



Conservation Plan

Gardena General Plan 2006

Authority

California Government Code Section 65302(d) requires a general plan of every city to include “...a conservation element for the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources”. Also included in this element are water pollution control, recycling of solid wastes, hazardous waste control, and preservation of culturally and historically significant sites.

Purpose

The purpose of the Conservation Plan is to provide direction regarding the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources. Although the requirement of a Conservation Plan overlaps those of the Open Space Plan as well as the Land Use Plan, this Plan is distinguished by being oriented primarily toward natural resources.

The City of Gardena is a fully developed community with less than two percent of vacant land. Similar to all other cities, population growth and development in Gardena continually requires the use of finite, non-renewable resources as well as those that are renewable. Therefore, the role of the Conservation Plan is to establish goals and policies that reconcile conflicting demands on those resources.

Relationship to Other Plans and Programs

A Plan for the Gardena Willows Wetland

In April 1999, the City of Gardena adopted *A Plan for the Gardena Willows Wetland*. The purpose of this plan is to provide a comprehensive guide for preserving and enhancing the Willows Wetland’s environmental integrity and quality, while providing a place where the community can experience, appreciate, and enjoy the natural environment.



The Willows Wetland is located north of the commercial development at the northwest corner of Vermont Avenue and Artesia Boulevard. Biological resources in the Willows Wetland, as well as preservation and enhancement strategies are documented in the Plan for the Gardena Willows Wetland. Implementation of the Plan will also require compliance with the Clean Water Act, the Federal Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preserva-



tion Act, the California Fish and Game Code, and the California Environmental Quality Act.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Gardena, along with other municipalities in Los Angeles County, is required to control pollutant discharges in runoff from construction projects, commercial and industrial uses, and significant new development/redevelopment projects. Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, the City is obligated to require compliance with runoff pollution mitigation approaches known as Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Source Recovery and Recycling Element

The City of Gardena has adopted a Source Recovery and Recycling Element (SRRE) as required by Assembly Bill (AB) 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. AB 939 required the City to adopt an SRRE, and to divert 25 percent of the solid waste from its landfills by January 1, 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. The City continues to struggle to meet the solid waste diversion goals established in the SRRE.

Southern California Edison Programs

Southern California Edison offers a variety of energy conservation services under the Low Income Energy Efficiency programs (LIEE), which help qualified homeowners and renters conserve energy and control electricity costs. Eligible customers receive services from local community agencies and licensed contractors working with Edison. Services include weatherization, efficient lighting and cooling, refrigerator replacement, and energy education.

Title 24, Part 6

Title 24, Part 6 of the California Administrative Code, the Energy Efficiency Standards for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings, were established in 1978 in response to a legislative mandate to reduce California's energy consumption. Title 24 requires local jurisdiction to use energy efficient appliances, weatherization techniques and efficient cooling and heating systems to reduce energy demand stemming from new development.



Goals and Policies

CN Goal 1 Preserve and enhance the Willows Wetland and protect its natural resources.

Policies

CN 1.1: Foster the implementation of the recommendations identified in A Plan for the Gardena Willows Wetland, which was adopted by the City in April 1999.

CN 1.2: Foster environmental education, passive recreation, and volunteer programs that are compatible with the protection and enhancement of the wetland.

CN 1.3: Encourage community involvement in preserving the wetland.

CN 1.4: Promote collaboration with regional or State agencies in protecting the biological resources of the Willows Wetland.

CN Goal 2 Conserve and protect groundwater supply and water resources.

Policies

CN 2.1: Encourage water conservation through education and water-conserving technology.

CN 2.2: Comply with the water conservation measures set forth by the California Department of Water Resources.

CN 2.3: Promote the use of reclaimed water for irrigation of public lands and for industrial uses, as feasible.

CN 2.4: Increase the quantity and maintain the quality of the City's water table to provide an independent source of water.

CN 2.5: Encourage citizens to report illegal dumping and vigorously prosecute illicit dumping of toxic of hazardous materials into the ground water.

CN 2.6: Encourage and support the proper disposal of hazardous waste and waste oil. Monitor businesses that generate hazardous waste materials to ensure compliance with approved disposal procedures.



CN Goal 3 Reduce the amount of solid waste produced in Gardena.

Policies

CN 3.1: Comply with the requirements set forth in the City's Source Reduction and Recycling Element.

CN 3.2: Maximize public awareness of all source reduction and recycling programs.

CN 3.3: Encourage participation in local and County waste disposal programs for such household hazardous waste items as automotive products, paints, chemicals, tires, and batteries.

CN Goal 4 Conserve energy resources through the use of technology and conservation methods.

Policies

CN 4.1: Encourage innovative building designs that conserve and minimize energy consumption.

CN 4.2: Require compliance with Title 24 regulations to conserve energy.

CN 4.3: Encourage the residential and business community to install energy saving features and appliances in existing structures.

CN Goal 5 Protect the City's cultural resources.

Policies

CN 5.1: Maintain an inventory of the City's historical resources, including a survey of buildings of architectural, cultural or historical significance.

CN 5.2: Provide provisions in the Municipal Code to protect historical and cultural resources.

CN 5.3: Protect and preserve cultural resources of the Gabrielino Native American Tribe found or uncovered during construction.