



CHAPTER 8

AIR QUALITY ELEMENT

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8.1 INTRODUCTION

The Air Quality Element is intended to protect the public's health and welfare by implementing measures that allow the South Coast Air Basin to attain Federal and State air quality standards. To achieve this goal, the Element sets forth a number of programs to reduce current pollution emissions and to require new development to include measures to comply with air quality standards. In addition, this Element contains provisions to address new air quality requirements. The regulatory framework, background information, and existing and future conditions can be found in the General Plan EIR.



The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is the lead agency in charge of developing the regional air quality plan, with input from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The SCAQMD is responsible for the overall development and implementation of the air quality management plan (AQMP), which covers the South Coast Air Basin and other areas within SCAQMD's jurisdiction. To facilitate monitoring of air pollution levels and to work toward achieving standards, the SCAQMD has divided the Basin into 32 monitoring areas. Garden Grove is located within the Coastal Orange County Source Receptor Area, with the monitoring station located in Anaheim. According to SCAQMD data, State standards are rarely exceeded for CO and NOx, yet frequently exceeded for O3.

8.2 AUTHORITY FOR ELEMENT

The State of California Government Code Section 65302(d), which provides the statutory requirements for the Conservation Element, also serves as the applicable Government Code section for the Air Quality Element. Further guidance is provided in the 2003 General Plan Guidelines regarding the assessment of air quality impacts in General Plans. Other relevant sections of the Government Code that are applicable to the Air Quality Element include Section 65303, which allows cities to include any other element or address any other subjects that may relate to the physical development of the city.



8.3 KEY THEMES AND VISION FOR GENERAL PLAN

PROACTIVE APPROACH TO IMPROVING AIR QUALITY

Garden Grove recognizes the importance of air quality not only to public health and safety, but also to the City's and the region's economic well being. The City will identify the role it can play in helping the South Coast Air Basin attain the goal of meeting Federal and State air quality standards, as well as the function the City has in protecting its own residents and businesses from the impacts of harmful air contaminants.

This Element explains the role Garden Grove plays in helping the South Coast Air Basin attain the goal of meeting Federal and State air quality standards, as well as the function the City has in protecting its own residents and businesses from the impacts of harmful air contaminants. This Element includes goals and policies that will assist in the attainment of State and Federal air quality standards, as well as in the achievement of improved land use decisions as they relate to air quality. The City, through the Land Use Element and General Plan Land Use Diagram, is committed to both the preservation of existing residential areas and the expansion of mixed use development along major arterial corridors that will assist the City in working towards clean air while at the same time, permitting reasonable and planned growth.

8.4 GOALS, POLICIES, AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

This Element is organized into goals, policies, and implementation programs. A description of each is provided in Chapter 1, Introduction. It is important to note that the implementation programs are specific actions to carry out all of the preceding goals and policies.

Goal AQ-1	Air quality that meets the standards set by the State and Federal governments.
Policy AQ-1.1	Coordinate with other agencies in the region, particularly the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to implement the provisions of the region's Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), as amended.
Policy AQ-1.2	Strive to achieve conformance with the state-mandated congestion management plans (CMPs), transportation demand management (TDM) plans, or other like State or Federally required pollution reduction plans.
AQ-IMP-1A	Continue to participate, where possible, in committees involved in the development and implementation of a countywide air quality implementation plan.
AQ-IMP-1B	Encourage and assist employers in developing and implementing work trip reduction plans, employee ride sharing, modified work schedules, preferential carpool and vanpool parking, or any other trip reduction approach that is consistent with the Air Quality Management Plan for the South Coast Air Basin.
AQ-IMP-1C	Continue to implement a TDM ordinance.



Goal AQ-2	Increased awareness and participation throughout the community in efforts to reduce air pollution and enhance air quality.
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| Policy AQ-2.1 | Increase public information activities regarding air quality issues. |
| Policy AQ-2.2 | Promote and encourage ride sharing activities within the community. |
| Policy AQ-2.3 | Continue to improve existing sidewalks, bicycle trails, and parkways, and require sidewalk and bicycle trail improvements and parkways for new development or redevelopment projects. |
| Policy AQ-2.4 | Relieve congestion on major arterials and reduce emissions. |
| Policy AQ-2.5 | Separate, buffer, and protect sensitive receptors from significant sources of pollution to the greatest extent possible. |
| AQ-IMP-2A | Establish additional park-and-ride facilities for work and non-work trip reductions. |
| AQ-IMP-2B | Require new development or redevelopment projects to provide pedestrian and bicycle trails access to nearby shopping and employment centers. |
| AQ-IMP-2C | Encourage companies that ship or receive high volumes of goods by commercial truck to limit operations to non-peak traffic periods. |
| AQ-IMP-2D | Continue preventive maintenance and repair of City vehicles and equipment. Investigate the possibility of converting the existing vehicle fleet to clean fuel vehicles. |
| AQ-IMP-2E | Encourage, publicly recognize, and reward innovative approaches that improve air quality. |

Goal AQ-3	A diverse and energy efficient transportation system incorporating all feasible modes of transportation for the reduction of pollutants.
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| Policy AQ-3.1 | Cooperate and participate with regional and local efforts to develop an efficient transportation system that reduces vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled. |
| Policy AQ-3.2 | Cooperate in efforts to expand and promote the use of bus, rail, and other forms of transit within the region in order to further reduce pollutants. |
| AQ-IMP-3A | Continue to work closely with the Orange County Transit Authority (OCTA) and adjacent cities to establish an alternative transportation system along the OCTA right-of-way, such as the "Go Local" program on the right-of-way between Garden Grove and Santa Ana. |
| AQ-IMP-3B | Support public transit providers to increase funding for alternative modes of travel. |



AQ-IMP-3C	Participate with public transit providers serving the City and Orange County in a cooperative program to further increase transit services.
AQ-IMP-3D	Develop the bicycle routes identified in the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element to support the use of bicycles as an alternate mode of transportation.
AQ-IMP-3E	Allow or encourage programs for priority parking or free parking in City parking lots for alternative fuel vehicles, especially zero and super ultra low emission vehicles (ZEVs and SULEVs).
AQ-IMP-3F	Support the development of alternative fuel infrastructure that is publicly accessible.

Goal AQ-4	Efficient development that promotes alternative modes of transportation, while ensuring that economic development goals are not sacrificed.
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Policy AQ-4.1	Review site developments to ensure pedestrian safety and promote non-automotive users.
Policy AQ-4.2	Encourage neighborhood parks and community centers near concentrations of residential areas and include pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths to encourage non-motorized travel.
Policy AQ-4.3	Encourage “walkable” neighborhoods with pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths in residential and other types of developments to encourage pedestrian rather than vehicular travel.
AQ-IMP-4A	Periodically review parking requirements and revise as necessary with market demands in relation to air quality guidelines.
AQ-IMP-4B	Investigate short- and long-term parking strategies at civic and private facilities.
AQ-IMP-4C	Require sidewalks through parking lots, bicycle racks near building entrances and other provisions for the safety and convenience of pedestrian and bicycle riders at all commercial, mixed use, and production facilities.

Goal AQ-5	An improved balance of residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, and institutional uses to satisfy the needs of the social and economic segments of the population. Work towards clean air while still permitting reasonable planned growth.
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Policy AQ-5.1	Support mixed use developments.
Policy AQ-5.2	Encourage infill development projects within urbanized areas that include jobs centers and transportation nodes.
Policy AQ-5.3	Promote mixed use development that allows the integration of retail, office, industrial, institutional, and residential uses for the purposes of reducing costs of infrastructure construction and maximizing the use of land.



Policy AQ-5.4	Encourage employment centers that are non-polluting or low polluting and do not draw large number of vehicles in proximity to residential uses.
Policy AQ-5.5	Avoid locating multiple-family developments close to areas that emit harmful air contaminants.
Policy AQ-5.6	Increase residential and commercial densities around bus and/or rail transit stations, and along major arterial corridors.
Policy AQ-5.7	Preserve transportation corridors with the potential of high demand or of regional significance for future expansion to meet project demand.
AQ-IMP-5A	Encourage mixed use developments that combine residential and commercial or industrial business locations, thereby improving convenience and reducing trip generation.

Goal AQ-6	Increased energy efficiency and conservation.
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Policy AQ-6.1	Develop incentives and/or regulations regarding energy conservation requirements for private and public developments.
Policy AQ-6.2	Promote energy conservation and disseminate information throughout the community about energy conservation measures.
AQ-IMP-6A	Remove barriers for the use of solar energy for residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional uses.
AQ-IMP-6B	Research and secure financial assistance and other means to support, provide, and address energy efficient applications such as solar panels, cool roofs, wind energy, building modifications, etc.
AQ-IMP-6C	Continue to promote overall energy efficiency at local public facilities and continue preventative maintenance programs.
AQ-IMP-6D	Require new development to comply with the energy use guidelines in Title 24 of the California Administrative Code).
AQ-IMP-6E	Consider the development and implementation of a residential shade tree program that would provide trees to residents to reduce energy consumption.
AQ-IMP-6F	Consider the development and implementation of an urban forest plan to plant additional trees citywide.
AQ-IMP-6G	Develop incentives and/or regulations regarding energy conservation requirements for private and public developments.
AQ-IMP-6H	Monitor energy conservation or renewable energy generation programs proposed by the State or Federal government, such as California Energy Commission's New Solar Homes Partnership to determine this applicability to new development or redevelopment projects in the City.



Goal AQ-7**Reduced particulate emissions from paved and unpaved roads, parking lots, and building construction.**

- Policy AQ-7.1 Promote green, open spaces on undeveloped properties.
- Policy AQ-7.2 Continue to work towards the reduction of particulate emission from grading, construction, street cleaning, demolition, debris hauling, street cleaning, utility maintenance, railroad rights-of-way, and off-road vehicles, to the extent possible, to assist the region in meeting State and Federal standards.
- Policy AQ-7.3 Support programs that reduce emissions from building materials and methods that generate excessive pollutants through incentives and/or regulations.
- Policy AQ-7.4 Continue to enforce procedures that control dust from building demolition, grading, and construction activities.
- Policy AQ-7.5 Reduce reactive organic compounds and particulate emissions.
- AQ-IMP-7A Review existing street cleaning policies and equipment, and evaluate modifications to reduce surface sanitation pollution.
- AQ-IMP-7B Continue to enforce rules and measures of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

