

# Working Draft Public Facilities, Services, and Safety Element

## INTRODUCTION

The Public Facilities, Services and Safety Element addresses the provision of public facilities and services as well as, health and safety issues affecting the Clairemont community. Additional discussion and policies related to public facilities and services are found in the Land Use and Recreation Elements of this community plan.

## PUBLIC FACILITIES, SERVICES, AND SAFETY GOALS

- Provision of public facilities to serve the residents and employees of Clairemont.
- Diversity of semi-public facilities to support the community.
- Provision of maintenance, landscaping, and lighting to serve the residents and employees of Clairemont.
- Integration of health care facilities near transit that provide a range of services to Clairemont and adjacent communities.
- Creation of a safe and livable environment by ensuring new development reduces and avoids risks posed by geologic, seismic, and hazardous materials conditions.

## 6.1. PUBLIC, SEMI-PUBLIC, AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A framework of public facilities and services is an essential component of a vibrant community. Parks, public spaces, and schools are vital to support a growing population, and police and fire and rescue services and facilities are essential for public safety.

Public facilities and services also exist in the community and are provided by other government agencies. Generally, the City does not have land use jurisdiction over land with institutional uses owned by other government agencies. However, the Community Plan policies provide guidance for public agencies when considering new and

enhanced institutional facilities. When a government agency decides to close or relocate a facility, alternative land use and proposed non-institutional uses are subject to the City's land use jurisdiction.

### PF-1: GENERAL PLAN TOPICS

*The Public Facilities, Services and Safety Element policies in the General Plan and Public Facilities Element in the Community Plan provide a framework to provide public facilities and services needed to serve the existing population and new growth.*

*Related Public Facilities Element Topics covered in the General Plan include the following and should be referenced as applicable:*

- *Public Facilities Financing*
- *Public Facilities and Services Prioritization*
- *Evaluation of Growth, Facilities, and Services*
- *Police and Fire-Rescue*
- *Wastewater and Waste Management*
- *Storm Water and Water Infrastructure*
- *Libraries and Information Infrastructure*
- *Public Utilities*
- *Healthcare Services and Facilities*
- *Disaster Preparedness and Seismic Safety*

## POLICE, FIRE, AND RESCUE

The public facilities serving Clairemont, as identified in Table 6-1 and Figure 6-1, are sufficient to meet the community's police, fire, and rescue service needs. The Urban Design Element provides direction for the design of buildings and public spaces that can help deter unlawful behavior. While building design measures can reduce the demands on emergency service providers and help to make the community safe, they will not reduce the need for adequate police, fire, and rescue service capabilities.

The potential for fire hazards are primarily concentrated within and around the community's undeveloped hillsides and canyons which include portions of Tecolote Canyon and San Clemente Canyon. Fire engines in each station are outfitted

with wildland equipment to effectively fight brush fires. The City of San Diego has 11 brush fire apparatus throughout the City, with the closest one located approximately 2 miles from Clairemont located at Fire Station 35 in the University community. Additionally, two firefighting helicopters are available at Montgomery Field for any brush fire responses. Over the life of the of the Community Plan, the Fire-Rescue Department will continue to evaluate potential upgrades, expansions, and new facilities to maintain adequate service to the community.

### EDUCATION FACILITIES

San Diego Unified School District provides public education services for the community, as shown in Table 6-1 and Figure 6-1. Charter and private schools are also located in the community and serve students from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade.

The San Diego Unified School District can address any future educational demands through various means such as limiting non-resident enrollment, reopening school facilities that are not currently being used for other purposes, and utilizing portable facilities. Public school may have the opportunity to be retrofitted and expanded with a second story to make efficient use of land, increase classroom space, and maintain outdoor play areas. The Recreation Element addresses the potential for enhancing the court and field areas at public schools as a joint use recreational facility for the community during non-school hours.

The San Diego Community College District operates Mesa College. The College opened in 1964 and has become the largest community college within the City. It provides courses in general education, lower-division transfer programs, occupational and developmental education. The College provides both associate and bachelor degrees. Since its opening, most of the buildings have been renovated or rebuilt. The College District has a Mesa College Facilities Master Plan Study and implementation program for

improvements and new facilities on the Mesa College Campus.

### LIBRARY FACILITIES

Three public branch libraries currently serve the Clairemont community which include: the Balboa Branch located at Mt. Abernathy Avenue; The Clairemont Branch located on Burgener Boulevard; and the North Clairemont Branch located on Clairemont Drive.

TABLE 6-1 COMMUNITY-SERVING FACILITIES

TYPE	FACILITY
Police	Western Division Station (Linda Vista)
Fire and Rescue	Fire Station No. 25 Fire Station No. 27 Fire Station No. 36 Fire Station No. 23 (Linda Vista) Fire Station No. 28 (Kearny Mesa)
Libraries	Balboa Branch North Clairemont Mesa Branch Clairemont Branch
Schools	
Elementary School	Alcott Whitman Hawthorne Field Cadman Lafayette Lindbergh/Schweitzer Toler Holmes Ross Sequoia Bay Park
Middle School	Creative, Performing, and Media Arts Marston
High School	Clairemont Madison
College	Mesa Community College

## SEMI-PUBLIC FACILITIES

Semi-public facilities are public-serving but not owned or operated by a public agency, and include places of worship, child care facilities, senior centers, and space for community and civic organization meetings. As Clairemont evolves, community spaces will contribute to the vitality and livability of the community when designed to enhance the public realm and support pedestrian activity and transit use.

## POLICIES

**PF-1.1** Support the operation of a police storefront within Clairemont.

**PF-1.2** Support a close relationship between community alert groups, Neighborhood Watch Programs, and Police Department increase awareness of community policing concerns.

**PF-1.3** Maintain and evaluate sufficient fire and rescue services to serve the Clairemont community, particularly in areas adjacent to open space canyons and hillsides.

- A.** Support and/or replace facilities and equipment to meet current needs.
- B.** Provide routine brush management within the City-owned open space.
- C.** Provide education and information to the community regarding fire prevention techniques and routine brush management through the establishment of Fire Safe Councils or other community-based organizations that promote fire preparedness, protection, and prevention.

**PF-1.4** Coordinate with the San Diego Unified School District to explore options for the provision of pre-kindergarten to 12th grade educational facilities to serve future students Clairemont as needed.

**PF-1.5** Encourage the efficient use of land at San Diego Unified School District schools by increasing the number of classrooms while still maintaining outdoor playground and field areas.

**PF-1.6** Ensure that new, expanded or portable buildings and public or semi-public uses on designated institutional land are compatible with the surrounding land uses and are setback from residential uses.

**PF-1.7** Support adult education and continuation classes during after school hours to provide educational opportunities for all economic segments.

**PF-1.8** Consider alternative land uses for institutional uses that close or relocate.

**PF-1.9** Encourage community facilities that accommodate a full range of programs to serve residents and cultivate civic involvement.

**PF-1.10** Encourage location of community facilities in accessible locations throughout the community that could include in mixed-use buildings, commercial centers, near schools, and near major transit stops to enhance the public realm and support pedestrian activity and transit use.

**PF-1.11** Encourage new commercial and mixed-use developments to incorporate public meeting spaces for civic engagement

## 6.2. PUBLIC UTILITIES

The City provides water and sewer utility services. The City and SDG&E have a joint program to remove overhead utility wires and place them underground. Distribution lines will continue to be undergrounded within the community. The undergrounding of transmission lines which route electricity from power plants to local power sub

stations can be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The City provides street lighting which provides safety and security for pedestrians, vehicles, and property at night.

### POLICIES

- PF-2.1 Support continued undergrounding of overhead utility and distribution lines within residential neighborhoods.
- PF-2-2 Work with SDG&E to underground transmission lines where technically and economically feasible.

## 6.3. HEALTH SERVICES

Health care facilities within the Clairemont community that provide a range of services will help to reduce the need to travel outside of the community for essential care. Medical care facilities with clinics and urgent care services within Clairemont could be beneficial for regular health care and accessibility purposes for community residents and employees as well as adjacent communities.

### POLICY

- PF-3.1 Encourage health care facilities within commercial centers and near major transit stops that provide a range of services to meet the needs of residents and employees, such as an urgent care facilities and clinics.

## 6.4. SAFETY

Reducing or avoiding risks associated with seismic and geological hazards and hazardous materials will ensure health and safety. Figure 6-1 illustrates the community's geological and seismic conditions, and Box 6-1 summarizes regulations related to health and safety concerns. For airport land use compatibility and noise compatibility, see the Land Use and Noise Elements respectively.

### SEISMIC

The most prominent fault in the community is the Rose Canyon Fault Zone, which crosses western boundary of Clairemont in a complex pattern of active and potentially active fault traces.

### GEOLOGICAL

Additional information to be provided.

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

New development could encounter isolated soil and/or water contamination on properties with past uses that include, but are not limited to: industrial, manufacturing, or related commercial uses, gas stations, dry cleaners, auto repair facilities, or fuel tanks.

### POLICIES

- PF-4.1 Consider the incorporation of passive public space and landscaped areas as part of development projects where active faults preclude the construction of new buildings.
- PF-4.2 Seek State and Federal funding, incentives, and other assistance for hazardous materials site remediation.

#### BOX 6-2: DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS RELATED TO HEALTH AND SAFETY

##### Seismic:

The City requires a geologic study for proposed developments in earthquake zones (extending 200-500 feet on both sides of known potentially or recently active fault traces). The State prohibits the construction of buildings for human occupancy across active fault traces or within 50 feet on either side, unless geological investigation proves there are no traces present.

##### Hazardous Materials:

The City requires documentation of on-site hazardous materials, addressing site and building conditions, as part of the development review process for properties that have operated with industrial or heavy commercial uses. Site remediation, when required as part of the project approval based on the proposed use and the property's condition, will reduce issues associated with potential ground contamination for new residential uses and other uses considered sensitive receptors. Conditions for site remediation will take into consideration the type of pollutants.

FIGURE 6-1 COMMUNITY-SERVING FACILITIES

