

## EDUCATION ELEMENT



If family is the engine that motivates Riversiders, then education is the fuel. Providing opportunities to receive a quality education is of vital importance to all Riverside residents. Education provides the knowledge, skills and resources to foster a thriving economy and build a harmonious community. Education helps us all gain self esteem and better understand the needs of others.

In many ways, a community's schools reflect what a community aspires to be. Education and schools are the cornerstone of a community. For youth, life skills and potential increase with a quality education: the likelihood of getting and keeping a satisfying job, enjoying good relationships with family, living a rewarding life and getting involved in community activities.

Providing a flexible education for older adults is also critical. Today more than ever we require continuing education as we mature. Throughout their working lives, adults may experience many jobs and use a wide range of skills. As a result, we are moving toward a more flexible educational system that integrates work and training and serves the needs of experienced workers at different stages in their careers. The twenty-first century will continue to bring new technologies and, along with them, new possibilities. Information is the new currency, and in this knowledge-based era, Riverside must truly become a learning community. To meet the needs of current and future residents, Riverside must continue to provide a comprehensive and flexible education system in which all sectors, from pre-kindergarten through post secondary education, offer the resources and services to provide a rigorous and quality education.

Riverside has a wealth of educational resources that serve local residents and the region. Riverside hosts three universities and one college, two school districts, several private schools and a variety of continuing education opportunities (see Figure E-1, Education Facilities). In addition, Riverside's unique educational resources include a public library system and municipal museum. Together with several other specialized museums, these agencies compose the Downtown Museums and Library Consortium. This educational wealth located in one city is found in few communities across the nation.

As reflected in, *Visioning Riverside: A Report from the Community*, while many people who grew up in Riverside feel strongly that the education they received prepared them well, many residents are concerned that the present school system may not be as effective as it once was. To

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*"There needs to be a partnership between local government, the community and our schools to meet the educational and career development of our youth."*

-Riverside Vision Festival  
July 2002

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*We envision an education-friendly city where schools are the priority."*

-Riverside Vision Festival  
July 2002

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meet these needs for present and future residents, Riverside must focus on providing greater investments in education but also recognize that this is a community-wide responsibility, requiring partnerships among the school, local government, libraries, museums, businesses and parents.

Despite the enrollment of nearly 50,000 students in colleges and universities in 2003, many residents believe that Riverside is not perceived as a university town. Many residents would like to see educational institutions better integrated into the entire community. This includes making Riverside a place where many college faculty live in the City and students spend time in Riverside's theaters, shops and recreation facilities, and share their talents with Riverside residents. Colleges and universities can have a more vital role by offering expertise to assist with cultural, economic and neighborhood development. Working towards creating "Town and Gown" partnerships will help to ensure quality life-long learning for all.

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE



*UCR's Carillon tower stands tall, representing the heights we aspire to achieve in education.*

The University of California, Riverside is one of the fastest growing and most ethnically diverse campuses within the University of California system. UCR's college structure includes the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences; the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences; the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering; the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management; the Graduate School of Education; the Division of Biomedical Sciences; and a well-developed University Extension program. As UCR entered the twenty-first century, it offered one hundred one undergraduate majors, fifty master's degree programs, thirty-nine Ph.D. programs and seven state teaching and administrative credentials. With a nationally respected biomedical science program, UCR is poised to establish the sixth medical school in

the UC system.

In addition, the University Extension program offers continuing education to the community, as well as English instruction to thousands of international students each year.



Figure E-1 (11x17)





## EDUCATION ELEMENT

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The roots of the campus date back to the early twentieth century when Riverside was the center of a growing citrus industry on leased land at the foot of Mt. Rubidoux. The station moved to the current location in 1917 to provide additional land for the citrus groves and a supply of water from the Gage Canal. The College of Letters and Science opened for classes in 1954, and six years later, the Graduate Division was established, marking the beginning of UCR as a UC general campus.

UCR grew gradually through its first half century, but as California's population has exploded, the demand for a university education at the top-quality UC system has particularly put demands on UCR. In the 2002-03 academic year, UCR enrolled approximately sixteen thousand students, up almost twenty percent from just three years prior. The enrollment level is expected to increase to an estimated twenty-one thousand students by 2010-11 and to twenty-five thousand students by 2015-16.

As the student population increases, UCR has made a strong commitment to house students on campus. An established goal is to house fifty percent of UCR students in University housing. Key objectives in UCR's Long- Range Development Plan include expanding graduate-level educational facilities and housing on the West Campus portion of the University's property (west of Interstate 215), integrating land uses on the West Campus area to complement University Avenue and creating open space linkages between the East and West Campus areas.

California Baptist University is the only Southern Baptist college or university on the West Coast. Approximately two thousand students attend the university, coming to Riverside from more than forty states and twenty countries.

In 1950, the Los Angeles Baptist Association opened the doors of California Baptist College in El Monte to one hundred twenty students who came seeking a liberal arts education in a Christian environment. In 1955, after four years of continued growth, the college relocated to larger facilities in Riverside. Growth in all areas paved the way for the institution to become a university on September 25, 1998. As of 2003, California Baptist University had a projected maximum enrollment of approximately two thousand three hundred students.

California Baptist University offers a wide range of undergraduate and graduate degree majors and disciplines, within the university is the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Music, School of Education, School of Christian Ministry, School of Business, School of Behavior Sciences and School of Evening Programs. As the university has grown, it has added majors in Fine Arts, Ministry, Philosophy, Behavioral



*Cal Baptist offers a quality education and cultural arts resources available to the Riverside community.*



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Science, Information Systems and Criminal Justice. Graduate programs include Psychology, Kinesiology, English, Business Administration and Education.

The eighty-two-acre campus of Spanish-style buildings includes classrooms, campus housing, a library, offices and maintenance and athletic facilities. In particular, Cal Baptist offers outstanding music and theater arts programs, with the Wallace Theater providing a performance venue for campus and community theater groups, as well as exhibit spaces for visual art.

### LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

La Sierra University is a private, four-year coeducational university that offers graduate and undergraduate programs in applied and liberal arts and sciences, business and management, religion and pre-professional education. The academic structure includes the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business Management, School of Education and School of Religion.

Founded in 1922, La Sierra University is located within the La Sierra area of Riverside. Facilities on the University's one-hundred-acre campus include the University Library, museums, an observatory, arboretum, Brandstater Gallery, MICOL computing laboratory, the Learning Support and Testing Center, the Hancock and Stahl Centers and other campus resources.

La Sierra University is part of the Seventh Day Adventist system of higher education. As of 2003-04 academic year, one thousand nine hundred forty students were enrolled, including almost fifteen hundred undergraduate and four hundred graduate students. Approximately forty-three percent of all students live in campus-owned housing. The projected maximum University enrollment is two thousand one hundred students.

### RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Riverside Community College is one of California's leading community colleges. Located on one hundred eight acres in downtown Riverside, the RCC campus opened in 1916 on the site of the former Riverside Polytechnic High School. Several of the original buildings still stand to serve students. RCC is an important entry and educational point for both traditional age college learners and for older adult students who are seeking new job skills, re-training or are starting new careers. Students attending RCC can choose to earn an Associate's degree, transfer to a four-year college or university or earn a career certificate





that prepares them to enter the workforce. RCC's health, human and public services programs are designed to fill critical industry needs. These include the Physician Assistant Program, the new Dental Hygiene Program and the LVN and RN nursing programs. RCC's educator preparation program planned for the site in La Sierra will provide a new way to train more educators and fulfill classroom needs.

In addition to the original campus in downtown Riverside, RCC established campuses at Moreno Valley and Norco. In 2003, over thirty thousand students attended classes at one of RCC's campuses or education centers or participated in on-line education. Student attendance at these three campuses is expected to grow rapidly, with student enrollment projected to increase to 53,000 students by 2014.

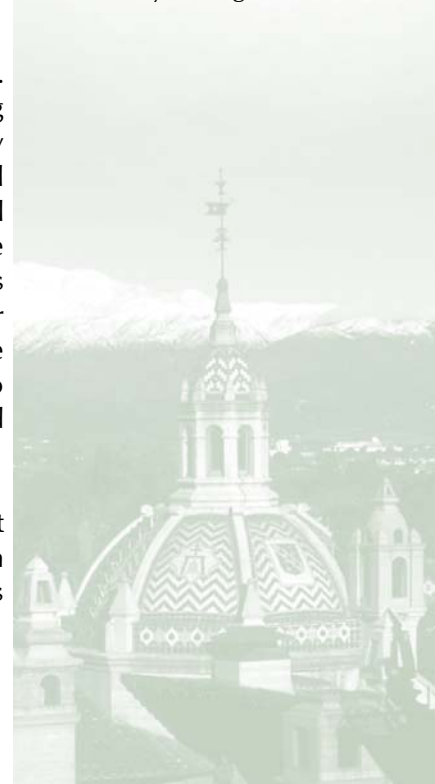
In recognition of budgetary constraints and the growing number of students at the Norco and Moreno Valley campuses, in 2004 the California Post-Secondary Educational Commission voted to have the Moreno Valley and Norco campuses break from Riverside Community College and become separate colleges. After achieving accreditation, these education centers will become individual colleges by 2009. While the Moreno Valley and Norco campuses will remain part of the Riverside Community College District, they will have individual administrations and identities.

RCC operates an innovative Gateway to College program. Gateway to College is designed to serve youth ages sixteen to twenty who have dropped out of school or who are at significant risk of dropping out. Gateway to College students complete high school while earning college credits toward an Associate's degree or certificate. It is the only model within the Gates Foundation's Early College High School Initiative that is specifically targeted to recapture and serve high school dropouts. In addition, the College's Economic Development Office works with nearly one thousand businesses per year, providing services through Corporate Connection. These services include the Center for International Trade Development, Procurement Assistance, Corporate Training and the Center for Applied Technologies. RCC continues to maintain business-education partnerships that offer guaranteed employment to graduates.

In partnership with the City of Riverside and several non-profit organizations, RCC has established the Riverside School for the Arts in Downtown, a school that integrates course work and shares facilities with varied arts and culture organizations.



*Riverside Community College is one of California's leading community colleges.*





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### CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE

The California School for the Deaf, Riverside, or CSDR, is located on a sixty-nine-acre campus within central Riverside. The school serves five hundred students from eleven counties in Southern California. CSDR provides an in-depth instructional program, supportive services, an after-school program and a residential component for pre-school, elementary, middle, high school and special needs students ranging in age from three through twenty-two.

CSDR also provides an array of programs for parents and community members, including parent education classes, American Sign Language classes, Latino Family Retreat and extensive outreach services. Assessment services and technical support to local education agencies allows CSDR to work closely with institutions of higher learning in the placement and training of student educators and interns.

### ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Alvord Unified School District serves the western portion of Riverside and a small portion of eastern Corona. During the 2003-04 school year, the District served over nineteen thousand students and employed more than nine hundred educators and other certificated personnel and approximately five hundred classified and non-teaching support staff.

AUSD operates twelve year-round elementary schools, four traditional middle schools, two comprehensive high schools and one alternative/continuation high school. AUSD anticipates a new educator-training learning center that will open near La Sierra University in 2005. The school would include a child day care and early childhood development program in a partnership among Alvord Unified School District, Riverside Community College, La Sierra University, UC Riverside and Cal State San Bernardino. Riverside Community College will oversee the early childhood/preschool facility and educator training program.

The key challenge facing the Alvord Unified School District is that many schools are near or over capacity. Many of these schools are in older neighborhoods with little vacant land available of sufficient size to expand. Alvord Unified School District faces a critical need for new elementary school sites. To meet the needs of the projected student population, AUSD will require construction of several new school sites, particularly for new elementary and high schools students.







## RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) is the fifteenth largest school district in California. In 2003, the District enrolled over forty two thousand students in kindergarten through grade 12. RUSD serves a ninety-two-square mile area, including most of the City of Riverside, as well as the Highgrove, Woodcrest and Lake Mathews areas of the County.

The District's forty-six schools include twenty-nine elementary, one special education pre-school, six middle schools (grades 7-8), five comprehensive high schools (grades 9-12), two continuation high schools and one adult alternative education school. RUSD is also a major employer in the City, with roughly five thousand full and part-time staff in 2003. In addition to traditional academic programs, RUSD's Educational Alternative and Services (EAS) division provides academic, occupational, employment and personal development services to over twelve thousand students each year. Approximately six hundred students each year earn their high school diploma or General Education Development Certificate (GED) through EAS. All EAS programs are designed to meet a variety of individual educational needs through creative instructional approaches.

The District has experienced rapid growth since the 1990s. Four new elementary schools and one new middle school are planned for opening in 2006 and 2007. This new construction, combined with modernizations and expansions of existing campuses, will allow the District to meet the demands of a growing school-age population.

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*Riverside Unified School District and Alvord Unified School District prepare school facilities plans on a five-year schedule to continually monitor and project future needs and to ensure that assessed school fees on new development relate to projected needs.*

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**Creative Option for Positive Education (COPE)**

This Community Day School program is designed to meet the special needs of RUSD high school students who have been expelled or are under a suspended expulsion.

**Lincoln and Raincross High Schools**

These are alternative high schools, with Lincoln serving students from North and Poly High Schools and Raincross meeting the needs of Arlington, King and Ramona High School students.

**Opportunity School**

This is a small classroom setting serving middle school students who have not adjusted well on the comprehensive middle school campus.

**Riverside Adult School**

Riverside adults and high school students are served by this large, multi-program school at over forty sites.

**Summit View (Independent Study)**

Summit View is a large independent study school serving students grades K-12 from Riverside and adjoining areas.

**PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

While a large number of students in Riverside attend public schools, Riverside is also home to several private schools that offer an alternative to the public education system. The majority of Riverside private schools are religious-based and include religious instruction as part of the curriculum. Other types of private schools may offer alternative schedules, focused studies in a particular area or a greater number of electives than public schools. A small but growing number of parents educate their children themselves, a practice known as home schooling.





## OTHER SCHOOLS

### SHERMAN INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Sherman Indian High School (grades 9-12) is a boarding school for students of Native American heritage. Sherman Indian High School offers a challenging academic environment and highly personal interaction between educators, students and dormitory staff in a culturally rich environment.

## OTHER EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

### MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council was created in 2003 to promote youth activism and establish healthy relationships between the City and youth. The Advisory Board is comprised of twenty-four members selected by the Mayor to serve one annual term. Students may apply from both public and private high schools within Riverside. Board members served as a representative for youth and their schools, educate peers on current City issues and make recommendations concerning problems affecting youth in Riverside.

### THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

The Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) is a service agency supporting the county's twenty-three school districts and linking them with the California Department of Education. RCOE has three missions: to give administrative support to districts; to operate student programs for almost sixty-thousand preschool, special education and vocational/regional occupation program students; and to provide professional training, support and resources for educators, administrators and staff.

RCOE also operates a number of important educational programs, including the *Riverside County Achievement Teams* program which helps school districts boost student achievement and meet the goals set by the state's rigorous accountability programs. The Reading Runs which are held in Riverside and Indio draw hundreds of children who receive free books for their pledge to read twenty minutes every day. The 2003 *Our Safe Schools Summit* brought together more than one hundred and seventy school and law enforcement officials to map out plans to make schools safer in Riverside.





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### THE RIVERSIDE CITY/COUNTY CHILD CARE CONSORTIUM

Early childhood education is important to a child's future success in both the K-12 years and adulthood. When children enter school ready to learn, schools are better able to meet high standards and student needs. Successful schools benefit all students, improve a city's livability and help develop a strong future workforce. In addition to early education, high-quality child care is equally essential in the preparation of a child's readiness for school.

The Riverside County Child Care Consortium (RCCCC) is a non-profit corporation that provides assistance to persons requesting information on all aspects of early education, child care or the development of new child care programs in Riverside. The RCCCC also sponsors training and special events throughout the year on child development and early education for parents and educators. The Consortium has developed a strategic plan for young children in Riverside.

### ACCOMMODATING GROWTH NEEDS

#### RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Riverside Unified School District anticipates that new schools will particularly be needed in the Downtown and Eastside neighborhoods and outlying developing neighborhoods. Four new elementary schools and one new middle school are in design for opening in 2006 and 2007, including one each in Downtown and Eastside. The standard model for building new schools may not be followed. As both of these areas have matured into vibrant, mixed-use urban centers, the areas will support more urban-type schools that themselves could incorporate a beneficial mix of uses. Opportunities include community facilities, commercial development and recreational facilities.

The unincorporated areas of Highgrove and Lake Mathews, along with newly annexed areas of Orangecrest, represent key growth areas where RUSD planners have identified a critical need for new elementary and middle schools. Importantly, the timing of new housing development and annexations must be coordinated with school development to ensure all students receive quality educations in adequate school facilities. To minimize costs of planning and development, the City will work proactively with RUSD to identify school sites where infrastructure and transportation corridors already are planned and funded.



## ALVORD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

As noted above, the main challenges Alvord Unified School District faces are accommodating growth at already overcrowded schools and finding new school sites. The most critical need for AUSD is new elementary school facilities. All of the District's elementary schools operate on a year-round basis to maximize capacity. To minimize costs of planning and development, the City will work proactively with AUSD to identify school sites in the community.

## COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

College and universities in Riverside face a different set of unique challenges. Many are finding that they are physically constrained at their current campus sites and are having difficulty expanding facilities either due to high costs or neighborhood objections. High growth campuses such as RCC are particularly constrained. While UCR is not particularly constrained in terms of land, the University is looking to use existing land efficiently and increase building density in order to provide for a “walkable campus” and provide adequate room for future facilities including housing and recreational facilities and preserve natural and open space areas. In addition, continuing to attract high-quality faculty and staff to Riverside remains critically important to the future success of all educational institutions. Finding affordable housing is an increasing challenge for new professors and staff at Riverside's colleges and universities. It is particularly problematic to find affordable single-family homes for less than \$300,000.

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*See policies contained in the City's Housing Element regarding provision of affordable housing.*

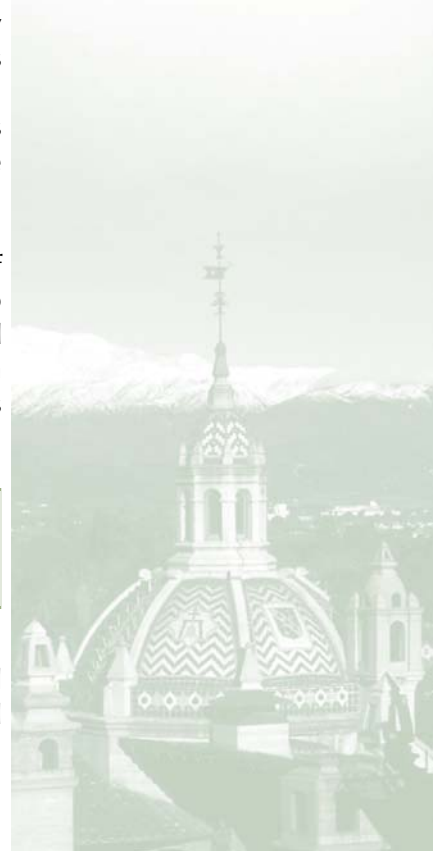
*In particular Goal 2.*

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Riverside's schools, colleges and universities are an important part of what makes the City a desirable place to live. The City is committed to continued support and accommodation of the needs of educational institutions in the community. The City will also continue to work with educational facilities to support the provision of quality housing that is affordable to a variety of household income levels.

**Objective ED-1: Accommodate the growth of all educational facilities.**

Policy ED-1.1 Provide an adequate level of infrastructure and services to accommodate campus growth at all educational levels.





## EDUCATION ELEMENT

- Policy ED-1.2: Work with the school districts to locate school sites where infrastructure already exists to minimize costs to the various districts in new school construction.
- Policy ED-1.3: Include school district staff in the review of annexation proposals to guide campus site selection and desirable design elements.
- Policy ED-1.4: Streamline the permitting process for educational facilities as practicable.
- Policy ED-1.5: Support the creation of professional schools at UCR which could include future schools of law and medicine.
- Policy ED-1.6: Ensure that the community is attractive and offers a high-quality life style to prospective education system employees.
- Policy ED-1.7: Develop and support programs that promote housing for educators.
- Policy ED-1.8: Support establishment of arts based education facilities.

## CREATING PARTNERSHIPS

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*"We need more youth-oriented facilities, especially after-school activities and programs in the Downtown."*

*- Citizens' Community Congress  
September 2003*

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*See the Arts and Culture Element, Under "The Arts in Education" and the Public Facilities Element under "Telecommunications Infrastructure" for more information on joint use.*

*In particular review Objective AC-1 and Policy PF-8.1.*

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Creating effective partnerships among the City, libraries, school districts, educational programs, colleges and universities, businesses and the community at large will be an important component of supplying educational resources in Riverside. The benefits of effective partnerships are twofold. One, with limited funding, the joint use of facilities and resources can reduce costs and expand services for both public services and educational facilities. Two, allowing local schools, colleges and universities to play a more central role in community life can help engage parents and give surrounding neighborhoods a stake in education.

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### **Objective ED-2: Capitalize upon the opportunities offered by the educational community.**

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- Policy ED-2.1: Collaborate on strong joint-use arrangements, using as a key resource the Mayor's Joint Use Committee to



create partnerships with the City, Riverside Unified School District and Alvord Unified School District and to develop methods to remove barriers to joint use, especially in new neighborhoods.

Policy ED-2.2: Cooperate with the Riverside Unified School District and Alvord Unified School District in efforts to plan magnet school programs in conjunction with other initiatives, such as the creation of an arts school with an art museum.

Policy ED-2.3: Work with regional authorities to take advantage of existing workforce development programs.

Policy ED-2.4: Mobilize municipal resources to promote education, cultural and employment opportunities.

Policy ED-2.5: Work with the colleges and universities to promote their great arts and culture programs throughout the community.

Policy ED-2.6: Provide partnerships and collaborations between the school districts and public and private agencies that foster vocational education opportunities and career counseling programs that improve the basic work skills of students.

Policy ED-2.7: Look for ways to have child-care centers incorporated into new and existing schools.

Policy ED-2.8: Emphasize Riverside as a community of colleges and universities and draw on the resources that such a community provides.

Policy ED-2.9: Encourage community and business involvement in schools in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce and other business and community groups.

Policy ED-2.10: Promote that the universities and colleges integrate within the neighborhoods that surround them.

Policy ED-2.11: Continue to work with the Higher Education/Business Council and other groups to identify ways to both promote and accentuate the multiple opportunities Riverside's higher education institutions offer, and to seek ways to market this unique resource.



*Providing safe routes for children to walk and bike to school improves children's health and creates safer neighborhoods in general.*





## EDUCATION ELEMENT

### **Objective ED-3: Plan proactively for all education needs.**

Policy ED-3.1: Partner with local schools, colleges, early childhood education programs and other educational institutions to accommodate the educational needs of residents.

Policy ED-3.2: Work with the school districts to address pre-kindergarten educational needs, as well as the needs of children who do not perform well in a traditional school setting.

## ENSURING SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

In October of 2001, U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher walked with students to school in Silver Spring Maryland in the first international *Walk Our Children to School Day* to encourage parents and their children to walk and bike - especially to and from school - as a way to increase physical activity, improve safety, contribute to student's sense of independence, and ease traffic congestion.<sup>1</sup>

Parents driving their children to school make up twenty to twenty-five percent of the morning commute traffic.<sup>2</sup> Many Riversiders admit driving their children to school on a daily basis largely due to concerns about children's safety and because transportation alternatives are not readily available. At the September, 2003 Citizens' Congress, many Riversiders commented on the lack of safe pedestrian and bike routes, especially in the Arlington, Arlanza and Victoria neighborhoods.

Children driven to school lose out in many ways. Children need the daily exercise that walking or cycling to school can offer. Evidence shows that more active children are likely to become more active adults. For older children, making their own way to school is a chance to become more independent and self confident. In addition, communities can benefit as well with reduced traffic congestion. Slower vehicle speeds in neighborhoods will help to improve the quality of life for all residents.

*"I love my bike, but the roads are too narrow. We need better and safer bike access."*

*- Citizens' Congress, September 2003*

<sup>1</sup> Local Strategies to Increase Healthy Eating and Physical Activity. California Nutrition Network for Healthy, Active Children. 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ACE. 2000.





In response to school traffic safety concerns, the Riverside Public Works Department has developed a School Traffic Safety Program – Walk Safe! – Drive Safe! which identifies school zones traffic safety problems within the community. The program emphasizes the three “Es”: education of school traffic safety issues, engineering solutions and enforcement of pedestrian and vehicle safety.

**Objective ED-4: Maintain a safe environment at all campus facilities and on routes to school.**

*See the Circulation and Community Mobility, Public Safety and Air Quality Elements for more information on safe routes to schools..*

Policy ED-4.1: Work with the school districts and colleges and universities to ensure well-planned, safe, pedestrian-friendly schools and education facilities.

*In particular review Objectives CCM-10, PS-5 and AQ-2.*

Policy ED-4.2: Work with the Riverside Transit Agency to ensure that schools are effectively served by bus routes.

Policy ED-4.3: Work with the school districts to incorporate bicycle access, racks and bike lanes into school design.

Policy ED-4.4: Work with the school districts to effectively plan for and manage access, congestion and parking around schools.

Policy ED-4.5: Support the Police Department's on-campus school resource officers.

Policy ED-4.6: Work towards providing a bicycle network within Riverside that connects schools, employment centers and residential areas.

Policy ED-4.7: Plan transit facilities near educational facilities.

Policy ED-4.8: Support the Safe Routes to School programs of the Alvard and Riverside Unified School Districts.

**LIBRARIES**

Libraries provide communities with diverse resources and services. Libraries preserve culture and history and transmit them from one generation to the next. They also provide social settings for community activities, support of formal education, and provide opportunities for individuals that can last a lifetime.

*“We need to create partnerships within existing facilities such as libraries and community centers.”*

*– General Plan Technical Advisory Committee April 2003*



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The Riverside Public Library system is committed to being a promoter of self-directed life-long learning. Its mission is to “spark curiosity and provide tools for discovery.” The library system includes five neighborhood libraries that provide books, videotapes, sound recordings, magazine subscriptions, internet access and other resources. The Riverside Library system also includes two cybraries that provide a collection of “virtual” materials and educational resources.

### MAIN LIBRARY

The Riverside Main Library, completed in 1965, encompasses approximately sixty-one thousand square feet and was designed to hold three hundred thousand items. Today it holds more than four hundred fifty thousand items. Visitors can browse the traditional collections or access collections via the Internet on the many available work stations. The Main Library also hosts performances in its recital hall and has facilities for other community meetings. To accommodate growth in the collection and the changed patterns of library use, it is estimated that the Main Library needs an additional 30,000 square feet.

### ARLINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY



*The Arlington Neighborhood Library serves neighborhoods along Magnolia Avenue in western Riverside.*

The historic Arlington Neighborhood Library, built in 1909, is a four-thousand-square-foot facility that serves neighborhoods along Magnolia Avenue on the west side of town. In response to a growing population and increased demand, the City has identified a real need to expand and/or relocate library services within the Arlington neighborhood.

### CASA BLANCA FAMILY LEARNING CENTER

Completed in 2003, the Casa Blanca Family Learning Center is a ten-thousand-square-foot facility that serves this historically Latino community with books and other materials in English and Spanish. The community meeting room provides a location for educational and cultural programs, and a computer training room is used for classes taught by Riverside Community College instructors.



## MARCY NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY

The Marcy Neighborhood Library, built in 1956, is a four-thousand-two hundred-square-foot facility that provides local library services to central Riverside. In addition to books and related collections, the library includes public access computer workstations.

## LA SIERRA NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY

The La Sierra Neighborhood Library, expanded in 2002 to create eleven thousand square feet of space, offers traditional library resources and community meeting rooms. The library housing the Adult Literacy Program and the companion Family Literacy Program.

## CYBRARIES

Developed in 1998, the **Eastside Cybrary**, is a satellite service point of the Riverside Public Library, and offers a collection of "virtual" materials found through the library's online databases, CD-ROM software, and the Internet.

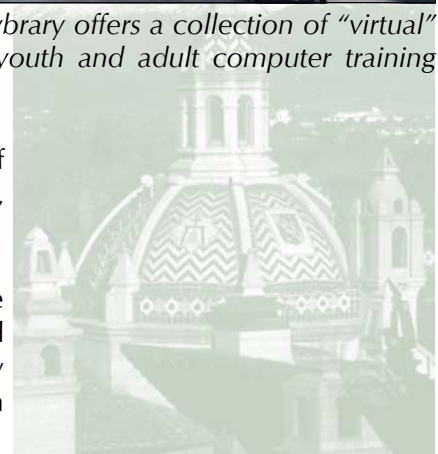
Located in a shopping center storefront near the corner of Chicago and University Avenues, the cybrary has provided free training for youth ages 9-17 in the use of computer technology for finding and evaluating information. Adult training consists of training in basic computer and information literacy skills, special workshop presentations, and access to GED, ESL, literacy resources and career development. Youth training includes training in basic computer and information literacy skills, homework assistance, and access to electronic information resources.



*The Eastside Cybrary offers a collection of "virtual" materials and youth and adult computer training classes.*

The **Nichols Cybrary Center**, located in the Joyce Jackson Community Center at Nichols Park, opened its doors in 2000 as a satellite service point of the Riverside Public Library. This center also offers students a collection of "virtual" materials found through the library's online databases, including CD-ROM software, and the internet.

The cybraries allow the City to make information and resource materials conveniently available to broader populations at reduced cost, and have proven successful as life-long learning tools. The City looks to build on the success of the cybraries to extend the education continuum and increase learning opportunities for all.





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See the *Public Facilities Element* under “*Telecommunications Infrastructure*” for more information on cybraries.

In particular review Policy PF-8.3.

**Objective ED-5: Ensure that the library system remains a premier information and independent learning resource for the Riverside residents and a complement to formal education.**

Policy ED-5.1: Provide ample and convenient library facilities.

Policy ED-5.2: Outreach to the community to assess, select, organize and maintain collections of materials and information sources of value desired by the community.

Policy ED-5.3: Partner with the school districts, universities, colleges and community and child care centers to operate joint-use learning and information resource centers.

See the *Arts and Culture Element* for additional policies regarding museums and the education they provide.

In particular review Objective AC-6.

Policy ED-5.4: Encourage joint exhibits and functions between the Central Branch of the Riverside Public Library, Riverside Municipal Museum and the Museum of the Mission Inn Foundation.

