

Relationship to Other General Plan Elements

Some community safety concerns overlap or are associated with the issues considered by the Open Space and Land Use Elements. According to Government Code Section 65560 (b) (4), the Seismic and Safety Element is linked to the implementation of a local open space plan. For instance, as a means of protecting public health and safety, open space land may be set aside for these purposes in circumstances that need special regulation and management. Undeveloped land devoted to open space use may include area set aside because of hazardous conditions such as earthquake fault zones, unstable soil areas and flood plains. In addition, a community's Land Use Element usually incorporates the findings and recommendations relating to public safety and open space lands.

INVENTORY OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

Geologic and Seismic Hazards

Orange County, situated on the California south coastal plain, covers an area of 782 square miles. It is bounded by Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties to the north, Riverside County to the east, San Diego County to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. Folding and faulting of the earth's crust during the Tertiary Period produced the topographic features visible today. The western portion of the County is a series of broad sloping plains (Downey and Tustin Plains) formed from alluvium transported from mountains by the Santa Ana River, Santiago Creek and other local streams. The Puente-Chino Hills, which identify the northern limit of the valley, extend for 22 miles and reach a peak height of 1,780 feet. To the east and southeast of the valley are the Santa Ana Mountains, which have a peak height of 5,691 feet. North of the City of Villa Park are the Peralta Hills, exceeding a height of 1,500 feet. To the south is the Lomas de Santiago ridgeline with elevations as high as 1,770 feet.

The City of Villa Park is located in the low foothills on the west flank of the Santa Ana Mountains, and east of the Santa Ana River. Within its boundaries run portions of the Santiago Creek. The majority of this community is located on older sedimentary rock overlaid with alluvial material deposited by the Santa Ana River and Santiago Creek. The eastern portion of the community consists of volcanic rock deposited in the late Miocene time.