



The following is a summary of the **Map Activity** conducted at the four Vision and Issues Workshops held throughout the Valley in April and May 2001. Participants were asked to review maps (approximately 2.5 X 6 foot) of existing land use conditions in the Valley and to allocate uses for future needs using representative land use “chips”. Individual chips were used to represent open space, parks, housing, regional and local serving commercial, and industrial uses. Residents were also allowed to mark directly on the maps using markers and post-its to record their comments. The small group activity took just over an hour to complete and included group formulation of rules and guidelines agreed upon to direct the placement of uses (*A full transcript is available under separate cover*).

Synopsis: To describe the future of the Valley on a map, in about an hour, is a substantial assignment. Residents joined in thoughtful discussion of their hopes and concerns for the Valley engaging in sometimes spirited debate as to the quantity of uses and where to locate those uses. A number of common rules were identified by each of the 19 groups, whereas the allocation of uses varied more considerably. While groups were encouraged to achieve consensus, total agreement was not required and dissenting opinions were recorded directly on the maps.

Most Common Guidelines

The following rules represent those guidelines identified by the majority (14-19) of the 14 groups:

- Preserve the ridgelines.
- Preserve open spaces.
- Require the development of schools with (concurrent or prior to) the development of new housing.
- Concentrate urban uses near more urban areas/Preserve the rural areas.

Other Typical Guidelines

These rules were identified by fewer groups (typically 8-12) of the 19 groups:

- Encourage mixed used.
- Create more parklands and open space.
- Protect waterways-leave them in their natural state.
- Do not build in close proximity to the Santa Clara River.
- Provide/require adequate infrastructure prior to new development.
- Create more places for people to spend free time (i.e., entertainment, outdoor, etc.)
- Encourage a diversity of housing types and costs.
- Plan for roads and more public transportation.
- Provide more incentives to use carpools and buses to the San Fernando Valley.
- Redevelop Newhall.



Other Identified Guidelines

These rules were identified at least once in the map activity:

- Protect farmland.
- Do not build on or near SEAs.
- Protect threatened and endangered species and habitats.
- Identify and protect wildlife corridors.
- Do not build on fault lines.
- Place local commercial near multi-family housing.
- Provide more housing (higher densities) near colleges.
- No new housing until we meet standard of 5 acres of park space per 1000 people and school facilities are provided for all students.
- Preserve open space in Agua Dulce and Acton.
- Develop industrial parks along freeways and at major intersections.
- Establish fees for new development towards the cost of traffic mitigation.
- Establish a low lighting initiative.
- Establish trails and a greenbelt along the Santa Clara River.
- Limit growth.
- Do not allow development if it threatens to deprive existing residents of water.
- Establish electric vehicle stations.
- Promote environmentally friendly industries.
- Health impacts of development shall be considered when approving future projects- do not allow if traffic or air quality impacts.
- Create parklands around ridges.
- Develop senior and medical facilities in the city center.
- Identify appropriate locations for churches/religious uses.