

Public Facilities, Service, & Safety | 6



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GOALS

- Public uses and facilities located near one another to improve access and to take advantage of interconnecting public uses
- A full, balanced range of employment opportunities, medical facilities, public works and educational, social, and recreational facilities and services
- A new expanded library in or near the village

DISCUSSION

The emphasis of the Public Facilities, Services, & Safety Element is to identify existing facilities and services and address the capacity and needs for future services. The Community Plan addresses priorities for public facility improvements and identifies potential sites and desired characteristics for future facilities. In addition to public facilities' financing and prioritization, policies related to fire-rescue, police, stormwater, water and sewer infrastructure, waste management, libraries, schools, parks (see Recreation Element), public utilities, and health and safety are contained in this element. For additional public infrastructure related policies cross reference SYCP Element Sections 2.4, 3.1, 4.5 and the GP Public Facilities Element.



6.1 FACILITIES & SERVICES

PUBLIC FACILITY NEEDS & PRIORITIZATION

As an urbanized community, San Ysidro is faced with aging infrastructure and facilities that do not meet current standards. **Figure FS-1 Public Facilities Map** illustrates where current facilities exist and identifies sites for future facilities. The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget allocates available revenue to rehabilitate, restore, enhance, and increase the City's capital facilities. The City has a variety of potential funding sources for providing and improving facilities including Development Impact Fees (DIF). Development Impact Fees (DIF) are collected to mitigate the impact of new development through provisions of a portion of the financing needed for public facilities identified in the San Ysidro Impact Fee Study (IFS) and to maintain existing levels of services in San Ysidro. The General Fund is relied on for facility improvement and upgrades, and operational and maintenance costs. The community's DIF and General Fund have helped to alleviate growing facility needs, but a deficit remains with regards to most public facilities. This leaves the City and community with the challenge of finding alternative means of funding improvements. Other funding sources the City and community seeks to augment public improvements with consist of donations, state revenue bonds, private and developer contributions, and public private partnerships.

There is limited funding for annual capital improvements and the City has instituted a prioritization and ranking strategy that integrates community input. This effort allows the City to strategize funding and be more responsive to the community's facilities and infrastructure priorities. Although the City is making incremental changes in how Capital Improvements Program projects are funded to provide more timely improvements, the unfortunate reality is that there remains an existing facilities and infrastructure deficit. There are a number of obstacles in alleviating the infrastructure deficit, which include the increased costs in acquisition and construction, the lack of available land, funding constraints, and competing needs. It is up to the City and the community of San Ysidro to work together, to find creative solutions for meeting facility and infrastructure needs, and ultimately improve the quality of life. Solutions

such as clustering facilities, land value recapture, forming broader areas of benefit for funding and providing community-serving facilities, offering equivalences, seeking citywide or regional initiatives for new sources of revenue, and exploring public-private partnerships are some of the tools that may be used to provide facilities for the next generation.

- 6.1.1 Provide educational facilities, law enforcement, fire protection, libraries, and public utilities in accordance with City standards.
- 6.1.2 Cluster public facilities, such as library, post office, fire station, public space, and public amenities, together to create active centers and take advantage of shared uses like parking and open space areas.
- 6.1.3 Incorporate art in public facilities.
- 6.1.4 Incorporate a space within the future San Ysidro ITC for police officers .
- 6.1.5 Provide facilities that accommodate a full range of City programs to serve residents and cultivate civic involvement.
- 6.1.6 Encourage public education facilities to participate in this community process.
- 6.1.7 Use joint-use agreements to increase recreational opportunities and activate school sites with residents after hours.

FIRE-RESCUE

Fire protection for the community is provided by Fire Station 29. The original Fire Station was built in 1958 as Station 27, and became Fire Station 29 in 1959. In 2005, a new station opened across the street at 198 West San Ysidro Boulevard. Fire Station 29 serves 6.21 square miles including San Ysidro and its surrounding areas.

Maintaining a successful fire service system is a challenge due the City's

topography, fiscal constraints, and an ever-growing population. The City has recognized the value of fire prevention measures to reduce pressure on the overall response system in the long term; such measures include adopting strenuous safety codes and an aggressive brush management program. Citywide fire service goals, policies, and standards are located in the Public Facilities, Services, and Safety Element of the General Plan.

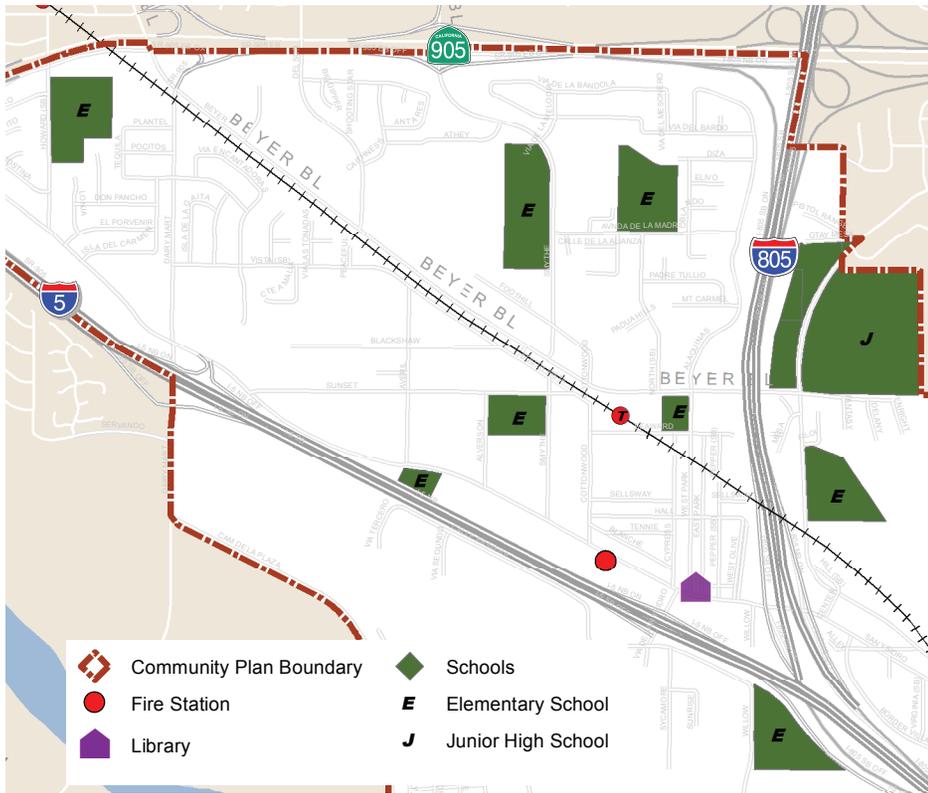
POLICE

The San Ysidro community is served by the Southern Neighborhood Divisions of the Police Department. The Southern Division encompasses 31.5 square miles and serves the neighborhoods of Border, Egger Highlands, Nestor, Ocean Crest, Otay Mesa, Otay Mesa West, Palm City, and San Ysidro. The Southern Division's offices are located in Otay Mesa and have requested that a small kiosk or work space be incorporated into a future ITC at the Port of Entry.

LIBRARY

The existing San Ysidro Branch Library is located on San Ysidro Boulevard and is 1,500 square feet in size. It was originally built in 1914 and is historically designated. There are plans to build a new, approximately 15,000 square foot library. The existing library would be reused as a public space, a museum, art gallery, or other civic and cultural space. See General Plan policies PF-J.5 and PF-J.7 for supporting a library facility, which is located centrally and located near other public services.

- 6.1.8 Invest in a new library that serves the San Ysidro community and meets current standards.
- 6.1.9 Locate the new library within the El Pueblito Viejo Village or within walking distance from the village.
- 6.1.10 Incorporate public space or a pocket park and public art into the library site.
- 6.1.11 Design the library to take advantage of public views, if available.
- 6.1.12 Coordinate bike and pedestrian facility improvements and



wayfinding signage to the new site to encourage multimodal travel to the new library.

SCHOOLS

One of the most important public services is the provision of schools, offering quality education to residents of the community. The San Ysidro community is served by one South Bay Union School District elementary school, the San Ysidro School District (preschool through eighth grade), and the Sweetwater Union High School District (ninth through twelfth grades). The San Ysidro School District has preschool classes, a childcare center, a K-8 district with five elementary schools, one K-8 elementary school, and



Schools, Fire Station, and Library in San Ysidro



one middle school (seventh through eighth grades). The district serves over 5,550 students and is projected to double its student population in the next 10 years.

In addition, there are charter schools, private schools, and neighboring community schools, which help to serve the community. In 2012, voters approved a 250 million-dollar school bond, which will be utilized to upgrade the existing schools and build new schools based on projected growth.

Schools in San Ysidro are centrally located near other facilities and services and are within walking distance to transit. School sites are often used as joint-use facilities, providing additional recreational opportunities. If opportunities arise to acquire school district or private school property within the community, the City should make every effort to reserve the property for public use.

- 6.1.13 Improve public education and the image of schools in San Ysidro to strengthen neighborhood schools and maximize the use of the facilities.
- 6.1.14 Encourage full-time use of school facilities, including community use during non-school hours for educational, recreational, and cultural needs.
- 6.1.15 Coordinate Capital Improvements Program projects with school facility upgrades to improve the interface between the public realm and the facility.
- 6.1.16 Explore the possibility of joint-use buildings for commercial and educational uses.
- 6.1.17 Acquire excess school properties for public use or incorporate parks and public spaces in future projects, where possible.

UNDERGROUNDING UTILITIES

Gas and electricity are provided by the San Diego Gas & Electric Company and several gas and electric lines traverse the area. San Diego Gas and Electric Company has a number of programs related to conservation, including commercial and residential energy audits, low interest loan programs for energy conservation, and retrofit installations and rebates for solar water heaters. In addition, the City is actively involved in undergrounding existing overhead power lines.

- 6.1.18 Program the undergrounding of telephone and electric power lines to underground all utilities and boxes. See General Plan Policy Section PF-M.
- 6.1.19 Revisit prioritization of undergrounding with the San Ysidro community and coordinate other improvements in the same location.
- 6.1.20 Support efforts to move utility boxes and obstructions out of the public right-of-way to create a clear path of travel.

WATER, SEWER, AND STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

On average, San Diego must import nearly 90 percent of its water from other areas, specifically from Northern California and the Colorado River. As such, water conservation and reclamation are important components of the City's water supply. Pure Water San Diego is the City's 20-year program to provide a safe, reliable, and cost-effective drinking water supply for San Diego. Proven technology will be used to purify recycled water. The program is environmentally friendly and will make San Diego more water independent and more resilient against drought, climate change, and natural disasters. The long-term goal of producing 83 million gallons of purified water per day (one third of San Diego's future drinking water supply), is planned to be reached by 2035.

Beginning in 2007, the City increased water and sewer rates to replace and improve both the water and sewer system infrastructure. Some pipelines have been in operation for one hundred years and need to be

replaced. The City of San Diego Water Department's Capital Improvement Program Guidelines and Standards provides the framework for the design and construction of new water facilities and addresses water efficiency, conservation, recycled and reclaimed water, cost effectiveness, and timely construction.

In a continuing main replacement program, concrete sewer mains and cast iron water mains are being replaced. The City schedules many of these water and sewer main replacement projects for the same time and location to minimize the impact on the community. Replacement is currently scheduled according to breaks or blockages in the mains. As incidents mount, main replacement is scheduled for accomplishment through the annual Capital Improvements Program.

Since the 1972 Clean Water Act, considerable strides have been made in reducing conventional forms of pollution, from sewage treatment plants and industrial facilities, through the implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program and other federal, state, and local programs. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, requires the City to develop and implement a jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program. The General Plan discusses the City's Stormwater programs in more detail; however, San Ysidro is located within the Tijuana River Valley watershed and reduction of pollutants in urban runoff and stormwater is critical to the health of this watershed. A Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team was established to address pollution issues in the valley and a future Tijuana River Valley Comprehensive Load Reduction Plan (CLRP) will address areas where stormwater infrastructure and green streets can be built to improve water quality within the area.

- 6.1.21 Provide systematic improvements and the gradual replacement of water, sewer, and stormwater facilities throughout the community. Also see General Plan PF-F.6 PF-G.2, PF-H.3, and PF-I.1.
- 6.1.22 Collaborate with the San Ysidro community and other entities, when funding and siting improvements, to coordinate timing and replacement of infrastructure.

- 6.1.23 Provide recycled water opportunities throughout the community for irrigation.
- 6.1.24 Coordinate street improvements, undergrounding efforts, street tree planting, and urban beautification efforts when upgrading stormwater infrastructure and creating green streets.
- 6.1.25 Where possible, incorporate parks or public spaces in collaboration with stormwater improvements.
- 6.1.26 Focus infrastructure pilot projects and prioritization in Village areas.
- 6.1.27 To help meet stormwater permit requirements, identify suitable sites to be used as community-wide stormwater retention areas. Prioritize areas that could co-locate both stormwater and other much-needed public facilities, such as parks, public space, and recreational trails. Potential locations could include:
- a. Beyer Boulevard along the rail, from Dairy Mart Road to the Beyer Trolley Station,
 - b. Beyer Trolley Station along the rail, from Seaward Avenue to Cypress Drive, to the San Ysidro Linear Park,
 - c. Willow Road and San Ysidro Boulevard near pedestrian bridge,
 - d. Olive Drive,
 - e. North side of Calle Primera from Willow Road to Via de San Ysidro,
 - f. Potential excess right-of-way in the Border Village District, and
 - g. Trails connecting to Dairy Mart Pond open space area.

6.2 HEALTH & SAFETY

HEALTH

San Ysidro is engaged in efforts to understand the relationship between land use/mobility and personal health. San Ysidro is an identified case study location for assessing comprehensive approaches to integrating transportation and land use planning with health initiatives to improve quality of life and sustainability of local communities. San Ysidro's proximity to the border-crossing facility exposes the community to high levels of congestion and air pollutant emissions. Health studies along the border have contributed to the understanding of public health ramifications and benefits of the built environment. Improving the community's knowledge on health issues as they relate to land use and mobility help residents and jurisdictions make informed decisions to promote healthy living.

There are a number of services and programs available within the community to support residents. Local non-profits work with at-risk families and individuals to educate them on local resources, such as affordable housing, health care, and childcare, as well as providing basic needs such as food and clothing. These community organizations help bring people and resources together and ultimately strengthen the bonds between neighbors and the community.

- 6.2.1 Support and promote community health in San Ysidro through land use and transportation planning. Refer to Land Use, Mobility, Urban Design, Conservation, and Recreation Elements regarding policies which promote the following concepts:
- a. Cyclist and pedestrian safety,
 - b. Parks, trails, and recreation,
 - c. Sidewalks and connectivity,.
 - d. Transportation support, and
 - e. Youth safety and physical activity.

- 6.2.2 Continue to evaluate how mobility and the built environment factors in the community of San Ysidro are related to the health of the people who live and work in the community.
- a. Consider incorporating health research, analysis, and related technologies in future studies in order to improve the quality of life for residents.
 - b. Improve health-related data collection to better understand health impacts.
 - c. Incorporate technologies to better manage congestion and support improved air quality.
 - d. Use air filtration systems to improve air quality.
 - e. Use freeway buffer walls to reduce air quality impacts.
 - f. Pursue subsidies to retrofit existing structures with air filtration technologies.
 - g. Pursue subsidies to retrofit existing structures with energy efficiency technologies.
 - h. Improve access to healthy foods.
 - i. Improve communication between organizations and residents and the resources available to them.

GEOLOGICAL AND SEISMIC HAZARDS

The General Plan provides policy support for disaster preparedness and Seismic Safety in the Public Facilities, Services, & Safety Element sections PF-P and PF-Q. Design considerations with regards to safety are located in the Urban Design Element.