

RESOLUTION NO. 94-55

ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR DOÑA ANA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Doña Ana County has authority to adopt a comprehensive plan for land use development for the planning, zoning, and platting of the County as authorized by New Mexico Statutes, Section 3-21-1 et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is in accordance with New Mexico State Statutes Section 3-21-5 and is designed to;

- 1) lessen congestion in the streets and public ways;**
- 2) secure safety from fire, flood waters, panic and other dangers;**
- 3) promote health and the general welfare;**
- 4) provide adequate light and air;**
- 5) prevent the overcrowding of land;**
- 6) avoid undue concentration of population;**
- 7) facilitate adequate provision for transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, and other public requirements; and**
- 8) control and abate the unsightly use of buildings or land.**

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Policy Plan has been developed in accordance with desires and needs of county residents as expressed through public hearings;

WHEREAS, the Doña Ana County Planning and Zoning Commission, in conjunction with the Board of County Commissioners at a joint meeting on October 11, 1994, have reviewed and commented on the approval of the Comprehensive Plan and the Planning and Zoning Commission did vote on October 31, 1994 to recommend approval of Comprehensive Plan;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan is intended to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Doña Ana County Commission, that:

Section 1. The policies of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan as part of this resolution shall serve as general guidelines for land use decisions and all county regulations affecting land use shall conform to these policies;

Section 2. The 1978 Comprehensive Policy Plan is hereby repealed;

Section 3. The 1994 Comprehensive Plan may be amended as conditions change upon recommendation of the Doña Ana County Planning And Zoning Commission and/or the Board of County Commissioners;

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of November, 1994, at Las Cruces, New Mexico, Doña Ana County, State of New Mexico.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF DOÑA ANA COUNTY**

Ray B. Luchini, Chairman

Everardo L. Chavez, Member

Enrique S. Gonzalez, Member

Joe M. Lujan, Member

Kenneth D. Miyagishima, Member

Attest:

Rita Torres, County Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

November, 1994

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Joe M. Lujan

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PURPOSE AND NATURE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan is designed to guide future growth and development in the county in a manner consistent with the community's goals for its physical, social, and economic environment. The plan provides a combination of goals, policies, and actions that will be used to make responsible decisions for the next twenty years (1995-2015). Comprehensive planning is not new in Doña Ana County; in 1969 the county contracted with Harland Bartholomew and Associates for a comprehensive planning study. In 1978, a Comprehensive Policy Plan and a zoning ordinance was adopted by the county. In 1992, the Doña Ana County Planning Department began research which formed the basis for the technical section of the comprehensive plan. Community meetings were held in the summer of 1993. These public meetings involved county residents in the comprehensive planning process who identified issues and problems that should be addressed in the plan. These issues and problems are addressed in the cumulative goals, policies, and actions of the comprehensive plan.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY PROFILE

Doña Ana County occupies 3,804 square miles in south-central New Mexico, bordering on El Paso County, Texas, and the state of Chihuahua, Mexico as well as Luna, Sierra and Otero Counties in New Mexico (see Figure 1). The county is physically diverse, with mountain ranges, valleys, foothills and desert.

The population of Doña Ana County has risen dramatically since 1900. In 1900 the county was an agriculturally based society with a population of 10,187. The market centers were Las Cruces, El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua. By 1990 the county was urbanized, with a population of 135,510 and an economy based in service and retail. Rapid population growth has occurred in and around the city of Las Cruces and the southern part of the county. The part of the county north of Hill remains primarily rural in nature.

Population growth is expected to continue at a rapid pace over the next 20 years. The average annual rate is projected to be in the 4-6 percent range. This means a 2015 population of more than 300,000 people (see Appendix, Table 1). The primary areas of growth will be the Las Cruces metropolitan area and the southern part of Doña Ana County.

The quality of life in the county is characterized by a strong sense of community that is strengthened by a rural lifestyle. Assets of the county identified by residents include: peace and quiet, friendliness of the people, good weather, and the rural setting (Doña Ana County Citizen Participation Technical Report). Increased population and industrial growth may have an impact on this particular quality of life. The comprehensive plan should be a guiding force for the preservation of such assets, but only by the direction of county residents.

Figure 1. Dona Ana County Location Map



HOW TO READ THE PLAN

The county has selected seven primary goals which reflect community priorities for growth in Doña Ana County for the next twenty years. The comprehensive plan is structured around these primary goals. Under each primary goal the elements of the comprehensive plan are discussed along with the policies and actions designed to guide growth. The Primary Goals of the Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan are written as follows:

1. Provide basic infrastructure.
2. Maintain and protect the county's resources.
3. Provide community facilities and services.
4. Promote economic development and employment opportunities.
5. Adopt and implement a land use plan.
6. Encourage affordable housing and a variety of housing types.
7. Improve inter-governmental relations.

The goal statements define broader concerns, whereas policy statements are more specific. These policy statements demonstrate an understanding of the goals selected and lead to the formulation of specific actions.

In addition to this publication, there are atlas maps and technical reports available from the county. These supplemental documents are the basis of information used in the development of the plan. The following list identifies the elements of the Comprehensive Plan Technical Reports:

- ~ Population and Housing
- ~ Land Use
- ~ Agriculture
- ~ Parks and Recreation
- ~ Doña Ana County Regional Water Plan
- ~ Environmental Constraints
- ~ Citizen Participation

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The Doña Ana County Planning Division began public participation in the comprehensive planning process in July, 1993. Over thirty-five public meetings, workshops, and Planning and Zoning commission meetings were held (see Appendix, Table 5).

ADOPTING AND AMENDING THE PLAN

The plan was reviewed by the Planning and Zoning Commission at a joint meeting with the Board of County Commissioners on October 11, 1994. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted on October 31, 1994 to recommend approval of the comprehensive plan. It was reviewed and adopted by the Doña Ana Board County Commission on November 22, 1994 by Resolution No. 94-55.

The plan is intended to guide private and public decision making about growth and

development in Doña Ana County. It provides the basis for actions regarding land use regulations and capital improvement programs.

The plan should be reviewed periodically (minimum of every five years) and revised to meet changing development conditions and community needs.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

The comprehensive plan will be implemented through the following ordinances and actions recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission and approved by the Board of County Commissioners:

- 1) development and administration of the County Zoning Ordinance, and other land use regulations;
- 2) administration of the County Subdivision Regulations;
- 3) development of an Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan and funding through local, state, and federal funds for major public works;
- 4) development and adoption of a Major Thoroughfare and Transportation Plan;
- 5) development, adoption, and implementation of specialized plans and ordinances such as:
 - ~ water and wastewater treatment facilities and sludge disposal
 - ~ hazardous waste disposal plan
 - ~ historic preservation plan
 - ~ parks and recreation plan

These ordinances and actions of the comprehensive plan can greatly influence investment and development decisions of the private and public sectors. The timing of such development is directly affected by general economic trends, market forces, and the construction of publicly funded capital projects such as highways. The intention of the comprehensive plan is to guide the direction and development of the county over the next twenty years as per the implementation of the plan.

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan is written in accordance with New Mexico State Statute 3-21-5, revised 1978. This plan gives consideration, among other things, to the character of the county and the peculiar suitability of areas within the county for particular uses. It also gives consideration to conserving the value of the buildings and land and encouraging the most appropriate uses of land. The plan is intended to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Doña Ana County. It represents the cumulative goals of the residents of Doña Ana County, as well as the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners. The plan includes the following purposes:

1. Protect property rights.
2. Encourage the design of efficient transportation systems in order to improve traffic circulation on streets and public ways.
3. Maintain and preserve the county's resources.
4. Promote appropriate densities of land use to prevent the overcrowding of land.
5. Encourage appropriate concentrations of population.
6. Identify and foster programs that ensure that the development of future land uses will occur along with the availability of infrastructure.
7. Encourage and coordinate the development of land uses which are compatible with existing land uses.
8. Establish a basis for the land use regulations for the county.
9. Preserve the customs and culture of the county.
10. Conserve the value of buildings and land.
11. Promote economic development.
12. Control and abate the unsightly use of land and buildings.
13. Encourage the entrepreneurship of private investors to determine the use of private land for their individual business needs.
14. Provide technical information to those interested in alternative land use development practices, such as creation of open space, conservation, trails, and farmland easements.
15. Maintain environmental quality based on federal and state standards and projected population growth.
16. Promote water conservation.

PRIMARY GOALS

1. *Provide basic infrastructure.*
 2. *Maintain and protect the county's resources.*
 3. *Provide community facilities and services.*
 4. *Promote economic development and employment opportunities.*
 5. *Adopt and implement a land use plan.*
 6. *Encourage affordable housing and a variety of housing types.*
 7. *Improve inter-governmental relations.*
-

PRIMARY GOAL 1: PROVIDE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Due to rapid population growth and the change from rural to urban densities, there is a significant need for improved basic infrastructure. Infrastructure includes transportation, water and wastewater systems.

TRANSPORTATION

The transportation system is a key element in the quality of life of Doña Ana County residents (see Figure 2). Improvement to county, state and federal highways is a priority need to accommodate growth and economic development.

Doña Ana County is served by two major U.S. Interstate Highways, I-10 (Los Angeles, California to Jacksonville, Florida) and I-25 (Las Cruces, New Mexico to Billings, Montana). The county is also served by four U.S. Highways: 70, 80, 85, and 180. Mass transit needs are served by the Roadrunner Bus Service primarily in Las Cruces with limited routes in the county. Several private transit operators serve Doña Ana County with interstate service.

Rail freight is provided by both the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway (AT&SF) and the Southern Pacific Railway (SP). These railways have direct connections to the Midwest, California, and Texas Gulf. Daily rail service with "piggy back" and container service is provided by both rail companies in El Paso, Texas. Major truck-rail (intermodal) facilities are being planned for future regional needs in Doña Ana County.

Three public airports serve Doña Ana County. The Las Cruces International Airport is located eight miles west of Las Cruces with direct access to I-10. The Doña Ana County Airport at Santa Teresa is located in the southern portion of the county. Doña Ana County is also served by the El Paso International Airport in El Paso, Texas, which is forty-five miles south of Las Cruces on I-10. Development of the Doña Ana County Airport is essential to serve the growth of trade in the international border area.

PRIMARY GOAL 1: PROVIDE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE.

Goal Statement: Provide basic transportation infrastructure that is compatible with adjoining land uses.

Policies

- . Adopt and implement a major thoroughfare plan showing new thoroughfares and priority improvements to existing routes.
- . Encourage public transportation in Doña Ana County.
- . Develop the Doña Ana County Airport.
- . Encourage development of north/south rail passenger service, freight transfer stations and rail/truck intermodal facilities.

Actions

- . Design and implement funding mechanisms to up-grade roads in Doña Ana County.
- . Coordinate with federal, state, and local governments to provide transportation services throughout Doña Ana County.
- . Require developers to construct roads in new subdivisions and other developments to meet county standards.

PRIMARY GOAL 1: PROVIDE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE.

Water and Sewer Systems

There are eighty-four private and public water suppliers in Doña Ana County. In the unincorporated areas of the county, growth is straining the management and financial resources of the smaller water systems. Coordination of the expansion of these systems is needed.

There are approximately seven sewer systems serving Doña Ana County. Most communities use septic tanks or cesspools. Sewer systems must be built to serve growth and population and industry in the county.

Goal Statement: Encourage the expansion and improvement of existing water and wastewater systems.

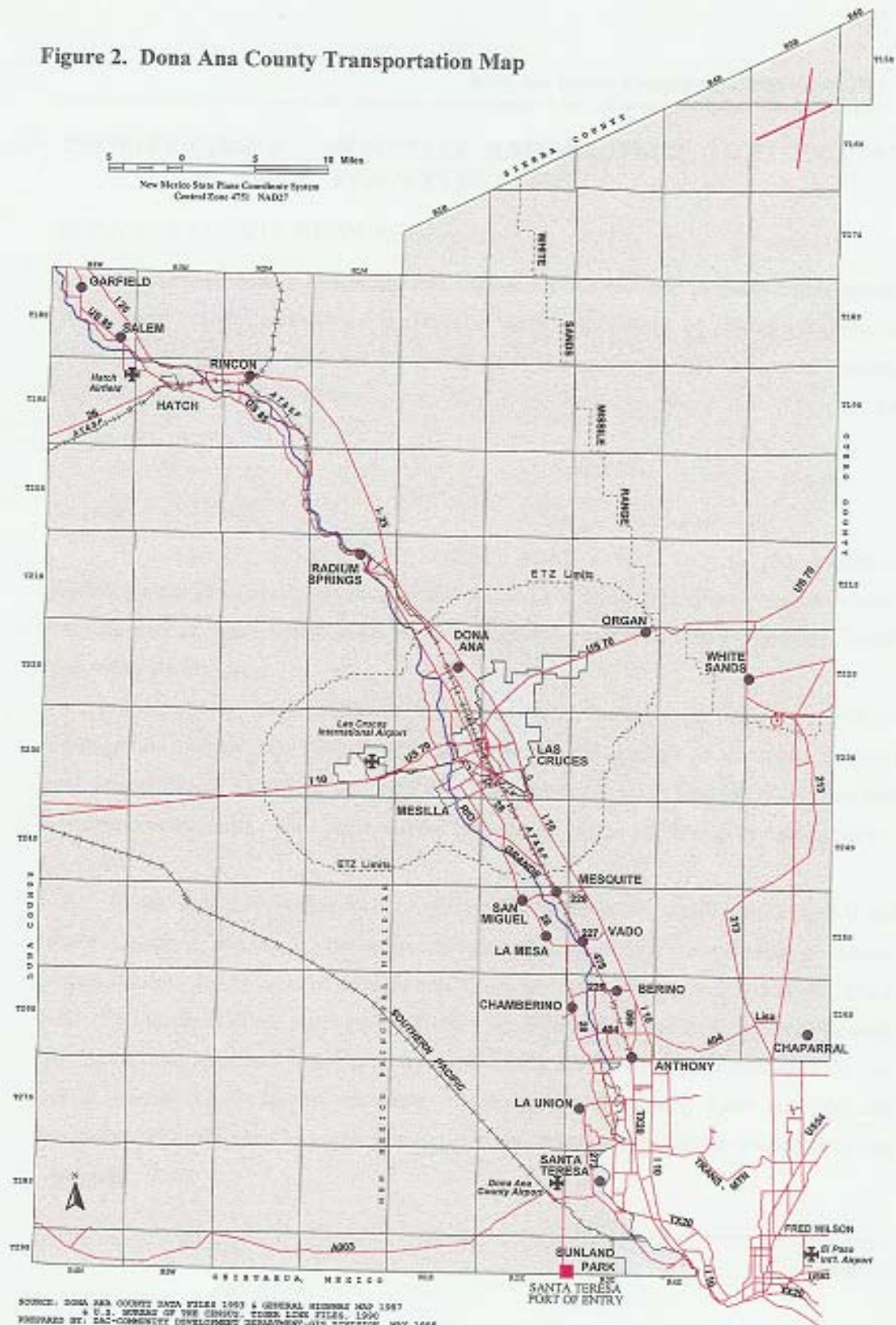
Policies

- . Support the development of water and wastewater systems for all of Doña Ana County.
- . Coordinate wastewater and water systems management with appropriate agencies.

Actions

- . Design, implement and manage funding mechanisms for improving substandard water and wastewater systems.
-

Figure 2. Dona Ana County Transportation Map



PRIMARY GOAL 2: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S RESOURCES.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY RESOURCES

Doña Ana County recognizes that the relationship between property rights and the public health, safety, and welfare is a delicate balance that should be guided and protected by responsible land use decisions. Standards which protect the quality of air, water, natural, and historic resources are necessary to sustain the future economy and welfare of the community.

WATER

Groundwater protection is an important public concern because 100 percent of drinking water is currently obtained from this source. Doña Ana County will coordinate with the state to ensure that groundwater is protected through local land use and other health and safety regulations.

Point sources of groundwater and surface water pollution in the county include: underground storage tanks, sewage effluent discharges, the spillage of hazardous materials and run-off. Point sources of pollution may be controlled through land use regulations and construction standards. Non-point sources of pollution can be eliminated by creating sewer systems.

Water supply is another concern in the county. Generally, water quality is good and water supply is adequate. However, the groundwater supply is dependent on annual replenishment. In the event of drought conditions, excessive draw-downs will occur, which will affect the level of the water table. Surface water in Doña Ana County is used primarily for agricultural uses, and is delivered by the Elephant Butte Irrigation District (EBID). As the population of the county increases, coordination with surface water suppliers and regulatory agencies may be required to support municipal and industrial development (see Appendix, Table 7).

PRIMARY GOAL 2: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S RESOURCES.

Goal Statement: Protect the quality and supply of water resources in the county.

Policies

- . Encourage the development of efficient and economical water systems in Doña Ana County.
- . Encourage the development of sewage collection and treatment systems,

especially for developments located in areas of moderate and high aquifer sensitivity.

- Encourage water conservation policies and programs.

Actions

- Develop a county wide plan for waste water treatment facilities and sludge disposal.
- Modify ordinances to include water conservation.

PRIMARY GOAL 2: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S RESOURCES.

Air

The quality of air in the county is generally good. Doña Ana County, because of its geology, experiences air temperature inversions which occur frequently throughout the winter season. Spill-over effects from the El Paso region have created acute air pollution incidents for the communities of Sunland Park, Santa Teresa, and La Union in southern Doña Ana County. The New Mexico State Environmental Improvement Board, pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1970, designated Doña Ana County as an Air Quality Maintenance Area for air pollutants, Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Total Suspended Particulate (TSP). The Anthony area is a non-attainment area for PM-10 dust under the Clean Air Act, partly due to desert conditions and traffic on unpaved streets (NMED, 1991).

Goal Statement: Protect and improve air quality in the county.

Policies

- . Encourage land use regulations that balance air quality, transportation systems, industry, and growth.
- . Improve existing roads to reduce dust emissions.
- . Develop standards to minimize the effects of blowing dust from land cleared of vegetation for development.

Action

- . Establish a regional air quality board which includes the states of New Mexico, Texas, Chihuahua and El Paso, Juarez, Las Cruces and communities of Doña Ana County.
-

PRIMARY GOAL 2: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S RESOURCES.

FLOODPLAIN

The 100 year floodplain occurs along the Rio Grande and in numerous arroyos scattered throughout the county. Many areas in the county lie within the 100-year floodplain. Development in these areas must meet special construction standards.

Goal Statement: Protect the residents and property of Doña Ana County from flooding.

Policies

- . Encourage development to locate away from the floodplain.
- . Assure that adequate drainage plans are prepared and followed for areas outside the designated floodplain.

Actions

- . Provide incentives to developers to locate residential land use away from areas which have a potential for flooding.
- . Encourage low density development in floodplain.
- . Review all building and mobile home permits to ensure compliance with floodplain regulations.
- . Establish procedures for review of site plans and subdivisions for adequate drainage design and construction.

**PRIMARY GOAL 2: *MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S
RESOURCES.***

LIQUID AND SOLID WASTE

There are fourteen public solid waste facilities in Doña Ana County which are classified as active or historic. Only one public facility remains open at this time, but is scheduled to be closed within the next five years. There will be a public solid waste facility at Los Corralitos Ranch, which is located in the western part of the county. A Solid Waste Authority will be created jointly by the City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County. Eight of the historic landfills operate as waste transfer stations. Nu-Mex is a private waste facility located in Sunland Park, New Mexico. This facility accepts both solid and de-watered sludge from Doña Ana County and El Paso, Texas. There is one public liquid waste facility located east of the interchange of I-10 at Mesquite, New Mexico. There is also a private liquid waste facility located west of La Union. As the county grows, coordinated systems for safe disposal of liquid and solid waste must be developed.

SOLID WASTE

Goal Statement: Provide economical and efficient methods of solid waste collection and disposal to county residents.

Policies

- . Promote solid waste recycling systems.
- . Develop a county-wide hazardous waste disposal program.

Actions

- . Cooperate with municipalities in the county for the collection and disposal of solid waste.
- . Make county landfills more accessible to county residents

**PRIMARY GOAL 2: *MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S
RESOURCES.***

LIQUID WASTE

Goal Statement: Protect the public from contaminated water supplies and ensure that county residents have access to liquid waste disposal service systems.

Policies

- . Promote liquid waste disposal systems and services.

Actions

- . Implement regulations that provide for the eventual elimination of all liquid waste disposal into groundwater and surface water.
- . Implement regulations that will locate liquid waste facilities away from areas defined as environmentally sensitive.

**PRIMARY GOAL 2: MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE COUNTY'S
RESOURCES.**

Historic Resources

The Rio Grande Valley has been a corridor for hunting, farming, trade and settlement since earliest times. Today, existing villages and townsites still serve as centers of population (see Appendix, Table 8). Historic forts have become tourist attractions. Historic locations should be preserved.

Historic Preservation should consist of two elements. The first element should include the identification of actual historical events and locations and the development of those sites to enhance their historical significance. The second element should include the actual preservation of physical structures.

Goal Statement: The protection and preservation of historic districts, buildings, and archeological sites should be encouraged.

Policies

- Incorporate preservation of important historic areas and buildings into land use plans, regulations and county public works projects.
- Provide for design standards and site development review for new commercial, industrial and higher density residential developments, within "historic townsites".

Actions

- Study the possible designation of NM State Highway 28 as a Scenic Byway to help preserve the historic nature of rural communities.
- Develop a county historic preservation plan.
- Provide technical assistance to property owners seeking to list their properties or buildings on state and national registers of historic and cultural sites.

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND

SERVICES.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Among the most important needs of the residents of Doña Ana County are community facilities. Public services such as police, fire, and health clinics are necessary for fulfilling a government's responsibility in protecting the health and safety of its citizens. Community facilities that are provided by government, such as parks and recreation areas, community centers, day care centers, and senior citizens centers are important because they satisfy the social and health needs of citizens. They also serve as a good barometer of an area's economic condition and reflect the overall well-being of a community. It is important that the county plan address these needs, especially since high rates of population growth are anticipated.

EDUCATION

Doña Ana County has three public school districts: Hatch, Las Cruces, and Gadsden (see Figure 3). The three school districts have a combined total of 34,202 students, which includes grades K-12. Gadsden Public School District is the fastest growing district in the State of New Mexico.

The Hatch School District serves the northern part of the county, including the Village of Hatch.

This school district experienced dramatic growth from 1990-1991, with an growth rate of 11.5-12.5 percent (see Appendix, Table 9). Along with the addition of two new elementary schools, the existing high school will have to be renovated.

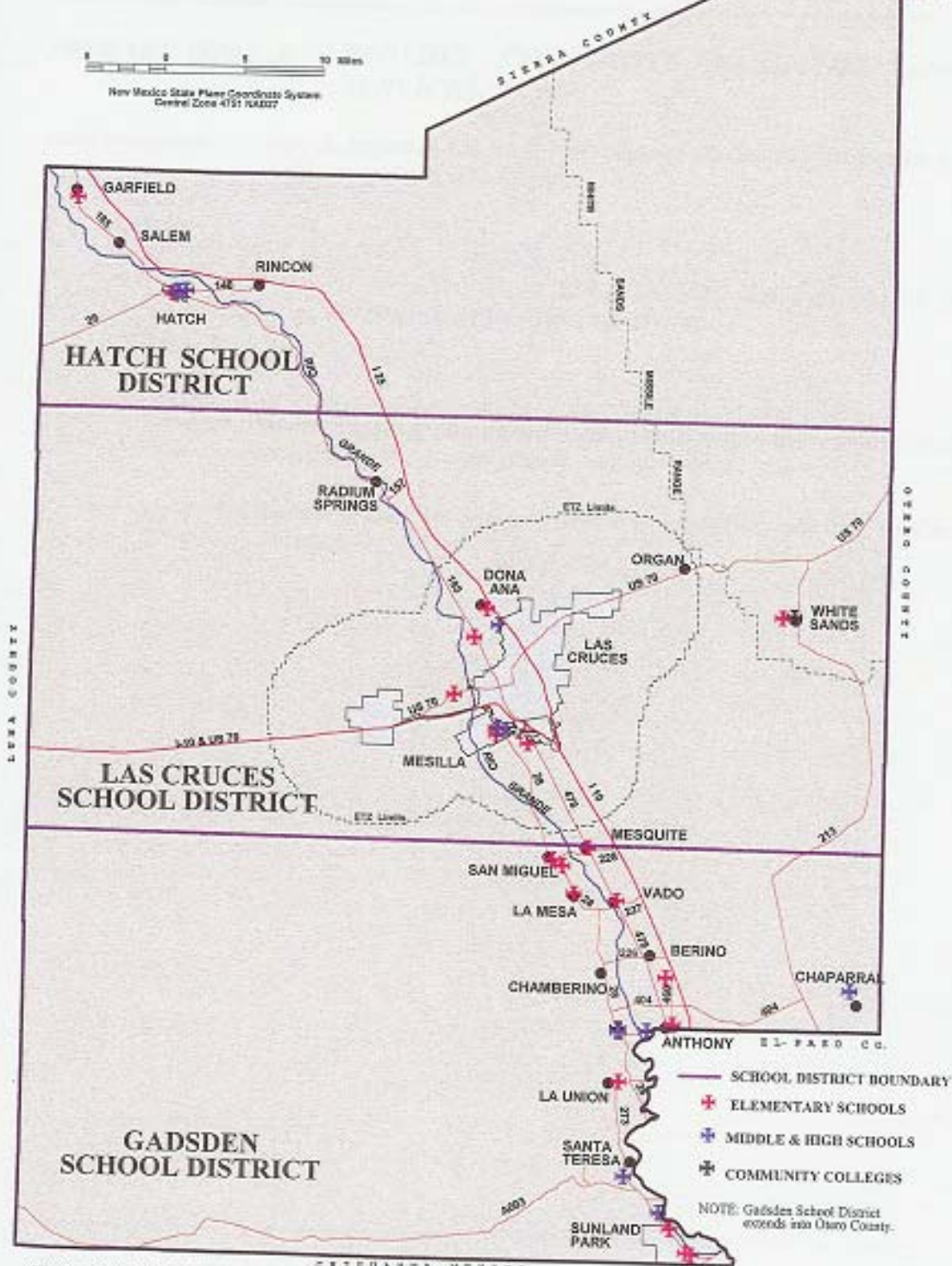
The Las Cruces School District serves the central part of the county, including the city of Las Cruces and Town of Mesilla. Educational facilities encompass some 1.678 million square feet and 422 acres of school land area (there are also three administrative facilities). The Las Cruces Public School District includes 1,673 square miles of area which represents 44 percent of Doña Ana County (see Appendix, Table 10).

The Gadsden School District serves the southern part of the county which includes the communities of Anthony, Chaparral, Sunland Park and Santa Teresa. The Gadsden School District is 1,300 square miles in area and is bounded by the Las Cruces School District to the north, El Paso, Texas, and the Mexican border to the east and south, and includes approximately three square miles of Otero County (see Appendix, Table 11).

New Mexico State University, located in Doña Ana County, founded in 1888, is the state's second largest university in terms of enrollment. NMSU has an enrollment of more than 15,000 with students from every state in the U.S. and more than 80 foreign countries. NMSU offers 71 bachelor's degree programs, 47 masters, 19 doctoral, and 13 two year programs as well as four educational specialist degrees.

There are four vocational/academic colleges of higher learning: Doña Ana Branch Community College, International Business College, Troy State University at White Sands Missile Range, and the Technical Training Institute. The Doña Ana Branch Community College has several satellite campuses that provide postsecondary educational opportunities for the citizens of the county. The Gadsden Education Center is located in Anthony and another satellite is located on the White Sands Missile Range base and offers lower-division college courses to military personnel and civilians.

Figure 3. Dona Ana County School District Map



CEQUEARRA, MEXICO
 SOURCE: DONA ANA COUNTY DATA FILES 1993 & NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY 1993
 PREPARED BY: DAC-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT-GIS DIVISION - MAY, 1995

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

Goal Statement: Provide opportunities for a wide range of educational services for all residents of Doña Ana County.

Policies

- Coordinate with the public school districts, colleges and state agencies to provide adequate educational facilities and services.

Actions

- Provide planning information about growth in the county to all public school districts, private schools, and universities.
 - Encourage joint use of county and school facilities, including satellite schools.
-

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Doña Ana County has a total of 16 fire districts and 2 fire sub-stations in the unincorporated areas. There are approximately 350 volunteer firefighters for these districts. County firefighters are trained on Firefighting Level 1 and 2, and are currently being trained on Haz-Mat Level 2. They are also trained on Emergency Medical Services and are First Responders to all EMS calls in the county. County firefighters also provide First Aid up to EMT-I level until the ambulance arrives; at that time paramedic assistance is provided by the ambulance service.

The City of Las Cruces has a total of five fire stations with paid staff. The City of Sunland Park, the Village of Hatch and White Sands have fire stations that are staffed by volunteers with a paid Fire Chief.

All Fire Districts have a rating that is issued by the Insurance Services Organization that is referred to as an ISO rating. The main purpose of the ISO rating is to determine insurance premiums for the residents of that fire district. This number determines the insurance rate; 1 is the lowest insurance rate and 10 is the highest rate (see Appendix, Table 12).

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

Goal Statement: Continue to implement and expand as necessary an integrated system of fire protection, emergency medicine, and rescue services.

Policies

- . Pursue adequate budgeting, training and facilities for protection of life and property, while minimizing fire insurance rates.
- . Require water companies, water associations, and water and sanitation districts to provide adequate water distribution for fire protection.
- . Provide adequate ambulance service throughout the county.

Actions

- . Support continuation of gross receipts tax for fire equipment and training.
 - . Continue purchasing ambulances and establishing additional ambulance stations throughout the county as necessary.
-

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

HEALTH FACILITIES

Acute care in Doña Ana County is provided by Memorial Medical Center, a public hospital, located in Las Cruces. There are two private mental health facilities in the county: Mesilla Valley Hospital, Las Cruces; and Alliance Hospital, Santa Teresa.

County public health clinics that serve the county include: Doña Ana County Health Office, Las Cruces. The following satellite clinics of the main public health office are located in: Hatch, East Mesa, Anthony, Sunland Park, and Chaparral.

Primary health care facilities include: La Clinica de Familia which has offices in Mesilla, San Miguel, Anthony, and Sunland Park. Additional facilities include Ben Archer Health Center located in Hatch and Las Cruces and McAffe Clinic, located at White Sands, serves active and retired military personnel. As the county grows, new clinics will be needed. A new hospital or a branch of Memorial Medical Center may be necessary to serve the southern portion of the county.

Goal Statement: Promote and maintain adequate health facilities.

Policies

- Coordinate with non-profit organizations to improve and expand preventive care facilities and services.

Actions

- Provide sites for future health clinics.
- Encourage adequate funding for public health clinics and hospitals in cooperation with the state and federal governments.

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The main Sheriff's Department office is located in Las Cruces. There are three sheriff sub-stations located in Hatch, Anthony, and Chaparral. The four municipalities of Doña Ana County each have their own police departments. The New Mexico State Police maintains a regional office in Las Cruces.

Goal Statement: Provide law enforcement protection for the residents of Doña Ana County.

Policies

- Encourage the increase of law enforcement personnel in Doña Ana County to provide adequate protection of its residents.

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

There are various social service programs provided by government and non-profit organizations throughout the county. Programs include: senior citizen programs, day care programs, and community outreach programs. As the population grows, there will be increased demand for services for all age groups.

Goal Statement: Provide social service programs and facilities for residents of Doña Ana County.

Policies

- . Maintain existing and develop new senior citizen facilities, day care facilities, community youth and multi-purpose centers.
- . Maintain and develop existing and new nutritional, educational, outreach, and prevention programs.

Actions

- . Promote joint use of public facilities by government and non-profit organizations to provide a range of social services.

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Doña Ana County has 539.9 acres of park and recreational areas that includes three community parks within the Las Cruces city limits. The county has twelve parks that contain 70.9 total acres. There are 452 acres of regional space that is available to the county which includes: Burn Lake in Las Cruces, Leasburg Dam State Park, Fort Selden State Monument, Dripping Springs recreation area, and the Aguirre Springs recreation area. Community residents have identified parks and recreation as a high priority for improvement by the county. Additional neighborhood and community parks are needed to serve rural areas. Eighty acres of additional park space will be needed each year to meet needs of county residents based on national standards (see Appendix, Table 13).

Goal Statement: Enhance the quality of life for county residents by providing adequate parks and recreational facilities.

Policies

- . Guide the development of parks and recreational areas throughout the county.
- . Maintain and upgrade existing parks and recreational facilities.
- . Coordinate with municipalities and the private sector to provide community and regional parks.

Actions

- . Identify sites for future recreational facilities which can be acquired from the Bureau of Land Management, and other public and private agencies.
- . Establish standards for park and recreation facilities to meet the needs of communities.

PRIMARY GOAL 3: PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACILITIES

The existing county detention center, located at the Doña Ana County Courthouse, houses 206 adults and 14 juveniles. Construction of a new detention facility began in June of 1994 and will be completed January 1996.

The new judicial complex will provide office space for district courts and judges, district clerks, district attorney, and law library to meet projected needs to the year 2010. The new detention center will house 555 adult, with expansion to 800 beds by the year 2010. Educational, mental health, and substance abuse programs will need to be planned and expanded for adults and juveniles.

Goal Statement: Provide facilities and programs which will meet current and future operational and service needs for detainees.

Policies

- . Continue to coordinate with local school districts, Doña Ana Community College (NMSU) and local mental health agencies to provide basic educational and mental health programs for adult and juvenile detainees.
- . Develop secure and non-secure alternative juvenile detention programs.

PRIMARY GOAL 4: PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Doña Ana County's economic base is currently highly dependent on government jobs. It is vital that local and state governments coordinate efforts to diversify the economy by attracting commerce and industry. Businesses which are based on agricultural processing, mid and high technology should be recruited. Other service and industrial companies which benefit from the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) agreement should be pursued.

The county should seek private, state and federal assistance to build infrastructure needed to serve business and industry.

Goal Statement: Develop a diversified economic base which builds on agriculture, high technology, services and trade.

Policies

- . Support economic development in those communities with existing infrastructure.
- . Cooperate with local, state, federal governments, and the private sector to build additional infrastructure for commercial and industrial development.

Actions

- . Support industrial revenue bonds for industries which create jobs.
 - . Utilize services at NMSU and the Doña Ana Branch Community College in cooperative efforts to improve the economic base of the county.
-

PRIMARY GOAL 4: PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture remains the leading industry in Doña Ana County with a base of about 96,000 acres of irrigated and irrigable farmland. In 1992, the county was rated second highest in the state in the value of its crop production with total cash receipts of 202 million dollars. Dairies are the most significant industrial enterprises in the area both in terms of acreage in use and in the number of employees.

Two-thirds of all farmland in the county is devoted to four crops: cotton, alfalfa, orchards, and chile. Agricultural processing plants exist in the county for pecans, milk, chiles, spices, and red food dye (from chile). Numerous vegetable packing facilities are located throughout the valley. While the number of agricultural processing plants in the county has increased in recent years, the bulk of all local output is still shipped to facilities in other counties and states.

The number of farms in Doña Ana County is growing while the size of individual/family farms are decreasing (see Appendix, Table 18). The clear trend in the county is toward smaller but more numerous farms. Small acreage operations may prove more susceptible to urbanization and rural residential development than large established enterprises.

**PRIMARY GOAL 4: *PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.***

Goal Statement: Support the agricultural industry and strive to maintain the viability of this major sector of the local economy.

Policies

- . Develop programs which assist agricultural uses to remain economically viable.
- . Develop incentives for proper site selection for the processing of raw agricultural products into retail goods.
- . Promote agri-business and agriculture related industry.

Actions

- . Encourage location of agri-business near existing transportation routes and rail lines.
-

PRIMARY GOAL 4: PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

INTERNATIONAL BORDER AREA

The area near the United States/Mexico International Border will experience more significant changes in land use and economic development in the near future than any other area of the county. Doña Ana County has been working in coordination with various state and federal agencies, including the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department and the New Mexico Border Authority in developing and implementing a Border Development Plan. The plan identifies priority public works projects.

Projects include:

- NM Highway 273 Improvements
- Paso Del Norte Intermodal Facility (truck-rail-air)
- Artcraft Road (connection to I-10)
- Sunland Park Drive Extension
- Columbus/Anapra Road to I-10
- High Mesa Road from Doña Ana County Airport to Las Cruces Airport
- Doña Ana County Airport Expansion
- Santa Teresa Port of Entry (permanent federal inspection facilities)
- U.S/Mexico Border Crossing in Sunland Park/Anapra
- Foreign Trade Zone (marketing and development)

Goal Statement: Promote development along the New Mexico/Texas/Mexico border.

Policies

- . Support the development of adequate transportation and utility infrastructure along the state and international borders.
- . Encourage manufacturing and warehousing development to locate in the foreign trade zone and near the Santa Teresa Port of Entry.

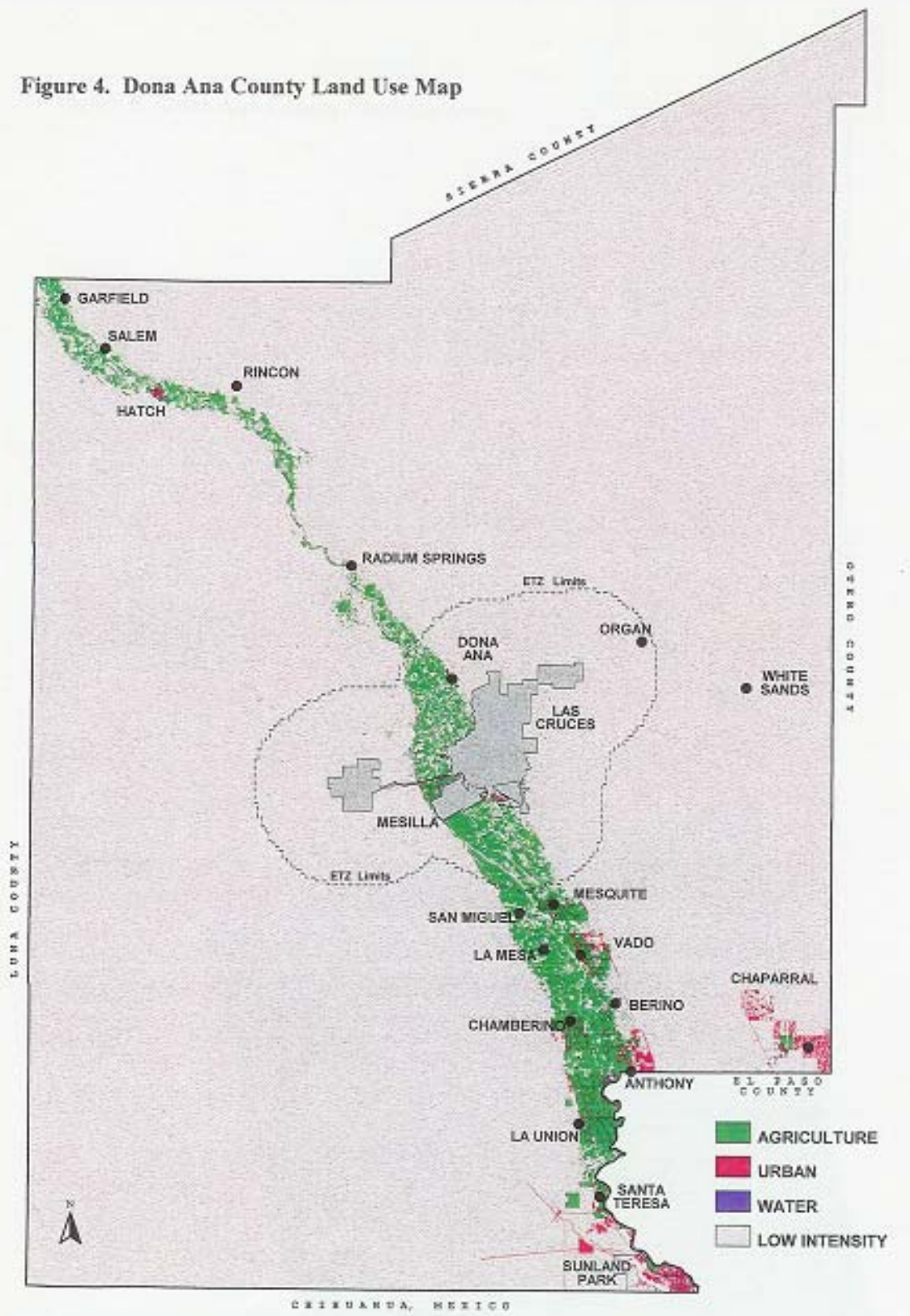
PRIMARY GOAL 5: ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A LAND USE PLAN.

LAND USE

Use of land is the central issue in the comprehensive plan. Population growth and settlement patterns influence the use of land for residential, commercial, agricultural, industrial, and public purposes (see Figure 4). The resulting land use patterns affects the cost of services, the effectiveness of infrastructure and the quality of life. In general, a well developed and implemented land use plan can guide growth and development to achieve community goals.

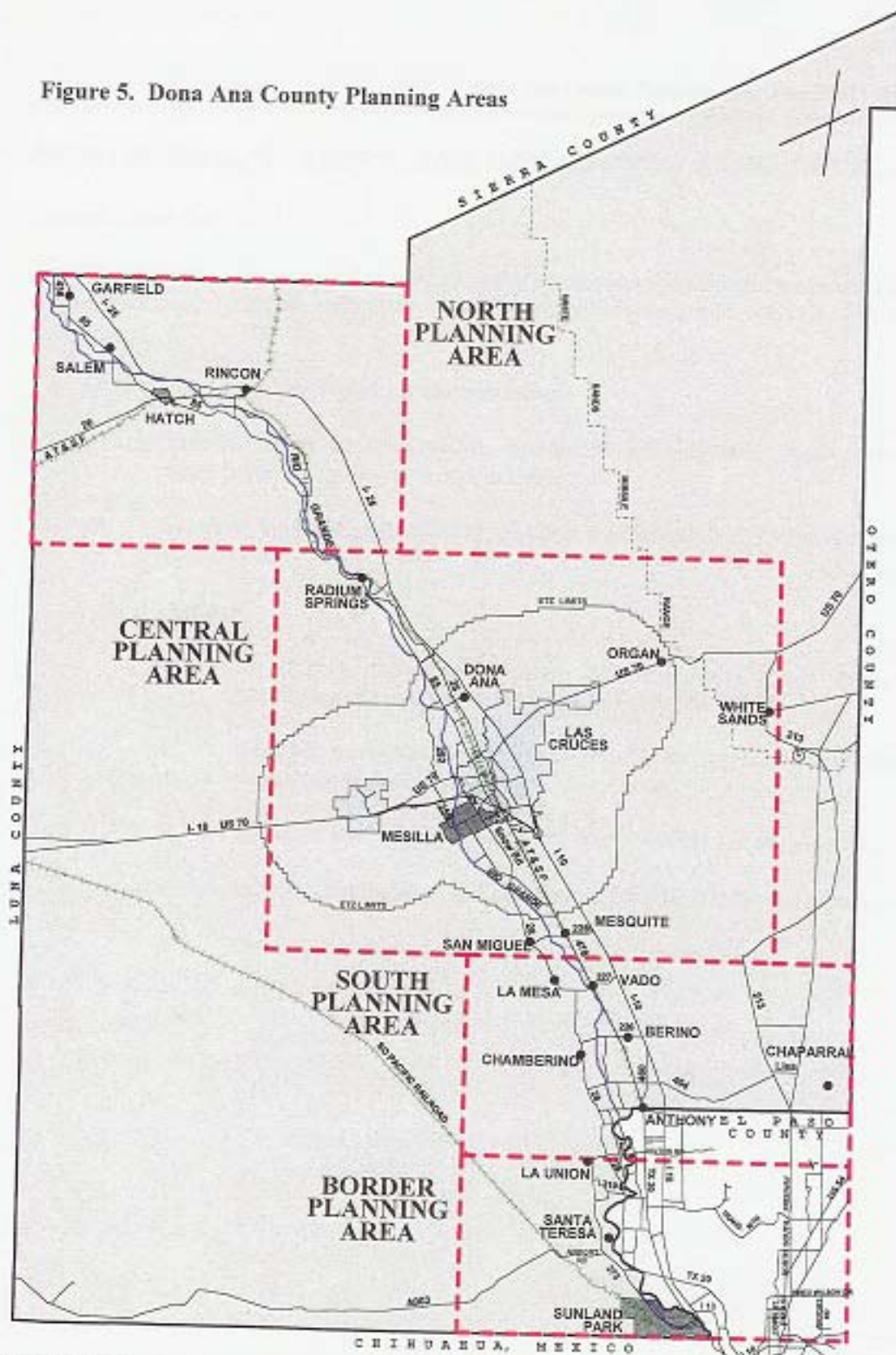
Population growth in the county through the year 2015 is projected to reach 322,387. Most of this growth will occur near Las Cruces and in the southern and border areas of the county. The comprehensive plan goals and policies encourage development of urban centers and allow for mixed land uses in rural areas. The impact of population growth on land use is shown in the tables found in the appendix for the years of 1992 and 2015. For data gathering and population projections, the county is divided into four geographic planning areas: North, Central, South, and Border (see Figure 5).

Figure 4. Dona Ana County Land Use Map



SOURCE: DONA ANA COUNTY DATA FILES - LANDUSE INVENTORY 1992 &
 GEOGRAPHIC APPLICATIONS RESEARCH LABORATORY - LASCRUCES IN 1990
 FORWARDED BY: SAC-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT-OSD DIVISION - MAY, 1993

Figure 5. Dona Ana County Planning Areas



SOURCE: DONA ANA COUNTY DATA FILES 1993 & GENERAL FIGURES MAP 1987
 & U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS, TIGER LINE FILES 1990
 PREPARED BY: OAC-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT-GIS DIVISION - MAY, 1995

PRIMARY GOAL 5: ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A LAND USE PLAN.

General Land Use

Goal Statement: Develop a land use plan that maximizes the efficiency of existing and future infrastructure, community facilities, and services within the county.

Policy for Land Use Based on Infrastructure

- . Promote urban densities within, or adjacent to designated areas containing appropriate urban services and infrastructure.
- . Promote land use patterns and building regulations that encourage energy conservation.

Actions

- . Develop and expand infrastructure, primarily roads, sewer, water, and gas lines to developing areas of higher density.
- . Continue to require developers to provide infrastructure necessary to support their developments.
- . Establish land regulation districts (map zoning) for urban areas.
- . Develop a recreation and open space plan for Doña Ana County.
- . Develop standards that promote energy conservation.

PRIMARY GOAL 5: ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT A LAND USE PLAN.

Policy for Land Use to Control and Abate the Unsightly Use of Land and Buildings.

- . Establish land use standards to control the unsightly use of land and buildings.

Actions

PRIMARY GOAL 6: *ENCOURAGE AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND A VARIETY OF HOUSING TYPES.*

HOUSING

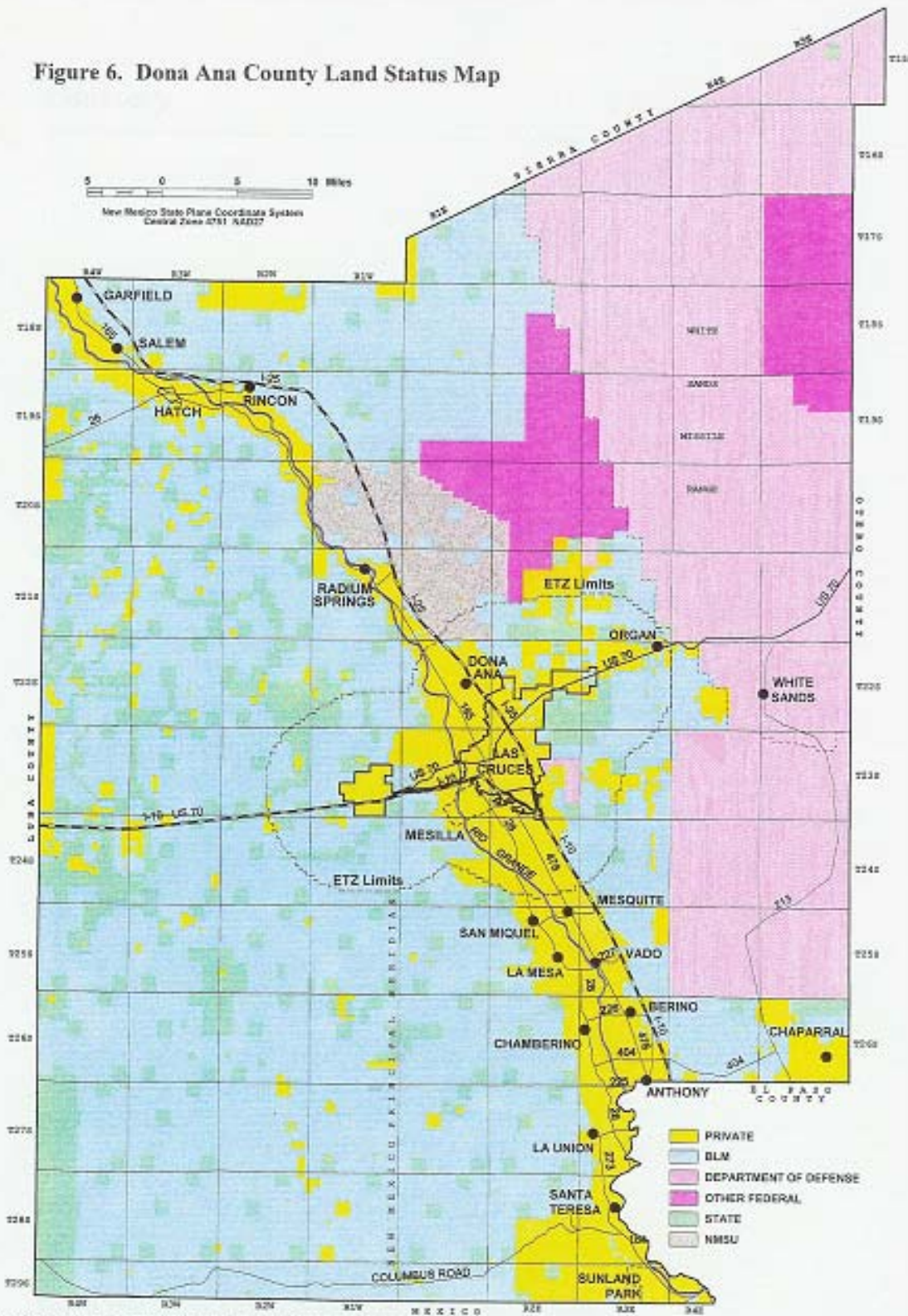
According to the 1990 Census, Doña Ana County had a total of 49,148 housing units. Of this total 25,676 housing units are located within the Las Cruces city limits, 787 units within the town limits of Mesilla, 492 units in the Village of Hatch and 1,959 units located within the City of Sunland Park. A total of 41 percent or 20,228 housing units are located within the unincorporated areas of the county.

Doña Ana County has a housing shortage and needs additional housing in the South Valley and in the Hatch area. The demand for housing exceeds the existing housing supply. Doña Ana County is currently lacking affordable apartments and houses for the low and very low income residents of the county. Doña Ana County is also lacking emergency shelter, transitional housing and housing facilities for "special needs" people.

Mobile homes are the most common form of housing throughout the county. According to the 1990 Census of Population and Housing, 43 percent of the housing units in the unincorporated areas of Doña Ana County were mobile homes.

Housing rehabilitation and weatherization is needed for a large majority of existing housing throughout the county. Young families, in general, need help to become home owners. Housing has not kept up with population growth in previous years. Projected housing needs for the year 2015 are 54,783 additional housing units to accommodate the growth (see Appendix, Table 3).

Figure 6. Dona Ana County Land Status Map



SOURCE: BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT MEMPHIS RESOURCE PLAN 1993
 PREPARED BY: DAD-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT-GIS DIVISION - MAY 1995

Glossary

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN GLOSSARY

Agriculture - any use of land for the growing and harvesting of crops for sale for profit, or uses which are directly ancillary to the growing and harvesting of crops, which is the exclusive or primary use of the lot, plot, parcel, or tract of land; or processing crops to the generally recognizable level of marketability; or the open range grazing of livestock.

Agri-business - any business that deals with agriculture.

Agriculture/Industrial Land Use - dairy processing, value added food processing, canning.

Aquifer - a saturated underground formation of permeable materials capable of storing water and transmitting it to wells, springs, or streams.

Capital Improvements Program - a County Commission approved timetable or schedule of future capital improvements to be carried out during a specific period and listed in order of priority, together with cost estimates and the anticipated means of financing each project.

Character - distinguishing quality or qualities that make an area unique.

Cluster Development - a development design that concentrates buildings in areas of the site to allow remaining land to be used for recreation, common open space and/or preservation of environmentally sensitive features.

Colonias - a rural, unincorporated subdivision along the U.S. - Mexican border in which one or more of the following conditions exist: lack of potable water supply or no water system, lack of adequate wastewater system or no wastewater facilities, lack of decent, safe and sanitary housing, inadequate roads and/or inadequate drainage control structures.

Community - a group of individuals living in a common location sharing common interests.

Community Commercial Land Use - shopping centers or free standing retail stores (40,000 sq. ft. or more) that serve several neighborhoods or a large community; small warehouse and wholesale that support community retail.

Community Park - recreation area of 25 or more acres that offer active recreation space and space for passive recreation in the form of picnicking, strolling, and sitting.

Conditional Use Permit - permit given to a land use that is allowed in a zone if it meets additional standards specified in the zoning ordinance (e.g. setbacks, off-street parking).

Cottage Industry - a small, individually owned business or concern located in rural areas that functions without altering the residential character of the neighborhood, and which does not create any negative impacts on the public health, safety, and general welfare.

County Commission - the elected Board of County Commissioners of Doña Ana County.

County Planning Commission - the Planning and Zoning Commission appointed by the Board of County Commissioners of Doña Ana County.

Dairy - an area of land on which cows are kept for the purpose of producing dairy products in commercial quantities, as well as the related buildings, equipment, and processes.

Density - a numeric average of families, individuals, dwelling units or housing structures per unit of land; usually refers to dwelling units per acre in the comprehensive plan.

Developer - any person or group of persons or corporation who builds improvements on land, including buildings, streets, parking lots, drainage structures, and or utilities to serve buildings.

Easement - an interest held by one person, party, or entity in land of another, whereby that person is accorded partial use of such land for a specific purpose, such as access or utility extensions.

Effluent - any material that flows outward from something (e.g. sewage discharges).

Environment - all the factors, (physical, social, and economic) that actually affect a population.

Floodplain - the area within the 100-year flood boundary as described by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

Groundwater - water stored underground, beneath the earth's surface. It is stored in cracks and crevices of rocks and in the pores of geologic materials that make up the earth's crust.

High Density Residential Land Use - 4 or more Dwelling Units per 1 acre.

Historic Building - any structure that has historic or cultural significance.

Historic District/Village - a flexible overlay zone which includes design guidelines to protect neighborhood context.

Heavy Industrial Land Use - manufacturing assembly, finishing, processing, or packaging of products, salvage yards, landfill and mineral extraction.

Infill - the development of new housing or other buildings on scattered vacant sites or small groups of sites in an otherwise built up area.

Infrastructure - facilities and services (e.g. roads, water and wastewater systems) needed to sustain industrial, residential, and commercial activities.

Intermodal - system of moving goods that integrates several different forms of transportation methods (e.g. truck to rail).

Light Industrial Land Use - small manufacturing, utility services, warehousing, storage (except toxic or hazardous materials), recycling centers, and/or telecommunications.

Low Density Residential Land Use - 1 Dwelling Unit per 3/4 acre to 1.9 acres, includes mixed residential and farmland use.

Low Intensity/Rangeland Land Use - open range used primarily for grazing livestock, may be government or private, or may contain low density residential.

Military Land Use - land used primarily for military purposes.

Medium Density Residential Land Use - 2 or more Dwelling Units per 1 acre.

Neighborhood - an area of a community with characteristics that distinguish it from other community areas and which may include distinct ethnic or economic characteristics, schools, or social clubs, or boundaries defined by physical barriers such as major highways and railroads or natural features such as rivers.

Neighborhood Commercial Land Use- retail sale of goods and services to serve a neighborhood.

Neighborhood Park - recreation area of 15 or more acres that offer space for active recreation opportunities (e.g. baseball fields, playgrounds, and picnicking).

Open Space - a publicly owned and maintained or privately owned and maintained ground area that satisfies visual and physiological needs of the community for light and air; covered with vegetation, game courts, non-vehicular paths, or associated buildings.

Performance Standards/Zoning - regulation of land uses based on their actual physical characteristics and functions measured against pre-determined criteria and standards,

Planning - the establishment of goals, policies, and procedures for social, physical, and economic order.

Plat - a scaled drawing, developed from a survey performed by a surveyor, that contains a description of subdivided land with ties to permanent survey monuments.

Public/Quasi-public Land Use - provides a service to the community, may be government or private, include: schools, churches, cemeteries, water districts, utility production or storage areas, community centers, parks and recreation areas, health clinics, libraries.

Regional Commercial Land Use - shopping centers or free standing retail stores (200,000 sq. ft. or more) that serve a region consisting of several communities, including areas that may be outside the county.

Regional Park - recreation area of 200 or more acres that offer passive recreation space in the form of trails, picnicking, and climbing, but have no facilities for organized active forms of recreation.

Rural Residential - single Family Residence with 2 acres or more, includes mixed residential and farmland use.

Subdivider - any person, group of persons or other entity creating or who has created a subdivision (as defined by Section 47-6-1 et seq. NMSA 1978) individually or as part of a common promotional plan or any person engaged in the sale or lease of subdivided land which is being sold or has been sold or leased within the preceding three years by the owner in the ordinary course of business; however, subdivider does not include any duly licensed real estate broker or sales person not acting on his own account.

Subdivision - an area of land within New Mexico, the surface of which has been divided by a subdivider into five or more parcels within three years for the purpose of sale or lease (Section 47-6-2 NMSA 1978).

Urban Centers - platted townsites or subdivisions with medium or high density residential land uses, including schools, church, commercial facilities, and infrastructure.

Vacant - unoccupied or unimproved land.

Villages - Platted historic townsites, platted before 1930.

Zoning - the division of a municipality into parcel specific categories with regulations governing the use, placement, spacing, and size of land and buildings corresponding to the categories.

Appendix

APPENDIX

The following tables are excerpts from the Doña Ana Comprehensive Plan Technical Reports. For data gathering and population projections, the county is divided into four geographic planning areas (see Figure 5).

1990 DEMOGRAPHICS BY PLANNING AREA

Table 1 Doña Ana County Population Projections by Planning Area					
Year	North	Central	South	Border	Doña Ana County
1990*	4,020	101,830	18,585	11,075	135,510
2000	5,125	135,775	30,409	18,125	189,434
2010	6,675	179,707	46,575	28,333	261,290
2015	7,885	215,225	61,152	38,125	322,387
*Based on 1990 Census Data, planning areas includes municipalities					

Table 2 Doña Ana County Population Projections for Incorporated Areas and Growth Centers						
Year	Las Cruces	Hatch	Mesilla	Sunland Park	Anthony	Chaparral
1990*	62,126	1,136	1,968	8,179	5,160	2,962
2000	77,658	1,448	2,624	13,385	8,443	4,846
2010	98,626	1,886	3,473	20,924	12,931	7,423
2015	111,941	2,228	4,816	24,540	14,955	8,585
*Based on 1990 Census						

HOUSING

Table 3 Doña Ana County Housing Projections				
Year	Housing Units Doña Ana County	Persons Per Housing Unit	Housing Units Unincorporated Areas	Persons Per Housing Unit
1990*	49,148	2.76	20,228	3.07
2000	68,129	2.78	23,350	4.04
2010	93,310	2.8	33,273	4.10
2015	103,931	3.10	37,597	4.76
*1990 Census Data				

Table 4 Projections for Housing Units by Communities in Doña Ana County						
Year	Hatch*	Las Cruces*	Anthony	Sunland Park*	Mesilla*	Chaparral
1990	492	25,676	1,362	1,959	787	1,049
2000	635	39,889	2,260	3,206	1,049	1,669
2010	827	52,809	3,461	5,012	1,389	2,556
2015	947	58,028	4,002	5,878	1,526	2,956
*Incorporated areas						

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Table 5 Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan Schedule of Public Meetings		
TOPIC & AREA COVERED	DATE & TIME	LOCATION OF MEETING
Phase I Community Meeting Santa Teresa Area	7/6/93, 6:00 pm	Santa Teresa High School
Phase I Community Meeting Areas of Doña Ana, Radium Springs, & Hill	7/7/93, 6:00 pm	East Picacho Elem. School
Phase I Community Meeting Hatch Area	7/8/93, 6:00 pm	Hatch Elem. School
Phase I Community Meeting La Union Area	7/9/93, 6:00 pm	Our Lady of Refuge Parish Hall, La Union
Phase I Community Meeting Anthony Area	7/12/93, 6:00 pm	Gadsden Junior High School
Phase I Community Meeting Mesquite Area	7/13/93, 6:00 pm	Mesquite Parish Center
Phase I Community Meeting ETZ Area	7/14/93, 6:00 pm	County Commission Chambers, County Courthouse
Phase I Community Meeting Chaparral Area	7/15/93, 6:00 pm	Chaparral Middle School
Topic Meeting Econ.& Border Dev.	7/19/93, 7:00 pm	County Commission Chambers, County Courthouse
Topic Meeting Agriculture Land Use and Land Use Development	7/20/93, 7:00 pm	CC
Topic Meeting Capital Improvements and Transportation Infrastructure	7/22/93, 7:00 pm	CC
Topic Meeting Environmental Issues and Land Use	7/23/93, 7:00 pm	CC
Topic Meeting Public Lands	7/26/93, 7:00 pm	CC
Phase II Community Meeting Hatch Area	8/9/93, 7:00 pm	East Picacho Elem. School
(Cont.) Phase II Community Meeting Anthony Area	8/10/93, 7:00 pm	Gadsden Junior High School
Phase II Community Meeting Mesquite Area	8/11/93, 7:00 pm	Mesquite Parish Center
Phase II Community Meeting	8/12/93, 7:00 pm	Chaparral Middle School

Table 5 Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan Schedule of Public Meetings

TOPIC & AREA COVERED	DATE & TIME	LOCATION OF MEETING
Chaparral Area		
Phase II Community Meeting ETZ Area	8/16/93, 7:00 pm	County Commission Chambers, County Courthouse
Phase II Community Meeting Santa Teresa Area	8/17/93, 7:00 pm	Santa Teresa High School
Phase III Community Meeting Hatch Area	9/7/93, 7:00 pm	East Picacho Elem. School
Phase III Community Meeting Anthony Area	9/8/93, 7:00 pm	Gadsden Junior High School
Phase III Community Meeting Mesquite Area	9/9/93, 7:00 pm	Mesquite Parish Center
Phase III Community Meeting Santa Teresa Area	9/10/93, 7:00 pm	Santa Teresa High School
Phase III Community Meeting Chaparral Area	9/13/93, 7:00 pm	Chaparral Middle School
Phase III Community Meeting ETZ Area	9/14/93, 7:00 pm	County Commission Chambers, County Courthouse
Joint Meeting of P&Z and ETZ Commissions	3/10/94, 4:00 pm	CC
Workshop - Environmental & Agriculture Sections	5/20/94, 9:00 am	Branigan Library
P&Z Review	5/26/94, 9:00 am	CC
Workshop - Community Facilities	6/1/94, 9:00 am	Branigan Library
Cont. P&Z Review	6/9/94, 9:00 am	CC
P&Z Workshop	6/11/94, 9:00 am	CC
(Cont.) Workshop - Housing & Transportation	6/17/94, 9:00 am	CC
P&Z Review	6/23/94, 9:00 am	CC
Workshop - Land Use	7/7/94, 9:00 am	CC
P&Z Review	7/14/94, 9:00 am	CC
P&Z Review	9/22/94, 9:00 am	CC
Joint Meeting, P&Z and BOCC	10/11/94, 1:00 pm	CC
P&Z Review	10/13/94	CC
P&Z Recommend Plan for Adoption by BOCC	10/31/94	CC
BOCC Review and Adoption	11/22/94	CC
P&Z=Doña Ana County Planning and Zoning Commission, ETZ=Extra Territorial Zone Commission, BOCC=Board of County Commission, CC=County Commission Chambers, County Courthouse		

RESULTS FROM COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Table 6 Issues Identified at Community Meetings by Planning Area			
North Planning Area	Central Planning Area	South Planning Area	Border Planning Area
1. Roads	Zoning	Services	Roads
2. Water	Growth	Growth	Water
3. Sewer	Roads	Roads	Services
4. Housing	Sewer	Sewer	Land Use
5. Services	Colonias	Colonias	Sewer
6. Hazardous Waste	Land Use	Police Protection	Police Protection
7. N/A	N/A	N/A	Schools

Source: New Mexico State University Geography Department

Water Supply

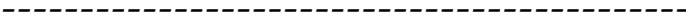
The following table illustrates the projected amount of water use for Doña Ana County through the year 2020 for rural areas (150 gallons per day per person) to very urbanized (225 gallons per day per person). The total water use by acre for one year was calculated by the following formula:

*Population * Gallons per day per person / 325,830 * 365. The factor of 325,830 is one acre foot of water day, the factor 365 is the number of days in one year.*

Table 7 Projected Water Use by Population for Doña Ana County					
		150 gallons (use per day per person)	175 gallons (use per day per person)	200 gallons (use per day per person)	225 gallons (use per day per person)
Year	Population	Total Water Use by Acre Feet for 1 Year	Total Water Use by Acre Feet for 1 Year	Total Water Use by Acre Feet for 1 Year	Total Water Use by Acre Feet for 1 Year
1990	135,510	22,770	26,565	30,369	34,155
1995	160,943	27,044	31,551	36,058	40,566
2000	191,150	32,120	37,473	42,826	48,179
2005	227,027	38,148	44,506	50,864	57,222
2010	269,636	45,308	52,859	60,410	67,962
2015	320,243	53,811	62,780	71,749	80,717
2020	380,349	63,911	74,563	85,215	



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Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan 1995 - 2015

Source: Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan Water Technical Report, Doña Ana County Regional Water Plan					

Historic Villages

Table 8 Doña Ana County Historic Settlements			
Name	Date of Origin	Other Names/notes	Date of Post Office
Radium Springs	1 (pre-historic)	Formerly Fort Selden Springs & Randall Station, on the Atkinson/Topeka/Santa Fe (ATSF) line, 18 miles N. of Las Cruces. community centered around a health resort at the springs.	1926 to present
San Miguel	1852	Formerly Telles & District 6 (1892), on Hwy. 28, 15 miles S. of Las Cruces.	1952 to present
Tortugas	1853	Former Tiwa Indian Pueblo 4 miles S.E. of Las Cruces .	None
Doña Ana	1840	First referred to in 1839 U.S military report, granted to Jose Maria Costales in 1854, sold to U.S. in Gadsden Purchase, village was original county seat.	1854 intermittent present
Brazito	1819	The area south of Mesilla Park in the Brazito Grant, site of only battle in the Mexican War fought in NM, U.S. wins & advances to El Paso. 1776-1st reference 1822- granted to Juan Antonio Garcia 1854-grant confirmed.	N/A
Organ	Late 1800s	Mining town 14 N.E. of Las Cruces on Hwy. 70	1881 intermittent present
Berino	1810	Cottonwood, Butterfield Overland Trail stop	1902 to present
Mesilla	1850	On Hwy. 28, 2 miles W. of Las Cruces, 1957 plaza designated State Historic Monument, also known as La Mesilla, Old Mesilla	1858 to present
La Mesa	1854	Formerly Victoria, on Hwy. 28, 16 miles S. of Las Cruces, named for Black Mesa lava flow to the West, part of the U.S. in the Gadsden Purchase, land favored because of slightly higher elevation (less prone to flooding)	1908 to present
Las Cruces	1854	Doña Ana County seat from 1882 to present	1854 to present
Leasburg	1868	Trading point 14 miles N. of Las Cruces Named for Adolf Lea	1866 intermittent 1898
Chamberino	1868	Settlement west of Berino	1880-82 & 1893 to present
Vado	1876	Formerly Herron, Earlham, Center Valley	1911 intermittent to present
Anthony	1881	ATSF stop name La Tuna on Texas side. Stop in New Mexico called Half Way House	1884 to present

Table 8 Doña Ana County Historic Settlements

Name	Date of Origin	Other Names/notes	Date of Post Office
Mesquite	1881	Farm & ranch community which grew due to AT&SF RR, 12 miles S. of Las Cruces	1913 to present
Rincon	1883	Formerly Thorne on AT&SF, 5 miles E. of Hatch, marks South end of the Jornada del Muerto & start of the Chihuahuan Trail	1883 to present
Garfield	1896	10 miles NW of Hatch	1896 to present
La Union	1853	On highway 28, 29 miles S. of Las Cruces	1909 - 57
Hill	1914	Trading point on Hwy. 28, 10 miles NW of Las Cruces	1914 - 37
Fairacres	1926	Farming community, 4 miles W. of Las Cruces	1926 to present
Chaparral	1945	Housing Development started by Colquitt after WWII, formerly Blythe	No date
Hatch	No date	On the US 85 & ATSF, 33 miles NW of Las Cruces, formerly Hatch' Station	No date
Picacho	No date	Stop on the Butterfield Overland Trail, a village 6 miles NW of Las Cruces	No date
Sunland Park	No date	Formerly Anapra, in 1960 changed name for the racetrack	1962 to present

Sources: NM Place Names and Mary Taylor - Unpublished Report 1994

EDUCATION

Table 9 Hatch Public School District

Current Status	1993/94 Enrollment	1998/1999 Projected Enrollment	Impacts for the Five Year Period (1994-1999)
Total	1,400	1,715	4.5% Growth Rate for Overall Enrollment
Elementary (K-5) - 2 Schools	745	912	4.5% Growth Rate for Elementary Enrollment - 2 Additional Schools ? 7 Additional Classrooms
Middle (6-8) - 1 School	320	392	4.5% Growth Rate for Middle School Enrollment ? 3 Additional Classrooms
High (9-12) - 1 School	335	410	4.5% Growth Rate for High School Enrollment - Renovation of High School ? 4 Additional Classrooms
Source: Hatch Public School District			

Table 10 Las Cruces Public School District

Current Status	1993/1994 Enrollment	2003/04 Projected Enrollment	Impacts for the Ten Year Period (1994-2004)
Total	21,532	26,283	22% Growth Rate for Overall Enrollment
Elementary (K-5) - 20 Schools	10,151	12,466	23% Growth Rate for Elementary Enrollment - 3 additional elementary schools ? 118 additional classrooms
Middle (6-8) - 5 Schools - 1 Elem/Middle School at White Sands	4,710	5,944	26% Growth Rate for Middle School Enrollment - 2 additional middle schools ?180 additional classrooms
High (9-12) - 3 Schools - 1 Alternative School	4,012	7,766	94% Growth Rate for High School Enrollment - 1 additional high school ?102 additional classrooms
Source: Las Cruces Public School District			

Table 11 Gadsden Public School District

Current Status	1993/1994 Enrollment	1998/99 Projected Enrollment	Impacts for the Five Year Period (1994/1999)
Total	11,266	14,346	28% Overall Growth Rate
Elementary (K-5 & K-6) - 10 Schools	6,417	8,135	27% Increase in Elementary Enrollment - 4 additional elementary schools ?140 additional classrooms
Middle (6-8 & 7-8) - 3 Schools	1,802	2,340	32% Increase in Middle School Enrollment - 1 additional middle school ? 30 additional classrooms
High (9-11 & 9-12) - 2 Schools - 1 Alternative School	3,047	3,871	27% Increase in High School Enrollment - 1 additional high school ? 67 additional classrooms
Source: Gadsden Public School District			

Fire Protection

The goal for all Doña Ana County Fire Districts is to have an 8 or better on their ISO rating. ISO ratings are rated on a 100 point system, 30 percent of the possible points are based on the fire department facility and equipment, 10 percent is based on the communication system (E-911) and 60 percent is based on water distribution. Water distribution is the section of the rating where Doña Ana County has the lowest deficiency. Water distribution for almost all fire districts is a priority need. The following chart shows the Doña Ana County Fire Districts and Substations and their ISO Rating:

Table 12 Doña Ana County Fire Districts	
Fire Districts	ISO Rating
Doña Ana Fire District #1	7
Anthony Fire District #2	9
University Fire District #3	6
La Mesa Fire District #4	9
Organ Fire District #5	5
East Mesa Sub-station	5
Mtn. View/Moongate Sub-station	5
Rincon Fire District #6	9
La Union Fire District #7	4
Chamberino Fire District #16	10
Radium Springs Fire District #8	9
Chaparral Fire District #9	9
Mesquite Fire District #10	9
Garfield District #11	9
Fairacres Fire District #12	9
South Valley Fire District #13	9
Santa Teresa Fire District #14	7
Doña Ana Airport Fire District	7
Las Alturas Fire District #15	5
Source: Doña Ana County Fire Marshall	

PARKS AND RECREATION

Table 13 Doña Ana County Existing Park Space Need for Neighborhood and Community Parks					
Park Type	Total Acreage	Acres per 1,000 People	Deficit Acres/1000	Acres Deficient	National Standards Acres/1000
Neighborhood	34.9	0.5	-1.0	-72.7	1.0 - 2.0
Community	36.0	0.5	-6.0	-428.6	5.0 - 8.0
Total	70.9	N/A	-7.0	-501.3	6.25 - 10.5
Based on 1990 Population for Doña Ana County, excluding Las Cruces					

Table 14 Doña Ana County Projected Regional Park Need by Planning Area (in acres/1000 population)					
Year	North	Central*	South	Border	Doña Ana County
2000	76.9	871.8	456.1	271.9	1,676.7
2010	100.1	1,216.2	698.6	425.0	2,439.9
2015	118.3	1,549.3	917.3	571.9	3,156.8
*Population for Central Planning Area excludes Las Cruces					

Table 15 Doña Ana County Projected Community Park Need by Planning Area (in acres/1000 population)					
Year	North	Central*	South	Border	Doña Ana County
2000	33.3	377.8	197.7	117.8	726.6
2010	43.4	527.0	302.7	184.2	1,057.3
2015	51.3	671.3	397.5	247.8	1,367.9

*Population for Central Planning Area excludes Las Cruces

Table 16 Doña Ana County Projected Neighborhood Park Need by Planning Area (in acres/1000 population)					
Year	North	Central*	South	Border	Doña Ana County
2000	7.7	87.2	45.6	27.2	167.7
2010	10.0	121.6	69.9	42.5	247.0
2015	11.8	154.9	91.7	57.2	315.6

*Population for Central Planning Area excludes Las Cruces

AGRICULTURE

Table 17 Farmland Change for Doña Ana County 1978-1987

	1978	1987	CHANGE
Irrigated land (acres)	84,700	78,078	-6,622
Cropland (acres)	N/A	92,400	-----
Harvested cropland (acres)	81,150	76,415	-4,735
Irrigated/harvested cropland (acres)	81,051	76,219	-4,832
Average size of farm (acres)	489	519	30
Number of individual/family farms	728	1,004	276
Individual/family farms (acres)	193,184	187,287	-5,897

Source: USA County Database, 1990 U.S. Census

Table 18 Change in Number of Farms by Size in Doña Ana County, 1978-1987

Farm Size	1978 Number of Farms per Category	1987 Number of Farms per Category	Change in Number of Farms per Category
Under 10 acres	189	427	238
10 to 49 acres	287	328	41
50 to 69 acres	49	51	2
70 to 99 acres	38	37	-1
100 to 139 acres	44	46	2
140 to 179 acres	34	23	-11
180 to 499 acres	N/A	N/A	N/A
500 to 999 acres	40	60	20
1,000 to 1,999 acres	18	10	-8
2,000 acres or more	29	22	-7
Total	728	1,004	276

Source: USA County Database, 1990 Census

LAND USE

Table 19 1994 Land Use by Planning Area

(in acres)						
	North	Central	South	Border	Category Totals	Percent of Total Area
Low Intensity	259,181	533,014	121,349	34,383	947,927	85.1
Urban/Trans.	268	1,296	8,023	4,756	14,343	1.3
Agriculture	13,704	37,151	29,489	6,922	87,266	7.8
Water	20	58	61	262	401	0.1
Vacant	0	305	20,843	40,917	62,065	5.6
Not Elsewhere Classified (NEC)	0	16	329	591	639	0.1
Area Totals	273,173	571,840	180,094	87,831	1,112,938	100.0
Percent is rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.						
Source: 1992 Thematic Mapper Imagery Interpretation						

Table 20 Land Status for North Planning Area (in acres)			
Private	Public	Hatch	Total Area
51,775	217,055	591	268,831
Source: New Mexico State University Geography Department			

Table 21 North Planning Area Housing and Population Projections		
	1990 Census Data	2015 Projections
Population		
Including Hatch	4,020	7,885
Unincorporated Areas	2,884	5,657
Housing Units		
Including Hatch	1,507	2,956
Unincorporated Areas	1,015	2,009
Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing		

Table 22 North Planning Area Future Land Use Needs		
Projected Needs	Year	Implications for Land Use
Two additional schools + renovation of high school	1999 (see Education section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of land
1,132 acres of land required for residential use	2015 (see Land Use Technical Report)	Expansion of existing infrastructure Build new infrastructure
180 additional acres of park space	2015 (see Parks and Recreation Technical Report)	Acquisition of BLM and State land to meet needs

Table 23 Land Status for Central Planning Area (in acres)			
Private	Public	Las Cruces + Mesilla	Total Area
113,102	405,166	33,946	518,268

Table 24 Central Planning Area Population and Housing Projections		
	1990 Census Data	2015 Projections
Population		
With Las Cruces & Mesilla	101,830	215,225
Unincorporated Areas	37,766	98,468
Housing Units		
With Las Cruces & Mesilla	38,778	75,197
Unincorporated Areas	12,315	15,643
Source: 1990 Census Population and Housing		

Table 25 Central Planning Area Future Land Use Needs		
Projected Needs	Year	Land Use Implications
Six Additional Schools	2004 (see Education Section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of Land
40,587 acres of land required for residential use	2015 (see Land Use Technical Report)	Expansion of existing infrastructure Build new infrastructure
2,375 acres of additional park space	2015 (see Parks and Recreation Technical Report)	Acquisition of BLM and State land to meet needs

Table 26 Land Status for South Planning Area
(in acres)

Private	Public	Total Area
56,935	120,862	177,797

Table 27 South Planning Area Population and Housing Projections

	1990 Census Data	2015 Projections
Population	18,585	61,152
Housing Units	5,750	10,717

Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing

Table 28 South Planning Area Future Land Use Needs

Projected Needs	Year	Implications for Land Use
Six additional schools (South & Border Planning Areas are in the Gadsden Public School District)	1999 (see Education section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of land Funding for construction
10,317 acres of land required for residential use	2015 (see Land Use Technical Report)	Expansion of existing infrastructure Construction of new facilities
488 acres of land required for park space	2015 (see Parks section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of BLM and State land to meet demands

Table 29 Land Status for Border Planning Area (in acres)			
Private	Public	Sunland Park	Total Area
37,354	42,001	6,418	85,774

Table 30 Border Planning Area - Land Use Analysis and Projections (all figures are in acres unless otherwise stated)			
	Santa Teresa	La Union	Totals
Total Land Area ¹	43,372	10,492	53,864
1983 Residential Land ²	611	195	806
1992 Residential Land ¹	843	437	1,280
Change 1983 - 1992 ⁵	232	242	474
Average Annual Change ⁵	25.8	26.9	N/A
Projected Residential Land 2015 ⁵	593	618	1,211
Total Residential Land 2015 ⁵	1,436	1,055	2,491
Average Lot Size ³	0.25	0.33	N/A
Number of Lots * ⁵	5,744	3,198	8,942
People Per Household ⁴	2.5	3.6	N/A
2015 Population ** ⁵	14,359	11,514	25,873

Sources: (1) Doña Ana County GIS, (2) Airphoto interpretation GARL & NMSU RAMS files, (3) Based on historic NMED minimum lot size for septic systems, sampling of lot sizes in communities & assumption that as land values increase, lot sizes decrease, (4) Doña Ana County Comprehensive Plan Population Projections, (5) Calculated in table

*Assumes one household per lot

**Varies slightly from the Comprehensive Plan Population Projections. Used as a check with population projections.

Table 31 Border Planning Area Housing and Population Projections		
	1990 Census Data	2015 Projections
Population		
Including Sunland Park	11,075	38,125
Unincorporated Areas	2,896	9,968
Housing Unit		
Including Sunland Park	3,113	10,717
Unincorporated Areas	1,154	3,973
Source: 1990 Census of Population and Housing		

Table 32 Border Planning Area Future Land Use Needs		
Projected Needs	Year	Implications for Land Use
Six additional schools (South & Border Planning Areas are in the Gadsden Public School District)	1999 (see Education section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of land Funding for construction
5,957 acres of land required for residential use	2015 (see Land Use Technical Report)	Expansion of existing infrastructure Construction of new facilities
875 acres of land required for park space	2015 (see Parks section, Community Facilities Chapter)	Acquisition of BLM and State land to meet demands

Building Permits

There has been a dramatic increase of mobile homes permits issued in the county. In 1993, 70 percent of residential and mobile building permits issued were for mobile homes.

Table 33 Number of Residential Building Permits Issued in Doña Ana County, 1983-1993			
Year	Single-family	Mobile Home	Multi-family Units
1983	439	N/A	5
1984	406	N/A	5
1985	421	N/A	82
1986	387	N/A	24
1987	368	N/A	61
1988	344	97	N/A
1989	275	992	N/A
1990	221	835	24
1991	262	749	60
1992	347	870	73
1993	401	923	0

Source: Doña Ana County Building Inspection