

Riverside County Integrated Project: An innovative model for integrating land use, transportation and conservation planning



Revitalizing the Suburbs Edward J. Blakely Center for Sustainable Suburban Development January 25, 2007 Cathy Bechtel

RCTC's Mission

RCTC

•Play a leadership role in improving mobility in Riverside County

•Oversee funding and coordination of all county public transportation

services

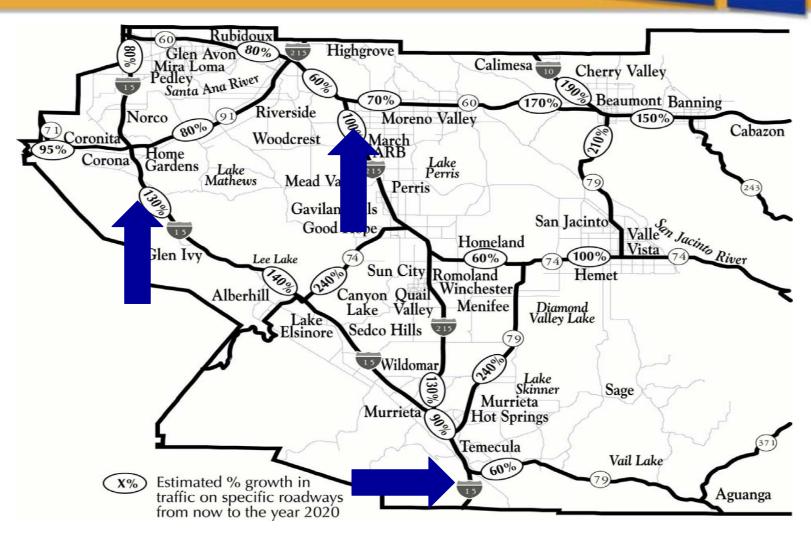
•Implementing agency for the Measure A Transportation Improvement Program

•SAFE, FSP, Transit



Traffic Volume Increases by Year 2020





Riverside County Integrated Project ~ RCIP ~



- Initiated by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors in 1999
- Recognition that land use and infrastructure decisions are driven by environmental issues
- Deal with environmental issues as part of land use and infrastructure planning

Riverside County Integrated Project ~ RCIP ~



RCIP is a Four Part Integrated and Complementary Program

- New General Plan for the County
- Habitat Conservation-MSHCP
- Special Area Management Plan-SAMP
- Major Transportation Corridors-CETAP

Overall Transportation Strategy



- Promote job growth
- Serious effort to expand freeway and arterial system
- Develop/expand transit spine network
- Promote development at transit nodes
- Have transportation integrated with conservation efforts and land use decisions

Four Priority Corridors San Bernardino Ontario (60)nino Hills (60)



MSHCP



- Is the linchpin of the RCIP
- Considers species protection as an element of planning and construction
- Adopted by all 14 cities in the western county in June 2003
- USFWS/DFG issued permits June 2004

MSHCP: Fundamentals



- Designed to protect up to 146 species (32 listed species)
- Plan area encompasses 1.2 million acres
- Planned reserve of 500,000 acres
 - >347,000 acres existing
 - **>153,000** additional reserve lands
 - >Linkages between core habitats and existing public conservation areas

MSHCP Benefits



- Provides coverage and mitigation for all western county transportation requirements and other critical infrastructure
- Umbrella Federal and State permits to "take" endangered species—streamlines regulatory review
- Open space secured
- Public access of natural areas



Greater certainty in development process

General Plan



Innovative concepts included in the new county-wide Plan:



Clustered development

*Encouraged compact development and permanent preservation of open space

Community Centers

- *Planned focal points that integrate housing, retail, office, and recreation
- *Desire to accommodate a portion of future growth by allowing increased densities to reduce sprawl

How a Transit Oasis Works

A station is located on the Metrolink or Regional Flyer network.

A Community Center is developed as a pedestrian-friendly environment.

A Transit Oasis is built as part of the Community Center.

A Transit Oasis shuttle waits for the express to arrive.

The shuttle proceeds nonstop from Station to **Station along the Transit** Oasis.

Since the Transit Oasis behaves like a light rail vehicle, it completes its loop rapidly.

The shuttle circulates all day, connecting with expresses and serving internal trips.

RCIP Accomplishments



- CETAP Recognized under E.O. 13274 for Environmental Stewardship and Transportation Infrastructure
- Plans adopted in 2003
- Regional Conservation Authority created to implement the MSHCP
- Reserve Assembly underway, almost 36,000 acres already added to reserve

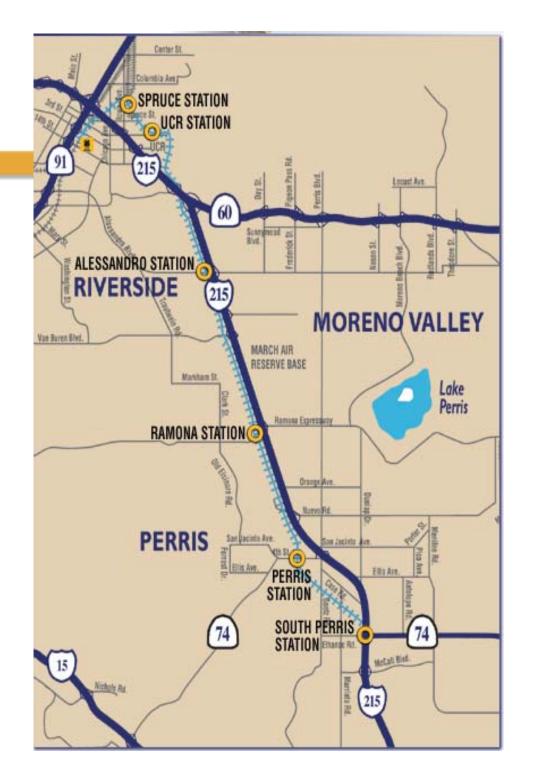
RCTC Supported Efforts



- Perris Valley Line
- Rail feasibility studies
- Express bus
- Commuter Assistance programs to support ridesharing
- Joint development/Transit Oriented Development

PVL Service Facts

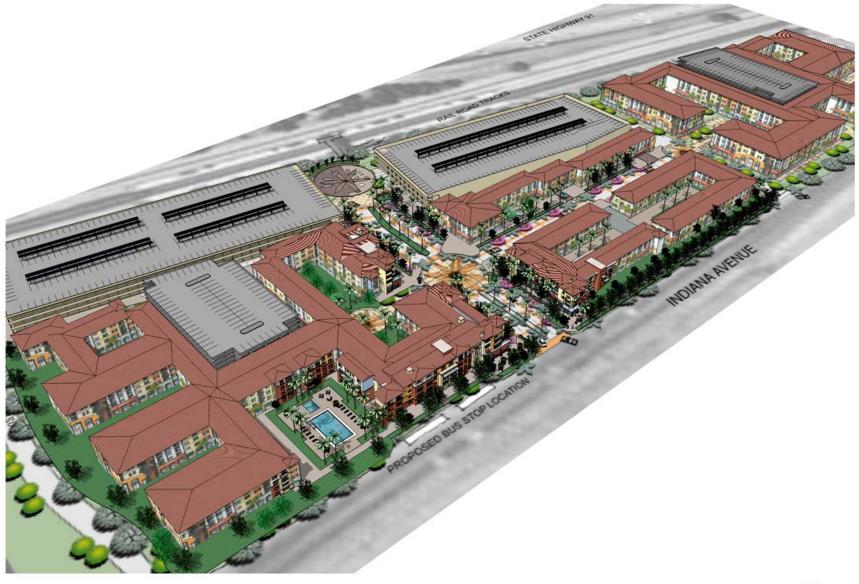
- \$179 million project cost
- 22.7 miles long
- Eight trips per day at start-up
- Travel time of 40 minutes from Perris
- Travel time of 20 minutes from Alessandro
- Extends an existing Metrolink line to more of Riverside County



Joint Development Guidelines



- Promote and enhance rail transit ridership
- Enhance and protect the commuter rail station and corridor
- Encourage comprehensive and complementary planning and development around RCTC-owned station sites
- Reduce auto use and congestion through encouragement of rail transit-linked development
- Demonstrate a fiscal benefit to the Commission based on a fair market return on public investment



GATEWAY RIVERSIDE TRANSIT VILLAGE

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA





GATEWAY RIVERSIDE TRANSIT VILLAGE

RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA



For More Information...



On the Riverside County Integrated Project:

www.rcip.org

On the MSHCP:

www.wrc-rca.org

On the General Plan:

Call or email Cathy Bechtel at: cbechtel@rctc.org (951) 787-7141

www.rctlma.org/generalplan

On RCTC or CETAP:

www.rctc.org or www.rcip.org/transportation