Water Resource and Land Use Planning

City of San Diego
Case Study
April 7, 2010

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City of San Diego
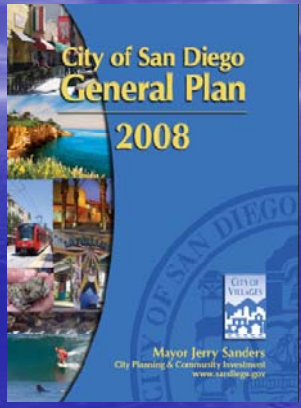City Planning & Community Investment
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General Plan

- Comprehensive plan for growth and development adopted by the City Council in March 2008

- Smart growth approach tailored for San Diego

- Addresses climate change and sustainability with policies integrated throughout plan

- Positions San Diego for Strategic Growth Council grants; federal partnership grants and other funding sources

City of San Diego
General Plan
2008

Mayor Jerry Sanders
City Planning & Community Investment
www.sandiego.gov

General Plan Overview

- Represents a shift in focus from how we develop vacant land to how we invest in our existing communities

- Emphasis on combining housing, employment, schools, civic uses at different scales, in village centers

- Achieve high quality of life, address mobility and facilities needs, and manage the City's continued growth

- Smart growth land use strategies also benefit water conservation, watershed protection, storm water quality

General Plan Water Policies

Public Facilities and Conservation Elements

- Water Supply and Infrastructure
  - Increase alternative water sources
  - Provide and maintain infrastructure
  - Expand recycled water distribution system
  - Recognize water/energy nexus
- Sustainable Development
  - Green buildings
  - Landscape design and maintenance

General Plan Water Policies

Public Facilities and Conservation Elements

- Water Conservation and Management
  - Water conservation measures
  - Watershed protection
  - Groundwater and surface water resources management
  - Manage floodplains
- Coordinated Planning
  - State and regional water resource planning
  - Water and land use planning
  - Development project review
  - Plan for emergencies and climate change impacts
- Public Education

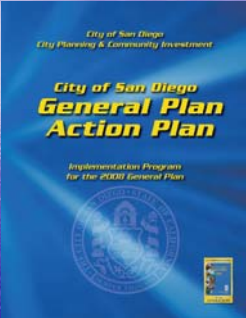## General Plan Action Plan

City of San Diego
City Planning & Community Investment

City of San Diego
General Plan Action Plan

Implementation Program for the 2008 General Plan

- Identifies actions (implementation measures) derived from General Plan goals and policies
- Organized by GP Element and timeframe
- Sets key implementation priorities
- Helps to inform the budget process
- Will be used for annual monitoring of the General Plan

Implementation

- Program level
- Community & project levels
  - Location-specific policies
  - Permit conditions
  - Environmental review
- Pursue Opportunities
  - Grant Funding
    - Climate change
    - Sustainability
    - Urban greening
    - Storm water
    - Mobility/Walkability
    - Public health
  - Partnerships

Water-Related GP Action Items

- Adopt water efficient model landscape ordinance
- Address water supply in community plan updates
- Require water conservation measures for development projects
- Conserve water and expand recycled water distribution system
- Implement urban runoff programs and regulations

GP Action Plan Items – cont.

- Evaluate and determine implementation of California Green Building Standards
- Improve energy and water efficiency of older existing structures
- Provide sustainable design services in Redevelopment areas
- Continue to expand recycled water distribution system
- Continue public outreach

Regional Collaboration

- Regional Comprehensive Plan
  - Plan for population growth and housing needs
  - Encourage growth to occur in Smart Growth Opportunity Areas
- Urban Water Management Plan Issues
  - Timing with growth forecasts
  - Regional forecast being applied at a parcel level when determining if there is adequate water supply
  - Consider a water supply contingency for land use plan updates and amendments

Internal City Collaboration

- Climate Protection
- Land Use, Housing, Open Space
- Mobility
- Clean Tech and the Economy
- Energy
- Water
- Waste Management
- Storm Water

Future Challenges

- Collaboration needed to meet multiple state mandates related to housing supply, water supply, greenhouse gas emissions, storm water, and water quality
- Interconnected water resource issues
- Aging water infrastructure, deferred maintenance
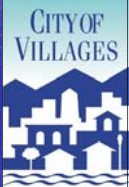- Storm water: best practices not fully known

General Plan:
http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/index.shtml

General Plan Action Plan:
http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/index.shtml

Final Program Environmental Impact Report:
http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/genplan/peir.shtml

CITY OF
VILLAGES