

## 3.11 Public Facilities and Services

This section provides an evaluation of potential impacts to public facilities and services in as a result of the proposed General Plan. Specifically, the following facilities and services are evaluated: parks, schools, libraries, public safety, and city administrative facilities, all of which are subject to growth management standards established in the Carlsbad Citywide Facilities and Improvement Plan.

### Environmental Setting

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#### PHYSICAL SETTING

##### Parks

##### *Park Classification*

Carlsbad maintains three park categories, as described below and depicted on Figure 3.11-1. Parks can be developed with either active or passive park amenities or a combination of both. Active park areas typically provide for organized and/or supervised recreation. Park amenities denoting active use may include gymnasiums, swim complexes, multi-use ball fields, tot lots, hard court play surfaces, volleyball, horseshoe areas, BMX bike courses, and skate parks, or a combination thereof. Passive park areas often provide minimal or no amenities associated with active use. The very nature of passive use implies quiet, contemplative, low-impact activity. Park amenities generally associated with passive use include nature trails, walkways, picnic tables, benches, and small turf and/or landscaped areas.

##### *Community Parks*

In Carlsbad, community parks are approximately 20-50 acres in size (though there are several smaller parks “grandfathered” into this classification), and are designed to serve the recreational needs of several neighborhoods. They are focused on serving residents in the vicinity at a daily frequency. Community parks are designed to be accessed primarily by vehicle, and are therefore typically located on or near an arterial street.

Community parks generally provide active and passive use amenities; however, they are not limited to the exclusive use of either. Typical facilities include:

- Family-oriented picnic areas
- Group picnic areas

- Turfed open space areas for free play
- Multi-purpose playfield(s) (lighted when appropriate)
- Tot lot areas
- Structures for lectures, meetings, skills, instructions, etc.
- Buffer areas
- Special use facilities such as swimming pools, tennis courts, horseshoes, handball and racquetball courts, bicycle paths, skate parks, dog parks, etc. as per specific community demand may be located within these parks if appropriate to the interests and needs of the community in which the park is located.

#### ***Special Use Areas***

Special use areas are typically between one and five acres in size, with only one or two basic uses, which can be either active or passive in orientation. Examples include, but are not limited to, skate parks, dog parks, tennis courts or picnic areas. School sites that operate under joint-use facility agreement between the City of Carlsbad and the corresponding school district are also considered special use areas.

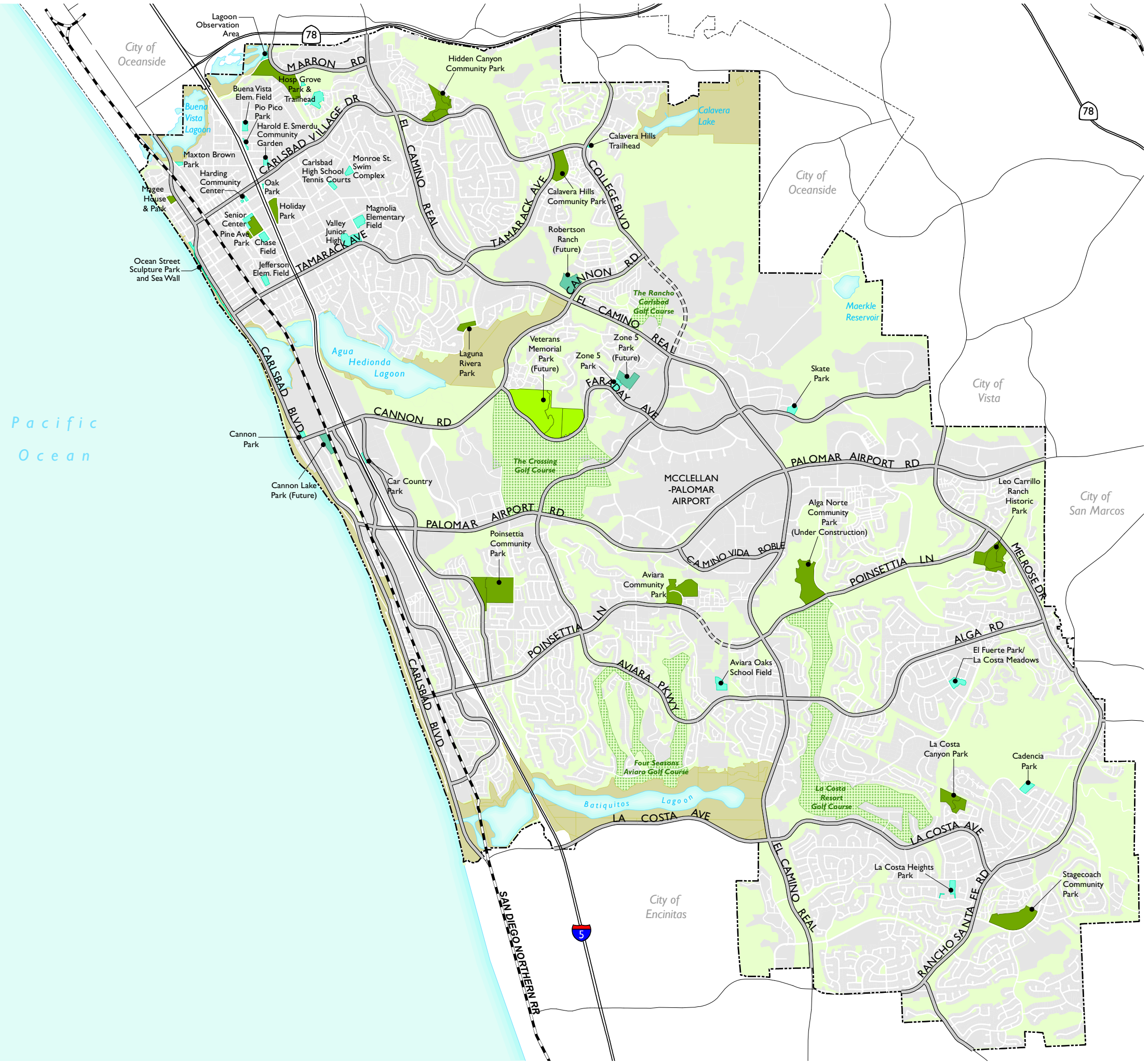
#### ***Special Resource Areas***

Special resource areas have citywide and potentially regional significance related to the quality of the site or service that it provides. This quality may be a natural feature (geological, ecological, hydrological), historical (architectural, archaeological), or some combination thereof. Special resource areas are typically larger than community parks.

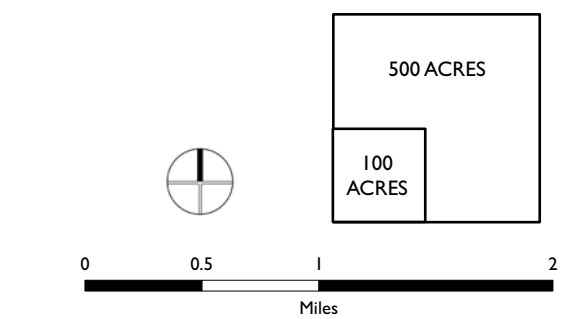
#### ***Existing and Planned Parks***

Carlsbad currently has 13 community parks (255.5 acres), 25 special use areas (68.5 acres), and five special resource areas (more than 1,300 acres). Table 3.11-1 provides a list of existing parks in the city, the quadrants in which they are located, and approximate acreages by park. Table 3.11-2 provides a list of planned parks that will provide another 90 acres of community park land and 29.9 acres of special use areas. While special resource areas do not count toward the Growth Management Plan park standard, such areas provide additional park land for use by residents and visitors. The city annually monitors the status of compliance with all Growth Management Plan facilities standards. The City of Carlsbad Fiscal Year 2012-13 Growth Management Plan Monitoring Report shows how the parks facility standard is currently satisfied.

Figure 3.11-1  
**PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN  
 Parks & Recreation**



- Existing Community Park
- Future Community Park
- Existing Special Use Areas
- Future Special Use Areas
- Existing Special Resource Areas
- Existing Golf Courses
- Other Open Space
- Highways
- Major Street
- Planned Street
- Railroad
- City Limits



Source: City of Carlsbad, 2013; SANDAG, 2013; Dyett & Bhatia, 2013.

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**Table 3.11-1: Existing Community Parks, Special Use Areas, and Special Resource Areas (2013)**

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Quadrant</i>	<i>Acres</i>
<b>Existing Community Parks</b>		
Alga Norte Community Park	SE	32.1
Aviara Community Park	SW	24.3
Calavera Hills Community Park	NE	17.7
Hidden Canyon Community Park (includes Carlsbad Village Drive open space)	NE	22
Holiday Park	NW	6.0
Hosp Grove Park	NW	27.1
La Costa Canyon Community Park (includes La Costa Canyon open space)	SE	14.7
Laguna Riviera Park	NW	4.2
Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park (includes Carrillo Ranch open space)	SE	27.4
Magee House and Park	NW	2.1
Pine Avenue Park (includes Madison Street parcels)	NW	8.2
Poinsettia Community Park (includes Poinsettia open space)	SW	41.2
Stagecoach Community Park	SE	28.5
<i>Subtotal Community Parks</i>		255.5
<b>Existing Special Use Areas</b>		
Aviara Oaks School Field	SW	4.7
Buena Vista Elementary School	NW	2.5
Business Park Recreational Facility (Zone 5 Park)	NW	3.0
Cadencia Park	SE	4.0
Calavera Hills Trailhead	NE	.4
Cannon Park	NW	1.7
Car Country	NW	1.0
Carlsbad High School Tennis Courts	NW	1.7
Chase Field	NW	2.7
Harding Community Center	NW	1.0
Harold E. Smerdu Community Garden	NW	1.3
Hosp Grove Trailheads	NW	7.6
Jefferson Elementary School Field	NW	2.2
La Costa Meadows Elementary/El Fuerte Park	SE	4.7
Lagoon Observation Area	NW	1.4
La Costa Heights Park	SE	3.5
Magnolia Elementary School Field	NW	4.0
Maxton Brown Park	NW	0.9

**Table 3.11-1: Existing Community Parks, Special Use Areas, and Special Resource Areas (2013)**

<i>Facility Name</i>	<i>Quadrant</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Monroe Street Swim Complex	NW	2.0
Oak Park	NW	0.2
Ocean Street Sculpture Park and Sea Wall	NW	1.9
Pio Pico Park	NW	0.8
Senior Center Complex	NW	3.4
Skate Park	NE	3.4
Valley Junior High School Field	NW	8.5
<i>Subtotal Special Use Areas</i>		68.5
<b>Existing Special Resource Areas</b>		
Agua Hedionda Lagoon		254.0
Batiquitos Lagoon		484.0
Beaches		113.2
Buena Vista Lagoon		202.0
Lake Calavera		256.5
<i>Subtotal Special Resource Areas</i>		1,309.7
<b>Total Existing Parkland</b>		<b>1,633.7</b>

Source: City of Carlsbad Parks and Recreation Department, 2013.

**Table 3.11-2: Anticipated Future Park Development Projects**

<i>Quad</i>	<i>Park Development Project</i>	<i>Park Classification</i>	<i>Estimated Park Acreage</i>
NW	Cannon Lake Park	Special Use Area	6.9
NW	Business Park Recreational Facility (Zone 5 Park) Expansion	Special Use Area	10
NE	Robertson Ranch Park	Special Use Area	13
SW	Poinsettia Community Park- Phase IIb	Community Park	NA <sup>1</sup>
SE	Leo Carrillo Ranch Park-Phase III	Community Park	NA <sup>1</sup>
Citywide	Veteran's Memorial Park	Community Park	90

<sup>1</sup> Improvements within existing park acreage; no additional park acreage to be added.

**Regional Recreation**

Three of the city's existing special resource areas (Lake Calavera, Agua Hedionda Lagoon, Baticuitos Lagoon) and one future community park (Veteran's Memorial) have been identified as regional open space parks by the San Diego Association of Governments. Although these parks have been identified as part of the regional park system, they will continue to function pursuant to their primary park classification as identified above. The identification of a city park as a regional open space park simply denotes that the park is serving a regional need.

**Public Schools**

*Facilities*

Carlsbad is served by four school districts: Carlsbad Unified School District (CUSD), San Marcos Unified School District, Encinitas Union Elementary School District and San Dieguito Union High School District. Although the Vista Unified School District overlaps with two small areas of Carlsbad, these areas do not contain any residential uses. Most of Carlsbad (about 62 percent of residential land—4,187 of 6,797 acres) is served by CUSD, which comprises nine elementary schools that feed into three middle schools and two high schools, and accommodates more than 10,000 students. Table 3.11-3 lists all CUSD facilities within Carlsbad and Table 3.11-4 lists facilities in the three other school districts that serve Carlsbad students. Figure 3.11-2 shows boundaries of the districts and school locations

**Table 3.11-3: Carlsbad Unified School District Facilities Summary**

<i>School</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Grade Range</i>	<i>Campus Acreage</i>	<i>Classrooms</i>	<i>Square Footage</i>	<i>Year Built</i>
<b>Elementary Schools</b>						
Aviara Oaks Elementary	6900 Ambrosia Ln.	K-5	16	41	65,391	1990
Buena Vista Elementary	1330 Buena Vista Way	K-5	9	29	47,877	1960
Calavera Hills Elementary	4100 Tamarack Ave.	K-5	9	28	40,000	2002
Hope Elementary	3010 Tamarack Ave.	K-5	14	38	53,446	1986
Jefferson Elementary	3743 Jefferson St.	K-5	8	42	62,896	1999
Kelly Elementary	4885 Kelly Dr.	K-5	8	31	45,790	1977
Magnolia Elementary	1905 Magnolia Ave.	K-5	11	38	59,301	1956
Pacific Rim Elementary	1100 Camino de las Ondas	K-5	10	36	50,625	1999
Poinsettia Elementary	2445 Mica Rd.	K-5	10	24	49,000	2007
<b>Middle Schools</b>						

**Table 3.11-3: Carlsbad Unified School District Facilities Summary**

<i>School</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Grade Range</i>	<i>Campus Acreage</i>	<i>Classrooms</i>	<i>Square Footage</i>	<i>Year Built</i>
Aviara Oaks Middle	6880 Ambrosia Ln.	6–8	29	33	68,054	1999
Calavera Hills Middle	4104 Tamarack Ave.	6–8	28	28	54,000	2004
Valley Middle	1645 Magnolia Ave.	6–8	20	48	86,925	1965
<b>High Schools</b>						
Carlsbad High	3557 Monroe St.	9–12	29	131	218,460	1957
Sage Creek High	3900 Cannon Rd.	9-12	52	N/A	150,000	2013
<b>Alternative Schools</b>						
Carlsbad Seaside Academy <sup>1</sup>	1640 Magnolia Ave.	K–12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Carlsbad Village Academy	1640 Magnolia Ave.	10–12	5	12	16,000	2002

1. Seaside Academy is a homeschooling program, so campus acreage, classrooms, square footage, and year built do not apply.

Source: Carlsbad Unified School District Facilities Master Plan and Proposition P Construction Program (2007); Dyett & Bhatia, 2010.

**Table 3.11-4: Other School District Facilities Serving Carlsbad**

<i>School</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>School District</i>
<b>Elementary Schools</b>		
La Costa Meadows Elementary	6889 El Fuerte St.	San Marcos Unified
Carrillo Elementary	2875 Poinsettia Ln.	San Marcos Unified
La Costa Heights Elementary	3035 Levante St.	Encinitas Union Elementary
El Camino Creek Elementary	7885 Paseo Aliso	Encinitas Union Elementary
Capri Elementary	941 Capri Rd, Encinitas	Encinitas Union Elementary
Mission Estancia Elementary	3330 Calle Barcelona	Encinitas Union Elementary
Olivenhain Pioneer Elementary	8000 Calle Acervo	Encinitas Union Elementary
<b>Middle Schools</b>		
San Elijo Middle	1600 Schoolhouse Way, San Marcos	San Marcos United

**Table 3.11-3: Carlsbad Unified School District Facilities Summary**

<i>School</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Grade Range</i>	<i>Campus Acreage</i>	<i>Classrooms</i>	<i>Square Footage</i>	<i>Year Built</i>
Oak Crest Middle	675 Balour Dr., Encinitas			San Dieguito Union High		
Diegueno Middle	2150 Village Park Way, Encinitas			San Dieguito Union High		
<b>High Schools</b>						
San Marcos High	1615 W San Marcos Blvd.			San Marcos Unified		
La Costa Canyon High	1 Maverick Way			San Dieguito Union High		

Source: Dyett & Bhatia, 2010.

### Current Enrollment

According to Education Data Partnership, after steadily increasing for more than 15 years, enrollment in California schools is leveling off and even declining in some areas. Locally, Carlsbad's elementary and middle schools have seen a slow and steady increase in enrollment over the past five years, with a new elementary school and a new homeschooling program starting up to meet demand. Between 2008 and 2010, the Carlsbad High School experienced a small drop in enrollment, but those numbers have begun to rebound, as seen in Table 3.11-5. Table 3.11-6 lists total (2012) enrollment for all school districts serving Carlsbad.

**Table 3.11-5: Carlsbad Unified School District Enrollment (2007-2012)**

<i>School</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>				
	<i>2007-2008</i>	<i>2008-2009</i>	<i>2009-2010</i>	<i>2010-2011</i>	<i>2011-2012</i>
<b>Elementary Schools</b>	<b>4,929</b>	<b>4,993</b>	<b>5,152</b>	<b>5,211</b>	<b>5,156</b>
Aviara Oaks Elementary	784	771	770	744	734
Buena Vista Elementary	282	287	255	276	286
Calavera Hills Elementary	636	636	640	610	566
Hope Elementary	452	469	502	539	592
Jefferson Elementary	619	639	693	729	707
Kelly Elementary	442	450	495	477	449
Magnolia Elementary	450	423	419	435	432
Pacific Rim Elementary	817	807	844	879	849
Poinsettia Elementary	447	511	534	522	541
<b>Middle Schools</b>	<b>2,514</b>	<b>2,504</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>2,575</b>	<b>2,647</b>
Aviara Oaks Middle	914	919	977	1,007	1,055
Calavera Hills Middle	547	569	594	561	564
Valley Middle	1,053	1,016	977	1,007	1,028
<b>High Schools</b>	<b>3,020</b>	<b>2,944</b>	<b>2,957</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>3,049</b>
Carlsbad High	3,020	2,944	2,957	3,034	3,049



**Table 3.11-5: Carlsbad Unified School District Enrollment (2007-2012)**

School	Enrollment				
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
<b>Alternative Schools</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>187</b>
Carlsbad Seaside Academy (homeschool)	102	91	83	62	60
Carlsbad Village Academy	156	146	144	141	127
<b>Total Enrollment in CUSD</b>	<b>10,721</b>	<b>10,678</b>	<b>10,906</b>	<b>11,046</b>	<b>11,063</b>

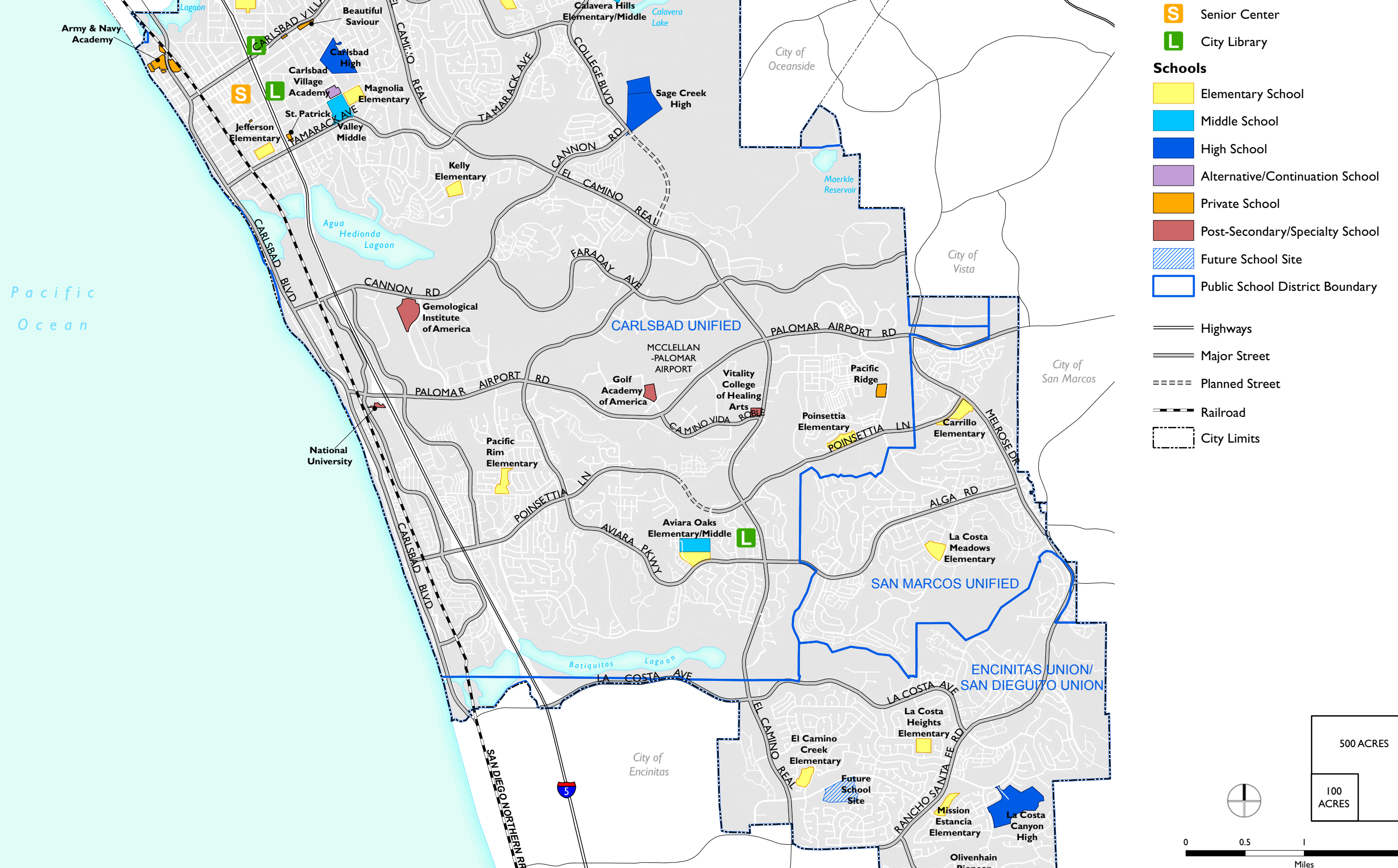
Source: DataQuest, California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit, 2013  
 (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/dataquest.asp>).

**Table 3.11-6: School Districts Serving Carlsbad, Enrollment**

School District	Total District Enrollment
Encinitas Union Elementary	5,562
San Dieguito Union High	12,606
Carlsbad Unified	10,695
San Marcos Unified	17,852

Source: Education Data Partnership, 2010, data from 2009, most of which comes from the California Department of Education.([www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/](http://www.ed-data.k12.ca.us/))

Figure 3.11-2  
**PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN**  
**School Districts & Facilities**



Source: City of Carlsbad, 2013; SANDAG, 2013; Dyett & Bhatia, 2013.

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## **Library Facilities**

Carlsbad has had libraries since 1916 and today hosts three library facilities: Carlsbad City Library (also known as Dove Library), Georgina Cole Library, and Carlsbad City Library Learning Center. The locations of these libraries are indicated on Figure 3.11-2. In addition to its diverse collection of resource materials, the municipal library system offers services and programs for all ages. It also houses the William D. Cannon Art Gallery, the Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium, and the George and Patricia Gowland Meeting Room.

Under the Growth Management Plan, the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan establishes a performance standard for library space equal to 800 square feet per 1,000 population, which must be scheduled for construction within a five-year period or prior to construction of 6,250 dwelling units, beginning at the time the need is first identified. According to the FY 2012-2013 Growth Management Plan Monitoring Report, the current inventory consists of 99,745 square feet of library space, while the standard (based on the 2013 California Department of Finance population estimate of 108,246) requires about 86,597 square feet. Therefore, current facilities meet the city's standard today.

## **Public Safety Services**

### ***Police Service***

The Carlsbad Police Department conducts its safety services primarily out of the Carlsbad Public Safety and Service Center, a 53,600-square-foot facility built in 1986, located on Orion Way (see Figure 3.11-3). The patrol division is the core of the Police Department's law enforcement services, responding to more than 90,000 calls for service annually. Although street patrols are the majority of the division's activity, other special services include canine units, bicycle patrol, crisis negotiations, bilingual services, tactical response team (SWAT; Special Weapons and Tactics) and mental health assistance teams.

In May 2012, the Carlsbad Joint First Responder Training Facility was completed to provide local access to necessary training for police, fire and other safety workers. The project is located on a four-acre site next to the Public Safety and Service Center, and includes structures that can be used to simulate fires in residential and commercial buildings as well as help police conduct tactical training.

### ***Fire and Emergency Medical Services<sup>1</sup>***

The Carlsbad Fire Department serves approximately 107,000 people in a 39-square mile service area within Carlsbad. The City of Carlsbad has six fire stations; the oldest of the stations was constructed in 1966, while the newest was completed in 2009. Fire Operations is the largest division

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<sup>1</sup> The information contained in this section is based on Carlsbad's State of Effectiveness Report for 2013 and the General Plan Working Paper 3, including information obtained from the Carlsbad Fire Chief.

within the Carlsbad Fire Department and is responsible for fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical service delivery and disaster mitigation. The Fire Department responds to every type of emergency, including traffic collisions, medical emergencies, and severe traumas. The Fire Department delivers advanced life support level care on all fire engines and ambulances, including a licensed paramedic. Currently, more than 75 percent of fire suppression personnel are licensed paramedics; frequently multiple paramedics are available on-scene at emergency incidents.

City of Carlsbad SWAT medics are firefighter/paramedics on special assignment working alongside the Carlsbad Police Department SWAT team. As advanced life support medical personnel, SWAT medics carry specialized packs of basic and advanced life support tools and supplies, giving them the ability to provide immediate medical care in a hazardous environment. As full-time firefighter/paramedics, SWAT medics also bring to the scene all firefighting, rescue, forcible entry and hazardous materials response expertise and skills. SWAT medics are also deployed with Carlsbad police officers in support of other law enforcement units such as the San Diego Sheriff's SWAT team and the regional law enforcement task force.

The City of Carlsbad Fire Prevention Division focuses on educating the community about the benefits of proper safety practices and identifying and eliminating all types of hazardous conditions, which pose a threat to life, the environment and property; the division also reviews proposed new construction and performs inspections. Fire prevention has proven to be the most effective way to reduce fire losses through education, engineering and enforcement.















#### *Response Times & Standards*

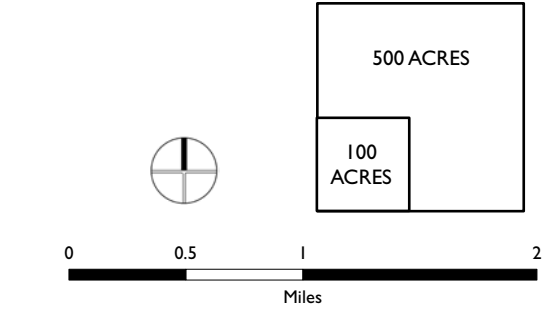
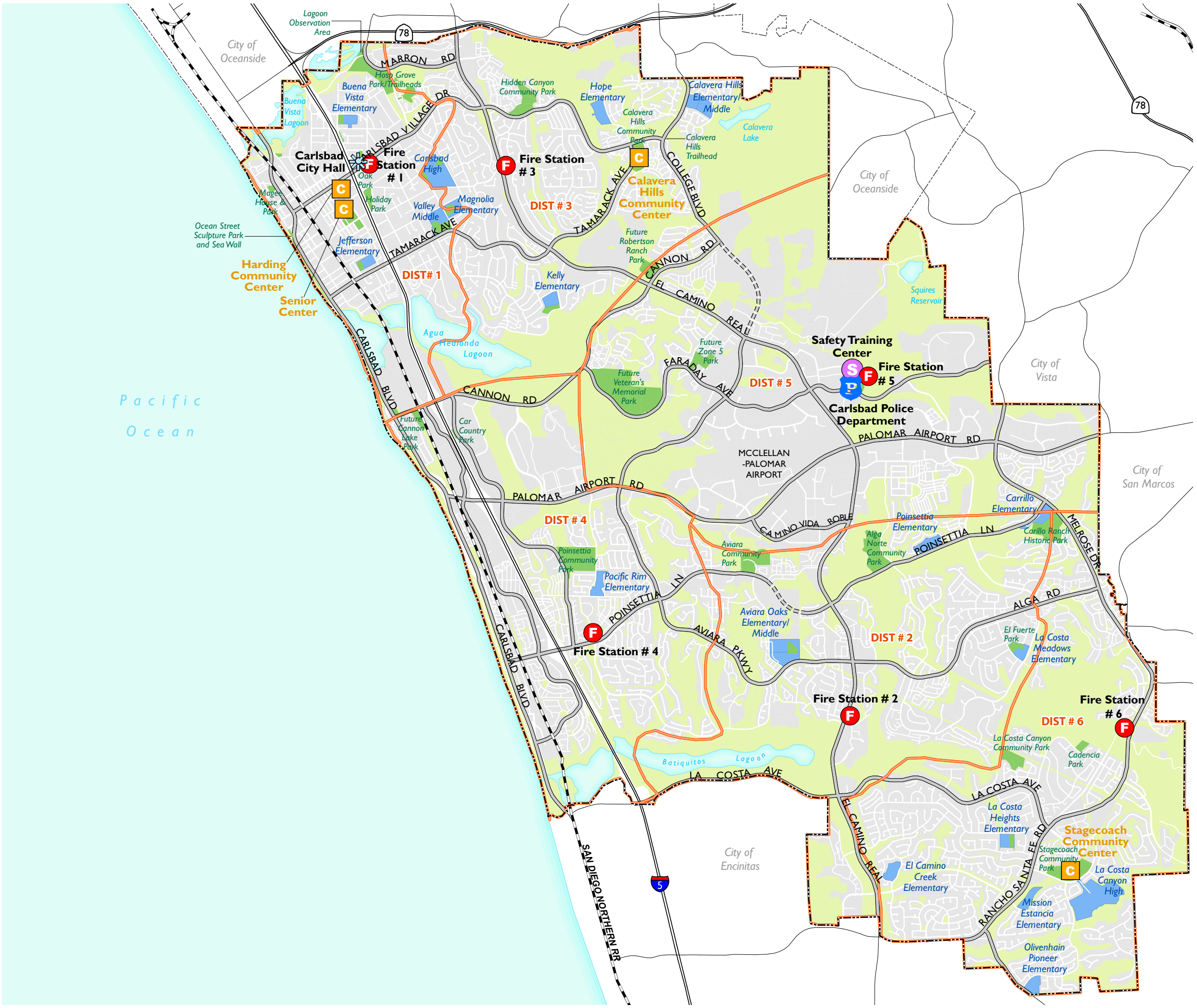
Fire Department response areas are based on real-time apparatus location measurements determined by GPS in conjunction with automatic vehicle locaters. The performance standard established by the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan requires that no more than 1,500 dwelling units be located outside of a five-minute response time (see Appendix E for five-minute response times). In its annual State of Effectiveness Report, the city uses response time benchmarks of six minutes for the first unit on scene and nine minutes for the second.

According to the 2013 State of Effectiveness Report, the Fire Department achieved the benchmark in 63 percent of cases for the first unit on scene, and 75 percent of cases for the second in FY 2012-2013. This represents an increase from the previous year in average response time for the first unit on scene. However, the average first unit response time of 5:35 minutes remains below the six-minute benchmark. The increased response time can be attributed to several factors, including population increase in Carlsbad and neighboring jurisdictions, increased call volume, drive time, delays at hospitals and in traffic, and a six-month suspension of the Boundary Drop program with the City of Oceanside. The Fire Department continues to monitor response times to emergency incidents to determine any additional significant contributing factors to changes in response times.



Figure 3.11-3  
**PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN  
 Public Safety Services**

-  Police Station
-  Fire Station
-  Safety Training Center
-  Community/Senior Centers
-  City Hall
-  Public Schools
-  Existing and Planned Parks
-  Open Space
-  Fire Districts
-  Highways
-  Major Street
-  Planned Street
-  Railroad
-  City Limits



Source: City of Carlsbad, 2013; SANDAG, 2013; Dyett & Bhatia, 2013.

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Boundary Drop is a regional service delivery model that assigns the closest available resources to an emergency scene. The utilization of the Boundary Drop is routinely being reviewed to create additional efficiencies in regard to training opportunities and overhead support that maximize the availability of resources for emergency response. In the case of larger scale emergencies, the City of Carlsbad does have mutual-aid agreements in place. The cities of Oceanside, Vista and Encinitas are other participants in the Boundary Drop and may respond to fire and emergency service calls in Carlsbad. In FY 2010-11, the Carlsbad Fire Department responded to a total of 9,925 emergency incident responses.

The State of Effectiveness Report also found that the city’s fire facilities met the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan performance standard in FY 2012-2013.

**City Administrative Facilities**

The Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan also includes a performance standard for city administrative facilities. The standard requires that 1,500 square feet per 1,000 population must be scheduled for construction within a five-year period or prior to construction of 6,250 dwelling units, beginning at the time the need is first identified. According to the Growth Management Plan Monitoring Report for FY 2012-2013, the existing inventory of city and Carlsbad Municipal Water District buildings (leased and owned) occupied for administrative services included those facilities listed in Table 3.11-7.

**Table 3.11-7: City Administrative Facilities**

<i>Facility</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Square Feet</i>
City Administration	1635 Faraday Avenue	68,000
City Council Chambers	1200 Carlsbad Village Drive	2,500
City Hall Complex	1200 Carlsbad Village Drive	13,500
City Yard	405 Oak Avenue	8,249
City Yard Modular Building	405 Oak Avenue	1,800
Senior Center	799 Pine Street	6,750
Parks Administration	1166 Carlsbad Village Drive	504
Parks Modular/Break Room	1166 Carlsbad Village Drive	2,000
Safety Center	2560 Orion Way	64,000
FR Training Facility	2560 Orion Way	18,112
Fleet Yard	2480 Impala Drive	10,358
Water District	5950 El Camino Real	18,000
Water District Modular	5950 El Camino Real	696
<b>Total</b>		<b>214,469</b>

*Source: City of Carlsbad Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Growth Management Plan Monitoring Report*

Given a 2013 population estimate of 108,246 provided by the California Department of Finance, the current demand for administrative facilities is 162,369 square feet, based on the performance standard. This means that existing facilities exceed the standard.

## **REGULATORY SETTING**

### **State**

#### **Quimby Act**

The 1975 Quimby Act (California Government Code section 66477) authorized cities and counties to pass ordinances requiring that developers set aside land, donate conservation easements, or pay fees for park improvements. Under the Quimby Act, fees must be paid and land conveyed directly to the local public agencies that provide park and recreation services communitywide; however, revenues generated through the Quimby Act cannot be used for the operation and maintenance of park facilities. The act states that the dedication requirement of parkland can be a minimum of 3 acres per thousand residents or more, and equal to the existing parkland provision (up to 5 acres per thousand residents) if the existing ratio is greater than the minimum standard. In 1982, the act was substantially amended. The amendments further defined acceptable uses of or restrictions on Quimby funds, provided acreage/population standards and formulas for determining the exaction, and indicated that the exactions must show a reasonable relationship to a project's impacts as identified through studies required by CEQA.

#### **State Open Space Standards**

State planning law (Government Code Section 65560) provides a structure for the preservation of open space by requiring every city and county in the state to prepare, adopt, and submit to the Secretary of the Resources Agency a "local open-space plan for the comprehensive and long-range preservation and conservation of open-space land within its jurisdiction." The following open space categories are identified for preservation:

- *Open space for public health and safety*, including, but not limited to, areas that require special management or regulation due to hazardous or special conditions.
- *Open space for the preservation of natural resources*, including, but not limited to, natural vegetation, fish and wildlife, and water resources.
- *Open space for resource management and production*, including, but not limited to, agricultural and mineral resources, forests, rangeland, and areas required for the recharge of groundwater basins.
- *Open space for outdoor recreation*, including, but not limited to, parks and recreational facilities, areas that serve as links between major recreation and open space reservations (such as trails, easements, and scenic roadways), and areas of outstanding scenic and cultural value.

- *Open space for the protection of Native American sites*, including, but not limited to, places, features, and objects of historical, cultural, or sacred significance such as Native American sanctified cemeteries, places of worship, religious or ceremonial sites, or sacred shrines located on public property (further defined in California Public Resources Code Sections 5097.9 and 5097.993).

## **Local**

### **City of Carlsbad Growth Management Plan/ Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan**

The Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan (CFIP) is the first phase of implementation of the city's Growth Management Plan (1986, with amendments through 1997). The CFIP seeks to ensure that development does not occur unless adequate public facilities are in place to serve that development. As part of the overall Growth Management Plan, the city was divided into 25 Local Facilities Management Zones, each of which has its own Local Facilities Management Plan, consistent with all aspects of the CFIP. Together, these plans ensure that adopted performance standards for each type of facility are met prior to new development.

The CFIP specifies performance standards for 11 facilities, including parks, schools, libraries, fire services, and city administrative services which are evaluated in this section. The performance standards for parks, schools, libraries, fire services, and city administrative facilities are as follows:

- **Parks.** Three acres of community park or special use area per 1,000 population within the park district (quadrant) must be scheduled for construction within a five year period or prior to construction of 1,562 dwelling units within the park district, beginning at the time the need is first identified.
- **Schools.** School capacity to meet projected enrollment within the zone as determined by the appropriate school district must be provided prior to projected occupancy.
- **Library.** 800 square feet per 1,000 population must be scheduled for construction within a five year period or prior to construction of 6,250 dwelling units, beginning at the time the need is first identified.
- **Fire.** No more than 1,500 dwelling units outside of a five-minute response time.
- **City Administrative Facilities.** 1,500 square feet per 1,000 population must be scheduled for construction within a five year period or prior to construction of 6,520 dwelling units, beginning at the time the need is first identified.

### **City of Carlsbad Municipal Code**

#### *Health and Sanitation (Carlsbad Municipal Code, Title 6)*

Title 6 includes Chapters 6.04 and 6.06 regarding emergency services and emergency medical transportation service. The purposes of these codes are to provide for the preparation and carrying out of plans for the protection of persons and property within the city in the event of an



emergency; the direction of the emergency organization; and the coordination of the emergency functions of the city with all other public agencies, corporations, organizations, and affected private persons.

***Fire Prevention Code (Carlsbad Municipal Code, Title 17)***

Title 17 establishes the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practices to safeguard the public health, safety, and general welfare from the hazards of fire, explosion, or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures, and premises, and to provide safety and assistance to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations. This code incorporates by reference the California Fire Code, which is developed and updated every three years by the California Building Standards Commission. The city's Fire Prevention Code also incorporates a number of local amendments necessary to respond to local climatic, geographical, or topographic conditions.

***Zoning Ordinance (Carlsbad Municipal Code, Title 21)***

The Zoning Ordinance implements the General Plan by regulating the distribution and intensity of land uses, including public facilities. Regulations establish standards for minimum lot size; building height and setback limits; fence heights; parking; and other development parameters within each land use. In the event of an inconsistency between the Zoning Ordinance and the General Plan, the General Plan shall prevail.

Additionally, the Zoning Ordinance contains provisions for parkland dedication or in-lieu fees to meet growth management parkland standards.

The Zoning Ordinance also contains development standards for Planned Developments specifying provision of private common community recreational space. All projects of more than 10 dwelling units must provide 200 square feet of centralized, community recreation space per unit. Projects of 25 or fewer units may provide passive or active recreation facilities; projects of more than 25 units provide both active and passive recreation facilities, with a minimum of 75 percent of the area allocated for active facilities. Projects of more than 50 units provide recreation facilities for a variety of age groups. The Planned Development requirements provide examples of active passive recreational uses, and caveats on counting indoor facilities or restricted areas such as slopes, walkways, storage areas, parking, etc.<sup>10</sup> While these required recreational facilities do not count toward the growth management parkland standards, they do help to ensure that recreational facilities are distributed throughout the city and provided with specific neighborhood needs in mind.

***Open Space Management Plan***

As a framework plan to assist in the implementation of the MHCP and HMP, the city's Open Space Management Plan (OSMP) establishes procedures, standards, guidelines and conditions for long-term conservation and management of sensitive species and habitat. There are three additional categories of open space land in the OSMP that are dedicated as non-preserve uses in the HMP or MHCP; one of which is parks. The OSMP Developed Parks category includes existing

parks as well as parks to be developed in the future. Some of the parks under this category are not strictly “open space” in the natural sense, but are developed facilities, such as a skate park, that are used for outdoor recreational purposes. Developed parks have been incorporated into the City’s geographic information system (GIS) inventory so that citywide management can be scheduled, tracked and analyzed in this database.

## **Impact Analysis**

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### **SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA**

For the purpose of this Program EIR, a significant impact would occur if the proposed General Plan would:

- Increase the use of or require the construction or expansion of neighborhood, community, or regional parks, or other recreational facility resulting in substantial physical deterioration of a park/facility or other adverse physical effect on the environment.
- Result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered school facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards.
- Result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered library facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards.
- Result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered police and fire facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards.
- Result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered city administrative facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards.

### **METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS**

#### **Population**

This analysis uses a buildout population estimate of 131,152 for the proposed General Plan, derived from a projected dwelling unit capacity of 52,320 units, the total amount of residential development allowed given the proposed land use plan and the city’s Growth Management Plan. The 2013 population estimate of 108,246 is taken from the California Department of Finance.

#### **Parks**

This analysis uses the park standard established by the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan. To project the amount of park land required at buildout, the projected buildout population of 131,152 was divided by 1,000 and multiplied by 3 acres. The difference between this number and the existing amount of park acreage equals the area of new park land needed to satisfy city

park standards at buildout. An increase in population without progress toward meeting the city's park standard is taken as a significant impact.

### **Schools**

The city's schools standard established by the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan requires that school capacity meet projected enrollment as determined by the appropriate school district prior to projected occupancy (of residential development). Projected demand for school facilities is based on two principal factors—the increase in housing units resulting from buildout of the proposed General Plan and ongoing demographic changes that impact the average number of students in each household. SANDAG 2010 and 2012 population estimates and 2035 projections were used to determine the percent-change of the population represented by each student age group in each of the four school districts. Each percent-change was then used to adjust recently determined student generation rates obtained from its respective school district.

To determine the number of new students resulting from proposed General Plan buildout, the adjusted student generation rates were applied to the number of new housing units anticipated in each school district.

Two different methods were used to determine the impact on enrollment resulting from demographic trends, depending on available information. For CUSD and EUSD, the difference between present and future student generation rates was applied to the number of existing housing units. Within SDUHSD and SMUSD, there was a lack in information regarding variation in student generation from different housing unit types (single family versus multifamily). For these districts, change from demographic trends was determined by applying the anticipated percent-change in the district's student generation rates to the number of students from Carlsbad currently enrolled in each district.

Net change in enrollment was determined by adding the number of students resulting from new development to the number of students from existing development as adjusted for demographic trends.

### **Library Facilities**

This analysis uses the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan performance standard of 800 square feet of facility space per 1,000 population.

### **Public Safety Services**

The city's fire service standard established by the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan requires that no more than 1,500 dwelling units be outside of a five-minute response time. The Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan does not specify a standard for police services. Determination of fire and police department capacity to accommodate increased service demands is based on information regarding facilities needs and planning assessments provided by the respective departments and analysis of geographic data. Neither department uses staffing standards to determine quality of service. Assumptions were made that new development occurring in established urban areas already located within service areas would be subject to similar response times and service standards as existing development in those areas.

### **City Administrative Facilities**

This analysis uses the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan performance standard of 1,500 square feet of facility space per 1,000 population.

### **SUMMARY OF IMPACTS**

Implementation of the proposed General Plan could result in a population increase of up to 22,906 new residents at buildout. This additional population will contribute to demand for park space, public schools, and public safety services.

#### **Parks**

Given that existing park facilities and planned parkland, and proposed General Plan policies that support the city's Growth Management Plan, a surplus of available parkland is anticipated to accommodate the buildout population in all quadrants without any resulting deterioration of existing parks.

#### **Schools**

Similarly, existing public school facilities are expected to provide adequate capacity for the proposed General Plan's buildout student population, which is expected to remain stable or to increase only slightly over the planning horizon, due to regional demographic trends.

#### **Library Facilities**

Though the projected population at buildout of the proposed General Plan would require an additional 5,177 square feet of library facility space, the gradual nature of this facilities need, the proposed General Plan policies that ensure compliance with the Growth Management Plan, the proposed General Plan policies for new development and the continued assessment of existing library facilities and services will ensure that significant environmental impacts from the provision of additional library space would not occur.

#### **Public Safety Services**

Fire and police services have stated needs for expansion in order to accommodate continued increases in population. Due to ongoing planning by the two departments that reduces the need for construction activities to a minimum, the concentration of new development in infill areas already adequately served by both departments, and proposed General Plan policies that seek to address fire and safety needs of new residents, no significant environmental impacts will result from the expansion of public safety service to meet buildout demand. All impacts are considered less than significant.

**City Administrative Facilities**

Given the projected surplus of square footage for city administrative facilities at buildout of the proposed General Plan and the ability to fulfill any facilities needs without requiring new construction, adverse environmental impacts from the provision of adequate city administrative facilities are unlikely to occur.

**IMPACTS**

**Impact 3.11-1 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not result in an adverse environmental effect or the physical deterioration of existing neighborhood, community or regional parks, or other recreational facility as a result of increased use of or construction/expansion of such facilities. (Less than significant)**

At buildout, the proposed General Plan may generate an increase in population of up to 22,906 residents. Without the development of new parks, this increase would place additional physical demands on existing parks and facilities. An increase in the number of park users would cause parks to be in active use for longer periods of time and/or used more intensively over the course of a typical day. As a result, vital park elements such as vegetation, water resources, built structures, walking/biking paths, sport facilities, and others would face increased wear-and-tear over the course of the planning period and, without proper maintenance, their useful life could be shortened.

Applying the city’s current park standard of 3.0 acres per 1,000 population in each city quadrant, projected demand for parkland at buildout would be an additional 393.5 acres citywide. Meanwhile, development of planned parks under the proposed General Plan would increase the city’s parkland by 443.9 acres, resulting in a surplus distributed among all four of the city’s quadrants. Therefore, park provision under the proposed General Plan would be more than sufficient to accommodate demand from future residents. Table 3.11-8 compares the estimated population, park demand, planned additional park acreage, and anticipated park land surplus citywide and for each quadrant at General Plan buildout.

**Table 3.11-8: Park Need and Provision by Quadrant**

<i>Northwest</i>	<i>Buildout Estimate</i>
Population Estimate	37,844
Park Acres Needed	113.5
Future Park Acres <sup>1</sup>	134.8
Future Surplus or (Deficit)	21.3
<i>Northeast</i>	<i>Buildout Estimate</i>
Population Estimate	22,666
Park Acres Needed	68
Future Park Acres <sup>1</sup>	79
Future Surplus (or Deficit)	11



**Table 3.11-8: Park Need and Provision by Quadrant**

<i>Southwest</i>	<i>Buildout Estimate</i>
Population Estimate	28,857
Park Acres Needed	86.6
Future Park Acres <sup>1</sup>	92.7
Future Surplus or (Deficit)	6.1
<i>Southeast</i>	<i>Buildout Estimate</i>
Population Estimate	41,785
Park Acres Needed	125.4
Future Park Acres <sup>1</sup>	137.4
Future Surplus (or Deficit)	12
<i>Citywide</i>	<i>Buildout Estimate</i>
Population Estimate	131,152
Park Acres Needed	393.5
Future Park Acres <sup>1</sup>	443.9
Future Surplus (or Deficit)	50.4

1. Future park acres include the acreage of existing and future planned parks per Tables 4-4 and 4-5 (in the proposed General Plan). In regard to Veteran's Memorial Park, because of the park's central location in the city, the 90 acre park will count toward satisfying the park needs of each quadrant (22.5 acres per quadrant).

The proposed General Plan also contains policies that complement the facilities performance standards established by the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan and ensure the continued maintenance of park quality. Proposed policies directly reference the Growth Management Plan park standard, and describe specific implementation guidelines for achieving it. The policies also require that new and existing parks are assessed for their abilities to meet the recreational needs of nearby residents in terms of amenities and accessibility. They also seek to ensure that new parks are developed or existing parks are improved concurrently with any development that would generate an increase in park users in the vicinity.

With the planned surplus in parkland and supporting policies to ensure compliance, and proper siting and maintenance, the proposed General Plan would have a less than significant impact on the physical and environmental quality of Carlsbad's parks.

**Proposed General Plan Goals and Policies that Reduce the Impact**

*Land Use and Community Design Element Goals*

- 2-G.2 Promote a diversity of compatible land uses throughout the city, to enable people to live close to job locations, adequate and convenient commercial services, and public support systems such as transit, parks, schools, and utilities.

- 2-P.50** Work with the California Parks Department to enhance recreation, public access, and activity in the Carlsbad Boulevard coastal corridor. Land could be made available by realigning the southbound lanes of Carlsbad Boulevard and by reconfiguring the Palomar Airport Road/Carlsbad Boulevard intersection. The principle objectives are to improve coastal access for all; conserve coastal resources; enhance public safety, including addressing threats to the campground from bluff erosion and sea level rise; and create additional recreational opportunities, waterfront amenities and services, including modernization and expansion of the campgrounds to serve as lower-cost visitor and recreational facilities.

*Land Use and Community Design Element Policies*

- 2-P.55** Ensure the dwelling unit limitations of the Growth Management Plan are adhered to when approving any residential General Plan amendment, zone change, tentative subdivision map or other discretionary permit.
- 2-P.56** Require compliance with Growth Management Plan public facility performance standards, as specified in the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan, to ensure that adequate public facilities are provided prior to or concurrent with development.
- 2-P.57** Coordinate future development with the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to ensure adequate funding for needed facilities and services; and prioritize the funding of CIP projects to provide facilities and services to infill areas, in transit priority or planned smart growth areas, and areas where existing deficiencies exist.
- 2-P.58** Maintain the Growth Management monitoring and annual reporting program, which: a) monitors the number of existing and future dwelling units compared to the growth management dwelling unit limitations, and b) measures the city's public service requirements against the rate of physical growth. Use this information to establish priorities for capital improvement funding, and when considering development requests.
- 2-P.59** The City Council or the Planning Commission shall not find that all necessary public facilities will be available concurrent with need as required by the Growth Management Plan unless the provision of such facilities is guaranteed. In guaranteeing that the facilities will be provided, funding shall be available for the necessary facilities prior to approval of development permits, and emphasis shall be given to ensuring a balanced circulation system, schools, parks, libraries, open space and recreational amenities. Public facilities may be added, however, the City Council shall not materially reduce public facilities without making corresponding reductions in residential capacity.

*Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element Goals*

- 4-G.1 Develop a balanced and integrated open space system reflecting a variety of considerations—resource conservation, production of resources, recreation, and aesthetic and community identity—and ensuring synergies between various open space components and compatibility with land use planning.
- 4-G.4 Maintain a diversified, comprehensive system of open space for outdoor recreation, including, but not limited to: parks; beaches; areas for organized sports; connecting corridors containing trails; water recreation areas (beaches, lagoons, lakes); unique conservation areas for nature study; and, semi-developed areas for camping.
- 4-G.5 Offer a wide variety of recreational activities and park facilities designed to encourage educational benefits and active or passive participation by users of all ages and interests.
- 4-G.6 Operate a financially self-supportive system of recreational facilities and programs.
- 4-G.7 Coordinate the planning of park facilities and trails with other recreation-oriented land uses such as open space.

*Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element Policies*

- 4-P.19 Develop, implement and periodically update a Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment and Comprehensive Action Plan that identifies appropriate programming for the city’s parklands, prioritizes future parkland development, reflects the needs of residents at the neighborhood and citywide level and of an increasingly diverse and aging population, and in concert with the citywide trails program, creates new linkages to neighborhoods.
- 4-P.20 Acquire and develop park areas in accordance with the Growth Management Plan park standard of 3.0 acres of community park or special use area per 1,000 residents within each of the four city quadrants. Park acreage requirements shall be determined on a quadrant basis.
- 4-P.21 Maintain appropriate recreational standards for employment areas.
- 4-P.24 Consider accessibility, housing density, proximity to schools, general public access, local resident access, adjacent residential area traffic impacts, safe pedestrian access, and compatible use with the surrounding environment when determining park locations. Wherever possible, park sites should be located near schools or natural areas.
- 4-P.25 Locate new parks, plazas, or alternative parks (such as greenways) in existing infill neighborhoods—the Village and Barrio—where new residential development is contemplated.

- 4-P.26** Provide for joint-use facility agreements with local school districts to meet neighborhood and community recreational needs.
- 4-P.27** Require, where possible, developers of master planned communities to provide pocket parks and active recreational facilities unique to each development. Maintenance of pocket parks shall be accomplished through homeowners' association dues. Pocket parks shall remain in private ownership.
- 4-P.29** Consider the following during the development/re-development of parkland: expanding minimum buffers around sensitive resources; utilizing natural plant species in park projects; incorporating plant species that provide food such as seeds, nuts and berries for wildlife and bird species; protecting and buffering drinking water sources such as small ponds and wetland areas; and limiting turf grass use to recreational areas. Use the Carlsbad Landscape Manual in landscape refurbishment and new park development projects.
- 4-P.30** Design parks to protect public safety by ensuring adequate lighting, signage, and maintenance.

#### **Mitigation Measures**

None required.

#### **Impact 3.11-2 Implementation of the proposed General Plan would not result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered school facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards. (Less than significant)**

At buildout of the proposed General Plan, Carlsbad's student population is expected to remain relatively stable or decline in three of the four school districts serving the city. Although the proposed General Plan will result in additional students from new housing units, ongoing demographic trends are causing reductions in the population of school-aged children in Carlsbad.

According to SANDAG projections, which take into consideration the region's aging population among other demographic shifts, Carlsbad's school-aged population as a percentage of the total population is likely to remain stable or decline over the planning horizon: the percentage of the population aged 5 to 9 is projected to decline by 0.2 percent, and that of the population aged 15 to 17 by as much as 14.5 percent. The percentage of the population aged 10 to 14 is projected to remain relatively stable, with an increase of 0.5 percent.

This trend is echoed by findings within the CUSD Facilities Master Plan and Proposition P<sup>2</sup> Construction Program (2007). Although city population and housing units are expected to grow, stu-

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<sup>2</sup> For more information on Proposition P, see the Funding and Planned Improvements Section below.

dent yield per housing unit is declining, resulting in slower student population growth than in previous years. Contributing factors listed in the construction program include the cost of housing in the city (less affordable to families with children), the economic recession, and a soft job market. Not listed in the construction program is the broad demographic change Carlsbad is likely to experience—toward older households—which may also be a primary cause of changes in student yield per housing unit today and into the future.

Table 3.11-9 summarizes the change in public school enrollment at buildout for the four school districts serving Carlsbad, and compares the changes in enrollment with capacity. As shown, the largest increase is projected to be in the elementary school-aged population in CUSD, where additional capacity in existing schools is available. Additionally, SMUSD is currently undertaking renovation and modernization projects for its facilities, which are expected to increase its capacity to manage the projected increase in students. For all school districts at all grade levels, capacity is expected to be sufficient for the buildout student population with no need for additional schools. This impact is considered less than significant.

**Table 3.11-9: Projected Changes in Enrollment and Capacity at Buildout**

District	Enrollment from Carlsbad 2012/13	Change in Enrollment			Existing Capacity for Carlsbad Students	Excess Capacity at Buildout
		From Demographic Trends	From New Units at Buildout	Net Change		
<b>Carlsbad Unified</b>						
Elementary (K-5)	5,077	-97	1,458	1,361	7,623	1,185
Middle (6-8)	2,648	-6	644	638	3,430	144
High (9-12)	3,156	-473	449	-24	4,950	1,818
<b>San Marcos Unified</b>						
Elementary (K-5)	1,223	40	23	63	N/A <sup>1</sup>	N/A
Middle (6-8)	492	3	6	9	N/A	N/A
High (9-12)	451	-78	10	-68	N/A	N/A
<b>Encinitas Union</b>						
Elementary	2,691	-106	30	-77	3,295	681
<b>San Dieguito Union</b>						
Middle	638	-10	31	21	2,140	1,481
High	1,520	-187	57	-130	2,717	1,327

1. SMUSD is currently (2013) in the process of determining existing capacity at individual schools system-wide; this data is not yet available.

Source: CALPADS, 2013; Carlsbad Unified School District Technology and Information Systems, 2013; Dyett & Bhatia, 2013; City of Encinitas Current Conditions Report, 2010; Encinitas Union School District Superintendent's Office, 2013; San Dieguito Union School District Planning Services, 2013; City of Carlsbad, 2013; Carlsbad Unified School District School Facilities Needs Analysis, 2010; San Marcos Unified School District School Facilities Needs Analysis, 2013; San Marcos Unified School District Department of Facilities Planning and Development, 2013.

**Proposed General Plan Goals and Policies that Reduce the Impact**

*Arts, History, Culture, and Education Element Goals*

7-G.9 Work with school districts to ensure educational facilities with sufficient permanent capacity are available to meet the needs of current and future projected enrollment. Consult with the school districts on policies and projects that affect the provision of educational facilities and services.

*Arts, History, Culture, and Education Element Policies*

7-P.22 Support efforts by the Carlsbad Unified School District, other school districts that serve Carlsbad residents, and childcare service providers to establish, maintain, and improve educational facilities and services.

7-P.23 Coordinate with the school districts to ensure that school facilities have adequate capacity to accommodate projected enrollment resulting from the city's population growth and development.

**Mitigation Measures**

None required.

**Impact 3.11-3 Implementation of the proposed Carlsbad General Plan would not result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered library facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards. (Less than significant)**

Based on a projected 2035 buildout population of approximately 131,152 residents, the Carlsbad library system would need a total of 104,922 square feet in order to meet the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan performance standard. This would require the construction of an additional 5,177 square feet of facilities space. As growth is expected to occur gradually over the planning horizon, this additional space would not be needed until the later stages of the proposed General Plan. At such a time as construction of new facilities would be necessary, existing building and construction codes would ensure that construction activities have a minimal effect on the surrounding environment while proposed General Plan policies provide air and water quality protections from new development. Moreover, the proposed General Plan complements the Growth Management Plan in such a way that new residential development could not be permitted unless adequate services and facilities were guaranteed.

Additionally, proposed General Plan policies promote ongoing development of library facilities and programming such that the city's changing demand for library space is addressed on a continual basis over the course of the planning horizon. Potential impacts are further reduced by proposed General Plan policies that prioritize the provision of facilities and services in infill areas.

Given the gradual nature of this facilities need, the proposed General Plan policies that ensure compliance with the Growth Management Plan, the proposed General Plan policies for new de-

velopment that provide air and water quality protections, this impact is considered less than significant.

**Proposed General Plan Goals and Policies that Reduce the Impact**

*Land Use and Community Design Element Goals*

- 2-G.22            Ensure that adequate public facilities and services are provided in a timely manner to preserve the quality of life of residents.
- 2-G.23            Develop programs that correlate the projected population with the service capabilities of the city.

*Land Use and Community Design Element Policies*

Policies 2-P.55, 2-P.56, 2-P.57, 2-P.58, and 2-P.59 as listed above.

*Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element Policies*

- 4-P.55            Ensure that construction and grading projects minimize short-term impacts to air quality.
- a) Require grading projects to provide a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) in compliance with city requirements, which include standards for best management practices that control pollutants from dust generated by construction activities and those related to vehicle and equipment cleaning, fueling and maintenance;
- b) Require grading projects to undertake measures to minimize mononitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions from vehicle and equipment operations; and
- c) Monitor all construction to ensure that proper steps are implemented.
- 4-P.57            Require developments to incorporate structural and non-structural best management practices (BMPs) to mitigate or reduce the projected increases in pollutant loads. Do not allow post-development runoff from a site that would cause or contribute to an exceedance of receiving water quality objectives or has not been reduced to the maximum extent practicable.

*Arts, History, Culture, and Education Element Policies*

- 7-P.28            Ensure that Carlsbad library facilities and programs are expanded commensurate with the city's population growth in order to maintain compliance with the Growth Management Plan.
- 7-P.29            Provide adequate library facilities and programs that align with residents' lifelong learning needs and abilities, such as through facilities design, services and service delivery methods, and partnerships with educational and learning institutions.

### **Mitigation Measures**

None required.

**Impact 3.11-4 Implementation of the proposed Carlsbad General Plan would not result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered police and fire facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards. (Less than significant)**

#### **Fire Protection**

With a projected increase in population of up to 22,166 additional residents at proposed General Plan buildout, demand for fire protection services will also likely increase. Population increases may result in increased alarms and call volumes that may negatively impact Fire Department response times unless adequate staffing and facilities are maintained.

The majority of new development under the proposed General Plan will be located in urbanized parts of the city, most of which are in areas of low fire hazard severity, with only a few exceptions in the eastern areas of the city. These sites, however, are easily accessible by major streets from existing fire stations. In general, all new development will take place near existing fire stations, in areas within existing service areas, where average response time benchmarks are already being met (see Appendix C for proposed Plan fire response times). Based on the locations of new development alone, new locations for fire services would not be necessary.

However, the Fire Department has expressed the need to upgrade a number of its existing fire stations in order to meet increased service demands, changes in staffing, and the increasing size of fire apparatus, indicating that three out of six are currently only minimally meeting the needs of the city. These stations—1, 2, and 3—are all 40 years old or older. The proposed General Plan notes that stations 1 and 2 should be considered for remodel or reconstruction. Station 3 is already planned to be relocated to the Robertson Ranch Master Plan area slightly southeast of its current location. These activities, however, are unlikely to cause any substantial adverse physical impacts, as they will be subject to building and construction codes that minimize environmental impacts of new development. Additionally, these activities would cause only a minimal increase to the city's built footprint.

Policies contained in the proposed General Plan would serve to keep service demand increases to a minimum. Proposed policies encourage hazard mitigation as part of the site planning process for new development, and continue fire prevention practices such as review and inspection of plans by the Fire Prevention Division, code inspections, and testing of fire protection systems. Additionally, proposed policies would ensure that circulation improvements account for fire station locations, and acknowledge the potential to form mutual aid agreements to share demand where necessary.

Due to the minimal effects that the renovation or relocation of existing facilities would have on the environment, the concentration of new development in areas already well-served by fire protection services, and the addition of policies to reduce fire hazards in the city, this impact is considered less than significant for fire protection.



### **Police Protection**

In order to accommodate increases in demand from a growing population, the Carlsbad Police Department expects that it will also need to grow. The department has been considering relocating some or all of its services within the Public Safety and Service Center or to other facilities in order to meet the space needs of additional staff and equipment. The department has discussed the space within the Public Safety and Service Center that is currently occupied by Fire Administration as a desired location, though Fire Administration would then need to relocate to a nearby location. Relocating police and fire services to and from this space or nearby facilities would not necessitate new construction, and would have minimal impacts on the city's physical environment. However, a third option has been considered which involves expanding the Public Safety and Service center to accommodate both police services and Fire Administration. In this case, existing building and construction codes would ensure that construction activities have a minimal effect on the surrounding environment, and the expanded facility would add relatively little new built area to the city's footprint.

Proposed General Plan policies also serve to mitigate any increases in demand for police services. Policies include those that encourage physical planning and community design practices that promote safety, and considering hazards as a part of site planning and development.

Because meeting facilities needs for an expanded Police Department would not necessarily require new construction or physically altering an existing facility, and any physical alterations of the Public Safety and Service Center would have limited impact on the city's built environment, and because proposed General Plan policies include policies promoting improved public safety, this impact is considered less than significant for police services.

### **Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact**

#### *Land Use and Community Design Element Goals*

Goals 2-G.22 and 2-G.33, listed above.

#### *Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element Policies*

Policies 4-P.55 and 4-P.57 listed above.

#### *Public Safety Element Policies*

- 6-P.29** Encourage physical planning and community design practices that deter crime and promote safety.
- 6-P.30** Maintain close coordination between planned improvements to the circulation system within the city and the location of fire stations to assure adequate levels of service and response times to all areas of the community.
- 6-P.31** Consider site constraints in terms of hazards and current levels of emergency service delivery capabilities when making land use decisions. In areas where population or building densities may be inappropriate to the hazards present, take measures to mitigate the risk of life and property loss.

- 6-P.32 Coordinate the delivery of fire protection services through mutual aid agreements with other agencies when appropriate.
- 6-P.33 Enforce the Uniform Building and Fire codes, adopted by the city, to provide fire protection standards for all existing and proposed structures.
- 6-P.34 Promote community awareness of possible natural and man-made hazards, response plans and measures that can be taken to protect lives.
- 6-P.35 When future development is proposed to be intermixed with wildlands and/or adjacent to wildlands, require applicants to comply with the city's adopted Landscape Manual, which includes requirements related to fire protection, and calls for preparation of a fire protection plan when a proposed project contains or is bounded by hazardous vegetation or is within an area bounded by a very high fire hazard severity zone, or as determined by the Fire Code official or his representative.

**Mitigation Measures**

None required.

**Impact 3.11-5 Implementation of the proposed Carlsbad General Plan would not result in substantial adverse physical or other environmental impacts associated with the provision of or need for construction of new or physically altered city administrative facilities in order to maintain acceptable service standards. (Less than significant)**

Based on the estimated population of 131,152 at buildout of the proposed General Plan, the Citywide Facilities and Improvements Plan performance standards for city administrative facilities would require at least 196,728 square feet of space, an increase of 34,359 square feet from the amount required in 2013. However, given the 214,469 square feet of existing facilities, there would still be a surplus of 17,741 square feet of administrative space at buildout. Should additional space become necessary, these needs could be met through the leasing or purchase of existing space rather than through new construction.

Nevertheless, the proposed General Plan complements the Growth Management Plan in such a way that new residential development could not be permitted unless adequate services and facilities were guaranteed. The proposed General Plan also contains policies that reduce the environmental impact of new development of facilities development by directing new development to infill areas and providing protections for air and water quality.

With the anticipated surplus in city administrative facility space and proposed General Plan policies complementing the Growth Management Plan and ensuring that environmental impacts of new development are minimized, this impact is considered less than significant.

**Proposed General Plan Policies that Reduce the Impact**

*Land Use and Community Design Element Goals*

Goals 2-G.22 and 2-G.33, listed above.

*Land Use and Community Design Element Policies*

Policies 2-P.55, 2-P.56, 2-P.57, 2-P.58, and 2-P.59 as listed above.

*Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Element Policies*

Policies 4-P.55 and 4-P.57 listed above.

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