



CITY OF RIVERSIDE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE & CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN

Cultural Heritage Board

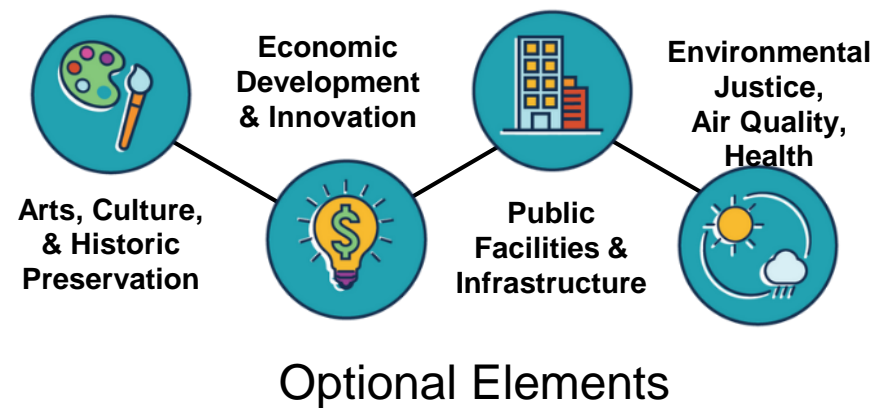
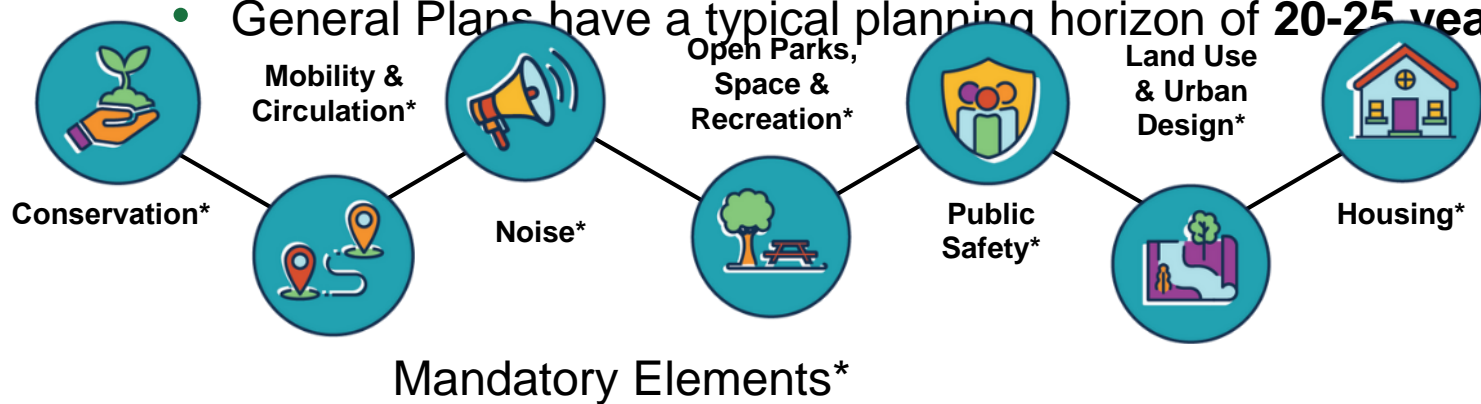
Item #4

December 17, 2025



What is the GPU?

- A **strategic vision** for the city over a generation
- A blueprint for **physical growth, development, and preservation**
- The **community's vision** informs the contents of General Plan Elements in addition to statutory requirements
- Elements include **goals, policies** and **implementation** measures for the various topics
- Influences **zoning** and the types of **development** desired, goals for improving and adding **public amenities, natural spaces** to restore and protect, delivery of **public services, budgeting** decisions and more
- General Plans have a typical planning horizon of **20-25 years**



Components of the General Plan Update

- Comprehensive update of the General Plan for 2050.
 - Including new Land Use Map and Circulation Network Map.
- Review and disposition of 20 Specific Plans.
- New Zoning Code and development regulations.
- 14 special Focus Areas with enhanced urban design, land use, development policies.
- New design guidelines for development including Historic Districts.
- Ground-truth remapping of 7 officially designated Arroyos.
- Prepare to meet 7th Cycle RHNA (2029-2037) with minimal need for rezoning.
- Full alignment with CAAP and sustainability and emissions reduction goals.



What is the Climate Action & Adaptation

Plan?



- Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Risks
- Sets ambitious, yet achievable emissions reduction targets for the City
- A strategic roadmap to guide the City in reducing GHG emissions and preparing for climate risks
- Includes both mitigation and adaptation efforts to promote a sustainable future for all

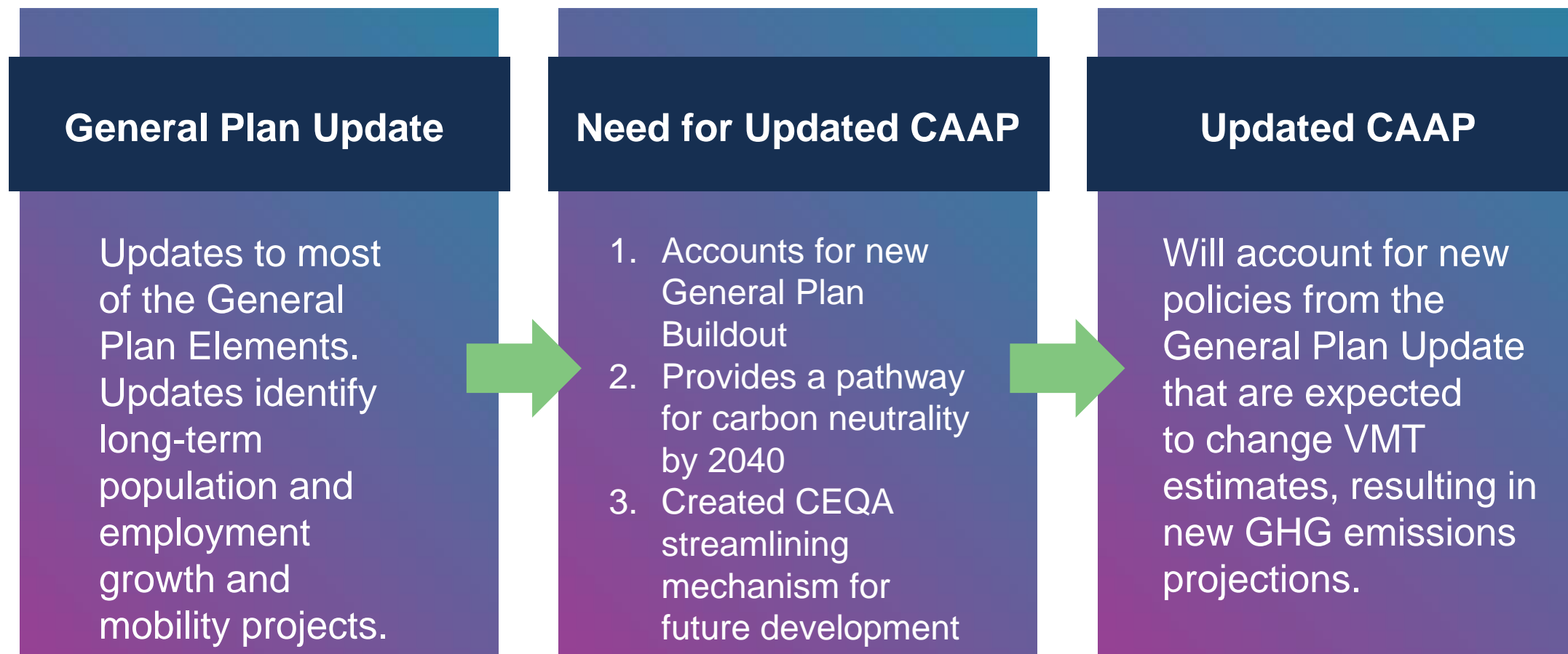


Objectives of the CAAP Update

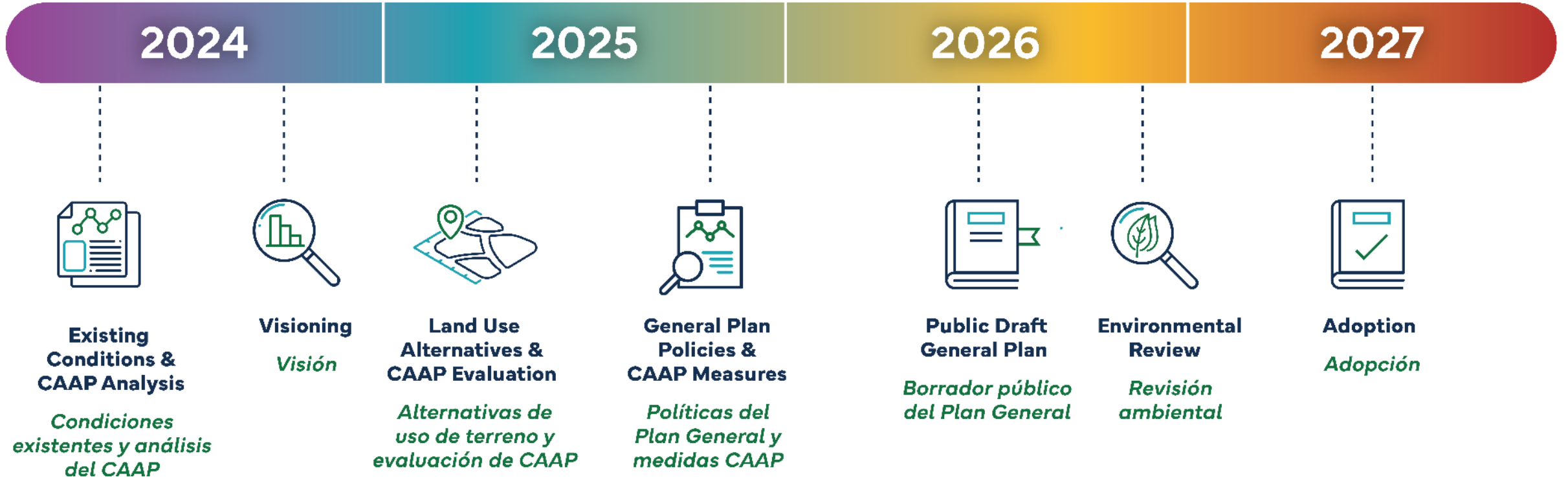
- CEQA-qualified CAAP, streamlining future environmental reviews.
- Evaluate and update reduction measures from the 2016 CAP (Riverside Restorative Growthprint)
- Conduct a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory, projections, interim and carbon neutrality targets
- Identify and assess climate change-related hazards, exposures, and vulnerabilities
- Establish specific, measurable actions the City can take to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to climate change, as well as individuals and organizations



CAAP and General Plan Relationship



Project Schedule: GPU & CAAP Adoption Process



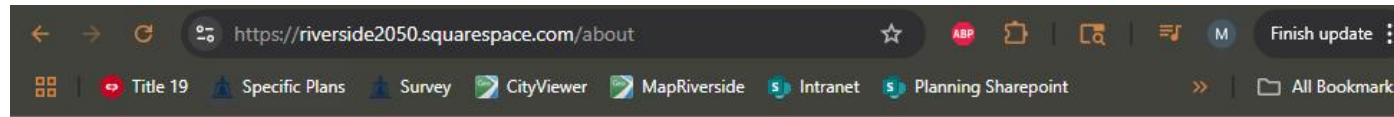
Outreach Overview – What We've Done



- **45+** Social media posts to 170,000 followers
- **25+** Email blasts and newsletters
- Regular project website updates – www.riverside2050.com
- **2,400+** email opt-ins to-date
- Statistically Valid Surveys – **1,400+** participants
- **21** Pop-up workshops – **2,200+** engagements
- FutureFest launch event – **500+** attendees
- Online Mapping Activity – **400+** comments
- **112,000** Utility Bill inserts – December 2024
- Community Mural artwork – **1,772** submissions
- **14** movable exhibits – **578** Climate Pledges
- General Plan Advisory Committee – 4 meetings
- CAAP Advisory Committee – 2 meetings
- **3,200+ comments received and logged**



Project website



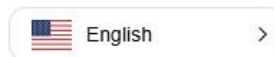
[Home](#) [About the General Plan](#) [CAAP](#) [GPAC/CPAC](#) [Participate](#) [Resources](#) [FAQ](#)

WHAT IS A GENERAL PLAN?

The General Plan is a comprehensive document which outlines community-wide priorities, goals and specific implementation measures to create a sustainable, resilient, and livable Riverside. The Update process will ensure that the General Plan reflects the vision and diverse voices of all residents through 2050. The Citywide initiative will include robust public outreach in each of the City's Wards and will identify focus areas for enhanced analysis and outreach.



WHAT IS IN A GENERAL PLAN?



www.Riverside2050.com

- Documents and publications
- Planning 101 video series
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Outreach activities map, summaries, survey results and more
- GPAC and CPAC materials
- Interactive Land Use Mapping tool
- Contact information and email opt-in



Social PinPoint – Riversiders shaping land use



SCAN HERE to explore!

Designing Our City

Placetypes describe the different kinds of areas in a city—like residential neighborhoods, downtowns, natural areas, and business hubs—that show how homes, jobs, services, and transportation come together in different ways.

Review the list of placetypes below and tell us where you would like to see them around the city by dropping a pin with the associated placetype. Add a note to indicate if Riverside needs more or less of your chosen placetype.

Your input will show what types of places the community values, and where they matter most. This feedback will help shape the City's future land use.



Urban Core: The city's main activity centers. Dense mix of housing, shops, services, and jobs.



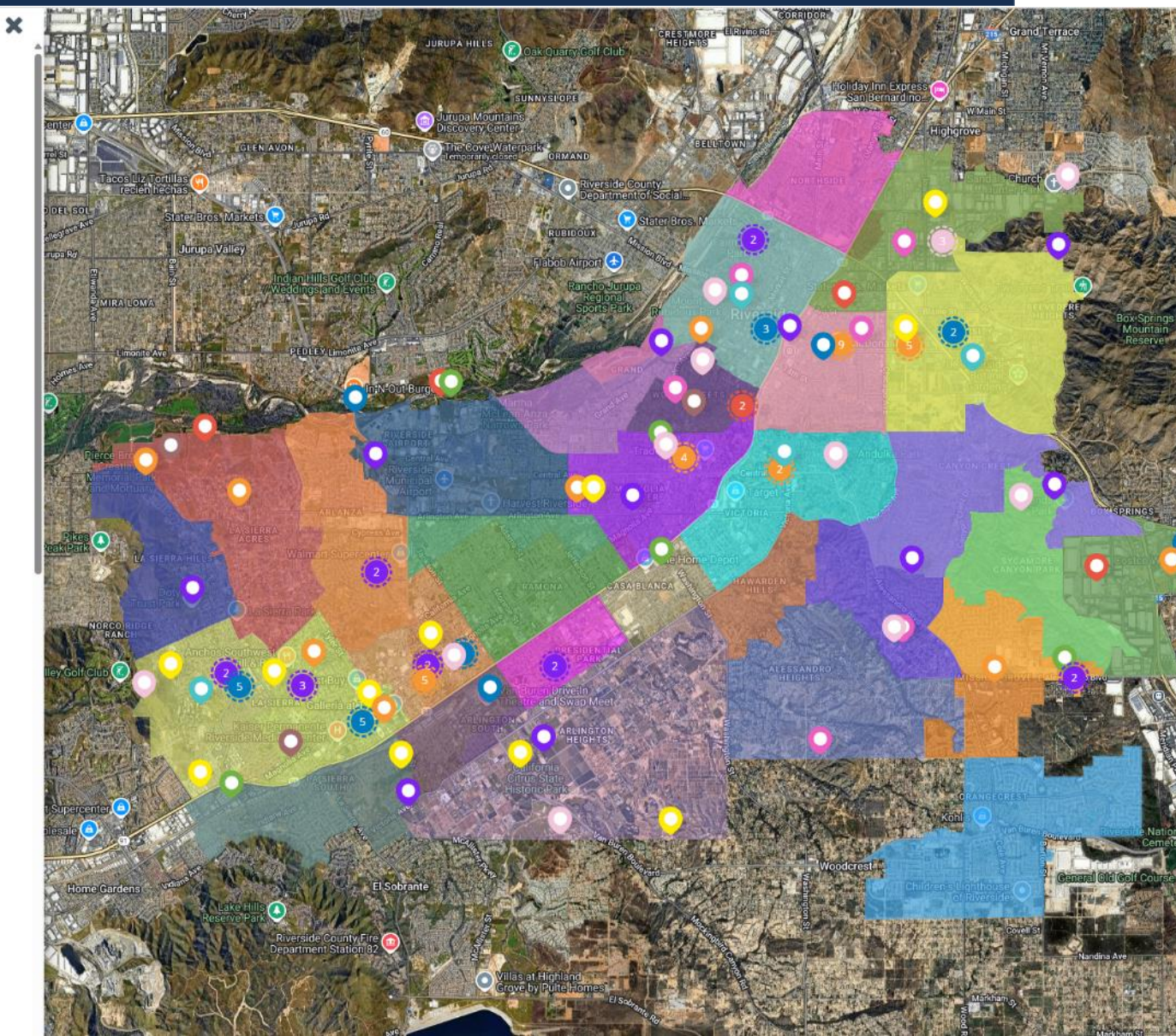
Mixed-Use: Corridors and centers where homes, stores, and offices come together to form complete neighborhoods.



Office Commercial: Business and job areas that may also include housing near transit and major roads.



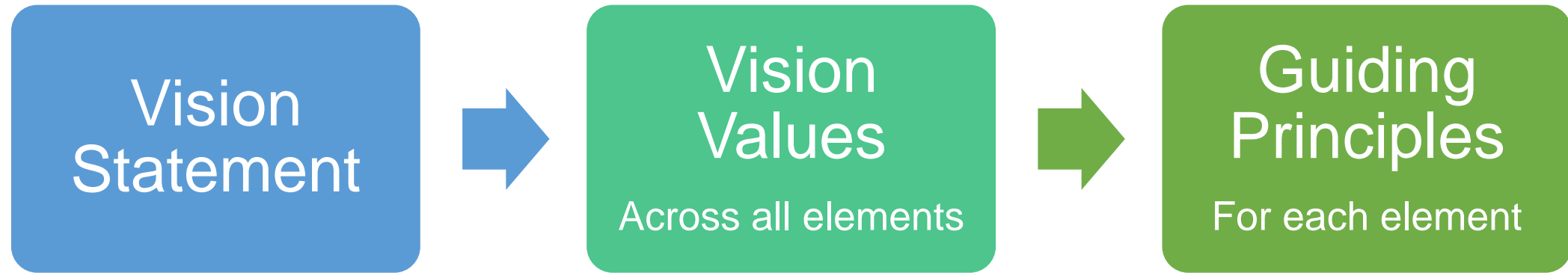
Industrial Innovation: Industrial districts focused on modern industry, research, and jobs, often near freeways or the airport.



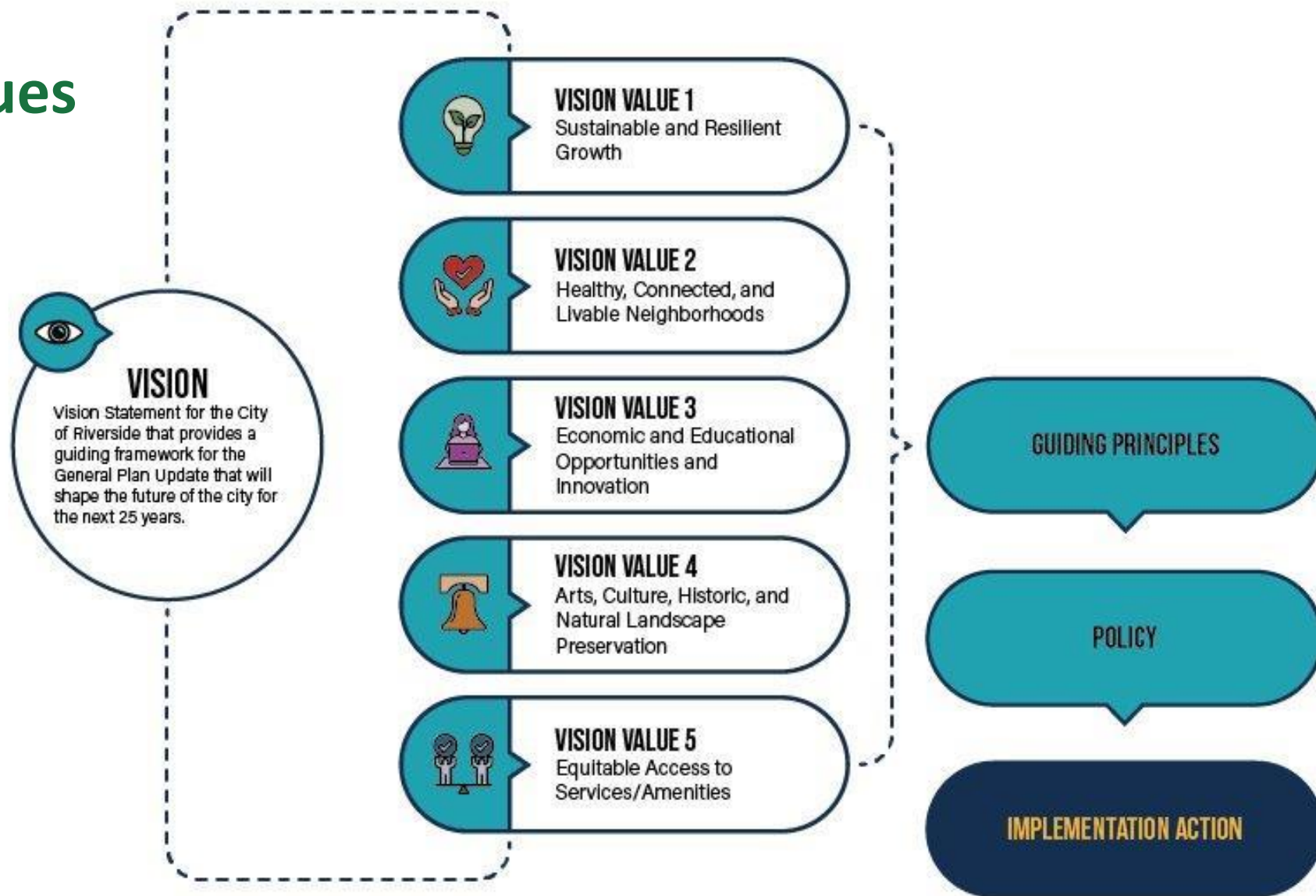


Draft Vision Statement

Draft Vision Values



Draft Vision Values



Draft Vision Statement

The vision for Riverside in 2050 is a **thriving** city that honors its distinctive **history** and **character** while embracing a **future** of **innovation** and **inclusivity**.

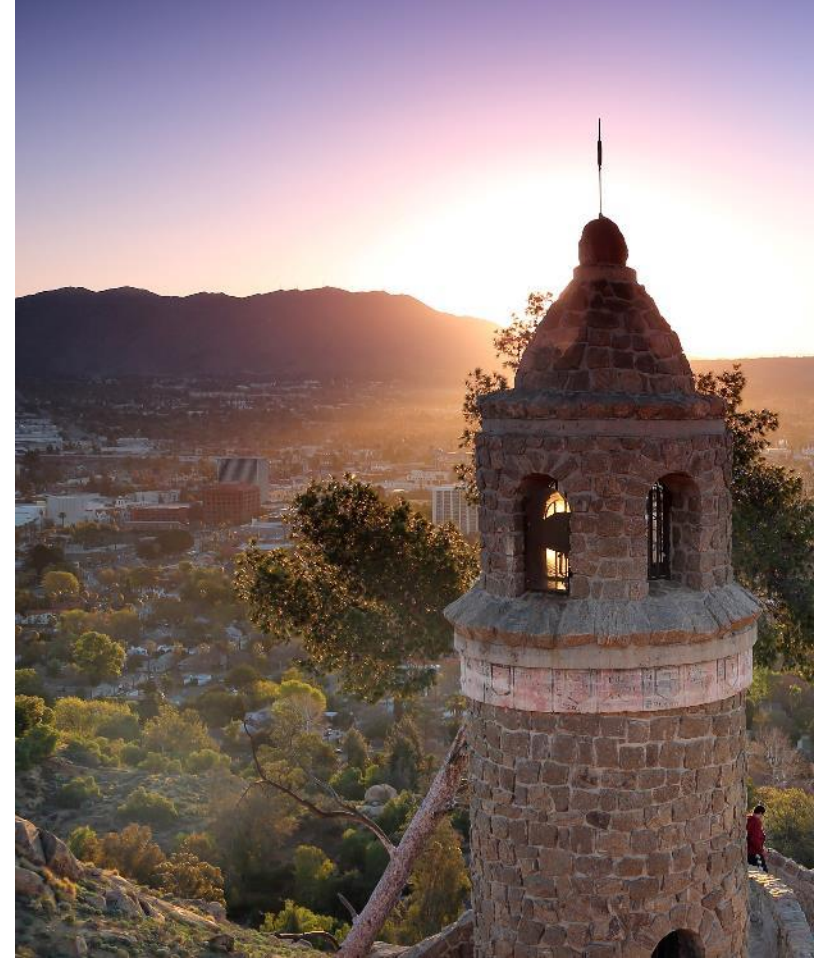
Residents envision a city where **walkable neighborhoods**, well **connected open spaces**, and a diverse mix of land uses create vibrant and connected communities.

Investments in sustainability ensure a **greener, more resilient city**, where natural resources are protected, and innovative solutions drive progress.

Access to **parks, essential services**, and fresh food is prioritized, fostering a city where all residents can **thrive**.

A dynamic mix of **entertainment, shopping**, and **recreational opportunities** enhances quality of life, while a strong sense of place and neighborhood character is maintained through thoughtful growth.

Riverside will continue to be a **dynamic** and **welcoming** city to live, study, work, and play for future generations.



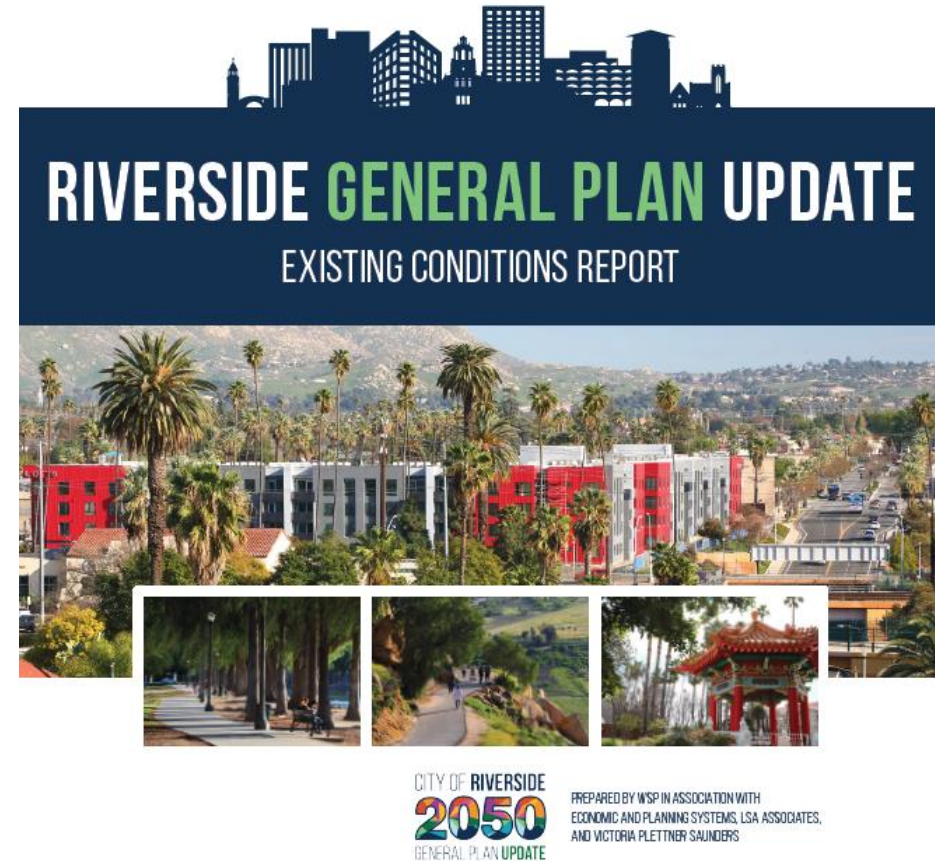


Existing Conditions Report- Overview

Existing Conditions Report - Overview

- Completed March 2025
- Technical background to support the General Plan Update
- Baseline for GPU's environmental review
- Implementation status for existing programs and initiatives
- Review of current conditions and past performance in thirteen areas – **including equity**

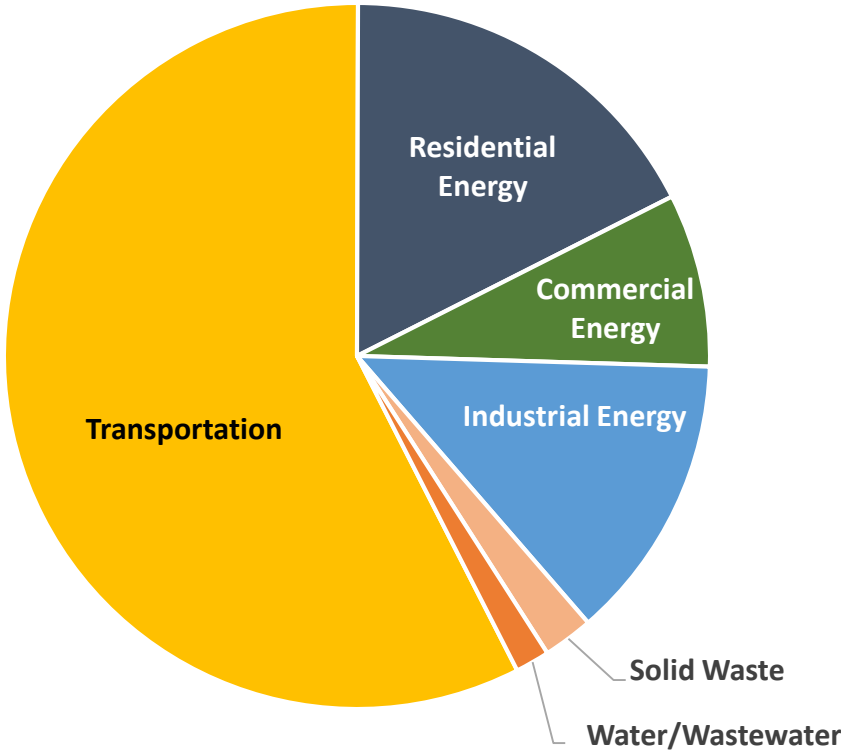
*Available now at
www.Riverside2050.com!*





GHG Emissions Inventory Overview

2023 GHG Emissions Inventory Summary



Sector	Emissions (MT CO ₂ e)	Percent of Total
Transportation	1,244,196	58%
Residential Energy	378,332	18%
Commercial Energy	171,657	8%
Industrial Energy	280,639	13%
Solid Waste	49,625	2%
Water & Wastewater	40,430	2%
Total	2,124,450	100%

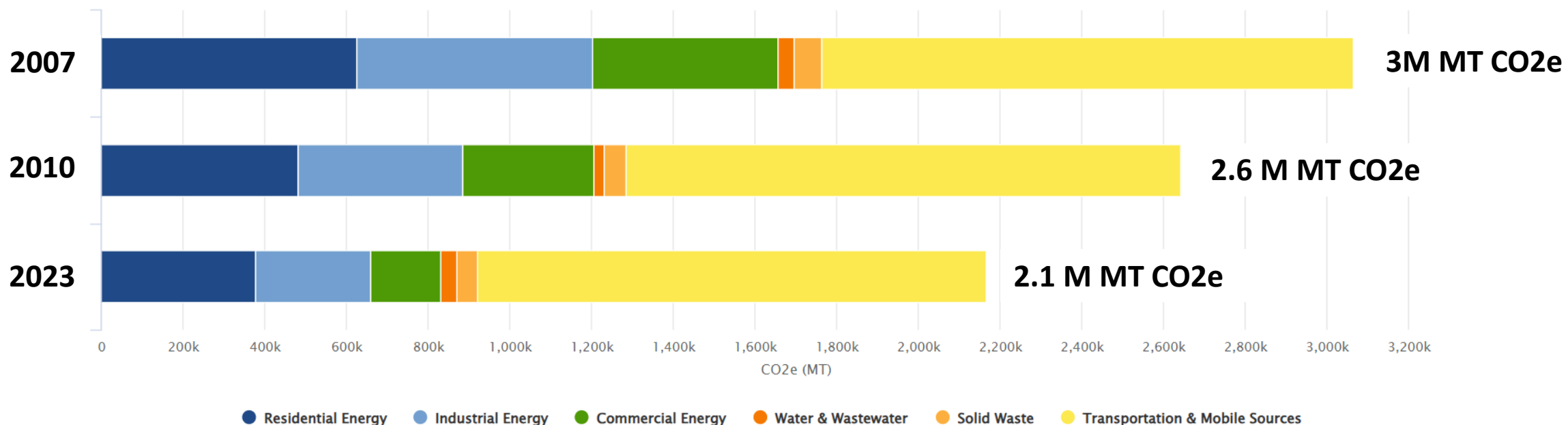
MT CO₂e: metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent



GHG Emissions Trending Downward Over Time

- Energy reductions due to electrical grid incorporating more renewable sources
- Transportation is stable – Increased population is offset by stricter vehicle standards

- Note: 2023 is only inventory prepared for CAAP. 2007 and 2010 inventories were prepared with different methodologies. They are presented to demonstrate the general downward trend over time





Land Use Concepts

Land Use

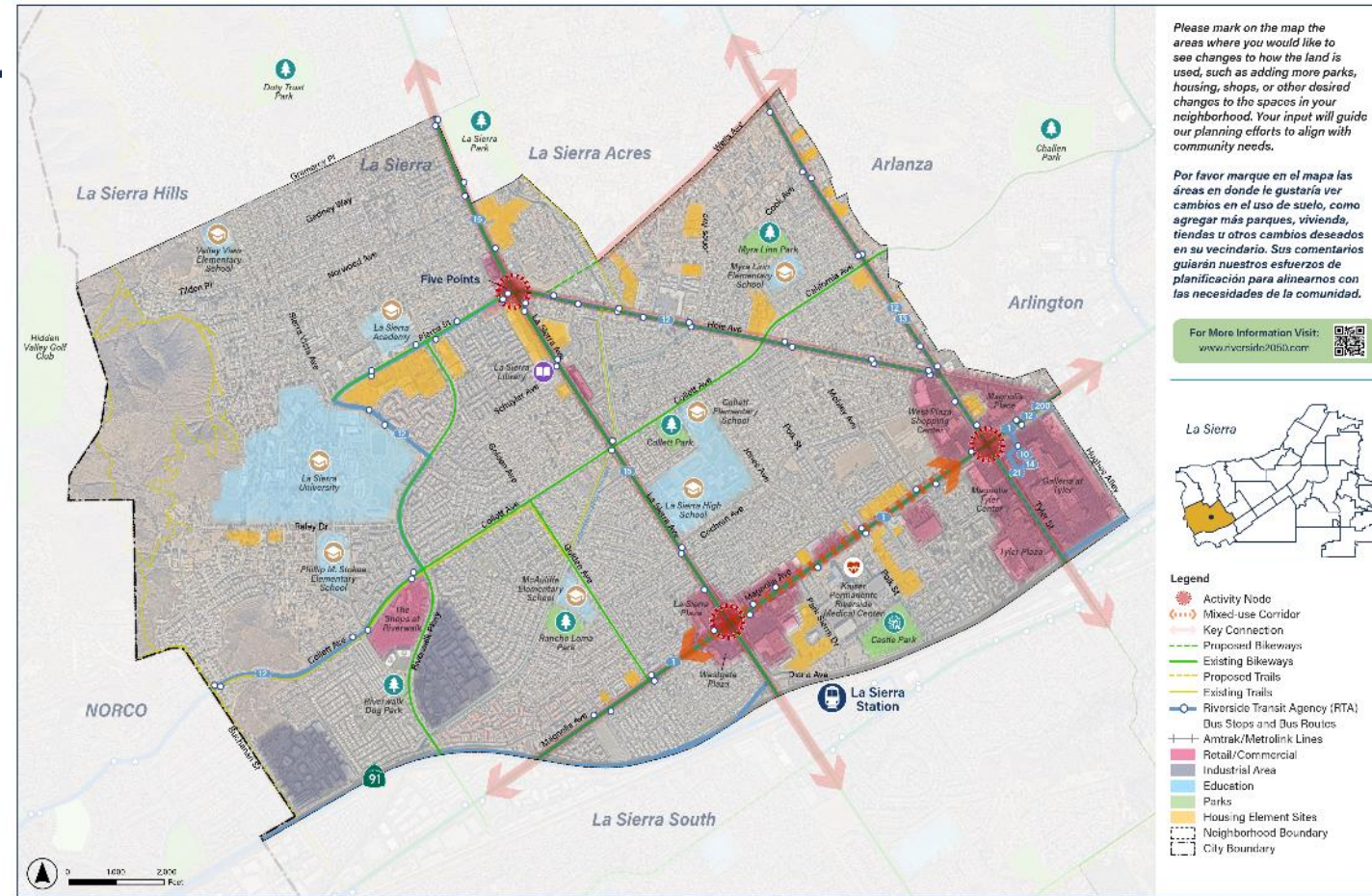
What is Land Use

Land Use is the community's vision of how land will be used in the future and the general location of those uses.

Why is it important?

Land use designations determine what can and cannot be built in each neighborhood moving forward to the year 2050.

Land use underpins the future economic vitality, prosperity, and livability of the City and sets us up for future success.



What do we need more of? Less of? What's missing?



Placetypes: Overview

Placetypes are a conceptual tool that we use to articulate a vision for what our neighborhoods should look like in the future in terms of **character, scale, design, mix of uses, and activity**.

Placetypes differ from Land Use Designations because they are **more holistic** and **less prescriptive**. They are intended to evoke an impression and express a vision and are not intended to be single-use in nature.

This chart is an **example** of how Placetypes and Land Use relate in another jurisdiction's Plan:

PLACETYPES	TYPICAL LAND USES												
	Single-Family Residential	Multi-Family Residential	Public/Semi-Public	Retail	Personal Services	Eating and Drinking Establishments	Entertainment and Recreation	Convenience Services	Business Office	Medical Facilities	Light Industrial	Warehousing and Storage	Heavy Industrial
Rural Residential	●		○										
Traditional Residential	●	○	○	○	○	○			○				
Mixed Residential	●	●	○	○	○	●			○				
Urban Residential	●	●	○	●	●	●			●				
Neighborhood Center		○	○	●	●	●			●				
Urban Center		○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●				
Downtown	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○				
Regional Center		○	○	●	●	●	●	●	○	○			
Local Employment Center			○	●		○			●	●	●		
Regional Employment Center			○			○		○	●	●	●	○	
Industrial						○		○			○	○	○
Parks and Open Space			○										

● Principal land uses are more prominent and play a pivotal role in establishing the character of the Placetype
 ○ Supporting land uses are less prominent and serve to support the principle land uses

Source: City of Mesa, AZ



Placetypes: Overview



Urban Core



Mixed Use



Office/Commercial



Industrial Innovation



Campus/Institution



Low-Medium Density Neighborhood



High-Density Neighborhood



Agriculture & Vistas



Parks & Recreation



Natural Areas



Exploring Land Use Concepts



Innovation & Economic Growth

- Focus on job creation and innovation economy
- Support and nurture key industries (Areas of Excellence)
- Build new urban cores and business districts well connected to residences and transportation



Housing Choice

- Allow more housing in more locations
- Promote variety of home types and tenures
- Balance growth with neighborhoods and open space



Connectivity

- Focus growth in areas with less car dependence
- Mix homes, shops, parks, businesses for smoother and shorter connections
- Link neighborhoods through trails, paths, transit and safe streets

Common Themes

- Keep Downtown as the civic and cultural heart of Riverside
- Create mixed-use corridors where housing and services come together
- Strengthen campuses and medical hubs
- Preserve established neighborhoods, agricultural areas and natural vistas
- Retain productive industrial areas with innovative new industries
- Expand access to everyday services in neighborhoods





General Plan 2025 Historic Preservation Element

Historic Preservation Objectives: GP

2025

HP-1: Use historic preservation principles as an equal component in the planning and development process.

- Assume responsibility for preserving City-owned resources
- Protect archaeologically and paleontologically significant sites, natural resources and landscapes, neighborhood and City identity
- Use preservation as a tool for smart development

HP-2: Continue an active program to identify, interpret and designate the City's cultural resources (CRs).

- Document and preserve important resources
- Continual identification and updates
- Citizen education for resource protection

HP-3: Promote the City's CRs to enhance its identity as an important center of California history.

- Educational programming for CR significance, designation and design processes, rehabilitation and preservation work
- Communication to and through boards and commissions

HP-4: Integrate consideration for CRs as a major aspect of planning, permitting and development activity.

- Continual database maintenance
- Application of State Historical Building Code
- Consultation and collaboration with Native American tribes



Historic Preservation Objectives: GP

2025

HP-5: Ensure compatibility between new development and existing CRs.

- Use review process to encourage compatibility
- Extend to streetscape, public improvements and infrastructure

HP-6: Pursue funding for a first-class historic preservation program, including education, studies, surveys, staffing, and owner incentives.

- Provide financial incentives to promote preservation and restoration
- Seek state, federal and private resources and programs
- Ensure adequate staffing and budget for program maintenance

HP-7: Encourage both public and private stewardship of the City's CRs.

- Enforce codes, standards and regulations to protect CRs
- Treat preservation as an integral part of planning and environmental process
- Advocate for preservation of resources controlled by other agencies



What's Next

- Rework Placetypes system
 - **More emphasis on form, scale and intensity – less on use**
- Refine Land Use Concepts into detailed alternative scenarios
 - **Parcel-level analysis to enable buildout projections**
- Draft Climate Vulnerability Assessment for public review – Q1 2026
- Refined Alternative Scenarios and Placetypes for public review – Q2 2026
 - **More workshops and pop-ups to come**
 - ***Identify a Preferred Alternative – complete GHG projections, update Circulation network, develop CAAP measures, begin CEQA review...***





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Stay Connected

Matthew Taylor
Principal Planner
Mtaylor@riversideca.gov

Fortino Morales III
Sustainability Manager
FoMorales@riversideca.gov

Outreach Team
Info@riverside2050.com
(844) 289-8614

