

## The City of Victorville is updating the General Plan!

## Victorville What is a General Plan?

**Every city is required to have a General Plan.** It provides a vision for a city's future and identifies the community's land use, transportation, environmental, economic, and social goals and policies as they relate to land use and development. The California Supreme Court called the General Plan the "constitution for future development." The chapters of a General Plan are called "elements." State law requires that General Plans include seven mandatory elements. In addition to the seven mandatory elements, cities that have identified disadvantaged communities, like Victorville, must also address environmental justice in their General Plans.

Victorville is updating the existing Land Use, Housing, and Safety Elements and adding the Environmental Justice Element. A summary of all the required elements is provided below.

- The Land Use Element functions as a guide for the ultimate development patterns for Victorville and is the basis for the City's Zoning Map. It indicates where the City's residential, commercial, and industrial land uses should be located, and where other important features of the community should be placed, like schools and parks.
- The Housing Element is the plan for meeting the City's housing needs. It identifies what type of housing is required for the residents of Victorville, as well as options for funding programs to provide the needed residential units.
- The **Safety Element** is a plan to protect the City from the risks of natural and human-made hazards like earthquakes, floods, and wildfires.
- The Environmental Justice Element will be a new addition to the Victorville General Plan and will focus on protecting the community from poor health, promoting equity, and promoting civic engagement in the public decision-making process.
- The Conservation Element describes how the City will protect and/or use natural resources in a sustainable manner, including water, air quality, energy, and biological resources such as plants and wildlife. It also respects cultural and historical resources that make a community unique.
- The Open Space Element details plans and measures for the long-range preservation and conservation of open-space lands, including open space for the preservation of natural resources, the managed production of resources (including agricultural lands), outdoor recreation, and public health and safety. (Note: Victorville combines the Conservation & Open Space Elements into one element called the Resource Element.)
- The Circulation Element is the City's transportation plan. It outlines topics like how wide the roads should be and where public transportation, bike lanes, and sidewalks are needed.
- The **Noise Element** identifies problems and bothersome noise sources in the City, such as from traffic and leaf blowers, and presents a plan to protect residents from excessive noise.