

Chapter V.
PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

WATER, WASTEWATER AND UTILITIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Water, Wastewater and Utilities Element sets forth goals, policies and programs intended to ensure the adequate provision of domestic water, sewage treatment and utility services to the community. The community's orderly growth and development depends on the provision of these services, which include domestic water, sanitary sewer, natural gas, electricity and solid waste management services. This Element describes these services as well as others, such as telephone and cable services. These utility facilities and services are essential to the orderly growth, development and management of the community. The Element also identifies standards for provision of infrastructure and services relative to population and land use intensity, and provides programs and courses of action necessary to implement the goals and policies established herein.

BACKGROUND

This Element is most closely related to the Land Use Element, since all urban development must be planned in conjunction with and according to the availability and cost-effective extension of essential utility infrastructure. It also is tied directly to the Water Resources and Energy and Mineral Resources Elements, as well as the Public Buildings and Facilities Element. Water, sewer and other utility infrastructure are considered "critical facilities", and this Element is therefore closely associated with the Emergency Preparedness Element.

As set forth in California Government Code Section 65302(d), the General Plan must address a number of factors relating to water and other natural resources. These factors include conservation, development and utilization of such resources. In addition, the management of such natural resources as natural gas and electricity must also be addressed. This Element serves in part to satisfy the requirement for a Conservation Element, as well as addressing the provision of other utilities to the community. California Government Code Section 65103(c) requires the Town to conduct an annual review of its capital improvement program to assure consistency with the General Plan. Finally, the Town must comply with state Water Code requirements. Therefore, this Element is provided as a framework for the Town's compliance with state law.

Domestic Water

There are several public and private water purveyors currently serving the Town of Apple Valley and Sphere of Influence. These include: Apple Valley Foothill County Water District, Apple Valley Heights County Water District, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Apple Valley View Mutual Water Company, County Service Area 64, Golden State Water Company, Juniper Rivera County Water District, Mariana Ranchos County Water District, Navajo Mutual Water Company, Rancheritos Mutual Water Company and Thunderbird County Water District. These are shown on Exhibit III-2 in the Water Resources Element.



The two largest water purveyors in the Town, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (AVR), and Golden State Water Company, are discussed below. Other water purveyors are further discussed in the Water Resources Element. AVR, which is the largest water purveyor in the Town, currently (2008) serves the majority of the area within the Town's corporate limits and is considered the primary water service provider in Apple Valley.

Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (AVRWC or AVR)

Currently (2008) AVRWC operates 23 domestic wells in Apple Valley and serves more than 19,000 customer connections. The current (2007) total groundwater production capacity of the AVR system is approximately 37.79 million gallons per day (MGD). AVR's water system includes approximately 400 miles of water lines ranging from 4 inches to 20 inches in diameter. The distribution system is equipped with elevated storage capacity of over 11 MG.

AVR subdivides its system into 15 pressure zones to ensure that adequate pressures and flow capacities are available to all customers. Pressure zones are interconnected and separated by booster pumps or pressure reducing stations, as necessary. The Main Zone is the largest and serves as the core of AVR's system. It receives water pumped from 20 of the District's 23 wells, and provides 6 MG (54.5 percent) of its 11 MG elevated storage capacity. Along with its associated reduced pressure zones, the Main Zone has adequate capacity to serve residential demand and fire flow requirements to an elevation of approximately 3,040 feet above mean sea level. New pressure zones would be required to serve development in higher elevations, such as the north side of the Desert Knolls area. A booster pump station and an elevated storage tank would also be required.

There are twelve (12) other AVR pressure zones within the Town limits, including the following: Corwin, Reduced Corwin, Desert Knolls, Aztec, Bell Mountain, Stoddard, Riverside, High County, Tract 15250, Sterling, Premier and Jess Ranch. Two other AVR pressure zones occur outside the Town and its Sphere of Influence. These are the Youngstown, which is supplied by the Main Zone via a large main within Cahuilla Road, and the Bellvue, a non-contiguous stand-alone water system west of U.S. I-15.

AVR is located in the Mojave Water Basin and is subject to the Mojave Basin Judgment (the Adjudication) of this basin. The Adjudication assigns to AVR an annual "free production allowance" (FPA), which is currently (year 2007-08) 11,250 acre-feet, including carry-over from the 2006-07 FPA. Beyond this amount, all groundwater that is pumped is subject to replacement, which can be accomplished in 2 ways: 1) payments to the Watermaster for water acquisition (for 2005-2006, these payments were levied at a rate of \$246 per acre-foot); or 2) through a transfer of water allocation from another party to the Adjudication of unused water rights within the Alto Subarea. During water year 2005-2006, AVRWC's imports, inflows, return flows and outflows equaled consumption. or "production safe yield."

The AVR 2005 Urban Water Management Plan indicates that within the Alto Subarea, groundwater levels decline from an elevation of 2,815 feet in 1960 to approximately 2,755 feet in 1995. Almost all of the basins within the Mojave River Basin are currently in overdraft conditions. Conditions within the Alto Subarea and the larger Mojave Water Basin are discussed in detail in the Water Resources Element and the General Plan EIR.

Golden State Water Company

The Golden State Water Company (Golden State, GSWC) currently (March 2008) serves approximately 2,847 active service connections within the nearly 4± square miles of its Customer Service Area (CSA) that is within the Town of Apple Valley and its Sphere of Influence. There are two Golden State water systems within its CSA in Apple Valley: the Apple Valley North system and the Apple Valley South system.

The North system includes service connections east of Central Road and north of Waalew Road. A portion of the south system CSA is located north of Tussing Ranch Road, and a portion is located north of Bear Valley Road east of Toltec. GSWC currently utilizes 2005 water demand data, which has been used to complete its master plans. Based on year 2005 data, the average water demand is approximately 416 acre-feet per year (AFY) in the North system, and approximately 789 AFY in the South system. Golden State projects that demand in the Apple Valley North and South systems will increase to 3,609 AFY by year 2030. Please also see the Water Resources Element.

Mojave Water Agency

The Mojave Water Agency (MWA) was established to contract with the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) to purchase water from the State Water Project (SWP), and has primary authority to protect, conserve and reclaim water. Based on this authority, the MWA administers several programs to oversee the management of the Mojave Ground Water Basin. These include groundwater recharge projects, monitoring groundwater levels and quality, computer modeling of groundwater levels, developing and implementing public information programs, and formulating a groundwater management plan. The MWA 2005 Urban Water Management Plan Update shows that with increased water demands over the next 20 years, additional projects and water management actions will be necessary to maintain groundwater levels and protect groundwater quality for all users, including municipal, agricultural, industrial, recreational, and environmental. In order to do so, continued groundwater basin recharge will be necessary. Without such projects and if overdraft conditions persist or intensify, the presiding Judge for the Mojave Basin Area Judgment could require mandatory cutbacks in production.

Wastewater Treatment

The local wastewater collection system is owned, operated and maintained by the Town of Apple Valley. The Town's Sewer Master Plan was last updated in 1993. It identified the wastewater facilities needed to serve development within the Town. The Town has budgeted for a Plan update during FY2008-2009 to ensure that the system is adequate to serve the future needs of the Town and its Sphere of Influence.

Wastewater is collected via force main lines and gravity sewer lines ranging in diameter from 6 inches to 24 inches. Wastewater is conveyed to the Victor Valley Waste Water Reclamation Authority (VWVRA) treatment plant in Victorville via two regional intercept lines. One extends south along Dale Evans Parkway south of Morro Road and trends southeasterly along Stoddard Wells Road to Highway 15, where it enters Victorville and is conveyed to the VWVRA. The second line extends west from Nanticoke Road along Standing Rock Avenue trending northwest generally along Highway 18, then turning southwest at the Town's western boundary and continuing to the VWVRA. Both lines are owned and maintained by the VWVRA.

The VWVRA treatment plant is located at 20111 Shay Road in Victorville. Currently (October 2008), the plant's treatment capacity is 18 mgd. Average daily use is 13 mgd.

The VWVRA is a joint powers authority that includes the Town of Apple Valley, City of Hesperia, City of Victorville and San Bernardino County. Funding for the VWVRA collection and treatment facilities is authorized by the VWVRA. The participating jurisdictions collect connection fees and monthly assessments that are passed through to the VWVRA. Industrial users are charged based on volumes of wastewater requiring treatment. There are additional surcharges for wastewater with concentrations of biological oxygen demand, concentrations of total suspended solids and concentrations of ammonia.

Approximately 30% of development in the Town is connected to sewer facilities. Unsewered development is served by on-lot septic systems. The Town's Sewer Connection Policy, adopted in 2006, requires that new development with total gross lot sizes of less than one acre and within one-half mile of existing sewer facilities connect to the Town's collection system. For developments more than one-half mile from existing facilities, developers must install dry sewers, or with the approval of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB), developers may install interim "Holding Tank System" to create a working collector sewer system within the development. Ultimately, all new development is to be connected to the community sewage collection system.

The cost to transport wastewater from many areas of the Town that are outside the existing wastewater treatment system to the VWVRA is considered prohibitive. To address this issue, the Town has identified areas where sub-regional wastewater treatment plants might be located to serve existing and future development. This advance planning effort is further discussed under Future Directions, below.

California Water Code (Section 13260) requires "any person discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste that may affect waters of the State, except to a community sewer system, to file a report of waste discharge with the regional board of that region" where densities exceed two (2) dwelling units/acre. Commercial and industrial wastewater discharges are also subject to these requirements where discharge volumes exceed certain thresholds.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board (CRWQCB), Lahontan Region, implements federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to water quality. In 1990, the Town and the CRWQCB entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that allows the Town to issue building permits for development projects that use individual septic systems without

obtaining CRWQCB approval, based on certain conditions. These conditions are defined in the MOU and consider issues such as on-site soil characteristics, type of residential development proposed, and estimated wastewater flows from proposed commercial and industrial projects.

Electric Service

Southern California Edison (SCE) distributes electricity to the Town and its Sphere of Influence. SCE provides electric power that is generated from a variety of sources, including nuclear, natural gas, geothermal, biomass, wind, solar and hydroelectric sources. More than 16% of SCE's total energy portfolio is currently (2008) comprised of renewable energy sources. SCE is developing new transmission facilities that are expected to provide for greater utilization of wind energy sources, thereby increasing to 20% the amount of electrical energy distributed by SCE and coming from renewable sources by year 2020.

SCE maintains electrical transmission and distribution facilities in the Town, which connect with facilities located throughout its approximately 50,000 square mile service territory. These include electric transmission corridors, with local distribution lines and substations to step down power for local distribution throughout the area, as well as high and low voltage electric lines. There are four major electric transmission corridors in the region, each of which has 115 kV lines that provide power to local businesses, industrial plants, institutions, and residences via distribution facilities and circuits ranging from 33kV to 6.9kV. There are three SCE substations in the Town of Apple Valley; substation voltages range from 33kV to 115kV. Within the Town boundaries, all new electric lines of 34.5kV or less are installed underground, as set forth in Town Ordinance 14.28.020. SCE has indicated that it plans the construction of an additional substation in Apple Valley to serve newly developing areas by year 2013; it is currently (2008) conferring with the Town to determine a location.

SCE has planned for new infrastructure over the next 10 years to be able to adequately serve existing and new development within its service area. Based on SCE's current 10-year load forecasts, it expects to be able to provide electrical service to future development within the Town and its Sphere of Influence. Future growth may require the construction and extension of additional lines.

Natural Gas Service

Southwest Gas (SWG) provides natural gas service to the Town and its Sphere of Influence for space heating, commercial and industrial processes, domestic hot water, and air conditioning applications. Currently (March 2008) Southwest Gas owns and maintains a distribution system consisting of pipelines ranging from 2 to 4 inches in diameter, which typically run within developed public rights-of-ways. Nominal operating pressure for these lines is generally 40 pound-force per square inch gauge (psig).

The high-pressure pipeline corridor system includes a combination of 4-inch, 6-inch, 8-inch and 12-inch diameter high-pressure lines operating at 240 psig. The following are the locations and pipeline size ranges for existing high-pressure pipeline facilities corridors in Apple Valley:

- Along Central Road from Quarry Road to Ottawa Road (8 inch, 12 inch);
- Along Thunderbird Road from Central Road to Highway 18 and Quantico Road (4 inch, 6 inch, 8 inch);
- Along Ottawa Road from Central Road to Kiowa Road (8 inch);
- Along Kiowa Road from Ottawa Road to Tussing Ranch Road (4 inch, 12 inch);
- Along Del Oro Road from Kiowa Road to Joshua Road (4 inch);
- Along Bear Valley Road from Kiowa Road to Mojave River Road (8 inch);
- Along Apple Valley Road from Bear Valley Road to Yucca Loma Road (4 inch, 6 inch).

SWG works directly with project developers to insure that adequate facilities exist or can be extended to serve proposed development. They will provide detailed facilities maps showing facilities existing at the time of the information request from approved development. At that time, SWG analyzes the additional demand to determine their ability to add or extend infrastructure to serve a project. Upon this determination, SWG issues a “will serve” letter to confirm the availability of facilities. New development fair share funding of any required system upgrades are determined based on SWG tariffs, which are established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

Telephone, Internet and Television Service

Verizon provides local telephone services in the Town of Apple Valley and its Sphere of Influence area via a standard telephone network (copper lines). Telephone service is also available within incorporated areas Town via Verizon’s fiber optic network (FiOS). Verizon provides high-speed Internet services as well as high-definition television via the FiOS network, which generally provides faster download speeds than DSL lines. Verizon provides point-to-point data transmission services to business customers in Apple Valley via DS3 or T1 high-speed data transmission lines. Currently there are no customer service facilities available in Apple Valley, however customers can manage accounts and make payments online.

Charter Communications provides telephone service, as well as cable television and high-speed Internet, to most areas of Apple Valley. Charter has approximately 446 miles of coaxial cable, of which about 292 miles is aerial and approximately 154 miles is underground. Bandwidth speeds have been designed at 550 megahertz (MHz) with capacities of up to 820 MHz in some areas of its service area. Charter provides approximately 380 miles of fiber optic network to the high desert communities of Apple Valley, Hesperia, Adelanto and Victorville. Charter was unable to provide a breakdown of the number of miles covered by its fiber optic network within Apple Valley.

Solid Waste Management

The Town of Apple Valley maintains a contract for solid waste and recycling services with Burrtec Waste Industries of Fontana, California. Burrtec collects solid waste, including non-hazardous industrial waste, from Apple Valley and transports it approximately 12 miles to the Victorville landfill located to the northwest of the Town. The landfill is part of the San Bernardino County landfill system. The County has acquired additional acreage at the landfill to

expand capacity. Based on this expansion, the Victorville landfill is estimated to have a closing date of 2047.

In 2006, commercial sources in the Town of Apple Valley generated approximately 43,382 tons of solid waste annually. Residential sources generated approximately 25,479 tons. The County's landfill in Victorville currently (first quarter 2008) averages receipts of approximately 1,293 tons per day. Receipts are currently at lower averages than in first quarter 2007 (approximately 1,401 tons per day), which is likely attributable to slow downs in the housing and construction market. The landfill's daily permitted limit is 3,000 tons per day.

The County Fire Department coordinates and facilitates household hazardous waste disposal. Under the authority of the County Fire Department's Household Hazardous Waste program, the Town operates a collection center located at the Town's Public Works Yard at 22411 South Outer Highway 18. Materials accepted for disposal at this location include pesticides, wood preservatives and solvents, automobile batteries, and small electronic items such as television sets and computer monitors, as well as other materials. The center is open the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Approved County contractors categorize, sort, pack and haul wastes to approved facilities. Wastes are processed and packaged for off-site recycling or incineration, as applicable. Oil filters, oil, latex paint, antifreeze and batteries are among those items that are further recycled.

Small-scale generators of industrial hazardous wastes qualify for the County's "Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators" (CESQGs) program. To qualify for the program, a business must generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste, or 2.2 pounds of extremely hazardous waste, on a monthly basis. The San Bernardino County Fire Department will collect hazardous waste, or businesses can deliver waste to the County's collection facility, if such delivery can be accomplished safely and in compliance with all regulatory requirements. Wastes are then transported to a state-permitted processing facility located in San Bernardino and further recycled or incinerated.

Hazardous waste from businesses that generate more than the threshold amounts is collected by private contractors collect for disposal by County-approved hazardous waste disposal firms in accordance with state and federal regulations for such waste.

Recycling Efforts

Municipalities in California are required, in accordance with the California Waste Management Act (AB 939), to reduce the amount of waste that is transported to landfills by 50 percent, as of year 2000. The Town's recycling programs are responsive to AB 939. Individuals also have the option of participating through private recycling operators.

Recyclable materials are collected curbside from residential, commercial and industrial locations on at least a weekly basis by AVCO, a Burrtec company. Materials are transported to the Victor Valley Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Victorville. The MRF sorts, bales and ships recyclables at a rate of approximately 20 tons per hour, and can process over 800 tons per week. The MRF is jointly owned by the Town of Apple Valley and the City of Victorville, and operated by Burrtec.

Based on Department of Public Works records, in 2006, AVCO collected approximately 68,861 tons of recyclable materials from sources in the Town, as follows: commercial sources – 43,382 tons; residential sources – 25,479 tons.

The Town is part of the Zero Waste Communities of San Bernardino County (ZWC), a collective effort by 16 townships and cities in the County to educate residents on ways to reduce, reuse and recycle to extend the lives of the County's landfills. Recycling services also address issues of sustainability and global warming by resulting in energy and resources conservation.

Greenwaste generated in the Town of Apple Valley is accepted at the California Bio-Mass composting facility on Shay Road in Victorville. The facility uses greenwaste for composting. The Victorville facility processes approximately 18,000 tons of greenwaste annually. Of this amount, approximately 1,771 tons were generated from sources in Apple Valley in 2006, and 925 tons in 2007. California Bio-Mass in Victorville has a daily processing capacity of 200 tons, and has a permitted expansion area for an additional 500 tons per day.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Effective land use planning requires the planned and cost-effective extension of water, wastewater and other public utilities. The economic health and development potential of a community is impacted by the availability and quality of these services. Modern and available utility infrastructure is essential to attract commercial, industrial and hotel/motel development, which are considered important parts of the Town's economic base. The Town's long-range facilities' planning is essential in the timely provision of adequate public service and utility services over the long-term. This process should therefore be active and continuous, benefiting from close coordination with the appropriate public and quasi-public agencies and service providers.

The Town will continue to play a pivotal role in addressing existing and future service issues, such as sharing information on current and future land use and development, coordinating planning of domestic water service, and the potential for establishing sub-regional wastewater treatment facilities to connect currently unsewered development to the wastewater treatment system.

The Town should also continue to monitor the emergence of and demand for new technologies, such as fiber optic cabling and high-speed data transmission, to anticipate expansion plans and ensure the provision of state-of-the-art technologies to future development in the Town and its Sphere of Influence. Information provided in this General Plan regarding existing and future development in the Town and Sphere will help utility providers plan to meet the community's needs.

GOAL, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal

The provision of a range of water, wastewater and other utility services and facilities that is comprehensive and adequate to meets the Town's near and long-term needs in a cost-effective manner.

Policy 1.A

The Town shall coordinate with the various domestic water service providers to ensure that local and regional domestic water resources and facilities are protected from over-exploitation and contamination.

Program 1.A.1

The Town shall support the Department of Public Works, the various domestic water service providers serving the town, and the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority in the development of alternative sources of groundwater recharge, and expansion of facilities to treat and distribute reclaimed and or/recycled water.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers, Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority.

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.A.2

The Town, along with the Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, and other water services providers, shall continue and augment their water conservation initiatives by expanded efforts that promote the use of water efficient landscaping in all development, as well as water-efficient technologies in new construction or structures that undergo significant remodeling.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Division, Building & Safety Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers.

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Program 1.A.3

The Town shall, along with the various water services providers, evaluate and implement appropriate actions and regulations to facilitate the retrofitting of residential and commercial landscaping/irrigation and appliances and processes that use water so as to substantially increase water use efficiencies.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Division, Building & Safety Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers.

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Program 1.A.4

The Town shall coordinate with the various water service providers to ensure that water customers are provided with conservation incentives, including free information on water use and conserving technologies, rate structures that encourage conservation, discounts on advanced irrigation controllers, and other incentives.

Responsible Agency: Public Works Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers.

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Policy 1.B

The Town shall continue to require sewer connection where feasible at the time that a lot is developed, or when service becomes available.

Program 1.B.1

The Town shall utilize budgeted funds to expedite the update of its Master Sewer Plan.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division.

Schedule: 2008-2009

Program 1.B.2

The Town and its Department of Public Works shall confer and coordinate with the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority to identify and evaluate the feasibility of constructing sub-regional wastewater treatment plants within areas in Apple Valley where community sewer connections are not currently available.

Responsible Agencies: Planning Division, Public Works Division, Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority.

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Program 1.B.3

The Town and its Departments of Public Works and Building and Safety shall continue to require that, to the greatest extent feasible, new development extend and connect to sewer lines. Should on-lot septic systems be required, the Town shall require the installation of “dry sewers” and the payment of connection fees for future sewer main extensions.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division, Building and Safety Division, San Bernardino County Environmental Health Department.

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.B.4

To ensure that the sewer connection requirement is met, the Building and Safety and Public Works Departments shall establish a procedure to identify home sales and ensure that mortgage and escrow companies in the area are notified of the requirement upon failure of existing sub-surface disposal (septic) systems.

Responsible Agencies: Building and Safety Division, Public Works Division

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Policy 1.C

The Town shall ensure that every effort is made to facilitate cost-effective and timely extension and expansion of community-development support services.

Program 1.C.1

In conjunction with local utility and service providers, the Town shall coordinate its Capital Improvement Program to ensure that adequate and cost-effective services and facilities and capacities are provided to serve future growth and development.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division, Finance Department, various water agencies, other utilities and service providers

Schedule: 2008-2009

Program 1.C.2

In conjunction with appropriate public and quasi-public agencies and utilities, the Town shall conduct on-going infrastructure assessments, including capacity and expansion and improvement needs in order to implement responsible growth management.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division, various water agencies, other utilities and service providers

Schedule: 2008-2009

Policy 1.D

The Town shall confer and coordinate with service and utility providers to ensure the timely expansion of facilities so as to minimize or avoid environmental impacts and disturbance of existing improvements. Planning efforts shall include design and siting of support and distribution facilities.

Program 1.D.1

The Town may require and otherwise shall encourage that subsurface transmission facilities, including underground utility lines, be consolidated to limit disruption to traffic and roadways from those facilities.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division, various water agencies, SCE, SWG, Verizon, other utilities and service providers

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.E

The Town shall encourage and support the integration of energy conservation technologies throughout the community.

Program 1.E.1

The Town shall explore and implement, where appropriate, actions and regulations facilitating conservation strategies by business and residential development, as well as implementing technology during remodeling or retrofitting to increase energy use efficiencies to the greatest extent practicable.

Responsible Agencies: Public Works Division, Building and Safety Division, various water agencies, SCE, SWG, other utilities and service providers

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Policy 1.F

The Town and its solid waste disposal service provider shall continue to consult and coordinate to maintain and surpass, where possible, the provisions of AB 939 by means of expanded recycling programs to divert resources from the waste stream that can be returned to productive use.

Policy 1.G

To the greatest extent feasible, the Town shall encourage commercial and industrial establishments to minimize the amount of packaging and potential waste associated with product manufacturing and sales.

Policy 1.H

Power and other transmission towers, cellular communication towers and other major utility facilities shall be designed and sited so that they result in minimal impacts to viewsheds and minimally pose environmental hazards.

Policy 1.I

Planning, development and installation of state-of-the-art telecommunications and other broadband communications systems shall continue to be encouraged as essential infrastructure in the Town's Sphere of Influence.

Policy 1.J

The use of alternative fuel vehicles shall be encouraged in the Town and in others.

Policy 1.K

Alternative energy use for individual property owners shall be encouraged and an incentive program considered.

Program 1.K.1

The Town shall confer and coordinate with Southern California Edison and Southwest Gas to educate individual property owners regarding availability, cost, and installation of solar, biomass, and other alternative energy systems.

Responsible Agencies: Community Development Department, Building and Safety Division, SCE, SWG

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

Program 1.K.2

The Town shall confer and coordinate with Southern California Edison, Southwest Gas, and other applicable energy providers to educate and encourage developers to incorporate alternative energy systems in new development within the Town.

Responsible Agencies: Community Development Department, Building and Safety Division, SCE, SWG

Schedule: 2008-2009, Ongoing

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Town of Apple Valley has a range of public buildings and facilities, including the Town Hall, fire and police stations, schools and libraries, parks and community centers. These also include utilities and associated facilities such as electrical power substations, telephone and cable transmission lines, domestic water wells and reservoirs, and wastewater treatment facilities. These public and quasi-public facilities are built to accommodate the community's needs and constitute an important part of its quality of life.

Town-owned and utility maintenance yards and facilities, roadways, traffic signals and bridges are also included in this category. The Town's advance planning process must provide for timely provision of these facilities in order to ensure that the needs of existing and future development are met. Some of these facilities, especially utilities, are key factors in determining timing, location and intensity of future development. This Element shows the location of most of these facilities on the General Plan map.

The Public Buildings and Facilities Element reflects the state of available technological and organization resources, and describes the various structures and facilities owned by public and quasi-public agencies in the Town. It further reviews them in relationship to land use compatibility issues, aesthetic impacts, and functionality in order to provide sufficient information for these agencies to adequately coordinate planning and development. This Element also establishes goals, policies, and programs to address the long-term planning needs of the Town.

BACKGROUND

The Public Buildings and Facilities Element is directly related to several other General Plan elements. The Land Use Element assigns land use designations to ensure that the Town has adequate and optimally planned lands for existing and future public buildings and facilities. The Circulation Element is intended to ensure the provision of safe, efficient transportation corridors throughout the Town and especially to essential public facilities. The local and regional economies directly impact and are impacted by the ability of the Town and other responsible public and quasi-public agencies charged with providing necessary facilities to do so.

Government Code Section 65103(c) requires that each local government conduct an annual review of its capital improvement program, as well as the other local agencies' public works projects to ensure coordination between and consistency with the General Plan.

Public buildings and facilities are sited within the community based largely on their function. Nonetheless, the logical and sensitive integration of these facilities into the Town's existing and planned land use patterns must also be considered. Convenient and safe access, provision of adequate parking, and other considerations must be accounted for when siting public buildings

that serve as offices for residents and Town staff to conduct business. The following discussion focuses primarily on public buildings and facilities; however, utilities such as electrical substations, water wells, and others are also considered in relation to their compatibility with surrounding land uses.

The locations of public buildings and facilities are illustrated on Exhibit V-1, Public Buildings and Facilities Map North and Exhibit V-2, Public Buildings and Facilities Map South.

City Hall and Associated Facilities

The Town of Apple Valley Civic Center is located at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway. The Civic Center campus is approximately 6.03 acres and includes the Town Hall, the Civic Center Park, Town Hall Recreation Center and Aquatic Center, Apple Valley Police Department, and the Newton T. Bass Branch Library of San Bernardino County; these facilities are discussed further, below. The Town Hall was constructed in 2002 and encompasses approximately 27,900 square feet. There is also an outdoor amphitheatre that seats 1,000.



A new Town Hall annex has been designed and is currently (2008) in the construction-bidding phase, with completion expected in 2009. The new annex will be located on 2± acres adjacent to existing facilities and will provide additional administrative space for Town departments that are currently overcrowded. The new building will incorporate numerous green-building features, including materials and orientation to better utilize natural light.

Town Public Works Yard

Currently (2008) located at 22411 South Outer Highway 18, the Town Public Works Yard encompasses an approximately 1.5-acre parcel. The yard was constructed in 1975 and houses the Public Works offices, storage and yard, and the animal control offices and animal shelter. The Town Hazardous Waste Collection Center is also located at the Yard. The main office is approximately 2,356 square feet, with an additional 5,726 square feet of warehouse space. The animal control facility currently encompasses 8,000± square feet, with 3,000 square feet of office space and 5,000 feet of animal shelter facilities.

The Town plans on relocating and expanding the Public Works Yard, to 13450 Nomwacket Road. The Town purchased this developed site in 2008. The potential expansion would result in an approximate tripling of currently available space. The Town plans to re-locate the animal shelter to an approximately 5-acre site on the southeast corner of Quinnault Road and Powhatan Road, with an estimated construction completion date of July 2009. The animal shelter and ancillary offices will be constructed on the northern 2 acres of the site and the future public works yard and storage will occupy the southern 3 acres of the site. The southern 3 acres is directly west of the newly acquired Public Works facility.

Community Center

The James Woody Community Center is located at 13467 Navajo Road on approximately 22 acres, which are fully developed. The 28,676 square foot facility includes a full-sized gymnasium and a mini-gym, as well as an enclosed racquetball court, and a maintenance shop. Other facilities on-site include a batting cage and practice ball fields, five lighted ball fields for Little League, youth soccer, flag football and adult softball leagues, and two concession stands. The park also provides an equipped playground and a grassed park area with trees, picnic tables and barbecues, as well as paved parking areas and restrooms.

Chamber of Commerce

The Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce is located at 16010 Apple Valley Road. The Chamber was established in 1948 as the Businessman's Association, changing to its present name in 1951. The Chamber moved to its current location in the B. J. Westlund building in the Spirit River Center in 2000. The 3,000 square feet facility provides the Chamber with state-of-the-art technological capabilities. The Chamber is committed to providing education and training to business owners through which it aims to improve the local economy.

Fire Stations

The Apple Valley Fire Protection District serves the Town of Apple Valley as well as other high desert communities, including those portions of unincorporated San Bernardino County that are within its approximately 206-square mile service area. The AVFPD maintains a mutual aid agreement with the City of Victorville Fire Department, San Bernardino County Fire Department, and the Bureau of Land Management. The mutual aid agreements provide a mechanism for coordinated strategic and facilities planning between fire departments in the region to actively support one another regardless of geographic or jurisdictional boundaries. A joint dispatch center is located in Victorville that serves the mutual aid agencies.

AVFPD maintains and is responsible for staffing seven fire stations in Apple Valley. Of these, five are staffed 24-hours per day, seven days per week. Another fire station is staffed on an as-needed basis by on-call firefighters, and the seventh station is staffed entirely by private ambulance company personnel.



The Police and Fire Protection Element lists these stations and their associated staffing and equipment. Station locations are shown on the two Public Buildings and Facilities Maps (Exhibits V-1 and V-2).

An eighth fire station is being considered on approximately 12 acres at the northeast corner of Johnson Road and Navajo Road. The Wal-Mart Corporation, which owns the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in North Apple Valley, donated the site to the Town. If developed, the new

station is expected to house fire training classes, which would be relocated from Victor Valley College.

Police Stations

Police services are provided to the Town of Apple Valley through a contractual agreement with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department assigns staff to the Apple Valley Police Department within the approximately 72 square miles that are encompassed by the Town's corporate limits. The Sheriff's Department also serves unincorporated areas in the vicinity of Apple Valley, including the Town's Sphere of Influence.

The Apple Valley Police Department is located in the Apple Valley Civic Center at 14931 Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley. There is also an un-staffed sub-station used for report writing and other administrative tasks, which is located at 21989 Outer State Highway 18.

Educational Facilities (Schools)

The Apple Valley Unified School District (AVUSD) provides public education for grades Kindergarten through 12th grade to the Town. Currently (2008) the District's facilities include nine elementary schools, three middle schools, two high schools and a continuation school. There is one magnet school, one charter school with two campuses, and an alternative education center, which also hosts an adult education program.

The AVUSD elementary schools are Desert Knolls, Mariana, Mojave Mesa, Rancho Verde, Rio Vista, Sandia, Sitting Bull, Sycamore Rocks, and Yucca Loma. The middle schools are Apple Valley, Sitting Bull (adjacent to Sitting Bull Elementary), and Vista Campana. The high school and continuation school facilities include the Apple Valley, Granite Hills and Willow Park campuses. Other public school facilities are the Vanguard Preparatory School (magnet), the Lewis Center/Alternative Education Center K-2 and grades 3-12 campuses, and the Alternative Education Center.



The high school and continuation school facilities include the Apple Valley, Granite Hills and Willow Park campuses. Other public school facilities are the Vanguard Preparatory School (magnet), the Lewis Center/Alternative Education Center K-2 and grades 3-12 campuses, and the Alternative Education Center.

There are currently (2008) no County-operated special education facilities in Apple Valley, although the County serves special education students at existing AVUSD facilities. The County plans to construct three facilities by 2010. These include two early education centers, one of which will provide state-mandated medical-therapy services for special needs students, and one campus for junior high and high school special needs students. These facilities will primarily serve students within the AVUSD but may also provide services for students from the region outside those boundaries.

Private educational facilities in Apple Valley include the Apple Valley Child Care Center, Apple Valley Christian School, Valley Christian School, Apple Valley Private School Learning Center, Apple Valley Village School, High Desert Haven, St. Timothy's Episcopal School, St. Mary's Regional Catholic School and Mojave Christian School.

Colleges and Universities

Victor Valley College is a community college with approximately 11,000 students at its campus in Victorville. In Apple Valley, the University of Redlands offers college-level classes at the Mana Road campus of the Academy for Academic Excellence, an AVUSD charter school serving grades 3 through 12 (also see Schools and Libraries Element). The Academy is also exploring development of a four-year math and science teaching college on the same campus, which would partner with other colleges and universities in the region. This is further discussed in the Schools and Libraries Element.

Libraries

The Newton T. Bass Apple Valley Library is located adjacent to Town Hall. It is a 19,142 square foot facility that was funded through joint local, county and state efforts. It is part of the San Bernardino County library system and offers a variety of programs and resources to serve the community. The library contains over 20,000 books in its on-site collection. Other resources include books on tape and CD and large-print books. The library offers access to 23 computers to library users, and has two study rooms. Library facilities serving the Town are further discussed in the Schools and Libraries Element.

Parks and Recreation

The Apple Valley Town Council serves as the Board of Directors for the Apple Valley Parks and Recreation District. Existing park and recreation facilities within the Town and its Sphere of Influence include seven Mini-Parks, two Neighborhood Parks, three Community Parks and two Special Use Parks. Parks in Apple Valley offer a variety of facilities ranging in size and location, providing equipped play lots and covered picnic shelters at smaller parks. Facilities also include lighted ball fields and indoor gymnasiums at the Community Center, horseshoe courts at Brewster Park and equestrian facilities at Horsemen's Center Park. Park amenities are described in detail in the Parks and Recreation Element and their locations are shown on Exhibit II-12: Public Parks and Recreation Areas in the Community Development Chapter.

The Town has taken advantage of opportunities for joint use and land use efficiency by locating parks adjacent to other public facilities. School/park joint uses include the Yucca Loma Park, adjacent to Yucca Loma Elementary School; Mendel Park, adjacent to Mariana Elementary School and AVFPD Fire Station No. 335; and Sycamore Rocks Park, adjacent to Sycamore Rocks Elementary School. The Civic Center Park and Recreation Center adjacent to Town Hall offer an outdoor amphitheatre, tennis courts, volleyball court, dog park, meeting rooms, and programmed class offerings, and an Aquatic Center with a 25-meter pool and locker facilities.

The Town has announced its intention to purchase the Apple Valley Country Club, pending resolution of water rights issues. The Country Club is a 148.8 acre facility with a variety of recreational facilities, which are further described in the Parks and Recreation Element.

There are two park facilities proposed through approved Specific Plans in the Town and its Sphere of Influence, totaling approximately 65 acres. The Town has identified but not yet developed another 27 acres for park use. The Town has identified a total of approximately 438.8 acres for parklands, including existing and planned facilities.

The Town has also begun development of a system of bike paths, including an off-road (Class 1 bicycle) path along a portion of Apple Valley Road, and plans to provide safe bicycle access to all school sites. The Town has also planned for future development of a system of hiking and equestrian trails.

Other Public Facilities

U.S. Post Office

There are two U.S. Post Office locations in Apple Valley. The main post office is located at 22099 Highway 18. U.S. Postal Station 308 is located at 18152 US Highway 18.



Airport

The Apple Valley Airport is a general aviation airport located at 21600 Corwin Road, in the northern portion of the City that serves fixed wing and helicopters. The airport contains two box hangars, two rectangular hangars for multiple aircraft, and seven sets of T-hangars. There are also 60 stationary “portaport” hangars

owned by private pilots. The airport serves mainly small, private aircraft. The California Highway Patrol and San Bernardino Sheriff’s Department share a hangar. There are 50 tie-downs and two runways: Runway 18/36 is approximately 6,500 feet long and 150 feet wide; Runway 8/26 is approximately 4,100 feet long and 60 feet wide. The Apple Valley Airport is further discussed in the Circulation Element.



Hospitals and Other Medical Facilities

St. Mary Medical Center is located at 18300 Highway 18 in Apple Valley. The approximately 90-acre campus provides acute, general medical-surgical and intensive care, and includes a 24-hour emergency room as

well as a variety of other in and outpatient medical services. The current (2008) facilities, including offices, encompass approximately 215,000 square feet. The hospital is currently designated as a Level III trauma care center, which is the lowest level of trauma care. Near-term (5-year) plans include construction of new acute care facilities with the intention of attaining Level I trauma care status. The hospital has also purchased lands in Victorville and plans to break ground for facilities there within approximately 3 years. The hospital maintains back-up facilities, such as diesel-powered generators and food and water stockpiles, as well as a decontamination tent. The hospital's role as a critical facility in the event of an emergency is further discussed in the Emergency Preparedness Element.

Other medical facilities in Apple Valley include the following:

Choice Medical Group is a physicians' network with medical and administrative offices located at 18564 Highway 18. Choice offers family and general practice, pediatric and internal medical services to the high desert communities of Apple Valley, Victorville, Hesperia, Oak Hills, Phelan, Barstow, Adelanto and surrounding vicinities.

Formula Medical Group is a family practice group located at 18182 Outer Highway 18, near St. Mary Medical Center. It provides primary care medical services for all ages, with referrals to specialists as needed. Formula accepts most private medical insurance and Medicare.

All Points Medical Group, formerly Guardian Medical Group, located at 16017 Tuscola Road in Apple Valley, offers family practice, internal medicine and pediatric medical services. Guardian also has an office in Victorville. Guardian physicians in Apple Valley are affiliated with St. Mary Medical Center. All Points accepts patients most private medical insurance.

There is one urgent care center in Apple Valley. Dr. Mike's Walk-In Clinic at 12413 Navajo Road is affiliated with the Choice Medical Group. It is open from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. Urgent care offices are also located in surrounding communities including Victorville and Hesperia.

Psychiatric and rehabilitation facilities are available to high desert residents, with a limited number located in Apple Valley. The Desert Behavioral Health is a private family counseling/behavioral health services practice located at 16195 Siskiyou Road in Apple Valley. It serves individuals, families, children and couples. The practice offers groups and classes in anger management, parenting, ADHD, social skills and divorce recovery for children. Some Spanish-language classes are offered. The practice accepts most private medical insurance.

The County of San Bernardino operates the High Desert Juvenile Detention and Assessment Center (HDJDAC) at 21101 Dale Evans Parkway. The Center opened in 2004. The 200-bed facility provides housing and special programs in the short-term (generally less than 30 days) for offenders under age 18, pending their hearing before a judge. Programs include on-site public school classes administered by the County, the Aggression Replacement Therapy (ART) program, athletics and other special activities.

There are several residential senior care facilities in the Town, which provide services ranging from independent to assisted living facilities to skilled nursing care. There are also a number of facilities offering care to persons with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

Utility Infrastructure

Utility services are provided to the Town by a variety of service providers. The Town maintains a system of wastewater collection lines that connect to interceptor lines owned and maintained by the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority as part of a joint powers agreement. There are several domestic water purveyors. Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company is the primary water service/facilities provider to the Town and its Sphere of Influence, with over 19,000 service connections. Golden State Water Company provides services to approximately 2,509 active connections in Apple Valley. There are several other smaller water purveyors, as discussed in the Water Resources Element and the Water, Wastewater and Utilities Element.

Southern California Edison provides electrical service to the Town. There are four major electric transmission corridors in the region from which electrical power is distributed to substations via 115kV lines. SCE has three substations in the Town, with voltages ranging from 3kV to 115kV. Power from these substations is distributed to local residential, business, industrial and institutional customers via 33kV to 6.9kV distribution facilities and circuits. As new electric lines are added, those of 34.5kV or less are undergrounded.

Natural gas is delivered to the most portions of the Town and its Sphere of Influence by Southwest Gas Company facilities. Other utility and service providers include Verizon, Charter Communications, and Burrtec. Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company has over 20 well sites and several elevated storage reservoirs, as well as booster pumps and pressure-reducing stations. Many other major utility buildings and facilities, such as the regional wastewater treatment facility, are located outside of Apple Valley. These are further described in the Water, Wastewater and Utilities Element.

The scenic value and noise environment of an area may be impacted by the operation of such utility facilities as well, reservoirs, pumping facilities, and electrical substations and switching facilities. Design of these structures can incorporate landscaping and architectural elements and treatments that soften and help harmonize these facilities with the surrounding environment. Such improvements may include visual and sound barriers, such as block walls and landscape buffers to further minimize potential impacts. The use of architectural styles and colors that are consistent with the local environment is also important to ensure compatibility with surrounding land uses and the natural setting. Visual impacts can also be avoided through undergrounding of transmission lines, where feasible.

Stormwater Management Facilities

The Town maintains local stormwater management facilities, which include a series of lined and unlined drainage channels located throughout the Town and its Sphere of Influence. The Town's Master Plan of Drainage divides the Town into subareas based on hydrologic features that occur within the north, south and east, respectively. There are several existing flood control channels currently serving the Town and several more are proposed. The western portion of the Town is considered in the Apple Valley West/Desert Knolls Master Plan of Drainage.

All-weather crossings are critical structures, providing for access into and out of the area in the event of an emergency. Bear Valley Road at the Mojave River is an all-weather crossing. An all-weather crossing of the Mojave River is also planned at Yucca Loma Road. These critical roadway facilities are further discussed in the Circulation Element and the Emergency Preparedness and Flooding and Hydrology Elements.

Critical Structures

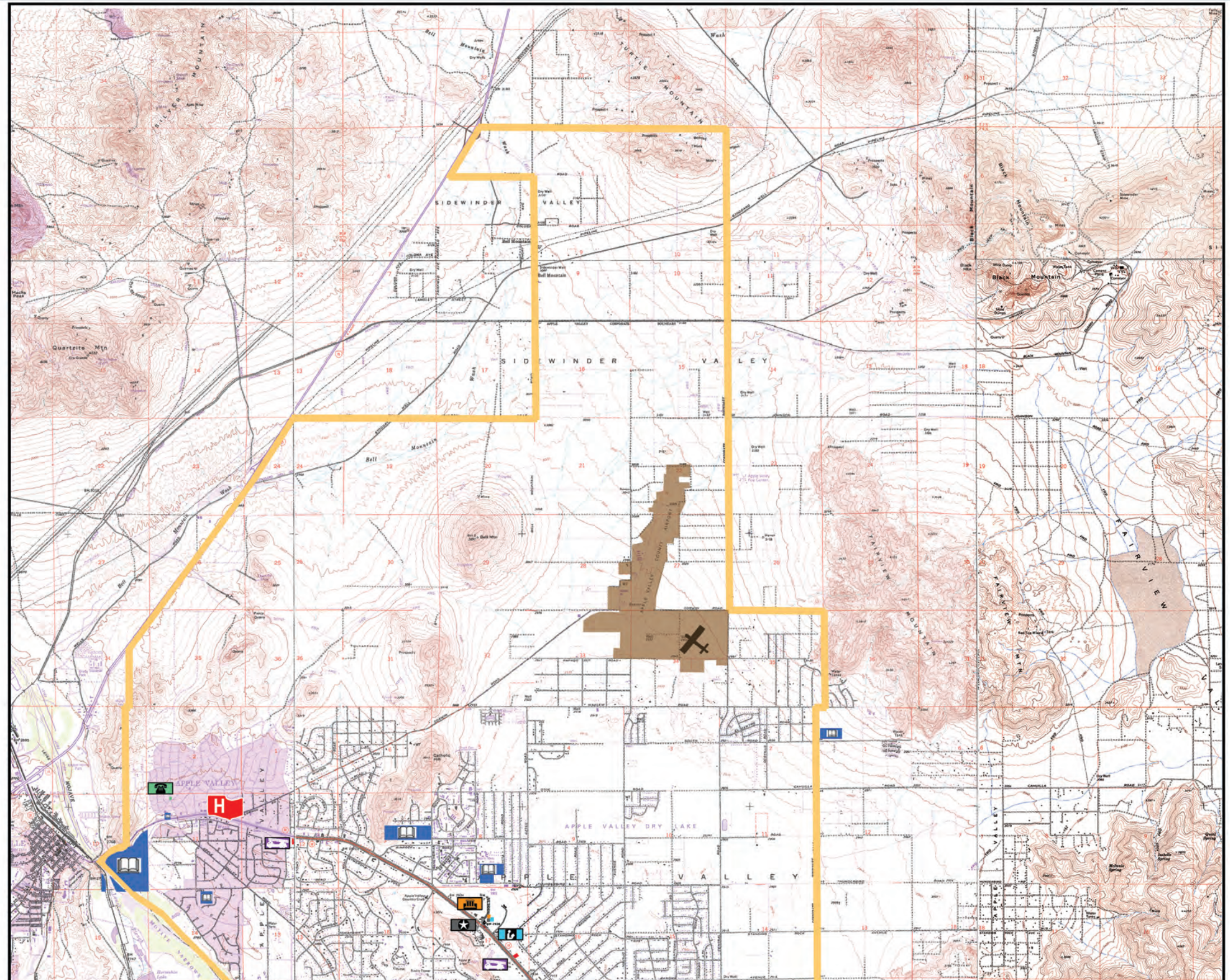
Buildings or facilities that provide important and/or essential emergency services following such disasters as floods, earthquakes or fires are referred to as “critical structures.” These include fire stations, hospitals, major roadways and bridges, airports, primary communications facilities, wells and reservoirs, and other facilities. School facilities and other civic structures may also be included in this list as essential staging areas for community emergency response and recovery areas.

To the greatest extent practicable, critical structures should be located where they are least vulnerable to impacts from such events as earthquakes, flooding, wildfire, or other hazardous events. They should be located outside and at some distance from 100-year floodplains or fault zones.

The Town is located in a seismically active region, being in proximity to the Helendale, San Andreas and other fault zones. Therefore, the Town and other responsible agencies need to ensure that, to the extent necessary, thorough engineering analyses are conducted prior to site selection for and construction of critical structures. As discussed in detail in the Geotechnical Element, design of such buildings should allow for offset of building foundations that may result from strong groundshaking or surface displacement. Safety issues relating to critical structures and facilities are also discussed in the Flooding and Hydrology and Emergency Preparedness Elements.

Legend

-  Airport
-  Chamber of Commerce
-  Fire Stations
-  Hospital
-  Police Stations
-  Public Library
-  Public Schools
-  Town Hall



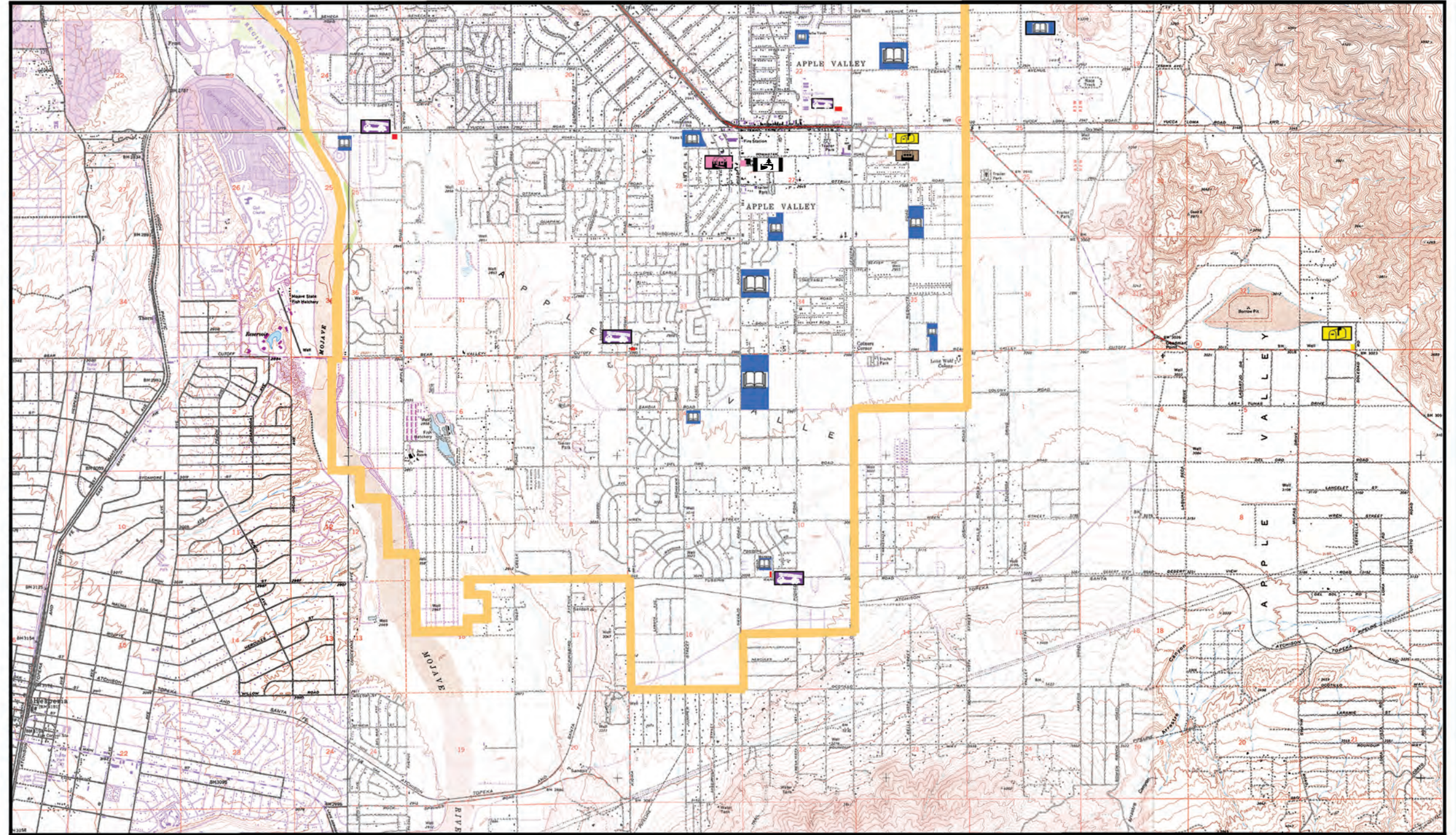
Source: USGS 7.45 Minute Maps;
 Apple Valley North, CA 1970, revised 1993
 Fairview Valley, CA 1993
 Helendale, CA 1956 revised 1993
 Turtle Valley, CA 1970, revised 1993
 Victorville, CA 1956, revised 1993



Apple Valley General Plan
 Public Buildings and Facilities Map North
 Apple Valley, California

Legend

-  Community Center
-  Fire Stations
-  Post Office
-  Public Recreation
-  Public Schools
-  Public Works Yard



Source: USGS 7.45 Minute Maps;

Apple Valley North, CA 1970, revised 1993
 Apple Valley South, CA 1971, revised 1980
 Fairview Valley, CA 1993
 Fifteenmile Valley, CA 1971
 Hesperia, CA 1956, revised 1980
 Victorville, CA 1956, revised 1993



**Apple Valley General Plan
 Public Buildings and Facilities Map South
 Apple Valley, California**

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Town does not have direct responsibility for the provision of many of the public buildings and facilities discussed in this and other General Plan Elements. The Town does have substantial influence, however, and plays an important advisory role in the planning and construction of these facilities carried out by others. Facilities planning decisions by utilities, educators and health service providers may have far-reaching consequences for community neighborhoods and the entire community and planning area.

The Town can assist the agency and company planners of these facilities by providing important information on growth in development and population, changes in the demographic makeup of the community, economic projections, Town capital improvements planning and other information that may affect planning and timing of new facilities. Close and on-going Town consultation and coordination with other responsible agencies will assure that essential and otherwise important public facilities will be available to meet current and future needs of the community.

In order to meet the community's essential infrastructure and service needs, provision must be made for continued funding of public services and facilities. The construction and/or expansion of new infrastructure and service facilities is essential to support the Town's current residents and business, and to accommodate future growth. The Department of Public Works, which regularly reviews the current state of infrastructure, is also tasked with planning for future facilities and their funding.

The Town routinely prepares and updates a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which identifies proposed and existing projects that require governmental funding, such as traffic signals, street widenings, parks and recreation facilities, public parking lots and municipal buildings. The use of the five-year Capital Improvements Program planning process can be expanded to better coordinate this activity with the planning of other agencies. The Finance Department reviews requests for public services and facilities' expansion. A variety of funding sources and mechanisms are used to fund these improvements, including Measure A Tax, franchise taxes, and developer fees.

The Town must coordinate with a variety of public and quasi-public agencies and organizations to ensure the provision of adequate, cost-effective and conveniently located facilities. It should continue to do so at least annually to ensure that utilities mapping is up to date, and to assure that adequate funding is available through the capital improvement planning process and developer fees to maintain and expand public services and facilities. New funding sources, including a possible New Construction tax, should continually be explored and identified.

Education and health care are important components in the community's quality of life and may also serve to attract new businesses and residents. The Town should continue to explore the siting of new healthcare and educational facilities. These may include, but are not limited to, a possible branch of the San Bernardino County Museum in Apple Valley, as well as a four-year science and math teaching college/university in conjunction with the Academy for Academic

Excellence. The Town should support, as much as feasible, future expansion and updated facilities at St. Mary Medical Center, as well as other public and private health care facilities and programs.

GOALS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

Provision of a full range of dependable and cost-effective public buildings, facilities and services that are designed and conveniently located so as to meet the social, economic and functional needs of the entire community.

Policy 1.A

The long-term need for and availability of future public and quasi-public building, infrastructure and other facilities siting shall be considered in the Land Use Element.

Program 1.A.1

To ensure the availability of adequate sites for future public and quasi-public buildings, infrastructure and other facilities, the Town shall periodically review its Land Use map and development patterns, and shall confer and coordinate with utilities and other public and quasi-public agencies to ascertain their long-term needs.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Public Works Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers, SCE, SWG, Verizon, Charter Communications.

Schedule: 2008-2009; Minimum every five years

Policy 1.B

The Town shall continue to identify and assess viable mechanisms for long-term funding for construction, maintenance and operation of existing and future public buildings and facilities. This assessment shall include mechanisms that assure that new development provides its fair share of funding for these facilities.

Program 1.B.1

To ensure an on-going funding source for adequate provision of public buildings, utilities and other facilities associated with future development, the Town shall explore the possibility of establishing a New Construction Tax or Development Impact Fee that provides a rational nexus between development and demand for future facilities.

Responsible Agencies: Planning Division, Public Works Division, various utility providers, Building and Safety Division.

Schedule: 2008-2009; every five years

Goal 2

The compatible and aesthetically satisfying integration of public buildings and facilities into the City's built and natural environments.

Policy 2.A

The Town shall confer and coordinate with providers of public utilities and other public/quasi-public agencies to ensure that utility buildings and facilities are developed in a manner compatible with the surrounding environment.

Program 2.A.1

The Town shall institute and maintain close working and collaborative relationships with utility providers, as well as with other public and quasi-public agencies that serve the Town, in order to ensure that utility buildings and facilities are integrated into the community in the least intrusive way possible.

Responsible Agencies: Planning Division, Public Works Division, Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company, Golden State Water Company, other water services providers, SCE, SWG, Verizon, Charter Communications and Victor Valley Wastewater and Reclamation Authority.

Schedule: Immediate; On-going

Policy 2.B

Public and quasi-public buildings of the Town shall be subject to compliance with all development standards that apply to private development.

Policy 2.C

The undergrounding of all utility lines and transformers, as well as undergrounding or screening of transformers and other utility facilities, shall be encouraged.

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Schools and Libraries Element discusses the educational and library facilities in the Town of Apple Valley and its sphere-of-influence. It describes the services, resources and opportunities that are currently available through local school and library systems. Decision-makers can use this information to assist them in planning for future needs, and to plan for expansion that will ensure the provision of adequate and accessible educational facilities to the community. In this Element, the Town's role in planning and siting new school and library facilities is discussed, and goals, policies and programs are set forth to enhance the educational experience of the Town's residents.

BACKGROUND

The Schools and Libraries Element is related to several other General Plan elements. Most directly, it relates to the Land Use Element, which considers the need for adequate and conveniently located public lands on which to site educational facilities. It relates to the Noise Element, since schools and libraries are impacted by community noise levels and are considered sensitive noise receptors. The Town's planning efforts include protection of schools and libraries from excessive traffic, which is covered in the Traffic and Circulation Element. Schools and libraries are defined as public facilities, the identification and location of which is discussed in the Public Building and Facilities Element.

As established in California Government Code Section 65302(a), the General Plan is required to assess the general distribution, location and adequacy of educational facilities. State legislation has been adopted that authorizes school districts to charge development fees to fund the construction and reconstruction of public school facilities (California Government Code Section 65999(b)). Fees are levied on a per square foot basis for residential and commercial development. Currently (2008), school developer impact fees are \$0.47 per square foot for commercial development, and \$3.60 per square foot for residential development.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Public Schools

Apple Valley Unified School District

Public educational services for kindergarten through 12th grade are provided to the Town of Apple Valley by the Apple Valley Unified School District (AVUSD). In 2007/2008, there were an average of 14,725 students enrolled in a total of 18 AVUSD schools. Of these, 9 are elementary, 3 are middle schools, 2 are high schools, and one is a continuation school. The District also includes an alternative education center that offers adult education, a magnet school, and a charter school. These are further discussed below. In general the District has seen enrollment grow from 1.5 to 5 percent annually, although since 2007 there has been an

approximately 2 percent decline, which corresponds to downward trends in the local housing market. As shown in Table V-1, below, many District schools currently have excess capacity.

Student-teacher ratios are currently (2008) as follows: 20:1 in grades kindergarten through third; 32:1 in 4th and 5th grades; 29:1 in grades 6 through 8; 20:1 in grade 9; and 29:1 in grades 10 through 12.

Following is a list of AVUSD schools, with current (2008) per school grade configurations and student enrollments.

**Table V-1
Apple Valley Unified School District Schools**

School	Location	Grades Served	Enrollment (2007-08)	Capacity
Elementary				
Desert Knolls	18213 Symeron Drive	K-5	529	795
Mariana	10601 Manhasset Rd.	K-5	609	702
Mojave Mesa	15552 Wichita Rd.	K-5	607	655
Rancho Verde	14334 Pioneer Road	K-5	716	725
Rio Vista	13590 Havasu Road	K-5	693	795
Sandia	21331 Sandia Rd.	K-5	757	795
Sitting Bull	19355 Sitting Bull Rd.	K-5	569	761
Sycamore Rocks	23450 South Road	K-5, Visual & Performing Arts	557	725
Yucca Loma	21351 Yucca Loma Road	K-5	669	865
Middle				
Apple Valley	12555 Navajo Road	6-8	921	1,664
Sitting Bull	19445 Sitting Bull Road	6-8, Technology	1,267	1,231
Vista Campana	20700 Thunderbird Road	6-8	876	1,408
High Schools				
Apple Valley	11837 Navajo Road	9-12	1,978	2,813
Granite Hills	22900 Esaws Road	9-12	2,140	2,494
Willow Park	21950 Nisqually Road	9-12	147	406
Other				
Alternative Education Center	13063 Pawnee Road	K-12	498	N/A ¹
Academy for Academic Excellence (Lewis Center; Charter)	20702 Thunderbird Road	K-2	120	120
Academy for Academic Excellence (Lewis Center; Charter)	17500 Mana Road	3-12	855	880
Vanguard Preparatory (Magnet)	12951 Mesquite Road	K-8	1,192	1,086
Adult Education			39	N/A ³

Sources: AVUSD, February 12, 2008; Teresa Dowd, Academy for Academic Excellence, April 10, 2008.

¹Independent Study.

²Independent Charter.

³At Alternative Education Center

As noted above, the Vanguard Preparatory School is a magnet school that serves students in kindergarten through 8th grade. Its focus is on academics, communication, and character building. There is currently a waiting list for enrollment at Vanguard.

The Academy for Academic Excellence (AAE) is an independent charter school focusing on science and technology, with particular emphasis on aeronautics and the space program. The Thunderbird Road campus was opened in 1997 as a K-12 school. In 2000, AAE opened its Mana Road campus for grades 3 through 12. Both schools operate at or near capacity at all times, with any openings generally occurring in grades 11 and 12. There is currently a waiting list. Students from the waiting list are selected for enrollment based on a random lottery system.

Redlands University offers college courses using facilities at the Manna Road campus in the evenings. The Town and the AAE are considering the possibility of locating a four-year college/university at Manna Road. This is further discussed under Higher Education, below.

Adult Education

Currently (February 2008), there are 39 adults enrolled in GED studies through Adult Education, which is offered at the Alternative Education Center.

Other District Programs

The District also offers a number of special programs, including Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), for which students are recommended based on academic achievement or because of a specific artistic talent. Special education services are available to students who qualify based on testing and performance at less than grade level.

After-school programs are offered for students in levels Kindergarten through 5th grade. Many District schools offer Intercession sessions during seasonal school breaks. Intercession provides students with an opportunity to raise a failing grade or receive individual tutoring in specified subjects as needed.

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is for middle school students whose socio-economic background or school performance do not presuppose college attendance, but who have a desire to attend college. In peer tutoring with high school students, they learn to improve note-taking, study skills, and how to complete college applications.

Peer tutoring occurs on two different levels: volunteer tutoring by middle schoolers to elementary school students, and compensated tutoring by high schoolers to middle school students through the AVID program. The District has optimized opportunities for the latter at the recently-constructed Sitting Bull campus, which incorporates both elementary and middle schools at one location.

Other special programs include pre-school programs and intra and inter-mural athletics programs.

Master Planning Process

The District completed its Master Plan update in 2007. It plans for facilities over the course of a six-year period, through 2012. In general, the District purchases property and plans for new facilities near areas where the City has approved tract maps.

Private Education^{1,2}

The Town of Apple Valley contains a number of private schools. These schools vary in their enrollment numbers and religious affiliations. Details on specific private schools within the Town are listed below:

Apple Valley Child Care Center

This early childhood day care located at 18609 Corwin Road serves 95 pre-kindergarten and kindergarten age students. The private elementary school is able to offer a student teacher ratio of 12 students to each teacher. Although not associated with a specific denomination, the school is a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Apple Valley Christian School

Located at 22434 Nisqually Road, the Apple Valley Christian School serves 478 students that range from preschool through 12th grade. The school is a ministry of Apple Valley Baptist Church, and a member of the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). The student to teacher ratio is 8.66 students to each teacher.

Valley Christian Schools

This private Christian school located at 19923 Bear Valley Road, offers education for preschoolers through 8th graders. Current enrollment is 32 students, and the student to teacher ratio is 6.4 students to each teacher.

Apple Valley Private School Learning Center

Kindergarten through the tenth grade of high school is taught at this small private school. There are a total of 28 students currently enrolled, and the school's student to teacher ratio is 5.26 students to each teacher. The school is not affiliated with any religion. This school is located at 13911 Pioneer Road in the Town of Apple Valley.

Apple Valley Village School

This alternative school offers education for elementary students from pre kindergarten through 7th grade. The school is located at 21482 Yucca Loma Road within the Town of Apple Valley. There are 108 students currently enrolled and 8 teachers; accordingly the student to teacher ratio is about 14 to 1.

¹ <http://www.privateschoolreview.com/> accessed on February 12, 2008.

² <http://California.privateschoolsreport.com/schools/CA/AppleValley.html> accessed on February 12, 2008.

High Desert Haven

This special education school offers education to elementary and high school aged children. There are currently 28 students enrolled at this coed school, and 2 teachers. The school is located at 20162 Highway 18 within the Town of Apple Valley.

St. Timothy's Episcopal School

Education for preschool through 8th grade is offered at this private school located at 15757 St. Timothy Road. There are 145 students enrolled in this coed Episcopal school, and the student teacher ratio is 9.51 students to each teacher.

St Mary's Regional Catholic School

This Catholic school offers education for pre kindergarten through 8th grade. There are a total of 266 students, and the student to teacher ratio is 19.74 students to each teacher. The school is associated with the Roman Catholic denomination.

Mojave Christian

The Mojave Christian School serves 29 elementary and high school aged students. It is a private, Baptist-affiliated school that offers a student to teacher ratio of 14.5 to 1. The school is located at 19350 Highway 18 within the Town of Apple Valley

County Educational Facilities and Programs

The County of San Bernardino currently serves many special needs students through private placement or by means of staffing provided at public (AVUSD) elementary schools. The County plans to build three facilities in Apple Valley to consolidate these services, including two early education centers and one junior high/high school.

An early education center with a capacity of approximately 130 students is planned adjacent to the Sandia Elementary School. The proposed early education center at this location will also include a separate facility to provide State-mandated medical-therapy services, such as braces and casts, for special needs students. The center and medical-therapy unit are expected to be completed in 2009.

A second early education center is planned near the intersection of Nakash Road and Palmero Road, in proximity to St. Mary Medical Center. This facility will have capacity to serve approximately 156 students, with four classrooms dedicated to serving autistic students. It is expected to be completed in summer 2010.

A third campus will be developed to serve junior high and high school special needs students, on Powhatan Road west of Pawnee Road. The 6.1-acre campus will provide 12 classrooms and capacity for approximately 156 students, and is slated for completion approximately summer 2010.

All three campuses are planned primarily for students living within the AVUSD boundaries, however, the Nakash Road facility is also expected to serve regional needs.

Colleges and Universities

Victor Valley College is a 253-acre community college located south of Apple Valley within the City of Victorville. Currently (2008) there are approximately 11,000 students enrolled in classes on campus. The school offers services to student with disabilities, and provides students with a number of opportunities for academic support. The campus library offers a diverse collection of books, periodicals, newspapers, videos, CD's, and microfilm for research opportunities on campus and provides a comprehensive electronic database for off campus research. As a community college, Victor Valley offers associate degrees for more than 40 majors and certificates for vocational and technical classes or programs.

As noted above, Redlands University courses are offered in the evenings at the AAE on Mana Road. The AAE and Redlands are exploring the potential to develop a four-year college or university at the campus in the future. While still in the discussion phase, the college is currently envisioned as a partnership between several colleges and universities in the region and would focus on providing teacher education and credentialing.

Other Educational Initiatives

The San Bernardino County Museum, located in Redlands, is a regional cultural and natural history museum with branches at historic sites in Yucaipa, Colton, Chino, Rancho Cucamonga and Daggett. The Museum houses collections focusing on anthropology, biological and geological science, and history. It offers special programs and events for families, school children, and scout troops. The Town is currently (2008) exploring the possibility of offering a branch of the Museum in Apple Valley. This is further discussed under Future Directions.

LIBRARY FACILITIES

The Town of Apple Valley contains a 19,142 square foot public library located off of Dale Evans Parkway adjacent to Town Hall. The Newton T. Bass Apple Valley Library is part of the San Bernardino County library system. It serves the Town of Apple Valley by offering a number of resources, programs, and community events. Construction and operation of this facility was made possible through a joint effort of local, county, and state funding.



According to the County's General Plan, the desirable size for public libraries in the County system is 0.5 to 0.6 square feet per capita for communities that have between 35,000 and 100,000 persons. To meet this standard in

Apple Valley the library size would need to be at least 35,200 square feet. Library staff work with the Town and the County of San Bernardino to monitor library usage and to ensure that resources are available to residents. Presently, there is no indication that the public library facility within Apple Valley is over utilized or unable to meet the demand generated by residents.

Collection and Resources³

This public library facility offers Apple Valley residents access to over 20,000 hardcopy books within its collection. In addition, the library provides access to an online database that contains electronic periodicals, magazines, and encyclopedias. General Internet access is also available on any of the 23 computers contained within this facility. There are two study rooms available for library users.

The library provides resources for illiterate and visually impaired residents by offering books on tape and CD, as well as some large print books.

Community Programs

The library serves as a community facility by offering a diversity of events and programs. The LITE program is designed for younger children and includes parent/child story time, crafts, and song circles. The Kids and Crafts program offers a variety of hands on crafts to children between the ages of 5 and 12. Teen programs are also available and include an anime and scrapbooking club, and teen chef, which are offered on a weekly and monthly basis. There are also programs intended for adults including a free adult literacy program, book and poetry clubs, and volunteer opportunities with the Friend of the Library program.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Future expansion of the Apple Valley Unified School District will need to accommodate growth in student populations that may be associated with development in the Town and its sphere-of-influence. Although in the past year the District has experienced a downturn in student enrollment, it is reasonable to expect that in future economic conditions will again result in increased development and student population growth. AVUSD, as with all public school districts, is considered a “responsible agency” and has “lead agency” status for siting, planning and processing development plans for its own facilities. Most decisions rest with the District, although consultation with the Town is required. The State Architect’s Office processes and approves building, planning and design plans. Nonetheless, the Town has a crucial role to play in assisting and coordinating with AVUSD, and where applicable, with San Bernardino County and state agencies, to ensure that adequate educational facilities and services are provided, including those to special needs populations.

The Town should also continue to encourage and support educational initiatives that include development of a four-year college/university and location of a branch of the San Bernardino County Museum within the Town.

³ Personal communication, Cheri Cervantes, Apple Valley Library References, February 12th, 2008.

Library facilities within the Town are and will continue to be an important resource for residents and the community. As the population in Town increases library resources and facilities may need to be expanded to meet the growing demand. The County of San Bernardino and the Town monitor circulation numbers and plan for expansion of services and facilities as needed.

GOALS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal 1

The provision of accessible, safe and conveniently located school, library and other educational facilities that provide a range of adequate and quality services to the Town and community.

Policy 1.A

Sensitive receptors such as schools and libraries shall be protected from excessive noise and traffic conditions to the greatest extent feasible, and shall be sited in appropriate locations with compatible land uses.

Program 1.A.1

The Town shall routinely evaluate and update the Land Use Element to assure that existing and future schools and libraries are sited in areas that represent compatible uses.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.A.2

The Town shall coordinate with the Apple Valley Unified School District to ensure and improve the safety of students traveling to and from school, including but not limited to the provision of separate, safe pedestrian and bicycle access, particularly near middle school and high school campuses.

Responsible Agency: Apple Valley Unified School District, Public Works Division

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.B

The Town shall assist Apple Valley Unified School District in securing school impact fees from developers, in accordance with state law.

Policy 1.C

The Town shall assist and coordinate with the Apple Valley Unified School District to ensure that the level and quality of public education shall be improved wherever possible.

Policy 1.D

The Town shall support and encourage local institutions of higher learning that improve and enhance job skills and personal growth, and promote employment opportunities.

Policy 1.E

The Town shall continue to coordinate and cooperate with private and charter school sites for development including new campuses and future growth of existing campuses.

Program 1.E.1

Encourage that the expansion plans for the campus of the Academy for Academic Excellence be accomplished through a Specific Plan to allow for a variety of educational opportunities, including the preservation of natural resources in the adjacent Mojave River bed.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Apple Valley Unified School District, Academy for Academic Excellence

Schedule: 2008-2009

Program 1.E.2

The Town shall continue to coordinate with the Apple Valley Unified School District and Redlands University, California State University-San Bernardino and other regional appropriate four-year colleges and universities to explore and encourage the establishment of a four-year institution of higher education within Apple Valley.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Apple Valley Unified School District, Academy for Academic Excellence, Redlands University, California State University-San Bernardino

Schedule: 2008, Ongoing

Policy 1.F

The Town shall continue to coordinate with the County of San Bernardino to assure that adequate library resources and facilities are available to meet to needs of the community.

Policy 1.G

The Town shall continue to explore the possibility of locating expanded educational resources, including museums, within the Town.

Program I.G.1

Confer and coordinate with the San Bernardino County Museum to consider locating a branch of the Museum within the Town.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Town Council, San Bernardino County Museum.

Schedule: 2008-2009

Goal 2

Establish school and library facilities that function as venues for cultural and social events within the community and provide a forum for community gathering and events.

Policy 2.A

The Town shall continue to recognize the importance of the library as a community center for educational and cultural development within the community.

Policy 2.B

The Town shall continue to coordinate, cooperate and assist with the Apple Valley Unified School District and applicable state agencies to identify, acquire and develop school sites necessary to meet the demands of future growth. The Town shall encourage that potential school

sites be selected in areas that are centrally located in relationship to existing or future residential development.

Program 2.B.1

The Town shall review master plans, development proposals and environmental documentation prepared by Apple Valley Unified School District. It shall advise and otherwise coordinate and cooperate with AVUSD to ensure that the provision of educational facilities are safe, conveniently located to existing and future development, and effective in meeting the needs of student populations.

Responsible Agency: Apple Valley Unified School District, Planning Division, and Town Council.

Schedule: Ongoing

POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Police and Fire Protection Element is intended to address the provision of adequate police and fire protection services by a local government. It identifies the agencies that provide police and fire protection services, and describes the levels of service those agencies currently provide. It establishes focused policies and programs that have been developed to ensure the long-term and adequate public safety for the entire community. This Element is reflective of the Town's commitment to provide continuous quality and responsive police and fire protection services.

BACKGROUND

The Police and Fire Protection Element is directly related to a number of General Plan elements, including Land Use, Traffic and Circulation, Emergency Preparedness, and Water Resources. Factors that affect the provision of fire and police services include distribution and intensity of land uses, accessibility and emergency response coordination. These services also depend on the availability of water to suppress fires, health service to treat the injured, and the provision of "defensible space" in urban development.

As communities grow, the provision of police and fire protection services are important to continued safety. The Town of Apple Valley contracts with the County of San Bernardino Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services. The Apple Valley Fire Protection District provides fire protection and maintains cooperative/mutual aid agreements with other communities and agencies for additional emergency response support. Ambulance and paramedic services are provided by American Medical Response (AMR).

There are several state regulatory codes directed at the importance of addressing the protection of the community from natural and man-made hazards, including Government Code Section 65302(g) and Public Resources Code 4125(a). Government Code Section 65302(g) requires that a Safety Element or its equivalent be included in the General Plan to address measures necessary to protect the community from risks related to fire and other hazards and threats. Public Resource Code 4125(a) sets forth a requirement that the State Board of Forestry classify all lands within the State so as to determine hazards and address financial responsibility for fire prevention and suppression. Lands that are unclassified fall under the jurisdiction of the Town or if applicable, appropriate federal agency, such as the Bureau of Land Management or the U.S. Forest Service.

Police Protection

The Town of Apple Valley contracts with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department for police services. Sheriff's Department staff assigned to the Apple Valley Police Department offers police protection services within the corporate limits of the Town of Apple Valley, which

encompasses approximately 72 square miles. The County Sheriff's Department serves unincorporated areas in the vicinity of Apple Valley, including the Town's Sphere of Influence.

The Apple Valley Police Department is located at 14931 Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley. There is also an un-staffed sub-station, used for report writing and other administrative tasks, which is located at 21989 Outer State Highway 18. The Department desires a ratio of 1 police officer for every 1,500 residents. The current (2008) level of law enforcement staffing in the Town is approximately 1.02 sworn officers for every 1,500 residents.

Police Personnel

At present (2008), the Apple Valley Police Department has a total of 48 sworn positions and 13 unsworn positions for a total of 61 personnel. The 48 sworn positions include 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 7 Sergeants, 5 Detective/Corporals, and 34 Patrol Deputies; while the unsworn positions include 5 Sheriff's service specialists, 1 secretary, and 7 station clerks. The Apple Valley Police Department is organized into three main departments: Administration, Traffic Division, and Detective Bureau.

The Apple Valley Police Department patrol unit is currently organized into three shifts per day, with each shift lasting 10 hours. The day shift operates from 7 am to 5 pm, the night shift operates from 3 pm to 1 am, and the graveyard shift is on duty from 10 pm until 8 am. Patrol teams are deployed with 4 to 5 officers during the day shift, 5 to 6 officers during the night shift, and approximately 3 officers are on duty for the graveyard shift. In addition, there is a traffic officer on duty from 5 pm to 3 am each day of the week.

The Apple Valley Police Department fleet inventory consists of 22 patrol cars, 9 unmarked units, and 4 bicycles. In addition, they operate a mobile trailer, equipped with radar, radios, and other equipment, that is used daily for enforcing speed limits. In early 2008 the Department anticipates receiving a new trailer that will be similarly outfitted with all new equipment; this trailer will be utilized at checkpoints.

Demand for Police Services

In 2007, the Apple Valley Police Department received approximately 72,658 calls for service. The Police Department officers respond to high priority calls within 3 to 7 minutes, depending on the time of the day and traffic flow. As the Town's population continues to increase, law enforcement response time, calls for police services, and traffic levels are expected to increase.

The demand for Priority 1 police services, which include assaults and burglaries, was 2,431 service calls in 2007. In the same period, the Department received 5,235 Priority 2 calls such as petty thefts and vandalism. In 2007 the Police Department made 1,978 arrests, and issued 7,105 citations.

Crime Prevention and Public Safety

The Apple Valley Police Department implements a variety of crime prevention and public safety programs. The department currently deploys personnel in the following public safety programs, including several community-based policing programs; patrol, detectives, traffic enforcement, crime free multi housing, and monthly safety checkpoints.

Patrol deputies are the primary responders for all police related service calls within the Town of Apple Valley. It is the responsibility of the Detective Bureau to perform follow-ups and investigation of reports, arrests, and tips initiated by the uniformed officer. In addition, detectives conduct crime scene analysis. Traffic law enforcement, traffic collision investigations, and follow-ups on traffic related crimes are handled by motor officers within the Traffic Enforcement Division.

The Town participates in the California Police Activities League (Cal-Pal), by offering a number of programs to the Town's youth, including those aimed at resolving conflict situations associated with gangs and school age children within the community as well as within schools. The SHOCK (self discipline, honor, obedience, consistency and knowledge) program places law enforcement officers in the educational environment to conduct programs focused on prevention and intervention. There are two sworn officers assigned to this program. They provide and teach program curricula such as DARE and GREAT, which are drug and gang awareness programs, to elementary and middle school children.

For teenagers and adults who are interested in law enforcement the Department offers the Explorer Program. Candidates must be between 14 and 20 years of age and must pass an oral interview and a background investigation.

The Apple Valley Police Department has a citizen's volunteer program called Citizens on Patrol that provides additional patrol capabilities to the community, and helps in clerical duties throughout the department. There are approximately 40 volunteers that offer daily assistance to the Department. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old, are required to complete training classes, and must comply with the Town's and Police Department's guidelines and policies.

Apple Valley Police Department Strategic Plan

The Apple Valley Police Department has drafted a 2008 strategic plan to address the current and future law enforcement needs of the community. A description of strategies and objectives as well as methods for implementation are set forth in the strategic plan. Development of the Police Department Strategic Plan involved the review and input of department employees, the Town Manager, and Town policy makers, and its drafting is currently underway.

Fire Protection

The Apple Valley Fire Protection District provides fire protection services to the Town of Apple Valley and the vicinity. It is an independent District whose western boundary is the Mojave River, and extends east as far as the dry lakes toward Lucerne Valley. It serves the Town and unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County, with a total service area of over 206 square miles. District staff includes paid, professional personnel and support staff.

The Fire Protection District maintains a mutual aid agreement with Victorville, San Bernardino County Fire Department, and the Bureau of Land Management. This agreement allows for fire departments within the region to actively support one another regardless of geographic or

jurisdictional boundaries. A joint dispatch center serving the mutual aid agencies is located in Victorville.

Fire Department Staffing

There are currently a total of 20 paid-call, five (5) part-time, and 54 career (paid, full-time) staff in the Fire Protection District, of which 50 are assigned to seven stations within the Apple Valley District (see below). This level of staffing is currently adequate to meet the District's desired ratio of approximately 1 full-time fire personnel per 1,500 persons.

Fire Stations and Equipment

There are seven fire stations in the District. Four are staffed 24-hours per day, seven days per week, for emergency response. One station is staffed by department staff on a 24-hour basis approximately four-days per week, and staffed by private ambulance company personnel only the remainder of the time. One is staffed as needed by on-call firefighters. One station is staffed with private ambulance company personnel only.

The District's desired response time is 6 minutes. Within the core area, defined as the Town corporate limits, the average response time is 6 minutes 25 seconds.

The following are the stations within the District, along with the number of personnel, and type of equipment at each:

- Station No. 331 at 22400 Headquarters Drive has 12 staff, and is equipped with a Type-1 engine, a Type-2 water tender, and a medium-level rescue vehicle.
- Station No. 332 at 18857 Highway 18 has 9 staff. Equipment includes a Type-1 engine and a Type-3 engine.
- Station No. 333 at 20604 Highway 18 is staffed with private ambulance company personnel.
- Station 334 at 12143 Kiowa Road has 9 staff, a Type-1 engine, and a Type-3 engine.
- Station No. 335 at 21860 Tussing Ranch Road is staffed by paid-call staff only. This means that staff members are alerted via pager to calls within the response area. The station is equipped with a Type-1 engine and a Type-3 water tender.
- Station No. 336 at 19235 Yucca Loma Road has 6 career and 10 paid-call staff, and is equipped with a rescue squad vehicle, a Type-1 engine, a Type-4 engine, an Incident Command bus, an Incident Support unit and a Type-2 truck.
- Station No. 337 at 19305 Jess Ranch Parkway was added in October 2007. Staffing has been expanded, as of April 2008, from 2 to 4 staff members. The station is equipped with a Type-4 Medic Patrol, a Hazmat Trailer, and a Reserve Squad.

The Town is considering the construction of an eighth fire station on approximately 12 acres at the northeast corner of Johnson Road and Navajo Road. The property has been donated by the Wal-Mart Corporation, which owns the Wal-Mart Distribution Center in North Apple Valley. The new station, if developed, is expected to house fire training classes, which would be relocated from Victor Valley College.

In addition to firefighting staff, the Apple Valley Fire Marshal provides project review services for all new development.

District Rating

The Insurance Service Office (ISO) provides rating and statistical information for the insurance industry in the United States. The ISO does this by evaluating a community's fire protection needs and services, and assigns each community evaluated a Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating. The PPC rating, which is developed as a cumulative point system, is based on the community's fire-suppression delivery system, including fire dispatch (operators, alarm dispatch circuits, telephone lines available), fire department (equipment available, personnel, training, distribution of companies, etc.), and water supply (adequacy, condition, number and installation of fire hydrants). Insurance rates are based upon this rating, which ranges from Class 1 (best) to Class 10 (worst). The District is currently (2008) rated "Class 4."

Other Fire Protection District Services

The District is involved in a number of community outreach and educational programs. Firefighters read to AVUSD students in schools on a weekly basis in the On Fire for Literacy program. The Risk Watch program focuses on fire/burn prevention, bike safety and water safety. The District also uses the Schools Acquiring Fire Safety Education and Readiness (SAFER) program to inform and raise fire safety awareness among school children.

Emergency Medical Services

American Medical Response (AMR), a private company, currently provides emergency medical services, including ambulance services, via a contract with the County of San Bernardino. Their services and vehicles are regional, and ambulances are dispatched as needed via the Desert Communications dispatch center in Victorville. AMR offers Advance Life Support ambulances, staffed with a paramedic and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Basic Life Support ambulances, staffed with two EMTs, and Critical Care Units, staffed with a paramedic, an EMT, and a Registered Nurse. AMR's contract with San Bernardino County establishes a response time of 9 minutes 59 seconds or less to all calls, with longer allowable response times to some rural areas. AMR meets or exceeds this response time an average of 92 percent of the time, based on monthly averages.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Town's continued growth is the primary factor in determining additional demand for police and fire protection service. The exact timing and location of additional police and fire facilities necessary to provide adequate safety related services are dependent upon the type, location and intensity of future development. While these may be difficult to determine, the Town will continue to monitor growth patterns and to use that information to respond to additional demand for public safety facilities and services.

There are several issues that will continue to require focused attention, including those involving land use and circulation patterns, financing of future police and fire stations, the provision of water for sufficient fire flows, and the adequacy of emergency response times.

GOAL, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Goal

The highest possible level of services and quality for fire and police protection to ensure the preservation and protection of the health, welfare and property for all types of development and socio-economic segments of the community.

Policy 1.A

The Town shall review all new development proposals, as well as significant remodeling projects to determine potential impacts to public safety and the provision of police and fire protection services.

Program 1.A.1

The Town shall continue to monitor development levels in the planning area to assess the need for new fire and police stations.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Fire Protection District, Sheriff's Department

Schedule: Immediate, Continuous

Program 1.A.2

The Town shall coordinate with the Sheriff's Department and Fire Protection District regarding the optimal location of future police and fire stations, and to ensure that levels of staffing are adequate to meet the demands of new development in the Town.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Sheriff's Department, Fire Protection District

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.A.3

The Town shall review and modify its structural fire assessment fees annually, or as necessary to ensure that there are adequate funds to cover annual operating costs.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Finance Department, Fire Protection District.

Schedule: Annually

Policy 1.B

All proposed development shall be designed to provide unencumbered access for police, fire, and paramedic vehicles, to the satisfaction of the Sheriff's Department and the Fire Marshal.

Policy 1.C

The Town shall remain flexible when considering the most effective means of providing police and fire protection services to the community, and shall conduct periodic reviews to evaluate the level, quality, cost-effectiveness and innovation of those services, including those provided on a contractual basis.

Policy 1.D

To assure the most effective disaster response practicable, the Sheriff's Department and the Apple Valley Fire Protection District shall closely coordinate and cooperate emergency preparedness teams.

Policy 1.E

The Town shall utilize the process of reviewing development and building plans, and of conducting building inspections, to strictly enforce fire standards and regulations.

Program 1.E.1

The Fire District and the Fire Marshal shall review all development proposals, and project design or conditions of approval, as appropriate, shall incorporate their input.

Responsible Agency: Building and Safety Division, Planning Division, Sheriff's Department, Fire Protection District.

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.E.2

The Town and Fire Protection District shall coordinate with the local Water Districts to ensure availability of adequate water supplies and pressures for fire flows for all existing and proposed development.

Responsible Agency: Building and Safety Division, Planning Division, Fire Protection District, all Water Districts.

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.E.3

The Town shall encourage the Fire Protection District to conduct periodic inspections of commercial, industrial and institutional buildings, and multi-family developments, to ensure compliance with fire code compliance and to educate building and development managers on fire safety issues.

Responsible Agency: Building and Safety Division, Fire Protection District.

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.F

The use and storage of potentially hazardous materials shall be regulated by the Town, County Department of Environmental Health, Apple Valley Fire Protection District and other appropriate agencies.

Program 1.F.1

Town public safety specialists shall thoroughly review the general location and siting of facilities which involve the use and/or storage of hazardous, highly flammable or explosive materials. Reviews shall be conducted in such a manner so as to assure the highest level of safety, and strict conformance with the Uniform Fire Code and other applicable codes and regulations.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Building and Safety Division, Fire Protection District, San Bernardino County Environmental Health Department

Schedule: Immediate, Ongoing

Policy 1.G

Special on-site fire protection measures may be required for well-vegetated areas where slopes are 10 percent or greater and which have potential to either lack sufficient water supplies or water pressure, and/or have access problems. These measures shall be specified during project review.

Policy 1.H

The Fire Protection District shall maintain a 6-minute response time, or as close thereto as possible.

Policy 1.I

The Fire Protection District shall maintain a level of service that ensures the provision of 1 fire personnel per 1,500 residents, or as close thereto as possible.

Policy 1.J

New and substantially remodeled development shall incorporate crime prevention design techniques, including the use of “defensible space,” high security hardware, optimal site planning and building orientation, and other design approaches to enhance security.

Program 1.J.1

The Town shall encourage Neighborhood Crime Watch and other crime prevention programs for new and remodeled multi-family developments.

Responsible Agency: Building and Safety Division, Sheriff’s Department.

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.K

Acknowledging that community-based crime prevention programs are an important augmentation to the provision of professional police protection services, the Town shall continue to support and promote such programs.

Program 1.K.1

Continue to encourage and support the Cal-Pal, Citizens on Patrol volunteer program, SHOCK outreach program, and other community-based policing programs.

Responsible Agency: Sheriff’s Department

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.L

The Town shall continue to encourage and support participation in the Police Department Explorer program, as an effective means of introducing youth to the benefits and importance of local law enforcement.

Policy 1.M

The Town shall continue to monitor the need for and provide, as needed, drug education and abuse intervention programs, which optimize the use of public and private councilors and treatment programs in public schools and community centers.

Policy 1.N

The Town shall encourage Neighborhood Watch Programs to promote safety and discourage crime in existing and new neighborhoods throughout the Town.

Policy 1.O

The Sheriff’s Department shall maintain a level of service that ensures the provision of 1 sworn officers per 1,500 residents, or as close thereto as possible.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Emergency Preparedness Element describes existing plans and facilities that are in place to deal with natural and man-made disasters that could affect the Town of Apple Valley and its Sphere of Influence. It discusses the potential for such emergencies. Further, it considers any additional critical facilities and services that are necessary for the Town to respond quickly and efficiently to protect its citizens from injury and loss. Currently, the Town has in place systems and approaches to minimize damage, loss of life and impacts to financial resources during and following an emergency, which are also discussed herein. This Element discusses the Town's relationship to and coordination with County, State and Federal agencies with regard to emergency response. It establishes goals, policies and programs that shape the Town's priorities and future directions that are intended to support and maintain adequate readiness for emergency situations.

BACKGROUND

This Element is part of an overall consideration of general environmental hazards. Its inclusion complies with Government Code Section 65302(g), which requires that the following be addressed in General Plans: hazards such as seismic disturbances and their effects, "other geologic hazards . . . flooding; and wildland and urban fires." Other General Plan Elements to which this Element is directly related include the Geotechnical, Flooding and Hydrology Elements, which provide information regarding natural constraints and hazards that emergency planning needs to address. It is also related to the Land Use Element, which addresses planning issues associated with making critical facilities accessible, and provides for their protection from location-specific hazards, as well as the Hazardous and Toxic Materials Element, which describes potential man-made hazards, the mismanagement of which can result in the need for emergency response. It relates to the Water, Sewer and Utilities Element, which describes existing utilities infrastructure and defines the Town's hazard planning associated with these services. It also relates to the Police and Fire Protection Element, which discusses public safety protection, rescue operations and emergency transportation during disasters.

The Town is located approximately 25 miles north-northeast of the Mojave Desert segment of the San Andreas fault. The Helendale fault is located approximately eight miles east of Apple Valley. The proximity to these faults makes the Specific Plan area susceptible to seismically induced hazards, including strong groundshaking. The Town may also be vulnerable to man-made emergencies such as major accidents involving trains and motor vehicles, especially given its proximity to Interstate-15, which runs southwest to northeast through the region forming the Town's western boundary, and Highway 18, which bisects the Town in a generally northwest trending direction. The Town is also located in proximity to the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad.

Aircraft accidents and power outages could also occur. In addition, terrorism and school and workplace violence have the potential to result in incidents that may necessitate that action and response plans be in place to deal with such scenarios.

Mandated Emergency Management Systems

The following discusses mandated emergency management systems. State programs have been in place for over a decade and are discussed first. Federal requirements enacted in 2004, with implementation and compliance dates that began in 2005, are also considered. This section also describes the Town's emergency plans and systems.

Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)

Senate Bill 1841, California Government Code Section 8607 was made effective January 1, 1993 (Petris Bill). It describes the statewide Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) in legislation related to "responding to and managing emergencies and disasters involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agency responses..." (Section 8607(a)). In order to be SEMS-compliant, all jurisdictions within the State of California are required to use standardized equipment and language to ensure the effective utilization of assistance offered across jurisdictional boundaries. Local jurisdictions are also required to adopt SEMS to be eligible to recover costs associated with State-level emergency responses. Individual Town agencies and personnel take on their responsibilities as defined by the Town's Emergency Plan.

Under SEMS, the Incident Command System (ICS) is used to coordinate field-level activities. ICS, which can be adapted to any scope of emergency, also quantifies the specific actions, personnel, equipment and facilities needed to respond adequately and in a systematic fashion to a particular hazard. The ICS organizes response based on five principal activities that must be performed at any incident: Management, Operations, Logistics, Plans and Finance.

Federal Emergency Management Requirements

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security approved of the National Incident Response Management System (NIMS) in March 2004. NIMS is intended to standardize response to terrorist attacks, natural disasters and other emergencies across federal, State, local and tribal governmental lines. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is charged with implementing the NIMS program and ensuring compliance by State, local and tribal jurisdictions. NIMS, like SEMS, is based around the Incident Command System and associated functional areas. To standardize public communication during an incident it also employs a Joint Information System (JIS), and provides for system implementation through a National Response Plan. State and local governments were required to demonstrate compliance with NIMS beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 in order to be eligible for Federal preparedness assistance. New compliance activities are set forth each year, and jurisdictions must continue to demonstrate compliance, gauged by performance-based measurement systems, or metrics, to receive annual emergency preparedness grants. Required changes to State and local government emergency plans in California are expected to be relatively minimal since SEMS and NIMS share a common basis in ICS.

The Town of Apple Valley has completed the emergency training level of NIMS compliance. Based on 2007 NIMS compliance metrics for local jurisdictions, the Town scored 100 percent compliance for Tier 1 compliance (items critical for NIMS implementation) and 88 percent compliance for Tier 2 compliance (items required to measure ongoing progress of NIMS implementation activities).

State governments were required to submit pre-disaster mitigation assessments for all local jurisdictions to the federal government by November, 2004. California's State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan incorporated assessments provided by each jurisdiction. Apple Valley submitted its assessment to San Bernardino County for submittal to the State; the State Plan was adopted in March 2005. These pre-disaster mitigation assessments are also linked to federal financial emergency assistance.

Apple Valley Emergency Plans

Town of Apple Valley

The Town adopted its emergency plan, the Multi-Hazard Functional Planning Guidance (Multi-Hazard Plan) document, in 2003. The Multi-Hazard Plan addresses the Town's planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters and emergencies, including but not limited to wildland fire, earthquake, and flooding. The Plan also includes contingencies to deal with incidents involving hazardous and toxic materials, domestic violence, terrorism, and other threats to public health and safety directly resulting from human activity.

The Plan's operations concepts focus on coping with potential large-scale disasters that pose major threats to life and property and can impact the well-being of large numbers of people. The Multi-Hazard Functional Planning Guidance document includes twelve functional Annexes. These cover operational areas of management, fire and rescue, law enforcement and traffic control, medical, public health, coroner, care and shelter, movement, rescue, construction and engineering, resources and support, and radiological protection. The multi-hazard functional plan with accompanying annex documents has been the standard used throughout the State. The Plan is designed to include the Town as part of SEMS, and is being updated to comply with federal NIMS requirements by the 2008 mandated deadline.

Emergency response and chain of command are further described below.

Apple Valley Unified School District

The Apple Valley Unified School District (AVUSD) has developed its own Emergency Operations Procedure document that sets forth responses to natural and manmade emergencies, establishes communication links and provides for the establishment of shelters. Each District school also has a site-specific emergency plan listing assigning emergency operations responsibility to specific staff members. School sites are designated shelters, which when activated are operated and managed by the American Red Cross under the direction of the Town and Fire Protection District.

St. Mary Medical Center

St. Mary Medical Center, located at 18300 Highway 18, Apple Valley, has developed emergency plans for all critical hospital systems. The plans are based on standards set by the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation (JCHA), the independent organization through which St. Mary is accredited. Additional information on St. Mary's emergency supplies and systems is provided under Emergency and Other Medical Facilities and Supplies, below.

Hazardous Materials Planning

The Town of Apple Valley is a member of the Southern California Hazardous Waste Management Authority, which is a joint powers authority between member counties of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). SCAG is drafting a Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) to address resource management; it will also discuss the current solid and hazardous waste management planning process in Southern California. The draft RCP will also consider potential strategies and actions for improving the SCAG region's solid and hazardous waste management system. It is currently (2008) in the environmental review stage.

The Town works with the San Bernardino County Fire Department Hazardous Materials Division (HMD). The HMD is State-designated as the Certified Unified Program Agency for handling hazardous waste and materials in this area. Via annual compliance inspections, local businesses that handled hazardous materials at their facilities must certify such materials through the County HMD. California Code of Regulations (Title 22) defines hazardous materials as substances that are toxic, ignitable, flammable, reactive, or corrosive. In the event of a hazardous materials spill or leak, the Apple Valley Fire District Duty Chief acts as liaison with HMD.

Critical Facilities

Critical facilities are those that provide emergency or other services, or shelter, for those in danger, and are therefore an integral part of any emergency plan. Such facilities may include hospitals, police and fire departments, governmental operations, communications centers, evacuation and emergency shelters, and utility installations and systems. Support facilities provide an important function in that they bolster primary critical facilities by providing information and direction to the public during a crisis. Support facilities may include fire and police communications, auxiliary personnel and commercial radio stations.

Other critical facilities include access, such as evacuation routes and transport of the injured, peak-load water supply and delivery, and airport services. An emergency plan must consider transportation system constraints, as these may hinder ground-based access or delivery of supplies or emergency services to the affected areas.

The Town's Disaster Council meets quarterly to coordinate emergency planning and initiatives. The Council is comprised of representatives of the five entities that form the core of the Town's Emergency Operations Center network: the Town, Fire District, Police Department, AVUSD, and St. Mary Medical Center. Representatives of other agencies and organizations are invited to attend, including the County and Apple Valley Airport Authority, and local businesses and non-profit agencies. The Town Emergency Services Manager also sits on several County committees as part of the Town and Fire Protection District's regional SEMS coordination.

Communications

The Town of Apple Valley and the County of San Bernardino, as well as critical facilities such as St. Mary Medical Center, utilize a range of equipment and are linked to a variety of communication systems to ensure adequate communication and coordination in the event of an emergency. The following is an overview of these systems.

Town of Apple Valley Communications

In addition to land and cellular telephones, the Town has a short-wave radio system that can contact units located at Fire District stations, Police department, AVUSD school sites, and St. Mary Medical Center. The Town has one satellite telephone and expects to obtain two additional units within the next few months.

The Town also participates in the County-wide Emergency Communications (ECS) unit, (formerly known as Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services, or RACES) which provides emergency communications support operated by volunteer radio operators. ECS volunteers are trained by the County Office of Emergency Services staff. Radio operators work from activated Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) and at key locations, including hospitals, to provide emergency operations and other critical facilities' staff with an alternative communications link.

Apple Valley is part of San Bernardino County's Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS), which functions as a reverse 911 system and serves to notify Town residents in the event of an emergency with potential to affect them. While the County TENS system is useful in providing basic information on an existing condition, messages relayed by the County's system are somewhat limited in nature, and may not offer sufficient information to assist residents in determining an appropriate course of action. This issue is further discussed under Future Directions.

The Apple Valley Fire District participates with the City of Victorville in a Regional Fire Protection Authority established between the two jurisdictions in the early 1980s. In the event of an emergency, communication between Apple Valley and Victorville is handled by a 24-hour/7-day a week central fire dispatch center located at Desert Communications, 17199 Jasmine Street in Victorville. This center uses an 800-radio system during normal daily operations as well as in the event of a disaster. Desert Communications also has a mobile unit for off-site use. Second-tier provision for communication with Victorville Fire Department is via the Town's ECS unit.

Hospitals within San Bernardino County, including but not limited to St. Mary Medical Center in Apple Valley, Victor Valley Community Hospital and Desert Valley Hospital, both in Victorville, are linked to the County EOC by means of the Ready Net communications system. The system is computer-based and relies on the county's microwave communications links, which provide greater reliability than telephone lines. Ready Net provides a daily "snapshot" of the facilities at each hospital, as well as of staffing and patient-load status. In an emergency, this system provides updated information regarding availability and need so that patient traffic can be routed appropriately, and emergency supplies and services can be directed where needed.

San Bernardino County Communications

San Bernardino County is linked to a variety of federal and state warning and communications systems, including the Emergency Alert System (EAS), National Warning System (NAWAS), National Weather Service (NWS), and California Warning System (CALWAS). Within its operation area, the County uses local and regional warning systems, including the Caltech/USGS Broadcast of Earthquakes (CUBE) system, and facilities and technology associated with the FCC Local Area.

CUBE collects data regarding earthquake data time, location and magnitude that is gathered at the Caltech Seismological Laboratory in Pasadena. The information is transmitted via a commercial paging system and broadcast to public and private sector subscribers, which include government, public utilities, and public broadcast stations. The information allows public emergency response agencies access to information about earthquake location and magnitude, estimates of distribution of groundshaking following the earthquake, and warnings regarding imminent groundshaking immediately following the event.

The FCC Local Area is a network of broadcasters and cable television companies that are located within and/or that serve Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. There are five zones covering the two counties. County OES Emergency Services Officers call in the Emergency Alert System message, which is transmitted directly to the primary radio stations to be broadcast. The FCC Local Area includes stations in San Bernardino, Victorville, Yucca Valley and Big Bear Lake, including at least one Spanish-language station. It also has the ability to access a 900-megahertz paging and an automated telephone system, which provide for automated contact to key response or public safety personnel. Further, the Responders Organized for Potential Emergencies (ROPE) program is used to notify and coordinate with public safety agencies or private resources on highway corridors in the Cajon Pass and High Desert. The FCC Local Area systems are available in most areas, however, terrain and distance preclude adequate coverage in some areas.

Community Training and Resources

The Town conducts an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drill and/or training at least once a year. A functional drill was held in July 2007. EOC staff participated in a refresher “SEMS EOC” course in February 2008. The Town will participate in a statewide full-scale exercise in November 2008. This day-long event will activate the EOC and include field exercises involving the police and fire departments, hospitals, schools and volunteers. The Fire District conducts training and exercises throughout the year, including a “bump and run” field drill held in June 2007, which involved several high desert fire agencies and a volunteer activation.

California Citizen’s Corps is a state program that is intended to strengthen the state’s emergency preparedness by recruiting and training volunteers at the neighborhood level. The program includes Citizen Corps Councils, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps, Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Service and Fire Corps.

The Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) program trains private citizens in basic search and rescue, fire suppression, first aid and utilities management. Town and Fire District staff provide CERT training throughout the community. Through public education, such as presentations at neighborhood watch meetings, CERT educators seek to raise awareness and

encourage emergency preparedness, especially in mobile home and other communities that may include centralized gathering places and means of resident contact. The goal is to enable these neighborhoods to be self-sufficient for a period of time following an emergency, thereby providing for their residents and reducing demands on emergency shelters in the larger community.

The Town is home to numerous mobile home parks and one age-restricted, gated community, Jess Ranch. The Jess Ranch community has formed a program called “Jess Ranch Heart” in order to plan for emergency conditions. The community has a limited stockpile of food, water and emergency medical supplies and equipment, including wheelchairs. They have developed a “red flag” notification system, whereby following an earthquake, residents who are safe place a red flag in their yard. The absence of a red flag following such an event alerts designated neighborhood captains to attempt contact with the resident.

The Friends of Animals During a Disaster (FADD) is a local volunteer group with approximately 200 members who work to ensure the safety of domestic pets in an emergency situation.

Shelters and Supplies

Shelters must be available to handle large numbers of people and to provide basic services such as food, potable water and medical supplies. In the event of an emergency involving the Town, shelters would be operated and administered by the American Red Cross at the direction of the Town. There are 26 shelter locations in Apple Valley, including public schools, several private schools and churches, the Senior Citizens Club, and the Lone Wolf Colony campground. Shelters have a capacity of between approximately 40 to 300 people, depending on the location. Several have stockpiles of water, and some have generators.

The Fire District has a limited stockpile of food, water and emergency supplies, stored at each fire station, which is designated for use by its personnel. The Town does not currently have such a stockpile for the general public, and additional storage facilities would be needed to accommodate such a supply.

Emergency Accessibility, Transportation and Circulation

Immediate access to impacted areas by emergency personnel and supplies is essential after a disaster. U.S. Interstate-15 and State Highway 18 are major regional access routes serving the Town. Bridges and underpasses are critical roadway components for delivery of food, water and medical supplies and personnel, as well as for the evacuation of the injured.

Highway 18 (Happy Trails Highway) enters the Town at its eastern border, running east to Navajo Road, and then traverses the Town in a generally southeast to northwest direction. Other major north-south arterial roadways in the Town include Apple Valley Road, Dale Evans Parkway (Boulder/Bell Mountain Road), Aztec Road, Central Road, Joshua Road, and Stoddard Wells Road. East-west arterial roadways include Bear Valley Road, Yucca Loma Road, Corwin Road, and Waalew Road.

Freeway underpasses and railroad crossings are generally protected from flooding by existing flood control structures. There is one railroad crossing in the Town, a spur that runs along the north side of Quarry Road and serves only the Mojave Northern Mining quarry located to the east. In the event of major flood events, access to the U.S. Interstate-15 freeway, which links Apple Valley with other cities and communities in the region, may become flooded or damaged. Several roadways, including Interstate-15, State Highway 18, Bear Valley Road and Rock Springs Road cross the Mojave River at the Town's western boundary. An additional crossing, the Yucca Loma Bridge at Yucca Loma Road, is under design by the Town, and is scheduled for construction in the near term.

Rock Springs Road is an at-grade roadway that is not passable during moderate to heavy rainfall. A portion of this roadway is slated for realignment. Funding for these improvements is through Proposition 1.B through (Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality and Port Security Bond Act of 2006). The planned improvements do not address the river crossing.

All bridges on U.S. Interstate-15 in the planning area are designed to withstand the 100-year flood and to have 2 feet of freeboard for the 50-year flood.

In the event of a major disaster, including major earthquakes or floods, urban wildfires, major truck or rail accidents, or by other natural or man-made disasters, critical roadways and components could be damaged or blocked. The loss of freeway bridges over interchanges or road closures due to rockfalls or landslides would also impede the delivery of emergency services and supplies.

Evacuation plans must of necessity be regional in nature. Advance planning between communities within a region must include established communications systems with sufficient back up facilities, evacuation routes, and sufficient provision of food, water, shelter and medical attention, as well as other essential services to meet the needs of evacuees.

The Town has established evacuation routes, including:

- Central Road (N-S)
- State Highway 18 (E-W, N-S)
- Bear Valley Road (E-W)

The County is currently (January 2008) developing mass evacuation plans within each region. The high desert region plan has not yet been completed. Town emergency services staff participates on the County evacuation/transportation committee and will attend Caltrans training in March. However, currently (January 2008) there is no comprehensive mass evacuation plan in place for the Town or the region.

The Town shall continue to coordinate with Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration, adjoining cities and communities and San Bernardino County to provide the highest functional reliability of major roadways and the public transportation system serving the Town and the region. The Town shall also continue to coordinate with San Bernardino County Flood Control and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to address flooding hazards that

threaten people and property, and that may isolate portions of the community. Programs that can identify and address weak links in the circulation system, in coordination with the efforts of the County and other jurisdictions in the high desert region, should be developed. The County's mass evacuation planning effort, in conjunction with its evacuation and transportation committee, may assist in this capacity. This issue is further discussed under Future Directions.

The Apple Valley Municipal Airport is located within the Town's corporate limits. It is classified as a General Aviation airport and is capable of accommodating most private single-engine and corporate jet aircraft, as well as helicopters. There is no public helipad on the property, however California Highway Patrol and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department share a hangar.

The Osborne Airstrip is a private airstrip located at 18173 Osborne Road, east of U.S.-Interstate 15 in Victorville. The airstrip is for personal use by the landowners, and to a limited extent, to invited guests. There is one paved runway parallel to U.S.-Interstate 15, an owner/operator hangar, two tie-downs for guests. The airport is equipped to serve small, non-commercial fixed wing aircraft.

The Town is located approximately 51 miles from the San Bernardino International Airport, which currently (January 2008) offers general aviation and corporate services, and approximately 52 miles from the Ontario International Airport, which has general aviation, corporate and commercial flights. Both airports are accessible by means of helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft.

Emergency and Other Medical Facilities and Supplies

Emergency medical services are provided by American Medical Response, AMR, which has Advance Life Support ambulances staffed with paramedics and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Basic Life Support ambulances staffed with two EMTs, and Critical Care Units, staffed with a paramedic, EMT and a Registered Nurse (RN). AMR also has supervisory staff with ICS training who are able to respond to any disaster. AMR is dispatched through the Desert Communications 911 dispatch center, which has the ability to link to County dispatch centers in the event of a fire or medical emergency. The Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency (ICEMA) is authorized to activate AMR ambulance strike teams in the event of an emergency. The ICEMA is a Joint Powers agency for the management of emergency medical services in Inyo, Mono and San Bernardino counties.

AMR coordinates closely with Mercy Air, which has airlift capabilities. Mercy Air bases a helicopter at SOCAL Logistics Airport, located at Victorville Fire Station 319, and a second helicopter at the Hesperia Airport. Mercy Air has helicopters based in several communities in the high desert and outside the region, which are available to respond to an emergency within Apple Valley. The closest are based in Victorville and Hesperia. As noted below, St. Mary Medical Center has two helipads.

Patients are either transported via emergency ground transportation to the airport for airlift, or AMR coordinates with the fire captain on the scene, who requests dispatch of airlift through the Desert Communications and whose staff establishes a safe landing zone. The San Bernardino Sheriff's Department has secondary responsibility for airlift via its rescue helicopter. The

Sheriff's Department may be called in to supplement Mercy Air services when multiple patients must be transported, or when transport is needed from remote and rugged terrain.

There are several medical facilities that may provide medical services and personnel in the event of an emergency affecting Apple Valley or the region. These include St. Mary Hospital in Apple Valley, and Victor Valley Community Hospital and Desert Valley Hospital in Victorville. Trauma victims are airlifted to Loma Linda Medical Center in Loma Linda. As has been noted, all hospitals in San Bernardino County are linked to the County EOC via the Ready Net system, described in the Critical Facilities section of this element.

St. Mary Medical Center

St. Mary Medical Center is located at 18300 Highway 18 in Apple Valley. The hospital is located on a 90-acre campus with approximately 215,000 square feet of facilities. Licensed for 186 beds, it provides general medical-surgical care, intensive care, 24-hour emergency care, obstetrics, in and outpatient surgery, and a range of ambulatory services including physical therapy and cardiac rehabilitation. St. Mary has the only full-service cardiovascular surgery program and the only Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in the high desert area. There are currently (2008) two helipads on-site.

As required by the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation, St. Mary is currently equipped to remain self-sustaining for 72 hours following an emergency. This means that the hospital has 72 hours (approximately 3 to 4 days) worth of food, water, and fuel to meet the needs of an at-capacity patient load and staff. The hospital is evaluating ways to meet new Commission standards, effective January 2008, to be self-sustaining for up to 96 hours.

All major operating systems, including electrical, HV/AC, and communications systems have back-up systems. The hospital has two large-scale electrical generators to ensure uninterrupted supply at 100 percent of capacity for critical areas, such as intensive and cardiac care and surgical units, and between 85 and 95 percent of capacity for all other areas.

St. Mary has plans to acquire triage tent that would accommodate up to 20 percent above-capacity patient demand in an emergency. This tent will be equipped with heating and air conditioning units for use as needed.

Due to emerging concerns over chemical and bio-terrorism and in compliance with state hospital commission mandates for accredited hospitals, the Center has a decontamination tent with a hot water generator, and a dedicated decontamination team in the event of a hazardous materials release incident. There are decontamination showers for gurneys and wheelchairs located outside the emergency room.

The hospital has a small inventory of medical supply caches for off-site use as necessary. As part of the St. Joseph Hospital health system, St. Mary has access to additional equipment from other facilities.

Hospital representatives sit on the Town of Apple Valley Emergency Operations Committee. The hospital interfaces directly with the County Health Department and is linked to the County's

Ready-Net computer system for on-going communication, as needed, with the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Town's EOC, and other hospitals in the region. In the event of an emergency, at least one hospital representative would join emergency operations personnel at the Town EOC to serve as liaison with the hospital in coordinating emergency activities.

St. Mary has acquired lands in Victorville for a second hospital campus, and expects to begin construction within the next two to three years. Currently St. Mary is considered a Level III (lowest level) trauma care. With the construction of the new facility, St. Mary hopes to be able to provide Level I trauma.

Other Medical Facilities in the Region

The aforementioned Victor Valley Community Hospital is located approximately 5 miles to the west, and Desert Valley Hospital is located approximately 10 miles to the southwest of Apple Valley. Victor Valley Community Hospital, to the west, is licensed for 115 beds. The facility includes 24-hour/7-day a week emergency services and an on-site heliport. DVMC, to the south, is licensed for 83 beds. Both centers include acute care hospitals.

More severe injuries requiring Level I care would be transported to the Loma Linda Medical Center, approximately 51 miles from Apple Valley. Loma Linda has 900 beds and is the only Level I trauma center for Inyo, Mono, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties.

The County of San Bernardino has established grant-purchased medical equipment and supply caches at various locations, including at least one in the high desert.

Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)

The Town's Emergency Operations Center is located at the Lewis Center/Mojave River Campus, 17500 Mana Road in Apple Valley. The Alternate EOC is located at Apple Valley Fire Station #336, 19235 Yucca Loma Road in Apple Valley.

The County's Primary EOC (PEOC) is located at 1743 Miro Way in Rialto. There are two Alternate EOC (AEOC) locations. The first priority AEOC is located at the County Fire Training Center at the San Bernardino International Airport. The second is at County Public Works Department Operations, at 825 Third Street in San Bernardino. The County may also dispatch its mobile EOC as needed. The County is also considering siting an AEOC in the high desert region, however, a location has not been determined. The County EOC is activated either upon the request of an affected jurisdiction, or when two or more jurisdictions within the County have activated their EOCs.

Emergency Response, Organizational Structure and Chain of Command

In general, the Town's response to a disaster will be dictated by the type and magnitude of the emergency, with progression from local to regional, to state, to federal involvement. The Town may provide overall emergency management, and activate the Emergency Operations Center, in three different modes:

- 1) Monitoring an incident that has potential to grow and affect residents. Although the EOC is activated, emergency services staff, including fire and police, may monitor from off-site locations. The public may or may not be informed at this level;
- 2) Determining that the incident is affecting residents. This level activates shelters, and may require road closures or other actions as deemed necessary to protect public health and safety. EOC staffing is maintained at a level determined to be appropriate in the particular situation, but generally less than a 24-hour basis.
- 3) Responding to a major incident, requiring 24-hour EOC operation.

The EOC may be activated by the appropriate agency head: Fire Chief, Sheriff's Captain assigned to Apple Valley Police Department, or Town Manager. In the event of a school or hospital-related emergency, the appropriate AVUSD or St. Mary personnel would coordinate with the appropriate Town authority for activation and aid, if necessary.

When conditions warrant activation of the Town's EOC, the Town Manager assumes the role of Incident Commander, and activates the other four ICS functions (Operations, Logistics, Plans and Finance) with their respective areas of responsibility. If the Town Manager is unable to fill or continue the duties of Incident Commander, an Assistant Town Manager assumes those duties.

In accordance with Section 8605 of the Emergency Services Act, each county is designated as an Operational Area, which are activated under certain conditions. These conditions may include a situation that requires cooperative efforts on the part of two or more cities within the County, or when emergency conditions extend across county lines. The county-designated Operational Area Coordinator would be responsible for managing emergency operations within incorporated jurisdictions in the County. In unincorporated areas, the County Emergency Corps Commander would assume responsibility.

The state is divided into six Office of Emergency Services (OES) Mutual Aid Regions. The State OES Director coordinates among the six regions. San Bernardino County is part of Region 6 for fire and law enforcement mutual aid. Region 6 also includes the counties of San Diego, Imperial, Riverside, Inyo and Mono. Designated state agency representatives who comprise the Regional Emergency Management staff coordinate and support local emergency operations as requested by the Operational Area Coordinator.

Upon the declaration of a Local Emergency, and once the Town's EOC and the County's PEOC or AEOC have been activated, the State OES is advised. Should the Governor declare a State of Emergency in the impacted areas, the State OES Director, the County's Operational Area Coordinator and Emergency Corps Commander, and the Town's Director of Emergency Services coordinate the necessary activities. The Governor is responsible for requesting a Presidential declaration of an Emergency or Major Disaster, and would thereupon appoint a State Coordinating Officer to coordinate with the Federal Coordinating Officer to support local operations. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the main federal government contact during emergencies.

Extended Emergency Response, Organizational Structure and Assistance

The Town's immediate response to an emergency is crucial to minimizing loss of life and property. Conditions that result from a disaster can, in the aftermath, threaten health and safety as significantly as the initial event. The Town may expend substantial financial resources during the emergency, and must keep careful records and follow appropriate reporting procedures to ensure recovery of those resources from appropriate state and federal agencies.

Once the immediate crisis has passed, the Town assesses the damage, and seeks to contain hazards posed by damaged infrastructure. Basic services must also be restored. Continued safety and rescue functions, and the restoration of order, are the responsibility of Fire and Police personnel. Department of Public Works staff provide necessary equipment. Working through the Federal and State Coordinating Officers (SCOs), and County, Town representatives execute state and federal assistance programs and begin the recovery process. These agencies would coordinate to establish Disaster Assistance Centers (DAC's) where individuals can apply for and access on-going emergency and recovery services and provisions in one location. DAC personnel would process subsistence monies, loan applications, insurance claims and other necessities for emergency victims.

The post-emergency recovery period would begin as early as feasible. During this period, the State OES Director, through the designated SCO, would coordinate the efforts of appropriate federal, state, local, and Red Cross officials to implement state and federal assistance programs and establish support priorities. There are several major objectives of the recovery period. These are reinstatement of family autonomy, provision of essential public services, permanent restoration of private and public property; reinstatement of public services; and research to uncover residual hazards, advance knowledge of disaster phenomena, and improvement of future emergency operations.

Once the major field tasks associated with emergency assistance and restoration of public safety and basic services has been accomplished, the Town's EOC is deactivated. However, post-emergency tasks, such as record keeping and receipt submittal, are still necessary and would be completed as quickly as possible following de-activation of the EOC.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Town has a comprehensive emergency plan in place. The emergency plan will continue to be upgraded over the near term to ensure compliance with new federal requirements. Plans and systems must be maintained and upgraded as needed to keep pace with population growth, new construction, business development, and growth-induced circulation issues.

Compliance with relatively new federal regulations associated with the NIMS system is likely to continue to evolve over the next several years, as federal, state, and local jurisdictions confer to determine how best to implement them within local communities. This on-going task over the may require additional staffing to ensure compliance with federal requirements by annual deadlines.

As discussed above, the Town utilizes the County-owned TENS reverse-911 disaster notification system. While useful, the system provides only very basic information to residents. A Town-owned system, wherein messages can be customized to guide residents on appropriate actions, apprise of changing conditions, or to issue evacuation warning or alerts, would constitute a substantial improvement and assist the Town's emergency preparedness efforts. The Town should confer and consult with federal, state, County and local funding sources to identify and apply for funding to purchase such a system, either on its own or as a shared resource with other local cities and communities. A partnership with the City of Victorville may be worthy of consideration for this resource, by virtue of the existing shared dispatch center.

Nursing homes, licensed daycare facilities and private schools, all of which serve potentially vulnerable populations, are required to develop disaster plans. However, since these are non-public agencies, they may not be part of established communications networks or back up systems. The Town should fully cooperate and coordinate with the County to provide CERT training at these facilities. The Town should also provide the County with lists of Homeowner's Associations, local businesses and volunteer groups that would benefit from the CERT training and augment community awareness and preparation for emergency situation.

The Town currently has no large stockpile of food, water or emergency medical supplies that could serve the general population. Although storage capacity for a large, centralized stockpile is an issue, the Town should explore the possibility of locating smaller stockpiles, or caches, at locations throughout Town. Potential locations could include schools, medical offices, and businesses. The Town should collaborate with the County to use the CERT training sessions to recruit community assistance with this need.

The Town has established evacuation routes, however, these roadways would not have sufficient capacity to accommodate a mass evacuation. Further, such an evacuation must be extensively pre-planned and coordinated with emergency operations centers and critical facilities in surrounding communities and the County to ensure their ability to receive and provide for evacuees. The County has begun preparing mass evacuation plans and has slated the high desert region for this effort in the near future. The Town should continue to consult with the County in this regard, and should also initiate its own efforts to plan for large-scale emergency events.

GOAL, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS

Goal

A detailed, integrated and comprehensive emergency preparedness plan for the Town, ensuring a high level of readiness and responsiveness to man-made and natural disasters of any scope, and which maximizes response capabilities of the Town, Apple Valley Fire Protection District, Sheriff's Department, County, State and Federal governments.

Policy 1.A

The Town shall maintain and update its Multi-Hazard Functional Planning Guidance document to ensure maximum operational functionality and to incorporate federal mandates by required deadlines.

Program 1A.1

The Town shall maintain close communication and coordination with San Bernardino County to ensure compliance with the federal NIMS program.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, San Bernardino County Emergency Services Department.

Schedule: 2009, Ongoing.

Policy 1.B

The Town shall maintain and update the Apple Valley Multi-Hazard Functional Planning Guidance document to keep it current with staffing and technical capabilities of the Town and cooperating agencies.

Program 1.B.1

Periodically schedule and direct the review and revision of the Apple Valley Multi-Hazard Functional Planning Guidance document.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, Apple Valley Fire Protection District Chief, Sheriff's Department, San Bernardino County Emergency Services, Other Town Departments.

Schedule: Every two years.

Policy 1.C

The Town shall establish a mass evacuation plan in coordination with the County of San Bernardino and other high desert cities and communities.

Program 1.C.1

Through appropriate regional organizations, the Town shall coordinate with adjoining cities, San Bernardino County, and Caltrans for the development of a multi-agency emergency response plan to facilitate the designation of emergency evacuation and supply routes into and out of the Town in the event of a large-scale disaster requiring mass evacuation, and that provides expeditious and timely repair to major streets and highways damaged by earthquakes, flooding or other disasters.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, Apple Valley Fire Protection District Chief, Sheriff's Department, San Bernardino County Emergency Services, cities of Victorville, Adelanto and Hesperia, Caltrans.

Schedule: 2009, Ongoing.

Policy 1.D

The Town shall identify and establish emergency appropriate locations for emergency supply stockpiles.

Program 1.D.1

Through County-provided CERT training or other appropriate community venues, the Town shall recruit de-centralized locations where stockpiles of food, water and emergency medical supplies may be stored and maintained.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, Public Works Department, San Bernardino County Emergency Services.

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.E

The Town shall identify and pursue funding sources to augment or replace existing emergency preparedness systems, including the County-owned Telephone Emergency Notification System.

Program 1.E.1

Through Federal, State or County sources, the Town shall, on its own or in conjunction with other local cities and communities, including the City of Victorville, identify funding sources to obtain all or a portion of funds needed to purchase a Town-owned Telephone Emergency Notification System.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, Apple Valley Fire Protection District, San Bernardino County Emergency Services, cities of Victorville, Adelanto and Hesperia.

Schedule: By end of 2009

Policy 1.F

The Town shall cooperate and coordinate with San Bernardino County Emergency Services, local utility purveyors and other agencies and utilities in the preparation of public information materials to assist residents, visitors and business owners in responding to local disasters and emergencies.

Program 1.F.1

The Town shall coordinate and cooperate with County Emergency Services, local Water Districts, Southern California Edison, Southwest Gas, and other agencies and utilities in the development and dissemination of information and instructions on appropriate actions in the event of a local disaster or emergency.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, San Bernardino County Emergency Services, SCE, Southwest Gas, all Water Districts.

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.F.2

Coordinate with the County to facilitate with appropriate public and quasi-public agencies and private organizations to assure that CERT training incorporates a public information program to advise the community on how to prepare for and cope in a local disaster or emergency.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, San Bernardino County Emergency Services, Apple Valley Unified School District, Jess Ranch Heart, private schools, nursing homes, and various local business organizations

Schedule: Ongoing

Program 1.F.3

Encourage and train community volunteers to assist police and fire personnel during and after a major emergency.

Responsible Agency: Town Manager, Emergency Services Manager, San Bernardino County Emergency Services.

Schedule: Ongoing

Policy 1.G

The Town shall thoroughly consider and assess vulnerability to natural and manmade disasters or emergencies when reviewing proposals for the siting and development of critical and essential public/quasi-public facilities.

Program 1.G.1

In order to assure the maximum possible protection from environmental and manmade hazards, including earthquakes and flooding, the Town shall consider their vulnerability to natural and manmade disasters and emergencies when reviewing proposals for critical and essential facilities, as well as sensitive land uses.

Responsible Agency: Planning Division, Public Works Division, Apple Valley Fire Protection District.

Schedule: Ongoing