



CHAPTER 11

SAFETY ELEMENT

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11.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Safety Element is to reduce the potential risk of death, injuries, property damage, and the economic and social dislocation resulting from hazards such as fires, floods, earthquakes, landslides and other hazards. The General Plan provides policies and standards for the type, location, intensity, and design of development in areas of potential hazards. The intent of this element is to understand and minimize risks associated with each specific type of hazard so the City government and public may make informed decisions about land use and development throughout the City. The Element includes goals and policies for both the Police and Fire Departments that serve the City of Garden Grove. Background and existing information for the Element can be found in the General Plan EIR.



The Garden Grove Fire Department responds to fire emergencies, release of hazardous toxic substances, and medical emergencies.

11.2 AUTHORITY FOR ELEMENT

The State of California Government Code Section 65302(g) requires that a General Plan include

"...a safety element for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risk associated with the effects of seismically induced surface ruptures, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mudslides and landslides; subsidence, liquefaction and other seismic hazards identified pursuant to chapter 7.8 (commencing with §2690) of the Public Resources Code, and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding and wild land and urban fires."

Policies and information for this Element are contained in the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (Public Resources Code Section 2621, et seq.), the Seismic Hazards Mapping Act (Public Resources Code Section 2690, et seq.) and the Unreinforced Masonry Law (Government Code Section 8875, et seq.).



11.3 KEY THEMES AND VISION FOR GENERAL PLAN

CRIME REDUCTION AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

City leaders have adopted a community value that Garden Grove shall be a place where residents feel safe in their neighborhoods and community. Community residents are particularly interested in reducing crime, eliminating drugs and gang activities, and enhancing property conditions through property maintenance.

While citywide crime has increased as the population has grown over the last decade, incidences of violent crime reduced approximately seven percent from 2006 to 2007 and non-violent crime reduced over one percent during that same period.¹ According to the Police Department Captain, Garden Grove saw a decrease in Part 1 crimes² until early 2007, at which time the number of crimes began to level out.³ Citizen participation in community policing and youth programs provides additional opportunities to improve safety citywide. Existing community policing efforts involve residents in crime prevention through neighborhood watch groups, and other cooperative ventures with local law enforcement. Despite the minor drop in crime instances from 2006 to 2007, and existing community efforts, crime prevention in Garden Grove remains a high priority and continued community participation and programs are vital to improving safety. The challenge for the future is maintaining adequate Garden Grove Police Department staffing to accommodate increased densities and population growth.

Enhancing property conditions within neighborhoods are not only aesthetically appealing, but it has also shown to reduce crime and improve neighborhood safety. Basic deferred property conditions such as high weeds, run-down structures, broken windows, and graffiti, are more inviting to criminals, and give the appearance that no one is paying attention to the area. Conversely, a nice, neat, compliant neighborhood conveys a message that eyes are on the street, residents care, and activities within the neighborhood are also being observed. The most basic form of property maintenance is achieved through the City's code enforcement. Identifying and remedying minor violations improves the condition of the area and, therefore, the neighborhood's safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Natural and man-induced disasters such as floods, earthquakes, terrorists' attacks, and release of hazardous waste can occur with little or no warning, and can set into motion a number of other disasters, including widespread fire, releases of hazardous materials, and disruption of utility services. It is essential to have an understanding of potential disasters/emergencies and be properly prepared to have the most efficient disaster preparedness, emergency response, and disaster recovery. With proper planning, there are resources available to handle short-term response, there are procedures in place to handle larger disasters and there are plans for recovery.

The City of Garden Grove has a detailed Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), which provides the basis for the City's emergency planning, identifies the Emergency Operations Centers, and

¹ Violent Crimes consist of homicide, robbery, assault, forced rape; non-violent crime consists of burglary, larceny, and auto theft. Garden Grove Police Department, Helena Elsousou, April 24, 2008.

² Homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/theft, auto theft, and arson are considered Part 1 crimes

³ Captain Mike Handfield, Garden Grove Police Department, telephone conversation, May 1, 2008.



indicates the personnel responsible for managing the emergency operations systems.⁴ Garden Grove is part of the Operational Area of Orange County.

The Garden Grove Fire Department responds to fire emergencies, release of hazardous toxic substances, and medical emergencies from their seven local Fire Stations. Exhibit SAF-1, Fire Stations, shows the locations of fire stations throughout Garden Grove. As the type of built environment has changed in the City of Garden Grove, the Fire Department has reviewed and adapted its operation. With the increase in taller, higher residential density or mixed use projects, the Fire Department has developed new requirements for the building floor plans and determined areas in the City where an increase in facilities and support are needed. The Fire department also faces the challenge of maintaining adequate staffing levels to accommodate future growth. Fire Stations No. 6 and No. 7 are currently temporary stations and have less staffing and resources than the City's other five stations. These facilities will require replacement and expansion to accommodate anticipated future growth.⁵

Seismic threats of particular concern in Garden Grove are liquefaction and dynamic settlement of underlying soils. A majority of the City is subject to liquefaction; refer to Exhibit SAF-2, Liquefaction Zone. With respect to dynamic settlement, the City has areas of moderate and high dynamic settlement potential; refer to Exhibit SAF-3, Dynamic Settlement. The areas of moderate potential are located in the northwest and eastern portions of the City, while the areas of high potential are located in the central portion of the City, generally near Euclid Street. Structural vulnerabilities in older buildings that are less earthquake resistant are most likely to contribute to the largest source of injury and economic loss as a result of an earthquake. Garden Grove is also susceptible to storm flooding which poses a primary hazard to the eastern third of the City (refer to Exhibit SAF-4, Flood Zones).

Hazardous or extremely hazardous materials pose a threat to citizens and visitors. Materials are used, stored, and manufactured by households and businesses in the City, transported across the City's highways, streets and railways, and travel through pipeline distribution systems transecting the City. In addition to preparation provided in the Emergency Operations Plan, the Garden Grove Fire Department maintains a Hazardous Materials Area Plan, which is in the process of being updated. Additional information is provided in the General Plan EIR.

11.4 GOALS, POLICIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

This Element is organized into goals, policies, and implementation programs. A description of each is provided in Chapter 1, Introduction. It is important to note that the implementation programs are specific actions to carry out all of the preceding goals and policies.

CRIME REDUCTION: SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

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| Goal SAF-1 | Ongoing collaborative efforts between the community and the Garden Grove Police Department will assist in reducing and preventing crime in the City. |
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Policy SAF-1.1 Provide opportunities for community involvement in crime prevention and control through community policing and other public participation programs.

⁴ City of Garden Grove, Emergency Operations Plan, November 2003.

⁵ David Barlag, Deputy Chief, Garden Grove Fire Department, electronic mail, April 30, 2008.



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| Policy SAF-1.2 | Provide regular opportunities for communications between the Police Department and community members. |
| Policy SAF-1.3 | Promote police outreach efforts to the diverse cultural communities, church leaders, Neighborhood Advisory Networks, homeowner associations, and apartment management associations. |
| Policy SAF-1.4 | Provide public education about Community Enforcement Techniques. |
| Policy SAF-1.5 | Continue to build community confidence in neighborhood police personnel. |
| SAF-IMP-1A | Continue Police Department programs such as the Community Policing Strategy. |
| SAF-IMP-1B | Continue and encourage Neighborhood Watch programs community-wide. |
| SAF-IMP-1C | Encourage community members to accompany police on regular patrols in their neighborhood and throughout the City. |
| SAF-IMP-1D | Work with criminal justice agencies and community groups to support programs that offer information about community policing, reporting of child and adult abuse and neglect, and other crime prevention techniques. Information should be provided in the languages understood by members of the most affected community or by a majority of the community of the affected community members. |
| SAF-IMP-1E | The Police Department will continue to conduct annual needs assessments of police facilities, equipment and personnel to plan and ensure that future growth of Garden Grove Police Department is commensurate with future development in the City. |
| SAF-IMP-1F | Encourage the Police Department to conduct outreach efforts in neighborhoods and ethnic communities throughout the City. |

CRIME REDUCTION: INFRASTRUCTURE AND DESIGN

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| Goal SAF-2 | Crime reduction can be achieved through public facility and infrastructure improvements and the use of crime reducing design techniques. |
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| Policy SAF-2.1 | Remedy problems with existing public facilities that have the potential to encourage criminal activity |
| Policy SAF-2.2 | Encourage Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) techniques; design that discourages crime and promotes pedestrian safety, for all new development and redevelopment projects. |
| Policy SAF-2.3 | Identify specific high crime areas in the City and encourage and, when feasible, create plans/strategies to improve these areas. |
| Policy SAF-2.4 | Work with law enforcement agencies and community groups to promote litter pick-up, graffiti removal, basic repairs, and other neighborhood beautification efforts. |

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| SAF-IMP-2A | Encourage site design using the following: increased pedestrian-level lighting, pedestrian routes that avoid blind corners and provide escape route choices, low fences or well-placed landscaping, and building entrances visible from public streets. |
| SAF-IMP-2B | Encourage mixed use development throughout the City in order to decrease commercial areas that are left vacant during nighttime hours. |
| SAF-IMP-2C | Involve law enforcement agencies in the design and planning phases of ABC licensed establishments to reduce design elements that conceal or encourage criminal activity. |
| SAF-IMP-2D | Ensure that signage and street markings at crosswalks provide for pedestrian safety. |
| SAF-IMP-2E | Involve law enforcement agencies in the design review of new and rehabilitated buildings to ensure basic safety measures and surveillance access are achieved. |
| SAF-IMP-2F | Continue to locate police sub-stations in those areas of the City particularly vulnerable to crime. |
| SAF-IMP-2G | Explore the use of new surveillance technologies that provide additional ways for the Police Department to monitor and more quickly respond to crime. |
| SAF-IMP-2H | Develop, where necessary and feasible, a parking program for on-street parking in high crime residential neighborhoods. |

CRIME REDUCTION: YOUTH AND GANG-RELATED ACTIVITIES

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| Goal SAF-3 | The City seeks to reduce the number of gang-related, violent or criminal acts perpetrated, with specific emphasis on youth. |
| Policy SAF-3.1 | Encourage programs and efforts to discourage youth from participating in gang-related activities. |
| Policy SAF-3.2 | Provide immediate consequences for minor criminal behavior. |
| Policy SAF-3.3 | Support citywide support programs and social services that address domestic abuse, addictions, and family services. |
| SAF-IMP-3A | Continue to use the graffiti removal programs, restitution programs, or other effective programs. |
| SAF-IMP-3B | Continue the implementation of a comprehensive Youth Violence Reduction Program incorporating education, intervention, and enforcement strategies. |
| SAF-IMP-3C | Develop and provide jobs programs for youth in both the public and private sector in order to help reduce crime. |

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| SAF-IMP-3D | Enhance School Programs by working with schools to support and expand after-school recreation, youth mentoring, conflict resolution, team building, self-awareness, and community involvement programs. |
| SAF-IMP-3E | Create effective recreation and mentoring programs that engage all ethnicities. |

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

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| Goal SAF-4 | Community members must be made aware of potential environmental hazards, how they should prepare for these instances, and how they should respond. |
| Policy SAF-4.1 | Advise and provide information to the public regarding the availability of local area environmental studies, sources of hazard information, and public services. |
| Policy SAF-4.2 | Continue and expand the public awareness programs conducted by the Fire Department, and other agencies as appropriate. |
| Policy SAF-4.3 | Provide the public with information identifying accessible evacuation routes for fire, geologic, and other hazards. |
| SAF-IMP-4A | Keep the public informed as to the location of important emergency facilities, such as the Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). |
| SAF-IMP-4B | Continue to develop and conduct public education and awareness programs and seminars, which promote individual fire prevention and safety. |
| SAF-IMP-4C | Identify and promote locations where information on public safety is available to the public. |
| SAF-IMP-4D | Provide and inform the public of available educational guides promoting structural and nonstructural earthquake safety. This includes natural gas safety, water heater bracing, and installation of automatic natural gas shut-off valves in buildings; and retrofitting of older buildings and securing nonstructural elements of a building to prevent the falling or throwing of objects. |

FIRE HAZARDS AND PUBLIC HEALTH

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| Goal SAF-5 | Public harm from fire and health emergencies shall be minimized. |
| Policy SAF-5-1 | Continue to develop and enforce construction and design standards related to fire prevention. |
| Policy SAF-5.2 | Ensure that the City has adequate resources to respond to health and fire emergencies, such as Fire Stations, personnel, and equipment. |

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| SAF-IMP-5A | Continue to require installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems in all new structures and existing structures undergoing substantial remodeling, and provide incentives for sprinkler installation in all other habitable structures. |
| SAF-IMP-5B | Require street addresses on commercial buildings to more readily facilitate emergency response. |
| SAF-IMP-5C | Continue to refer land development and building permit applications to the local fire district for review, and incorporate their recommendations as conditions of approval as necessary to ensure public safety. |
| SAF-IMP-5D | Continue to require compliance with all provisions of the most recently adopted version of the California Fire Code (with local amendments). |
| SAF-IMP-5E | Provide an adequate number of trained and certified emergency and medical technicians to address the increased medical demands due to an increase in residential density. |
| SAF-IMP-5F | Continue to provide adequate staffing of fire response personnel based upon changing conditions, density, and development type. |
| SAF-IMP-5G | Continue the Water Services Department's maintenance program dedicated to maintaining the quality of the City's water storage and distribution system, as well as to increase the water supply capacity. |
| SAF-IMP-5H | Continue to participate in cooperative agreements with the County and appropriate cities to provide fire and medical services in an effective manner, and continue to explore opportunities to expand the programs provided through these agreements. |
| SAF-IMP-5I | Adopt standards that set the number of personnel per response and response times (NFPA-1710). |
| SAF-IMP-5J | Continue to implement and update, as necessary, the Fire Department's long-range plan and budget. |

SEISMIC AND GEOLOGIC HAZARDS

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| Goal SAF-6 | Risk associated with seismic activity and geologic conditions to people and property shall be minimized. |
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| Policy SAF-6.1 | Avoid or minimize to the greatest extent feasible, hazards resulting from development on unstable ground conditions. |
| Policy SAF-6.2 | Encourage rehabilitation or elimination of structures susceptible to collapse or failure in an earthquake. Historic buildings shall be treated with special consideration in order to ensure their preservation. |
| Policy SAF-6.3 | Ensure that new structures are seismically safe through the proper design and construction. The minimum level of design necessary would be in accordance with seismic provisions and criteria contained in the most recent version of the |



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| | State and County Codes. Construction shall require effective oversight and enforcement to ensure adherence to the earthquake design criteria. |
| SAF-IMP-6A | Protect public health and safety through the appropriate identification and rehabilitation of public facilities. |
| SAF-IMP-6B | Adopt the most current versions of State or County building, or other relevant, codes. |
| SAF-IMP-6C | All new development with the exception of detached single-family homes, shall be subject to the preparation and submittal of a site specific geology report prepared by a registered geologist or soils engineer to the City Building Services Division for approval. |

FLOOD HAZARDS

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| Goal SAF-7 | Minimize injury and loss of life, damage to public and private property and infrastructure, and economic and social disruption caused by inundation and flood hazards. |
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| Policy SAF-7.1 | Continue to implement adopted flood control programs and regulations. |
| Policy SAF-7.2 | Improve defensive measures against 100-year, or other State-defined scenario, flood conditions through land use and design, such as increased pervious surfaces, on-site water capture and re-use, minimized building footprints, etc. |
| Policy SAF-7.3 | Continue to monitor regional flood hazard improvements in the Santa Ana River Basin area to understand impacts to the 100-year storms within the City. |
| Policy SAF-7.4 | Encourage methods that place limits on land use activities in flood hazard areas and timely repair and maintenance of necessary flood control structures. |
| SAF-IMP-7A | Continue to update, as appropriate, and enforce provisions in the City of Garden Grove Flood Management Ordinance, regarding development in flood prone areas. |
| SAF-IMP-7B | Encourage use of Low Impact Development (LID) methods that capture and treat water on-site, therefore, reducing flows to storm drain system. |
| SAF-IMP-7C | Maintain and improve capacity levels of storm drainage service, where appropriate. |
| SAF-IMP-7D | Update the City's Master Plan of Drainage. |

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

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| Goal SAF-8 | The social and economic impacts that natural and urban disasters have on the community shall be minimized through effective emergency and disaster preparedness. |
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| Policy SAF-8.1 | Maintain and update the City's Disaster Preparedness Plan. |
| Policy SAF-8.2 | Provide self-sufficiency practices necessary after a major disaster, such as alternative water sources, food storage, first aid, family disaster plans, etc. |
| Policy SAF-8.3 | Continue with and improve upon disaster preparedness collaboration efforts city- and county-wide. |
| Policy SAF-8.4 | Ensure that adequately trained staff are available to provide essential emergency public services. |
| SAF-IMP-8A | Require that the Disaster Preparedness Plan identifies methods to prepare for and respond to local and regional man-made threats such as terrorist attacks. |
| SAF-IMP-8B | Continue to participate in cooperative agreements with the County and appropriate cities to provide emergency services in an effective manner, and explore opportunities to expand the programs provided through these agreements. |
| SAF-IMP-8C | Work with public safety and health and human services agencies within the city and county to maintain interagency and public communications systems that will provide mutual aid and be reliable during and following an emergency. |
| SAF-IMP-8D | Assist in shelter, relief, and first-aid operations. |

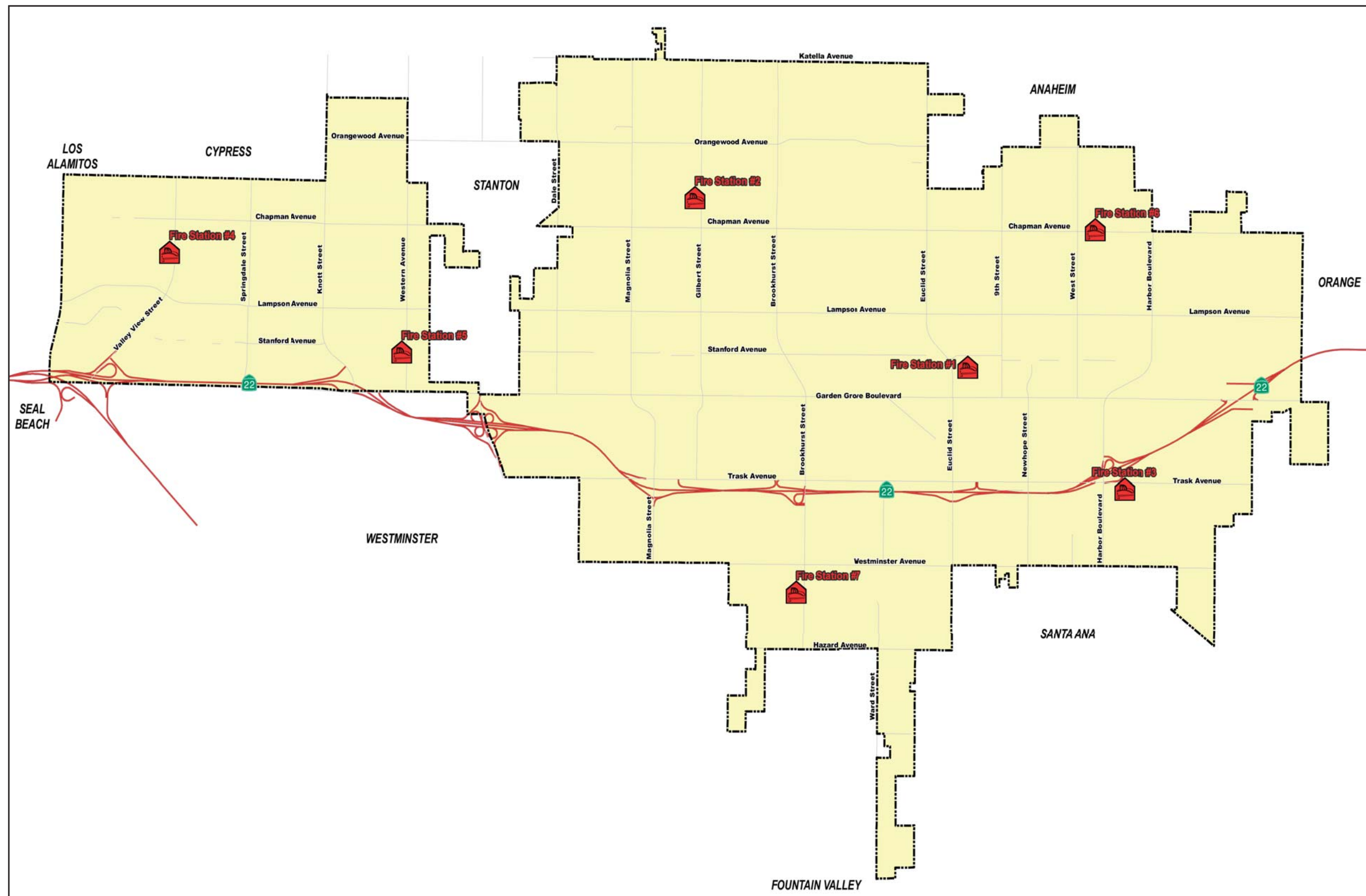
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

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| Goal SAF-9 | The threat to the public health and safety, and to the environment posed by a release of hazardous materials, shall be minimized. |
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| Policy SAF-9.1 | Continue to strictly enforce Federal, State, and local laws and regulations related to the use, storage, and transportation of toxic, explosive, and other hazardous and extremely hazardous materials to prevent unauthorized discharges. |
| Policy SAF-9.2 | Develop an educational awareness program for residents and businesses about the dangers of hazardous materials that urges the minimum use, proper storage and management of, and accurate disposal of hazardous materials. |
| SAF-IMP-9A | Provide information on available non-hazardous product alternatives, proper storage, management, and disposal of hazardous wastes on the City's website, and at City Hall and other public facilities, as necessary. |
| SAF-IMP-9B | Continue to publicize and conduct semi-annual household hazardous waste round-ups. |
| SAF-IMP-9C | Encourage government agencies to purchase and use non-toxic cleaning materials. |

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LEGEND



Fire Station Locations



City Boundary

Garden Grove Fire Stations

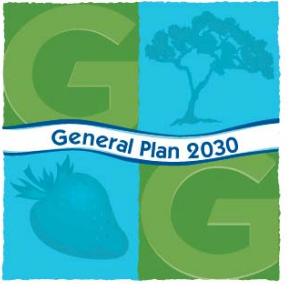
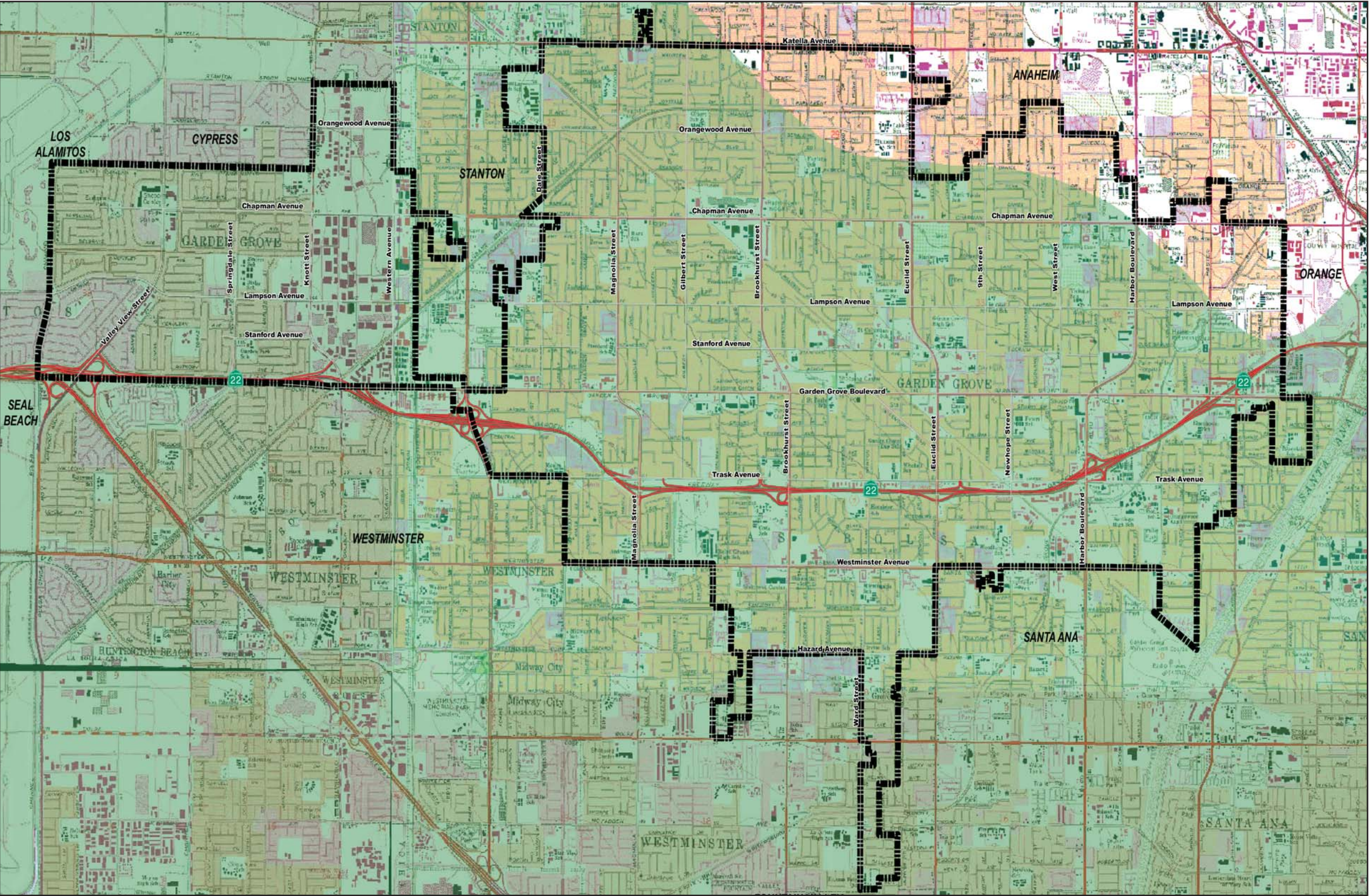
| No. | Street Address |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 11301 Acacia Parkway (Civic Center) |
| 2 | 11805 Gilbert Street |
| 3 | 12132 Trask Avenue |
| 4 | 12191 Valley View Street |
| 5 | 12751 Western Avenue |
| 6 | 12111 Chapman Avenue |
| 7 | 14162 Forsyth Lane |

Note: Fire Stations No. 6 and 7 will require replacement and expansion to accommodate anticipated future growth.


3,000 1,500 0 3,000 Feet



SOURCE: RBF Consulting, 2008.



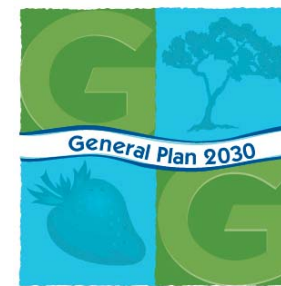
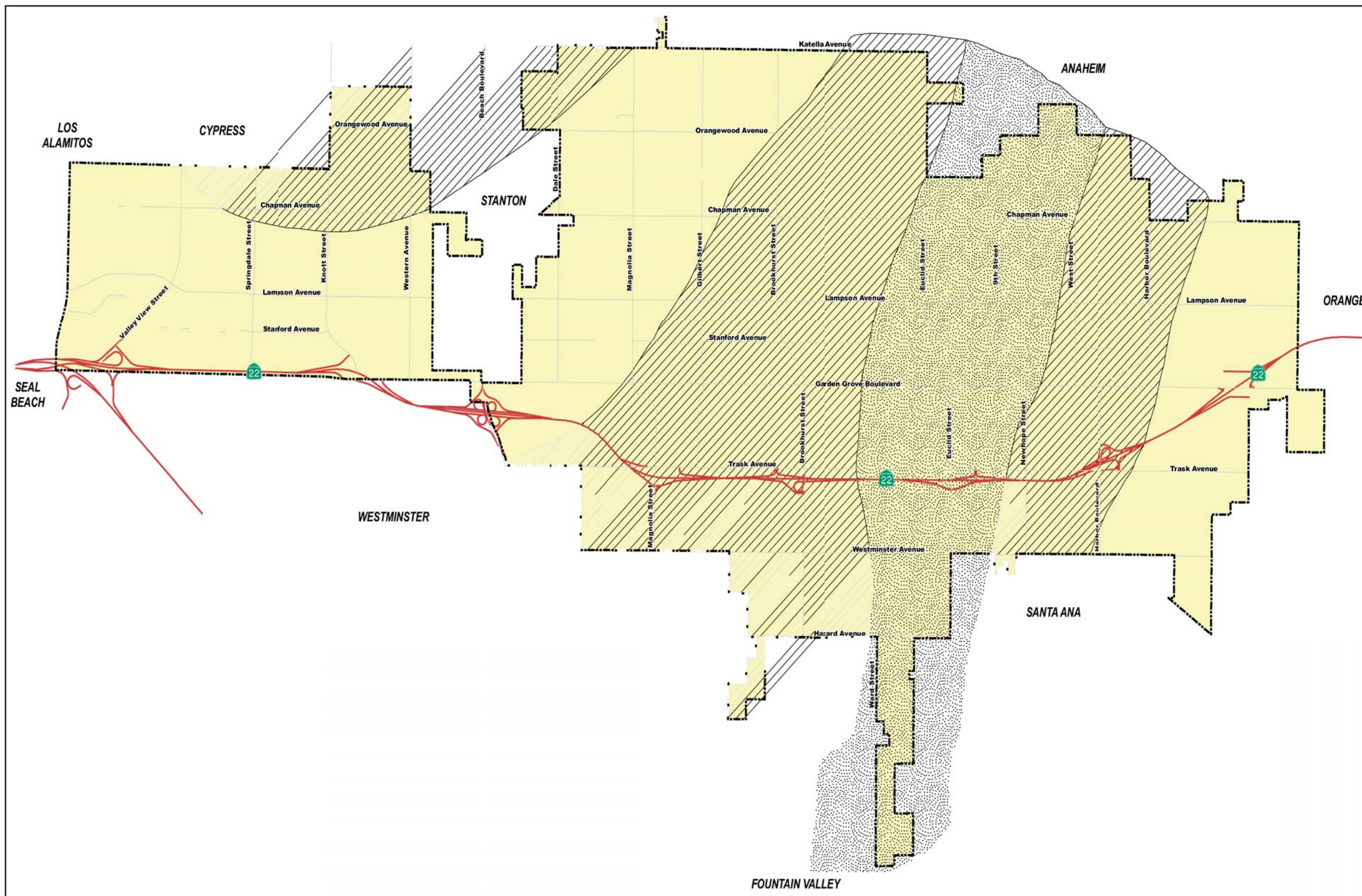
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 Liquefaction - Areas where historic occurrence of liquefaction, or local geological, geotechnical and groundwater conditions indicate a potential for permanent ground displacements such that mitigation as defined in Public Resources Code Section 2693(c) would be required.




 City Boundary



SOURCE: RBF Consulting, 2008.



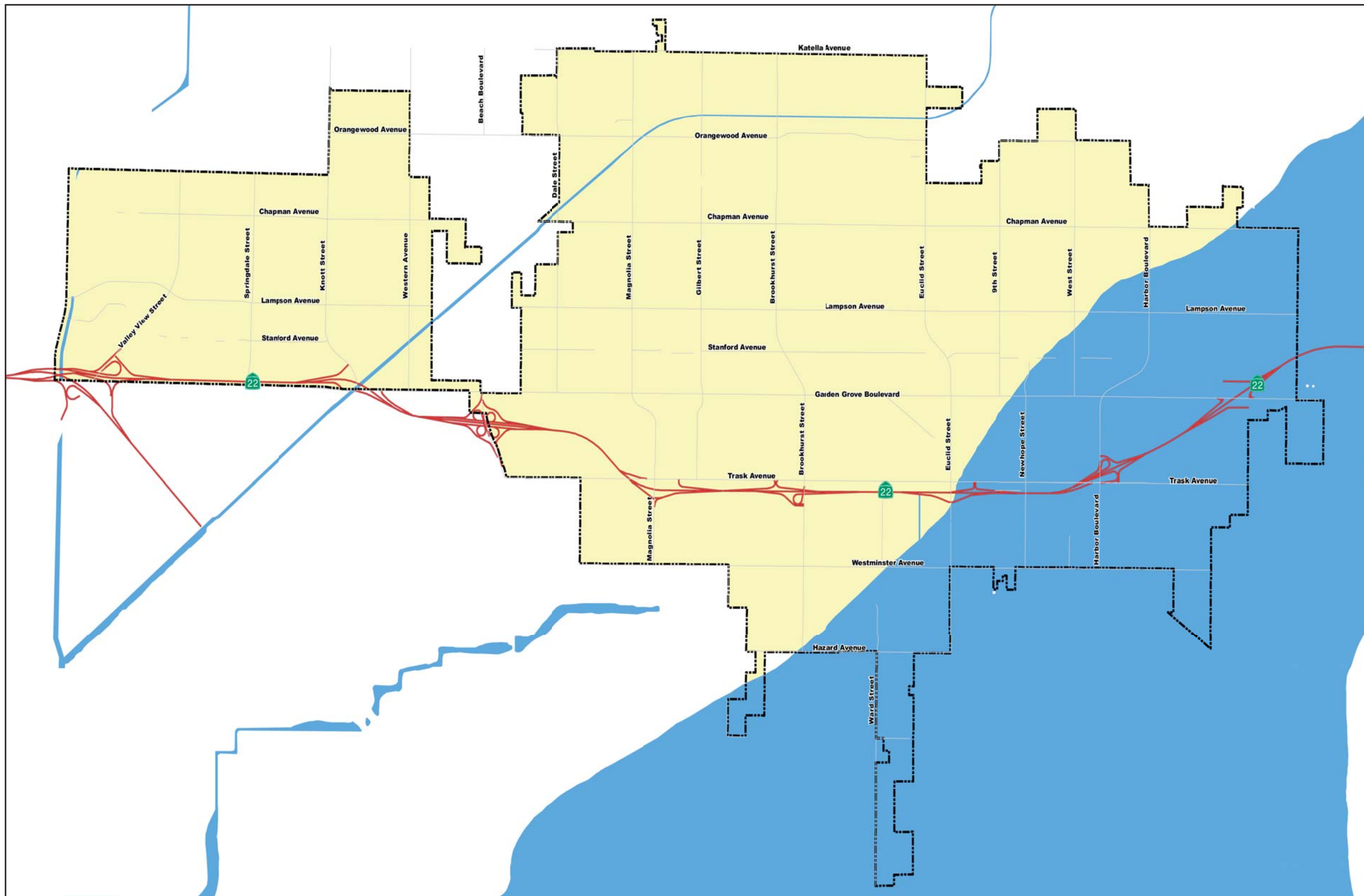
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-  Areas of Moderate Dynamic Settlement Potential
-  Areas of High Dynamic Settlement Potential
-  City Boundary

3,000 1,500 0 3,000
Feet



SOURCE: Leighton and Associates; Sherburne and Others, 1981; and the City of Garden Grove.



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- 100 Year Flood Zone
- City Boundary

3,000 1,500 0 3,000 Feet



SOURCE: RBF Consulting, 2008.