'Your Voice' Environment Committee
Meeting 1 Agenda
September 23, 2014
5:30 – 7:30 PM

We're in the INTRODUCTION STAGE

Our purpose is to give a **Project Overview** and have **Open Discussion**

Schedule	Event	Presenter
5:30 pm	**Welcome and Introductions**	Bayer Vella
5:35 pm	**Packet Review**	Elisa Hamblin
5:45 pm	**Charter and Expectations:** Review Questions and Answers	Elisa Hamblin, All
6:00 pm	**Presentation and Discussion:** Background Information Vision & Guiding Principles Using the Vision & Guiding Principles	Bayer Vella, All
6:45 pm	**Presentation and Discussion:** What are Goals, Policies and Actions? The Environment Workbook and how to use it	Elisa Hamblin, All
7:15 pm	**Homework and Next Steps**	Elisa Hamblin
7:30 pm	**Adjourn**	---

Notes:

The Environment Workbook (part of the 6:45 pm agenda item) will be distributed to Environment Committee Members at the meeting.

MEETING 1 HOMEWORK
Please complete in preparation for the September 23, 2014 meeting.

We're in the INTRODUCTION STAGE
Our purpose is to give a **Project Overview** and have **Open Discussion**

In advance of the first meeting please dedicate some time to reviewing the packet materials and thinking about the following questions:

1. What can you and the Environment Committee do to support the community vision?

_____

_____

2. What are the most important guiding principles for the Environment Committee's work, and why?

_____

_____

3. How can you imagine implementing the vision and guiding principles in your work?

_____

_____

4. What do you think are the most visible positive environmental results of the last General Plan?

_____

_____

5. Think to the future, what kind of results would you like to see from this next General Plan? What are the big goals for your work?

_____

_____

6. What questions do you have that you want to discuss at our first meeting? Please also let us know in advance at ehamblin@orovalleyaz.gov.

_____

_____

Town of Oro Valley

Focus 2020
General Plan Progress Report

ORO VALLEY ARIZONA
FOUNDED 1974

Strategic Implementation Program

CONTENTS

How to use this Document:

This document consists of two main parts, "Highlights", and the Appendix.

Highlights: Each of the twelve "Highlights" sections identifies completed items within each of the General Plan's 12 main elements or focus areas. Each of these sections also includes a pie chart indicating the completion status of actions in that section.

Appendix: The Appendix lists each action item identified in the General Plan as well as its current completion status.

The color code below is used throughout the document to represent the completion status of action items.

GREEN: Action is completed (represented as a green check in the appendix ✔).

YELLOW: Action has not been completed due to changed conditions.

BLUE: Action is ongoing

RED: Action has not yet been initiated and/or little progress has been made (represented as a red "x" in the appendix ✖).

OVERVIEW

Focus 2020 General Plan Progress

The Strategic Implementation Program is comprised of a set of actions which implement the policies outlined in Oro Valley's Focus 2020 General Plan. This plan established action items within each of its 12 primary focus areas or elements:

○ Land Use
○ Community Design
○ Economic Development
○ Cost of Development
○ Circulation & Transportation
○ Public Facilities, Services & Safety
○ Housing Actions
○ Parks & Recreation
○ Arts & Culture
○ Archeological & Historic Resources
○ Open Space & Natural Resources Conservation
○ Water Resources

Within these focus areas, over 140 specific actions are identified. This progress report has been prepared to highlight completed actions, ongoing actions, and incomplete items.

Meaningful progress has been made on a majority of actions in the plan. Approximately 54 percent of the actions identified in the General Plan are complete; an additional 28 percent are ongoing; there has been a change in conditions to 8 percent of the actions; and the remaining 10 percent have not yet been completed.

Action items will impact the Planning Commission work program, the Capital Improvement Program , and the annual budget. This information will also be used to inform the 2015 General Plan Update.

The following sections of this report identify major accomplishments and remaining challenges in each of the General Plan's 12 elements based on progress made to-date.

General Plan: Action Item Completion Status

Completed

Ongoing

Changed Conditions

Incomplete
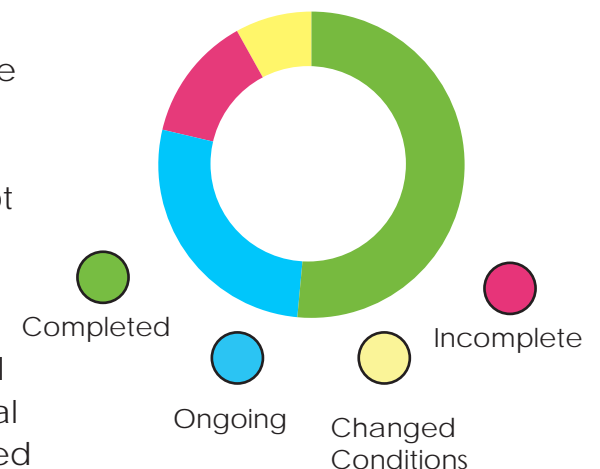
Land Use

Highlights

O ro Valley's Land Use changes reflect a maturing community as commercial and employment development play catch-up to the extensive residential growth of the Town. These changes have served to support the development of a full-service community. Additionally, actions by the Town Council have focused on continuing Oro Valley's tradition of high quality development that is environmentally responsible to the Sonoran Desert.

The implementation of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) Ordinance is a critical land use control identified by the Focus 2020 General Plan.

Other Completed Action Items Include:
• Advanced an interconnected open space system within the Town, as well as within the region, by incorporating these needs into land use planning and community development efforts.
• Amended the Zoning Code to require implementation of the Pedestrian/ Bicycle Plan and the Trails Plan in evaluation and review of development proposals within Growth Areas.
• Revised transmittal procedures to ensure that all amendments to the General Plan within, or within one-quarter mile, of the planning areas of other jurisdictions are sent to those jurisdictions for comment.
• The Town established an advisory committee, "ESL Public Advisiory Committee", to consider policies and procedures for conservation easements and holdings of open space.
• Jointly developed and adopted off-airport land use compatibility controls, the La Cholla Airpark Area, to protect the Airpark.
• Amended the Zoning Code to require consideration of the adopted Transit Plan in development applications.

Land Use Actions


Completed   Ongoing   Incomplete

Highlights

The Town's Zoning Code includes Design Guidelines which cannot be static. The actions taken have attempted to wed the Town's new development with ongoing goals of preserving natural landscape and habitats. The outcome has progressed the aesthetic and environmental quality of Oro Valley.

Design Excellence is an expectation in Oro Valley and is evidenced by the richness and quality of the built environment. The adoption of Oro Valley's Design Standards, therefore, is a major accomplishment by the Town and will serve to enhance the aesthetic quality of Oro Valley as it continues to develop.

Other Completed Items Include:
• Reviewed and amended signage standards as necessary to ensure adequate information is conveyed in support of business growth.
• Reviewed and amended lighting standards as necessary to ensure security standards are met while minimizing light pollution.

Community Design Actions

Completed   Incomplete
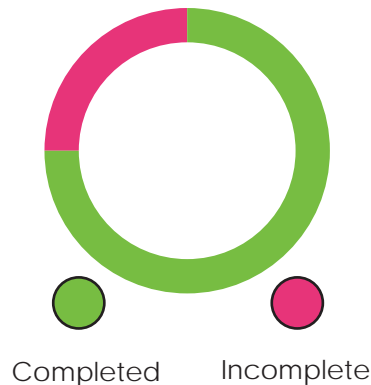
Design Standards

Town of Oro Valley
Caring for our heritage, our community, our future.

Addendum A
Adopted by Ordinance # 11-20 on July 6, 2011

Economic Development

Highlights

Oro Valley's economic future is interwoven with its distinctive natural setting highlighted by its proximity to the Pusch Ridge Wilderness, Coranado National Forest, and Catalina State Park. The actions taken by Town Council have attempted to marry Oro Valley's economic and environmental identity by progressing business interests while maintaining the community's vision and values.

The Campus-style employment center at Innovation Park is a major economic driver for the town. In order to ensure that this center, and others like it, fit into Oro Valley's built environment, the Town's Design Standards have been reviewed and amended to further the appearance and aesthetic quality of these centers.

Other Completed Action Items Include:
• Incorporated an Economic Vitality Model into the Impact Analysis for commercial and industrial projects, used to forecast revenue growth and Town expenditure impacts based on new and future development, and annexed areas.

Economic Development Actions

Completed   Ongoing
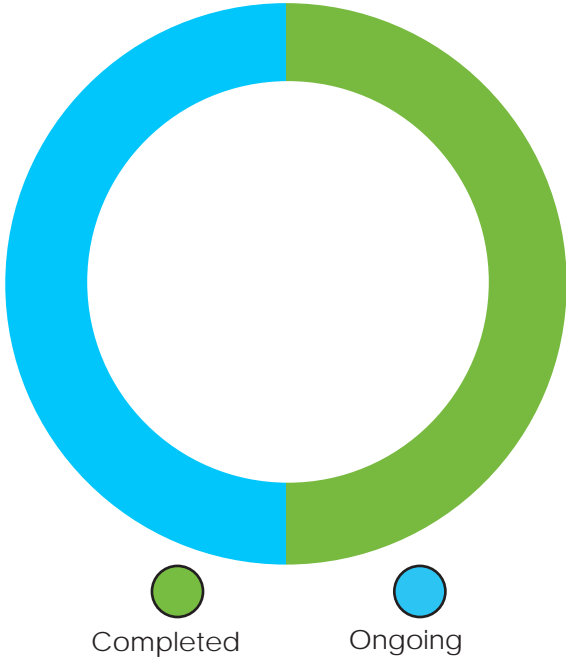
Cost of Development

Highlights

The Cost of Development Element of the General Plan articulates the Town's interest in ensuring that new development in Oro Valley does its fair share to perpetuate the high standard for infrastructure that the Town has established since its incorporation.

One of the major accomplishments in this section, was to ensure that new development is covering the capital cost of new infrastructure. To help understand development costs, the Town preforms a comprehensive review of its development-related revenue stream as a part of its annual budgetary process. Impact fees and construction of new facilities continue to be required of all new development.

Other Completed Items Include:
• Implemented a proactive annexation study to prioritize proposed annexations, concentrating on those proposals that create efficiency in service provision by the Town.
• Identified proposed new and upgrades to existing regional facilities, and determined if new development can legally be assessed responsibility for the improvement of each facility. For example impact fees cover regional facilities such as: major roads, libraries, and parks.

Cost of Development Actions

Completed   Changed Conditions   Ongoing
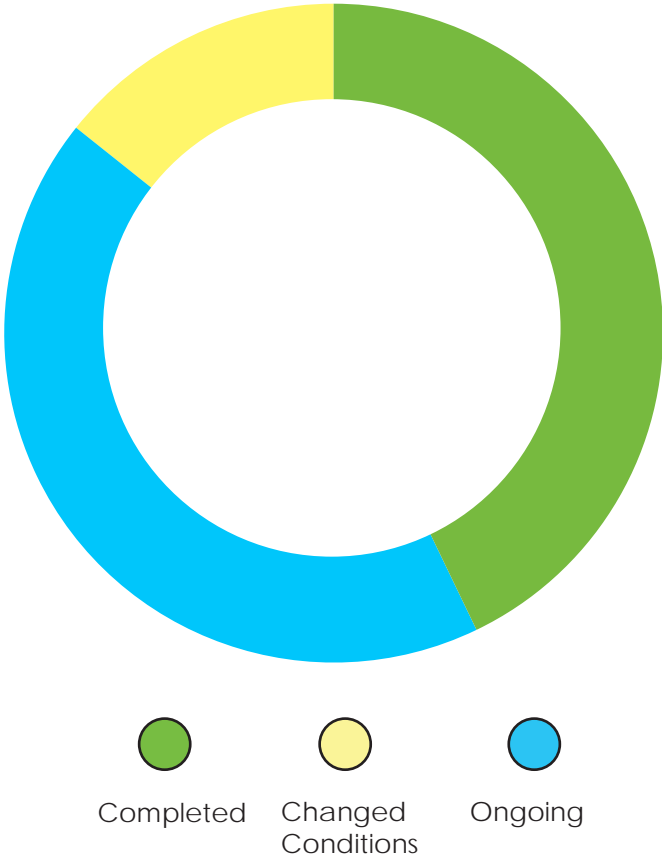
Transportation & Circulation

Highlights

The Actions taken by the Town have ensured that Oro Valley's transportation system, as well as the transportation system for the Planning Area as a whole, has provided residents and visitors with safe, convenient and efficient mobility.

Over twenty transportation and circulation actions identified in the General Plan have been completed or are ongoing. Continual investment in transportation has ensured high quality, function and diversity of the Town's circulation systems.

Completed Items Include:
• Annually updated the Capital Improvement Plan, prioritizing street and circulation improvements necessary to implement the General Plan.
• Implemented the Subdivision Street Standards.
• Regularly updated the town-wide traffic volume count program to serve as a basis for future planning.
• Maintained a traffic safety program to identify and program projects for traffic safety improvements.
• Implemented the traffic calming plan to preserve neighborhoods through the reduction of cut-through traffic (Hardy Rd. and Calle Buena Vista).
• Implemented the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, and the Trails Plan.
• Implemented Access Control Guidelines for arterial streets.

• Implemented a pavement preservation and street maintenance program.
• Sought funding for all aspects of financing the Town's transportation system including alternative modes.
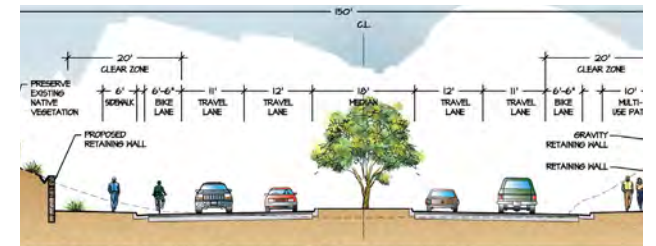
**LANDSCAPE SECTION - AREA A**
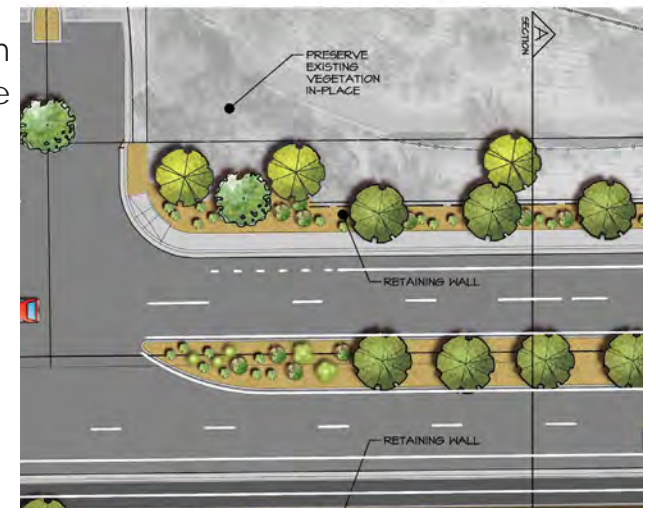
Transportation & Circulation Cont.

• Worked with other jurisdictions to develop a public-private partnership to promote trip reduction programs to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).

• Continued to require a full Transportation Impact Study for all major development, defined as all non-residential and multifamily residential over 20 acres and residential developments of 200 lots or greater.

• Coordinated street improvements with drainage and flood control needs.

• Evaluated any wash crossings for collector and arterial streets in the design process to ensure minimal impact on environmentally sensitive areas including riparian habitat, while maintaining hydraulic efficiency.

• Designed improvements of major road corridors to maximize protection of scenic vistas and minimize visual impact of roadways constructed on slopes.

• Continued to review major development plans and public projects for transit integration and pedestrian access.

• Worked with Marana and Pima County to coordinate public transit services in the Northwest Metro Area.

• Participated in efforts to study the feasibility of a Regional Transit Authority.

• Located, designed and constructed two Park and Ride facilities located at 2291 E Rancho Vistoso Boulevard and at River Front Park.

• Continued to develop and distribute promotional materials, including information on bike locker locations and pedestrian and bike routes, to identify Oro Valley as a Bicycle and Pedestrian Friendly Community.

• Coordinated with PAG to create a regional pedestrian and bike network.

• Developed a maintenance program for bicycle facilities.

• Achieved private sector installation of alternative fuel stations.

Transportation and Circulation Actions

Completed   Changed Conditions   Ongoing
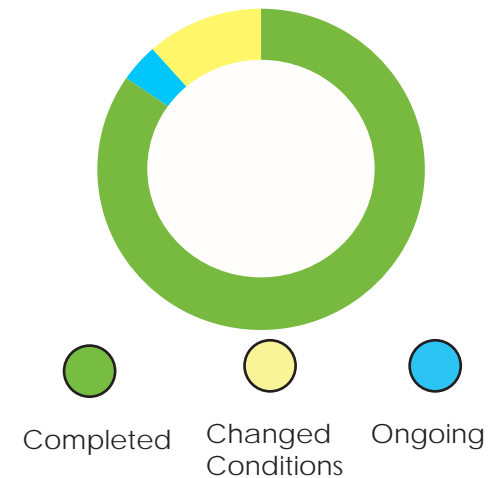
Public Facilities, Services & Safety

Highlights

The purpose of the Public Facilities, Service and Safety Element is to provide the Town of Oro Valley with development oversight strategies that ensure orderly, rational development of facilities and services to support projected growth and to address the safety needs of its residents. Completed actions have prevented hazards, both environmental and man-made, and have promoted helpful, safe, Town services.

Oro Valley's public safety programs are community centered at their core. Programs such as Community Policing, Neighborhood Watch, community academy, and bicycle/pedestrian safety programs actively work to keep the Town's citizens safe, and informed.

Other Completed Items Include:
• Expanded emergency training programs, such as CPR.
• Developed a flood control ordinance that prohibits development within the floodway
• Actively solicited non-Town service providers, such as fire districts, to provide comments on proposed developments.
• Jointly worked with school districts in siting new schools.
• Amended the site analysis requirements for residential rezoning cases to incorporate evaluation of school facilities.
• Continued programs to decentralize public safety and other public facilities.
• Expanded the Town's public safety awareness program.
• CPTED safety standards included as part of the adopted Design Standards.
• Established an emergency management plan.

Public Facilities, Services & Safety Actions

Completed   Incomplete   Changed Conditions
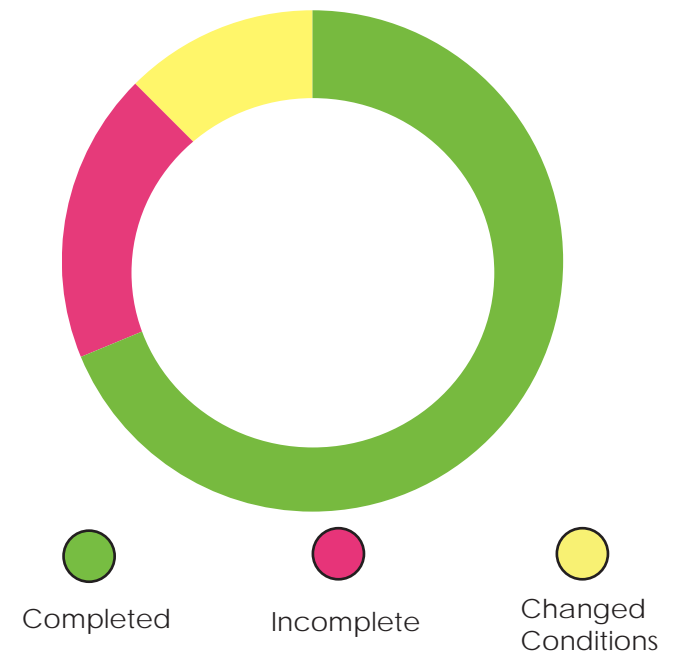
Housing

Highlights

Oro Valley is recognized as a highly desirable place to live. The actions taken by the Town have ensured that housing opportunities are provided within high quality neighborhoods that are safe and well planned. Because of these actions, Oro Valley continues to be a place defined by its strong neighborhoods and quality housing development.

Adopted in 2011, Oro Valley's Design Standards ensure that residential environments are not only of a high quality, but provide for street character, open space, and high quality home design and architecture.

Other Completed Items Include:
• Established procedures to monitor neighborhood conditions by holding neighborhood meetings, and working with Home Owners Associations to inform residents about new development applications.
• Created and initiated neighborhood enhancement programs such as the Neighborhood Clean Up Program to ensure that Oro Valley's neighborhoods remain at a high standard of quality.

Housing Actions

Completed   Incomplete   Ongoing
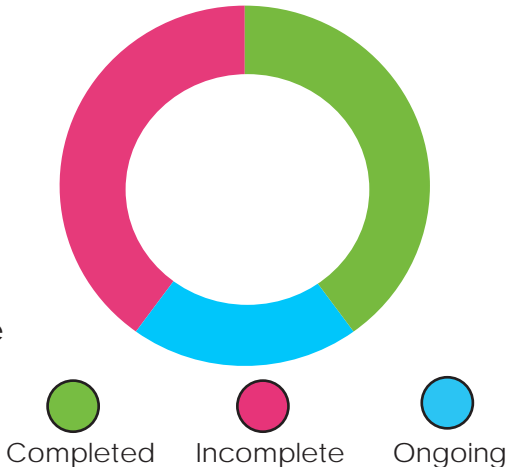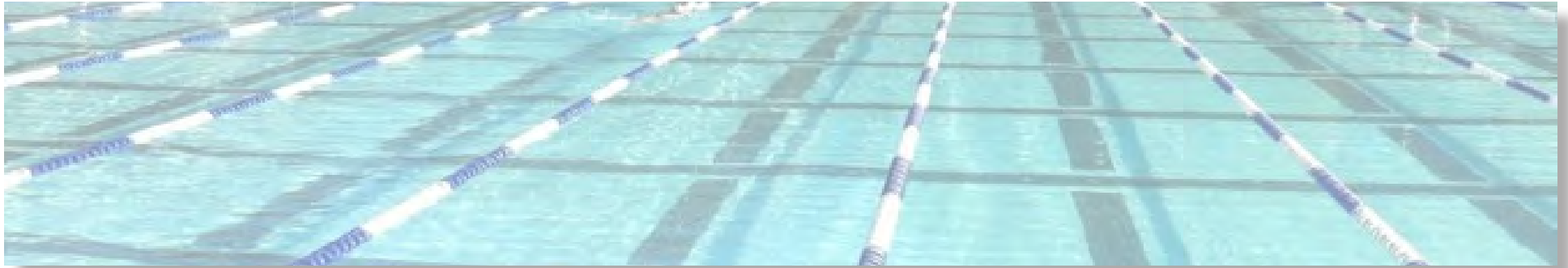
Parks & Recreation

Highlights

The Parks and Recreation Element is intended to protect and enhance the high quality resort/residential image, identified in the General Plan. The actions taken by the Town ensure that Oro Valley has diverse recreation options.

Several new parks have been acquired, designed, and constructed to fit the needs of Oro Valley's citizens including the CDO Linear Park, a new accessible playground, recreation programs, and most notably the Town's aquatic center expansion (although not identified specifically in the General Plan).

Other Completed Items Include:
• Incorporating into the plan review process, requirements, procedures, and criteria for assessing the recreational facility needs of the residents of proposed subdivisions.
• Initiated a Park and Trail Maintenance Program.
• Required appropriate signage to be installed in parks for public information, as part of the development process.
• Developed joint use agreements between the Town and Amphi School District to further increase the availability of recreational facilities in the community.

Parks & Recreation Actions

Completed   Incomplete   Ongoing
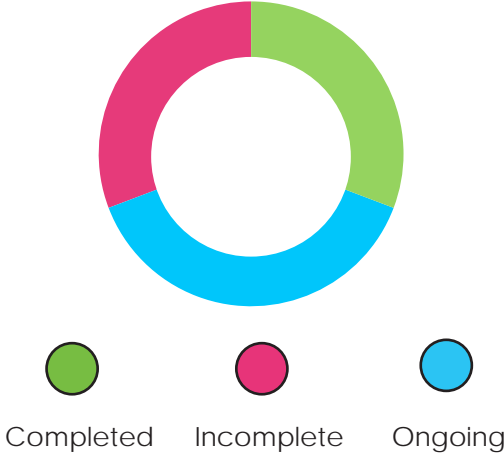
Arts & Culture

Highlights

As Oro Valley grows and matures as a community, its interests in establishing and maintaining a rich mix of opportunities for arts and cultural activities are clear. The actions taken by the Town have improved opportunities to enjoy Oro Valley's artstic assets.

Continued implementation and direct funding of arts resources, including the 1% arts ordinance has resulted in an impressive collection of over 200 publicly displayed art pieces throughout the Town.

Other Ongoing Action Items Include:
• Developed a variety of opportunities for visual and performing arts.
• Developed relationships with businesses and other arts/cultural organizations, specifically SAACA, to create new arts related opportunities for Town residents.
• Formed collaborative efforts between the Library, Parks and Recreation, arts organizations and the school district to host annual recreation programs such as the tree lighting ceremony and various Steam Pump Ranch festivals.
• Initiated a plan to encourage the creation of and identify funding sources for one or more arts districts.

Arts & Culture Actions
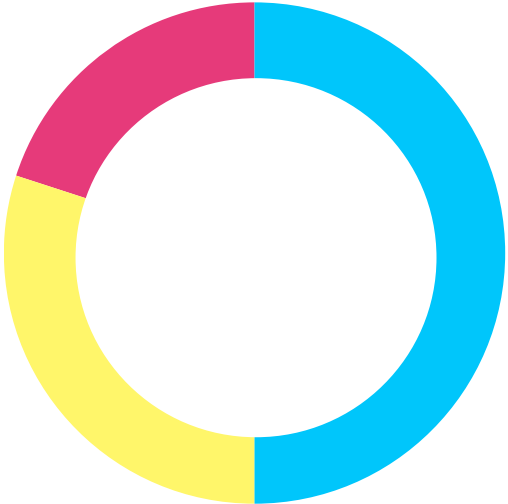
Ongoing   Incomplete   Changed Conditions
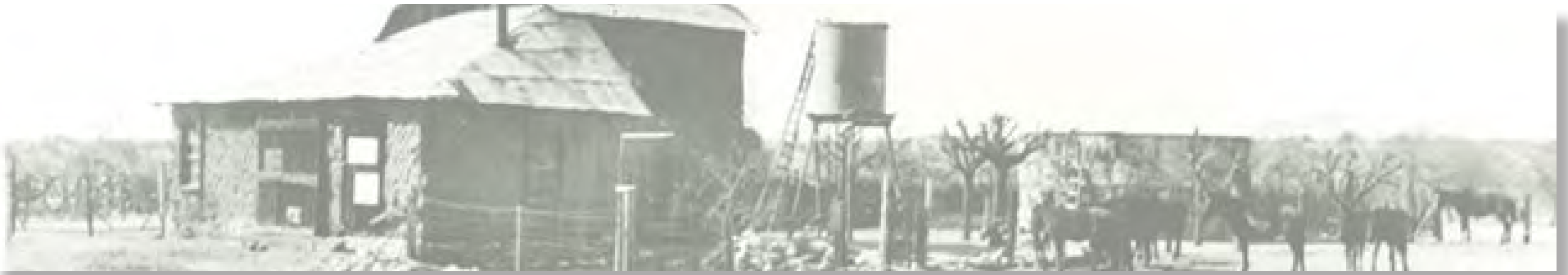
Historic Resources

Highlights

Oro Valley is a town of breathtaking natural beauty and an area that posses rich archeological and historic resources that date from approximately 11,500 years ago. The actions taken by the Town continue to celebrate the richness that these resources bring to residents and visitors.

Oro Valley continues to protect cultural and archeological resources through an updated ordinance and by working collaboratively with Pima County and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

Other Completed Items Include:
• Initiated and implemented the Certified Local Government process, a preservation partnership between local, state and national governments focused on promoting hisoric preservation.

Historic Resources Actions

Completed   Incomplete   Ongoing

Open Space & Natural Resources

Highlights

Oro Valley's exceptional environmental resources have shaped the Town's character. The conservation of natural open space, biological resources, visual resources, and other natural resources is of significant public interest. The actions taken by the Town have ensured the conservation of these resources while promoting quality growth.

The development of Oro Valley's ESL ordinance has been the Town's premier open space and natural resource management accomplishment. This regulation is comprehensive and affects most items identified in this section of the General Plan.

Completed Action Items:
• The Zoning Code was amended to use open space preservation as a criterion in deciding the approval or denial of rezoning proposals.
• Worked with Pima County, Arizona Game and Fish Dept., the Nature Conservancy and others to develop a GIS database of biological resources for the Town.
• Participated in the development and implementation of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.
• Amended the Zoning Code to allow, if in-place protection is not feasible, the transplantation of healthy native vegetation to approved sites within, or outside the project limits.
• Reviewed, and amended the Zoning Code to provide guidelines for the safe movement of wildlife above and below roadways and through or around other man-made environments.
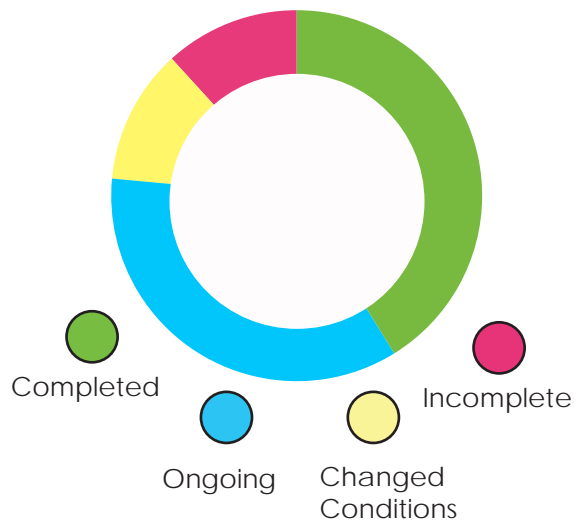
Open Space & Natural Resources Cont.

• Created and worked with the ESL advisory committee to establish an interconnected open space strategy.
• Continued the Save-A-Plant program.

Open Space & Natural Resources Actions

Completed

Ongoing

Changed Conditions

Incomplete

Water Resources

Highlights

The Town of Oro Valley recognizes the importance of water to maintain the natural qualities that attract people to the area and sustain their existence. The actions taken by the Town reflect the importance of protecting and ensuring future needs of Oro Valley's residents.

To this goal, the Town has diversified its water supplies and has developed its reclaimed water system. Central Arizona Project water is also being delivered to the Town through agreements with Tucson Water.

Other Completed Action Items Include:
• Approved a Floodplain management ordinance.
• Amended the site analysis requirements to address cumulative impacts on on-site and off-site drainage.
• Implemented the storm water management program.
• Coordinated with Pima County Wastewater Management to investigate neighborhood conversions from septic tank to sewer systems.
• Continually monitor the effects of the use of CAP water.
• Implemented a comprehensive Town-wide water conservation program, and participate in regional water conservation programs.
• Set up procedures to meet all State and Federal regulations regarding the treatment, quality, and monitoring required for the use of reclaimed water.
• Updated the Potable Water System Master Plan to reflect this General Plan.

Water Resources Actions

Completed   Incomplete   Ongoing
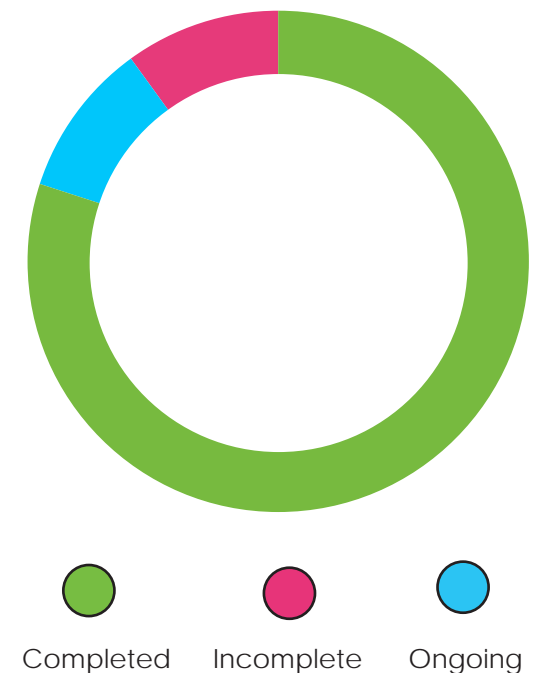
NEXT STEPS

The Town of Oro Valley continues to make considerable progress in completing the actions identified in the Focus 2020 General Plan. Efforts to-date have spanned across numerous departments and have involved many community partners, Boards and Commissions, and citizens.

The General Plan is a working document. It is the result of the collective efforts of citizens, elected and appointed officials, community groups, individuals, and agencies who have spent countless hours developing a framework for future development. The General Plan, has to be updated periodically (and by law) to remain relevant to Oro Valley's evolving needs.

Completed items in this document should be celebrated, but part of the process was also to identify problem areas and deficiencies. A number of key actions require attention in the near term to stay on track to meet our Plan goals.

For example, Parks and Recreation, Arts and Culture, and Archeological and Historic resources, three of the Town's most citizen service-oriented elements, each have a number of important incomplete action items.

All action items, complete and incomplete, were reviewed and evaluated for current relevance. This information will be used to inform the 2015 General Plan Update, the Planning Commission Work Plan, the Capital Improvement Plan, and the Annual Budget.

This document has identified the Town of Oro Valley's progress in completing the actions enumerated in the Focus 2020 General Plan in order to actively further its citizen-based goals and needs.

APPENDIX

STATUS LEGEND

❌ **RED:** Action has not yet been initiated an/or little progress has been made.

🟡 **YELLOW:** Action has not been completed due to changed conditions.

🔵 **BLUE:** Action is ongoing

✅ **GREEN:** Action is completed

This appendix details the progress made by the Town thus far in implementing the 2020 General Plan.

Coordinating Department Acronyms

Following each action item in the tables that follow Town department(s) are identified as primary coordinators or facilitator of implementing the given action. Acronyms for the "Primary Responsibility" and "Lead" Departments are provided below.

Town Departments / Divisions:

BS - Building Safety
CD - Community Development
CR - Cultural Resources
C&S - Conservation and Sustainability
ED - Economic Development
F - Fire Department

FM - Fire Marshall
FN - Finance
IS - Infrastructure Services
L - Librarian
P - Police
Permits - Permitting Division
PLG - Planning Division
PW - Public Works
P&R - Parks and Recreation
P&Z - Planning and Zoning
SP - Special Projects
SPC - Special Projects Coordinator
T - Transit
TA - Town Attorney
TC - Town Council
TE - Town Engineer
TM - Town Manager
TS - Transit Services
W - Water Department
WD - Water Director
WU - Water Utility

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
1. Land Use Actions							
✔	LU.1	1.1.1, 1.1.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.4.2, 10.1.1, 10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.1.4, 11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.4, 11.1.5, 11.1.11, 11.2.1, 11.2.2, 11.2.3, 11.2.4, 11.2.6, 11.2.7, 11.2.9, 11.2.10, 11.2.11, 11.2.12, 11.2.13, 11.2.14, 11.3.3, 11.4.1, 11.4.3, 11.5.6	Develop and implement an Environmentally Sensitive Lands Overlay Zone (ESL) Ordinance that would define the criteria of ESL lands and permit a set of development standards that would act as an incentive to protect sensitive lands.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Environmentally Sensitive Lands Adopted by Ordinance 11-01, Added February 16th, 2011.
●	LU.2	1.1.4, 1.1.7, 1.2.2	Participate directly in the comprehensive planning efforts and establish strong working relationships with Marana, Pima County, Pinal County, Catalina Village, ASLD, and PAG to develop and adopt a coincident set of strategies to address various regional issues and integrate the various plans within the Planning Area. Ensure coordination on planning issues of mutual concern.	CD	PLG	Ongoing	Region planning is ongoing and coordinating with ASLD, Pima County, and surrounding jurisdictions to accomplish a variety of mutually beneficial issues including: annexation; transportation; economic development; infrastructure; and regional library services.
●	LU.3	1.2.2, 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.5	Work closely with local school districts to ensure that adequate development related information is provided to the districts (Refer also to Actions PFS.5 and PFS.6)	CD	PLG	Ongoing	New subdivision plans are shared with school districts for their reference.
●	LU.4	1.1.7	Work closely with other governmental units to promote acquisition strategies for expansion of nearby Federal, state and county owned public lands if additional protection or enhancement is also deemed necessary by the Town.	TC	TM	Ongoing	Pima County has made several recent acquisitions for planned wildlife crossings on Oracle Road.

1. Land Use Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	LU.5	1.5.5	Jointly develop and adopt off-airport land use compatibility controls, within the La Cholla Airpark Planning Area, to protect the Airpark.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	The Airport Environs Overlay District was created to protect the health, safety, and welfare of persons and property in the vicinity of the La Cholla Airpark.
●	LU.6	1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.6, 1.2.1, 1.4.1, 1.5.5, 2.1.9, 2.2.1, 7.1.1, 7.1.5, 10.1.1, 10.1.3, 10.1.4, 10.2.1, 11.2.15, 11.2.17, 11.3.4, 11.5.5, 12.3.2, 12.3.4	Continued enforcement of the Zoning Code and design guidelines.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Planning staff continually works to enforce the Zoning Code and new design standards.
●	LU.7	1.1.2, 1.1.5, 1.3.1, 1.3.4, 1.3.5, 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.5.1, 5.4.4	Continued implementation of the General Plan policy, currently underway.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Planning staff continually works to implement General Plan policies.
●	LU.8	1.3.1, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.3.6, 1.5.5, 7.1.4, 7.2 (all), 7.3.1	Define and develop a Complementary Use District Zoning Ordinance and design standards that will be utilized in developing master plan proposals including commercial, office, and/or housing.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	New Mixed-Use General Plan category pending Council approval.
✔	LU.9	1.3.2	Amend the Oro Valley Zoning Code Revised (OVZCR) to require consideration of the Transit Plan in evaluation and review of development proposals within Growth Areas.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Coordination and review is occurring. Town has adopted Regional Transit Plan and continually works with the RTA. OVZCR amended, 5/18/11.
✔	LU.10	1.3.3, 3.1.8	Allow additional opportunity for neighborhood commercial by completing a study to identify under-served areas where neighborhood commercial is appropriate.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Updated C-N (Neighborhood Commercial) development standards and uses by Ordinance 11-01 on February 16th, 2011.

	1. Land Use Actions						
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	LU.11	1.3.6	Amend the Oro Valley Zoning Code Revised (OVZCR) to require implementation of the Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan and Trails Plan in evaluation and review of development proposals.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	The development review process includes plan evaluation by Parks and Recreation for compatibility with Pedestrian/Bicycle and Trails Plan. Planning staff additionally applies the following standards to new development for continued consideration of bike/pedestrian amenities: Subdivision Street Design Standards; Subdivision Design Principles.
✖	LU.12	1.5.2	Rezone all Town-owned parks to Parks/Open Space zoning district.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Was not included in the Planning and Zoning Work Plan.
✔	LU.13	1.5.2, 7.1.3, 11.1.5 (Buffers are not addressed by these policies)	Revise the Recreation Code of the OVZCR to assure that adequate buffers are provided.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Section 26.5 Provision of Recreation Area dictates amount of space and required recreation amenities.
●	LU.14	11.3.4	Utilize best management practices established for the Natural Events Action Program (NEAP) when issuing and enforcing grading permits.	PW	Permits	Ongoing	Continual enforcement of Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) with the purpose of soil erosion protection.
✔	LU.15	11.1.4, 11.1.7, 11.1.9	Advance an interconnected open space system within the Town, as well as within the region, by providing for an open space planning component in all appropriate land use planning and community development efforts. See also OS.4 and LU.2.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term/ Ongoing	ESL addresses this for rezoned properties. Would be facilitated with Parks Master Plan. ESL Open Space Requirements. Design Guidelines C-d pg. 2.

1. Land Use Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
🔵	LU.16	3.1.10, 11.1.12	Negotiate any proposed pre-annexation agreements to ensure they support, and do not work counter to, the goals and policies of the General Plan.	SPC, TA	TM	Short Term/ Ongoing	Town continues to pursue annexation agreements.
✔	LU.17	1.5.9	Revise transmittal procedures to ensure that all amendments to the plan within, or within one-quarter mile, of the planning areas of other jurisdictions are sent to those jurisdictions for comment.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	General Plan amendment submittals provided to area jurisdictions for comment.
🔵	LU.18	1.3.5, 1.4.11	Develop procedures to require master plans for coordinated development, particularly on vacant areas of 40 acres or greater, and in context with adjacent properties.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Master development plans are required for large multi-phase projects or as PADs (no 40 acre requirement). Public participation process is used to evaluate the development in context with adjacent uses.
🔵	LU.19	1.5.7, 1.6.8, 4.1.5	Develop additional standards, as may be necessary for analyzing effects of development of a regional impact.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Development applications shared with neighboring jurisdictions. Additionally, use of TIA provides further insight.
✔	LU.20	11.1.1	The Town of Oro Valley will establish an advisory committee to consider policies and procedures for conservation easements and holdings of open space.	TC	PLG	Short Term	ESL advisory committee apart of ESL code development process.

2. Community Design Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	CD.1	1.2.3, 1.4.7, 1.4.8, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.1.5, 2.1.7, 2.1.8, 2.1.9, 2.1.11, 2.2.1, 3.1.7, 5.4.4	Review, update and amend the Development Design guidelines/standards to ensure compatibility with the policies outlined in the General Plan.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Adopted Design Standards by Ordinance 11-20 on July 6, 2011.
✖	CD.2	2.2.1	Review procedures to ensure continuous enforcement of Section 13-107 (Solar Protection) of the OVZCR. (Now OVZCR Section 27.1)	P&Z	C&S	Short Term	Solar installations should be tracked through the permitting process. As written, the Zoning code is not implementable due to vague language, Work plan item needed.
✔	CD.3	2.1.10	Review and amend signage standards as necessary to ensure adequate information is conveyed in the least intrusive form.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Revised Sign Code was Adopted by Ordinance 11-07. Additionally, Sign Committee assigned to review signage standards.
✔	CD.4	2.3.1, 11.4.2	Review and amend lighting standards as necessary to ensure security standards are met while minimizing light pollution.	P&Z	PLG	Long Term	Updates in May 2005 and Oct. 2007.

3. Economic Development Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
●	ED.1	3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.5, 3.1.6, 3.1.9	Update the adopted Community Economic Development Strategy based on the 2020 General Plan Update, utilizing the fiscal model prepared as part of the planning process and regularly updated. Implement this revised strategic plan. (planning process refers to Economic Development)	ED	ED	Short Term	Updated CEDS in 2010.
●	ED.2	3.1.4	Include strategic capital projects in the Capital Improvement Plan which would support desirable economic development which implements the General Plan.	ED	ED	Annually	Strategic Capital Projects such as the pool, Steam Pump Ranch, and other projects, have been pursued and need to be added to the CIP.
✔	ED.3	3.1.6, 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.3.2, 6.1.1, 6.1.2	Incorporate fiscal model prepared for the General Plan Update into the Impact Analysis for commercial and industrial projects, 20 acres or larger and into the Fiscal Impact model used to evaluate proposed annexations.	FN	FN	Medium Term	An Economic Vitality Model was created in 2006/07 and used to forecast revenue growth and Town expenditure impacts based on new and future development, and annexed areas.
✔	ED.4	3.1.7	Review and amend Oro Valley Design Guidelines to more fully address campus-style employment centers.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Design Standards Adopted by Ordinance #11-20 on July 6, 2011.

4. Cost of Development Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	COD.1	3.1.6, 4.1.4, 4.1.7, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5, 4.2.6, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 6.1.2	Perform a comprehensive study of the Town's revenue stream to ensure that funding from new development is completely covering the capital costs of infrastructure required to serve the development at the desired LOS (level of service); to project costs to the Town over time that cannot be assessed to new development; and to identify and develop revenue sources that can fund those needs.	FN	FN	Medium Term	Review of revenue stream is part of an annual process tied to budget and legislative restrictions.
✔	COD.2	4.1.2, 4.1.3	Implement a proactive annexation study to prioritize proposed annexations, concentrating on those proposals that create efficiency in service provision by the Town. Ensure that both long term and short term costs and benefits of annexations are addressed.	SP	TM	Medium Term	A proactive annexation strategic plan has been developed by the Town Manager's Office. Finance department conducts a cost based analysis on every annexation proposal.
🔵	COD.3	4.1.7, 4.1.9	Identify exceptions, if any, to fair share cost recovery that the Town finds to be in the public interest.	FN; ED	FN	Medium Term	Exceptions, if any, are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Legal limitations exist, including the gift clause.
✔	COD.4	4.1.5, 1.5.7	Identify proposed new and upgrades to existing regional facilities, and determine if new development can legally be assessed responsibility for improvement of each facility. Develop options for implementation for consideration by the Town Council.	FN; P&Z	FN	Medium Term	Impact fees cover regional facilities such as: major roads, libraries, and parks.

4. Cost of Development Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
●	COD.5	4.1.6	Continue to require new development to provide infrastructure that accommodates future development identified in the General Plan, as necessary, with an appropriate payback mechanism.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Accommodation for future developments, including water and roads, require payback.
●	COD.6	4.1.8	Develop an intergovernmental agreement with Pima County for service provision standards in unincorporated areas of the Planning Area.	TM	TM	Medium Term	A formal IGA has not been adopted. The Town and PC work together through PAG to ensure that roadway and other regional projects within the Planning Area meet Town standards. Pima County also provides opportunity for the Town to comment on development projects within the Planning Area.
●	COD.7	4.3.3	Concisely and clearly document on an annual basis the status of the annual budget, CIP, and all studies related to provision of infrastructure by the private and public sector.	FN	FN	Annual	The Infrastructure Asset Inventory is tracked and updated on an annual basis and reported in financial statements.

5. Circulation and Transportation							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✓	CT.1	5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2.1, 5.9.2, 5.9.3, 1.5.2	Annually update the CIP, prioritizing street and circulation capital improvements necessary to implement the General Plan Circulation and Transportation Element.	PW	IS	Annual	Multi-modal construction taking place throughout arterial roadway network.
✓	CT.2	5.1.5, 5.4.5	Implement the subdivision street standards.	PW	TE	Ongoing	Subdivision Street Design Standards Adopted by Ordinance 11-15, Amended May 18th, 2011
✓	CT.3	5.1.1, 5.1.2	Regularly update the town wide traffic volume count program to serve as a basis for future planning.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Working with PAG regionally.
✓	CT.4	5.1.3, 5.9.7	Maintain a traffic safety program to identify and program projects for traffic safety improvements.	PW	IS	Ongoing	2010 Established a Traffic Engineering Unit.
✓	CT.5	5.1.4, 5.1.9, 5.4.1	Implement the traffic calming plan to preserve neighborhoods through the reduction of cut-through traffic.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Incorporated traffic calming into private and public projects.
✓	CT.6	1.5.2, 5.1.5, 5.1.6, 5.1.7, 5.3.2, 5.9.1, 5.9.2, 5.9.3, 5.9.5, 6.2.6, 8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.2.4, 8.5.2, 8.5.3, 8.5.4, 11.3.4	Implement the Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, and the trails plan.	PW; P&R	IS	Ongoing	Constructing Multimodal projects, CDO Linear Park, and connected open space.
✓	CT.7	1.5.6	Implement Access Control Guidelines for arterial streets.	PW	IS; Permits	Ongoing	Incorporated access management into private and public projects

5. Circulation and Transportation							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
●	CT.8	5.1.8	Evaluate possible creation of a connected network of exclusive and on-street routes for neighborhood electric vehicles and similar alternatives.	PW	IS	Long Term	Town density does not support exclusive and on-street routes. Town has implemented sun shuttle dial-a-ride program as a transit alternative.
✓	CT.9	5.1.10, 11.3.4	Implement a pavement preservation and street maintenance program.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Fully operational Pavement Management Program.
✓	CT.10	5.2.2, 5.9.2, 5.9.3, 8.5.3	Seek funding for all aspects of financing the Town's transportation system including alternative modes.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Secured RTA funding for bike, pedestrian, and transit projects. Road Funding from HURF.
✓	CT.11	5.3.3, 5.8.2, 5.9.5, 11.3.4	Working with other jurisdictions, develop a public-private partnership to promote trip reduction programs to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT).	PW	IS	Ongoing	Working with PAG committees to develop regional trip reduction programs such as ride-shares. Ride-share program is promoted through the Town's Human Resources Department.
✓	CT.12	1.5.7, 1.6.8, 5.1.1	Continue to require a full Transportation Impact Study for all major development, defined as all non-residential and multi-family residential over 20 acres and residential developments of 200 lots or greater.	PW	IS; Permits	Ongoing	Required through the development process
✓	CT.13	5.4.2	Coordinate street improvements with drainage and flood control needs.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Combined Stormwater and roadway projects
✓	CT.14	5.4.2	Evaluate any wash crossings for collector streets and above in the design process to ensure minimal feasible impact on environmentally sensitive areas or riparian habitat, while maintaining hydraulic efficiency.	PW	IS	Ongoing	The Regional Transportation Authority plan includes $45 million for transportation-related critical wildlife linkages as part of the environmental and economic vitality element of the plan.

5. Circulation and Transportation							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	CT.15	5.4.3, 11.3.1, 1.1.4	Design improvements of major corridors to maximize protection of scenic vistas and minimize the visual impact of roadways constructed on slopes.	PW	IS	Ongoing	ESL's Scenic Resources Category provides protection for scenic corridors, by directing development design to conserve scenic views across private property.
●	CT.16	1.5.5, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.5.3, 5.5.4, 5.6.1, 5.6.2, 5.6.3, 5.7.1, 5.7.2, 5.7.3	Update Transit Development Plan periodically, as delineated in the adopted plan.	TS	T	Ongoing	Town has adopted the Regional Transit Plan and works with the RTA to update this plan annually.
✔	CT.17	1.5.5, 5.4.1, 5.5.1, 5.6.1, 5.6.3	Continue to review major development plans and public projects for transit integration and pedestrian access.	TS	T	Ongoing	Transit Services reviews transit needs for development projects.
●	CT.18	5.6.1, 5.7.2	Annually update the public transit facilities in the capital improvement program.	TS	T	Ongoing	Capital Improvement Program now regional with RTA as lead agency.
●	CT.19	5.5.3, 5.6.2, 5.7.3	Integrate Sun Tran Express Service (Route 162) contract to include opportunities for transfers between Coyote Run and Route 162.	TS	T	Short Term	All services within Pima County have been regionalized and seamless transfers now exist between these routes. Smart Car technology is soon to be implemented in 2013 which will improve upon integration of these connections.
✔	CT.20	5.5.3, 5.6.4, 5.7.3, 5.8.1	Work with the jurisdictions in the northwest region to coordinate public transit services in the Northwest Valley.	TS; TC	T	Medium Term	RTA is the overarching authority for the region, including the Northwest Valley. RTA has implemented all inclusive sun shuttle services throughout the region.
✔	CT.21	5.8.1	Participate in efforts to study the feasibility of a Regional Transit Authority should the opportunity arise.	TC	T	Long Term	RTA was created and a sales tax initiative approved by voters in 2006.

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
5. Circulation and Transportation							
✔	CT.22	5.6.1, 5.7.3	Locate, design and construct a modest public transit transfer facility as stated in the Transit Development Plan. If possible, contract with local business owners or property owners to establish a mini park-and-ride lot with the transfer facility.	TS	T	Medium Term	Two Park and Ride facilities were completed in 2009.
✔	CT.23	5.9.4, 8.5.4	Continue to develop and distribute promotional materials, including information on bike locker locations and pedestrian and bike routes, to denote Oro Valley as a Bicycle and Pedestrian Friendly Community.	PW; P&R	PW	Ongoing	Oro Valley Police Dept. offers bike/pedestrian safety information available on their website.
✔	CT.24	5.9.8, 6.2.6, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 11.3.4	Coordinate through PAG to create a regional pedestrian and bike network.	PW; P&R	IS; P&R	Ongoing	Working with PAG and RTA to create "the Loop" a regional bike and pedestrian path.
✔	CT.25	5.9.9	Develop a maintenance program for bicycle facilities.	PW	IS; P&R	Medium Term	Sweeping and fog seal programs implemented
✔	CT.26	5.6.4	Encourage private sector installation of alternative fuel stations.	P&Z	C&S	Medium Term	Ordinance 11-31 (May 18th, 2011) approved 4 EV charging stations across OV.

6. Public Facilities, Services and Safety Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✅	PFS.1	6.4.4	Expand emergency training programs, such as CPR.	FM; P&R	F	Medium Term then Ongoing	GRFD has been expanding programs
✅	PFS.2	6.1.4	Develop a flood control ordinance that prohibits development within the floodway.	PW	IS; Permits; PW	Short Term	Adoption of the Floodplain Management Ordinance in 2005.
✅	PFS.3	6.1.5	Actively solicit non-Town service providers, such as fire districts, to provide comments on proposed rezonings, subdivisions and development plans per the OVZCR.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Golder Ranch Fire District provides comments on all development review proposals.
🔵	PFS.4	6.1.6	Investigate and evaluate opportunities to contract out or privatize public services.	TC	TM	Ongoing	The Town is currently pursuing a limited amount of privitized services. Those include certain Parks Programs, fleet maintenance, and potential legal services.
✅	PFS.5	6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.5, 6.2.6, 6.4.1, 9.1.7	Jointly work with school districts in siting new schools, development of joint use opportunities on school sites, safe student bike and pedestrian access to school sites and implementing school site reservation policies. Refer also to Action LU.3.	CD	PLG	Ongoing	PAD applications require a Public Services and Facilities Element that includes school siting, student enrollment forecasts, and school/park site dedications. Additionally, new subdivision plans must incorporate safe pedestrian and bike access to schools.

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	PFS.6	6.2.1, 6.2.3, 6.2.4, 6.4.1	Amend the site analysis requirements for residential rezoning cases to incorporate evaluation of school facilities and address other school planning issues.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Site analysis for rezoning cases require the applicant to indicate the number of elementary, junior and senior high school students generated by the rezoning, remaining capacity within the area schools serving the site, and for the applicant to provide a letter from affected school district indicating that a proposed site can accommodate the educational space requirements for the projected number of residents.
✔	PFS.7	5.1.7, 5.9.6, 5.9.7, 6.2.6	Expand the bicycle safety course program, and develop a pedestrian safety program.	P	P	Ongoing	Implemented a two part bicycle safety course that includes traffic laws, bicycle maintenance, safe riding techniques and a five mile ride. Have also partnered with School Resource Officers to provide bicycle safety at the schools. Continue to conduct "bicycle rodeo's" at Neighborhood Watch events
🟡	PFS.8	6.3.1, 6.3.2, 6.3.3	Develop and maintain a Library Strategic Plan in conjunction with Pima County and the Friends of the Library.	L	P&R; L	Medium Term then Ongoing	IGA with Pima County Resolution 12-14 on March 7th, 2012 to transfer OV public library facilities and operations to the Pima County free library district.
✔	PFS.9	6.4.2	Continue the programs to decentralize public safety and other public facilities to provide the best service considering new developments and annexations.	TC	TM	Ongoing	Town recently opened new PD substation in OV Marketplace in partnership with a private landowner. Town will continue to uphold this policy as future development and annexations are considered.

6. Public Facilities, Services and Safety Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	PFS.10	6.4.3	Maintain a community-policing and neighborhood watch program.	P	P	Ongoing	Over 40 active NW groups; representing nearly 3,000 individual homes.
✔	PFS.11	6.4.4	Expand the Town's public safety awareness program.	P; FM; BS	P	Ongoing	PD implemented a reverse 911 program with public works and water. PD also offers several safety and awareness programs, they are all listed on their website.
✔	PFS.12	6.4.5	Improve upon a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Program – a program to reduce opportunities for crime by reviewing development plans to ensure easy surveillance, control of access, and establishment of territories (ownership) – with specific criteria when reviewing development properties. Work with Planning & Zoning to add these as Design Guidelines in the Code.	P	P	Medium Term	Completed through adoption of Design Standards in 2011.
✖	PFS.13	6.4.7	Amend the site analysis requirements and subdivision / development plan requirements in the OVZCR to address response to wildfire impacts.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Site analysis requirements have not been amended, however, the Oro Valley Fire Department reviews all development plans and enforces the Adopted International Fire Code. This code is used to guide development in order to implement necessary mitigation measures to limit wildfire impacts.

6. Public Facilities, Services and Safety Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	PFS.14	6.4.6, 6.1.3	Establish an emergency management plan.	P; FM; BS	P	Short Term	Emergency Management Plan was adopted by Council on 9-19-12.
⬤	PFS.15	6.2.7	Develop siting possibilities and dialogue with Pima Community College and the University of Arizona regarding the potential for branch campuses in the Town.	TC; P&Z	TM	Long Term	The Town maintains close relations with PCC, which has opened a NW campus just outside of the Town boundaries. The Town also continues to develop relationships with the U of A, which recently purchased a research laboratory in the Town and has opened a new Oro Valley BIO 5 campus.
✖	PFS.16	3.1.8, 5.2.2, 6.1.7, 6.3.1, 8.1.3, 11.1.1, 11.5.7, 11.5.11	Pursue and hire a professional grant writer.	CD	PLG	Medium Term	No specific staff hired. Responsibility currently spread across various departments. No further action planned.

7. Housing Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	H.1	7.1.1, 7.1.4, 7.1.5, 7.2.1, 7.2.3	Implement and periodically review design guidelines, including those for special needs, to ensure high-quality residential environments.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Design Standards Adopted by Ordinance 11-20 on July 6, 2011.
●	H.2	7.1.2	Establish procedures to monitor neighborhood conditions and work with neighborhoods to take appropriate actions.	P&Z	PLG	Long Term	Action implemented through neighborhood meetings, wash (watch) maintenance program, HOA forums, and Constituent Service Coordinator.
✖	H.3	7.1.3	Amend the OVZCR to provide incentives for incorporation of amenities, including day care, in multifamily development.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Day care currently requires a Conditional Use Permit. Plans to amend the OVZCR are not currently on the Planning Work Plan.
✔	H.4	7.1.2	Create and initiate a neighborhood enhancement program to ensure that Oro Valley neighborhoods remain at a high quality standard.	P&Z	PLG	Long Term	Initiated Neighborhood Clean Up Program in 2005, however it was terminated in 2009 due to budgetary constraints.
✖	H.5	7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.3, 7.2.4, 7.3.1	After developing a housing and employment baseline, biennially report to the Town Council and the community on the changes to the housing base for the previous year, including but not limited to provision of special needs housing, number of units per residential building type.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term / Ongoing	A housing inventory and report is planned for Fall 2012 in conjunction with the General Plan update. Bienniel updates to the housing report are not feasible.

8. Parks and Recreation Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
❌	PR.1	8.1.1, 11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.5, 11.1.7, 11.1.10, 11.5.4, 11.5.6, 11.5.11	Prepare an Open Space Management Plan to determine the appropriate level of use and protection of natural open space areas within the Town.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Short Term	An Open Space Management Plan has not been completed. Per Oro Valley Parks and Recreation, current levels of open space do not necessitate an Open Space Management Plan. However, a regional open space aquisition program has been established and initiated on such projects as the Tortolita Park Expansion. Future action should be considered.
🔵	PR.2	8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 8.3.5, 8.3.6, 9.1.5	Acquire, design and construct municipal park and open space facilities, considering the diversity of needs, demographics and preferences of residents.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Several park projects have been approved including the CDO Linear Park, a new Accessible Playground, the archery range, and the Aquatic Center Expansion. Naranja Park, however, was defeated by voters in a bond proposal in 2008.
🔵	PR.3	8.1.2, 8.2.1, 8.3.1, 8.4.1, 8.4.2	Annually update the CIP to include improvements to the parks, recreation, and open space system.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Annual	A new CIP is produced annually and includes parks and recreation improvements when revenues allow.
❌	PR.4	8.1.3, 8.3.1, 11.1.11	Work with community members to create a park, recreation and trails advocacy and funding entity.	P&R; TC	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	To date this type of funding and advocacy has not been developed.
✅	PR.5	8.3.2, 8.3.3, 8.3.7	Incorporate into the plan review process, requirements, procedures, and criteria for assessing the recreational facility needs of the residents of proposed subdivisions.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Amendments to subdivision Recreation Area standards to P&ZC 10-5 adopted by Town Council.
🔵	PR.6	8.3 (all)	Implement, and update as necessary, adopted parks and recreation plans.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Individual plans exist and are updated for individual parks. A comprehensive town-wide parks and recreation master plan has yet to be developed.

8. Parks and Recreation Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
🔵	PR.7	8.2 (all), 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 8.5.1, 8.5.5, 11.1.6, 11.1.10	Initiate a phased Trail Location, Acquisition, and Development Program including the annual action items in the Trails Task Force Report.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Trail acquisition and development occurs in tandem with the development of each parcel.
✅	PR.8	8.5.5	Initiate a Park and Trail Maintenance Program.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	Adopt-a-trail program along with parks and recreation staff address any ongoing maintenance.
✅	PR.9	8.5.6, 8.5.7	For trail installation to be constructed and maintained by the private sector, require appropriate signage to be addressed as part of the development review process and subsequently installed.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Appropriate signage is required as part of the development process.
✅	PR.10	8.6.1, 6.2.5, 6.2.2	Develop joint use agreements of recreational facilities with the School District to further enhance the availability of recreational facilities to the community.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Agreements established with Amphi School District.
❌	PR.11	8.2.2, 8.2.3	Revise the OVZCR to include provisions that ensure public access per the approved trails plan.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Currently, public access is ensured as a part of the development process without an amendment to the OVZCR. No further action is planned.
🔵	PR.12	6.1.7	Seek corporate underwriting for park facilities.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	Town continues to seek and receive corporate underwriting.
✅	PR.13	8.3.7	Modify the OVZCR and the development review process to seek creation of larger, shared recreational facilities in preference to smaller, subdivision-based facilities.	P&Z; P&R	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	This item has been accomplished through the adoption of the ESL ordinace.

9. Arts and Culture Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
(yellow circle)	AC.1	9.1.2	Keep the master operating agreement between the Town and Greater Oro Valley Arts Council (GOVAC) current.	CD	PLG	Ongoing	July 14th 2009, GOVAC became SAACA. Memorandum of understanding now under Economic Development.
(pink X)	AC.2	9.1.3, 9.1.4	Regularly update and utilize the Cultural Assessment to ensure needs of existing and new residents are being adequately addressed.	CD	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	Town does not update or utilize Cultural Assessment Report, this is an out of date report first published in 1994 by the Town Clerk's office.
(pink X)	AC.3	9.1.5	Complete planning and work to develop the Performing Arts, Cultural Arts and Community Center (Naranja Town Site).	TM; CD	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	2008 Election Bond not passed - postponed. No action plan in place.
(blue circle)	AC.4	9.1.8, 9.1.5	Further develop a variety of opportunities for visual and performing arts.	CD	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Town works with SAACA to further a variety of opportunities for the arts. Additionally, Town continues to pursue development of a performing arts center.
(blue circle)	AC.5	9.1.9, 9.1.10, 9.1.13	Develop relationships with businesses and other arts/cultural organizations around the state to capitalize on limited resources and create new opportunities for Town residents.	CD	ED	Ongoing	Town continues to partner with SAACA and local businesses.
(yellow circle)	AC.6	9.1.11	Continue to provide organizational resources to implement the Oro Valley endowment fund which includes an arts component per Town Council resolution.	CD	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Became Oro Valley Community Foundation - no longer Town sponsored.

9. Arts and Culture Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
● (blue)	AC.7	8.3.4, 9.1.12	Continue to implement and direct funding of arts resources, including the 1% arts ordinance.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	The Town of Oro Valley continues to implement the 1% arts ordinance on all applicable development projects over $50,000. Additionally, the Town utilizes max PAG grant in the amount of $25,000 toward Transportation Art by Use program.
● (blue)	AC.8	9.1.7, 9.1.8	Form collaborative efforts between the Library, Parks and Recreation, arts organizations and the school district on arts, cultural, recreational and educational programs.	CD; P&R	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Library/ Parks and Recreation work with SAACA and the School District to host annual recreation programs such as the tree lighting festival and Steam Pump Ranch festivals.
● (blue)	AC.9	9.1.6	Develop a plan and funding sources to encourage the creation of one or more arts districts	CD	PLG	Medium Term	Initial work Fall/Winter 2012.
● (yellow)	AC.10	9.1.12	Revise the Town Code and Zoning Code so that all public art is reviewed by the Public Art Review Committee.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Public Art Review Committee was reorganized and dissolved.

10. Archaeological and Historic Resources Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
🔵	AHR.1	10.1.6, 10.2.2, 10.2.3, 10.2.4	Independent of the development review process, work to protect cultural resources through interagency partnerships.	CD	P&R; L; CR	Ongoing	Town works collaboratively with Pima County and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to protect cultural resources.
🔵	AHR.2	10.1.5, 10.1.6, 10.3.1	Seek funding for preservation and interpretive facilities.	CD	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	Town seeks funding through Pima County Bonds, the Tohono O'odham Nation, and SHPO for preservation and interpretive facilities.
✔️	AHR.3	10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.1.4	Initiate and implement Certified Local Government process	CD	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	The Town was granted Certification in 2009.
❌	AHR.4	10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.2.1, 10.2.4	Create an historic and cultural overlay district with standards and design guidelines.	P&Z	P&R; PLG	Short Term	Oro Valley's plan for a historic and cultural overlay district is in draft form, but has yet to be initiated.

11. Open Space and Natural Resources Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✓	OS.1	8.1.1, 11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.10, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.5.6	Develop a prioritization and acquisition program for open space to be owned by the Town. (Related to PR.1)	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Means for ownership addressed as apart of ESL process. A regional acquisition program has been established through Pima County.
●	OS.2	11.1.3, 11.2.1	Review existing approved PADs to find ways to additionally minimize environmental impacts and seek ways to do so without negatively affecting property rights.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	PAD requests to increase density trigger ESL compliance. No other action planned.
●	OS.3	11.1.6, 10.2.2, 8.5.5, 8.5.6, 8.5.7	Develop a program to place interpretive elements for trails to provide educational information on the environment and the protection of resources in an unobtrusive manner.	P&R	P&R; L; CR	Medium Term	Interpretive Signage has been placed in several parks around Oro Valley including the James D. Kriegh Park, and at the Oro Valley Municipal Complex.
✓	OS.4	8.2.3, 11.1.4, 11.1.8, 11.2.6	Amend the OVZCR to use open space preservation as a criterion in deciding the approval or denial of land use rezoning proposals.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Implemented through ESL
✓	OS.5	11.2.5	Work with Pima County, Arizona Game and Fish Dept., the Nature Conservancy and others to develop a GIS database of biological resources for the Town, and updated upon annexation.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	ESL process resulted in updated, Town-wide mapping of riparian, significant vegetation, and wildlife corridors.
✓	OS.6	11.2.8	Participate in the development and implementation of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	ESL will implement many SDCP principles.

11. Open Space and Natural Resources Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✓	OS.7	11.2.16	Amend the OVZCR to allow, if in-place protection is not feasible, the transplantation of healthy native vegetation to approved sites within, or as a less preferable option, outside the project limits.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	The Landscape Conservation Section of the OVZCR was amended February 16, 2011 and provides for mitigation techniques (including transplantation) when areas of significant vegetation are present but cannot be preserved in place due to development.
●	OS.8	11.2.18, 11.5.5, 12.1.5	Within the limits of state law, consider an ordinance limiting mineral material extraction in wash and flood prone areas. (unimplementable, new state legislation regarding mineral extraction prevents this action)	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	State legislation allows for mining activities in mineral rich areas.
✓	OS.9	11.2.19 , 5.4.2, 1.1.5	Review, and amend as necessary, the OVZCR to provide guidelines for the safe movement of wildlife above and below roadways and through or around other man-made environments.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Addressed through ESL Circulation Improvements Section.
●	OS.10	1.1.4, 5.4.3, 5.4.5, 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.3.3	Review, and amend as necessary, the OVZCR to require all new development and improvements to existing development, both public and private, to maintain and/or enhance the character and quality of views from and along scenic corridors and public parks.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Action prevented by Proposition 207.

11. Open Space and Natural Resources Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✔	OS.11	11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.5.3, 11.5.6	Create and work with the ESL advisory committee to establish an open space strategic planning process per OS.1.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	ESL Public and Technical Advisory Committees contributed to creating permanent Open Space standards.
✘	OS.12	8.1.1, 11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.5.1, 11.5.2	Appoint or hire a Town staff member, or a volunteer, with natural open space and natural resources background to research, identify and secure funding for open space acquisition and management.	P&Z	PLG	Short Term	Not included in the Work Plan. No resources available.
●	OS.13	10.1.5, 10.2.2, 10.2.4, 11.5.7, 11.5.8, 11.5.9, 11.5.10	Working with other agencies, develop environmental education programs to educate the community on cultural heritage, wildlife, vegetation and resource areas in the Town.	P&R	PLG	Medium Term	Environmental education programs have been developed in coordination with Oro Valley Historic Society, the Historic Preservation Commission, SHPO, Pima County, Native Seed Search, and the University of Arizona, such as: Steam Pump Ranch, interpretive signage, Save-a-plant, and Community Academy.
●	OS.14	11.5.11	Coordinate and cooperate with Pima County, State Lands, State Parks, and national conservation organizations towards protection and preservation of environmentally sensitive Sonoran Desert lands extending north and west from Honey Bee Canyon/Sausalito Creek to the Tortolita Mountain Park and the Pinal County line for the establishment of a passive use natural recreation area through the Arizona Preserve Initiative, IGAs, possible leases or acquisitions, land use planning, and other protection strategies.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Support for Tortalita Mountain Park made available through open space bond acquisition. ESL provides for habitat linkages and connectivity.

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
11. Open Space and Natural Resources Actions							
●	OS.15	11.1.7, 11.1.10, 11.5.11	Work with other local jurisdictions to create a regional open space system.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Coordinated open space planning with Pima County regional trails. Additionally, the Town worked with The Town of Marana to produce a trail map for public distribution.
●	OS.16	11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.11, 11.5.6, 11.5.11	Identify and implement strategies and mechanisms, other than by fee simple acquisition, that hold the highest potential for success for conserving open space.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	ESL used as one strategy for Open Space conservation. Additionally, working with Pima County to pursue bond acquisition for priority environmentally sensitive areas.
✔	OS.17	11.2.20, 11.5.8, 11.5.9	Continue to promote the Save-A-Plant program.	P&Z	PLG	Ongoing	Re-activated in town program in 2012.

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✓	WR.1	11.2.18, 12.1.2, 12.1.3, 12.1.4, 12.1.5	Develop a floodplain management ordinance.	PW	IS; PW	Short Term	Adoption of the Floodplain Management Ordinance in 2005
✓	WR.2	12.1.3	Amend the site analysis requirements, as necessary, to address cumulative impacts on on-site and off-site drainage.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	Accomplished through drainage report process.
✓	WR.3	12.1.6, 12.1.7	Implement the storm water management program.	PW	IS	Ongoing	Fully operational Stormwater Management Program in 2007
✓	WR.4	12.1.7	Coordinate with Pima County Wastewater Management to investigate neighborhood conversions from septic tank to sewer systems where existing wells are potentially threatened.	PW	Permits; WU	Ongoing	This item has been completed and resolved by requiring connection to the Pima County Wastewater System and there have been no problems with existing wells.
●	WR.5	12.2.1, 12.2.2, 12.2.3, 12.2.4, 12.2.5, 12.2.6, 12.3.4	Investigate and evaluate opportunities for water management, including acquisition and use of alternative supplies, so Oro Valley can adequately plan for the future and ensure a sufficient water quality and supply.	WU	W	Ongoing	This item is an ongoing item for Oro Valley Water Utility. The Town has diversified its water supplies and has developed its Reclaimed Water System and its Central Arizona Project water through IGAs with Tucson Water. In addition, the Town recharges its CAP water in facilities and has built up groundwater storage accounts in the Tucson Active Management Area. These sources of supply ensure a safe and reliable water supply for our community.

12. Water Resources Actions

12. Water Resources Actions							
Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
✓	WR.6	12.2.5	If used, monitor the effects of the use of CAP water as identified in Policy 12.2.5.	WU	W	Long Term	This item has been completed and Oro Valley Water Utility has conducted studies to show the potential changes in water quality with the use of CAP water. Those studies concluded it is a safe and reliable supply that meets the water quality standards. Future studies may be implemented as we increase our use of CAP water.
✓	WR.7	12.3.1, 12.3.2, 12.3.3, 12.3.4, 12.3.5	Implement a comprehensive Town-wide water conservation program, and participate in regional water conservation programs.	WU	W	Ongoing	Oro Valley water Utility has an ongoing Water Conservation Program that includes water audits to help customers save water and money. Oro Valley Water also provides water conservation information through the water bill inserts, the Oro Valley Vista and water conservation seminars. OV Water also has a tiered water rates pricing structure that encourages water conservation. Additionally, OV Water is currently developing a water conservation education program with local schools and are a member in the regional Water Conservation alliance of Southern Arizona (Water CASA).
✗	WR.8	12.1.7	Revise the OVZCR to ensure that sewage systems can be physically provided within subdivisions when off-site infrastructure becomes available.	P&Z	PLG	Medium Term	OVZCR has not been revised. Item not included in the Work Plan.

Status	Number	Policy	Actions	Primary Responsibility	Lead	Time Frame	Notes
12. Water Resources Actions							
✓	WR.9	12.2.7	Set up procedures to meet all State and Federal regulations regarding the treatment, quality, and monitoring required for the use of reclaimed water.	WD	W	Long Term	Design, construction, delivery and use of reclaimed water by the Town's end users are compliant with all State regulatory requirements. In coordination with Arizona Dept. of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Water Utility developed a monitoring program that ensures full regulatory compliance.
✓	WR.10	6.1.1	Update the Potable Water System Master Plan to reflect this General Plan.	WU	W	Short Term	The Potable Water Master Plan was completed in 2006 and is currently being used. Costs and some modifications to this plan are being updated.

Background Report

A compilation of information and resources as part of the General Plan Update Process

September 2014

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1   Executive Summary

1.1   Document Overview

The ***Your Voice, Our Future*** Background Report is a compilation of information representing the areas of consideration for the Town of Oro Valley General Plan Update Process. This report will help inform interested parties about the existing conditions and identified needs for the Town over the coming decade. This is the first step in informing the policies and directions that will guide public and private actions impacting the Town.

This document is set-up in six main sections as follows:

> The **Introduction** section provides a description of the process, the general plan and the Town of Oro Valley.

> The **Economy** section outlines the overall economic health of both the larger community and the Town and includes two chapters: Economic Development and Fiscal Conditions.

> The **Environment** section covers topics centered on the natural environment and also includes two chapters, Open Space and Trails and Natural Resources.

> The **Community** section includes five chapters on topics impacting the community's amenities, services, and conditions. These chapters include Parks and Recreation, Arts and Culture, Archaeological and Historic Resources, and Community Services.

> The **Development** section covers topics related to the built environment and how development occurs and covers Land Use, Housing and Dwellings, Community Design, Community Facilities and Utilities, and Transportation.

> The last section is the **Appendix** and includes supporting information.

This documents contains a wealth of information so if you are looking for just the main points, start with the Executive Summary at the beginning of each chapter or read the following summaries.

1.2   Chapter Summaries

Chapter **3.Economic Development** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to existing policies and strategies as well as employment by place of residence, economics by place of work, and commercial real estate trends. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **4. Fiscal Conditions** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's economic picture as well as funding mechanisms. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **5. Open Space and Trails** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's Environmentally Sensitive Land (ESL) ordinance, open space, and trails. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **6. Natural Resources** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to climatology, hydrology/drainage, vegetation, wildlife, habitat, topography, soils, geology, and water. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **7. Archaeological and Historic Resources** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's cultural and historical resources as well as pre-historic resources. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

Chapter **8. Parks and Recreation** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to facilities and recent improvements. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

Chapter **9. Arts and Culture** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to public art, venues and facilities, and infrastructure. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

Chapter **10. Community Services** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to public safety as well emergency and medical services. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **11. Land Use** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the zoning code, the general plan and land use plans, existing land uses and development capacity. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **12. Housing and Dwellings** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to housing characteristics, occupancy and values. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **13. Community Design** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to urban form, development patterns, architectural patterns, and cultural resources. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

Chapter **14. Community Facilities and Utilities** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to Natural Gas, Electricity, and Telecommunications Services. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

Chapter **15. Transportation** - This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to roadways, transit, and multi-modal transportation. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

2 Your Voice, Our Future

2.1 Executive Summary

This chapter presents information about the **Your Voice, Our Future** project and outlines how this work relates to the Town's General Plan. Also included here is a description of the Town of Oro Valley.

The **Your Voice, Our Future** project included the development of a vision statement that was endorsed by the Town Council on May 7, 2014.

> *Oro Valley's Vision for the Future is to be a well-managed community that provides all residents with opportunities for quality living. Oro Valley will retain its friendly, small-town character, while increasing access to daily services, employment and recreation. The Town's lifestyle continues to be defined by a strong sense of community, a high regard for public safety, and an extraordinary natural environment and scenic views.*

2.2 Project Description

The **Your Voice, Our Future** project will ask the community to identify common values, issues and find solutions. The results will become the General Plan, a document that will guide and inform critical decisions about the Town's future and quality of life. This process was last completed in 2005 with the adoption of a General Plan known as **Focus 2020, The Future in Balance**. This renewed effort is required by state law and responds to the Town's changing demographics and needs. There are three key phases in the **Your Voice, Our Future** Project.

I. Let's talk

Through open dialogue the Town's residents and stakeholders will establish priorities. There will be many opportunities to discuss, debate and listen to one another to gain common understanding. The aim is to bring many voices together as one. The result will be a foundation of guiding themes and principles to build a long-range plan of action.

II. Let's think

Residents and stakeholders will come together to think about specific goals and polices for the future. The aim is to understand the community's concerns and aspirations; clarify goals and policies; address needs, preferences and trends; and test assumptions and adjust accordingly. The product will be a draft statement of community values and aspirations that will inform specific goals and policies for the future.

III. Do it! Make it so

The draft of **Your Voice, Our Future** will be presented to the community. The aim is to show how the document, created by Town residents, reflects community direction and to spark additional discussion. The draft will be modified to ensure community acceptance and sound planning. Voters will be encouraged to participate in an election and ratify the draft of Your Voice, Our Future (the General Plan).

2.3.1   What is a General Plan?

A general plan is essentially a community's "blueprint" for land use and development; it serves as the basis for decisions regarding a community's long-term physical development. The general plan expresses the community's development goals and embodies public policy relative to the distribution of future land uses, both public and private. The policies and programs of the general plan are intended to be the basis of most land use decisions. Preparing, adopting, implementing, and maintaining a general plan serves to:

- Identify the community's land use, transportation, environmental, economic, and social goals and policies as they relate to land use and development.

- Provide a basis for local government decision-making, including decisions on development approvals.

- Provide residents with opportunities to participate in the community planning and decision making process.

- Inform residents, developers, decision makers, and other cities and counties of the ground rules that guide development within the community.

A general plan typically has three defining qualities:

General Nature: As its name suggests, the general plan provides guidance for the future, particularly regarding growth and development. More precise direction is provided in implementation documents and plans, such as annexations, zoning codes, design regulations, annual budgets, and capital improvements program.

Comprehensive Scope: The general plan addresses a broad range of environmental, social, and economic factors affecting change within the community. These factors include land use and circulation, the environment and resources, economic and fiscal conditions, as well as a host of others. Furthermore, these factors are addressed in an interrelated and, wherever possible, consistent manner.

Long-Range: The general plan takes immediate concerns into consideration, but focuses primarily on the future, particularly potential build out scenarios (i.e., the maximum size and population of the community).

The State of Arizona has been working for nearly a decade to actively manage growth and preserve open space. Since 1973, most cities, towns, and counties have been required to develop plans for communities looking at issues such as land use, circulation, housing, public services and facilities, and conservation, rehabilitation, and redevelopment. As growth rates significantly increased in the 1990s, a critical mass of political support emerged to provide more tools to assist in responding to the consequences of rapid growth. In 1998, the Arizona Legislature passed the Growing Smarter Act, which clarified and strengthened planning elements in the required plans of municipalities and counties and added four new elements, namely: Open Space, Growth Areas, Environmental Planning, and Cost of Development. In 2000, the Legislature passed Growing Smarter Plus to further enhance land use planning statutes in Arizona.

Based on the population size of Oro Valley, the **Your Voice, Our Future** project is required to fulfill seven elements of the Arizona Growing Smarter Statues, which are: Land Use, Circulation, Growth Areas, Environmental Planning, Cost of Development, Open Space and Water Resources. Oro Valley's General Plan has in the past also included additional elements that are not required.

Map 2-1. Oro Valley General Plan Land Use Map
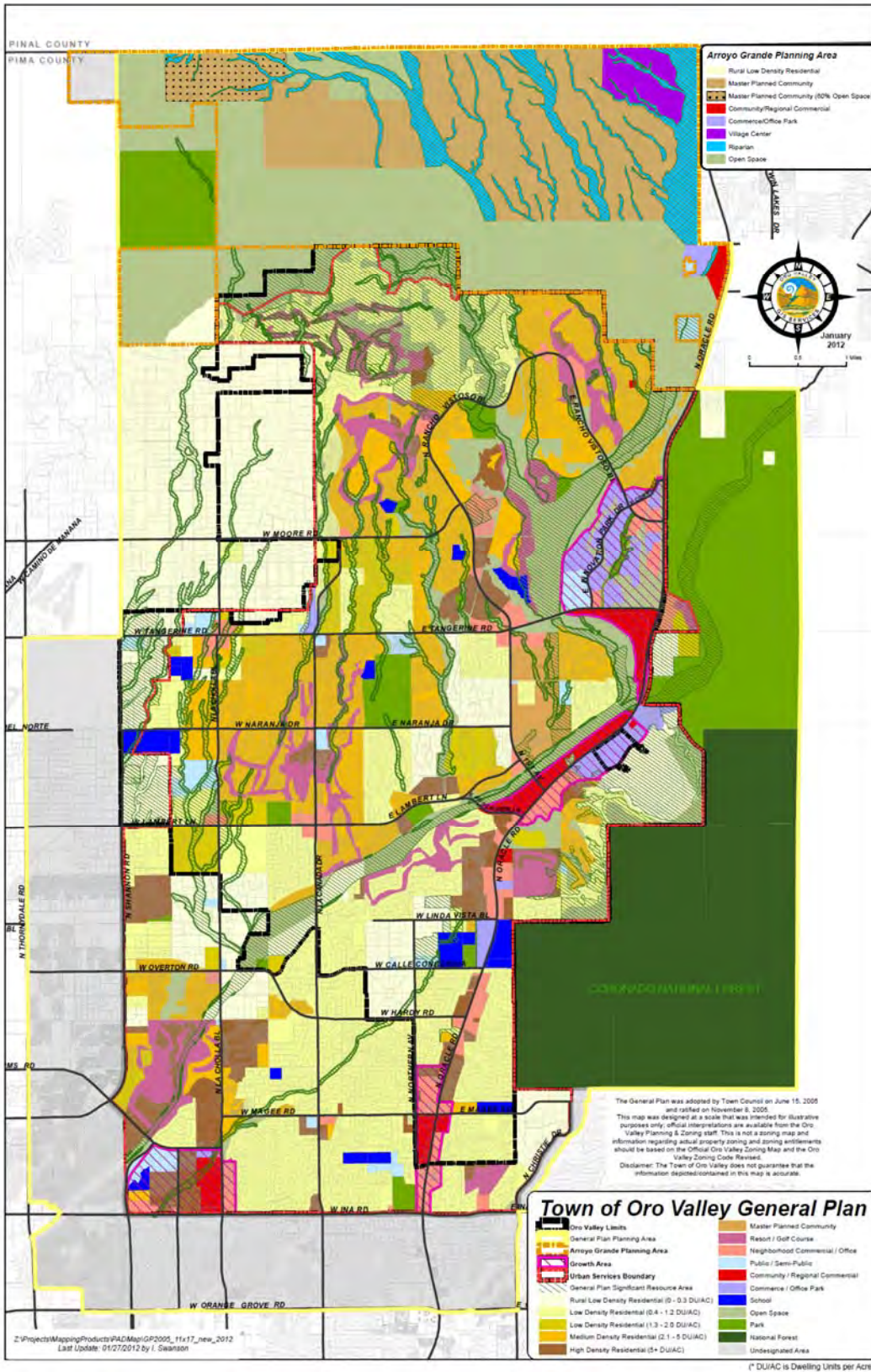
2.3.2   Why Update the Existing General Plan?

The General Plan is an important guiding document for the Town and should reflect directions for the coming decade. Since the last General Plan was completed in 2005, the Town's population has changed significantly. In 2000 there were 29,700 residents and in 2010 there were 41,011.The land area of the Town has also changed. In 2002, the Town encompassed an area of 31.7 square miles. Today, in 2013, the Town's current size is 34.9 square miles. Business growth has also been steady in the Town, despite the recent economic recession. Updating the General Plan allows the community to re-examine their priorities in light of recent population changes, growing town boundaries and an increasing number of businesses. In addition to this, updating the Plan is required by Arizona State Law as part of the Growing Smarter Plus statues. More information regarding these statutes can be found in Appendix A.

2.4   *The Town of Oro Valley*

2.4.1   Community Character

The Town of Oro Valley is the second largest incorporated municipality (by population) in the Tucson metropolitan area and prides itself on easy access to nature, a small town feel, growing employment opportunities and being a safe and friendly community. Much of the Town's character has been shaped by its geography and history as well as by its residents.

2.4.2   Geography and History

2.4.2.1 Location and Infrastructure

The Town of Oro Valley is located approximately six miles north of Tucson, Arizona, 110 miles southeast of Phoenix, the Arizona capital, and 75 miles north of the United States-Mexico border. Oro Valley is situated in the northeastern corner of Pima County and is near the southeastern corner of Pinal County. The Town lies between the Santa Catalina Mountains to the east and the Tortolita Mountains to the northwest. The Coronado National Forest makes up much of the Town's eastern boundary. In addition to Tucson, the second largest city in Arizona, nearby communities include the Town of Marana to the west and the unincorporated community of Catalina to the north.

Major regional infrastructure near Oro Valley includes Interstate 10 (I-10), located approximately 12 miles west of Oro Valley, which runs between Tucson and Phoenix, and links major cities further east and west. The Union Pacific Railroad parallels I-10 and provides similar links.

There are two major roadways serving Oro Valley. Oracle Road, also known as State Route 77, runs north-south through Oro Valley and is the old road/highway linking Tucson and Phoenix. Tangerine Road runs west from Oracle Road, linking Oro Valley with I-10.

2.4.2.2 Planning Area

The Planning Area for the General Plan Update includes:

- The area within the Town limits as well as land outside the Town's current limits that may be annexed to the Town as it develops.
- Land adjacent to the Town that may be affected by or may affect land uses in the Town, such as National Forest land, that the Town has no plans to annex.
- The Town's incorporated area (i.e., the area within its limits) 35.11 square miles as of preparation of this document.

The Planning Area covers approximately 52.82 square miles and has the following boundaries:

- North: The border between Pima County and Pinal County
- South: Mainly along W. Orange Grove Rd
- West: Mainly along N. Thornydale Road from Orange Grove Road to Tangerine Road, then along N. Shannon Road
- East: Generally includes all of Catalina State Park and a portion of west Coronado National Forest

In addition to considering the Planning Area, the General Plan addresses parts or all of communities adjoining or surrounding the Town that may affect the Town's development. Where information is relevant and available, it will be provided for comparison with the Town. Such communities include neighboring municipalities, such as Tucson and Marana. In addition, for reference purposes and to aid in the identification of larger trends in terms of demographics and economics, information has also been provided for larger geographic areas, such as Pima County, the State of Arizona, and the United States.

2.4.2.3   History of the Town of Oro Valley

The Oro Valley area has been inhabited discontinuously for nearly two thousand years by various groups of people. The Native American Hohokam tribe lived in the Honeybee Village in the foothills of the Tortolita Mountains on Oro Valley's far north side around 500 AD. Hohokam artifacts continue to be discovered in the Honeybee Village that the Hohokam inhabited continuously for nearly 700 years, and studied by archaeologists around the globe.

Early in the 16th century, Native American tribes known as the Apache arrived in the southern Arizona area, including Oro Valley. These tribes inhabited the region only a few decades prior to the arrival of the Spanish Conquistadors, including Francisco Coronado. The Spanish established forts in the area, including the Presidio at Tucson (1775) beginning in the late 16th century.

Beginning in the 19th century, Americans increasingly settled in the Arizona Territory, following the Mexican-American War and the subsequent Gadsden Purchase including Southern Arizona. George Pusch, a German immigrant, settled in the Oro Valley area in 1874, establishing a cattle ranch. This ranch was unique because it utilized a steam pump to provide water, eventually popularizing Pusch's property as the Steam Pump Ranch on the Cañada del Oro. The steam pump was one of only two in the Arizona Territory.

Gold rushers into the American West also were attracted to southern Arizona, where gold was said to be in abundance in and around the Santa Catalina Mountains north of Tucson. Fueled by the legend of the lost Iron Door Gold Mine in the mountains, those in search of gold trekked through the Oro Valley area focusing their attention along the Cañada del Oro Wash bed.

After World War II, the Tucson area experienced dramatic population growth, impacting Oro Valley as well. In the early 1950s the Oro Valley Country Club opened at the base of Pusch Ridge, affirming the area's future as an affluent community. Although one tract housing development was built in the area in the early 1950s, the majority of homes in the Oro Valley area were built by individual land owners on large lots in a low density residential style.

The community continued to grow gradually, and area residents increasingly desired local control of the land. In the late 1960s, incorporation became a greater focus in Oro Valley. Tucson Mayor James M. Corbett, Jr. expressed great interest in expanding the Tucson city limits to the far north side of Pima County. Corbett vowed to bring the Oro Valley area into Tucson "kicking and screaming," alluding to the reservations Oro Valley residents expressed in joining Tucson.

A petition to incorporate began circulation in Oro Valley in 1968. The Pima County Board of Supervisors officially refused to allow Oro Valley to incorporate, and litigation followed. Ultimately, the Arizona Supreme Court ruled in favor of incorporation, and in 1974 the Town of Oro Valley was incorporated with only 2.4 square miles and a population of nearly 1,200.

Through the 1980s and particularly in the 1990s Oro Valley experienced significant residential and commercial growth. In 1990 the town had a population of 6,670, and by 2000 that figure had increased to 29,700 residents. The Town's current population based on the 2010 census is 41,011. Over the past 10 years residential communities of all housing-unit densities were developed in the town, including several master-planned communities. For several years in the 1990s, Oro Valley was the fastest growing municipality in Arizona.

2.4.3   Current Population

The demographic makeup of Oro Valley has evolved from a community of retired residents to one that welcomes young families and a growing minority population. The Town is diversifying and with that comes concerns of meeting the needs of current and future residents, maintaining or improving quality of life, and meeting future demands.

2.4.3.1 Demographic Composition of Residents

Oro Valley has seen times of both gradual and explosive growth in its history. The Town was incorporated in 1974 and just prior to that in 1970 the population of the area was 581. In 2010 the population was estimated at 41,011. It is important to note that some of this growth in population is due to annexation of land (some with existing residential development on it) to be within the Town limits. Some growth is simply attributed to new residential development. For a more detailed look of population growth in comparison with other geographic areas, please view Appendix #.

Table 2-2: Town of Oro Valley Historic Population, 1970 – 2011

	Oro Valley Population	Change from previous decade	Percent change from previous decade
1970	581	N/A	N/A
1980	1,489	908	156%
1990	6,670	5,181	348%
2000	29,700	23,030	345%
2010	41,011	11,311	38%

Source: Background information for Focus 2020; US Census Bureau 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

From this table we can see that growth since 2000 has slowed down significantly as compared to the previous two decades. This illustrates a natural plateau effect that may be occurring. It is likely that future growth in the Town may be more incremental.

In addition to a growing number of residents, the Town is also diversifying in terms of age and ethnicities. At one point Oro Valley was known as a location for retirees. In the last decade this has changed. Now, the number of children under the age of 18 within the Town is almost the same as those over the age of 65.

Table 2-3: Oro Valley Total Age Groupings,2011

Child (- 9)	3,881		
Teenage (10-19)	4,999	**Those 18-**	**8,880**
Young Adult (20-34)	4,682	**Those 34-**	**13,562**
Adult (35-44)	4,476		
Middle Age (45-64)	12,200		
Senior (65-84)	9,309		
Elder(85+)	1,443	**Those 65+**	**10,752**

Source: US Census Bureau 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates
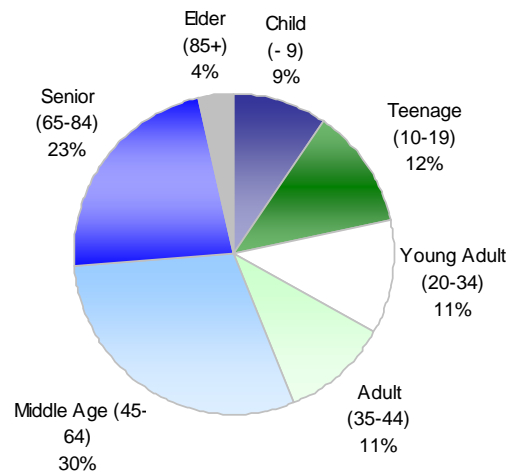
Figure 2-4: Oro Valley, Age Distribution

The Town is also becoming increasingly diverse. In the year 2000, White individuals comprised around 93% of the population. In 2011 that share of the population has decreased to 82%. Hispanics now comprise 11.6% of the total population and Asians comprise 2.8%. Overall this tells us that the population is shifting, but is not nearly as diverse as Pima County, the City of Tucson, or the State of Arizona. For instance, Hispanics comprise 35% of the

population in Pima County, 42% in Tucson, and 30% in the State of Arizona. For a complete view of these ethnic breakdowns, please see Appendix _.

Figure 2-5: Oro Valley Ethnicities, 2011

Two or more races: 686 (1.67%)
Some other race: 84 (0.20%)
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander: 12 (0.03%)
Native American: 172 (0.42%)
Black: 575 (1.40%)
Asian: 1,138 (2.78%)
Hispanic: 4,751 (11.59%)
White: 33,572 (81.90%)
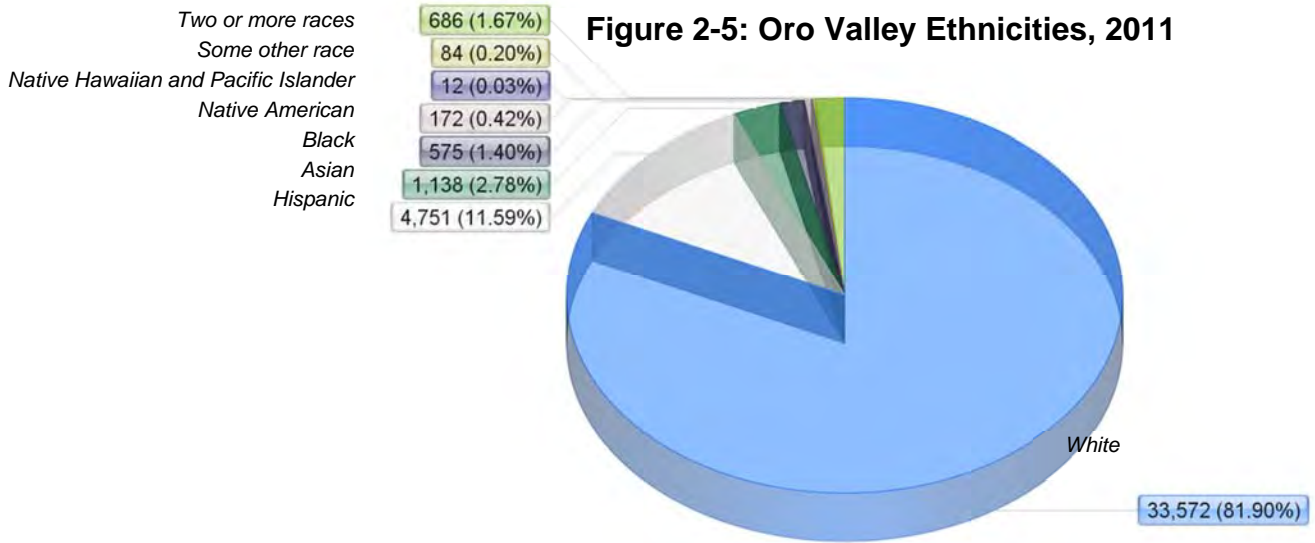
Gender Distribution

While there are some changing trends, the gender of Oro Valley residents is relatively stable. The population is almost evenly split between men (48%) and women (52%). The slightly higher percentage of women may be attributed to the longer average life expectancy of women.

Education and Income

The educational attainment of Oro Valley residents is important to maintain a strong residential and employment base that is competitive within the local region. Overall, Oro Valley has a very educated population when compared with the USA, Arizona, Pima County and Tucson. Residents of Oro Valley over the age of 25 with a Bachelor's degree or higher, are about 50% of the population. Elsewhere that percentage is less than 30% of the population.

Table 2-6: Highest Educational Attainment (Percentage Distribution), 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Population 25 years and over	204,348,469	4,148,642	649,837	327,898	30,440
Less than 9th grade	6.1%	6.4%	5.5%	6.9%	0.9%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	8.3%	8.2%	7.9%	9.5%	1.8%
High school graduate (incl. equivalency)	28.4%	24.6%	23.0%	24.9%	13.9%
Some college, no degree	21.3%	26.4%	26.3%	26.7%	26.1%
Associate's degree	7.6%	8.1%	8.0%	7.8%	7.6%
Bachelor's degree	17.7%	16.8%	17.4%	14.8%	28.6%
Graduate or professional degree	10.5%	9.5%	11.9%	9.4%	21.0%

Source: US Census Bureau 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

Even though Oro Valley's population is generally very educated, there are some interesting trends that highlight important exceptions. Generally in Oro Valley men tend to be more educated than women, especially among older age groups. However, in Oro Valley men between the ages of 35 to 44 have a lower educational attainment than men in other age groups and lag between women in that same age group by roughly 8%. This may be reflective of a nation-wide trend of women seeking more higher education than men.

Educational attainment of the resident population has implications for the overall quality of life of the community. Generally speaking, the higher the educational attainment of a household, the higher the income earning potential. This in turn influences the community through increased spending potential which funds government infrastructure and services and impacts the entire community.

The estimated median household income in the Town of Oro Valley in 2012 was $68,597 and the estimated per capita income in 2012 was $38,332.

Figure 2-6: Oro Valley Distribution of Income, 2012
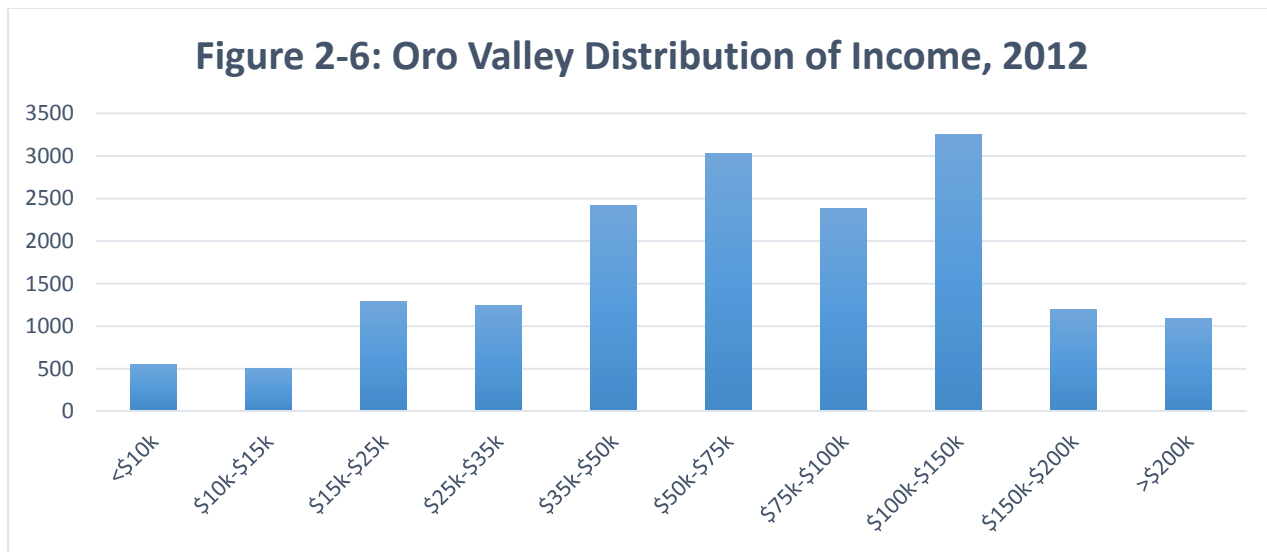
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012

Households

The characteristics of a community's households provide information on the way that people live. This has implications for housing characteristics as well as community services and facilities. The U.S. Census Bureau organizes households into two major groups: family households which have at least two persons who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption and non-family households which contain only one person or additional persons who are not related. Within those two main groups there are also categories of householder types.

Table 2-7: Household Status (Percentage Distribution), 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Family	66.5%	66%	62.4%	56.3%	71.3%
Married	48.8%	48.3%	44.5%	34.8%	59.6%
Male householder	4.7%	5.3%	4.8%	5.6%	2.4%
Female householder	13.0%	12.5%	13.1%	16.0%	9.3%
Nonfamily	33.5%	34%	37.6%	43.7%	28.7%
Living alone	27.4%	27.1%	30.7%	35.0%	25.1%

Source: Background information for Focus 2020; US Census Bureau 2009-2011 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

This table displays a comparison of Oro Valley with the national and local context. Compared to other areas, Oro Valley has a very high percentage of family households consisting of married individuals. When providing services the Town should consider the needs of all household types in the community, including those within the majority group as well as others like widowed individuals.

Figure 2-8: Oro Valley 2010-2050 Population Projections
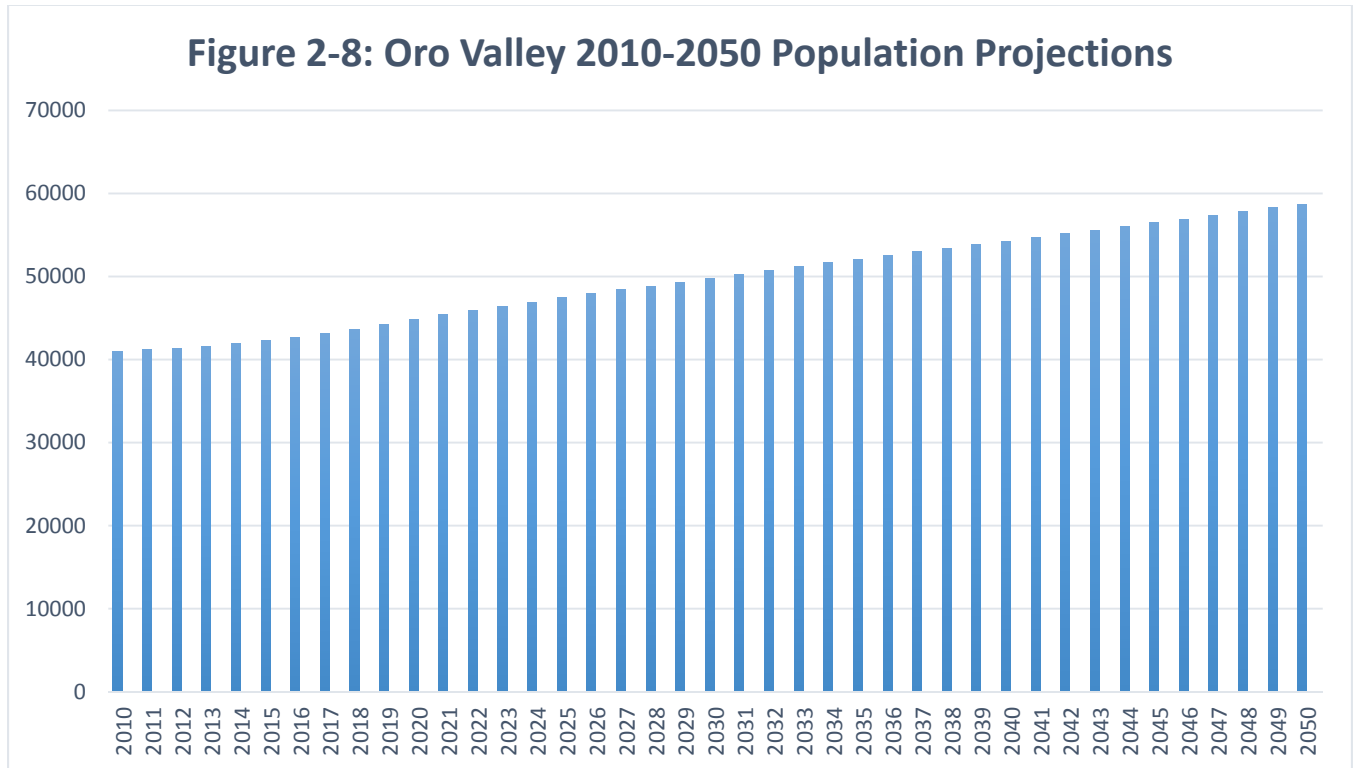
Source: Pima Association of Governments and Arizona Department of Economic Security

The Arizona Department of Economic Security has published its official 2013-2050 population projections for the state, counties, incorporated places and select census designated places.

These projections account for changes in the current population considering births, deaths, migration, etc. They do not include projections for the population that may result from annexation of land, residential development or other such factors.

ECONOMY

3 Economic Development

3.1   Executive Summary

3.1.1   Topic Introduction

This chapter presents information about economic development in the Town of Oro Valley. Economic development is the sustained, concerted actions of policy makers and communities that promote the standard of living and economic health of a specific area. Within the Town of Oro Valley, the Economic Development Division provides many services. These generally include:

- Arts, entertainment and tourism information and coordination

- Business services: recruitment, retention, expansion

- Project management: annexation and special projects

- In 2013 the Town of Oro Valley adopted a Strategic Plan which guides Town decision-making and resource management in pursuit of organizational goals. One of the four focus areas of the Strategic Plan is economic development. The two primary goals in this focus area include:

   o Attract and retain globally-competitive high technology and bioscience employers.

   o Develop recreation and cultural opportunities to promote tourism and support employee attraction and retention.

Each of these goals also includes a set of strategies and actions to accomplish them.

As demonstrated by the emphasis of this topic in the Town's Strategic Plan, economic development is of primary importance. It also has connections to many other topic areas that will be discussed as part of this project.

3.1.2   Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to existing policies and strategies as well as employment by place of residence, economics by place of work, and commercial real estate trends. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

3.1.3   Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Town of Oro Valley Economic Development Division can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/business. Specific document resources also include:

- Annexation Policy
- Annexation Brochure
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)

3.2   Existing Conditions

3.2.1   Oro Valley Economic Development Element

The Town of Oro Valley's current General Plan, Focus 2020, was ratified by voters in 2005. Chapter 3 of the General Plan outlines Economic Development. An excerpt from that chapter is contained below.

STATEMENT
Oro Valley's economic future is interwoven with its distinctive community character based on a residential/resort image and its proximity to the Pusch Ridge Wilderness, Coronado National Forest, and Catalina State Park. Diversification in the local revenue base is desirable. However, any new development must be consistent with the community's vision for the future and values.

KEY POLICY ISSUES
- Diversification of the Economy
- Retail Development/Leakage
- Job Creation
- Revenue Generation

GOALS AND POLICIES
Economic Sustainability
3.1 To ensure long-term financial and economic sustainability for the Town of Oro Valley.

3.2.2 Oro Valley Community Economic Development Strategy

As mentioned in the Executive Summary of this chapter, the Town of Oro Valley does have an adopted Strategic Plan which includes a focus on economic development. An excerpt from the Strategic Plan is contained below.

Economic Development

GOAL
Attract and retain globally-competitive high technology and bioscience employers.

STRATEGY
Support the creation of primary jobs.

ACTIONS
- Hold regular meetings with existing companies at Innovation Park and Foothills Business Park, including the University of Arizona Bio5 Institute
- Explore the possibility of a public-private partnership to build speculative space to attract high technology and bioscience employers
- Evaluate technology and communication infrastructure
- Promote the Economic Expansion Zone (EEZ) overlay district as a business attraction tool
- Support regional efforts to attract and retain major employers
- Develop a strategic partnership with the Arizona Commerce Authority
- Establish a Central Business District (CBD) along Oracle Road

STRATEGY
Promote partnerships to enhance public safety, education and workforce development.

ACTIONS
- Promote public safety, educational opportunities and state and national school rankings in Town marketing materials and online
- Hold regular meetings with University of Arizona and Pima Community College to support educational needs
- Hold regular meetings with public and private K-12 educational organizations and provide support through the School Resource Officer program

GOAL
Develop recreation and cultural opportunities to promote tourism and support employee attraction and retention.

STRATEGY
Support cultural events and opportunities.

ACTIONS
- Partner with the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance (SAACA) and the Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort on the 4th of July Celebration
- Partner with Tohono Chul Park, SAACA and other organizations on marketing efforts and arts & cultural events
- Promote the Public Art collection throughout Oro Valley
- Develop plans for the Town's 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2014

STRATEGY

Support local, national and international sporting events.

ACTIONS
- Enhance the reputation of Oro Valley as a destination for winter training activities, specifically swimming, running and cycling
- Partner with the Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bureau (MTCVB) to attract local, national and international sporting events
- Promote Naranja Park as a venue for local archers and regional competitions

STRATEGY
Promote Oro Valley as a bicycle-friendly community.

ACTIONS
- Complete construction of the CDO Linear Park from First Avenue to Oracle Road, including access to the Steam Pump Ranch trailhead and restroom facilities
- Seek funding to complete the shared use path between Steam Pump Ranch and Catalina State Park, and between Magee Road and La Cañada Drive
- Establish a Complete Streets policy stating our intent to plan, design, and maintain streets so they are safe for all users of all ages and abilities
- Explore public private partnership to reinstate bicycle safety classes
- Support regional funding for completion of The Loop shared use facility
- Support regional efforts to develop a velodrome and cyclist training facility
- Consider stand-alone application for Bicycle Friendly Community certification by the League of American Bicyclists

3.2.3   Economics by Place of Residence

The labor force, employment and related indicators provide information on the economy and the standard of living in Oro Valley.

3.2.3.1 Labor Force

Labor force data provides important information about the local economy, including how quickly the labor force is growing and the ability of people to find jobs. The labor force is defined as the civilian (non-military) non-institutionalized population age 16 years and older with employment or actively seeking employment. It is categorized by place of residence (where people live). It is the most comprehensive, consistent, geographically comparable, and timely data on employment by place of residence.

During the period 2000-2011, the labor force in Arizona grew at a rate of 2.3% annually which was much faster than the growth experienced by the U.S. as a whole. Despite this, the annual labor force growth rate for Pima County and Tucson were much lower. Oro Valley fared better during this period and experienced a labor force annual growth rate of 2.4%, similar to the State of Arizona overall.

Table 3-1: Employment Status and Labor Force, 2000-2011

Category	Year/Change		USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Labor Force (Civilian only)	Year	2000	140,863,000	2,346,997	383,866	238,565	13,991
		2011	156,201,959	3,014,397	461,592	253,680	18,203
	Change	Number	15,338,959	667,400	77,726	15,115	4,212
		Percent	10.89%	28.44%	20.25%	6.34%	30.11%
		CAGR	0.94%	2.30%	1.69%	0.56%	2.42%
Employment	Year	2000	135,208,000	2,255,774	372,933	231,046	13,552
		2011	140,145,661	2,682,456	410,343	221,895	16,723
	Change	Number	4,937,661	426,682	37,410	-9,151	3,171
		Percent	3.65%	18.92%	10.03%	-3.96%	23.40%
		CAGR	0.33%	1.59%	0.87%	-0.37%	1.93%
Employment Ratio	Year	2000	48.00%	44.00%	44.20%	47.50%	45.60%
		2011	57.50%	54.00%	52.30%	53.20%	49.10%
	Change	Percent	9.50%	10.00%	8.10%	5.70%	3.50%
Unemployment	Year	2000	5,655,000	91,223	10,933	7,519	439
		2011	16,056,298	331,941	51,249	31,785	1,480
	Change	Number	10,401,298	240,718	40,316	24,266	1,041
		Percent	183.93%	263.88%	368.76%	322.73%	237.13%
		CAGR	9.95%	12.46%	15.08%	14.00%	11.68%
Unemployment Rate	Year	2000	4.00%	3.90%	2.80%	3.20%	3.10%
		2011	6.60%	6.70%	6.50%	7.60%	4.30%
	Change	Percent	2.60%	2.80%	3.70%	4.40%	1.20%
Total Population 16 year +		2011	243,829,392	4,967,327	784,759	417,235	34,085
Total Employed *1			157,326,655	3,032,632	466,160	256,919	18,227
	Difference		86,502,737	1,934,695	318,599	160,316	15,858
	Percent Employed		64.52%	61.05%	59.40%	61.58%	53.48%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey
Notes: *1 - Includes Non-Civilian employment (Military, Institutional, etc.)

3.2.3.2 Employment by Place of Residence

For both individuals and households, economic stability is mostly measured by employment and income. The table above lists the total number of persons employed, which includes those on established payrolls, full or part time. These numbers exclude proprietors, self-employed persons, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, domestic workers, and non-civilian government workers (active-duty military personnel).

During the period 2000-2011, Arizona' employment grew at a rate of 1.6% annually which was much faster than the less than 1% annual growth experienced by the U.S. as a whole. Despite this, the annual employment growth rate for Pima County was much lower (0.87%). Oro Valley fared better than Tucson and Pima County during this period and experienced an employment annual growth rate of 1.93%, similar to the State of Arizona overall.

3.2.3.3 Employment-Population Ratio

The employment-population ratio provides information on the proportion of an area's population that is employed. An area with a comparably low employment-population ratio may have a large proportion of a particular population group (e.g., retirees, jail/prison detainees, active-duty military personnel, and self-employed persons) or it may have an economy that is faltering due to high unemployment.

Arizona's employment-population ratio increased from 44.0 percent in 2000 to 54.0 percent in 2010, as shown above. Over this same period, the U.S. employment-population ratio showed similar gains. The employment-

population ratios of Pima County and Tucson also increased during this time, as did Oro Valley. However, Oro Valley only saw a modest 3.5% increase in employment.

3.2.3.4   Unemployment

Unemployment is a widely used broad indicator of economic health and performance. Unemployment is composed of persons in the labor force without a job but actively seeking one. Like labor force and employment, unemployment data are collected by place of residence. In the previous table, overall employment has increased, but so has the population as a whole. The unemployment rate is a more appropriate indicator. The unemployment rate has increased universally since the year 2000, but this period of time also includes a major economic recession. Oro Valley still has a relatively low unemployment rate of 4.3%.

3.2.3.5   Income

In addition to employment, income is a very important economic measure. Income indicates the standard of living that people can afford. Per capita personal income is often used as the best indicator of an area's overall standard of living. Income has the following three sources: earnings from work, investments (e.g., dividends, interest, and rent), and transfer payments (e.g., Social Security, pensions, and welfare). Personal income includes all of these possible sources, less contributions for Social Security and other social insurances (e.g., unemployment insurance).

Per capita personal income in Arizona increased at a rate of 1.75% annually, which is slightly lower than the country as a whole. However, Oro Valley's per capita personal income was better than the state and more in line with the country, with an annual growth rate of 2.01%. This annual growth also comes on top of a base per capita income that is higher than the country as well. Per capita income in 2010 for Oro Valley was almost $40,000 a year, while the USA per capita income was about $27,000 and the state was almost $25,000.

Median household money income is another measure of the standard of living. It includes only money received by individuals (without the deduction of social insurance contributions) and excludes non-cash benefits (e.g., food stamps).As the name suggests, it is the total money income of the members of a household.

Median household income in Oro Valley is higher than the USA, Arizona, Pima County and Tucson and has continued to be so over the last decade. However, the annual growth rate of median household income in Oro Valley lags behind other geographies. Oro Valley median household income has grown at about 1% a year, while the USA has grown at almost 2% a year.

Table 3-2: Income and Poverty, 2000-2011

Category	Year/Change		USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Per Capita Income	Years	2000	$21,587	$20,275	$19,785	$16,322	$31,517
		2011	$27,158	$24,541	$24,452	$19,676	$39,249
	Change	Amount	5,571	4,266	4,667	3,354	7,732
		Percent	25.81%	21.04%	23.59%	20.55%	24.53%
		CAGR	2.11%	1.75%	1.94%	1.71%	2.01%
Median Household Income	Year	2000	$41,994	$40,558	$36,758	$30,981	$61,037
		2011	$51,484	$48,518	$44,679	$36,071	$68,495
	Change	Amount	$9,490	$7,960	$7,921	$5,090	$7,458
		Percent	22.60%	19.63%	21.55%	16.43%	12.22%
		CAGR	1.87%	1.64%	1.79%	1.39%	1.05%
Percent Persons in Poverty	Year	2000	12.40%	13.90%	14.70%	18.40%	3.10%
		2011	15.20%	17.60%	19.40%	25.30%	5.40%
	Change	Percent	2.80%	3.70%	4.70%	6.90%	2.30%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey, Oro Valley General Plan Background Report; Economics

3.2.3.6 Poverty

In contrast to income measures, poverty indicates those persons unable to afford the cost of living in an area. In order to measure poverty, an income threshold is determined given a family's particular set of characteristics (a complex calculation that is based on a household's ability to pay for food and housing); if that family's income is below the threshold, the family is poor. Poverty rates are determined using money income and, therefore, do not reflect the fact that many low-income persons receive non-cash benefits. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation.

Arizona's poverty rate in 2011 was 13.9%, which is higher than the national rate. Pima County and Tucson have a significantly higher poverty rate at 19.4% and 25.3% respectively. In contrast to that, the poverty rate in Oro Valley is much lower. In 2000 it was 3.1% and in 2011 it was 5.4%. Although there has been an increase of persons in poverty across all compared geographies, the relatively low poverty levels in Oro Valley are reflective of the high employment by place of residence and income figures previously discussed.

3.2.4 Economics by Place of Work

The section below provides information on the economy by place of work. The measures come in several forms, with employment, earnings and average earnings the most useful. This data enables the identification and analysis of the economic health of an area over time. Furthermore, these can be used to evaluate the competitiveness of a region versus the entire nation and to identify industries worth targeting for economic development purposes.

3.2.4.1 Employment

Employment by place of work, also known as jobs, is one of the most widely cited measures of regional economic activity. This includes both full-time and part-time employment positions, with the possibility that one person may fill multiple employment positions. The following table shows the major employers in the Town as of late 2013.

Table 3-3: Major Employers in the Town of Oro Valley, Sept. 2013

Company	Employees	Rank	Share of Total Employees
Ventana Medical Systems, a member of the Roche Group	1500	1	8.38%
Oro Valley Hospital	616	2	3.44%
Hilton El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort	460	3	2.57%
Amphitheater School District	424	4	2.37%
Town of Oro Valley	407	5	2.27%
Walmart Supercenter	249	6	1.39%
Fry's Food & Drug Store	246	7	1.37%
Splendido at Rancho Vistoso	176	8	0.98%
Kohl's	125	9	0.70%
Target	120	10	0.67%
Total	4,323		*24.15%**

Based on total in-town employment of 17,904 persons and a total of 4,323 of those employees being employed by these major employers, therefore accounting for 24% of the Town's employment.
Source: Town of Oro Valley Economic Development Department

The following table offers a more detailed look at the industries, occupations, and class of workers. The largest share in the Town of Oro Valley are highlighted for each category. In general, Oro Valley seems to be aligned with the other geographies, with a few minor exceptions. The most notable difference is that almost 51% of Oro Valley's workers are in a management, business, science, and arts occupation. This high share has implications across other categories which were already discussed, including income.

Table 3-4: Full-Time and Part-Time Employment, 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Total Civilian employed population 16 years & over	140,145,661	2,682,456	410,343	221,895	16,723
INDUSTRY					
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	2,655,272	37,673	3,857	1,487	165
	1.9%	1.4%	0.9%	0.7%	1.0%
Construction	8,909,504	184,133	26,274	14,735	665
	6.4%	6.9%	6.4%	6.6%	4.0%
Manufacturing	14,640,244	199,552	29,561	13,550	1,561
	10.4%	7.4%	7.2%	6.1%	9.3%
Wholesale trade	3,979,663	68,263	7,560	4,196	318
	2.8%	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%
Retail trade	16,246,356	329,053	49,548	27,383	1,811
	11.6%	12.3%	12.1%	12.3%	10.8%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6,971,155	134,035	15,962	8,149	829
	5.0%	5.0%	3.9%	3.7%	5.0%
Information	3,057,887	50,143	7,349	4,131	352
	2.2%	1.9%	1.8%	1.9%	2.1%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	9,404,900	212,381	20,862	9,951	1,464
	6.7%	7.9%	5.1%	4.5%	8.8%
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	14,906,696	307,964	46,992	25,957	2,026
	10.6%	11.5%	11.5%	11.7%	12.1%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	32,376,279	591,106	106,508	58,544	4,157
	23.1%	22.0%	26.0%	26.4%	24.9%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services	12,956,562	284,894	44,774	26,832	1,420
	9.2%	10.6%	10.9%	12.1%	8.5%
Other services, except public administration	6,986,806	129,552	23,591	13,094	833
	5.0%	4.8%	5.7%	5.9%	5.0%
Public administration	7,054,337	153,707	27,505	13,886	1,122
	5.0%	5.7%	6.7%	6.3%	6.7%
OCCUPATION					
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	50,372,150	934,685	149,114	72,120	8,507
	35.9%	34.8%	36.3%	32.5%	50.9%
Service occupations	25,241,477	525,570	86,435	52,251	2,454
	18.0%	19.6%	21.1%	23.5%	14.7%
Sales and office occupations	34,855,682	719,945	104,837	57,504	4,239
	24.9%	26.8%	25.5%	25.9%	25.3%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	12,899,471	248,352	36,129	20,305	801
	9.2%	9.3%	8.8%	9.2%	4.8%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	16,776,881	253,904	33,828	19,715	722
	12.0%	9.5%	8.2%	8.9%	4.3%
CLASS OF WORKER					
Private wage and salary workers	109,938,596	2,096,586	302,140	162,717	12,956
	78.4%	78.2%	73.6%	73.3%	77.5%
Government workers	21,159,555	415,732	78,360	43,374	2,740
	15.1%	15.5%	19.1%	19.5%	16.4%
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers	8,849,434	166,720	29,485	15,685	1,027
	6.3%	6.2%	7.2%	7.1%	6.1%
Unpaid family workers	198,076	3,418	358	119	0
	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%

3.2.4.2 Earnings

Data related to average earnings per employment position is not available at the Town of Oro Valley scale. For more information please visit http://www.bea.gov/iTable/index_regional.cfm for more information at the Pima County, state, and national scales.

3.3   Issue Identification

3.3.1   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were interviewed are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field. The main areas that should be addressed with the General Plan process include:

- Diversifying employment opportunities suiting the needs of current and future residents
- Attracting a diversity of businesses that provide and array of services
- Supporting our core industries and promoting tourism
- Decreasing the amount of tax dollars leaving the community
- Building off the investments and plans we already have – continue the momentum for the Town

4　　Fiscal Conditions

4.1.1　Topic Introduction

This chapter summarizes historic and recent fiscal conditions of the Town of Oro Valley. It is important to review the Town's fiscal conditions in order to understand how the Town historically has prioritized and financed public services. This also provides information on how the Town could finance future public services that are likely to arise from the General Plan update. The sustainability of the Town's public services is dependent upon the Town's ability to maintain a long-term balance between revenues and expenditures.

The Town's finances are managed by the Finance Department. The Finance Department strives to protect the financial integrity of the Town of Oro Valley by providing timely, accurate and relevant financial data to support informed decision-making for both internal and external customers of the Town. The Finance Department encourages and promotes learning and growth in the individual employee, the Finance Team and the organization as a whole.

In 2013 the Town of Oro Valley adopted a Strategic Plan which guides Town decision-making and resource management in pursuit of organizational goals. One of the four focus areas of the Strategic Plan is fiscal responsibility. The goal of this focus area is:

- o　Maintain long-term financial health through diversified revenue sources while investing in community initiatives.

This goal also includes a set of strategies and actions to accomplish it.

As demonstrated by emphasis of this topic in the Town's Strategic Plan, fiscal responsibility is of primary importance. It also has connections to many other topics that will be discussed as part of this project.

4.1.2　Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's economic picture as well as funding mechanisms. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

4.1.3　Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Finance Department can be found online at http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/finance. Specific document resources also include:

- Annual Report – Impact Fee Funds (2013)
- Classification and Compensation (2013-2014)
- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (2013)
- Popular Annual Financial Report (2013)
- Town of Oro Valley Adopted Budget FY 2013-2014
- Town of Oro Valley Adopted Budget FY 2014-2015
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Town Manager's Recommended Budget FY 2014-15
- Transportation, Park and Police Impact Fee Study (2013)
- Water Utility Development Impact Fees Study Report (2013)

4.2.1　Town's Financial Picture

This section provides information on the Town's overall financial picture. The information contained here is only a snapshot of the wealth of information available. It is highly recommended that an individual seeking more in-depth information refer to the additional resources listed at the beginning of this chapter.

The Town's overall financial picture is generally positive. Through the recent economic recession some difficult decisions were made that set the Town on a more sustainable path of revenues and expenditures. Although there are many fund types in the Town budget (as described in the following section), the general fund is the largest and serves as the primary discretionary budget. The graph below illustrated the forecast for this fund through the next five years. All graphs and tables in this chapter were sourced from presentation materials for the FY 2014-2015 Budget.

Figure4-1: General Fund: Five-Year Forecast, May 2013
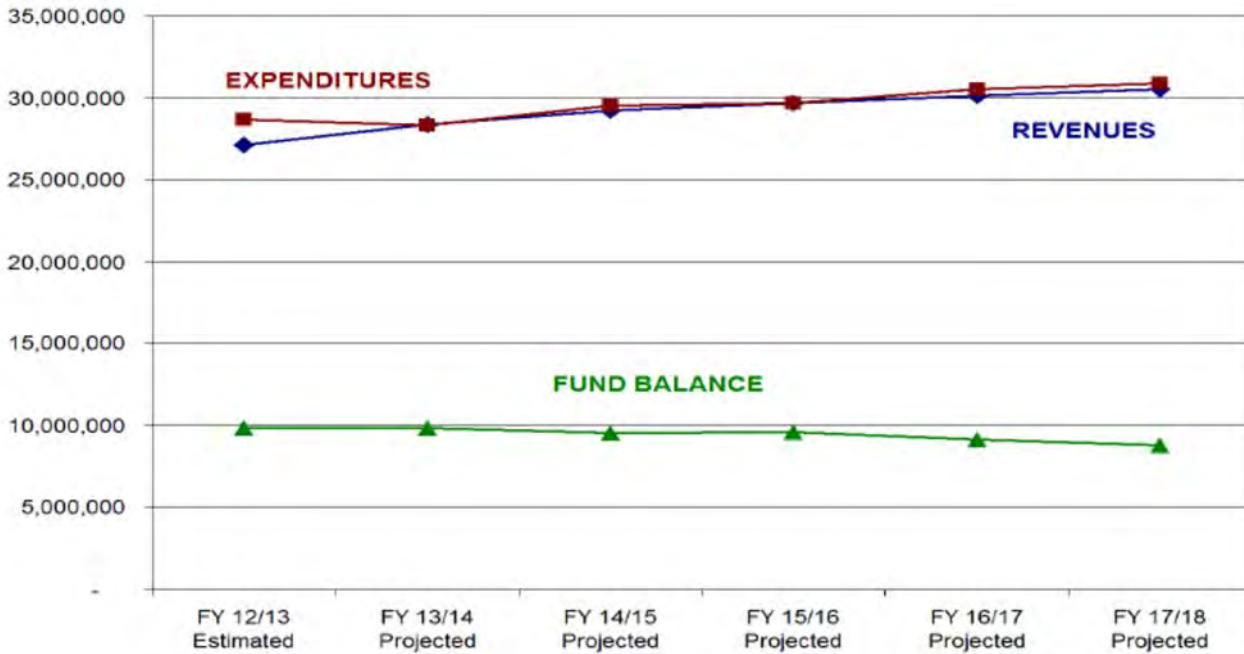
4.2.1.1   Fund Types

Following is description of the primary or major types of funds for the Town of Oro Valley. Each of the funds collect monies in different ways and are limited as to what those monies can be spent on.

The General Fund is the Town's largest fund and serves as its primary operating fund. It offers the widest discretion in terms of how the Town may apply the money. The accounts within the fund are ongoing, with no expected termination date (as opposed, for example, to a capital project fund that would be expected to be completed and repaid at some point).

Enterprise Funds are used for services provided to the public on a user charge basis, similar to the operation of a commercial enterprise. In the Town this includes the Water Utility Enterprise Fund and the Stormwater Enterprise Fund.

The Town's Capital Projects Funds accounts for revenues and expenditures related to specific capital projects. Typically, these have an identified revenue source, such as impact fees, that is used to fund the expenditures. They also have a defined life, terminating after the project is funded, constructed, and any debt incurred has been repaid. In the Town this includes impact fees.

Special Revenue Funds account for legally mandated resources or programs with revenues/expenditures restricted to special purposes. Typically, these resources or programs are ongoing. In the Town this includes the Highway Fund and Bed Tax Fund.

Internal Service Funds are used for operations serving other funds or departments within a government on a cost-reimbursement basis. In the Town this includes Fleet Maintenance Fund and Benefit Self Insurance Fund.

The chart that follows illustrates these different funds and their respective shares of the total Town budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

Figure4-2: FY 2014/15 Budget by Fund - $107.1M
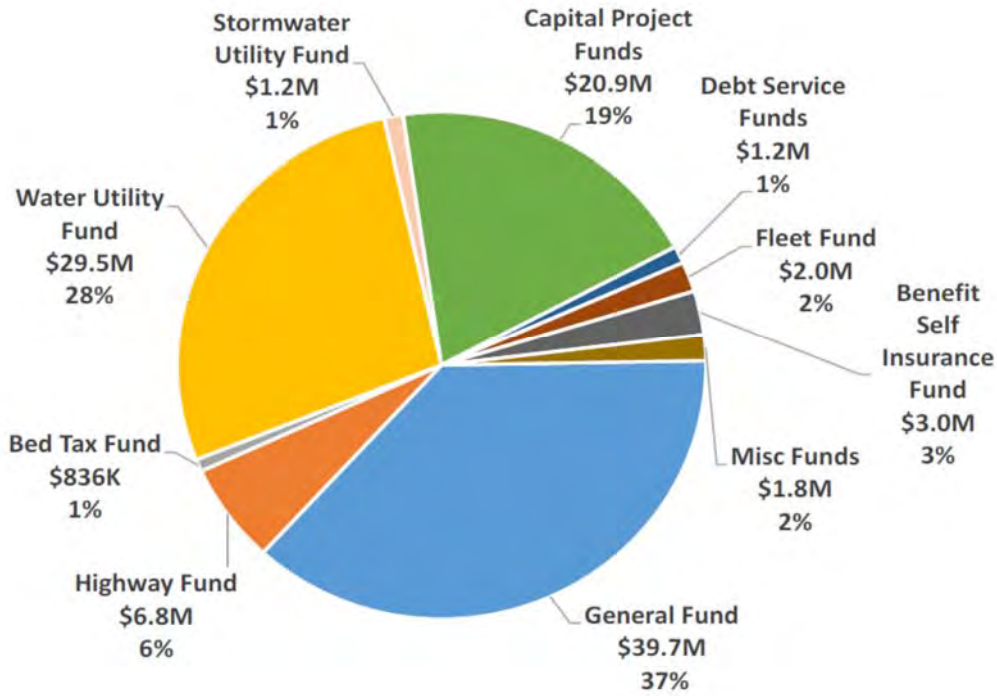
Figure4-3: Fund Balance Reserves, 2013-2015
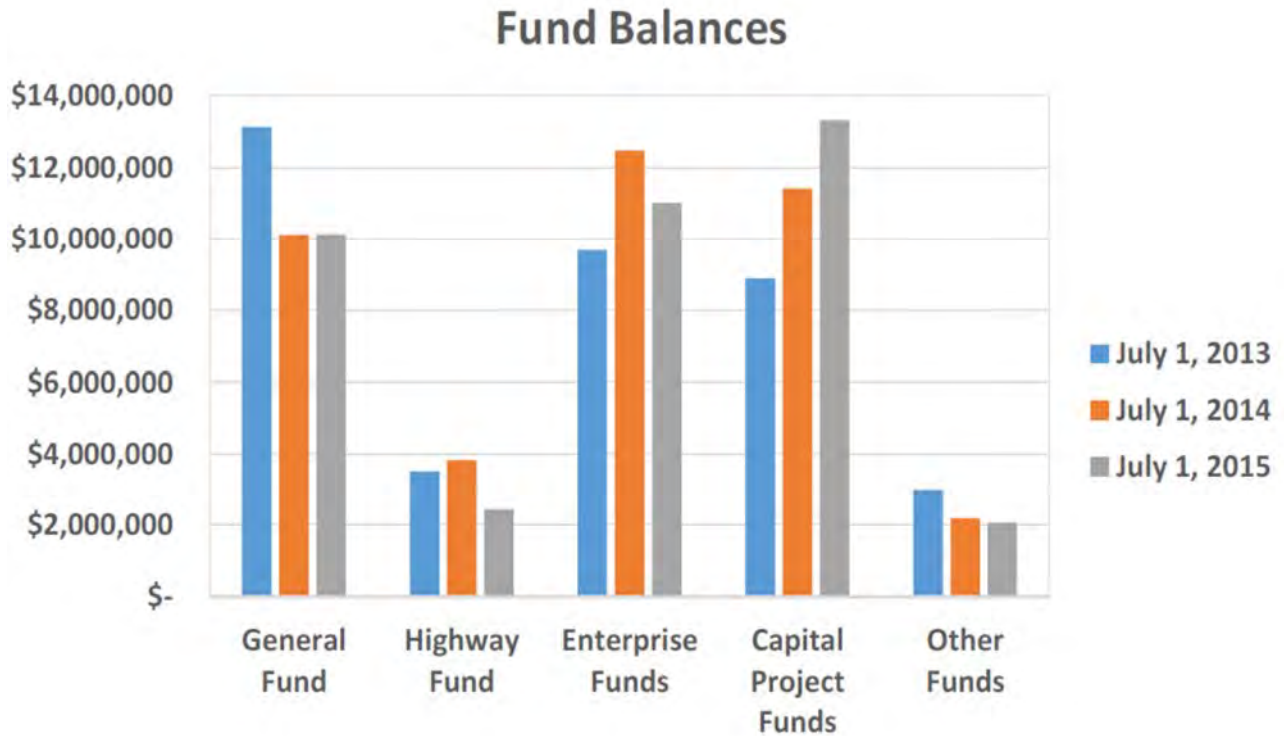
4.2.1.2　　Funding Mechanisms

There are a wide range of revenue sources that fund operations, services and personnel within the Town of Oro Valley. For a detailed explanation of these funding mechanisms, it's recommended an individual seeking such information review the additional resources listed at the beginning of this chapter.

- Intergovernmental Transfers/Grants
- Property Tax
- Transaction Privilege (Sales) Tax and Use Tax
- Specialty Industry Tax
- General Obligation (GO) Bonds
- Revenue Bonds
- User Charges
- Lease-Purchase Contracts
- Municipal Property Corporations
- Special Districts
- Development Impact Fees
- Dedications and Exactions
- Development Agreements
- Privatization or Public-Private Partnerships
- Jurisdictional Revenue Sharing

4.2.1.3　　Revenue Summary

Revenue for FY 2014-15 is estimated to total $67,030,924. In comparison to the FY 2013-14 budget, revenue is projected to increase 7.8%. Economic growth continues steadily at the state and local level. The Town's state shared revenue collections will increase for the third consecutive year. The number of annual single family residential (SFR) permits issued within the town is projected at 200+ over the next several years. Commercial development is healthy, and several new apartment complexes are under construction. Year-over-year growth in local construction sales taxes is projected at 30%. The Town continues to rely heavily on these economically sensitive revenue sources, however, sales taxes and state shared revenues make up 44% of the projected FY 2014-15 revenues.

Local sales tax represents 25% of the Town's FY 2014-15 projected revenues. In this category, taxes related to retail trade are the biggest contributor, with year-over-year growth projected at 2-5%. Growth in utility tax collections is also anticipated, with the rise in single family residences and the completion of the apartment complexes referenced above. For FY 2014-15, single family residential construction and permitting revenues were projected assuming 200 single family residence permits will be issued. In collaboration with Economic Development division and Development and Infrastructure Services Department, the Finance Department compiled a list of all commercial and residential projects in the pipeline and their likelihood of completion in the next budget year. The FY 2014-15 budget is forecasted to see an addition of nearly 230,000 square feet of commercial building in the form of office space, retail, restaurant, child care, a school expansion and retirement centers.

Compiling revenue estimates in a sensitive fiscal climate is a difficult task. Depending on the particular revenue source, estimates are based on susceptibility to economic factors, current performance, economic drivers and indicators, and information received from state reports and other sources.

Figure4-4: FY 2014/15 Revenue Sources - $107.1M
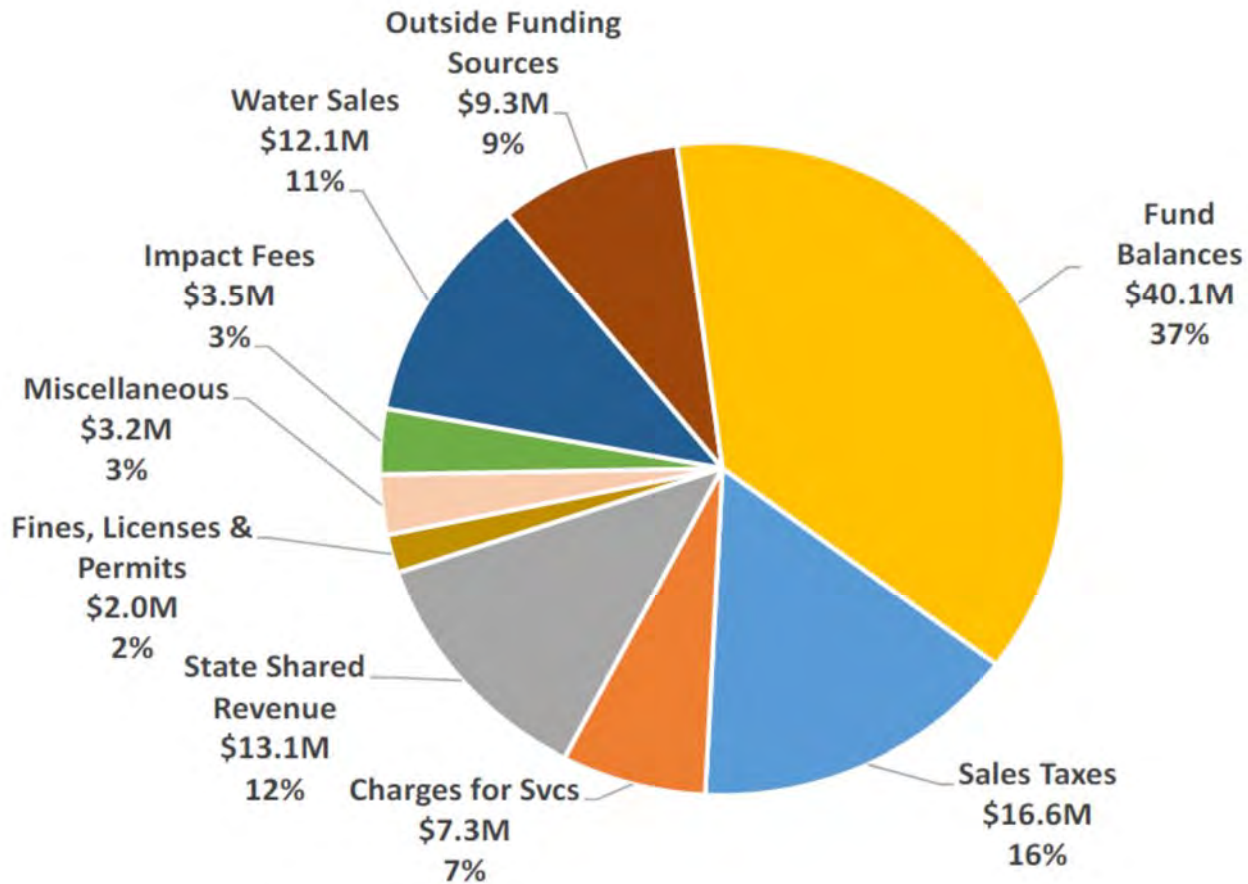
The following are key revenue provisions included in the General Fund budget:

- Total FY 2014/15 General Fund revenues are higher by $3.9 million, or 13.8%, than FY 2013/14 budgeted General Fund revenues
- FY 2014/15 local sales taxes are $2.6 million, or 19.5%, higher than FY 2013/14 budget amounts with increased revenues projected from new construction and retail sales activity. This increase reflects the General Fund now accounting for 100% of construction sales tax revenues as these revenues are no longer allocated between the General Fund and the Highway Fund.
- License and permit revenues are $312,000, or 20.9%, higher than FY 2013/14 budget amounts due to increased residential and commercial construction activity
- $1,315,000 is budgeted for transit service reimbursement from the RTA
- Overall increase of 6.7%, or approximately $645,000, in state-shared revenues
- Includes a transfer of Bed Tax Funds in the amount of $185,000, consisting of $150,000 to fund the incremental increased cost of the expanded Aquatic Center, plus $35,000 as the second of 15 annual repayments to the General Fund contingency reserves used for financing the construction of the Aquatic Center

4.2.1.4 Expenditure Summary

The following are key expenditure provisions included in the General Fund budget:

- Includes funding for market salary adjustments and merit and step increases for eligible employees at an estimated cost of $1.4 million
- Employee health insurance premiums are programmed to increase 7% for FY 14/15

- Department operations and maintenance budgets are slightly higher by 2.5%, or $180,000, than adopted FY 2013/14 levels
- Transfer out of $1.4 million to the new General Government Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Fund for capital projects
- Transfer out of $1.14 million in one-time construction sales tax revenues to the new General Government CIP Fund to reserve for future year capital projects

The estimated year-end contingency reserve balance in the General Fund for FY 14/15 is $10.1 million, which equals 31% of the recommended expenditure budget. The Town's adopted policy level is 25%.

Figure4-5: FY 2014/15 Expenditure Categories - $107.1M
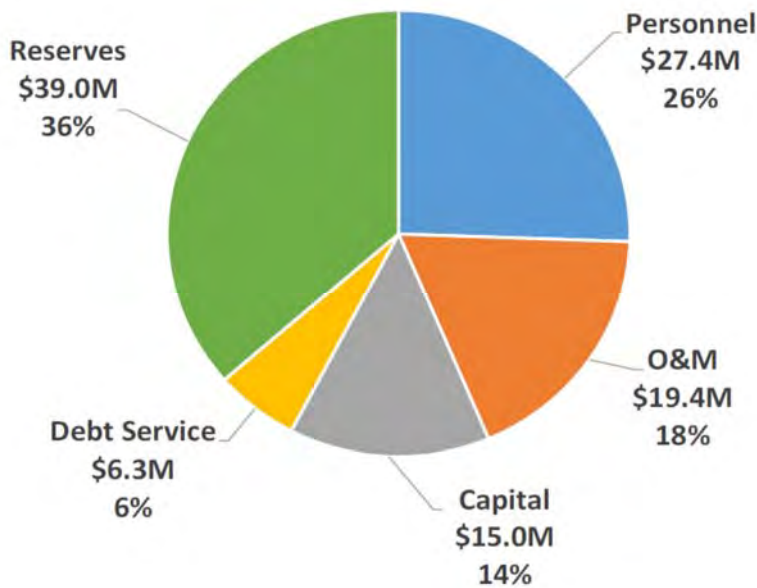
4.3   Issue Identification

4.3.1   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

The main areas that are relevant to the General Plan process include:

- Long-term financial stability for Town operations and services
- Funding security
- Emerging trends – budget becoming structurally balanced
  - Ongoing sources are covering the expenditures
  - There is an increase in construction and revenues
  - Increase in population, impact local spending and local revenue
  - Retail opportunities may come with housing, hopefully not competition
  - More drive for community amenities/services – Town provided
  - Local economy seems to do better, higher employed population
- Educate people about revenue sources and services and how they're connected
- Survey population for parks bond after outreach effort.

ENVIRONMENT

5 Open Space and Trails

5.1 Executive Summary

5.1.1 Topic Introduction

Open space has been identified as very important to the community, and several types of open space and criteria for designating open space have been identified. The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance/Open Space Regulations were adopted in 2011. The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance reflects the Town's habitat, scenic and cultural resource conservation values.

5.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance, open space, and trails. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

5.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance requirements, open space and trail issues are related to the work of a various departments. The Development and Infrastructure Services Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/dis. Specifically, info on the Planning Division and the Conservation and Sustainability Division within Development and Infrastructure Services Department may be helpful. Specific document resources also include:

- Oro Valley Trails Task Force Report (2002)
- PAG Regional Pedestrian Plan (2000)
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Trails Plan Implementation Biannual Report (2010)

5.2 Existing Conditions

5.2.2 Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Information on Environmentally Sensitive Lands, including the map, can be found in Chapter 11: Land Use.

5.2.3 Open Space

There are no formal open space locations within the Town of Oro Valley. The main opportunities for public open space in the Town are the washes throughout the area, with the Cañada Del Oro Wash being a major corridor of undeveloped open space and potential wildlife habitat.

The Town has made efforts to preserve areas as open space through regulations. The Town has adopted a Riparian Overlay Zone Ordinance (Article 10-7) to preserve riparian habitats associated with watercourses and significant strands of native vegetation. This Ordinance prohibits development and disturbance of riparian areas as well as mitigation for disturbance, within delineated Riparian Habitat. This Ordinance will help to ensure that the washes and riparian areas within the Town remain undeveloped, natural open space that may be used to provide trail connections.

The Town has also adopted the Hillside Development Zone Ordinance (Article 10-1). This ordinance protects significant peaks and ridges and encourages sensible development in hillside areas while minimizing the physical and visual impact of hillside development. Moreover, the ordinance limits the amount of grading allowed on parcels with steep slopes, while encouraging the designation of Natural Open Space to be preserved. The ordinance allows a reduction in slope calculations on a site in exchange for the designation of land as natural open space. This open space is dedicated as such, and no development is allowed within the legally described boundaries of the open space. The open space preserved under this ordinance can be developed for trail use, however; the land may be privately owned and may not be available as recreational open space.

Private conservation easements throughout the Planning Area also provide additional open space, however this land is not necessarily available for public use or trail connections. There are county, state, and national parks currently in the area that have been designated as natural open space parks, but there are no Town owned parcels specifically designated as Natural Open Space. Nor is there a plan, policy, or budget for acquiring open space lands.

5.2.4 Trails

Oro Valley has a dynamic trail system for hikers, bikers, inline skaters, runners, equestrians and other users. It is comprised of several types of surfaces, including paved paths (shared use paths), "smooth" trails, and more "primitive" trails.

The shared use paths exist along Lambert Lane, Naranja Drive, La Cañada Drive, First Avenue, and Tangerine Road. Additional paths along the Cañada del Oro Wash and Big Wash are part of Pima County's Loop system. More information on these shared use paths can be found on the Town's Bicycling page.

In contrast to the existing shared use paths, many of the Town's 54.5 miles of trails are dirt trails. Some are "cultivated" trails; that is, they have been cleared "smooth" and may contain decomposed granite as a hiking surface. In general, these types of trails are those that run through or adjacent to subdivisions.

The Town's "primitive" trails are mainly dirt trails which have been delineated by rock cairns or other natural barriers. Many of these trails feature steep slopes or other similar rough terrain. They are usually on the outer edge of the Town's limits, or within areas that are considered "natural" or "open space" within subdivisions. Many of these primitive trails follow the course of a wash or run adjacent to it, which may mean that in times of heavy rains, these trails may be impassable or even dangerous. An example of this type of trail is one that is heavily used by equestrians, the trail that runs within the Canyon del Oro Wash itself.

The Town is responsible for approximately 30 miles of the trails within Town limits. Other existing trails may fall under the jurisdiction of a homeowner's association or of a private developer. The Town has established an Adopt-A-Trail program to allow interested residents and groups to adopt portions of trails that are controlled by the Town.

Map 5-1: Town of Oro Valley Trailways Map

Oro Valley
Trailways Map

April 2013

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PARK

CATALINA STATE PARK

BIKE SHOP

FIRE STATION

LIBRARY

Existing Trail Types

Decomposed Granite

Natural

Paved

Paved Shared Use Path
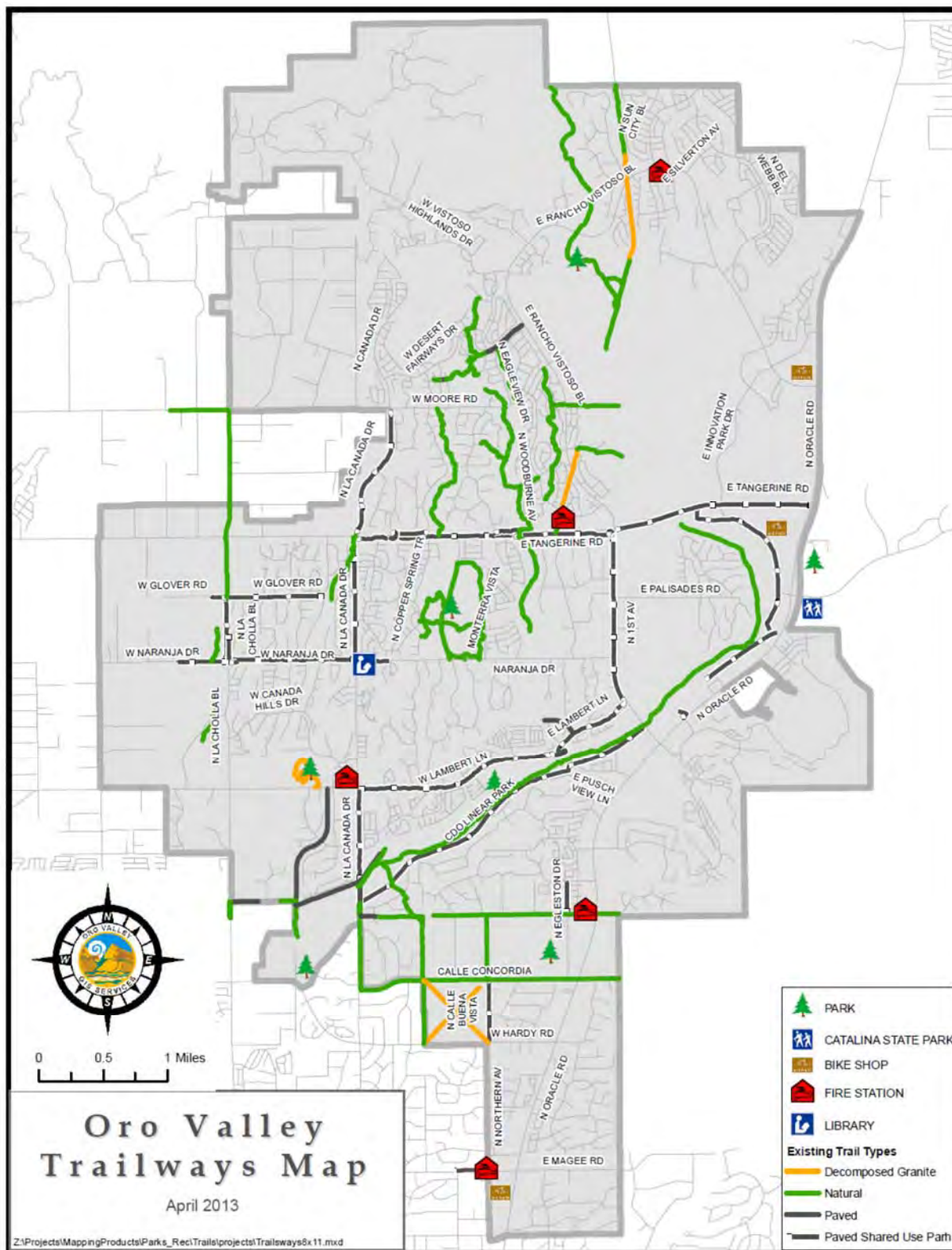
5.3.1.1   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Explore adopting a trails ordinance – for example eastern Pima County has enforced development of trails and trails have been installed as a result
- Consider an open space preservation program, especially if the Town expands
- Consider the long-term desires of the community for open space and what that may mean for future funding mechanisms and needs

6 Natural Resources

6.1 Executive Summary

6.1.1 Topic Introduction

The Town of Oro Valley is committed to the preservation and conservation of its natural and scenic resources. The Town realizes and acknowledges that its natural and scenic resources are some of their most vital assets. Accordingly, the Town is devoted to the conservation of its natural resources, as they provide the Town with a competitive advantage over other municipalities, but more importantly provide native plants and animals with viable habitat as well as open space and recreational opportunities for the Town's residents.

6.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to climatology, hydrology/drainage, vegetation, wildlife, habitat, topography, soils, geology, and water. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

6.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov

- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Town of Oro Valley Water Commission Annual Report 2014
- Appendix B for the 15 Year Capital Project Program
- Oro Valley Energy Consumption Policy
- Sustainability Plan Methods of Approach and Success
- Water Rates Analysis Report
- Oro Valley Water Utility Commission Annual Report 2014

6.2 Existing Conditions

6.2.1 Climatology

The Town of Oro Valley's climate averages high temperatures of 83.4 degrees and average lows of 53.8 degrees. Weather patterns in the arid southwest have been found to vary spatially due to topography and landforms. Because of slightly higher elevation and its proximity to the Santa Catalina Mountain range, Oro Valley and the immediate surrounding area experiences slightly lower temperatures and slightly higher rainfall than that found in Tucson city limits.

Typical of the southwest desert climate is a long, hot season, beginning in April and ending in October. Average annual precipitation is less than twenty inches with the summer thunderstorm season accounting for approximately 44% of the annual rainfall. The average annual rainfall is often higher in the far eastern portions of the Planning Area due to the effects of the mountain range. Sunshine is abundant across Arizona with Oro Valley receiving, on the average, over 300 days a year of sunshine.

The following table shows the average daily temperatures and monthly precipitation figures. The onset of the summer monsoon season begins in July, which typically lasts well into the month of September. Nighttime temperatures begin to fall in November and on average, the first freeze occurs by the middle of November, with some potential for a hard freeze and/or snowfall throughout March. Monsoonal moisture means a dramatic increase in precipitation and humidly, which typically begins in early July. September marks the end of the summer monsoons but heavy rainfall is possible during October due to tropical systems moving north along the Mexican coastline.

Table 6-1: Oro Valley Average Temperatures

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Max °F	66.6	70.2	75	82.7	91.3	100.6	100.7	98.8	95.7	86.1	74.7	66.9	84.1
Mean °F	50.6	53.8	58.3	64.6	73.1	82.4	86.3	84.9	80.4	69.4	57.3	50.8	67.7
Min °F	34.6	37.3	41.5	46.4	54.9	64.2	71.8	70.9	65.0	52.6	39.8	34.6	51.1

Source: http://www.idcide.com/weather/az/oro-valley.htm
Data: National Climactic Data Center, National Weather Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Table 6-2: Oro Valley Average Rainfall

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Inch	1.07	1.07	1.01	0.37	0.21	0.25	1.82	2.1	1.18	1.26	0.81	1.25	12.4

Source: http://www.idcide.com/weather/az/oro-valley.htm
Data: National Climactic Data Center, National Weather Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

6.2.2 Hydrology/Drainage

The Town is composed of three major watersheds. All three discharge into the Santa Cruz River flowing to the Gila River. These washes are considered ephemeral, meaning that they only flow at times when there is sufficient runoff from stormwater or from snowmelt. Perennial flow is flow that is present in a stream year round. The nearest perennial stream is the effluent dependent reach of the Santa Cruz River. This perennial flow is the result of year round discharge from the Pima County Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The largest of the three Town watersheds is the Cañada Del Oro Wash. The Cañada Del Oro Wash extends from the southeast corner of Pinal County to the northeast corner of Pima County in Arizona. The 35-mile long wash has a watershed with a contributing area of approximately 261 square miles. The Cañada Del Oro Wash originates in the Santa Catalina Mountains and flows north into Pinal County, where it bends upon leaving the mountains and flows south through the towns of Catalina and Oro Valley before joining with the Santa Cruz River near the Interstate 10 bridge. Big Wash and the Sutherland Wash are the two largest tributaries to the Cañada Del Oro Wash, and flow south from Pinal County and from the western slopes of the Santa Catalina Mountains respectively. The confluence of the two tributaries and the main stem of the Cañada Del Oro Wash are located near the North Oracle Road Bridge on the east side of Oro Valley. The Cañada Del Oro Wash has a 100-year peak discharge of 22,354 cfs at its confluence with the Santa Cruz River.

The two other watersheds are smaller contributing tributaries each of about 1 square mile in area. On the extreme south side of town one area contributes to Pegler Wash a tributary to Rillito Creek and on the northwest side of town one small sub basin contributes to Cañada Aqua 1 which is a small contributing tributary directly to the Santa Cruz River in Marana.

6.2.3 Vegetation

The Town of Oro Valley is primarily made up of three habitat types: riparian, hydroriparian and xeroriparian. Riparian habitats are water-dependent ecosystems that line numerous washes threaded through the community and contain the highest plant density and diversity found within the Planning Area boundaries. Riparian corridors also provide important open space and recreational opportunities. Not only are they used by wildlife for shelter, food and movement, Oro Valley residents are also attracted to the cool reprieve of riparian areas and they are a popular outdoor recreation destination.

Hydroriparian areas are ecosystems associated with perennial watercourses characterized by dense coverage of wetland plant species. Mixed broadleaf species such as cottonwood and willow are commonly found in Hydroriparian areas.

Xeroriparian areas are habitats associated with intermittent water supplies and may include species from adjoining upland areas. This category is further divided into three subclasses based on total vegetative volume per square meter, A (high), B (intermediate), and C (low). Typical species include palo verde and mesquite, along with occasional Mesoriparian species.

A majority of riparian habitat in Oro Valley has been classified as Xeroriparian, most of which is the typical Xeroriparian-C or –B (low or intermediate vegetation density). A few areas of Xeroriparian-A (high vegetation density) appear intermittently along the banks of Big Wash, Honey Bee Wash and the lower reaches of Cañada del Oro Wash. A relatively substantial area at the confluence of Big and Cañada del Oro Washes has been classified as Mesoriparian.

Looking at a map of the Riparian Habitat Types braided throughout the Town of Oro Valley, one can appreciate the influence this resource has on the community. Most of the habitat has a north-south orientation with a few that run east-west, which strongly corresponds to historic trails of the area. The largest riparian habitat area within the planning boundaries is Cañada del Oro Wash as it flows from its headwaters in the Santa Catalina Mountains to the Santa Cruz River. Riparian habitat generally extends 50 to 100 feet on both sides of a wash then gives way to drier upland vegetation, grasses or cacti. The Town contains a diversity of plants that provide visual interest at both a distance and close in perspective. Signature plant species include saguaros, which appear on hillsides and slopes, and ironwood stands are especially dominant in the views of the community uplands. The palo verde-cacti –mixed scrub habitat uplands has good structural density and is particularly noted for its rich birdlife. Adding to the diversity of plants found in the drier uplands are foothill palo verdes, acacias in the over story and understory with triangle-leaf bur sage, creosote bush and a variety of cacti.

Figure 6-3: Town of Oro Valley Adopted Riparian Areas

Town of Oro Valley
Riparian Areas

Oro Valley Adopted Riparian
- Low Xeroriparian (C)
- Intermediate Xeroriparian (B)
- High Xeroriparian (A)
- Mesoriparian (M)
- Hydroriparian (H)

0   1   2 Miles

8/6/2014

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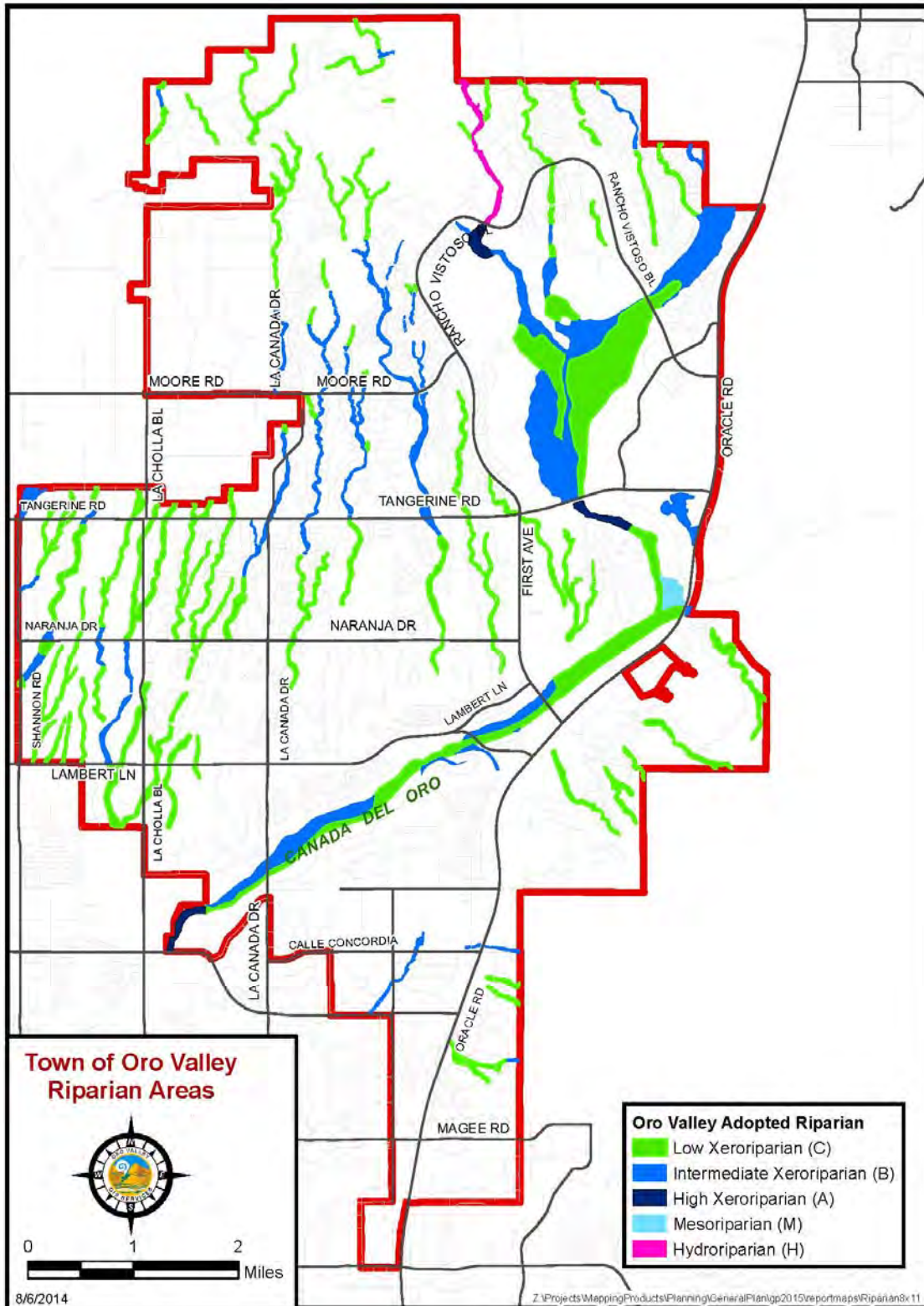
6.2.4 Wildlife

Commonly found wildlife species that define the unique ecosystem of the Sonoran Desert, include a diverse population of songbirds and birds of prey, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Many of these are found within the Town of Oro Valley Planning Area. Mammals, including the desert mule deer, white tail deer, javelina, coyotes, and numerous bats, rabbits, and rodents are plentiful throughout the Planning Area. A number of reptile species also make their homes throughout the area. Notable among these are the gila monster, and the desert tortoise, both of which are of particular interest because they require special handling and protection. The desert tortoise is listed as Threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act. More commonly found reptiles include many species of snakes and lizards, including the regal horned lizard, and western whiptail. Some desert birds best known to inhabit the Sonoran Desert around Oro Valley are the Harris' hawk, inca dove, Gambel's quail, roadrunner, and the cactus wren. Large natural areas close to the mountains such as Catalina State Park and Pusch Ridge Wilderness area provide habitat for larger animals such as bighorn sheep, black bear and mountain lion.

6.2.5 Topography

Spectacular mountain backdrops are a signature of the natural beauty and scenic attractiveness found in Oro Valley. Mountain views and vistas are offered within the Planning Area by the Santa Catalina mountain range to the east and the Tortolita Mountains to the northwest. Steep mountains give way to less dramatic foothills, tilted towards the Santa Cruz River in the southeast and dissected with arroyos, or dry washes that can fill quickly when flash floods occur during summer thunderstorms.

The Planning Area topographic terrains consist of steep mountain slopes, alluvial fan and flood plain. The Planning Area generally dips from the Santa Catalina Mountains in the northeast to the Santa Cruz River in the southwest. Average elevation for the 31 square miles within Oro Valley is 2,600 feet above mean sea level. Elevation in the immediate surrounding area ranges from 2,200 in the far southwest corner, close to the Santa Cruz River, up to 5,300 in the Pusch Ridge Wilderness area of Coronado National Forest.

Even though the land within the Town limits is relatively flat, the interior is laced with areas where slopes are greater than 15%. These steep areas are typically the side slopes of incised washes that are characteristic of the landscape and offer topographic diversity throughout the Planning Area. The major washes, Cañada del Oro and Big Wash, have produced a relatively large footprint across the Planning Area. Where these washes are narrow, the elevation typically changes quickly and slopes are dramatic, but in areas of wide sandy bottoms (in some cases up to half-mile) the change in elevation is insignificant and slopes are minimal.

The majority of the Town lies in the gently rolling foothills at the base of the western slopes of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Most of the slopes within Oro Valley, approximately 90 percent of the total Planning Area, are less than 15%. Outlying areas of Oro Valley are those that contain the steepest terrain. The area that skirts the Coronado National Forest in the southeast and Tortolita Mountains in the northwest have high densities of slopes greater than 15%, with many being over 25% slopes.

6.2.6 Scenic Quality/Visual Resources

The Town of Oro valley has a distinctive scenic quality partly because of its picturesque mountain vistas. These topographic features are largely contained in federally or state-owned protected mountain preserves, virtually assuring preservation of the mountains and the natural backdrop they provide to the Town.

Immediately adjacent to the community, on its eastern boundary, is Pusch Ridge Wilderness Area containing elevations of up to 5,300 feet. This exposed mountain ridge is 85 square miles of federally dedicated wilderness located entirely within Coronado National Forest, yet so prominent a feature it is considered by many as the defining physical feature of the community.

Also adjacent to Oro Valley along the east is Catalina State Park positioned between North Oracle Road and the Coronado National Forest. Elevations in this 5,500-acre high-desert park fluctuate from 2,700 feet at the western edge closest to the Town, up to 3,700 feet at the Romero Pools on Canyon Trail.

Tortolita Mountain Park is located adjacent to the northwest corner of Oro Valley. This mountain preserve, established by Pima County voter authorization in 1986, incorporates rugged backcountry and steep elevation changes. Elevation changes from 3,500 feet up to the highest point in the range, 4,651-foot tall Tortolitas Peak.

6.2.7   Soils

Soil supports plants, filters our water and sustains vital chemical reactions and organisms. Knowledge of the soils of the community is central to preventing erosion and it is important that soils are given consideration with reference to suitability or limitations for roads, natural areas and community development.

The main source of soil in the Oro Valley Planning Area is deposition from the surrounding mountains and soil formation is a function of time and climate (McFadden). The majority of the deposits are sand and gravel, which make for a permeable medium. In general, most soils in the Planning Area have moderate to rapid permeability. Permeability decreases, moderate to slow permeability, with closer proximity to Santa Catalina and Tortolita Mountains where the soils are very shallow, less than 35-feet to bedrock.

6.2.8   Geology

The landscape of Oro Valley is typical of the Basin and Range physiographic province, dominated by north to northwest-trending mountain ranges and intermountain valleys. Oro Valley is a long graben depression, that formed in the relatively recent past (during the Quaternary Period approximately 3-8-million years ago) due to displacement along two faults that bound the adjacent ranges (McFadden, 1981). The Tortolita Mountains were once a part of the Santa Catalina Mountains until they tilted off along a basin and range fault that bounds the western end of the Catalinas. The vertical displacement along the fault, at least 5,000 feet, formed what we know today as Oro Valley.

The valley then filled up with fluvial deposition from riverine processes off the surrounding mountains, resulting in broad pediments and alluvial fans. This alluvium fill is, by volume, overwhelmingly made up mostly of sand and gravel. Through time there was downcutting and channel back filling that resulted in highly dissected alluvial plains and valley fill. Erosion and downcutting of previously formed pediments and terraces has resulted, over time, in a steeper drainage gradient and erosion continues to the present.

In general, the geology of the Oro Valley Planning Area can be classified into three categories: (1) flood plains, terraces and alluvial fans, (2) highly dissected terrain and hill slopes and (3) bedrock. Depth to bedrock ranges from 1,600 feet in the western portions of the valley to 4,800 feet in the deepest parts of the valley along the base of the Catalina Mountains. Along the outer edges of the Planning Area, bedrock is present very near to the surface, and often exposed in both the Tortolita and Santa Catalina Mountain ranges.

6.2.9   Water System

Oro Valley currently delivers water from three sources of supply. Groundwater is pumped from wells in the aquifer below the Town and delivered through the potable water distribution system. Central Arizona Project water is delivered to the Oro Valley potable water system through Tucson Water's Distribution System. Reclaimed water is used for turf irrigation and is delivered through a separate reclaimed water distribution system. Oro Valley also uses its Central Arizona Project water indirectly through groundwater storage credits.

6.2.9.1   Supply

Groundwater levels continue to decline in the Oro Valley aquifer but to a significantly lesser extent than in previous years because of the decrease in groundwater pumping. Operation of the reclaimed water system and the delivery of Central Arizona Project water have slowed the groundwater decline, thus conserving, preserving and protecting our aquifer and our groundwater supply. Recently in August 2014 an additional 500 acre feet of Central Arizona Project water was added to the Oro Valley water supply. Planning also continues for the delivery of our remaining Central Arizona Project water allocation. This will serve as the source of water supply for new growth and development.

6.2.9.2   Demand

The Town of Oro Valley Water Utility Department operates in two water service areas: the Oro Valley Water Service Area (OVWSA) and the Countryside Water Service Area (CSWSA). In 2013, Oro Valley pumped 5,993 acre feet of groundwater from our wells and aquifer. This total is 168 acre feet less groundwater pumping than 2012 due to our Central Arizona Project water deliveries and water conservation. The wells in the Oro Valley Water Service Area produced 5,271 acre feet and the wells in the Countryside Water Service Area produced 722 acre feet.

The table below provides the total water delivery capacities and water demands for both water service areas. The maximum daily usage occurred on June 24, 2013 for the OVWSA and on June 4, 2013 for the CSWSA.

Table 6-4: Oro Valley Total Water Delivery Capacities and Demands

Water Service Area	Well Capacity (MGD)	CAP Capacity (MGD)	Average Demand (MGD)	Maximum Demand (MGD)
Oro Valley (OVWSA)	14.63	1.37	6.1	8.65
Countryside (CSWSA)	2.61	0	0.65	1.01

Source: Oro Valley Water Utility Commission Annual Report 2014

6.2.9.3   Existing System Facilities

Town of Oro Valley Water Utility Department personnel in the Production Facilities Division are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the wells, booster pumps and reservoirs on two potable water distribution systems and the booster pumps, metering stations and reservoir on the reclaimed water delivery system. There are a total of 49 sites that are maintained by the Production Facilities Division staff. In 2013, a new Electrical/Control Technician was added to the Production Division to reduce the need for outside electrical services.

The two potable water systems are chlorinated systems controlled and monitored by the Production Facilities Division. Chlorine dosage rates and residuals are monitored on a daily basis. The potable system located within the Town of Oro Valley Water Service Area (OVWSA) is a Grade IV Water Distribution and a Grade II Water Treatment system and currently delivers water to twenty pressure zones and a consecutive system located at La Cholla Air Park. The potable system that is not located within the Town boundaries, known as the Countryside Water Service Area (CSWSA), is a Grade III Water Distribution system that currently delivers water to a single pressure zone at the Countryside development.

6.2.9.6 Potable Water System

The potable water system improvements are included in the Town of Oro Valley's Fifteen Year Capital Projects Program. The demand on our wells has been significantly reduced due to use of reclaimed water for irrigation and the delivery of our Central Arizona Project water through the Tucson Water system. The use of reclaimed and Central Arizona Project water preserves and protects our aquifer and valuable groundwater.

All groundwater depletions must be replaced through the use of Town recovery wells, the Town Groundwater Allowance Account and Long-Term Storage Credits. The Town is no longer reliant on the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRD) for replenishment.

The Town's aquifer has benefited from the development of our renewable water and because water levels are declining less, the Town has been able to permit all of our wells as recovery wells in 2013 through the Arizona Department of Water Resources.

6.2.9.7 Reclaimed Water

The use of reclaimed water for turf irrigation has a beneficial impact on the Town's aquifer. The Utility will continue to look for opportunities to expand the customer base of the reclaimed water system for turf irrigation. In addition,

non-turf irrigation uses such as landscape irrigation, construction water, dust control and street cleaning uses may also be served with reclaimed water to help reduce demands on the groundwater aquifer. The Development and Infrastructure Services Department is currently using reclaimed water for street cleaning and other approved maintenance purposes. This saves the Town both water and money. In 2014, the reclaimed water system will be extended to deliver water to Naranja Park.

6.2.9.8 Central Arizona Project Water

The Town has executed an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Tucson to deliver a portion of the Town's Central Arizona Project water wheeled through the Tucson Water system via a connection to the Oro Valley Water Utility system. The IGA with Tucson allows for up to 2,000 acre feet per year of Oro Valley's Central Arizona Project water to be delivered (wheeled) through the Tucson Water system. This is a mutually beneficial project in that Tucson Water uses its excess capacity and receives revenues that shares in operations and maintenance costs. Oro Valley benefits in that it receives "wet" (actual) water deliveries of renewable Central Arizona Project water and reduces its reliance on groundwater. In 2013, there was a delivery capacity of 1,500 acre feet per year of our Central Arizona Project water. In 2014, an additional capacity of 500 acre feet per year will be added for a total delivery capacity of 2,000 acre feet per year.

As part of our long-term planning an additional 1,500 acre feet of renewable Central Arizona Project water will be developed for new growth in the next 10 years. This will increase our total renewable Central Arizona Project water deliveries to 3,500 acre feet per year. Funding for the development of renewable Central Arizona Project water for new growth under the water resource planning effort has been included in the Utility's budget under the Alternative Water Resources Development Impact Fee Fund budget.

Oro Valley's Central Arizona Project water is delivered from the Central Arizona Project canal and Tucson Water's recharge facilities at the Central Avra Valley Storage and Recovery Project and/or the Southern Avra Valley Storage and Recovery Project. The water is then pumped into the TW distribution system and delivered to the northern part of the TW system. A connection to the Oro Valley system was made near Naranja and Shannon at the TW Naranja C-Zone Reservoir site. A pump and pipeline were installed by Oro Valley to deliver its Central Arizona Project water to the Oro Valley water distribution system. All water is accurately metered and accounted for billing purposes and to assure delivery volumes. In 2014, the additional 500 acre feet per year of delivery capacity will be added to the south end of the Oro Valley Water Service Area and to the Countryside Water Service Area.

The development of a portion of our Central Arizona Project water through the Tucson Water IGA provides financial benefit to our customers in that it defers significant expense to develop a major capital project. Oro Valley Water Utility will continue to plan for the development of the remaining portion of our Central Arizona Project water. Long-term plans for recharge and recovery and/or treatment and direct delivery of our Central Arizona Project water will be developed to determine the best alternative and plan for delivering our Central Arizona Project water in the future.

6.2.9.4   Future Water Rights

To meet the increasing demand and not detract from the recreational usage that is a well identified community asset, Town officials recognize the need to develop supply strategies to preserve water for future generations and comply with groundwater conservation. Plans for future use of an additional 500 acre feet of Central Arizona Project water are complete with deliveries expected to start in April of 2014. Planning also continues for the delivery of our remaining Central Arizona Project water allocation. This will serve as the source of supply for new growth and development. Future development of renewable water resources will further reduce our groundwater production and will help achieve our goal of protecting and preserving our aquifer. The diversification of our supply has benefited our aquifer by preserving and protecting our groundwater. The following table graph water usage from 2004 through 2013 depicting our reduction of groundwater usage, the use of reclaimed and delivery of our Central Arizona Project water.

In August of 2014, the Town of Oro Valley celebrated the completion of a blending facility on Calle Buena Vista, just north of Hardy Road, which will allow the addition of 500 acre feet of Central Arizona Project (Central Arizona Project) water to be delivered to Oro Valley Water service areas, bringing the Town's total Central Arizona Project delivery to 2,000 acre feet per year.

Figure 6-5: Oro Valley Annual Water Production
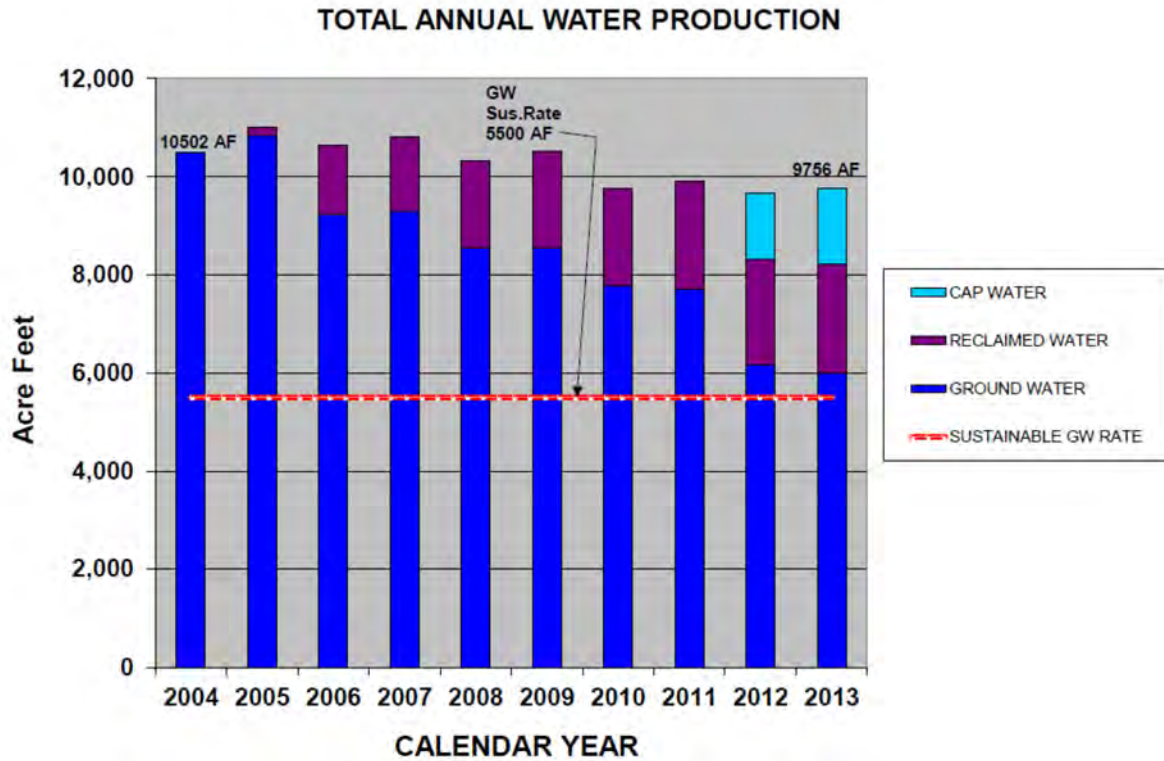
Source: Water Utility Commission Annual Report (2014)

6.2.10   Wastewater

The Ina Road Water Wastewater Reclamation Facility is located in the northwestern part of the Tucson basin and serves Oro Valley, Marana and the northwest portions of Tucson. The original facility was constructed in 1979 as a 25 Million Gallons per Day (MGD), Class B, high-purity oxygen activated sludge process. Capacity at this facility was increased in 2006 with the addition of a 12.5 MGD, Biological Nutrient Removal Activated Sludge process producing Class B+ effluent, thereby increasing the overall combined plant capacity to 37.5 MGD. In 2010, ADEQ rerated the Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) capacity to 18.0 MGD, and the Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) now reflects a total capacity of 43 MGD. A new plant interconnect pipeline between Roger Road and Ina Road allows sewage flow to be diverted to the Ina Road Facility. During 2012, both the Ina Road East Plant and West Plant were alternately shut down and replaced with new 5-stage Bardenpho process equipment for nutrient removal. This facility uses chlorination to disinfect and dechlorinates prior to discharge. The Ina Road facility discharges into the Santa Cruz River under authorization of an AZPDES permit. On-site irrigation and dust control occurs in accordance with a Type II Reuse general permit. Effluent discharged into the Santa Cruz River is conveyed to the Lower Santa Cruz Managed Recharge Project (LSCMRP) which extends along the river channel from Cortaro Road to Trico Road. Groundwater storage credits are issued from the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) for half of the effluent that reaches the water table. Credits are apportioned among participants in the LSCMRP in accordance with IGAs that recognize each party's entitlement.

6.2.11   Stormwater

The Stormwater Utility program is responsible for meeting all quality and quantity issues including the Town's Stormwater Management Plan, Floodplain and Erosion Hazard Management, and supporting all other Town programs that are impacted by storm events. This program also coordinates with federal, state and local government agencies related to the Town's Stormwater program. The Town's adopted Stormwater Management Plan became effective January 1, 2008 and meets all the requirements of the state and federal mandated quality and quantity requirements of the Clean Water Act. Typical Stormwater Department activities Include:

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- Street Sweeping
- Storm Cleanup
- Drainage Channel Vegetation Maintenance
- Storm System Inspections
- Public Education and Outreach
- Technical Support
- Minor Construction and Repair Projects
- Hydrologic and Hydraulic Studies and Designs
- Preparing and Revising Town Ordinances and Manuals

National studies by the U.S. EPA, state, and local agencies, the U.S. Geological Survey, and universities have shown that urbanization and associated development of an area not only affects flow rates and volume of stormwater runoff but also can increase the number and amount of contaminants found in the stormwater. Stormwater begins its role as transporter of contaminants as it flows off rooftops and across yards, driveways, streets, and parking lots on its way to a natural water course. On its way, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, sediment, animal wastes all which enter the natural water course and some of which may eventually infiltrate to ground water. Contaminated stormwater can have adverse effects on people, plants, animals, fish, and the hydrologic environment as follows:

- Sediment can clog ground-water recharge areas in alluvial channels, impair the sustainability of aquatic habitats, and reduce the conveyance capability and capacity of drainage and floodwater control structures.
- Bacteria and other pathogens can create health hazards.
- Household chemical wastes such as pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other automotive fluids can contribute chemicals that are toxic to land animals and aquatic life as well as degrading to ground water quality.
- Excess nutrients can be detrimental in aquatic habitats where they can lead to algal blooms. As the algae die off, the decomposition process can have a considerable influence on dissolved oxygen levels in a water body. In addition, elevated concentrations of nitrate in ground water used for drinking water can have adverse health impacts.
- Polluted stormwater can affect, most noticeably, surface waters that are used as drinking water sources thereby resulting in possible human health concerns and increased drinking water treatment costs.
- Debris of all types—plastic, rubber, metallic, and construction materials can disable animals and birds, and can become lodged at culverts and bridges thereby creating an impediment to flow, increasing water-surface elevations, and possibly increasing the risk of flooding.

6.2.11.1 Public Assistance

It has been shown that urbanization increases the variety and amount of contaminants carried into streams and washes. The contaminants include: sediment; oil, grease, and toxic fluids from motor vehicles; pesticides and nutrients from lawns and gardens; viruses, bacteria, and nutrients from pet wastes and failing septic systems; trace metals and toxic organic compounds from roof shingles, motor vehicles, and improper handling and disposal of paints and household cleaning compounds; and toxicological and physical effects of debris and waste material generated both residentially and commercially.

Community members can help to lessen the likelihood of contaminants entering stormwater runoff simply by thinking about and conducting day-to-day activities in an environmentally friendly manner. In addition to adapting an environmentally friendly approach to daily activities, there are also Town of Oro Valley programs which have goals of keeping our community a clean and aesthetically desirable place to live. These programs include the ongoing Adopt-A-Roadway program and two new efforts—the Adopt-A-Trail and Adopt-A-Wash programs.

All three programs have a common goal to keep Oro Valley's landscape clean and litter free and to help provide an aesthetically desirable place to live. It is important to remember that any trash or other unwanted material that is disposed of improperly along roads and trails can ultimately end up in a wash or stream and exacerbate the potential problems caused by trash that is discarded in washes directly. Once in a wash, the trash when in contact with water can become a contaminant source which can affect stormwater quality and possibly even our ground-

water resources as well as accumulate at culverts and bridges thereby affecting their ability to convey flood waters. Additionally, involvement in any of these activities creates a win-win situation. It helps the Town to accomplish program goals at a minimum cost, and it provides the participants a healthy activity, i.e., fresh air and sunshine, as well as an opportunity to meet others.

6.3   Issue Identification

6.3.1   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- The demand for water is changing, reduced voluntary consumption and conservation is happening, this may impact the water utility
- If the Town expands to the north into Arroyo Grande, an additional renewable water supply will be needed, stormwater and conservation needs will need to also be considered
- Might investigate recharge pond or reservoir to meet local facility needs
- Overall there is a concern about environmental issues
- Another water delivery system might be needed in 5-7 years
- If new parks are built in the Town, more irrigation would be needed (more than 2 acres of turf requires the use of reclaimed water)
- Need to reconsider the Town's facility needs – lifespan and maintenance on frame and stucco buildings
- Investigate ways to creatively recharge the aquifer
- Solid education program on stormwater, water management, environmental issues is needed
- With the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance, there needs to be reevaluation to incorporate best practices and needed updates
- Challenges for conservation and sustainability efforts in the community include funding sources, also need to integrate with other departments and economic development
- Need community services programs – recycling, waste, education, coordination with other departments, fiscal responsibility

7   Archaeological and Historic Resources

7.1.1   Topic Introduction

Oro Valley is a town of breathtaking natural beauty as well as an area that possesses significant archaeological and historical resources. The Town of Oro Valley takes these resources seriously as well as its role as stewards of the area's rich historic resources. The area's past and cultural resources are important to the Town of Oro Valley and the Town is committed to protecting them.

7.1.2   Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the Town's cultural and historical resources as well as pre-historic resources. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

7.1.3   Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Historic and Cultural Resources website can be found online at http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/parksandrec/historic-and-cultural-resources. Specific document resources also include:

- Honey Bee Village Schematic Plan Map (2007)
- Honey Bill Village Archaeological Preserve Implementation Plan (2007)
- Rock Art, Ranch, and Residence: Cultural Resources in the Town of Oro Valley and Its Planning Area (2010)
- Steam Pump Ranch Master Plan (2008)
- The Oro Valley Cultural Resources Inventory Brochure (2009)
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)

7.2   Existing Conditions

7.2.1   Cultural and Historical Resources

Cultural resources embrace a people's language, tradition, style and beliefs within the clan, tribe or town. A multitude of peoples throughout time, both pre-historic and historic, have lived in the desert and hills surrounding Oro Valley, with each contributing to our rich cultural diversity. Contemporary society has learned from past cultures and continues to learn from each of these peoples, about their culture, their traditions, and their way of life. Preserving and studying past cultures and historical resources is an essential step towards learning about and understanding Oro Valley's modern culture.

Native American rock art on a sandstone boulder in Honey Bee Wash. Photograph courtesy of Patricia Spoerl.

Archaeological surveys in the Oro Valley study area have recorded a total of 185 archaeological sites, ranging in dates from the prehistoric period (A.D. 100-1450) to the historic post-World War II period (1945-1960). Of the 185 sites, 160 are exclusively prehistoric in date, 17 are exclusively historic in date, and eight have both prehistoric and historic components. More information on these sites can be found in the report "Rock Art, Ranch, and Residence: Cultural Resources in the Town of Oro Valley and Its Planning Area (2010)" which can be found on the Town of Oro Valley website.

7.2.2 Pre-Historic Resources

Oro Valley has a number of prehistoric sites, with occupation dating back well over 1000 years ago. The highest concentrations of prehistoric sites are located in the northern portion of the Planning Area, especially around major washes. There are signs of prehistoric occupation from as many as 11,000 years ago scattered over all the northern Tucson Basin.

Three prehistoric sites – Honey Bee Village, Romero Ruin, and Sleeping Snake Village- have special importance both for the study area and for the prehistory of the Tucson Basin more generally. All three sites were large Hohokam villages that were occupied for extended periods of time. All three sites hold the remains of numerous houses, storage and roasting pits, and a variety of other features, including the probable remains of ball courts, which served a specialized ritual function. Each site was the center of an organized system of smaller sites related to the large site through social, economic, and political connections.

7.2.2.1 Honey Bee Village

The Honey Bee Complex extends from the confluence of Big Wash and Cañada del Oro to the Pima County line. This complex includes two very large Hohokam sites and several smaller habitation areas. One of the larger sites, Honey Bee Village, is the only large village site within the town of Oro Valley that is mostly intact.

The site of Honey Bee Village is a Hohokam ballcourt village located in Oro Valley. It was initially recorded by archaeologists from Pima Community College in 1978 and was acknowledged by the Arizona State Museum. Honey Bee Village was first settled near the start of the Hohokam cultural sequence, around A.D. 450, and was continuously occupied up to about A.D. 1250.

This Hohokam village includes a cluster of 19 large mounds surrounding a plaza, a ballcourt and a special-use walled enclosure. As many as 500 to 800 domestic houses are present at the site along with many other cultural features. The site has been determined to meet eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It was originally mapped as covering nearly 80 acres, but a portion of the site was destroyed through earlier road and residential construction. The site area now measures 50 acres.

Located along Honey Bee Wash east of North Rancho Vistoso Boulevard and south of the Moore Road alignment, Honey Bee Village is the only remaining intact large Hohokam village site in Oro Valley. This large prehistoric village in the Cañada del Oro Valley is a strong linkage to Oro Valley's past. An implementation plan

was initiated due to the interest that the Town, Pima County, the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Arizona State Museum have in preserving the Village intact.

Honey Bee Village is a very important cultural resource whose undisturbed, buried remains contain an important reservoir of information about the prehistory of the northwest Tucson Basin. Equally important, the Tohono O'odham Nation considers Honey Bee Village an ancestral site. The remarkable status of Honey Bee Village as the only large intact Hohokam village remaining in Oro Valley area makes it one of the most significant cultural resources in Pima County.

The 13-acre core of Honey Bee Village is being preserved in situ for future generations. The core contains most of the large mounds, the ballcourt, the large plaza and the

Map 7-1: Honey Bee Village
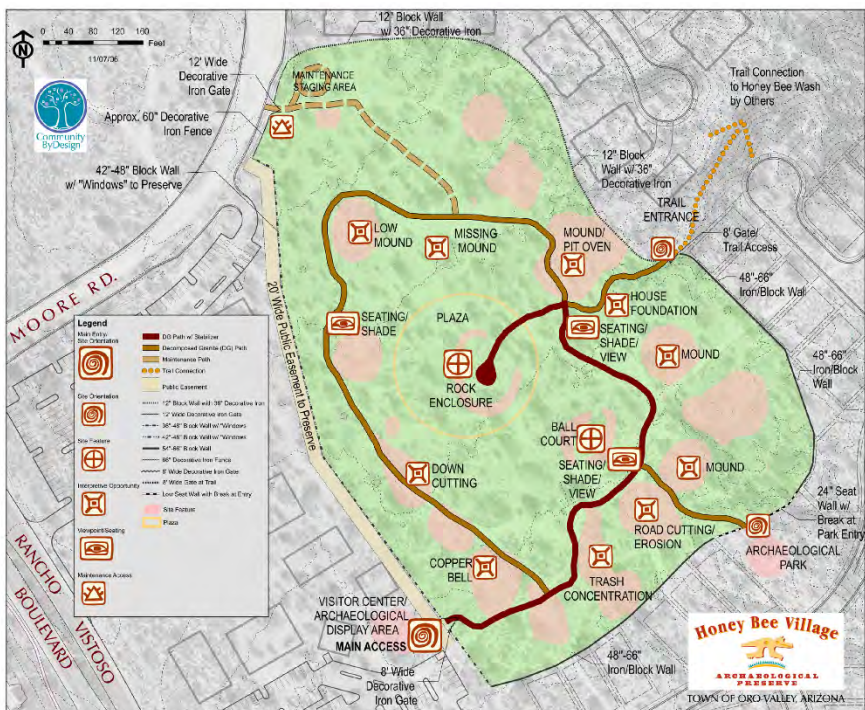
rock-walled enclosure. The core will become an archaeological preserve, which will be protected in perpetuity from development. Access to the preserve is controlled for preservation and management purposes. A permanent wall was placed on an easement on the adjoining property to avoid disturbance to the Preserve.

7.2.2.2   Romero Ruin

Romero Ruin, an archaeology site containing both historic and prehistoric artifacts, is located just east of the Town in Catalina State Park. The largest prehistoric occupation in the Oro Valley area was the Hohokam culture who occupied Romero Ruin for almost 1,000 years. A Hohokam village was once positioned on the ridge of Sutherland Wash as it flows off the western slopes of Santa Catalina Mountains.

This significant archeological site contains ancient ball courts, petroglyphs and remnant agricultural fields. Plant parts found at Romero Ruins, agave and corn, do not grow in the area naturally, leading archeologists to believe they were cultivated in the field system located on a ridge. Romero Ruin has also proven to be a wealth of various types of artifacts. The earliest reference to the village is from maps dating from the late 1800's that called the area "Pueblo Viejo" or ancient village. The archaeological features at Romero Ruin include 17 trash mounds, 12 trash concentrations, two ball courts, three possible cremation areas, a masonry compound, a plaza area, a large field system for agriculture, and 37 other prehistoric cultural features; the site also has the visible remains of four or five masonry rooms from historic times. Romero Ruin was occupied prehistorically from around A.D. 550 through the Tucson phase (A.D. 1300-1450) of the Hohokam Classic period, and likely during some part of the Protohistoric period (A.D. 1450-1692), though the intensity of occupation in the latter period is unknown. The site was reoccupied in the late 1860s as a cattle ranch by Francisco Romero and his family.

7.2.2.3   Sleeping Snake Village

Sleeping Snake Village is an extensive Hohokam site covering about 99 acres at the eastern foot of the Tortolita Mountains, in the northern portion of Oro Valley. Like Romero Ruin and Honey Bee Village, Sleeping Snake Village is a ball court site with evidence of a long, continuous occupation. The site had its most intensive occupation from A.D. 950-1150. The site was first recorded in 1980 by archaeologists and field school students from Pima Community College during a survey of the eastern Tortolita Mountains. This initial survey included sketch maps and limited surface collection of artifacts. The site was revisited in 1986 during the Rancho Vistoso survey, which included the first systematic investigation of the site. A site grid was established, five mound areas were defined, and more than 100 features were tentatively identified, including the ball court and 30 trash mounds.

7.2.3   Historic Resources

Historic-period cultural resources, which include early roads, standing architecture, ranching and farming features (such as corrals and irrigation ditches), and historic-period archaeological sites, can be valuable both as sources of information about the past and as visual reminders of a community's heritage. In the Cañada del Oro drainage, the earliest known settlers of the historic period came a decade after the Gadsden Purchase (1854) made southern Arizona a part of the United States. Ranching was the predominant use of land during historic times and remnants of these ranches and associated structures make up the historic resources of the Oro Valley area.

7.2.3.1   Romero Ruins/Home site

In the late 1860s, Francisco Romero, a man of Mexican descent whose family had a long presence in the Tucson area, established a cattle ranch is what is now Catalina State Park, centering his spread on the former Hohokam village later called Romero Ruin. Romero's tenure on his ranch was short-lived because of the constant threat of Apache attacks, but other settlers eventually followed him to the area. Their son worked the ranch and lived across Sutherland Wash, near the original home site, well into the early 1900s.

7.2.3.2   Steam Pump Ranch

In 1874, two German immigrants - George Pusch and Johann Zellweger - arrived in Arizona and established the Steam Pump Ranch as an important way-station in the mercantile structure of the southern Arizona cattle industry and in the transportation corridor to Oracle and points north.

The two entrepreneurial immigrants used a steam engine as the unique and state-of-the-art power to pump water from the shallow aquifer and to make it an oasis in the arid landscape of the region. This "Steam Pump" gave its

name to the ranch itself. George Pusch and his wife Matilda Feldman were active business people and citizens of the region. The Pusch family operated a downtown butcher shop and ice plant along the railroad in Tucson. George Pusch was also active in Tucson politics and an instrumental voice in the Territorial Legislature during the evolution to statehood. During that same era, the Steam Pump Ranch figured in the military operations based from Fort Lowell Park in Tucson and in relation to other military encampments.

In 1933, John Procter migrated from Pasadena, California to become the manager of the Pioneer Hotel. He made the Steam Pump Ranch the breadbasket for his upscale hotel and raised produce and eggs for the enterprise. "Jack" Procter was an active businessman in Tucson with a seat on the Valley National Bank board and a stint as president of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce in 1966. Jack and Elizabeth Procter's daughter Betty married Hank Leiber, a prominent professional baseball player for the Chicago Cubs and the New York Giants. As the baseball spring-training industry emerged in Tucson in the 1950's, the Steam Pump Ranch became an occasional headquarters for parties and barbeques for professional baseball players training in Tucson. The site remained in the hands of the John and Cheryl Leiber until its acquisition in 2007 by the Town of Oro Valley.

Today the material remains of the Steam Pump Ranch stand mostly intact along the banks of the Cañada del Oro, in the shadow of Pusch Ridge and the Santa Catalina Mountains. The site is tucked away in the midst of a busy modern commercial corridor along North Oracle Road, just north of the contemporary roads of First Avenue and La Reserve. With the acquisition of this property by the Town of Oro Valley, in partnership with Pima County, there is more ability to share the Steam Pump Ranch stories in a setting that can preserve its significance and integrity.

Second Saturdays at Steam Pump Ranch

The Town of Oro Valley's Parks and Recreation Department introduced a new program called Second Saturdays at Steam Pump Ranch in the spring of 2013. This program was designed to bring awareness to the Town's only historic property. The Second Saturday events offer Town staff-led tours of the buildings and property, a children's craft, and short talks in the Ranch's historic garden re-creation.

Since then, the events have expanded to include formal tours, public speakers presenting talks on the history and culture of the area, public art tours, educational activities, and live music performances. In October 2013, the Oro Valley Farmer's Market was moved from Town Hall to the ranch, and an artisan's market was added. All of these activities have greatly expanded the public awareness and enjoyment of the site.

Map 7-2: Steam Pump Ranch Full Build-Out Phase
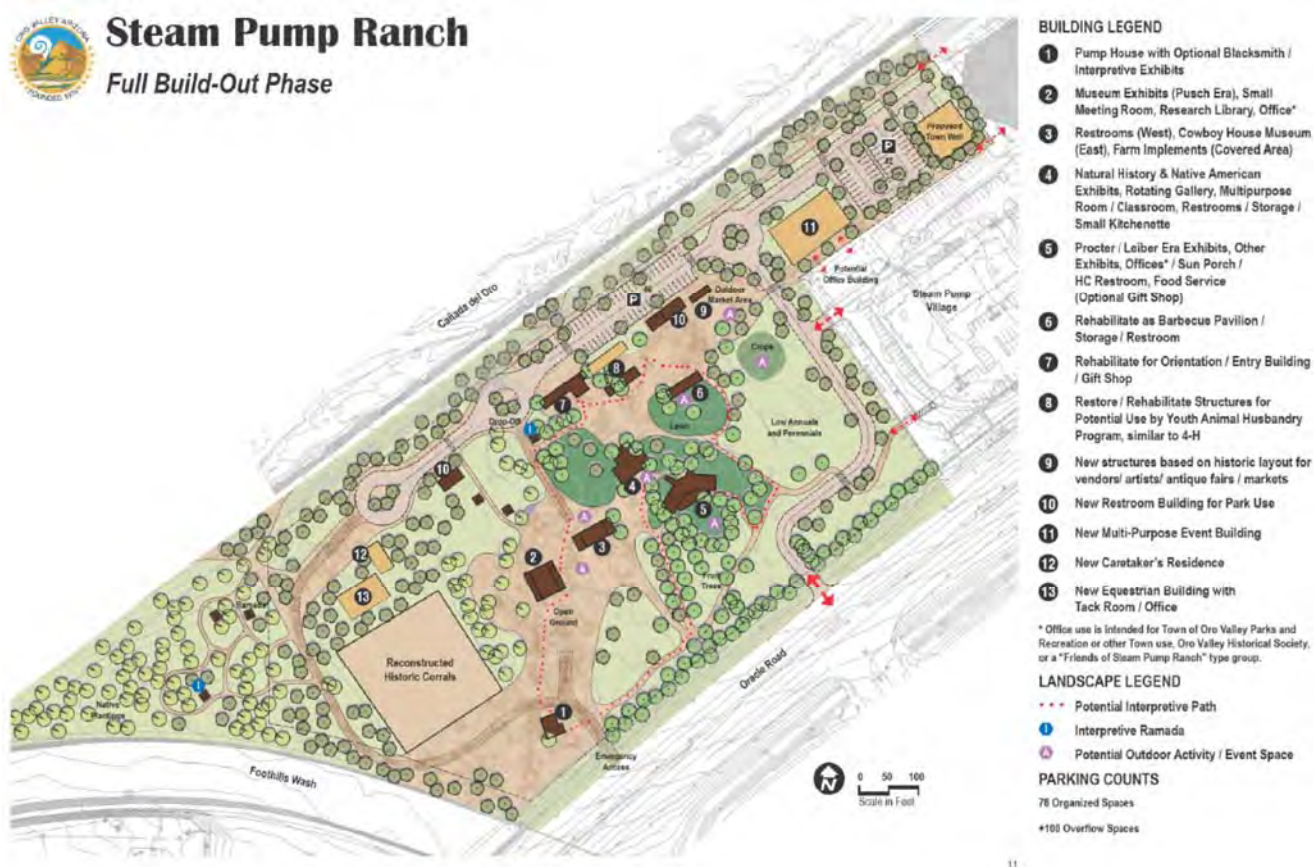
Full Build-Out Proposal (Steam Pump Master Plan, 2008)

7.3   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Steam Pump Ranch Master Plan Update: will identify capital investments needed for historic preservation of the buildings, artifacts and landscape, a plan for creative interpretation, a blueprint for economic sustainability, and a long-range vision for stewardship
- Consider more partnerships with other agencies to provide services or meet needs
- There is a shift in the community from a resort/residential image to more of a complete community – meeting park and historic needs are part of that.
- Consider dedicated funding sources to provide for protection, study and appropriate use of archaeological and historic resources.

COMMUNITY

8 Parks and Recreation

8.1 Executive Summary

8.1.1 Topic Introduction

This chapter presents information related to parks and recreation in the Town of Oro Valley. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for operating and maintaining the Town's park facilities, issuing permits for special events, picnics, and sports fields. The ultimate goal of the department is to provide recreational opportunities and programs that meet the needs of our diverse community.

8.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to facilities and recent improvements. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

8.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Parks and Recreation Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/parksandrec. Specific document resources also include:

- Implementation of the Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan Biannual Report (2010)
- Naranja Park Project Fact Sheet
- Naranja Town Site Programming and Concept Design Report (2007)
- Oro Valley Trails Task Force Report
- PAG Regional Pedestrian Plan (2000)
- PAG Tucson Regional Plan for Bicycling (2009)
- Parks and Trails Map
- Town of Oro Valley Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan (1999)
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Trails Plan Implementation Biannual Report (2010)

8.2 Existing Conditions

8.2.1 Parks Facilities

Oro Valley is currently served by an array of parks and recreation facilities that are owned and operated by the Town of Oro Valley. Additional facilities owned by other entities are mentioned in the following section. Some of the parks were developed by the Town of Oro Valley, while others were once Pima County Parks that were annexed into the Town limits.

In addition to the major park facilities in Town, the Oro Valley Aquatic Center was opened in 2013. With an interactive splash pad, giant water slide, 25-yard recreation pool, 50-meter competition pool, family changing rooms, concession stand and classroom, this facility has become a hub of community activity for families. Additionally, the 50-meter competition pool has been a draw for our local swim teams as well as national organizations. An early feasibility study indicated that this facility would create approximately $2.2 million a year in economic activity in the Town.

Oro Valley Aquatics Center

Table 8-1: Oro Valley Park Facilities, 2014			
Park Facility	**Location**	**Acreage**	**Amenities**
James D. Kriegh Park	23 W. Calle Concordia	20 acres	Baseball Field, Concession Stand, Dog Park Off Leash, Drinking Fountain, Grills, Metal Detecting, Picnic Table, Playground Accessible, Playground Shaded, Ramada, Racquetball Court, Restroom, Softball Field, Trail Birding, Volleyball Court
Canada Del Oro Riverfront Park	551 W. Lambert Lane	30 acres	Basketball Court, Concession Stand, Drinking Fountain, Equestrian Staging Area, Horseshoe Pit, Metal Detecting, Performance Stage, Picnic Table, Playground Shaded, Ramada, Restroom, Soccer Field, Softball Field, Tennis Court, Volleyball Court, Walking Path
West Lambert Lane Park	1750 W. Lambert Lane	40 acres	Metal Detecting, Trail Hiking
Honey Bee Canyon Park	13880 N Rancho Vistoso Blvd	77 acres	Accessible, Drinking Fountain, Grills, Ramada, Restroom, Trail Hiking
Naranja Park	660 W. Naranja Drive	213 acres	Archery, Metal Detecting, Trail Hiking
CDO Shared Use Path	Various access points	4 mile length	Accessible, Restroom, Walking Path
Steam Pump Ranch	10901 N Oracle Road	15 acres	Accessible, Historic, Ramada

8.2.2   Additional Facilities

Schools and private parks in neighborhoods throughout the community also provide valuable recreational resources. These facilities are examined separately from the Town owned and operated facilities, because they are not under the control of the Town. However, these resources are important to acknowledge because they provide recreational opportunities for the community, and may reduce the amount of facilities that need to be provided by the Town of Oro Valley.

In many instances school facilities provide an important recreation opportunity for residents. The Town has actively pursued the development of joint use agreements and Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA) between the Town and the school district to facilitate the shared use of school facilities for parks and recreation uses. Schools with playgrounds or fields that are often used by the public include: Canyon del Oro High School, Ironwood Ridge High School, Cross Middle School, Wilson K-8, Copper Creek Elementary, Harrelson Elementary, Mesa Verde Elementary and Painted Sky Elementary.

Additionally, many homeowners associations own and maintain small neighborhood parks. These parks are an important aspect of the parks and recreational facilities provided in the Town of Oro Valley. Though, these small parks are not owned, maintained or controlled by the Town, they provide recreational facilities near resident's homes.

Catalina State Park is not located within the Town limits, but is immediately adjacent to the Town off of Oracle Road. The park is a haven for desert plants and wildlife and nearly 5,000 saguaros. The 5,500 acres of foothills, canyons and streams invites camping, picnicking and bird watching. The park provides miles of equestrian, birding, hiking, and biking trails which wind through the park and higher elevations near 3,000 feet. Catalina State Park is located within Coronado National Forest, and is managed by Arizona State Parks in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service.

Map 8-2: Oro Valley Parks and Trails Map

TORTOLITA
MOUNTAIN PARK

HONEY BEE
CANYON PARK

HOHOKAM PARK

HONEYBEE
PRESERVE

W MOORE RD

E RANCHO VISTOSO BL

N ORACLE RD

CATALINA
STATE
PARK

E TANGERINE RD

W TANGERINE RD

N LA CANADA DR

NARANJA PARK

W NARANJA DR

E NARANJA DR

N 1ST AV

WEST LAMBERT
LANE PARK

CANADA DEL ORO
RIVERFRONT PARK

W LAMBERT LN

E PUSCH
VIEW LN

N ORACLE RD

N LA CHOLLA BL

JAMES D.
KRIEGH PARK

CALLE CONCORDIA

W HARDY RD

N NORTHERN AV

N ORACLE RD

E MAGEE RD

W MAGEE RD

**Oro Valley
Parks and Trail Map**

September, 2014

Z:\Projects\MappingProducts\Parks_Rec\parks\Parks4report\GPx11.mxd

TOHONO CHUL PARK

N
W   E
S

0   0.5   1 Miles

Legend

🌲 Park
🟥 Trail Head
🟢 Access Point
🔷 Ramada
🏠 Rest Room

Existing Trail Types
— Decomposed Granite
— Natural
— Paved
■ Park Area

Water Fountains
🔵 Public
🟧 Planned Public
🟫 Private

8.2.3   Recent Improvements

In 2002 the Town prepared a master plan for the Naranja Town site. This plan was updated in 2007 and called for the development of various recreational, cultural, and community facilities. In 2008 a bond was proposed that would have provided $53 million for the initial development of the park. However, the bond proposal was not approved by the residents of Oro Valley. In 2012 members of the Oro Valley community proposed the construction of an archery range on the southern portion of the site. This range has been built and is currently in use. Other portions of the site are being used as a model airplane park. These existing uses are subject to conditional use agreements between the Town of Oro Valley and the user groups. Currently, The Town of Oro Valley is constructing two multi-sport athletic fields, a dog park, and associated parking. These facilities will be available for public use in early 2015.

8.3   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Facilities, events, programs and resources to meet the needs of the whole community

- Oro Valley's population is growing and the demographics are changing, with various age families moving into the community. Existing parks and recreational amenities within the Town of Oro Valley do not currently meet the needs of its residents.
- Updated master plans are needed for major park facilities, including Naranja Park and Steam Pump Ranch
- Need to consider economic and tourism trends:
  - Reward of attracting amateur competitions – attractive region, sport tourism
  - Event and special events festivals – more individualized
  - Cultural, Steam Pump Ranch
- Partnership with other agencies – provide services
  - School district partnership – need multi-generational indoor facility – having that would relieve need to partner with schools
- Long-term funding mechanism for open space acquisition
- Town ownership of large park/open space land
- How to address Catalina State Park as a regional resource
- Park maintenance – irrigation usage vs. playability, over seeding fields in winter
- Town of Oro Valley is very short on soccer fields, tennis courts and basketball courts
- Continue use of native plants in landscape at parks, town hall campuses, road medians and right-of-ways.

9 Arts and Culture

9.1 Executive Summary

9.1.1 Topic Introduction

The purpose of the Town of Oro Valleys art and culture program is to support the cultural and educational enrichment of the residents of and visitors to Oro Valley through the creation of artwork that is accessible to all members of the community. The Town seeks enhancements to community beauty, artistic entertainment and enrichment for all its residents and visitors, and education in and through the arts. The goal of the program is to improve and attract a wide variety of quality public art.

9.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to public art, venues and facilities, and infrastructure. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

9.1.3 Other Information and Resources.

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

Information about arts and entertainment in the Town can also be found online at http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/business/arts-entertainment. Specific document resources also include:

- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Public Art Inventory (Town website)
- Amended Public Art Provisions

9.2 Existing Conditions

9.2.1 Public Art

Oro Valley has a fairly extensive collection of public art pieces. The public art inventory contains information on the Town's existing art work including the artist contact information, budget and location of public art.

In 1997, the town established a 1% Public Art Program, which requires that commercial developers set aside 1% of a projects total budget for the creation of public art. By passing the public art mandate, Oro Valley signaled an ongoing commitment to create beautiful surroundings that enhance the quality of life for all who live, work and play in the town. Developers and businesses are key to the 1% Public Art program.

"Tree of Knowledge" sculpture by Artist Joe A. Tyler

There are approximately 250 individual public art pieces in the Town of Oro Valley. This number includes art that exists on both public and private property.

Oro Valley is overflowing with large works of art, making some of the most ordinary spaces; gas stations, libraries, shops, visually exciting. Many of these works can be seen by driving around town but the best way to see them is by taking the Oro Valley Public Art Tour. Groups of up to 55 follow a customized tour through Oro Valley streets, neighborhoods, and commercial sites, while learning about the art, artists, and the history of each piece.

9.2.2 Art Venues and Facilities

Indoor art, including paintings and works by famous artists can be found at Toscana Studio & Gallery, Ventana Medical/Roche's by appointment only gallery, and on display at the Oro Valley Library.

Oro Valley boasts a wide range of events ranging from classic car shows to the massive bi-annual Oro Valley Festival of the Arts which displays the work of hundreds of artists, food, live music, and has all types of activities suitable for all ages. Many of these events are held by the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance (SAACA).

The Oro Valley Concert Series is an event that happens on the second Thursdays of every month. This event is focused on music and genres include, jazz, blues, country, folk, rock, piano, and much more.

The Great American Playhouse is Oro Valley's only theater company. It is an intimate, interactive, musical melodrama theater for all ages.

SAACA is committed to creating new opportunities for artists, musicians, and performing artists to exhibit, promote and expand their craft in the community. SAACA's collaborative community programs create more than 1,000 opportunities for artists to perform and showcase their work in the Southern Arizona community each year. To enhance access to the arts and promote cultural awareness, SAACA produces more than 100 annual events and programs each year.

As an extension to the Arts Education Resource, SAACA provides the entire community with a comprehensive snapshot of the arts and cultural performers, educators and artists in Southern Arizona. This media for the arts, connects artists and organizations to people and businesses seeking artistic outlets. SAACA provides the community with a snapshot of the arts and cultural performers, educators and artists in Southern Arizona through the development of our regions first comprehensive Arts and Cultural Resource Directory.

9.3 Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Continue support for the 1% public art program
- Support existing artistic infrastructure in the community
- Prepare and assist in locating new facilities in the Town
- Provide arts and culture programs as part of parks and recreation

10 Community Services

10.1.1 Topic Introduction

This chapter presents information concerning community services. The Town strives to meet the essential needs of its residents as well as future residents. In 2013 the Town of Oro Valley adopted a Strategic Plan which guides Town decision-making and resource management in pursuit of organizational goals. One of the four focus areas of the Strategic Plan is community services.

10.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to public safety as well emergency and medical services. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

10.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Police Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/police/crime-and-safety-information.

Specific document resources also include:

- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Police Beat Map
- Crime Fighter Newsletter
- Citizen Survey
- Oro Valley Police Department 2012 Annual Report

10.2 Existing Conditions

10.2.1 Law Enforcement

The Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD) operates principally out of the main station complex located at 11,000 North La Cañada Road. Oro Valley has grown from 1,500 residents in 1983 to approximately 41,011 today. The land area has expanded from 4.5 square miles to nearly 36 during the same time. By comparison, the department has grown from 5 commissioned officers to 100 commissioned officers, 30.25 civilians and 2.88 reserve officers. The Police Department provides for a safe and secure community for all those who live and visit in Oro Valley. The following charts illustrate crime trends within the Town of Oro Valley from 2008-2013.

Table 10-1: Oro Valley Part 1 Crimes

Case Types	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Homicide	3	2	1	0	0	1
Sexual Assault	3	4	2	4	2	6
Robbery	5	3	6	10	3	7
Aggravated Assault	20	12	17	16	16	20
Residential Burglary	59	65	84	56	90	79
Non-Residential Burglary	25	15	31	21	17	42
All Burglary Attempts	13	15	26	16	17	16
Larceny-Theft	608	553	577	654	536	563
Motor Vehicle Theft	21	31	26	26	33	39
Stolen Vehicle Recovered*	5	10	8	9	14	10
Stolen Vehicle Attempt	5	4	3	5	5	9
Arson	2	1	3	4	4	4
Total Cases	**769**	**715**	**784**	**821**	**737**	**796**

*Vehicles Recovered In Oro Valley But Stolen In Another Jurisdictions
Source: Oro Valley Police Department Annual Report

10.2.1.1 Personnel

The Oro Valley Police Department (OVPD) employs 100 sworn officers and 31 civilians who serve the community. The Oro Valley Police Department annually reviews its Strategic Plan to ensure it is aligned with community expectations, the Town's Strategic Plan and the voter approved General Plan. All three, combined with close citizen interaction, act as the road map for how OVPD operates. The number of staff positions necessary to meet overall policing needs varies, depending on the level of service demanded and the level of crime in the community. Oro Valley has traditionally demanded a high level of service.

10.2.1.2 Crime and Response Time

The Police Department expects to arrive at all priority one calls for service in less than 5.00 minutes, 90% of the time. The department expects to arrive at all Priority Two calls for service in less than 8.00 minutes, 90% of the time. Response time data for 2006 showed that the Police Department failed to meet its performance objectives each month (excluding February-Priority One calls arrived to in less than 5.00 minutes 91% of the time). The Police Department is further behind in response times, considering that the Police Department seeks a 100% efficiency standard. Quick response times increase our ability to catch criminals and render aid, which continues to be a primary expectation of communities throughout the country. In many emergencies, time is of the essence and waiting for the police can be an agonizing experience for any citizen who needs help. The Police Department has recognized this and changed its deployment method (platoon system) to decrease its response time.

10.2.1.3 Community Resources Programs

Neighborhood Watch Program: Neighborhood Watch consists of a cohesive body of concerned citizens addressing issues that affect their neighborhood. OVPD has one officer who organizes, trains and provides constant information to these neighborhoods in order to reduce and inform the public of criminal activity. Neighborhood Watch provides communities with a direct liaison with the Police Department when questions arise and also distributes quarterly newsletters. Currently, there are 49 Neighborhood Watch groups consisting of 2,922 homes.

Crime Free Multi-Housing Program: This program is similar to Neighborhood Watch but for apartment complexes. It encourages neighbors to interact with one another but also holds apartment managers to strict criteria when signing leases with new tenants. In return, the Police Department advises apartment management of any police responses to their property so they are aware of any situations.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED): CPTED is a crime prevention program which includes the Police Department in crime reduction during the building phase of a new business or retrofitting an old building. The police are part of the planning process and CPTED trained officers do a walk through as the business is built to provide crime prevention and safety recommendations. CRU completed 17 CPTED business checks in 2012.

Citizen Volunteer Assistants Program (CVAP): This program provides the opportunity for citizens to serve their community by assisting the Police Department. The volunteers become an extra set of eyes and ears, assist patrol officers and are visible to the public. Volunteers are also available for call out when needed by patrol when major incidents happen. They are also trained to conduct traffic control. Volunteers patrol in the License Plate Reader (LPR) vehicle to search for stolen vehicles. The volunteers handle fingerprinting for the public twice a week. Additionally, they operate the Dark House program where volunteers on patrol will check a residence while the owners are out of town for an extended period of time. They also assist with special events and have filled in as clerical support for other Town departments when needed. OVPD has 70 active CVAP members.

Taskforce Against Senior Abuse (TASA): Oro Valley Police Department is now a satellite campus for the Arizona Attorney Generals (AG) Office, TASA. Volunteers are trained to take calls from the public regarding fraud or senior abuse and know the proper routing of the information to the AG's office.

Explorer Program: Law Enforcement Career Exploring is open to young men and women ages14 (and completed the 8th grade) through 20 years of age with an interest in learning more about careers in the Law Enforcement field. The Explorer Program is a branch of the Boy Scouts of America. The Explorer Program provides educational training programs for young adults for the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement. The program provides career orientation experiences, leadership opportunities and community service activities. The primary goals of the program are to help young adults choose a career path within law enforcement and to

challenge them to become responsible citizens of their communities. Explorers dedicate themselves to community service and assist with special events such as El Tour de Tucson, Arizona Distance Classic and Holiday Parade. Additionally, they participate with color guard duties, provide campus patrols during football games and assist with traffic control during graduations.

Dispose-A-Med (DAM): event where unused prescription and over-the-counter medications are collected. DAM began in August 2009.

Shred-A-Thon: allows the public to bring in any personal documents for free shredding. CRU also schedules free VIN etching for citizens' vehicles and child car seat checks

Rape Aggression Defense Systems: is a class that teaches self-defense for women. This class consists of three sessions each lasting three hours. Six classes were taught in 2012 and a waiting list is kept for the class.

10.2.1.4   Traffic

Traffic accidents in the Town of Oro Valley are another serious issue. Most of the main streets in Oro Valley are wide and have multiple lanes in both directions allowing drivers to travel at relatively high speeds. These facts present a challenge to law enforcement as well as emergency medical personal with regards to accident prevention. The Town's most accident prone intersection is that of Oracle Road. Also known as State Route 77 and Magee Road. The following graph highlights those intersections with the most accidents.

Figure 10-2: Town of Oro Valley Top Accident Intersections
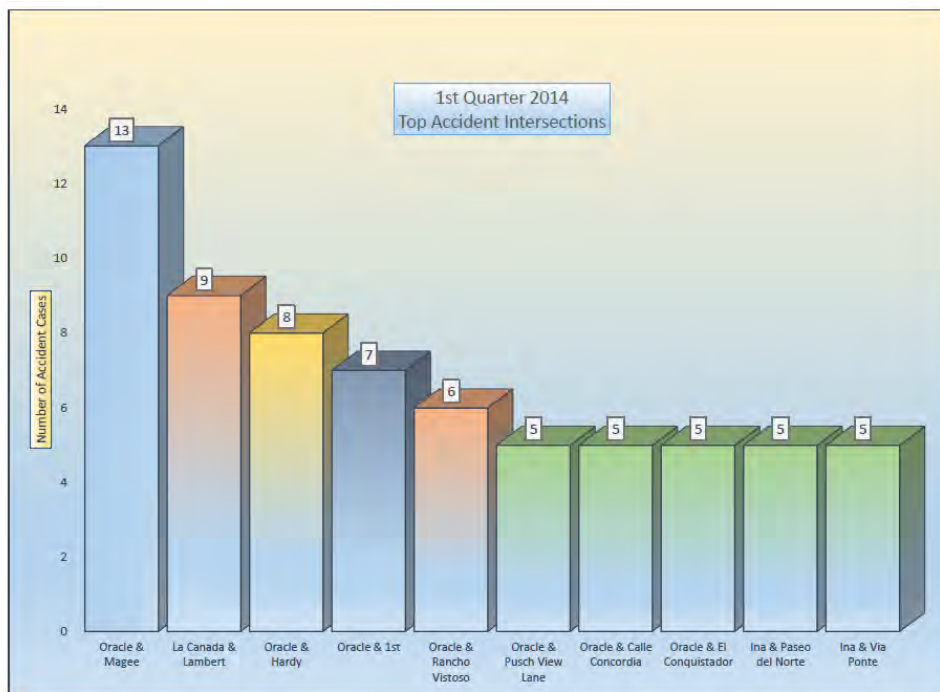
10.2.2   Fire Protection and Building Safety

Fire protection in Oro Valley is mainly provided by Golder Ranch Fire District as well as Mountain Vista Fire District and Rural Metro Fire Department. The Fire District possesses a Certificate of Necessity (CON) #56 from the Arizona Department of Health Services and subsequently operates an ambulance transport service under the provisions set forth in Title 36, Chapter 21.1 of the Arizona Revised Statute. The Golder Ranch Fire District is focused on providing the taxpayers with the highest level of services through an efficient and effective all hazards response model. Services include fire, medical, rescue, wildfire suppression, hazardous material, fire inspection,

fire investigation, fire code enforcement, public education, life-safety classes, desert creature removal, smoke alarm assist, lockout assistance, and much more.

The District boundaries are approximately 221 square miles and the ambulance transport boundaries are approximately 374 square miles. These boundaries are geographically located in Northern Pima County and Southern Pinal County. The District is predominately comprised of residential (suburban) properties and has a limited urban/commercial/industrial corridor. The 2010 Census data estimates 60,000 residents within the District and this is supported by a land-ownership report that estimates nearly 82% of the 31,000 parcels are for residential use. The Fire District serves two major retirement communities which are Sun City Vistoso and the Robson Communities of Saddle Brooke, Saddle Brooke Preserve and Saddle Brooke Ranch. For response purposes Golden Ranch Fire District has been broken down into five separate "demand zones". The five "demand zones" or types of areas that Golden Ranch Fire District protects are: Industrial, Commercial, Suburban, Rural, and Frontier. Each zone is based on a risk assessment that is associated with a predetermined response configuration of apparatus and personnel.

Medical emergencies account for the majority of the reported incidents within the Golder Ranch Fire District. Accordingly, all first-line fire and medical response vehicles are staffed with firefighters that are trained paramedics and/or emergency medical technicians. The staffing model affords a daily paramedic to resident staffing ratio of approximately 1:4500 residents.

The Golder Ranch Fire District currently has a Class 3 rating on a scale of 1-10 (1 being the highest) from the Insurance Service Organization for all "demand zones" within the Golder Ranch Fire District boundaries. This puts Golden Ranch Fire District in the top 2% of the 36,000+ national fire departments. This top tier rating is used to determine fire insurance premium rates. A low rate can yield significant costs savings to the property owner.

The Golder Ranch Fire District utilizes a three-year strategic plan. This continues to be the guiding document and reference within the annual budget. This plan establishes the vision and direction that is required for the Golder Ranch Fire District growth and operation. The Golder Ranch Fire District Strategic Plan is reviewed annually.

10.2.3   Health Care

The Town offers a variety of healthcare providers that address essential needs including, dentists, general practice physicians, cardiologists, chiropractors and podiatrists as well as specialty care practitioners. In addition, the Town's only and primary hospital "Oro Valley Hospital" is a 144-licensed bed hospital The hospital provides a 24/7 Emergency Department that treats patients of all ages. Key services include cardiology, minimally invasive surgery, plastic/cosmetic surgery, urology, oncology, neurology, otolaryngology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, cardiopulmonary testing, & imaging and diagnostics.

10.2.4   Libraries

In June 2001 ground was broken for the Oro Valley Public Library. The new 15,000 square foot library held its grand opening on August 17, 2002. The library opened with a collection of 63,000 items including books, magazines, and CDs available for check out.

The $5.1 million cost included the site, the building, computers, furnishings and the books and other materials for check out. About $2 million came from Pima County with the remainder raised by bonds from the Town of Oro Valley. Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library raised more than $100,000 for the library prior to its opening. Later, a special raffle was held to put a roof on the library's patio.

The Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library was incorporated as a 501c3 nonprofit organization in June 2001. Friends' members are volunteers who care about the library and are working to help make it even better. The group raises funds for the library furnishings, programs, and services. The Friends' are responsible for the updated computers in Oro Valley Branch Library's computer classroom and sponsor, in part, the wireless printing service available in the branch. Friends activities include two annual book sales in the library and an annual a dinner called "Supper in the Stacks" to honor the many volunteers who help the library.

In 2012, the Oro Valley Town Council voted to merge Oro Valley Library with the Pima County Public Library system so that it became Pima County's 28th library location.

Computer classroom upgrades at the Oro Valley Branch Library were made possible by a very generous donation from John and Joyce Nichols II to the Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library. The computer classroom was

originally made possible by a very generous grant of $26,200 from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Agency under the Library Services and Technology Act, which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and a $50,000 commitment from the Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library.

10.2.5 Schools

The Planning Area is served by one public school district, Amphitheater Public School District. There are two public high schools in Oro Valley, Canyon Del Oro and Ironwood (opened in school year 2001/02).Other area schools are Copper Creek, Mesa Verde, Wilson, and Winifred Harelson Elementary Schools, Painted Sky, and Lawrence W. Cross Middle School. The District has plans to build a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) elementary school in Oro Valley with a target opening date of fall 2016. It will be built on ten acres of district-owned land north of Moore Road and east of La Cañada. BASIS, a public charter school is also located in Oro Valley and has recently expanded to include an elementary school.

The Planning Area is also served by a number of private schools including, Casas Christian School (K-8), Pusch Ridge Christian Academy (7-12), and Suffolk Hills Catholic High School.

10.3   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff contacted are representatives across all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Better pavement management, trash and debris cleanup along main roadways, senior and children services, activities, programs, and more restaurant/business choices
- Current level of service with existing revenue sources are not sustainable.
- Provide the community education on how services are provided e.g. inmate labor.
- Utilizing better street design to lower traffic collision rates
- Maintain a consistent ratio of personnel to community size
- Promote traffic safety, prevent distracted driving through education in schools
- Mental Illness concerns – MIST (mental illness strike team)
- Better presence of school resource officers, helping and mentoring school aged children to make good choices and develop strong relationship between police and students.
- Increase in theft/shoplifting with increase in retail
- Lack of CPR/AED/First aid trained employees
- A new court building constructed in a centralized part of Town and easily accessible by mass transit.
- Departments need to grow to accommodate employees
- Facilities: no place to store parts, furniture, parts, etc., growth of facilities staff – need to move north with annexation vehicles and transportation, etc.
- Wire Town buildings for generators

DEVELOPMENT

11 Land Use

11.1.1 Topic Introduction

Land use in this context describes the means by which a community chooses to use its available land. Oro Valley has historically been one of the fastest growing cities in Arizona. Considering the growing population and potentially shifting needs of the community, land use can guide major aspects of the Town. Environmental quality, neighborhoods, the quality of life, economic conditions and overall development can all be impacted by land use decisions. Currently land use in the Town is generally directed by the General Plan and the Planning and Zoning Commission, who are assisted by planning staff in the Development and Infrastructure Services Department.

11.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to the zoning code, the General Plan and land use plans, existing land uses and development capacity. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

11.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Development and Infrastructure Services Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/dis. Specific document resources also include:

- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Oro Valley General Plan (2005)
- Design Standards (2011)
- Oro Valley Zoning Code

11.2 Existing Conditions

11.2.1 General Plans and Land Use

As discussed in Chapter 2 of this document, a General Plan is essentially a blueprint for the community's future. Since its formation, the Town of Oro Valley has had four General Plans. The Town's first General Plan was adopted in 1981, at which time the plan had two elements, land use and circulation. The land use element had the following goal and specified ten objectives to meet this goal. "Preserve and protect the quality and uniqueness of the area's natural environment and provide physical design which reflects the natural character while providing a living environment best suited to a peaceful quality of living." This General Plan remained in effect until it the next general plan was adopted in 1990.

By 1990, the Town's General Plan had a total of nine elements. The land use element specified the following land use goals and included a land use map.

- "Regional goal: encourage efficient, orderly land use pattern(s) through planning at regional, community and site specific levels.
- Oro Valley emphasis: maintain natural community character through constant public attention to environmental values, use compatibility and restraint in the construction of built forms for human activity." This general plan remained in effect until it the next general plan was adopted by the Town Council in July 1996.

The 1996 plan, Focus 2020: Town of Oro Valley General Plan, was adopted in July 1996.The land use element of this plan follows. "The Oro Valley Planning Area will continue to project a residential/resort character where the living environment for residents and visitors is emphasized. Orderly growth that focuses on low-density development is especially important to the community. Development that is sensitive to and compatible with the Sonoran Desert environment is of the utmost importance to Oro Valley residents."

In 2005 and update to Focus 2020 was ratified by voters. The following statement, is the vision that guides the 2005 General Plan: "To be a well-planned community that uses its resources to balance the needs of today against the potential

impacts to future generations. Oro Valley's lifestyle is defined by the highest standard of environmental integrity, education, infrastructure, services, and public safety. It is a community of people working together to create the Town's future with a government that is responsive to residents and ensures the long-term financial stability of the Town."

11.2.3 Oro Valley Zoning Code

The primary tools for implementing the policies specified in the land use element of *Focus 2020: Town of Oro Valley General Plan* are the zoning code and zoning map. The land use districts and development standards of the zoning code generally correspond to the land use designations and map in the general plan. In addition to informing landowners and others of the type and scale permitted on specific parcels, the zoning code and map enables the forecasting of the community's form and composition at build out, as well as its population and employment levels, based on the current general plan.

Planned Area Developments (PAD) make up over 50% of the Town. A PAD is a an area for which a unitary development plan has been prepared indicating, but not being limited to, the following land uses: open space, on-site circulation for both pedestrians and vehicles, parking, setbacks, housing densities, building spacing, land coverage, landscaping, relationships, streets, building heights, accessory uses, and architectural treatment. A PAD also includes "cluster developments," which are a development design technique that concentrates buildings in a specific area on a site to allow the remaining land to be used for recreation, common open space, or preservation of environmentally sensitive areas. (

Table 11-1: Oro Valley Planned Area Developments

	Acres	% of Total
Oro Valley Town Center	141.2	0.6%
El Conquistador Country Club	850.0	3.8%
Villages of La Canada	18.0	0.1%
Church of Latter Day Saints	4.0	0.0%
La Reserve	1,114.0	5.0%
Rancho Vistoso	7,626.0	34.4%
Rooney Ranch	290.0	1.3%
Rivers Edge	293.3	1.3%
Vistro del Oro	109.8	0.5%
Mastro	12.5	0.1%
Catalina Shadows	170.0	0.8%
Monterra Shadows	339.0	1.5%
Steam Pump Ranch	41.6	0.2%
El Corredor	22.8	0.1%
Tohono Chul	47.2	0.2%
Total	**11,079.4**	

Table 11-2: Oro Valley Zoning Designations and Size

Zone	Acres	%	Description
C-1	148.60	0.66%	This district provides for large scale office complexes and medium sized retail centers, located on a major arterial. Through buffering and other mitigation measures, C-1 centers must be compatible with adjoining residential neighborhoods, while satisfying commercial and service business needs of nearby neighborhoods. (Minimum of 5 acres)
C-2	185.84	0.83%	This district is permits all uses in the C-N and C-1 districts, plus commercial activities designed to serve a regional area with emphasis on shopping centers and group commercial developments. Uses must incorporate extensive mitigation measures to harmoniously co-exist with nearby neighborhoods. C-2 uses are substantial traffic generators and should be located near the intersection of two principal arterials. (Minimum of 10 acres)
C-N	47.32	0.21%	This district provides small office and service centers within walking/biking distance or a short drive from adjacent neighborhoods. The center shall be designed to fit into the adjacent neighborhoods, serve as a neighborhood activity center, and provide a combination of uses that offer basic goods and services that meet the needs of the nearby residents. A mixture of office, retail, and residential is enabled in the C-N zone and is anticipated to provide a physically and functionally integrated combination of uses.
PAD	11399.71	50.81%	A Planned Area Development PAD is a an area for which a unitary development plan has been prepared indicating, but not being limited to, the following land uses: open space, on-site circulation for both pedestrians and vehicles, parking, setbacks, housing densities, building spacings, land coverage, landscaping, relationships, streets, building heights, accessory uses, and architectural treatment. A PAD also includes "cluster developments," which are a development design technique that concentrates buildings in a specific area on a site to allow the remaining land to be used for recreation, common open space, or preservation of environmentally sensitive areas All PAD development plans include underlying zoning designations. The underlying or base zoning districts are derived from existing Oro Valley zones and reflect the most logical designation in consideration of the proposed land use for a particular parcel, tract, block or planning unit. The development standards of the underlying zoning districts prevails where the PAD does not specifically modify said standards. (Minimum 20 Acres)
PSC	106.65	0.48%	This district provides for religious facilities and private educational facilities.
R-4	639.63	2.89%	This district is intended to provide for relatively low-density development having individual ownership and built-in privacy, either in the form of party wall construction or enclosed courtyards. (Minimum of 1 acre)
R-4R	168.22	0.75%	The Resort District is intended primarily to provide for accommodations for seasonal visitors. The controlled access, deep setbacks, and landscaping requirements are intended to enhance the value, safety, and aesthetic quality of both the highway frontage and the adjacent property. (Minimum of 50 acres prior to street dedications)

R-6	165.40	0.74%	This district is intended to support multi-family residential development, to accommodate an increased density of population and to provide recreational and aesthetic amenities, which enhance the residential character of a multi-family project and produce a high quality environment. This district also furnishes employment opportunities, by providing for business and professional office complexes on a residential scale, with low silhouettes, a variety of separate building masses and landscaped open space, to be compatible with surrounding residential uses. (Minimum of for 5-acres residential and 1 acre business and professional offices or other permitted or conditional use)
R-S	98.19	0.44%	This district is composed of certain land and structures used primarily to provide administrative, clerical and professional offices of a residential scale and character to serve nearby residential and commercial areas as well as the Town as a whole. These uses are characterized by low volume of direct daily customer contact. Secondarily, this district provides for medium density residential uses. This district is designed to be a transitional zone and should be used to buffer low density residential uses from more intense land uses, districts and heavily traveled transportation routes. The property development standards, while strict in order to protect adjacent low density residential uses, are designed to be flexible enough to allow experimentation in office and housing design and to allow housing constructed within this district to incorporate its own protection from more intense adjacent uses.
R1-10	263.02	1.19%	Single-Family Residential District - 10,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-144	4216.32	18.79%	Single-Family Residential District - 144,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-20	636.45	2.87%	Single-Family Residential District - 20,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-300	965.29	4.30%	Single-Family Residential District - 300,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-36	2357.75	10.64%	Single-Family Residential District - 36,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-43	639.54	2.85%	Single-Family Residential District - 43,560 sq. ft. per lot
R1-7	295.42	1.32%	Single-Family Residential District - 7,000 sq. ft. per lot
R1-72	8.71	0.04%	This district is intended to promote and preserve suburban-rural single-family residential development, with lots large enough to accommodate on-site sewer systems.
SDH-6	50.42	0.22%	The purpose of this zone is to provide for properly planned and orderly developed manufactured or site delivered housing subdivisions. The principal land use is single-family dwellings and uses incidental or accessory thereto. (Single-Family Residential District - 6,000 sq. ft. per lot)
T-P	44.83	0.20%	This district provides for administrative, research and specialized manufacturing activities at a low intensity. Uses include a mix of light industrial, professional office, office/showroom, office/warehouse, ancillary retail services and related uses. All uses shall be of a non-nuisance type and minimal scale having low silhouette, a variety of separate building masses and landscaped areas. This district is to provide employment near residential areas and the development standards are intended to be compatible to adjacent residential uses and provide a park-like setting for employment. (Minimum of 3 Acres)
	22,437.3	100.00%	**Total**

The single-family residential category includes seven zones which together cover 42% (9382.5acres) of the area within the Town's limits. The largest single-family residential zone is R1-144 which applies to 18.79% (4216.32 acres) of the Town's area. This area is second only to Planned Area Development, which applies to 50.81 %(11399.71acres) of the Town.

Map 11-3: Town of Oro Valley Zoning

TOWN OF ORO VALLEY ZONING

R1-300	R1-7	C-N
R1-144	R-4	C-1
R1-72	R-6	C-2
R1-43	SDH-6	T-P
R1-36	R-4R	PAD*
R1-20	PS&C	
R1-10	R-S	* See PAD map for PAD land use designations

For official interpretations of this map contact the Planning and Zoning Dep

Disclaimer: The Town of Oro Valley does not guarantee that the information depicted/contained in this map is accurate.

September 2013
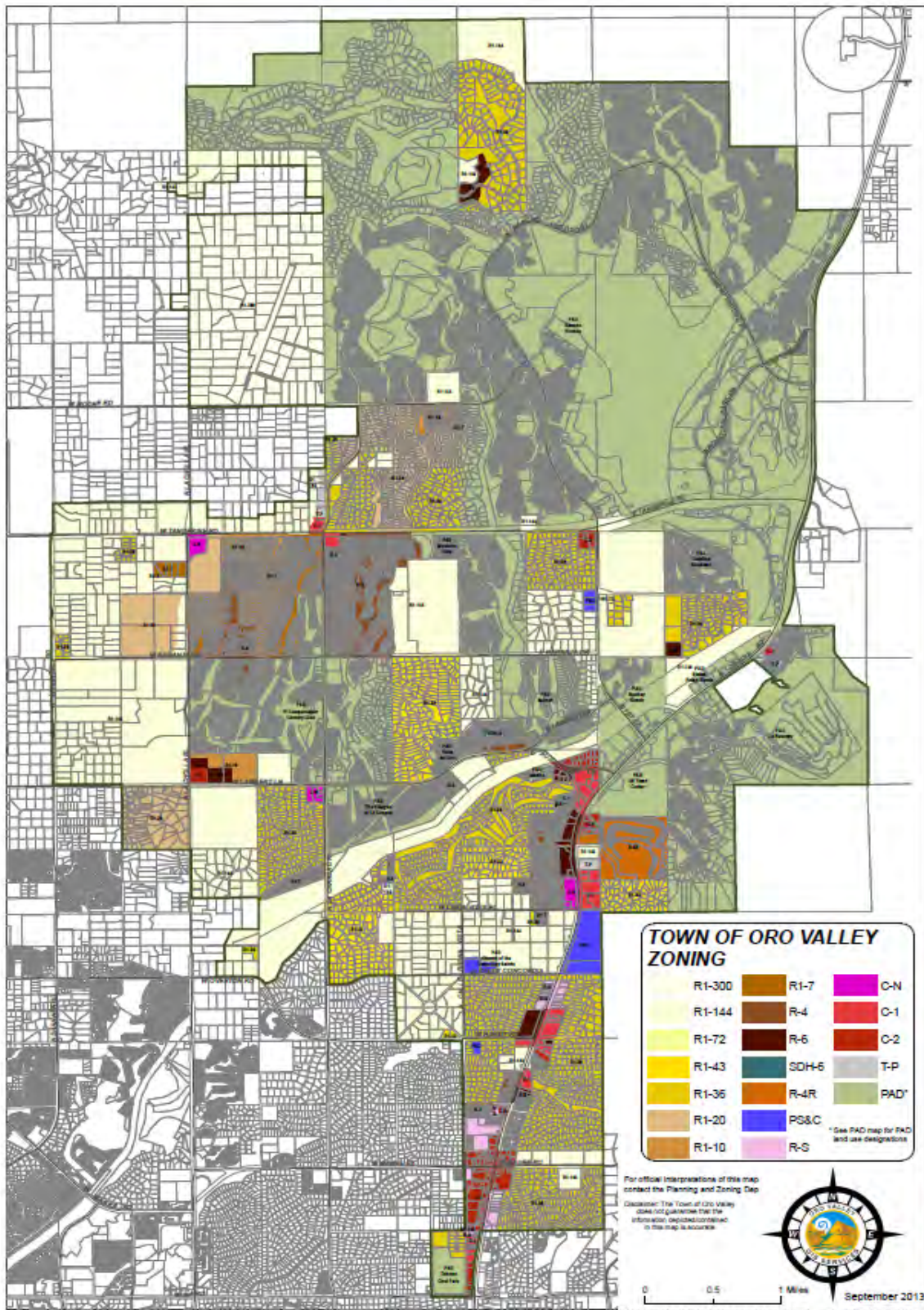
11.2.2   Other Land Use Plans

11.2.2.1   Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Preparation of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance was an action item in the land use element of Focus 2020: Town of Oro Valley General Plan. It is intended to identify and address the Town's natural and cultural resources in a comprehensive manner. The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Element addresses the importance of issues as well as goals and policies associated with environmental protection and preservation pertaining to the development of the Town of Oro Valley.

Throughout the history of the Town, Oro Valley residents have consistently identified the importance of natural and cultural resource preservation Tortolita Mountain Park, Santa Catalina State Park, and Coronado National Forest, are in close proximity to Oro Valley, and the presence of open space exemplifies commitment to natural preservation. Aspects of concern for preservation includes focusing on the retention of native vegetation, open space, and scenic mountain vistas. Because of the arid desert environment, water is also an important natural resource issue. The Town of Oro Valley is also located in an area that bears remnants from a multi-layered cultural heritage, so cultural and archaeological resources are also key considerations.

The sources of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance are both past and current General Plans. The ordinance was adopted on 2/16/11 by Town Council after two years of intensive work by stakeholders, Environmentally Sensitive Lands Public Advisory Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission, Town Councils, consultants and staff.

The Environmentally Sensitive Lands zoning section requires varying levels of open space and development standards aimed at conserving environmental, scenic and cultural resources. Creating a balanced approach was a key consideration in working with a broad array of participants in the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance process. Ensuring conservation of key environmental resources and providing developers greater design and process flexibility was strongly supported by the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Public Advisory Committee and other project participants.

Map 11-4: Town of Oro Valley Environmentally Sensitive Lands

TOWN OF ORO VALLEY
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS

Major Wildlife Linkage Category (100% Open Space)
Critical Resource Area Category (95% Open Space)
Core Resource Area Category (80% Open Space)
Resource Management Area Tier 1 (66% Open Space)
Resource Management Area Tier 2 (25% Open Space)
Resource Management Area Tier 3 (0% Open Space)
Developed Area (Non-Wildlife Permeable)
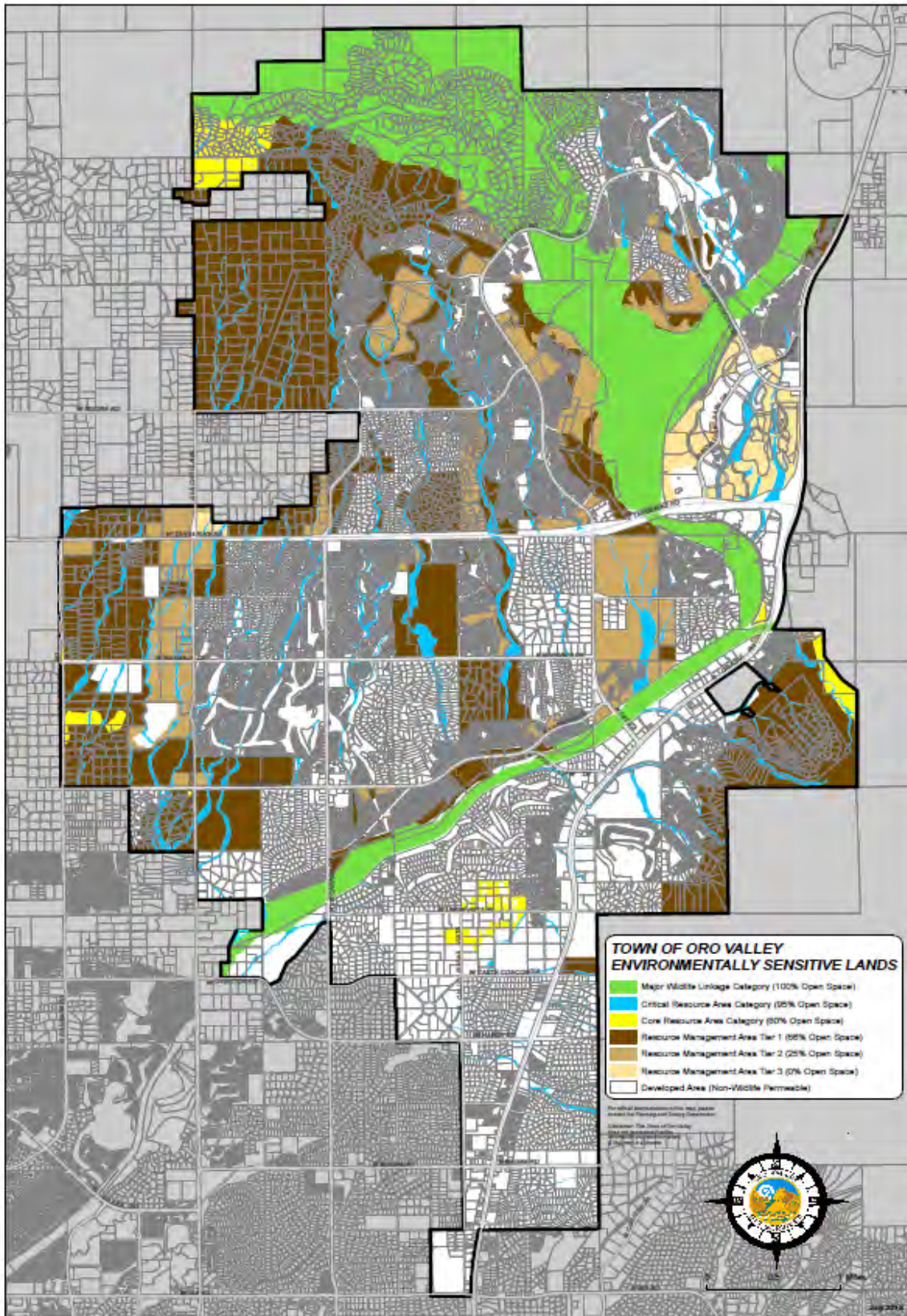
11.2.3 Existing Land Use

Information on existing land use provides an understanding of how the Town has developed to date. It also facilitates planning how the Town may develop in the future. The analysis below is based on data from the Pima County Tax Assessor and the Town's Planning and Zoning Department.

The Town incorporated in 1974, when it was 2.5 square miles (1,619 acres) in size and grew to 31.1 square miles (22470.82 acres) by 2014.Given the Town's rapid growth in size, it is not surprising that 5.49% (711.71 acres) of the Town's area was vacant in 2014.

The Town's second largest land use category in 2014 was residential with 61.84% (13893.66 acres).The high proportion of residential land use is to be expected given the Town's historic focus on residential development. The largest residential category is low density residential, with 0.4-1.2 dwelling units per acre, at 20.27% (4554.50 acres) of the Town's area. The second largest residential category is medium/high density residential, with 2.1-5 dwelling units per acre, at 20.19% (4535.84 acres).

The third largest existing land use category in 2014 was open space, with 15.9% (3574.32 acres).This includes open space along the Cañada del Oro Wash corridor as well as open space located within master planned communities.

While the Planning Area is larger than the Town (33806.37 acres versus 22470.82 acres), the order of the various existing land uses in 2014 was the same.

It is notable that in 2001 within the Town's limits, 91.5% of the land was privately owned. As of 2014, 78.47% of the land is privately owned an approximate 13% decrease. .The remaining 8.5% of the Town's area was publicly owned, with approximately one-third of this for open space.

Table 11-5: Oro Valley Existing Land Use Sizes, 2014

Land Use & Description	Town Limits		Planning Area		Combined	
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Total Acres	Total %
Private						
Rural Low Density Residential (0 - 0.3 DU/AC)	3,188.6	14.2	6,571.1	19.4	9,759.7	17.3
Low Density Residential (0.4 - 1.2 DU/AC)	4,554.5	20.3	3,620.2	10.7	8,174.7	14.5
Low Density Residential (1.3 - 2.0 DU/AC)	804.3	3.6	264.0	0.8	1,068.3	1.9
Medium Density Residential (2.1 - 5 DU/AC)	4,535.8	20.2	521.0	1.5	5,056.8	9.0
High Density Residential (5+ DU/AC)	810.4	3.6	779.2	2.3	1,589.6	2.8
Commerce / Office Park	538.0	2.4	243.2	0.7	781.1	1.4
Neighborhood Commercial / Office	900.2	4.0	184.6	0.5	1,084.8	1.9
Community / Regional Commercial	435.7	1.9	90.1	0.3	525.8	0.9
Master Planned Community	362.7	1.6	521.0	1.5	1,038.2	1.8
Resort / Golf Course	1,501.4	6.7	394.9	1.2	1,896.3	3.4
Public						
Public / Semi-Public	351.0	1.6	167.3	0.5	518.3	0.9
School	378.8	1.7	65.7	0.2	444.6	0.8
Parks And Recreation	513.2	2.3	3,490.4	10.3	4,003.6	7.1
Open Space	3,574.3	15.9	4,699.3	13.8	8,273.7	14.7
National Forest	16.4	0.1	5,082.7	15.0	5,099.1	9.0
Undesignated Area	5.5	0.0	7,111.7	20.9	7,117.2	12.6
Total	**22,470.8**	**100%**	**33,806.4**	**100%**	**56,431.7**	**100%**

11.2.4 Development Capacity

By analyzing data on building permits issued by the Town, it is possible to identify recent development trends. This information provides insight into both the Town's historic development as well as indications of probable future development trends.

An analysis of the overall development capacity of the Town within the existing corporate limits provides important information regarding how much land is available for additional housing, businesses, offices, employment, and recreation. Further, this data provides guidance for land use policy and decisions to ensure we are able to meet the needs of future population and employment growth in a balanced manner consistent with the Town's values and objectives.

11.2.4.1 Residential

Based on the analysis of vacant lands entitled, zoned, or planned for single and multi-family development, the following conclusions can be reached:

- 8,451 additional units could be constructed under existing conditions.
- Overall, the Town is approximately 71% built out in a residential development.

Table 11-6: Oro Valley Percent of Residential Build-Out, 2013

	Existing Units	Potential Units	Total	Percent Built Out
Single Family Residential	16,174	4,577	20,012	80.1%
Multi-Family Residential	3,289	3,874	7,163	45.9%
Total	**19,463**	**8,451**	**27,175**	**71.2%**

The additional residential development could accommodate 17.738 additional residents, (assuming the Oro Valley household size of 2.3 persons). Based on Pima Association of Governments population growth projections, the existing inventory of residential land could accommodate growth through at least 2040.

11.2.4.2 Commercial

Based on the analysis of vacant lands zoned, or planned for commercial and office development, the following conclusions can be reached:

- Approximately 10,983,703 square feet of additional commercial and office development can be constructed in the Town. This calculation is based on net acreage (gross acreage minus an estimated 25% of area needed for roadways, parking, landscaping, etc.) of developable land.
- There is a large amount (237,887 square feet) of vacant constructed space that can be absorbed by the market.

Table 11-7: Commercial – Office Capacity in Square Feet, 2013

Vacant Constructed Space	**237,887**
Potential Zoned Square Footage	5,116,122
Potential Planned Square Footage	5,629,694
Total	**10,983,703**

Significant opportunities for additional commercial development are found at the following locations.

- Along west Rancho Vistoso Boulevard
- Along Tangerine Road at La Cholla and First/Rancho Vistoso Blvd.
- Within Steam Pump Village
- Within the Oro Valley Marketplace
- The San Dorado Property at First & Oracle

- Oracle Vista Centre on the northwest corner of Oracle & Linda Vista Blvd.

Industrial/Employment

The majority of available acreage is in Innovation Park, located north of Tangerine Road between the Big Wash and Oracle Road, with additional acreage found in:

- Miller Ranch, on the Northwest corner of Tangerine Road and La Canada Drive.
- Foothills Business Park, on the east side of Oracle Road and Hanley Boulevard.
- Several smaller (less than 5 acres) parcels along Oracle Road.
- Up to 12,579 additional employees could be accommodated in the developable area.
- Additional Development of the existing industrial/employment acreage contributes positively towards a more balanced jobs to housing ratio, thus reducing traffic and vehicle emissions generated by commuting to jobs outside of the Town

Table 11-8: Industrial/Employment Capacity, 2013

	Gross Acres	Potential Square Footage (at .4 FAR)	Potential employees (based on 23 employees/net acre)	Potential employees based on SF (based on 500 sf/employees)
Zoned Industrial/Employment	222.5	2,907,630	5,674	5,815
Planned Industrial/ Employment	270.8	3,538,814	6,905	7,078
Total	**493.3**	**6,446,44**	**12,579**	**12,893**

Other Land Uses

The vacant inventory of other land uses, which includes park, open space, and golf course/resort properties, is approximately 1,017 acres. However, the majority of these properties are not developable but, rather, are intended to provide open space buffers to preserve habitat, significant environmental features, and provide buffering between neighborhoods.

Table 11-9: Other Land Use Capacity (in acres), 2013

Zoned Acreage	**450**
Planned Acreage	567
Total	**1,017**

11.2.5   Regional Planning

Pima County

Pima County's *Comprehensive Plan* is the governing land use plan for the unincorporated portions of Pima County. This includes areas that the Town of Oro Valley may annex in the coming years. Typically, when such lands are annexed, they are given the annexing municipality's zoning category that most closely resemble the County's. Currently, as of 2014 the Pima County is in the process of updating their current comprehensive plan.

11.3   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Investigate and plan for a Town center on 1st& Oracle
- Need for a housing study to plan for future housing needs in the community
- Targeted industry/businesses: Identify and plan for targeted revenue generating uses
- Tangerine Road Corridor Plan: look at land use opportunities along this route.

12 Housing and Dwellings

12.1.1 Topic Introduction

This chapter presents information about housing and dwellings in the Town of Oro Valley. Housing in Oro Valley is generally of high quality and within strong neighborhoods. Housing development strives to meet the needs of current and future residents. Within the Town of Oro Valley, the design and planning of housing is managed through the Development and Infrastructure Services Department. This department coordinates all facets of the planning and zoning, permitting, construction, and inspection for all housing and infrastructure elements serving housing within the Town of Oro Valley.

12.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter outlines information relevant to the topic of housing and dwellings. This includes existing conditions related to housing characteristics, occupancy and values. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

12.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Development and Infrastructure Services Department can be found online at http://www.orovalleyaz.gov/dis. Specific document resources also include:

- Design Standards (2011)
- Focus 2020: Oro Valley General Plan (2005)
- Subdivision Street Standards and Policy Manual (2004)
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)

12.2 Existing Conditions

12.2.1 Oro Valley Housing Element

The Town of Oro Valley's current General Plan, Focus 2020, was ratified by voters in 2005. Chapter 7 of the General Plan outlines Housing. An excerpt from that chapter is contained below.

STATEMENT
The Housing Element presents strategies to ensure that housing opportunities are provided within high quality neighborhoods that are safe and well-planned. Oro Valley is defined by its strong neighborhoods and quality housing development which meet the needs of current and future residents. Efforts should continue to be made to provide a mix of housing at various densities and price ranges to allow people of all ages to enjoy the splendor of Oro Valley.

KEY POLICY ISSUES
- Neighborhood Quality
- Range of Housing Opportunities

GOALS AND POLICIES
High Quality Neighborhoods
7.1   To promote the development of sound, high quality neighborhoods that provide community amenities in an integrated manner.
Range Of Opportunity
7.2   To encourage and maintain a range of housing opportunities.
Jobs-Housing Balance
7.3   To promote a jobs/housing balance within the Planning Area.

12.2.2 Housing Characteristics (Types, Units, Age)

The description of Town of Oro Valley's housing stock and demographics in the following two sections is drawn largely from the 2011 American Community Survey conducted as part of the U.S. Census. Wherever possible, the data for Oro Valley are presented for comparison alongside comparable data for the City of Tucson, Pima County and the State of Arizona.

The housing in Oro Valley mainly consists of single-family residential, but there is a range of housing types still available. The housing stock is increasingly become more diverse with a large number of multi-family residential projects under construction in 2013-2014. However, when viewing the following table, the most marked difference between Oro Valley and other geographies is the low share of low scale multi-family units. There are very few buildings with 2-4 units available within the Town.

Table 12-1: Estimated Dwelling Types by Units Per Structure, 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Total Residential Units	131,826,591	2,848,670	441,245	230,906	19,902
Single Family (Low: -2)	88,757,188	1,937,915	292,820	136,367	16,174
	67.30%	68.00%	66.30%	59.10%	81.30%
Multi Family (Low: 2-4)	10,909,023	137,249	21,542	17,452	356
	8.30%	4.80%	4.90%	7.50%	1.80%
Multi Family (Med: 5-19)	12,271,468	273,109	42,725	32,835	1,820
	9.30%	9.50%	9.70%	14.30%	9.20%
Multi Family (High: 20+)	11,162,316	184,532	36,350	28,767	1,113
	8.50%	6.50%	8.20%	12.50%	5.60%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

The housing stock in Oro Valley is relatively new. The Town is a younger community and there are very few housing units that were built before 1960. There have been periods of intense growth in the Town, and that is also reflected in the share of housing units built in each decade as seen in the following table. For instance, roughly 43% of the Town's overall housing stock was constructed in the 1990s, whereas other geographies have roughly between 10 and 20% of their housing built during that decade. The age of the housing stock has implications for the overall population and changes in the demographics of the Town in the future.

12.2.3 Housing Occupancy and Tenure

This section describes housing occupancy (whether a place is occupied or vacant) as well as housing tenure (whether a home is rented or owned). All this information is valuable when considering local housing trends, needs and future decisions. Frequently, both public and private sector organizations evaluate programs and initiatives based on this information. Additionally, this information can indicate the economic health of an area.

The following table displays the housing occupancy and vacancy in Oro Valley. Overall, Oro Valley has an average housing occupancy rate, when compared with other geographies. Oro Valley, Tucson, Pima County and the nation have between 86 and 87% of their housing occupied. Arizona is slightly worse off, with around 82% of its housing occupied. One other notable figure is the vacancy rate for rental units in Oro Valley is much lower than Tucson, Pima County or the State of Arizona. This may indicate a higher demand for rental units in the Town that is not being met.

Table 12-2: Estimated Dwelling Stock by Year of Construction, 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Total Residential Units	131,826,591	2,848,670	441,245	230,906	19,902
Year Constructed					
Before 1939	18,017,981	48,725	9,481	8,218	92
	13.7%	1.7%	2.1%	3.6%	0.5%
1940-1949	7,370,698	51,314	14,464	12,996	0
	5.6%	1.8%	3.3%	5.6%	0.0%
1950-1959	14,513,679	168,491	38,320	32,454	207
	11.0%	5.9%	8.7%	14.1%	1.0%
1960-1969	14,717,701	213,341	38,813	26,187	438
	11.2%	7.5%	8.8%	11.3%	2.2%
1970-1979	21,167,844	514,445	95,362	53,716	1,773
	16.1%	18.1%	21.6%	23.3%	8.9%
1980-1989	18,374,262	545,133	80,742	39,607	3,207
	13.9%	19.1%	18.3%	17.2%	16.1%
1990-1999	18,285,388	586,359	76,126	27,591	8,646
	13.9%	20.6%	17.3%	11.9%	43.4%
2000-2004	11,495,964	440,531	54,189	20,447	3,947
	8.7%	15.5%	12.3%	8.9%	19.8%
2005+	7,883,074	280,331	33,748	9,690	1,592
	6.0%	9.8%	7.6%	4.2%	8.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

Table 12-3: Estimated Occupancy and Vacant Dwellings, 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Total Dwelling Units	131,826,591	2,848,670	441,245	230,906	19,902
HOUSING OCCUPANCY					
Occupied	114,931,864	2,343,177	379,608	201,240	17,271
	87.2%	82.3%	86.0%	87.2%	86.8%
Vacant	16,894,727	505,493	61,637	29,666	2,631
	12.8%	17.7%	14.0%	12.8%	13.2%
VACANCY RATE					
Homeowner Unit	2.4%	4.0%	3.2%	2.9%	2.3%
Rental Unit	8.0%	11.2%	10.7%	12.2%	6.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

Tenure (whether a home is owned or rented) is the most basic feature of a housing inventory. Homeownership rates can serve as an economic indicator as well as indicate the health of the local housing market. Oro Valley has a higher share of single-family residential units when comparing geographies. As can be expected from this, there is also a higher share of owner-occupied housing units. The average for the country and the State of Arizona is around 65% owner-occupied housing. Oro Valley has 75% owner-occupied housing. Oro Valley also has a lower average household size than other geographies. This may be due to the large retiree population along with other factors.

Table 12-4: Estimated Owner & Renter Occupied Dwellings, 2011

	USA	Arizona	Pima County	Tucson	Oro Valley
Total Occupied Housing Units	114,931,864	2,343,177	379,608	201,240	17,271
Owner-occupied	75,124,052	1,528,091	240,094	103,783	13,094
	65.4%	65.2%	63.2%	51.6%	75.8%
Renter-occupied	39,807,812	815,086	139,514	97,457	4,177
	34.6%	34.8%	36.8%	48.4%	24.2%
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE					
Owner	2.69	2.67	2.56	2.57	2.41
Renter	2.49	2.69	2.45	2.40	2.24

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2011 American Community Survey

12.3   Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Ensure future land use map provides adequate opportunities for diversity in housing including mixed use, multi-family and all ranges of single-family residential.
- Strive for high quality housing which fits the character of the community
- Consider environmental needs in conjunction with consideration of new development

13 Community Design

13.1.1 Topic Introduction

Urban form is an essential part of city planning and is particularly important to the Town of Oro Valley. This chapter focuses on the major components of the built environment in Oro Valley and how these components work toward establishing the Town's identity.

Natural features have strongly influenced the development of Oro Valley's form. These features primarily include mountain ranges and various washes. A portion directly to the east of the town has been dedicated as the Coronado National Forest. The Cañada del Oro Wash currently runs down the middle of the Town. The major streets are laid out on a grid pattern. More recent street development focused on reflecting and preserving the natural washes in the area. This attention to existing natural features has created unique, curving street layouts. The addition of typical subdivision layout has also added street patterns with limited entry and exit options disrupting the urban fabric.

13.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to urban form, development patterns, architectural patterns, and cultural resources. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

13.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Development and Infrastructure Services Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/dis. Specific document resources also include:

- Design Principles 22.9
- Design Review Ordinance
- Design Standards [addendum to zoning]
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)

13.2 Existing Conditions

13.2.1 Natural Features

Mental images of natural areas, especially the mountain ranges in the Planning Area as well as the man-made features act as recognizable symbols of an area projecting and promoting a sense of quality inherent to the community. A sense of place is a basic concept tied to the Town's identity.

Similar to most cities, natural features have had a strong influence on Oro Valley's urban form. In particular, the Santa Catalina Mountains, the Tortolita Mountains, and a variety of major and minor washes play important roles in shaping the town. These features constitute physical constraints to development, as well as unique opportunities to enhance development because they also act as significant visual and scenic resources, which are highly valued by residents. The majority of images of Oro Valley focus on the natural, not the built environment. The positive aspects depicted in these images correlate with the community-defined sense of appreciation of the surrounding environment.

In many communities, physical infrastructure, particularly major roadways, influences the overall urban form and pattern of development. Because Oro Valley is such a young community, there are few such features. Oracle Road is the most prominent roadway in the community, and it essentially follows the contours of the foothills of the mountains to the east. Additionally, Oro Valley's extensive public art serves as a defining feature of the community.

13.2.2 City Image

In his book, *The Image of the City* (1960), Kevin Lynch outlined an approach to identifying the form, structure and image of the city. Lynch developed 5 categories of urban form elements: edges, paths, districts, nodes, and landmarks. These categories are helpful in understanding how people may perceive Oro Valley as well how development has occurred or may occur in the future.

Edges

Edges are defined as the basic boundaries that dictate the form of a city. Topography, water elements, and changes from urban to rural land uses are critical edges that give geographic definition. Edges can act as district boundaries and can also be barriers to circulation. Barriers are particularly important in terms of the transportation systems, since they usually limit connections between areas. The topography of the Oro Valley landscape has played a central role in defining the city's urban edges. The Coronado National Park along the east and the Tortolita Mountains to the northwest and the Cañada del Oro Wash running through the city have created a series of undulating slopes and valleys where development has occurred. These visible scenic features define the area and influence development.

Paths

Paths are major roads and other key elements in the transportation system. They define the primary patterns of movement within the city and thus determine what people consider as corridors. Within Oro Valley, Oracle Road serves as the major path within the city. Other paths, transportation, pedestrian, or equestrian, are highly dependent on the natural topography. There is no pedestrian path running continuously through the entire town.

Districts

Districts can be used as reference by virtue of some identifiable character. Districts may be the result of a land use, building type, geographic feature, vegetative cover, or other visually dominant characteristic that provides coherence or distinctiveness. Districts are distinguishable from each other, although all together they provide an overall sense of the city. Districts also act as a way to visually group areas. While the Town is not typically discussed in terms of districts, there are some areas that Town residents identify as have a distinct presence in Oro Valley. The Rancho Vistoso Community, for instance, is such a place.

Nodes

Nodes are specific points at which the observer can enter. They usually are found at an intersection of a major path or concentration of activity. A break in transportation mode or a key point were a decision must be made in terms of movement frequently creates a node. The commercial development near the intersection of Oracle Road and First Avenue has become a commercial node. The municipal complex southeast of the intersection of Naranja and La Cañada Drives is becoming an increasingly prominent node, particularly with the completion of the new library.

Landmarks

Landmarks are easily identifiable and memorable reference points that are external to the observer, not enterable spaces. Landmarks are characterized by physical prominence, such as tall or distinctive structures or they provide a strong contrast between the landmark and the background. Landmarks are often seen from several view points and are therefore familiar to many observers and useful in navigating through an area. Pusch Peak, Pusch Ridge, and the original steam pump serve as local landmarks. The steam pump building is the only building in Oro Valley that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to larger-scale elements of city form, there are smaller elements that are useful for planning and urban design. Among these patterns are the following:

- Historic street and block patterns
- Neighborhood school and park service area patterns
- Bicycle and pedestrian system patterns
- Districts defined by historic architectural styles
- Boulevard planting styles
- Neighborhood commercial service area patterns
- Strip and commercial center patterns

13.2.3 Historic Development Pattern

The historic founding and subsequent growth of Oro Valley was tied significantly to its location and resources. Before the arrival of the settlers, Native American tribes resided in the area. During the 1880s, at the time of exploration and settlement in the Southwest, Oro Valley was the first stopping point for travelers bound from Tucson to points north on old Oracle Road. The main attraction was the original steam pump, located immediately south of Steam Pump Village. The rich pastures and the availability of water provided by the steam pump was always welcome respite for travelers in the arid Sonoran desert.

Social, economic and political forces have also influenced Oro Valley. Early growth was prompted by the desire of local homeowners associations to determine their own destiny. Thus, the Town of Oro Valley was incorporated in 1974 from what had been unincorporated Pima County. The first boundaries of Oro Valley included Cañada del Oro Wash to the north, Calle Loma Linda to the west, Hardy Road to the south and the Coronado National Forest to the east. The majority of subsequent annexations to Oro Valley were already developed residential areas. Further development has increased Oro Valley's residential and commercial aspects.

13.2.4 Architecture

Oro Valley does not have any distinct architectural theme or identity. The residential architecture reflects a variety of styles dating back to the 1950s, with designs ranging from ranch, to contemporary, to modern and Spanish revival. In recent years, the trend has been toward typical southwestern style with stucco and similar shade roofing materials.

The Town's Zoning Ordinance includes a set of Design Guidelines (Chapter 16) that suggests, but does not mandate, Southwest architectural themes tied to the history of the area, including the following:

Southwest Traditional: One and two story structures with pitched roofs, including hip or gable roofs with less steep portions over porches or loggias; smooth textured stucco; standing seam metal roof; doors and windows flush with the wall surface and wood trim.

Territorial: One and two story structures with flat roofs of varying heights; parapet coping (typically brickwork or masonry); portals and loggias; smooth finish stucco or brick or masonry; delicate wood moldings or accents; doors and windows flush with the wall surface; divided pane windows and wood trim defining major openings.

Pueblo: One and two story structures with softly rounded corners; flat roofs with parapets and canals to drain; exposed via beam ends; deep set windows and doors; simple courtyard walls; walkway texture and feature entry gates.

Spanish Colonial: One and two story structures; roofs with 4 or 5 in 12 pitches; courtyards and patios; wainscoting; smooth finish stucco, clay barrel tiles; timber framed accents; limited use of arches and deep set doors and windows.

Figure 13-1: Modern interpretations of historic architectural styles, Source: Oro Valley Design Standards

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Maintain high quality standards for new growth
- Strive for a stronger public and civic identity
- Create a public gathering place or heart of the community

14 Community Utilities

14.1.1 Topic Introduction

This chapter discusses services and facilities such as natural gas, electricity, and telephone service. Each of these services plays an important role in the ability to maintain the public health, safety, technological advancement, and economic goals of the community. The physical infrastructure of Oro Valley—cell phone towers—also plays a vital role in ensuring that the town maintains its visual identity.

14.1.2 Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to natural gas, electricity, and telecommunications services. Finally this chapter includes a section on trends and next steps.

14.1.3 Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Development and Infrastructure Services Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/dis.

14.2 Existing Conditions

14.2.1 Natural Gas

The Planning Area is provided natural gas by Southwest Gas Corporation and Kinder Morgan. Propane gas is provided by AmeriGas and Ferrallgas.

14.2.2 Electricity

Tucson Electric Power Corporation provides electrical services to the Town of Oro Valley. Programs like the Bright Tucson Community Solar, Solar Water Heating, and Solar Electric Photovoltaic are great examples of TEP's dedication to renewable energy. These programs are available to all TEP customers.

14.2.3 Telephone Service

There are several companies that provide telephone service for the Town of Oro Valley. A few examples are Verizon, Quest, Century Link, and Cox.

14.2.4 Cable Television Service

There are 3 major landline internet service providers in Oro Valley, Covad Communications Company, Comcast, and CenturyLink. There are also 3 major wireless internet service providers; T-Mobile, Transworld Network Corp., and Sprint. An estimated 28,093 Oro Valley residents are connected to the internet in some capacity – either at home, work, and elsewhere or at multiple locations. It is estimated that 31,168 Oro Valley residents live in a household where internet is available. 68.5% of residents are connected, with 27.8% of the population connected on multiple devices.

14.3 Identified Needs

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- When considering the location of utilities in the Town, aesthetics are important
- Utilities should be located underground whenever possible

15   Transportation

15.1   Executive Summary

15.1.1   Topic Introduction

This chapter presents information about the transportation system in the Town of Oro Valley. When discussing the topic of transportation, it usually describes several different types of transportation. These may include active transportation, such as walking and biking, as well as more passive transportation, such as driving. The Town of Oro Valley functions regarding transportation are separated through a few divisions.

15.1.2   Chapter Summary

This chapter includes information regarding existing conditions related to roadways, transit, and multi-modal transportation. Finally this chapter includes a section on identified needs.

15.1.3   Other Information and Resources

Additional information on this topic area can be found online on the Town of Oro Valley website at www.orovalleyaz.gov.

The Transit Services Department can be found online at www.orovalleyaz.gov/town/departments/development-and-infrastructure-services/transit-services. Specific document resources also include:

- Implementation of the Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan Biannual Report (2010)
- Oro Valley Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride Policies
- Oro Valley Trails Task Force Report (2002)
- PAG Regional Pedestrian Plan (2000)
- PAG Tucson Regional Plan for Bicycling (2009)
- Route Map and Schedules
- Town of Oro Valley Drainage Criteria Manual 2010 Edition
- Town of Oro Valley Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan (1999)
- Town of Oro Valley Strategic Plan (2013)
- Town of Oro Valley Subdivision Street Standards and Policy Manual

15.2   Existing Conditions

15.2.1   Roadways

Roadways in the Town are managed by the Engineering Division. They manage design, construction, issue right-of way permits and develop schedules for surface treatments on Town streets. The Engineering Division also maintains and operates the Town's traffic signals, and the Town's roadway signs and pavement markings.

Oro Valley's feature roadway is Oracle Road, otherwise known as Arizona State Route 77. Because this roadway is owned by the State, the Town has little influence over its design or maintenance. There are currently roadway improvements being made on Oracle Road from Tangerine Road to the Pinal County Line which are expected to be completed in December 2015. This project is being managed by the Arizona Department of Transportation.

The responsibilities of the Traffic Engineering staff are to install, repair, replace and provide maintenance to the traffic signals and street signs under the Town's purview. The Traffic Engineering staff also performs monthly signal maintenance, and responds to any Town signal problems. In addition, the Traffic Engineering staff also maintains inventory, and compiles data for internal traffic studies. The Traffic Engineering staff also coordinates with other regional jurisdictions and represents the Town on the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) Transportation Systems Subcommittee, and the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Safety Working Group.

The Town also has a Pavement Management program whose staff perform inventories and compile data of the Town's system of roadways and formulate pavement surface treatment recommendations and schedules. The Pavement Management staff also monitor the construction of surface treatment projects for the Town, and represents the Town on the regional (PAG) Pavement Management Team.

Map 15-1: Town of Oro Valley Street Map

ORO VALLEY STREET MAP

Oro Valley Government
School
Hospital
Police Station
Fire Station
Library

Oro Valley Boundary
Park
Golf

April 2011

STREET MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

Public
Public, Not Accepted
Private
ADOT
Outside Oro Valley
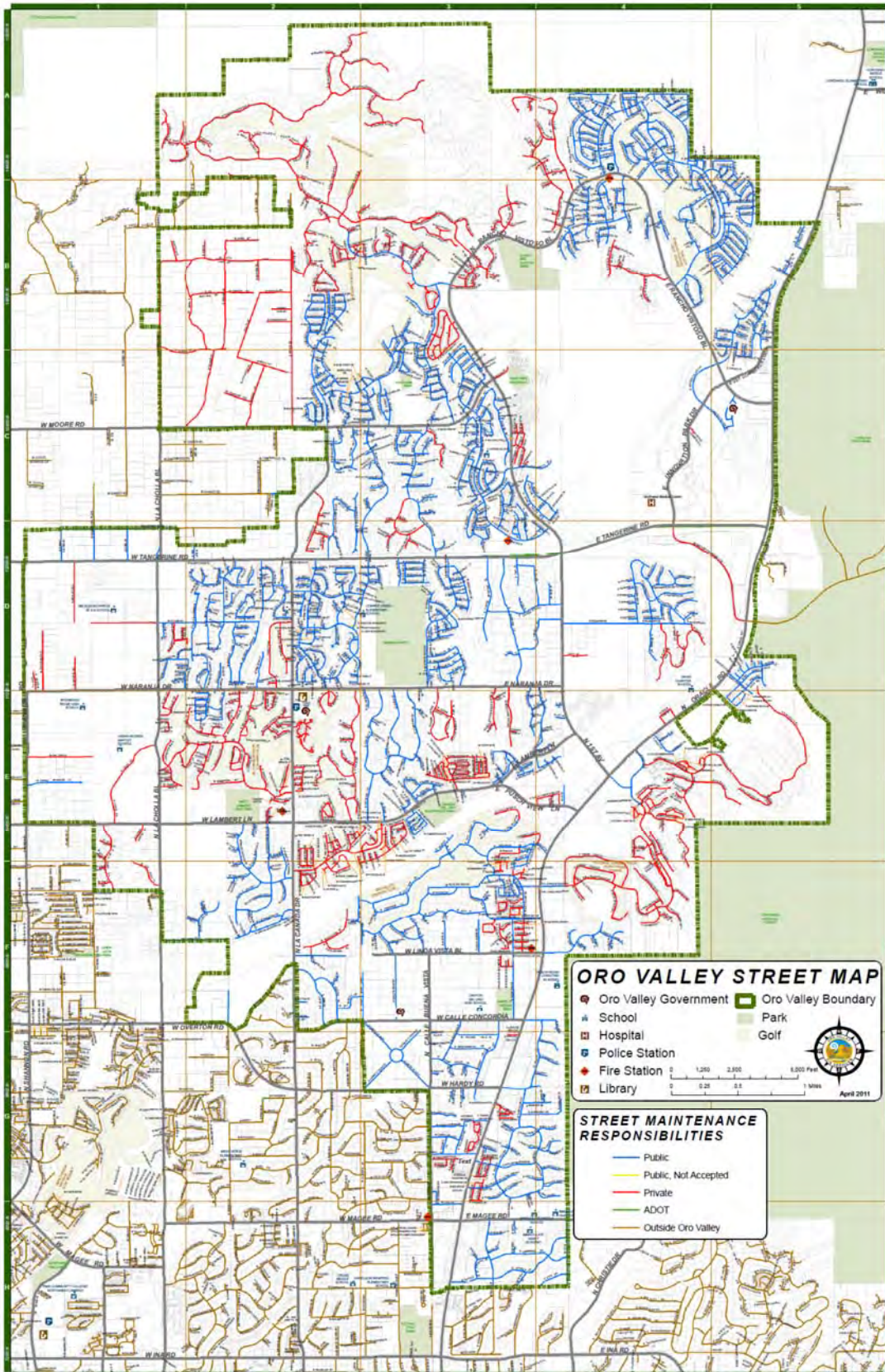
15.2.2   Transit

The Town of Oro Valley is dedicated to bringing its residents alternative modes of public transportation. The public transit system in Oro Valley, Sun Shuttle, is provided by the Regional Transportation Agency (RTA) through an intergovernmental agreement with the Town. The Town's Transit Services Division is responsible for monitoring Sun Shuttle operations within the Town and ensuring effective and efficient use of resources. The Transit Services Division plans for transit infrastructure to support the needs of the community. To provide additional service to the core of the Oro Valley area, the Division operates the Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride (DAR) Senior service. This service is limited to the disabled and/or elderly who are transit dependent or disabled.

A summary of transit characteristics are as follows:

The Sun Shuttle schedules, transfers, and fares are regionally integrated to ensure an effective public transportation system.

The Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride (DAR) senior service provided approximately 20,000 passenger trips from 2011 to 2012.The Town's Transit Services Division expects this number to increase by 50% in the 2012 to 2013 calendar year.

There are approximately 18,000 people over the age of 16 in the Town's labor force who can consider using public transportation.

15.2.2.1   Transit Services

The Sun Shuttles are neighborhood circulator services provided by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA).Sun Shuttles seek to provide alternative transit options to travel around Oro Valley, Marana, Green Valley, Sahuarita, San Xavier and Tucson Estates or transfer to other regional transit systems. Table 1 below illustrates the primary public agencies providing transit services in the Tucson area. Although managed separately, these operating agencies work closely to insure that customers are not inconvenienced when transferring between systems.

The RTA does not directly manage transit operations and instead maintains operations contracts with third party transit companies and intergovernmental agreements with local jurisdictions. Financial and operational transit and transit-related-improvement decisions of the RTA are made by the PAG/RTA Transit Working Group (TWG).Formed in 2005, the TWG is comprised of representatives from PAG member jurisdictions meeting on a monthly basis.

Table 15-2: Suite of Sun Transit Services and Managing Entities
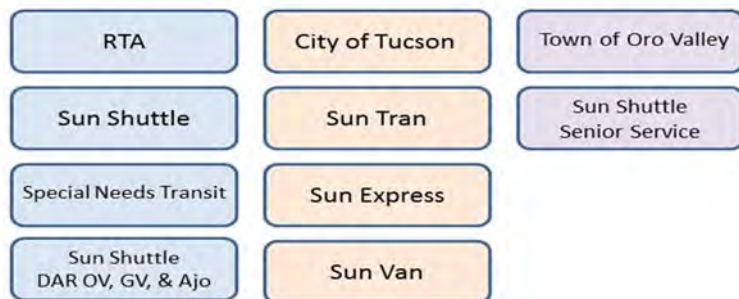
Table 15-3: Total Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride Trips	
2007-08	16,908
2008-09	17,101
2009-10	15,528
2010-11	14,873
2011-12	20,119
2012-13 (est.)	**30,805**

15.2.2.2   Shuttle Dial-a-Ride (DAR) Senior Service

The Town of Oro Valley manages the Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride (DAR) senior service. Seniors currently constitute 34% of the Oro Valley population. This percentage is expected to increase, as "Baby Boomers" enter retirement years, and demand on the system is expected to rise rapidly. As the number of people requesting Sun Shuttle Dial-a-Ride service grows, the system may be forced to make difficult choices, such as restricting the number of trips provided to individuals, reducing the service area, or establishing a waiting list for the services if funding becomes capped and additional vehicles are not acquired.

15.2.2.3   Transit Routes

Map 15-4: Oro Valley/NW Area Service Map

Legend:

Sun Shuttle Routes:
- 401 N. Oracle/Catalina
- 411 Cortaro/Silverbell
- 412 Thornydale/River
- Sun Shuttle Connection Points

Sun Tran Routes:
- 6 S. Park Ave./N. 1st Ave.
- 10 Flowing Wells
- 16 12th Ave./Oracle Rd.
- 61 La Cholla
- 102X Northwest/UA Express
- 103X Northwest/Downtown Express
- 107X Oro Valley/Downtown Express
- 202X Northwest/Aero Park Express
- 203X Oro Valley/Aero Park Express
- 312X Oro Valley/Tohono Express
- P Park & Ride
- L Library
- Town of Oro Valley Boundary
- Dial-a-Ride Service Area

Map 15-5: Oro Valley/NW Dial-a-Ride Senior Service Map

Legend:
- **Dial-a-Ride General Public Service Area** *See Dial-a-Ride General Public map for details*
- **Yellow Senior Service Area**
- **Green Senior Service Area**
- **H** Hospital

Qualified seniors must originate a round-trip in the blue zone, and travel within the blue zone, or to the yellow or green zones. For trips with multiple destinations or one-way trips, ask your reservationist.
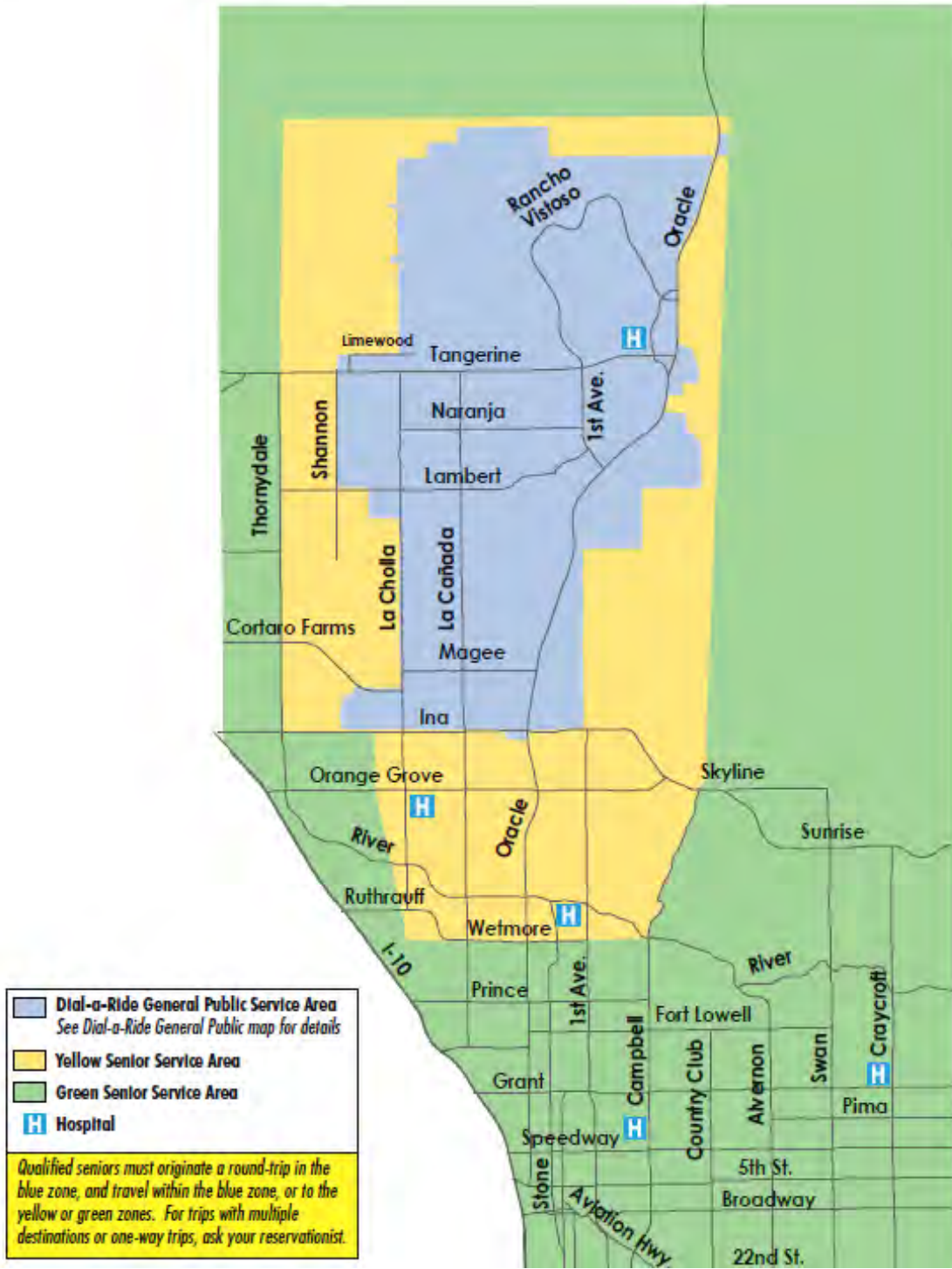
15.2.3 Aviation

The only aviation facility in the Oro Valley Planning Area is La Cholla Airport, a private general aviation airport. La Cholla features a 4500 foot paved runway with pilot activated lights. Prior permission is required to land at La Cholla Airport. The airport is part of a custom lot residential development with hangars permitted on residential lots. No commercial aviation activity is planned for the facility.

15.2.4 Multi-Modal

Oro Valley first established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Program in 1999 which has been revised on a biannual basis. The Town is committed to providing facilities that encourage the use of alternate modes of transportation.

Town staff works closely with neighboring jurisdictions to coordinate bicycle routes and facilities, in order to provide a regional, interconnected bicycling program that emphasizes education, enforcement, engineering and encouragement. The Eastern Pima County region, including the Town of Oro Valley, has received the prestigious "Gold" level Bicycle Friendly Community Award for 2006-2008 and 2008-2012 from the League of American Bicyclists (LAB).The Town of Oro Valley was named as a "Silver" level Bicycle Friendly Business by the League of American Bicyclists in November 2013 for its amenities, facilities and programs offered to its employees and visitors.

The Town of Oro Valley currently has an extensive inventory of facilities for bicyclists, including bike routes, shared use paths, and multipurpose paved shoulders. There are 78.89 miles of bicycle facilities within the Town, including 33.47 miles of signed bike routes, 24.4 miles of paved shoulders, and 21 miles of shared use paths. In addition, all new commercial facilities within the Town are required to have bicycle parking, as per the Town's Zoning Code.

In recent years, numerous roads have been signed and/or striped as bikeways within the Town Limits and more continuity has been provided. Road improvements on existing streets, combined with new development, have added to the bikeway inventory. New construction along other major Oro Valley roadways will provide facilities for bicyclists, pedestrians, and inline skaters.

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan for Oro Valley was updated in 2010 and describes four types of facilities:

- Sidewalk Facilities: Typically 4-6 foot wide on one or both sides of a roadway.
- Paved Shared Use Paths: 10-12 foot wide asphalt.
- On Street Bike Routes: Using 4-8 foot wide shared use travel lanes.
- Paved Shoulders and Multi-Use Lanes: 8 foot wide lanes on both sides of collector and arterial roadways.

With the growth of the Town, as well as possible future annexations, it is anticipated that a completely new Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan may be produced in the coming years. The timing of a revised plan, to include a multi-departmental review, as well as the possible use of outside resources, will be dependent upon how quickly the Town grows in the interim. The new plan will most likely include a review of existing facilities, gaps in those facilities, safety issues, and an update on timing and responsibilities for implementation tasks, taking into account Town and regional priorities, resident input, continuity and safety aspects, as well as funding priorities.

Map 15-6: Oro Valley Bikeways Map
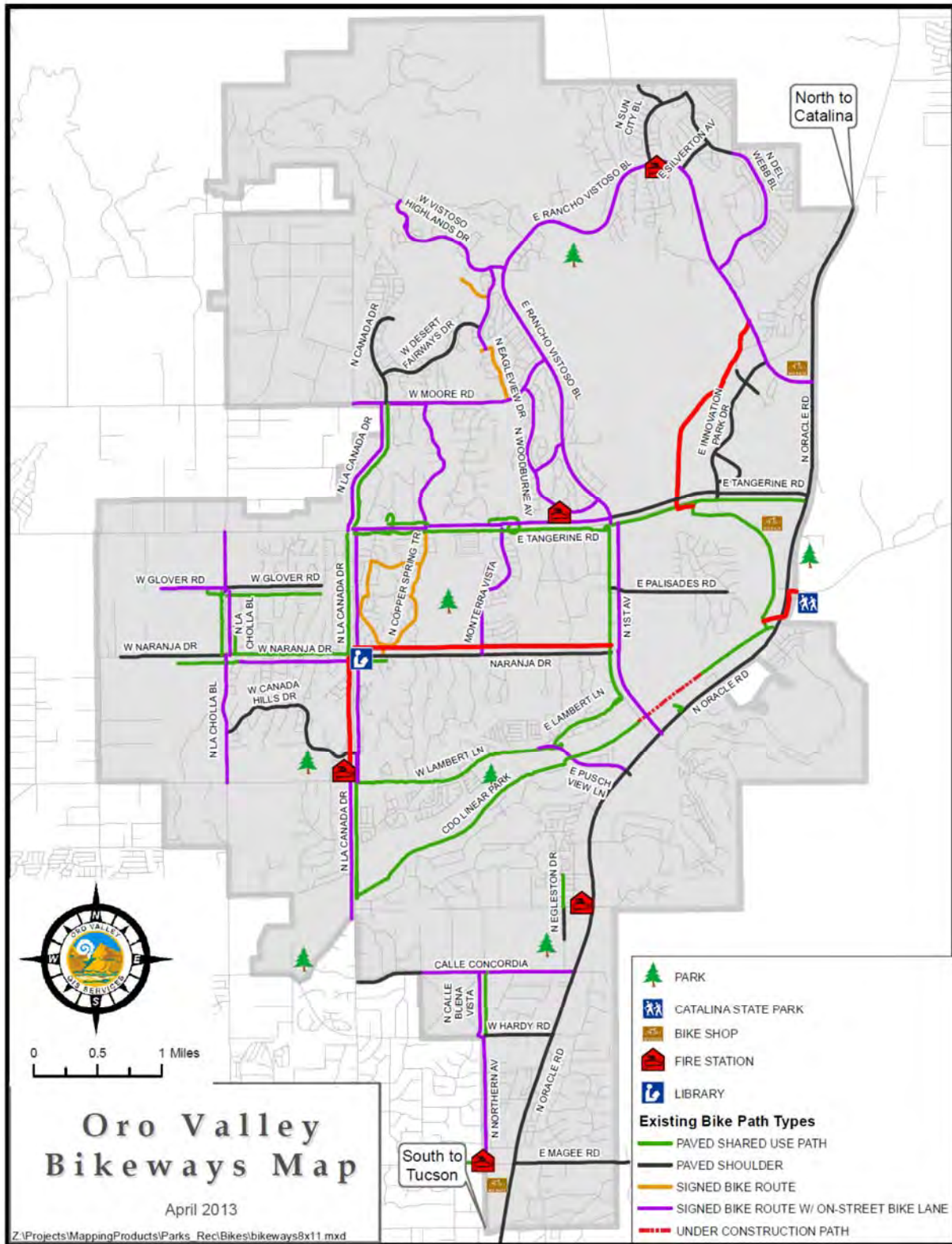
Oro Valley
Bikeways Map

April 2013

Z:\Projects\MappingProducts\Parks_Rec\Bikes\bikeways8x11.mxd

North to
Catalina

South to
Tucson

Existing Bike Path Types

- PAVED SHARED USE PATH
- PAVED SHOULDER
- SIGNED BIKE ROUTE
- SIGNED BIKE ROUTE W/ ON-STREET BIKE LANE
- UNDER CONSTRUCTION PATH

- PARK
- CATALINA STATE PARK
- BIKE SHOP
- FIRE STATION
- LIBRARY

The following bulleted list outlines identified trends and needs in this topic area, as illustrated by supporting information, the background data contained in this report, and individual interviews held with Town of Oro Valley staff. The staff that were contacted are representative of all the Town departments and serve as subject matter experts in their field.

- Understanding the Town's role in transit operations
  - fixed route – managed by RTA, run by vendor
  - express – managed by Tucson, paid by RTA
  - dial-a-ride – managed and operated by Town, funded by RTA
- Increasing the level of service for express services
- Increasing the stops for the fixed route, extending to Downtown Tucson or The University of Arizona.
- Extending the services for Dial a Ride, including longer hours and extending routes
- Creating a monthly report to show ridership and costs
- Finding better funding mechanisms – ridership is increasing, up 30%
- Transit and senior needs connection – gap is growing
  - Example: assistance with groceries
  - Aging in place – multi-family, walkable, services nearby
  - Thinking multi-dimensionally
- Shop and drop – shuttle service
- Connectivity and access for multimodal
- Bike parking standards need to be updated.
- Better enforcement of bike parking, code enforcement needed, safety, and bicycle rules of the road.

APPENDIX A

16   Regulatory Framework

Growing Smarter Legislation - The State of Arizona has been working for nearly a decade to actively manage growth and preserve open space. Since 1973, most cities, towns, and counties have been required to develop plans for communities looking at issues such as land use, circulation, housing, public services and facilities, and conservation, rehabilitation, and redevelopment. As growth rates significantly increased in the 1990s, a critical mass of political support emerged to provide more tools to assist in responding to the consequences of rapid growth. In 1998, the Arizona Legislature passed the Growing Smarter Act, which clarified and strengthened planning elements in the required plans of municipalities and counties and added four new elements, namely: Open Space, Growth Areas, Environmental Planning, and Cost of Development. In 2000, the Legislature passed Growing Smarter Plus to further enhance land use planning statutes in Arizona.

The purpose of this act is to more effectively plan for the impacts of population growth by creating a more meaningful and predictable land planning process, to increase citizen involvement in the land planning process, to directly acquire and preserve additional open space areas within this state through necessary reforms to the master planning and open space conservation programs of the state land department and to establish a growth planning analysis process to consider and address various statewide growth management issues so that the future development of land in this state will occur in a more rational, efficient and environmentally sensitive manner that furthers the best interests of the state's citizens by promoting the protection of its natural heritage without unduly burdening its competitive economy.

A few new requirements enacted by Growing Smarter/Plus include:
- Requires larger and fast-growing cities to obtain voter approval of their general plans at least once every ten years and include a water resources element in their plans;
- Requires mandatory rezoning conformance with General and Comprehensive Plans.
- Requires more effective public participation in the planning process.
- Requires cities and counties to exchange plans, coordinate with regional planning agencies, and encourages comments between entities prior to adoption to encourage regional coordination;
- Requires full disclosure to property buyers of the lack of available services and facilities.
- Requires land-owner permission for plan designation and rezoning of private property to open space;
- Authorizes cities and counties to designate service area limits beyond which services and infrastructure are not provided at public expense;
- Permits counties to impose development fees consistent with municipal development fee statutes;
- Allows cities to create infill incentive districts and plans that could include expedited process incentives;

Figure 16-1: Growing Smarter Statutes Flowchart for Municipalities

GROWING SMARTER STATUTES FOR TOWNS & CITIES
GENERAL PLAN ELEMENTS

Is your town or city's population between 2,500 and 10,000?

No → Yes →

Is your town or city's population 50,000 or more?

Is your town or city's population less than 2,500?

Is your town or city's average annual growth rate been 2% or greater over the past 10 years[1]?

Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes

Required elements[2] for compliance with Growing Smarter statutes:

- Land Use
- Circulation

Required elements[2,3] for compliance with Growing Smarter statutes:

- Land Use
- Circulation
- Growth Area
- Environmental Planning
- Cost of Development
- Open Space
- Water Resources

Required elements[2,4,2] for compliance with Growing Smarter statutes:

- Land Use
- Circulation[4]
- Open Space
- Growth Area
- Environmental Planning
- Cost of Development
- Water Resources
- Energy
- Conservation
- Recreation
- Public Service and Facilities
- Public Buildings
- Housing
- Safety
- Conservation, Rehabilitation and Redevelopment
- Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization
- Bicycling

[1] Average annual growth rates determined using the most current U.S. Decennial Census (1990 and 2000 estimates)

[2] Prior to the preparation and adoption of an updated or amended Plan, the governing body must adopt written procedures to provide effective, early and continuous public participation from all segments of the population

[3] The legislative body shall submit each new adopted General Plan to the voters for ratification at an election. If a majority of the voters fail to approve the new plan, the current plan remains in effect until a new plan is approved. See A.R.S. §9-461.06(L).

[4] Includes more detail than the generalized Circulation Element for smaller cities and towns

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Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL)

Supporting Information

Town Council Regular Session

Date: 01/19/2011

<u>Requested by:</u>	Bayer Vella, Conservation and Sustainability Manager
<u>Submitted By:</u>	Bayer Vella, Development Infrastructure Services
<u>Department:</u>	Development Infrastructure Services

Information

SUBJECT:

PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE NO. (O) 11-01 ADOPTING THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS ORDINANCE, AMENDING THE ORO VALLEY ZONING CODE REVISED, CHAPTER 21, REVIEW AND DECISION-MAKING BODIES, CHAPTER 23, ZONING DISTRICTS, CHAPTER 31, DEFINITIONS, AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 27.10, ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A", AND AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS PLANNING MAP, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "B"; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND RULES OF THE TOWN OF ORO VALLEY IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PRESERVING THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES THAT HAVE BEEN ALREADY MATURED AND PROCEEDINGS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEGUN THEREUNDER

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed Environmentally Sensitive Land (ESL) zoning code amendments with the unanimous concurrence of the following:

• Planning & Zoning Commission (November 8, 2010) (See attached meeting minutes)
• Historic Preservation Commission (ESL cultural resource elements) (June 14, 2010)
• ESL Public Advisory Committee (October 28, 2010)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Town is planning for environmental resource conservation. As a result, zoning regulations, guidelines, and incentives have been designed to reflect adopted community values. ESL applies to biologically significant areas, hillside and mountainous terrain, cultural resources, and scenic resources. This proposed ordinance is the result of extensive community outreach efforts. Participants helped forge a balance of economic and environmental objectives.

BACKGROUND OR DETAILED INFORMATION:

<u>The Basis for ESL has been established in two Comprehensive Community Planning efforts</u>

The demand for ESL was formalized in the Town's 1996 General Plan and the policy development phase was completed with the adoption of the Focus 2020 General Plan in 2005. Public support for this effort is documented via 75 policies relevant to ESL (Please see Attachments #3 & #4 for additional detail). In February of 2009, the implementation phase began with the hiring of a consultant team.

<u>Project Scope and Process</u>

The scope includes the following primary phases:

    I. Definition, field review, and mapping of all ESL.
    II. Development and review of specific ESL requirements for all future rezoning.
    III. Refinement, revision, and/or creation of incentives within current zoning ordinances involving but not limited to the following:

- Density
- Open space
- Scenic Resources (Oracle and Tangerine Roads Scenic Overlay Districts)
- Hillside (slope) protection
- Cultural Resource
- Riparian Habitat Overlay District
- Revegetation
- Flexible design standards that better enable conservation

IV. Public Participation and Peer Review. The process and associated review committees, groups, and commissions are detailed in Attachment #2.

Over the past two years, a complete draft zoning ordinance has been created with the assistance of the following: ESL Public Advisory Committee, ESL Technical Advisory Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, and forums to solicit resident, landowner, scientific community, builders association, development consultant, adjacent jurisdiction, and Town Council input. The process has been inclusive and thorough.

The ESL process and products represent an intensive effort to forge compromise among the often times disparate positions of neighborhood activists, land developers, cultural resource specialists, environmentalists, and regular citizens. The aim was to develop common agreement as a means to fairly achieve adopted community objectives. In the end, no one person, group, committee, etc. can claim that 100% of their agenda has been realized. A sustainable conservation approach entails compromise.

<u>ESL represents a comprehensive approach to insure integration of multiple code elements. It combines requirements, flexible guidelines, and incentives.</u>
The following facts are noteworthy:

- "Environment" includes hillside, scenic, cultural, and habitat.
- This code incorporates a new open space conservation system and will replace and improve five chapters of existing zoning code. Please see Attachment #5 for additional detail.
- For General Plan amendments and rezoning, open space conservation is currently orchestrated on a case-by-case basis, with a high reliance on policy interpretation. ESL reduces this ambiguity.
- Elements include zoning requirements and use of flexible design guidelines (Scenic Tier III) that have proven effective in Oro Valley.
- Incentives and flexible design opportunities are key components.
- Arroyo Grande will not be subject to ESL; however, the ESL tenets were applied to the proposed Arroyo Grande General Plan amendment.

<u>ESL is a complex document because it is a systematic approach that satisfies unique legal constraints.</u>
The "Private Property Rights Protection Act," also known as Proposition 207, is a significant consideration. State statute prohibits local jurisdictions from enacting land use regulations that have the effect of reducing property values without providing just compensation to the landowner. ESL standards will apply only when an change to development rights is requested by a property owner, in which case the "Private Property Rights Protection Act" does not apply.

<u>Focus is on achieving environmental and economic goals, even in the 2011 economy.</u>
To achieve Town conservation and growth expectations, ESL employs a tiered system of open space requirements based on science and specific General Plan land use designations. The Resource Management Category, for example, designates higher open space standards in low density areas and lower standards in growth areas that include commercial, high and medium density, and campus park industrial development.

ESL is designed to respect objectives established in the Town's Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), which focuses on commercial and support services versus residential growth. Future development objectives include: "Technology related employer, Hospital and health services, High-end

commercial/retail, Retirement related, and Tourism/Resort/Convention offerings related to the area's natural amenities and cultural history".

Open space standards are reduced in areas targeted for such growth. ESL elements are important to the marketing effort of any community seeking such high-end development objectives. The Town's success in achieving this goal has diversified the tax base, which was formerly reliant on construction. The residential market in Oro Valley has diminished significantly over the past 5 years; due to market forces and dwindling land availability (approximately 3,800 residential acres remain). ESL provides allowance to ensure lot yield is not reduced as a result of open space requirements.

Overall, planning requires a long-range view to achieve results, and balances the highs and lows of development growth over the years. The ESL open space approach enables flexibility in a down or up market. Benefits within either market trend include:

- Open space standards are implemented only when a property is rezoned. Existing development rights are respected. Only a portion of the ~ 3,800 residential acres will be subject to future General Plan amendments.
- Landowners who have difficult terrain can choose to opt in to ESL – and potentially increase the number of lots offered.

Elements of ESL establish clear expectations and decrease the development review time line.
This is accomplished in the following manner:

- Rezoning standards to determine open space needs are upfront. Town Council may reduce standards when warranted. Open space standards follow General Plan (GP) designations. When a GP amendment is approved, open space standards automatically change in response to new growth expectations. Please see Attachment #6 for additional detail.
- ESL does not extend the review process. There is an opportunity to reduce the length of process substantially. One may receive approval of a development plan or plat by the Planning & Zoning Administrator without public meeting review.

There are multiple avenues for design flexibility to provide development opportunities.
The design of areas adjacent to open space is critical to the successful application of ESL. Design constraints require flexibility to achieve mutually beneficial results for the Town and property owner. A key tenet of conservation design is to enable developers the ability to maximize the number of lots adjacent to open space and associated lot premiums.

To help achieve this end, the code enables design options that include lot size reductions which enable more lots adjacent to open space edges. This tool enables development of high value lots and more extensive open space conservation. Relative to a larger lot residential development, conservation subdivision designs have proven to produce higher land values at point of sale and over time.

Additional flexible options include the following: building setback, landscape buffer yard, minimum lot size, off-street parking, building height, mixed use, modified and faster review process, subdivision recreation area credit, native plant preservation credit, and grading. Flexible standards are also used to potentially entice property owners not legally subject to ESL to opt in.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Development Community
Analysis of fiscal impact is inherently subjective. The following key provisions of ESL offset potential negative fiscal impacts:

1. ESL open space requirements are applied only to rezoning applications, which are optional requests for an increase of development rights and associated values. In effect, an increase in development rights would require accommodating a Town request for open space.
2. ESL open space requirements are offset by providing flexible design options. This flexibility enables a developer to design a project in a manner to increase property value relative to traditional subdivision

design.

3. The proposed zoning requirements do not extend the development review process in any manner. In fact, an incentive has been created that speeds the process.

Town Operations

The primary fiscal impact of ESL involves zoning enforcement.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I MOVE to [adopt, adopt with conditions, OR deny] ORDINANCE NO. (O) 11-01 ADOPTING THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS ORDINANCE.

Attachments

Link: Ordinance O11-01 ESL

Link: Exhibit A, Part I, Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Link: Exhibit A, Part II, Chapter 31, Definitions

Link: Exhibit A, Part III, ESL Related Revisions to Section 27.6 Landscape Conservation Code

Link: Exhibit A, Part IV, Section 23.6 Property Development Standards for Single-Family Residential Districts

Link: Exhibit A, Part V, Section 21.9 Historic Preservation Commission

Link: Exhibit B, Envioronmentally Sensitive Lands Planning Map

Link: Attachment #2, ESL Review Process & Outreach

Link: Attachment #3, General Plan Policies that support Envioronmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL) projects

Link: Attachment #4, ESL History

Link: Attachment #5, ESL Conservation System Overview

Link: Attachment #6, RMA & General Plan Designations

Link: PZC Draft Minutes Excerpt

Attachment #2,
ESL Review Process and Outreach

The following is a list of teams, committees, and groups involved with ESL zoning development:

- Staff and consultant team - Mapping, research, outreach strategies, and code drafts were produced by a multi-disciplinary team including biologist, planners, attorneys, GIS mapping specialists, and communications staff.
- Public Advisory Committee (PAC) – A seven member team of Oro Valley residents specifically assigned by Town Council. Please see table below for a complete list of participants. PAC's role is to review all draft elements and provide recommendations. To date, there have been a total of 34 PAC meetings.

Composition of PAC:

Name	Sponsor	Description
Steve Solomon	Mayor Loomis	Town Council Member Selection
Doug McKee	K.C. Carter	
Philip Kline	Paula Abbott	
Steve Taillie	Salette Latas	
Susan Simms	Bill Garner	
Bill Adler	Al Kunisch	
Don Chatfield	Barry Gillaspie	

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) – This committee includes accomplished professionals in the fields of conservation biology and resource management. Please see table on the following page for a list of participants. This Committee's charge has entailed defining significant habitat and review of associated definitions and mapping. A total of 10 TAC meetings were conducted.

Composition of TAC:

Name	Organization	Relevant expertise
Mike Demlong	Arizona Game & Fish	Sonoran desert fauna, including threatened and endangered species
Scott Richardson	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Significant vegetation
Sherry Ruther	Pima County Development Services	Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan
Daniel Zwiener	Historic Preservation Commission	Archaeological and cultural resources
Philip Pearthree	Arizona Geological Survey	Geomorphology of steep slopes and riparian areas; hillside species
Janine Spencer	Town of Marana (Coordinator of Town's Habitat Conservation Plan)	Sonoran desert wildlife habitat planning and management; avian species
Carolyn Campbell	Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection	Conservation approaches
Paul Keesler	TOV Public Works	Engineering and grading standards
James Gardner	TOV Parks and Recreation	Maintenance of Town's open space areas
Phillip Saletta	TOV Water	Wellhead sites

- Historic Preservation Commission - In fall of 2009, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) assigned a work group to review the ESL cultural resources elements. After ten workgroup meetings, a draft was presented to the full HPC. On 6/14/10, HPC formally recommended approval of the ESL cultural resources elements.
- Forums to solicit landowner and citizen input – This is a central component of the project. To date, there has been three open houses, three Town Council Study Sessions (including a joint session with the Planning & Zoning Commission), and one joint Planning & Zoning Commission and Development Review Board study session.
- Oro Valley Landowners and Developers -   There have been two Oro Valley landowner meetings to discuss issues. Furthermore, there has been multiple one on one meetings with developers who have specific interests in Oro Valley.
- Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association (SAHBA) and Metro Pima Alliance (MPA) – There has been extensive outreach to SAHBA and MPA. This includes the following:
    - Two brownbag events for the general membership of SAHBA
    - Eight meetings with a focused SAHBA and MPA review team
    - Numerous one on one meeting with SAHBA and MPA representatives.

SAHBA and MPA contribution to ESL has resulted in approximately 15 significant changes as a direct result of the development communities contribution (23 total meetings and joint work group sessions). Changes include:

> ➢ Opportunities for Planning & Zoning Administrator approval of incentives
> ➢ Assurances that any other open space requirement within the zoning code may be credited toward ESL open space requirements when land connectivity is achieved
> ➢ Modifications to increase design flexibility

- ESL participation has included: Public Advisory Committee (PAC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), Historic Preservation Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, SAHBA and MPA, OV Landowners, and General Public.

- Northwest Pima Chamber of Commerce – Staff presented an overview of the draft ESL to the Chamber at one of their regular meetings. Comments provided were incorporated into the draft.

**Town of Oro Valley 2005 General Plan and Arroyo Grande
Special Area Policies that support Environmentally
Sensitive Lands (ESL) project**

Direct references to ESL are in **bold.**

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
	Riparian vegetation			
OVGP	1.1.3 The Town shall continue to avoid development encroachment into washes, riparian areas, designated natural open space and environmentally sensitive lands. In cases where encroachment is unavoidable, such as in the case of utility or public safety, require compensation or trade to offset the loss of natural area.	Land Use	Riparian protection	
OVGP	5.4.2 The Town shall ensure that major transportation system wash crossings (collector streets and above) are designed to be hydraulically efficient and environmentally sensitive with minimum disruptions or impact to riparian areas and wildlife habitat	Transportation	Riparian protection	
OVGP	12.1 To protect and restore the natural qualities of creeks, washes, and groundwater basins and recharge areas in Oro Valley to ensure public health and safety and the biological productivity and diversity of these water courses.	Water Resources	Riparian protection	
OVGP	12.1.1 The Town shall require that natural washes (defined as riparian areas and 100-year floodways) be kept free from development that would adversely impact floodway capacity or characteristics, natural/riparian areas, water quality, or natural groundwater recharge areas.	Water Resources	Riparian protection	
OVGP	11.2.3 The Town shall define essential habitat areas as those that meet one of the following criteria: areas occupied by special-status species as defined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or Arizona Game and Fish; riparian habitat types, defined as low xeroriparian, moderate xeroriparian, high xeroriparian, hydroriparian, mesoriparian (including mesquite bosque and degraded mesquite bosque); and buffer areas around these areas.	Open Space and NRP	Riparian protection/Habitat protection/Significant veg	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.1.4 The Town shall require new development proposals, through the rezoning process, adjacent to or containing riparian areas or wildlife and plant habitat to include provisions to link these systems to other nearby riparian areas, habitats, existing or planned trails, and regional natural open space areas (e.g.,Tortolita Mountain Park, Catalina State Park, and Coronado National Forest).	Open Space and NRP	Riparian/Habitat/Significant vegetation	
AG	4.The designated riparian areas (blue on the conceptual plan map) will be managed and maintained as NOS and will otherwise comply with the Town of Oro Valley's Riparian Ordinance, as amended. Disturbance, at locations of least impact, may be allowed for utility and roadway crossings, subject to mitigation of adverse impacts. Specific delineation of the riparian areas will be based on the Oro Valley **Environmentally Sensitive Lands - Riparian data layer.** Roadway crossings must be designed to allow for safe wildlife movement, consistent with the methodology recommended in the Arizona Missing Linkages; Tucson-Tortolita-Santa Catalina Mountains Linkages report.	Open Space and NRP	Riparian protection/Habitat	
AG	11. It is intended that all areas designated as NOS or riparian areas will be preserved and protected by conservation easements, or other legal means.	Open Space and NRP	Open Space management - riparian	
AG	8. No development may utilize groundwater in a manner that diminishes or otherwise compromises the quantity or quality of groundwater available to support the significant riparian areas contained in the Honey Bee and Big Wash washes.	Open Space and NRP	Riparian protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
Hillside protection/Viewshed				
OVGP	1.1.2 The Town shall continue to consider development impacts on natural rolling terrain and emphasize low-density developments in these areas. This will include evaluating areas with slopes of 15 percent and greater for development compatibility and safety, with the possibility of preserving them as natural open space.	Land Use	Hillside preservation	`
OVGP	1.1.4 The Town shall commit to preserve, protect, and enhance the visual qualities of Oro Valley and surrounding visually significant areas, such as ridgelines, and closely monitoring or reacting quickly to development plans of neighboring communities, and county, state, and federal agencies. Thus, view protection shall be an essential aspect of Oro Valley's community development review and project approval process. Where possible, encourage permanent protection of scenic vistas, especially from the Oracle Road Scenic Corridor, the Tangerine Road Corridor, and other corridors as specified in Policy 11.3.1.	Land Use	Hillside preservation/View shed protection	
OVGP	11.2.17 The Town shall continue to prohibit mass grading for all residential developments with lots exceeding 15,000 sf and strongly discourage it through the community (see Policy 1.1.6)	Open Space and NRP	Hillside Development	
OVGP	11.3.1 View protection is to be an essential aspect of development review and project approval. The Town defines the following roadways as scenic corridors within OV: See list of primarily arterial roads	Visual Resources	View shed protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.3.2 The Town shall continue to require all new development and improvements to existing development, both public and private, to maintain and/or enhance the character and quality of views from and along scenic corridors and public parks. The following measures will contribute to achieving this objective: - preserve areas of natural open space (especially habitat areas) to provide visual relief; - provide large natural or naturally landscaped areas in rights-of-ways along scenic corridors; - create design standards to minimize the impacts of parking lots; - create a Town ordinance that required vehicle loads to be covered and secured; - work with utility providers to place utilities underground; and - discourage visually intrusive structures.	Visual Resources	View shed protection/Habitat	
OVGP	11.4.1 The Town shall define and map visually important areas, especially peaks and ridges, and highly visible sloped areas.	Visual Resources	View shed protection, hillside protection	
OVGP	1.1 To preserve Oro Valley's natural Sonoran Desert environment and the scenic resources that are an important part of the community's quality of life.	Land use	View shed protection	
OVGP	5.4.3 The Town shall continue to maintain view protection as an essential aspect of Oro Valley's transportation design process, with permanent protection of scenic vistas along major roadway corridors to be encouraged. Road construction on slopes should minimize the visual impact	Transportation	View shed protection/Steep slope preservation	
	Threatened and endangered habitat			
OVGP	1.1.5 The Town shall continue to require that all new development in areas with sensitive wildlife use fencing compatible with wildlife movement.	Land Use	Habitat protection	
OVGP	11.1.5 The Town shall ensure that recreational uses on areas with essential or key habitats are designed to protect these resources.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	
OVGP	11.2 To protect native biological habitats and their associated plant and wildlife species throughout the Town of Oro Valley and create/restore habitats where feasible in development design.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.2.1 The Town shall ensure that development will provide for coordinated and enhanced protection of key habitat areas. "Key habitat" and "essential habitat" are provided, respectively, in Policy 11.2.2 and Policy 11.2.3.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat protection	
OVGP	11.2.2 The Town shall define key habitat areas as those that meet the following criteria: significant saguaro stands; significant ironwood stands; and, significant rock outcrops. Note: The term "significant" as it relates to each of these will be defined in ordinance.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat protection/Significant veg	
OVGP	11.2.10 The Town shall achieve fauna and flora protection through regulatory practices as well as through working partnerships with developers. On-site water detention basins, clustering, land trusts, scenic easements, and similar practices **should become part of an ordinance** to protect the plants and animals and still achieve land development objectives.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat/significant veg	
OVGP	11.2.11 The Town shall protect and enhance contiguous areas of key habitats rather than small, segmented remainder parcels.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	
OVGP	11.2.12 For new public or private development projects, the Town shall required a buffer of adequate size to protect the integrity of the essential habitat. Buffer size regulations **will be defined in the Town's ESLO** (see Policy 11.2.7), which will provide guidance on buffer sizes, based on site characteristics, such as terrain, width of habitat, habitat condition, and so forth.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat/significant veg	
OVGP	11.2.13 The Town shall regulate development within buffer areas in the same way as the habitat areas the buffer is protecting.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	
OVGP	11.2.14 The Town shall inventory and actively pursue opportunities to restore degraded areas that contain remnants of essential of key habitat areas as defined in this element.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.2.9 The Town shall require project designs that: - place development in areas not defined as key habitat when possible; - provide deed restrictions regarding treatment of identified habitats and natural open space on private property; - minimize adverse impacts to these habitats; - provide for connectivity between on- and off-site essential and key habitat areas; and, - are designed to reduce overall habitat impacts.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	
OVGP	**11.2.5 The Town shall maintain a current and accurate database of biological resources, including maps that identify the locations of specific habitats (as defined in this element), and lists of special-status species, to mandate environmentally compatible development. Upon annexation, town shall update the database for annexation area.**	Open Space and NRP	Habitat	
OVGP	11.2.6 On site with high potential for essential of key habitats or special status species, the town shall require the project applicant to have the site surveyed by a Town-qualified biologist as part of the application process.	Open Space and NRP	Related, not specific to ESL	
AG	3. NOS is intended to preserve wildlife movement and landscape connectivity between Tortolita Mountain Park and Catalina State Park, as well as to preserve archaeological resources. Consistency with these goals will be assured at development review phase. The NOS will need to be acquired according to state law which governs the Arizona State Land Department in order to become part of the Tortolita Mountain Park.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat/Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	11.2.4 Within essential habitats, The Town shall permit only the following uses: (see list of uses. . .), unless area already covered by a hcp or similar plan approved by the US F&W Service or Arizona Game & Fish. These uses shall be designed to minimize impacts on environmentally sensitive resources.	Open Space and NRP	Riparian/habitat	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
	General/Open Space/Multiple goals			
OVGP	11.1 To protect the **environmentally sensitive open space** areas within the Planning Area.	Open Space and Natural Resource Protection	General	
OVGP	**Significant Resource Area:** **This designation denotes areas that contain key historic or archeological sites of other environmentally sensitive lands. It is an overlay that includes areas that have been preserved and those that should be preserved through the methods listed in the Open Space and Natural Resources Conservation Element.** Any development that takes place in ESL areas should be at the lowest density allowable in the underlying designation and should include mitigation measures; (see GP for more specifics). TDR from SRA portions to less sensitive portions of a site are encouraged.(see GP for specifics on transfer and densities).	Land Use	Multiple goals	
OVGP	11.1.2 The program in Policy 11.1.1 shall identify and provide recommendations to the Town Council for the application of a range of planning and funding tools to acquire, enhance, manage, maintain, or otherwise protect **environmentally sensitive lands** and other desirable natural open space lands such as those identified as SRA in this plan.	Open Space and NRP	Multiple goals	
OVGP	11.1.3 The Town shall work with authorized representatives of approved Planned Area Developments (PADs) to minimize impacts on environmentally sensitive lands, including amendments of PADs, while allowing for development in accordance with the spirit of existing approvals.	Open Space and NRP	Multiple/Prop 207	
OVGP	1.1.1 The Town shall promote clustering of development to protect environmentally sensitive areas and to preserve significant, passive use, natural open space within residential neighborhoods. In large-lot or multi-family developments, clustering may also be accomplished by placing building pads close to each other, while employing other mechanisms to protect remaining natural open space.	Land Use	Open Space/clustering	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.1.8 The Town shall use natural open space preservation as one criterion in considering land use rezoning proposals. Developments shall utilize natural open space to comply with requirements for landscaped areas and buffer areas, whenever feasible.	Open Space and NRP	Open space preservation	
AG	1. 68.4% of the entire Planning Area will be managed and maintained as natural open space (NOS). No disturbances will be allowed unless approve by the Oro Valley Town Council. The only allowable disturbance in the NOS linkage area (green on the conceptual plan map) will be for: access roads for utilities, trailheads, and to connect the employment and commercial center on Oracle Road to the MPC 1 area; utility crossings; trails; and trailheads.	Open Space and NRP	General Open Space	
AG	5. A minimum of 50% of the MPC Area 4, in the northwest corner of the Planning Area, will be managed and maintained as NOS. This NOS requirement will be applied on a project-by-project basis; each development unit (Subdivision Plat or Block Plat) will provide a minimum of 50% project level NOS. Each individual development will be designed according to Cluster Development principles in order to consolidate the development footprint and to: - (1) preserve finite and non-renewable cultural resources by preserving in place; - (2) conserve sensitive on-site biological resources; and; - (3) maintain a landscape permeable to the movements of biological resources by providing connectivity between the Planning Area's NOS and areas north into Pinal County.	Open Space and NRP	Habitat/Cult/hist resource protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
AG	6. A minimum of 80% of the RLDR (Rural Low Density Residential) area will be managed and maintained as NOS. This NOS requirement will be applied on a project-by-project basis; each development unit (subdivision plat or block plat) will provide a minimum of 80% project level NOS. Project level development will be designed according to cluster development principles in order to consolidate the development footprint and to: - (1) preserve finite and non-renewable cultural resources by preserving them in place; - (2) conserve sensitive on-site biological resources; and, - (3) maintain a landscape permeable to the movements of biological resources. Project level NOS will, to the maximum extent possible, be configured in a consolidated, uninterrupted pattern, which connects to other on-site and off-site areas.	Open Space and NRP	Open Space/habitat/Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	**11.2.7 The Town shall prepare, adopt and implement an Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) containing standards for protecting sensitive resources and provisions for requiring innovative site planning and design practices that would protect sensitive resources.**	Open Space and NRP	General/multiple goals	
OVGP	11.4.3 The Town shall **prepare design guidelines and standards as part of an ESLO** (see Policy 11.2.7) to protect scenic resources and direct site and building design in areas identified as visually important. The ESLO may include, but not be limited to, the following: - placement of roadways - Building materials, colors, and reflectivity - Protection of ridgelines, slopes, and hillsides - Integration of buildings and landscape with site features and vegetation - placement of single- and two-story structures - open space and landscape area requirements - standards for fencing and berming - control of light and glare - limiting the areas that may be graded - limiting cuts and fills - treatment of disturbed areas, especially cut and fills	Visual Resources	General/multiple goals	This references ESLO, but it seems that most of these items have already been addressed in ZC in one way or another. . . .

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.2.8 The Town shall work as an equal partner with federal, state, and county agencies and the public in the development and implementation of the **Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.**	Open Space and NRP	General/multiple goals	
OVGP	11.5.8 The Town shall continuously inform and educate the public about the natural and cultural resources in Oro Valley and the steps that they can take to help protect, enhance, restore, and enjoy these resources.	Visual Resources	Multiple goals	Not directly ESL related.

Cultural/Historic Resources				
OVGP	10.1 To preserve the unique archaeological, cultural, and historic resources within Oro Valley to the degree not already regulated by the State of Arizona.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	10.1.1 The Town shall continue to require the preparation of cultural resources assessments, including information about both prehistoric and historic uses, by a qualified archaeologist or historian for all new private and public development projects.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	10.1.2 The Town shall use the standards and criteria established by the National Register of Historic Places, as amended, to identify significant cultural resources, including people, events, and activities, in Oro Valley, specifically identify Steam Pump Ranch and Honey Bee Village	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	10.1.3 The Town shall continue to consider the potential effect of development projects on significant prehistoric and historic resources during the planning and design processes. Cultural resources determined to be significant will be preserved in place if possible, and if not, appropriate data recovery and documentation will be prepared in consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. Avoidance of significant sites is preferred over data recovery and documentation.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	10.1.4 The Town shall continue to ensure protection and appropriate handling of cultural resources discovered during development site preparation and construction. If cultural resources are discovered during development, work shall cease until a qualified archaeologist inspects the site and materials and makes recommendations regarding treatment. If human remains are If human remains are inadvertently discovered the Town shall contact related tribes or communities who may have ancestral ties to the remains.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	10.1.5 The Town shall actively seek grants and other funding mechanisms to provide for the protection and preservation of cultural resources or resources of value to local culture. The Town shall also investigate use of these funds to provide for interpretive locations and facilities.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
OVGP	10.1.6 Through partnerships and collaborative efforts, The Town shall identify appropriate strategies to protect archaeological and cultural resources.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
AG	1. The entirety of the Planning Area must be surveyed for cultural resources and any sites encountered must be recorded with the Arizona State Museum.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
AG	2. All cultural resource preservation areas will be monitored through the Arizona Site Stewards Program and others to help ensure the protection of these areas and the preservation of these sites' inherent cultural values.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
AG	3. Cultural Resources within Open Space and Riparian areas will be preserved in place and managed and maintained as natural open space.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
AG	4. Archaeological and historical sites determined to be of exceptional importance should be avoided and protected in place.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	
AG	5. Where avoidance of individual sites cannot be achieved and an impact to the resource will occur, a plan to mitigate the impacts through site data recovery and documentation, analyses, report preparation, and curation must be developed and then reviewed and approved by the State Historic Preservation Office and implemented prior to any ground disturbance.	Cultural/Historic Resources	Cult/hist resource protection	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
AG	7. Within those areas designated as MPC, COP, or VC, a total of 434 acres of floating NOS will be designated for the preservation in place of finite, non-renewable cultural and archaeological resources, or, if not needed for this purpose, will be utilized to further the preservation of NOS.	Open Space and NRP	Open Space/Cult/hist resource protection	
Various Other				
OVGP	11.3.4 The Town shall protect air quality through: - the enforcement of dust control measures - restrictions to prohibit uses that create air pollution - encouragement of gas versus wood fireplaces - limits to mass grading, which shall require the approval of the Planning & Zoning Administrator	Visual Resources	Dust control/air quality	
OVGP	11.4.2 The Town shall continue to actively pursue measures to protect and maintain night sky visibility	Visual Resources	Lighting	
AG	9. NOS will be unlighted and protected from lighting in nearby developed areas as proscribed in the Oro Valley Zoning Code.	Open Space and NRP	Lighting	
Policies that are related to or reference ESL				
OVGP	2. Community Design. Site Planning: A major goal of Oro Valley is to preserve the existing natural Sonoran Desert to the greatest extent possible for existing and future generations. Large-scale development in view corridors, grading of large areas, the introduction of non-native plant species, and the destruction of habitat are prime issues related to community design.	Community Design	Multiple goals	
OVGP	11.1.7 The Town shall prepare, adopt, and periodically update a Natural Open Space Management Plan to determine the appropriate level of use and protection of th environmentally sensitive open space areas within and surrounding the Town. This should include preparation of any inventory of these areas and the natural resources they support (see policies 11.5.1, 11.5.2, and 11.5.3)	Open Space and NRP	Related: open space management, inventory	

OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
OVGP	11.2.16 The Town shall require the protection of healthy, native vegetation within a development. If on-site protection is not feasible, the Town shall encourage transplantation of healthy native vegetation to approved sites within, or as a less preferable option, outside the project limits.	Open Space and NRP	Related, Significant veg	
OVGP	11.2.19 The Town shall provide guidelines for safe movement of wildlife above and below roadways and through or around other man-made environments. (see also Policy 5.4.2)	Open Space and NRP	Related, Habitat	
OVGP	11.2.20 The Town shall continue to encourage utilization of the Town's Save-A-Plant program for protection of health native vegetation.	Significant Veg	Significant veg	
OVGP	11.5.1 The Town shall establish an advisory committee to provide the Town Council and Planning Commission with annual recommendations and input regarding Town-initiated actions and incentives to protect **environmentally sensitive lands** in the Town and to monitor and/or recommend modifications to this element. The advisory committee's efforts are to be coordinated with the recommendations of the Natural Open Space Management Plan	Open Space and NRP	General/open space management	
OVGP	11.5.4 The Town shall adopt a set of best available practices to minimize impacts to the Town's open space system.	Open Space and NRP	Open Space management	
OVGP	11.5.6 The Town shall establish guidelines for trading natural open spaces that allow those trades that create interconnected, high-quality natural open space.	Open Space and NRP	Open space	
OVGP	11.5.11 The Town shall continue to explore strategies that would enable preservation of lands extending north and west from Honey Bee Canyon/Sausalito Creek and connecting to the Tortolita Mountain Park through independent methods and through coordination with Pima County, Arizona State Land Department, Arizona State Parks Board, and/or any nationally recognized conservation organization.	Open Space and NRP	Open space	Directly References Tortolitas
AG	12. Oro Valley will work in collaboration with to support Pima County in developing, managing and funding a management plan to protect biological and cultural resources.	Open Space and NRP	General/intra-agency coordination	
AG	10. Invasive plant species management will be incorporated into all plans for development.	Open Space and NRP	Landscape management/invasives	

| OVGP or AG Special Area policy	Policy reference	Plan Element	ESL Characteristic	Notes
AG	2.It is the intent of this plan that the NOS area that is the "wildlife linkage" will become part of the Tortolita Mountain Park and remain as NOS in perpetuity. The Town of Oro Valley, ASLD, and Pima County will continue to cooperate to achieve this goal. When that occurs, a management plan will be established for the open space. All parties recognize that State Trust Lands may not be sold or otherwise disposed of until ASLD has complied with the Enabling Act and other applicable laws, including appraisal, approval by the Board of Land Appeals, and public auction. As part of the Pre-Annexation Development Agreement, ASLD will develop information on how lands within the plan will be valued.	Open Space and NRP	Open Space management/habitat	

The need for ESL was first established in the 1996 General Plan. The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Project consists of two main components: 1) Policy Development, and 2) Implementation. The first was initiated in 1999 and was completed with the adoption of Focus 2020 General Plan. From 1999 to 2001, a considerable effort was expended by committees, citizens, and staff to develop policies that reflect the goal of the ESL project. The effort included the following:

- Extensive field work and documentation via GIS for the majority of the area within existing Town boundaries (reflected in current General Plan designated Significant Resource Areas)
- Two Public Workshops
- Town Council Approval of Public Advisory Committee (PAC) & Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Five PAC Training Sessions (Instruction Provided by Various Specialists)
- Eleven PAC Meetings (Each Noticed in the NW Explorer Town Page)
- Two TAC Meetings
- One joint Commission and Council Study Session
- Distribution of 3,500 Random Surveys (28.1% Return Rate)
- Stakeholder Meetings (NW Chamber of Commerce, Association of Realtors, SAHBA Technical Review Board, Neighborhood Coalition, and Sun City Vistoso Community Association – Government Affairs Committee)
- Direct mailings to all of the Homeowner's Associations within the Town
- Meetings with other jurisdictions with similar plans and ordinances
- Provision of an interactive website

This effort was eventually merged into the General Plan update process. As a result, the comprehensive policies developed by the PAC were incorporated into the draft General Plan. Meetings between the ESL PAC and the General Plan Steering Committee were facilitated to insure an accurate transfer of the ideals embodied in the PAC's work.

From 2005 to 2008, the second phase of the ESL project, Implementation, was postponed due to staff and funding concerns. The project was fully funded in February of 2009.

The following graphic depicts the project sequence:
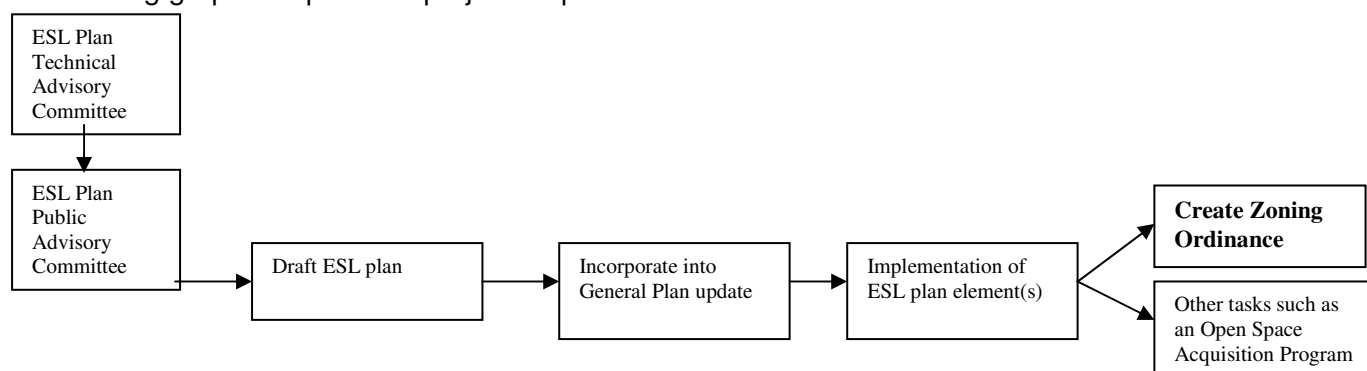
In 2008, the Town of Oro Valley, in conjunction with the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD), initiated a General Plan (GP) amendment for the Arroyo Grande Planning Area and an extension of the Urban Services Boundary (USB) to include 9,106 acres (14 square miles) of unincorporated Pima County land with no current development. The area is bounded on the south by the Town limits, on the east by Oracle Road, on the north by the Pima/Pinal County Line, and on the west by the Tortolita Mountain Park.

This General Plan amendment proposal was evaluated using adopted General Plan goals and policies as well as input and analysis from the public, the ASLD, Pima County, and the Planning and Zoning Commission. The land use plan is a product of extensive analysis and negotiations with a multitude of agencies and stakeholders.

Similar Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan derived principals applied in Arroyo Grande are proposed within the Town limits.

Attachment #5, ESL Conservation System Overview

ESL Conservation Category	Major Wildlife Linkage	Critical Resource Area	Core Resource Area	Resource Management Area	Cultural Resources	Scenic Resources	Hillside Areas
Description	Provides essential connectivity to support dispersal, migration, genetic transfer.	Range of riparian areas that create the open space framework; includes rock outcrops	Conserves recognized habitat, distinctive vegetation stands and specimens	Conserves recognized habitat and supports higher level resource areas	Provides site specific protection and/or management direction in concert with other resources	Conserves unique visual qualities along scenic corridors and parks	Conserves hillside and ridge landforms; ensures compatible design
Conservation Standard	100%	95%	80%	66%-0%	Resource Dependent	Varies by Location	Varies by % Slope
ESL Resource Type							
1.0 **Wildlife Linkages**	Identified large mammal corridors	Other identified minor links					
2.0 **Riparian Areas**		All Riparian Areas					
3.0 **Significant Vegetation**			Distinct Stands Distinct Individuals				
4.0 **Wildlife Habitat**		Distinct Habitat Resources	Critical (T&E) Habitat Areas PC Bio Core Mngmnt. Areas	Habitat for PV Species PC Resource Mngmt. Areas			
5.0 **Rock Outcrops**		Rock Outcrops Boulder piles					
6.0 **Cultural Resources**					Treatment Plan Dependent		
7.0 **Scenic Resources**						Scenic Corridors Park View sheds	
8.0 **Hillsides**		25% slopes and greater					Moderate Slopes (15-24%)