



# Forum on Our Future

## What We Heard

Round 1: June 29 – July 1, 2020



## WHAT WE HEARD | FORUM ON OUR FUTURE

As part of the PlanRC General Plan Update, a three-day virtual forum was held from June 29 to July 1, 2020. The goal of the Forum on Our Future was to build on results from an initial online visioning survey and engage community members in informal dialogue. The event offered:

- **Online Kick-off Summit** – To kick off the Forum, this summit provided a brief background on PlanRC and also provided a summary of the results from the first PlanRC survey. Open dialogue, questions, and comments with community members followed. Comments are summarized below. A video of the summit is available [www.cityofrc.us/generalplan.com](http://www.cityofrc.us/generalplan.com).
- **Virtual Small Group Discussions** - Seven topical discussions were organized for the Forum. Each started with a brief context statement by a staff member followed by one hour of facilitated discussion via Zoom breakout sessions. This includes a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees for each session.
- **Dollars and Sense Webinar** – A webinar focused on land use and economic development was offered to the community. This presentation mirrored a similar one provided to the City Council and Planning Commission in June. The webinar can be viewed at [www.cityofrc.us/generalplan](http://www.cityofrc.us/generalplan).
- **PlanRC Online Survey #2** - A second PlanRC survey was launched during the Forum. This survey aims to further guide the development of a vision, values, and principles for PlanRC and builds on input from Survey #1. It will remain live through the end of July 2020. Results will be posted once the survey closes.
- **Cal Poly Pomona Student Video** - A forward-thinking conceptual plan for the City of Rancho Cucamonga was the subject of a graduate student project. Their interesting and insightful presentation was made available for the Forum to encourage long-term thinking and visioning.
- **Chat with a Planner** - For those having difficulty accessing any of the programs or who just wanted to talk, planners from the City were available throughout the week.

A schedule of events and flyer for the Forum are provided on the following pages.





**KICK-OFF SUMMIT**  
5:00-6:30 PM

# FORUM ON OUR FUTURE

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**  
Discussion Group 1: Moving Beyond Healthcare, Exercise & Food - A Healthy Community that Supports Diversity & Inclusion

**11:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 2: Providing Housing for All - Seniors, Young Professionals, and Essential Workers

**2:00 pm – 3:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 3: Building a More Resilient RC – Addressing Natural Hazards & Sustainability

**4:00 pm – 5:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 4: Getting Around Town Efficiently & Safely - Mobility in RC

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**  
Webinar. The Dollars and Sense: The Economics of Land Development Patterns

**11:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 5: Creating Local Jobs & Growing a More Robust Economy Amid Covid-19

**2:00 pm – 3:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 6: Maintaining and Expanding Our Parks & Open Space Resources

**4:00 pm – 5:30 pm**  
Discussion Group 7: Enhancing a Sense of Community and Local Arts & Culture Opportunities

**SUMMARY PRESENTATION**  
*(follows Forum)*

**ONLINE SURVEY II**

**CHAT WITH A PLANNER – LIVE**

**DAY ONE**

**DAY TWO**

**DAY THREE**





# FORUM ON OUR FUTURE

**JUNE 29 - JULY 1**  
**MULTI-DAY • VIRTUAL**

**JOIN US!**

Join fellow community members for a multi-day online forum to explore the vision for Rancho Cucamonga! Online workshops, virtual small group discussions, a web-based survey, and even phone dialogue are all offered during the forum. Participate in just one activity or participate in all - we want to hear your voice!

**SCHEDULE:** <https://www.cityofrc.us/GeneralPlan#virtual-forum-on-our-future->

**MONDAY, JUNE 29TH**

- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm: Kick-off Summit**  
Kick off the interactive Forum on Our Future by participating in this live summit! Here you'll hear more about the activities scheduled during the week, learn a bit more about PlanRC, and receive a summary of the community input we've received so far through the first online survey, stakeholder interviews, and emails from residents. There will be an opportunity for community comments and questions during and at the end of the summit.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 30TH**

- 9:00 am - 10:30 am: Discussion Group 1**  
**Moving Beyond Healthcare, Exercise & Food - A Healthy Community that Supports Diversity & Inclusion**  
This session invites community members to explore the aspects of a healthy community that support diversity and inclusion. We will talk about topics like access to housing, parks, social services, transportation, economic opportunity and more. We want to hear about your struggles with health & equity in Rancho Cucamonga. What improvements and ideas do you think are needed to make Rancho Cucamonga a healthier and more inclusive community? How can better physical planning lead to increased equity?
- 11:00 am - 12:30 pm: Discussion Group 2**  
**Providing Housing for All - Seniors, Young Professionals, and Essential Workers**  
The initial PlanRC online survey highlighted that Rancho Cucamonga residents are concerned about housing - with some hoping to limit the development of new housing, and others wanting to see more new, affordable and diverse housing options. Join this session to share your thoughts on how Rancho Cucamonga can provide housing options that accommodate the needs of its many families and workers, achieve designs that fit with the community, and address a growing homelessness concern, while also meeting State requirements.
- 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm: Discussion Group 3**  
**Building a More Resilient RC - Addressing Natural Hazards & Sustainability**  
The Rancho Cucamonga community has experienced the physical and emotional devastation that natural disasters like windstorms and wildfires can produce. This session will ask you to share your thoughts and opinions on how best to boost the resiliency of Rancho Cucamonga. The session will engage attendees in discussions about disaster preparedness (e.g. earthquakes) and will also challenge attendees to explore issues and opportunities around climate change, energy conservation, sustainability and environmental justice.
- 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm: Discussion Group 4**  
**Getting Around Town Efficiently & Safely - Mobility in RC**  
How we get around the community affects our quality of life. The initial PlanRC survey identified traffic and safety as key issues currently facing our city - but community members also identified numerous ideas and options to move people around the city without a personal car. Join this discussion to talk about how Rancho Cucamonga can both address existing traffic and safety issues and tackle inventive, new accessible transport possibilities for the future.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1ST**

• **9:00 am - 10:30 am: Webinar**

**The Dollars & Sense: The Economics of Land Development Patterns**

This webinar will demonstrate how the way Rancho Cucamonga is built drives the way it is funded. How the City is funded affects what types of services and infrastructure it can offer. By comparing property values per acre, we can compare property apples-to-apples in a way that clearly displays market trends and development opportunities, and explore the intersection of building design, land-use and tax production. Using clear images to demystify the tax system and comparisons from all over Inland Empire, the presentation will open up real conversations about community growth.

• **11:00 am - 12:30 pm: Discussion Group 5**

**Creating Local Jobs & Growing a More Robust Economy Amid COVID-19**

Our local economy has taken a hit. But we will make a comeback plan. And, according to comments on the PlanRC survey, we should focus on creating high level jobs for our community, including in the health industry. Of course, as a community, we need to support the recovery of all our local business amid COVID. What do we need to consider to ensure a recovery that will benefit our entire community? Join this session to share your thoughts, ideas, and opinions on growing our Rancho Cucamonga economy.

• **2:00 pm - 3:30 pm: Discussion Group 6**

**Maintaining & Expanding Our Parks & Open Space Resources**

Parks, open spaces, landscaping – active and passive – are very important to the Rancho Cucamonga community. This session will ask participants to take a deeper dive into the topic. How can the City be more creative and inclusive in the development of parks, open space, and landscaping? Join this session to make sure your thoughts are heard!

• **4:00 pm - 5:30 pm: Discussion Group 7**

**Enhancing a Sense of Community and Local Arts & Culture Opportunities**

Rancho Cucamonga is a community with many assets and unique cultural attributes – wine history, festivals, Quakes, theater parks, mountains, etc. All of these contribute to what many would refer to as a “sense of place”. How can Rancho Cucamonga better celebrate its identity and focus on “placemaking” in the future? How do we ensure we are being inclusive as we enhance our sense of community and spaces? Don’t miss this discussion group if you are passionate about creating places for RC residents to congregate, celebrate, and share as a community.



**TAKE THE NEW PLANRC  
ONLINE SURVEY**

A new online survey is launching June 29th to help prioritize values and develop guiding principles for the General Plan. The survey will also ask for input on geographic areas of the city where opportunities for improvements and change exist. The survey will be available through Sunday, July 26. Take the survey at: [CityofRC.us/GeneralPlan](http://CityofRC.us/GeneralPlan)



**CHAT WITH  
A PLANNER**

From 9 am to 6 pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday a staff planner from the City will be available answer your questions, record your thoughts and ideas, or just listen.

Call: (909) 477-2750 or  
Email: [GeneralPlan@CityofRC.us](mailto:GeneralPlan@CityofRC.us)

**A STUDENT PERSPECTIVE...**

The City of Rancho Cucamonga was lucky enough to have a team of graduate planning students from Cal Poly Pomona use our City as a “laboratory” for their learning. These passionate students came up with some interesting and forward-thinking ideas! Maybe they can inspire some creative and out of the box thinking for the rest of us? Thanks to Cal Poly for their efforts. View a presentation representing their work by visiting the PlanRC video series at [www.CityofRC.us/GeneralPlan](http://www.CityofRC.us/GeneralPlan)

If you don’t have access to internet, are challenged with online technologies, or are in need of Spanish translation, the City Council Chambers will be available for a limited number of participants. Contact (909) 477-2750 to reserve your seat.

[CITYOFRC.US/GENERALPLAN](http://CITYOFRC.US/GENERALPLAN)



# Kick-off Summit

## Description

The Forum on Our Future was kicked off with a live summit where attendees learned more about the activities scheduled during the week, the PlanRC process and received a summary of the community input we've received so far through the first online survey, stakeholder interviews, and emails from residents.

## Summary of Input

The Kick-off Summit included roughly 30 attendees (some came late, some left early), including public and City staff. The group stayed together as one group for this discussion. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussion are summarized below.

## What Should the City Consider When Preparing the General Plan?

- Considering the current racial climate and concerns about safety, those topics should be discussed to obtain a better understanding of how residents feel about them.
- The issue of racial inequity is a significant topic that hasn't been discussed in the community and has not been dealt with. People of color have concerns about engagement with law enforcement in the City.
- Racial justice needs to be part of Rancho Cucamonga's values.
- The General Plan update is intended to be a blueprint for the future physical development of the City. The equity component is critical but it is difficult to translate equity injustices into solutions that are realized in the built environment. Where are the injustices in the community and how do we deal with those related to the physical development of the City? The City is well-positioned to make progress on this and set the example for the region.
- If any City can tackle this issue, it would be Rancho Cucamonga, but it needs to be intentional with follow through and having those conversations and tying solutions to the General Plan, land use and zoning, and in turn, connections and access to basic services. It is all related, including law enforcement, and doing this will make us all better.
- Housing and public safety are very important with respect to equity. By housing I specifically am thinking of home ownership.
- It will be important to understand how different ethnicities are considered and how they are represented in terms of how existing conditions affects different ethnic groups, such as the distribution of schools.
- Another important consideration is how different groups view design solutions. Some solutions that we think are universal and work for everyone do not, e.g. is a park safe for ones but not another?

- Future survey questions will be asked in relation to different areas of the City and different groups because not all areas/groups experience the same issues (such as traffic) in the same way as they are affected differently. We cannot make blanket assumptions because what is happening in one part of the City may not be happening in another part.
- Looking at survey responses by region/neighborhoods is really critical. Looking at the results of the first survey, we could probably determine where the lion's share of responses came from (Wildfires #1 concern for example). We need to make sure the voices of all sectors of the community are being heard in this process.
- There should be a future survey on public safety and interaction with law enforcement.
- Another topic that should be analyzed is mental health and connecting the community with mental health resources. Especially teen mental health. All of this has been part of a long-term mental health initiatives. Recognizing that mental health is related to equity.
- There are also issues related to homelessness including teen homelessness. The City is also updating the Housing Element, which will address homelessness.
- Housing is a unique element in the General Plan. The City will be looking at housing, housing types, density, affordability, etc. and actually preparing concrete plans on how to address based on specific needs and the constraints.
- I think the City and National Core have done a great job of building lots of affordable housing in Rancho Cucamonga. Maybe we could do more outreach with our neighbor cities to help them follow our example?
- The City has done exceptional work in the realm of health and specifically mental health. Given the significance of place on wellbeing, I am most enthused about health and equity aspects of the conversation.
- I am looking forward to hearing about the Housing for All and Mobility in the City.
- Teen Mental Health is an important component in the health category. Sustainable mental health services for teens and adults would be a great fit for teens.
- Teen homelessness is a very underrated topic that needs to be addressed in the city. Providing plans and programs for these teens. (Job opportunities, housing, etc)
- Teens as a group need to be considered and the issues they are facing. We are building the City for our future and the young adults are the City's future, and the General Plan will affect them and their children. It takes years for the City to be developed in accordance with the General Plan and they will be affected. Teens should be engaged in the conversation of the General Plan.
- What are ideas for how we can engage our youth? The City has a second survey out now and would love to have more participation from our youth and young adult population.
- Teens respond most to teens and many take pride in influencing the future. The Healthy RC Youth Leaders could distribute through their preferred social media platforms.
- Being a part of Healthy RC Youth Leaders, I was able to find out about this meeting today. The Healthy RC Youth Leaders are always willing to give feedback to make the city a better place for everyone but for the future as well.
- For anyone interested, the Healthy RC Youth Leaders created projects these past months and recently shared them through zoom! The link here shares just how the Healthy RC Youth Leaders are using their voice! <https://vimeo.com/425221391>

- Is this City ensuring that the survey results are those of residents? Stakeholders include those who don't necessarily live in the City but are still impacted by the policies of the General Plan. For example, a business owner might be affected by economic and circulation policies and, therefore, they have a role in the discussion.
- It is important to reach out to all members of various demographics to check on how they are doing and finding out what they really need. Was aware through Healthy RC of these meetings. Excited that Healthy RC and Compassionate Communities are involved to address racial inequities. This topic is tied into everything that we are doing. We are a diverse community but are part of one human family.
- It seems that there should be more reaching out towards those in the community who are not white. There is concern about trying to make responses more representative.
- Did the City actually identify the percentage of surveys received from people who identified as African American? The response rate from those identifying as Black or African American was 6%. This compares with 9% of our population that identifies as Black or African American from the 2010 census
- What about water including the use of water resources, sustainability, and applying sustainable water resources to new development? This topic is important. It has economic impacts ramifications including establishing a cost-efficient resource future, as well. Our policies are advisory as the water provider is a separate agency, but we will be engaged with CVWD to address these questions and find solutions and coordinate where there is overlap between the City's plans and other agencies' plans.
- We are also doing a Local Hazards Mitigation Plan and Public Art Strategic Plan. These other efforts will be synced with the General Plan, although not in the Plan itself, but there will be other implementation plans that will be applied.
- Equity and justice connect with most if not all aspects of the General Plan. It doesn't necessarily mean we have a clear understanding of how to address everything, but the connections are clear. During the Forum, there will be sessions that will discuss the other components of the General Plan and the relationship of those topic with equity/justice which, in turn, will help us create a stronger, diverse community.
- The City has a Compassionate Communities Committee that is a great venue for dialogue and action on race, racism, and racial equity. We would love for more people to join us! We meet monthly. For additional information, please email [HealthyRC@cityofrc.us](mailto:HealthyRC@cityofrc.us).

# Discussion Group 1: Moving Beyond Healthcare, Exercise and Food – A Healthy Community that Supports Diversity and Inclusion

## Session Description

This session invited community members to explore the aspects of a healthy community that support diversity and inclusion. Attendees talked about topics like access to housing, parks, social services, transportation, economic opportunity and more. We discussed struggles with health & equity in Rancho Cucamonga, and asked questions including: What improvements and ideas do you think are needed to make Rancho Cucamonga a healthier and more inclusive community? How can better physical planning lead to increased equity?

## Summary of Input

The Health and Equity session included approximately 17 attendees. The group split into two breakout sessions. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussions are summarized below.

### Do You Feel Like You Have Access to the Basics, Such as Healthcare?

- There are certainly a number of healthcare opportunities in the RC community, and the ability to access when needed.
- The City can benefit more from having community gardens to provide access to fresh fruits and vegetables and learning opportunities.
- The City discussed the Community Gardens ordinance and active community gardens in the City, and they are looking for community partners to keep moving forward. Attendees did not know where there were active community gardens in the City. There should be more outreach to let the public know; maybe something the City can elicit is sponsorships from local businesses, and actively advertise the Community Gardens ordinance.
- Lack of sidewalks are a barrier to accessing healthy foods for those that need to walk to obtain food, especially in the southwest portion of the city.
- In southwest Cucamonga, people don't have medical insurance and then people can't go to the doctor. These people need low cost health insurance. But many people don't have the information and the Grapevine has lots of information that they don't see. The biggest necessity is having access to doctors, such as dentist and eye vision. Is there a way for these groups to receive this type of information concerning health services? Example, kids love to be on the phone, when the kids get in

trouble the phone is taken away kids isolate themselves and get depressed and stop exercising and having physical activity. There is a lack of information on how to solve these issues.

- Can the Grapevine be sent to specific people or demographics?
- Transportation to hospitals is an issue in the southwest near Rancho Middle School. A senior citizen volunteers to drive for others in community. Basic health care for seniors have come up. Northtown housing does not have access to transportation to grocery stores. Healthy RC can provide that but unfortunately cannot expand program. Due to funding problems cannot service all.
- A lot of people are coming to RC and many do not speak English which can make it difficult. Maybe somehow can be advertised more.

### What Are the Prevalent Health Issues?

- Mental health (especially teen mental health).
- Teen mental health is important, and the City should improve the outreach to the community. The City has many resources but sometimes not many people in the community know about these services.
- One idea the Healthy RC Youth Leaders were working on was a mental health in park event to bring the community together. However, that was placed on hold due to COVID-19.
- We need to connect to schools to enhance publicity of events. Host a family fun day with a mental health focus.
- Communication to teens and youth can be improved better through social media or connection with schools.
- Teen mental health and bullying at school. Rancho High School teachers are being rude in how they are treating students, and counselors are not doing anything, then issue becomes bigger and bigger.
- There also needs to be a forum for conversation with teens and their interaction with law enforcement in town. Conversation needs to be had.

### How Is The City Doing Addressing Health Equity?

- The City has done a pretty good job so far to create health equity, but always room for improvement.
- Important to engage minority groups so they have a voice.
- There are language barriers and we need to try to address the top seven languages in the City, including signage.
- Keep trying to match survey results to demographics of the community.
- Have facilitators at meetings that represent the audience (i.e. same age, race, etc).
- City offers workshops for loss and grief. City has been doing a great job to include members of the city.
- In regards to the City accessing residences below Foothill, generally there is a great disparity. For neighborhoods in the Etiwanda/Baseline area, they seem to have access to services and healthy food. There is a new Stater Bros. there that looks nice and clean. While south of Foothill there are fewer parks. Need to include more walkways below Foothill, and update grocery stores.



- With regards to farmer markets, those are great too, but when you have limited access could be extra challenging. In terms of food, there needs to be options in between.

### What Are Some of the Physical Planning Issues?

- Car/pedestrian interface - need for increased safe crosswalks. The City can improve the walkability and cross walks to encourage more activity. There are areas around City Hall where cross walks are not easily recognized by motorist. There is also a crosswalk on Aspen that needs to be improved.
- A lot of need in southwest Cucamonga:
  - Impoverished, poor area.
  - Not many parks in southeast Rancho – would be nice to have one there. There are areas in the City that have parks in close proximity and in southwest Cucamonga that is not the case.
  - Recently went to a beautiful park in another area of the City that had beautiful amenities. Parks in southwest are smaller, with less amenities, and older kids and young adults “using” parks and doing things that are illegal, intimidating other potential park users. Prevents residents from using the park. Safety is an issue for walking in the park.
- Experiences same feeling at Garcia Park in southwest Cucamonga. Parking lot has large berm that inhibits view into park, makes it easy for kids to “hide” from the street.
- Parks in general are safe but at night sometimes the parks sometimes have people that cause safety issues. One idea was to have some type of call feature to have police response.
- Encourage residents to experience other parks and understand the difference between them.
- Trails are safe environment and family oriented, and provide opportunities to exercise.
- Would like to see wider sidewalks.
- Wish there was more representation from southwest neighborhoods here to talk about open space and walking trails. They are abundant in parts of the city, but not the case in the southwest or Baseline. Would like to hear more from those folks in community. We have density issues, and there is a need to have space for them to live.
- Mixed use development is needed. We need space for housing. It’s a huge challenge we have to meet when creating a place for the next decade.

### What Are Your Thoughts About Getting Around Town? Do You Feel Omnitrans Goes Where You Need to Go? Can We Provide A Shuttle System on an Additional Layer?

- Use OMNI to get to Victoria Gardens and locally around the city in general.
- See some cities have bikes. That would be a great transportation. Sometimes to get to the bus stop is far.
- Seniors used to have access to shuttle service. Does that happen anymore? What about possibly having shuttle to farmers markets on a given Saturday? Can that be facilitated?
- Other communities have been more successful with local transit, example the Arts bus in Pasadena to get around town every day. Convenient for people, more accommodating, more user-friendly type of approach to get from point A to B. Community wide, especially for seniors to take advantage and young people to use the facilities within the city. These are for people to get around to spend more money within the city.



- More shared transportation options that could help fill the gap. In terms of food, the more neighborhood markets are more helpful. People who are mobile can choose to walk or ride bike to those destinations.

### What Do Our Neighborhoods Look Like and How Would You Change Them?

- In one attendee's neighborhood, there are a lot of streets. There is a circle in center, like a park, but problem with no way to get across safely. It feels very dangerous to cross over and get to that circle sidewalk. Need to improve sidewalks for people to get to that place safely.
- Shuttle transportation idea would be for people to have access in their neighborhood. Why isn't there a grocery store where people can walk to in the southwest? The idea is to have those close by. All the better for life for everyone.
- There is a middle school off of Terra Vista Parkway (Ruth Musser Middle School), where students cross the street a lot. There is no crossing guard there much of the time. Suggest implementing a crosswalk, press a button to cross safely.
- Tesla is doing an underground project going from RC to the Ontario airport. We should be implementing driverless cars, birdy's scooters, e-bikes. City Hall's location can serve as a central hub for e-bikes, scooters, etc. Place signs at all bus stops. If we have these services, including shuttle services and ride sharing, we can reduce pollution.

### On the Topic of Bikes and Scooters, How Safe Do You or Would You Feel the Way Our Current Landscape Looks?

- Sidewalks could be improved. There is uneven pavement, and sometimes not even pavement. On Foothill and Arrow, there is dirt patch on right side. There needs to be a more infrastructure on our sidewalks.
- There has been improvement on bike lanes. If we can continue to survey and improve bike lanes, there can be more throughout the city.
- There is a disparity regarding distribution of bike lanes and wider sidewalks in the city.
- The City has done a lot of work to fill in a lot of gaps with bike lanes. Larger streets have bike lanes, and the City has been improving most of our bike lanes.
- Like the idea of alternatives for lengthy bike lanes going through neighborhood more than corridors.
- Kudos to neighborhoods that have bike routes, including routes to grocery stores, where you feel safe rather than riding on big streets. This makes it more family friendly.

### What Are Your Thoughts About Change in Climate?

- We need more equity when it comes to climate change. There are people who deal with more intense heat. Some who have fewer resources don't think asking that question with equity in mind is important.
- We need education awareness and understanding at all levels of communities having environmental issues. Even understanding equity, how do we focus on it – it all ties in.
- Not having to drive somewhere else for work is huge. Working in same community where you live is good. Don't have to commute to far places. It's all wrapped in together.

- We are fortunate to live in Rancho Cucamonga where we don't have much pollution. However, we are not replacing development with community garden, or open parks so it reduces our tree foliage, so it reduces carbon dioxide. Need more community gardens in south Rancho. If there are less trees being planted, we will run into problems with more of a crowded city and less trees.
- Building construction could be an opportunity for building in community gardens, markets other places for community gathering to promote equity within neighborhoods. Right now, finding affordable housing is difficult and we need spaces for renting smaller scale housing.

# Discussion Group 2: Providing Housing for All - Seniors, Young Professionals, and Essential Workers

## Session Description

The initial PlanRC online survey highlighted that Rancho Cucamonga residents are concerned about housing – with some hoping to limit the development of new housing, and others wanting to see more new, affordable and diverse housing options. In this session, attendees shared their thoughts on how Rancho Cucamonga can provide housing options that accommodate the needs of its many families and workers, achieve designs that fit with the community, and address a growing homelessness concern, while also meeting State requirements.

## Summary of Input

The Housing session included 12 attendees. The group split into two breakout sessions, with one session conducted in Spanish. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussions are summarized below.

## What Are Your General Thoughts on Housing in Rancho Cucamonga?

- More opportunities need to be provided for families. More families can live in Rancho if there is housing affordable to them. What kinds of services can be provided for young families that can help them stay in the city?
- Provide new job opportunities for young families/professionals.
- Instead of “affordable housing” lets change it to “housing that people can afford.” Remove the stigma behind “affordable housing”.
- There are people who have some sort of income, social security or other, which makes them not able to qualify for income-based housing or assistance. What housing can we have that they can afford to live in?
- All people should be able to work in the city and be able to live here.
- Does the City have ample infrastructure and resources to provide new housing units? Concerns about water, energy and resources that are available/planned for the future, that are available for the new units that the city needs to build. How will the infrastructure of the city be affected and are their studies for this?
- Need to provide employment and housing for all. Have more discussions about people of color and the housing that can be built to help these communities flourish.



- There is a concern about being able to stay in the community. Need resources for single parents, new graduates, young professionals, that can help them stay in the city when they are starting their careers.

### Who Are the Communities/Groups That Need Housing?

- Essential workers in the community need housing. There are so many essential workers that keep our City running.
- Housing options that a person who works a minimum wage job, full time, can afford.
- Single parent households.
- People of color.
- Homeless.
- Homeless teens. The Healthy RC Youth Leaders have conducted research on teen homelessness and working with places like the TAY (Transitional Aged Youth) Center to provide the right services to these teens. <https://vimeo.com/425221391>. What is your take on housing for teen homelessness? How can we implement this into the general plan?
- How do we ensure that the whole community can work, live and thrive in the City?

### What Are Your Experiences With Housing In Rancho Cucamonga?

- Have had problems with housing developments. Parking is not sufficient for the units in developments. Need to provide parking for all residents
- Safety in neighborhoods is different depending on the affordability. In market rate areas, towing of vehicles rarely happens. There is no enforcement. In income-based housing, the tow trucks are always there. People are living to make ends meet and they are subject to more strict rules. These issues are affecting quality of life.
- Housing is too expensive and there is limited access to affordable senior housing.
- There is discrimination in housing. Certain parts of city are not welcoming and give preferential treatment to non-minorities.

### What Types of Housing Programs Do We Need?

- Safety net programs to provide assistance when people are in dire situations
- Funds for rehabilitation
- Home ownership opportunities
- Solar power program to provide long term solution to energy costs
- Grants instead of loans

### What Kinds of Housing Diversity Do We Need or Should We Be Thinking About?

- Tiny homes; smaller footprint and lower cost for builder and buyer.
- There shouldn't be a resistance to tall buildings for housing. Are there settings in the City where 8-10 story housing can be built?

- The City needs to address matters by thinking outside the box. Higher density housing with a smaller footprint, building up.
- Stackable units; pre-constructed units that are stackable.
- We need the will to build up.
- Building vertical - it's an experiment, to be sure. But, why not Rancho Cucamonga? Serious question.
- Provide new developments that have ample outdoor space, ensure ample parking, and provide for quality of life.
- More "urban" housing types. There are ways of achieving density while maintaining livable environments.
- In order to get these projects and provide different types of housing for those who need it, we need the voices behind them.
- The city is keenly aware that Rancho Cucamonga is ready for newer, more innovative, and in some cases more "urban" housing types. There are good ways of achieving density, while still maintaining a livable living environment. Hearing the desire for adequate parking and open space at the same time. Community support will be needed and welcome!
- Regarding mixed-use housing for seniors with retail; this is great example of what happens routinely in Hong Kong: the first floor is retail, with safe access for residents, as well as pedestrians. Housing goes vertical; parking is below ground.
- Mixed use housing good, especially for seniors because if services are downstairs and residents are upstairs, the access to services helpful.
- Regarding long term planning, we need rent control. Access to affordable housing and the expense of housing is big concern and what is being built is not acceptable.

# Discussion Group 3: Building a More Resilient RC – Addressing Natural Hazards and Sustainability

## Session Description

The Rancho Cucamonga community has experienced the physical and emotional devastation that natural disasters like windstorms and wildfires can produce. In this session, attendees were asked to share their thoughts and opinions on how best to boost the resiliency of Rancho Cucamonga. The session engaged attendees in discussions about disaster preparedness (e.g. earthquakes) and challenged attendees to explore issues and opportunities around climate change, energy conservation, sustainability and environmental justice.

## Summary of Input

The Resiliency session included approximately 8 attendees. The group stayed together as one breakout session. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussion are summarized below.

### What Disasters Are We Most Likely to Experience In Rancho Cucamonga?

- Fire
- Drought/flooding
- Earthquake
- Pandemic
- Cyber attack
- Potential landslides
- Severe weather (heat, wind events, cold)

### What Natural Disasters Have You Experienced?

- Experienced extreme power outage in the winter while living in Michigan.
- Family and animals had to be evacuated during fires.

### What Steps Can We Take as a Community To Be Better Prepared?

- CERT training for residents.
- More classes offered for CERT training.
- Ensure local medical/emergency facility have solar and battery backup to support the community.



- RC to provide incentives for solar and battery powered incentives.
- Facilitate or encourage small block parties to build strong community connections with neighbors.
- Community watch type programs.
- A community HUB to share disaster plans with other communities.
- The City is currently looking into adding a mass notification system and Everbridge is one of the leaders in that business.

### What Ways Can the City Help the Community?

- Food bank type facilities to help during a disaster.
- Perhaps have an RC Community Resiliency "Trailer" that can come around to Neighborhoods for some fun/ice cream/snow cones or a firetruck to entertain and police officers for community engagement. The trailer could demonstrate key resiliency concepts, and pass out great materials, or allow people to test their Resiliency IQ.
- Every October, RCFD has an Open House community event where there are booths that teach resiliency skills, share preparedness information/handouts, tours of Fire, Police, and other vehicles, demonstrations, etc.
- No matter how prepared the City is, the key factor comes down to individual preparedness. We need to find a way to encourage the procrastinators to prepare.
- Are there opportunities for 'citizens' to take a more formal role in helping out with respect to Resiliency? Yes, the best way would be to join City's volunteer CERT team or ACS (ham radio) team. When you join one of the City's teams you become a force multiplier that helps the City train, teach, and prepare the community even further. <https://www.cityofrc.us/readyc>.
- What COVID-19 has also taught us is the criticality of internet bandwidth. A truly long-term plan would include such things as "Fiber to the Home" - where we can work from home/shelter in place.
- How do you get the providers to provide fiber? One resident has only 1MB bandwidth here.
- "Fiber to the Home and up to 10 GB internet - in Chattanooga. [www.epb.com](http://www.epb.com) (we could look to them for guidance)." EPB.com –provide fiber to every single resident in Chattanooga.

### What Are the Barriers to Completing Energy Upgrades or Providing Alternative Energy Sources?

- The cost and education.
- With solar, there are potential complications on installing on homes and the contracts with the solar companies. Desire for more transparency.
- City needs to provide a clear path with residents who are looking into solar.
- Some solar systems create a lot of RF interference.
- It is likely some will back feed their homes with a generator not realizing they are feeding the grid and risking the safety of utility workers. Education on this is needed.



### How Would You Like to See These Ideas Presented in the Updated General Plan?

- Making it easier for residents to have solar/battery storage installations.
- Create options for residents who live in condo/apartment communities, such as potential open space for a solar farm.
- Large industrial generator that caters to solar/battery storage that can be used during a disaster.
- Support power only for the critical situations.
- Incentives of the heart and the head.
- Educating residents/community members on solar installation.
- Above ground powerlines vs. underground powerlines and the potential challenges during a disaster event. Are they safer? If yes, we should work towards getting those underground.
- We need different solutions for different residents' needs. Identify the subgroup of people and what they represent, and the different needs of community members.
- No matter how prepared the City is the key factor comes down to individual preparedness. we need to find a way to encourage the procrastinators to prepare.
- Have specific carve outs within the city to have options for electric vehicles. i.e. apartment and condo complexes.
- Get insights from Dr. Lucy (seismologist).
- Education is KEY! More people need to be informed and educated.

# Discussion Group 4: Getting Around Town Efficiently and Safely – Mobility in RC

## Session Description

How we get around the community affects our quality of life. The initial PlanRC survey identified traffic and safety as key issues currently facing our city – but community members also identified numerous ideas and options to move people around the city without a personal car. Participants were invited to join this discussion to talk about how Rancho Cucamonga can both address existing traffic and safety issues and tackle inventive, new accessible transport possibilities for the future.

## Summary of Input

The Mobility session included roughly 10-12 attendees (some came late, some left early). The group stayed together as one breakout session. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussion are summarized below.

## What is Your Favorite Street in Rancho (or Elsewhere) and Why?

- Victoria Park Lane – scenic, connects to other major streets on east side of town, nice sized bike lane .
- Elm Avenue in Terra Vista – Class 1 bike trail (for a short stretch) .
- Streets with trees, aesthetic look of street, lighting is important (amount of light available, not too dark, not too bright) .
- Foothill Blvd in Claremont – sidewalks, protected bike lanes, walking trails; smaller streets in Claremont too.
- Foothill Blvd in RC – streetscape, historical icons .
- Day Creek – landscaping, wide walking path, walkway lighting separate from street lighting, great view at top, feels safe, connects neighborhood.

## What Are the Challenges in Getting Around (Any Mode)? What Are the Opportunities to Close Gaps in Connectivity?

- Traveling west on Foothill from I-15 to Day Creek (turning conflicts - people are deciding to turn, lot of confusion, high speed, simultaneous merging. Less of a conflict needed. Lot of cars that want to exit the mall and want to cross all the way to make a U-turn).
- Locations along the Deer Creek Channel - connect bikeway across Baseline.
- Between RC and Upland at Cucamonga Creek Trail.
- Connections north of 210 freeway to west Upland north of 19th Street.



- Sidewalk gaps in SW Cucamonga affects kids ability to walk to schools; kids end up in street at times.
- Streets above Banyan and Lemon-nearly no sidewalks, not many bike lanes but nearly no sidewalks at all. We should have a practice of having sidewalks and bike lanes for people who cannot drive or are at the upper end of the age spectrum.
- Would be nice to prioritize sidewalk development around Los Osos HS west & north.
- What about those in Alta Loma that say they don't want sidewalks?
  - Would you want your kids or senior citizens who are mobility impaired to walk in the street? If you cannot drive any more or need wheeled assistance, do you want to ride your scooter in the street?
  - Context really matters. Tough thing to reconcile with "one size doesn't fit all", but there are some universal needs.

### Any Positive Mobility Experiences Outside of Rancho Cucamonga?

- Amsterdam – dedicated bike lanes separate from walkers and cars, convenience in bus service (15 min wait time). Would be nice to have easy public transportation within Rancho (either to major activity centers or along main thoroughfares). Maybe monorail. I work in Rancho, public transportation to get to work. Victoria Gardens and Ontario Mills to connect. Hitting the main crossways would be beneficial...the only reason I don't take a bus is because it takes twice as long.
  - Note: Bus service routes and scheduled stops have been reduced during COVID
- Salzburg, Austria – Passageways under major intersections for pedestrians, maybe make overhead pedestrian bridges to bypass vehicular access (maybe around Victoria Gardens).
- Utah is making street changes as well, protected bike lanes are nice, but create issues for drivers making a right turn.
- Santa Clarita is working on creating more equitable access for multiple modes of transportation. They have an extensive trail system. Paseos to get around their heavy traffic. A great example of a suburban community who do not own cars.
- Santiago, Chile, shut down streets temporarily to allow bikes, roller bladers and walkers to take over the street.
- Could we consider testing a light color slurry coat on our streets like LA has done? It would significantly reduce the heat island effect. One company that makes it is called Guardtop. The product is called Coolseal.
- Imperative to build a transportation system for people of all ages and abilities.
- PE Trail is great for users to socially distance and get exercise while avoiding gyms. It is a great east west corridor. Need for more north south corridors.

### You Are Mayor for a Day with Unlimited Resources – What is One Transportation Project You Would Want Done in Rancho Cucamonga?

- Make all of our streets quieter (through changing road materials).
- Make streets safer for all users (cars, bikes and pedestrians).
- Pedestrian bicycle bridge over the 210 freeway at Deer Creek.



- Better bus service in the city . . . but not sure how many would use? Maybe younger people would use it if they knew the buses would take them to major activity areas.
- Enhanced sidewalks with better ADA accessibility (steep slopes).

### What About ADA Accessibility in Rancho Cucamonga?

- East side of town is pretty solid, but near Archibald Library there are some ramps with steep slopes.
- South Rancho in need of upgrades in sidewalk infrastructure.

### What “Grade” Would You Give Rancho Cucamonga for Getting Around?

- Driving – A, Public trans – C (exists, but not usable), Walking – A- (Sidewalk issues), Biking – not sure.
- Driving – A, Walking – B+ (Depending on where you are), Biking – B-/C (not safe feeling car/bike lane sharing), Public Transit B- (like that we have routes, but takes way too long to get to your destination).
- Streets/Pavement quality – A, Walking B/C (depending on neighborhood), Bike facilities (off street B+), need upgrades to separate cars/bikes for safety, Transit C/D.

# Discussion Group 5: Creating Local Jobs and Growing a More Robust Economy Amid COVID-19

## Session Description

Our local economy has taken a hit for sure. But we will make a comeback plan. And, according to comments on the PlanRC Survey #1, we should focus on creating high level jobs for our community, including in the health industry. Of course, as a community, we need to support the recovery of all our local businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic. What do we need to consider to ensure a recovery that will benefit our entire community? Attendees joined this session to share their thoughts, ideas, and opinions on growing our Rancho Cucamonga economy.

## Summary of Input

The Economic Development session included roughly 12-15 attendees (some came late, some left early). The group divided into two breakout sessions with one session providing Spanish translation. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from both discussion groups are summarized below.

## What Should the Economy of the Future Look Like for RC? What Types of Jobs Should We Be Recruiting?

- Comment - 14% of residents only work in the city, most commute out. This should be viewed as backdrop for our conversation. Need to keep workers in the city.
- Companies looking at more remote work in a post COVID world – how much physical interaction is needed?
- Upload speeds are terrible. City can help provide flexible work environments with great internet access. Bandwidth infrastructure is very important.
  - Some communities like Chattanooga, TN have already addressed bandwidth issues. Fiber to the home for EVERY resident. They are in superior position for their area. You can literally order bandwidth up to 10Gigs... Right now, my largest capability is 400Mbps, which is 0.4 Gigs. [www.epb.com](http://www.epb.com) is source for this.
  - We as a community need to ensure bandwidth issues, public establishments offering more free local free wifi, internet cafe's, wifi pop up spots.
  - Support for remote “work from home” workers (i.e. better broadband infrastructure). Is there a way to incentivize it?
- More technology jobs are needed here so people can live and work here.

- Having a variety of jobs is important. Small businesses can keep money in the community and creates a uniqueness of the community. Balance with high-tech.
- Need to continue to support service industry jobs such as retail, hospitality, food and beverage. And manufacturing. Might be lower paying, still very important to have in Rancho.
  - This creates imbalance of housing. City should continue to provide housing for these workers.
- Higher tax value from small local businesses vs. big box stores. Need to support small businesses – encourage residents to support and understand benefits to quality of life here.
- Need to find more work opportunities so folks don't have to commute. Also support the at-home work community.
- Surprised by prevalence of franchises and chains here when I moved to town; would like to see more support of small, local businesses. Is it encouraged and supported here?
- Disparity in education and jobs in Rancho – is there a sector that encapsulates that? Is health care the next growth area?
- To help lift up the community, courses are needed to teach English and acquire skills in job searching, interviews, job applications, resumes, etc. – particularly for those for whom English is not a first language.
  - Could there be an English corner at a local coffee shop or community center (free conversation hour where anyone who wants to practice English conversation could come and practice. There could be a beginning, intermediate, and advanced groups depending on participation. I've participated in these before abroad and they are a lot of fun and they provide great community? I would be very interested in participating with one of these!)
- Manufacturing is important. Some retraining might be needed to match skills and some changes in the manufacturing industry.
- City does need to attract more professional style jobs. “Brain drain” leaving to Orange County, etc.
- Look at the next generation of workers (cater toward millennials and tech industry). AI, robotics engineers, are lacking in RC. This can help secure Rancho for the future.

### How Has COVID-19 Impacted Your Work? Short-term Changes? Long-Term Changes?

- Assessing where and how people will work. Who is happy working from home? Optimizing peoples work environments. Reconsider how many need to work in the office. Bandwidth is the challenge. Envision working at home here to stay.
- Used to commute to LA, now working from home. Would be nice to have more ISP's to support bandwidth. Future is working from home.
- Online sales growth, curbside pick-up will probably grow long term as well.
- Schools, like media, like the music industry, are having to really rethink how 'knowledge transfer' really occurs - that is what they are really doing. It may be a hybrid on in-person and online.. so if you're not feeling well - or a pandemic, you can still participate in the learning environment. The other industries have had to rethink their business models... and rightfully so.
- Some industries (manufacturing, education) will go back to work right away. Companies/offices likely to re-evaluate space needs.

- Teachers and students struggle with distance learning. Will there be a need for more teachers in a post COVID environment or will there be more demand for distance learning? Or demand for smaller, private schools?

### Are There Businesses, Communities, and Neighborhoods in RC That Will Need More Support Amid/Post COVID-19?

- Not everyone has been impacted equally by COVID; smaller businesses, food and beverage industry specifically, will likely need special assistance. Some that were savvy with social media are doing okay, but small, family businesses will need most help. Federal government can't give loans out indefinitely. Can City provide infrastructure and support?
- People who depended on public wifi spaces (internet cafes – Starbucks, etc.) were negatively impacted. More wifi professional and publicly accessible spaces and hot spots could go a long way to offset. Can City develop outdoor Wifi parks (work spaces, solar panels, etc. – outdoors).
  - Shared office space would be nice in Rancho. San Diego Bar association provides shared office space for those that want a occasional space.
  - There are more and more shared office space options popping up in Rancho and surrounding area. (Comment - Would like to learn more about them.)

### What Kinds of Amenities Are Missing in the City?

- Restaurants/cafes closer to where people live with outdoor dining options. Enjoy beautiful city and be prepared for any future pandemic.
- Spaces allowing folks to connect.
- Job information so young folks know where to find local jobs. Entry level and beyond.
- Not sure if we need more places to eat?? More outdoor dining perhaps.
- Young people complain there is “nothing to do” in Rancho. Been to VG many times. What else? What to add there? Entertainment and social activities in town is needed to keep them from leaving the area. Keep people spending money here.
- Jobs, jobs and more jobs.
- Sad to see we don't have a nice outdoor or indoor venue for big events like prom (which was in South OC) or weddings. Maybe prom time/homecoming time - have a big circus tent that is rented and used for venues... Make it exciting and fun!
- Where to have weddings, etc. ? Outside? Cultural space at VG?
- Things that I leave town for: arts, spa services, dance and live entertainment.
- Leverage/expand the spaces we already have for large outdoor events? (cultural center/central park/Etiwanda Gardens/wine tasting district)
  - Since the discussion is moving toward City facilities I thought you might be interested in the Parks and Facilities map which is available on the City Website.
- Capitalize on wine tasting? Create new district?
- Live events / venues associated with coffee shops, bars, etc.
- Cater more toward fitness, yoga, etc. which are attractive for younger people.

- Live entertainment, food festivals, rooftop cinema – activity based business needs for younger residents.
- Large family entertainment space (I.e. Johns Incredible Pizza, Big Al's)
- Karaoke (not necessarily associated with a bar – accessible for young folks)
- Instagram hotspots – arts, galleries, museums and others. How does art coalesce with social media?
- Need for grocery stores – particularly one that caters to the hispanic population. Arrow is a corridor missing big grocery store.

### Final Thoughts?

- What about mixed use development?
  - In favor of this type of development. Nice to have enhanced transit to support to avoid parking issues.
  - Pasadena had ARTS bus to allow for easier movement and supports our ability to further reduce parking.
  - Mixed use can really work with enhanced transit.
  - Mixed feelings – super convenient, but has to be carefully planned for families. Feels like you get more bang for your buck with single family residential??
  - Encourage watching “Dollars & Sense” webinar from the morning session.

# Discussion Group 6: Maintaining and Expanding Our Parks & Open Space Resources

## Session Description

Parks, open spaces, landscaping – active and passive – are very important to the Rancho Cucamonga community. This session asked participants to take a deeper dive into the topic. How can the City be more creative and inclusive in the development of parks, open space, and landscaping?

## Summary of Input

The Parks and Open Space session included roughly 8-10 attendees (some came late, some left early). The group stayed together as one breakout session. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussion are summarized below.

### Do You Go to a Park Regularly? How Do You Get There? What do you do there?

- Main fields - softball plays at Redhill Park
- Also utilize various parks throughout city that are allocated to us (sports): Windrows Park, Milliken Park, Victoria Groves;
  - Also have deal with central school district to use CMS fields
  - Feb – May, Aug – early November
  - All star season for girls runs May – July
  - Using fields 10 months out of the year
- Go to parks a couple times a month
- Really like Red Hill park, + pond/lake that's there
- Enjoy the community
- Used to live in Del Mar Apartments – quite a few parks on every side
- Ralph Lewis Park, Milliken Park
- Live close to Victoria Arbors Park
- Go at least a few times a month. Facilities are great at every park; make it a point to try to visit all the parks
- Red Hill is one a favorite
- Family bikes around a lot. Dad plays cricket – makes use of the field area, and brother and I are always on the playground
- Play tennis at Day Creek Park and Beryl Park
- Very familiar with Lions Park - east and west

- Been to Old Town Park a few times

### Is That Park In, or Within Walking/Biking Distance of Your Neighborhood? How Do You Get There?

- Usually take a car to get there – softball gear
- Live within walking distance of one park
- Red Hill is further so drive there usually, unless parked at a nearby friend’s house
- Usually get there by bike or driving

### Are There Any Parks or Activities That You Go To/Do Outside Of Your Neighborhood or Outside Of RC Because You Don’t Have The Opportunity In Your Neighborhood or RC? Any Challenges to Using the Parks Within RC?

- Yes –have to go to fields outside of the city where we are able to rent those fields.
  - Various issues –lack of “skinned” fields in RC for all the various youth organizations, including softball and baseball leagues.
  - Not enough lit fields.
  - Redhill – 2 fields are lighted; lighting is yellow and softball is also yellow – hard to see – unsafe.
  - Gone to Fontana or Chino for summer tournaments.
- Gone to Fontana for tennis courts because they tend to be available more often.
- Old Town Park, Golden Oak Park, Bear Gulch Park.
- Missing a large youth and even adult population with only having one skate park.
- Some parks don’t feel safe.
- Some neighborhoods seem more well-lit than parks.
- Pretty big park with equestrian area off of Hillside (Heritage Park) seemed dark.
- For walkers, we could brighten things up.
- Heritage Park has same sort of orange/yellow lighting, not as good as newer LED lighting.
- Vineyard Little League; that’s one of the parks that’s not well-lit.
- Lighting: our parks below Foothill aren’t getting enough lighting.
- Newly renovated facilities (such as Central Park) have tons of lighting.
- Talking from some other community champions, they’ve mentioned parks in south of Rancho don’t feel safe, unsafe activities, loitering.
- Better patrolling is desired.

### Are There Any Areas Within the City That You’d Consider to Be In Need Of More or Better Types of Parks?

- Need more field space; skinned softball/baseball fields with adequate lighting.
- Nearby cities - Chino, Fontana, Eastvale - have huge complexes with 8+ fields that can host tournaments and pull in local vendors for business, have other cities come in for events; need large



sports complex or multi-use facility with softball fields, soccer fields, football fields, multiple baseball fields.

- Not enough fields to hold our girls and boys right now; worry as the city grows, we won't have enough multi-use facilities.
- Equity/inclusion of parks; diversity in parks – generally catered to above Foothill; of our about 4-6 parks above the 210 and only 3 parks below Foothill, centered on Arrow; Majority of parks (especially with new development facility of the sports complex next to the Quakes stadium), are all in Central Rancho.
- With new housing and development, it seems we aren't replenishing with new community gardens, parkways, parks, skate parks, etc.
- When parks being upgraded, not being inclusive of our parks below Foothill.
- South areas lacking parks, especially southeast area.

### Do You Enjoy the Amazing Natural Features (Hiking Trails, Foothill Open Spaces, Etc.) That Rancho Cucamonga Has To Offer? If Not, Would You Like To? What Would Help You Do So?

- Etiwanda Preserve trail, foothills trails, Pacific Electric Trail (PET) for biking and running.
- List of all the trails in RC would be helpful; maybe a trails map app? Include in Grapevine magazine or publicize elsewhere;
- Trails map and list as "checklist" to make visiting all the trails a fun activity.
- Pacific Electric Trail
  - Dirt path gets pretty dark at night.
  - Parents not comfortable with me going alone along that trail.
  - More lighting or solar lighting could make it safer for users, especially bikers.
  - Maybe call boxes, blue buttons like on UC campuses?

### If There Were More Trails Throughout The City, Where Would You Like To See Some Of These More Extensive Networks?

- Different types of trails:
  - 1 – enjoy nature / exercise – like Etiwanda.
  - 2 – getting from place to place (connect housing to things like grocery stores).
- Expanding to reach the grocery store or to Victoria Gardens.
- Expand PET north and south.
- Near the Edison easement off Rochester – open up for public to be able to walk from the bottom of Day Creek and Foothill, all the way up the hill; under-utilized space; can't build there, but people should be able to walk and bike through that area.
- Focus on the hotspots, get more traffic movement to those.
- Should engage middle and high school students to see where they wish there were paths/shortcuts.
- Students often bike or skateboard along the road, which can be pretty unsafe.

### How Would You Feel About Better Integration of Street Network/Trail Network Throughout the City – Would That Be a More Comfortable, More Attractive Environment For People Who Might Use These Trails?

- For those who already walk and bike, it would be a great change.
- For people who don't walk/aren't outdoorsy, might still require a lifestyle change.

### What Are Your Thoughts On The Balance of How Trails Are Used? Between Walkers, Joggers, Bikers, Even Horseback Riders? Would You Like To See Certain Trails More Accommodating of Certain Uses?

- Don't see many hikers, mostly people jogging or riding their bikes.
- The only time I see people riding horses is up in the hillside area.
- Dual purpose the trails – horses & bikes.
- Walking should make possible for every trail as it doesn't take any extra resources like a bike or a horse; trails should be wide enough so for walkers as well as bikes.
- What about using trail markers, or solar panel markers, or lighting markers, that would light the way to and on the trails? Increase awareness and address safety concerns, evening lighting; average working person gets off work at 5, 6, 7pm; if they want to use trails after work, they need good lighting; Good way to be more inclusive of our community.
- Not very easy from the southern end of the city to walk or connect to the trail system that's within the city already; indicators leading people to the trails and parks could enhance feelings of safety and increase use; people would start to look for the signs/indicators.

### Tell Us About a Favorite Park You've Been To or a Positive Park Experience with a Great Park – Doesn't Have To Be Within The City.

- In Texas, a lot of open space; three grand, huge, different parks all in one area with many facilities; Redhill park within RC is the closest to this (pond).
- Ruben Ayala park in Chino, closest big facility park – at least 7 skinned softball fields, soccer fields, 2 skate parks.
- Chino Hills complex – 8 fields, huge playground, skatepark.
- Huntington – multi use facility where they have artificial turf for all fields instead of dirt and grass; kind of a modular design, can put fences up/down, turn it into different fields.
- Daybreak, UT - parks, bridges, water features, connect all the neighborhoods; amenities such as space to feed ducks, places to lock up bikes.
- San Diego – Balboa Park; large trees, lots of areas to walk, outdoor exercise classes, bridge; museums and restaurant mixed in.
- Santiago, Chile – felt safe running at night. Started with a trail and ended with a park; trail went through all types of communities and a couple of parks; exercise machines.
- Carmen Canyon Park, Chino Hills Park, specialize in redwood trees – sightseeing avenue for families.
- Crystal Cove State Park; water and outdoor activities; large size; hiking.

- Would like larger park spaces with more trees.
- Develop more parks that lead to hiking trails or PET.

### Are You Aware of the Large Special Use Facilities, Like the VG Cultural Center, Quakes Stadium/Epicenter Sports Complex? Do You Use Them Regularly? Go to Games? What Would Help You Use Them More?

- Would go to Epicenter more, but lack time.
- Tend to go elsewhere, sometimes we go to the Eastern Sierras for activities outside of bike riding or sports within the city.
- VG Cultural Center and Playhouse – great for youth and activities.
- Library holds classes for all ages; can learn computer skills – especially important.
- Lions Centers East and West and Central Park - preschool programs.
- Don't use often; used community center for a special event.
- Gone to a baseball game but don't go a lot.
- Finances – renting room at cultural center not feasible.

### Anything We Missed? Anything You Would Like to Add to the Discussion?

- More educational installations at the parks (e.g. visiting local park in Arizona - kids doing puzzle things, table with a solar installation with poster explaining how photovoltaics work, how electricity can be generated by wind energy)
- Would like more community gardens – RC has maybe one?
- Include a community garden that engages and promotes inclusion.
- Include more multicultural/racial and ethnic driven outreach and activities.
  - Parks and recreation department partner with NRPA to address concerns.
  - Women-only hours for swimming pools.
  - Culturally diverse groups about health and wellness toward specific minorities.
  - City partnering with single-identity programs or outdoor organizations (outdoor organizations working hard for diversity/inclusiveness – Green Muslims, Green Latinos, Outdoor Afro, or Out There Adventures); scheduled events partnering with some of these groups.
- Part of the challenge with parks & rec is creating inclusive space, but then second, more challenging, is outreach to minority communities.
- Existing parks - improve lighting; parents concerned with lighting limited by daylight during the weekdays; on the weekends, not enough parks with lights available; add lighting to Windrows or similar parks that have nice facilities but no lights.
- Upgrades/expansion of handwashing facilities at parks.
- Use recycled water to irrigate all parks.

# Discussion Group 7: Enhancing a Sense of Community and Local Arts & Culture Opportunities

## Session Description

Rancho Cucamonga is a community with many assets and unique cultural attributes – wine history, festivals, Quakes Baseball, theatre, parks, mountains, etc. All of these contribute to what many would refer to as a “sense of place”. How can Rancho Cucamonga better celebrate its identity and focus on “placemaking” in the future? How do we ensure we are being inclusive as we enhance our sense of community and spaces? This discussion group was intended to involve people who are passionate about creating places for RC residents to congregate, celebrate, and share as a community.

## Summary of Input

The Community and Culture session included roughly 8-10 attendees (some came late, some left early). The group stayed together as one breakout session. This is a summary of the dialogue from questions posed by facilitators and comments from attendees, including verbal comments and comments in the Zoom Chat. Notes from the discussion are summarized below.

## What Does “Rancho Community” Mean To You? What Is Your Sense of Community / Place Regarding RC? What Ideas Do You Have?

- Mountains, indigenous community, rich sense of history.
- Community means “home base”, neighbors, neighborhood-centric.
- Natural environment and placemaking and sense of place intersect.
- Gives artists a foundation for creating art that is meaningful to the community and to our specific place.
- Programs, public artworks, planning initiatives that can help weave together neighbors is important.
- As community ages, interactions between neighbors is important.
- Multi-generational interaction and engagement.
- Local gathering places that we want to be vibrant.
- Places to share stories and updates.
- Art is really important for those locations.
- Infrastructure in my neighborhood prevents active engagement (lack sidewalks); Red Hill challenging for older people; people drive carelessly.
- Social infrastructure; build resilient communities – capacity for neighbors to take care of each other during times of disaster/stress.
- Like to see art/projects that inspire connectedness.

- Youth have grown up and been engaged; City has prospered with Victoria Gardens and great parks.
- Crucial to highlight minorities, people of color, women, and immigrants that are (intentionally or unintentionally) invisible in our community.
- Need to redirect to new generation.
- Don't see a lot of technology or design geared to millennials or the youth.
- It is important to highlight our senior citizen community.
- Functional amenities.
  - Kinetic sculpture, solar panels – to generate energy.
  - Things that not just look beautiful, but have dual function for things that are basic necessities (e.g. public infrastructure like park benches – could utilize solar power for chargers).
  - Need innovative strategies to bring these things to our neighborhoods that suffer from more inequality.

### How About Specific Ideas on How Art Could Be Utilized to Bring Multiple Generations Together?

- Community gardens to bring together seniors and youth; donate a portion of Red Hill park for a community garden, or open a new space for a community garden.
- Cooking programs.
- Community table (Tempe, Az closed down Mill Ave and created a huge farm to table community meal); Could organize as a open streets event.

### How About Historically Marginalized, Disenfranchised Communities? How Well as a City Do We Celebrate/Showcase Our Local Culture?

- City events for LGBTQ+ friendly events, Mariachi bands, cultural nights for Asians and Muslims, but haven't seen City endorse or partner with specific organizations, such as: NARP, Outdoor Afro, Green Latinos, Green Muslims, Black Freedom Outfitters, Latino Outdoors, Venture Out Project, OUT There Adventures, Women's Wilderness, Military/Vet Community Talks (most of these programs are in alliance with NARP and can provide grants, loans, etc. for events).
- Southwest neighborhood needs better representation.
- Generally, lack of inclusion of the indigenous community; language preservation - Cucamonga is a Tongva word.
  - Use language as jumping off point to communicate with the Tongva community, and get their ideas on how public art and placemaking can amplify/elevate their voices in a way that they haven't been included before.
  - Sensitivity needed when working with the tribal communities.
  - Naming exercise for natural areas or planning areas in City? Engage the Tongva in that process and celebrate the culture and language.
- Healthy RC Youth Leaders working on language barriers and equity; look at their story map.
- Language group at the library – teens visited group: motivated them to develop different policy opportunities and programmatic things to advocate for citywide.

- Created signs for City Hall in the top 8 languages in the City.
- Naming of trails and wayfinding / markers – create with languages other than English.

### Is There Something Physical In The Design of RC (For Better or Worse), That Supports Isolation Rather Than Bringing People Together?

- Freeways divide communities.
- Foothill, serves as physical separation - Foothill breaks up City.
- Some communities around here identify themselves by Foothill (“I live just below Foothill”).
- Clear distinctions between bands of RC (above 210, between 210 and Foothill, below Foothill).
- Socioeconomic inequality affects the area south of Foothill the most; south of Foothill is a defined area for disadvantaged community (defined by state).
- While the city does enjoy growth and prosperity, it is important to note that we need to be rebuilt, literally, below Foothill so that it can include more of the community of Rancho Above Baseline, greater sense of economic prosperity; those communities get latest renovations.
- Arrow, in the last 20 years, has had some improvements; need to include renovations to our roads and parks below Foothill.
- Have noticed more Asian communities - more Asian shops and Asian communities pop up near Baseline; few multicultural shops opening below Foothill or on Arrow.
- Identifying places for art, there are many conflicting edges - certain residential neighborhoods edge against industrial land use areas; edges are ripe for community-focused projects.
- A lot of distinct personalities in unique neighborhoods in the city; strong sense of community; tight knit group; street mural project there.

### Citywide Community Should Feel As Strong/Inclusive As Tight Knit Local Communities. Any Thoughts On How We Can Improve That?

- Two things that Rancho doesn’t have that make it harder to make those connections.
  - No good downtown center where people gather from all parts of town.
  - No reason for them to come together, a signature event, a festival, an arts or non-arts thing (annual).
- Central Park – when master plan completed, there will be a gathering place.
- RC is a large city, going to be multi-centric.

### What Activities/Places Do You Enjoy That Give You Strong Sense Of Place?

- Winery - Historic site, grapes around it;
- Orchard of any kind.
- Food truck Fridays.
- Santa Ana – Art Walk.
- Claremont Village; village events supporting local artists.



- Long-standing art events.
- Nostalgic for me – the early grape harvest festival.
  - History, opportunity for local artists, boutique crafts, bands.
  - Used to be held at Guasti Park – rustic feeling.
  - Over years moved to different locations, has been discontinued for years.
- Founder’s Day parade (great if you have kids).
- Fourth of July at epicenter is a community event, always sold out; limits who can go because of location, capacity, price, parking, getting there, etc.