

Deaf Cultural Community Center Development Goals

**Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Department**

**Park and Recreation Commission
December 8, 2025**

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

DEAF CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTER
PLANNING REPORT

Development Goals

2017 and current



REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Introduction
- Message from Deaf Community
- Measuring the purposes of DCCC
- Priority of DCCC's location
- Statistics
- Next Steps in DCCC's Progress
- Focus Group Discussion
- Conclusion
- Master Plan
- Acknowledgement



◆ INTRODUCTION

Brief History

Mike Anderson

Center on Deafness, Inland Empire
Deaf Community of Riverside
Commission of the Deaf *
Inland Regional Center
California School for the Deaf, Riverside
23 Deaf Organizations

* <https://riversideca.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=11573633&GUID=4E3B9906-68E1-42DC-BB9F-CB8EF5B07062>

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAF COMMUNITY



David Reynolds, Advocate for DCCC

Barbie Gomez, President of Deaf Community of Riverside. (nonprofit)

Susan Tousistant, President of Riverside Deaf Seniors

Jens Rechenberg, Vice President of Deaf Community of Riverside

Blair Rasmus, Advocate for Deaf locals; Commissioner for Deaf Commission

Humberto Guzman, California Association of the Deaf

DCCC

Planning Report 2025

MEASURING THE PURPOSE OF DCCC:

Measuring the Development Goals involves defining clear indicators for each goal, collecting relevant data, and establishing baselines. Regular monitoring and evaluation against these indicators help track trends and assess the effectiveness of implemented policies.

Deaf Culture

- Rich heritage of Deaf history, legends, Stories, landmarks
- Deaf-Owned businesses, creators in Riverside..
- Collaborates with city functions-Public Safety, Schools,
- “Open-air” Deaf Artists in the city.. Performance, Arts, Dance, and more...

Direct Communication

- **High demands with direct communications with Professionals, Presentations, innovations...**
- **Reduce missing out significant information**
- **Remove misleading, or misguide for any information distributed**
- **Full Accessible for all ages**

Programs

- Not limited to: Born- Deaf, Deaf-Blind Hearing loss, Seniors, Military,
- a place called Home “HUB” where everyone can share their experiences
- Interact with City’s Explorer activities with DCCC’s unique programs
- Expand multiple activities, instead of one day/4 hours a month

PRIORITY OF DCCC'S LOCATION

◆ **Interconnected Citizen Agenda**

Ranging from Isolated locations, poverty eradication and health awareness to our needs and actions. The goals recognize the interdependence of social, economic, and environmental aspects in achieving Social and Emotional development.

◆ **Inclusivity and Leave No One Behind**

Centralizing is the commitment to inclusivity, ensuring that development benefits reach all people, leaving no one behind. The goals emphasize addressing inequalities and disparities across various location in the city.

◆ **Riverside 2050 general plan project**

We had attended all CDBGs sessions and shared our thoughts and needs.. also on the next slide

DCCC

Planning Report 2025

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**.

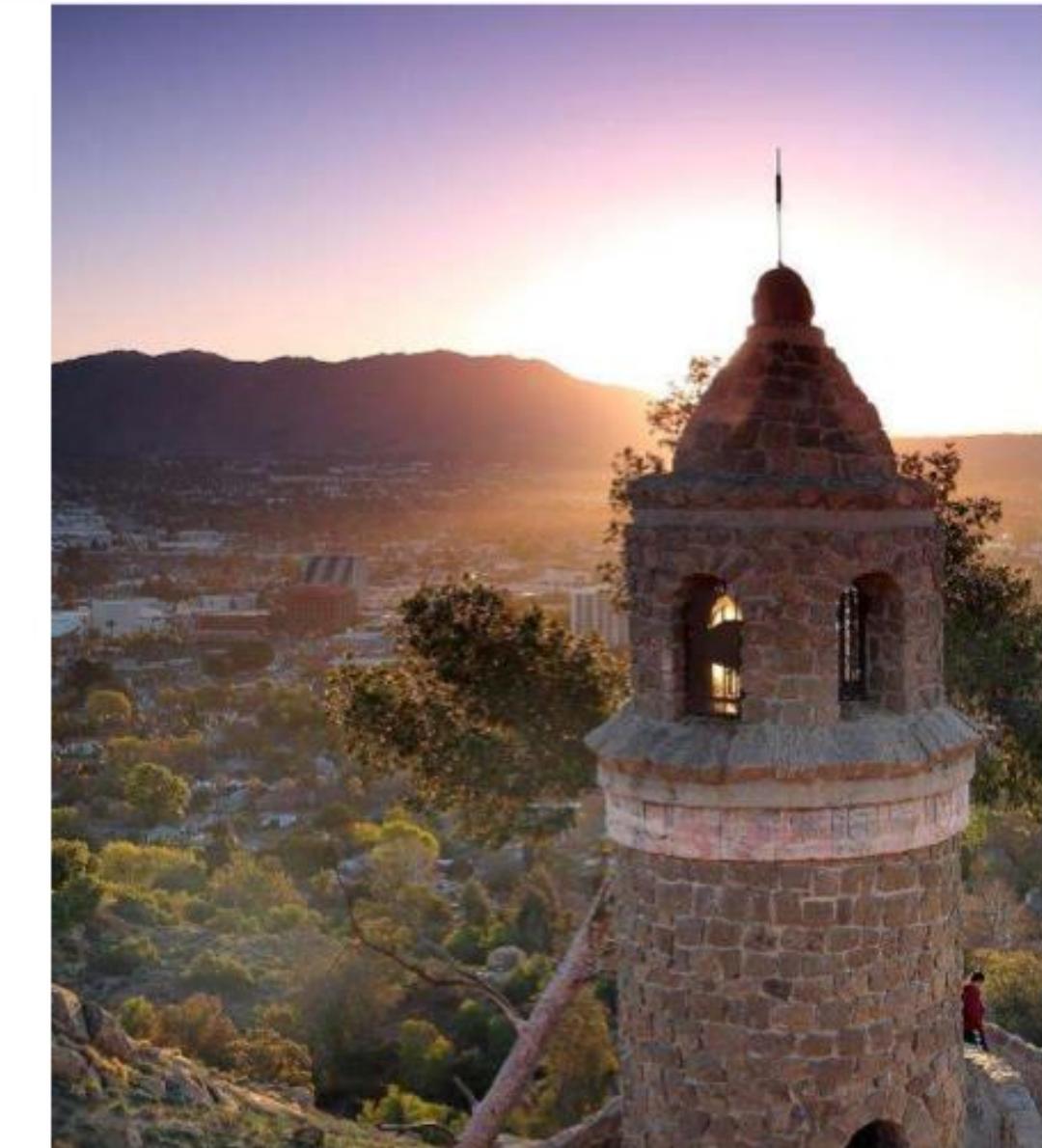
Residents envision a city where **walkable neighborhoods**, well **connected open spaces**, and a diverse mix of land uses create vibrant and connected communities.

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

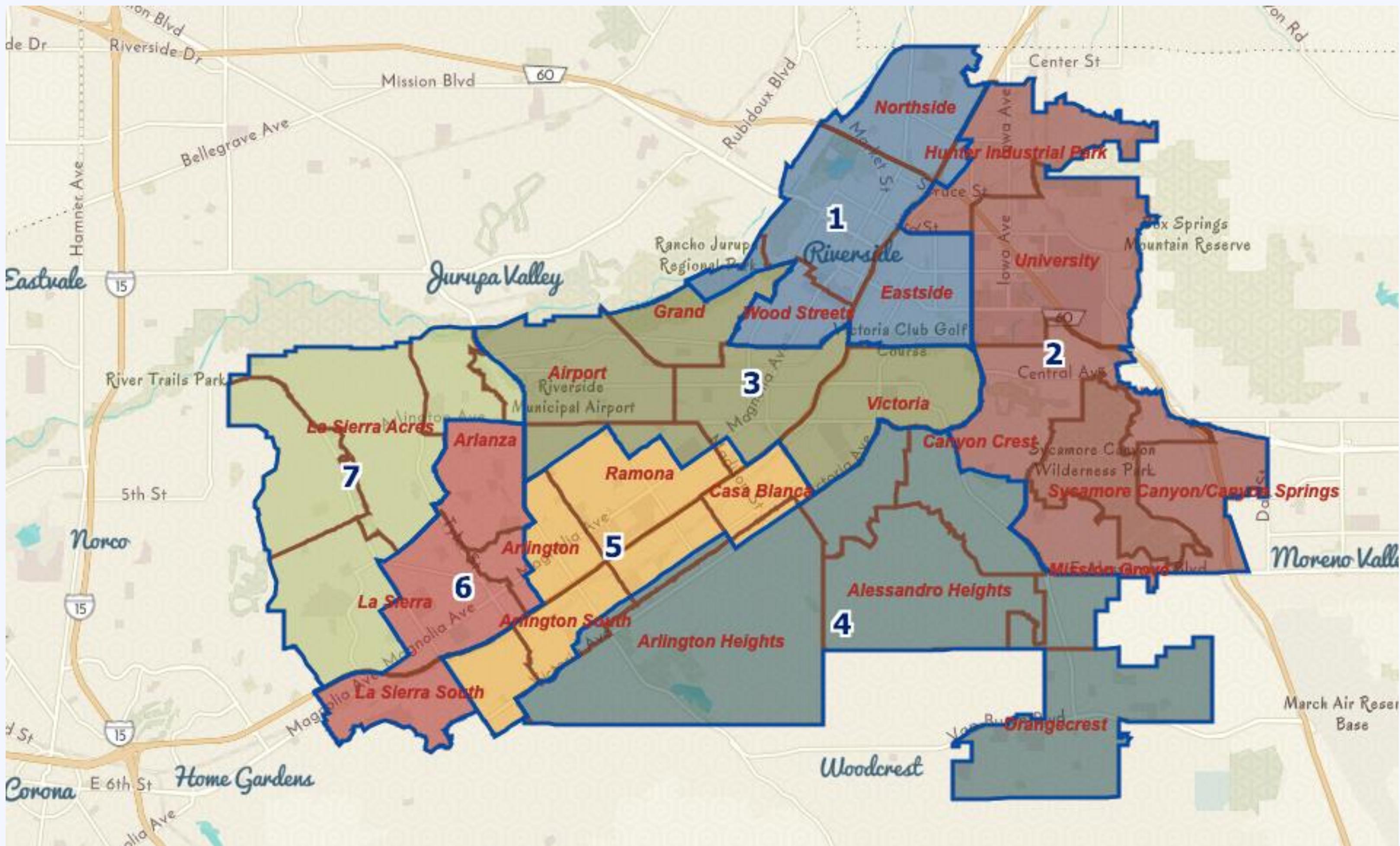
Access to **parks, essential services**, and fresh food is prioritized, fostering a city where all residents can **thrive**.

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.

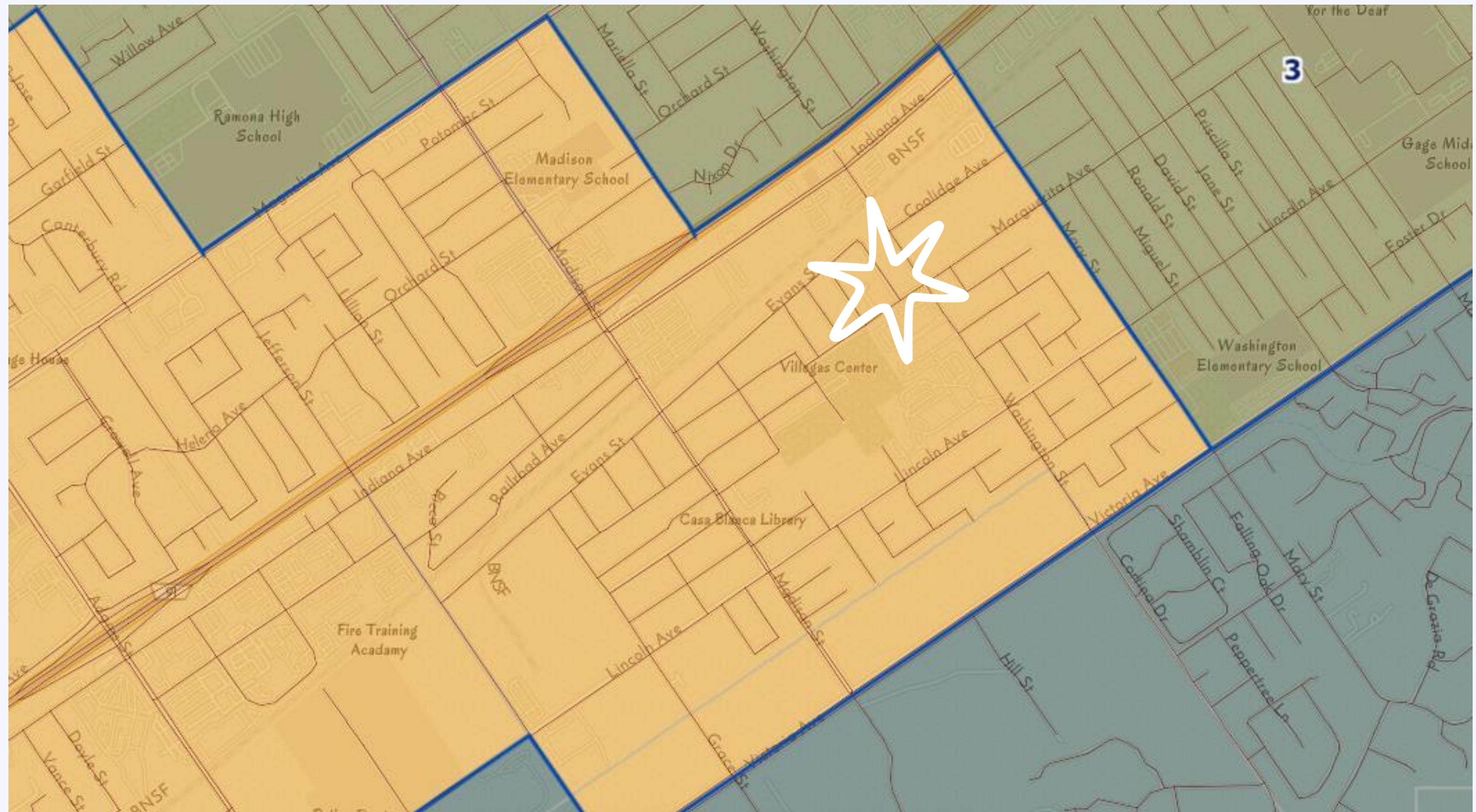
Riverside will continue to be **dynamic** and **welcoming** city to live, study, work, and play for future generations.



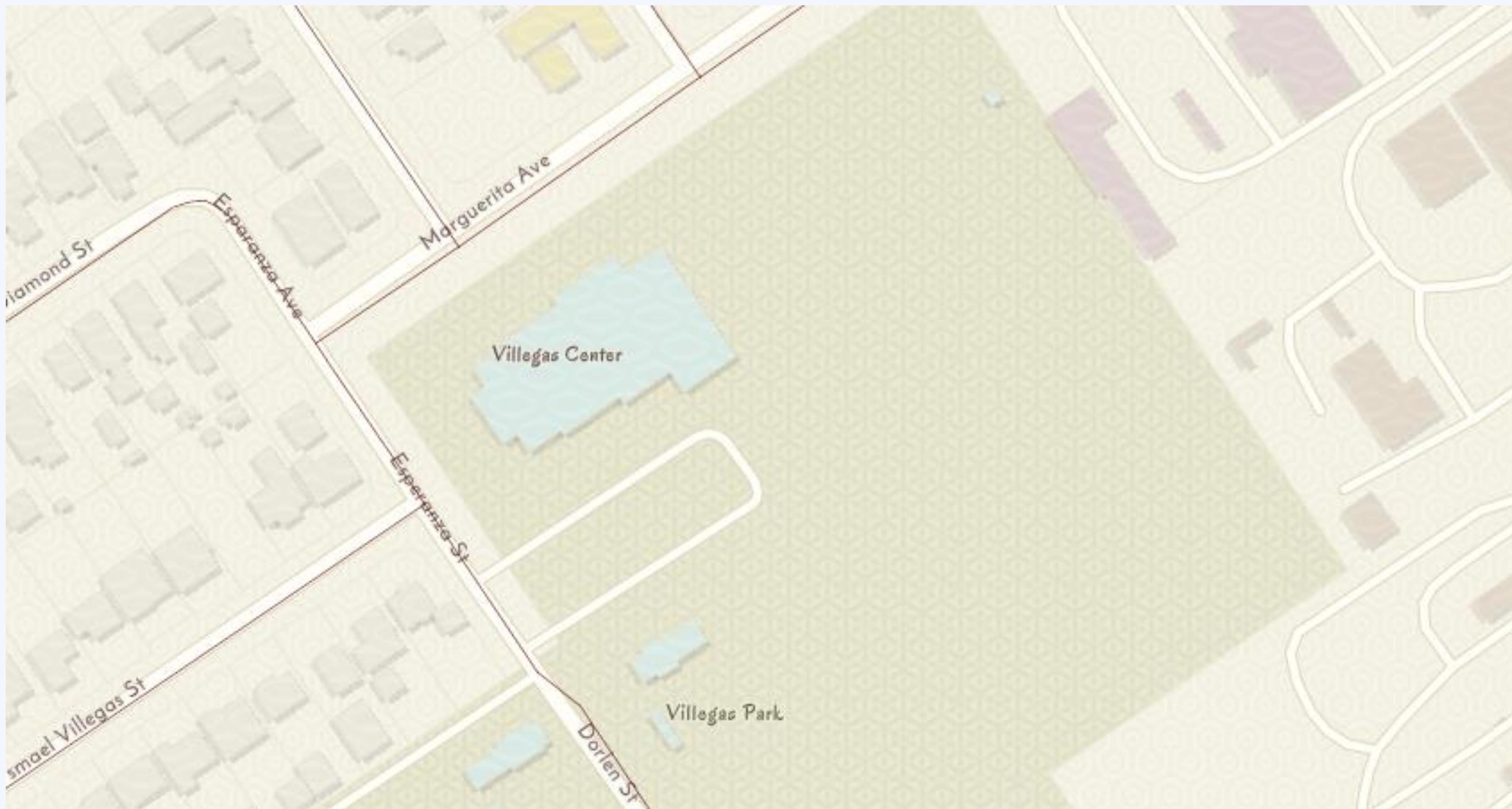
LOCATION..LOCATION..LOCATION....



WARD 5



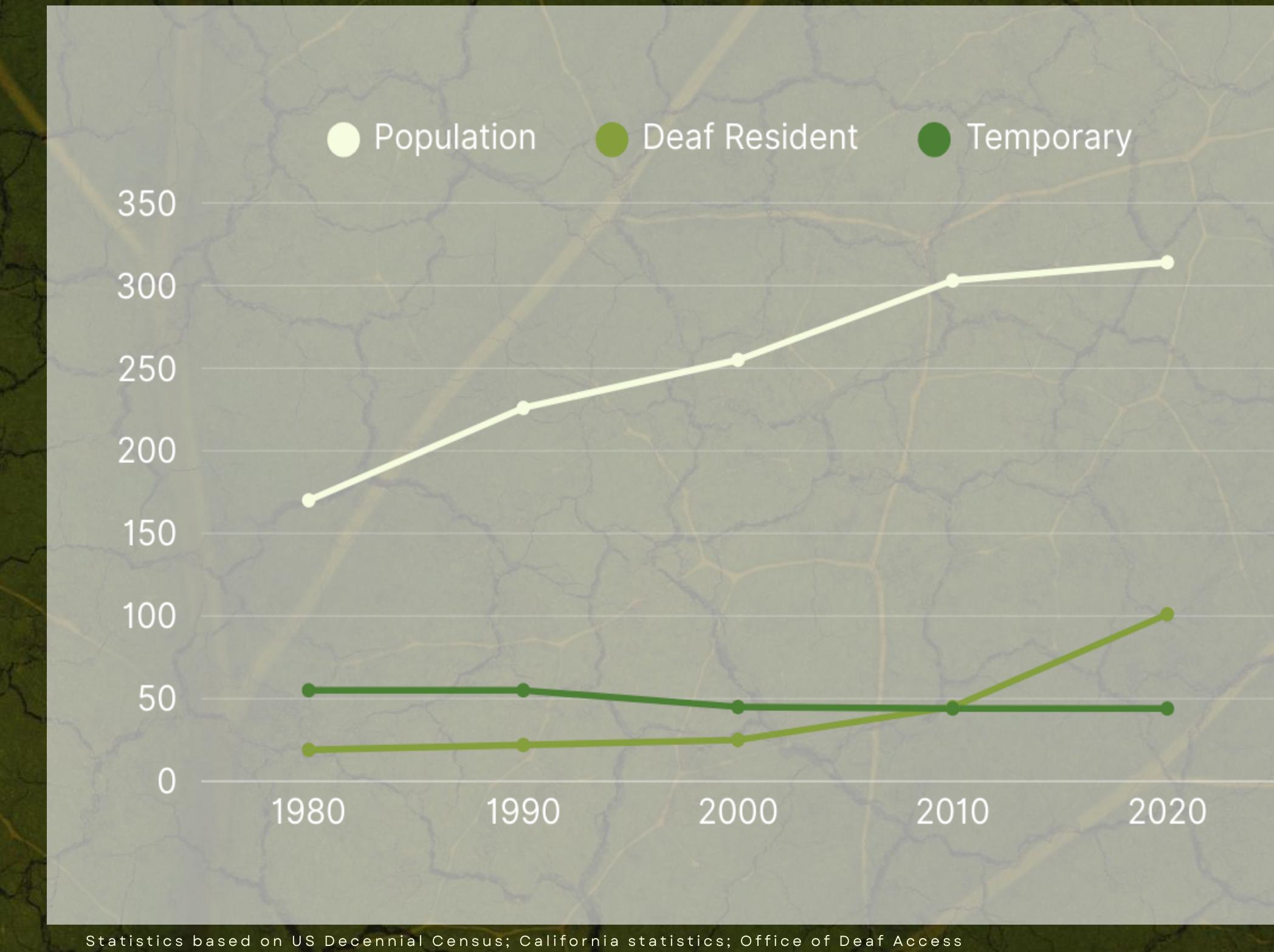
YSMAEL VILLEGRAS CENTER



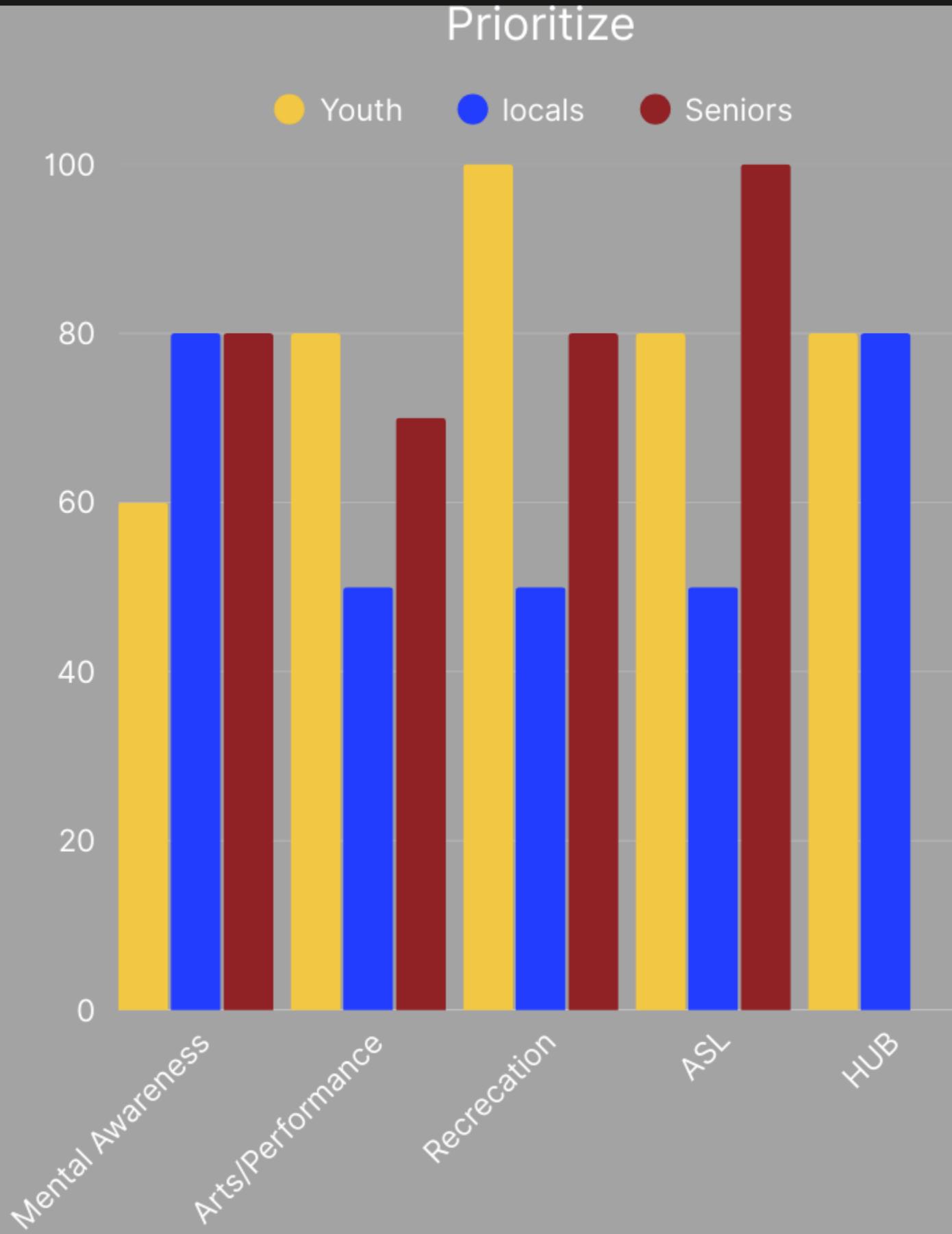
STATISTICS

Our survey report highlights:

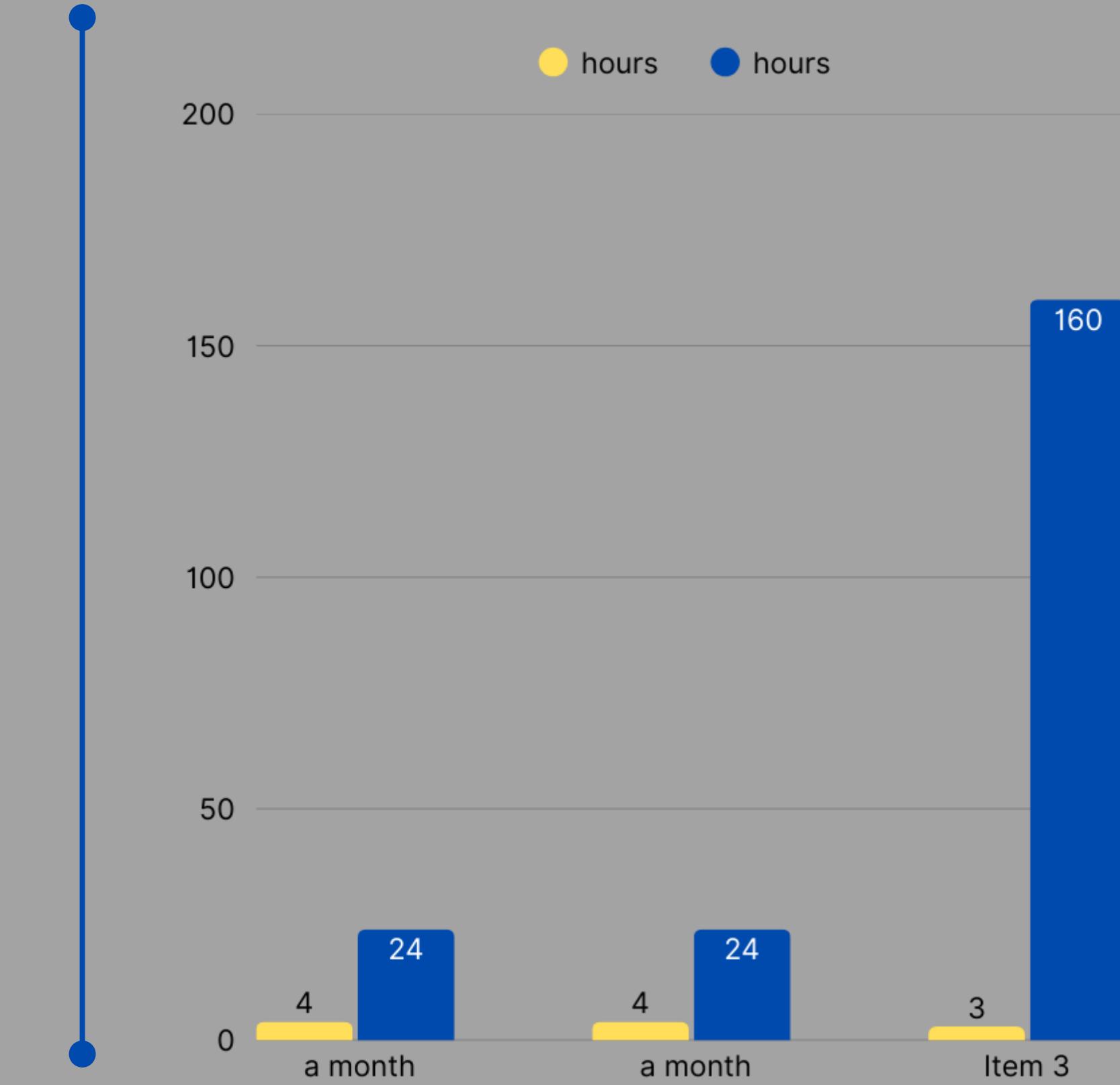
Impactful statistics, including an excellent bus routes to Villegas; One of Largest number of low-income residents in 10 miles radius. Poverty were identified, and an 86% need a center “HUB” for mental Health awareness, and community support. These figures underscore our commitment to measurable impact, showcasing positive outcomes from our planning initiatives. These statistics affirm our dedication to build a center for more essential needs and equitable world by 2030.



Planning Report 2025



Statistics based on US Decennial Census; California statistics; Office of Deaf Access, verbal estimate



NEXT STEPS IN DCCC PROGRESS

Where do you go from here? Planning reports are not just about looking back but also looking forward.

◆ Enhanced Stakeholder Collaboration

Strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders to amplify our impact. Collaborative efforts will extend our reach and foster knowledge exchange.

- Work with Park/Rec. Communities
- Public Safety (Police/Fire/Cert and....)
- Constituents
- City of Riverside

◆ Tech-Driven Monitoring

Embrace innovative technologies for streamlined data collection and interpersonal interaction, ensuring a dynamic approach to Planning group and tracking.

- 151,000 hearing difficulties in metro area
- Attended several commissions...
- Deaf events, any data collections
- Social Media platform

◆ Community Engagement Initiatives

Implement targeted community engagement initiatives to increase awareness and involvement in Deaf Cultural Community Center. Town Hall in March of 2026.

- Invite community groups
- Town Hall
- What City departments can do in both ways

DCCC

Planning Report 2025

FOCUS GROUP (TOWN HALL)



A focus group discussion will help with a qualitative research method where a small group of participants, of 23 different Deaf Organizations, engage in a structured conversation facilitated by a moderator.

The goal is to gather insights, opinions, and perceptions on a specific topic. Town Hall can provide a forum for participants to express their thoughts and experiences, making it a valuable tool in exploring attitudes, preferences, and deeper qualitative insights on various subjects to help with City's future unique program- One of a kind!

CONCLUSION

In summary, our progress in advancing the Planning Goals is evident through the measurable impact of strategic collaborations and innovative approaches.



Measurable Impact

Our report highlights significant, measurable impact, particularly with no one left behind around the city, affirming the effectiveness of our Center “HUB” initiatives.



Collaborative Success

Strategic collaborations with key partners have expanded our reach and collective influence, contributing to the overall success in advancing the Planning Goals.

~
23 DEAF Organizations
“HUB”

Bourns Youth Innovation Center
UCR~ Research/Economic Park



Continued Commitment

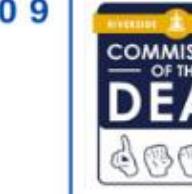
While struggling with few achievements, we recognize ongoing challenges and reiterate our enduring commitment to shaping our thrive and equitable future.

~
Adopt a Park
DeaFestival

DCCC
Planning Report 2025

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

PARK, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 01 | 02 | 03 |  04 |  05 YOUTH OUTING |  06 |
| 07 ARTS/CRAFTS | 08 COMMUNITY ASL |  09 |  10 DC MEETING | 11 MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS |  12 YOUTH OUTING |  13 |
| 14 <i>deaf</i> ENTREPRENEUR | 15  | 16 COMMUNITY ASL | 17 RED CROSS CERT TRAINING |  18 |  19 DEAF VIBE | 20 SENIORS STAND UP COMEDY |
| 21 ADAPT A PARK PROGRAM | 22  DCR MEETING |  23 |  24 |  25 COMMUNITY ASL |  26 YOUTH OUTING |  27 |
| 28 YOUTH DEAF PAINT | 29 LIFE SAFETY TRAININGS | 30 COMMUNITY ASL | | | | |

*** SUBJECT TO CHANGE..

YSMAEL VILLEGAS CENTER~ 99-SEAT THEATER (CONCEPT)



Equity Waiver Plan, also known as the 99-Seat Theater Plan



MASTER PLAN

Our progress in advancing the Planning Goals is to collaborate with Planning Commission, City of Riverside's Architect planning. Planning Group will collaborate and share input with our sensitivity of daily lives.



Deaf Space

A unique one-of-a-kind architect that designed for Deaf's eyes and space.

Open space atmosphere



lights / colors

Deaf group will share with "sensitivity" approach:
Ceiling lights
Safety lights
natural lights

appropriate paint on walls
appropriate flooring
Abstract color materials



Technology

State-of-the-art technology
Visual attentive devices
Computerized visual aid
(deaf-friendly access)

Visual Public Service
announcement

Commission meetings
Up-to-date

DCCC

Planning Report 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Support Groups



DEAF COMMUNITY OF
RIVERSIDE



CENTER ON DEAFNESS
INLAND EMPIRE



COMMISSION OF THE
DEAF



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF THE DEAF



CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR
THE DEAF

Contacts

MARK TAKANO

US CONGRESSMAN

SABRINA CERVANTES

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR

LETICIA CASTILLO

ASSEMBLYWOMAN 58TH DISTRICT

JOSE MEDINA

DISTRICT 1 RIVERSIDE COUNTY
SHERIFF

SEAN MILL

Ward 5 COUNCILMEMBER

MAYOR'S OFFICE

DCCC

Planning Report 2025

THANK YOU



December 8, 2025

