



Planning for Sustainability



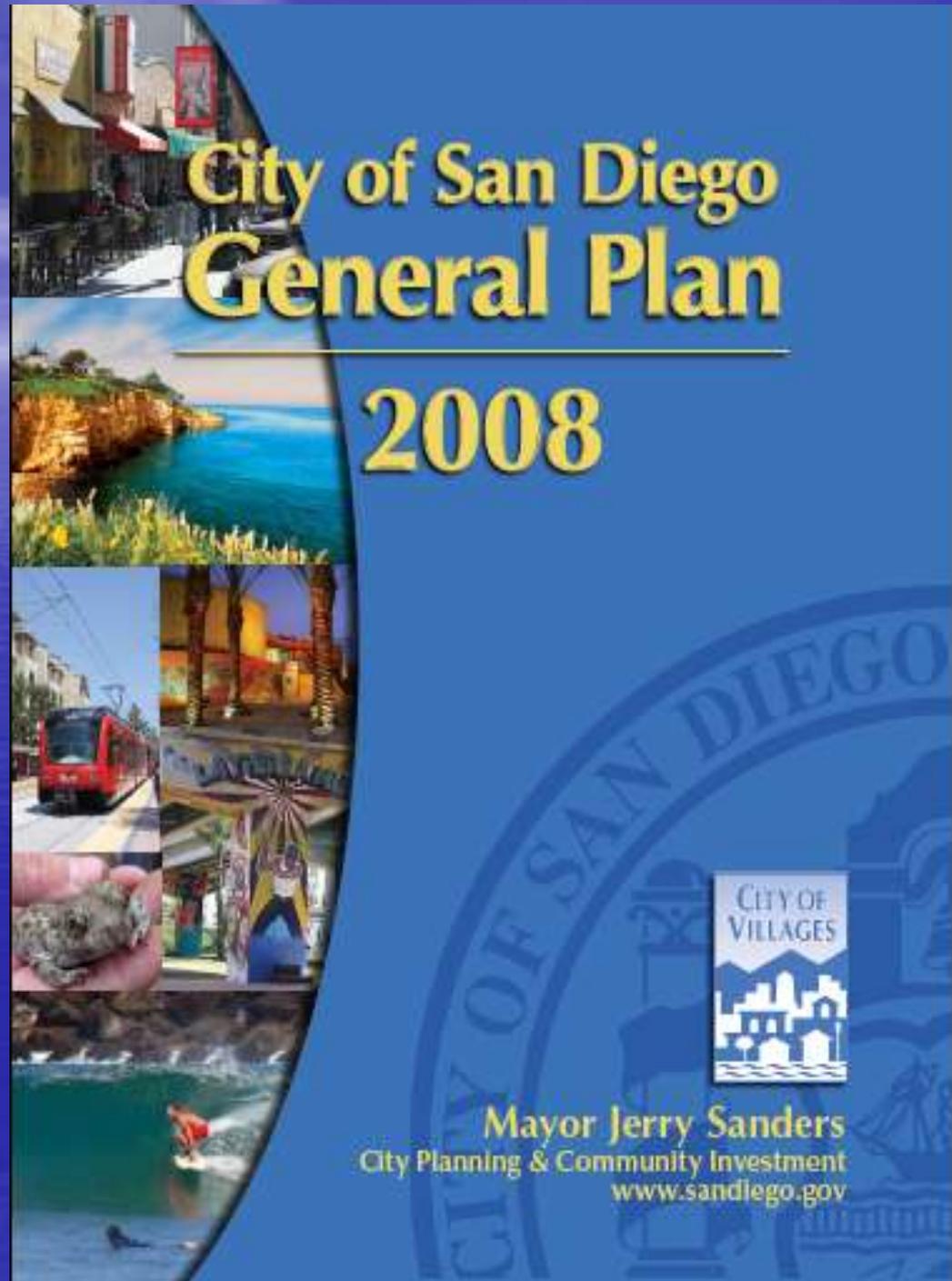
Environmental and
Economic Sustainability
Task Force

February 2, 2011

Nancy Bragado
Principal Planner

- City of San Diego General Plan

- Comprehensive plan for growth and development unanimously adopted by the City Council in March 2008
- Smart growth approach tailored for San Diego
- Relies on infill development to meet City's needs
- Sustainability policies integrated throughout plan



The cover of the City of San Diego General Plan 2008 features a vertical collage of images on the left side, including a street scene, a coastal view, a train, a hand holding a rock, and a person surfing. The title 'City of San Diego General Plan' is written in large yellow letters at the top, with '2008' below it. The City of San Diego seal is visible in the background, and the 'City of Villages' logo is in the bottom right corner.

City of San Diego General Plan

2008

CITY OF VILLAGES

Mayor Jerry Sanders
City Planning & Community Investment
www.sandiego.gov

General Plan Legal Basis

- State law requires each city and county to prepare a comprehensive, long term general plan to guide future
- A general plan is a set of long-term goals and policies that guide local land use decisions
- Legal requirements explained in California State General Plan Guidelines (2003)
- General Plans must address:
 - Policies and standards for future development
 - Housing affordability
 - Resource protection
- Typical time horizon is 15-20 years
- Six mandatory elements
 - Flexible presentation of elements
 - Optional elements
 - New requirements emerge regularly as a result of legislation

Required Elements

State Law

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Housing
- Conservation
- Open Space
- Noise
- Safety

City of San Diego General Plan

- Land Use and Community Planning
- Mobility
- Housing
- Conservation
- Noise
- Public Facilities, Services and Safety
- Economic Prosperity
- Recreation
- Historic Preservation
- Urban Design



New Requirement: AB 32 - Address Climate Change

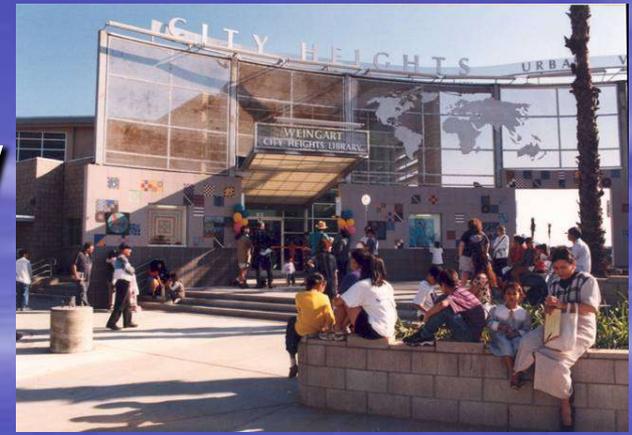


General Plan Public Input

- Broad public input included over 260 public meetings/presentations
 - More than 30 meetings with the Community Planners Committee
- E-mail list of 2,700+ contacts
- Televised public forums on focused issue areas
- Stakeholders including: Chamber of Commerce, BIA, Sierra Club, EHC, Citizens Coordinate for Century 3, Childhood Obesity Initiative, others
- 38 letters of comment on EIR
- City Committees, Commissions & Boards:
 - Land Use & Housing – 12 meetings
 - Natural Resources & Culture
 - Planning Commission – 15 meetings
 - Community Planners Committee – 30+ meetings
 - Park and Recreation Board
 - Community Forest Advisory Board
 - Historical Resources Board
 - Parking Advisory Board
 - Senior Affairs Advisory Board
 - Commission for Arts and Culture
 - LU&H Technical Advisory Committee

General Plan Overview

- Guided by 10 Principles and City of Villages Strategy
- Represents a shift in focus from how we develop vacant land to how we invest in our existing communities
- Emphasis on combining housing, employment, schools, civic uses at different scales, in village centers
- Strategy works to preserve established residential neighborhoods and open spaces
- Achieve high quality of life, address mobility and facilities needs, and manage the City's continued growth





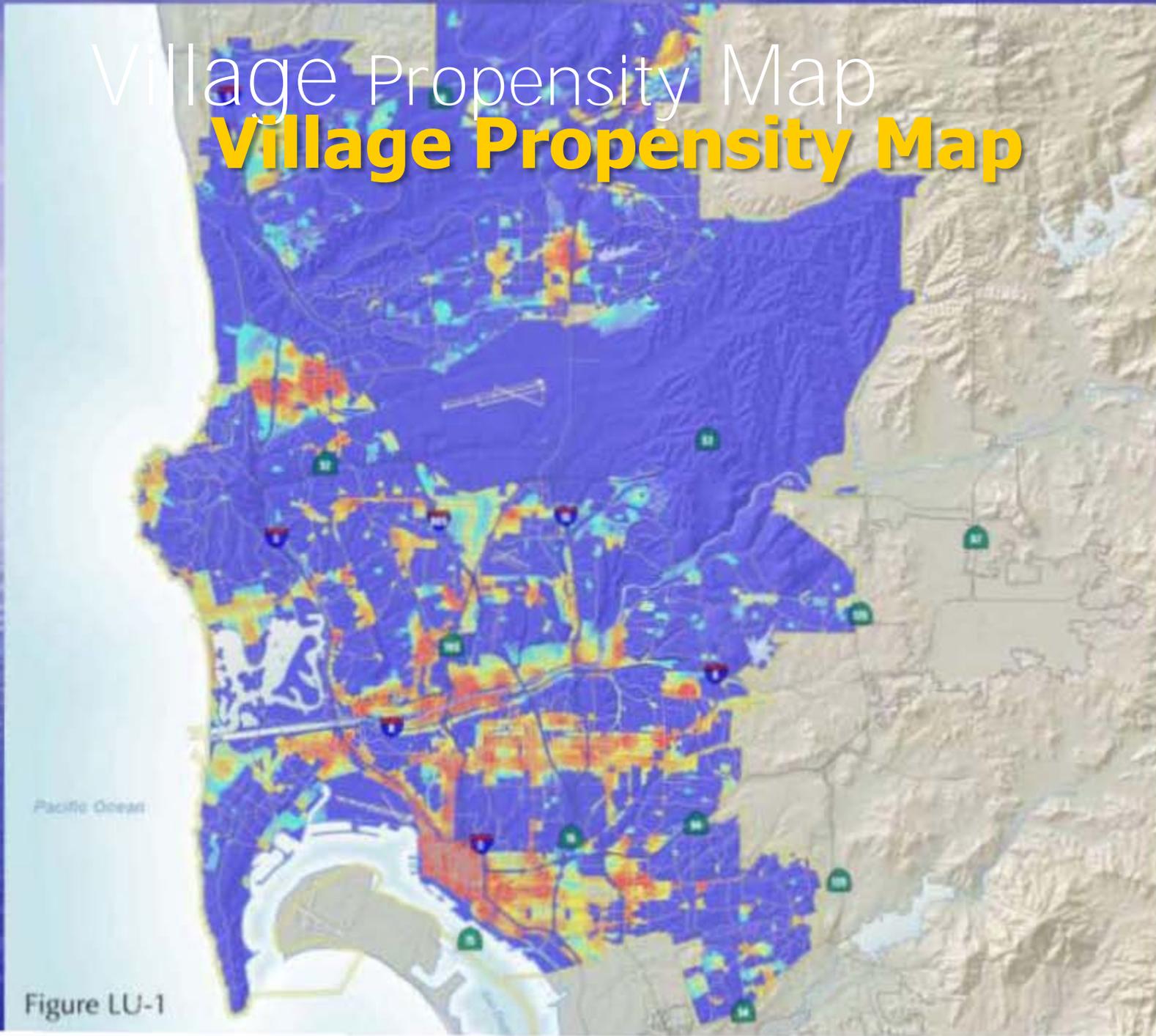
General Plan: Land Use as a Sustainability Strategy

- Population is growing
 - How to plan for growth responsibly and to achieve sustainability goals?
- City of Villages strategy
 - Links land use and transit planning
 - Distinctive, mixed use villages
 - Pedestrian oriented
 - Interconnected streets
 - Local destinations (stores, services, parks, schools)
 - Connected to transit
 - Distinctive public places



Village Propensity Map

Village Propensity Map



Pacific Ocean

Figure LU-1

Land Use Element: Environmental Justice

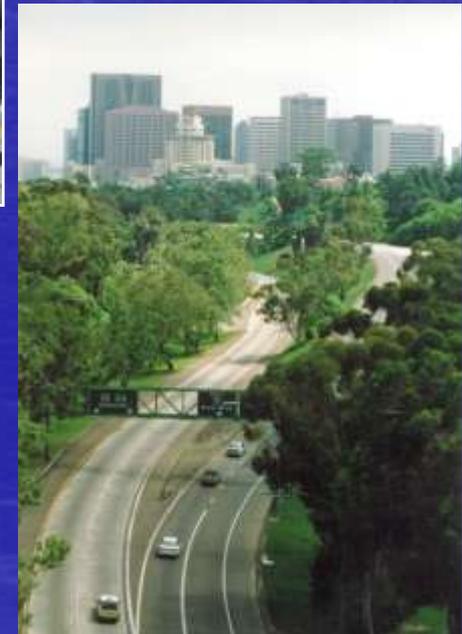
- Meaningful public input
- Protect health, safety & welfare equitably
- Treat people fairly
- Ensure that benefits and burdens of actions are equitable
- Eliminate disproportionate environmental burdens



Mobility Strategies

Cars and trucks produce 46% of GHG emissions in San Diego County

- Transit/Land Use Coordination
- Multi-modal solutions
 - Walkable communities
 - Bicycle facilities
 - Streets and freeways
 - Transit and transit-orientation
 - Parking management
 - Transportation management
- Toolboxes allow for tailored solutions
- Regional Collaboration



Walkability

– General Plan addresses:

- Safety and accessibility
 - Safe Routes to Schools
- Street Connectivity
- Walkability
- Lively, attractive streets

– Toolbox of Solutions

- Pedestrian Improvement Toolbox
- Traffic Calming Toolbox
- Parking Toolbox



TABLE ME-1 Pedestrian Improvement Toolbox

Pedestrian Improvement	Description	Illustration
Pedestrian Bridge/Grade Separation	Pedestrian Bridges/Grade Separations eliminate conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians.	
Pop-out/Bulb-out/Curb Extensions	Bulb-outs, also known as Pop-Outs or Curb Extensions, narrow the width of street at an intersection by extending the curb into roadway at the corner(s) of an intersection. This reduces the speeds of right turning vehicles, increases the stability of pedestrians' drivers, and creates a shorter crossing distance, reducing pedestrians' exposure to moving vehicles.	
Raised Crosswalks	Raised Crosswalks have ramps on both sides of the flat crosswalk surface. The vertical deflection encourages traffic to slow down while markings increase visibility of the crosswalk to drivers.	
Raised Median Pedestrian Refuge	Raised Median Pedestrian Refuges are used to reduce pedestrian exposure to moving vehicles, and provide a refuge in the middle of the street. This allows the pedestrian to identify a safe gap and cross one direction of traffic at a time.	
Sidewalk	Sidewalks are walkways that parallel vehicle roadways. Contiguous sidewalks have the pedestrian path of travel immediately adjacent to the curb. Non-contiguous sidewalks have the pedestrian path of travel separated from the curb by a planting strip.	

Parking Toolbox: Supply and Demand Strategies

Supply

- Re-stripe streets for diagonal parking
- Community parking facilities
- Adjust regulations
- Car lifts and mechanized garages
- Code enforcement

Demand

- Parking meter districts
- Residential permit parking districts
- Transit upgrades
- Car sharing
- Parking pricing
- Safe pedestrian and bicycle routes
- Employee parking programs





Conservation

- Specifically addresses climate change
 - Reduce carbon footprint
 - Green buildings/sustainable development
- Conserve and manage resources
 - Water conservation
 - Energy efficiency and renewables
 - Waste management
 - Wastewater collection and treatment
 - Urban forestry
 - Community gardens
- Open space preservation
 - Ecosystem role



Sustainability Through Open Space Protections

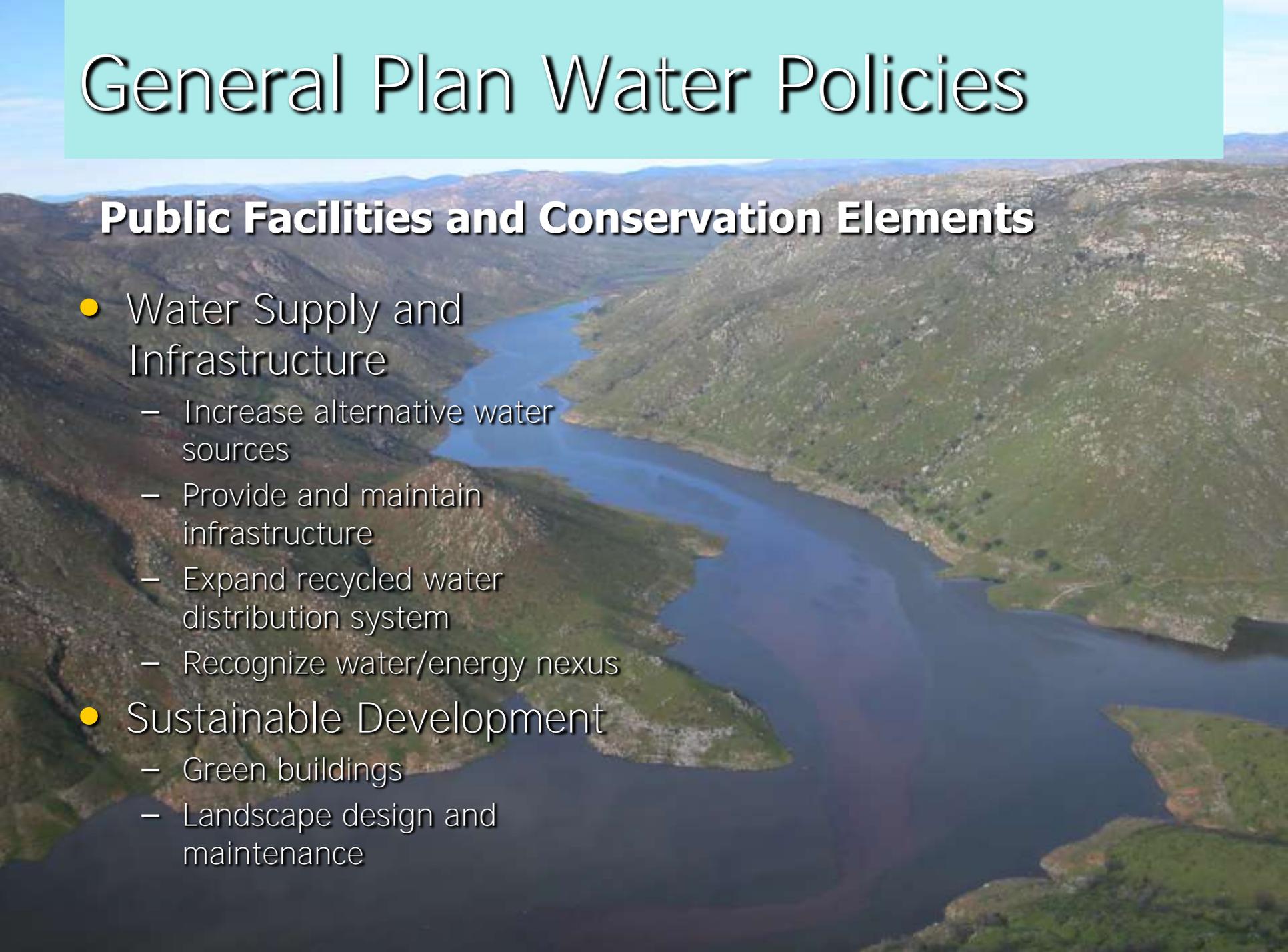
- Watershed, river parks, creek restoration, urban canyon lands
 - Ground water infiltration
 - Carbon sequestration
 - Biodiversity
 - Urban heat island
- San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program
 - Comprehensive habitat conservation planning
 - 49,230 acres (93% of City's goal) are conserved or are obligated to be conserved.





- Open space to define and link communities
- Complement the environment and respect natural features

General Plan Water Policies

An aerial photograph of a wide river valley. The river is a deep blue, winding through a landscape of green and brown hills. In the distance, a range of mountains is visible under a clear sky. The top of the image has a light blue gradient overlay where the title is located.

Public Facilities and Conservation Elements

- Water Supply and Infrastructure
 - Increase alternative water sources
 - Provide and maintain infrastructure
 - Expand recycled water distribution system
 - Recognize water/energy nexus
- Sustainable Development
 - Green buildings
 - Landscape design and maintenance

General Plan Water Policies

Public Facilities and Conservation Elements



- Water Conservation and management
 - Water conservation measures
 - Watershed protection
 - Groundwater and surface water resources management
 - Manage floodplains
- Coordinated Planning
 - State and regional water resource planning
 - Water and land use planning
 - Development project review
 - Plan for emergencies and climate change impacts
- Public Education

Urban Design Historic Preservation

- Create diverse, walkable, mixed-use villages
- Design vibrant public spaces and prominent civic architecture
- Public health co-benefits
- Conserve resources and reduce construction debris

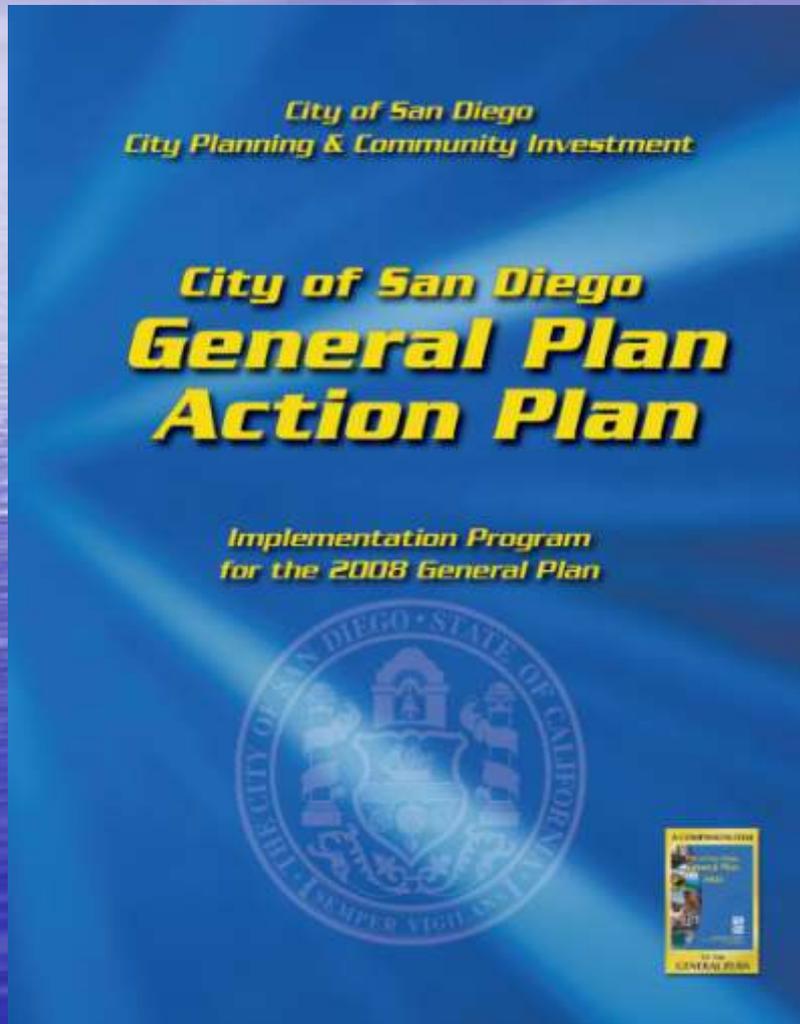


Economic Prosperity Element: Align Environmental Protection and Economic Competitiveness



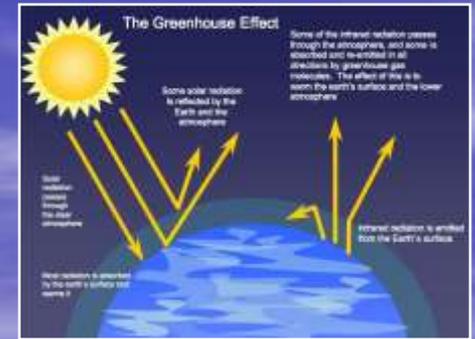
- Innovation Challenge
- Business Incubator
- Biomimicry Partnership
- Green Workforce Training
- Clean Enterprise Program

The General Plan Action Plan



- Identifies actions (implementation measures) derived from General Plan goals and policies
- Organized by GP Element and timeframe
- Sets key implementation priorities
- Helps to inform the budget process
- Will be used for annual monitoring of the General Plan
- Adopted July 2009

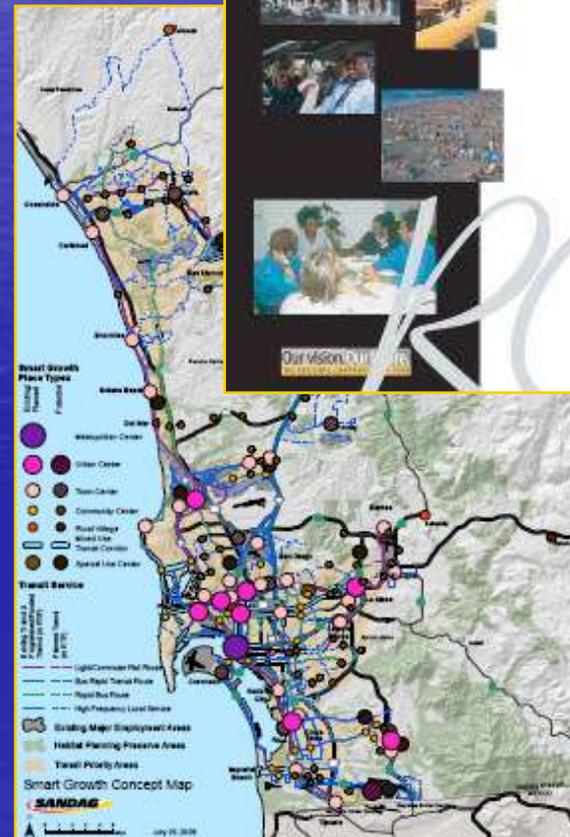
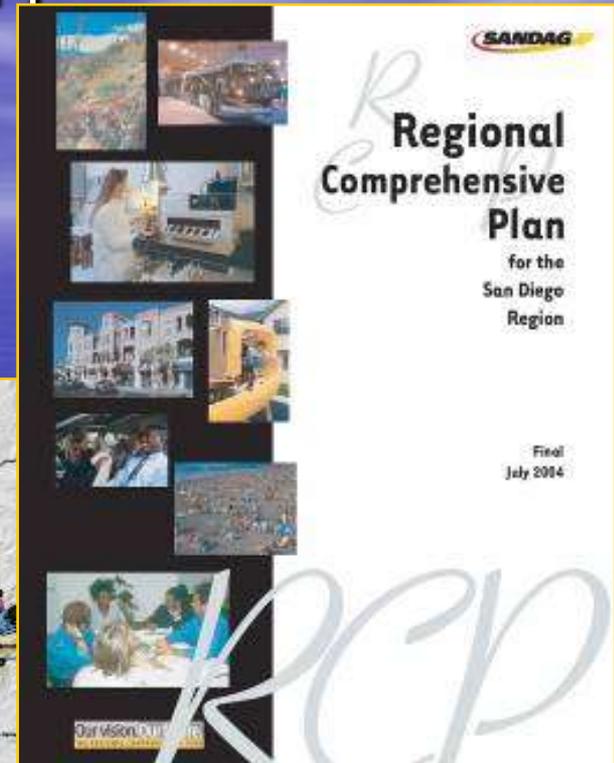
Climate MAP



- Climate Mitigation & Adaptation Plan
- Includes updated GHG inventory for City operations and community-at-large
- Will incorporate prior city actions and new strategies
- Prepared as a part of the City's Sustainable Community Program
- Environmental document to be prepared

Regional Collaboration SANDAG

- 2004 – Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP)
- 2006 – Smart Growth Concept Map
- 2007 – Smart Growth Tool Box
- 2010 – Climate Action Strategy
- 2010 – Urban Area Transit Strategy
- 2011 – **Regional Transportation Plan**
 - Sustainable Communities Strategy
 - Environmental review will address greenhouse gas emissions



Implementation: Community Plans

- Implement GP and SB 375
 - Reduce GHG through land use and transportation planning
 - Reduce GHG through sustainable buildings and practices
- Urban forestry
- GHG analysis in CEQA documents
- Vulnerability analysis
- Adaptation
- Public education role – Local Government Partnership

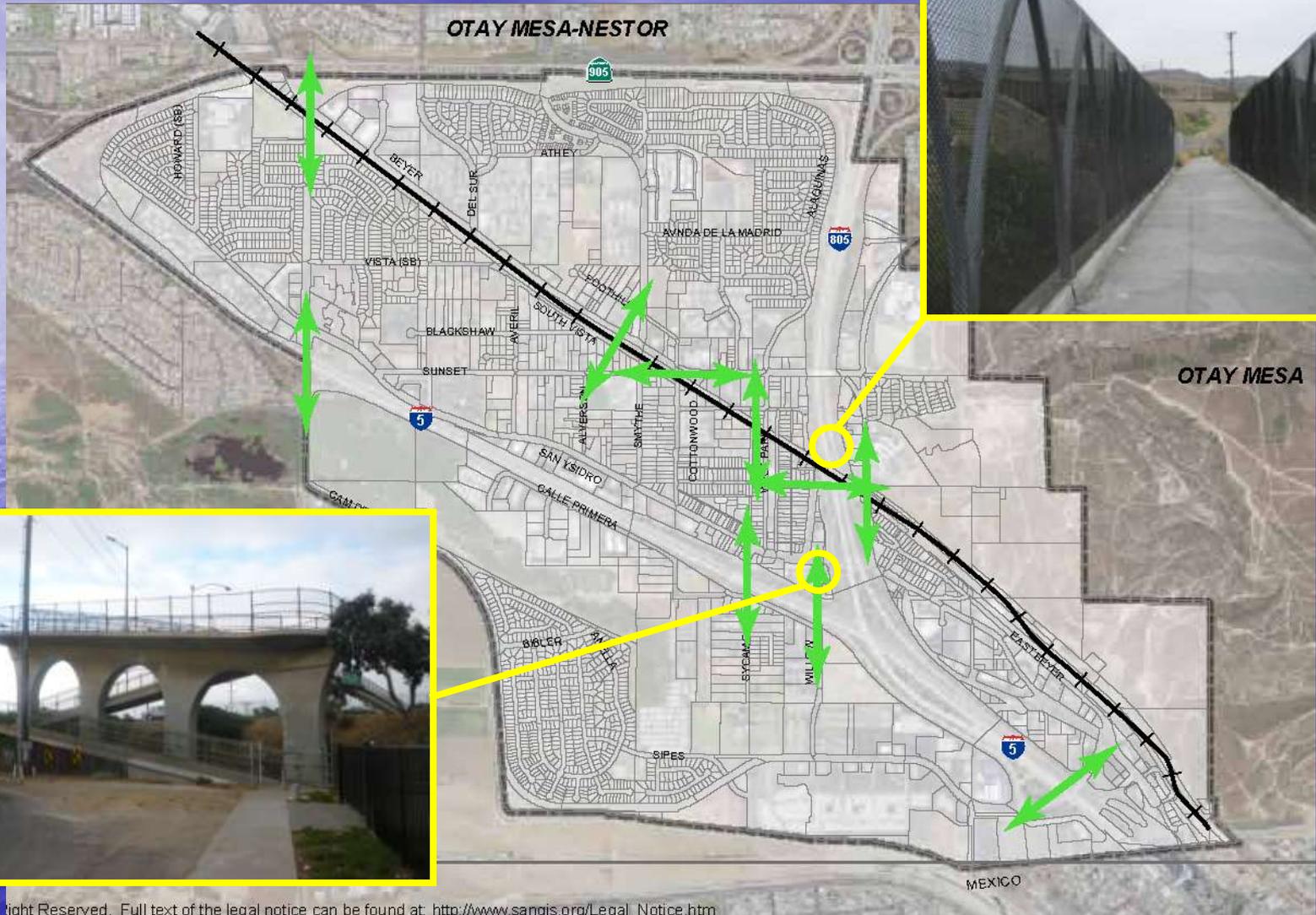


Community Plan Level: San Ysidro

- Village designations to occur in community plan
- Mi Pueblo Pilot Village
 - Housing
 - Pathways to Knowledge
 - Plazas
 - Restaurants, Mercado, kiosks, and offices



Mobility - Pedestrians



Discretionary Project Review

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Development Incentive Program



Project Review: Transit-Oriented Design

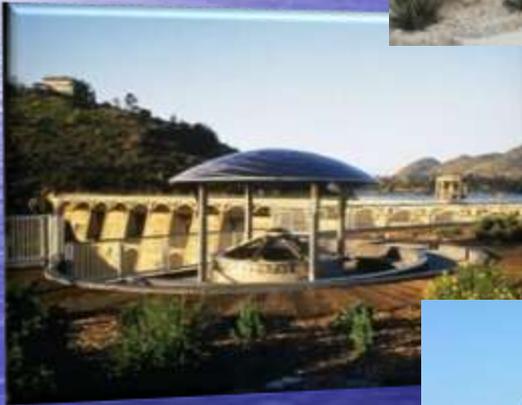


Sustainability Tool: Land Development Code



- Commercial/Mixed-Use zones
- Pedestrian-Oriented Design standards
- Parking reductions for mixed-use, transit proximity
- Tandem parking in some areas
- Bicycle parking & amenities
- Small lot and townhouse zones
- Landscape Standards
 - Street trees required
 - Turf limited
 - Water conservation mandates
- Underway: Community Gardens Code amendments

General Plan Monitoring Report



- Annual overview of progress
- Detailed Action Plan matrix
- Key Actions
 - Community Plan Updates
 - Climate Initiatives

SAN DIEGO
SANDIEGO.GOV

ENSURING A HIGH QUALITY
OF LIFE FOR ALL GENERATIONS.



- Climate Protection
- Land Use, Housing, Open Space
- Mobility
- Clean Tech and the Economy
- Energy
- Water
- Waste Management
- Storm Water

General Plan:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/index.shtml>

General Plan Action Plan:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/index.shtml>

Final Program Environmental Impact Report:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/peir.shtml>

