



APPENDIX 2
COMPLIANCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT CODE



Appendix 2. Compliance With The Government Code

The California Government Code, Article 5, Sections 65300 through 65362, defines the requirements for a city or county General Plan. While the Code is amended from time to time by new legislation, for the most part these changes are relatively minor. The substance of what a General Plan is to contain, what it is to address, and how it is to be managed has been relatively stable over the last decade or more.

Provisions of the Government Code are further clarified by a recently updated document entitled, *State of California, General Plan Guidelines*, published by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research in 1998. While this document does not have the force of law, it does codify contemporary planning practice as it applies to general plans in California. These guidelines are useful in the update process and have been applied extensively in the current Rancho Cucamonga General Plan update.

The most fundamental aspect of compliance with the law has to do with the content of the General Plan. The Government Code specifies seven major topics that must be included in any General Plan: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Open Space, Noise and Safety. Typically, these subjects appear as "Elements" of a general plan and may appear as separate chapters of the document. The mandated topics may also be augmented by additional elements that deal with topics considered by the community to be critical to its future development and may also appear as separate chapters or sections of related chapters in the plan



CITY OF RANCHO CUCAMONGA GENERAL PLAN

document. As noted below, this Plan includes all mandated topics and several optional ones as well.

This updated General Plan will follow an organizational pattern established in the 1989 General Plan that has been found to work well in this community. The organization can be summarized as follows in Table A2-1, Subject Compliance with the California Government Code. Note that mandated elements are shown in standard type; optional elements are shown in *italics*.

General Plan Chapter	Corresponding Elements	Comments
I. Shaping the Future of Rancho Cucamonga: An Introduction	None	Sets the stage for the remainder of the Plan
II. The Rancho Cucamonga Vision	None	Describes the long-range vision of the community in terms of key values and characteristics the General Plan is to reflect.
III. Developing the Community	Land Use Transportation Housing <i>Public Facilities and Services</i> <i>Community Design</i> <i>Economic Development</i>	The Government Code calls for Circulation, which may be more encompassing than transportation. Linear systems, such as utilities, are covered either under Public Facilities and Services or Maintaining Public Health and Safety, depending on the type of facility.
IV. Managing Environmental Resources	Open Space Conservation	These topics are consolidated into an interrelated system of resources that contributes to the overall open space network, provide for ongoing natural and man made resource conservation, or both.
V. Maintaining Public Health and Safety	Noise Safety <i>Air Quality</i>	
VI. Implementing the General Plan	None	This is described as an initial implementation program, with a general description in Chapter VI and the more detailed program in Appendix 6.

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Further provisions of the Government Code that merit documentation include the following:

1. **Internal Consistency.** The policy thrust of the Plan should constitute some unified direction, where the direction on individual topics does not conflict with other policies in the document. This provision recognizes that priorities regarding all mandated and optional topics may not be the same, yet some common direction is still valid. In this Plan, the primary unifying ingredient is the Rancho Cucamonga Vision, a statement of values and qualities that transcend individual topics that may be the subject of policy. Moreover, a common database provides the foundation for the analysis that was completed on each of the Plan's topics.
2. **Local Relevance.** The Government Code provides for the fact that policy direction as well as the analysis underlying that direction in General Plans should be predicated on the degree to which topical issues apply to the local situation. In other words, topics must be addressed only to the extent that they are relevant to the local situation.
3. **Required Diagram.** Maps and diagrams supplementing and illustrating provisions of the text and policy direction of the Plan must be part of the document. This is accomplished through a series of map exhibits that depict land use designations and patterns, transportation routes/facilities, public facilities, resource areas, noise conditions, the pattern of public safety considerations and numerous other graphic displays of relevant information.
4. **Density/Intensity Standards.** In addition to the pattern, extent and definitions of land use designations, clarity regarding population densities and building intensities must be provided. This is accomplished through a combination of statistical tables, density ranges, building intensity floor area ratios related to the amount of land devoted to non-residential uses, design requirements that influence height and bulk characteristics, and assumptions regarding household size and employment ratios. This information has been thoroughly coordinated with the subregional and regional planning organizations: San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), respectively.
5. **Referrals.** The Environmental Impact Report has been circulated and processed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. In addition, required referrals have been made to the appropriate State agencies. The Housing Section of Chapter III, Developing the Community, and Appendix 5 of this Plan (together, constituting the



CITY OF RANCHO CUCAMONGA GENERAL PLAN

Government Code mandate for housing element scope) were referred to the Department of Housing and Community Development. Revisions were made according to comments received. Appropriate sections of Chapter V, Maintaining Public Health and Safety, including supporting technical studies, were referred to the Department of Conservation, Division of Mines and Geology for comment.

6. **Adoption.** The process for adoption of the updated General Plan specified in the Government Code, including consideration by the Planning Commission and City Council has been followed.