

11 PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In planning for public facilities and services, it is important to assure a balance between service costs, safety, environmental protection, and achieving the desired land use pattern.

This chapter of *Watsonville 2005* addresses the need to maintain a balance between the rate of private development and the provision of public services to the city and Planning Area. Goals and policies are provided for infrastructure development, water supply, wastewater management, solid waste management, library services, educational services, and public safety.

All of these urban support services are of concern to Watsonville, although not all of them are under the direct authority of the City Council. The subjects

addressed in this chapter strongly support the goals and policies of the Land Use and Community Development chapter (4).

COMMUNITY CONCERN

Community concerns related to the provision of public facilities and services have been evaluated and are summarized below:

1. Can the city allow urbanization to proceed without a corresponding reduction in the level of public services and urban amenities now enjoyed in the city?
2. Will urban development within the urban limit line provide adequate fiscal resources to maintain current levels of public services and additional facilities to accommodate population growth?

Figure 11-1 Ranking of Public Service and Facilities Issues

Statement	Ranking		
	Agree	Not Important	Disagree
1. The city needs to develop more public parks and recreation facilities	62%	18%	20%
2. The city needs a multilevel downtown parking structure	53%	15%	32%
3. The city should provide additional library services	62%	20%	18%
4. Existing roads should be widened	82%	11%	7%
5. Additional athletic fields are needed	46%	26%	28%
6. New neighborhood parks are needed	58%	18%	26%
7. New development should be allowed only if schools, parks, roads, sewers, and other facilities are adequate	87%	5%	8%
8. An 18-hole golf course is needed	25%	28%	47%

Source: Watsonville 2005 General Plan Questionnaire

3. Can new growth be provided with adequate water supply from the available sources and distribution system?
4. Will the wastewater management system be adequate for both population growth and new industrial development?
5. Can the solid waste disposal site accommodate the waste load that will be generated by community development and anticipated population growth?
6. Will the existing downtown location of the Watsonville Library be adequate to serve new community development in the northern and eastern portions of the city?
7. Will the Pajaro Valley Unified School District be able to acquire new school sites and develop new facilities within the existing City limits or the area immediately adjacent?
8. Will police and fire service be able to keep pace with the needs of a growing population base?

The general plan questionnaire contained several statements related to the provision of public facilities and services. Figure 11-1 shows the ranking given to each statement based on 753 returned questionnaires.

FIRE SERVICES

Watsonville is currently served by two fire stations, one at Second and Rodriguez Streets and the second located at the Watsonville Airport. The quality of fire suppression capabilities is demonstrated by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 3A, the highest in Santa Cruz County.

Staffing in 1990/91 consisted of 30 fire personnel, one secretary, and 34 reserve firefighters. During fiscal year 1990/1991 the department responded to 1,905 calls for assistance, over five per day. Figure 11-2 shows the distribution of responses by type.

The Fire Department actively pursues fire prevention and public education in the Watsonville community. In 1990 the department made approximately 7,500 contacts with members of the community in pursuit of fire prevention and public education goals. A great amount of time is spent checking building plans and inspecting facilities to make sure fire and hazardous materials hazards are under control. The department is actively involved with the schools in promoting fire safety with the children.

In order for the City to maintain current service levels while servicing a projected population of 51,600

Figure 11-2 Fire Department Response: July 1, 1990– June 30, 1991

Response	Number of Calls	Percent of Calls
1. Structure Fires	104	5.5
2. Vehicle Fires	50	2.6
3. Other Fires	118	6.2
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSE	272	14.3
4. Vehicle Accidents	164	8.6
5. Medical Emergencies	952	50.0
6. Hazardous Materials	73	3.8
7. All Other Types	444	23.3
TOTAL	1,633	100.0

Source: Watsonville Fire Department Annual Report, 1990-1991

in the year 2005, another fire station will be required. If staffing levels are to be maintained at historical (pre-1991) levels, the additional fire station and work load demand may require an increase in staffing as follows: 14 firefighters, three battalion chiefs, two fire inspectors, and an additional secretary.

The entire city is served by fire hydrants that can deliver 1,500 to 3,000 gallons per minute for up to two hours, and 1,000 to 4,000 gallons per minute for one hour to four hours in commercial and industrial areas. The department had an inventory of 18 vehicles including six pumper engines, one aerial ladder truck, one service ladder truck, one aircraft crash unit, two pickups, and six passenger vehicles, and a hazardous materials response vehicle in 1993.

The Fire Department has the important responsibility of regulating, monitoring, managing, and cleaning-up hazardous materials. The department has formed a six-member Hazardous Materials Incident Team made up of existing fire suppression personnel and one fire inspector from the Fire Prevention Bureau. The Fire Department prepares safety evaluations for the Planning Department on proposed development. In addition, in cooperation with the County, a countywide hazardous materials plan has been completed, as required by state legislation.

POLICE SERVICE

The Watsonville Police Department actively pursues the goal of improving the quality of life in its neighborhoods and business areas through "personalized" police services that reduce crime and violence, while enhancing the relationship between residents and police department employees.

The Watsonville Police Department is committed to making crime prevention the joint responsibility of the police and the local residents.

The Watsonville Police Department is staffed by 53 police officers. This includes 41 in the Patrol Bureau, seven in the Detective Bureau, and six in the Administration and Support Sections. In addition, the department staff includes eight civilian personnel. The department has 15 marked patrol vehicles, 13 detective/administrative vehicles, two motorcycle

units, one transportation van, and three specialty vehicles.

In addition to contacts made on routine patrols, the police department currently responds to approximately 3,000 calls for service per month. In order to maintain current service levels for police response, staffing shall be maintained at the current police officer/population ratio of 1:600. For the year 2005, this ratio should also include one support staff person for every three officers.

The City shall continue to support youth programs in the Police Department as they relate to youth and schools:

1. Youth Services Police Officer liaison with all schools within the city limits.
2. Police Officer assigned to juvenile crime.
3. Police Officer assigned to Child Sexual/Physical Abuse.
4. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program taught in fifth grade by a Police Officer.
5. Tenth grade curriculum of (a) Juvenile Justice System, (b) Driving while intoxicated, (c) Drug Abuse.
6. Gang Intervention Team (GIT) participation with School District, City Recreation, and community based organizations or its equivalent.
7. Truancy Abatement (TACS) or its equivalent program which combines with the school district to remove truants from the streets and return them to school.
8. Maintain staffing to continue to offer, maintain, and supervise a Law Enforcement Explorer Scout Post.

The City shall continue to provide for its residents an answering point to report emergencies and through which emergency services can be dispatched. This can be done by enhancing the current 911 emergency center administered by the Police Department or by joining Joint Powers Authority to operate a shared emergency dispatch center with other government entities. In either case, the City shall provide modern equipment and infrastructure as well as highly trained emergency dispatchers.

The City shall provide for the humane care of animals that are lost or have strayed from their owners and continue to prevent cruelty to animals by either maintaining its own animal shelter and animal patrol service or by contracting animal welfare and control services to a private company or business, or to a semi-public entity such as the Humane Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The Police Department also prepares public safety evaluations for the Planning Department on project design features to help reduce traffic hazards and improve police services.

RECREATION AND PARKS

The City's Recreation and Parks Department operates a system of sixteen city parks, a senior center, and youth recreation center. This activity is currently staffed by 18 persons. The City is provided with policy direction from a seven-member Recreation and Parks Commission. The 1992 *Parks and Open Space Master Plan* proposes a standard of five acres of parkland per 1,000 population.

A City limit population of 50,500 (which excludes Interlaken) would require a continuing program of parkland acquisition, facilities development, and higher personnel levels. There may be a need for ten additional full-time park employees and four additional full-time recreation employees. Additional standards for park facilities, land requirements and



Photo: Courtesy of Register-Pajaronian

Staff members assist a student with a research paper at the Watsonville Library, which is open six days a week.

recreational programs are discussed in the Parks and Recreation chapter (8).

LIBRARY SERVICE

Library services are an integral part of the community's cultural, social, and academic activities. Watsonville is a member of the Monterey Bay Area Cooperative Library System (MOBAC). Among the services provided is a comprehensive collection of Spanish language books for both children and adults. The library also offers a variety of non-print material including records. The existing library is 16,200 square feet and operates with a staff of 12 full-time equivalent employees.

In 1991, the library staff completed a study of the city's library needs through the year 2010. This plan, the *Watsonville Public Library Building Program*, dated July 1991, called for the provision of Library space at 0.6 square feet per city resident. Staff needs were projected at one staff member for each 2,000 people in the city. The population projection for the year 2005 used in this study was 41,587. The population projection for the year 2010 was 43,708. The 2010 projection was used for library expansion planning purposes. The study called for the library to be expanded to 26,200 square feet with a service staff of 21 full-time equivalent employees.

Using the same standards as the July 1991 *Watsonville Public Library Building Program*, the year 2005 population projection results in a year 2005 library square footage need of approximately 30,300 and a full-time equivalent staff of 25. This results in a 4,100 square foot deficit by the year 2005 in the library expansion proposed in the July 1991 plan. As the city develops into the new areas of the Sphere of Influence, the need for library services in the newly developing areas will increase.

The growing population under 18 and ever tightening budgets for educational services will place additional burdens on the Watsonville library to provide a variety of educational services through 2005. Library planning should continue to be pursued throughout the time frame of the General Plan. Opportunities for the joint venture financing and use of these facilities should also be considered.

WATER SUPPLY

Water supply is an important issue in the Pajaro River Basin. In 1991, total water use in the Basin was approximately 70,000 acre feet per year. The city uses approximately 6,900 acre feet per year. Overdraft in the Basin is a significant concern. The annual average overdraft for the Basin has been estimated to be at least 11,000 acre feet. The Basin has been in an overdraft condition for about forty years. Seawater intrusion has affected numerous coastal wells in both the Santa Cruz and Monterey County portions of the PVWMA. Saline groundwater also has been encountered at depths of 700-1,000 feet below sea level at several inland locations, such as the vicinity of Panabaker Lane, the access road to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Water use in the Watsonville Planning Area consists of a combination of residential, agricultural irrigation, and water-intensive food processing/industrial uses. About 90 percent of the metered water supply is obtained from the operation of 10 City-owned groundwater wells within the Pajaro River Basin. These wells range in depth from 200 to 600 feet. The remaining 10 percent is obtained from the surface supply of the Corralitos and Browns Valley Creeks. The Corralitos Water Filtration Plant, which treats this surface water supply, went out of service as a result of the October 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. The City designed a project to repair the facility. It is anticipated that this project will be completed by the fall of 1994. Storage for city water is provided by eight reservoirs with a combined capacity of 11.6 million gallons.

Watsonville provides water to more than 11,950 (1990) metered accounts within a service area that extends over nine miles from Browns Valley on the north to the City limits on the south. Watsonville also serves the Pajaro Dunes residential complex at the edge of Monterey Bay.

Total water usage in 1990 was approximately 6,900 acre feet (an acre foot is 325,830 gallons) compared with 7,365 acre feet in 1986. This decline in water usage is attributed to voluntary residential conservation efforts, the closing of a major food processor, and discontinuance of service to the community of Pajaro in Monterey County. Of the 6,900 acre feet of

use approximately, 4,400 acre feet is residential use and 2,500 acre feet is commercial and industrial use.

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) is the regional agency responsible for water resource management, including contracting with the Central Valley Project Manager, the Bureau of Reclamation, for imported water. The agency can contract for up to 20,000 acre feet per year. However, the PVWMA, by law, can do very little until it has an adopted Basin Management Plan (BMP). The BMP was prepared and adopted in 1993. The BMP identified a preferred alternative for balancing the Basin's water demand and supply within a 50-year planning horizon. To accomplish this objective, the preferred alternative will provide approximately 28,000 acre feet of water annually by 2040. One or more major elements will be featured, such as a pipeline for importing water from the Central Valley Projects or an off-stream reservoir for storing Pajaro River winter flows. The major element or elements will probably require at least 10 years to bring to fruition. The preferred alternative will also include strong conservation measures and a mix of small-scale recharge and supply augmentation programs that will bring near term relief and contribute to the overall BMP objective.

Water conservation is one method to slow the rate of increasing groundwater overdraft. The Watsonville water system is fully metered providing significant opportunities to institute and monitor water conservation among its users. The agricultural and industrial users in the remainder of the Pajaro Basin are on unregistered and unmetered wells making it difficult to institute and monitor water conservation. How the PVWMA will address this issue is yet unknown.

The City Council has directed the staff of the Water Division to prepare aggressive water use reduction programs in order to reduce the demands upon the groundwater and still accommodate growth within the water service area. To date, the Council has approved a prohibition against the waste of water, a school education program, a toilet retrofit rebate program, rate increases to fund the water use reduction plans, and the initial phases of a public education program. The City is also committed to working cooperatively with the PVWMA in the development and implementation of plans prepared in conjunc-

tion with the Basin Management Plan. The goal of the City water use reduction program is to reduce demands upon the groundwater by at least 16 percent from 1991 usage levels by the year 2002. The City believes this can be accomplished through a combination of programs including water conservation, plumbing fixture retrofitting, landscape replacements, Building Code changes, industrial water use changes, and reclamation and reuse.

SOLID WASTE

Watsonville's Public Works Department provides solid waste planning, collection, and disposal service within the City limits. The existing 50-acre landfill site is located off San Andreas Road approximately 1.5 miles west of the City limits. A 53-acre site purchased by the City in 1991, located immediately adjacent to the existing landfill, is anticipated to provide waste disposal through approximately the year 2015.

The existing landfill area and the proposed expansion areas are shown in Figure 11-3. Figure 11-4 shows the landfill capacities for the various landfill phases. The utilization time frame for each of the areas will vary depending on the success and implementation time frames for materials recovery programs (e.g. recycling, composting, and other non-landfill waste management concepts) in the city.

The City is required by the State to institute programs that will significantly reduce the solid waste going to the landfill. The state mandate for all communities, including Watsonville, is a 25 percent reduction by 1995, and a 50 percent reduction by 2000. The majority of materials in most landfills consists of paper that could be recycled and yard waste that could be composted. These two categories of materials are the emphasis of Watsonville's efforts. However, the City's degree of success in diverting materials from the solid waste stream will depend upon the success of local and regional market development efforts targeting the use of the recovered materials.

The City of Watsonville needs both a materials recovery program and capacity in its landfill to address future needs. The City is currently committed to two joint studies with the County. One study is looking

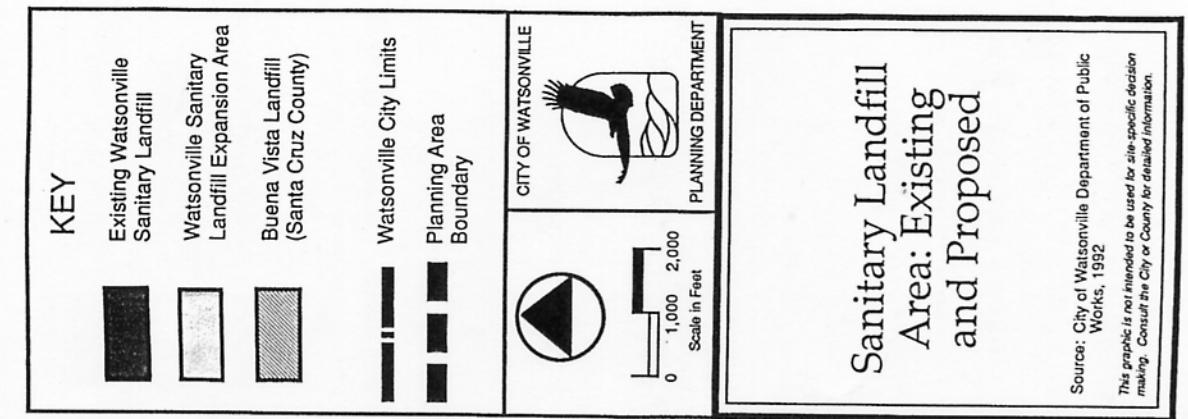


Figure 11-3

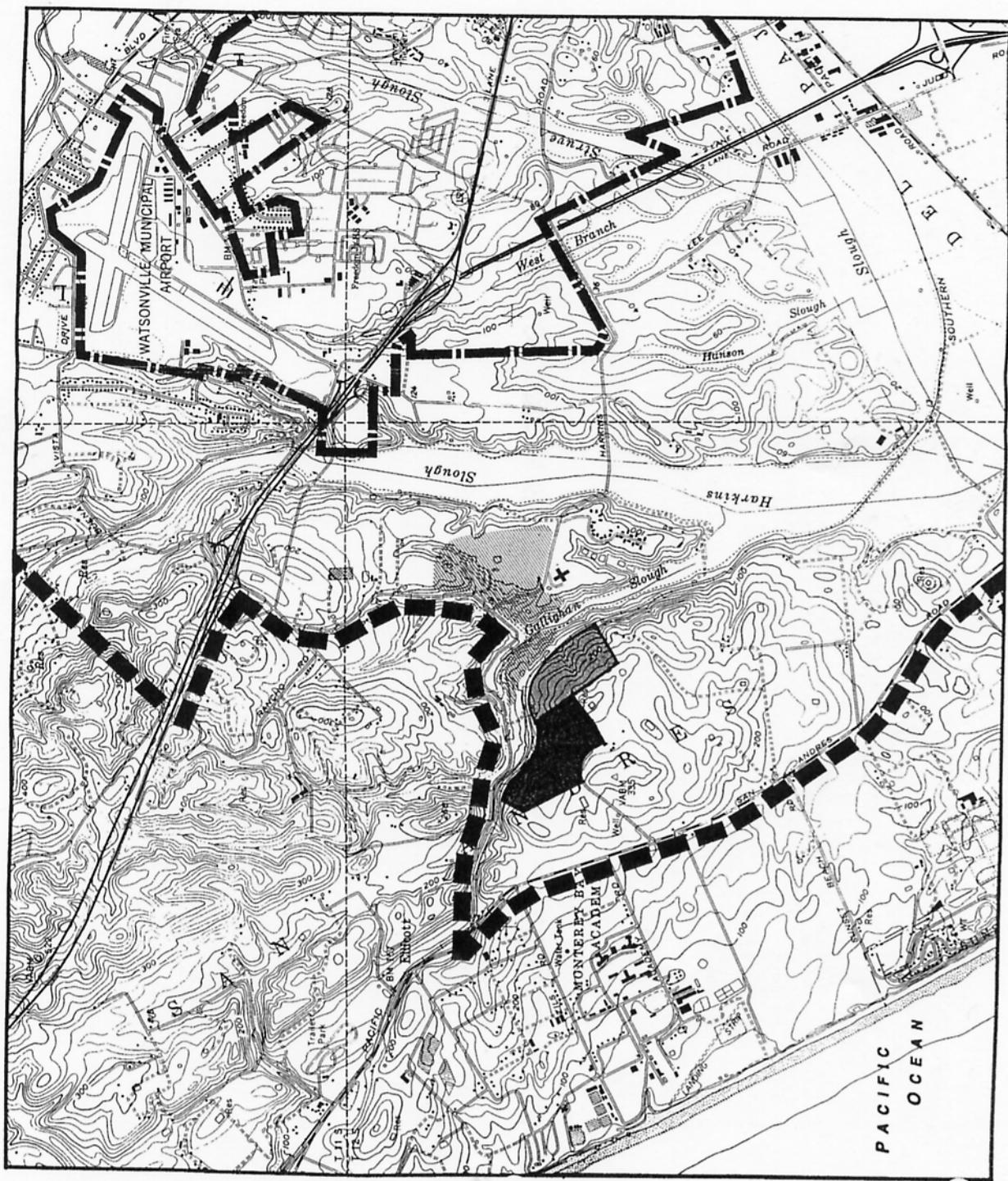


Figure 11-4 Landfill Capacity

Phase	Site	Status	Capacity
Phase I	Existing Site	Inactive	
Phase II	Existing Site	Permitted	2 years
Phase III	Final cell at existing site	Permitted	8 years
Phase IV	First 1/2 of 53 acre expansion site	Conditionally Permitted	7 years
Phase V	Second 1/2 of 53 acres expansion site	Not yet permitted	8 years

Note: Landfill capacity estimates based on solid waste generation rates for the City of 3 lbs. per person per day (current), 2.25 lbs. per person per day (1995), and 1.5 lbs. per day (2000). These numbers include commercial and industrial solid waste generation.

Source: David Koch, Director of Watsonville Utilities, 12/17/91

into the establishment of a materials recovery facility that would jointly serve Watsonville and the County. The City has the options to: joint venture with the County on such a facility, develop one of its own, or contract with another facility in another community for materials recovery services. The second joint study is looking at the potential for the establishment of joint City/County landfill operations that would coordinate and combine operations at the City and County landfill sites. Planning Area residents outside the City limits are serviced by the County landfill, located near the City's landfill on San Andreas Road.

A major concern regarding the landfill is the improper disposal of household hazardous wastes with other domestic waste. Major safety issues and potential health hazards can result for people collecting the waste, and working at the landfill site. In addition, the potential for ground water contamination resulting from leaching of hazardous wastes through the soil is significant.

The Fire Department, in cooperation with the Utilities Department and the County of Santa Cruz, is developing a household hazardous waste program to minimize the quantity of household hazardous waste that is not properly handled. It is proposed

that the landfill have a household hazardous waste storage area pending approval by all regulatory agencies.

SEWER SERVICE

Watsonville provides wastewater treatment for the city area, Freedom County Sanitation District, Sal-sipuedes Sanitation District, Pajaro Dunes, and the Pajaro County Sanitation District in Monterey County. The wastewater system in 1992 services a population of approximately 45,000 people. The existing wastewater treatment plant is located two miles west of City Hall on Panabaker Lane adjacent to the Pajaro River. This site is in the Watsonville Coastal Zone. The design capacity was increased to 16.5 mgd of advanced primary treatment capacity by improvements made to the plant in 1988/89. These improvements meet California Ocean Plan standards. The City is in the early planning stages of evaluating and planning for secondary wastewater treatment.

Average daily flows to the plant in 1991 were 5.5 mgd which is a decrease from flows experienced in the late 1980s of 8 to 9 mgd. The reduction of flow is the result of water use conservation attributed to the drought and the closing of major food processing

facilities in Watsonville. Sixty percent of the current flows are attributed to residential uses and 40 percent are attributed to industrial and commercial uses.

The projected 2005 service area population of 65,000 will generate an average daily domestic waste water flow, of approximately 75 gpd per person, totaling approximately 4.9 million gallons. The remaining capacity of about 11.6 mgd will be available for industrial flow and to assist toward the upgrading of the treatment plant to secondary treatment.

Wastewater outflow is provided by a service line that extends more than 7,000 feet into Monterey Bay to the 65 foot depth contour. The Monterey Bay was

designated as a National Marine Sanctuary. Implementation of the sanctuary should be carefully monitored for potential impact on the outflow facility and the required level of effluent quality. This recent designation may result in more stringent requirements for ocean discharge.

Sludge from the wastewater treatment plant is currently hauled to the City's landfill for disposal. The Wastewater Division is reviewing alternatives for beneficial uses for that material, rather than landfill disposal.

The City of Watsonville registers and monitors non-point source discharges through its source control



Photo: Register-Pajaronian

In a partnership, the City and the Pajaro Valley Unified School District rebuilt the performing arts center for the entire community at Watsonville High School following the earthquake in 1989. Funds from Watsonville's Measure E ballot initiative and state-matching funds were used for the project. The Henry J. Mello Center for the Performing Arts seats 834.

Figure 11-5 Pajaro Valley Unified School District Enrollment K-12

Year	Enrollment	Change
1981	12,390	
1982	12,688	+298 (2.4%)
1983	12,983	+295 (2.3%)
1984	13,579	+596 (4.6%)
1985	13,849	+270 (2.0%)
1986	14,221	+372 (2.7%)
1987	14,734	+513 (3.6%)
1988	15,345	+611 (4.1%)
1989	15,962	+617 (4.0%)
1990	16,388	+426 (2.7%)
1991	16,275	-113 (-0.1%)
TOTAL CHANGE SINCE 1981		+3,885 (31.3%)

Source: Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Business Office, 10/15/91

office. The City should continue to register these sources and monitor legislation and regulation applicable to non-point source water discharge.

SCHOOL SERVICE

Public education in the Watsonville Planning Area is provided by the Pajaro Valley Unified School District. District facilities include 14 elementary schools, four middle schools, and three high schools. Out of that group seven of the elementary schools, two of the middle schools, and two of the high schools are in the Watsonville-Freedom area. The balance are in the Aptos area and the rural areas beyond the City limits.

Between 1969 and 1991, the total enrollment of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District grew from 11,898 to 16,388. The nineteen year increase of 4,490 students represents an average annual growth of 195 students per year although 87 percent of the growth has been in the last 10 years.

Figure 11-5 shows the recent growth in enrollment. The total increase is 24 percent with the largest increases occurring in 1984, 1988 and 1989.

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) has projected a school district enrollment of 21,200 by year 2005. This represents a 23 percent increase over the 1990 enrollment of 16,388.

The May 1987 *Site and Facility Commission Report*, prepared by the Pajaro Valley Unified School District concluded that population growth within the district has generated a need for three additional schools in the Watsonville area, including an elementary, junior high, and high school. In addition, it was determined that 300 students should be transferred from Watsonville High School to Aptos High to relieve overcrowding.

The 1990 Census indicated that 77 percent of the population 17 years of age or younger is Hispanic. This is an important aspect of the provision of primary and secondary education in Watsonville.

GOALS FOR PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICE

The issues of concern to the community have been incorporated into long-term planning goals.

Goal 11.1 Service Availability

Maintain or increase the current availability of public services and facilities consistent with projected population growth in the City limits and Sphere of Influence and according to the fiscal resources of the City.

Goal 11.2 Public Services

Assure new development can be served by adequate public services and facilities.

Goal 11.3 Water Supply

Construct and maintain a water system and institute water management policy that will provide a sufficient quantity of appropriate-quality water to meet the needs of the existing and planned community.

Goal 11.4 Wastewater Management

Continue the safe and efficient collection, treatment, and disposal of domestic and industrial wastewater to meet the needs of the service population, protect the environment, and comply with all applicable regulations.

Goal 11.5 Solid Waste Management

Operate an efficient waste management program that protects the health of area residents, prolongs the useful life of the landfill site, and encourages recycling of any and all materials found to be feasible for recovery and reuse.

Goal 11.6 Library Services

Continue to improve the present library facility and services. Explore the development of a second facility to serve population growth in the eastern and northern portions of the city and Sphere of Influence.

Goal 11.7 City–School District Coordination

Coordinate facilities planning and land use planning between the City and the Pajaro Valley Unified School District, especially related to the distribution

of neighborhood parks, the construction and management of joint recreational facilities, the location of new schools, and the identification of potential school sites. Support efforts to locate advanced educational facilities in and near Watsonville.

Goal 11.8 Public Safety

Maintain public protection service levels consistent with City standards for acceptable risk levels.

POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

Policies for public services and facilities carry out long-term goals. The following policy statements serve to implement the goals of this chapter.

Policy 11.A Facilities Coordination

11.A.1 Coordination – The City shall coordinate developer-financed site improvements with publicly-financed improvements through the Capital Improvement Program.

11.A.2 Master Plan Consistency – The City shall evaluate, and may place conditions on, new development to achieve consistency with the master plans for streets, parks, water supply, and waste-water management.

11.A.3 Development Fees – The City shall maintain a schedule of development impact fees that is commensurate with the increased need for public services and facilities generated by new development.

11.A.4 Consolidation of Services – The City shall encourage the consolidation of service districts to avoid duplication of services and promote more efficient service delivery.

Policy 11.B Infrastructure

The City shall identify public infrastructure needs and use the Capital Improvements Program to schedule improvements necessary for achieving

long-term land use and community development objectives.

Implementation Measures

- 11.B.1** Growth Management – Through the use of specific plans in new growth areas, the City shall regulate the timing and location of future urban development to be consistent with the service capacity and financial capability of current support services and the five-year Capital Improvement Program schedule.
- 11.B.2** Fiscal Management – The City shall provide and monitor special funds established for specific expenditures to ensure that adequate funding levels are maintained for individual service functions.
- 11.B.3** Incremental Costs – The City shall require that new development projects pay additional incremental public service costs which they generate.
- 11.B.4** Cost Sharing – The City shall support extension of utilities to serve new development only when the cost is borne by that development and the extension is consistent with land use and community development policies and/or is necessary to serve public uses.

Policy 11.C Water System Design

The water system shall be designed, constructed and managed to provide a sufficient quantity of appropriate-quality water for the existing and planned community.

Implementation Measures

- 11.C.1** Water Supply Master Plan – The City shall revise the 1979 *Water Supply and Distribution Master Plan* to ensure that the water system can provide adequate water, of appropriate quality, to meet the density of development in accordance with the City's development policies throughout the existing and proposed water service area for the City.

11.C.2 On-going Planning – The Water Division and the Planning Department shall monitor growth, and project future growth centers, at no more than three year increments. The Water Division shall maintain a five, ten and fifteen year plan of capital improvements for the Water System. The City shall use the five-year capital improvement schedule to implement a program of replacement for all water mains that are at least 40 years old, on an "as needed" basis.

- 11.C.3** Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) – The City shall participate in development of the Basin Management Plan (BMP) being prepared by the PVWMA in 1991 and 1992.
- 11.C.4** Water Supply System Management – The Water Supply System shall be managed and operated as an enterprise.
- 11.C.5** Site Improvements – New projects within the urbanized area shall be required to complete on-site water connection improvements consistent with water quality standards of the Water Department.
- 11.C.6** Well Management – The City shall continue a program of well monitoring and provide annual status reports on water consumption and quality. The City shall continue the program to identify abandoned wells and have them sealed to prevent aquifer contamination.

Policy 11.D Water Service Policy

The City shall follow a water service policy to ensure that the priority water service needs of the City can be met.

Implementation Measures

- 11.D.1** Allocation Policy – The City shall establish a system for prioritizing the allocation of water connections in the event of a water connection cutback.
- 11.D.2** New Water Demand Mitigation – New demand for water shall be mitigated to the

greatest extent possible. The City shall continue its present policy of demand reduction requirements for the new development and the payment of groundwater impact fees for residential construction. The policies shall be extended to other types of development on an equitable basis.

Policy 11.E Water Use Reduction

The City shall develop a program of water use reduction that utilizes a combination of water conservation, replacements, education, and reclamation and reuse.

11.E.1 Water Use Reduction Program – The City of Watsonville shall develop and put into operation a water use reduction program by the end of 1992 aimed at reducing the demand upon the groundwater resources. Potential program elements include residential, commercial, and industrial water conservation guidelines; guidelines for low water use/drought tolerant landscape; incentives for efficient water use; design guidelines to encourage the creation of groundwater recharge areas; water fee structures; and water reclamation.

Policy 11.F Wastewater Management

The City shall continue to provide adequate wastewater treatment levels to meet the needs of the City and the service area users. Compliance with applicable state and federal standards will be pursued to the extent possible.

Implementation Measures

11.F.1 Facility Funding – The City shall pursue federal Ocean Water Grants, Revenue Bonds, the Sewer Improvement Fund, and other funding sources for future wastewater system improvements determined to be practical or required.

11.F.2 Sludge Management – The City shall utilize the Watsonville solid waste landfill for the storage of digested sludge and shall pursue other feasible alternative sludge uses and disposal methods.

11.F.3 Connection – The City shall require connection to the wastewater treatment system for all areas in the Freedom and Salsipuedes Sanitation Districts which are now served by septic tanks.

11.F.4 Fees – The City shall assess sanitation impact fees on new development in proportion to the amount of wastewater they are anticipated to generate and the cost of extending services unless alternative funding resources are available.

11.F.5 Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Designation – The City shall continue to monitor requirements connected with the designation of the Monterey Bay as a National Marine Sanctuary, particularly those related to the impact on the City's wastewater outflow facilities.

Policy 11.G Solid Waste Management

The City shall continue to operate an environmentally sensitive solid waste management program and encourage the recycling of paper, glass, plastics, and metals. The City shall encourage waste minimization and source reduction of all wastes, with special emphasis on hazardous materials.

Implementation Measures

11.G.1 Landfill – The City shall use the best available technology and management practices to prevent contamination of groundwater by solid waste materials stored at the Watsonville landfill site.

11.G.2 Hazardous Wastes – The City shall regulate the disposal of hazardous wastes at the current landfill site, and comply with state, federal, and local regulations for the disposal of commercial and household hazardous wastes.

11.G.3 Litter Control – The City shall continue an aggressive program of street cleaning and litter abatement in order to prevent pollution of wetlands and provide for a cleaner urban environment.

11.G.4 Waste to Landfill Reduction – The City shall continue to pursue compliance with the state-mandated waste to landfill reduction requirements of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. Residential, commercial, and industrial waste stream reduction/material recovery programs will be implemented.

11.G.5 Landfill Expansion-The City shall continue to pursue the permitting of landfill expansion areas to ensure future landfill capacity adequate to meet the needs of Watsonville. The development of joint City and County landfill operations shall be evaluated.

11.G.6 Materials Recovery – The City shall continue to pursue the development of a materials recovery facility as: a sole developer, as a joint City/County effort, or as a contractual arrangement to use a facility in another community. The City shall also investigate composting, or other beneficial use, of municipal sludge and other biodegradable materials.

11.G.7 Reclamation – The City shall study the potential for reclamation of the current landfill site for use as a recreational facility or other open space use, including agriculture, after the year 2005.

11.G.8 Agency Coordination – The City shall participate with other agencies in long-range planning for: solid waste management, ecological protection, materials recovery, hazardous materials management, and energy production from solid waste.

Policy 11.H Library Services

The City shall maintain and improve library services for residents of the City of Watsonville.

Implementation Measures

11.H.1 Library Master Plan – The City shall update the July 1991 *Library Building Program* every five years to ensure that the library services needs of the residents can be met.

11.H.2 Library Expansion – The library staff shall continue to pursue the expansion of the existing library to address the needs of the projected population.

11.H.3 Expanded Library Facilities – By 1996, the City shall conduct a study to determine the need for, cost of, and, if appropriate, identifying possible sites for a second library facility to serve the residents of the eastern and northern portions of the city and Sphere of Influence. Alternative financing and contractual arrangements with the County shall be explored.

11.H.4 Community Service – The City shall provide multipurpose rooms within the library for community meetings, special exhibits, and events.

11.H.5 Library Agreement – The City of Watsonville shall continue to work cooperatively with the County of Santa Cruz to manage the library in accordance with the Library Agreement.

11.H.6 Children, Youth and Families – The library staff shall develop programs, as resources allow, to assist in the education and training of children, youth, and families in the city.

11.H.7 Cultural Diversity Awareness – The library shall develop programs for all population sectors encouraging an understanding, awareness, and respect for the cultural diversity of Watsonville.

Policy 11.I Joint Planning

The City shall continue to work closely with the Pajaro Valley Unified School District in planning for all facets of school site acquisition and facilities development. The City shall encourage the development of advanced educational facilities in and near Watsonville.

Implementation Measures

Measure 4.F.11, which addresses higher education opportunities, also implements this policy.

11.I.1 Site Identification – The City and the Pajaro Valley Unified School District shall, by 1995, identify specific sites for the three new schools required to accommodate the projected population growth in Watsonville. These sites shall then be identified on the General Plan Diagram. Programs to facilitate acquisition shall be developed.

11.I.2 Recreation and Parks – The City shall work with the School District to explore new ways of using school facilities for neighborhood recreation and opportunities for joint development of facilities.

11.I.3 Improved Educational Success – The City shall formulate a special task force made up of City officials, School District officials, representatives of the City's Hispanic and special need populations, and local business leaders to develop a program of community based efforts to improve the overall success of education and training in the community and better address special needs populations.

11.I.4 Advanced Educational Opportunities – The City shall lobby and support efforts to establish a branch campus of the California State University system in the region, particularly as it relates to reuse opportunities for Fort Ord in Monterey County. The City shall actively seek expansion of the Cabrillo College facilities in Watsonville.

11.I.5 Population Projections – The City shall coordinate population growth and residential land use planning with planning for school site location and enrollment.

Policy 11.J Public Protection

The City shall continue to provide sufficient funding, trained personnel, and all necessary equipment and facilities to maintain city standards for public safety and response time.

Implementation Measures

11.J.1 Project Review – The City shall continue to use Police and Fire Department project

review to ensure that new development projects allow for built-in fire and police alarms and other public safety features, and to allow for review of potential traffic impacts on response time.

Police

11.J.2 Response Time – The Police Department shall strive to maintain a 24-hour emergency response time of four minutes or less to all parts of the city and personnel and equipment necessary to meet this standard.

11.J.3 Law Enforcement – The Police Department shall maintain a degree of public order which is consistent with personal freedom and the public welfare. The Police Department shall provide a consistent approach to law enforcement which recognizes the needs of the community, guarantees the rights of all parties concerned, and protects the safety and security of the residents of the community.

11.J.4 Crime Prevention – The Police Department shall reduce the opportunities for criminal action through: highly visible law enforcement within the city, the swift investigation and apprehension of suspected criminals, and increased public awareness of personal safety and property security techniques.

11.J.5 Juvenile Crime – The Police Department shall direct the behavior patterns of juveniles predisposed to the commission of crimes through the application of programs outside of the criminal justice system. The Police Department shall promote education and information programs through the area schools.

11.J.6 Community Participation – The Police Department shall develop community resource programs which emphasize increased community involvement and participation in defining community needs, establishing priorities, and developing programs to meet these needs. The Police Department shall promote neighborhood

crime prevention programs such as the Neighborhood Watch.

11.J.7 **Traffic Safety** – The Police Department shall preserve life and property on the highways through: the reduction of accidents and injuries, facilitation of the safe and expeditious flow of commercial and private vehicular traffic, and the public's voluntary compliance with traffic regulations due to a combination of education and enforcement.

Fire

11.J.8 **Training** – Fire Department training shall include: leadership and management, fire suppression, prevention, public education, hazardous materials, emergency medical services, disaster preparedness, and rescue-related subjects.

11.J.9 **Response Time** – The City shall strive to provide properly staffed and equipped fire stations to provide a response time of four minutes or less from the nearest fire station to all portions of the city as measured by the Fire Chief, except for residential neighborhoods which have Fire Department approved built-in protection. There would be a special planning effort by the Fire Department to provide a four to six minute response time for a first response for emergency medical service.

11.J.10 **Fire Prevention Bureau** – The City shall operate and adequately staff a Fire Prevention Bureau that will continue current efforts to reduce fire losses by proper code enforcement, public education, fire investigation, and fire prevention.

11.J.11 **Hazardous Materials Division** – The City shall maintain and adequately staff a Hazardous Materials Division to oversee hazardous material emergency management, and proper control of hazardous wastes to include source reduction and waste minimization.

11.J.12 **Fire Staffing** – The City shall strive to maintain an adequate number of personnel to accomplish an aggressive initial attack with at least three firefighters per first out fire engine for each station, and adequate reserve personnel to prevent major fire spread and/or conflagration.

11.J.13 **Emergency Medical Services** – The City shall establish an acceptable level of service for emergency medical services and find the most cost-efficient, effective way of providing paramedic services to meet that level.

11.J.14 **Disaster Readiness** – The City shall identify and plan for disaster threat scenarios, such as earthquakes, flood, fire, or major hazardous materials release. The recommendations of the *Hazard Mitigation Plan* prepared as follow-up to the Loma Prieta Earthquake (October 17, 1989) shall be implemented as discussed in the Public Safety chapter (12).

11.J.15 **Joint Fire Protection Efforts** - The City shall continue to investigate the value of joint fire protection efforts with neighboring fire districts in the Planning Area. A joint powers contract or consolidation effort could result in effective and improved fire protection in the Planning Area. The City shall actively pursue agreements with neighboring fire districts to perform joint fire protection efforts which offer measurable improvements to the City fire protection service with no substantial liabilities or extra costs.

11.J.16 **Built-in Fire Protection** - The Fire Department shall pursue methods of encouraging the installation of built-in fire protection such as automatic fire sprinkler systems and fire alarm systems. Local ordinances requiring built-in protection should be strengthened for defined residential and commercial hazards.

Each policy for public facilities and services implements one or more of goals, presented below in the form of a matrix.

Public Facilities and Services Goals and Policies

		Policies									
		11A	11B	11C	11D	11E	11F	11G	11H	11I	11J
Goals	11.1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	11.8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•