditions and bring the community together. The goals and policies below will enable the City to create programs that can achieve this connectedness through community facilities.

Goal CSF-1: Establish and maintain a high level of community facilities and services to meet the needs of the community and enhance the quality of life in Laguna Hills.

Policy CSF-1.1: Support events and activities that cross community and neighborhood boundaries to bring together various segments of the community.

Policy CSF-1.2: Investigate the need for additional community facilities in Laguna Hills, such as community centers, swimming pools, parks, sports fields, a library, and/or an amphitheater.

Policy CSF-1.3: Provide recreation opportunities at the Community Center in response to the changing needs of the community.

Policy CSF-1.4: Work closely with the Orange County Community Resource Agency and local providers to determine and meet community needs for quality animal care services.

Policy CSF-1.5: Promote pet owner education programs to encourage and improve responsible pet ownership.

SCHOOLS

Education is a top priority in Laguna Hills. Although Saddleback Valley Unified School District is an independently governed agency, collaborative efforts between the City and the District are important to ensure that a quality educational system is sustained.

Goal CSF-2: Provide high-quality education programs and adequate school facilities.

Policy CSF-2.1: Collaborate with SVUSD, private schools, and other organizations to ensure that a range of educational opportunities is provided in superior, accessible facilities that complement surrounding land uses.

Policy CSF-2.2: Continue to investigate joint use opportunities with SVUSD, private schools, and other organizations.

FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Laguna Hills is committed to providing the highest level of fire protection and services to the community. The City will continue to collaborate with the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) to ensure that fire protection services are consistent with the performance standards stated earlier in the Plan.

Goal CSF-3: Provide effective and responsive fire protection and emergency services.

Policy CSF-3.1: Work closely with OCFA to determine and meet community needs for fire protection and emergency services. Ensure that sufficient stations, personnel, and equipment are provided to meet the needs of the City.

POLICE SERVICES

To further reduce the likelihood of criminal activity in Laguna Hills, the City will continue to work closely with OCSD to maintain police visibility and community outreach programs.

Goal CSF-4: Provide effective and responsive police services.

Policy CSF-4.1: Work closely with OCSD to determine and meet community needs for police protection and services.

WATER SERVICE

A safe and reliable water supply for drinking and for fire protection is important to the health and well-being of Laguna Hills. The City, along with the Moulton Niguel and El Toro Water Districts, will strive to maintain existing water supplies to meet current and future demand, and encourage water conservation.

Goal CSF-5: Collaborate with water providers to provide adequate water supply, treatment, and distribution services to meet the community's needs.

Policy CSF-5.1: Work closely with local and regional water suppliers and distributors to ensure that high-quality water is available for the community.

Policy CSF-5.2: Actively promote water conservation by City residents, businesses, and organizations.

SEWER SERVICE

The City will continue to work in partnership with local providers of sewer services, the MNWD and ETWD, to provide adequate sewer and wastewater treatment services for Laguna Hills.

Goal CSF-6: Collaborate with sewer providers to provide adequate sewer service to meet the community's needs.

Policy CSF-6.1: Work closely with sewer providers to ensure that adequate sewer services are available for the community.

Policy CSF-6.2: Actively promote water conservation by City residents, businesses, and organizations as a means of reducing sewage generation.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

In addition to working with the City's franchised waste and recycling service provider to achieve the set service standards, the goals and policies below will allow Laguna Hills to actively participate in recycling programs and ultimately reduce the amount of solid waste produced by the City.

Goal CSF-7: Collaborate with providers of solid waste collection, disposal, and recycling services to ensure a clean community and environment.

Policy CSF-7.1: Work with local service providers to ensure adequate solid waste collection, disposal, and recycling services.

Policy CSF-7.2: Increase recycling, composting, source reduction, and education efforts throughout the community to reduce the amount of solid waste requiring disposal at landfills.

Policy CSF-7.3: Develop an education program designed to increase community participation in recycling, composting and other source reduction practices.

Policy CSF-7.4: Develop guidelines to promote waste reduction.

LIBRARIES

Public libraries serve several community purposes, including education, recreation, and public access to information. The timely development and equipping of Laguna Hills' libraries will continue to be an important goal of the City.

Goal CSF-8: Provide library resources and services that meet the needs of the community.

Policy CSF-8.1: Work closely with the Orange County Public Library system to determine and meet community needs for library services, including adequate facilities, resources, and hours of operation.

ELECTRICITY AND NATURAL GAS

While it has been determined that there is adequate energy infrastructure to support Laguna Hills for the time being, energy resources are becoming more and more limited and the City could be subject to energy shortages. The need for energy conservation has become increasingly important. The City is committed to working with local energy providers to meet the current demands and is also committed to educating the residents and businesses of Laguna Hills on how to help conserve energy.

Goal CSF-9: Collaborate with providers of electricity and natural gas to ensure adequate energy supplies are available to the community.

Policy CSF-9.1: Work closely with local service providers to determine and meet community needs for energy.

COMMUNICATIONS

Part of becoming a City prepared for the future is keeping up with the pace of new technology. As the world of communications continues to advance, Laguna Hills continue to look for ways to integrate City services with the best technology available.

Goal CSF-10: Collaborate with providers of cable, telephone, and other communication services to ensure adequate communication services are available to the community.

Policy CSF-10.1: Work closely with local service providers to determine and meet community needs for cable, telephone, and other communication services.

Policy CSF-10.2: Encourage all new development to provide the technology to support multiple telecommunications facilities and providers, such as multi-media products, wireless technologies, and satellite communications.

FLOOD CONTROL AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE

Since the existing flood control and storm water drainage system has been designed and constructed to accommodate anticipated population increases as well as future land development and redevelopment projects, the overall goals and policies below will optimize this existing system and maintain the natural drainage courses as they are, in their natural condition to ensure proper flood control and storm water drainage facilities.

Goal CSF-11: Collaborate with providers of flood control and stormwater drainage facilities to ensure adequate drainage and flood protection for the community.

Policy CSF-11.1: Work closely with the Orange County Flood Control District to maintain and provide necessary regional flood control facilities.

Policy CSF-11.2: Maintain City owned drainage facilities as necessary to promote flood protection.

Summary of Approach

The goals, policies, and programs in the Community Services and Facilities Element will help the City meet the community's needs for a variety of infrastructure that contributes to the City's high quality of life, while providing community services that foster an inclusive, multi-generational, integrated community. Table CSF-3 identifies the 11 major issue areas described in the Goals and Policies section. These major issues represent the direction the City will take in its safety goals, policies, and programs to implement the vision of Laguna Hills as captured in the Guiding Themes and expressed in the Community Services and Facilities Plan.

Table CSF-3
Description of Actions to Address Community Services and Facilities Issues

Issues	Element	Section	Policy	Programs	Figure	Table
Community Facilities	Community Services and Facilities	Community Facilities	CSF-1.1- CSF-1.5	CSF-1. through CSF-9	CSF-1 (Community Facilities)	CSF-1 (Service Standards)
	Land Use	Activity Centers and Community Connections	LU-1.8	LU-3, LU-4, LU-10		
Schools	Community Services and Facilities	Schools	CSF-2.1 and CSF-2.2	CSF-2	CSF-1 (Community Facilities)	CSF-1 (Service Standards)
Fire Protection and Emergency Services	Community Services and Facilities	Fire Protection and Emergency Services	CSF-3.1	CSF-3	CSF-1 (Community Facilities)	CSF-1 (Service Standards); CSF-2 (Fire Stations Locations)
	Safety	Urban and Wildland Fire Hazards	S-2.1 through S-2.5	S-2, S-5 through S-7, S-13	S-4 (Fire Hazard Areas)	
Police Services	Community Services and Facilities	Police Services	CSF-4.1	CSF-3	CSF-1 (Community Facilities)	CSF-1 (Service Standards)
	Safety	Law Enforcement and Criminal Activity	S-3.1 through S-3.4	S-7 through S-9		
Water Services	Community Services and Facilities	Water Service	CSF-5.1 and CSF-5.2	CSF-4	CSF-2 (Water Service Districts)	CSF-1 (Service Standards)
	Conservation and Open Space	Sustaining Our Resources	COS-1.1 through COS-1.5	COS-1 through COS-4		
Sewer Services	Community Services and Facilities	Sewer Service	CSF-6.1 and CSF-6.2	CSF-4		CSF-1 (Service Standards)

Table CSF-3 Description of Actions to Address Community Services and Facilities Issues						
Issues	Element	Section	Policy	Programs	Figure	Table
Solid Waste Disposal	Community Services and Facilities	Solid Waste Disposal	CSF-7.1 through CSF-7.4	CSF-5		CSF-1 (Service Standards)
Libraries	Community Services and Facilities	Libraries	CSF-8.1	CSF-7		
	Conservation and Open Space	Recycling	COS-1.19 through COS-1.21	CSF-6		
Electricity and Natural Gas	Community Services and Facilities	Electricity and Natural Gas	CSF-9.1	CSF-8	CSF-3 (Energy Providers Service Boundaries)	
	Conservation and Open Space	Energy	COS-1.6 through COS-1.10	COS-8		
Communications	Community Services and Facilities	Communications	CSF-10.1 and CSF-10.2	CSF-8		
Flood Control and Stormwater Drainage	Community Services and Facilities	Floodwater and Stormwater Drainage	CSF-11.1 and CSF-11.2	CSF-9		CSF-1 (Service Standards)
	Conservation and Open Space	Sustaining Our Resources	COS-1.3 and COS-1.4	COS-3		
	Safety	Flooding and Stormwater Management	S-6.1 through S-6.3	S-2, S-12	S-3 (Dam Locations); S-4 (100-year Flood Hazard Zones)	