

From: [Soto, Ricardo](#)
To: [Bernal, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: URGENT: General Plan Update Concern
Date: Monday, November 09, 2020 4:30:16 PM
Attachments: [asthma prevalence in OC.png](#)
[childhood lead poisoning 2009-18.png](#)
[Rate of Asthma Hospitalization Among Children Ages 0-17 2017.png](#)

Sarah,

This one is not in the folder.

From: Elaine Arriola <elaine.a.arriola@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2020 3:08 PM
To: eComment <ecomment@santa-ana.org>; New General Plan <NewGeneralPlan@santa-ana.org>
Subject: URGENT: General Plan Update Concern

Good afternoon,

My name is Elaine Arriola and I am a resident in Santa Ana, one of the most vulnerable residents of the city. My family and I have gone through enough adverse experiences to have to go through yet again another. I live in one of the disadvantaged communities impacted by environmental justice. I live in Delhi area where toxic lead levels are way above hazardous levels. The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment considers anything above 80 ppm in a residential area as hazardous to health and samples have ranged from 11.4 to 2,687 parts per million, with an average soil sample of 123.1 ppm. How is this okay? It has been long overdue that the city adopts community coalitions of environmental justice concerns into the city's general plan. At the rate that environmental justice concerns are being annoyed, health conditions in Santa Ana are only going to worsen far worse than they already are. My grandma has osteoporosis, something that her doctors found shocking since she is very active still and lives a healthy lifestyle. My aunt who is now 85 was diagnosed with dementia at the beginning of this year which came suddenly. Again her doctors could not find a reason for her diagnosis other than her old age. I found it awfully, a coincidence that researchers found that adults who are exposed to high levels of lead can suffer cardiovascular issues, renal problems, osteoporosis, and cognitive deficiencies.

If it is not obvious enough, my family who is living in one of many disadvantaged communities in Santa Ana is low-income. It should not be too much of a surprise to you all since it is a known fact that environmental justice issues magnify the target against low-income BIPOC communities. I am sure you know this since you are in such a rush to adopt this general plan. My question to you is, do you care? I do want to bring light to the fact In an article on The Daily Pilot published a couple of months ago in September 2020, it was found that "Children who are exposed to lead can develop several neurological issues, including smaller brain volume, lower working memory and processing speed, more limited perceptual reasoning, poor school performance, and asthma," the study says. The amount of children who have been diagnosed with asthma is excruciatingly outrageous. Asthma prevalence was slightly higher in 2017 than five years prior. I have provided images below with the trends associated with this information. Asthma is one of the most common chronic diseases among children in the U.S. and a leading cause of hospitalizations and absences from school. Asthma

rates vary by region, demographics, **environment**, physician diagnostic practices, and access to care. Although identifying the impact of independent risk factors for asthma is difficult, **low-income and minority children are at disproportionately high risk for severe symptoms, missed school days, and emergency room visits due to asthma.**

With all this said I SUPPORT OC Environmental Justice and RiseupWillowick that the following matters MUST be addressed in the General Plan no matter how long it takes:

- We need more community engagement, especially in the neighborhoods deemed “disadvantaged communities”
- The City needs to develop a Public Health Action Plan to properly address the urgent issue of toxic lead exposures in the City.
- Ensure tenant protections for residents who seek action on toxic lead exposures
- Free blood testing for residents who might have been exposed to lead
- Reducing cumulative impacts from pollution by limiting the number of facilities in the area and no new industry in the area until community is consulted and their demands are met
- Establish caps on cumulative air pollution and base permitting decisions on overall emissions, not emissions per facility. Close or move polluters.
- Reduce exposure to pollution by cleaning up existing air pollution and creating buffer zones between polluters and homes, schools, and daycare facilities
- Install barriers or other mitigation of noise pollution
- The City should prioritize preserving existing open space and NOT development that does not provide direct benefits to the existing residents, like market-rate housing, hotels, big corporate business, should not be allowed on current open space.
- The City should finalize its Park and Recreation Master Plan before the adoption of the General Plan to ensure that policies are in place to address the deficit that will be caused by the increase in development.
- Market-rate and commercial development should not be incentivized at the current rate if it means outpacing the supply of open space
- Invest more in parks and green space, more trees, green industry, community centers, libraries, clinics
- Include anti-displacement policies in transit-oriented development, like the OC Streetcar route, Main St., Bristol St., etc.
- Place housing affordability requirements in transit-oriented development and rest of the focus areas
- Ensure the street growth strategy does not lead to the displacement of residents.
- Transform current traffic enforcement practices toward non-lethal methods that

decriminalizes traffic safety.

- Prioritize people most at risk on the street- add policy that measures safety from the barriers to travel while being a woman, queer, trans, senior, youth, (the most vulnerable).
- Prioritize shade trees or fruit trees.
- Add parking on arterial streets to reduce vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian conflicts, slow traffic speeds, and create human-leveled arterial streets.
- Make transit free for Santa Ana residents

Please delay the adoption of the General Plan until these concerns are addressed and more and better community engagement is conducted!!!!!!!!!!

I understand how much time has passed since this plan has been drafted, but in the words of Robert James Brown:

“We have got some very big problems confronting us and let us not make any mistake about it, human history in the future is fraught with tragedy ... It's only **through people making a stand against that tragedy** and being doggedly optimistic that we are going to win through.”

Lastly, in the words of CA attorney general Xavier Becerra:

"Every Californian should have the opportunity to live in a community that is healthy and safe. This means that **individuals** must be able to make informed decisions about the environment in which they live, work, and play, and **local governments must make informed choices in the planning and development of communities.**"

Please do not strip us of our right to have a say in the conditions of which we live. Please let us inform you and take us seriously.

Thank you from a very concerned resident about the future of the children and families at stake,

Elaine Arriola

References:

<https://www.latimes.com/socal/daily-pilot/entertainment/story/2020-09-10/low-income-and-predominately-latino-neighborhoods-in-santa-ana-affected-by-toxic-lead-report-says>
<https://www.ochealthinfo.com/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=118279>
https://www.ocbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CommIndicators_Report_091219-WEB.pdf
<https://www.kidsdata.org/export/pdf?cat=45>

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SANTA ANA DRAFT GENERAL PLAN UPDATE



SANTA ANA

Issues with the draft, policy analyzation

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION OUTLINE

Deconstructing the most critique applicable policies under the Core Values of the General Plan:

- Health
- Equity
- Sustainability
- Culture
- Education
- Other



Health

The people of Santa Ana value a physical environment that encourages healthy lifestyles, a planning process that ensures that health impacts are considered, and a community that actively pursues policies and practices that improve the health of our residents.



Policies that do not enhance the community's quality of life:

▶ POLICY PS-1.6 FACILITY LOCATIONS

Support land use decisions related to community facilities that preserve quality of life for the City's residents and surrounding community.

▶ POLICY CN 1.7 (INDOOR RECREATION)

Encourage new development to provide indoor recreation space when located in areas with high levels of localized air pollution or if site is adjacent to freeways or heavy industrial uses

▶ POLICY LU 3.11(AIR POLLUTION BUFFERS)

Promote landscaping and other buffers to separate existing sensitive uses from rail lines, heavy industrial facilities, and other emissions sources. As feasible, apply more substantial buffers within environmental justice area boundaries.

▶ POLICY CM-1.5 EQUITABLE RECREATIONAL SPACES

Promote the development and use of municipal buildings, indoor facilities, sports fields, and outdoor spaces for recreation that serve residents throughout the City, with priority given to areas that are underserved and/or within environmental justice area boundaries.

Equity

Our residents value taking all necessary steps to ensure equitable outcomes, expanding access to the tools and resources that residents need, and to balance competing interests in an open and democratic manner.

Policies that neglect the lived experiences of residents and ignore rather than meet the needs of the existing community:

▶ POLICY LU-1.3 EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF OPEN SPACE

Promote the creation of new open space and community serving amenities in park deficient areas , with priority given to those that are also within environmental justice area boundaries.

▶ POLICY PS-1.9 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

POLICY PS-1.9 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING Collaborate with community stakeholders to identify and encourage the development of suitable sites for housing with support services.

▶ POLICY CM-1.1 ACCESS TO PROGRAMS

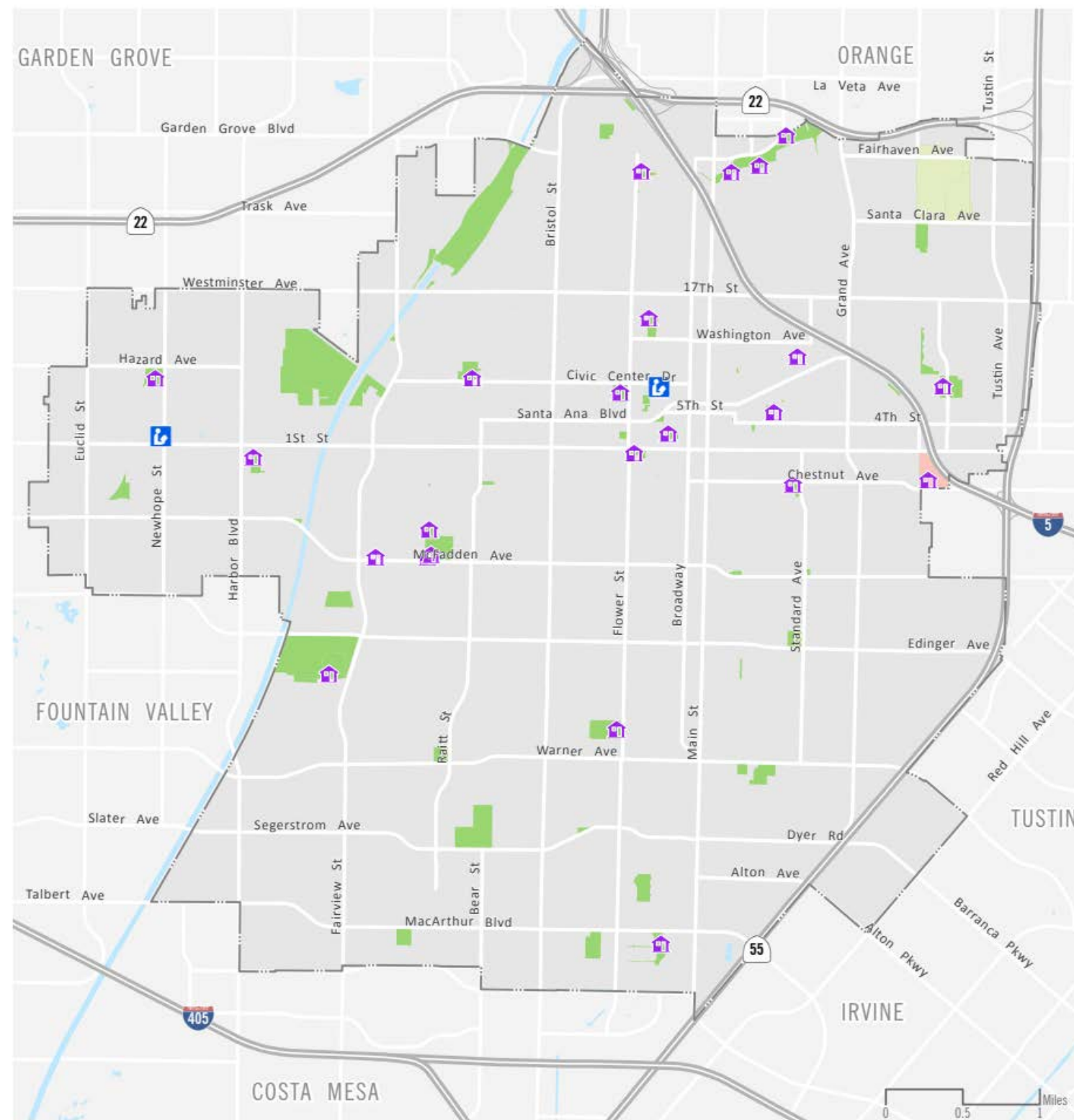
Provide and maintain access to recreational and cultural programs within walking distance of residential areas. Among areas that are underserved or suffer from a lack of access, prioritize the improvement of access for residents living within environmental justice area boundaries.

▶ POLICY LU-4.7 DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Promote mixed-income developments with mixed housing types to create inclusive communities and economically diverse neighborhoods.



FIGURE CM-1. COMMUNITY FACILITIES



Source: City of Santa Ana 2020 Date Published: 8/3/2020

- Community Center
- Parks & Recreation
- Cemetery
- Library
- Santa Ana Zoo

Figure CM-1 shows how exacerbated the resource disparities in Santa Ana are. All, but three community facilities are located in the northern part of the city.

Sustainability

Santa Ana values land-use decisions that benefit future generations, plans for the impacts of climate change, and incorporates sustainable design practices at all levels of the planning process.



Policies that put the lives of the most vulnerable at risk:

▶ POLICY CN 1.17 (INDOOR RECREATION)

Encourage new development to provide indoor recreation space when located in areas with high levels of localized air pollution or if site is adjacent to freeways or heavy industrial uses

▶ THE CITY'S VISION

The City further intends that local economic growth and diversification will reduce and ameliorate poverty, increase overall prosperity, improve health and wellness outcomes, expand housing opportunities, and increase quality of life choices available to City residents.

▶ POLICY LU 3.11(AIR POLLUTION BUFFERS)

Promote landscaping and other buffers to separate existing sensitive uses from rail lines, heavy industrial facilities, and other emissions sources. As feasible, apply more substantial buffers within environmental justice area boundaries.

▶ POLICY LU-1.3 EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF OPEN SPACE

Promote the creation of new open space and community serving amenities in park deficient areas , with priority given to those that are also within environmental justice area boundaries.

The City is not promoting sustainable alternatives to enhancing the community's quality of life. Removing affordable shopping centers such as Dollar Tree impacts low-income residents drastically.



LAND USE

[FIGURE LU-20 CONTINUED]

LANDMARK ARCHITECTURE

Form and intensity of redevelopment will result in the construction of landmark buildings.



BEFORE
SOUTH BRISTOL DISTRICT CENTER BETWEEN MACARTHUR & SUNFLOWER



Culture:

Our community values efforts that celebrate our differences as a source of strength, preserve and build upon existing cultural resources, and nurture a citywide culture of empowered residents.

Policies that profit off our culture, while revising, diluting, and erasing our history, and the people:

▶ POLICY EP 3.1 (LEVERAGE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL ASSETS)

Market the City's historic and cultural assets to increase the attraction of businesses and their employees to Santa Ana's places and destinations.

▶ POLICY LU-4.10 THRIVING DOWNTOWN

Encourage new development and enhancement of Downtown Santa Ana through creative, sustainable, and innovative design solutions.

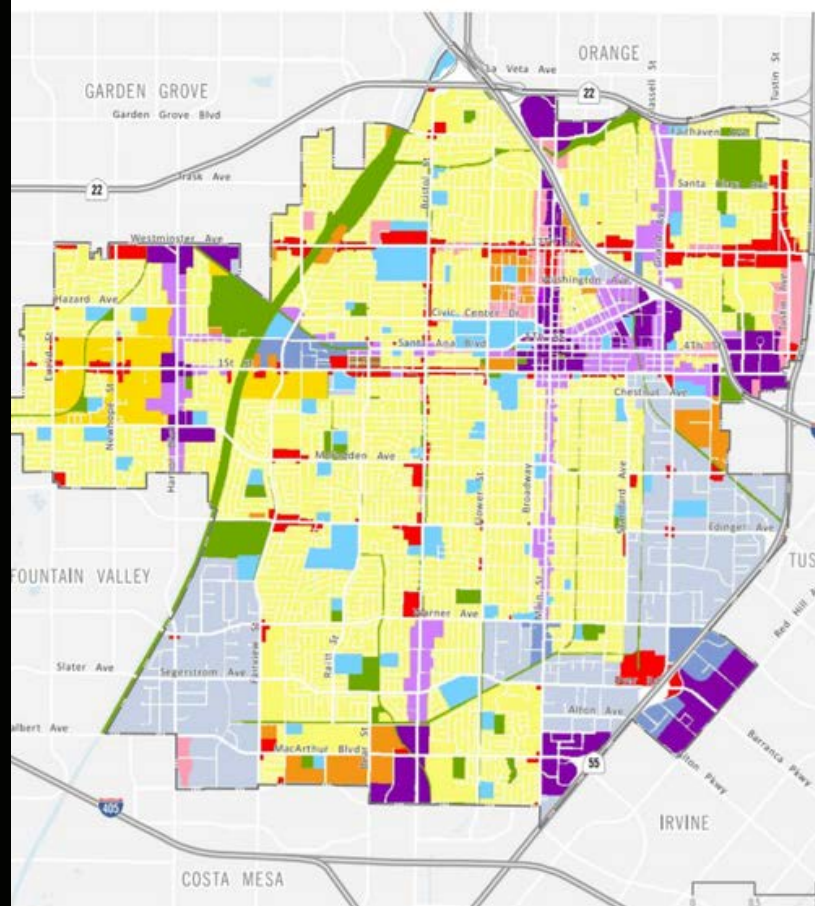
▶ POLICY LU-1.10 DOWNTOWN ORANGE COUNTY

Balance development within the downtown to continue to serve as a cultural and economic hub for existing and future residents.



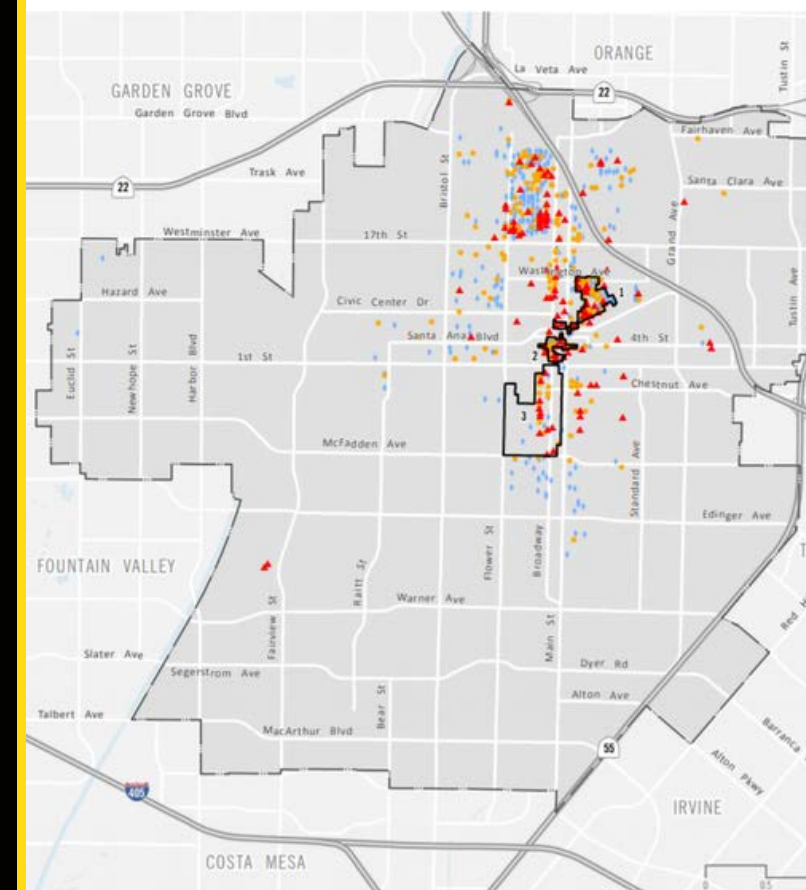
Culture is the representation of the people, of that which gives it meaning

FIGURE LU-1. LAND USE MAP



.YOU
CAN'T CHANGE
EVERYTHING
THAT EMBODIES
SANTA ANA AND
THINK A MURAL
WILL BRING IT
BACK

FIGURE HP-1. HISTORIC RESOURCES - CITYWIDE



THE ESSENCE OF
SANTA ANA IS
BEING
DEMOLISHED.

Education

We are a city that values the creation of lifelong learners, the importance of opening up educational opportunities to all residents and investing in educational programs that advance our residents' economic well being.

Policies based on an unsustained theoretical relationship with the community and ignore inevitable detrimental outcomes:

▶ POLICY PS-2.6 SCHOOL SAFETY

Collaborate with local schools to establish and implement comprehensive and coordinated services that enhance the security and safety of students, educators, and administrators on and off campus.

▶ POLICY CM-1.3 EQUITABLE PROGRAMS

Encourage cultural programs and activities of local interest that are inclusive and affordable to all.

▶ POLICY HP- 2.2 EDUCATIONAL AWARENESS

Provide educational opportunities to foster community awareness and pride in Santa Ana's history.

▶ POLICY PS-2.4 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Provide alternative methods to improve police services that support community partnerships, build public trust, and proactively address public safety issues.





Figure CM-1. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

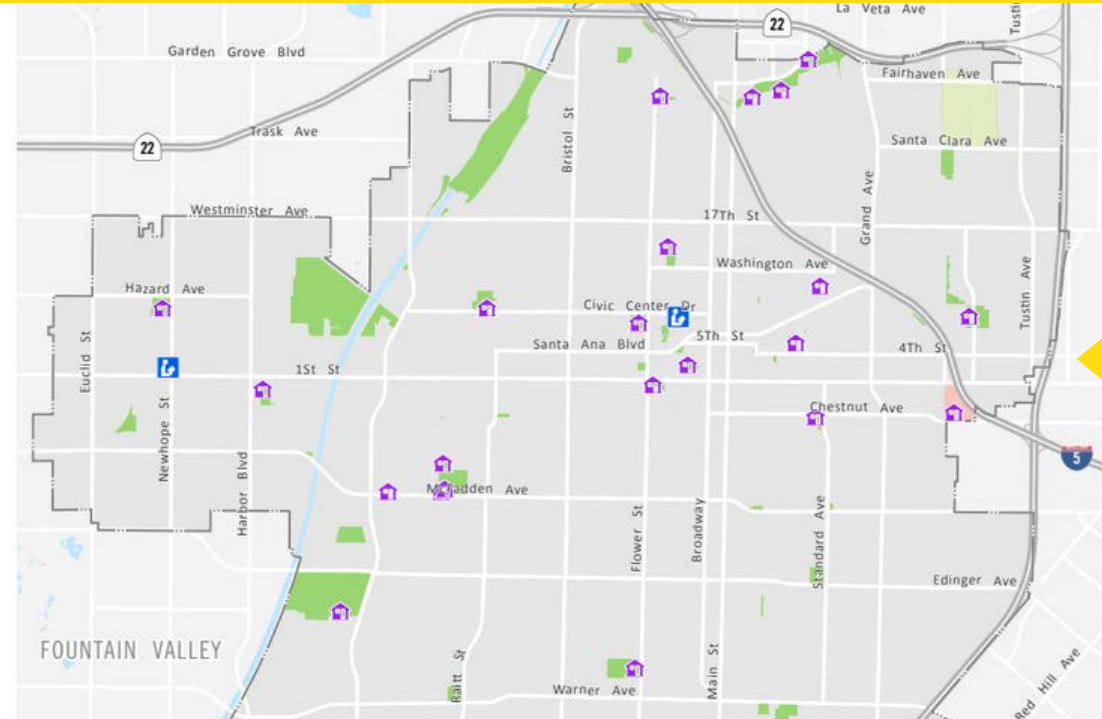


Figure CM-2. SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

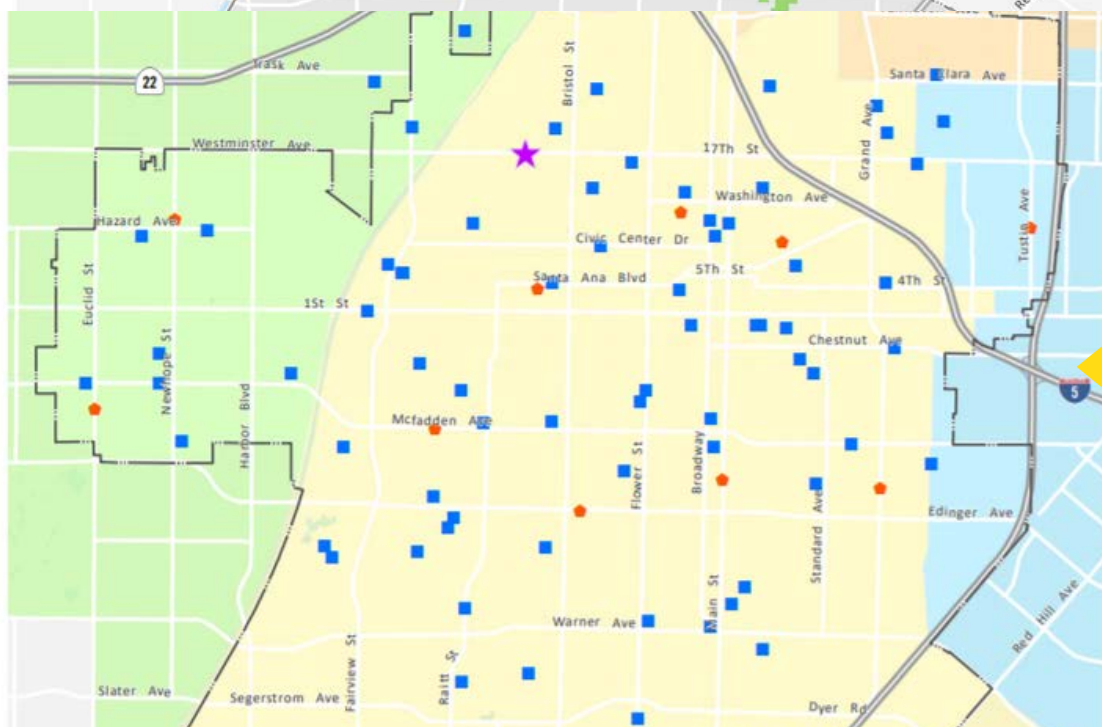
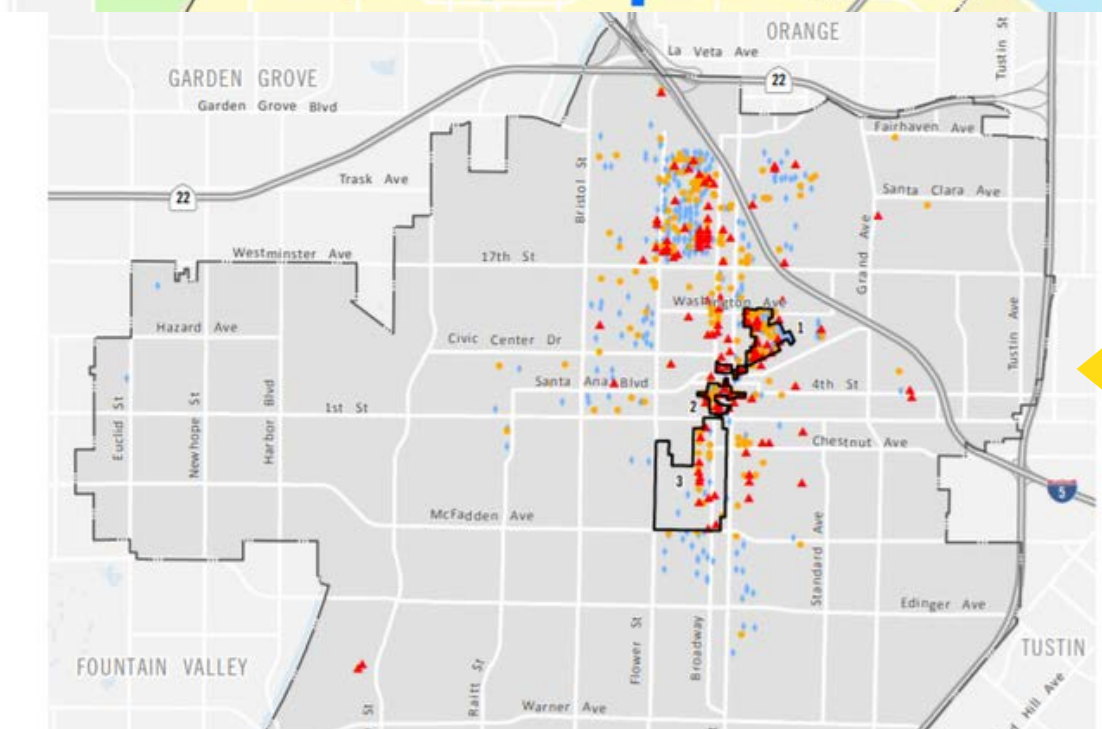


Figure HP-1. HISTORIC RESOURCES - CITYWIDE



Society and institutions form the child, but policies form society and institutions.

EMERGENCY

There are too many policies that do not meet the needs of the community. We cannot expect to adopt a general plan that is not prioritizing the needs and protecting the city's existing community.

A general plan for the city of Santa Ana has not been adopted since 1982. We cannot expect to have a suitable plan within five years **especially** during a time in which residents are disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Right now even by moving forward with this plan, the city is **not** prioritizing the **lives** of our residents.

This plan should be **rewritten** and taken more time on with **more** community input. Whoever wants to be involved should be allowed.

NO MORE VIOLATION OF OUR NEEDS & OUR RIGHTS.

