City of Bell Gardens
GENERAL PLAN

Section 6
Safety Element

SECTION 6: SAFETY ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION TO THE SAFETY ELEMENT

The focus of the Bell Gardens Safety Element, through its policies and programs, is to reduce the potential for loss of life, injury, property damage, and economic dislocation resulting from natural or manmade disasters. In addition, the Safety Element serves as the framework for crime reduction and emergency preparedness planning which may be undertaken in the future. Finally, the Safety Element outlines those public safety issues that will need to be considered as part of the implementation of land use and development policy provided for in this General Plan.

The Land Use Element is often referred to as the "most important general plan element." However, the Safety Element is concerned with the health and welfare of persons living, working, and visiting the City. The successful implementation of the Safety Element may result in a significant reduction in loss of life and injury.

A Safety Element is required under Section 65302(g) of the California Government Code and the State Planning and Zoning Law which states that:

"A safety element (shall be required) for the protection of the community from any unreasonable risks associated with the effect of seismically induced surface rupture, ground shaking, ground failure, tsunami, seiche, and dam failure; slope instability leading to mud slides and landslides, subsidence, and other geologic hazards known to the legislative body; flooding and wild land and urban fires. The safety element shall include the mapping of known seismic and other geologic hazards. It shall also address evacuation routes, peak load water supply requirements, and minimum road widths and clearances around structures, as those items relate to identified fire and geologic hazards."

While the state law focuses on seismic risk, the Bell Gardens Safety Element has a broader scope that considers a wide range of natural and manmade hazards that could affect the City in the future. The Safety Element emphasizes the importance of crime reduction and emergency preparedness in reducing the potential for loss of life, injury, and property damage. An additional objective of the Safety Element is to implement programs that will help to avoid the creation of hazardous conditions. Finally, the Safety Element commits the City to make every effort possible to provide the community with safeguards towards a reduced crime environment.

The City of Bell Gardens Safety Element consists of the following sections:

- ***Safety Element Policies and Programs.*** Individual policies related to public safety, along with supporting programs, are listed in this section. The Safety Element policies and programs provide the framework for the City's public safety commitment.

- ***Safety Element Background Report.*** Existing conditions relative to potential risks, emergency preparedness, and public safety are summarized in this section.

SAFETY ELEMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Bell Gardens is located in an urbanized setting and the risks and potential hazards include those that might be expected in any fully developed Southern California city. However, as fire and law enforcement officials can attest to, emergency situations typically result or lead to unforseen consequences. For example, relatively moderate earthquakes in 1987 and 1994 resulted in significant loss of life and hundreds of millions of dollars of property damage in Los Angeles County. Also, the civil unrest in Los Angeles resulted in loss of life and property damage unparalleled in this nation's recent history and the resulting effects of economic dislocation continues to the present.

An area's ability to recover from a disaster is directly related to the level of emergency preparedness and emergency response. This Safety Element visualizes how Bell Gardens would be affected regarding the following scenarios which could occur sometime during this General Plan's implementation. The City has an adopted Multi-hazard Functional Plan for Emergency Operations that identifies the different levels of emergency management systems, continuity of government, authorities, hazard mitigation, and mutual aid agreements. It is the intent of this Safety Element to compliment and build upon the Multi-hazard Functional Plan policies and programs and to avoid duplication.

Issue 1: Crime

Crime prevention is of paramount concern in the City. The Bell Gardens Police Department is continuously implementing ways to deter crime and violence in the City through public awareness programs, security systems, patrol beats, problem-oriented policing, and a host of other activities. The main problem for the City is gangs and gang related violence. It is estimated that at least fourteen known gangs are operating within the City of Bell Gardens. Approximately 15% to 20% of our youth are members or associated with these gangs. The average age of the typical gang member in Bell Gardens is approximately 15 years of age. These are sobering statistics.

Policy 1: *The City of Bell Gardens shall provide for the safety of the community through physical planning and maintaining an adequate level of police, fire, and emergency services facilities.*

Issue 2: Earthquakes and Fire

The region is likely to experience a major damaging earthquake over the life of this General Plan. A moderate earthquake (Richter 6.5) along the Newport-Inglewood fault could be as damaging to the City as a major earthquake (8.1 Richter) along the San Andreas fault. One fact is certain, a major earthquake (6.5 to 8.0 Richter) will occur during the implementation period of this General Plan. Wildfire is also a common occurrence throughout Southern California. Urban fires can spread when weather conditions permit, as was the case in the Anaheim apartment fire where hundreds were made homeless. Following an earthquake, fires could be responsible for considerable damage.

Policy 2: *The City of Bell Gardens shall minimize the loss of life, injuries, and property damage through continuing prevention, inspection, and public education programs, including continual update of the City's Emergency Preparedness Plan.*

Issue 3: Hazardous Materials and Waste

The advanced technology we depend on has not been without costs. In recent years, we have learned of the consequences associated with the improper handling of hazardous materials that are the byproducts of our region's prosperity. A spill of hazardous materials along a local freeway or in one of the City's industrial districts is likely to occur in the future.

Policy 3: *The City of Bell Gardens, through the County Fire Department, shall protect the community from hazardous materials and waste spills by identifying hazardous materials stored, utilized, or transported in the City and the City shall pursue local and state legislation for greater control of hazardous materials.*

The following programs implement the above three policies. The programs are identified with their corresponding policies in Table 6-1, following this section, because one program may support more than one policy.

Anti-gang and Anti-drug Programs. The City shall continue to support law enforcement efforts associated with anti-gang and anti-drug programs, such as the Youth Services Bureau, D.A.R.E., Metro Gang Task Force, and the School Resources Officer. These efforts will help reduce crimes in the City that are due to gang activity and drug abuse. The program also allows the use of confiscated property for increased anti-gang and anti-drug efforts.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: City Manager
Funding: General Funding

Emergency Preparedness Classes. The City shall work with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Fire Department, and local law enforcement officials in offering classes on earthquake preparedness, fire prevention, crime prevention, hazard protection and other safety issues to school-age children and interested parties.

Timing: Late 1995
Agency: City Manager
Funding: General Fund

Emergency Shelters. The City shall maintain a list of available emergency shelters in the area. This shall include schools, auditoriums, gymnasiums, hospitals, and other structures which have large open areas to accommodate cots and provide mass care and emergency assistance. Additional structures shall be explored and agreements sought with property owners for the potential use of the facilities in cases of a disaster or emergency. The list of emergency shelters shall be made available to all residents, along with emergency facilities and evacuation routes. However, the location of shelters will change depending on the situation. This will inform them of the services available in the event of a city-wide disaster.

Timing: Late 1995
Agency: Disaster Preparedness Department
Funding: General Fund

Evacuation Plan. The City will prepare or revise the evacuation plan for areas subject to hazards associated with severe earthquake, flooding, and inundation.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Disaster Preparedness Department
Funding: General Fund

Fire Access Standards. The provision of adequate roadway widths will facilitate emergency response during a disaster. Roadway standards have been established by the County Fire

Department to ensure access for firefighting equipment to all areas in the City. The standards specify that every building should be accessible to Fire Department apparatus by way of access roadways with all-weather driving surface capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus of not less than 20 feet of unobstructed width, clear to the sky, and with adequate roadway turning radius. Fire lanes are needed when an exterior wall of a building is located more than 150 feet from a public vehicle access. Minimum driveway widths are required to be maintained clear at all times. Fire access standards are implemented by the Fire Prevention Bureaus during the plan check process.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Fire Department
Funding: General Fund

Fireflow Capacity. The City shall work with local water companies to determine the adequacy of emergency water in their systems. The City shall regularly monitor the pressure of existing fire hydrants to determine fireflow capacity for emergency situations. Any new development shall be required to upgrade fire hydrants, in order to supply the minimum fireflow needs of their service area.

Timing: Late 1995
Agency: Fire Department
Funding: General Funding

Fire Prevention. The City shall work with the County to promote fire prevention and fire safety programs. These programs shall include fire prevention and protection information and tips in the City newsletter and local newspapers, Fire Department and law enforcement officials' review of proposed building plans to solicit recommendations on fire protection, crime prevention, and other safety measures. The City shall also encourage periodic inspections by the Fire Department of existing structures, for compliance with fire safety standards and practices.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Fire Department
Funding: General Fund

Graffiti Removal. The City shall develop guidelines for the landscaping of large areas of blank walls to hide and prevent vandalism and graffiti. It shall also establish a volunteer program for graffiti removal in public places and other areas throughout the City.

Timing: Ongoing 1995
Agency: Community Development, Police
Funding: General Fund

Groundwater Wells. Ground remediation is necessary to remove soil contamination and prevent future groundwater contamination. The City shall encourage continued monitoring of groundwater wells for potential groundwater contamination. Water quality at local wells shall also be monitored for contaminants. The City shall encourage and coordinate with other agencies on site remediation projects at the earliest possible time.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Public Works Department
Funding: General Fund

Hazardous Materials Regulation. The City shall encourage the implementation of the County's Hazardous Waste Management Plan. It shall maintain a current inventory of hazardous material users and generators and incorporate their emergency response programs into the City's Emergency Plan. It shall work with the County Fire Department in requiring hazardous materials users and generators to prepare safety procedures for responding to accidental spills and emergencies. The County Fire Department shall also work with local law enforcement officials in

gulating the transport of hazardous materials rough the City. Hazardous waste facilities shall be regulated by the state and county in compliance with the siting criteria contained in the County Hazardous Waste Management Plan. The County Fire Department shall coordinate the disposal of small quantities of hazardous wastes from residences and businesses in the City.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Fire Department
Funding: County and General Funds

Landlord/Tenant Drug and Gangs Information Booklet. The Police Department currently issues this Information Booklet to inform landlords and tenants of their rights to protection from gangs and drug-related activities. The Booklet covers information ranging from discouragement techniques, screening of tenant applications, security techniques, and legal issues. The City shall continue and further the use of this Information Booklet.

ming: Ongoing
gency: Police Department
Funding: General Fund

Location of Critical Facilities. As part of the development review process, the City shall require the preparation of geologic studies prior to the approval of critical facilities (such as hospitals, schools, etc.), uses which involve the assembly of large numbers of people, large scale residential developments, and major commercial and industrial projects. The studies will help define the potential environmental impacts on earth and geology of new development, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The environmental review process for proposed projects prior to approval analyzes impacts on other issue areas. Mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts shall be made conditions of approval, along with the mitigation monitoring program.

Timing: Early 1995
Agency: Community Development
Funding: General Fund

Multi-hazard Functional Plan. The City has a Multi-hazard Functional Plan which outlines responsibilities and procedures to follow in the event of an emergency or city-wide disaster. It discusses the potential emergency situations in the City and outlines responsibilities for emergency preparedness and emergency response. Specific emergency functions and operations, available resources (fire stations, emergency shelters, hospitals and clinics, resource persons, etc.), and mutual aid agreements are also provided. The City shall regularly update and implement its Multi-Hazard Functional Plan for Emergency Operations. In order to keep City staff informed of their responsibilities, annual reviews and drills shall be performed. Also, a summary or pamphlet of the procedures and responsibilities shall be provided to involved individuals for easy reference. The City shall also include a disaster reconstruction plan in its Multi-hazard Functional Plan. The plan will outline measures to maintain control and organize operations after a disaster. It shall include responsibilities for clean-up, aid and funding acquisition, private development assistance, and other projects to minimize the economic and social disruption of the disaster.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Disaster Preparedness Department
Funding: General Fund

Neighborhood Watch. The City shall work with local law enforcement officials and residents in the formation of new neighborhood watch groups and crime prevention and awareness programs. This will increase private efforts to protect individuals and property through practical measures such as locking doors, security lighting, concealing valuables, etc.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Police Department
Funding: General Plan

Neighborhood Youth Center/Gang Reduction Project. The Bell Gardens Police Department currently works with the Neighborhood Youth Center to address the most pressing problems of gang violence in the Bell Gardens community. The Neighborhood Youth Center is located at 5856 Ludell Street (at El Selinda) and is staffed with community members, an on-site director, an assistant, and a part-time secretary. The director and assistant work with gang members, schools, parent groups, and community businesses to provide Bell Gardens youth with alternatives to gang activities.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Police Department
Funding: General Fund

Police and Fire Protection Services. The City shall regularly review the adequacy of law enforcement services and fire protection and emergency services in the City. This shall be part of the annual budget review of contracts with the County Fire Department and the local law enforcement officials. The City shall work with local law enforcement officials and the County Fire Department to correct any identified deficiencies. It shall also request that local law enforcement officials and the Fire Department to review proposed development plans. In this way, they can recommend measures that will decrease fire potential and crime and facilitate quicker response.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: City Manager
Funding: General Fund

Police Commission. The City shall form a Bell Gardens Police Commission to oversee law enforcement activities and to make recommendations on policy and program changes, where necessary.

Timing: Early 1996
Agency: City Manager
Funding: General Fund

Promotional Program. The City shall institute a program to promote service organizations in Bell Gardens.

Timing: Late 1996
Agency: City Manager
Funding: General Fund

Public Information. The City will construct a public information program on preventing hazards and responding to a disaster in conjunction with the existing Multi-hazard Functional Plan.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Disaster Preparedness Department
Funding: General Fund

Safety Measures. The City shall continue to use "Bell Gardens Now" and local newspapers to increase public awareness on safety, crime prevention, and fire prevention, earthquake preparedness and other practical safety measures. Also, it shall offer earthquake preparedness, first aid and CPR classes as part of the recreational and library programs in the City.

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Disaster Preparedness Department
Funding: General Fund

Structure Abatement. The City should consider (as a significant factor in the selection of redevelopment project areas) the abatement of older, potentially dangerous structures. Primary consideration should be given to the abatement of structures which pose the highest seismic risk to the public. The City will also inspect critical public facilities for structural integrity.

Timing: Late 1995
Agency: Building Department
Funding: General Fund

Volunteer Program. The City shall seek to utilize volunteers in disaster recovery programs and other emergency situations. It shall actively solicit for volunteers to serve the City during emergencies and offer a training program for these volunteers. All volunteer resources persons shall be included in the City's list of resources with their individual responsibilities.

Timing: Early 1995
Agency: Fire and Police Departments
Funding: General Fund

Zoning Ordinance. The City will enact ordinances for the evaluation and abatement of structural hazards (e.g., parapet ordinance and hazardous building ordinance requiring repair, rehabilitation, or demolition of hazardous structures following structural evaluation).

Timing: Ongoing
Agency: Building Department
Funding: General Fund

TABLE 6-1
SAFETY ELEMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS MATRIX

Policies	Programs
Policy 1: *The City of Bell Gardens shall provide for the safety of the community through physical planning and maintaining an adequate level of police, fire, and emergency services facilities.*	Anti-gang and Anti-drug Programs Graffiti Removal Landlord/Tenant Information Booklet Neighborhood Watch Neighborhood Youth Center/Gang Violence Reduction
Policy 2: *The City of Bell Gardens shall minimize the loss of life, injuries, and property damage through continuing prevention, inspection, and public education programs, including continual update of the City's Emergency Preparedness Plan.*	Emergency Preparedness Classes Emergency Shelters Evacuation Plan Fire Access Fireflow Capacity Fire Prevention Location of Critical facilities Multi-hazard Functional Plan Police and Fire Protection Services Safety Measures Volunteer Program
Policy 3: *The City of Bell Gardens shall protect the community from hazardous materials and waste spills by identifying hazardous materials stored, utilized, or transported in the City and the City shall pursue local and state legislation for greater control of hazardous materials.*	Emergency Preparedness Classes Hazardous Materials Regulation Location of Critical facilities Multi-hazard Functional Plan Safety Measures Zoning Ordinance

Source: David Evans and Associates, Inc., March 1994.

SAFETY ELEMENT BACKGROUND REPORT

This section discusses existing safety issues in the City of Bell Gardens including earthquake, fire, and flooding hazards. Crime, hazardous materials, and emergency services are also discussed. The City of Bell Gardens is fortunate not to be located on or near an earthquake fault although the City could be affected by the damaging effects of an earthquake, groundshaking or other seismic effects which could occur in the City. Bell Gardens is relatively flat and urbanized, posing no risk of landslides, soil erosion and wildland fire hazards. The safety issues relating to earthquakes, flooding, hazardous materials, crime and urban fires are discussed in the following sections.

Crime

Crimes and other acts of violence undermine the sense of security and threaten public safety.

While individuals can take personal precautions to protect themselves from harm, the City provides police protection services.

The majority of crimes committed are burglaries, assaults, motor vehicle thefts and larcenies. Gang violence and drug trafficking are also special concerns in Bell Gardens.

The City of Bell Gardens has had its own Police Department since 1970. The Bell Gardens Police Department is responsible for police protection and law enforcement in the City. The Police Department is responsible for general law enforcement, traffic law enforcement, neighborhood watch programs, investigative and administrative support services, disaster planning, and special anti-drug and anti-gang programs.

The City has 88 Police Department employees, with 60 sworn officers. The Department is currently understaffed by 4 sworn officers. With a population of 42,355 (1990 U.S. Census), the City has a force of 1 officer per 756 residents. This statistic is compared to surrounding cities in Table 6-2.

Per capita expenditures for the same cities are compared in Table 6-3.

TABLE 6-2
POLICE FACILITIES COMPARISON

City	Population (1990 U.S. Census)	Sworn Officers	1 Officer Per Population
Bell Gardens	42,355	56	756
Maywood	27,850	23	1,211
Bell	34,365	40	859

TABLE 6-2
POLICE FACILITIES COMPARISON (continued)

City	Population (1990 U.S. Census)	Sworn Officers	1 Officer Per Population
South Gate	86,284	91	948
Downey	91,444	124	737

Note: The County figures were not compared, because the number of County sworn officers service the unincorporated areas as well as the cities that the County contracts with. This would have presented skewed data for the purposes of this comparison.

Source: David Evans and Associates, Inc., 1993.

TABLE 6-3
PER CAPITA EXPENDITURES

City	Population (1990 U.S. Census)	$ Allocated to Public Protection	$ Per Capita
Bell Gardens	42,355	4,903,397	116
Maywood	27,850	2,720,550	98
Bell	34,365	5,345,296	156
South Gate	86,284	11,977,894	139
Downey	91,444	21,698,152	237

Note: The County figures were not compared, because the amount allocated for the County goes to unincorporated areas and towards the cities that the county contracts with. This would have presented skewed data for the purposes of this comparison.

Source: David Evans and Associates, Inc., 1993.

Tables 6-4 lists reported crimes in Bell Gardens from 1989 to 1992, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) categories. The majority of crimes committed are larceny, followed by assaults and burglaries. [Note: larceny is the illegal taking of property; assault is the threat of doing harm without the actual doing of the harm; battery is the actual doing of the harm; burglary is the act of breaking into a building with the intent to steal; robbery is larceny by violence or threat.]

TABLE 6-4
FBI CRIME STATISTICS - 1989-1992

Year	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Vehicle Theft	TOTAL
1989	3	10	214	641	602	731	385	2,588
1990	7	19	205	536	594	700	339	2,390
1991	6	12	209	616	489	691	342	2,365
1992	5	16	238	550	608	804	366	2,587

Source: Bell Gardens Police Department, 1993.

The following Table 6-5 summarizes the City's crime statistics from 1988 through 1991 according to the nine major offenses, miscellaneous offenses, traffic incidents, and other City ordinance violations.

TABLE 6-5
CITY CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSE		1988	1989	1990	1991
MAJOR OFFENSES	Homicide	3	5	8	6
	Forcible Rape	14	10	8	12
	Robbery	152	211	202	211
	Felony Assault	265	209	58	83
	Domestic Violence	263	234	182	202
	Burglary	675	674	644	518
	Grand Theft	96	98	113	107
	Auto Theft	321	404	367	359
	Arson	11	5	9	8
	Subtotals	1800	1850	1591	1506
MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES	Other Assaults	166	236	314	355
	Fraud Document	63	59	71	104
	Drugs	347	221	201	148
	Firearms	71	51	73	92
	Disturbing the Peace	53	38	45	71
	Sex Offense/Children	n/a	11	41	39
	Sex Offense/Exposure	n/a	13	35	29

TABLE 6-5
CITY CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSE		1988	1989	1990	1991
	Sex Offense	77	33	23	5
	Vandalism	323	9	61	571
	Petty Theft	350	412	484	724
	Public Intoxication	617	677	62[illegible]	364
	Drunk Driving	285	257	234	210
	Other arrests	253	661	903	1247
	Burglary/Vehicle	224	174	166	174
	Miscellaneous	1017	758	807	760
	Subtotals	3846	4020	4381	4893
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	Property Damage	755	691	745	640
	Injury Accidents	274	324	262	220
	Fatal Accidents	3	2	3	4
	Hit & Run Accidents	255	293	293	245
	Subtotals	1032	1017	1303	864
OTHER TRAFFIC	Hazardous Cites	8055	9174	10635	9196
	Non-hazardous Cites	371	163	212	99
	Parking Cites	11045	8002	7861	7157
	Storage/Impounds	158	542	208	194
	Subtotals	20629	17881	18916	16646
OTHER CITY ORDINANCES	Alarm Violations	1002	846	901	885
	Other Violations	915	22	124	252
	Subtotals	1917	868	1025	1137
TOTALS CALLS FOR SERVICE		19853	20308	20048	20248

Source: City of Bell Gardens Police Department, 1993.

Table 6-5 shows that the majority of crimes in the major offenses category consisted of burglaries and auto theft, followed by domestic violence, felony assaults, and robberies. The majority of miscellaneous offenses included public intoxication, petty theft, drugs, drunk driving, and other types of assaults. The discrepancies between the FBI statistics and the City statistics may be attributed to the difference in categorization techniques.

Gangs

The main crime problem for the City, as identified by the Police Department, is gangs and gang related violence. In the Police Department's Neighborhood Youth Center Proposal, it was estimated that "...at least fourteen known gangs are operating within the City of Bell Gardens. Approximately 15% to 20% of our youth are either members or associates of these gangs. The average age of the typical gang member in Bell Gardens is approximately 15 years of age. However, it is not unusual for the fathers or even grandfathers of youthful gang members to still have ties with gang activities in their neighborhoods."

The Police Department has implemented four programs specific to curb gang related activities in the City. These programs are: (1) the 4-man police gang unit; (2) the Neighborhood Youth Center; (3) the Youth Services Bureau; and (4) D.A.R.E.

The 4-man Gang Unit was started one year ago and is made up of police detectives. It is a high profile enforcement group that works during peak gang related hours (Thursday through Sunday).

The Neighborhood Youth Center is considered an alternative program that targets high risk juveniles. The staffing thus far consists of 2 full-time ex-gang members (one of which serves on the Governor's Task Force on Gangs) and other staff and volunteers. The program has been in effect since November 1992 and is reportedly well received by the community.

The City's Youth Services Bureau originated with a state grant. It is a diversion program for first-time offenders, light felons, etc. The Youth Services Bureau also maintains crisis intervention. The Youth Services Bureau is located at 5840 Florence Avenue and is staffed with three full-time counselors and a secretary. Counseling is provided at no cost to residents of the community. Youth, parent, family, and crisis counseling is available. First time juvenile offenders of non-violent crimes are referred for counseling by the Police Department. The local schools also refer youth for counseling that they have identified as having behavioral problems.

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education program is provided to youth at the elementary and intermediate schools. The D.A.R.E. program is made up of three full-time police officers who have been trained to teach this program. There are two additional police officers who teach D.A.R.E. to all fifth grade students attending the intermediate schools in Bell Gardens. One officer teaches an abbreviated D.A.R.E. program, pedestrian and bicycle safety. The officers also teach at private schools.

In an attempt to provide reinforcement to the D.A.R.E. program taught in the lower schools, one full-time police officer is assigned to the High School. This officer teaches classes, provides supervision, support to students, and acts as a role model. This officer also provides a link in communication between High School youth and the Police Department.

Additionally, the southeast Los Angeles region is served by the Metropolitan Gang Task Force (funded by a federal grant and staffed by local police officers) that has six participating cities: Bell Gardens, South Gate, Maywood, Bell, Vernon, and Huntington Park. Additionally, employees from the probation, parole and the District Attorney's office also participate. The resources of this Task force are available to the City to assist in suppressing and investigating gang related incidents.

In additional to the local narcotics unit, two police officers are assigned to L.A. Impact, a task force that targets major narcotic dealers. L.A. Impact is comprised of police officers from forty-five

agencies in Los Angeles County. The Task Force deals exclusively with major narcotic dealers in an effort to significantly reduce the narcotic problem in this area.

In an effort to reduce the number of traffic related injuries and deaths, a state grant was received that paid for a Driving Under the Influence checkpoint trailer. Each month, D.U.I. checkpoints will be established at various locations throughout the City. In addition to D.U.I. enforcement, the checkpoints allow the Police Department an opportunity to disseminate safety information and identify unlicensed drivers. Similar programs in other cities have reduced injury accidents by as mich as 50%.

Other Programs

The City of Bell Gardens' Police Department has also implemented other programs to combat crime and serve the community. These programs are grouped into two categories: law enforcement programs and community service projects.

The law enforcement programs consist of three departmental programs to better address the City's needs: division reorganization, alternative work schedules, and fulfillment of staffing. Under the division reorganization program, "team policing" was established. This affords field officers the advantage of working with the same partners and supervisors, promoting effectiveness and team work. The division reorganization also established a Community Services Division to promote and administer six existing community programs, including Blockwatch. Finally, this program established anti-gang and anti-drug teams. These police teams function as proactive, street enforcement units.

The alternative work schedule enables Police Department personnel to work the "3/12" plan. This means that a police officer will work 3 days (12 hours each day). This has proved effective for team policing, deploying personnel in emergency situations, reducing overtime and sick leave, increasing moral, and complying with the Air Quality Management District mandate. To fulfill staffing needs, last year 13 sworn police officer positions were filled (11 of which were bilingual). This also enables the Police Department to supply three times as many officers (during peak calls-for-service) as it did prior to June 1992.

Community Services Projects are administered by the Community Services Division (discussed above, under the division reorganization). In addition to the gang and drug related programs, the Community Services Division is responsible for three other projects: Blockwatch, the Explorer/Cadet program, and the Senior Citizens Service program. The Blockwatch program enables the community and the Police Department to establish an ongoing dialogue. The Police Officers meet with citizens at their homes, allowing the community to become familiar with the Department staff.

The Explorer/Cadet program consists of Explorer Post #673, which has recently been reactivated. Since it has been reactivated, membership has increased from 5 persons to 25 persons, between the ages of 14 and 19 years. The explorers participate in a number of community service projects, outings, and other recreational activities.

The Police Department also began a Community Academy. The Community Academy is open to any resident or business person in the City provided they have no felony convictions. The purpose of the Community Academy is to educate the participants on the operation of the Police Department, legal constraints, open lines of communication, and inform residents on how the community can work together to solve problems facing the City. The first Community Academy class graduated on March 30, 1994.

The Senior Citizens Service program established a daily dialogue with the City's seniors at the Senior Center and three convalescent hospitals in the City. The uniformed police officers maintain an established communication with the seniors, soliciting input regarding their particular issues in the community.

Seismic Risk

Los Angeles County has approximately 50 active and potentially active faults, twenty one of which are major active faults (an active fault is defined as a fault that has exhibited movement during the past 10,000 years). The presence of these faults has caused at least one earthquake every four years rendering the City of Bell Gardens as highly susceptible to earthquakes. Potentially active faults in the vicinity of the project area include the Whittier-Elsinore, Norwalk, Raymond, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, Verdugo, Palos Verdes, Newport-Inglewood, and San Andreas faults.

Exhibit 6-1 shows the location of regional faults in relation to Bell Gardens. A maximum credible earthquake is the largest earthquake magnitude a fault is capable of generating. Magnitude is the size of the earthquake as expressed in terms of the Richter scale: a measure of the vibrations of the ground which represents the amount of energy released by the earthquake. On a logarithmic scale, a magnitude of 6 is ten times as large as a magnitude of 5, and a magnitude of 8 is ten times as large as a magnitude of 7. The probability of a maximum credible earthquake is expressed as a percentage of probability within a 100-year period and is based on the known slip rate of the fault and time elapsed since the last earthquake. The San Andreas Fault has the highest probability and magnitude of faults in the area with the San Fernando Fault having a relatively high probability. The nearest faults to Bell Gardens are the Newport-Inglewood and the Whittier-Elsinore Faults. Their probabilities are 7% and 13% within a 100-year period. Table 6-6 summarizes the size and probability of major earthquakes along these faults.

TABLE 6-6
SELECTED EARTHQUAKE FAULTS IN THE REGION

Fault and Zone	Maximum Credible Earthquake	Probability*	Approximate Distance from City
San Andreas			66 miles
Mojave	7.5	77.0	
Carrizo	8.0	30.0	
San Bernardino	7.5	77.0	
San Gabriel			41 miles
Northwest	7.0	3.0	
Central	6.7	5.0	
San Fernando	6.5	30.0	38 miles
Mission Hills	6.3	?	73 miles
Santa Susana	6.9	15.0	54 miles
Northridge	6.6	?	46 miles

TABLE 6-6
SELECTED EARTHQUAKE FAULTS IN THE REGION (continued)

Fault and Zone	Maximum Credible Earthquake	Probability*	Approximate Distance from City
Sierra Madre			29 miles
Segment A	6.4	2.0	
Segment B	6.5	2.0	
Segment C	6.5	2.0	
Segment D	6.5	2.0	
Cucamonga (Sierra Madre Segment E)	6.6	2.0	42 miles
Whittier	7.3	13.0	17 miles
Verdugo	6.7	?	27 miles
Raymond Hill	6.7	3.0	24 miles
Hollywood	6.4	6.09	23 miles
Santa Monica	6.7	?	22 miles
Malibu Coast	6.9	2.0	37 miles
Newport-Inglewood			6 miles
Long Beach	6.8	7.0	
Central Los Angeles	6.9	6.0	
Palos Verdes	6.7	3.0	17 miles
San Pedro Basin	>7.0	?	31 miles
Norwalk	6.5	?	10 miles

* Percentage probability of maximum credible earthquake in a 100-year period.

Source: Los Angeles County Safety Element, 1990 as taken from Davis (1988), Wesnousky (1986), Ziony and Yerkes (1985), Crook, et.al. (1987) and Clark, et.al. (1985).

The Newport-Inglewood Fault system is located approximately 8 miles west of Bell Gardens at its nearest point and consists of a series of northwest-trending, strike-slip faults. The 1933 Long Beach earthquake, with a magnitude 6.3, and the 1920 Inglewood earthquake, with an estimated magnitude 4.7, occurred on faults located within the Newport-Inglewood Fault system. The Newport-Inglewood Fault is expected to be capable of a maximum credible earthquake of Richter magnitude 6.8 to 6.9.

The Whittier-Elsinore Fault lies approximately 6 miles east of the City. Historically, this fault has produced relatively minor earthquakes (less than 4.5 Richter magnitude). According to seismologists, the Whittier-Elsinore Fault can produce a maximum credible earthquake of Richter magnitude 7.3.

The Sierra Madre Fault zone is located at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains, approximately 29 miles north of the City at its closest point. The Sierra Madre Fault system

consists of a series of east/west-trending faults. The San Fernando segment of the Sierra Madre Fault zone produced the magnitude 6.6 San Fernando earthquake in 1971. A 1991 earthquake on the fault had a magnitude of 5.8 and an epicenter 7 miles north of Monrovia. Seismologists believe that the recurrence interval (time period between earthquakes on the same fault system as estimated by slip rates and historic events) at any one point on this fault ranges from 200 to 5,000 years.

The Norwalk Fault, located approximately 8 miles east of the City, is a north-dipping reverse fault and is capable of producing an earthquake of the magnitude of the 1933 Long Beach earthquake (6.25 on the Richter scale).

The San Andreas Fault is the boundary between the North American and Pacific Plates and extends as far north as Cape Mendocino and south to the Gulf of California. The San Andreas Fault is a major northwest-trending fault which is located approximately 66 miles northeast of Bell Gardens. Relative movement of the plates causes earthquakes at various points along this 750-mile fault. The San Andreas fault is classified as active, with the most recent earthquake on its central section occurring in 1857 with an approximate magnitude of 7.9 on the Richter scale. The recurrence interval on the central portion of the San Andreas is estimated to be between 126 to 300 years. The San Andreas is assumed to be capable of producing a maximum credible earthquake of Richter magnitude 8.0.

A recent significant seismic activity in the Southern California region occurred along a previously unknown fault near Montebello. The earthquake, which occurred October 1, 1987, had an estimated Richter magnitude of 5.9. The epicenter of this earthquake was located in the vicinity of Whittier Narrows between Rosemead and Montebello. Scientists have recently reported a similar deep fault underlying the City of Los Angeles in the vicinity of downtown Los Angeles (Elysian Park). This fault is at a depth of approximately 5 miles and may be capable of producing an earthquake with a Richter magnitude of 7.0 or more (Harksson et al, 1988). The probability of an earthquake occurring on the potentially active Raymond Hill, Norwalk, Verdugo, or Malibu Coast-Santa Monica-Hollywood Faults are considered low. The faults considered to be the most likely sources of strong groundshaking at Bell Gardens during an earthquake are the Whittier-Elsinore, Newport-Inglewood, and San Andreas faults.

Table 6-7 identifies the historic earthquakes that have affected the region. Earthquakes prior to the 1933 Long Beach earthquake have been assigned approximate Richter magnitudes based upon historical accounts.

TABLE 6-7
HISTORIC EARTHQUAKES THAT HAVE AFFECTED THE AREA

Date	Fault or Location	Richter Magnitude
1812	Newport-Inglewood-San Andreas	6.9
1857	San Andreas	7.9
1910	Elsinore?	6.0
1920	Newport-Inglewood	4.7
1925	Santa Barbara	6.8

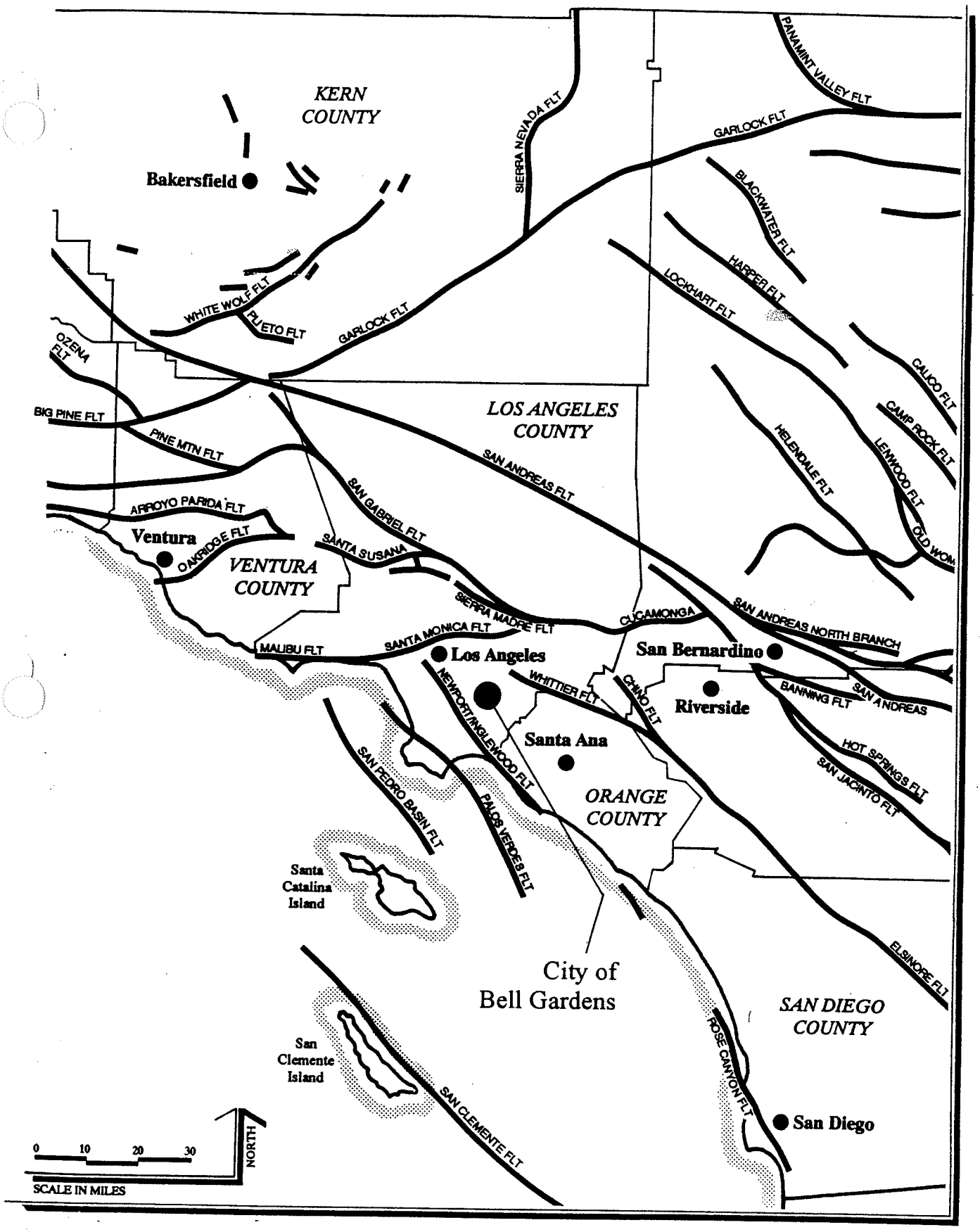

EXHIBIT 6-1
REGIONAL EARTHQUAKE FAULTS

TABLE 6-7
HISTORIC EARTHQUAKES THAT HAVE AFFECTED THE AREA (continued)

Date	Fault or Location	Richter Magnitude
1929	Norwalk	4.7
1933	Newport-Inglewood (Long Beach)	6.3
1941	Newport-Inglewood	4.9
1941	Newport-Inglewood	5.4
1971	Sierra Madre (San Fernando)	6.6
1971	San Fernando	5.1
1979	San Bernardino Mountains	4.9
1987	Elysian Park-Whittier Narrows	5.9
1987	Elysian Park	5.3
1988	--	5.2
1988	Elysian Park	5.0
1989	Fault complex - Santa Monica Bay	5.0
1991	Sierra Madre	5.8

Note: Richter magnitudes for earthquakes prior to 1933 are estimated as based on historical accounts.
Source: Los Angeles County Safety Element, 1990; Seismological Center, California Institute of Technology, 1992.

Groundshaking

A major earthquake occurring along any of the major fault traces in the region would be capable of producing strong groundshaking effects in Bell Gardens. Groundshaking is probably the most damaging result of an earthquake, because large areas are subject to shaking effects. This shaking motion can last for a few seconds in a moderate earthquake and can be as much as four minutes in a severe earthquake. Groundshaking is exaggerated on loose, water-saturated ground and occurs to a lesser magnitude on solid rock. Groundshaking is expected to occur with every earthquake, though the degree of movement is dependent on the distance from the epicenter (point on earth's surface directly above the area where the earthquake energy originates), subsurface geology, and intensity of the earthquake.

While there are no active or potentially active faults in the City, groundshaking will affect Bell Gardens during earthquake events in the region. The maximum credible earthquake on nearby faults will generate average bedrock accelerations of approximately 0.25 gravity (the acceleration of gravity is equal to 32.2 ft/sec.^{2} and is used to measure the acceleration of groundshaking) with a duration of 5 to 10 seconds. These accelerations can cause the structural failure of buildings and lead to other hazards such as fires, hazardous material spills, and damage to infrastructure (roads, water lines, sewer lines, gas lines, power

ansmission lines, etc.). Groundshaking could use the collapse of the bridges which cross over the Los Angeles River and the Long Beach Freeway. This could result in massive traffic jams in Bell Gardens as access to the west is impeded.

The vast majority of deaths and injuries in an earthquake are caused by partial or total collapse of man-made structures. Generally, existing substandard structures of all kinds pose the greatest hazard to a community. Unreinforced masonry buildings represent dangerous earthquake hazards, because such buildings are likely to experience significant structural damage in the event of a major earthquake. Other structures in the City that are subject to groundshaking hazards include: buildings with non-bearing walls and partitions; non-ductile concrete-frame buildings; inadequately designed pre-cast tilt-up construction; inadequately designed structures with geometric irregularities, including long spans and irregular shapes; mobile homes; and residences not secured to foundations.

The majority of existing structures in the City were constructed between 1930 and 1955. Although most are wood-frame construction of one and two stories, they may not meet present earthquake standards. Reinforcement or reconstruction to prevent potential earthquake damage to older structures should be encouraged.

Surface Rupture

The majority of large earthquakes in California have been accompanied by surface rupture. Surface rupture refers to the actual fracturing of the ground surface along the fault trace. This type of fracturing can involve a sideways or horizontal displacement (lateral) or a vertical displacement. The 1857 Fort Tejon earthquake caused 21-foot displacements and the 1906 San Francisco earthquake had as much as a 20-foot offset. Sometimes the fault displacement occurs in a gradual and continuous manner rather than with a single event characterized by most earthquakes. This slow, gradual movement is referred to as fault creep. Fault creep can damage structures that are built on top of fault traces. Surface rupture is not a significant hazard in Bell Gardens, because the nearest fault trace is 6 miles from the City.

Ground Failure and Liquefaction

Various types of ground failures accompany earthquakes. These include landslides, fracturing, cracking and fissuring, liquefaction of sand layers, slumping, subsidence, uplift and tilting. Liquefaction is the process where soil behaves like liquid due to the loss of internal cohesive strength. Groundshaking from earthquakes (as discussed previously on page 6-5) can cause liquefaction and can result in horizontal ground movement and settlement. This, in turn, will cause structural failure and damage to pipes, roadways and buildings.

The City of Bell Gardens is located on alluvial soils deposited by the nearby Los Angeles River before it was channelized. The primary factors that govern an area's susceptibility to liquefaction are age and type of sedimentary deposit, penetration resistance, and depth to groundwater. Recent deposits are more susceptible to liquefaction since age and compaction increase with soil depth, thus, lessening liquefaction potential.

The youngest sediments in the region occur in the flood plain areas of the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana Rivers which have been responsible for periodic flooding in the past 150 years. The City of Bell Gardens is underlain by late Holocene (past 1,000 years) alluvium consisting of silt, gravel, sand, and clay and is characterized by soils that were flooded historically by the Los Angeles River. These soils are highly susceptible to the effects of

uefaction because they are not highly cemented. In addition, the groundwater is at relatively shallow depths ranging from 10 to 30 feet. In a comprehensive study of the earthquake risk in Southern California, Bell Gardens was found to be in an area with high to moderate risk for liquefaction (USGS, 1985). Past studies of the area classified the City with a very high potential for liquefaction due to perched groundwater. Pumping and subsequent overdrafting has cause the water table to lower, thereby reducing the risk of liquefaction. Areas with a high potential for liquefaction have groundwater levels at 10 feet or less below the ground surface. Areas with moderate liquefaction potential have groundwater levels at 10 to 30 feet below the ground surface.

Other Seismic Effects

Activity from fracturing, cracking and fissuring within the City of Bell Gardens would not be significant. Compaction, subsidence, uplift, tilting and warping are also considered significant in the area. Seiche and tsunamis will not affect the City of Bell Gardens because of it is 15 to 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean and because there are no significant bodies of water within or near the City. The City of Bell Gardens is relatively flat, thus, no landslide and soil erosion hazards can be expected.

Flooding (Dam Inundation)

The relatively flat topography of the City and its location in relation to major regional flood control facilities reduce the likelihood of major damaging floods. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, a small portion of the City of Bell Gardens is located in a designated 100 to 500 year flood zone.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently released inundation maps for the Hansen and Sepulveda Dams indicating the impacts of dam failure from these facilities. The studies indicated that dam failure from the Sepulveda Dam (located approximately 27 miles northwest of the City) would result in flood waters with an average overbank depth (from the Los Angeles River) of 2 feet covering the entire City. The flood waters would reach the City in approximately 10 hours, with peak elevation occurring approximately 12 hours after dam failure. Dam failure from the Hansen Dam (located approximately 26 miles northwest of the City) would result in flood waters with an average overbank depth (from the Los Angeles River) of 1 foot covering those portions of the City south of Florence Avenue. The flood waters would reach the City in approximately 18 hours with peak elevation occurring approximately 21 hours after dam failure. The Army Corps of Engineering and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are currently evaluating the flood risk from the Rio Hondo Dam and levees in the vicinity of the Whittier Narrows.

The Los Angeles River is east of the City and has been constructed to withstand flooding potential in the area. Failure of the river channel is unlikely but stormwater overflow may occur. Exhibit 6-2 shows the flood hazard of the Los Angeles River.

Hazardous Materials

The risks posed by the improper handling of hazardous materials include toxic pollution, contamination and associated health problems. Several laws and regulations have been recently passed to control hazardous materials use and disposal. Hazardous materials use and waste generation is generally related to industry and landfills. There are no operating landfills in Bell Gardens, but there are several industries who use and generate hazardous materials and waste. Numerous other industries in the neighboring

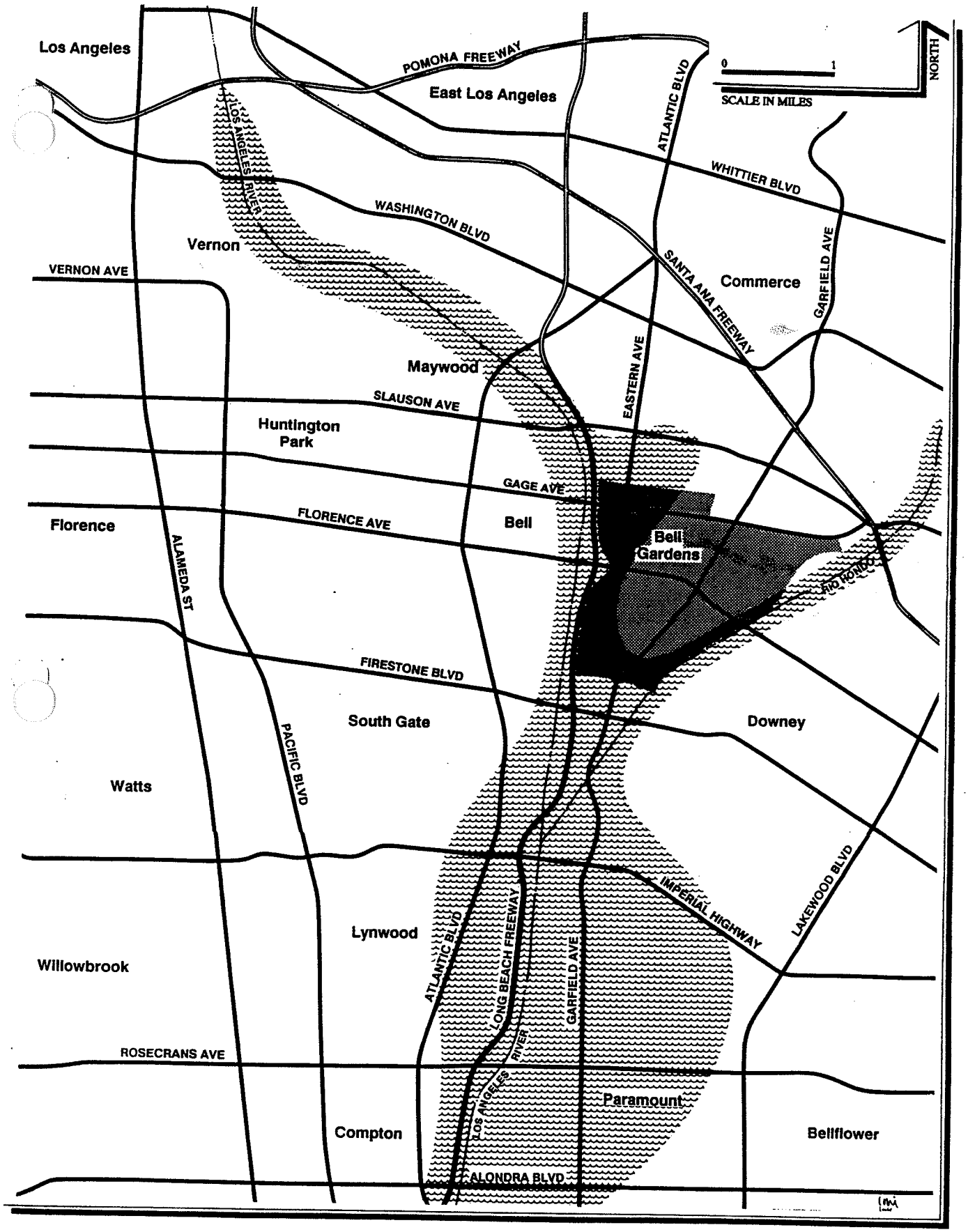

EXHIBIT 6-2
LOS ANGELES RIVER FLOOD HAZARDS

cities of Bell, South Gate, Huntington Park, and Cudahy use or generate hazardous materials which could affect residents of Bell Gardens.

The hazardous materials area plan for Los Angeles County is implemented by the County Fire Department. The Fire Department has made an inventory of hazardous materials/ waste facilities, established emergency notification response and pre-emergency planning measures, and disseminates public safety information. Individual users are required to prepare risk management and prevention programs to keep employees aware of procedures necessary to prevent spills and to minimize risks during accidental spills.

Aside from on-site users, transportation routes present some risk for hazardous material spills. The Long Beach Freeway, west of the City, is a major route that is open to vehicles carrying hazardous materials. Aside from accidental spill, hazardous materials present fire and explosion hazards during transport. Transporters of hazardous wastes are required to be certified by the Department of Transportation and manifests keep track of hazardous materials during transport. Transporters are allowed within 1 mile of freeways and other designated routes for refueling and other services. City streets used for the transport of hazardous and toxic substances in and through the City include the designated truck routes of Florence, Gage, and Garfield Avenues, and a northern section of Eastern Avenue.

Railroads are also used for the transport of hazardous materials and wastes. Petroleum and chemical trains could be subject to spills, derailment and the related hazards of fire and explosion. Although only 5 to 7 trains pass on each track daily, the City and local enforcement officials can establish emergency response procedures for potential hazardous material/waste accidents.

Illegal hazardous material/waste dumping is a concern in the City. With increasing regulation and costs to dispose of hazardous materials, users and generators of the hazardous materials may resort to illegal dumping and disposal. There has been such incidents and monitoring activities could prevent future dumping and disposal within the City.

Urban Fire

The City is urbanized and no wildland areas are present in or near the City. As a result, fire hazards are largely related to structural fires. Urban fire hazards are presented by a variety of human activities and are often due to accidents, carelessness and negligence on the part of individuals engaged in activities that involve fire sources or electricity. Fires result from faulty wiring or mechanical equipment, accidents with appliances and equipment, cigarettes, matches and other fire sources. Fires are made worse by combustible construction materials and the absence of fire alarm and sprinklers systems.

Older structures are more prone to fire hazards since they often do not comply with current and more stringent standards for fire safety construction. Structures with open stairwells and no sprinklers also pose a fire hazard. Industrial areas, gas transmission lines and distribution lines and high voltage power lines are particularly sensitive to fire and could cause explosions.

To minimize fire hazards, the Fire Department sets standards for building design and construction. It requires adequate water supply for firefighting purposes, fire retardant construction, fire lanes and other standards. Fire prevention information and drills keep everyone aware of the prevention practices and ways to reduce loss and injury during a fire.

nergency Services

Mutual Aid

The City of Bell Gardens has adopted the Multi-Hazard Functional Plan for Emergency Operations in December 1990. The Plan addresses the City of Bell Gardens' "...planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and nuclear defense operations." This section discusses this Plan along with the day-to-day operations of the various public service facilities.

The California Emergencies Services Act provides for the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. This Mutual Aid Agreement is a state-wide emergency planning and response system which creates a formal structure within which each jurisdiction retains control of its own personnel and facilities, but can ve and receive help whenever it is needed. To ilitate the Mutual Aid Agreement, the state has en divided into six Mutual Aid Regions. Through these Mutual Aid Regions, the state can receive a constant flow of information from every geographic area in the state.

The City of Bell Gardens, being at the local level of the Mutual Aid Agreement, is responsible for:

- Developing and maintaining current Emergency Plans which are compatible with the California Emergency Plan and the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, and are designed to apply local resources in meeting the emergency requirements of the immediate community or its neighbors, and coordinate such plans with those of neighboring jurisdictions to ensure mutual compatibility.

- Maintaining liaison with the appropriate Office of Emergency Services Mutual Aid Office and neighboring jurisdictions.

- Identifying Multi-purpose Staging Areas to provide rally points for incoming mutual aid and/or a staging area for support and recovery activities.

- Responding to requests for mutual aid.

- Dispatching situation reports to the appropriate Operational Area Coordinator and/or OES Mutual Aid Region as the emergency situation develops and as changes in the emergency situation dictate.

- Requesting assistance from neighboring jurisdictions, and/or the Operational Area, as necessary and feasible.

- Receiving and employing resources as may be provided by neighboring jurisdictions and state, federal, and private agencies.

- Carrying out emergency regulations issued by the Governor.

Fire Department

The Los Angeles County Fire Department provides fire prevention and protective services to Bell Gardens and the surrounding cities of Bell, Maywood, South Gate, Commerce, Cudahy, and Huntington Park. Fire Station 39 (located in Bell Gardens) provides initial response to the City. The station has an approximately 3-minute response time for fire emergencies. As part of the Consolidated Fire Protection District, the services of other county fire stations are available to Bell Gardens, as needed. Table 6-8 provides station resources and manpower.

TABLE 6-8
FIRE STATION RESOURCES AND MANPOWER

Station & Address	Resources	Manpower
Station 39 7000 Garfield Avenue Bell Gardens	Engine 39 Paramedic Squad 39	3 2
Station 163 6320 Pine Avenue Bell	Engine 163 Paramedic Squad 163	4 2
Station 54 4867 Southern Avenue South Gate	Engine 54	4
Station 164 6301 S. Santa Fe Avenue Huntington Park	Engine 164 Truck 164 Paramedic Squad 164	4 4 2

Source: Los Angeles County Fire Department, 1991

Bell Gardens has a fire hazard severity rating of 3 (on a scale of 1-10 with 1 as the best). This rating is based upon criteria set forth by the Insurance Service Office which considers three primary factors: fuel loading capacity (in terms of natural vegetation), fire weather (i.e., in terms of critical fire weather day frequency) and slope characteristics. The distance to the nearest fire station and fire hydrant is also considered in the rating. The fire hazard and severity rating for Bell Gardens is due primarily to light fuel materials and a relatively moderate number of critical fire weather days.

All future developments must comply with all applicable code and ordinance requirements for construction, access, water mains, fire flows, and fire hydrants. Residential developments will require fire flows of 1,250 gallons per minute for single-family detached homes and up to 3,000 gallons per minute for multiple-family residential developments. Commercial and industrial developments may require fire flows of up to 5,000 gallons per minute.

The water mains, located in the streets, must be capable of delivering these flows at 20 pounds per square inch residual pressure. Final fire flow will be based on the size of the building, its relationship to other structures and property lines, and the type of construction used. Any additional fire safety requirements will be addresses at the building plan check stage.

Police Department

As discussed earlier, the Bell Gardens Police Department is responsible for the police protection and law enforcement in Bell Gardens. The Police Department is responsible for general law enforcement, traffic law enforcement, neighborhood watch programs, investigative and administrative support services, disaster planning, and special anti-drug and anti-gang programs (Substance Abuse Narcotics Education is offered by the Sheriff's Department in city schools).

ic/Hospital Services

There are no hospitals within the City of Bell Gardens. The nearest hospital is Mission Hospital on Florence Avenue in Huntington Park. It is a private hospital with approximately 100 beds. Other hospitals in the area are the Rancho Amigos Medical Center in Downey (which only handles disabled patients), the Los Angeles Community Hospital in East Los Angeles, the St. Francis Hospital in Lynwood and the Martin Luther King Hospital in Willowbrook. The Kaiser Permanente Medical Center was recently opened on Atlantic Avenue (in Cudahy) and provides immediate care and out-patient services to the City and neighboring communities. The Family Center, at Gage and Garfield Avenues, is a community clinic that operates on an out-patient, by-appointment-only basis.

Critical Facilities

Structures and facilities in the City of Bell Gardens which provide emergency planning and services should be located and constructed to withstand any major damage. This will ensure that they are functional during emergencies and are suitable as evacuation shelters. Structures which hold large groups of people or dependent populations are also considered critical facilities. Table 6-9 summarizes the critical facilities in Bell Gardens.

TABLE 6-9
CRITICAL FACILITIES

Facility	Location
City Hall	7301 South Garfield Avenue
William Ross Auditorium	6662 Loveland Street
Maintenance Yard	6662 Loveland Street
Senior Citizens Center	6662 Loveland Street
Marlow Recreation Building	6640 Marlow Avenue
Los Angeles County Fire Station 39	7000 South Garfield Avenue
Southern California Edison Plant	6301 South Garfield Avenue, Commerce
John Anson Ford Park Auditorium	7840 Park Lane
Suva Elementary School	6740 Suva Street
Bell Gardens Elementary School	5620 Quinn Street
Del Rio Sanitarium	7002 Gage Avenue

Source: Multi-Hazard Functional Plan for Emergency Operations, City of Bell Gardens, 1990.

Mass Care Facilities

Emergencies or disasters in the City would require the evacuation of crowds and the provision of temporary shelters. Mass care facilities that could serve the City of Bell Gardens include existing schools of the LAUSD and a

nber of American Legion Halls. Table 6-10
ists these facilities and their capacities.

TABLE 6-10
EMERGENCY MASS CARE FACILITIES

Facility	Address	Capacity
Gage Junior High School	2880 E. Gage Ave., Huntington Park	2,804
Nimitz Junior High School	6021 Carmelita Ave., Huntington Park	3,415
South Gate Junior High School	4100 Firestone Ave., South Gate	3,518
Bell High School	4328 Bell Ave., Bell	3,617
Huntington Park High School	6020 Miles Ave., Huntington Park	3,692
South Gate High School	3351 Firestone Blvd., South Gate	3,084
St. Mathias Parochial High School	6003 Stafford Ave., Huntington Park	349
American Legion Halls		
Bell-Maywood Post 120	3665 E. Florence Ave., Bell	53
Hollydale Post 723	11269 Garfield Ave., South Gate	59
South Gate Post 335	9535 California Ave., South Gate	59
Walnut Park Post 459	7627 Santa Fe Ave., Huntington Park	52

urce: Los Angeles County Fire Department, 1993.