

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The timely provision of adequate community facilities is necessary for the proper functioning of a community. Facilities addressed in this element include schools, park and recreation, library services, fire and police protection, postal services, utilities and emergency medical services.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Schools

Four elementary schools serve Tierrasanta: Tierrasanta, Vista Grande, Hancock and Miller. Secondary students attend Serra Junior-Senior High School and Farb Middle School. The following table shows the enrollment and capacity of these schools.

INVENTORY OF SCHOOL FACILITIES SERVING TIERRASANTA

| Schools | Enrollment October 1980 | | Current Capacity | Unused Capacity** |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Average Daily | Total* | | |
| Elementary (K-5) | | | | |
| Hancock | 747 | (996) | 984 | 237 |
| Miller | 923 | (1,231) | 1,392 | 469 |
| Tierrasanta | 450 | (600) | 834 | 384 |
| Vista Grande | <u>503</u> | <u>(503)</u> | <u>570</u> | <u>67</u> |
| Subtotal: | 2,623 | (3,330) | 3,780 | 1,157 |
| Secondary | | | | |
| Farb (6-7) | 828 | (1,104) | 984 | 156 |
| Serra (8-12) | <u>2,301</u> | <u>(2,301)</u> | <u>2,547</u> | <u>246</u> |
| Subtotal: | 3,129 | (3,405) | 3,531 | 402 |
| Total: | 5,752 | (6,735) | 7,311 | 1,559 |

* Most of the elementary schools operate on a multi-track year-round basis. At any given time a portion of the students at these schools are on vacation.

** Current capacity minus daily enrollment.

The San Diego Unified School District projects that the total enrollment of elementary students (K-5) will rise from the current 3,330 to 4,200 students by 1985. The secondary student population is expected to increase from the present total of 3,405 to approximately 4,040 by 1985.

With the continuance of year-round scheduling, the existing schools should be capable of handling this enrollment.

Parks and Recreation

Monserate Neighborhood Park, located adjacent to Vista Grande Elementary School, and Roadrunner Park, located adjacent to Farb Middle School, are at present the only developed parks in Tierrasanta. These parks are 6.5 and 11.6 acres in size and are developed with playground equipment, picnic tables, benches and landscaping. Accessibility to the parks is generally restricted to pedestrians due to the limited street parking. The community park on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard is under construction. Improvements will include multipurpose courts, tiny tot play areas, landscaping and a parking lot.

The Murphy Canyon residents are served by two recreation centers, baseball fields, tennis courts and basketball courts. The recreation centers provide a limited amount of space for group meetings. The baseball fields are used by Little League baseball and Pop Warner football leagues. The tennis and basketball courts are for general use by the Murphy Canyon residents. Although not open to the public, an additional recreational facility in the Tierrasanta community is Admiral Baker Field, a regional Navy recreation area. It includes athletic fields, picnic and play areas, a swimming pool and two golf courses. A somewhat treacherous foot trail provides access to this facility from the Murphy Canyon Naval Housing area.

Library

A temporary branch library is located at the corner of La Cuenta Drive and Tierrasanta Boulevard. A larger, permanent facility is needed.

Fire Protection

Fire Station 39, located at 4949 La Cuenta Drive, serves the Tierrasanta community with one engine company staffed by a crew of four firefighters. The current level of fire protection meets the Fire Department standard six-minute response time objective.

Police Protection

Police services are provided from the temporary facilities of the Eastern Police Substation of the San Diego Police Department, located in Serra Mesa at Aero Drive and Ruffin Road. Police protection is considered adequate.

Postal Service

The Tierrasanta planning area receives carrier service from the Mira Mesa station. Delivery service is considered adequate at this time. Window service provided by a contract station located in the community shopping center is considered inadequate with regard to hours and types of service offered.

Gas and Electricity

San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) provides gas and electric service for all of San Diego. The Tierrasanta electrical substation is a major facility located near Admiral Baker Field on Tierrasanta Boulevard. There are overhead transmission lines running south from the substation across the Navy golf courses, and north from the substation above a 200-foot wide easement. Undergrounding these lines is infeasible at this time.

Telephone Service

Pacific Telephone provides service to all parts of the Tierrasanta community on request. No major additional facilities are anticipated and service is adequate.

Water and Sewer Service

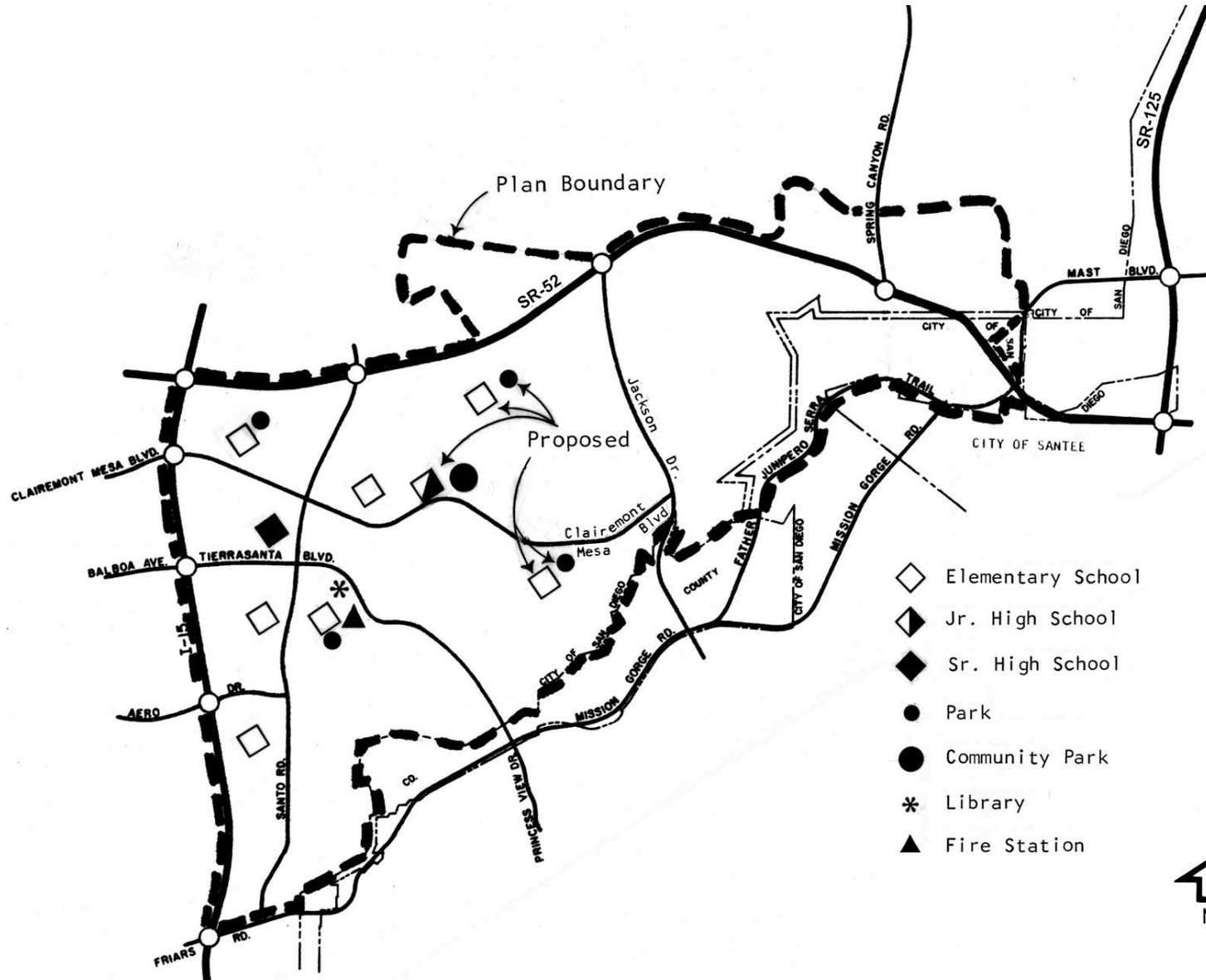
The City of San Diego provides water and sewer service to the community. The water originates from a filtration plant in Riverside county, proceeds down the San Diego aqueduct to the Shepherd Canyon pipeline and south to Santo Road and Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. Water service is considered adequate.

The Murphy Canyon trunk sewer serves the western portion of Tierrasanta. The eastern portion of the community is served by the Mission Gorge trunk sewer via a main sewer line which crosses the Admiral Baker Field area.

Emergency Medical Services

There is no general medical facility in the community. Emergency care is provided by the Donald N. Sharp Memorial Hospital in the Serra Mesa community, approximately 15 minutes to the west. Kaiser Permanente Hospital is located on Zion Avenue near Mission Gorge Road in the Navajo community, approximately ten minutes to the south. All health services are available to Kaiser Plan members only.

Paramedic service is provided by Medevac No. 39, located in Serra Mesa at Balboa Avenue and Ruffin Road. Response time is less than ten minutes for all areas in Tierrasanta and will be reduced upon completion of the Balboa Avenue/Tierrasanta Boulevard interchange. The City Fire Department also provides initial response to medical emergencies.



- ◊ Elementary School
- ◈ Jr. High School
- ◆ Sr. High School
- Park
- Community Park
- * Library
- ▲ Fire Station



Community Facilities
Tierrasanta Community Plan

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FIGURE



GOAL

PROVIDE A HIGH LEVEL OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO ADEQUATELY MEET THE NEEDS OF THE TIERRASANTA COMMUNITY.

OBJECTIVES

- To coordinate the development of school facilities with residential development to ensure that overcrowding does not occur.
- To encourage a full range of recreational facilities distributed throughout the community to serve children, youth and adults.
- To promote the development of adequate library services and facilities.
- To provide a high level of police and fire protection.

PROPOSALS

The location of all existing and proposed community facilities is shown on **Figure 9**.

Schools

Tierrasanta will ultimately require seven elementary schools, one junior high school and one senior high school. Yet to be constructed are two of the elementary schools and the junior high.

Upon construction of the junior high school, plans are to convert Farb Middle School to an elementary school and Serra Junior-Senior High School to a high school.

1. All proposed schools should be located adjacent to park sites, open space systems and bike lanes. New school development should be adequately buffered from surrounding development, such as with landscaping, grade separation or streets. Access to the open space canyons should be provided. Public access to the school sports field should be provided when not in school use. See **Figures 17, 18 and 19** in the **Urban Design Element** for illustrations of neighborhood interfacing design techniques.
2. Priority in the construction of school sites should be given to the junior high school.
3. The two proposed elementary schools should be developed at the sites indicated in Tierrasanta Norte and on the site south of the Clairemont Mesa Boulevard terminus. The development of these schools should occur as deemed necessary by the San Diego Unified School District.
4. Construction of facilities should be accomplished in a manner consistent with City Council Policy 600-10 when rezonings are granted or subdivision maps are approved.

5. Design of subdivisions in the vicinity of elementary schools should incorporate safe pedestrian access for students and avoid the crossing of major streets wherever possible.
6. Adult education and vocational training should be encouraged through the traditional school programs and the community schools concept.
7. All school facilities in Tierrasanta should be utilized to their fullest extent. In addition to regular day classes, night use for adult education, group meetings and skills training should be encouraged.
8. Should any designated school site not be developed for school use, it should be designated residential use at a density consistent with the adjacent designation. The site may also be appropriate for church or social service use.

Parks and Recreation

1. All parks should be located adjacent to schools and to open space canyons. Park facilities should be coordinated with the school playground to avoid unnecessary duplication, and pedestrian access should be provided to the open space system and to surrounding uses.
2. Design and construction of the proposed 26-acre community park should be expedited. There is a particular need for a recreational center with meeting rooms. Most recreation improvements are scheduled for completion in Fiscal Year 1982, while the center is scheduled for 1985.
3. A total of four neighborhood parks are proposed. These should be developed to appeal to children and adults alike, including play areas, tot lots and tranquil areas.
4. The size of proposed neighborhood and community parks assumes construction of a school on an adjacent site. A larger park may be necessary if the school is not built.
5. Sports fields at the Portola Junior High School site should be turfed for use by the community.
6. The Murphy Canyon Recreation Center, Tierrasanta Recreation Council, City Park and Recreation Department and the community schools should form a joint recreation board. The purpose of this board would be to avoid unnecessary duplication of class and program offerings and to coordinate efforts among the three groups in meeting the recreational needs of the community.
7. The Navy should be encouraged to provide additional recreational facilities for the residents of Murphy Canyon. These could be accommodated in existing open space areas or at the south end of Santo Road.

Library

The proposed 8,000-square-foot branch library should be constructed at the corner of La Cuenta and Tierrasanta Boulevard in Fiscal Year 1982, as currently shown in the Capital Improvement Program. The building should include a meeting room for library-sponsored events, such as story hours, book review presentations, and special events.

Fire Protection

Evaluation of fire protection should be a continuous process in order to maintain the level of service now provided. Future growth, particularly north of Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, may generate a need for additional fire protection facilities.

Police Protection

The temporary structures at the Eastern Police Substation are scheduled for replacement by a permanent facility in 1984. The present response time should be continually evaluated. Police should place a continuing emphasis on juvenile problems, crime prevention and community relations.

Postal Service

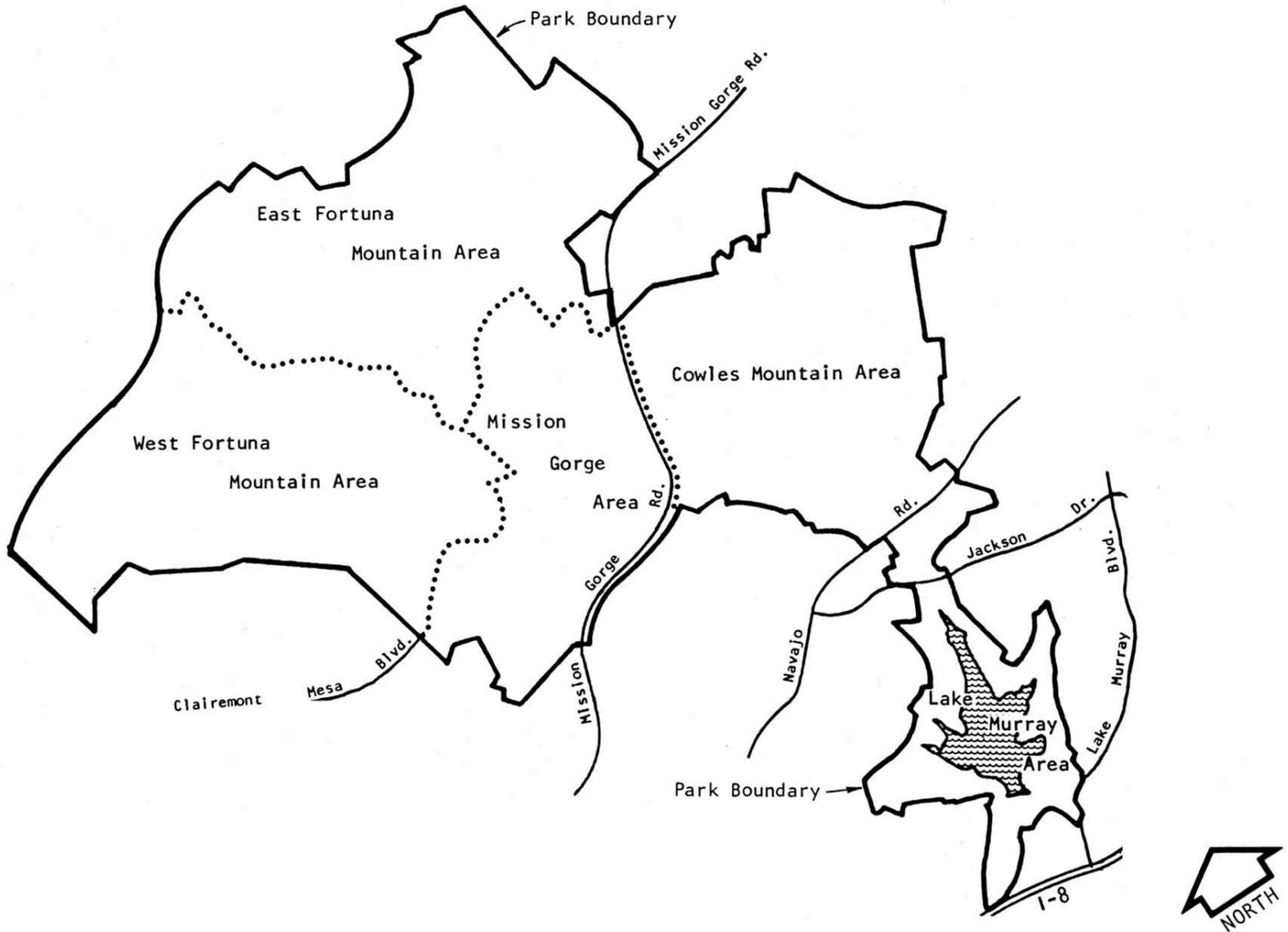
The postal service should be encouraged to locate additional services in the area. Additional window service and automated stamp and mailing equipment should be encouraged to locate in the commercial centers.

Utilities

1. Joint use of utility right-of-ways should be permitted when the proposed uses will not interfere with their primary function. Such uses may include bicycle and pedestrian paths, parks and outdoor recreation uses.

Joint use of SDG&E transmission right-of-ways is frequently permitted upon issuance of a license or permit for use. The proposed uses must be in accordance with California Public Utility Commission rules and orders.

2. Right-of-ways located within residential neighborhoods should be landscaped and kept clear of trash and refuse. The underlying property owner would normally be responsible for such landscaping, with the permission of SDG&E.
3. Where necessary, drainage facilities should be designed to ensure adequate protection for the community while minimizing erosion and other adverse effects of storm runoff to the natural topography and open space areas.



Mission Trails Regional Park
 Tierrasanta Community Plan

10
 FIGURE

MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK

Description

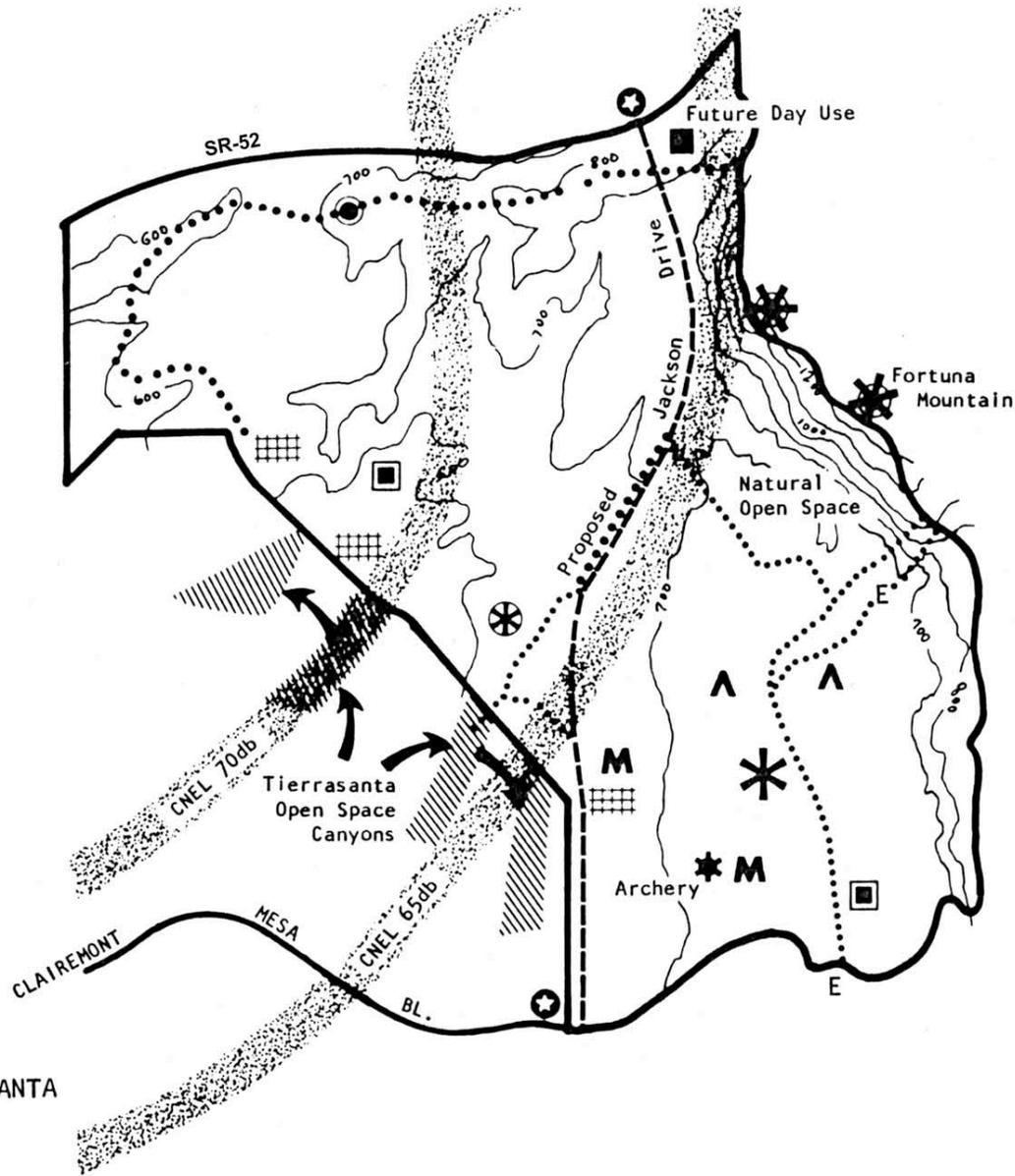
Approximately 2,830 acres (42 percent) of the Tierrasanta community is designated to be a part of the future Mission Trails Regional Park, formerly known as the Lake Murray, Cowles Mountain, Fortuna Mountain Regional Park (**Figure 10**). As envisioned in the 1976 Master Development Plan for the park, it will extend approximately five miles from Interstate 8 (I-8) on the south to the boundary of Miramar Naval Air Station on the north, and about two and one-half miles from the San Diego Aqueduct on the west to Little Sycamore Canyon on the east.

The park is notable for its size and its diverse features. At 6,200 acres, it will become one of the largest urban regional parks in the United States. Within the boundaries of the park a variety of landforms provides enormous potential for recreational use.

At the southern end of the park is Lake Murray, an existing 200-acre reservoir, park and golf course. Immediately north of Lake Murray is Cowles Mountain, a 1,370-foot high regional landmark. Northwest of Cowles Mountain, the San Diego River cuts through Mission Gorge and flows on through Mission Valley. North of Mission Gorge lies Fortuna Mountain, which comprises a prominent upland ridge and canyon complex. This area offers opportunities for a wide range of traditional park activities as well as many specialized uses. These include educational and cultural activities that relate to the unique historic, scenic and ecologically significant areas of the site.

Relationship to Tierrasanta

Three major subareas of the park are located within the Tierrasanta community plan area: West Fortuna Mountain, East Fortuna Mountain and Mission Gorge. Except as noted, **Figures 11** through **13** depicting these areas are based on the 1976 Master Development Plan for the park. A final development plan may alter the boundaries or uses shown here.



- ▲ Group Camping and Special Events
- ✱ Multi-use Center Basic Services
- M Open Play Family Picnic
- Rec. Vehicle Camping
- ⊗ Police Training Facil. Shooting Range
- ✱ Observation Point
-E..... Equestrian Trail
- ⊙ Bicycle Trail
- Hiking Trail
- ⊙ Major Entry
- ▣ Major Parking Area



West Fortuna Mountain
Tierrasanta Community Plan **11**
FIGURE

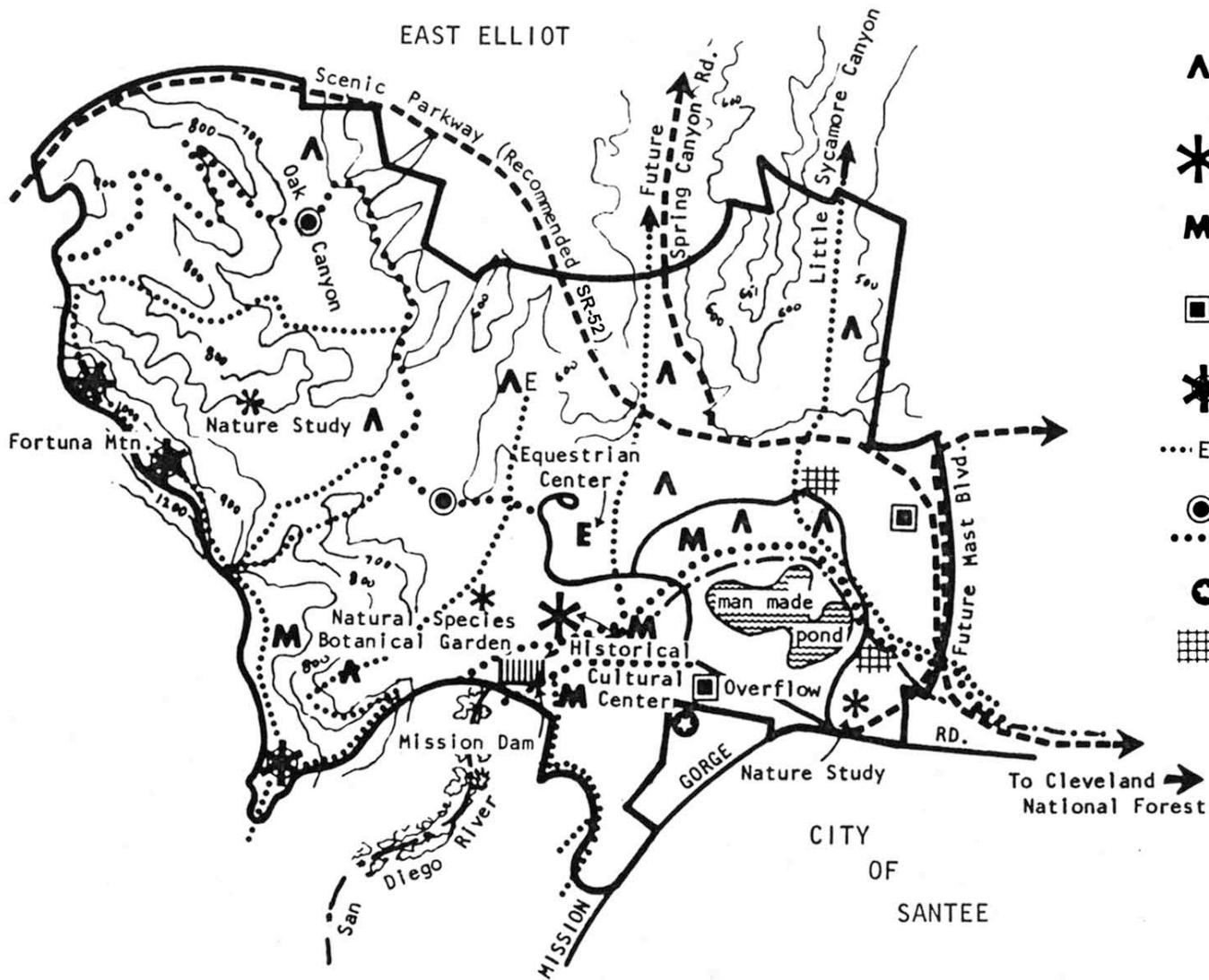


1. West Fortuna Mountain (**Figure 11**)

The ridge and canyon topography in this area provide an important visual focus for the community. In addition, several of the canyons which comprise the open space system in Tierrasanta continue through the urban area easterly into the park land. This situation provides the opportunity for trail systems linking the community open space with a future trail system in the park.

The West Fortuna subarea will contain three major access routes. From SR-52, visitors will enter the park via an extension of Jackson Drive which will traverse the park and provide access on the south from Mission Gorge Road. The third access point, and the one most directly affecting Tierrasanta, will be from the west via Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

Figure 11 reflects the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee recommendation to delete a proposed off-road motorcycle area and driver training track shown in this area, citing these as inappropriate uses within a resource-based park. The relocation of the proposed shooting range to the northwesterly portion of this area is also being explored.



- ▲ Group Camping and Special Events
- * Multi-use Center Basic Services
- M Open Play Family Picnic
- Rec. Vehicle Camping
- * Observation Point
- ...E... Equestrian Trail
- Bicycle Trail
- Hiking Trail
- ⊙ Major Entry
- ▣ Major Parking Area



East Fortuna Mountain
 Tierrasanta Community Plan

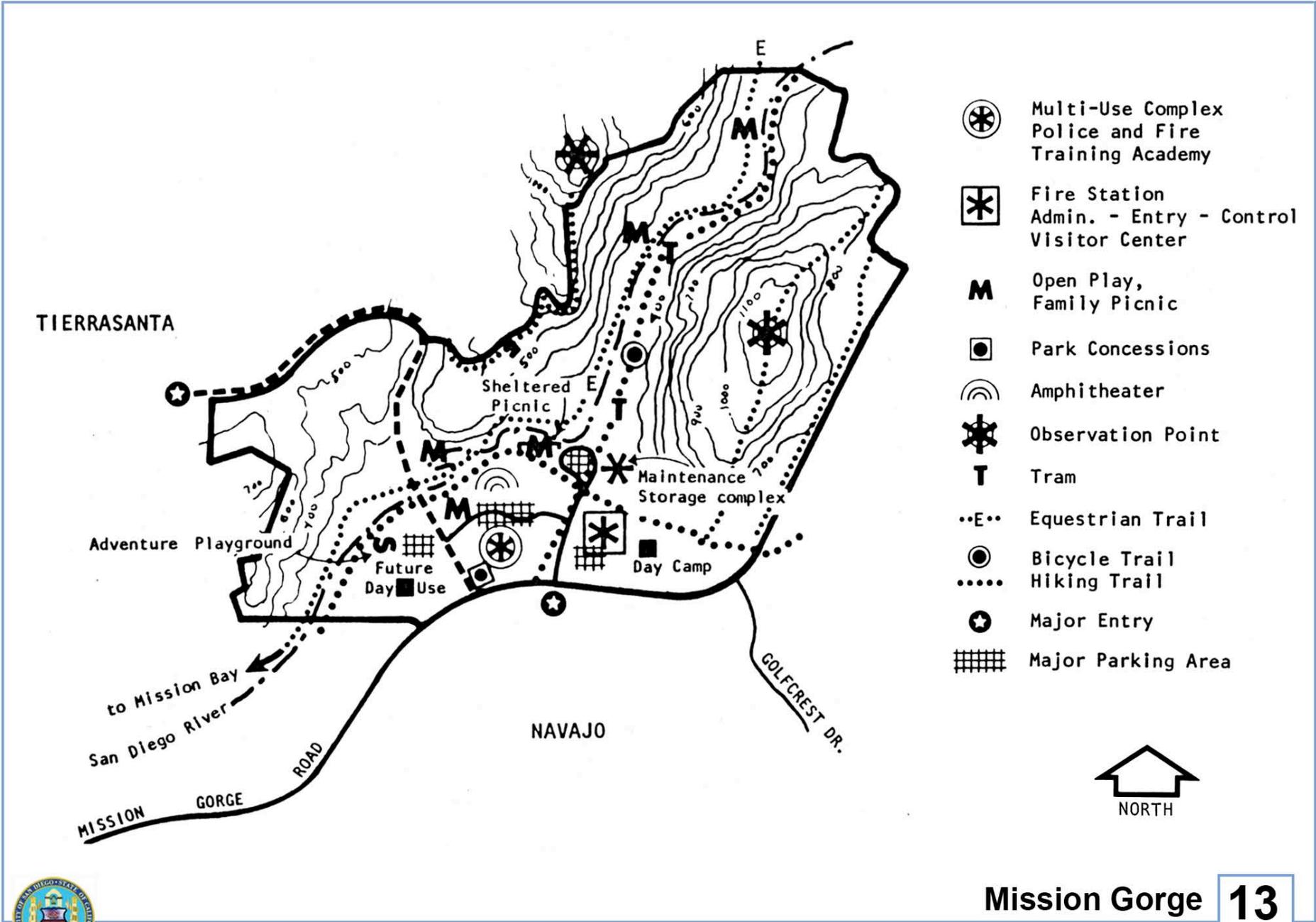
12
 FIGURE



2. East Fortuna Mountain (**Figure 12**)

This area comprises the most diverse area of the park. The topography ranges from the steep eastern face of Fortuna Mountain with its dense stands of chaparral vegetation, to the man-made ponds associated with past sand and gravel extraction along the San Diego River. The East Fortuna Mountain subarea also contains isolated canyons as well as the Old Mission Dam historic site at the head of Mission Gorge. The diversity in topography and vegetation makes this area extremely significant in terms of potential park use.

The East Fortuna Mountain subarea relates directly to the currently undeveloped East Elliott community plan area and the city of Santee. Inasmuch as major canyons such as Spring and Little Sycamore continue northward from the park, there are opportunities to relate future urban land use to these open space canyons and therefore link them to the park.



-  Multi-Use Complex
Police and Fire
Training Academy
-  Fire Station
Admin. - Entry - Control
Visitor Center
- M** Open Play,
Family Picnic
-  Park Concessions
-  Amphitheater
-  Observation Point
- T** Tram
- ..E..** Equestrian Trail
-  Bicycle Trail
-** Hiking Trail
-  Major Entry
-  Major Parking Area



Mission Gorge **13**
Tierrasanta Community Plan **FIGURE**

3. Mission Gorge (**Figure 13**)

The steep north slopes of Mission Gorge are also within the Tierrasanta community plan area. The Mission Gorge subarea is one of the most valuable resources of the park, containing approximately two miles of the San Diego River and associated riparian habitat. It will provide opportunity for possible developed park uses in addition to the natural amenities.

GOAL

PROVIDE FOR A MAJOR PARK TO SERVE RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL NEEDS OF THE SAN DIEGO REGION IN A MANNER THAT RESPECTS AND ENHANCES THE TIERRASANTA COMMUNITY.

PROPOSALS

1. With the exception of sand and gravel extraction, only park related uses should be allowed within the adopted regional park boundaries.
2. Future urban land use for all areas that abut the park should be sensitive to it, as proposed within the **Urban Design Element** of this Plan.
3. Urban open space systems that physically continue into the park should be given consideration in the park use planning program, as proposed within the **Open Space Element** of this Plan.
4. Future construction of SR-52 should provide for pedestrian and equestrian access from the park into the East Elliott community at Oak Canyon, Spring Canyon and Little Sycamore Canyon.
5. The Tierrasanta Community Council, serving as the officially recognized planning group for the community, should continue to be represented on the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee.
6. All proposed park uses should be carefully evaluated with regard to their potential impacts on the Tierrasanta community. Incompatible park uses should be relocated, or appropriate mitigation measures should be applied to ensure compatibility of land uses.
7. This Plan should be amended to incorporate the final park plan when adopted.
8. It is the primary desire of the Tierrasanta Community Council that the federally-owned lands on both sides of Clairemont Mesa Boulevard be incorporated within the park boundaries (**Figure 16**).

It is important to understand that Mission Trails Park is a major regional facility, and as such has a service area far greater than the Tierrasanta community. While input from the community regarding park design and uses is important, the master plan and its implementation is independent from the Tierrasanta Community Plan. However, it is intended that the needs of Tierrasanta be given careful consideration, as well as the needs of other communities that abut the park, and that regional park needs will be accommodated without adversely affecting neighboring communities.